



CHURCH OF THE
**IMMACULATE
CONCEPTION**

35 MOUNTAIN AVE. | SOMERVILLE, NEW JERSEY 08876



ST. THERESA OF LISIEUX
IN LIVING GRATITUDE TO
MGM. J. NEVIN KENNEDY
BOHART ALPHA SOCIETY 2011

**TWENTY-FIRST
SUNDAY
IN ORDINARY TIME
AUGUST 24, 2025**

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



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, August 24

Isaiah 66:18-21; Hebrews 12:5-7, 11-13; Luke 13:22-30

Monday, August 25

1 Thessalonians 1:1-5, 8b-10; Matthew 23:13-22

Tuesday, August 26

1 Thessalonians 2:1-8; Matthew 23:23-26

Wednesday, August 27

1 Thessalonians 2:9-13; Matthew 23:27-32

Thursday, August 28

1 Thessalonians 3:7-13; Matthew 24:42-51

Friday, August 29

1 Thessalonians 4:1-8; Mark 6:17-29

Saturday, August 30

1 Thessalonians 4:9-11; Matthew 25:14-30

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



Mass Intentions

Sanctuary Lamp, Church

Deacon Frank Quinn

Altar Flowers, Church

Deacon Frank Quinn

Sunday, August 24

Twenty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time

7:30 am Intentions of Mr. & Mrs. Zielinski
and Mr. & Mrs. Kowalski

9:00 am Margaret & Charles Kapp

11:00 am Gerard Sheehan

1:00 pm Charles Cardali

Monday, August 25

6:30 am Francis Fulse

8:00 am Adele Murphy

Tuesday, August 26

6:30 am Souls in Purgatory

8:00 am Marjorie Kozimbo

Wednesday, August 27

St. Monica

6:30 am Pierce Frauenheim

8:00 am Paul DeMarco

Thursday, August 28

St. Augustine

6:30 am Pierce Frauenheim

8:00 am Steven DeMarco

Friday, August 29

The Passion of St. John the Baptist

6:30 am William F. Moresdorf

8:00 am Andrew Gorman

Saturday, August 30

8:00 am Nicholas J. Moersdorf

5:00 pm For the People of our Parish

Sunday, August 31

Twenty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

7:30 am Alice Psenisky

9:00 am Vicente Legaspi, Sr.

11:00 am Joanne Bourne

1:00 pm Intentions of Josettee Spencer

From the Pastor

A Reflection from the 20th Sunday in Ordinary Time

By Deacon Tuan Bui

"You want the truth? You can't handle the truth!" Who remembers this iconic line from the movie *A Few Good Men*?

It's a line that hits hard because the film wrestles with justice, duty, and the cost of keeping silence. And today, Jesus delivers a line that hits us even harder. *"I have come to set the earth on fire, and how I wish it were already blazing."* This isn't the gentle Jesus of Hallmark greeting cards. This is the Jesus who flips tables and demands transformation.

Jesus didn't come to preserve comfort. He came to ignite our hearts with the truth. Our Gospel today is a wake-up call for all of us. We have domesticated our faith, made it polite, made it palatable, and passive. But the Gospel is not a bedtime story; it's a revolution of the heart.

Jesus didn't come to hand out spiritual "participation trophies". He came to set the world ablaze with truth, justice, and love. If that doesn't shake us, then perhaps we're not listening. We want a faith that fits neatly into our schedules. One that doesn't ruffle feathers at family dinners or challenge our priorities. But that's not the kind of faith that lands prophets in cisterns. Jeremiah didn't choose the cistern; it chose him, because he spoke truth without compromise. But God didn't abandon him. Someone stepped up.

Not a priest, not a prophet, but a court official. Sometimes courage comes from unexpected places.

Parents, you are prophets in your home; when you take your kids to Mass after a long week, when you pray with them even though you're exhausted, when you show forgiveness, mercy, and charity. You are lighting fires. Grandparents, you've endured and seen it all. But your role isn't just to preserve the past. Your role is to pass on the flame. Let your life sing. Let your life sing so that others may witness your faith. Children, you are not the future, you are the now! You're bombarded with noise, temptation, distraction, and skepticism. But your hearts were made for fire. Look at the National Eucharistic Revival.



