



CHURCH OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

35 MOUNTAIN AVE. | SOMERVILLE, NEW JERSEY 08876

A white statue of St. Therese of Lisieux, holding a small cross, stands on a brick pedestal in a grassy field. The pedestal has a plaque that reads: "ST. THERESE OF LISIEUX IN LOVING GRATITUDE TO MRS. J. NEVIN KENNEDY BORN MAY 10, 1901 DIED 1981".

TWENTIETH SUNDAY

IN ORDINARY TIME
AUGUST 16, 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 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 16

Isaiah 56:1, 6-7; Romans 11:13-15, 29-32; Matthew 15:21-28

Monday, August 17

Ezekiel 24:15-23; Matthew 19:16-22

Tuesday, August 18

Ezekiel 28:1-10; Matthew 19:23-30

Wednesday, August 19

Ezekiel 34:1-11; Matthew 20:1-16

Thursday, August 20

Ezekiel 36:23-28; Matthew 22:1-14

Friday, August 21

Ezekiel 37:1-14; Matthew 22:34-40

Saturday, August 22

Ezekiel 43:1-7ab; Matthew 23:1-12

Mass Intentions

Sanctuary Lamp, Church

Dennis Felter

Sanctuary Lamp, Chapel

Dennis Felter

Sunday, August 16

Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time

7:30 am Simeon Limhanyong, Sr.

9:00 am Charles & Margaret Kapp

11:00 am Charles A. & Charles C.

Drechsler

1:00 pm Karin Ripalda

Monday, August 17

6:30 am Jean Ziolkowski

8:00 am Chelsea Rivard

Tuesday, August 18

6:30 am Floryan & Rozalia Lurski

8:00 am Angelo & Maria Siciliano

Wednesday, August 19

6:30 am Giovanni Manilio

8:00 am Deacon Frank Quinn

Thursday, August 20

Saint Bernard

6:30 am Ann Florin

8:00 am Angelina Kosinski

Friday, August 21

Saint Pius X

6:30 am Antonio Chua, Jr.

8:00 am Millie Ivers

Saturday, August 22

The Queenship of the Blessed Virgin Mary

8:00 am Intentions of Father Gustavo Rodriguez-Perez

5:00 pm People of the Parish

Sunday, August 23

Twenty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time

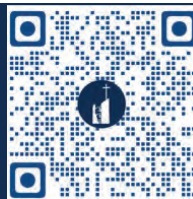
7:30 am Salvatore Calandra

9:00 am Joseph & Madalene Huynh

11:00 am Thomas & Jane Byrne

1:00 pm Thanksgiving to the Blessed Virgin Mary

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



From the Pastor

A Reflection from the 19th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Many of you know I have a dog named Lata, which is short for "Immaculata". She's a 6-year-old Golden Retriever, sweet and friendly as can be, but a bit of a scaredy-cat. We went through a phase where she was afraid of her own water bowl because I dropped it once and it made a loud noise. She also doesn't like the rectory floors. They're hardwood, and she's afraid of slipping on them. Sometimes I need to coax her, and not always successfully, to move from one room into the other.

Just yesterday morning I was trying to get her to come into my home office and lie down by my desk where there's an area rug. I was on all fours trying to coax her in. She wouldn't have it. She just did circles in the doorway and barked at me a few times. She decided the living room was a safer place and went back there to lie on the area rug.

While I was down on all fours with the dog, I thought of this incident on the Sea of Galilee between the Lord and Peter. Peter needed a little coaxing, too, to step out of the safety of the boat and go to Jesus on the water. I often find it amusing that Peter looked at the waves and the wind rather than gaze in awe at the One who was standing on them. But that's the lesson to be learned by this event. We often let ourselves be diverted from the Lord; we listen to the voice of our fears, and succumb to the inner storms of our distracted hearts. When this happens – when we take our eyes off of Jesus – we begin to sink, as Peter did.

There is a contrast at work in the Word we hear this weekend between the noise of fear and distraction, and the silence and gentle whisper in which God speaks to Elijah on Mount Horeb. It's important that we notice this contrast since our progress in prayer depends on stilling the internal noises we encounter and creating that inner stillness in which we can hear the voice of the Lord.

Prayer has been defined in many ways by theologians, mystics, and the great masters of the spiritual life. But at the heart of Christian prayer is a filial relationship in which a dialogue takes place between God and the soul. St. Augustine described it as "*heart speaking to heart*". But that dialogue cannot create friendship or deepen intimacy if one party is doing all the talking and fails to listen.

