

THE COMMEMORATION OF ALL THE FAITHFUL DEPARTED (ALL SOULS' DAY)

November 2nd, 2025



ALL SOULS' DAY

**Requiem aeternam dona eis, Domine, et lux perpetua luceat eis. Requiescant in pace.
Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace.
Amen.**



IMMACULATE CONCEPTION CHURCH

28297 OLD VILLAGE ROAD, MECHANICSVILLE, MD 20659

Parish website: www.ICChurchMD.org



Office Tel: **301-884-3123**

Email: ImmaculateConception.MD@adw.org

Items for the Upcoming Bulletin Due to Parish Office by Tuesday at 4 pm



Welcome to Immaculate Conception Roman Catholic Church

We are glad you are here to join us for worship, or for guidance and instruction in the Catholic faith. If you are NEW or coming home, we invite you to register at www.ICChurchMD.org

The Gospel calls all people to holiness of life. Our parish is committed to living the Lord's Teaching, which is to worship God in Word and Sacraments; to live and share the riches of our faith; to serve and care for the poor; and to reconcile ourselves with God and with one another.

PARISH'S CLERGY & STAFF

Clergy: Fr. Paul Nguyen, *administrator*
Deacon Bill Kyte

Staff: Clare Navarra – *administrative assistant*
Mari Kyte – *business manager/bookkeeper*
Joseph Guy, Jr. – *Coordinator of Religious Ed*

MASS & CONFESSION SCHEDULE

Weekend Masses:

Saturday at 4:00 pm,
Sunday at 7:00 am, 9:00 am & 11:00 am

Weekday Masses:

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday & Friday at 8:00 am
First Saturday of each month at 9:00 am

Confessions:

Wednesdays 6:30 pm – 7:30 pm
Fridays 8:45 am – 9:30 am
Saturdays 3:00 pm – 3:50 pm

Holy Hour (Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament):

Wednesdays 6:30 pm – 7:30 pm
Fridays, following the 8:00 am Mass until 9:30 am

Rosary Prayer recited after ALL daily Masses, and 30 min before 4pm Saturday vigil Mass.

CELEBRATING THE SACRAMENTS

BAPTISMS

Parishioners should contact the parish office to fill out a baptism registration form and complete a preparation class with Deacon Bill Kyte.

MARRIAGES

Active and participating parishioners are welcome to be married at Immaculate Conception! Please contact the rectory at least 6 months in advance (preferably a year) so that there is enough time to complete the marriage preparation and confirm a wedding date. This must be done before securing a reception venue.

HOLY COMMUNION for the HOMEBOUND

If you wish to have your homebound loved ones receive Holy Communion, please call the parish office.

CATHOLIC EDUCATION

IC Church Youth Faith Formation (Sunday School)

Online registration is now open for Children's Faith Formation (CCD) for the school year 2025-2026. Please visit ICChurchMD.org and click on Faith Formation.

Grades Pre-K-8

Little Flower School – 301-994-0404
Mother Catherine Academy – 301-884-3165

Grades 9-12

Chesterton Academy – 301-800-0227
(Chesterton is located in our Parish Center.)
Ryken High School – 301-475-2814

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, November 1st, 2025

9:00 am – intentions of Lydia Patrice Adams
4:00 pm – Szatkowski Family

Sunday, November 2nd, 2025

7:00 am – All Souls (+Amelia & John Finamore)
9:00 am – All Souls
11:00 am – All Souls (+Roy Morgan, Jr.)

Monday, November 3rd, 2025

8:00 am – All Souls (+David Hoffmaster, Jr.)

Tuesday, November 4th, 2025

8:00 am – All Souls (+Margaret Louise Morgan)

Wednesday, November 5th, 2025

8:00 am – All Souls (Travalia Family)

Friday, November 7th, 2025

8:00 am – All Souls (+Edward M. Slavinski)

Saturday, November 8th, 2025

4:00 pm – All Souls (+William Davis)

Sunday, November 9th, 2025

7:00 am – All Souls (+Peggy Goldsmith)
9:00 am – All Souls (+Calvert Norris)
11:00 am – All Souls

November is dedicated to Praying for All Souls in Purgatory

In the Catholic Church, November is dedicated to praying for the Holy Souls in Purgatory, who are on their way to heaven but are still being purified and have not attained the joys of heaven. Saint Paul warns us that we must not be ignorant concerning the dead, "even as others who have no hope...For the Lord Himself shall come down from heaven...and the dead who are in Christ shall rise."

