CHURCH OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

35 MOUNTAIN AVENUE • SOMERVILLE, NEW JERSEY 08876

Rev. Msgr. Joseph G. Celano
Pastor

Rev. Joseph Illés
Parochial Vicar

Rev. Mhonchan Ezung
Parochial Vicar

Deacon Frank J. Quinn

Deacon John R. Czekaj

Deacon Reynaldo Lopez

† Sixth Sunday of Easter — May 22, 2022 †

Welcome to New Households!

New households moving into the Parish are asked to register at the Parish Office in person during office hours or online at our website: **www.immaculateconception.org**. You must be registered to obtain Godparent/Sponsor Certificates for Baptism or Confirmation. Please contact the Parish Center for further details.

Parish Center and Hours
Phone: 908-725-1112 **Fax:** 908-725-6269
Email: Office@icsomerville.org
Web: www.immaculateconception.org
Monday - Friday: 9:00am - 5:00pm

Office of Children's Faith Formation
908-725-1112 Ext. 1119 or 1128 (Bilingual Secretary)
Religious Formation - Grades: K-8
Mondays: 4:00 - 5:15 pm / 6:15 - 7:30 pm
Wednesdays: 4:00 - 5:15 pm / 6:15 - 7:30 pm

Schools

Immaculate Conception School
908-725-6516 / www.icsschool.org
Mrs. Kelly Seccamanie, MA, PSA, *Principal*

Immaculata High School
908-722-0200 / www.immaculatahighschool.org
Ms. Joan Silo, MAT, *Ed. S., Head of School*

Like us on Facebook
flocknote Keep in touch with us via email and text message
FAITH DIRECT Parish eGiving Sign Up Today!

Mass Schedule

Saturday
5:00 pm *(in English)*

Sunday
7:30, 9:00, 11:00 am *(in English)*
1:00 pm *(in Spanish)*
Note: The 9:00am (English) and 1:00pm (Spanish) Sunday Masses are livestreamed on our website.

Holy Day Eve *(Vigil)*
7:00 pm

Holy Day
6:30, 8:00 am, 12:10pm (English)
7:00 pm *(Bilingual)*

Daily Masses (In English)
6:30 & 8:00 am
Note: September to June the schedule changes as follows:
Friday, 6:30 & 8:30 am
First Friday, 6:30, 8:30 & 10:00 am
Note: The 8:00am & 8:30am Daily Masses are livestreamed on our website.

Confessions

Saturday
3:30 - 4:30 pm in English & Spanish

† Liturgy and Prayer this Week †

Parish Mission

Immaculate Conception is a parish of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Metuchen, New Jersey. We seek to live the gospel as faithful Disciples of Jesus Christ. As Stewards of our God given gifts we proclaim the good news of salvation. Empowered by the Holy Spirit we are commissioned as Apostles to transform all things in Christ.

† Mass Intentions †

Monday, May 23

6:30AM JOHN & ANNA COLOWITCH
8:00AM RACHEL ESOLA

Tuesday, May 24

6:30AM RITA YORK
8:00AM VICTOR CEMINO

Wednesday, May 25, Sts. Bede the Venerable & Gregory VII & St. Mary Magdalene de Pazzi

6:30AM BOB GERSTEN
8:00AM JAMES PALUMBO

Thursday, May 26, St. Philip Neri

6:30AM TERRIANNE MADDALONI
8:00AM STANLEY WOJCIEHOWSKI

Friday, May 27, St. Augustine of Canterbury

6:30AM JOHN P. REILLY
8:30AM STAN & LEE GODLESKY

Saturday, May 28

6:30AM CHRISTOPHER MARRION
8:00AM LEE RODGERS
5:00PM FOR THE PEOPLE OF THE PARISH

Sunday, May 29, The Ascension of the Lord

7:30AM GEORGE HARABIN
9:00AM OLGA AUERMILLER
11:00AM ELLEN & JOHN RUSSO
1:00PM BLANCA RUTH MESA

† Scripture Readings For This Week †

May 22, 2022
SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER
For daily readings please go to:
www.usccb.org and click on daily readings

Today's Readings: Acts 15:1-2, 22-29; Rev 21:10-14, 22-23; Jn 14:23-29
Monday: Acts 16:11-15; Jn 15:26—16:4a
Tuesday: Acts 16:22-34; Jn 16:5-11
Wednesday: Acts 17:15, 22—18:1; Jn 16:12-15
Thursday: Acts 18:1-8; Jn 16:16-20
Friday: Acts 18:9-18; Jn 16:20-23
Saturday: Acts 18:23-28; Jn 16:23b-28

† Prayer and Devotion †

ROSARY FOR LIFE

The Rosary For Life is recited on the first Saturday of the month following the 8:00am Mass in the CHAPEL.
All are welcome.

ROSARY

PLEASE NOTE: The Rosary which had been recited on Monday's at 2:00pm in the CHAPEL is currently being POSTPONED. On Thursdays at 2:00pm, a Post Pandemic Rosary for the sick recited in the CHAPEL. All are welcome. Updates about the weekly Rosary gatherings will be posted in future bulletins and/or Flocknote messages.

NOVENA AND EVENING PRAYER

The Rosary is recited on Mondays at 7:00PM in the CHAPEL followed by the Perpetual Novena Devotion in honor of Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal and Evening Prayer at 7:30PM.

ADORATION & EXPOSITION

Tues. 8:30am - 3pm; Fri. 9am - 3pm - CHAPEL

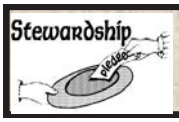
DIVINE MERCY CHAPLET

Divine Mercy Chaplet is recited every Tuesday evening at 7:00pm in the CHAPEL.

† Stewardship, A Way of Life. Tithing, God's Plan For Giving. †

Bishop's Annual Appeal

To date, the Development Office has received pledges totaling $182,715.75 and payments totaling $154,356.25 from 367 parishioners. This represents 102.1% of your $179,000.00 goal. Thanks for your generosity.



