



CHURCH OF THE  
**IMMACULATE  
CONCEPTION**

35 MOUNTAIN AVE. | SOMERVILLE, NEW JERSEY 08876

A large, light-colored wooden statue of the Virgin Mary holding the Christ Child, positioned in a sunroom with large windows. The statue is surrounded by lush green ferns and a bouquet of red and yellow flowers in a glass vase. The scene is brightly lit by natural light from the windows.

**THIRD  
SUNDAY  
OF EASTER**  
APRIL 19, 2026

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](http://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, April 19

Acts of the Apostles 2:14, 22-23; 1 Peter 1:17-21; Luke 24:13-35

#### Monday, April 20

Acts of the Apostles 6:8-15; John 6:22-29

#### Tuesday, April 21

Acts of the Apostles 7:51-8:1a; John 6:30-35

#### Wednesday, April 22

Acts of the Apostles 8:1b-8; John 6:35-40

#### Thursday, April 23

Acts of the Apostles 8:26-40; John 6:44-51

#### Friday, April 24

Acts of the Apostles 9:1-20; John 6:52-59

#### Saturday, April 25

1 Peter 5:5b-14; Mark 16:15-20

### Mass Intentions

#### Sanctuary Lamp, Church

Robert J. Ladzinski

#### Sanctuary Lamp, Chapel

Intentions of Nathalie Nelson

#### Sunday, April 19

##### Third Sunday of Easter

7:30 am Mary Evancho

9:00 am James & Dorothy Flynn

11:00 am Helen A. Rynearson

1:00 pm Elva V. Espino

#### Monday, April 20

6:30 am Esther Nolan

8:00 am Marion Damiano

#### Tuesday, April 21

6:30 am Francisco Polomonte & Maria Antonita

8:00 am Patrick Cooley

#### Wednesday, April 22

6:30 am Chris Munley

8:00 am Jose Leon Mejia & Josefa Molino

#### Thursday, April 23

6:30 am Mary Ann McCloskey

8:00 am Ralph & Jacqueline Amatucci

#### Friday, April 24

6:30 am Thomas Dolan

8:30 am Maureen Leavy Yanak

#### Saturday, April 25

8:00 am Jacqueline Leary

5:00 pm People of the Parish

#### Sunday, April 26

##### Fourth Sunday of Easter

##### World Day of Prayer for Vocations

7:30 am Intentions of Louis Grosso

9:00 am Flor de Maria Huamani

11:00 am Joseph & Marjorie Kozimbo

1:00 pm Floria Maria Zillich

Scan the QR code or visit [immaculateconception.org/masses](http://immaculateconception.org/masses) to view this week's worship guide.



# From the Pastor

A Reflection from the Second Sunday of Easter

**Divine Mercy Sunday**

To call Thomas “*the doubter*” does him a great disservice. Thomas simply says what any reasonable person would say when told that someone who died is no longer dead; he is skeptical and is not afraid to say so. But there is something that lies underneath Thomas’ skepticism. He is a wounded man. Thomas, like the others, left everything – home, family, livelihood – to follow Jesus. He saw and heard extraordinary things. He believed and hoped only to have the cross crush those hopes. He wants to see Jesus, to touch Him, to know with certainty that this astounding news might, in fact, be true. John’s Gospel tells us that a week later, the Risen Lord suddenly stands before Thomas in that upper room and invites him to do exactly what his heart longs to do, to see, to touch, and to know the truth of his resurrection. And Thomas, our “*doubter*”, falls to his knees and confesses what no one else confesses in the entirety of the Gospels: he explicitly calls Jesus, “*Lord and God*”.

Like Thomas, I believe we all come to Jesus wanting to see, touch, and know Him. We want to know that our faith is not, as St. Peter said in his epistle, a “*cleverly concocted myth*” but is established by real events as seen and handed on by reliable eyewitnesses (II Peter 1:16). But more than this, we long for the graced encounter with Jesus ourselves, that encounter that heals and renews us. In our longings, we bring our wounds with us. We come with feeble faith, fragile hope, and the burdens of sin and regret we all carry.

