

**CEMETERY & MAUSOLEUM OFFICE** MAUSOLEUM HOURS 9AM-5PM

Immaculate Conception Cemetery serves the parishes of Immaculate Conception, St. Catherine of Siena, Our Lady of Lourdes, and St. Joseph. Mrs. Laura Vitelli, Cemetery Manager: Ivitelli@icsclinton.org

traditional weekly program from September-May. Preparation for First Penance and Holy Communion is in grades 1&2, and Confirmation grades 7&8. Registration is held annually during the winter months.

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# IMMACULATE CONCEPTION CHURCH



#### MASSES AND REQUESTED INTENTIONS

Sunday, January 8 (The Epiphany of the Lord) 8:00 am Charlotte Povalski (r/o Polvaski Family) 10:00 am Hugh Maloy (r/o Liszewski Family) 12:00 pm LaMae K. Perez (r/o Family) 5:00 pm Maria & Joey Yangco (r/o Yangco Family) Monday, January 9 (The Baptism of The Lord) 7:00 am Thomas Lacorazza (r/o Judith Amato) 9:00 am Donato Daffan (r/o Jeanne & Glenn Grimshaw) Tuesday, January 10 (First Week in Ordinary Time) 7:00 am Jean Reilly (r/o Altar Rosary Society) 9:00 am Intentions of Joseph Mancini, Jr. (r/o Sister) Wednesday, January 11 (Weekday) 7:00 am Sophia Macanka (r/o Macanka Daughter) 9:00 am Fr. Keith (r/o Yangco Family) Thursday, January 12 (Weekday) 7:00 am Eli Erdle (r/o Lazarus Family) 9:00 am Carl Perone (r/o Altar Rosary Society) Friday, January 13 (Weekday) 7:00 am Robert Cadley (r/o Catherine Johnson) 9:00 am Marian Kaczynski (r/o Mauro & Frances Fanelli) Saturday, January 14 (Christmas Weekday) 9:00 am Carl Perone (r/o John & Pat Hughes) 4:30 pm Sgt. Maj. Sheila Burke Felock (r/o Klippstein Family) Sunday, January 15 (Second Sunday in Ordinary Time) 8:00 am For Our Parishioners 10:00 am Joseph Marino (r/o Diane & Ron Panko) 12:00 pm Manuel Ramos (r/o Mary Jo Rebimbas) 5:00 pm Rocco Palestina (r/o Loving Family)



#### The Sanctuary Candle for Jan 8 -14 is lit In Memory of Tiffany Henry

The Sanctuary Candle burns 24 hours a day as long as the Eucharist is in the Tabernacle. You can dedicate the Sanctuary Light in memory of a loved one or for a special intention for one week. The name will be published in the bulletin each week. You can stop by, call or email the parish office.

# **PRAYER AND DEVOTIONS**

The Rosary is prayed every Wednesday at 8:30 AM The Miraculous Medal Novena: every Saturday after 9 AM Mass Eucharistic Adoration: every Friday after 9 AM Mass - 6 PM

## **CHURCH HOURS**

Our church is open everyday for visits to pray or light a candle from 6:30am-7:00pm

## **PRAY FOR VOCATIONS**

God our Father, we thank you for calling those who serve in your Son's Kingdom as priests, deacons, and consecrated persons. Send your Holy Spirit to help others to respond generously and courageously to your call. We ask this in Jesus' name. Amen!



# **MARCH FOR LIFE**

The Knights of Columbus will be having a student bus and an adult Bus leaving from Immaculate Conception Church, Annandale, NJ on January 20th. There will be a Mass at 6:00am and the buses will leave ICC at 6:45am and will be returning around 10:00pm. For additional information, call Bill Smith at 908.797.7359 or email at smithbuilders@hotmail.com

### **RESPECT LIFE MASS, SUNDAY, JANUARY 22**

Please consider joining the Annual Diocesan Respect Life Mass at 12:00 noon at the Cathedral of St. Francis of Assist, Metuchen. Bishop James F. Checchio will be celebrant. Youth who have been active in pro-life volunteering will be recognized. There will be a light reception immediately following mass. All are welcome to attend. For more information 732.562.1543.

