

THE PARISH OF IMMACULATE CONCEPTION & ASSUMPTION OF OUR LADY

53 Winter Hill Road, Tuckahoe, New York 10707

www.assumption-immaculate.org

Rectory & Cemetery: 961-3643 • Immaculate Conception School: 961-3785 • Parish School of Religion: 961-1076

Pastoral Staff

Rev. Anthony Sorgie, Pastor
Rev. Paul Waddell, Parochial Vicar
Deacon Anthony Viola

Parish Staff

Ms. Maureen Harten, Principal
Miss Katy Feeney, Director - Religious Ed
Sr. Cora Lombardo, Director - Adult Faith Formation

Weekend Masses:

Saturday Evening

4:00 PM at Assumption
5:00 PM at Immaculate Conception

Sunday at Immaculate Conception:

8:00 AM • 10:00 AM • 12:00 PM • 5:00 PM

Sunday at Assumption:

9:00 AM

Bilingual Italian/English Mass/Mass Italiano:

9:00 AM at Assumption
on the first Sunday of the month

Spanish Mass/Misa en Español:

12:00 PM at Assumption
todos los Domingos

Weekday Masses:

(recitation of the Rosary before Mass)

Monday - Friday:

7:30 AM at Assumption
8:30 AM • 12:00 PM at Immaculate Conception

Saturday:

8:30 AM at both Churches

Holy Day Masses:

Vigil: 7:30 PM at Immaculate Conception
Solemnity: 8:30 AM, 12:00 Noon and 7:30 PM
at Immaculate Conception
7:30 AM at Assumption (Monday-Friday only)

Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confessions)

Assumption on Saturday: 3:30 - 3:55 PM
Immaculate Conception on Saturday: 4:00 - 5:00 PM
or by appointment

Miraculous Medal Novena:

Mondays after 12:00 PM Mass
with 7:00 PM Benediction

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament:

Mondays and First Fridays after the 12:00 PM Mass
at Immaculate Conception
Reposition and Benediction is at 7:00 PM

See Our Christmas Mass Schedule on Page 3



Mary set out and traveled to the hill country in haste to a town of Judah, where she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the infant leaped in her womb, and Elizabeth, filled with the Holy Spirit, cried out in a loud voice and said, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. And how does this happen to me, that the mother of my Lord should come to me? For at the moment the sound of your greeting reached my ears, the infant in my womb leaped for joy. Blessed are you who believed that what was spoken to you by the Lord would be fulfilled."

Luke 1:39-45

December 20, 2015
Fourth Sunday of Advent

MISSION STATEMENT

With the Eucharist as our source, Mary as our patroness and the Holy Spirit as our guide, we the Roman Catholic Parish of Immaculate Conception and Assumption of Our Lady, Tuckahoe, seek to give meaning to our faith by following Christ's command to care for His people, by fostering actions that nourish both the spiritual and social needs of our people and build community within and without our parish.



From the Desk of Deacon Anthony

December 20, 2015

Advent - The Season of Signs

Four candles burning one after the other on a wreath of green, each candle silently brings us one week closer to Christmas. We are almost there!

Some Advent signs are sacred; some are secular. Some Advent signs are from the past, to remind us and point us to things to come: John the Baptist, the Angel Gabriel, Zechariah, and Mary and Joseph to name a few. And, some signs of Advent inspire us to: STOP, LOOK, LISTEN!

The Advent wreath, a sign, traditionally contains four candles: three purple and one rose. Each candle represents one thousand years, to sum to the 4,000 years from Adam and Eve until the Birth of the Savior. The purple candles in particular symbolize the prayer, penance, and preparatory sacrifices and good works undertaken at this time. Purple dyes were so rare and costly that they were associated with royalty. The three purple candles also symbolize hope, peace, and love. These candles are lit on the first, second, and fourth Sundays of Advent. The rose candle, which symbolizes joy, was lit on the third Sunday.

On this the last Sunday before Christmas; our Gospel reading prepares us to witness Christ's birth by showing us how Jesus was recognized as Israel's long-awaited Messiah even before his birth. The Gospel turns our attention from the ministry of John the Baptist to the events that preceded John the Baptist's birth. St. Luke pairs the birth of John the Baptist and Jesus, establishing John's early connection to the Messiah.