At some point, however, we begin to realize that it’s not because of what we have done, but because of what Christ has done, that this encounter is made possible. Pope Benedict once wrote that “*God Himself has undertaken the longest part of the journey*” (B.XVI) in seeking man. Our hearts seek God because God is first seeking us. We long to see, and touch, and know, because He longs for us to see, touch, and know Him.

The mercy of God, given to us in the death and resurrection of the Lord, does not turn a blind eye to our wounds. Rather, mercy longs to enter them and transform them into the building blocks of our redemption and holiness. Mercy does not ignore our doubt, our fear, and even our sin, but it is poured over



them like a healing balm and meet us precisely where we are most fragile and raw. Thomas needed to touch the wounds of Christ to believe and hope again. But in truth, it is Christ who touches the wounds of Thomas, and the same is true for us as well.

We are all wounded in one way or another. We all have places within us that are like that upper room; places where the doors are locked because of fear, grief, guilt, and even unbelief. Christ longs to come through the locked doors of our hearts, and when He does, He does not rebuke us but speaks peace to our anxious hearts, reawakening them to faith and hope.

The question at stake is whether we will let Christ into the broken places of our lives, opening the doors of our fear, shame, and unbelief to Him, or will we keep them tightly locked?

If we do—if we allow Him to touch what is wounded within us—then we too will come to know what Thomas discovered: that mercy is not divine “*weakness*”, it is the manifestation of divine power by which God irrevocably lays claim to us, heals us, and makes all things new.

In this graced encounter, we will join Thomas by falling on our knees with hearts filled with awe and gratitude and simply exclaim, “*My Lord and my God.*”

Servus,

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

To read past messages from the pastor, visit: [immaculateconception.org/news](http://immaculateconception.org/news).

# News & Events

## Children's Faith Formation

Children's Liturgy of the Word will be celebrated at 11:00 am Mass on **Sunday, April 26**. 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.

## Rosary for the Sick

All are invited to join us in praying the Rosary for the Sick every Thursday at 2:00 pm in the Chapel. Together, we ask Our Blessed Mother's intercession for those who are ill, suffering, or in need of healing. You are welcome to bring the names of loved ones to be remembered in prayer. Let us come together in faith and hope, lifting our petitions to the Lord through the powerful prayer of the Rosary.

## Mother's Day Mass Cards WEEKEND OF MAY 2-3

Mother's Day Mass Cards will be available from the Rosary Altar Society after all Masses on **May 2 and 3**. This is a meaningful way to remember and honor our loved ones, both living and deceased. Please stop by their table in the narthex.



IMMACULATE CONCEPTION SCHOOL INVITES YOU TO ATTEND

# IC.S. NIGHT AT THE RACES

## KENTUCKY DERBY PARTY

SATURDAY, MAY 2ND GATES OPEN AT 6PM

COCKTAILS // WAGERING // PRIZES

— BOURBON BAR — CIGAR BAR — LIVE HORSE  
— BYO FOOD & BEVERAGES — WINNERS CIRCLE

BEST DRESSED // HAT // COUPLE  
CONTESTS

TICKETS, SPONSORSHIPS, AND HORSES ARE ON SALE NOW!

SECURE YOUR CHANCE TO WIN A \$3,000 TUITION CREDIT!  
VISIT [ICSRACES.COM](http://ICSRACES.COM) FOR TICKETS AND INFORMATION

## UPCOMING COLLECTIONS

Cemetery Collection: May 2 - 3

Penny Collection: May 2 - 3

## Summer Appalachia Mission 2026

Mission is at the heart of our faith. Each summer, Immaculata students live out that faith through service in West Virginia, bringing hope, compassion, and the love of Christ to those in need. Inspired by the impact and joy of this mission, even more students have said "yes" this year, allowing us to reach and serve more families.

Your generosity—no matter the amount—makes this mission possible. Every gift helps provide meaningful support and hope to the communities we serve.

Thank you to all who have supported Houses of Hope by taking a "House" tag. If you have not yet donated, please consider taking a tag from one of the church entrances and returning it by **Friday, May 1**.

Thank you for your continued generosity and prayers.

