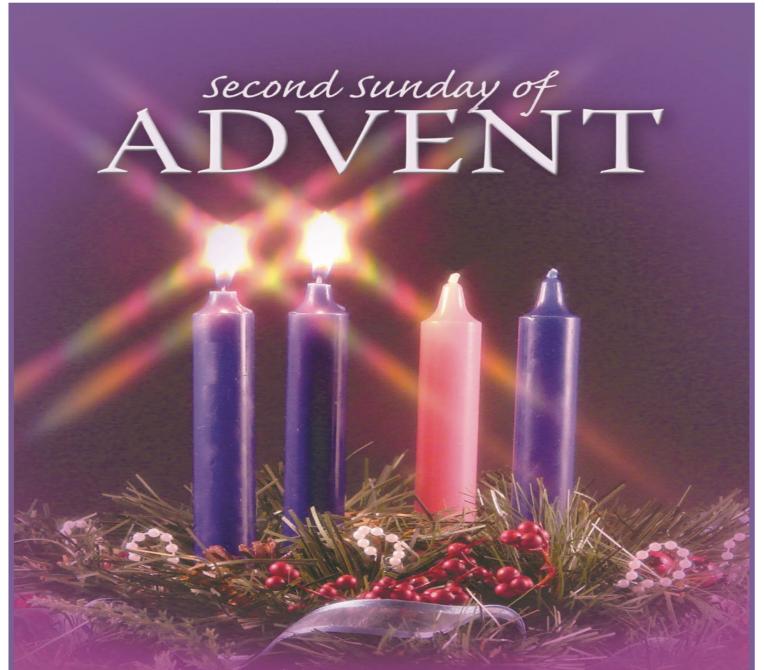




December 10, 2023 2nd Sunday of Advent 316 Old Allerton Road Annandale, NJ 08801

WELCOME TO OUR CHURCH, A CARING AND SHARING CATHOLIC COMMUNITY



PARISH OFFICE

Rev. Keith M. Cervine, Pastor

Hours: Weekdays 9:00AM to 4:00PM Phone: (908) 735-7319; Website: http://iccannandale.org

Website: http://iccannandale.org
Email: parishoffice@iccannandale.org

SCHOOL OFFICE

Constance Fortunato, Principal

Hours: Weekdays 7:30AM-3:30PM Phone: (908) 735-6334; Website: www.icsclinton.org;

Email: info@icsclinton.org

Parish Mission Statement

We, the parish community of Immaculate Conception Church, have as our mission to unite all of our members in God's Name to live the Gospel of Jesus Christ. We share our gifts through worship, education, fellowship, and community outreach, under the guidance of the Holy Spirit and the intercession of Mary Immaculate.



IMMACULATE CONCEPTION CHURCH

OUR CHURCH IS OPEN FOR VISITS TO LIGHT A CANDLE OR PRAY DAILY FROM 6:30AM - 7:00PM

CLERGY

Rev. Keith M. Cervine Pastor

Rev. Edgar Madarang Parochial Vicar

Deacon Joseph Campbell Deacon Michael Martini Deacon Mark van Duynhoven

Deacon William Bauer (Retired)

BUSINESS OFFICE STAFF

Michael Szalecki **Business Administrator** Laura Vitelli Pastoral Associate Parish Advancement Cemetery Director

Parish Secretary Coleen Donaher Financial Manager Melissa Lagun Administrative Assistant Mary Hegarty

PARISH RELIGIOUS EDUCATION PROGRAM

Coleen D'Amato Parish Catechetical Leader Jennifer Senkowski Assistant Director

Maryann Procopio Administrative Assistant

SCHOOL STAFF

Constance Fortunato Principal

Office Administration Maria Casserly Bill Bukowski Maintenance



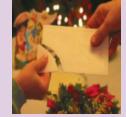
CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE

Christmas Eve, Sun Dec 24: 4PM*, 6 PM, 8PM, **Midnight**

*4PM Mass celebrated in Church and Parish Hall Christmas Day, Mon. Dec 25: 8, 10 AM & Noon There is no 5 PM Mass on Christmas Day Please note that the 4th Sunday of Advent is December 24 and the Masses on Sunday morning are NOT Christmas Masses.

OPLATEK

A Polish Catholic Christmas Eve tradition bestowing blessings upon the family (& pets) while foreshadowing the Eucharistic meal that we share at Mass will be available in the back of Church (free-will offering).



