Immaculate Conception Church

75 Church Street • Franklin, New Jersey 07416

February 27, 2022

Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time

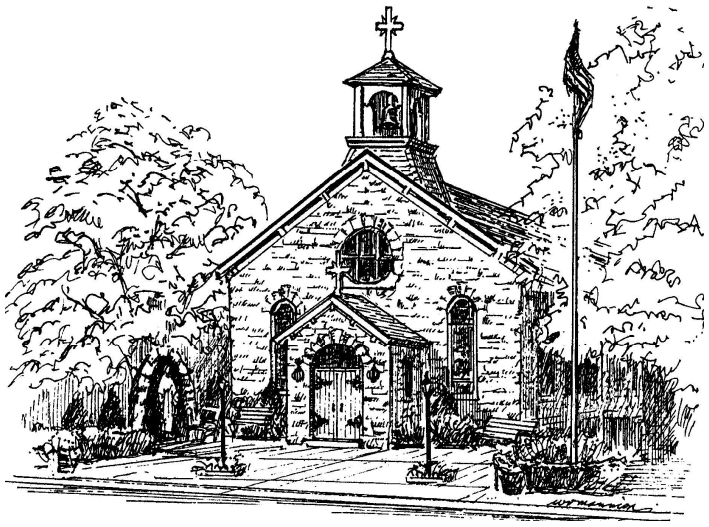
Mission Statement of Immaculate Conception Parish

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

Mr. Edward Boscia, Deacon

Ms. Christine Benson—McGrath, Director of Religious Education

Office Hours:

Parish Office: Mon through Wednesday 10:00 am - 1 pm **Rectory Phone:**973-827-9575

Email:icchurch@ptd.net

Religious Education Office: Mon through Wed 9:00 am - 1:00 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

Sunday: 7:30 am, 9:30 am, 11:30 am

Daily Masses

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday: 7:30 am

Thursday no daily mass

Saturday: Mass, Novena & Benediction 8:00 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

Suspended until further notice

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 February 27, 2022

SATURDAY February 26

8:00 am

♥Aurora DiGangi, Gift of Healing, Req by Vera & Bill Allen

5:00 pm

✞Sally Ridner Paiva, 10th yr. Remembrance, Req by Steve & Gloria Marino

SUNDAY February 27

7:30 am

✞ Judy Sherlock, Req by Agnes & Robert Lorenc

9:30 am

✞Leonard Riccardi Jr., Req by Brian Madigan

11:30 am

✞Edna deCastro, Req by Russel & Nillie Berczuk

MONDAY February 28

7:30 am

✞Michael Elekes, Req by Mom & Dad
✞James Elekes Jr., Req by Mom & Dad

TUESDAY March 1

7:30 am

✞James Elekes Jr., Req by Mom & Dad

WEDNESDAY March 2 Ash Wednesday

7:30 am

✞Stephen & Madeline Swiss, Req by Family

THURSDAY March 3 - No Mass

FRIDAY March 4

7:30 am

♥Oscar Arango, Birthday Blessings, Req by The Phillips Family

SATURDAY March 5

8:00 am

✞Rose Kistle, Req by The Vallila Family

5:00 pm

✞Leonard Riccardi Jr., Req by Jeanne Balhut & Patty Gonzales

Next Week: March 6, 2022

7:30 am

✞ Judy Sherlock, Req by Barbara Zarzycki

9:30 am

✞Leonard Riccardi Jr., Req by Steve & Rita Oroho
✞Peter Shelton, 2nd Anniversary, Req by Wife & Children

11:30 am

✞Emilia Rascionato, Req by Marisa DeSimone

Novena and Benediction every Saturday Morning

Novena to the Blessed Virgin Mary has been a long standing devotion in Immaculate Conception Parish.
Please consider attending 8am Mass on Saturday morning, followed by Novena, recitation of the Rosary, and Benediction.

WINTER WEATHER ALERT

At times of inclement weather (snow or ice) weekday masses will be cancelled.