For over 40 years, the Church in the Americas drifted, but in 2024, something changed. Your generation said, "We need Jesus." You marched, you adored, you testified. You reminded us all that the Eucharist is not a symbol, it's a calling.

Just a few weeks ago, during the Jubilee of Youth in Rome, over a million youth showed up to give voice about the world you live in, one shaped by technology, the internet, and AI. Bishop Robert Barron, speaking to the American youth at the Jubilee of Youth, reminds us that social media can be a tool for evangelization. But it can also be a source of division and anti-witness if misused, echoing the words of Pope Leo. *"Nothing that comes from man and his creativity should be used to undermine the dignity of others."*

So, what does living in truth look like? It may look like this: standing up for life when it's not respected, refusing to gossip or talk badly about others at the dinner table, teaching your children that faith is commitment, not a convenience. It is living sacramentally, where Baptism is our spiritual birthday. It is receiving the Eucharist in union with Christ and those around us.

So, ask yourselves, "What is Jesus igniting in me? Maybe the courage to forgive someone. Maybe humility to return to confession. Maybe saying yes to a vocation that scares you. Maybe sharing your story of faith with someone desperate to hear it. The fire Jesus speaks of is not destructive; it's creative. It reveals, it refines, and it redeems. It can only spread when we live boldly in the truth of the Gospel.

Let me ask again. Can you handle the truth? Because the truth is this, your hearts were made for fire. And Jesus is calling you, not to a gentle walk, but to a courageous mission.

To read past messages from the pastor, visit: immaculateconception.org/news.

Message from Msgr. Celano

Mission Appeal

Next weekend, we will be conducting the annual mission appeal to assist the work of the Church in Her missions throughout the world.

This year, we have the honor of welcoming Bishop Vincent Mar Paulos of the Diocese of Marthandam, India. Bishop Paulos is of the Syro-Malankara Rite, one of the Eastern Rites of the Catholic Church, and his diocese serves a population of over 34 million people across 21 districts in Tamil Nadu. It is a rare thing to have a bishop himself make the appeal for his diocese. It is, therefore, a rare honor we have been given to welcome him.

Below is a summary of needs that our generosity can help serve. Please be as generous to this collection as your means allow.

DIOCESE OF MARTHANDAM

The Syro-Malankara Catholic Diocese of Marthandam, located in southern India, serves a population of over 34 million across 21 districts of Tamil Nadu. Through dedicated missionary work, around 76,000 people, mostly from poor and marginalized communities, have embraced the Catholic faith. As new believers, they depend deeply on the Church for support in education, healthcare, and social upliftment. To meet these needs, the Diocese builds chapels and churches that serve not only as places of worship but also as centers for catechism, Bible study, and community life. Today, we have 103 churches and mission stations, supported by 90 priests, 250 religious sisters, and many committed lay missionaries. However, only half of these structures are safe and functional. Many parishes are financially fragile, and the Diocese struggles to meet even the basic needs of its clergy, such as food, shelter, transportation, and medical care. The proceeds of this year's Mission Preaching are completely set apart for the following projects:



Bishop Vincent Mar Paulos

Empowerment of Widows Heading Families

Many women-led families live in deep poverty, lacking land, shelter, and basic necessities. Widowed mothers struggle to provide food, education, and care for their children, who face higher risks of school dropout and poor health. Through targeted empowerment programs, we seek to uplift these families, offering them hope, stability, and a path to a better future.

Health Care for the Abandoned and Elderly

In many poor families, the elderly and infirm are often left neglected. The Diocese cares for them through Shalom Home and Mercy Home, where around 60 residents are provided with food, shelter, and medical care, ensuring they live their final years with peace and dignity.

Evangelization and Mission Development

The Diocese continues to expand its missionary outreach by establishing new churches, multipurpose halls, and offering faith formation and developmental programs. Special focus is given to two missions: In Devadhanapatti, a daily evening tuition center supports 130 children. In Nallanathapuram, a health clinic offers essential care to the local poor.