Our Next Penny Collection will be held on June 4th & 5th

FOOD COLLECTION

On the third Sunday of each month non-perishable foods are collected at the entrances of the church. The food is distributed to three agencies; the Somerset Community Food Bank, FISH emergency food and clothing pantry and the Somerville Welfare Office. We rely on the generous hearts of this Parish Community to help us to continue to fill our neighboring food pantries. It truly is a simple way to help those in need. Please take the time to fill one grocery bag with nonperishable items for those who do not have the means to purchase one of life's basic needs ~ food. Our next food collection is June 18th & 19th. In addition to donating food, we would be most grateful to those attending the 11am Mass on the Food Collection Sunday to lend a hand after the Mass. We could use assistance carrying food from the entrances of the church and sacristy, to the food sorting area which is located at the parking lot entrance near the organ. We could also use help sorting the food as well!

CATHOLIC COMMUNICATION CAMPAIGN SECOND COLLECTION, May 28 & 29

The proceeds benefit the Catholic Communication Campaign (national and local levels) and the Catholic University of America.

Offertory (Third Sunday in May) 2022

In Pew, Mail-In Giving	$ 20,078
Semi-Monthly Offertory	
Through Faith Direct	$ 24,150
Total	$ 44,228
Weekly Offertory Budget/ Expected Amount:	$19,902

† Sunday Mass Worship Guides †

Sunday Mass worship guides will now be available for you to download and view on your mobile phone or tablet. Simply scan the QR Code. A PDF version is also available for you to download and print from our website. The worship guide contains the Sunday readings, hymns and responses. Open the QR Code reader on your phone. Hold your device over the QR Code (to the right) so that it's clearly visible within your smartphone's screen. The phone automatically scans the code. Your smartphone reads the code and navigates to the intended destination.

SCAN ME

† Faith Direct †

Through Faith Direct you are able to make all of your contributions to Immaculate Conception via automatic payment from your checking account or credit card - just as you do now with a mortgage, household bills and other monthly payments. This is a great way to simplify your giving - and it's the most cost effective, environmentally-friendly way for us to receive your gifts. Faith Direct gives you a statement of your giving each year, that can be used for income taxes. To enroll online, use code NJ630 by going to www.faithdirect.net or open the QR Code reader on your cellphone. Hold your device over the QR Code (to the right) so that it's clearly visible within your smartphone's screen. The phone automatically scans the code. Your smartphone reads the code and navigates to the intended destination.

NJ630

† Flocknote †

PARISHIONERS KEEP INFORMED!

For messages from our Pastor and/or the Diocese for special events/occasions, you can sign-up or register for Flocknote by going to the Church website: www.immaculateconception.org and click on the sub-heading ABOUT, and go to Flocknote, or you can choose to scan the QR Code (to the right) on your cellphone screen.

† From our Pastor †

A Reflection for The Fifth Sunday of Easter

St. Jerome, who lived in the late 4th century, hands down a story about the Apostle John. As the story goes, John was a very old man living in the city of Ephesus, greatly revered by the church as Jesus' "beloved disciple", the only apostle who did not abandon Jesus during his passion and death, and to whom Christ entrusted Mary as He hung upon the cross. The elderly apostle was dying. And so, the bishop directed that the deacons carry him to the church so that he could impart his final words and blessing to the people. The deacons brought John to the place where the church had gathered and helped him stand up. Looking out at the crowd, he said, "Beloved, let us love one another." He then motioned to the deacons to take him home. As he was being carried out, someone in the congregation shouted, "Teacher, is there nothing more you wish to say!?" to which John replied, "This is the Lord's own command. If only this is done, then it is enough."

This weekend's Gospel text comes from a section of John's Gospel known as the "Farewell Discourse". It takes place during the Last Supper. Jesus is preparing the disciples for his imminent return to the Father and what it will mean for them and for believers of every age. He speaks to them of "glory", declaring that He will soon be glorified. But "glory" is a trick word. It conjures up images of power and influence, pomp, and popular adulation. This is not what Jesus has in mind. His "glory" will be revealed by the cross, in His complete self-giving to the Father for the salvation of the world. A strange image of glory, isn't it? He speaks to them a new commandment, that they love one another as He has loved them. "Love" too is a tricky word. The love Jesus speaks of is conditioned by his statement "as I have loved you. By this the world will know that you are my disciples". This love certainly embraces human affections, but also transcends it. Jesus will be glorified in his self-giving on the cross, but He will also be known and glorified in the love that defines the community He sends into the world as His witnesses.

Five years ago, I attended a convocation of the Missionaries of Mercy in Rome. During that gathering, Cardinal Sarah of Guinea Africa addressed the 500 or so priests from around the world who gathered for the convocation. In that address, he reminded us that "mercy is given for the transformation of man and is the spouse of conversion". He went on to say, "*It is true that God loves us as we are, but God also desires us to change, to be converted. God's love is given for the radical transformation of the person…which is why we cannot remain indifferent when confronted by this divine love*."

The love we encounter in the sacraments, in prayer, and in the way we bring faith, hope, and love into the world, is given for the transformation of the human person – ourselves and others. That is why the true fruitfulness of any parish, any community of believers, is not found in its achievements, be they few or many. It is found in the transformation, the sanctification of its members. God is not looking for us to accomplish great or noteworthy things. He is looking for faithfulness in us, especially in all the small and everyday things that require our love, even when it is difficult. To love as Jesus loved is always our call. Perhaps this explains the short farewell address of the dying Apostle John… "if only this was done, then it would be enough."

Msgr. Joseph A. Fulena

† From our Pastor †

2022 Bishop's Annual Appeal

I am grateful to all those who supported the 2022 Bishop's Annual Appeal this year. Your generosity to the annual appeal helps to fund many vital ministries and services throughout the Diocese of Metuchen, including Catholic Charities and its divisions, the education and formation of our seminarians, and helps maintain a vibrant Catholic campus ministry program at Rutgers University, New Brunswick. All monies go directly to these services and programs. None of the money generated is used for litigation or settlement fees in cases of clergy sexual misconduct or abuse.

I am pleased to report that, for the first time in many years, Immaculate Conception Church has not only reached its goal of $179,000 but has exceeded it. We are now earning at 50% rebate on all monies generated above goal for use in the parish. Thank you! If you have not yet participated in the appeal, I encourage you to do so. Not only will you be assisting in supporting vital diocesan ministries and programs, but you will also be contributing to the ongoing needs of the parish.

Thank you for your generosity to the appeal and for your continued support of our parish's life and mission.