Weekly Contributions

Last Week's Collection: $3,859.*

2021-2022 Diocesan Assessment: $26,080.
Collected to Date (Project Faith): $2,993. *
♦ **Includes Online Giving**

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

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Intention for Violence Against Women
We pray for women who are victims of violence, that they may be protected by society and have their sufferings considered and heeded.

Parish Registration Form

The parish directory has been updated. If you did not return an updated registration form your name has been removed from the parish registry.

In order to continue getting weekly envelopes you must be a registered parishioner.
When requesting a sponsor certificate for the sacrament of baptism or confirmation you must be a registered parishioner.

Please take the time to complete and return the form as soon as possible.

Forms can be found on the parish website or in the vestibule of the Church.

PARISH NOTES

Please check the Parish website www.iccfranklin.org for the latest updates.

The Parish Office is staffed Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday from 10am to 1pm. It is requested that visitors call in advance, as office hours may change & only one person at a time will be admitted. Messages are checked periodically outside office hours.

Protocols for Liturgical Celebrations

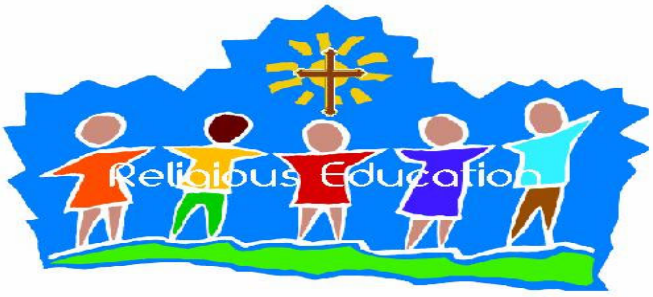
1. The dispensation from the obligation to participate in Sunday Eucharist is lifted effective on the Vigil of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ, June 5, 2021 for all of those in good health.
2. Those who are particularly vulnerable to the coronavirus who are not vaccinated, and especially those with one or several underlying medical conditions, may follow Mass at home via livestream or television.
3. A person with a cough or fever of any kind should not take part in Mass in-person.
4. Occupancy restrictions for social distancing purposes are lifted.
5. Masks are not required for those who are vaccinated.
6. You are encouraged to bring hand sanitizer to use before the reception of Holy Communion.
7. Communion under both kinds for the faithful will not be resumed at this time. The Precious Blood in the chalice will not be made available to the faithful at this time.

DONOR TREE

If you wish to purchase a leaf or rock, please complete a form and return it to the rectory. Order forms can be found in the vestibule.

The rocks will be placed around the base of the tree.

The tree has been donated by a parishioner. All proceeds from the leaves & rocks will go directly to Immaculate Conception Church with the exception of the $8 engraving cost.
Thank you for your support.



May the Peace & Love of the Christ Child be with all families during this
New Year & Always.

Religious Education Calendar Revision:
Please note the following class schedule revision:
In addition to previously scheduled classes, students in grades 1-8 will be in class on the following Sundays:
February 20th, April 3rd and April 10th.
Grades 2 and 8 will meet also on April 24th.
The revised calendar is being emailed to all parents.

Please contact Christine Benson-McGrath with any questions or concerns at 973.827.9501 or email at icreled@ptd.net.

