



CHURCH OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

MOUNTAIN AVE. | SOMERVILLE, NEW JERSEY 08876

FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER MAY 11, 2025

May is the Month of Mary. Join us for the Daily Rosary at 2:00 pm in Church as we honor our Blessed Mother in prayer. Let us gather in faith and devotion. All are welcome!

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, May 11

Acts of the Apostles 13:14, 43-52; Revelation 7:9, 14b-17;
John 10:27-30

Monday, May 12

Acts of the Apostles 11:1-18; John 10:1-10

Tuesday, May 13

Acts of the Apostles 11:19-26; John 10:22-30

Wednesday, May 14

Acts of the Apostles 1:15-17, 20-26; John 15:9-17

Thursday, May 15

Acts of the Apostles 13:13-25; John 13:16-20

Friday, May 16

Acts of the Apostles 13:26-33; John 14:1-6

Saturday, May 17

Acts of the Apostles 13:44-52; John 14:7-14

Mass Intentions

Sanctuary Lamp, Church

Francois Oscar Teleus

Sunday, May 11

Fourth Sunday of Easter

7:30 am All Mothers Living and Deceased
9:00 am All Mothers Living and Deceased
11:00 am All Mothers Living and Deceased
1:00 pm All Mothers Living and Deceased

Monday, May 12

Sts. Nereus and Achilleus

6:30 am Intentions of Mary Ann Joy
8:00 am Intentions of Deacon John Czekaj

Tuesday, May 13

Our Lady of Fatima

6:30 am Robert Sivori
8:00 am Carol DeFilippis

Wednesday, May 14

St. Matthias

6:30 am Stephen Lavin
8:00 am Intentions of Joseph & Kelsey
Martinelli

Thursday, May 15

St. Isidore

6:30 am Patricia Cox
8:00 am Chelsea Rivard

Friday, May 16

6:30 am Robert Sivori
8:30 am Amy Van Horn

Saturday, May 17

8:00 am Mary Ann McCloskey
5:00 pm For the People of our Parish

Sunday, May 18

Fifth Sunday of Easter

7:30 am Ruth Adele Rodgers
9:00 am Paul DeMarco
11:00 am Nancy Decker
1:00 pm Souls in Purgatory

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



From the Pastor

A Reflection from the Third Sunday of Easter

John's Gospel tells us that Peter denied Christ three times by a charcoal fire in the courtyard of Caiaphas, the high priest. Now, on the shores of the Sea of Galilee the lake, another charcoal fire has been lit. Peter is asked one question three times for each of his three denials. "Do you love me?"

This scene is Peter's repentance and the reaffirmation of his primacy and ministry in the Church. Each of these elements is rich for our reflection, but it is the three questions and Christ's three responses I want to reflect on.

First, we need to set a context. There are four different words for "love" in Greek, the language the New Testament was first written in. We only need to know two of them today: *phili*os and *agape*. *Phili*os describes our natural affections and the bonds that connect us; it is brotherhood, fraternity, and community. *Agape* includes *phili*os but also goes beyond it. It describes love in its altruistic form, selfless and sacrificial. This is important only to shed some light on the dialogue between Jesus and Peter.



Jesus asks Peter. "Do you *agape* me?" In other words, "Do you love me selflessly and sacrificially?" Peter responds, "I *phili*os you" – "I love you like a friend and brother". Jesus again asks, "Do you *agape* me?" only to receive the same reply. Finally, Jesus asks Peter, "Do you *phili*os me?" to which Peter can truthfully reply, "Yes, you know that I *phili*os you". It seems Peter has finally learned his lesson. He doesn't make any more boasts about his love and loyalty. He finally admits, "I do not love you, Lord, as you ask me to love you, but I do love you with the love I have." But that is enough for Jesus. "Then feed my sheep."

For Peter, loving Jesus means fulfilling his call to be a fisher of men, first given to him at the seashore. He must "tend the sheep". By doing this, Peter's love will be purified and transformed from affection to selflessness, and from selflessness to sacrifice when the day comes when "another will bind him and take him where he does not want to go."

Here is the point, my friends: like Peter, our love for Jesus is imperfect and, when put to the test, it often fails. We are a people of mixed motives, changeable feelings, and sometimes faltering commitments. If we do not love the Lord as He asks us to – selflessly and sacrificially – by setting Him first and above all things, then let's love him as we can and serve Him in one another. However small our "love" for Christ may be, it will grow to "agape" – to selfless love for Him – if we do this. Conversely, if we do not love the Lord's people enough – the poor and suffering, the people around you in the pews, the person who has hurt you, the family God has given to you – then love the Lord with the love you have. However small your "love" for others may be, it will become "agape" if you do this. Loving the Lord, even with the little love we have, leads to loving His People. Loving His People, even with the little love we have, leads to loving the Lord Himself. This is how our mixed motives, changeable moods, and unsteady commitments become the selfless, sacrificial love of the new commandment: "Love one another as I have loved you".

