

PALM SUNDAY

of the PASSION OF THE LORD

Hosanna!

Hosanna!

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!

THE ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

"O Mary, conceived without sin, pray for us who have recourse to you."

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SERVED BY

Rev. Herbert T. DeGaris-----*Pastor*
Deacon Philip Marino
Deacon John Sadowski
Rev. Msgr. William J. Foley-----*Pastor Emeritus*

THE SACRAMENT OF THE EUCHARIST

Sunday | Main Church in Stony Point

Saturday Evening Anticipated Mass----- 5:30 PM
Sunday Morning----- 9:30 and 11:30 AM

Sunday | Church in Tomkins Cove

Sunday Morning----- 7:30 AM

Weekday

Monday thru Friday----- 7:30 AM
Saturday----- 8:30 AM

Holy Days of Obligation: 5:30PM - Vigil 7:30AM and 12 Noon
St. Gregory Barbarigo at 7:30 PM

DEVOTIONS

Rosary: Recited daily after the 7:30 AM Mass

Novena: Monday after the 7:30 AM Mass the Miraculous Medal Novena is prayed.

RECTORY OFFICE

786-2742 | 942-2614 fax
r547@archny.org

Margie Celenza
Parish Secretary

Monday thru Friday:

9:00 AM to 12:00 PM;
1:00 PM to 5:00 PM

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION OFFICE

Ughetta Jilleba, *Coordinator*
Immaculate.prep@yahoo.com

24 East Main Street
Stony Point, NY 10980
786-5298

Tuesday: 9:00 AM - 8:30 PM

Thursday: 9:00 AM - 6:30 PM

THE SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION: Confessions are heard on Saturday afternoon from 4:00 to 5:00 PM and anytime upon reasonable request.

THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM: First & Third Sundays at 1:00 PM. Expectant parents may contact the Rectory Office to schedule one of the available Sundays. Adults are baptized and confirmed at the Easter Vigil after completing the stages of the Rite of Christian Initiation.

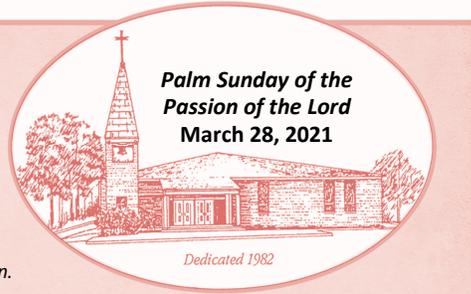
RCIA – Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults: A process for those who wish to enter the Catholic Faith, or for present Catholic individuals who after being baptized may need to receive the sacraments of Holy Eucharist and Confirmation. For more information, please call the Rectory Office.

THE SACRAMENT OF MATRIMONY: Since Catholic marriage requires a time of preparation, arrangements should begin at least six months before the proposed date of the wedding to allow for the Marriage Preparation Program and Natural Family Planning (NFP). It is required that either the bride or groom must be a registered and practicing member of Immaculate Conception Church.

PASTORAL CARE OF THE SICK: If you are planning to enter the hospital for surgery, experiencing a prolonged or serious illness, or are very weak due to advancement of age, please call the Parish Rectory to arrange for the sacraments of reconciliation, communion and anointing at home. Communal anointing of the sick is celebrated at mass during the Advent and Lenten seasons. Please notify us of any hospitalization so that we may be of assistance.

WELCOME TO NEW PARISHIONERS: The Immaculate Conception community warmly welcomes you! Please introduce yourself to the celebrant of the mass you are attending as you leave the church so that, on behalf of the entire community you may be welcomed. You can register at the Parish Office and receive any information needed from the office receptionist. Kindly notify us of any change of address.

MISSION STATEMENT: *Immaculate Conception Parish is a Christian community of disciples in the Roman Catholic tradition, called by Jesus, united in Eucharistic worship and growing in faith, hope and love. Nourished through the sacraments and strengthened by God's transforming love, we are empowered to know the gospel message and to witness to others. As Christian stewards, we are thankful for God's many gifts and we commit ourselves to share our time, talent and treasure in Christ-like service within our parish community and beyond. We seek God's blessing and guidance to be faithful to this mission.*



Dear Friends in Christ,

“Hosanna to the Son of David; blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord; Hosanna in the highest.” With those words of praise, the people welcome Jesus back to Jerusalem from the desert, and we begin the holiest of all weeks of our church year. We call today “Passion Sunday”. It is the passion of the Lord which dominates these first days of Holy Week leading up to the celebration of the Easter triduum beginning Holy Thursday evening.