LENT begins on Wednesday, March 2nd

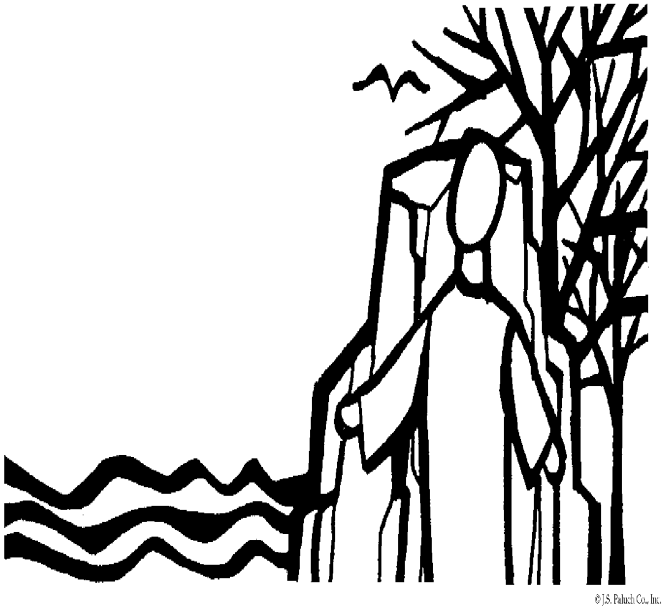
Ash Wednesday is the start of the observance of Lent.
Catholics between the ages of 18 and 59 are obliged to fast on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. In addition, all Catholics 14 years old and older must abstain from meat on Ash Wednesday, Good Friday and all the Fridays of Lent.
Fasting as explained by the U.S. bishops means partaking of only one full meal. Some food (not equaling another full meal) is permitted at breakfast and around midday or in the evening — depending on when a person chooses to eat the main or full meal.
Abstinence forbids the use of meat.
We must all turn from sin and make reparation to God for our sins. We must forgive and show love for one another just as we ask for God's love and forgiveness.
Attending Mass daily or several times a week, praying the rosary, making the way of the cross, visiting the sick —all of these are meaningful and demanding forms of penance.

TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading — One's speech shows the bent of one's mind. Praise no one before he or she speaks (Sirach 27:4-7).
Psalm — Lord, it is good to give thanks to you (Psalm 92).
Second Reading — We are given victory over death through Jesus. In the Lord our labor is not in vain (1 Corinthians 15:54-59).
Gospel — A good person produces good, an evil person produces evil. The mouth speaks from the goodness of the heart (Luke 6:39-45).
The English translation of the Psalm Responses from the *Lectionary for Mass* © 1969, 1981, 1997, International Commission on English in the Liturgy Corporation. All rights reserved.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday:	1 Pt 1:3-9; Ps 111:1-2, 5-6, 9, 10c; Mk 10:17-27
Tuesday:	1 Pt 1:10-16; Ps 98:1-4; Mk 10:28-31
Wednesday:	Jl 2:12-18; Ps 51:3-6ab, 12-14, 17; 2 Cor 5:20 — 6:2; Mt 6:1-6, 16-18
Thursday:	Dt 30:15-20; Ps 1:1-4, 6; Lk 9:22-25
Friday:	Is 58:1-9a; Ps 51:3-6ab, 18-19; Mt 9:14-15
Saturday:	Is 58:9b-14; Ps 86:1-6; Lk 5:27-32
Sunday:	Dt 26:4-10; Ps 91:1-2, 10-15; Rom 10:8-13; Lk 4:1-13



Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Sunday:	Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time
Tuesday:	Mardi Gras; Shrove Tuesday
Wednesday:	Ash Wednesday; Fast and Abstinence; Almsgiving
Thursday:	St. Katharine Drexel
Friday:	St. Casimir; First Friday; Abstinence; World Day of Prayer
Saturday:	First Saturday

PRAYER OF THE WEEK

Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time
Grant us, O Lord, we pray,
that the course of our world
may be directed by your peaceful rule
and that your Church may rejoice,
untroubled in her devotion.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
God, for ever and ever.

Reflection question:
How can I help bring about God's peaceful reign?
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THE DIFFERENCE

The difference between perseverance and obstinacy is that one often comes from a strong will, and the other from a strong won't.
—Henry Ward Beecher

THANKS

No duty is more urgent than that of returning thanks.
—Ambrose of Milan

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Every tree is known by its own fruit.
For people do not pick figs from thornbushes,
nor do they gather grapes from brambles.
— Luke 6:44

Senior Moment - "The Phone Call"

It has been just a bit over twenty years since 'The' phone call. A dearest friend had moved to Florida a few years prior and we'd kept in close touch.

