

Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord

"Jesus said to her,
I am the resurrection
and the life. The one
who believes in me
will live, even though
they die; and whoever
lives by believing in
me will never die."

- John 11:25

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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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,

“Exult, let them exult the hosts of heaven, exult, let Angel ministers of God exult, let the trumpet of salvation sound loud our mighty King’s triumph! Be glad, let earth be glad, as glory floods her, ablaze with light from her eternal King, let all corners of the earth be glad, knowing an end to gloom and darkness.”

Those words began the most glorious mass of the year in the Catholic Church, the Easter Vigil. Christ indeed has risen, the gift of eternal life, not death, is ours. The darkness of sin has been broken by the light of glory. The cross which we worship as our sign of faith, is now glorified, no longer a symbol of death but one of hope. This is what we have fasted, prayed, and reconciled for this Lent.

Like Mary Magdalene in the gospel this morning, we too want to shout out ‘HE HAS RISEN!’ It is the joy of Christ’s resurrection that fills our hearts today. The empty, barren feeling many of us had because of our Lenten journey of fasting and self-sacrifice has been rewarded. Like the emptiness of the tomb, there is no more death but life, eternal.

At the Easter Vigil the candle was blessed and lit from the new fire. The Fire represents Christ’s resurrection. The lit candle is the Light of Christ that shines in the darkness. The five grains of incense that were inserted at the vigil, represent the five wounds of Christ. This year’s candle is called “SPIRIT OF JERUSALEM”.

The security that the mountains give Jerusalem are a direct reflection of eternal security that faith gives us as believers. The large central cross represents the strength of Christianity. The four smaller crosses are said to symbolize the four Gospels, the four wounds of Christ, or the four directions in which the Word of Christ spread from Jerusalem.

During the season of Easter, the Pascal Candle and the Baptismal Font will remain in the Sanctuary. Please after mass come view the beauty of our candle and also retrieve a holy water from the font to be brought home.

On behalf of Deacon Phil Marino, Deacon John Sadowski, Ughetta Jilleba, our Religious Co-Ordinator, and Margie Celenza, our Parish Secretary, I wish to extend to all of you and your families a blessed Easter. May this Easter season be a time of joy and peace for all of us. May the promise of eternal life strengthen us to be faithful imitators of the risen Christ.

A blessed Easter to you all,

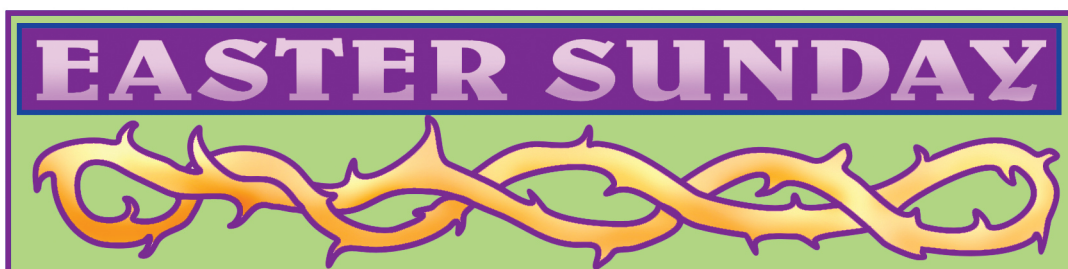
- Rev. Herbert T. DeGaris

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the
CARDINAL'S
ANNUAL STEWARDSHIP APPEAL
Sharing God's Gifts

Because of the early deadline for this bulletin, no update can be given for the week.



This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad.

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

The Story of God

God’s true story is written in the Bible. It is simple: God – the Father; God, The Son – Jesus, Our Savior; and God – The Holy Spirit are three Persons in One. God is Love. God, Our Father and Creator, made heaven and earth. Out of love and so that we could be with Him forever, God created human beings in His image and likeness. He created us to know Him, love Him, serve Him and be happy with Him in Heaven. God’s plan for humanity is that we would always be in a loving relationship/bond with Him. In God we have our being - *we are a member of the family of God.*

Adam and Eve were the first to be made in His image and likeness. They choose to listen to the devil and to be separated from the love of God by not obeying God (sin). They ate the fruit from the tree of knowledge. Thereafter, we humans have sinned and this sin has caused a break in our bond with God. Sin separates us from truth. But God didn’t give up on us – and did not leave us in brokenness. God had a plan to save us. He sent His Son, Jesus, (who is God and man) to come and win us back to God – to redeem us and have that special loving bond with God.

Jesus was born of the Virgin Mary, lived, was crucified, died and rose from the dead in order to gain power over our sins and death. He laid down His own life for us so that we can have eternal life. Jesus gave us the Church and the celebration of the Mass – not to entertain us – but to be able to receive Him – Body, Blood, Soul and Divinity. Jesus is alive. He is among us. It hurts Jesus not only when one does not receive Him in the Eucharist but when one receives Him unaware of knowing that it Jesus – His Real Presence. Even in the smallest particle of the Eucharist Jesus is alive and present.