I have known many good souls who desire to grow in friendship with God and have a thirst for prayer, but they tell me they are frustrated by their lack of progress. When I question them about this, I often find that their prayer is not so much a dialogue as it is a monologue, a "*babbling on*", as Jesus warned his disciples against (Mt. 6:7). This kind of prayer leaves little room for silent contemplation or meditation on the Word. Rosaries are rushed, and there is little meditation on their mysteries, which is the heart of the Rosary. They grow impatient with the natural pauses in the Mass for silent prayer because they quickly want to move on to the next thing. Even our churches can reflect this uneasiness with silence.



We fill what is supposed to be a tranquil "*house of prayer for all people*" (Is. 56:7) with all kinds of noise and unnecessary chatter. Yet God invites us away from these distractions so that we can create, for ourselves and for others, a tranquil place of encounter where God, who speaks in silence, can be heard.

If there is any measure or desire in your life for prayer, then know this: God is the initiator of such desires. It is He who begins the dialogue of prayer and draws us more deeply into the silence of our souls where heart can, in fact, speak to heart.

Like me, down on all fours coaxing the dog into a room with hardwood floors, God coaxes us toward Himself and into the silence in which He speaks. He lures our hearts with consolations and a sense of His nearness, and through these things begins to speak. But what He speaks is no message, for the Word is not a sound, but a presence and a person. The goal of prayer is not to say we prayed, as if prayer is just another item to check off on a to-do list. The goal of prayer is Christ Himself. Spiritual progress is measured, not by interior consolations, but by growth in faith, hope, and charity and a deepening conformity of ourselves to Christ in all things.

In the dialogue of prayer, what God has to say to us is infinitely more urgent than anything we have to say to Him, for He already knows us and what we need (Mt. 6:8). What God asks us to bring to this dialogue is a humble and attentive heart so that heart can speak to heart, and we learn how to listen...

Servus,

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

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

News & Events

Stewardship Scripture Reflections

Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time (August 16, 2026)

"Observe what is right, do what is just; for my salvation is about to come, my justice, about to be revealed." Isaiah 56:1

A steward is keenly aware of the need for justice. It is the Lord's justice practiced by a steward that delivers the poor.



Men's Rosary Rally

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 5, 2026 | 11:00 AM

Join men in prayer and penance to make reparation for our nation's sins against the Immaculate Heart of Mary and for the glory of Jesus Christ. Meet at the corner of W. Main & Grove Street in Somerville. More information, contact njrosary@protonmail.com. Men of all ages are welcome. Join us every first Saturday of the Month.

Men's Fellowship

SATURDAY | SEPTEMBER 12, 2026 | 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. Breakfast, prayer, a brief teaching, and discussion are held. All men 18 or older are welcome to join us **Saturday, September 12**.

New Jersey Mass and March for Life in Trenton

THURSDAY | OCTOBER 8, 2026 | 9:30 AM

Join our parishioners along with the Diocese of Metuchen's Office of Human Life and Dignity on a bus trip to the NJ Bishops' Mass for Life & NJ March for Life in Trenton on **Thursday, October 8, 2026**. Bus seats are \$20 per person. The bus departs the St. John Neumann Pastoral Center, 146 Metlars Lane in Piscataway at 7:15 am. The Mass begins 9:30 am at the Cathedral of St. Mary of the Assumption, 151 N. Warren Street, Trenton. For more information visit:

www.diometuchen.org/humanlifeanddignity.

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



UPCOMING COLLECTIONS

Mission Co-Op: August 22 - 23

Penny Collection: September 5 - 6

End of Summer Hot Dog Social

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 2026 | 6:00 PM

Join Monsignor Celano, our pastoral associates, deacons, and parish friends and families to share our blessings on a wonderful summer evening! If you would like to sponsor or volunteer for the social, contact Stacey Geary at sgeary@icsomerville.org.



Immaculata High School Open House

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 14, 2026 | 6:00 PM

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 18, 2026 | 1:00 PM

Open House

**Wed., Oct. 14
6 PM**

**Sun., Oct. 18
1 PM**

RSVP today!
Kristin Petrosini '01
Director of
Enrollment Management
(908) 722-0200 x2001

**IMMACULATA
HIGH SCHOOL**

admissions.immaculatahighschool.org/open-house/



Mission Co-op

Please Welcome Sister Regina Mgbakor Next Weekend!