The Solemnity of the Ascension of the Lord

The New Jersey Catholic Conference of Bishops recently informed us that the Solemnity of the Ascension, usually celebrated as a holy day of obligation on the Thursday 9 days prior to the Solemnity of Pentecost, has been permanently transferred to the Sunday prior to Pentecost, the Seventh Sunday of Easter. This means that Ascension Thursday is no longer a holy day of obligation. What was Ascension Thursday will now be celebrated as "Thursday of the Sixth Week of Easter" with the Solemnity of the Ascension now permanently replacing the Seventh Sunday of Easter.

This change has been made in this year's Mass schedule and for all years following. Mass will be celebrated on what was Ascension Thursday at its usual times of 6:30am and 8:00am only. Please make note of this important change to the liturgical calendar.

Parish Office Personnel Changes

Joselynn Toro, our part-time Spanish-language secretary, recently informed us that she would be leaving the parish office to pursue another employment opportunity. Joselynn has served the members of our Spanish community well and we offer her our prayerful well-wishes in her future endeavors.

We are actively looking to fill the position created by Joselynn's departure. Until such time, we ask the members of our Spanish community for your patience and understanding as we remain committed to serving your needs.

† Children's Faith Formation †

TO ALL CHILDRENS FAITH FORMATION CATECHISTS & VOLUNTEERS:

A NOTE OF THANKS!

The Children's Faith Formation has come to an end for the 2021 – 2022 school year. I would like to take this opportunity to express my thanks and appreciation for a job well done! Thank you so much for your labor of love with the Children's Faith Formation program. Your willingness to use your gifts and abilities has strengthened the mission and ministry of our Church. You also have been an example of servant – leadership and giving. For all your time, effort, hard work and prayers, please accept the **thanks and appreciation of our Church.** *With Sincere Gratitude, Karen A. Bohler, CFF Director*

† Msgr. Brennan Jubilee †

JUBILEE OF
MSGR. SEAMUS BRENNAN'S
ORDINATION

Monsignor Seamus F. Brennan who served 18 years of his priesthood at our parish will observe the 50th anniversary of his ordination to the priesthood this June. He will celebrate this special event at a 3:30pm Mass on Sunday, June 5th here in Immaculate Conception Church. All are welcome to participate in this special anniversary Mass followed by a light reception in the ICS cafeteria. Please RSVP to jpeppe@icsomerville.org.

† Immaculata High School †

Congratulations to *Victoria Coey,* Immaculata's 2022 Valedictorian and *Olivia Gaibor*, Immaculata's 2022 Salutatorian. We are so proud of you, and wish all our 2022 graduates great success in their future endeavors. From the Immaculate Conception Community.

† BOLD †

Upcoming Event for BOLD

BOLD is a youth ministry which has events at our Church, St. Bernard of Clairvaux & Blessed Sacrament Churches.

† Divine Mercy Chaplet †

The Divine Mercy Chaplet has returned after almost two years on Tuesdays in our beautiful CHAPEL. We begin at 7:00PM and after a short teaching, conclude by 8:00PM. Divine Mercy said:

"Encourage Souls To Say This Chaplet Which I Have Given You. Whoever Will Recite It, Will Receive Great Mercy At The Hour Of Death." Once More, "Even If There Were a Sinner Most Hardened, If He Were To Recite This Chaplet Only Once, He Would Receive Grace From My Infinite Mercy."

COME. LET'S GET TOGETHER, BRING OUR ROSARIES AND PRAY TO JESUS, DIVINE MERCY.

If you have any questions, please email Charlotte DeMarco at: office@icsomerville.org or call at 908-725-1112.

† Prayer List †

Gladynel Agosto
Helen Bell
Gabrielle Carisone
Tammy Hines
Mary Januse
Steve Kopil
Louis Moretti
Beth & Brian Norris
Tim Norris
Jennifer Toro Santiago
Bill & Marilyn Silvaney
Kevin Stowe, Jr.
Robert & Pat Tocci
Shen Tong
Juanita Villafañe
Kayla & Gregory Wheelan

If you would like to add someone to the sick list, stop by the Parish Center to fill out a form or call us at 908-725-1112. NOTE: After 2 months, the names are automatically deleted. Please contact the Parish Center if you would like someone who has been removed to be added back on the list. A new form must be completed every 2 months. Thanks for your cooperation.

† Pro Life Corner †

Pope Francis has recently called the low birth rate in many Western countries a "social emergency." In his May 12 remarks sent to a conference on the birth rate in Italy, the Pope stated: "the theme of birthrate represents a real social emergency. It is not immediately perceptible, like other issues that occupy the news, but it is very urgent: fewer and fewer children are being born, and this means impoverishing everyone's future; Italy, Europe, and the West are impoverishing their future. ... Many young people fail to realize their dream of raising a family. And so, they lower the bar of their desire, and content themselves with mediocre substitutes, such as business, the car, travel, jealously guarding their free time … The beauty of a family with many children risks becoming a utopia, a dream that it is difficult to realize. This is a new poverty that alarms me. It is the generative poverty of those who discount the desire for happiness in their hearts, of those who resign themselves to watering down their greatest aspirations, of those who are content with little and stop hoping on a bigger scale. Yes, it is a tragic poverty, because it affects human beings in their greatest wealth: bringing lives into the world to care for them, passing on to others with love the existence they have received. Failing to see the problem of the declining birthrate is a short-sighted attitude; it means ceasing to look ahead, further forward. It means turning the other way, thinking that the problems are always too complex and that nothing can be done. It means, in other words, giving up." Pope Francis stated that we can change attitudes on the blessings of large families: "*It can be done* means not passively accepting that things cannot change. Dear friends, things can change if, without fear, going beyond partisan interests and ideological barriers, we commit *together*. Therefore, I hope that at all levels – institutional, media, cultural, economic and social – we will foster, improve and implement concrete policies aimed at revitalizing birth and family. I think of you and I like to see how the issue of birthrate is able to unite, not divide. Businesses, banks, associations, unions, sportsmen, actors, writers, politicians, all together to think about how to start hoping for life again. The data, the forecasts and the numbers are by now known to all: action is needed. It is the moment to give real answers to families and young people: hope cannot and must not die waiting. I ask God to bless your efforts. I am close to you and am rooting for you, so that together we can reverse the course of this cold demographic winter. Thank you. It can be done!" As noted on LifeNews.Com: "This is not the first time the Pontiff has warned about the consequences of low birth rates in Europe, Asia and North America. In January, Pope Francis encouraged young couples to have children, saying: 'Having a child is always a risk, either naturally or by adoption. But it is risker not to have them. It is riskier to deny fatherhood or to deny motherhood, be it real or spiritual. ... The Catholic Church leader frequently speaks about the value of children, born and unborn. In September, he criticized the 'throwaway' culture that makes abortion seem 'normal.' 'There is the waste of children that we don't want welcome,' he said. 'It is really a murder.' Later, he added: 'Is it right to eliminate, to take a human life to solve a problem? Is it right to hire a hitman to solve a problem? That's what abortion is.'" Please pray that our culture will develop a proper respect for the dignity and value of the lives of all children, born and still living in the womb.

