



CHURCH OF THE
**IMMACULATE
CONCEPTION**

EIGHTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME MARCH 2, 2025

On Tuesday, March 4, 2025, we will welcome Most Rev. James F. Checchio, Bishop, who will confirm 112 students who are participating in the Sacrament of Confirmation.

IMMACULATECONCEPTION.ORG | PHONE: 908-725-1112 | EMAIL: OFFICE@ICSOMERVILLE.ORG



FOLLOW ALONG



@icsomerville

Welcome to Immaculate Conception

"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."

Whether this is your first Mass with us or you are a lifelong parishioner, we are so glad you are here. We hope Immaculate Conception can be a place for you to call home. If you are new here, check us out online at immaculateconception.org or visit the parish office. Please do not hesitate to reach out and introduce yourself. We'd love to meet you!

Readings for the Week

Sunday, March 2

Sirach 27:4-7; 1 Corinthians 15:54-58; Luke 6:39-45

Monday, March 3

Sirach 17:20-24; Mark 10:17-27

Tuesday, March 4

Sirach 35:1-12; Mark 10:28-31

Wednesday, March 5

Joel 2:12-18; 2 Corinthians 5:20-6:2; Matthew 6:1-6, 16-18

Thursday, March 6

Deuteronomy 30:15-20; Luke 9:22-25

Friday, March 7

Isaiah 58:1-9a; Matthew 9:14-15

Saturday, March 8

Isaiah 58:9b-14; Luke 5:27-32

Mass Intentions

Sanctuary Lamp, Church

Intentions of Catherine Tom-Wolverton

Sanctuary Lamp, Chapel

Intentions of Catherine Tom-Wolverton

Sunday, March 2

Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time

7:30 am Catherine Gros

9:00 am Amy Van Horn

11:00 am Pasquale & Marie

Montemarano

1:00 pm Juan Garcia Aguilar

Monday, March 3

St. Katharine Drexel

6:30 am Mary Keenan

8:00 am Theresa Porcaro

Tuesday, March 4

St. Casimir

6:30 am Barbara Kosinski

8:00 am Janice Prince

Wednesday, March 5

Ash Wednesday

6:30 am Agnes Salamon

8:30 am Plaras Family

12:10 pm Blake Mulvaney

3:00 pm Liturgy of the Word

4:30 pm Liturgy of the Word

7:00 pm Henry & Anne Klitsch

Thursday, March 6

6:30 am Evelyn L. Case

8:00 am Intentions of Louis Grosso

Friday, March 7

Sts. Perpetua and Felicity

6:30 am Jerry Rider

8:30 am George & Anita Kavanaugh

Saturday, March 8

St. John of God

8:00 am Jacqueline Amatucci

5:00 pm For the People of our Parish

Sunday, March 9

First Sunday of Lent

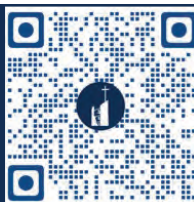
7:30 am Catherine Gross

9:00 am Deacon Arnold DeMarco

11:00 am Amy Van Horn

1:00 pm Cesar Niola & Maria Quintuna

Scan the QR code or visit
immaculateconception.org/masses
to view this week's worship guide.



From the Pastor

A Reflection from the Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

Somewhere around the turn of the last century, a story circulated in the NY press about a 10-year-old boy, who, on a cold day in December, was peering through the window of a shoe store on a city street. Of course, there were no such things as malls back then. He was barefooted and shivering with cold, obviously one of the city's poor.

A woman, who happened to be walking down that same street, saw the boy and approached him. "My, but you're in such deep thought staring in that window!" she said. "I was asking God to give me a pair of shoes," was the boy's reply. The lady took him by the hand, went into the store, and asked the clerk to get half a dozen pairs of socks for the boy. When the clerk returned she placed a pair upon the boy's feet. She then bought him a pair of shoes. She packed the remaining pairs of socks in the shoebox and gave them to him. "No doubt, you will be warmer and more comfortable now." As she turned to go, the little boy caught her by the hand and asked her. "Are you God?" "No", said the woman. "I am only his child". The boy smiled and said: "I knew it! You had to be some relative of His!"

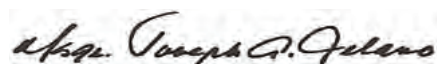
Paul tells us that the nature we have received from Adam tends toward "earthly things". By that, he means that fallen human nature tends to sin. And what is sin but the attempt to find our happiness apart from God? We can think only of ourselves and be blind to the needs of others. We preoccupy ourselves only with the here and nows of life forgetting that life has an eternal destiny and calling. Daily, we must die to the inclinations of this nature, says Paul, and daily, we must rise to a radically new life in Jesus Christ, the New Adam.

This is why Christian faith can never be reduced to a set of ethics alone, like the ones Jesus sets forth in the Gospel we hear today. They are simply too hard for us to follow on our own. No, faith and a new way of life emerge from the encounter with Jesus Christ. He makes us new again, children of our Father who is in heaven, so that what we have been given, namely grace, mercy, and love without measure, we give to others, even if it comes at great cost to ourselves. We die from harsh judgments, retaliation against injury, and doing good only for the sake of how it looks on a college application or resume and rise in Jesus to a new kind of love – a love that does well to those who mistreat us and does not withhold our tunic from the one in need.

Faced with a shoeless child on a city street, what will we do? As the Lord says, if we love only those who love us or give only in expectation of getting something back, what merit is there in that? GK Chesterton once observed that these Christian ideals have not been tried and found wanting. Rather, they have been found difficult and left untried.

We are sons and daughters of the Living God. We might be the answer to a poor boy's prayer for a pair of shoes, a sinful person's prayer for acceptance and mercy, and the way back to God for someone who has struck us on the cheek. So, which way do we go and what will we choose?