The Diocese sincerely seeks your generous support to continue and expand these important ministries. Thank you, and may God bless you abundantly.

Fr. Jerome Ocampo

Last Sunday, Fr. Jerome returned to the Philippines to resolve a pending immigration issue. As a student and seminarian, Fr. Jerome was in the country under a student visa. Now that he is a priest, he requires a visa permitting him to work in this country. This visa must now be obtained from the US embassy in the country of origin. Over the past few weeks, Fr. Jerome has worked with diocesan immigration attorneys and scheduled his interviews at the US embassy in Manila, and he hopes to complete the process and receive the visa within the next two weeks. Please keep Fr. Jerome in your prayers during the coming weeks. As you can imagine, this is a challenging time for him. Pray that this issue is resolved quickly and that he can return to our parish in peace to continue his priestly ministry among us.

News & Events

Labor Day - Parish Office Closed MONDAY | SEPTEMBER 1, 2025

The Parish Office will be closed on **Monday, September 1** in observance of Labor Day. Daily Mass will be celebrated in the Church at **9:00 am**. Please join us!

Parish Office & Daily Mass Schedule Update FRIDAY | SEPTEMBER 5, 2025

Beginning **Friday, September 5**, the Parish Office will return to its regular hours: Monday – Friday, 9:00 am – 5:00 pm, and closed daily from 12:30 pm - 1:00 pm. Also effective September 5, Daily Mass on Fridays will be celebrated at 8:30 am in the Church.

Exciting News: Faith Direct is Upgrading!

Faith Direct will soon transition to ParishSOFT Giving, our new secure giving platform. No action is required—your giving schedules and payment details will carry over automatically.

What's new?

- Weekly gifts deducted each week (not monthly)
- Flexible scheduling on any date
- New payment options: PayPal, Venmo, Apple Pay, Google Pay

You can still sign up today at faith.direct/NJ630 or call **866-507-8757**.

BOLD Youth Ministry - S'mores Night TUESDAY, AUGUST 26, 2025 | 7:00 PM

Aug 26 **BOLD Summer TNL S'mores Night**
7:00 - 8:30 PM
Church of the Immaculate Conception

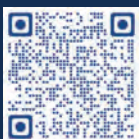
Scan QR Code to RSVP for all events or visit boldym.com/bab/events

Come hang out with us around the fire! We'll have s'mores, games, and a great time to relax and connect with friends.

Questions? Contact Erik & Paulina at BAB@boldym.com or text/call 908-758-3329



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



UPCOMING COLLECTIONS Mission Co-op: August 30-31 National Shrine: September 6-7

Project Linus THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 4, 2025 | 11:00 AM

The Project Linus Ministry is made up of about twenty dedicated women who quilt, crochet, and knit blankets for infants and children in need. Each blanket is lovingly handmade, offering not only warmth but also a true sense of comfort and security. In addition to supporting children, Project Linus contributes to many parish and community efforts, including:

- Elizabeth Ministry – Celebration of Birth gift packs for parish mothers
- Pregnancy Aid Center
- Annual Appalachian Mission trips
- Hospice residents

They also create beautiful prayer shawls for residents of local nursing homes. Each piece of handiwork is more than a garment—it is a prayerful expression of love and a reminder of God's tender care.

The "Linus Group" meets on the first Thursday of each month at the American Legion, 232 Union Avenue, Somerville, from 11:00 am to 12:30 pm.

If you would like to share your talents or learn more, please contact the Parish Office at **908-725-1112**.

Caring Casseroles WEEKEND OF SEPTEMBER 6/7

Calling all Cooks! Please help us fill SHIP's freezer with delicious homemade casseroles! On the weekend of **September 6/7**, aluminum pans will be distributed after all masses. Recipes and instructions will be included. Casseroles should be returned the weekend of **September 20/21**. Please consider supporting SHIP's Mobile Soup Kitchen by preparing a casserole.

Your contribution will support SHIP's Mobile Soup Kitchen, which travels Monday through Friday, serving meals to local community members in need.



Men's Fellowship SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 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. Breakfast, prayer, a brief teaching, and discussion are held in the Talbot Room. All men 18 or older are welcome.

