Immaculate Conception Church

150th Anniversary

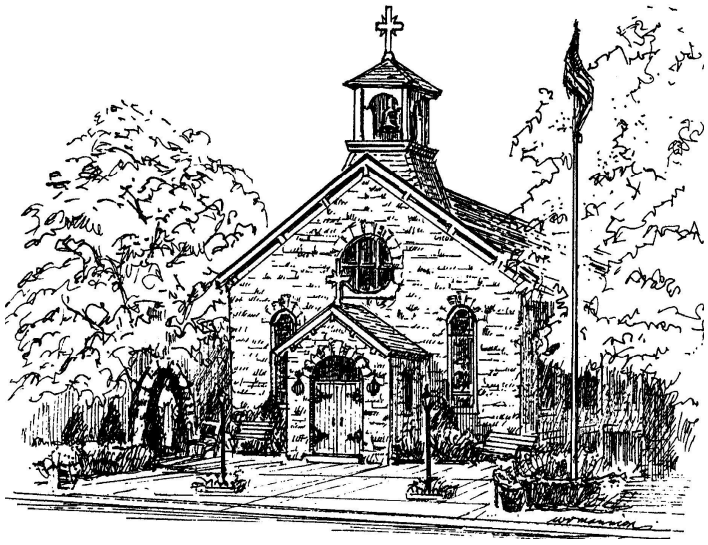
75 Church Street • Franklin, New Jersey 07416

December 31, 2017

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

Mission Statement of Immaculate Conception Parish

We, the faith community of Immaculate Conception Parish in Franklin, New Jersey, commit ourselves to share our gifts and love to make the presence of God a reality in our lives by welcoming all to worship and serving those who are in need.



Welcome to Immaculate Conception Parish

The faith community of Immaculate Conception welcomes all visitors, parishioners, family and friends. We hope you find your visit warm and inviting as well as spiritually nourishing. We will keep all of you in our prayers and wish you God's Blessings.

New members may register by calling the Parish Office.

If you are moving out of the parish or change your address, please notify the Parish Office.

REV. BOGUSLAW KOBUS, PASTOR

MRS. VICKY YAHM, RELIGIOUS EDUCATION ADMINISTRATOR

MS. MALDEN COMANDA, MUSIC DIRECTOR

OFFICE HOURS:

PARISH OFFICE: MON—WED 10:00 AM - 3:00 PM (THURS BY APPT.) **RECTORY PHONE:** 973-827-9575

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION OFFICE: MON & WED 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM, TUES 9:00 AM - 5:00 PM

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION OFFICE PHONE: 973-827-9501

PARISH WEBSITE: **WWW.ICCFRANKLIN.ORG** **FAX:** 973-827-7375

REV. BROWN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL: WWW.REVBROWNSCHOOL.ORG 973-729-9174

POPE JOHN MIDDLE SCHOOL: WWW.POPEJOHNMS.ORG 973-729-9174

POPE JOHN XXIII HIGH SCHOOL: WWW.POPEJOHN.ORG 973-729-6125

SUNDAY MASS SCHEDULE

SATURDAY: 5:00 PM ANTICIPATED MASS
SUNDAY: 7:30 AM, 9:30 AM, 11:30 AM

DAILY MASSES

(RECITATION OF THE ROSARY AFTER MASS)
MONDAY: MASS, NOVENA, & BENEDICTION 7PM
TUESDAY, WEDNESDAY, FRIDAY: 7:30 AM
THURSDAY NO DAILY MASS
SATURDAY: 9:00 AM

HOLY DAYS OF OBLIGATION

HOLY DAY: 7:00 AM, 7:00 PM

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

SATURDAYS: 4:00-4:30 PM OR BY APPOINTMENT
AND FIFTEEN MINUTES BEFORE FIRST FRIDAY MASS

EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

FIRST FRIDAY OF THE MONTH 3PM—6PM (CHURCH)
FIRST FRIDAY OF THE MONTH 7PM—9PM (CHAPEL)

BAPTISMS

PARENTS MUST BE REGISTERED PARISHONERS AND ATTEND A PREP CLASS BEFORE SCHEDULING BAPTISM. PREP SESSIONS HELD ON FIRST TUESDAY OF THE MONTH AT 7:30PM. PLEASE CALL TO REGISTER.

