MASS INTENTIONS

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 2017 5:00 PM + Mabel Heiney

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 2017 8:15 AM – People of the Parish 11:15 AM + Mary Lou Rutty

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 2017 NO MASS

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 2017 9:00 AM + Michael Carley

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 1, 2017 – ASH WEDNESDAY 9:00 AM – People of the Parish 7:00 PM + Fred Krepps

THURSDAY, MARCH 2, 2017 9:00 AM + Michael Horney

FRIDAY, MARCH 3, 2017 MASS AT IC AT 9:00 AM

SATURDAY, MARCH 4, 2017 9:00 AM + Fred Rex, Sr. 5:00 PM + Sr. Maggie

SUNDAY, MARCH 5, 2017
8:15 AM – People of the Parish
11:15 AM + Lorrie Raubenstine
+indicates - deceased

NEXT SUNDAY'S READINGS

Genesis 2:7-9; 3:1-7 / Romans 5:12-19 Matthew 4:1-11

FAMILY PERSPECTIVE - Because we believe we can control and create our own world, we attempt to juggle multiple agendas and we pay a price of neglecting those closest to us. Too late we reach the point of asking "Was it worth it?" We really can't serve two masters.

SICK OF THE PARISH – Please keep our members in your thoughtful prayers.

Susan Goughnour, Fred & Yvonne Staub, Kenneth Williams, Don & Roxey Myers, Helen & Laverne Lawrence, Keira Slonaker, Polly Renaut, John Feiser, Dorothy Schlaline, Doris Pohlman, Marilyn Drummer, Maria Maxwell, Louise Snoots, Norma Woerner, Theron Menges, Bob Kline, Alice Williams, Kathleen Krepps, Carl Ramskow, Brenda Freed, Micheline Starcher, Louise Peters, Shannon Duff, Ken Jacoby, Judy Goley, Francis Kuhn and Deborah "Sue" Duty.

FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR this weekend are in memory of Mary Lou Rutty.

SCRIPTURE REFLECTION

Today's Gospel is from part three of the Sermon on the Mount's three-part instruction by Jesus on the way of life in the Kingdom of Heaven. Part three deals with trusting God and performing deeds of loving service to our neighbor.

The Aramaic word *mammon* does not have a negative connotation. It means "property" or "money". What Matthew is pointing out is that since human beings are not self-sufficient, we are dependent on something outside ourselves. It should be God, not the material goods we own. This is not to say that we don't need material goods. But rather, we are not to be anxious. The birds do not sow or reap. The flowers do not work or spin cloth. Yet they are provided for by God. Human beings are worth more than these. How could God not provide for us as well? If what we place first in our lives is God's kingdom and his justice, we will have what we need.

Matthew concludes by reminding us to address each day's problems as they come, confident that we are in God's loving care. He is a loving father who holds the whole world in his hands. He will certainly care for us.

MISSION FOR LITURGY AND WORSHIP

ALTAR SERVERS for Sat/Sun Mar. 4-5
5:00 PM Mass: Jakob, Ben and Sadie Wicker
8:15 AM Mass: Peyton Duty, Ryan Gebhart, Amelia
Gerringer
11:15 AM Mass: Autumn & Madi Kuhn, Erich Steinke

LECTORS for Sat/Sun Mar. 4-5 5 PM MASS – Joe Schwar 8:15 AM MASS – Lauren Wicker

Coordinator is Lori Kuhn.

11:15 AM MASS – Evelyn Heiliger Coordinator is Dianne Giampietro.

EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION (EMHC) for Sat/Sun Mar. 4-5

5:00 PM: Donna Cassatt, Jen Gentile, Steve Hoffman, Bertie Kuhn, Amanda Wicker

8:15 AM: Dianne Giampietro, Jason Duty, Jeff Seifert, John Maysilles, Claire Wentz

11:15 AM: Andy Altobelli, Rita Becoski, Leland Steinke, Carmelita Garcia, Pat Spiridonoff Coordinator is Claire Wentz.

GROCERY CERTIFICATES – Please know how VERY GRATEFUL we are to all of you who support our Grocery Certificate Program and ultimately our Religious Education Program. During the week of Feb. 19, 2017 we sold \$520.00 for a profit of \$26.00.