Our Gospel reading recalls Mary's actions after the announcement of Jesus' incarnation by the angel Gabriel. Mary goes to visit Elizabeth, her cousin, who is also with child. Elizabeth greets Mary with full recognition of the roles that they and their unborn children will play in God's plan for salvation. Both women recall and echo God's history of showing favor upon the people of Israel.

In St. Luke's Gospel the Holy Spirit helps reveal Jesus' identity as God to those who believe. Elizabeth is filled with the Holy Spirit and sings Mary's praise because she bears the Lord. We sing these words of praise to Mary in the Hail Mary. Even John the Baptist, the unborn child in Elizabeth's womb, is said to recognize the presence of the Lord and leaps for joy.

It is appropriate in this season of Advent that we consider the role of Mary in God's plan of salvation. Elizabeth describes Mary as the first disciple, as the one who believed that God's word to her would be fulfilled. Mary's faith enabled her to recognize the work of God in her people's history and in her own life. Her openness to God allowed God to work through her so that salvation might come to everyone. Because of her "Fiat" her "Yes", Mary is a model and symbol of the Church. May we be like Mary, open and cooperative in God's plan for salvation!

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

FIRST READING: MICAH 5:1-4A

This famous passage from the prophet Micah foretells how *the ruler of Israel, whose origin is from of old* will come from Bethlehem. It tells also how He will bring peace.

SECOND READING: HEBREWS 10:5-10

In the letter to the Hebrews we are told that *a body you prepared for me* and indeed, Christ did come in human form. With Him, sacrifices and offerings, made according to the law, are no longer required. Jesus came to do the will of the Father. That will of the Father, the Passion - Death - Resurrection of the Son, has consecrated us all. He is our salvation.

GOSPEL: LUKE 1:39-45

This passage from St. Luke, which takes place after the Annunciation, brings the Blessed Mother to her cousin, Elizabeth, who is about six months pregnant with St. John the Baptist. Immediately the unborn child is aware of the presence of the Savior and his reaction alerts his mother to the situation. Elizabeth's "Blessed are you who believed ..." is in contrast to the angel's annunciation to Zechariah whose response was "How shall I know this? ..."

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS - HOLY FAMILY SUNDAY

First Reading: Sirach 3:2-6, 12-14 • Second Reading: Colossians 3:12-21 • Gospel: Luke 2:41-52

Immaculate Conception Church

Saturday, December 19 <i>Vigil: Fourth Sunday of Advent</i>		
5:00 PM	Thomas & Katherine Huvane	Mem.
Sunday, December 20 <i>Fourth Sunday of Advent</i>		
8:00 AM	Reno Righetti	Mem.
10:00 AM	John O'Connor	Mem.
12:00 PM	Tierney & McNulty Families	Mem.
5:00 PM	Cornelius J. Wallace	1 st Ann.
Monday, December 21 <i>St. Peter Canisius</i>		
8:30 AM	Rosa Solano	Mem.
12:00 PM	Michele Sollecito	Mem.
Tuesday, December 22 <i>Late Advent Weekday</i>		
8:30 AM	Michael & Jennie Yasso	Mem.
12:00 PM	Bruno Caracciolo	Mem.
Wednesday, December 23 <i>St. John of Kanty</i>		
8:30 AM	Walter Vollmoeller	Mem.
12:00 PM	Francesco Segreti	Mem.
Thursday, December 24 <i>Late Advent Weekday</i>		
8:30 AM	Josephine Perlitz	Mem.
5:00 PM ^U	Said H. Soliman	Mem.
5:00 PM _L	Maria & Armando Merone	Mem.
Friday, December 25 <i>Nativity of the Lord</i>		
12:00 AM	Francisco & Elvira Trueba	Mem.
8:00 AM	Anne Robert Fetchko	Mem.
10:00 AM	Deceased of Packes, Lopilato & Lazzaro Families	
12:00 PM ^U	Rose & Pasquale C. D'Onofrio	Mem.
12:15 PM _L	Catherine Mulhern	Mem.
Saturday, December 26 <i>St. Stephen</i>		
8:30 AM	Zarah Kasraie	Mem.
Saturday, December 26 <i>Vigil: Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph</i>		
5:00 PM	Ralph Natale	Mem.
Sunday, December 27 <i>Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph</i>		
8:00 AM	Anna Di Gioia	Mem.
10:00 AM	Anthony Reino	Mem.
12:00 PM	Sabino A. Nardone	Mem.
5:00 PM	Louise De Pierro	Mem.