MARRIAGE CONTACT THE PARISH ONE YEAR IN ADVANCE MUST BE REGISTERED PARISHIONERS FOR AT LEAST 6 MONTHS.

ANOINTING OF THE SICK

ANY TIME FOR THE SERIOUSLY ILL.

HOMEBOUND MINISTRY

VISITATIONS UPON REQUEST.

THE WEEK OF December 31, 2017

SATURDAY December 30

9:00 am

✞ Michael Elekes reqby Mom & Dad

5:00 pm—Sunday Anticipated

✞ Mary Menniti reqby Bill & Dot Cunningham

SUNDAY December 31

7:30 am

♥ People of the Parish

9:30 am

✞ Deceased of the Kabatra Family reqby Anne Zayacz

11:30 am

✞ Living & Deceased Members of Koester Family reqby Rosanne Huttman

MONDAY January 1—Solemnity of Mary

10:00 am

♥ People of the Parish

TUESDAY January 2—Sts. Basil the Great & Gregory Nazianzen

7:30 am

✞ Michael Elekes reqby Mom & Dad

WEDNESDAY January 3—Most Holy Name of Jesus

7:30 am

✞ James Elekes, Jr. reqby Mom & Dad

THURSDAY January 4—No Mass

FRIDAY January 5—St. John Neumann

7:30 am

✞ Richard Korwicki reqby Vera Cafiero

SATURDAY January 6—St. Andre Bessette

9:00 am

✞ Marion Bognar reqby Earle & Mary Colridge

5:00 pm—Sunday Anticipated

✞ Jean Mele 6th Ann. reqby Dawn Stahl

Next Week: Sunday January 7, 2018— The Epiphany of the Lord

7:30 am

✞ Eric Burns reqby Family

✞ Thomas Leonard Como reqby Family

9:30 am

✞ Eddie Gonzales 9th Ann. reqby Wife Patty & Family

✞ Michael Blahut 20th Ann. reqby Wife Jeanne & Family

11:30 am

♥ People of the Parish

If you are a family member or friend of the person being remembered at Sunday Mass, please approach the usher and offer to bring up the gifts

Rose Sale for Right to Life

The Knights of Columbus Marquette Council will be selling roses after all Masses next weekend.

Winter Weather Alert
For weekday Mass cancellations due to inclement weather, call the Rectory 973-827-9575

Mass and Memorial Donations - Please Contact The Rectory

✞ A Holy Mass for the Deceased

♥ A Spiritual Bouquet Mass for the Living

Ex: Requests for healing, recovery or for God's Blessing for anniversaries, birthdays, or any other special occasion.

ENVELOPES FOR SCHOOL SUBSIDY AND CHURCH MAINTENANCE

Thank you for contributing to offset our church maintenance and school subsidy obligations. There are always unexpected repairs in the Parish. Thanks to your positive response to our recent Increased Offertory Program and continued generosity, we had some funds available for our recent unexpected expenses. Anything you are able to give by using the green maintenance or yellow school envelopes, located in the vestibule, is deeply appreciated. Maintenance of the school building and modular units has reverted back to the Parish. Repairs to the school building have been completed in time for the start of Religious Education classes in September. We are still expected to support Reverend Brown School and Pope John XXIII Middle School. Thank You again

Weekly Contributions

Last Week's & Christmas Collections: Not Available at Publication

2016-2017 Diocesan Assessment:	**$26,228**
Collected to Date (Project Faith):	**$ 6,650**

Please know that we are most appreciative for all of your donations. We all know how difficult things are financially for families. So, too, is it to run a parish, as expenses continue to rise. The parish is dependent on income from collections and Mass stipends. Thanks to the positive response from many parishioners to the Increased Offertory Program, our Sunday collections have increased, and we are most grateful for your continued and increased generosity in support of our parish. We have been able to meet a number of unanticipated maintenance needs recently because of you. For whatever you are able to give, may God bless you; you and your intentions are always in our prayers. Remember, God always rewards a generous giver.

To receive credit for your donations, please use our envelope system and write the amount of your contribution on your envelope, or utilize Online Giving.

For your convenience, we are now offering Online Giving. Visit our parish website at www.iccfranklin.org and select the "Online Giving" link to get started. Online Giving will also allow you to generate your own contribution statements for tax purposes.