Servus,



Rev. Msgr. Joseph G. Celano
Pastor and Director of Schools



Lenten Season

This **Wednesday, March 5** is Ash Wednesday, the beginning of the Lenten Season. Lent is a campaign for holiness, both personally and communally, inviting us to turn more deeply to Christ through repentance and ongoing conversion of life.

The Lenten season is built upon the three spiritual disciplines of prayer, fasting, and the works of mercy. These disciplines are given to us as a means of making a more personal response to the Lord who Himself calls us to undertake this 40-day campaign. We have various activities and events that our parish sponsors during Lent to help nurture your relationship with Christ in the Church, community, and the service of others.

Please join us this Lent in our striving for Christ, and through Him, renewal in mission and greater holiness of life.

Msgr. Joe Celano



DIOCESE OF
METUCHEN

2025 LENTEN OBLIGATIONS

Bishop Checchio has approved this year's Lenten Regulations.

- The days of both fast and abstinence are Ash Wednesday (March 5) and Good Friday (April 18).
- The other Fridays of Lent (March 7, 14, 21, 28; April 4, and 11) are days of abstinence.
- Fasting in the Roman Catholic tradition means to limit oneself to one full meal with two smaller meals which together do not equal the size of your full meal. The obligation of fasting applies only to Catholics between the ages of 18 and 59.
- Abstinence in the Roman Catholic tradition means to abstain from eating meat (beef, chicken, pork, turkey, etc.). The obligation of abstinence applies to all Catholics who have reached the age of 14.



Ash Wednesday Schedule

Wednesday, March 5

Masses: 6:30 am, 8:30 am, 12:10 pm,
and 7:00 pm in Spanish;

Liturgies of the Word with Ashes: 3:00 pm and 4:30 pm

Stations of the Cross

Fridays of Lent at 7:00 pm, 7:45 pm in Spanish;

Living Stations of the Cross on **Wednesday, April 16** at 7:00 pm

News & Events

Children's Faith Formation

Children's Liturgy of the Word will be celebrated at 11:00 am Mass on the following Sundays in **March; 2, 9, 16, 23, and 30**. Children in Kindergarten through Grade 3 are welcome to join. After the opening prayer at the beginning of Mass, the children will be called forward to hear God's Word, including the readings and a special homily tailored to their level. They will return to the congregation during the Offertory.

Men's Fellowship

SATURDAY | MARCH 8, 2025 | 7:30 AM

The Men's Fellowship group meets on the second Saturday of the month from 7:30 am to 9:00 am in the Talbot Room. Join us for breakfast, prayer, a brief teaching, and spiritual discussion. All men 18 or older are welcome to attend on **Saturday, March 8**.

Somerville St. Patrick's Day Parade SUNDAY | MARCH 16, 2025

Join us as we celebrate our Spartan Spirit at the Somerville St. Patrick's Day Parade on **Sunday, March 16**. Immaculate Conception Church and Schools will stand out as one strong, unified community as we march together in our Spartan gear. Blue "Everyone is Irish" tee shirts and green hats are on sale for \$20 this weekend after all Masses.

The Parade Day Schedule:

- 9:00 am - Mass, celebrated together
- 12:30 pm - Meet up to prepare for the parade march, location will be announced next week

Lenten Soup Supper

FRIDAY, MARCH 21, 2025 | 5:00 PM

Please join us **Friday, March 21** starting at 5:00 pm in the cafeteria of Immaculate Conception School as we gather as a Parish during the Lenten season for a light meal of non-meat-based soups and other simple fare. The Soup Supper will be followed by the praying of the Family Stations of the Cross, led by the Children's Faith Formation families, in the church at 7:00 pm.

Scan the QR code or visit
[immaculateconception.org/events](https://www.immaculateconception.org/events)
to see more



UPCOMING COLLECTIONS

Ash Wednesday: March 5 - For the Poor
Food Collection: March 15-16

Mothers' Day of Prayer

SATURDAY | MARCH 29, 2025 | 8:30 AM

Please join us on **Saturday, March 29** for a day of prayer, reflection, sharing, and growth, led by moms for moms, designed to spiritually enhance your mothering. There will be an opportunity for adoration and reconciliation in the afternoon. The celebration of the Eucharist will take place at the 5:00 pm Mass, and we invite your families to join us. The cost is \$40 and includes a light breakfast, lunch, and snacks. To register visit: www.immaculateconception.org.

Mass Intentions

A Special Way to Honor Loved Ones

The dedication of a Mass, altar flowers, or a sanctuary candle in our Church or Chapel is a beautiful way to express support, sympathy, and care for those who are ill or have passed. The 2026 Mass book is open for your intentions, and we now offer arrangements to be made easily online.

By dedicating a Mass, we honor the deceased and invite their family members to join in a special liturgy in their memory. This long-standing Catholic tradition allows us to remember and pray for those who have passed, including their names in the Prayers of the Faithful at Mass.

If you would like to request a Mass intention for your loved one, please contact the Parish Office at 908-725-1112, or stop by in person, visit us online, or scan the QR code. We will confirm your request by phone or email with the date and Mass time. The suggested donation for a daily Mass intention is \$10. Flowers for the altar are \$75 and sanctuary candles for \$20 can be purchased weekly for departed souls, for the living, for anniversaries, birthdays, and for good health.