Wesołych Świąt!

PARISH MINISTRIES & ORGANIZATIONS

(IF NOT LISTED AREA CODE IS 908)

Social Concerns/Service Ministries

Spiritual Growth Ministries

Liturgical Ministries

Fr Edgar Madarang 735-7319

Altar Rosary	Lori Dwyer	812-8807	Bible Study Coor.	Marianne Tasy	730-0722
Bereavement	Diane Eisenhart &	\$ 347-3065	Parish Book Club	Carole Curcio	310-3886
Ministry	Bob Zappulla	268-7360	Pre-Cana	TBD	735-7319
Cub Scouts Nora E	Burke Klippstein	735-9520	Men's Cornerstone	Michael Wellons	246-3241
Food Pantry	Peggy Smith	730-7101	Men's Journey	Michael Szalecki	268-6732
Girl Scouts	Toni Rice	732-570-5940	R.C.I.A.	Deacon Mark	735-7319
Haiti Project	Deac. Bill	610-248-7131	Stepping Stones	Mary Ellen Berg	892-4332
Employment Circle	Michael Szalecki	268-6732	Teen Ministry	Anita Weingart	735-7319
Prayer Shawl	Mary Hegarty	399-8514	Thurs. Scripture Shar	.Ed Reitter	268-9671
Pro-Life Committee	Tricia Daly	328-1268	Women's Cornerston	e Kathy Meyer-Crane	303-2856
Sanctuary Guild	Barbara Sullivan	236-6080	1.16		

Community Development

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SCRIP/Gift Cards	Christine Benson	735-6334	Lectors	Gail Baumann	845-283-1087
ICS Home & School	Jessica Eisenhart	735-7319	Eucharistic Minister	Ed Reitter	268-9671
Knights of Columbus	Brian Daly	229-2600	Ushers/Greeters	Eric Svendsen	500-8313
Men's 50+ Club	John Baka	437-0285	Weekday Lectors	Ann Standley	287-2350
Leisure Club	Donna Branco	246-6756	Mary Choir	Diane Eisenhart	347-3065
CYO Basketball	Kim McCarron	735-7319	Spirit Alive Choir	Marylu Korkuch	236-9103
			Youth Choir	Jamie Parmese	328-4116

Altar Servers

OUR LITURGICAL SCHEDULE

Sat. Vigil: 4:30PM

Sunday: 8:00AM, 10:00AM, Noon & 5:00PM

Weekdays: Mon - Fri 7:00AM, 9:00AM

Sat. 9:00AM

Confession: Sat. 11:30 AM - 12; 3:30 - 4:00 PM

or by appointment

Adoration: PLEASE NOTE TIME CHANGE:

Fri. after 9 AM Mass to 4:30 PM

Rosary: Wed. at 8:30 AM

Miraculous Medal Novena: Sat. after 9AM Mass

THIS WEEK'S MASSES AND INTENTIONS

Sunday, December 10 (2nd Sunday of Advent)

8 am For Our Parishioners

10 am Annabelle Mastrangelo (Krista Mastrangelo)

12 pm Seamus Fay (Shiela & Bob Parente) 5 pm Irene Jurkowski (Altar Rosary Society)

Monday, December 11

7 am Gerard J. Sheehan, Jr. (Szalecki Family) 9 am Sebastiano Failla (ICC Staff)

Tuesday, December 12 (Our Lady of Guadalupe)

7 am Rosemary De Pasque (Michael Lombardi) 9 am Edna Queeney (Loving Family)

Wednesday, December 13 (St. Lucy, Virgin & Martyr)

7 am Frank Ocello, Sr. (Ocello Family)

9 am Bob Crane (Karl & Marina Hammermueller)

Thursday, December 14 (St. John of the Cross)

7 am Nancy Doucette (Andrew Provines)

9 am Martin Fitzpatrick (Maureen Linne)

Friday, December 15

7 am Jean Liszewski (Joe & Sharon Maloy) 9 am Maryann McHugh (Family)

Saturday, December 16

9 am Frank Ocello, Sr. (Ocello Family) 4:30 pm William J. Burke (Klippstein Family)

Sunday, December 17 (3rd Sunday of Advent)

8 am Ints. of Nicole Strohmaier (Roberta & Werner Strohmaier)

10 am Richard Fuentes (Daughters Nicole, Ashley & Dana)

12 pm For Our Parishioners

5 pm Rudy Stollenmaier (Vitelli Family)



We realize that during the holidays the sadness of not having one of our loved ones with us any longer can be especially trying. Therefore, Immaculate Conception will again be offering support through our Bereavement Ministry starting January 10, 2024 for all who have suffered the loss of a loved one. *Healing Your Grief* is a 9 week non-denomination support group open to all Christian adults. Please contact Diane Eisenhart at 908-347-3065 or Bob Zappulla at 908-268-7360 for more information and to register.