Upcoming Parish Events

Saturday, December 30 5pm Mass and Sunday, December 31, All Masses—Blessing of Couples

Friday, January 5, 3pm-6pm & 7pm-9pm
Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Sunday, January 7, 9:30am Mass—Blessing of Babies

PARISH NOTES

Those attending Mass should always dress respectfully, especially those who may be called to serve the faithful from the altar.

Please be aware that our Church is a holy place and respect those who wish to pray after Mass.

Prayers for the Sick

Names included in the weekly Prayers of the Faithful are those who are currently hospitalized, undergoing surgery or who have recently died.

*Due to privacy laws, hospitals do **not** notify us when parishioners are in the Hospital, unless **specifically requested by the patient or immediate family member**. Likewise, the **parish office** should be notified by an **immediate family member** to include names in Prayers of the Faithful, and when names should be removed from the list of the sick.*

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament will take place Friday, January 5 from 3pm to 6pm in Church, followed by Benediction. Adoration will take place in the Chapel from 7pm to 9pm. Please sign up on the sheets at the front of the church if you can commit to a specific hour.

LEGION OF MARY

Meetings at 10am every Saturday in the Rectory Conference Room.

Not a member of the Legion of Mary? You can still become an *Auxiliary Member* by praying for the active Legion members and our Church.
Call 908-619-0128 for more information.
"Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord"
- Isaiah 2:3

Prayer Shawl Ministry

Prayer Shawl Ministry meets the third Thursday of each month in the Rectory Conference Room at 6:30pm.

IMPORTANT NOTICE—PLEASE READ

It has come to our attention that informational flyers have been left on windshields of parishioners' cars parked in our lot during Masses, and on the desks used by children's liturgists. This is an annoyance to the owners of the cars, can contribute to litter on the premises, and is not permitted by the Parish. **There should be no posting in the vestibule, literature left in the Church or flyers left on cars on Church property**. If there are issues to be addressed, or information wished to be distributed, even religious messages, please discuss directly with the Pastor before taking any action. If appropriate, he may grant permission for posting. **Please have respect for the Parish and those who worship here.**

Consoling the Heart of Jesus

A retreat program by Fr. Michael Gaitley
Program runs for 10 sessions, which began on October 20, 2017 and will end on a Friday in February, 2018.
The program will resume in January.

Immaculate Conception Cemetery

Just as in life, we believe that in death the human body deserves to be treated with respect and dignity. The cemetery is an extension of the Church that ministers to our grief as the Church ministers to our faith. Being buried in the sacred grounds of a Catholic cemetery is an assertion of faith for both the deceased and their loved ones. Please refer to Bishop Serratelli's Pastoral Letter of November 2014, which can be found on the parish website. In keeping with the Church's tradition of respect for the body, remains and cremains should receive proper burial, entombment or inurnment. **Immaculate Conception Cemetery** is located on North Church Road. Contact the Parish Office at 973-827-9575 or icchurch@ptd.net to make an appointment to obtain information about burial, entombment or inurnment arrangements.

GRIEF SUPPORT

For information, contact Frank Elmo 973-827-4396

AA Meetings

AA Meetings are held every week in the Lyceum
Mondays at 7:30pm
Wednesdays at 8pm
Fridays at 8pm (Men only)

TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

There's no more unusual setting to celebrate today's Feast of the Holy Family than Barcelona, Spain and the towering unfinished sandcastle known officially as the Temple Expiatori de la Sagrada Familia. In 1882, the plan was hatched to build a vast place of worship in reparation for the revolutionary and liberal leanings of the city. The modern artist Antoni Gaudi dedicated his life to the project, living in the building, attending Mass daily, and giving up his personal wealth. When people pressed him to pick up the pace, he responded, "My client is not in a hurry." (Gaudi's cause for beatification is moving along, and he could be the first professional artist and architect to be beatified.) The Spanish Civil War, a disaster for the Catholic Church in which thousands of priests, brothers, and nuns were murdered, halted work in 1935. In the 1950s work began anew, speeded up by computers in the 1980s. Still, the final stage of construction is not due to end until 2026. If the original methods had stayed in place, it would take several hundred more years to complete the plan. So far there are eight towers, with four to go. The highest steeple is three feet shorter than the nearest hill, since the architect didn't want his work to surpass God's artistry. The three faces of the basilica each have three doors, with the faces named Passion, Nativity, and Grace. The interior is crammed with geometric figures that almost seem to spin, crazy-quilt windows, spiral staircases, and jumbles of statues and figures. Although inspired by ancient Gothic cathedrals, the style is called Expressionist, and very little is left unexpressed by the masonry. If you can't afford a visit, Sagrada Familia maintains a web site, and virtual visits are free.

