PARISH CARING COMMITTEE

The Parish Caring Committee was established to respond with kindness and compassion to the needs and requests for assistance from the members of our parish family. This was the main purpose that this ministry was started by Fr. Langan when he served as pastor of IHM. Unfortunately, after several years it became inactive. Realizing the importance of this ministry, Fr. Marcoe revived it to assist parishioners in times of stress and need.

The caring community of volunteers offer the following services:
- Visit the sick and the homebound, give relief for parishioners who care full time for a loved one, prepare light meals and help with household chores, provide transportation within reasonable distance if a family is not able to do so and help meet needs for medical equipment such as wheelchair, walker or other devices.

Please call Anita, our parish secretary at 717-259-0611 if you need help. Request for assistance are treated with respect and strict confidence. We could use more helping hands with this much needed ministry. If interested in volunteering, please contact Jen Gentile at gentile@comcast.net and Cathy Gunzelman at ctg002@yahoo.com.
**MASS INTENTIONS**

**SATURDAY, JUNE 8, 2019**
5:00 PM + Sr. Maggie

**SUNDAY, JUNE 9, 2019**
8:15 AM + Lorrie Raubenstine
10:15 AM – People of the Parish

**MONDAY, JUNE 10, 2019**
NO MASS

**TUESDAY, JUNE 11, 2019**
9:00 AM – Special Intention of Kristy Lanning

**WEDNESDAY, JUNE 12, 2019**
9:00 AM – Special Intention of Jill Cullen

**THURSDAY, JUNE 13, 2019**
9:00 AM + Ann Wainwright

**FRIDAY, JUNE 14, 2019**
9:00 AM – Special Intention of Guaragno Family

**SATURDAY, JUNE 15, 2019**
5:00 PM + Doris & Joe Hockensmith

**SUNDAY, JUNE 16, 2019**
8:15 AM – People of the Parish
10:15 AM + Adrian Woods & Jimmy Drummer

*Next Sunday’s Readings*

Proverbs 8:22-31
Romans 5:1-5
John 16:12-15


*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 June 2, 2019 we sold $680 for a profit of $34.00.

**WEEK-AT-A-GLANCE**

**June 9th-15th**

Monday, June 10th – Cub Scouts, 6:30 PM
Monday, June 10th – Legion of Mary in Rel Ed Bldg Room 4, 7 PM
Monday, June 10th – Charismatic Prayer Group in social hall, 7 PM
Tuesday, June 11th – Bible Study in Den, 9:30 AM
Wednesday, June 13th – Boy Scouts 6-9 PM
Thursday, June 14th – Faith Sharing Group in the Den after 9:00 AM Mass
Saturday, June 15th – Legion of Mary Outdoor Function 1-3 PM

**Mission for Liturgy and Worship**

**Altar Servers** for Sat/Sun June 15-16
5:00 PM Mass: Regina Walton, Riley & Patrick Horst
8:15 AM Mass: Mary & Joe Murphy, Peyton Duty
10:15 AM Mass: Ava & Brielle Baughman, Adrianna Dusseau
Coordinator is Kelli Maysilles.

**Lectors** for Sat/Sun June 15-16
5 PM Mass – Kathy Schwart
8:15 AM Mass – Susan Fobes
10:15 AM Mass – Tina Jacoby
Coordinator is Dianne Giampietro.

**Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion (EMHC)** for Sat/Sun June 15-16
5:00 PM: Donna Cassatt, Steve Hoffman, Dan Landis, Paul & Marjorie Oakes
8:15 AM: Jason Duty, Kevin Heilman, Jeff & Terry Seifert, Carol Stroud
10:15 AM: Andy Altolbelli, Rita Becoski, Bonnie Hensel, John Schaline, Barb Wantz
Coordinator is Claire Wentz.

**We Welcome the Following into Our Parish Family Through the Sacrament of Baptism**:
John & Benjamin Davis, sons of Bradley & Cecilia Davis
Adelheid Stone, daughter of Joseph & Christine Stone
Anna Johnson, daughter of Andrew Johnson & Amanda Ruth
Lucian & Vincent Ruth, sons of Amanda Ruth

**Summer Weekend Mass Schedule**

Saturday 5 PM,
Sunday 8:15 AM and 10:15 AM
FROM THE PASTOR’S DESK

Pentecost Sunday
1. Thanks to your amazing generosity, we have raised the following amounts recently:
   - From *Come to the Banquet* to benefit the ministry of the Franciscan Friars of the Renewal in the Bronx and throughout the world -- $5,003!
   - From *Hope is Reborn* spaghetti supper sponsored by the Knights of Columbus to benefit the ministry of Undefeated Courage (and their mobile ultrasound bus, “Little Bee”) -- $2,440!