## 2026 Bishop's Annual Appeal *ONE IN CHRIST: Called to Love and Serve*

If you missed it, you can still see the Bishop's Annual Appeal video by going online to:

<https://diometuchen.org/BAA>. Watch it and see all the good work being done in your name, thanks to your support of the Bishop's Annual Appeal.



If you haven't already done so, please prayerfully consider a gift today! Scan this QR code to reach our secure online giving site.

Saturday, May 30th



RUN DON'T WALK!

Join Us for the Spartan Spirit 5K!

A Celebration of Community and Giving! Take your Spartan Spirit to the streets of Somerville, or show off your business to hundreds as a sponsor on the route!

Ready to Contribute?  
Scan here for sponsorship opportunities.



Ready to Run?  
Scan here to register.



CHURCH OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION PRESENTS

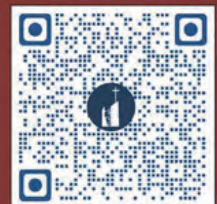
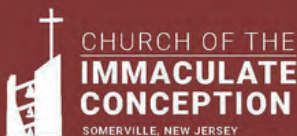
## Sacred Music in a Sacred Space

FEATURING

Immaculate Conception Choirs and Orchestra

Free will  
offering

Sunday, April 26, 2026  
4:30 pm in Church



# BOLD Youth Ministry



**BOLD** Youth Ministry Corner  
youth ministry by *forVentures*

Questions? Contact Paulina Garcia  
at [BAB@boldym.com](mailto:BAB@boldym.com) or 908-552-0620



## Movie Night



JOIN US FOR AN EVENING OF FUN,  
FRIENDS, AND SNACKS  
BRING YOUR FRIENDS AND COME ENJOY A  
HEARTWARMING MOVIE, POPCORN AND  
GREAT COMPANY. ALL IN MIDDLE SCHOOL  
ARE WELCOME!

**Thursday April 23<sup>rd</sup>**  
**6:30-8:30**  
**Immaculate Conception Church**  
**Cafeteria**

### VOCATIONS NIGHT

**Tuesday, April 28th | 7:00-8:30PM**  
**St. Bernard's Youth Room**

**GOD HAS A PLAN FOR YOUR LIFE. COME EXPLORE WHAT  
THAT COULD LOOK LIKE FOR YOU!**

We'll hang out, have pizza, and hear some stories from a deacon, a seminarian, and a married couple about how they figured out what God was calling them to. All 8th grade and high school teens are invited, so bring a friend and come hang with us!







Save the Date

Trip to Six Flags!

NJ Catholic Youth Rally

Sunday, May 17th

# Our Community

## When Life Takes Unexpected Turns



At one time or another we find ourselves needing, or know someone who needs some medical equipment. Many times it comes as an out of pocket expense that is difficult to afford. The Medical Equipment Ministry is here to help provide what you need at no cost.

# 908-396-6057

Hospital beds, wheelchairs, scooters, motorized wheelchairs, crutches, canes, walkers, commodes, lifts, adult diapers, shower seats, bed rails, rolling tables, transport chairs...

Pluckemin Medical Equipment Ministry is dedicated to improving the life of our clients and their families through the redistribution of used medical equipment at no cost to them

Visit us at: [www.PPCMEM.org](http://www.PPCMEM.org)

Located at:  
279 US 202-206  
PO Box 402  
Pluckemin, NJ 07978

 FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK

# 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](https://giving.parishsoft.com/app/giving/FD-630) or to enroll in our simple, automatic giving system, visit: <https://giving.parishsoft.com/app/giving/FD-630>



# 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](https://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](http://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, APRIL 20

**6:30 am** Mass, Chapel  
**8:00 am** Mass, Chapel  
**2:45 pm** Children's Choir Practice, Church Music Office  
**4:00 pm & 6:15 pm** Children's Faith Formation Classes  
**7:00 pm** Miraculous Medal Rosary & Novena, Chapel

### TUESDAY, APRIL 21

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

### WEDNESDAY, APRIL 22

**6:30 am** Mass, Chapel  
**8:00 am** Mass, Chapel  
**4:00 pm & 6:15 pm** Children's Faith Formation Classes  
**6:30 pm** Handbell Rehearsal, Church Music Office