Presented by: Kevin Dugan

† Social Ministry †

Ziti for the Needy

Pans are being distributed after all Masses TODAY and frozen meals will be collected after all Masses on the weekend of 5/29. Please consider meat/ veggie casseroles as well! After SUNDAY 5/29, the frozen trays may be dropped off directly at SHIP. *Unfrozen food cannot be accepted*. Please help to replenish the freezers at SHIP. SHIP is located at 87 East High St., Somerville, NJ. Please contact 908-393-9545 for any further information. Frozen food trays can be delivered between 8:30am-2:00pm, Monday through Friday. Food is a gift often taken for granted, but, essential to life. Through your assistance you would be sustaining someone in need, in a myriad of ways. We have attached a suggested recipe on the lid of the pans which contains a lot of protein. Most often people make a simple pasta dish, this will create a bit of variety! Or use your own protein rich recipe!

HOUSES OF HOPE ~ 2022 MISSION

On Saturday June 12th, Immaculata students, parents and Immaculate Conception parishioners will travel to West Virginia. The mission is to help improve the living conditions of the impoverished and often forgotten people in the Appalachian region. Our presence there, along with the physical labor, brings them the message of God's love and hope.

A replica of the first home built by *Houses of Hope* is displayed in the back of the Church. If you are interested in making a contribution to Mission 2022 and the Houses of Hope initiative, kindly take a "saw tag" from the display. You can choose from the tags specifying cash donations for a variety of building supplies. Please place the tag, along with your donation with the specified amount, in an envelope and place in the collection basket or bring it to the Parish Center. *This weekend is the final weekend for donations.* ***Please make checks payable to Immaculata.***

Thank you in advance for your prayers and generosity.

For more information regarding Mission 2022 Houses of Hope, please contact Immaculata High School's Campus Ministry at: *908-722-0200 ext. 1123.*

May Crib

During the month of May donations are being collected for the Pregnancy Aid and Information Center of Raritan. Items that are most critically needed include; clothing from newborns to one year old babies, bottles, diapers, baby wipes, toiletries, baby formula, layettes and similar baby items. Each year your generosity astounds those who volunteer at the Center and we hope for the same support this year. Cribs are located in each of the Church entrances to receive your kind donations.

Questions? Call Parish Center at **908-725-1112** or email **office@icsomerville.org**

Project Linus

When? June 2nd. Our meetings are on the first Thursday of the month.

How Do I Sign Up? If you plan to participate in our meeting you MUST register with the Ministry leader if you wish to attend. Please email Lynette Klar at: Office@icsomerville.org. There is a limit of capacity to each meeting room due to Covid protocols, therefore, we need to know the number of participants planning to attend each meeting. We do not want to turn someone away due to the fact that the room may not accommodate them. Good communication is key to keeping us, not socially distant, rather physically distant, and safe! Are you taking necessary COVID precautions? Yes! The meeting room has been thoroughly disinfected. Participants must wear their masks during our gathering. Hand sanitizer and disinfectant wipes are available.

Where? Immaculata Convent located at 240 Mountain Ave, Somerville, NJ 08876. We gather in Meeting Room 1- Upper Room. What time? 11:00 am to 12:30 pm.

You need no experience or skill! Our Linus Ministers will teach you all you need to know!! You are most welcome to come for one meeting date and contribute on a one-time basis. They quilt, crochet, or knit blankets for infants and children in need. The blankets are all hand-made, and provide not only warmth, but also a real sense of security. *Project Linus also contributes blankets to our Elizabeth Ministry, Celebration of Birth gift packs for women of our parish; the Pregnancy Aid Center; our annual Appalachian Mission trips; and Hospice. They also knit beautiful prayer* shawls for the residents of local nursing homes.

SIXTH WEEK OF EASTER

https://bible.usccb.org/bible/readings/052222.cfm

Monday

1. What message did you hear in the readings proclaimed at Mass?
2. What did you hear in the homily that was helpful and inspiring?
3. What action are you invited to take this week after hearing the readings and the homily?

Tuesday

1. Read the first reading from Sunday, Acts 15:1-2, 22-29
2. What was the belief held about what was needed for salvation?
3. How did the Holy Spirit change this belief?

Wednesday

1. Read the psalm from Sunday, Psalm 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8
2. What does this psalm say about the Lord's way being known?
3. Offer a prayer of praise to the Lord, for having blessed you and all the peoples of the earth.

Thursday

1. Read the Gospel from Sunday, John 14:23-29
2. In what ways have you kept Christ's words?
3. What troubles your heart now? Remember that Jesus promised to leave his peace with us.

Friday

1. Read the second reading from Sunday, Revelation 21:10-14, 22-23
2. John says, "*the city had no need of sun or moon to shine on it, for the glory of God gave it light*." How have you encountered the powerful light of Christ?
3. How can you reflect the light of Christ to those around you?

Saturday

Reflect on this week and consider:

1. What did I learn this week?
2. What does God want to give every person of every nation?
3. How have I experienced the Advocate, the Holy Spirit in my life?