'The' seemingly routine phone call of note arrived at a highly distracted moment. The conversation between me ("M") and my friend ("G") went something like this: M: *Oh! Hi! How's it going?* G: *I've been better.* M: *Oh, that's good.* G: *(...silence)* M: *So, how are things?* G: *Well, I'm in the hospital…*

Our chat became suddenly focused, and included the first news of a decline in health ultimately leading to my friend's passing. I wish I had been attentive from the start of 'The' phone call, and I learned a pointed lesson in mindful listening, which I strive to implement. Have you ever listened with just 'half an ear'? As in my carelessness, much can be lost of the tone and the story.

In wonderful contrast, I lunched yesterday with a senior friend who enacts a "Ministry Of Listening". Working in the "No Vet Alone Volunteer Companion" program, he visits weekly in person and via Skype, solitary former active military residents. He is present to converse, entertain, and to demonstrate in his sincere words and active attention: "Your life is important and I am interested in you."

The mode of one's presence is so impactful. We read of both the aura of the Transfiguration's Glory and Moses' post -mountain countenance when commissioned to convey the Word. The specter of Moses' veiled face after speaking with God is interpreted in many ways. Regardless, most can agree that its shading puts to the side, access to immersion in the totality of God's glory.

In *2 Corinthians 3:16*, we're urged to address head-on, freedom through the Spirit in an unimpeded turning to the Lord. When so transformed, lifted and enabled: *It is by God's mercy that we are engaged in this ministry 2 Cor. 4:1*

An at home re-read of any one of today's scripture texts can be affecting, leaving us personally primed and with Bibles at hand for the start of Lent ahead. Might we be moved to get a head-start - listening with 'unveiled', super-attentive ears to each person we encounter, being mutually enriched in so doing.

With unobstructed faces and waiting hearts, transformation into the same mirrored image of the Lord's own Glory can begin. Upon enacting an 'open statement of the truth', perhaps in response to caring listening, we aspire: *Gentleness of nature and lowliness of mind are a fine background on which God may lay the brightness of his glory.* answersingenesis.org/education/spurgeon-sermons/2143-shining-faceofmoses/ May we Seniors be His worthy canvas!

WE ARE KNOWN BY OUR FRUIT

This week, Jesus tells us that we must examine our own inner selves, our attitudes and dispositions, virtues and faults, rather than judging others. What is in our hearts comes out in what and how we speak. If our hearts are filled with kindness and compassion, those qualities will be evident in our speaking, just as beautiful, wholesome fruit comes only from healthy trees. And vice-versa. The Wisdom writer Sirach in the first reading agrees with this concept—that we will be judged by our words. Paul reminds us that the reward of discipleship is eternal life. Today's psalm of thanksgiving and praise reminds us of God's kindness and faithfulness, which we are to emulate in our thoughts, words, and deeds. We are known, each of us, by our own fruit.

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SACRED HEART CENTER
20 Old Swartswood Road
Newton, NJ 07860

Come join us for our monthly First Thursday Retreat on March 3rd, 2022. It's the day after Ash Wednesday and a great way to begin the Lenten Season! Our Theme will be: **"Growing in Love"**.
There is no need to pre-register. Instead of a set fee, we will have a "free will offering" box available for donations to cover our expenses. Thank you for whatever you can contribute.
For further information, e-mail us at shretreatcenter@gmail.com or call 973-383-2620.

DAILY MISSAL
Please use daily missals Monday - Friday located on table by the Baptismal Font. After Mass, if you would be so kind, please return the Missals back to the table.