The Church has always taught us to pray for those who have gone into eternity. Even in the Old Testament, prayers and alms were offered for the souls of the dead by those who thought "well and religiously concerning the resurrection." It was believed that "they who had fallen asleep with godliness had great grace laid up for them" and that "it is therefore a holy and wholesome thought to pray for the dead, that they may be loosed from sins." We know that a defiled soul cannot enter into heaven.

KEY DEVOTIONS AND PRACTICES

- + Praying for the dead: This is considered a spiritual work of mercy, as the souls in Purgatory are unable to pray for themselves.
- + Offering Masses: The [Holy Sacrifice of the Mass](#) is one of the most powerful ways to pray for the souls of the departed, helping them on their purification journey.
- + Visiting cemeteries: A devout visit to a cemetery and prayer for the departed is encouraged.
- + Saying specific prayers: Prayers like "Eternal Rest" are recited for the holy souls.
- + Gaining indulgences: The Church grants special [plenary indulgences](#) that can be applied to the souls in Purgatory during this month, typically by visiting a cemetery or a church and praying for the dead.
- + Acts of mercy: Other acts of mercy, such as almsgiving and personal sacrifices, can also be offered for the souls in Purgatory.

OFFERING PRAYERS AND SACRIFICES

The Church Suffering (Purgatory) and the Church Militant (living Christians) constitute in their

relations a second circle of most vital activities. Having entered into the night "wherein no man can work," the Suffering Church cannot ripen to its final blessedness by any efforts of its own, but only through the help of others—through the intercessory prayers and sacrifices (*suffragia*) of those living members of the Body of Christ who being still in this world are able in the grace of Christ to perform expiatory works. The Church has from the earliest times faithfully guarded the words of Scripture that it is a holy and a wholesome thing to pray for the dead that they may be loosed from their sins. (*2 Macab. 12, 43*). The suppliant cry of her liturgy: "Eternal rest give to them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them," can be heard already in the Acts of the martyrdom of SS. Perpetua and Felicitas (A.D. 203) and is represented in numerous sepulchral inscriptions of the most ancient period, while theologians and Fathers of the Church, beginning with Tertullian, have supplied its substantial proof. . . . So fundamental indeed and so natural to man's hope and desire and love is this belief, that historians of religion have discovered it among almost all non-Christian civilized peoples: a striking illustration of Tertullian's saying that the human soul is naturally Christian.

The Catholic, therefore, is zealous to expiate and suffer for the "poor souls," especially by offering the Eucharistic Sacrifice, wherein Christ's infinite expiation on the Cross is sacramentally represented, and joining itself with the expiatory works of the faithful, passes to the Church Suffering according to the measure determined by God's wisdom and mercy.

INDULGENCES

An indulgence is "the remission before God of the temporal punishment due for sins already forgiven as far as their guilt is concerned, which the follower of Christ with the proper dispositions and under certain determined conditions acquires through the intervention of the Church which, as minister of the Redemption, authoritatively dispenses and applies the treasury of the satisfaction won by Christ and the saints. An indulgence is partial or plenary according as it removes either part or all of the temporal punishment due sin" (*Indulgentiarum Doctrina*, n.1-2).

To obtain this remission there are proper dispositions and certain conditions predetermined by the Church that must be met. Firstly, one must have the intention

to gain the indulgence, and perform the works at the time and in the manner prescribed.

To gain a **Plenary Indulgence** (only one per day), the faithful must be in the state of grace and the following conditions must accompany the prescribed act:

1. have the **interior disposition** of complete detachment from sin, even venial sin;
2. receive the **Sacrament of Confession**
3. receive the **Holy Eucharist** (it is certainly better to receive it while participating in Holy Mass, but for the indulgence only Holy Communion is required)
4. and recite **prayers for the intentions of the Holy Father** (one *Our Father* and one *Hail Mary* is suggested as a minimum, but any other additional prayers may be added).

All attachment to sin, even venial sin, must be absent. If some of the above conditions are not fulfilled, the indulgence becomes partial.

INDULGENCES FOR ALL SOULS IN PURGATORY

By the practice of Indulgences, the Church places at the charitable disposal of the faithful the inexhaustible treasure accumulated, from age to age, by the superabundant satisfactions of the saints, added to those of the martyrs, and united to those of our Blessed Lady and the infinite residue of our Lord's sufferings. These remissions of punishment she grants to the living by her own direct power; but she nearly always approves of and permits their application to the dead by way of suffrage, that is to say, in the manner in which, as we have seen, each of the faithful may offer to God who accepts it, for another, the suffrage or succour of his own satisfactions.