Together, let us find strength in the power of prayer.

www.immaculateconception.org/mass-intentions

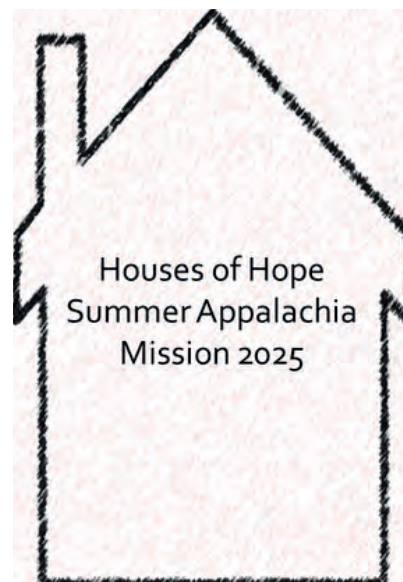


Our Parish & Schools

Summer Appalachia Mission 2025 Building Houses of Hope

Students from Immaculata High School and members of our parish are currently planning for this year's annual summer mission trip to the Appalachia region of West Virginia. Mike and Michelle Reno along with student volunteers will speak at the end of each mass the weekend of March 8 - 9 about the trip.

Starting **March 8**, a display house with "support tags" and pictures from prior trips will also be set up in the Narthex with more information. Donation tags will be available with the display.



BOLD Youth Ministry

High School Teens, dive deeper into your faith at our next Discipleship Night. Join us for snacks, prayer and be encouraged by others in the BOLD community!



Tuesday, March 11th | 7:00-8:30pm
Immaculate Conception Church
St. Anne's Room

Text Paulina Garcia at 908-552-0620/ Erik Schenck 908-758-3329 to let us know you're coming!



We are calling all high school teens to join BOLD and Catholic HEART Workcamp for a week of service, friendship, spiritual growth and memories that will last a lifetime!

Summer Mission Trip to Cumberland, MD
Sunday, July 6th - Friday, July 11th
For all current 8th Graders & HS Teens

Registration now Open!!!

Questions about BOLD? Contact BAB@boldym.com
text/call Erik Schenck at 908-758-3329 or
Paulina Garcia at 908-552-0620

BOLD MIDDLE

BOLD GOES ROCK CLIMBING!

Looking for adventure? Ready to challenge yourself and be BOLD? Join us for an Introduction to Climbing Session!

Thursday, March 6th
6:15-9:30pm
Gravity Vault Indoor Rock Gym,
Flemington NJ

Meet at St. Bernard's Church
at 6:15pm for Carpool

Cost: \$60, which includes transportation, 1.5 hours of instructed climbing & a late night meal after the gym!

This session includes 1.5 hours of climbing, with expert staff guiding and belaying climbers.

No experience? No problem! Shoes and harnesses are provided.

Scan QR code or visit
boldym.com/bab/events
for more details and to register!



Questions ? Contact BAB@boldym.com
text Erik Schenck at 908-758-3329 or
Paulina Garcia at 908-552-0620

< KID'S > KORNER

Gospel Today

Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time | Luke 6:39-45

A good tree produces good fruit, just as a good person, whose heart is full of love, is good and kind to others.

©2025 Bon Venture Services, LLC

"Each tree is recognized
by its own fruit."

Luke 6:44



BIBLE WORD SEARCH

Find all the words... left,
right, up, down or diagonally.

Jesus	Y	N	S	D	A	R	S	T	O	R	E	D	P	G
Told	L	O	F	L	E	S	R	U	O	Y	G	E	A	O
Parable	R	S	R	O	Y	P	S	O	L	N	R	Z	F	O
Blind	A	P	B	T	L	L	T	L	I	B	L	I	N	D
Student	E	E	S	A	W	D	U	S	T	O	C	N	L	P
Teacher	L	A	N	P	D	F	D	K	E	R	I	G	F	S
Fully	C	K	U	E	R	E	E	Y	E	L	P	O	E	P
Trained	A	S	R	S	N	H	N	H	E	I	U	C	L	E
Speck	F	R	U	I	T	U	T	E	A	C	H	E	R	C
Sawdust	S	A	A	U	A	O	E	V	O	M	E	R	E	K
Attention	A	R	O	N	R	J	E	S	U	S	A	E	D	U
Brother	T	M	I	B	L	U	E	L	B	A	R	A	P	K
Eye	K	D	E	N	O	I	T	N	E	T	T	A	N	T
Yourself														
Plank														
Clearly														
Remove														
Good														
Bad														
Tree														
Fruit														
Recognized														
People														
Stored														
Heart														
Mouth														
Speaks														
Luke														

Giving

Thank you! We are so encouraged by all of the ways that you respond to God's faithfulness and share your gifts. Gifts of prayer, time, and talent serve and support our community in so many ways. Your financial gifts are incredible acts of service that allow us to continue our mission and the work of the Church.

To give online, visit immaculateconception.org/give or to enroll in our simple, automatic giving system, visit faithdirect.net and use code **NJ630**.



Helpful Info

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION COMMUNICATIONS

To get the latest news, photos, and stories, follow us on Facebook and Instagram (@icsomerville), and subscribe to our email list to get all the latest content delivered right to your inbox. Visit us online at immaculateconception.org/subscribe or scan the QR code to connect.



NAVEX ETHICSPPOINT

The Diocese of Metuchen implemented an independent third-party reporting system initiative to provide a confidential method for the employees, volunteers, and parishioners to report suspected financial malfeasance in our parishes, schools, cemeteries, and diocesan institutions.

- Web: diometuchen.ethicspoint.com
- Mobile: Scan the QR code to the right
- Hotline: 844-796-1296



HOSPITALIZED OR HOMEBOUND?

Please notify the parish office at **908-725-1112** when a parishioner or family member is confined to their home, hospitalized, or entering a nursing home, so that the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick or a visitation to bring the Holy Eucharist can be arranged.

PRAYER REQUESTS

Please have a family member or the individual contact us to have their name included on our prayer list. The request will be included for two months, unless otherwise notified.