Catholic in Recovery

Our Lady Queen of Peace in Branchville is hosting a new ministry "Catholic in Recovery" which provides a Catholic solution to those struggling with ADDICTIONS or unhealthy attachments. One's personal recovery is supplemented with a Sacramental understanding of Jesus Christ as our Savior & Highest Power, aided by the Holy Spirit. This is a **12 step anonymous meeting** for anyone addicted to alcohol, drugs, food, gambling, pornography, smoking, technology, etc. This will be an ongoing meeting every Monday from 6:30pm to 7:30pm at Our Lady Queen of Peace, 209 So, Rt 206, Branchville, NJ.
Any Questions call OLQP office 973-948-3185

Transitions
Survivors of Suicide Loss Group

Open to Adult Family and Friends of Suicide Loss. Meets every 1st and 3rd Tuesday of the month. Via Zoom please call Sparta United Methodist Church for dial in information 973-729-7773.
7pm—8:30pm Open & ongoing—Come as needed
No registration required. Additional information call 973-756-5108.

Free Tax Preparation

The Volunteer Income Tax Assistance program offers free tax preparation to low & moderate income residents and persons with disabilities who need assistance in preparing their tax returns.
For more information please email Monica.Conover@UnitedWayNNJ.org or call 973-993-1160 X529

Hardyston Senior Trips

March 23 Wind Creek Casino
Bethlehem, Pa

June 23 & 24 Sight & Sound Theater
Lancaster, Pa.

For reservations & information call:
Robin Elmo (201)317-6435

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

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

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Bereavement Support Group

"The grieving process isn't always about the death of a loved one; it is ANY life changing event that we are faced with & must process.
Tara Gulotta, a Licenced Chaplain & a trained Bereavement Facilitator, is available on an "as needed" basis should anyone be in need of support. Her email address is ChaplainT@gmail.com & she can also be reached at 571-310-7849.
If anyone is interested in joining a virtual support group where one can share & listen in a safe environment, please email her & if enough people sign up, she will host a virtual support group on the 2nd Monday of December in the evening.
For the Lord wants to comfort & heal us, & we can find much comfort & healing in His Word, Amen"

Prayer Shawl Ministry

Meetings on the 3rd Thursday of each month at 6:30pm in the rectory conference room.
Donations of wool are gratefully accepted by the Prayer Shawl Ministry.

Legion of Mary

Every Tuesday at 7pm in the rectory conference room

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".

Danielle Dagata Dionisio, Bryan Doherty, Debbie & Kate Nejman, Leonard Riccardi, Marie Sohayda, Eileen Storms, Anne Marie Wronka, Barbara Yarusinsky, Beth DeGraaff, Scott Graf, Thomasin Benedetto

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.*

In the Military:

LCpl. Ian Cunningham
Kaitlyn Dembowski

PLEASE NOTE: DUE TO PRIVACY REGULATIONS, ONLY FAMILY MEMBERS MAY REQUEST NAMES TO BE LISTED.

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.

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.*

If you have loved ones to add to the sick or military lists, please contact the Parish Office (icchurch@ptd.net or 973-827-9575).

Parish Ministries Contact List

Religious Education & Youth Protection/ Safe Environment Coordinator	Christine Benson	973-827-9501
Eucharistic Ministers	Christine Muller	973-827-9575
Lectors	Kim Vieira	973-545-2276
Music Director		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	Tara Gulotta	973-827-9575
Evangelization	Frank Elmo	973-827-9575
Altar Servers	Kim Vieira	973-545-2276
Homebound Ministry	Fr. Bogie	973-827-9575
Legion of Mary	Brunilda Gillespie	908-619-0128
Bible Sharing	Fr. Bogie	973-827-9575
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.

COVER SHEET

CHURCH NAME AND ADDRESS:
911128: Immaculate Conception Church
75 Church Street, Franklin, New Jersey 07416

TELEPHONE:
973-827-9575

CONTACT PERSON:
Carol Giacchi

NUMBER OF PAGES:
8

DATE PUBLICATION:
February 27, 2022

TRANSMISSION TIME: WEDNESDAY 9:45

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS: Masses have resumed, with limited attendees Please send 150 bulletins. Thank You.