Assumption Church

Sat	12/19	4:00 PM	Louise Di Rienzo	Mem.
Sun	12/20	9:00 AM	Deceased of Piro & Rossi Families	Mem.
		12:00 PM	Parishioners and Their Families	
Mon	12/21	7:30 AM	Intentions of John & Jean Gildea	Living
Tues	12/22	7:30 AM	Doris Tierney	Mem.
Wed	12/23	7:30 AM	Elizabeth, John, Esther, Rita & Victor Carapella	Mem.
Thur	12/24	7:30 AM	Robert Burns	Mem.
		4:00 PM	Parishioners and Their Families	
		10:00 PM	Michael & Rosemarie Pinto, Sr.	Mem.
Fri	12/25	9:00 AM	Luigi Perini	Mem.
		12:00 PM	Maria Minici	Mem.
Sat	12/26	8:30 AM	Barbara Marcoccia	Mem.
		4:00 PM	Giovanni Vinci	Mem.
Sun	12/27	9:00 AM	Giuseppe & Maria Marcoccia	Mem.
		12:00 PM	<i>La Comunidad Hispana</i>	

YEAR OF MERCY PRAYER

Lord Jesus Christ,
 you have taught us to be merciful
 like the heavenly Father,
 and have told us that whoever sees you sees Him.
 Show us your face and we will be saved.
 Your loving gaze freed Zacchaeus and Matthew
 from being enslaved by money;
 the adulteress and Magdalene
 from seeking happiness only in created things;
 made Peter weep after his betrayal,
 and assured Paradise to the repentant thief.
 Let us hear, as if addressed to each one of us,
 the words that you spoke to the Samaritan woman:
 "If you knew the gift of God!"
 You are the visible face of the invisible Father,
 of the God who manifests his power above all by
 forgiveness and mercy:
 let the Church be your visible face in the world,
 its Lord risen and glorified.
 You willed that your ministers would also be clothed in
 weakness in order that they may feel compassion for
 those in ignorance and error:
 let everyone who approaches them feel sought after,
 loved, and forgiven by God.
 Send your Spirit and consecrate every one of us with its
 anointing, so that the Jubilee of Mercy may be a
 year of grace from the Lord,
 and your Church, with renewed enthusiasm,
 may bring good news to the poor,
 proclaim liberty to captives and the oppressed,
 and restore sight to the blind.
 We ask this through the intercession of
 Mary, Mother of Mercy,
 you who live and reign with the Father and the Holy
 Spirit for ever and ever. Amen.

The Sacrament of Baptism: Baptisms are scheduled at 1:30 PM on select Sundays at Immaculate Conception or Assumption. Call the rectory as soon as possible to make arrangements. Baptismal catechesis (instruction) is offered on one Thursday of each month.

The Sacrament of Matrimony: Please call Fr. Sorgie, our pastor, to arrange for the date and church of your wedding at least six months in advance, prior to any other plans for your expected wedding date. Note: there are no weddings on Sunday.

Communion Calls for the Home Bound: Weekly or monthly. Please call the rectory to arrange visitations.

Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick: Anytime day or night. Call 961-3643.

Sacrament of Reconciliation: Anytime - call the priest on duty: 961-3643. Also on Saturdays: 3:30-3:55 PM at Assumption, 4:00-5:00 at Immaculate Conception.

Registration: New Parishioners may register by visiting one of the priests or by calling the rectory: 961-3643.