HAPPENING THIS WEEK AT IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

MONDAY, MARCH 3

6:30 am Mass, Chapel
8:00 am Mass, Chapel
2:45 pm Children's Choir Practice, Church Music Office
7:00 pm Miraculous Medal Rosary & Novena, Chapel
7:15 pm When You Pray Bible Study, ICS Music Room

TUESDAY, MARCH 4

6:30 am Mass, Chapel
8:00 am Mass, Chapel
8:30 am - 3:00 pm Eucharistic Adoration, Chapel
9:00 pm Men's Evening Prayer, Chapel

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 5

6:30 am Ash Wednesday Mass, Church
8:30 am Ash Wednesday Mass, Church
12:10 pm Ash Wednesday Mass, Church
3:00 pm Liturgy of the Word with Ashes
4:30 pm Liturgy of the Word with Ashes
7:00 pm Ash Wednesday Mass, Church

THURSDAY, MARCH 6

6:30 am Mass, Chapel
8:00 am Mass, Chapel
11:00 am Project Linus, Somerville American Legion
2:00 pm Rosary for the Sick, Chapel
6:00 pm BOLD Middle: BOLD Goes Rock Climbing!
7:00 pm Immaculate Conception Choir Practice, Church
7:00 pm Filipino/American Association of Immaculate Conception Prayer Group, Virtual

FRIDAY, MARCH 7

6:30 am Mass, Chapel
8:30 am Mass, Church
9:00 am - 7:00 pm Eucharistic Adoration, Chapel
7:00 pm Stations of the Cross, Church

SATURDAY, MARCH 8

7:30 am Men's Fellowship, Talbot Room
8:00 am Mass, Church
3:30 pm - 4:30 pm Confession, Church
5:00 pm Vigil Mass, Church

SUNDAY, MARCH 9

7:30 am Mass, Church
9:00 am Mass, Church
10:00 am Order of Christian Initiation of Adults, St. Anne Room
11:00 am Mass, Church
1:00 pm Spanish Mass, Church

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR PARISHIONERS WHO ARE SICK:

Joseph Acampado, Jozelle Acampado, Regina Bruder, Amy Beth Cardinal, Ron Czajkowski, Ann Delayo, Larry & Elaine Dwyer, Fabienne Germaine, Jessica Giallanza, Anna Greco, Gene Grosso, Louis Grosso, Daniel Higgins, Eleanor Jackowski, David Kalisch, Lynette Klar, Diana Konopka, Joseph Malinowski, David Pietrowicz, Joe Pietrowicz, John Perrucci, George Riehman, Margie Rice, Lisa Ruano, Robert & Pat Tocci, and Brian Valencia

Parish Office

The parish offices are located in the white building in front of the church. The parish office hours are Monday through Friday from 9:00 am to 5:00 pm.



OUR STAFF

Please know that all of us at the Church of the Immaculate Conception are here to be of service to you. Please never hesitate to seek our support whenever it may be needed. The parish office can be reached at **908-725-1112** or office@icsomerville.org.

Rev. Msgr. Joseph G. Celano	Pastor	jcelano@icsomerville.org
Rev. Mhonchan Ezung	Parochial Vicar	mezung@icsomerville.org
Rev. Gustavo Rodriguez-Perez	Parochial Vicar	grodriguez@icsomerville.org
Frank J. Quinn, ICS '62, IHS '66	Deacon	office@icsomerville.org
John R. Czekaj, ICS '62, IHS '66	Deacon	office@icsomerville.org
Reynaldo Lopez	Deacon	rlopez@icsomerville.org
David Lang, ICS '79, IHS '83	Deacon	dlang@icsomerville.org
Tuan Bui	Deacon	tbui@icsomerville.org
Katie Parsells, ICS '99, IHS '03	Principal, Immaculate Conception School	kparsells@ics41mtn.org
Ed Webber, IHS '99	Principal, Immaculata High School	ewebber@immaculatahighschool.org
Milton Ayala	Director, Maintenance	maintenance@ics41mtn.org
Karen Bohler, ICS '72, IHS '76	Director, Children's Faith Formation	kbohler@icsomerville.org
Beverly Gaffney	School/Parish Bookkeeper	bgaffney@ics41mtn.org
Gary Gavula	Director, Sacred Music	ggavula@icsomerville.org
Paulina Garcia	Bilingual Youth Minister	icc@boldym.com
Stacey Geary, IHS '91	Assistant, Marketing & Communications	sgeary@icsomerville.org
Jo Anne Peppe	Business Manager	jpeppe@icsomerville.org
Rick Proctor	Director, Security	rproctor@icsomerville.org
Rich Rau, IHS '89	Director, Advancement	rrau@immaculatahighschool.org
Jenny Santiago	Bilingual Secretary, Children's Faith Formation	jsantiago@icsomerville.org
Erik Schenk	Youth Minister	icc@boldym.com
Colleen Young	Parish Secretary	cyoung@icsomerville.org

*For sacramental emergencies only that require the immediate attention of a priest call **908-698-9107**.*



Bienvenido a la Iglesia Inmaculada Concepción

"La Inmaculada Concepción es una parroquia de la Diócesis Católica Romana de Metuchen, Nueva Jersey. Buscamos vivir el evangelio como fieles discípulos de Jesucristo. Como mayordomos de los dones que Dios nos ha dado, proclamamos la Buena Nueva de la salvación. Fortalecidos por el Espíritu Santo, somos comisionados como apóstoles para transformar todas las cosas en Cristo."

Ya sea que esta sea su primera Misa con nosotros o que sea un feligrés de toda la vida, estamos muy contentos de que esté aquí. Esperamos que la Iglesia Immaculate Conception pueda ser un lugar para llamar hogar. Si es nuevo aquí, visítenos en línea en immaculateconception.org o visite la oficina parroquial. Por favor, no dude en comunicarse y presentarse. ¡Nos encantaría conocerle!