Maranatha Caring Mission was established to provide free medical clinics in developing countries, feed the hungry, clothe the naked, provide clean water to the thirsty, and other works as the Spirit directs. Our mission at Maranatha is to share the love of Jesus and reach out to the poor.

"whatever you do to the least of my brethren that you do unto me." ~ Matthew 25:40

History of the Mission & Eye Disease

The first clinic was established on November 12, 2016, in Umueje, Anambra State, Nigeria. The people in this area are predominantly peasant farmers who live in impoverished, unhealthy conditions, and lack health care. The peasant farmers produce rice and cassava with very crude implements and during the harvesting season their eyes are often affected. This damages the lens and leads to traumatic cataracts.

Eye disease is very prevalent in this area and many suffer from Cataracts. Umueje and the surrounding communities are riverine and Riverblindness is prominent due to water parasites.

The Impact

Maranatha has provided free medical care to **93,895** patients and performed **841 free Cataracts** and **Pterygium** surgeries. We also perform other surgeries including

- **Appendectomy**
- **Herniorrhaphy**
- **Hydrocelectomy**
- **Fibroid** and even more

From September 24, 2020, we have delivered **811** babies to the greater glory of God and because you **CARE** and **TOGETHER**, we **CARE**!

How Can You Help?

At the moment, there are **400 patients** on the waiting list for Cataract surgeries and **100 patients** on the waiting list for Herniorrhaphy and Hydrocelectomy. It costs equivalent of **\$100** to perform one cataract surgery and **\$20.00** to provide one month of eye care after the cataract surgery. One Appendectomy or Herniorrhaphy costs **\$50.00** and it costs **\$150.00** to perform one Fibroid surgery to help a woman regain her health.

Please, we need **YOUR HELP** to continue to provide free medical care to these impoverished patients on the waiting list who desperately have great need for **Cataract surgeries** and other **surgeries**. We need your financial support so that these patients will regain their eyesight and for other services we provide for the well-being of the sick and poor.

We are grateful to Very Rev. Jonathan S. Toborowsky, Metuchen Administrator and the wonderful team at the Propagation of the Faith Office, Rev. John G. Hillier and Mila Dionisio. We are thankful to your revered Pastor Rev. Msgr. Joseph G. Celano. We treasure the generosity of the people of God here at Immaculate Conception Parish, Somerville, NJ. You and your various families are remembered in our prayers.



God bless you for all you do!
With prayerful wishes,
Sr. Regina Mgbakor

Maranatha Caring Mission



Children's Faith Formation

2026 - 2027 CFF Student Registration

Registration for the 2026-2027 Children's Faith Formation year is open. Our program accompanies children in growing in their relationship with Jesus Christ, deepening their understanding of the Catholic faith, and preparing to receive the sacraments within the life of the Church.

Families are encouraged to register early to secure placement for the upcoming year. All families registering their child for CFF must be registered parishioners.

For more information or assistance, scan the QR code



or visit:

www.immaculateconception.org/childrensfaithformation.

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

2026 - 2027 CFF Catechist Reminders

Do You Want To Be A Catechist?

Current Catechist Openings:

Wednesday: 4:00 pm – 5:15 pm – Grade 5

Are You A Catechist For The 2026-2027 Year?

Volunteer Orientation Meeting | Wed. August 26 at 6:00 pm

Come together, share important information for the year ahead, and begin our ministry united in prayer and fellowship. Pizza and refreshments will be provided.

Please RSVP to the
email sent by:

Juan Carlos Gonzalez
jcgonzalez@icsomerville.org



For more information please contact Juan Carlos Gonzalez, Parish Catechetical Leader, at **908-725-1112 ext. 1119** or jcgonzalez@icsomerville.org.

Our Parish

Learn to Hear **God's Voice** BOOK STUDY in the Day to Day

DO YOU EVER STRUGGLE TO UNDERSTAND YOUR INNER THOUGHTS, ANXIETIES, OR MOMENTS OF DEEP SPIRITUAL JOY?