2. On this Pentecost Sunday, we remember that at our baptism, and then in a deeper way, at our confirmation, we personally received the gift of the Holy Spirit into our lives. The Holy Spirit desires to accomplish good in our lives, and through us, in the lives of others. But, we must allow the Holy Spirit to be stirred up and come to life within us for this to truly happen. **Please prayer the following prayer** from your heart commemorating the day you received the Sacrament of Confirmation, renewing the grace of that moment, and **stirring up the Holy Spirit to come more fully into your life.**

   Thanks be to you, O my God, for all your infinite goodness, and, especially, for the love you have shown to me at my Confirmation. I give you thanks that you have sent down your Holy Spirit into my soul with all His gifts and graces. May he take full possession of me forever. May his Divine anointing cause my face to shine. May his heavenly wisdom reign in my heart. May his understanding enlighten my darkness. May his counsel guide me. May his knowledge instruct me. May his piety make me fervent. May his divine fear keep me from all evil. Drive from my soul, O Lord, all that may defile it. Give me grace to be your faithful soldier, that having fought the good fight of faith, I may be brought to the crown of everlasting life, through the merits of your dearly beloved Son, our Savior, Jesus Christ. Amen.

3. Dear parishioners of Immaculate Heart of Mary,

   It has truly been a grace and blessing for me to serve as your pastor these past five years. I have been blessed to see seeds of faith planted, to experience growth in faith for so many, and to see real spiritual fruit being born in people’s lives. In this, it has been a joy.

   As “all things work for good for those who love God” (Rom. 8:28), I know that the Father has only good plans for each of you and this wonderful parish. Continue to fan into flame the gift that God has given you (2 Tim. 1:6) to continue setting this corner of the world on fire.

   I beg your continued prayers, as I now continue to serve the Lord in a new corner of the Diocese. And know that I will forever remember you in my prayers as well.

   God bless you.
   In Christ’s love,
   Fr. Marcoe

   p.s. **My new address will be: St. Joseph Church 68 Center St., Danville, PA 17821.**

   God bless you and your week – Fr. Marcoe

PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS – “The Spirit gave them ability.” Is the Holy Spirit preparing you to share the Lord’s mission as a priest, deacon or in the consecrated life? Talk to Fr. Marcoe or Fr. Brian Wayne, Director of Vocations, at 717-657-4804 frbwayne@hbgdiocese.org or check out www.diocesanpriest.com.

50th Wedding Anniversary Mass Reminder:
The Office of Family and Respect Life Ministries is making the final arrangements for the 50th Wedding Anniversary Mass on July 14, 2019. If you have not already done so, please return your response card. If you have any questions, please contact Kate Neri at 717-657-4804 ext. 317 or KNeri@hbgdiocese.org.

WELCOME! We welcome the following to our parish family:
Norma Berwager, Spring Grove
Greg & Pam Lawrence & family, Hanover
Brian & Beth Larkin & family, Hanover

MISSIONARY COOPERATIVE PROGRAM – Next weekend, the Benedictine Fathers of Saint Vincent Archabbev, Latrobe, PA will be with us this year asking for our prayers and alms for their missions in Brazil and Taiwan and for the many foreign Seminarians who study at Saint Vincent and then return to ministry in their home countries. Please be generous and help them reach out to those they serve. This way you can become part of this mission of mercy and salvation.

UNDEFEATED COURAGE – Thank you everyone who gave so generously toward the Undefeated Courage ministry fundraiser. A special thank you to Fr. Marcoe and the Knights of Columbus for their support and hard work to make our fundraising dinner such a success. We were blessed to raise $2,440.00 toward the mobile ultrasound bus. There have been so many graces that have already come from this effort both spiritually and financially. And because our God is so good, I know they will just continue. Please keep the Undefeated Courage Ministry in your continued prayers as they do God’s work to save lives, change hearts, and foster a culture of love one ultrasound at a time!