—Rev. James Field, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph December 31, 2017

My eyes have seen your salvation, which you prepared in the sight of all the peoples.
—Luke 2:30-31

A Family Perspective by Bud Ozar

The gospel today shows Mary and Joseph weren't "perfect" parents. If you have ever been "amazed" and "astonished" at what came out of your child's mouth, then you are in good company. If there were times you "didn't understand" your children or felt "anxious" about their behavior so did Mary and Joseph. Parenting is tough but it is also the stuff of holiness.

TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading — Those who honor their parents will be greatly blessed and will atone for sins (Sirach 3:2-6, 12-14) *or Genesis 15:1-6; 21:1-3*.
Psalm — Blessed are those who fear the Lord and walk in his ways (Psalm 128) *or Psalm 105*.
Second Reading — Be thankful; do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus (Colossians 3:12-21 [12-17]) *or Hebrews 11:8, 11-12, 17-19*.
Gospel — The child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom (Luke 2:22-40 [22, 39-40]).

The English translation of the Psalm Responses from *Lectionary for Mass* © 1969, 1981, 1997, International Commission on English in the Liturgy Corporation. All rights reserved.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday:	Nm 6:22-27; Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8; Gal 4:4-7; Lk 2:16-21
Tuesday:	1 Jn 2:22-28; Ps 98:1-4; Jn 1:19-28
Wednesday:	1 Jn 2:29 — 3:6; Ps 98:1, 3cd-6; Jn 1:29-34
Thursday:	1 Jn 3:7-10; Ps 98:1, 7-9; Jn 1:35-42
Friday:	1 Jn 3:11-21; Ps 100:1b-5; Jn 1:43-51
Saturday:	1 Jn 5:5-13; Ps 147:12-15, 19-20; Mk 1:7-11 or Lk 3:23-28 [23, 31-34, 36, 38]
Sunday:	Is 60:1-6; Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-13; Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6; Mt 2:1-12

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Sunday:	The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph
Monday:	Mary, the Holy Mother of God; The Octave Day of the Nativity of the Lord; World Day of Prayer for Peace; New Year's Day
Tuesday:	Ss. Basil the Great and Gregory Nazianzen
Wednesday:	The Most Holy Name of Jesus
Thursday:	St. Elizabeth Ann Seton
Friday:	St. John Neumann; First Friday
Saturday:	St. André Bessette; First Saturday

BEARERS OF THE WORD

The Church has placed a number of notable feast days immediately after Christmas. The feasts of Stephen, John the Evangelist, and the Holy Innocents form a summary of the life lived in Christ, the Word made flesh. What do these have to do with the feast of the Holy Family, which crowns the Octave of Christmas? These feasts remind us that suffering will occur in fulfilling the mission of Christ, and that we are all called to be bearers of this Word whose birth we celebrate.

We also see this manifested in the lives of Joseph and Mary, both of whom took social and religious risks in obedience to the will of God, and both of whom were open to the word of God sent to them from on high. In these ways they prefigured the life of Jesus himself.

Most likely, few of us found ourselves at Mass this past Tuesday, Wednesday, or Thursday, but the essence of these feasts and the essence of the holiness of Joseph, Mary, and Jesus remain central, a holiness we celebrate today.

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Prayers for those who are currently sick, in the hospital or undergoing surgery, or who have recently died are included in the General Intercessions offered at every weekend Mass. These names are usually included once unless the person is seriously ill for a number of weeks. After three weeks the name will be placed in the Bulletin and will still be prayed for at Mass, but referred to as "those listed in the bulletin".