JOIN US FOR A **16-WEEK BOOK STUDY** OF FR. TIMOTHY GALLAGHER'S ACCLAIMED BOOK, **THE DISCERNMENT OF SPIRITS: AN IGNATIAN GUIDE FOR EVERYDAY LIVING**. GROUNDED IN THE WISDOM OF ST. IGNATIUS OF LOYOLA, THIS STUDY OFFERS **CLEAR, PRACTICAL TOOLS** TO HELP YOU RECOGNIZE **GOD'S PROMPTINGS**, **NAVIGATE SEASONS OF SPIRITUAL DRYNESS**, AND **OVERCOME DAILY DISCOURAGEMENT**.



WHEN:

Wednesdays starting
September 9, 2026



TIME:

10:00 - 11:30 AM



LOCATION:

Church of the
Immaculate Conception



MATERIALS:

Book AND Reader's Guide
(bring to first session)

TIMOTHY M. GALLAGHER, O.M.V.

The Discernment of Spirits

An Ignatian Guide for
Everyday Living

TIMOTHY M. GALLAGHER, O.M.V.

The Discernment of Spirits

An Ignatian Guide for
Everyday Living

READER'S GUIDE



REGISTRATION:

Please register by contacting
Stacey Geary by **Friday,
September 4**. Details will be
provided upon registration.



sgeary@icsomerville.org



908-725-1112 Ext. 1126

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:
<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
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

SUNDAY, AUGUST 16

7:30 am Mass, Church
9:00 am Mass, Church
11:00 am Mass, Church
1:00 pm Spanish Mass, Church

MONDAY, AUGUST 17

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

TUESDAY, AUGUST 18

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, AUGUST 19

6:30 am Mass, Chapel
8:00 am Mass, Chapel
12:30 pm Rosary Altar Society Faith, Family and Friends, Somerville Elks Lodge B.P.O.E #1068

THURSDAY, AUGUST 20

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

FRIDAY, AUGUST 21

Parish Office closes at 2:00 pm
6:30 am Mass, Chapel
8:00 am Mass, Chapel
8:30 am - 7:00 pm Eucharistic Adoration, Chapel

SATURDAY, AUGUST 22

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

SUNDAY, AUGUST 23

7:30 am Mass, Church
9:00 am Mass, Church
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, Erin Calicchio, Juan Chavez, Carole Christensen, 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, Thomas Rucci, Cristina Sales, Sal & Jena Schellato, Robert Tocci, and Pete & Kathie Wiederhold

< KID'S > KORNER

Gospel Today | 20th Sunday in Ordinary Time | Mt 15:21-28

A very persistent foreign woman begged Jesus to heal her daughter. She had great faith in Jesus. Jesus said "Woman, you have great faith! Your request is granted."

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BIBLE WORD SEARCH

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



Jesus
Welcome
Canaanite
Foreign
Suffering
Daughter
Great
Faith
Woman
Mercy
Help
Disciples
Request
Granted
Healed

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



Jesus accepted the foreign woman and her faith. Today, Jesus expects us to welcome foreigners and their faith to our communities. Our churches are called **Faith Filled Communities**. On a separate sheet of paper draw a picture of what your church, or "faith filled community" looks like.

Don't forget to add some people!

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	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	Maintenance	maintenance@ics41mtn.org
Beverly Gaffney	School/Parish Bookkeeper	bgaffney@ics41mtn.org
Paulina Garcia	Bilingual Youth Minister	icc@boldym.com
Gary Gavula	Sacred Music	ggavula@icsomerville.org
Stacey Geary, IHS '91	Assistant to the Pastor, Marketing & Communications	sgeary@icsomerville.org
Michael Giangreco, IHS '06	Technology	mgiangreco@immaculatahighschool.org
Amberle Gilroy	Mission Advancement	agilroy@icsomerville.org
Juan Carlos Gonzalez	Parish Catechetical Leader	jcgonzalez@icsomerville.org
Jasmine Monge	Bilingual Secretary, Children's Faith Formation	jmonge@icsomerville.org
Jo Anne Peppe	Business Manager	jpeppe@icsomerville.org
Rick Proctor	Security	rproctor@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 administradores de los dones que Dios nos ha dado, proclamamos la Buena Nueva de la salvación. Fortalecidos por el Espíritu Santo, estamos 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, 16 de agosto