St. Nicholas Visits IC (and says we have the best omelets around)

Thank you to all who came out to welcome St. Nicholas at last week's Knights of Columbus pancake breakfast, we hope you had a great time and that St. Nicholas also brought you some extra candy for your shoes this week! Rumor has it that there was a little disagreement between Nicholas and Arius when St. Nick claimed that his omelet was "truly divine"... if you got that joke, contact the parish office for your free candy cane, or as St. Nick says: Candy Crozier.



BANNS OF MARRIAGE
Austin Kenyon & Mary Kate Fischer



@ICCAnnandaleNJ

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

If you missed our Advent Reconciliation night. below is a list of other places and times around the neighborhood for Confession. Confession will also be available at Festival of Praise (Dec 15), and our normal Saturday Confession times.

Our Lady of Lourdes - Dec 12, 7pm

St. John Neumann - Dec 12 - 14 after 7pm Mass

St. John the Evangelist - Dec 13th, 6pm

St. Edward the Confessor – Dec 13, 7pm

St. Catherine of Siena - Dec 17, 6-7pm

St. Bernard of Clairvaux - Dec 17, 7pm

Our Lady of Victories - Dec 18, 7pm

St. Joseph – Dec 19-21 after 7pm Mass

ADVENT FESTIVAL OF PRAISE

A SPECIAL NIGHT OF PREPARATION & HEALING FRIDAY, DECEMBER 15, 7:30 TO 9 PM

Join us this Friday for Eucharistic Adoration and

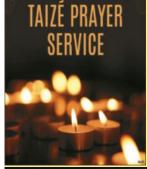
Benediction along with some Praise and Worship Music. This week we will also have some prayer teams to pray with you for healing as well as the availability of priests for Confession.

For more info go to:

www.facebook.com/ICCFOP/



TAIZÉ PRAYER SERVICE



Mark your calendar for Sunday evening, Dec 17 from 7-8pm. Come join us for a break from the noise and stress of the pre-Christmas rush. Let the music and meditative prayer of Taizé envelop your soul and renew your spirit. Led by members of the ICC music ministry, the Taizé experience combines meditative Scripture readings, quiet sung prayer, and periodic silence to create a contemplative, peaceful environment. Experience the quiet power of this transformative musical prayer and join us for a wonderful opportunity to focus your heart & mind on the impending birth of Our Lord.



Our ICS students and staff thank Kearns Rotolo Law for once again sponsoring our float in the Clinton Christmas parade last week! A little rain couldn't dampen our Christmas Spirit!

Our parish Giving Tree is up in the Narthex, please take a tag

to help those in need! A great idea in which you can help two groups in one shot is by purchasing any gift cards that have been requested from the Giving Tree through out SCRIP Program! Due date for gifts is Wed, Dec13th.

LET THERE BE LIGHT!

Thank you to everyone who came out for our second annual Christmas Tree Lighting on December 7. We hope the lights of our tree and, ultimately, the light of Christ warm and illumine your hearts this holiday season!



LAST CHANCE TO PURCHASE GIFT CARDS FOR THE HOLIDAYS!

Support our school through your holiday shopping by purchasing gift cards through our SCRIP Program. Your gift cards will be assembled and ready for you to pick up at the Parish Office If received by 12/11 - pick up Friday, 12/15,12 PM Contact scrip@icsclinton.org for assistance



Now Mother to all the world, Mary comes to the aid of her children, reminding them of her presence among them.