### THURSDAY, APRIL 23

**6:30 am** Mass, Chapel  
**8:00 am** Mass, Chapel  
**2:00 pm** Rosary for the Sick, Chapel  
**2:45 pm** Girls' Choir Practice, Church Music Office  
**6:30 pm** BOLD Youth Ministry, Cafeteria  
**7:00 pm** Filipino/American Association Prayer Group, Virtual  
**7:00 pm** Immaculate Conception Choir Practice, Church

### FRIDAY, APRIL 24

**6:30 am** Mass, Chapel  
**8:30 am** Mass, Chapel  
**9:00 am - 7:00 pm** Eucharistic Adoration, Chapel

### SATURDAY, APRIL 25

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

### SUNDAY, APRIL 26

**7:30 am** Mass, Church  
**9:00 am** Mass, Church  
**11:00 am** Mass, Church  
**1:00 pm** Spanish Mass, Church  
**4:30 pm** Sacred Music in a Sacred Space, Church

### PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR PARISHIONERS WHO ARE SICK:

Jozelle Acampado, Don Alaburda, Lou Bickel, Erin Calicchio, Wanda De Jesús Villafañe, Joseph Dina Sr., Louis Grosso, Lynette Klar, Diana Konopka, Lygia Lewis, Megan Lisner, Joseph Malinowski, Thomas Malinowski, Dave Myers, Mary Moody, Suzanne Petto, Christine Phillips, Amy Pitucco, Thomas Rucci, Sal & Jena Schellato, Phyllis Schmidt, and Robert & Pat Tocci

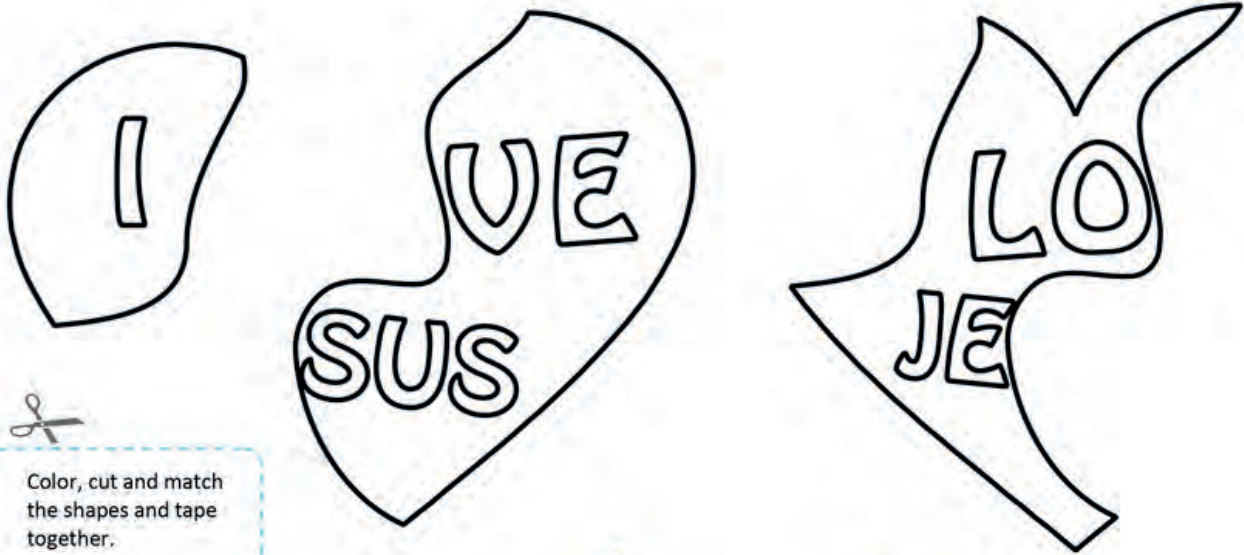
# < KID'S > KORNER

## Gospel Today | Third Sunday of Easter | Luke 24: 13-35

The risen Jesus walked to Emmaus with two disciples, but they did not recognize Him. At the evening meal, Jesus blessed bread, broke it, and disappeared. At once the disciples knew in their hearts it was Jesus.