Wedding Banns
 Jossua Hernandez & Kristen Arditi

Please Remember to Pray for the Sick:

Bernadette Gleason Culhane • Maria Rose D'Onofrio
 Rose De Benedictis • Elena DiLeo • Gabe Durante
 Maria Faber • Alfred Fenzel • Maddy Gordon
 Jacqueline Henwood • Ana Herrera
 Danny MacMenamin • Ian Manzares
 Anna Maria Mariello • William McQuade
 Barbara Mechling • Angelo Nurzia • Paula Piluso
 William Ranieri • John Risi • Margaret Scott
 Lawrence Smith • Mary Patricia Spruck
 Patricia Tavolilla • Lisa Vertullo • Frank Zeolla

and for the Departed:

and for those who serve our country



Bread & Wine

Immaculate Conception

In Memory of Catherine Mulhern
 From: Annmarie & Dave Flannery

Sanctuary Candle

Immaculate Conception

In Memory of Elsa Cepero
 From: The Gammon Family

Sanctuary Candle

Assumption

In Memory of Rita De Luca
 From: Paula De Luca



SCHEDULE

Monday, December 21

Exposition	12:30 - 7:00 PM	Immaculate Conception
Bereavement Support	7:00 PM	Lower Church
Knights of Columbus	7:45 PM	Fr. Fata Hall

Tuesday, December 22

Choir	7:30 PM	Immaculate Conception
Legion of Mary	7:30 PM	Meeting House

Wednesday, December 23

Cenacles of Life	6:00 PM	Immaculate Conception
Bible Study	7:30 PM	Lower Rectory

Thursday, December 24

Christmas Eve - Special Mass Schedule

Friday, December 25

Christmas Day - Special Mass Schedule

Monday, December 28

Exposition	12:30 - 7:00 PM	Immaculate Conception
Altar Rosary Society	7:00 PM	Fr. Fata Hall

**Christmas &
 New Year Schedule**

ASSUMPTION

MASSES FOR CHRISTMAS

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 24

4:00 PM in Vigil
 Concert at 9:30 PM followed by
 Mass of Midnight at 10:00 PM

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 25

9:00 AM
 12:00 PM in Spanish

SOLEMNITY OF MARY

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 31

4:00 PM in Vigil

FRIDAY, JANUARY 1

9:00 AM
 12:00 PM in Spanish



**IMMACULATE
 CONCEPTION**

MASSES FOR CHRISTMAS

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 24

5:00 PM in Vigil – Upper and Lower Church
 Concert at 11:30 PM followed by
 Mass of Midnight at 12:00 AM

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 25

8:00 AM, 10:00 AM
 12:00 PM (Upper Church) • 12:15 PM – Lower Church
 There will be no 5:00 PM Mass on Christmas Day

SOLEMNITY OF MARY

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 31

5:00 PM in Vigil

At 11:00 PM there will be a Holy Hour
 with Benediction at Midnight

FRIDAY, JANUARY 1

8:00 AM • 10:00 AM • 12:00 PM
 There will be no 5:00 PM Mass on January 1

REAL MEN PRAY THE ROSARY

We need the voices of fathers, stepfathers, grandfathers, uncles and godfathers to petition pray for the end of abortion, euthanasia, embryonic stem cell research, cloning and assisted suicide. Please join the Cenacles of Life. We meet Wednesdays at 6:00 PM at Immaculate Conception to pray before the tabernacle to defend the sanctity of life.

THE GIFT OF A CATHOLIC EDUCATION

This Christmas, give the gift of a Catholic education. Catholic Schools in the Archdiocese of New York are Christ-centered, academically excellent, and welcoming communities that teach students to be life-long learners and leaders energized by fidelity to Christ, the Church, and one another.

ICS OPEN HOUSE – MONDAY, JANUARY 31

Immaculate Conception School will host its next Open House on Sunday, January 31 from 11:00 AM until 1:00 PM. Prospective parents are invited to attend the 10:00 AM Mass and visit the school after Mass until 11:00 AM. Families can also visit during school hours: join us on Tuesday, February 2 for our *Touring Tuesday* event from 9:00 AM until 11:00 AM.

TOURING TUESDAYS

ICS is holding *Touring Tuesdays* for parents of prospective students. On each Tuesday from 9 to 11 AM, tours will be offered for parents looking for a wonderful school to send their children.

ICS NEWS

On Saturday, December 5th, our ICS cafeteria was turned into a Christmas wonderland to welcome Santa Claus! ICS students and their families enjoyed yummy treats, a hot chocolate station, crafts, and of course, pictures with the guest of honor himself!