THIS WEEK AT IMMACULATE CONCEPTION



The Sanctuary Candle for Dec. 9 – Dec. 15 is lit In Memory of Joe Egan

Sunday, December 10 2nd Sunday of Advent

8:00 AM Mass (Church)

10:00 AM Mass (Church)

12:00 PM Mass (Church)

2:00 PM Christmas Concert (Church)

5:00 PM Mass (Church)

7:00 PM Men's Cornerstone (PH)

7:00 PM Women's Cornerstone (Upper Room)

Monday, December 11

7:00 AM Mass (Church)

9:00 AM Mass (Church)

9:30 AM Sanctuary Guild; cleaning of Church

7:45 PM Choir Practice (Church)

Tuesday, December 12

7:00 AM Mass (Church)

9:00 AM Mass (Church)

12:30 PM Edna Mahan Prison Ministry

6:30 PM Rosarian Meeting (PH)

7:00 PM Choir Practice (Church)

Wednesday, December 13

7:00 AM Mass (Church)

8:30 AM Rosary (Church)

9:00 AM Mass (Church)

5:30 PM Women's Cornerstone (PH)

Thursday, December 14

7:00 AM Mass (Church)

9:00 AM Walking with Purpose (PH)

10:00 AM Thursday Scripture (YR)

12:30 PM William H. Fauver Prison Ministry

Friday, December 15

7:00 AM Mass (Church)

9:00 AM Mass (Church)

12:00 PM Mass (Church)

5:00 PM Wedding Rehearsal (Kenyon/Fischer)

7:30 PM Festival of Praise (Church)

Saturday, December 16

9:00 AM Mass (Church)

9:30 AM Miraculous Medal Novena (Church)

11:30 AM - 12 PM Confession (Church)

2:00 PM Wedding (Kenyon/Fischer) (Church)

3:30 PM - 4 PM Confession (Church

4:30 PM Mass (Church)

Sunday, December 17 3rd Sunday of Advent

8:00 AM Mass (Church)

10:00 AM Mass (Church)

12:00 PM Mass (Church)

1:00 PM Baptism (Church)

2:30 PM Altar Server Training (Church)

5:00 PM Mass (Church)

7:00 PM Taize' Prayer Service (Church)

WEEKLY CONTRIBUTIONS UPDATE

Regular Offertory Dec. 3 - \$ 15,266.13 Debt Reduction Dec. 3 - \$3,416

Thank you for your continued support!

From the Pastor's Desk

This new liturgical year (year B) we will be focusing on the Gospel of Mark, the shortest of all of the Gospels. This Gospel was often overlooked since Biblical scholars originally believed that it was merely a shortened version of the Gospel according to Matthew. Yet, now most profess that it is most likely the first Gospel and so more people are paying attention to it. Unlike Matthew's Gospel, Mark's audience was primarily Gentiles, non-Jews, which in and of itself should make us take notice - this message is for everybody! As we listen to the beginning of the Gospel of Mark today, we hear the story of John the Baptist calling the people of God to repentance. Like Mark and his audience, John the Baptist was probably overlooked by many at the time because of the way he dressed and acted, many believing him to be a bit crazy. It should make us wonder if there is anyone in our lives that we are quick to disregard as unimportant.

St. Mark describes John the Baptist's voice as "crying out in the wilderness" It is from this that the image of St. Mark the Evangelist is taken to be a lion. He begins his Gospel with a roar - a demand for action - repent for the Kingdom of God is at hand. I find it fascinating that the Gospel that many found to be least important wastes no time in trying to become noticed. Mark's favorite word is "immediately," he uses it over 40 times as he writes more about what Jesus does than what he says. Mark wants us to act NOW throughout his Gospel, and that fits in perfectly with what we have listened to about Advent before. We have to be women and men of action... to hear the Word of God, believe it and respond to it. Yes, we prepare the way of the Lord, but we are already halfway toward His coming, now it is the time to ACT!

Pax et bonum, Fr. Keith

2ND SUNDAY OF ADVENT









HAITI HOME BUILDING PROJECT

Dear Brothers & Sisters in Christ:

Next Weekend the First Sunday of Advent, we will begin our 18th Annual Haiti Home Building Project. Your generosity over the years on behalf of the people of Haiti has reduced the suffering and frustrations of the poor, and by doing so you have brought peace into their minds and into their hearts.

You have supported them with your selfless love and kindness. A stranger has reached out to them in their pain and has helped to heal their misery. You have remembered them from afar and you have refreshed their faith. They no longer feel invisible or forgotten by God.

For 18 years the parish community of Immaculate Conception has been supporting poor and homeless people of Haiti through the construction of clean, safe housing. To date your contributions of more than \$325,000 to our annual *Haiti Home Building Project* has enabled *Food for the Poor* to build 91 homes which are providing a safe, clean, warm place to live for more than 300 adults and children.