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

8th Sunday in Ordinary Time

- This Wednesday, March 1st is Ash Wednesday –
 the beginning of Lent. Mass with the imposition of
 ashes will be celebrated at 9am and 7pm that day.
 All are invited. Please see today's bulletin for our
 entire Lenten Schedule here at IHM.
- 2. We all know the things that make us happy, but we don't always do them. Lent is an opportunity to change that. This year we invite you to do something different. Join Dynamic Catholic for Best Lent Ever, a free email program featuring internationally acclaimed speaker and New York Times bestselling author Matthew Kelly. From Ash Wednesday to Easter, you'll get short, inspirational videos from Matthew Kelly and personal reflections from Dynamic Catholic team members that will help you identify what stands between you and happiness . . . and what to do about it. Are you ready for your best Lent ever? To sign up, visit www.bestlentever.com
- 3. Please note that this year's Ash Wednesday collection will go to support our parish Charity Account. Recently from that account, we have helped some of our parishioners and neighbors in need, a local refugee from Congo (Africa) settled by Catholic Charities, and a church community in need, among others! Thank you for your generosity. As Scripture tells us, "It is more blessed to give than to receive" (Acts 20:35). Also, the "Poor Boxes" (located in the main vestibule of the church next to the door that leads to the stairs up to the choir loft) receive individual contributions year round to continue supporting our parish Charity Account, which enables IHM to assist others with financial needs on an emergency basis.
- 4. Each Friday of Lent (excluding Good Friday), the Knights of Columbus will have their annual Lenten Dinners in the social hall from 4:45 to 6:45pm. Then, at 7pm we will have Stations of the Cross in the church at 7pm. All are welcome!

God bless you and your week Fr. Marcoe

PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS – "Thus should one regard us, as servants of Christ." Are you being called to serve the Lord and others in the consecrated life or priesthood? Call Father Brian Wayne at (717)657-4804 ext. 282 or email frbwayne@hbgdiocese.org.

ST. PATRICK'S DAY DINNER sponsored by the K of C will take place on Saturday, March 18th from 6 to 9 PM in the Parish Hall. Once again, "Seasons" will be performing their traditional Celtic music. Ticket cost is \$20 per adult, \$15 per teen, and \$5 per child 6-11 and can be obtained from any K of C member or by calling Ken Glass at 814-0265. Advance tickets only – Deadline is March 12th. None sold at the door.

ABBOTTSTOWN/EAST BERLIN FOOD BANK – the food pantry held on Feb. 1st served 91 families which included 258 individuals. The link to the Time to Sign Up page for the food pantry on Wednesday, Feb. 1st is www.volunteersignup.org/4344P. Please remember to drop off health/beauty aid items, such as soaps, toothbrushes, diapers, laundry detergent, etc. and place them in the food pantry barrels.

PILGRIM VIRGIN STATUE – In October 2015, Father Marcoe blessed a Pilgrim Virgin Statue of Our Lady of Fatima. The Statue will be brought to any person who would like a visit from the Pilgrim Virgin by members of the Legion of Mary. Prayers from a "Pilgrim Virgin" booklet are prayed and the Rosary. The Statue is usually left at the home for two weeks. When the Legion of Mary picks up the Statue, there are closing prayers to conclude the visit. The purpose of taking the Pilgrim Virgin to the parishioners is to promote the message of Fatima, which is penance, daily rosary and devotion to the Immaculate Heart of Mary. If you would like a visit from the Pilgrim Virgin, contact Janet Todt at 528-4755.

MARRIAGE ANNULMENTS – The Tribunal of the Diocese of Harrisburg will be giving 2 presentations within the diocese concerning marriage, divorce and annulment according to Church teaching. These presentations will be helpful for divorced Catholics, those divorced who wish to marry Catholics, those parish leaders involved in the RCIA process and any others who may have a vested interest because of family or friends.

March 13 – Cardinal Keeler Center, 7 PM March 14 – St. Joseph, York, 7 PM

No prior registration is required. For further information, please call 717-657-4804, ext 304 or email tribunal@hbgdiocese.org.

40 DAYS FOR LIFE, HARRISBURG – from March 1 through April 9, you're invited to join other Christians for 40 Days for Life – 40 days of prayer and fasting for an end to abortion. You're also invited to stand and peacefully pray during a 40-day vigil in the public right-of-way outside Hillcrest Women's Medical Center, 2709 North Front St., Harrisburg and also to help spread the word about this important community outreach. If you'd like more information – and especially if you'd like to volunteer to help, please contact: Kathy O'Donnell at Harrisburg40Days@gmail.com.

REAL ALTERNATIVES – Free and confidential services.