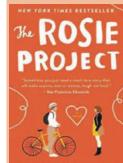
# FESTIVAL OF PRAISE

Join us this Friday, January 13 at 7:30 PM for Eucharistic Adoration, Benediction along with some Praise and Worship Music, Confession will also be available. For more information follow us on Facebook at: www.facebook.com/ICCFOP/



"A thousand years of enjoying human glory is not worth even an hour spent sweetly communing with Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament." - Padre Pio

### PARISH BOOK CLUB INVITES YOU TO BEGIN THE NEW YEAR WITH A CHUCKLE



The Parish Book Club has chosen "The Rosie Project" by Graeme Simsion, an Australian novelist, for the January 19, 2023 meeting. The story centers around an Australian genetics professor who has spend days organizing his life in hopes that it will reduce inefficiency, improve himself as a person and make him all around happier. And so, he develops a "project" which he believes will help him reach his goals which also include finding a suitable partner.

GRAEME SIMSION

The Book Club hopes it will be a good book with which to begin the New Year. Please

consider joining them in the Sofa Room on January 19, 2023, at 7pm to discuss this lighthearted novel. All are welcome. For more information call Carole at (908) 310-3886.



# WELCOME HOME!

#### SPONSORS AND GODPARENTS LETTER OF GOOD STANDING

Certificates of eligibility for sponsorship for Baptism or Confirmation will be given **only to active** (weekly Mass attendance) Registered parishioners of Immaculate Conception Church. A sponsor or Godparent should fill out the form: https://forms.gle/oMP2qD9NsEPetScM7



# From the Administrator's Desk

I am blessed to be writing this letter as I finish out my vacation in Florida and am getting ready to celebrate these last days of the Christmas Season with you, culminating in the Epiphany and the Baptism of Our Lord (Monday). I love Webster's definition of epiphany: "an intuitive grasp of reality through something usually simple and striking." Unfortunately, we've had one of those moments of enlightenment this week; while I was just about to be exuberant about Rutgers beating #1 Purdue, I was brought back to reality while watching Monday Night Football with about a hundred Bills fans. In what was just a regular play, all the things that seemed so important before it just faded away; we didn't care about the game or the event we were at, as almost everyone started praying for the life of a 24 year old who was just doing what he loved (at the moment of my writing this, they are still awaiting information). As much as we might love sports or entertainment, there are things that are much more important.

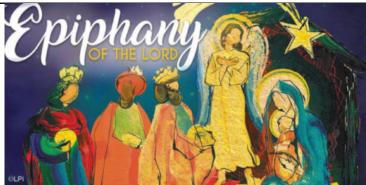
The visit of the wise men remind us that as we celebrate the birth of our Lord and the joys of Christmas that this is really about the fulfillment of a mission that is just about to begin. As the magi place their gifts at the feet of our Lord, we focus on the myrrh, typically used for funerals at the time, to show that Christ's death and resurrection are why we truly are here. It might be surprising to you that the story of the birth of Jesus was really more of an afterthought to the evangelists (it is only mentioned in Luke and Matthew); the important thing to focus on is the Passion - Christ's death and resurrection that saves us from our sins. We are an *Easter* people! Now that doesn't mean we don't celebrate or take great joy in Christmas, but we need to realize that this is just the beginning!

Just as the Christmas season ends with the Baptism of Our Lord, our journey begins with our own Baptism, but it doesn't end there. We are called each and every day to say yes to our God and to not merely stay in one place but move to try to become holier each and every day. I was moved to read that Pope Benedict XVI's last words were: "Lord, I love you," I can't think of a better way to start and end our day than reiterating those words. When we have those moments in our lives that we are made aware of the fragility of our time here, we tend to hold our loved ones a little bit more, to be more understanding of others and try to live out the peace and joy of Christmas better. I pray that as we close this Christmas Season we truly have an epiphany and become a little more mindful that each of us is a child of God and are called to live more like Christ each and every day.