   Sabrina Smith
   Respect Life Chair
QUO VADIS DAYS 2019 – Attention all Catholic young men ages 15-25. Our Lord Jesus Christ has a great plan and mission for you! You are invited to attend the Diocese of Harrisburg’s Annual Quo Vadis Days vocation discernment retreat to spend time with other young men your age as you listen to the Lord’s call in your life while having fun. Activities include – Holy Mass, Eucharistic Adoration, sports, games, great food, talks and more. **Quo Vadis Days** will be held from June 23-27, 2019 at Mount St. Mary’s Seminary. There is a $50 registration fee; all other expenses are funded by the Diocese of Harrisburg. Registration forms can be found on our website at [www.hbgdiocese.org](http://www.hbgdiocese.org). You may also contact the Office of Vocations at 717-657-4804, ext. 282 or email vocations@hbgdiocese.org with questions or for a registration packet. Deadline for registration is June 14, 2019.

FIAT DAYS 2019 – Attention all Catholic young women ages 15-25. Our Lord Jesus Christ has a great plan and mission for you! You are invited to attend the Diocese of Harrisburg’s Annual Fiat Days vocation discernment retreat to spend time with other young women your age as you listen to the Lord’s call in your life while having fun. Activities include – Holy Mass, Eucharistic Adoration, sports, games, great food, talks and more. **Fiat Days** will be held June 30-July 3, 2019 at Mount St. Mary’s University and Seminary. There is a $50 registration fee, all other expenses funded by the Diocese of Harrisburg. Registration forms can be found on our website at [www.hbgdiocese.org](http://www.hbgdiocese.org). You may also contact the Office of Vocations at 717-657-4804, ext. 282 or email vocations@hbgdiocese.org with questions or for a registration packet. Deadline for registration is June 21, 2019.

ATTENTION PARISH WOMEN: Father’s Day is coming soon. Why not consider a memorable gift to that man in your life? A weekend to “unwind” and refresh his life as a Catholic, while attending the 41st annual Corpus Christi Men’s Retreat, August 2-4 on the beautiful campus of Mount St. Mary’s University, Emmitsburg, MD. Your gift could be the deposit ($60) or the entire cost ($170). He’ll enjoy 2 nights’ lodging, 6 meals, and hear a great inspiring speaker, Father Bill Garrott, O.P., Saint Dominic Priory, Washington, DC. For more information, contact Jess Socrates at jesssocrates@phikappamu.com, office 77-637-4551, x4152, or cell 717-817-1608 (leave text message if no answer).

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION THRIFT SHOP
Come check out the great 50% off everything in the store sale at the Immaculate Conception Thrift Shop, 5 Carlisle St., New Oxford. Shop hours are Monday to Saturday from 9 AM until 3 PM. Questions call 717-624-1272.

HEAVEN’S SHOCK
I was shocked, confused, bewildered
As I entered Heaven’s door;
Not by all its beauty
Nor the lights of its décor;
But it was the folks in Heaven
Who made me sputter and gasp;
The thieves and liars and sinners
The alcoholics and the “trash”.

There stood the kid from eighth grade
Who swiped my lunch money twice;
And there was my next-door neighbor
Who never said anything nice.

Bob, who I always thought
Was rotting away in hell
Looking incredibly well!

I asked Jesus, “What’s the deal?
I would love to hear your take.
How’d all these low-lives get here?
God must’ve made a mistake!
And why is everyone so quiet,
So somber, give me a club.”

“Hush child”, He said, “they’re in shock.
No one thought they’d be seeing YOU!”

Author unknown

“**You who are my messenger, in you I place my absolute trust.**”

*Our Lady of Guadalupe to St. Juan Diego*

USCCB Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities

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THANKS TO

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40 HOURS AT IHM – Fr. Dwight Schlaline will be preaching on the Biggest PR Disasters of Christian History at our 40 Hours Devotions on June 30-July 2, 2019. At 7 PM each evening, Fr. Dwight Schlaline, native son of IHM parish, will reflect on the three greatest public relations disasters of Christian history. Come adore Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament while reflecting on the greatest public relations debacles of Christianity and what we can learn from them.

APRIL FINANCIAL REPORT –
Monthly Budget $36,000.00
Income for April 7th $13,590.70
April 14th 8,698.55
April 21st 7,944.00
April 28th 11,226.07
TOTAL MONTHLY INCOME $41,459.32

ADDITIONAL COLLECTIONS:
Easter Collection $13,063.00
Holy Thursday Collection 1,214.20
Holy Land Collection 1,020.00
Catholic Home Mission 1,193.25
Catholic Relief Services 1,575.10

ABBOTTSTOWN/EAST BERLIN FOOD BANK – The food pantry in East Berlin held on May 1st served 59 families which included 161 individuals. The number of families served at the Abbottstown location on May 2nd was 26 for a total of 55 individuals. The link to the Time to Sign Up page for the food pantry on Wednesday, June 5th at the East Berlin location is www.volunteersignup.org/F3JBL and Thursday, June 6th at the Abbottstown location is www.volunteersignup.org/YBL3E. 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.