With Peter, we need to put our own bold words and small deeds aside, and in humility admit, "We do not love you as you ask us to love you, but we will give you the love we have." That is enough for Jesus. He will take it from there. God always meets us where we are, even in our imperfect, faltering love. But let's not forget the lesson Peter learned that day by a charcoal fire: God may meet us where we are, but He never leaves us where He finds us.

Servus,

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

News & Events



Baby Bottle Boomerang

Baby Bottles are being distributed after all Masses. These bottles may be filled with loose change, currency, or checks. All the donations will support the Pregnancy Aid and Information Center of Raritan. Please return bottles before all masses on the weekend of **May 24 and 25**. For questions, email office@icsomerville.org. Thank you!

Caring Casserole Collection

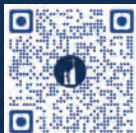
Please note: The Caring Casserole collection has been postponed to a later date. Please watch upcoming bulletins for updated information and rescheduled dates. Thank you for your continued support.

Sunday Morning Café

SUNDAY | MAY 18, 2025 | 9:00 AM

The Sunday Morning Café is an opportunity for our parish community to enjoy light refreshments, good company, and a brief topical presentation on faith, liturgy, ethics and morality, spirituality, and other issues pertaining to Christian discipleship. Join us on **Sunday, May 18**, following the 9:00 am Mass, in the ICS cafeteria, where we'll meet until 11:30 am. No registration or sign-up is required - just come as you are!

Scan the QR code or visit
immaculateconception.org/events
to see more



UPCOMING COLLECTIONS

Food Collection: May 17-18

Development of the People: May 17-18

Pray the Rosary Together

WEEKDAYS IN MAY | 2:00 PM

Join the Rosary Altar Society in praying the Rosary during the month of May, a month dedicated to honoring Our Blessed Mother. The Rosary will be prayed at 2:00 pm on weekdays in the church, beneath the statue of the Immaculate Conception. (On Thursdays, we will gather in the Chapel). We invite you to join us in praying this powerful devotion, asking Mary to intercede for all of our intentions.



OFFERTORY FOR APRIL

	<u>2025</u>	<u>2024</u>
In Pew, Mail-in Giving	\$ 51,389	\$ 59,638
Electronic Giving	\$ 24,930	\$ 33,187
Total	\$ 76,319	\$ 92,825

Special Collections not in numbers above:

Diocesan Clergy Retirement	\$ 7,283	\$ 6,863
Hold Land Sanctuary	\$ 4,109	\$ 4,271
Easter Sunday	\$ 57,735	\$ 55,930
Catholic Relief Services	\$ 3,177	\$ 3,451

**Offertory
Budget/Expected
Amount per month: \$ 96,106**

**Easter Budget/
Expected Amount: \$ 62,500**

Offertory contributions in April 2025 were lower compared to the same month last year. This shift is largely due to the timing of Easter, which fell in April this year, while it occurred in March last year.

Although this year's Easter collection surpassed last year's, it still fell short of our budgeted expectations.

We sincerely thank you for your continued support of our parish.

Our Parish

St. Maximilian Kolbe, a Polish martyr known for his selfless sacrifice in World War II, established a worldwide evangelization movement, the Militia of the Immaculata, dedicated to our namesake.

The compelling story of his final days has been made into a motion picture for which a private screening has been arranged for our parish and the surrounding community.

Join us at the Immaculata High School Theater on **Saturday, May 17!**

Experience an inspiring performance while supporting a meaningful cause — a portion of the proceeds will benefit our Parish.

Get your tickets now by scanning the QR code or visit:

BIT.LY/TOTH-IMMACULATA-NJ.

PRIVATE SCREENING

TRIUMPH of the HEART

The untold story of St. Maximilian Kolbe's passion

MAY 17, 2025 7:00 P.M.

Immaculata High School Theater
240 Mountain Ave, Somerville, NJ 08876

Join Monsignor Celano and the film's producers for a discussion following the screening.

Scan the QR Code for more details and to purchase tickets.