Lecturas de La Semana

Domingo, 2 de marzo

Sirácides 27:4-7; 1 Corintios 15:54-58; Lucas 6:39-45

Lunes, 3 de marzo

Sirácides 17:20-24; Marcos 10:17-27

Martes, 4 de marzo

Sirácides 35:1-12; Marcos 10:28-31

Miércoles, 5 de marzo

Joel 2:12-18; 2 Corintios 5:20-6:2; Mateo 6:1-6, 16-18

Jueves, 6 de marzo

Deuteronomio 30:15-20; Lucas 9:22-25

Viernes, 7 de marzo

Isaías 58:1-9a; Mateo 9:14-15

Sábado, 8 de marzo

Isaías 58:9b-14; Lucas 5:27-32

Intenciones de Misas

Lámpara del Santuario, Iglesia
Intenciones de Catherine Tom-Wolverton
Lámpara del Santuario, Capilla
Intenciones de Catherine Tom-Wolverton

Domingo, 2 de marzo Octavo Domingo del Tiempo Ordinario

7:30 am Catherine Gros
9:00 am Amy Van Horn
11:00 am Pasquale y Marie
Montemarano
1:00 pm Juan García Aguilar

Lunes, 3 de marzo
Santa Catalina Drexel
6:30 am Mary Keenan
8:00 am Theresa Porcaro

Martes, 4 de marzo
San Casimiro
6:30 am Barbara Kosinski
8:00 am Janice Prince

Miércoles, 5 de marzo
Miércoles de Ceniza
6:30 am Agnes Salamon
8:30 am Familia Plaras
12:10 pm Blake Mulvaney
3:00 pm Liturgia de la Palabra
4:30 pm Liturgia de la Palabra
7:00 pm Henry & Anne Klitsch

Jueves, 6 de marzo
6:30 am Evelyn L. Case
8:00 am Intenciones de Louis Grosso

Viernes, 7 de marzo
Santa Perpetua y Santa Felicidad
6:30 am Jerry Rider
8:30 am George & Anita Kavanaugh

Sábado, 8 de marzo
San Juan de Dios
8:00 am Jacqueline Amatucci
5:00 pm Por la gente de nuestra
parroquia

**Domingo, 9 de marzo
Primer Domingo de Cuaresma**
7:30 am Catherine Gross
9:00 am Diácono Arnold DeMarco
11:00 am Amy Van Horn
1:00 pm Cesar Niola & Maria Quintuna

Solo para emergencias sacramentales que requieran la atención inmediata de un sacerdote, llame **908-698-9107**.

Del párroco

Una Reflexión del Séptimo Domingo del Tiempo Ordinario

A principios del siglo pasado, circuló una historia en la prensa de Nueva York sobre un niño de 10 años que, en un día frío de diciembre, miraba a través de la ventana de una zapatería en una calle de la ciudad. Por supuesto, no existían los centros comerciales en esa época. El niño estaba descalzo y temblando de frío, claramente uno de los pobres de la ciudad.

Una mujer que caminaba por esa misma calle vio al niño y se acercó a él. "¡Vaya, pero estás tan pensativo mirando esa ventana!" le dijo. "Estaba pidiéndole a Dios que me diera un par de zapatos", fue la respuesta del niño. La señora lo tomó de la mano, entró en la tienda y le pidió al dependiente que le trajera media docena de pares de calcetines para el niño. Cuando el dependiente regresó, ella le colocó un par de calcetines en los pies. Luego le compró un par de zapatos. Empacó los pares restantes de calcetines en la caja de zapatos y se los dio. "Sin duda, ahora estarás más caliente y cómodo". Cuando ella se dio la vuelta para irse, el niño la tomó de la mano y le preguntó: "¿Eres Dios?" "No", respondió la mujer. "Solo soy su hija". El niño sonrió y dijo: "¡Lo sabía! ¡Tenías que ser algún pariente suyo!"

Pablo nos dice que la naturaleza que hemos recibido de Adán tiende hacia "las cosas terrenales". Con esto, él quiere decir que la naturaleza humana caída tiende al pecado. ¿Y qué es el pecado sino el intento de encontrar nuestra felicidad fuera de Dios? Podemos pensar solo en nosotros mismos y ser ciegos a las necesidades de los demás. Nos preocupamos solo por el aquí y ahora de la vida, olvidando que la vida tiene un destino y un llamado eterno. Cada día debemos morir a las inclinaciones de esta naturaleza, dice Pablo, y cada día debemos resucitar a una vida radicalmente nueva en Jesucristo, el Nuevo Adán.

Por eso, la fe cristiana nunca puede reducirse a un simple conjunto de principios éticos, como los que Jesús presenta en el Evangelio que escuchamos hoy. Son simplemente demasiado difíciles de seguir por nuestra cuenta. No, la fe y una nueva forma de vida surgen del encuentro con Jesucristo. Él nos hace nuevos de nuevo, hijos de nuestro Padre que está en los cielos, para que lo que hemos recibido, a saber, la gracia, la misericordia y el amor sin medida, lo demos a los demás, incluso si esto conlleva un gran costo para nosotros mismos. Morimos a los juicios duros, la represalia contra el daño recibido y a hacer el bien solo por la apariencia, como si fuera para una solicitud universitaria o un currículum, y resucitamos en Jesús a un nuevo tipo de amor: un amor que hace bien a aquellos que nos maltratan y no retiene nuestra túnica de aquel que está necesitado.

Ante un niño descalzo en una calle de la ciudad, ¿qué haremos? Como dice el Señor, si amamos solo a aquellos que nos aman o damos solo con la expectativa de recibir algo a cambio, ¿qué mérito tiene eso? GK Chesterton observó una vez que estos ideales cristianos no han sido probados y encontrados deficientes. Más bien, se han encontrado difíciles y se han dejado sin probar.

Somos hijos e hijas del Dios Vivo. Podemos ser la respuesta a la oración de un niño pobre por un par de zapatos, la oración de una persona pecadora por aceptación y misericordia, y el camino de regreso a Dios para alguien que nos ha golpeado en la mejilla. Entonces, ¿qué camino tomaremos y qué elegiremos?