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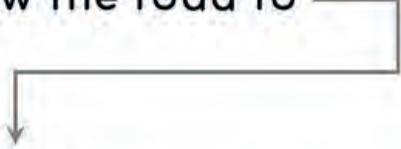
### Love From The Heart



Color, cut and match the shapes and tape together.



Take a pencil and  
Follow the road to



for the  
breaking  
of the  
bread.

# EMMAUS

# 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. 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	grodiguez@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
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
Michael Giangreco, IHS '06	Director of Technologies	mgiangreco@immaculatahighschool.org
Amberle Gilroy	Event Planning & Management	agilroy@icsomerville.org
Juan Carlos Gonzalez	Parish Catechetical Leader	jcgonzalez@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
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](http://immaculateconception.org) o visite la oficina parroquial. Por favor, no dude en comunicarse y presentarse. ¡Nos encantaría conocerle!

## Lecturas de La Semana

### Domingo, 19 de abril

Hechos de los Apóstoles 2:14, 22-23; 1 Pedro 1:17-21;  
Lucas 24:13-35

### Lunes, 20 de abril

Hechos de los Apóstoles 6:8-15; Juan 6:22-29

### Martes, 21 de abril

Hechos de los Apóstoles 7:51-8:1a; Juan 6:30-35

### Miércoles, 22 de abril

Hechos de los Apóstoles 8:1b-8; Juan 6:35-40

### Jueves, 23 de abril

Hechos de los Apóstoles 8:26-40; Juan 6:44-51

### Viernes, 24 de abril

Hechos de los Apóstoles 9:1-20; Juan 6:52-59

### Sábado, 25 de abril

1 Pedro 5:5b-14; Marcos 16:15-20

## Intenciones de Misas

### Lámpara del Santuario, Iglesia

Robert J. Ladzinski

### Lámpara del Santuario, Capilla

Intenciones de Nathalie Nelson

### Domingo, 19 de abril

#### Tercer Domingo de Pascua

7:30 am Mary Evancho

9:00 am James y Dorothy Flynn

11:00 am Helen A. Rynearson

1:00 pm Elva V. Espino

### Lunes, 20 de abril

6:30 am Esther Nolan

8:00 am Marion Damiano

### Martes, 21 de abril

6:30 am Francisco Polomonte y Maria Antonita

8:00 am Patrick Cooley

### Miércoles, 22 de abril

6:30 am Chris Munley

8:00 am Jose Leon Mejia y Josefa Molino

### Jueves, 23 de abril

6:30 am Mary Ann McCloskey

8:00 am Ralph y Jacqueline Amatucci

### Viernes, 24 de abril

6:30 am Thomas Dolan

8:30 am Maureen Leavy Yanak

### Sábado, 25 de abril

8:00 am Jacqueline Leary

5:00 pm Por el Pueblo de nuestra Parroquia

### Domingo, 26 de abril

#### Cuarto Domingo de Pascua

Jornada Mundial de Oración por las Vocaciones

7:30 am Intenciones de Louis Grosso

9:00 am Flor de Maria Huamani

11:00 am Joseph y Marjorie Kozimbo

1:00 pm Floria Maria Zillich

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

# Nuestra Iglesia



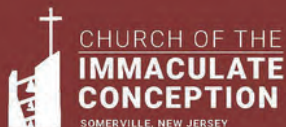
LA IGLESIA DE LA INMACULADA CONCEPCIÓN PRESENTA

## Música Sagrada en un Espacio Sagrado

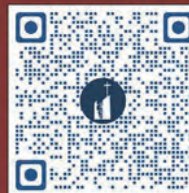
CON LA PARTICIPACIÓN DE  
Los Coros y la Orquesta de la Inmaculada Concepción