Our Parish



**Saturday,
September 6**
following 5:00 pm Mass

END OF *summer* **Hot Dog Social**

**Join us as a Parish family to
celebrate the end of summer.**



**Enjoy a meal, connect in conversation,
and spend time in joyful community.**

Menu:

Hot dogs, brisket, side dishes, and dessert

📍 Immaculate Conception School Cafeteria

Free Will Offering

To volunteer to provide food or assist with the event,
contact Stacey Geary at sgeary@icsomerville.org or scan
the QR code.



Children's Faith Formation

2025 - 2026 CFF Registration Now Open!

Registration is now open for Children's Faith Formation (CFF) Fall Classes! Families can obtain a registration form online or from our Parish Office.

Registration Deadline: **September 15, 2025.**

All families registering their child for CFF must be registered parishioners. If your child is new to the program, please be sure to include a copy of their Baptism Certificate with your registration.

For more information or assistance, scan the QR code or visit:

www.immaculateconception.org/childrensfaithformation.



Classes begin **Monday, September 22**, and **Wednesday, September 24.**

We look forward to another wonderful year of faith-filled learning and growth!



1st Graders Children's Faith Formation Registration Now Open

Is your child entering first grade in public school this September 2025? It's time to enroll them in Level 1 of our Children's Faith Formation program at Immaculate Conception Church.

According to the Diocese of Metuchen, children preparing for First Holy Communion are required to complete two years of faith formation. So, don't wait—start the journey now!

Registration forms are available at: www.immaculateconception.org or in the Parish Office.

Please include a copy of your child's Baptismal certificate with your registration. Families must be registered parishioners of Immaculate Conception Church to participate.

Let's grow in faith together—starting with our youngest members!

Volunteers Needed for the Children's Faith Formation Program

Are you looking for a meaningful way to share your faith and make a difference in the lives of our parish children? Our Children's Faith Formation Program needs volunteer catechists, classroom aides, and hall monitors for the upcoming school year.

We are especially looking for a catechist to teach the following class:

- Grade 5 – **Wednesdays from 4:00 pm – 5:15 pm**

No teaching experience is necessary—just a love of the faith and a willingness to share it with our young learners. Training, lesson plans, and ongoing support are provided.

To register for classes or to volunteer, please contact Karen Bohler, director of Children's Faith Formation, at **908-725-1112 ext. 1119** or kbohler@icsomerville.org.

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, AUGUST 25

6:30 am Mass, Chapel
8:00 am Mass, Chapel
7:00 pm Miraculous Medal Rosary & Novena, Chapel

TUESDAY, AUGUST 26

6:30 am Mass, Chapel
8:00 am Mass, Chapel
8:30 am - 3:00 pm Eucharistic Adoration, Chapel
7:00 pm BOLD Youth Ministry S'mores Night
9:00 pm Men's Evening Prayer, Chapel

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 27

6:30 am Mass, Chapel
8:00 am Mass, Chapel

THURSDAY, AUGUST 28

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, AUGUST 29

Parish Office closes at 3:00 pm
6:30 am Mass, Chapel
8:00 am Mass, Chapel
8:30 am - 7:00 pm Eucharistic Adoration, Chapel

SATURDAY, AUGUST 30

8:00 am Mass, Church
3:30 pm - 4:30 pm Confessions, Church
5:00 pm Vigil Mass, Church

SUNDAY, AUGUST 31

7:30 am Mass, Church
9:00 am Mass, Church
10:00 am Order of Christian Initiation of Adults, Parish Office
11:00 am Mass, Church
1:00 pm Spanish Mass, Church

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR PARISHIONERS WHO ARE SICK:

Jozelle Acampado, Don Alaburda, Lou Bickel, Amy Cardinal, Donna Carney, Wanda De Jesus, Karen DeLaura, Charlotte DeMarco, Larry & Elaine Dwyer, Anna Greco, Gene Grosso, Louis Grosso, Daniel Higgins, Eleanor Jackowski, Lynette Klar, Diana Konopka, Megan Lisner, Joseph Malinowski, Thomas Malinowski, Claudia Mejia, Dione Pinarchik, Christine Phillips, David Pietrowicz, Joe Pietrowicz, Ashling Rodriguez, Robert & Pat Tocci, and Jennifer L. Toro