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† Parish Directory †

CHURCH OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

35 Mountain Avenue, Somerville, New Jersey 08876
Tel: 908-725-1112 Fax: 908-725-6269
www.immaculateconception.org
Diocese of Metuchen website: *www.diometuchen.org*

† The Parish Clergy †

Rev. Msgr. Joseph Celano, Pastor
E-Mail: JCelano@icsomerville.org Ext. **1121**

Rev. Joseph Illés, Parochial Vicar
E-Mail: JIllés@icsomerville.org Ext. **1127**

Rev. Mhonchan Ezung, Parochial Vicar
E-Mail: Mezung@icsomerville.org Ext. **1122**

Frank J. Quinn, Deacon

John R. Czekaj, Deacon

Reynaldo Lopez, Deacon
E-Mail: RLopez@icsomerville.org

† Parish Trustees †

Mrs. Judy Hancock

Mr. John Tegeler

Please contact the Parish Office at 908-725-1112
E-Mail: Office@icsomerville.org

† The Parish Office †

Carol Januse, Parish Secretary
E-Mail: cjanuse@icsomerville.org; Ext. **1116**

Jo Anne Peppe, Business Manager
E-Mail: jpeppe@icsomerville.org; 908-895-1120

Rich Rau, Director of Advancement,
E-Mail: rrau@immaculatahighschool.org or
908-722-0200 Ext. **1223**

Stacey Geary, Advancement Associate for Alumni Relations, 908-722-0200 Ext. **1222**
E-Mail: sgeary@immaculatahighschool.org

Beverly Gaffney, Parish Bookkeeper
E-Mail: bgaffney@ics41mtn.org; Ext. **1118**

Milton Ayala, Director, Maintenance; Ext. **1110**
E-Mail: maintenance@ics41mtn.org

Jessica Leguizamon, Bilingual Youth Ministry, Ext. **1124**
E-Mail: jleguizamon@icssomerville.org

† Office of Children's Faith Formation †

Karen Bohler, Director, Children's Faith Formation
E-Mail: kbohler@icsomerville.org; Ext. **1119**

Jenny Santiago, CFF Bilingual Secretary
E-Mail: jsantiago@icsomerville.org; Ext. **1128**

† Office of Liturgy & Sacred Music †

Rev. Msgr. Joseph Celano, Pastor
Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist & Lector Formation
E-Mail: JCelano@icsomerville.org Ext. **1121**

Gary Gavula, Director, Sacred Music
E-Mail: ggavula@icsomerville.org; Ext**. 1133**

† Office of New Evangelization †

Patti Jannuzzi, Director, New Evangelization/ Stewardship/ Adult Faith Formation
E-Mail: pjannuzzi@icsomerville.org

Mirna Gonzalez, Coordinator of Discipleship 908-725-1112

Joan Kopil, Lazarus Ministry; Contact the Parish Center at 908-725-1112

† Parish Ministries †

Contact the Parish Center for more information or for any questions about these ministries at 908-725-1112 or E-mail: Office@icsomerville.org

- **Appalachian Relief Services**
- **Elizabeth Ministry - Amberle Gilroy**
- **HOME-Housing Outreach Multipath Empowerment-** shelters homeless
- **Monthly Food Collection**
- **Monthly Penny Collection for SHIP**
- **Pro-Life Outreach**
- **Samaritan Homeless Interim Program (SHIP)**
  SHIP's Galley - Serving or preparing meals
  SHIP's Mobile Kitchen - Serving meals
  Parish Contact: Tom Lardner
- **St. Zita Ministry -** Anna Ferreira
- **Project Linus -** Lynette Klar
- **MAT25 Ministry** -Anne Lurski
- **St. Joseph's Workers -** Tom Lardner

† Liturgia y Oración de la Semana †

Boletín en Español

22 de Mayo de 2022

El Sexto Domingo de Pascua

Mensaje Espiritual

"Habiéndonos enterado de que algunos de los nuestros, sin mandato de nuestra parte, han sembrado entre ustedes la inquietud y provocado el desconcierto, hemos decidido de común acuerdo elegir a unos delegados y enviárselos junto con nuestros queridos Bernabé y Pablo, los cuales han consagrado su vida al nombre de nuestro Señor Jesucristo. El Espíritu Santo, y nosotros mismos, hemos decidido no imponerles ninguna carga más que las indispensables."

El crecimiento de la temprana iglesia fue motivado por el Espíritu Santo y la dedicación de los líderes a la persona de Jesucristo. Seguramente, tuvieron que batallar con serios asuntos de identidad, discernimiento y dirección.

Nosotros, la iglesia de hoy, estamos involucrados en un proceso sinodal para escuchar, buscar dirección del mismo Espíritu Santo para acompañarnos en nuestra jornada juntos. Nuestro Santo Padre, el Papa Francisco, ha pedido que todos nosotros, los bautizados y los marginalizados, nos escuchemos los unos a los otros y que el Espíritu Santo guíe a la iglesia de hoy hacia el mañana.

Intención de la Santa Misa
22 de Mayo de 2022

Maximillian Gray Barquero

Lecturas del Domingo

Primera Lectura: Hechos 15:1-2, 22-29

Algunos hombres informaron a los gentiles que no podían ser salvos si no se circuncidaban, de acuerdo a la Ley Antigua. Los discípulos les dijeron a los gentiles que siguieran las reglas estrictamente necesarias, como abstenerse de comer carne sacrificada a ídolos, o inmoralidad sexual.

Segunda Lectura: Apocalipsis 21:10-14, 22-23

Juan describe a Jerusalén bajando del cielo, brillando como una joya preciosa, con un ángel apostado en cada una de sus doce puertas, y cada puerta con el nombre de una de las tribus de Israel. La ciudad no tenía templo, pues Dios era su templo. La gloria y luz de Dios y el Cordero también reemplazaban la necesidad del sol.

Evangelio: San Juan 14:23-29

Jesús les dice a sus disípulos: "El que me ama hace caso de mi palabra". A los que obedezcan, Jesús y Dios los amarán y acompañarán siempre. También dice que Dios enviará al Espíritu Santo para enseñarles. Jesús les dice que la paz es su regalo de despedida.

Lecturas del Día

Para lecturas diarias, visite: *www.usccb.org* haga click en Lecturas diarias

Domingo: Acts 15:1-2, 22-29; Rv 21:10-14, 22-23; Jn 14:23-29

Lunes: Acts 16:11-15; Jn 15:26—16:4a

Martes: Acts 16:22-34; Jn 16:5-11

Miércoles: Acts 17:15, 22—18:1; Jn 16:12-15

Jueves: Acts 1:1-11; Eph 1:17-23 or Heb 9:24-28,10:19-23; Lk 24:46-53

Viernes: Acts 18:9-18; Jn 16:20-23

Sábado: Acts 18:23-28; Jn 16:23b-28

† Guías de Adoración de la Misa Dominical †

Las guías de adoración de la misa dominical ahora estarán disponibles para que las descargue y las vea en su teléfono móvil o tableta. Simplemente escanee el código QR a continuación o la versión PDF también está disponible para descargar e imprimir desde nuestro sitio web. La guía de adoración contiene las lecturas, himnos y respuestas dominicales.