HEALING HEARTS is a support group for widows and widowers. The group will meet once a week on Thursday nights from 6pm until 7:30 pm at Kim Aiello’s house at 1650 Pine Run Road, East Berlin. The meetings will consist of prayer, bible study, share time, Christian music, group social outings, like going to see a Christian movie, attending a Christian Concert, or listening to a Christian Speaker. The support group goal is to help heal the broken heart and replace sorrow with joy, by finding peace through a personal relationship with the Lord. Contact Kim Aiello at 717-476-7504 or emailing her at kiko1@hotmail.com.
FUSION - Fusion is Immaculate Heart of Mary's youth ministry; open to all teenagers in grades 8 to 12.

Challenge of the Week: May is the Month of the Blessed Virgin Mary. Pray a Rosary every day!
May 18, 8AM - 6 PM: Day by Day Retreat at Mount St. Mary’s Grotto
May 19, 6 - 9 PM: Game Night/ Unlock the Truth: The Catacombs
May 19: Deadline to register for Dynamic YOU
June 9 – August 11 & 18, 6 – 8:30 PM: Dynamic YOU Summer Teen & Parent Program
July 1, 6 – 9 PM: Healing Mass
For more information, please call or email Paul Oakes:
(717) 259-0611 ext.8 or poakes@hbldiocese.org

RUTH’S HARVEST – There has been a change in the April date for Ruth’s Harvest. Remaining dates for this school year are now April 10th and May 22nd at 10 AM at the Abbottstown Fire Hall.

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

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.

RETREAT – please join us in New Oxford, PA for a one day retreat sponsored by Breadbox Media featuring Dr. Scott Hahn who will provide 3 talks. Lunch will be included. Details can be found and tickets may be purchased at https://breadboxmedia.com/paconference/ or by contacting Pete Socks at 818-521-3137 or pete.socks@breadboxmedia.com.

Sunday, May 5th – Religious Education from 9:30 – 11 AM
Sunday, May 5th – Adult Enrichment Class in The social hall, 9:30-11 AM

SAVE THE DATE! Vacation Bible School will be here before we know it! Mark your calendars so that your child/children don't miss this wonderful week. The theme for our 2019 Vacation Bible School is "CAMP HEALING" and will be held Monday, July 15th to Friday, July 19th from 6:00-8:30 PM. More information will follow in upcoming bulletins.

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.

PRAYER TO SAINT MICHAEL THE ARCHANGEL
St. Michael the Archangel, defend us in battle, be our protection against the wickedness and snare of the devil. May God rebuke him, we humbly pray, and do thou, O Prince of the Heavenly Host, by the power of God, cast into hell Satan and all the evil spirits who prowl about the world seeking the ruin of souls. Amen.

NEW ENTRANCE PROCEDURE FOR THE RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CENTER –
I want to let you know about a new entrance procedure that we now have in place when coming to the parish office and the Religious Education Center. You will now find that the doors will be locked. We ask that you please ring the bell on the wall outside the door and you will be buzzed into the building. This safety system which now allows the staff to see who is at the door was installed this last week.

THE DIOCESAN CONFERENCE OF HEALTH CARE MINISTERS AND HELPING MINISTRY (PARISH CARING COMMUNITY AND PARISH NURSING PROGRAM) will resume their quarterly meetings. Some of you may be familiar with these meetings. The meetings were a great opportunity for enrichment on ministry specific topics, for resource sharing and to
network with other health care ministers. If you know of any new ministry members that would like to be part of these meetings, please share this information with them. The following are the meeting dates and topic for each date.

**Tuesday, Feb. 12, 2019 – Topic: Compassionate Mental Health Care.** Presenter: Lori Peters, Counselor for TrueNorth Wellness Services

**Tuesday, May 7, 2019 – Topic: Boundaries for Thriving in Ministry.** Presenter: Marianne C. Sailus, BCC, PA Society of Chaplains


**Wednesday, Nov. 6, 2019 – Topic: Assisted Suicide.** Presenter: Maria Gallagher, PA Pro-Life Federation.

All meetings will be at 10:30 AM at the Diocesan Center in Harrisburg. To confirm your participation, please send an email to jcurran@hbgdiocese.org or call Jackie Curran at 717-657-4804, ext. 313.

