



# IMMACULATE CONCEPTION CHURCH

February 18, 2024  
1st Sunday of Lent  
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>

Email: [parishoffice@iccannandale.org](mailto:parishoffice@iccannandale.org)



## SCHOOL OFFICE

**Constance Fortunato, Principal**

Hours: Weekdays 7:30AM-3:30PM

Phone: (908) 735-6334;

Website: [www.icsclinton.org](http://www.icsclinton.org);

Email: [info@icsclinton.org](mailto: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*  
Coleen Donaher *Parish Secretary*  
Melissa Lagun *Financial Manager*  
Mary Hegarty *Administrative Assistant*

### PARISH RELIGIOUS EDUCATION PROGRAM

Coleen D'Amato *Parish Catechetical Leader*  
Jennifer Senkowski *Assistant Director*  
Maryann Procopio *Administrative Assistant*

### SCHOOL STAFF

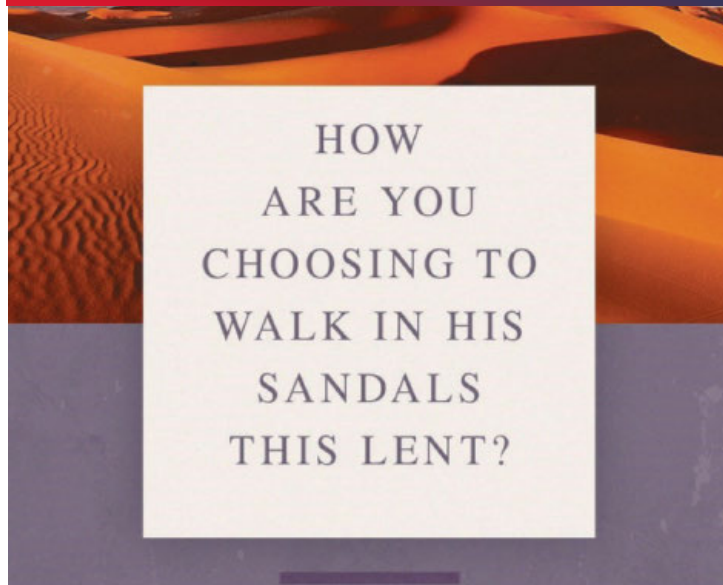
Constance Fortunato *Principal*  
Maria Casserly *Office Administration*  
Bill Bukowski *Maintenance*



The Sanctuary candle for February 18<sup>th</sup>-24<sup>th</sup>  
is lit for the Intentions of Daniel Sekula



The Parish Office will be closed on  
Monday, February 19<sup>th</sup>  
There is only one daily Mass at 9 AM.



## PARISH MINISTRIES & ORGANIZATIONS

(IF NOT LISTED AREA CODE IS 908)

### Social Concerns/Service Ministries

Altar Rosary	Lori Dwyer	812-8807
Bereavement	Diane Eisenhart &	347-3065
Ministry	Bob Zappulla	268-7360
Cub Scouts	Nora Burke Klippstein	735-9520
Food Pantry	Peggy Smith	730-7101
Girl Scouts	Toni Rice	732-570-5940
Haiti Project	Deac. Bill	610-248-7131
Employment Circle	Michael Szalecki	268-6732
Prayer Shawl	Mary Hegarty	399-8514
Pro-Life Committee	Tricia Daly	328-1268
Sanctuary Guild	Barbara Sullivan	236-6080

### Community Development

SCRIP/Gift Cards	Christine Benson	735-6334
ICS Home & School	Jessica Eisenhart	735-7319
Knights of Columbus	Brian Daly	229-2600
Men's 50+ Club	John Baka	437-0285
Leisure Club	Donna Branco	246-6756
CYO Basketball	Kim McCarron	735-7319

### Spiritual Growth Ministries

Bible Study Coord.	Marianne Tasy	730-0722
Parish Book Club	Carole Curcio	310-3886
Pre-Cana	TBD	735-7319
Men's Cornerstone	Michael Wellons	246-3241
Men's Journey	Michael Szalecki	268-6732
R.C.I.A.	Deacon Mark	735-7319
Stepping Stones	Mary Ellen Berg	892-4332
Teen Ministry	Anita Weingart	735-7319
Thurs. Scripture Shar.	Ed Reitter	268-9671
Women's Cornerstone	Kathy Meyer-Crane	303-2856