Isaías 56:1, 6-7; Romanos 11:13-15, 29-32; Mateo 15:21-28

Lunes, 17 de agosto

Ezequiel 24:15-23; Mateo 19:16-22

Martes, 18 de agosto

Ezequiel 28:1-10; Mateo 19:23-30

Miércoles, 19 de agosto

Ezequiel 34:1-11; Mateo 20:1-16

Jueves, 20 de agosto

Ezequiel 36:23-28; Mateo 22:1-14

Viernes, 21 de agosto

Ezequiel 37:1-14; Mateo 22:34-40

Sábado, 22 de agosto

Ezequiel 43:1-7ab; Mateo 23:1-12

Intenciones de Misas

Lámpara del Santuario, Iglesia

Dennis Felter

Lámpara del Santuario, Capilla

Dennis Felter

Domingo, 16 de agosto

Vigésimo Domingo del Tiempo Ordinario

7:30 am Simeon Limhanyong, Sr.

9:00 am Charles y Margaret Kapp

11:00 am Charles C. y Charles A. Drechsler

1:00 pm Karin Ripalda

Lunes, 17 de agosto

6:30 am Jean Ziolkowski

8:00 am Chelsea Rivard

Martes, 18 de agosto

6:30 am Floryan y Rozalia Lurski

8:00 am Angelo y Maria Siciliano

Miércoles, 19 de agosto

6:30 am Giovanni Manilio

8:00 am Diacono Frank Quinn

Jueves, 20 de agosto

San Bernard

6:30 am Ann Florin

8:00 am Angelina Kosinski

Viernes, 21 de agosto

San Pius X

6:30 am Antonio Chua, Jr.

8:00 am Millie Ivers

Sábado, 22 de agosto

La Coronación de la Santísima Virgen María

8:00 am Intenciones de Padre Gustavo Rodriguez-Perez

5:00 pm Pueblo de la Parroquia

Domingo, 23 de agosto

Vigésimo Primer Domingo del Tiempo Ordinario

7:30 am Salvatore Calandra

9:00 am Joseph y Madalene Huynh

11:00 am Thomas y Jane Byrne

1:00 pm Acción de Gracias a la Santísima Virgen María

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

Del Párroco

Una Reflexión del 19º Domingo del Tiempo Ordinario

Muchos de ustedes saben que tengo una perrita llamada Lata, que es la abreviatura de *"Immaculata"*. Es una Golden Retriever de seis años, dulce y amigable como ninguna, pero un poco miedosa. Hubo una época en la que le tenía miedo hasta a su propio cuenco de agua porque una vez lo dejé caer y produjo un ruido muy fuerte. Tampoco, no le gustan los pisos de la rectoría. Son de madera y tiene miedo de resbalarse. A veces tengo que animarla, y no siempre con éxito, para que pase de una habitación a otra.

Justo ayer por la mañana, estaba tratando de hacer que entrara a mi oficina en casa y se acostara junto a mi escritorio, donde hay una alfombra. Yo estaba a cuatro patas, tratando de convencerla de que entrara. Ella no quería hacer nada. Simplemente daba vueltas en la entrada y me ladraba unas cuantas veces. Decidió que la sala era un lugar más seguro y regresó allí para acostarse sobre la alfombra.

Mientras estaba a cuatro patas con la perra, pensé en aquel episodio en el mar de Galilea entre el Señor y Pedro. Pedro también necesitó un poco de ánimo para salir de la seguridad de la barca e ir hacia Jesús sobre el agua. Siempre lo encuentro divertido que Pedro mirara las olas y el viento en lugar de contemplar con asombro a Aquel que estaba de pie sobre ellos. Pero esa es precisamente la lección que debemos aprender de este acontecimiento. Con frecuencia permitimos que algo nos distraiga del Señor, escuchamos la voz de nuestros temores y sucumbimos a las tormentas interiores de nuestros corazones distraídos. Cuando esto sucede — cuando apartamos nuestros ojos de Jesús — comenzamos a hundirnos, tal como le sucedió a Pedro.

En la Palabra que escuchamos este fin de semana hay un contraste entre el ruido del miedo y la distracción, y el silencio y el suave susurro en el que Dios habla a Elías en el monte Horeb. Es importante que notemos este contraste, porque nuestro progreso en la oración depende de aquietar los ruidos internos que encontramos y de crear ese silencio interior en el que podamos escuchar la voz del Señor.