SCAN ME

Escanéame

† El Rincón del Pastor †

Una Reflexión para el Quinto Domingo de Pascua

San Jerónimo, que vivió a finales del siglo IV, cuenta una historia sobre el apóstol Juan. Según cuenta la historia, Juan era un anciano que vivía en la ciudad de Éfeso, muy venerado por la iglesia como el "discípulo amado" de Jesús, el único apóstol que no abandonó a Jesús durante su pasión y muerte, y a quien Cristo le encomendó María mientras colgaba de la cruz. El anciano apóstol se estaba muriendo. Y así, el obispo ordenó que los diáconos lo llevaran a la iglesia para que pudiera impartir sus últimas palabras y bendición a la gente. Los diáconos llevaron a John al lugar donde se había reunido la iglesia y lo ayudaron a ponerse de pie. Mirando a la multitud, dijo: "Amados, amémonos unos a otros". Luego hizo señas a los diáconos para que lo llevaran a casa. Mientras lo llevaban, alguien en la congregación gritó: "Maestro, ¿¡no hay nada más que desee decir!?" a lo que Juan respondió: "Este es el mandato del Señor. Si solo se hace esto, entonces es suficiente".

El texto del Evangelio de este fin de semana proviene de una sección del Evangelio de Juan conocida como el "Discurso de despedida". Tiene lugar durante la Última Cena. Jesús está preparando a los discípulos para su inminente regreso al Padre y lo que significará para ellos y para los creyentes de todas las épocas. Les habla de "gloria", declarando que pronto será glorificado. Pero "gloria" es una palabra engañosa. Evoca imágenes de poder e influencia, pompa y adulación popular. Esto no es lo que Jesús tiene en mente. Su "gloria" será revelada por la cruz, en su total entrega al Padre para la salvación del mundo. Una extraña imagen de gloria, ¿no? Les habla un mandamiento nuevo, que se amen unos a otros como él los ha amado. "Amor" también es una palabra engañosa. El amor del que habla Jesús está condicionado por su declaración "como yo los he amado a ustedes. En esto conocerá el mundo que ustedes son mis discípulos". Este amor ciertamente abraza los afectos humanos, pero también los trasciende. Jesús será glorificado en su entrega en la cruz, pero también será conocido y glorificado en el amor que define a la comunidad que envía al mundo como sus testigos.

Hace cinco años asistí a una convocatoria de las Misioneras de la Misericordia en Roma. Durante esa reunión, el cardenal Sarah de Guinea África se dirigió a los aproximadamente 500 sacerdotes de todo el mundo que se reunieron para la convocatoria. En ese discurso, nos recordó que "la misericordia se da para la transformación del hombre y es la esposa de la conversión". Continuó diciendo: "Es cierto que Dios nos ama tal como somos, pero Dios también desea que cambiemos, que nos convirtamos. El amor de Dios se da para la transformación radical de la persona… por eso no podemos permanecer indiferentes ante este amor divino".

El amor que encontramos en los sacramentos, en la oración y en la forma en que llevamos la fe, la esperanza y el amor al mundo, se da para la transformación de la persona humana, de nosotros mismos y de los demás. Por eso la verdadera fecundidad de cualquier parroquia, de cualquier comunidad de creyentes, no se encuentra en sus logros, sean pocos o muchos. Se encuentra en la transformación, la santificación de sus miembros. Dios no está buscando que logremos cosas grandes o notables. Él está buscando la fidelidad en nosotros, especialmente en todas las cosas pequeñas y cotidianas que requieren nuestro amor, incluso cuando es difícil. Amar como Jesús amó es siempre nuestro llamado. Tal vez esto explique el breve discurso de despedida del Apóstol Juan moribundo... "si tan solo esto se hiciera, entonces sería suficiente".

Msgr. Joseph A. Juliano

† El Rincón del Pastor †

Campaña Anual del Obispo 2022

Estoy agradecido con todos aquellos que apoyaron la Campaña Anual del Obispo 2022 este año. Su generosidad con la solicitud anual ayuda a financiar muchos ministerios y servicios vitales en toda la Diócesis de Metuchen, incluidas Caridades Católicas y sus divisiones, la educación y formación de nuestros seminaristas, y ayuda a mantener un programa de ministerio universitario católico vibrante en la Universidad de Rutgers, New Brunswick. Todo el dinero va directamente a estos servicios y programas. Ninguno de los fondos generados se utiliza para litigios o tarifas de liquidación en casos de mala conducta o abuso sexual del clero.

Me complace informar que, por primera vez en muchos años, la Iglesia de la Inmaculada Concepción no solo alcanzó su meta de $179,000, sino que la superó. Ahora estamos obteniendo un reembolso del 50% de todo el dinero generado por encima de la meta para usar en la parroquia. ¡Gracias!
Si aún no ha participado usted en el llamamiento, le animo a que lo hagas. No solo ayudará a apoyar ministerios y programas diocesanos vitales, sino que también contribuirá a las necesidades continuas de la parroquia.

Gracias por su generosidad con la apelación y por su continuo apoyo a la vida y misión de nuestra parroquia.

Solemnidad de la Ascensión del Señor

La Conferencia Católica de Obispos de Nueva Jersey nos informó recientemente que la Solemnidad de la Ascensión, que generalmente se celebra como un día de precepto el jueves 9 días antes de la Solemnidad de Pentecostés, ha sido transferida permanentemente al domingo anterior a Pentecostés, el Séptimo Domingo de Pascua. Esto significa que el Jueves de la Ascensión ya no es un día santo de precepto. Lo que fue el Jueves de la Ascensión se celebrará como el "Jueves de la Sexta Semana de Pascua" con la Solemnidad de la Ascensión ahora reemplazando permanentemente al Séptimo Domingo de Pascua.
Este cambio se ha realizado en el horario de misas de este año y para todos los años siguientes. La misa se celebrará el jueves de la Ascensión en su horario habitual de 6:30 am y 8:00 am solamente. Tome nota de este importante cambio en el calendario litúrgico.

