Holy Family Sunday
FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY

MASS INTENTIONS

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 29, 2018
5:00 PM + Diane Snyder

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 30, 2018
8:15 AM – People of the Parish
11:15 AM + Diane Frey

MONDAY, DECEMBER 31, 2018
5:00 PM - People of the Parish

TUESDAY, JANUARY 1, 2019
10:00 AM + Jay Spiese

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 2, 2019
9:00 AM Edna Thoman

THURSDAY, JANUARY 3, 2019
9:00 AM + Michael Wheeler

FRIDAY, JANUARY 4, 2019
9:00 AM – Special Intention of Elizabeth Astor

SATURDAY JANUARY 5, 2019
9:00 AM + Deceased Members of the Filliben Family
5:00 PM + Patrick Yealy

SUNDAY JANUARY 6, 2019
8:15 AM – People of the Parish
11:15 AM + John & Marie Menges

NEW YEAR’S MASS SCHEDULE

Dec. 31st – Vigil Mass at 5 PM
Jan. 1st – Mass at 10 AM

WEEK-AT A- GLANCE

Dec. 30 – Jan. 5

Wednesday, Jan. 2nd – Knights of Columbus 7PM
In the Social Hall
Thursday, Jan. 3rd – Faith Sharing Group in the Den
After the 9:00 AM Mass

MISSION FOR LITURGY AND WORSHIP

ALTAR SERVERS for Sat/Sun Jan. 5-6
5:00 PM Mass: Hannah Fletcher, Riley & Zachary Horst
8:15 AM Mass: Peyton Duty, Andrew Eyster, Ian Frantz
11:15 AM Mass: Autumn & Madi Kuhn, Carlos Marques
Coordinator is Kelli Maysilles.

LECTORS for Sat/Sun Jan. 5-6
5:00 PM Mass: Pat Renaut
8:15 AM Mass: Barb Bowker
11:15 AM Mass: susan Altobelli
Coordinator is Dianne Giampietro.

EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION (EMHC) for Sat/Sun Jan. 5-6
5:00 PM: Steve Hoffman, Jen Gentile, Dan Landis, Dan & O’Brien
8:15 AM: Kim Aiello, Doug Barnhart, Jason Duty, Ken Glass, Midge Stokes
11:15 AM: Andy Altobelli, Joyce Menges, Barb Wantz, John Schlaline Jr., Lelend Steinke
Coordinator is Claire Wentz.

PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS – “He gave power to become children of God.” If you think you may be called to share the Father’s love as a priest, deacon, sister, or brother, talk to Fr. Marcoe or Fr. Brian Wayne, Director of Vocations, at 717-657-480/frbwayne@hbgdiocese.org or check out www.diocesanpriest.com.

PRAYER SHAWN RETREAT on Saturday, Feb. 23, 2019 at Good Shepherd Parish in Camp Hill. The day begins at 9:30 a.m. with Mass, followed by knitting/crocheting, praying the Rosary, fellowship and lunch. The retreat will conclude at 2:30 p.m. Beginners are welcome to this day of sharing and fellowship in this special ministry. The cost of $10 includes lunch, advance registration is required. Please call or text Kathy Kokoski at 717-448-8899 or Debbie Black at 717-514-8815, or e-mail them at kakoko120@comcast.net or mvd bonds verizon.net to register. The registration deadline is Sunday, February 10, 2019. The retreat is hosted by the Diocesan Council of Catholic Women, and all women of the Diocese are warmly invited to attend.

THE PARISH OFFICES WILL BE CLOSED MONDAY, DECEMBER 31, 2018 & TUESDAY, JANUARY 1, 2019.
**FROM THE PASTOR’S DESK**

**The Solemnity of the Holy Family**

1. I pray that all of you had a very happy, healthy, and holy Christmas with your loved ones as we celebrated the Nativity of our Lord Jesus Christ. **A special thank you** to those of you who sent me cookies and other goodies. I appreciate your kindness!! Thank you to those of you, as well, who contributed in the Christmas flower envelopes in memory of loved ones.

2. If you were not here at IHM for Christmas Masses, please pick up a **complimentary book** that was handed out (on the ledges behind the last pews in the church) – a gift from the parish to you!

3. The **Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God** is a holy day of obligation. Masses will be at 5pm on Monday evening (New Year’s Eve) and at 10am on Tuesday (New Year’s Day) to thank God for His many blessings!