Pregnant? Need Help? Call 1-888-LIFE-AID www.RealAlternatives.org. **WELCOME NEW PARISHIONERS –** We are happy to welcome the following new parishioners to IHM Parish: Alex Phillippi, East Berlin Brian & Mary Kathleen Copeland Family, Gardners

PRESENTATION AT IC SCHOOL - How do we know Jesus is truly the Son of God who really rose from the dead? is the topic of a special presentation by Steve Hemler, President of the Catholic Apologetics Institute of North American (CAINA), on Sunday. March 19 at 7 PM in the School Cafeteria at Immaculate Conception of the BVM Catholic Church, 106 Carlisle St., New Oxford. A central belief of Christianity is that Jesus Christ is not only fully human, but also the fully divine Son of God. But, how do we know Jesus himself made that claim and how can we know if it's true? This multimedia presentation explores compelling evidence in support of the divinity of Jesus and the reality of the Resurrection. All are welcome. Any questions, contact Pete Socks at 624-1212 or pete.socks@gmail.com.

STEWARDSHIP MISSION – In 2016, we were able to plant over **185,307 seeds** in the form of high-quality Catholic books, booklets and CD's in parishes and schools. We would like to thank you for being part of this mission. Through God's grace, our parish distributed **958** resources at a value of **\$1,818.97**. Our parishioners generously gave **\$867.80** in donations. We pray that through our work together hearts have been healed, anxieties alleviated, and sorrow has been replaced with hope and joy.

This coming Wednesday is Ash Wednesday and the beginning of Lent. This year, instead of giving up sweets or some other treat, give a little time each day to listen or read something from our Resource Display. There's a wide variety of topics – something for everyone! Just 10 minutes a day while driving to work or before bed will yield tremendous blessings. For those unable to make a donation, these resources are provided with cost; for those able to donate, your small donations are used 100% to provide these resources to more parishes. Thank you for your generosity.

PA CATHOLIC CONFERENCE JOB OPENING -

Experienced communications professional needed to help advance PCC's mission to foster a public understanding of the Catholic perspective on public affairs at the State Capitol in Harrisburg and beyond. Should have strong knowledge of public relations, social media, grassroots advocacy writing and research. Send cover letter and resume by March 3, 2017, to: PA Catholic Conference, PO Box 2835, Harrisburg, PA 17105 or info@pacatholic.org. Visit www.pacatholic.org.

CDCCW LENTEN RETREAT REMINDER – All women of the parish are invited to attend the District Council of Catholic Women's Annual Lenten Retreat on Saturday, Apr. 1, 2017 at St. Joseph's Church on 5125

Grandview Rd., Hanover. Our Presenter will be Father Ryan Fischer. The Retreat is from 12 Noon to 3 PM with a half hour break for refreshments and fellowship. This event is offered at no charge but a freewill offering is welcome. NO PRE-REGISTRATION is necessary. Please put this Lenten event on your calendar now and invite your friends to join in. We look forward to seeing you! Contact Donna Lynch with any questions (717-309-2909, donnal315@comcast.net.)

FUSION NEWS – Fusion is Immaculate Heart of Mary's youth group; open to all teens in grades 8 to 12. For information, please call or email Paul Oakes at 717-259-0611 ext. 8 or poakes@hbgdiocese.org.

Thank you all for your prayers. Mount 2000 was an incredible experience for our teens and chaperones. This year, they had a record-breaking 1300 people in attendance!

The Living Stations of the Cross will continue at St. Joseph on Sunday, February 26th from 2:30 to 4PM. We are still in need of actors! Roles to fill: *Judas, Centurion, a Soldier, Women in the Crowd, & Apostles*. Anyone can play these parts. If you have younger brothers or sisters who'd like to act, they're welcome to join us too. And if you don't like to act, we're in need of musicians and "techies". Also, Fusion can help build props and set pieces. If anyone needs a car ride, please call or email Paul. *Service hours will be provided!*

Also, keep an eye out for official Fusion t-shirts, coming soon.

Did You Know?

The act of applying ashes to our forehead symbolizes our mortality as well as our need for ongoing repentance. It is a reminder that this life is short and merely a foreshadowing of what we shall become through the redemption of Jesus Christ on the cross. The work of our redemption will not be complete until we are raised from the dead, in resurrected bodies like His own and called to the eternal communion of heaven.

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is desperately in need of presenter couples. Please talk to Fr. Marcoe for more information.

RUTH'S HARVEST – anyone willing to help pack the backpacks at the Fire House in Abbottstown on Wednesday, Feb. 15th should be there at 10 AM. All are welcome!