Pax et bonum,

Fr. Keith





THE FEAST OF THE EPIPHANY

The feast of the Epiphany celebrates in many ways that Christ has made Himself known to the world, mainly the three events that manifested the mission and divinity of Christ: the visit of the Magi (Matthew 2:1-12), the baptism of Jesus (Mark 1:9-11), and the miracle at Cana (John 2:1-11).

# LECTURE SERIES: "The Mystery of the Eucharist in the Life of the Church"

January 17, 2023 at 7 pm Presenter: Very Reverend Timothy Christy Location: Cathedral of St. Francis of Assisi, Metuchen Fr. Christy, Rector of the Cathedral, will be exploring the USCCB's document on the Eucharist. As Christians, we know that we need Christ to be present in our lives. He is our very sustenance as he reminded us: unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you do not have life within you (John 6:53). The Lord accompanies us in many ways, but none as profound as when we encounter Him in the Eucharist. Please join Fr. Christy for this important event.

**CONTRIBUTIONS UPDATE - DEC 25** 

Total Offertory Christmas Collection: \$64,600.83 Additional financials will be available in upcoming Bulletins. *Thank you for your continued support of our parish!* 

## PARISH REGISTRATION

If you are a new parishioner or a current parishioner that has moved or changed phone numbers, please contact the parish office. To enable us to better serve you all parishioners must be registered. Family members 18 years or older should register as an individual. You must be a registered (and active) parishioner to be a Confirmation or Baptism Sponsor.



### **PRAY LIKE MARY**

Looking to deepen your prayer life in 2023 or just looking for a new or different way to pray? Even though we already have begun this week, we still invite those interested to join us for this 6 week bible study from Ascension Press, *How to Pray Like Mary* by Sonja Corbitt.

The book is available as a paperback or e-book from Amazon or Ascension Press. Ascension press also offers access to the accompanying videos. We meet on Saturday morning in the Parish Hall following the 9:00 am Mass. For more information, contact Maureen Kolano at 908-310-4306 or jpmobk@gmail.com.

# **IMMACULATE CONCEPTION SCHOOL**



## ICS ANNUAL FUND

The Light Our Way Annual Fund is an opportunity for

parishioners, families and friends to support academic, co-curricular and spiritual experience of our students. Please consider supporting the ICS Annual Fund (make checks out to Immaculate Conception School), or you can donate online from the QR code or



https://www.icsannandale.org/light-our-way



# CATHOLIC SCHOOL TUITION ASSISTANCE -ONLINE APPLICATION PROCESS OPEN

Families interested in applying for tuition assistance to attend an eligible Diocese of Metuchen elementary or high school in the 2023-24 school year may apply online now through FACTS Grant & Aid Assessment at https://online.factsmgmt.com/aid. Online applications must be completed (including all required documentation) by no later than **March 31, 2023**. Applications are available in English and Spanish. Families that need assistance completing the online application or need access to a computer to apply should contact their school.

# HOLIDAYS AROUND THE WORLD

Just before the Christmas break our Kindergarteners enjoyed an International Holiday Festival, traveling to different countries to see how they celebrate, want to see more pictures? Check out our Facebook page or Instagram



# PARENTS ARE THE FIRST AND BEST TEACHERS OF THEIR CHILDREN!



### HOUSE BLESSING FOR EPIPHANY

A Polish and Slavic tradition that has become popular in the United States is the annual blessing of homes during the feast of the Epiphany to welcome Christ into your home for the new year. Please know that Fr. Ariel or Fr. Keith are always happy to bless your home if you would like, but we have also included the prayer of blessing for you to use and remind you that Holy Water is always present in the back of the Narthex near the stairs. While this year we are not distributing blessed chalk to write 20CMB23 (Christus mansionem benedicat or May Christ Bless this House) above your door, if in the future this is something that we would like to do as a parish, please just let Fr. Keith know.

**Prayer of Blessing:** Bless, O Lord God almighty, this home, that in it there may be health, purity, the strength of victory, humility, goodness and mercy, the fulfillment of Thy law, the thanksgiving to God the Father and to the Son and to the Holv Spirit. And may this blessing remain upon this home and upon all who dwell herein. Through Christ our Lord.

### THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

The Sacrament of Baptism is celebrated on Sundays, 1:15 pm. Expectant and adoptive parents are required to attend our Baptism Preparation class (Godparents are invited). These are held on the First Friday of each month at 7:30 pm; preregistration is required. We suggest calling the parish office at least 3 months prior to your child's scheduled birth, or in the case of adoption, upon completion of the adoption process. Contact the Parish Office at 735-7319 for all arrangements and before the selection of Godparents.

# MARRIAGE ENRICHMENT CENTRAL NJ

A Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend gives you the time and tools to revitalize romance, deepen communication, and nourish the spirituality in your marriage. The next Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend will be held February 24-26. Please apply ASAP as space is limited. Phone 732.904.9636 for application information (Tom & Ruth DeFalco) www.wwme.org

### STRESS IN YOUR MARRIAGE?

**Retrouvaille Weekend for Couples** February 3-5, 2023

- Do you feel lost, alone or bored in your marriage?
- Are you frustrated, hurt or angry with your spouse?
- Have you thought about separation or divorce?
- Does talking about it only make it worse?

Retrouvaille is a lifeline to help couples heal and renew their marriages and is sponsored by the Diocesan Family Life Office

For more information or registration email: 3024@HELPOURMARRIAGE.ORG or call: Annette Colasuonno at (732) 672-0748

## PARISH MINISTRIES

908-256-2803 Altar Rosary Society Kathy Clare (2ND. Tues. of the month, 6:30pm, Parish Hall)

Altar Servers Bereavement Ministry Bible Study Coordinator Marianne Tasy 908-730-0722 Cub Scouts Nora Burke Klippstein 908-735-9520 Eucharistic Ministers Ed Reitter 908-268-9671 Girl Scouts Toni Rice 732-570-5940 Christine Benson Grocery Certificates 908-735-6334 Haiti Project Deacon Bill Bauer 610-248-7131 ICC Employment Circle Michael Szalecki 908-268-6732 ICC Home & School Dana Giovanucci Interfaith Hospitality 908-246-9318 Thurs. Scripture Sharing Andrea Bochicchio 908-638-6419 Children's Liturgy Teresa Tsakalakos 914-400-3604 Mary Choir **Diane Eisenhart** 908-347-3065 Spirit Alive Choir Marylu Korkuch 908-236-9103 Youth Choir Jamie Parmese 908-328-4116 Clare Ministry Jane Schear 908-337-5347 Mark Breese 908-625-5908 Knights of Columbus (1ST & 3RD Thurs., 7:30 pm, Parish Hall)

Gail Baumann 845-283-1087 Lectors Living Faith II Prayer Gp. Gerry Savacool 908-735-7804 Mens Cornerstone Michael Wellons 908-246-3241 Mens Journey Michael Szalecki 908-268-6732 Mens 50+ Club John Baka 908-437-0285 Mother's Retreat Karen Mahaney 908-735-0494 Carol Curcio Parish Book Club 908-735-4463 Prayer Shawl Ministry Mary Hegarty 908-399-8514 Dan & Claudia Roose 908-304-5221 Pre-Cana Prison Ministry Pro-Life Committee Tricia Daly 908-328-1268 R.C.I.A. Deacon Mark VanDuynhoven 735-7319 Sanctuary Guild Barbara Sullivan 908-236-6080 908-730-7101 Social Concerns/Food Pantry Peggy Smith Stepping Stones Mary Ellen Berg 908-892-4332 Teen Ministry Lisa Lee 443-745-8043 Eric Svendsen 908-500-8313 Ushers/Greeters Weekday Lectors Ann Standley 908-287-2350 Welcome Ministry Women's Cornerstone

Kathy Meyer-Crane

908-303-2856

**Holy Baptism** is the basis of the whole Christian life, the gateway to life in the Spirit. CCC 1213





Immaculate Conception, Annadale, NJ 04-0852



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