Servo,



Rev. Mons. José G. Celano
Pastor y Director de Escuelas



Nuestra Diócesis



Seminario Bíblico de Cuaresma

LAMENTACIONES

Sábado 22 de Marzo
9:30 am a 3:00 pm

Presentador:
P. Gustavo Rodríguez

\$25

Descuento especial para los
estudiantes de Biblia

Centro Pastoral
St John Neumann
146 Metlars Ln, Piscataway
NJ, 08854

Información y registro:

Lescobar@diometuchen.org

732 243 4573

**Diometuchen.org/taller-de-
biblia-introduccion**



Oficina de Evangelización Hispana – Escuela Bíblica Hispana

Noticias y Eventos

Formación de Fe para Niños

La Liturgia de la Palabra para Niños se celebrará en la Misa de las 11:00 am en los siguientes domingos de marzo: 2, 9, 16, 23 y 30. Los niños de Kindergarten hasta el Grado 3 son bienvenidos a participar. Después de la oración de apertura al inicio de la Misa, se llamará a los niños para que se acerquen a escuchar la Palabra de Dios, incluyendo las lecturas y una homilía especial adaptada a su nivel. Ellos regresarán a la congregación durante el Ofertorio.

Obligaciones de la Cuaresma 2025

El Obispo Checchio ha aprobado las Regulaciones de Cuaresma de este año.

Los días de ayuno y abstinencia son el Miércoles de Ceniza (5 de marzo) y el Viernes Santo (18 de abril).

Los demás viernes de Cuaresma (7, 14, 21, 28 de marzo; 4 y 11 de abril) son días de abstinencia.

El ayuno en la tradición católica romana significa limitarse a una comida completa con dos comidas más pequeñas que, en conjunto, no igualen el tamaño de la comida completa. La obligación de ayunar solo aplica a los católicos entre 18 y 59 años de edad.

La abstinencia en la tradición católica romana significa abstenerse de comer carne (res, pollo, cerdo, pavo, etc.). La obligación de la abstinencia aplica a todos los católicos que han alcanzado la edad de 14 años.

¡Mantennos al tanto!

Parroquianos Registrados: ¡Por favor, ayúdenos a mantenernos al tanto de su información! Nos ayuda enormemente en la Oficina Parroquial cuando nos informan sobre cambios en su hogar, es decir, nueva dirección, nuevo número de teléfono, nuevo correo electrónico, mudanza fuera de la parroquia, cambio de estado civil, un bebé o niño nuevo, o algún otro miembro de la familia que se una al hogar. Agradecemos su colaboración para mantener nuestros registros actualizados, en contacto con la Oficina Parroquial al office@icsomerville.org.

ESTA SEMANA EN LA INMACULADA CONCEPCIÓN

LUNES, 3 DE MARZO

6:30 am Misa, Capilla

8:00 am Misa, Capilla

MARTES, 4 DE MARZO

6:30 am Misa, Capilla

8:00 am Misa, Capilla

8:30 am - 3:00 pm Adoración Eucarística, Capilla

7:30 pm Comité Hispano, Convent

9:00 pm Oración Nocturna de Hombres, Capilla

MIÉRCOLES, 5 DE MARZO

6:30 am Misa del Miércoles de Ceniza, Iglesia

8:30 am Misa del Miércoles de Ceniza, Iglesia

12:10 pm Misa del Miércoles de Ceniza, Iglesia

3:00 pm Liturgia de la Palabra con Cenizas

4:30 pm Liturgia de la Palabra con Cenizas

7:00 pm Misa del Miércoles de Ceniza, Iglesia

JUEVES, 6 MARZO

6:30 am Misa, Capilla

8:00 am Misa, Capilla

2:00 pm Rosario por los Enfermos, Capilla

7:00 pm Grupo de Oración de la Asociación Filipino

7:30 pm Grupo de Oración Juan 23, Convento

VIERNES, 7 MARZO

6:30 am Misa, Capilla

8:30 am Misa, Iglesia

9:00 am - 7:00 pm Adoración Eucarística, Capilla

7:00 pm Renovación Carismática, Capilla

7:45 pm Estaciones de la Cruz en español, Iglesia

SÁBADO, 8 MARZO

8:00 am Misa, Iglesia

3:30 pm - 4:30 pm Confesión, Iglesia

5:00 pm Misa de Vigilia, Iglesia

6:00 pm La Hora Mariana, Virtual

DOMINGO, 9 MARZO

7:30 am Misa, Iglesia

9:00 am Misa, Iglesia

11:00 am Misa, Iglesia

1:00 pm Misa en español, Iglesia

2:00 pm Encuentro Orden Española de Iniciación Cristiana de Adultos, Salón de Santa Ana

2:00 pm Lectores Españoles, Salón Talbot

POR FAVOR RECEN POR NUESTROS FELIGRESES QUE ESTÉN ENFERMOS:

Joseph Acampado, Jozelle Acampado, Regina Bruder, Amy Beth Cardinal, Ron Czajkowski, Ann Delayo, Larry & Elaine Dwyer, Fabienne Germaine, Jessica Giallanza, Anna Greco, Gene Grosso, Louis Grosso, Daniel Higgins, Eleanor Jackowski, David Kalisch, Lynette Klar, Diana Konopka, Joseph Malinowski, David Pietrowicz, Joe Pietrowic, John Perrucci, George Riehman, Margie Rice, Lisa Ruano, Robert & Pat Tocci, and Brian Valencia



732-469-3285 | **732-752-5522 X7**
26 KEARNEY STREET • BRIDGEWATER | 226 ROUTE 22 WEST • GREEN BROOK

www.britlandautobody.com
edgar@britlandautobody.com

Lic. #02625A

Lic. #00533A



Act now to
help end hunger.