THAT MAN IS YOU is the perfect 90 minutes to start **your weekend.** The men of Immaculate Conception. Immaculate Heart of Mary and Sacred Heart currently participating in That Man Is You program, wish to invite our fellow parish men ages 18 years and older to join us each Saturday at 8 AM in The Immaculate Conception school cafeteria. It is never too late to join in this transformational program that has touched the lives of thousands of men across 40 states and in 400 parishes. Each week we watch a 30-minute video on issues relevant to men today. This is followed by one hour of discussion and fellowship in which we journey as brothers in Christ, learning the Catholic faith and how to apply it to the world today. Feel free to walk-in any Saturday and see what the program is all about. You may also contact Pete Socks at pete.socks@gmail.com or 717-624-1212 for more details.

IHM ADULT CHOIR – Consider adding your voice to ours and join the IHM Adult Choir. We will be singing through Lent, Easter and until Pentecost. Rehearsals start on Sunday, Feb. 12 from 9:40-10:45 AM Sunday mornings in the Church. Kathy Schwar will continue to direct the choir. ("When you are upstairs singing with the choir, you are just that much closer to heaven"). Please encourage your friends or family members to participate and help us make a "Joyful Noise to the Lord". Any questions, please call Roy Wainwright at 792-3408 or email roywainwright3@gmail.com.

RACHEL'S VINEYARD RETREAT for Post Abortion Healing – This is an opportunity to examine your abortion experience, identify the ways that the loss has impacted you in the past and present, and helps to acknowledge any unresolved feelings that many struggle with after abortion. Because of the emotional numbness and secrecy that often surrounds an abortion experience, conflicting emotions both during and after the event may remain unresolved. These buried feelings can surface later and may be symptoms of post abortion trauma. Married couples, mothers, fathers, grandparents and siblings of aborted children, as well as persons who have been involved in the abortion industry have come to Rachel's Vineyard in search of peace and inner healing. The weekend is a lot of work but yields a fruitful harvest for all who are willing to labor there. Please accept this gift of healing as only our Lord can offer. Come and let the healing begin: April 21-23, 2017. Please contact Becky at Undefeatedcourage@gmail.com. All inquiries and registrations are strictly confidential.

Would you like to help couples preparing for the sacrament of marriage? The Diocese of Harrisburg is in need of local couples to serve as presenters for God's Plan for a Joy-Filled Marriage. This Saturday retreat is an essential part of the marriage preparation process. It consists of presentations on: God's Plan for Marriage; the Basics of Marriage in the Church; Marital Sexuality; and Natural Family Planning. There is a training coming up this spring to prepare the new presenter couples. Requirements are: being committed to the Church's teaching on marriage. sexuality, and life; having a heart for couples preparing for marriage - warm, engaging, and sympathetic; and public speaking skills, or the ability to grow in these skills. Even if you have never volunteered for something in the church before, this may be your opportunity to serve in such an important ministry that

DECEMBER FINANCIAL REPORT -

Immaculate Conception

Religious Retirement

Christmas Flowers

Monthly Budget	\$ 33,600.00		
Income for Dec. 4	10,168.14		
Dec. 11	11,791.00		
Dec. 18	8,470.52		
Dec. 25	5,874.00		
TOTAL MONTHLY INCOME	\$ 36,303.66		
CHRISTMAS COLLECTION	\$ 16,547.00		
SECOND COLLECTIONS:			
Capital Improvements	1,533.00		

DIOCESAN MEN'S CONFERENCE: SAVE-THE-DATE- Men of the Diocese of Harrisburg, please save the

1,748.00

2.701.50

1,155.00

Conference at Bishop McDevitt High School, Harrisburg. Theme is: Fools for Christ: Men Called to Glorify God through His Catholic Church. Keynote Speaker is world-renowned Catholic author and speaker, Dr. Peter Kreeft from Boston. His keynote is Seven Reasons Why Everyone Should be Catholic. Bishop Ronald W. Gainer is Principal Celebrant and Homilist for Mass and will also be presenting two workshops on St. Thomas More as a Model for Conscience Formation. There are 30+ workshop choices over three sessions. Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament with the Rosary and Benediction, more than 20 Priests available for Confession, plus good music, food and fellowship. Last year we had 925 men who attended this event. This year we are hoping for 1,000 men. Registration materials are coming soon. Please join us, and invite a friend or three to come with you! Thank you!

date of April 1, 2017 for the Diocesan Men's

PARISH WEBSITE HAS MORE PARISH INFORMATION, CALENDAR AND ACTIVITIES. VISIT WWW.IHMPARADISE.ORG.