ICS parent, Natalia Vivas was on hand to photograph everyone's meeting with Santa and created Christmas Photo Cards for families. Check out pictures:

<http://tinyurl.com/ztblo8m>

Big thanks to our Breakfast with Santa chairs, Jennifer Zeunik and Kristina Pordage, and to the Fathers' Club for their help with refreshments! What a wonderful way to kick off the Christmas Season!

RELIGIOUS ED PROGRAM

As the final days before we celebrate the birth of the Lord approach, there are no classes for Religious Ed this week. See you at Mass on the 24th or 25th for the great holy day!

Immaculate Conception Choir Invitation

We are currently looking for new members in all sections: Sopranos, Altos, Tenors and Basses.

The choir leads the liturgical singing at the 10:00 AM Mass each Sunday, plus occasional services such as Evening Prayer, Lessons and Carols, Christmas and Holy Week. The music is drawn from choral anthems, motets, hymns and chant appropriate for the Liturgy.

Tuesday Rehearsals: 7:30 - 9:00 PM
Sunday Mass: 10:00 AM
with warm-up at 9:30 AM

For more details regarding the Choir, please come up to the choir loft and speak to Robert Harvey after Mass.

USING THE PARISH'S FLOCKNOTE ONLINE COMMUNICATIONS TOOL

You may have heard the Archdiocese has subscribed all parishes to a web based communications tool called *Flocknote*. This tool has replaced the way we used to send our e-Blasts.

The News Highlights section of the front page of our web site (www.assumption-immaculate.org) has a link to complete details about how you can get information in a timely manner.

ADULT FAITH FORMATION

PARENTS CONNECT

TUESDAY, JANUARY 12

On Tuesday, January 12, from 10:00 to 11:30 AM, join other parents in the Lower Rectory to discuss a chapter in the book, *God Knows Parenting is a Wild Ride*. The book is not required – it is a springboard to conversation. Parents Connect provides an opportunity for you to connect and learn from other parents in a welcoming, open, and faith-filled environment.

RSVP SR. CORA FOR ADULT FAITH FORMATION:
Call: 961-3643 • Visit: <http://iccaff.org/contact-us>



From the Parish Nurse

Sleep

Tips for Better Sleep

- Establish consistent sleep and wake schedules, even on weekends.
- Create a regular, relaxing bedtime routine (hot bath, listening to soothing music).
- Create a sleep-conducive environment that is dark, quiet, comfortable and cool.
- Sleep on comfortable mattresses and pillows.
- Avoid watching TV, reading or using your computer in the bedroom.
- Finish eating at least 2-3 hours before your regular bedtime.
- Exercise regularly.

If you have any questions or suggestions for topics that you would like to see covered, leave your name and number at the parish office for Susan to contact you, or you may e-mail her at saa38@aol.com. Place "Parish Nurse" in the subject area.

www.sleepfoundation.org/article/how-sleep-works/how-much-sleep-do-we-really-need

Information Compiled by: Susan Anello, MS BSN RN

NEXT WEEKEND'S

CELEBRANTS:

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION:

Saturday December 26:

5:00 PM: Fr. Sorgie

Sunday, December 27:

8:00 AM: To Be Determined

10:00 AM: Fr. Tierney

12:00 PM Fr. Kishore O.C.D.

5:00 PM: Fr. Paul

ASSUMPTION

Saturday December 26:

4:00 PM: Fr. Kishore O.C.D.

Sunday, December 27:

9:00 AM: Fr. Sorgie

12:00 PM: Fr. Paul



If you have questions about any aspect of our Catholic Church and Faith, just drop us a note or call and we will answer them to the best of our ability.

16. WHY DO CATHOLICS DECORATE CHRISTMAS TREES?

The custom of Christians decorating Christmas Trees goes back to a legend involving St. Boniface, the famous Patron Saint of the Conversion of the German people.

One Christmas Eve, St. Boniface came upon a young man tied to an oak tree about to be sacrificed to a pagan god. Furious, St. Boniface chopped down the oak.

Then, St. Boniface encouraged the townspeople to bring a fir tree into town, place candles on its branches, and listen to the story of the Nativity. Many who heard were converted.

