

*Church of the Immaculate Heart of Mary*  
**The Fourth Sunday of Lent**  
*Laetare Sunday*  
**March 18, 2012**

In today's Gospel we hear a sad condemnation—that the light came into the world, but that people preferred the darkness. Lent is a time when we acknowledge our own personal struggle with darkness and ask for God's grace to walk in the light. Let us begin today's worship by admitting our sinfulness and asking each other for prayer.

  
**Masses of the Week**

**Beginning March 12, 2012**

8:00 am Daily Mass

<b>MON:</b> Roseanna Villa Perkins (SI)	Mildred Christ
<b>TUES:</b> Theresa L. Hammerbacher	Pauline Simon (S.I.)
<b>WED:</b> Robert Gallagher	Ann M. Connolly
<b>THURS:</b> Catherine E. Saffran	Joan C. Kirstukas
<b>FRI:</b> Eileen M. Lawlor	Louise Jean Deems
<b>SAT:</b> Dana Victoria Knesal	Melvin Cunningham

**Saturday, March 17, 2012**

**4:30 PM:** Diane DeSantis Genevieve Morawski

**6:00 PM:** Leroy Tischa

**Sunday, March 18, 2012**

**7:30 AM:** Mildred Nagle

**9:00 AM:** Herbert J. Hand, Jr. Donald Swan

**10:30 AM People of the Parish**

**Noon:** Salvatore & Sigismonda Rotondi

**Fri 1:30 PM School Mass** Carol Mueller

**N.H. – indicates Nursing Home**

**S.I. – indicates Special Intention**

**SCRIPTURE READINGS for March 25, 2012**

**First:** Jer 31:31-34 God will write the divine law upon our hearts.

**Second:** Heb. 5:7-9 Jesus prayed to be saved from death, but was obedient.

**Gospel:** John 12:20-33. Only if a grain of wheat dies does it produce fruit.

**Prayer Shawls:** If you or someone you know needs the comfort and prayers of a "prayer shawl", know that it is available to you with a call to Pat Novak, 410-321-1438.

**IHM SODALITY** will host an **EASTER BAZAAR** (sweets, jewelry, tombola, crafts) after all weekend masses on March 31 and April 1. Everyone welcome. Refreshments served.

**IHM SODALITY** - Are YOU interested in joining our organization? Contact Gloria Dayhoff, 410-665-2902, for information. Reception of new Sodalists to take place in May.

**PRAYER CHAIN** If you have a PRAYER REQUEST call any member of the IHM Prayer Chain: Call Mary Ann Thaler 410-668-7738, Corrine Kelly 410 -252-2009

**Collections for the Weekend of March 11, 2012**

Envelope Donations	\$	7980.00
Loose	\$	1697.24
Children	\$	76.42
Second Collection	\$	2204.25 Youth Ed.
Total	\$	11957.73
Less Cathedraticum	\$	1793.65
Available for Parish	\$	10164.08
Poor Box	\$	585.72

**ELECTRONIC GIVING AT IHM.** – Electric Giving is a direct payment program whereby your contribution is debited automatically from either your checking or saving account, or it can be charged to your credit card. Your contributions to the collection can be weekly, semi-monthly or monthly. Sign-up forms are available at the parish office in the pamphlet rack in the back of Church or can be downloaded from the parish website.

**ENROLL IN ELECTRONIC GIVING  
 WIN A FREE KINDLE FIRE!!**

Sign up now for electronic giving, our offertory giving program, and be entered into a drawing for a FREE Kindle Fire!! Current electronic offertory givers are eligible. Visit our parish website to download the form. Everyone who signs up between now and May 10<sup>th</sup> will be entered into the **Kindle Fire** drawing so sign up today!!

**RESPECT LIFE** - Please go to "Women Speak for Themselves" at [www.womenspeakforthemselves.com](http://www.womenspeakforthemselves.com) to read the entire open letter to President Obama, Secretary Sebelius, and Members of Congress. It reads in part: "We are women who support the competing voice offered by Catholic Institutions on matters of sex, marriage and family life. Most of us are Catholic, but some are not. We are Democrats, Republicans and Independents. Many, at some point in our careers, have worked for a Catholic Institution. We are proud to have been part of the religious mission of that school, or hospital, or social service organization. We are proud to have been associated not only with the work Catholic Institutions perform in the community - particularly for the most vulnerable -- but also with the shared sense of purpose found among colleagues who chose their job because, in a religious institution, a job is always also a vocation....." (from Linda Brenegan, Archdiocese Respect Life Office) **If you wish to add your name to this letter, follow the instructions on the website. If you wish to add your name, but do not have access to a computer, call Betty Steinbacher at 410 665-8645 and I will do it for you.**

**Please Remember God's Poor by use of the  
 Poor Boxes as you leave Mass each Weekend**

**PRAY FOR VOCATIONS**

Fr. Mike is sponsoring a *Pilgrimage to the Holy Land*, November 7 to 16, 2012. If you are interested in experiencing the land and the places that are so important to the foundation of our faith, please contact, Fr. Michael Carrion at 410-668-7935, ext. 203 or at [mcarrion@immaculateheartofmary.com](mailto:mcarrion@immaculateheartofmary.com). Flyers are also available in the back of Church. We also have a link with more information on the Parish Website.