PILGRIMAGE TO ROME – Travel with Father Timothy Marcoe on Proximo Travel's Rome, Assisi, Padre Pio & Shrines of Italy pilgrimage. Where: Rome, Orvieto, Assisi, Lanciano, Loreto, San Giovanni Rotondo, Pietrelcina, Monte Cassino. Trip Dates: Sept. 9, 2017 through Sept. 19, 2017. Cost is \$4000.00 airfare and ALL included. To register, please contact 855-842-8001 or 508-340-9370. You can also register online at www.proximotravel.com.

PRAYER SHAWLS – Are you in need of a prayer shawl? Do you know someone who is? Please call Jan Melhorn at 308-2532. The next prayer shawl meeting will be held Tuesday, Feb. 14th at 1 PM in Room #3 of the RE Building. All knitters and crocheters are welcome. If you want to learn to knit or crochet, we can teach you. Skeins of new yarn are always welcome and there are bins at the church entrances for these donations.

EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS NEEDED - Our Parish is in need of several more Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion, especially for the 8:15 AM Mass. This ministry plays an important role assisting Father in distributing Holy Communion to our parishioners at Mass on weekends and Holy Days of Obligation. Please call Father if you feel God is calling you for this ministry. You must 18 years of age or older, a practicing Catholic and a member of our parish.

SAVE THE DATE! All women of the parish are invited to attend the District Council of Catholic Women's Annual Lenten Retreat on Saturday, April 1, 2017 at St. Joseph's Church on 5125 Grandview Rd., Hanover. The presenter will be Father Ryan Fischer. The retreat is from 12 Noon to 3 PM with a half hour break for refreshments and fellowship. This event is offered at no charge but a freewill offering is welcome. NO PRE-REGISTRATION is necessary. Please put this Lenten event on your calendar now and invite your friends to join in. We look forward to seeing you!

HIPPA LAWS – Please note that HIPPA (health care privacy laws) prevent hospitals from automatically notifying the parish office when you are in the hospital. Therefore, we ask you to please give consent (permission) for the parish office to be notified. If you would like Fr. Marcoe to know of your hospitalization, please inform the parish office before going into the hospital OR once hospitalized, ask the nurse or hospital chaplain/pastoral care staff person to notify the parish.

RUTH'S HARVEST – Anyone interested in helping to pack the backpacks for Ruth's Harvest should meet at the Fire House in Abbottstown on Wed., Jan. 11th at 10 AM.

NEW OXFORD PANTRY VOLUNTEERS - The New Hope New Oxford Center is up and running. However, we are in need of volunteers to help guests shop who need assistance, help stock shelves and service quests in the refrigerator and freezer units. Also, help take groceries out when guest is unable to do it on their own. Volunteers are needed 9 am to 1 pm on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursday. On Tuesday nights from 5:30pm - 8:30 pm. Warehouse help is also needed to move inventory as needed, unload truck, organize and sort food that is donated. Volunteers needed Monday 10 AM-12 PM, Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays from 9 am to 1 pm, Tuesday nights from 5:30 pm - 8:30 pm, and **Friday** from 10 am-12 pm. If you are interested in helping please contact Amy Flores at aflores@nhm-pa.net or 624-4700 ext. 701. The location is 120 N. Peter St., New Oxford (lower level of the Municipal Building).

FLOWERS – Looking for a way to memorialize a loved one or celebrate a special occasion? A beautiful way would be to order flowers on the altar. Most weekends are available from now through the end of the year. **Please call Anita in the parish office** to make arrangements.

MASS INTENTIONS – Mass intentions are a wonderful way to celebrate a special occasion, remember those who have died or are sick and in need of our prayers. Please consider this as a "gift" for someone. Call Anita in the Parish Office to arrange your Mass intentions.

AERO ENERGY PLAN – For each parishioner who is or becomes an Aero customer, IHM receives up to 3 cents per gallon of oil or propane. This is an excellent way to help your parish! If you are not already registered with Aero Energy for this program, please call Aero Energy at 888-480-1271 and sign up for the House of Worship Program. Any questions, please call Anita in the parish office.

MEDICAL EQUIPMENT – We here at IHM have several pieces of medical equipment for parishioners to borrow when needed. They include: crutches, walkers, commode boosters, shower chairs, a cane and a wheelchair. Also, a parishioner has items that are no longer needed and if someone would like to have them, please contact the parish office for more information. They include 16" wheelchair, walker, SpOx fingertip meter, toilet seat side rails, toilet seat lifts, automatic blood pressure meter, shower chairs, bathtub handrail, short bedrail, women's depends L. There are also two items for sell; a bathtub lift and a Go-Go electric scooter.

Call Anita in the parish office at 259-0611, ext. 5.