4. As we celebrate the **feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph**. I pray for all of you and your families. The dynamic of family life is often not an easy one, as our various personalities and temperaments can at times clash with one another. And yet the family, in the words of Pope John Paul II, is the “school of love”. As family, we learn how to put up with one another. We learn how to sacrifice for each other. And we learn how to love others and be loved by them in return. The Holy Family shows us, then, that this is God’s purpose for family life – sacrificial love.

5. The **parish offices** will be closed on Dec. 31 and Jan. 1 in celebration of New Year’s.

6. Next Sunday we celebrate the **Epiphany of the Lord**. On this feast, historically (especially in years gone by), the priest would come to parishioners’ houses to bless them, writing a small blessing above the main door. While today in our setting this is a bit more challenging to accomplish in one day, we are making available to you **cards with these “blessings”** for you to take with you. Just offer the prayers on the back, and then place the card over the main door in your home. These cards can be found on the ledges behind the last pew.

God bless you and your week – Fr. Marcoe

**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. IHM receives a 5% profit from the sale of all the grocery cards purchased. Before going for groceries, please consider purchasing Weis or Giant cards after each Mass at the front entrance. Cards can also be purchased in the parish office during the week. Thank you for your support of this wonderful program! During the week of Dec. 23, 2018 we sold $1930 for a profit of $96.50.

**FUSION** - Fusion is Immaculate Heart of Mary’s youth ministry: open to all teenagers in grades 8 to 12.

- **Saturday, January 12th**, 6 – 8:30 PM: Pro-Life Night
- **Friday, January 18th**, 7 AM – 7:30 PM: March for Life
- **Saturday, January 26th**, 6 – 8:30 PM: Youth Night
- **Sunday, January 27th**, 2:30 – 4 PM: Living Stations of the Cross Practice at St. Joseph, Hanover

*For more information, please call or email Paul Oakes: (717) 259-0611 ext.8 or poakes@hbgdiocese.org*

**ABBOTTS TOWN/EAST BER LIN FOOD BANK** – The food pantry in East Berlin held on Dec. 5th served 64 families which included 192 individuals. The number of families served at the Abbottstown location on Dec. 6th was 37 for a total of 80 individuals. The link to the Time to Sign Up page for the food pantry on **Wednesday, Jan. 2nd** at the East Berlin location is www.volunteersignup.org/7477D and **Thursday Jan. 3rd** at the Abbottstown location is www.volunteersignup.org/B3PY. Please remember to drop off health/beauty aid items, such as soaps, toothbrushes, diapers, as well LAUNDRY DETERGENT, etc. and place them in the food pantry barrels.

**HELP WANTED!** John Feiser had a large number of stamp albums – he was quite a collector. I need help to dispose of these profitably, as I am the executor of his estate. Any knowledge of stamp collecting you can share would be greatly appreciated. Please call Roy Wainwright at 717-619-7243 or by email at roywainwright3@gmail.com.

**MEALS ON WHEELS DRIVERS NEEDED** – Windy Hill on the Campus Senior Center in Spring Grove is in need of drivers for Monday, Wednesday and Friday mornings. Even once a month commitment would be helpful! Contact Nancy Walton at 717-225-0733.

**THANKS TO**
BISHOP’S LISTENING SESSIONS – Bishop Gainer will be hosting Listening Sessions in January and February throughout the Diocese. He invites all members of Immaculate Heart of Mary with questions or concerns regarding the Grand Jury Report, the Diocese’s response to abuse and the path forward to attend one of these sessions.

WEEK-AT-A-GLANCE
Dec. 16-22

Sunday, Dec. 16th – Religious Education from 9:30 – 11 AM
Sunday, Dec. 16th – Adult Enrichment Class in the Social hall, 9:30 – 11 AM
Monday, Dec. 17th – Cub Scouts, 6:30 PM
Monday, Dec. 17th – Legion of Mary in Rel Ed Bldg Room 4, 7 PM
Monday, Dec. 17th – Charismatic Prayer Group in social hall, 7 PM
Tuesday, Dec. 18th – Parish Penance Service, 7 PM
Wednesday, Dec. 19th – Boy Scouts Christmas dinner in social hall, 6-9 PM
Thursday, Dec. 20th – Faith Sharing Group in the Den after 9 AM Mass
Saturday, Dec. 22nd – Fusion Youth Night in the Den 6-9 PM

DEEPLY ROOTED – A WORKSHOP FOR FAMILIES
St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Church is holding a workshop on Saturday, Jan. 12, 2019 from 9 AM to 1 PM at their Church. The day begins with Mass followed by speakers from around our diocese who will share information pertinent to families and living our Catholic faith in today’s society. Child care is available for ages pre-k through 6th grade. Workshop sessions, children’s
programming and lunch will be provided for a $30 registration fee. Visit www.steas.net/family to register or call the parish office for a registration form.