La oración ha sido definida de muchas maneras por teólogos, místicos y los grandes maestros de la vida espiritual. Pero en el corazón de la oración cristiana existe una relación filial en la que tiene lugar un diálogo entre Dios y el alma. San Agustín la describió como *"el corazón hablando al corazón"*. Pero ese diálogo no puede crear amistad ni profundizar la intimidad si una de las partes es la única que habla y no sabe escuchar.

He conocido a muchas almas buenas que desean crecer en su amistad con Dios y tienen sed de oración, pero me dicen que se sienten frustradas por su falta de progreso. Cuando les pregunto acerca de esto, a menudo descubro que su oración no es tanto un diálogo como un monólogo, un *"hablar sin parar"*, como Jesús advirtió a sus discípulos (Mt. 6:7). Este tipo de oración deja poco espacio para la contemplación silenciosa o la meditación de la Palabra. Se rezan los rosarios apresuradamente y hay poca meditación sobre sus misterios, que son el corazón del Rosario. Se impacientan con las pausas naturales durante la Misa para la oración silenciosa porque rápidamente quieren pasar a lo siguiente.



Incluso nuestras iglesias pueden reflejar esta incomodidad con el silencio. Llenamos lo que debería ser una tranquila *"casa de oración para todos los pueblos"* (Is. 56:7) con todo tipo de ruido y charla innecesaria. Sin embargo, Dios nos invita a alejarnos de estas distracciones para que podamos crear para nosotros mismos y para los demás un lugar tranquilo de encuentro, donde Dios, que habla en el silencio, pueda ser escuchado.

Si existe en tu vida algún deseo o anhelo de oración, debes saber esto: Dios es quien inicia esos deseos. Es Él quien comienza el diálogo de la oración y nos atrae más profundamente hacia el silencio de nuestras almas, donde el corazón puede, en efecto, hablar al corazón.

Y como yo, de rodillas y a cuatro patas, tratando de convencer a la perra de que entrara en una habitación con pisos de madera, Dios nos atrae hacia Él y hacia el silencio en el que Él habla. Él atrae nuestros corazones con consuelos y con la sensación de Su cercanía, y a través de estas cosas comienza a hablarnos. Pero lo que Él nos comunica no es un mensaje, porque la Palabra no es un sonido, sino una presencia y una persona.

El objetivo de la oración no es simplemente poder decir que hemos rezado, como si la oración fuera solo otro elemento que debemos marcar en una lista de quehaceres. El objetivo de la oración es Cristo Mismo. El progreso espiritual no se mide por los consuelos interiores, sino por el crecimiento en la fe, la esperanza y la caridad, y por una conformidad cada vez más profunda de nosotros mismos con Cristo en todas las cosas.

En el diálogo de la oración, lo que Dios tiene que decirnos es infinitamente más urgente que cualquier cosa que nosotros tengamos decirle, porque Él ya nos conoce y sabe lo que necesitamos (Mt. 6:8). Lo que Dios nos pide que llevemos a este diálogo es un corazón humilde y atento, para que el corazón pueda hablar al corazón y aprendamos a escuchar...

Servus,

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

Cooperación Misionera

¡Por favor, den la bienvenida a la Hermana Regina Mgbakor el próximo fin de semana!

Maranatha Caring Mission fue establecida para proporcionar clínicas médicas gratuitas en países en vías de desarrollo, alimentar a los hambrientos, vestir a los desnudos, proporcionar agua potable a los sedientos y realizar otras obras según la dirección del Espíritu Santo. Nuestra misión en Maranatha es compartir el amor de Jesús y tender la mano a los pobres.

"Todo lo que hagan por uno de estos hermanos míos más pequeños, por mí lo hacen."

~ Mateo 25:40

Historia de la Misión y las Enfermedades Oculares

La primera clínica se estableció el 12 de noviembre de 2016 en Umueje, estado de Anambra, Nigeria. Las personas de esta zona son principalmente agricultores de subsistencia que viven en condiciones de pobreza y poco saludables, y carecen de acceso a servicios de salud. Estos agricultores producen arroz y mandioca utilizando herramientas muy rudimentarias y, durante la temporada de cosecha, sus ojos se ven afectados con frecuencia. Esto daña el cristalino y puede provocar cataratas traumáticas.

La enfermedad ocular es muy común en esta zona y muchas personas padecen de cataratas. Umueje y las comunidades circundantes son zonas ribereñas, y la oncocercosis (ceguera de los ríos) es frecuente debido a los parásitos presentes en el agua.