Cambios en el personal de la oficina parroquial

Joselynn Toro, nuestra secretaria de habla hispana de medio tiempo, nos informó recientemente que dejaría la oficina parroquial para buscar otra oportunidad de empleo. Joselynn ha servido bien a los miembros de nuestra comunidad hispana y le ofrecemos nuestros mejores deseos en oración en sus proyectos futuros.

Estamos buscando activamente llenar el puesto creado por la partida de Joselynn. Hasta ese momento, les pedimos a los miembros de nuestra comunidad hispana su paciencia y comprensión mientras seguimos comprometidos a satisfacer sus necesidades.

† Rincón Pro-Vida †

El Papa Francisco recientemente calificó la baja tasa de natalidad en muchos países occidentales como una "emergencia social". En sus declaraciones del 12 de mayo enviadas a una conferencia sobre la natalidad en Italia, el Papa afirmó: “el tema de la natalidad representa una verdadera emergencia social. No es inmediatamente perceptible, como otros temas que ocupan las noticias, pero es muy urgente. : Cada vez nacen menos niños, y eso significa empobrecer el futuro de todos; Italia, Europa y Occidente empobrecen su futuro... Muchos jóvenes no logran realizar su sueño de formar una familia. Barra de su deseo, y se contentan con sustitutos mediocres, como los negocios, el automóvil, los viajes, la guarda celosa de su tiempo libre… La belleza de una familia con muchos hijos corre el riesgo de convertirse en una utopía, un sueño difícil de realizar. Es una nueva pobreza que me alarma, es la pobreza generativa de quien rebaja el deseo de felicidad en su corazón, de quien se resigna a diluir sus mayores aspiraciones, de quien se contenta con poco y deja de esperar en una escala mayor. Sí, es una pobreza trágica, porque afecta a los seres humanos en su mayor riqueza: traer vidas al mundo para cuidarlas, transmitir a los demás con amor la existencia que han recibido. Defecto ver el problema de la tasa de natalidad decreciente es una actitud miope; significa dejar de mirar adelante, más adelante. Significa dar la vuelta, pensar que los problemas son siempre demasiado complejos y que no se puede hacer nada. Significa, en otras palabras, darse por vencido". El Papa Francisco afirmó que podemos cambiar las actitudes sobre las bendiciones de las familias numerosas: "Se puede hacer significa no aceptar pasivamente que las cosas no pueden cambiar. Queridos amigos, las cosas pueden cambiar si, sin miedo, más allá de los intereses partidistas y las barreras ideológicas, nos comprometemos juntos. Por eso, espero que a todos los niveles -institucional, mediático, cultural, económico y social- impulsemos, mejoremos e implementemos políticas concretas encaminadas a revitalizar la natalidad y la familia. Pienso en ti y me gusta ver cómo el tema de la natalidad es capaz de unir, no de dividir. Empresas, bancos, asociaciones, sindicatos, deportistas, actores, escritores, políticos, todos juntos para pensar cómo volver a tener esperanza en la vida. Los datos, las previsiones y los números ya son conocidos por todos: es necesario actuar. Es el momento de dar respuestas reales a las familias y a los jóvenes: la esperanza no puede ni debe morir en la espera. Le pido a Dios que bendiga sus esfuerzos. Estoy cerca de ti y te animo, para que juntos podamos revertir el curso de este frío invierno demográfico. Gracias. ¡Se puede hacer!" Como se señaló en LifeNews.Com: " "Esta no es la primera vez que el Pontífice advierte sobre las consecuencias de las bajas tasas de natalidad en Europa, Asia y América del Norte. En enero, el Papa Francisco alentó a las parejas jóvenes a tener hijos, diciendo: 'Tener un hijo siempre es un riesgo, ya sea natural o por adopción. Pero es más arriesgado no tenerlos. Es más arriesgado negar la paternidad o negar la maternidad, sea real o espiritual... El líder de la Iglesia Católica habla con frecuencia del valor de los niños, nacidos y no nacidos. En septiembre, criticó la cultura 'desechable' que hace que el aborto parezca 'normal'. "Está el desperdicio de niños que no queremos que sean bienvenidos”, dijo. "Es realmente un asesinato". Luego agregó: '¿Es correcto eliminar, quitarle la vida a un ser humano para resolver un problema? ¿Es correcto contratar a un sicario para resolver un problema? Eso es el aborto’". Oremos para que nuestra cultura desarrolle un respeto adecuado por la dignidad y el valor de la vida de todos los niños, nacidos y que aún viven en el útero .

Presentado por: Kevin Dugan

† Por Favor Recuerden los Siguientes Feligreses en sus Oraciones †

Gladynel Agosto
Helen Bell
Gabrielle Carisone
Barbara Czekaj
Francisco Fernandez
Tammy Hines
Mary Januse
Steve Kopil
Louis Moretti
Beth & Brian Norris
Tim Norris
Robert & Pat Tocci
Gency Torres
Jennifer Toro Santiago
Bill & Marilyn Silvaney
Kevin Stowe Jr.
Shen Tong
Vivek Vellore
Juanita Villafañe
Kayla & Gregory Wheelan

Si desea agregar a alguien a la lista de enfermos, pase por el Centro Parroquial para completar un formulario o llámenos al 908-725-1112.

NOTA: Después de 2 meses, los nombres se eliminan automáticamente. Comuníquese con el Centro Parroquial si desea que alguien que ha sido eliminado se vuelva a agregar a la lista. Se debe completar un nuevo formulario cada 2 meses. Gracias por su cooperación.

† Diocesis de Metuchen †

Campaña Anual del Obispo

Hasta la fecha, la Oficina de Desarrollo ha recibido compromisos por un total de $182.715.75 y pagos por un total de $154.356.25 de 367 feligreses. Esto representa el 102.1% de su meta de $179,000.00. Gracias por tu generosidad.