Because of these changes, it is very important that a family member contacts the parish when someone is admitted.

SHOE DRIVE – Donate your gently worn shoes to St. Teresa of Calcutta Catholic School! Help us raise funds for our school by donating your gently worn, used or new shoes! Our school will earn money for every pound of shoes we collect. Plus, all collected shoes are used to support micro-enterprise vendors in developing nations. (Micro-enterprises are small businesses operated by one person or a family.) All shoes can be dropped off during regular school hours in the collection bins located outside of the McSherrystown and Conewago school offices. There is also a plastic bin located at the entrance to our Church marked for this drive. Our shoe drive has begun and will run until Jan 2, 2019. We can only collect shoes that are in good condition, meaning that the soles are intact, they have laces (if necessary), there are no holes, they are dry & clean, and they still have life in them. Thank you! Please contact JoAnn Garman at 717-637-3135 with any questions.

CONGRATULATIONS to the following students at Delone Catholic High School for achieving honor roll status:
FIRST HONORS:  Audrey & Abigail Sell
SECOND HONORS: Julia O'Brien & Harrison Smith
COMMENDABLE EFFORT:  Christian Powell & Avery Kuntz

WEEKDAY MASS PARKING – Anyone attending the weekday Masses are asked to park in the lot beside and behind the Church whenever there is snow and ice. This parking area will be made ready first for anyone on the property.

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT – It has been noted that some people, who are dropped off or picked up for Mass, are doing so at the steps right along West Canal Road. Especially at night, and given the adjacent hill, it is deemed this is unsafe given the speed and flow of traffic. For accessible and safe access to the Church at all times, please use the side social hall doors. Thank you.

LADIES SAVE THE DATE! Women’s Conference next year will be Oct. 12, 2019. Helen Alvare will be the keynote speaker.
PARISH CARING COMMITTEE – Assists parishioners on an as needed basis, in times of need or stress and provides visitation, care giver relief, meals, errands, light household chores and local transportation. To request assistance or to become a Caring Committee Volunteer, contact Jen Gentile at 717-225-5059.

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.

PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY – CAN YOU DONATE NEW YARN? During the last year, the Prayer Shawl Ministry has made over 50 items for our own parishioners, Rachel’s Vineyard retreatants, Cross Keys Village Skilled Nursing patients, Spiritrust Lutheran hospice and Hanover Hospital Maternity. We rely on your donations to help with our yarn expense. We can always use red, white and blue yarn for military veterans in hospice care. Please drop off your donations in the covered gray boxes at the entrances to the church. If you know of anyone who would benefit from a prayer shawl, please call the parish office at 717-259-0611. Thank you!

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL - The Parish Pastoral Council would like to announce that we had two members of our parish community volunteer to serve on the council. Please join us in thanking and welcoming Rosemary Connelly and Lynn Murphy to the council. Given that there were only two vacancies, there will be no need to hold elections as in some years past. The Pastoral Council is here to serve our parish family. Please feel free to talk with any of the members when you have concerns, ideas or questions.

Check out our new website at www.ihmparadise.org.

AERO ENERGY HOUSE OF WORSHIP PROGRAM – This program was established to provide Aero Energy customers an opportunity to give to our church. To participate, Aero Energy customers sign up by phone or online and Aero Energy donates 4 cents for every gallon of fuel they use to us. Please call if you are not already part of this wonderful program. It’s an easy way to benefit Immaculate Heart of Mary. Call 888-827-17136.

FROM THE PASTOR’S DESK

SUGGESTION CARDS are available on the back ledges and at the entrances of the church. If you have any suggestions on how to make our parish better, please fill one out and return it in the collection basket.

SUMMER WEEKEND MASS SCHEDULE:
Saturday 5 PM,
Sunday 8:15 AM and 10:15 AM

LOST AND FOUND – Please check our Lost and Found bin in the sacristy for any items you may have left in Church. Any unclaimed items will be discarded.