Different peoples have different customs, but the reading of the story of Christ's Birth or the tradition of setting up the Christmas Scene beneath the tree have also been an integral part of remembering why we celebrate Christmas at all: Jesus Christ, our Savior is born!!!!!!

One of the most beautiful moments in history was that when pregnancy met pregnancy when child-bearers became the first heralds of the King of Kings. All pagan religions begin with the teachings of adults, but Christianity begins with the birth of a Child. From that day to this, Christians have ever been the defenders of the family and the love of generation. If we ever sat down to write out what we would expect the Infinite God to do, certainly the last thing we would expect would be to see Him imprisoned in a carnal ciborium for nine months; and the next to last thing we would expect is that the "greatest man ever born of woman" while yet in his mother's womb, would salute the yet imprisoned God-man. But this is precisely what took place in the Visitation.

Archbishop Fulton Sheen
(World's First Love)

NEW TO THE PARISH? REGISTER ONLINE:

www.assumption-immaculate.org/icc/icc_regform.php

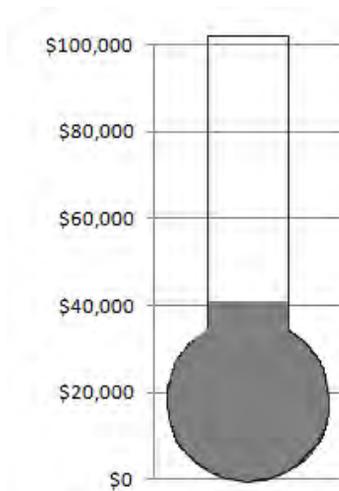
2016 BONANZA LOTTERY

Parish Families should have received a letter from our pastor about our new Bonanza Lottery fund raiser, along with four Bonanza tickets. Starting in mid-January 2016, drawings for cash prizes will be held each week through December 8. Two tickets will be drawn each week for \$200 prizes. Additionally, there will be three drawings for \$2,000 prizes. Winning tickets will be re-entered for subsequent drawings - so it is possible to win multiple prizes. There will be a total of 87 prizes.

Feel free to sell tickets, or partner with family and friends. Extra tickets will be available at the rectory and in the school offices.

Please fill out the bottom portion of the ticket(s), place it with your **\$50 per ticket** into the envelope provided, and return it in the collection at Mass, by mail, or drop it off at the rectory office. Thank you, as always, for your generosity and stewardship. Please continue to pray for our Parish, our clergy, and the staff members who serve you.

**RESULTS AS OF DECEMBER 11:
\$41,200**



TREE OF LIFE MEMORIALS AVAILABLE FOR EACH CHURCH

There are many opportunities to remember, honor, or memorialize an occasion or a person on the *Tree of Life*. If you have a special love for our churches, consider having a leaf engraved and placed on the *Tree of Life*. The cost for the remaining leaves is \$1,500 per leaf.



STEWARDSHIP FOR DECEMBER 13

Because this bulletin was due early, the stewardship numbers for December 13 were not available. They will be in the bulletin of December 20.

ELECTRONIC GIVING

As part of our Stewardship program, we ask you to think about giving your Sunday and Holy Day collections electronically. You can fulfill your stewardship commitment using regular payments from your checking account, savings account or credit card. You can set it up with your bank or credit card company, or you can use **ParishPay**. Currently **115** parish families have enrolled in ParishPay, which offers flexible payment options as well as the opportunity of giving a one-time donation when circumstances such as vacation or extreme weather conditions prohibit you from attending Mass. For more information, visit

www.assumption-immaculate.org/icc/parishpay.php

If you have any questions, please call Chris Catania: 961-3643

NEW MISSALETTE & HYMNAL COVERS

We Have 393 New Covers!

407 Covers are still available

This is an inexpensive opportunity to remember a loved one, honor someone or some event. Please cut out this form and place it in an envelope with your Memorial or Honorarium and \$10 per cover. Send it in, drop it in the collection basket, or bring it to the rectory office.