In the United States,
one in nine people
face hunger.

FEEDING AMERICA
feedingamerica.org

CALL US TODAY!

YOUR AD HERE!



- Connect with a Dedicated and Engaged Audience
- Build Trust and Credibility • Showcase Your Business to Those Who Actively Support Local Businesses
- Benefit From Our Online Presence and Extend Your Reach Beyond the Church Walls

Reserve Your Space Today!

Contact our advertising team at **800-883-4343**.
Don't miss this opportunity to become a valued partner in the community.

Jean Ceramics Pottery Studio • Store



ADULT CLASSES. KIDS/TEENS CLASSES.
PARTIES & MORE!

www.jeanceramics.co
908-546-3133

284 US Highway 206 Hillsborough, NJ 08844

BOYLAN Funeral Home

Robert Fox, Manager ~ N.J. License No. 4371

732-545-4040 **BoylanFH@verizon.net** **732-572-0076**

188 EASTON AVENUE
NEW BRUNSWICK, NJ 08901

BOYLANFH.COM 10 WOODING AVENUE
EDISON, NJ 08817

**Volunteers Needed for
Rosary Garden**

1 Hour Per Week

Contact Deacon Frank Quinn
c/o Parish Center

908-725-1112

JOHN'S PAINTING

Local Resident & Diocesan Member

(908) 604-8759

www.johnspaint.com

Help the ASPCA put a stop
to animal cruelty.



ASPCA
ASPCA.ORG
WE ARE THEIR VOICE.®

www.asPCA.org



**ONLY YOU
CAN PREVENT WILDFIRES**

Jarrett Dewelde, CFP
R.I.C.H. Planning Group, LLC

Financial Planning • Investments • Life Insurance

jarrett@richplanninggroup.com

(732) 384-9192

50 Division Street
Suite 501
Somerville
NJ 08876



PPG-160112 (05/2023)



**American
Heart
Association**

We are a relentless force
for a world of longer,
healthier lives.

www.heart.org

**ArchAngels
Services, LLC**



- HOMECARE
- STAFFING
- TRAINING
- TRANSPORTATION

FREE ASSESSMENT

FREE 2 HOUR SERVICE W/AGREEMENT
908-575-7980 | 908-507-1129

**265 E MAIN STREET
SOMERVILLE, NJ 08876**

READY.GOV

Don't be afraid...Be Ready

**NEED A LAWYER?
INJURED?**



★ Call For A Free Legal Consultation ★



MARC J. BRENNER ESQ.

973-326-8902

- Personal Injury
- Workers' Compensation
- Social Security Disability



Certified By The Supreme Court of New Jersey
As A Workers' Compensation Law Attorney

lawmarchbrenner.com • marc@lawmarchbrenner.com

222 RIDGEDALE AVENUE • CEDAR KNOLLS, NJ 07927

WITH GOD,
**ALL
THINGS
ARE
POSSIBLE**



Somerville PHARMACY

MORE THAN JUST A PHARMACY VISIT US TODAY!

40 W MAIN ST. SOMERVILLE 08876 TEL (908) 333-4442

Prescriptions • Vitamins & Supplements • Personal Care

Pet Care • Snacks & Beverages • Cold & Flu

SOMERVILLEPHARMACY.COM



Scan
here

**GOD
BLESS
AMERICA**

"FREE" Medical Supplies

Hospital Beds, Wheelchairs,
Walkers, Etc.

Contact Deacon Frank Quinn
c/o Parish Center

908-725-1112

Robbi

PROMOTIONAL ADVERTISING
The Innovative Industry Leader Since 1978

Office: 908-840-4410

LAW OFFICE OF MARCIA POLGAR ZALEWSKI

PRACTICE AREAS INCLUDE:

Real Estate • Estate Planning • Probate

64 North Bridge St. • Somerville NJ • 908-231-1551
www.zalewskilaw.com



Joseph Bonaduce

Loan Officer | NMLS 113188

Mobile: 908-507-6839

1031 Route 22, Ste 203

Bridgewater, NJ 08807

movement.com/Joseph.Bonaduce

joseph.bonaduce@movement.com

CALL FOR A MORTGAGE
PRE-APPROVAL



MOVEMENT
MORTGAGE

The health and safety of our customers and employees is our highest priority...

CertaPro Painters



We Do Painting. You Do Life.

o: 908-713-9901 • c: 908-797-9516



✉ bjamrog@certapro.com

BOB JAMROG
Owner

CLINTON
Lic# 13VH08653400

RESIDENTIAL • COMMERCIAL • INTERIOR • EXTERIOR

Support Our
ADVERTISERS
They Support
Our Parish



FRESH
RESTORATIONS

HOST YOUR NEXT
EVENT AT FRESH
RESTORATIONS

A warm industrial-chic backdrop
for unforgettable celebrations
SHOWERS • BIRTHDAYS • COMMUNIONS
CORPORATE • ENGAGEMENT PARTIES
GRADUATIONS • MICRO-WEDDINGS

Call to schedule a tour

908.400.4744

16 Meadow Street • Somerville
freshrestorations.com

GNC

LIVE WELL

Health is a commitment and
we want to help you live well,
with high quality supplements.
We understand that value matters.



Follow Us
On

gncmanvillenj
liznovillo12



"IF TODAY YOU HEAR HIS VOICE
HARDEN NOT YOUR HEARTS"

LEARN HOW
CONTACT:

DEACON FRANK QUINN

908-725-1112

908-253-9515

Market Place Manville
148 N. Main St., Manville, NJ 08835

Begin your
day with a
grateful
heart.



POISON Help

1-800-222-1222



WREATHS across AMERICA

This season, sponsor a
veterans' wreath at
a cemetery near you.