Parish Office

The parish offices are located in the white building in front of the church. For the summer months, the parish office hours are Monday through Thursday from 9:00 am to 5:00 pm and on Fridays from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm. The office will be closed daily from 12:30 pm - 1:00 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. Jerome Ocampo	Parochial Vicar	jocampo@icsomerville.org
Rev. Gustavo Rodriguez-Perez	Parochial Vicar	grodriguez@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
Amberle Gilroy	Event Planning & Management	agilroy@icsomerville.org
Susan Odenthal	Interim Director, Advancement	sodenthal@icsomerville.org
Jo Anne Peppe	Business Manager	jpeppe@icsomerville.org
Rick Proctor	Director, Security	rproctor@icsomerville.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, 24 de agosto

Isaías 66:18-21; Hebreos 12:5-7, 11-13; Lucas 13:22-30

Lunes, 25 de agosto

1 Tesalonicenses 1:1-5, 8b-10; Mateo 23:13-22

Martes, 26 de agosto

1 Tesalonicenses 2:1-8; Mateo 23:23-26

Miércoles, 27 de agosto

1 Tesalonicenses 2:9-13; Mateo 23:27-32

Jueves, 28 de agosto

1 Tesalonicenses 3:7-13; Mateo 24:42-51

Viernes, 29 de agosto

1 Tesalonicenses 4:1-8; Marcos 6:17-29

Sábado, 30 de agosto

1 Tesalonicenses 4:9-11; Mateo 25:14-30

Intenciones de Misas

Lámpara del Santísimo, Iglesia

Diácono Frank Quinn

Flores del Altar, Iglesia

Diácono Frank Quinn

Domingo, 24 de agosto

Vigésimo Primer Domingo del Tiempo Ordinario

7:30 am Intenciones del Sr. y la Sra.

Zielinski y del Sr. y la Sra. Kowalski

9:00 am Margaret y Charles Kapp

11:00 am Gerard Sheehan

1:00 pm Charles Cardali

Lunes, 25 de agosto

6:30 am Francis Fulse

8:00 am Adele Murphy

Martes, 26 de agosto

6:30 am Almas del Purgatorio

8:00 am Marjorie Kozimbo

Miércoles, 27 de agosto

Santa Mónica

6:30 am Pierce Frauenheim

8:00 am Paul DeMarco

Jueves, 28 de agosto

San Agustín

6:30 am Pierce Frauenheim

8:00 am Steven DeMarco

Viernes, 29 de agosto

La Pasión de San Juan Bautista

6:30 am William F. Moresdorf

8:00 am Andrew Gorman

Sábado, 30 de agosto

8:00 am Nicholas J. Moersdorf

5:00 pm Por el Pueblo de Nuestra

Parroquia

Domingo, 31 de agosto

Vigésimo Segundo Domingo del Tiempo Ordinario

7:30 am Alice Psenisky

9:00 am Vicente Legaspi, Sr.

11:00 am Joanne Bourne

1:00 pm Intenciones de Josettee
Spencer

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

Del párroco

Una Reflexión para el Vigésimo Domingo del Tiempo Ordinario Por el Diácono Tuán Bui

"¿Quieres la verdad? ¡No puedes soportar la verdad!" ¿Quién recuerda esta línea icónica de la película A Few Good Men (Cuestión de Honor)?

Es una frase que golpea fuerte porque la película lucha con la justicia, el deber y el costo de guardar silencio. Y hoy, Jesús nos da una frase que nos golpea aún más fuerte: *"He venido a prender fuego en el mundo, ¡y cuánto desearía que ya estuviera ardiendo!"*. Este no es el Jesús suave de las tarjetas de felicitación. Este es el Jesús que vuelca las mesas y exige transformación.

Jesús no vino a preservar la comodidad. Vino a encender nuestros corazones con la verdad. Nuestro Evangelio de hoy es un llamado de atención para todos nosotros. Hemos domesticado nuestra fe, la hemos hecho educada, agradable y pasiva. Pero el Evangelio no es un cuento para dormir; es una revolución del corazón.