Questions? Contact Pete Knob at PETEKNOBTOH@GMAIL.COM



BIT.LY/TOTH-IMMACULATA-NJ

BOLD Youth Ministry



SUMMER FUN WITH BOLD!
CHWC MISSION TRIP AND STEUBENVILLE
REGISTRATION DEADLINE: MONDAY, MAY 12TH
SCAN QR CODE FOR REGISTRATION LINKS AND DETAILS ON ALL OUR SUMMER EVENTS



Staubenville Youth Conference
This weekend changes everything! Join BOLD for three days filled with amazing speakers, opportunities for worship, Adoration and Confession, and enjoy fellowship with hundreds of other teens who share the same Catholic faith!
Open to all current 8th graders and HS teens.
JULY 18-20, 2025
Staubenville, OH



MISSION TRIP TO CUMBERLAND, MD
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

Discipleship Night!
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, May 13th | 7:00-8:30PM
Text Paulina to RSVP at (908) 952-0620



MIDDLE SCHOOL SERVICE CAMP
Join us for the ultimate camp experience!
Service | Faith | Friends | Fun
All Incoming 6th - 9th Graders
Monday, July 28 - Friday, August 1
St. Bernard of Clairvaux Church & Local Service Sites
uServe Camp will bring campers to local service sites in the morning, then return to parish property for lunch and a variety of fun and faith-based activities in the afternoon. It is sure to be a great way to spend a week, and will help our community, too!
Calling High Schoolers, College Students & Parents!
We can't do this without your support! If you are willing and able to volunteer (spend the day with us or drive campers to service sites in the mornings) please let us know!
Questions about BOLD? Contact Erik and Paulina at BA@boldym.com or text/call 908-758-3329

< KID'S > KORNER

Gospel Today Fourth Sunday of Easter | John 10:27-30

Jesus is the Good Shepherd and we are His little sheep - loved, guided and cared for. Following His voice leads us to eternal life, with God.

Year C



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Jesus says, "The Father
and I are one."

JOHN 10:30

We are all Jesus' little sheep.
Give the sheep names using
people you know.
Don't forget yourself!



BIBLE WORD SEARCH

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



Bible
Jesus
Good
Shepherd
Little
Sheep
Hear
Listen
Know
Follow
Voice
People
Guided
Given
Eternal
Life
Never
Perish
God
Father
Greater
Than
All
One
Me
Loved
Hand
Snatch

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



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, MAY 12

6:30 am Mass, Chapel
8:00 am Mass, Chapel
2:00 pm Month of Mary Rosary, Church
7:00 pm Miraculous Medal Rosary & Novena, Chapel

TUESDAY, MAY 13

6:30 am Mass, Chapel
8:00 am Mass, Chapel
8:30 am - 3:00 pm Eucharistic Adoration, Chapel
2:00 pm Month of Mary Rosary, Church
7:00 pm BOLD Youth Ministry, St. Anne's Room
9:00 pm Men's Evening Prayer, Chapel

WEDNESDAY, MAY 14

6:30 am Mass, Chapel
8:00 am Mass, Chapel
2:00 pm Month of Mary Rosary, Church
7:00 pm Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians, Talbot Room

THURSDAY, MAY 15

6:30 am Mass, Chapel
8:00 am Mass, Chapel
2:00 pm Rosary for the Sick, Chapel
7:00 pm Filipino/American Association of Immaculate Conception Prayer Group, Virtual

FRIDAY, MAY 16

6:30 am Mass, Chapel
8:30 am Mass, Church
9:00 am - 7:00 pm Eucharistic Adoration, Chapel
2:00 pm Month of Mary Rosary, Church

SATURDAY, MAY 17

8:00 am Mass, Church
3:30 pm - 4:30 pm Confessions, Church
5:00 pm Vigil Mass, Church
7:00 pm Private Screening of "Triumph of the Heart", IHS

SUNDAY, MAY 18

7:30 am Mass, Church
9:00 am Mass, Church
10:00 am Sunday Morning Café
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, Don Alaburda, Lou Bickel, Amy Cardinal, Donna Carney, Karen DeLaura, Ann Delayo, Larry & Elaine Dwyer, Anna Greco, Gene Grosso, Louis Grosso, Daniel Higgins, Eleanor Jackowski, David Kalisch, Lynette Klar, Diana Konopka, Joseph Malinowski, Christine Phillips, David Pietrowicz, Joe Pietrowicz, Ashling Rodriguez, and Robert & Pat Tocci

Join our team of passionate educators



ICS is growing and we're looking for passionate professionals to join our team!

If you're ready to make a difference and be part of something special, please send your resume and cover letter to Mrs. Katie Parsells at kparsells@ics41mtn.org.

- Elementary School Teachers (Grades 1 - 4)
- Part-time Elementary Math Interventionist
- Middle School Social Studies and Religion Teacher
- Middle School Intervention Teacher

Learn more about Immaculate Conception School. Scan the QR code or visit icsschool.org.