To sponsor, volunteer or donate, visit

wreathsacrossamerica.org

Help your community,
the environment,
& yourself



Patronize your
local businesses



AUTO HOME LIFE BUSINESS PET

LILEEN SCHWARZ

Agent

75-77 N Bridge Street, Ste 105 • Somerville, NJ 08876

Bus: 908-864-2859 • lileen@somervilleagent.org

The greatest compliment
you can give is a referral.



IT'S A NEW DAY IN THE FIGHT
AGAINST ALZHEIMER'S.

alzheimer's association

ROOFING • CHIMNEYS MASONRY • GUTTERS

We Find & Fix Leaks!



\$1100 OFF

Any New Roof Replacement

20% OFF

Any Roof, Chimney, Gutter,
Masonry Repair & SENIORS

Family Owned and Operated • Over 20 Years Experience
License #13VH0934200, Bonded & Insured

732-589-9967 Serving All of New Jersey

YOUR AD HERE!

CALL US TODAY!



- Connect with a Dedicated and Engaged Audience
- Build Trust and Credibility • Showcase Your Business to Those Who Actively Support Local Businesses
- Benefit From Our Online Presence and Extend Your Reach Beyond the Church Walls

— Reserve Your Space Today! —

Contact our advertising team at 800-883-4343.

Don't miss this opportunity to become a valued partner in the community.

BRUCE C. VanArsdale
FUNERAL HOME

111 North Gaston Avenue • Somerville, NJ 08876 • 908-725-3111
Bruce VanArsdale, Manager, NJ Lic. No. 3521 • Brittany VanArsdale, Director, NJ Lic. No. 5137
www.brucevanarsdalefuneralhome.com

Member of KOC & AOH



Quality Workmanship ~ Fully Insured
TSD MASONRY CONTRACTORS, LLC
EXCAVATING • TRUCKING
SNOW PLOWING

Free Estimates
50 KLINE ROAD
HILLSBOROUGH, NJ 08844
P: 732-564-9900
F: 908-262-2739



veb cpa
VernoiaEnterline+Brewer, LLC
ACCOUNTANTS • ADVISORS

91 West End Avenue, Somerville, NJ 08876
908-725-4414 www.vebcpa.com

LAWN DOCTOR
908-526-3030
www.lawndoctor.com
Christopher T. Kotalic - Owner



ALFONSO'S
Family Trattoria & Gourmet Pizzeria

Casual Italian Food • Gourmet Pizza • Bar • Banquets & Catering
908.526.0616 • 908.526.0587 (Delivery)
99/101 West Main Street • Somerville • alfonsostrattoria.com

SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL BUSINESSES
BUY LOCAL • BE FLEXIBLE • BE GENEROUS



Sergio Rivera
VP, FIELD OPERATIONS

KAS HOME IMPROVEMENT, LLC

Renovation of Homes • Interior & Exterior
Additions • Basements • Decks • Siding & More

kashomeimprovementllc@gmail.com Office 732-529-6746
104 N Washington Avenue • Dunellen NJ Cell 732-522-0257

No Job Too Small!

Robert J. Peterman, DMD, MDS
Diplomate of the American Board of Orthodontics
SPECIALTY PERMIT #06316

Somerset
orthodontic
Specialists

908-526-0039
44A New Amwell Road
Hillsborough, NJ 08844
199 West High Street
Somerville, NJ 08876
www.somersetorthospecialists.com



Lauren J. Bowser
Manager, NJ Lic. #4816

Helen P. Delpopolo
President

Cusick FUNERAL HOME
Est. 1950
A Reputation Built on Trust Since 1950

908.725.4100
80 Mountain Avenue
Somerville, New Jersey 08876
www.CusickFuneralHome.com

Hercules Cusick's Therapy Companion



All Parishioners Welcome to Park In Our Lot For Mass

LaFONTAINE & BUDD, INC.
Home, Auto and Business Insurance

Jamie Rick • Mike McCurry
908-725-9400
126 West End Avenue • Somerville NJ
www.lafontaineandbudd.com



SMOKEY LOVE THY NEIGHBORHOOD. HELP PREVENT WILDFIRES.



Angi Award Winner 2015-2022

star22home
www.star22home.com
KITCHENS • BATHROOMS
22 Plainfield Ave., Piscataway, NJ

Showroom & Design Center by appt.

5 DAY BATH
www.my5DB.com
o: 732-369-6387
m: 732-343-5450

\$10,000 COMPLETE BATHROOM REMODEL. LABOR/MATERIALS

KINGSWOOD TAX AND BUSINESS SERVICES LLC
INCOME TAX PREPARATION
Frank Walko, CPA, Owner
908-651-4659
frank@kingswoodtaxandbiz.com
www.kingswoodtaxandbiz.com
75 North Bridge Street • Suite B • Somerville, NJ 08876
10% DISCOUNT WITH THIS AD

SPRING INTO ACTION:
GIVE BLOOD NOW



American Red Cross

SCHOOL OF ROCK SOMERVILLE

FREE TRIAL LESSON

OFFERING INSTRUCTION ON:
GUITAR | BASS | KEYS
VOCALS | DRUMS

908.231.8300 | 14 Davenport St, Somerville, NJ

EDWARDS
ESTATE & ELDER LAW
STACEY M. EDWARDS, ESQ.
YOUR KEY TO PEACE OF MIND.

CRISIS MANAGEMENT • PLANNING WITH COMPASSION.
LITIGATION ADVOCACY WITH PASSION.

(908) 845-8333




RE/MAX Preferred Professionals
Patrick Kelly
Broker/Sales Associate ~ Relocation Counselor
O: 908-685-0700 • C: 908-285-0321
E-mail: pkelly@remax.net

1170 RTE. 22 EAST • STE. 300
BRIDGEWATER, NJ 08807




Each office is independently owned and operated.