Jesús no vino a repartir "trofeos de participación espiritual". Él vino a prender fuego al mundo con la verdad, la justicia y el amor. Si eso no nos estremece, tal vez no estamos escuchando. Queremos una fe que encaje ordenadamente en nuestros horarios. Una que no incomode en la cena familiar ni desafíe nuestras prioridades. Pero esa no es la clase de fe que lleva a los profetas a las cisternas. Jeremías no eligió la cisterna; la cisterna lo eligió a él, porque habló la verdad sin compromiso. Pero Dios no lo abandonó. Alguien dio un paso al frente. No un sacerdote, no un profeta, sino un funcionario de la corte. A veces el valor viene de lugares inesperados.

Padres, ustedes son profetas en su hogar: cuando llevan a sus hijos a Misa después de una semana larga, cuando rezan con ellos aunque estén agotados, cuando muestran perdón, misericordia y caridad. Ustedes están encendiendo fuegos.

Abuelos, ustedes han soportado y visto de todo. Pero su papel no es solo preservar el pasado. Su papel es transmitir la llama. Dejen que su vida cante. Dejen que su vida cante para que otros sean testigos de su fe.

Niños, ustedes no son el futuro, ¡son el presente! Están bombardeados con ruido, tentación, distracción y escepticismo. Pero sus corazones fueron hechos para el fuego. Miren el Avivamiento Eucarístico Nacional. Durante más de 40 años, la Iglesia en las Américas se había desviado. Pero en 2024, algo cambió. Su generación dijo: "Necesitamos a Jesús." Ustedes marcharon, adoraron, testificaron. Nos recordaron a todos que la Eucaristía no es un símbolo, es un llamado.



Hace apenas unas semanas, durante el Jubileo de la Juventud en Roma, más de un millón de jóvenes se reunieron para dar voz al mundo en el que viven, un mundo marcado por la tecnología, el internet y la inteligencia artificial. El Obispo Robert Barron, hablando a los jóvenes estadounidenses en el Jubileo de la Juventud, nos recordó que las redes sociales pueden ser una herramienta de evangelización. Pero también pueden ser una fuente de división y de anti-testimonio si se usan mal, repitiendo las palabras del Papa León: *"Nada que provenga del hombre y de su creatividad debe ser usado para socavar la dignidad de los demás."*

Entonces, ¿qué significa vivir en la verdad? Puede significar esto: defender la vida cuando no es respetada. Negarse a difundir chismes o hablar mal de otros en la mesa. Enseñar a sus hijos que la fe es un compromiso, no una conveniencia. Es vivir sacramentalmente, donde el Bautismo es nuestro cumpleaños espiritual. Es recibir la Eucaristía en unión con Cristo y con quienes nos rodean.

Pregúntense: *"¿Qué está encendiendo Jesús en mí?"* Quizá el valor para perdonar a alguien. Tal vez la humildad para regresar a la confesión. Tal vez decir sí a una vocación que les asusta. Quizá compartir su historia de fe con alguien que necesita escucharla desesperadamente. El fuego del que habla Jesús no es destructivo; es creativo. Revela, purifica y redime. Solo puede propagarse cuando vivimos con valentía en la verdad del Evangelio.

Les pregunto de nuevo: ¿Pueden soportar la verdad? Porque la verdad es esta: sus corazones fueron hechos para el fuego. Y Jesús los llama, no a un paseo tranquilo, sino a una misión valiente.

Nuestra Diócesis

Encuentro Diocesano de Jóvenes y Jóvenes Adultos Hispanos (Bilingüe)

Tendremos un encuentro diocesano para nuestros jóvenes y jóvenes adultos hispanos el **13 de septiembre de 2025**, de 9:00 a.m. a 4:00 p.m. Todos los jóvenes y jóvenes adultos hispanos entre 14 y 30 años de edad, están invitados a pasar un día en el Centro Pastoral St John Neumann en Piscataway, compartiendo con Jesús y con otros jóvenes y jóvenes adultos hispanos. ¡Oración, música, actividades y comida garantizadas! No tiene costo.