BOXTOPS FOR EDUCATION – Please keep collecting and sending in those BoxTops for Education for St. Teresa School. If you’d like to help out trimming those BoxTops, please contact kwenger@hotmail.com. All help is appreciated!

EVENT NOTICE – I have been a parishioner at Immaculate Heart of Mary Church for more than 40 years and employed in the newspaper business for more than 20 years. We have many wonderful events happening here at our parish and we’d like to get the word out to the public. Please feel free to send me any events that would be of interest to our local community – from Lenten dinners to youth events to Bible studies and everything in between! You can send information to: 6fletch@embarqmail.com. Don’t forget to tell me the following: WHAT is the event? WHO is invited? WHEN is the event? WHERE is the event? WHY should people attend? HOW can they get more information? If you have any questions, fee free to call or text me at 717-357-8051. Thank you!

Holly Fletcher

CATHOLIC CHARITIES COUNSELING SERVICE – Outpatient Behavioral Health Care is dedicated to providing access to high quality outpatient counseling for children, adolescents and adults in a small, friendly, confidential office. Services include individual and family therapy, marital counseling and parent-child counseling.
Since 1963, Catholics have been allowed to choose cremation over burial as a means of laying a loved one to rest. Cremation is a popular choice since it is less expensive and more manageable than a full burial. Cremation, like death, is final. But that doesn’t mean you won’t have second thoughts. Susan Skiles Luke, a marketing consultant in Columbia, Missouri, had her mother cremated and buried in a family plot. Now, she wishes it was her mother’s body and not just the cremated remains that was in the grave. “When I go there, which isn’t often, I want to feel like her body is under ground, right alongside my grandparents and beloved great aunt, all dressed up in their Sunday best…”

Although creation is permitted, some Catholics have not been dealing properly with their loved ones remains. Common practices include scattering ashes, parting ashes out to friends and relatives, and keeping the ashes in a common area, such as a living room. While scattering ashes may seem romantic to some (but is also contrary to Catholic teaching), there’s something to be said about keeping your loved one in once place, and then marking that place with a name. “We mark the graves of our loved ones with a headstone to memorialize them, so we don’t forget them”. When visiting that person’s grave, just seeing his or her name can give comfort.

To instruct the faithful in this regard, the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith has issued updated guidelines. According to these, burial is still preferred, but cremation is an option. When a loved one has been cremated, their ashes must be kept intact, the same as if they were treated a body. The ashes may not be separated or scattered. Instead, they should remain in a proper vessel that is interred in a proper place, such as a cemetery or church. Finally, the document stresses that Catholics who choose cremation for reasons contrary to the faith, (e.g., to have their ashes scattered) must be denied a Christian funeral.

In the end, whether cremation or burial is chosen, we await from the grave the second coming of Jesus Christ and the blessed Resurrection of the Dead.

**Tips for talking to children about difficult subjects/news reports**

The topic of sex abuse, particularly child sex abuse, is a daunting one for parents. Every parent must consider many factors including the best age-appropriate way to discuss the topic. Below are some points to consider adapted from the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, the National Child Traumatic Stress Network, and First Things First.

1. Make sure you are composed before you talk with your child.
2. If you believe your child is aware of news concerning abuse in the diocese, start the conversation. Not talking about a difficult event can make the event even more threatening in your child’s mind.
3. Listen carefully to what your child is asking or talking about.
4. Clarify just what any concerns are before you answer. Sometimes we make assumptions and give far more information than what the child needs.

5. Keep your answers simple and brief. Don’t answer questions that have not been asked. Do not overload your child with information that is beyond his/her level of understanding.

6. Assure your child that you and other adults that are in charge are doing everything possible to make sure they will be safe. This will give them a sense that adults are actively taking steps to protect those who are currently suffering.

7. Don’t make guarantees that such a thing can never happen again. Words like “never” and “always” should be used very carefully because small children trust that this is a promise from you.

8. Explain that we do not know why people treat other people badly.

9. Try to limit your child’s exposure to media coverage. A child believes what he or she sees on television, or in the newspapers is always true.

10. Let your children know about successful community efforts. You may want to share positive media images, such as reports of individuals helping those in need.

Additional information is available at www.YouthProtectionHBG.com