*Fr. Mike*

**CATHOLIC REVIEW SUBSCRIPTION** - Our Annual **CATHOLIC REVIEW SUBSCRIPTION** letters have been mailed. You may return the enclosed envelope by mail or in the collection basket. If you are not receiving The Catholic Review and would like to do so, please call the parish office at 410-668-7935 and speak with Dolores or email [dschiavone@immaculateheartofmary.com](mailto:dschiavone@immaculateheartofmary.com)

**Thanks** to all the parishioners for their donation of food to our pantry the past weekend. We collected 102 bags of food. If you are away the week of the drive, you can bring your food on another Sunday.

Please note the **April food drive** for our *St. Vincent de Paul* Pantry will be on April 1<sup>st</sup> since Easter Sunday is on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of the month. Our Pantry is very low. Please donate to our Food Pantry.

**Our Parish Seder Meal will be celebrated on March 25, at 4:30pm in the School Gym.** All parishioners are invited to attend. The ticket price for the Seder Meal is \$5 per person, children under 4 are free. Reservations are required. Tickets will be available after this weekend's Masses.

As part of the celebration a hot meal will be served consisting of roast lamb, potatoes, a vegetable and Matzo (the unleavened bread) with wine or juice, coffee and tea and dessert.

The **Seder** (or Passover) meal is the annual celebration of the Jewish people commemorating the passage of their ancestors from slavery in Egypt to freedom in the Promised land. For Christians is the setting of Christ's Last Supper with his apostles the night before he died when He gave us the gift of the Eucharist and told them to "Do this in memory of Me", thus instituting the sacraments of Eucharist and Holy Orders. We especially encourage the families of those preparing for First Eucharist to take advantage of this opportunity.

**IHM TRAVEL GROUP - MYRTLE BEACH S.C. - 5 DAYS - 4 NIGHTS MAY 14-18, 2012. PRICE - \$414.00 PLUS \$99.00 FOR SINGLE.** Please contact Dot Raab for more information at 410-668-7760.

**CATHOLIC MEN'S FELLOWSHIP CONFERENCE**, March 24th at Immaculate Conception parish - 8:30 - 3:30. For more information contact Don Ward 410-882-6644 or [www.catholicmensfellowship.com](http://www.catholicmensfellowship.com).

## LENTEN SCHEDULE

"Change our Hearts, Change our Minds, Change our Lives"

**REGULATIONS FOR FAST AND ABSTINENCE** - **Fasting** is to be observed on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday by all 18 years of age and older, who have not yet celebrated their 59th birthday. On a fast day one full meal is allowed. Two other meals, sufficient to maintain strength, may be taken according to each one's needs, but together they should not equal another full meal. Eating between meals is not permitted, but liquids, including milk and juices, are allowed.

**Abstinence** is observed by all 14 years of age and older. On days of abstinence no meat is allowed. Note that when health or ability to work would be seriously affected, the law does not oblige. Ash Wednesday, all the Fridays of Lent and Good Friday are days of abstinence.

*Note:* If a person is unable to observe the above regulations due to ill health or other serious reasons, other suitable forms of self-denial are encouraged

**STATIONS OF THE CROSS:** Friday Mornings after the 8:00 AM Mass and 7:00 PM Friday evenings during Lent.

**RECONCILIATION** - Wednesday after the 8:00 AM Mass and Saturday at 3:45 PM. (except Holy Saturday) Tuesday, March 27, Regional Reconciliation Service at St. Ursula Parish at 7:00 pm

Our next **Simple Supper** will be on Friday, March 30<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 PM followed by the Mime Stations of the Cross

**Holy Thursday Adoration:** Following the Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper on Holy Thursday (April 5) there will be adoration at the repository in the convent chapel until 11:00pm. In order for the Blessed Sacrament not to be left unattended, we have scheduled times for adoration. There is a bulletin board with sign up times, located in the vestibule of the church. Please take a moment to select your time(s) and indicate this on the sheets.

**Music During Lent:** The church documents direct that instruments be used as necessary for accompaniment of singing only, during Lent. Therefore there will not be any prelude or postlude music, the time before and after Mass in the absence of music rather being used for quiet reflective prayer in this penitential season.

**Lenten Opportunity:** In conjunction with our Lenten theme, you are invited to take one of the slips at the entrances to the church and write how you might be changing your heart, mind and life this Lent. The slips can be deposited in the large jar in the sanctuary near the Lenten Banner and will be offered up in prayer during this penitential season.