Additionally, because of your generosity we have purchased thousands of pounds of rice and beans, farm animals and fruit trees, school supplies, solar lamp kits, and water pumps, each of which provides and entire village with clean water for drinking, cleaning and personal hygiene. We also helped fund the construction of a new school in the town of Grand Broulage, Haiti as well as providing solar powered computers, safety lighting, and playground equipment for the children.



Beginning next weekend and continuing through to December 24, we will again be accepting your donations. If you would like to be

accepting your donations. If you would like to be a part of this work of Christian charity, please email Deacon Bill at wrogerb2@msn.com and let him know how much you can donate. Then simply make your donation at https://membership.faithdirect.net/givenow/NJ123/50038. You may also pay by check made payable to Immaculate Conception and either put it in the collection basket or drop it off at the Parish Office. In the memo line, please write https://membership.faithdirect.net/givenow/NJ123/50038. You may also pay by check made payable to Immaculate Conception and either put it in the collection basket or drop it off at the Parish Office. In the memo line, please write https://membership.faithdirect.net/givenow/NJ123/50038. You may also pay by check made payable to Immaculate Conception and either put it in the collection basket or drop it off at the Parish Office. In the memo line, please write https://membership.faithdirect.net/givenow/NJ123/50038.

Thank you and may God Bless you and your family during this holiday season & always.



Your brothers in Christ,

Fr. Keith

Peacon Bill

Deacon Bill Bauer

Pastor

Project Coordinator

The Arm of

ST. JUDE THE APOSTLE

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Known as the *Apostle of the Impossible*, Saint Jude is revered for his unwavering dedication and steadfast faith. Millions have experienced his intercession in times of adversity and need.



DATE: Wednesday, December 13, 2023

LOCATION: Our Lady of Fatima Church

ADDRESS: 501 New Market Road - Piscataway, New Jersey 08854 (732) 968-5555

VENERATION OF THE RELIC BEGINS: 1:00 PM

SPECIAL MASS IN HONOR OF SAINT JUDE: 7:00 PM

VENERATION ENDS: 10:00 PM

CHECK THE WEBSITE BELOW FOR OTHER LOCATIONS





VISIT www.ApostleOfTheImpossible.com FOR COMPLETE DETAILS



PRESENTS

Handel's Messiah



Come join the Metuchen/Edison/Middlesex County community for the Saint Francis Chamber Orchestra and Chorus's annual presentation of George Frederik Handel's timeless oration. Under the direction of Maestro Christopher M.C. Deibert, conductor, the Advent/Christmas portion of this work will be performed in its entirety, along with excerpts from the second and third parts. Don't miss this delightful candlelit concert, set in beautiful Gothic-revival architectural surroundings.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 16, 2023 • 7:30 PM

CATHEDRAL OF ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI

548 MAIN STREET • METUCHEN, NJ Very Rev. Timothy A. Christy, Cathedral Rector Christopher M.C. Delbert, Executive Director

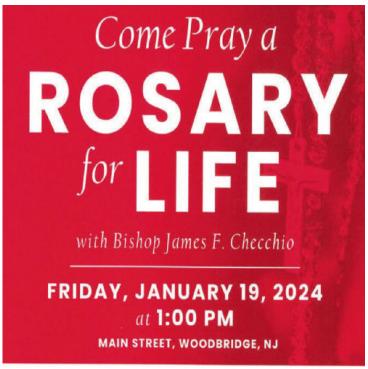
\$20 Suggested Donation . General Seating

Parking and Entrance on Library Place Light Refreshments Afterwards





VISIT US ONLINE AT: HTTPS://WWW.STFRANCISCATHEDRAL.ORG The Office of Ongoing Faith
Formation will be offering a 12week adult enrichment course
entitled "Theology of the Eucharist" on
consecutive Thursdays from Jan 4 through Mar.
21 at 10:00-11:30 AM. The course will be offered
at the Diocesan Center located at 146 Metlars
Lane, Piscataway. Admission is \$15 for all
twelve classes. Contact Angela for more info:
732-562-1543, amarshall@diometuchen.org or
register at: www.diometuchen.org/faith-formation



IN SOLIDARITY WITH THE NATIONAL MARCH FOR LIFE

You are asked to park and meet in the St. James Parish parking lot at 12:45 PM (369 Amboy Avenue, Woodbridge, NJ)

There is a 12:10 PM daily Mass at St. James for those who wish to attend. For more information, please contact amarshall@diometuchen.org



Annual Diocesan Respect Life Mass & Pro-Vita Awards

Bishop Checchio will celebrate the Annual Respect Life Mass on Sunday, January 21, 2024 at 12 noon at the Cathedral of St. Francis of Assisi in Metuchen. All are welcome!