El Impacto

Maranatha ha brindado atención médica gratuita a 93,895 pacientes y ha realizado 841 cirugías gratuitas de cataratas y pterigión. También realizamos otras cirugías, entre ellas:

- Apendicectomía
- Herniorrafia
- Hidrocelectomía
- Fibromas uterinos y muchas más

Desde el 24 de septiembre de 2020, hemos ayudado a traer al mundo a 811 bebés, para la mayor gloria de Dios. Y porque a ustedes LES IMPORTA, ¡JUNTOS, NOS IMPORTA!

¿Cómo Puede Ayudar?

En este momento, hay 400 pacientes en lista de espera para cirugías de cataratas y 100 pacientes en lista de espera para hernioplastias e hidrocelectomías. El costo equivalente de realizar una cirugía de cataratas es de \$100, y cuesta \$20.00 proporcionar un mes de atención oftalmológica después de la cirugía de cataratas. Una apendicectomía o hernioplastia cuesta \$50.00, y realizar una cirugía de fibromas cuesta \$150.00, ayudando así a una mujer a recuperar su salud.

Por favor, necesitamos SU AYUDA para continuar brindando atención médica gratuita a estos pacientes de escasos recursos que se encuentran en la lista de espera y que tienen una gran necesidad de cirugías de cataratas y otras cirugías. Necesitamos su apoyo financiero para que estos pacientes puedan recuperar la vista y para continuar ofreciendo otros servicios que contribuyen al bienestar de los enfermos y los más necesitados.

Estamos muy agradecidos con el Muy Rev. Jonathan S. Toborowsky, Administrador de Metuchen, y con el maravilloso equipo de la Oficina de Propagación de la Fe, el Rev. John G. Hillier y Mila Dionisio. También estamos profundamente agradecidos con su querido párroco, el Rev. Mons. Joseph G. Celano.

Valoramos profundamente la generosidad del pueblo de Dios aquí en la Parroquia de la Inmaculada Concepción, Somerville, Nueva Jersey. Ustedes y sus respectivas familias están presentes en nuestras oraciones.



¡Dios los bendiga por todo lo que hacen!

Con nuestros mejores deseos y oraciones,

Hna. Regina Mgbakor

Noticias y Eventos



Reflexiones de las Escrituras sobre la corresponsabilidad

Vigésimo Domingo del Tiempo Ordinario
(16 de agosto de 2026)

"Observen lo que es justo, hagan lo que es correcto; porque mi salvación está por llegar y mi justicia está a punto de manifestarse." Isaías 56:1

Un administrador es profundamente consciente de la necesidad de la justicia. Es la justicia del Señor, practicada por un administrador, la que libera a los pobres.



POR FAVOR RECEN POR NUESTROS FELIGRESES QUE ESTÉN ENFERMOS:

Jozelle Acampado, Don Alaburda, Lou Bickel, Erin Calicchio, Juan Chavez, Carole Christensen, 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, Thomas Rucci, Cristina Sales, Sal y Jena Schellato, Robert Tocci, y Pete y Kathie Wiederhold

ESTA SEMANA EN LA INMACULADA CONCEPCIÓN

DOMINGO, 16 DE AGOSTO

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

LUNES, 17 DE AGOSTO

6:30 am Misa, Capilla
8:00 am Misa, Capilla
7:00 pm Rosario y Novena de la Medalla Milagrosa, Capilla

MARTES, 18 DE AGOSTO

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, 19 DE AGOSTO

6:30 am Misa, Capilla
8:00 am Misa, Capilla
12:30 pm Sociedad del Altar del Rosario: Fe, Familia y Amigos, Logia Elks de Somerville B.P.O.E. #1068
7:00 pm Renovación Carismática, Capilla

JUEVES, 20 DE AGOSTO

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, Cafetería

VIERNES, 21 DE AGOSTO

La Oficina Parroquial cerrará a las 2:00 pm
6:30 am Misa, Capilla
8:00 am Misa, Capilla
8:30 am - 7:00 pm Adoración Eucarística, Capilla
5:00 pm Devoción a la Divina Misericordia, Cafetería

SÁBADO, 22 DE AGOSTO

8:00 am Misa, Iglesia
10:00 am 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, 23 DE AGOSTO

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



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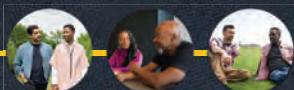
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