Ofrenda  
voluntaria

Domingo, 26 de abril de 2026  
4:30 pm en la Iglesia



IGLESIA DE LA INMACULADA CONCEPCIÓN | SOMERVILLE, NUEVA JERSEY



# Del Párroco

Una Reflexión del Segundo Domingo de Pascua  
Domingo de la Divina Misericordia

Lamar a Tomás “el incrédulo” le hace un gran daño. Tomás simplemente dice lo que cualquier persona razonable diría cuando le dicen que alguien que murió ya no está muerto; él es escéptico y no tiene miedo de decirlo. Pero hay algo que se encuentra debajo del escepticismo de Tomás. Él es un hombre herido. Tomás, como los demás, dejó todo — hogar, familia, sustento — para seguir a Jesús. Vio y escuchó cosas extraordinarias. Creyó y esperó, solo para que la cruz aplastara esas esperanzas. Él quiere ver a Jesús, tocarlo, saber con certeza que esta asombrosa noticia podría, en realidad, ser verdad. El Evangelio de Juan nos dice que una semana después, el Señor Resucitado se presenta repentinamente ante Tomás en aquel aposento alto y lo invita a hacer exactamente lo que su corazón anhela: ver, tocar y conocer la verdad de su resurrección. Y Tomás, nuestro “incrédulo”, cae de rodillas y confiesa lo que nadie más confiesa en toda la extensión de los Evangelios: llama explícitamente a Jesús, “Señor y Dios”.

Como Tomás, creo que todos venimos a Jesús queriendo verlo, tocarlo y conocerlo. Queremos saber que nuestra fe no es, como dijo San Pedro en su carta, un “mito ingeniosamente inventado”, sino que está fundada en hechos reales, vistos y transmitidos por testigos oculares dignos de confianza (II Pedro 1:16). Pero más que eso, anhelamos nosotros mismos el encuentro lleno de gracia con Jesús, ese encuentro que nos sana y nos renueva. En nuestros anhelos, traemos con nosotros nuestras heridas. Venimos con una fe débil, una esperanza frágil y las cargas de pecado y arrepentimiento que todos llevamos.

Sin embargo, en algún momento comenzamos a darnos cuenta de que no es por lo que nosotros hemos hecho, sino por lo que Cristo ha hecho, que este encuentro es posible. El Papa Benedicto escribió una vez que “Dios mismo ha recorrido la mayor parte del camino” (B. XVI) en la búsqueda del hombre. Nuestros corazones buscan a Dios porque Dios es el primero en buscarnos. Anhelamos ver, tocar y conocer, porque Él anhela que lo veamos, lo toquemos y lo conozcamos.

La misericordia de Dios, que se nos da en la muerte y resurrección del Señor, no hace la vista gorda ante nuestras heridas. Más bien, la misericordia desea entrar en ellas y transformarlas en los cimientos de nuestra redención y santidad. La misericordia no ignora nuestra duda, nuestro miedo e incluso nuestro pecado, sino que se derrama sobre ellos como un bálsamo sanador y nos



encuentra precisamente donde somos más frágiles y vulnerables. Tomás necesitaba tocar las heridas de Cristo para volver a creer y esperar. Pero, en verdad, es Cristo quien toca las heridas de Tomás, y lo mismo sucede con nosotros.

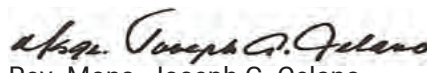
Todos estamos heridos de una manera u otra. Todos tenemos lugares dentro de nosotros que son como aquel aposento alto; lugares donde las puertas están cerradas por el miedo, el dolor, la culpa e incluso la incredulidad. Cristo desea atravesar las puertas cerradas de nuestros corazones, y cuando lo hace, no nos reprende, sino que habla de paz a nuestros corazones inquietos, despertándolos nuevamente a la fe y a la esperanza.

La pregunta en juego es si permitiremos que Cristo entre en los lugares rotos de nuestras vidas, abriendo las puertas de nuestro miedo, vergüenza e incredulidad, o si las mantendremos firmemente cerradas.

Si lo hacemos — si le permitimos tocar lo que está herido dentro de nosotros — entonces también nosotros llegaremos a conocer lo que Tomás descubrió: que la misericordia no es una “debilidad” divina, sino la manifestación del poder divino por el cual Dios reclama irrevocablemente nuestra vida, nos sana y hace nuevas todas las cosas.