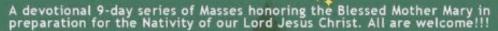
We always pray for Bishop Checchio, but as Immaculate Conception School welcomes our Bishop for a visit this week we ask you pray for continued blessings upon his leadership of our Diocese.



DIOCESE OF METUCHEN FILIPINO APOSTOLATE







MARY, OUR GUIDE ON THE JOURNEY TO SYNODALITY AND EUCHARISTIC REVIVAL

(Masses start at 7PM, unless otherwise noted)



32 Elm Avenue, Metuchen 15 December (Fri)

Celebrant: Most Rev. James F. Checchio, JCD, MBA

BISHOP OF METUCHEN



16 December (Sat)

OUR LADY OF FATIMA ST. BARTHOLOMEW

ST. MATTHEW THE APOSTLE

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION (4 PM) NATIVITY OF THE LORD (6 PM)

17 December (Sun) ST. BERNADETTE

ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

18 December (Mon) ST. HELENA

QUEENSHIP OF MARY

ST. FRANCES CABRINI

19 December (Tue)

ST. MATTHIAS (6 PM) ST. ANTHONY OF PADUA

ST. CECILIA

December (Wed)

ST. JAMES MARY, MOTHER OF GOD

21 December (Thu)

ST. BERNARD OF CLAIRVAUX **OUR LADY OF VICTORIES**

22 December (Fri)

23 December (Sat)

ST. CECELIA CHURCH OF THE SACRED HEART ST. AUGUSTINE OF CANTERBURY 501 New Market Road, Piscataway 470 Ryders Lane, East Brunswick 81 Seymour Avenue, Edison

35 Mountain Avenue, Somerville 185 Applegarth Road, Monroe 20 Villanova Road, Parlin 302 High Street, Hackettstown

16 Dey Road, Plainsboro 950 Grove Avenue, Edison 208 Bound Brook Avenue, Piscataway

168 JFK Boulevard, Somerset 436 Port Reading Avenue, Port Reading 10 Kingston Lane, Monmouth Junction

148 Grenville Street, Woodbridge 157 South Triangle Road, Hillsborough

500 Route 22, Bridgewater 42 Main Street, Sayreville

45 Wilus Way, Iselin 149 So. Plainfield Avenue, So. Plainfield 45 Henderson Road, Kendall Park

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION CHURCH

316 Old Allerton Road, Annandale Celebrant: Most Rev. Michael A. Saporito, D.D.

AUXILIARY BISHOP OF THE ARCHDIOCESE OF NEWARK

MISA de GALLO

December 16 - 24 | 5 AM | ST. LADISLAUS CHURCH • 215 Somerset Street, New Brunswick







FOR THE KIDS & TEENS



Thank you to our Cherub Choir for singing at our Knights of Columbus Pancake Breakfast last week! If you are interested in joining our Cherub Choir, please contact Jaime Parmese, we'd love to help you share your voice!

SHARING THE GOSPEL

Imagine John the Baptist is preaching today. He is preaching not only to you, but to people watching television at home. You and your family are down by the river having a picnic. John says, "Tell God that you are sorry for your bad behavior." John warns, "Stop sinning. Follow God's commandments." You say: "Count me as a child of God. Wash me with the waters of God's baptism."

LIVING THE GOSPEL (MY MISSION FOR THE WEEK)

I pray to be ready when Jesus calls me into heaven.

PRAYER

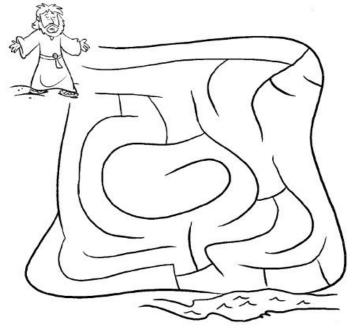


ALTAR SERVER TRAINING

We are looking for more altar servers and will have a training next Sunday, Dec 17 at 2:30 PM, see Fr. Edgar for more details!



ZZLE Help John the Baptist find his way to the Jordan River.





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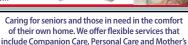
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