**CATHOLIC CHARITIES COUNSELING SERVICES:**

Depression and anxiety can occur when we have a loss or a major change in our life. A licensed skilled therapist can help you by listening, processing, and giving you the power to make positive change. Catholic Charities Counseling Services is accepting new clients for four office locations throughout the Diocese. Catholic Charities Counseling is for anyone: children, adolescents, adults, and couples. Services are provided in a confidential office setting. Services include individual and family therapy, marital counseling, and parent-child counseling. We accept Medical Assistance, or clients can pay for services (discount fee schedule available). Just call for an appointment: Capital Region 717-233-7978; Lancaster 717-299-3659 or 717-392-2113 (Espanol); York 717-845-2696; Paradise School Office (Abbottstown) 717-259-9537. Visit www.cchbg.org for more information.

**WORLD DAY OF THE SICK PRAYER**

Generous Lord, with love beyond all telling, Jesus sends us to shower your love on those most in need, particularly in our ministry to the sick. In the spirit of Saint Mother Teresa of Calcutta, inspire us to serve with courage, love and generosity.

Give us courage to guard the dignity of those who are abandoned and discarded, especially the dying, unborn, migrant and refugee. Let those among us whose voices are strong raise them in defense of the weak.

Give us love that unveils the face of Christ in the face of every individual we meet, particularly in those we find most difficult to care for.

Give us generosity born from the knowledge that all good things are gifts of your love and, through us, are to be shared with the world. Amen

Pope Francis

**SAVE THE WEEK**

*2019 Vacation Bible School* will be held Monday, July 15th through Friday, July 19th from 6:00-8:30 PM for children ages 4 up to and including those finishing 6th grade. Please mark your calendars now so that your children don’t miss the opportunity to attend “CAMP HEALING.”

**Don’t Get Scammed!**

Scammers are now posing as priests and other clergy. In this latest scam, you might receive an email or a text message that appears to be from your Pastor or another priest that you may know. The scammer ask you to help someone in need by purchasing a gift card and to provide the codes on that card.

Here’s how to protect yourself from being scammed.

1 – Know that scammers are out there. Be suspicious of any request for funds of any type via an email message or a text message. Verify any request with a call to the person who supposedly sent it or a call to the phone number of the text that you received.

2 – Know that any email from a priest should be from a diocesan or parish email account. Messages sent from free services, such as Gmail or Yahoo, are more likely to be scammers.

3 – Many clergy do not share their cell phone numbers publicly. If you receive a text message from someone not on your phone’s contact list, be suspicious.

4 – Know that priests will NEVER ask for financial transactions via email or text messages.

**GUIDED PRAYER APP –** Alessandro DiSanto, a Holy Name of Jesus parishioner, has worked with a few friends to build an app aiming to help people grow in their faith lives through guided prayer and meditation sessions. The app is called Hallow and offers guided audio sessions through a variety of prayer types, including Christian Meditation, the Examen, Lectio Divina, and Spiritual Writing. To learn more, visit www.hallow.app or feel free to reach out to Alessandro at alessandro@hallow.app. The app is available on both the Apple App Store and Google Play Store.

**IMPORTANT CHANGE FOR HANOVER HOSPITAL ADMISSIONS** – The Hanover Hospital – UPMC Pinnacle Health has issued the following changes to their policy effective December 2018.

**GUIDED PRAYER APP** – Alessandro DiSanto, a Holy Name of Jesus parishioner, has worked with a few friends to build an app aiming to help people grow in their faith lives through guided prayer and meditation sessions. The app is called Hallow and offers guided audio sessions through a variety of prayer types, including Christian Meditation, the Examen, Lectio Divina, and Spiritual Writing. To learn more, visit www.hallow.app or feel free to reach out to Alessandro at alessandro@hallow.app. The app is available on both the Apple App Store and Google Play Store.

**IMPORTANT CHANGE FOR HANOVER HOSPITAL ADMISSIONS** – The Hanover Hospital – UPMC Pinnacle Health has issued the following changes to their policy effective December 2018.
1. Clergy will not be able to view denominational lists at the front desk.
2. Clergy will not be able to obtain patient information at the front desk unless they have the patient’s name.
3. If the patient indicates a congregational affiliation in the admissions interview, the Chaplain will call the congregation. If the patient indicates to the Chaplain on his or her rounds that he or she belongs to a particular congregation and gives permission the Chaplain will call the congregation.
4. In an emergency situation if the patient or family indicates a congregational affiliation to the Chaplain or other staff and gives permission to call the congregation, every effort will be made to notify the congregation.

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

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.

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!

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.

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, feel free to call or text me at 717-357-8051. Thank you!

Holly Fletcher
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 one would treat 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