SÉPTIMA SEMANA DE PASCUA

SOLEMNIDAD DE LA ASCENSIÓN

https://bible.usccb.org/es/bible/lecturas/052922-ascension.cfm

Lunes

1. ¿Qué mensaje escuchaste ser proclamado en las lecturas de la Misa?
2. ¿Qué escuchaste en la homilía que te ha inspirado o ayudado?
3. ¿Qué te está invitando a hacer el Señor esta semana a través de las lecturas y homilía que escuchaste?

Martes

1. Lee la primera lectura del Domingo, Hechos 1,1-11
2. ¿Cómo te estás preparando para recibir al Espíritu Santo?
3. ¿Cuál es la promesa del Señor acerca del poder del Espíritu Santo?

Miércoles

1. Lee el salmo del Domingo, Salmo 46,2-3; 6-7; 8-9
2. ¿Cómo describe este salmo a Dios?
3. Ofrece una oración de alabanza al Señor por ser Rey del Universo

Jueves

1. Lee el Evangelio del Domingo, Lucas 24,46-53
2. ¿Qué promesa les hizo Jesús a los discípulos?
3. ¿Qué dice el Evangelio acerca de *la necesidad de volver a Dios? ¿Has sentido el perdón de Dios?*

Viernes

1. Lee la segunda lectura del Domingo, Efesios 1,17-23 o Hebreos 9,24-28; 10,19-23 2. ¿Qué aspectos de tu vida necesitan el *espíritu de sabiduría y de revelación para guiarte a Cristo? (Ef.) 3. ¿Cómo reflejas en tu vida la esperanza cristiana? (Heb. 9-10)*

Sábado

Reflexiona sobre lo has recibido del Señor esta semana:

1. ¿Qué aprendí esta semana y durante este tiempo de cuaresma y pascua?
2. ¿De que manera ha sido mi experiencia de prueba y triunfo diferente este año? 3. ¿De que manera he sentido la paz, esperanza, y consejo del Espíritu Santo durante este tiempo de Pascua?

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KID'S KORNER

Year C

Gospel Today

Sixth Sunday of Easter | John 14:23-29

Jesus continues to prepare His disciples for His death and resurrection. He gives them the gift of peace and the power of the Holy Spirit to help them.

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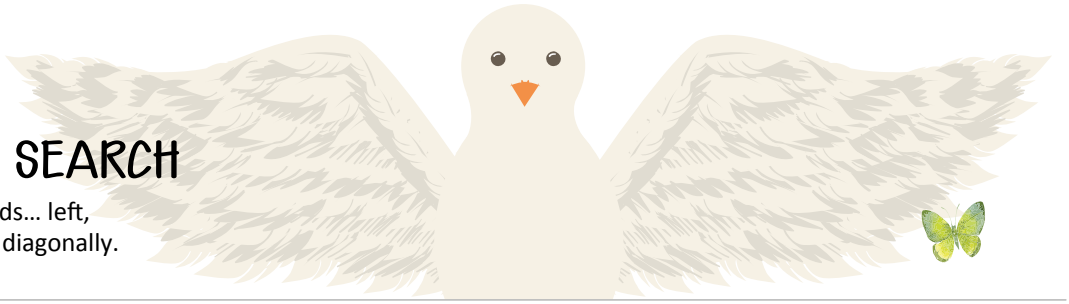
"Peace I leave with you."

–JOHN 14:27



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Word
Father
Loves
Dwelling
Within
Advocate
Holy
Spirit
Teach
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Leave
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Never
Hearts
Troubled
Afraid
Rejoice
Told
Before
Happens
Believe
John

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K	V	R	E	V	E	O	H	W	L	H	H	G
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E	R	I	C	S	E	B	O	R	Z	I	D	I
P	Y	D	H	W	R	L	P	D	A	W	L	L
S	T	R	A	E	H	E	N	G	R	R	O	L
E	H	E	C	N	A	D	V	O	C	A	T	E
N	I	H	O	C	P	E	R	O	F	E	B	W
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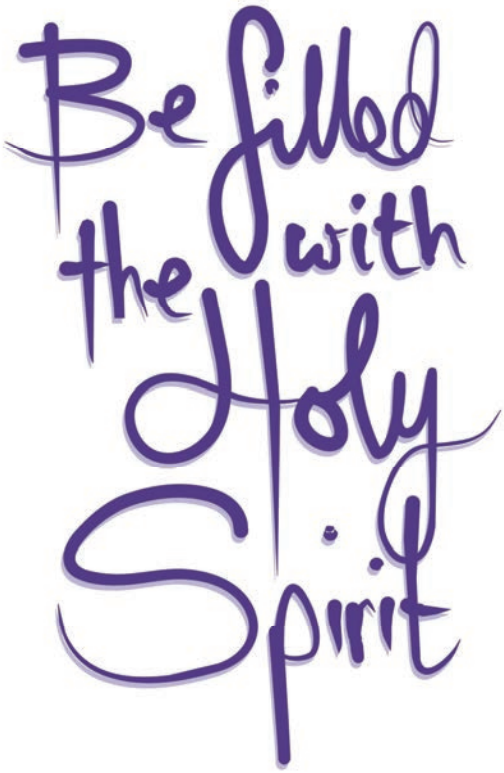
O	T	F	O	A	N	S	W	E	R	E	D	N
H	J	E	S	U	S	E	V	E	I	L	E	B

SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

“Since we have heard that some of our number, who went out without any mandate from us, have upset you with their teachings and disturbed your peace of mind, we have with one accord decided to choose representatives and to send them to you along with our beloved Barnabas and Paul, who have dedicated their lives to the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. It is the decision of the Holy Spirit and of us not to place any burden beyond these necessities...”

The growth of the early church was motivated by the Holy Spirit and the dedication of leaders to the person of Jesus Christ. Surely, they had to wrestle with serious questions of identity, discernment and direction.

We, the church of today, are engaged in a listening process on synodality, seeking the guidance of the same Holy Spirit to accompany us on our journey together. Our Holy Father, Pope Francis, has asked all of us, the baptized and the marginalized, to listen to one another and the Holy Spirit, guiding the church of today for tomorrow.



HIS WORD TODAY

BY REV. WILLIAM J. REILLY

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THE SUNDAY READINGS

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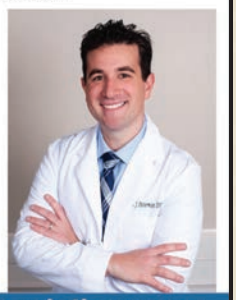

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