Join our IHS team and make a difference with the youth of today and the leaders of tomorrow!

Applicants can send their resume to Mrs. Maria McNulty at mmcnulty@immaculatahighschool.org.

- World Language Teacher (Spanish)
- Mathematics Teacher
- School Counselor
- Campus Minister



Learn more about Immaculata High School. Scan the QR code or visit immaculatahighschool.org.



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, 11 de mayo

Hechos de los Apóstoles 13:14, 43-52; Apocalipsis 7:9, 14b-17;
Juan 10:27-30

Lunes, 12 de mayo

Hechos de los Apóstoles 11:1-18; Juan 10:1-10

Martes, 13 de mayo

Hechos de los Apóstoles 11:19-26; Juan 10:22-30

Miércoles, 14 de mayo

Hechos de los Apóstoles 1:15-17, 20-26; Juan 15:9-17

Jueves, 15 de mayo

Hechos de los Apóstoles 13:13-25; Juan 13:16-20

Viernes, 16 de mayo

Hechos de los Apóstoles 13:26-33; Juan 14:1-6

Sábado, 17 de mayo

Hechos de los Apóstoles 13:44-52; Juan 14:7-14

Intenciones de Misas

Lámpara del Santuario, Iglesia

Francois Oscar Teleus

Domingo, 11 de mayo

Cuarto Domingo de Pascua

7:30 am Todas las madres vivas y fallecidas

9:00 am Todas las madres vivas y fallecidas

11:00 am Todas las madres vivas y fallecidas

1:00 pm Todas las madres vivas y fallecidas

Lunes, 12 de mayo

Santos Nereo y Aquileo

6:30 am Intenciones de Mary Ann Joy

8:00 am Intenciones del Diácono John Czekaj

Martes, 13 de mayo

Nuestra Señora de Fátima

6:30 am Robert Sivori

8:00 am Carol DeFilippis

Miércoles, 14 de mayo

San Matías

6:30 am Stephen Lavin

8:00 am Intenciones de Joseph y Kelsey Martinelli

Jueves, 15 de mayo

San Isidro

6:30 am Patricia Cox

8:00 am Chelsea Rivard

Viernes, 16 de mayo

6:30 am Robert Sivori

8:30 am Amy Van Horn

Sábado, 17 de mayo

8:00 am Mary Ann McCloskey

5:00 pm Por el Pueblo de nuestra Parroquia

Domingo, 18 de mayo

Quinto Domingo de Pascua

7:30 am Ruth Adele Rodgers

9:00 am Paul DeMarco

11:00 am Nancy Decker

1:00 pm Las almas del Purgatorio

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

Del párroco

Una Reflexión del Tercer Domingo de Pascua

El Evangelio de Juan nos dice que Pedro negó a Cristo tres veces junto a un fuego de carbón en el patio de la casa de Caifás, el sumo sacerdote. Ahora, a orillas del mar de Galilea, se ha encendido otro fuego de carbón. A Pedro se le hace una pregunta tres veces, una por cada una de sus negaciones: “¿Me amas?”

Esta escena representa el arrepentimiento de Pedro y la reafirmación de su primacía y ministerio en la Iglesia. Cada uno de estos elementos es rico en significado para nuestra reflexión, pero hoy quiero centrarme en las tres preguntas y en las tres respuestas de Cristo.

Primero, necesitamos contexto. En griego —el idioma original del Nuevo Testamento— existen cuatro palabras diferentes para “amor”. Hoy solo necesitamos conocer dos: *philos* y *agapé*. *Philos* describe los afectos naturales y los lazos que nos unen; es hermandad, fraternidad y comunidad. *Agapé* incluye *philos*, pero va más allá. Describe un amor altruista, desinteresado y sacrificado. Esta distinción es importante para iluminar el diálogo entre Jesús y Pedro.

Jesús le pregunta a Pedro: “¿Me amas (*agapé*)?”, es decir, “¿Me amas de forma desinteresada y sacrificial?” Pedro responde: “Te quiero (*philos*)”, como un amigo y hermano. Jesús vuelve a preguntar: “¿Me amas (*agapé*)?” y recibe la misma respuesta. Finalmente, Jesús le pregunta: “¿Me quieres (*philos*)?” y Pedro puede responder con sinceridad: “Sí, tú sabes que te quiero (*philos*)”.



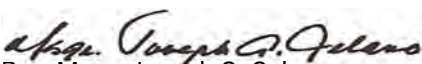
Parece que Pedro ha aprendido finalmente su lección. Ya no hace grandes declaraciones sobre su amor y lealtad. Por fin admite: “No te amo, Señor, como tú me pides que te ame, pero te amo con el amor que tengo.” Y eso es suficiente para Jesús. “Entonces, apacienta mis ovejas.”