Name: _____

Phone Number: _____

Message: _____

(limited to one line) Examples:

- In Memory of Mary Smith
- Class of 2016
- In Honor of Sr. Cora
- To Thank Our Blessed Mother

Include a separate sheet for additional covers

Amount enclosed \$ _____

cash check





KEEP CHRIST IN CHRISTMAS

The Knights of Columbus, Rev. John A. Keogh Council, as part of the Order's "Keep Christ in Christmas" campaign have Religious **Christmas Cards** and **Keep Christ in Christmas car magnets** and **lawn signs** available for sale. If you or someone you know would like to purchase any of the beautiful cards, magnets or lawn signs that express the true meaning of the Christmas Season, please contact Paul Parisi: 943-6249. We will deliver the items to you. Join in the campaign to "Keep Christ in Christmas".

DEALING WITH GRIEF DURING THE HOLIDAY SEASON

Coping with the holidays can be especially difficult for those who have recently lost a loved one. The Bereavement Support Group of the Parish of Immaculate Conception and Assumption of Our Lady will focus on how to deal with grief during the holiday season.

On **Monday, December 21** Fr. Sorgie will lead us in prayer during our annual **Candle Lighting Ceremony**, which will take place in the **Lower Church**.



It is a special evening to honor the memory of our loved ones in prayer, followed by a social evening with refreshments. Please bring a picture of your loved one.

The Candle Lighting Ceremony will be 7:00 PM – 8:30 PM. Our meetings are ecumenical – all are welcome.

If you are struggling with coping, join us for our meetings and the Candle Lighting Ceremony. Please contact us at bereavement@icc-coa.org or call 793-7267 to register for any of our events.

HOPE SOUP KITCHEN - JANUARY 13 & 19

Due to the increased number of people in need of meals at the HOPE soup kitchen, we are reaching beyond our dedicated group of "Volunteer Angels" who cook and donate food once a month to anyone able to help whenever possible.

The next scheduled days for our Parish are **Wednesday, January 13** and **Tuesday, January 19**. The menu consists of baked chicken (legs and thighs) over chicken-flavored rice, 2 large bags of frozen (uncooked) cut green beans, 2 large bags of mixed salad greens and a bottle of French dressing (donations of any of the above are appreciated).

Aluminum pans or plastic bags will be available on the back porch of the rectory for the cooked entree (enough for 10-15 people). Food should be brought to the Immaculate Conception rectory back porch by 2:30 PM on the designated days. For information, call Kathy Doscher: 337-3356 or visit:

www.assumption-immaculate.org/ministries/hope.php

BUS TO WASHINGTON DC FOR THE 43RD ANNIVERSARY MARCH FOR LIFE

If you would like to participate in the March for Life on **Friday, January 22**, there will be a bus leaving from the Immaculate Conception parking lot at 6:00 AM sharp (please arrive at 5:30) and returning at about 10:30 PM. The cost is \$45 per person (\$20 for students). For more information or to make a reservation, please call Ralph Guida: 779-0806. We suggest you bring lunch and wear comfortable shoes and layered clothing.

Pregnant? Need Help? 914-235-0505 or 1-800-640-0767.
Absolutely Confidential - Total Services Free.

LA COMUNIDAD HISPANA

LOS SACRAMENTOS

Sacramento de Reconciliación o Confesión: A cualquier hora. Llame al sacerdote del turno al 961-3643. Además, los días sábados de 3:30 a 3:55 PM en la Iglesia de la Asunción, y de 4:00 a 5:00 PM en la Iglesia de la Inmaculada Concepción.

El Sacramento del Bautismo: Los Bautismos deberán ser programados para efectuarse durante domingos seleccionados, en la iglesia de la Inmaculada Concepción. Por favor llamar a la rectoría a la brevedad posible para hacer los arreglos pertinentes. La Catequesis o Instrucción Bautismal se ofrece durante, un jueves seleccionado una vez al mes.

Primera Comunión y Confirmación: La Catequesis para prepararse a recibir estos Sacramentos se ofrece en las Clases de Religión de la Escuela Parroquial de la Inmaculada Concepción y deben registrarse en la oficina de la Escuela Parroquial de Formación Religiosa (*Parish School of Religion*): 961-1076.