— The Liturgical Year, Abbot Gueranger O.S.B.

- + **Partial indulgence** can be obtained by devoutly visiting a cemetery and praying for the departed, even if the prayer is only mental. One can gain a plenary indulgence visiting a cemetery each day between November 1 and November 8. These

indulgences are applicable only to the Souls in Purgatory.

- + **Plenary indulgence**, again applicable only to the Souls in Purgatory, is also granted when the faithful piously visit a church or a public oratory on November 2. In visiting the church or oratory, it is required, that one *Our Father* and the *Credo* be recited.

A partial indulgence, applicable only to the souls in purgatory, can be obtained when the *Eternal Rest (Requiem aeternam)* is prayed. This is a good prayer to recite especially during the month of November:

Eternal rest grant to them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May the souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.
Amen.

LITURGICAL FEASTS IN NOVEMBER

During November, the Liturgy signifies and expresses the regenerated life from the coming of the Holy Spirit, which is to be spent on the model of Christ's Life and under the direction of His Spirit. As we come to the end of the Church year we are asked to consider the end times, our own as well as the world's. The culmination of the liturgical year is the Feast of Christ the King. "This feast asserts the supreme authority of Christ over human beings and their institutions.... Beyond it we see Advent dawning with its perspective of the Lord's coming in glory."

— The Liturgy and Time, A.G. Mortimort

November 1 – Solemnity of **All Saints**

November 2 – **All Souls**

November 3 – St. Martin de Porres

November 4 – St. Charles Borromeo

November 10 – St. Leo the Great

November 11 – St. Martin of Tours

November 12 – St. Josaphat

November 13 – St. Frances Xavier Cabrini

November 15 – St. Albert the Great

November 17 – St. Elizabeth of Hungary

November 21 – Presentation of Mary

November 23 – Sts. Clement I and St. Columban

November 22 – St. Cecilia

November 23 – the Solemnity of Christ the King

November 24 – St. Andrew Dung-Lac **and** Companions

November 25 – St. Catherine of Alexandria

November 27 – *Thanksgiving Day*

November 30 – St. Andrew



The Holy Father's Intentions for the Month of November 2025



For the prevention of suicide: Let us pray that those who are struggling with suicidal thoughts might find the support, care, and love they need in their community, and be open to the beauty of life.

REFLECTION ON OUR READINGS

On this commemoration of All Souls Day, the Church turns her gaze toward all the faithful departed, entrusting them to God's mercy and proclaiming once again our hope in the Resurrection. The readings selected for this day speak with one voice: death does not have the final word, for those who live and die in Christ will share in His victory over the grave.

The Book of Wisdom sets the tone with its consoling declaration: "The souls of the just are in the hand of God, and no torment shall touch them" (*Wis 3:1*). Though the world may see death as destruction, we know that for the faithful, it is a passage into life with God. The Psalm echoes this confidence in the familiar words, "The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want" (*Ps 23:1*). Just as a shepherd cares for his flock, so does God guide and protect His people, even through the valley of death.

St. Paul's words from Romans remind us that our hope is not abstract but rooted in Baptism. "Are you unaware that we who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into His death?" (*Rom 6:3*). To be joined to Christ in His death means that we will also share in His Resurrection. This is the central truth of Christian discipleship — we belong to Christ, in life and in death, and He will not abandon us.

In the Gospel, Jesus Himself assures us: "Everyone who sees the Son and believes in Him may have eternal life, and I shall raise him on the last day" (*Jn 6:40*). These words are not merely a distant promise, but an invitation to live differently now. Eternal life is God's greatest gift to us, yet like all gifts, it comes with responsibility. To believe in Christ is to entrust ourselves fully to Him and to shape our lives according to His will.

This is where the message of stewardship comes into focus. All that we are and all that we have is entrusted to us by God, not for our possession but for our faithful use. On this All Souls Day, the Church not only calls us to pray for those who have gone before us, but also to reflect on how we are living our earthly days. How are we using the

gift of time? How are we sharing our talents in service to others? How are we offering our treasure in gratitude to God?

Today, we are reminded that our time on earth is limited, and every moment is an opportunity to love God and neighbor. Just as we entrust the departed to God's mercy, we are called to entrust ourselves daily to His grace, living as stewards who long for the fullness of life in Him. May this All Souls Day renew our faith in Christ's promise and inspire us to live each day as disciples who await the day when He will fulfill His word: "I shall raise him on the last day."

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Parish Finance Information

The **Regular Collection** last week was **\$7,781.50**
Thank you for your generous donations!