A reminder that next Monday, March 29th, the Archdiocese of New York and the Dioceses of Brooklyn and Rockville Centre will be hosting RECONCILIATION MONDAY. In every parish in the metropolitan area, confession will be heard. Here at Immaculate Conception, confessions will be heard from 4:00 to 6:00 PM and again from 7:00 to 8:00 PM. If you can, please take advantage of this opportunity to be reconciled to the Father in preparation for the Glory of Easter. Confessions will be heard in the Main Church with two stations set up at the statues of St. Joseph and Mary. Social distancing will be in place.

I give thanks and glory to God for your generosity! In two weeks, our parish will be taking up the second most major collection of the year. It is through the generosity of the Christmas and Easter collections that a parish can meet its financial obligations. I do know for many of us that there is a struggle with weekly family finances, especially during this past year with the pandemic. My hope is that through prayerful reflection, each family may be able to give as generously as possible so that we

as a parish may continue to flourish. I genuinely believe that as we give from the heart, so much more will be given back to us by way of mercy and love.

If you have not yet done so, you may still return your Easter Flower Offering Envelope in today’s or in next week’s collection. You may list names of your beloved to memorialize your donation. The envelopes with names of loved ones, will be placed on the altar for Easter Sunday and remain all of the Octave Week of Easter.

The Final page of our bulletin includes the schedule of Masses and Services that will take place this Holy Week. There are minor changes due to us still at 33% occupancy of the church, (133 people at each mass). Considering we had no public worship for last year’s Holy Week, we thank God that we can gather this year.

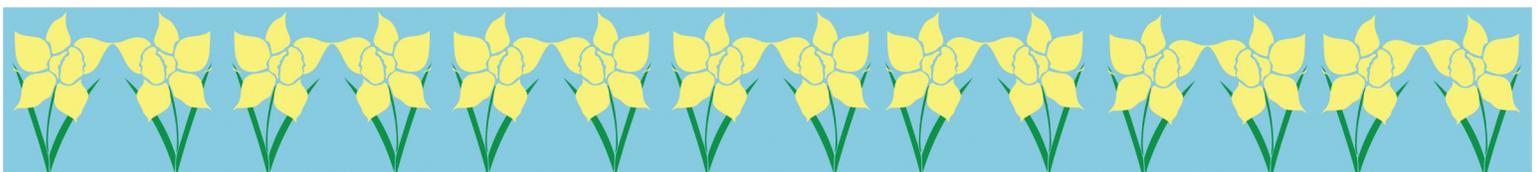
As we begin Holy Week, may we meditate on Christ’s love for us through his passion. He died so that we might live.

-Rev. Herbert T. DeGaris

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As of Friday, March 26, 2021, we have received 111 gifts amounting to \$25,515.00 pledged. This amount is 51% of our goal of \$50,500. Thank you to the 8 families who pledged at last weekend’s Commitment Drive. A few others arrived to the rectory. They will be counted in next week’s report.



My God, my God, why have you abandoned me?

SCHOOL OF RELIGION “My Time with Jesus” – Our Faith in Action

What is Natural Law?

The Natural Moral Law was defined by the Ancient Roman philosopher Cicero, who wrote in 52 BC, “For there is a true law: right reason. It is in conformity with nature, is diffused among all men, and is immutable and eternal;... (it is the supreme law which existed through the ages, before the mention of any written law or established state...Nor may any other law override it, nor may it be repealed as a whole or in part, nor have we power through Senate or people to free ourselves from it...Nor is it one thing at Rome and another at Athens, one thing today and another tomorrow, but one eternal and unalterable law, that binds all nations forever.”

Laws are rules of conduct given by competent authority for the common good. All law finds its truth in God’s eternal law and is established by reason participating in God’s loving care.

“Natural law is nothing other than the light of understanding placed in us by God; through it we know what we must do and what we must avoid. God has given this light or law at the creation.” (CCC1955)

The Natural Moral Law is the universal set of basic ethical norms every man and woman knows by virtue of reason. No rational person can be ignorant of it, nor can they claim ignorance. It applies to everyone, always and everywhere. There are no exceptions. Natural law addresses laws that aren’t written but nevertheless known by all men and women who have the use of reason - not written in stone or on paper, like the Commandments or the Bible. There is a natural reasoning within us given to us by God.

Natural law was the basis for the Nuremburg Trials after World War II and for all trials of those charged with crimes against humanity. Any human being is expected to know it is gravely immoral to intentionally kill one innocent person. Helping to kill innocent people (including abortion and euthanasia) is a crime against humanity regardless of religious, political, ethnic, academic or economic background.

Every human person knows the basic fundamental of the Natural Law: murder, theft, lying, adultery and the like are intrinsically immoral and evil. People still commit these sins, but no one can claim ignorance of knowing they are wrong.