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Evento para Jóvenes y Jóvenes Adultos Hispanos

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Sáb, Sept. 13 de 2025

HORA DEL EVENTO:
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¡La inscripción ya está abierta para las Clases de Formación de Fe para Niños (CFF) de otoño! Las familias pueden obtener el formulario de inscripción en línea o en nuestra Oficina Parroquial.

Fecha límite de inscripción: **15 de septiembre de 2025**

Todas las familias que inscriban a su hijo en CFF deben estar registradas como feligreses de la parroquia. Si su hijo es nuevo en el programa, por favor asegúrese de incluir una copia de su certificado de Bautismo junto con su inscripción.



Para más información o ayuda, escanee el código QR a continuación o visite:
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Para inscribirse en las clases o para ser voluntario, por favor comuníquese con Jenny Santiago at **908-725-1112 ext. 1128** or **jsantiago@icsomerville.org**.

Noticias y Eventos

Agosto
26 **Verano BOLD TNL**
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Iglesia de la Inmaculada Concepción

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¿Preguntas? Contacta a Paulina en BAB@boldym.com o envíe un mensaje de texto o llame al 908-552-0620

Día del Trabajo - Oficina Parroquial Cerrada LUNES | 1 DE SEPTIEMBRE DE 2025

La oficina parroquial estará cerrada el lunes 1 de septiembre en observancia del Día del Trabajo. La Misa diaria se celebrará en la iglesia a las 9:00 am ¡Los invitamos a acompañarnos!

Actualización del Horario de la Oficina Parroquial y de la Misa Diaria VIERNES | 5 DE SEPTIEMBRE DE 2025

A partir del **viernes 5 de septiembre**, la Oficina Parroquial retomará su horario habitual: de lunes a viernes, de 9:00 a.m. a 5:00 pm. También, a partir del 5 de septiembre, la Misa diaria de los viernes se celebrará a las 8:30 am en la Iglesia.

¡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, 25 DE AGOSTO

6:30 am Misa, Capilla
8:00 am Misa, Capilla
7:00 pm Rosario y Novena de la Medalla Milagrosa, Capilla
7:30 pm Coro Hispano, Oficina de Música Litúrgica

MARTES, 26 DE AGOSTO

6:30 am Misa, Capilla
8:00 am Misa, Capilla
8:30 am - 3:00 pm Adoración Eucarística, Capilla
7:00 pm Noche de Malvaviscos (S'mores) del Ministerio Juvenil BOLD
9:00 pm Oración Nocturna para Hombres, Capilla

MIÉRCOLES, 27 DE AGOSTO

6:30 am Misa, Capilla
8:00 am Misa, Capilla

JUEVES, 28 DE AGOSTO

6:30 am Misa, Capilla
8:00 am Misa, Capilla
7:30 pm Grupo de Oración Juan XXIII, Convento

VIERNES, 29 DE AGOSTO

La Oficina Parroquial cierra a las 3:00 pm
6:30 am Misa, Capilla
8:00 am Misa, Capilla
8:30 am - 7:00 pm Adoración Eucarística, Capilla
7:00 pm Renovación Carismática, Capilla

SÁBADO, 30 DE AGOSTO

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, 24 DE AGOSTO

7:30 am Misa, Iglesia
9:00 am Misa, Iglesia
11:00 am Misa, Iglesia
1:00 pm Misa en español, Iglesia

POR FAVOR RECEN POR NUESTROS FELIGRESES QUE ESTÉN ENFERMOS:

Jozelle Acampado, Don Alaburda, Lou Bickel, Amy Cardinal, Donna Carney, Wanda De Jesus, Karen DeLaura, Charlotte DeMarco, Larry & Elaine Dwyer, Anna Greco, Gene Grosso, Louis Grosso, Daniel Higgins, Eleanor Jackowski, Lynette Klar, Diana Konopka, Megan Lisner, Joseph Malinowski, Thomas Malinowski, Claudia Mejia, Christine Phillips, David Pietrowicz, Joe Pietrowicz, Dione Pinarchik, Ashling Rodriguez, Robert & Pat Tocci, y Jennifer L. Toro



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