El Sacramento del Matrimonio: Por favor llamar al Padre Sorgie, para acordar la fecha y la iglesia en la que se quiera efectuar el matrimonio. Se debe acordar fecha e iglesia con seis (6) meses de anticipación, previo a cualquier otro plan del matrimonial. Es importante saber que no se efectúan matrimonios durante los días domingos.

Sacramento de Extremaunción (Unción) de los enfermos: A cualquier hora del día o de la noche. Por favor llame al (914) 961-3643

Llamadas para la Comunión a los enfermos y confinados en casa: Semanal o mensualmente. Por favor llame a la rectoría para acordar las fechas de visita.

Registro de nuevos parroquianos: Se pueden registrar visitando uno de los sacerdotes de las iglesias o llamando al (914) 961-3643

Requisitos: Para poder recibir todos los Sacramentos en nuestra parroquia, los interesados deben registrarse en la oficina parroquial de la Inmaculada Concepción para certificar que son católicos practicantes en nuestra Parroquia, y que asisten a Misa todos los domingos. Una vez registrados en la parroquia se les enviarán a su dirección postal unos sobres para poner la ofrenda dominical.

Si alguna persona desea celebrar alguno de los sacramentos en nuestra comunidad pero pertenecen a otra Parroquia, deberán presentar un permiso del párroco de la parroquia donde estén registrados. De igual modo, si están registrados en la Inmaculada Concepción y desean celebrar alguno de los sacramentos en otra parroquia, nuestro Párroco extenderá la constancia necesaria.

Misa en Español: La Misa se celebra *todos* los domingos a las 12:00 del mediodía en la Iglesia de la Asunción:
125 Wallace St • Tuckahoe, NY 10707

LAS POSADAS

Para el siglo XIX Las Posadas se encontraban ya firmemente instaladas en el interior de las casas, pero las concentraciones en las calles y en las iglesias no acabaron. Existen reseñas de aquellos años que describen varios tipos de posadas llevadas a cabo por diferentes grupos sociales como los de la alta aristocracia, quienes celebraban con suntuosidad y sin escatimar en decoración, belleza y variedades de figuras para el **nacimiento** y fuegos artificiales. Se dice que en aquellos jolgorios había actualidad, pero con la diferencia de que en aquel tiempo se tronaban ruidosos cohetes y se rezaba al momento de la entrada de los peregrinos, después de pedir posada. Desde la mitad del siglo XX, los adornos de faroles se reemplazaron por foquitos de colores y luces eléctricas. Ya no hay músicos vivos y se tocan discos para alegrar la fiesta. En vez de hacer estallar cohetes se distribuyen a los invitados centellantes luces de bengala. Se comenzaron a obsequiar frutas, cacahuates y canastitas con colación a la gente mayor. En el pasado eran canastas de porcelana que se guardaban como recuerdo, pero más tarde se hacían de palma tejida o de cartoncillo, adornadas con papel de china de colores. Hoy en día la colación se reparte en bolsas de plástico con detalles navideños. Actualmente no todas las familias conservan las costumbres del pasado y esto se ha agudizado niños vestidos de ángeles que llevaban túnicas de tela metálica con hilos de plata o de oro, penachos de plumas blancas, zapatos de satín blanco, bordados en oro y una profusión de finos diamantes y perlas en cintas para la cabeza, broches y collares. Por su parte, en las casas de la clase media se solía festejar durante nueve veladas. Los hogares eran adornados con heno, ramas de pino, farolas de papel o vidrio, y se celebraba la posada de manera muy parecida a la durante los últimos lustros. En muchas ocasiones, las posadas se han convertido en bailes de salón, donde ya no se recuerda la razón del festejo. Sin embargo, vale la pena revivir la tradición de las posadas clásicas como lo hacen en algunas vecindades o conjuntos habitacionales donde todos los vecinos colaboran, y cada quien se encarga de algún aspecto de los preparativos para hacer la ocasión lúcida y agradable. Para ello, te presentamos lo necesario para organizar una posada tradicional mexicana:

Peregrinos • Libro de letanías • Velas • Colación • Silbatos • Canastas de papel o de palma • Piñata • Soga o mecate • Fruta: cacahuates, mandarinas, limas, tejocotes, caña, etcétera • Luces de bengala • Papel picado • Si se desea, se puede repartir atole, buñuelos y/o tamales a los invitados.