Catholic morality is governed by both the Natural Moral Law (known by reason) and the Divine Positive Law (revealed by God in the Ten Commandments). The principles of the Natural Law shaped and formed the Catholic teachings on immorality and sinfulness.

St. Paul said, “For when the Gentiles who do not have the law by nature observe the prescriptions of the law, they are a law for themselves even though they do not

have the law. They show that the demands of the law are **written in their hearts.**” (Romans 2:14) Natural law was the first stage of encouraging all Jews and Christians to conversion.

Something to think about ... “Humans participate in the wisdom of God in the goodness of God. By natural law, man has the moral sense to discern good and evil. The natural law is engraved in the soul of every man because human reason tells him to do good and avoid evil. It has force because it is the voice of a higher reason to which our spirit must submit.” Pope Leo XIII. Moral law is God’s fatherly instruction, showing the rules that lead to heaven (God’s Kingdom) and the evils which lead away from God.

So today and every day ... Let us remember Faith as a Catholic has always been about our loving relationship/bond with God. And, that from the beginning of time (Creation) by the infinite love of God, who created us, planted in the human heart natural law. This natural law was given to all people everywhere and forever so as to be able to reason good from evil. No rational person can be ignorant of it, nor can they claim ignorance. Even from Creation, it was all about a loving God our response to Him ...our relationship with Him (the intimate bond of His love)... and an amazing life He created us for.

FROM THE DEACON’S BENCH **THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK**

May the grace and peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be yours in abundance this Holy Week.

PLEASE JOIN US FOR **STATIONS OF THE CROSS** **EVERY FRIDAY DURING LENT** **7:30 P.M. IN THE CHURCH**

My God, my God, why have you abandoned me?

THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

The Knights of Columbus are inviting all Catholic men to join their brotherhood. This fraternal organization, with millions of members world-wide, has promoted loyalty to and respect for our Catholic faith for over 130 years. Make a difference working with a group that actively contributes to our parishes, promotes Catholic causes and supports our community and students. Come and form new friendships with brother Knights that will last a lifetime.

As we do have our own Council here at Immaculate, at the present time our parishioners are joining the Haverstraw Council until the time is right to start up our Council in memory of Msgr. Joseph S. Smith.

You may contact Haverstraw Council #581 for more information by either texting or calling Tom Burckardt at (845) 821-2320, or by filling out a KOC contact card left in the Narthex with recruitment information.

LENTEN MITE BOX & ALMSGIVING CATHOLIC CHARITIES COMMUNITY SERVICES OF ROCKLAND

Please consider incorporating the “MITE BOX” into your Lenten Almsgiving efforts. All of the parishes in our county are being asked to join together in support of the charitable efforts of Catholic Charities Community Services of Rockland (CCCSR). This year, as you might imagine, the need is greater than ever.

For those unable to get a hold of a box, or who prefer an alternative approach, we are inviting them to incorporate a **Virtual Mite Box** into their Lenten practice and, at the end of Lent, drop a check in your parish collection basket/or box or to the Rectory in an envelope marked Mite Box Donation. The check should be made payable to Catholic Charities Community Services. Thank You.

As we near the end of Lent, your Mite Boxes or checks may be deposited into your parish collection basket/box or else you may send them into the parish office during the week.

“Whatsoever you do for the least of my brothers and sisters, that you do unto me.”

EASTER FLOWER OFFERING

We encourage you to remember a loved one, by contributing to the Easter flower donation. The envelopes will be placed on the altar during Easter time and will be remembered in our prayers. Thank you for your generosity.

RECONCILIATION MONDAY

MARCH 29TH

We will have Reconciliation Monday, March 29th at 4:00 – 6:00 p.m. and 7:00 – 8:00 p.m.

An Act of Spiritual Communion

My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament. I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul.

Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to You.

Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen



CALENDAR RAFFLE WINNERS

<u>Date</u>	<u>Prize</u>	<u>Ticket</u>	<u>Winner</u>
3/29	\$ 25	1058	Angela Vogelseng
3/30	\$ 25	1024	Anna Caputo
3/31	\$ 25	285	Jennifer Patrikis
4/1	\$100	1180	Irene Vogelsng
4/2	\$ 25	287	Joseph Anselmi
4/3	\$ 50	1908	Tom Torpey
4/4	\$ 75	676	Dawn Hoke

Church of the Immaculate Conception

MASSES FOR THE WEEK

SATURDAY, MARCH 27TH

5:30 p.m. The Colleluori Family
(req. by Joann DiGasbarro)

PASSION SUNDAY, MARCH 28TH

7:30 Noel Jackson
(req. by The Boncaldo Family)
9:30 *For the People of the Parish*
11:30 James Faherty (req. by family)