ONLINE GIVING

To donate electronically, please visit ICChurchMD.org.
To make changes to your account, visit:
ICChurchMD.org/payments.
If you have any questions please contact Clare (301-884-3123 or email: ImmaculateConception.MD@adw.org).

Parish News & Announcements

All Souls Envelopes

Our Catholic tradition encourages us to offer prayers for the eternal rest and beatitude of those who have died. The month of November is set aside as a time of special remembrance of our loved ones who have died. "All Souls" Envelopes are located in the vestibule and in the parish office, and is included in your envelope mailing. Write down your loved one's name(s) and place your offering in your "All Souls" envelope. You may place them in the collection basket or turn them in at the Parish Office. These envelopes will be placed on our altar for the month of November, as a remembrance of our departed loved ones, and a prayer of gratitude for the memory and love that continues to bind us together.

St. Gertrude the Great

The feast day for St. Gertrude is November 16. The Catholic Church celebrates her memory on this date, which is also believed to be the day of her death. She is known for her mystical writings, devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus, and being the patron saint of the souls in purgatory.

St. Gertrude's Prayer for Souls in Purgatory

Eternal Father, I offer Thee the Most Precious Blood of Thy Divine Son, Jesus, in union with the Masses said throughout the world today, for all the Holy Souls in Purgatory, for sinners everywhere, for sinners in the universal church, those in my own home and within my family. Amen.

Parish Picnic



Thank you to all those who worked so hard with the Parish Picnic. A special thank you to John Krznarich and Ken Housewright and our Knights of Columbus and Ladies auxiliary for all of your hard work to make things a success! A good time was had by all.



Exciting News — The Christmas Pageant is Back!

We're thrilled to announce the return of our beloved Christmas Pageant. Past participants did a wonderful job and truly enjoyed the experience — and we can't wait to see that joy again this year. We're looking for 27 elementary-aged children who are interested in:

- ♥ Acting
- ♥ Singing in a group
- ♥ Possibly having a speaking role.

We also need a few upper elementary to middle school students to help with:

- ♥ Narrating the pageant
- ♥ Handing out programs.

Rehearsals will be held on Tuesday evenings from 6:00–7:00 pm at the church. Sign-ups will take place after the Children's Mass on **November 9th**.

The date of the Christmas Pageant is yet to be determined. We will update you with a date and time when we get the schedule set.

We hope to see many excited faces ready to bring the spirit of Christmas to life! For more information, please contact me at mmneill@hotmail.com.

Youth Choir Now Forming at Immaculate Conception

Open to 3rd through 8th Grade
NO musical experience required to join the choir.



The kids will be singing at the children's Mass, on the second Sunday of every month at 9:00 am.

****We are also looking for an intermediate to advanced pianist to accompany the choir**

If you're interested in Joining,
contact Audrey McCray at
Audrey@StMarysDental.com
Or call or text 410-610-4977

Youth Faith Formation (CCD)

I hope this message finds you well. I want to take a moment to express my sincere gratitude for your commitment to the safety and well-being of our students by ensuring they attended our annual Safe Environment Training. This training is not just a requirement; it is a crucial component of our mission to provide a secure learning environment for our Faith Formation students.

The engaging lessons provided by our dedicated Catechist teachers are essential for equipping our children with the knowledge they need to navigate challenges safely. As active members of our community, your involvement in this training helps reinforce our collective responsibility to protect our children.

If your child missed last week's session, I urge you to prioritize their attendance this week. Achieving 100% participation in this training is vital, and every child's involvement matters. For those who cannot make the makeup session this Sunday, please join me on **Monday, November 3**, at 7 pm. We will ensure that every student completes this important lesson.

Together, let's empower our children with the knowledge and skills they need to thrive in a safe environment. Thank you for your unwavering support and partnership in this significant endeavor!

Blessings,

JC Guy, Coordinator of religious education

IC Church 150th Anniversary

150th
AND
OUR STORY IS
STILL UNFOLDING

Immaculate Conception Church was canonically established in 1876, making this coming year 2026 the One Hundred Fiftieth Anniversary.

With Praise and Thanksgiving to Almighty God who had begun the good work in us of building a lasting legacy and a generous-loving Catholic community here in Mechanicsville, Maryland, I would like to invite all of our parishioners and families to join me in the planning and celebrating this great historical year.

The 150th anniversary committee is forming and we need all your help to gather information, pictures and stories as we honor our past, and celebrating our present, and looking forward to the future. There will be celebratory activities throughout the parish's year of Jubilee, beginning with our parish's Patroness Feast Day of the Immaculate Conception, December 8, 2025 to the grand celebration on Sunday, December 7th, 2026.