### Liturgical Ministries

Altar Servers	Fr. Edgar Madarang	735-7319
Lectors	Gail Baumann	845-283-1087
Eucharistic Minister	Ed Reitter	268-9671
Ushers/Greeters	Eric Svendsen	500-8313
Weekday Lectors	Ann Standley	287-2350
Mary Choir	Diane Eisenhart	347-3065
Spirit Alive Choir	Marylu Korkuch	236-9103
Youth Choir	Jamie Parmese	328-4116

## ALL ABOUT LENT

### 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:** Fri. after 9 AM Mass to 6:00 PM  
**Rosary:** Wed. at 8:30 AM  
**Miraculous Medal Novena:** Sat. after 9AM Mass

### THIS WEEK'S MASSES AND INTENTIONS

#### **Sunday, February 18** (*1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Lent*)

8 am For Our Parishioners  
10 am Deceased Members of the Kosko Family  
(Curcio Family)  
12 pm Viola & George Hodulik (Messinger  
Family)  
5 pm Ints. of Joyce & John Paciga on their 60th  
Wedding Anniversary (Lori & Mike Dwyer)

#### **Monday, February 19** (*Presidents' Day*)

##### **NO 7 AM MASS**

9 am Arnold Horvath (Ira & Tricia Daly)

#### **Tuesday, February 20**

7 am Richard Ciarlariello (Anthony Giacona)  
9 am Katherine & Tobias Ress (Roberta &  
Werner Strohmaier)

#### **Wednesday, February 21**

7 am Dr. Joseph Leone (Anthony Giacona)  
9 am Carolyn Plantamura (Charlotte &  
Raymond Prosics)

#### **Thursday, February 22**

7 am Pedro Sanchez (Wife, Children, Grand  
Children & Great Grandchildren)  
9 am Anna Dougherty (Mary & Fred Hegarty)

#### **Friday, February 23**

7 am Susan Zygmunt (Anthony Giacona)  
9 am Int's of Gildo Romano

#### **Saturday, February 24**

9 am Anna Romano (Gildo Romano)  
4:30 pm Charlotte Povalski (Povalski Family)

#### **Sunday, February 25** (*2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Lent*)

8 am Emily Klopotek (Fr. Keith Cervine)  
10 am For Our Parishioners  
12 pm Dennis Mickalowski (Frank Ocello)  
5 pm Ramon P. Carreno, Sr. (Loving Wife &  
Mother)

### **2024 LENTEN OBLIGATIONS**

1. Good Friday (March 29) is a day of both fast and abstinence
2. The other Fridays of Lent are days of abstinence. (Feb. 23; Mar. 1, 8, 15 & 22)
3. Fasting in the Roman Catholic tradition means to limit oneself to one full meal with two smaller meals which together do not equal the size of your full meal. The obligation of fasting applies only to Catholics between the ages of 18 and 59.
4. Abstinence in the Roman Catholic tradition means to abstain from eating meat (beef, chicken, pork, turkey, etc.). The obligation of abstinence applies to all Catholics who have reached the age of 14.



### **STATIONS OF THE CROSS**

The Stations of the Cross will be prayed all Fridays during Lent at 7:30 PM. Join Deacon Michael Martini as he utilizes **Catholic Relief Services' Stations of the Cross** this week. Please consider walking the Way of the Cross with our Lord on this Lenten Journey of penitence & thanksgiving. Also join us for Soup & Stations on **March 1<sup>st</sup> & March 15<sup>th</sup>**- a simple meal of soup and grilled cheese sandwiches will be hosted by the Knights of Columbus from 5:30 PM until 7:15 PM in the Parish Hall preceding the Stations of the Cross. A free will offering will be taken.