HOLY MONDAY, MARCH 29TH

7:30 Joseph & Glenn Moran (req. by family)

HOLY TUESDAY, MARCH 30TH

7:30 Maureen Nora Reynolds
(req. by Peter & Trish Morris)

HOLY WEDNESDAY, MARCH 31ST

7:30 John Venezia (req. by Vicki Ieni)

HOLY THURSDAY, APRIL 1ST

9:00 Tenebrae
8:00 MASS OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

GOOD FRIDAY, APRIL 2ND

9:00 Tenebrae
3:00 Celebration of the Lord's Passion
7:30 Stations of the Cross

HOLY SATURDAY, APRIL 3RD

9:00 Tenebrae
8:00 Easter Vigil Joseph Fazio

EASTER SUNDAY, APRIL 4TH

7:30 *For the People of the Parish*
9:30 Albert Kaiser Sr.
11:30 Al Matera

REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

All those who are ill at home, in the hospital and in nursing homes, especially: Eileen Kelly, John Capria, Lauren Shields, Billy Keenan, Joyce Robinson, Mary Murnane, Ruth Ann Melia, Eric McMahon.

Our recently deceased: Vincent Sforza, Leo Martin and Carol Young.

FAST AND ABSTINENCE GOOD FRIDAY APRIL 1ST

Good Friday is a day of fast and abstinence. Fasting obliges all from 18 years of age until 59. Abstinence obliges all from age 14 and continues to oblige throughout their entire life. Those not specifically obliged to abstain from eating meat are encouraged to join in this discipline to the extent they are able

GOOD FRIDAY COLLECTION APRIL 1ST

Christians around the world are united in a special way during Lent. Holy Week and Easter. Our hearts, minds and prayers are also especially aware of the Holy Land. The Good Friday Collection is requested by the Holy Father.

SACRIFICIAL GIVING

Sunday Collection March 21, 2021 was: \$6,240
Sunday Collection March 22, 2020 was: \$1,325

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED
SUPPORT**

There is
always
something
for which
to be
thankful

**Easter
Sunday Services**

**Immaculate Conception Church
Holy Week – 2021**

How Holy Week will be celebrated during this year of pandemic and social distancing

Holy Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday – March 29th to the 31st – Morning Mass 7:30 am

Reconciliation Monday – March 29th from 4 to 6 pm and 7 to 8 pm

Like the Advent Reconciliation Monday, two priests will be available in the church, socially distance will be followed.

Holy Thursday – April 1st at 8:00 pm

The washing of feet, which is already optional, will be omitted.

At the end of the Mass of the Lord's Supper, the Blessed Sacrament will be processed to the altar of the main church. Adoration of the Holy Eucharist will conclude at 10:00 pm.

Good Friday – The Celebration of the Lord's Passion - April 2nd at 3:00 pm

For the Adoration of the Holy Cross, no physical contact with the cross is to take place.

The *Missale Romanum* allows for the faithful to process to the front of the church maintaining physical distance; they are to be instructed to venerate with a bow or genuflection only.

Good Friday – Stations of the Cross – April 2nd at 8:00 pm

Stations of the Cross must follow established protocols, e.g., seating capacity for which the parish is certified, masks, distancing, sanitizing. This year's Good Friday's evening Stations of the Cross – "*Through the Eyes of Mary*" will follow the beautiful words that we have heard in the past during previous years of having the Living Stations preformed. Any music will be at a severe minimum.

Holy Saturday – Easter Vigil in the Holy Night – April 3rd at 8:00 pm

Individual candles will not be permitted this year.

Holy Water bottles will be available like last year to be brought to parishioner's homes.

Easter Sunday – The Resurrection of the Lord – April 4th at 7:30 am, 9:30 am, 11:30 am

Tenebrae, the oldest form of praying the Holy Psalms, will take place on Holy Thursday, Good Friday, and Holy Saturday mornings at 9 am in the church.

Every Service and Mass will be live streamed on our parish Facebook Page.

On Palm and Easter Sunday, in the event of more than 133 parishioners at any given mass, those arriving after the church reached its capacity will be asked to attend the mass in the school gym. This procedure was successful on Christmas Eve a few months ago. The Holy Eucharist will be brought over to those in attendance.

May we continue to see the increase of vaccines being administered to more and more people and a lessening of infections of Covid-19. As we are now in the second quarter of 2021, we continue to pray that this year will bring about an end to this pandemic.

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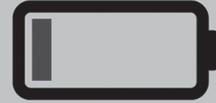
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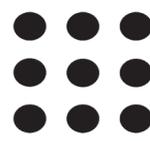
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