Contact the Church office if you can help, or can provide old photos or information to be included in the commemorative anniversary book. We are looking for all talents and skills and suggestions to have a meaningful and joyous year-round celebration.

St. Vincent de Paul's Society



There will be a St. Vincent de Paul Society meeting on **Wednesday, November 5th** at 6 pm in the Rectory Office. Those that signed up at the ministry fair, please join us. Also, anyone else interested is welcome as well.

Our St. Vincent de Paul Society is a 501(c)(3) charitable organization, and all proceeds go towards our cause. Although any request is considered, the bulk of requests involve help with rent, electricity, water and heating fuel. One hundred percent of our funding comes from donations.

Here are ways you can contribute: place a donation in the collection basket or the poor box. (checks made out to SVdP-ICC)

- Donate to and attend our Annual Yard Sale. The Sale is usually at the end of June each year. More info later in the year.
- donate your car (details at svdpusa.org/donate) or used clothing (place in donation container beside Helping Hands building).

For Fiscal Year 25 (October 1, 2024 to September 30, 2025), SVdP helped 286 families (738 people). We expended \$48,200.92 helping our neighbors in need. Of that amount:

\$18,683.35 went towards rents

\$29,976.57 went towards utilities

\$1,447.17 to Other

We have also referred 198 families to other social agencies that could help them with their concerns.

Knights of Columbus

Knights of Columbus Immaculate Conception Council 8159 is sponsoring a winter coat drive for the Helping Hands Food Pantry. We invite everyone to donate clean, gently used coats of all sizes. Knights are encouraged to bring their donations to the November Business Meeting on **Tuesday November 4**, at 7:30pm. Parishioners are encouraged to bring theirs to the vestibule of the Church. Grand Knight Mearl Rusaw (240-434-3492).

K of C Bushel of Crabs Raffle Winner: Congratulations to Chad Yarborough and his family! Chad was very excited he won the bushel of crabs. He says he never wins anything. Please enjoy!

K of C Commanders vs Seattle Game Ticket Raffle Winner: Congratulations Mark Cusic!

K of C Raffle 2 Tickets for the Commanders vs Broncos for Nov 30, 2025. Tickets now available. \$400 value. \$15 per raffle ticket, 4 tickets for \$50. GK Mearl Rusaw (240-434-3492).

Mystical Rose Rosaries is meeting at 6pm on **Tuesday November 4, 2025** in the Parish Center for training in how to make free mission cord Rosaries to support Cross Catholic Outreach Box of Joy Program for Central and South American children (30,000 needed a month), and for support of local families with free funeral memorial bereavement Rosaries. More than 18,000 Rosaries made and donated to date. Everyone is welcome. Mearl & Deborah Rusaw (240-434-3492).

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Have you prayed the Rosary today?



PLACE YOUR BUSINESS AD HERE.



Sacred Heart
of Jesus
hear my
prayer.

Prayers for the Sick

Please remember the sick members of our parish community in your prayers. Especially: James Abatemarco; Edrena Adams; Matt Armstrong; Matt Armsworthy; Evelyn Arnold; Ann Becker; Alex Beklik; Debbie Bennett; Rita Bond; Rosalia Britt; Betty Brown; Gary Buchanan; David Calvano; Ann Cary; Stephen Calvano; Justin Casselman; Dan Clark; Fr. Rory Conley; Jimmy Davis; June Davis; Christine DeMauro; Donna Dixon; Dotty Dotson; Tim Downey; Cindy Ford; Karen Ford; Pam Gill; Marco Glorioso; Baby Herycki; John Hildebrand; Sam Howard; BK; Barbara Lilly; Clare Malloy; Amber Martinez; Jeff McBride; Carolyn Mosley; Chase Paschal; Gary Raum; Linda Richter; Robey Family; Harry Rogers; Barbara Rottman; Jo Samrow; Ignatius Thomas; Joyce Thomas; Quinn Thompson; Mike Turner; Cliff Vasko; Sandra Vera; Zita Walker; Mary Walsh; Marian Watts; Pat Watts; Marie Weisenberger; Betty Williams; Lily Williams; Terrie Widmayer; Regina Williams; Nicky Winters and Sarah Zsak.

Military Prayer List

Please remember those of our parish community whose loved ones have been deployed to serve overseas. Especially: Hunter Ayers, Matthew Davis, Davon Eaton, Taryn Eaton-Peoples, Connery Guy and Paige Guy.