En este encuentro lleno de gracia, nos uniremos a Tomás cayendo de rodillas con el corazón lleno de asombro y gratitud y simplemente exclamaremos: “¡Señor mío y Dios mío!”

Servo,

  
Rev. Mons. Joseph G. Celano  
Párroco y Director de Escuelas

# Noticias y Eventos

## Ministerio Juvenil BOLD

**BOLD8** Rincón del Ministerio Juvenil Preguntas? Contacta a Paulina Garcia por BAB@boldym.com o al 908-552-0620

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Jueves 23 de Abril  
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Cafeteria de la Iglesia  
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Martes, 7 de abril | 7:00 - 8:30 p. m.  
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Compartiremos un rato juntos, comeremos pizza y escucharemos las historias de un diácono, un seminarista y un matrimonio sobre cómo descubrieron aquello a lo que Dios los estaba llamando. Todos los adolescentes de 8º grado y de High School están invitados, ¡asi que trae a un amigo y ven a pasar el rato con nosotros!

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## ESTA SEMANA EN LA INMACULADA CONCEPCIÓN

### LUNES, 20 DE ABRIL

- 6:30 am Misa, Capilla
- 8:00 am Misa, Capilla
- 2:45 pm Práctica del Coro de Niños, Oficina de Música
- 4:00 pm & 6:15 pm Clases de Formación en la Fe para Niños
- 7:00 pm Rosario y Novena de la Medalla Milagrosa, Capilla

### MARTES, 21 DE ABRIL

- 6:30 am Misa, Capilla
- 8:00 am Misa, Capilla
- 8:30 am - 3:00 pm Adoración Eucarística, Capilla
- 8:00 pm Oración Vespertina de Hombres, Capilla

### MIÉRCOLES, 22 DE ABRIL

- 6:30 am Misa, Capilla
- 8:00 am Misa, Capilla
- 4:00 pm & 6:15 pm Clases de Formación en la Fe para Niños
- 6:30 pm Ensayo de Campanas de Mano, Oficina de Música
- 7:00 pm Renovación Carismática, Capilla

### JUEVES, 23 DE ABRIL

- 6:30 am Misa, Capilla
- 8:00 am Misa, Capilla
- 2:00 pm Rosario por los Enfermos, Capilla
- 2:45 pm Práctica del Coro de Niñas, Oficina de Música
- 6:30 pm Ministerio Juvenil BOLD, Cafetería
- 7:00 pm Ensayo del Coro de la Inmaculada Concepción, Iglesia
- 7:30 pm Grupo de Oración Juan XXIII, Cafetería

### VIERNES, 24 DE ABRIL

- 6:30 am Misa, Iglesia
- 8:30 am Misa, Capilla
- 9:00 am - 7:00 pm Adoración Eucarística, Capilla

### SÁBADO, 25 DE ABRIL

- 8:00 am Misa, Iglesia
- 12:00 pm Ensayo del Coro Hispano, Oficina de Música de la Iglesia
- 3:30 pm - 4:30 pm Confesión, Iglesia
- 5:00 pm Misa de Vigilia, Iglesia
- 6:00 pm La Hora Mariana, Virtual

### DOMINGO, 26 DE ABRIL

- 7:30 am Misa, Iglesia
- 9:00 am Misa, Iglesia
- 11:00 am Misa, Iglesia
- 1:00 pm Misa en Español, Iglesia
- 4:30 pm Música Sagrada en un Espacio Sagrado, Iglesia

### POR FAVOR RECEN POR NUESTROS FELIGRESES QUE ESTÉN ENFERMOS:

Jozelle Acampado, Don Alaburda, Lou Bickel, Erin Calicchio, Wanda De Jesús Villafañe, Joseph Dina Sr., Louis Grosso, Lynette Klar, Diana Konopka, Lygia Lewis, Megan Lisner, Joseph Malinowski, Thomas Malinowski, Dave Myers, Mary Moody, Suzanne Petto, Christine Phillips, Amy Pitucco, Thomas Rucci, Sal y Jena Schellato, Phyllis Schmidt y Robert y Pat Tocci



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