In Nursing Homes or Rehab: Mike Tatka, Carmen Ross, Sister Thomasina Gebhard, Mary Green, Phyllis Rossi, Norma Napolitano, Iris Vieira

At Home: Danielle Dionisio, Thomas Dionisio, Jr., Jeanine Hodgins, Joan Boyer, John Tidona, Lisa Stine, Marie Sohayda, Jamie Escabar, Daniel Esposito, Daniel D'Andrea, Derek Mons, Robin Slate, Barbara Yarusinsky, Sandra Barber, Ken Koleser, Anthony Picone, Ronald Tedesco, Agnes Micali, Philip & Ruth Agatino, Tim Sherlock, Margaret Lorne, Anthony Dionisio, Antoinette Rogers, Jody Soluri, Freddie Ponti, Thomas Baginski, William Hodas, Bernadette Hoffman

Please notify us when you have recovered from your illness. ***Hospitals*** *are bound by privacy laws and* ***can not release the names of their patients****. It is up to a* ***family member*** *to let us know if a parishioner is hospitalized or homebound.*

PARISH MINISTRIES CONTACT LIST

Religious Education	Vicky Yahm	973-827-9501
Eucharistic Ministers	Christine Muller	973-827-9575
Lectors	Kim Vieira	973-545-2276
Music Director	Malden Comanda	973-827-9575
Ushers	Ron Hoffman	973-827-0585
Hospitality	George & Katie Drossel	973-903-7735
Children's Liturgy	Barbara DeRenzo	973-209-4381
Grief Support Ministry	Frank Elmo	973-827-4396
Evangelization	Frank Elmo	973-827-4396
Altar Servers	Kim Vieira	973-545-2276
Youth Group Ministry	Renee Smith	973-209-6251
Homebound Ministry	Shirley Riccardi	973-827-9058
Legion of Mary	Tona Phillips	973-827-9575
Bible Study	Fr. Bogie	973-827-9575
	Frank Elmo	973-827-4396
Prayer Shawl Ministry	Shirley Riccardi	973-827-9058
	Toni Dionisio	973-827-9575
Prayer Group	Fr. Bogie	973-827-9575

The parish community of Immaculate Conception has an active, living liturgical life. Through the talents and skills of all those involved in various liturgical ministries, our experiences of worship provide prayerful and meaningful signs of God's presence. If you are interested in becoming a part of a Ministry at Immaculate Conception, please contact Fr. Bogie at the Rectory Office.

TIME

Do not squander time, for that is the stuff life is made of.

—Benjamin Franklin

In the Military: Martin Pietrowski, Christopher Faber, LCPL William Mathes, LCPL Ernest Mathes, Karen Hassler, Tom Oroho, Maj. Stephen McKenzie, Pvt. Michael Gannon, Ryan Halkirt, Sabrina Mohammed, Thomas Hull, Brian Burdzy, James Oroho, Jason Robertson, LCpl. Andrew Scriffiano, Patrick Endrikat, GySgt Jeremy Curcio

Welcome! Every member should be registered in the Parish, become active, financially support ***Immaculate Conception,*** and be known to Fr. Bogie. ***Letters of testimony for godparents and sponsors will not be given unless one is registered in the parish and children in the family are receiving religious education.***
When moving, please notify the parish office.

Bring your friend or someone dear to you to church… our parish community welcomes their presence

DAILY MISSAL

Please use daily missals Monday - Friday located on table by the Baptismal Font. After Mass, if you would be so kind, return Missals back where you found them.

MEMORIAL DONATIONS FOR SANCTUARY LAMP, SANCTUARY FLOWERS AND ALTAR BREAD & WINE PLEASE CONTACT THE RECTORY

SANCTUARY LAMP, a reminder of the Divine Presence in the Eucharist,may be donated in memory of loved ones ***SANCTUARY FLOWERS,*** are a beautiful way to remember a loved one or commemorate a special intention. ***ALTAR BREAD & WINE,*** consecrated at each liturgy, may be donated in memory of a loved one or for a special intention.

Please consider a future gift of money, stock, real estate or other valuables to Immaculate Conception by remembering our parish in your will. Call the Rectory office for more information

Giving Thanks When You Shop

Please be sure to thank the generous advertisers in our bulletin. Through their participation, our parish receives our weekly bulletin free of charge. Please cut out the thank you and present it the next time you patronize one of our fine advertisers.

Thank you
for advertising in the Immaculate Conception Church Bulletin. I am patronizing your business because of it.