St. Peter (Jesus’ Apostle) said, “This Jesus God raised up, and of that we all are witnessed. Being therefore exalted at the right hand of God and having received from the Father the promise of the Holy Spirit, He has poured out this which you see and hear. For David not ascend into the heavens; but he himself says, ‘The Lord said to my Lord, Sit at my right hand, till I make thy enemies a stool for thy feet.’ Let all the house of Israel therefore know assuredly that God has made Him both Lord and Christ, this Jesus whom you crucified. Now when

they heard this they were cut to the heart, and said to Peter and the rest of the apostles, “Brethren, what shall we do?” And Peter said to them, ‘Repent and be baptized everyone of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins; and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. For the promise is to you and to your children and to all that are far off, everyone whom the Lord our God calls to Him.’ And he testified with many other words and exhorted them, saying, ‘Save yourselves from this crooked generation.’ So those who received his word were baptized, and there were added that day about 3,000 souls.”

Something to think about...If you make your own God to follow, you live in make believe. Whatever you do, say and think, you are either following God or the devil. The devil’s commandment is to do whatever you want. God loves you and has a plan for your life. Jesus died to save you. We are called to convert – change our lives to the Kingdom of God. *It is up to you to respond to His gift of grace and mercy.* Jesus waits for each of us to say “yes” to repenting of our sins, believing in Him, and living a life that glorifies God, so we can live forever in Heaven. The choice is your own. Would you like to choose God’s grace and mercy today and begin a lifetime of following Christ? Then seek Him.

So, today, Easter Sunday - Know that Our Lord and Savior Loves You no matter what....We are all broken and need to be fixed. God created you because He loves you. And, God is waiting for you to believe in Him and to love Him too. Make that commitment and place your hands on your heart and tell Him “I want you Lord in my life.” Give yourself to God. Tell Him you will follow Him all the days of your life. Make Jesus the center of your life from the time you wake up until the time you go to sleep and you will discover that the life He created for you is amazing with the love of God the Father, God the son Jesus and God the Holy Spirit in your heart. Include Him in every meal, every function, every party/gathering, every decision and whatever you do. Know and feel His presence and He will guide you to the happiness and love you seek. - The story of God is the same yesterday, today and forever tomorrow.

This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad.

FROM THE DEACON'S BENCH
THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

The resurrection gives our lives meaning, direction and the opportunity to start over again, no matter what our circumstances may be.

Anon

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

If anyone would like to return their Mite Box, we ask you to do so. We appreciate your kindness to Catholic Charities, you can put 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.

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

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>
4/5	\$25	282	Daniella Anselmi
4/6	\$50	1756	Sienna Scarano
4/7	\$25	757	Maureen Murphy
4/8	\$25	150	Thomas Oakley
4/9	\$25	1884	Lauren Sullivan
4/10	\$50	072	Peter Toriello
4/11	\$25	060	Peter Novak

BAPTISM

The Sacrament of Baptism is usually celebrated on the first and third Sunday of every month. We would ask you to please contact the rectory at (786-2742) before the date to make an appointment.

All Baptism requests require a copy of the child's Birth Certificate, which must be brought to the rectory office at the time of arranging a date. God/Parent/Sponsor forms are required for each God Parent. They may attain this certificate from their home parish where they worship at the present time. If a God Parent is a parishioner of Immaculate, they simply need to speak to Fr. DeGaris.

BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT GROUP

The parish family of St. Francis of Assisi would like to express our sincere condolences to all those who have lost loved ones. Therefore, the Consolation Ministry will be offering a Bereavement Support Group. The sessions will be held on Tuesdays from 7:00 -8:30 PM beginning April 13 and ending on May 18th. They will take place in Rooms #14 & 15. Each week, a different topic will be discussed. In order to register, please call one of our facilitators:

Bernadette Hemmer 914 907-8016
Peggy Concannon 914 589-7674
Sheila Buckley 845 634-8315

Church of the Immaculate Conception

FOOD PANTRY NEWS

Whew! Another very busy day at the food pantry! Last Friday, we were able to help 105 families for our Easter distribution. Along with a bag of perishable and a bag of non-perishable foods, each family also left with a gift card to one of our local supermarkets. Thank you thank you! Your generosity and support helped to make that possible.

For the month of April, we will continue to collect cereal as well as tuna fish. Please leave your donation in the bin in the church narthex.

Our best wishes for a very happy, blessed Easter Season. May Our Father continue to bless you and yours!

Due to the early deadline for Easter, we will report the contribution in next week's Bulletin. Thank You.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT



MASSES FOR THE WEEK

HOLY SATURDAY, APRIL 3RD

8:00 Easter Vigil Joseph Fazio

EASTER SUNDAY, APRIL 4TH

7:30 *For the People of the Parish*

9:30 Albert Kaiser Sr. (req. by family)

11:30 Al Matera (req. by family)

MONDAY, APRIL 5TH

7:30 Filomena Carnevale

(req. by Victor & Maria Siciliano)

TUESDAY, APRIL 6TH

7:30 Lydia Orlandi (req. by Helen Orlandi)

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 7TH

7:30 Regina Brophy (req. by family)

THURSDAY, APRIL 8TH

7:30 Emily Newman

(req. by Ann & Warren Sayre)

FRIDAY, APRIL 9TH

7:30 Mary Gaynor (req. by family)

SATURDAY, APRIL 10TH

8:30 Santa La Notte

(req. by Josephine Mahoney & Family)

5:30 Anna Sutherland (req. by Husband)

SUNDAY, APRIL 11TH

7:30 Cyril Kerr (req. by Tom & Jean Sullivan)

9:30 *For the People of the Parish*

11:30 Vincent Lyons (req. by family)

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: James Piperakis

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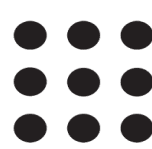
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