Para Pedro, amar a Jesús significa cumplir con su llamado a ser pescador de hombres, un llamado que recibió por primera vez en la orilla del mar. Debe “cuidar de las ovejas”. Al hacerlo, su amor será purificado y transformado: de afecto pasará a ser desinteresado, y de ahí a sacrificado, cuando llegue el día en que “otro lo ceñirá y lo llevará donde no quiere ir”.

He aquí el punto, amigos: como Pedro, nuestro amor por Jesús es imperfecto y, cuando se pone a prueba, a menudo falla. Somos personas de motivos mezclados, sentimientos cambiantes y compromisos inestables. Si no amamos al Señor como Él nos pide —de manera desinteresada y sacrificial, poniéndolo a Él en primer lugar y sobre todas las cosas— entonces amémoslo como podamos y sirvámoslo en los demás. Por pequeño que sea nuestro amor por Cristo, crecerá hasta convertirse en *agapé* —amor desinteresado— si lo hacemos así. De manera inversa, si no amamos lo suficiente al pueblo del Señor —a los pobres y los que sufren, a los que se sientan a nuestro lado en las bancas, a quien nos ha herido, a la familia que Dios nos ha dado— entonces amemos al Señor con el amor que tenemos. Por pequeño que sea nuestro amor por los demás, se convertirá en *agapé* si lo vivimos de ese modo. Amar al Señor, aunque sea con el poco amor que tengamos, nos lleva a amar a su pueblo. Amar a su pueblo, aunque sea con el poco amor que tengamos, nos lleva a amar al mismo Señor. Así es como nuestros motivos mezclados, estados de ánimo cambiantes y compromisos inestables se transforman en el amor desinteresado y sacrificado del nuevo mandamiento: “Ámense los unos a los otros como yo los he amado”.

Junto con Pedro, necesitamos dejar de lado nuestras palabras atrevidas y nuestras pequeñas acciones, y con humildad admitir: “No te amamos como tú nos pides, pero te damos el amor que tenemos.” Eso es suficiente para Jesús. Él se encargará del resto. Dios siempre nos encuentra donde estamos, incluso en nuestro amor imperfecto y vacilante. Pero no olvidemos la lección que Pedro aprendió ese día junto al fuego de carbón: Dios puede encontrarnos donde estamos, pero nunca nos deja donde nos encontró.

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Noticias y Eventos



ESTA SEMANA EN LA INMACULADA CONCEPCIÓN

LUNES, 12 DE MAYO

6:30 am Misa, Capilla

8:00 am Misa, Capilla

2:00 pm Rosario del Mes de María, Iglesia

7:00 pm Rosario y Novena de la Medalla Milagrosa, Capilla

MARTES, 13 DE MAYO

6:30 am Misa, Capilla

8:00 am Misa, Capilla

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

2:00 pm Rosario del Mes de María, Iglesia

7:00 pm Ministerio Juvenil BOLD, Salón Santa Ana

9:00 pm Oración Nocturna para Hombres, Capilla

MIÉRCOLES, 14 DE MAYO

6:30 am Misa, Capilla

8:00 am Misa, Capilla

2:00 pm Rosario del Mes de María, Iglesia

JUEVES, 15 DE MAYO

6:30 am Misa, Capilla

8:00 am Misa, Capilla

2:00 pm Rosario por los Enfermos, Capilla

7:30 pm Grupo de Oración Juan XXIII, Convento

VIERNES, 16 DE MAYO

6:30 am Misa, Capilla

8:30 am Misa, Iglesia

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

2:00 pm Rosario del Mes de María, Iglesia

7:00 pm Renovación Carismática, Capilla

SÁBADO, 17 DE MAYO

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, 18 DE MAYO

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 Iniciación Cristiana de Adultos en Español, Salón Santa Ana

Recemos el Rosario Juntos DE LUNES A VIERNES EN MAYO | 2:00 PM

Únase a la Sociedad del Altar del Rosario para rezar el Rosario durante el mes de mayo, un mes dedicado a honrar a Nuestra Santísima Madre.

El Rosario se rezará a las 2:00 p.m. los días de semana en la iglesia, frente a la estatua de la Inmaculada Concepción. (Los jueves, nos reuniremos en la Capilla).

Los invitamos a unirse a nosotros en esta poderosa devoción, pidiendo a María que interceda por todas nuestras intenciones.

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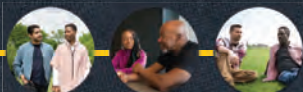
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