### **2024 LENTEN MISSION WITH THE FRANCISCAN FRIARS OF THE RENEWAL**

Our 2024 Lenten Mission will be hosted by Fr. Stephen Dufrene, CFR and the Franciscan Friars of the Renewal! Join us in our church on **Monday, March 18<sup>th</sup> through Wednesday, March 20<sup>th</sup> starting at 7:00 PM.**



Please pray this mission will be a Lenten journey of experiencing the truth of God's Love, Mercy and Healing in our lives.

In addition, there will be priests available for confession on Tuesday night and this should be considered our Parish Penance Service. A Eucharistic procession will take place on Wednesday night.

Fr. Stephen and the Franciscan Friars will also be preaching at the weekend masses of March 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup>.



## THIS WEEK AT IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

### Sunday, February 18

8:00 AM Mass (Church)  
10:00 AM Mass (Church)  
12:00 PM Mass (Church)  
5:00 PM Mass (Church)

### Monday, February 19

7:00 AM Mass (Church)  
9:00 AM Mass (Church)  
9:30 AM Sanctuary Guild; Cleaning of Church

### Tuesday, February 20

7:00 AM Mass (Church)  
9:00 AM Mass (Church)  
12:30 PM Edna Mahan Prison Ministry  
7:00 PM Choir Practice (Church)  
7:00 PM Bible Study (PH)

### Wednesday, February 21

7:00 AM Mass (Church)  
9:00 AM Mass (Church)  
9:30 AM 33 Days to Eucharistic Glory (PH)  
1:00 PM Bereavement (PH)  
5:30 PM Women's Cornerstone (PH)

### Thursday, February 22

7:00 AM Mass (Church)  
9:00 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, February 23

7:00 AM Mass (Church)  
9:00 AM Mass (Church)  
9:30 AM - 6 PM Eucharistic Adoration (Church)  
7:30 PM - Stations of the Cross (Church)

### Saturday, February 24

9:00 AM Mass (Church)  
9:30 AM Miraculous Medal Novena (Church)  
10:00 AM Women's Cornerstone Training (PH)  
11:30 AM - 12 PM Confession (Church)  
2:00 PM Cherub Choir (Church)  
3:30 PM - 4 PM Confession (Church)  
4:30 PM Mass (Church)

### Sunday, February 25

8:00 AM Mass (Church)  
10:00 AM Mass (Church)  
12:00 PM Mass (Church)  
5:00 PM Mass (Church)

### PRO-LIFE CORNER



Please join us to this Lent to pray **Forty Days for Life**, a rosary after 9am Mass from 2/14-3/24. Please reach out to Tricia Daly to learn more about the Pro-Life Ministry, 908.328.1268; triciaflo1@aol.com

### WOMEN'S CORNERSTONE EXPERIENCE

Thank you for your attention this weekend as we spoke after Masses. This year Women's Cornerstone is **Saturday, March 9<sup>th</sup>** in the parish hall. If you are a woman 25 years or older, a parishioner or parent at ICS, we invite you to register for a day of reflection and faith during Lent. Our day begins at 8 AM and ends with a celebration following an 8 PM Mass. **Questions?** Call or text Sandy Phelps at 732-259-0906. For more information and to register go to:

[www.iccannandale.org/womens-cornerstone](http://www.iccannandale.org/womens-cornerstone)



### TOP REASONS TO ATTEND

- Build a sense of belonging in your church and community
- Develop deeper gratitude for your life and grow personally with God
- Gain a greater understanding of yourself and what it means to be a part of a Christian community



"Why is Lent the best time of year to run a marathon?"



"Because that's when you fast!"

### KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS THANK YOU!

Thanks to all who came out to support the K of C Ash Wednesday Fish Fry, please mark your calendars for Friday, March 22 for our next Fish Fry dinner! New order forms will be out soon!

## NEWS & EVENTS



Our **Leisure Club** is always looking for more members! We are a group of singles and couples who enjoy doing things together in both small and large groups. We enjoy each other's company and are a group between the ages of 50 and who knows, it doesn't matter? We are a no commitment group; you participate in what you like and when you can. No pressure here!

To date we have gone to a concert, went to an Octoberfest, had a Friendsgiving Luncheon, enjoyed a Christmas show at Hunterdon Hills Playhouse.

This month we will take a private afternoon Ballroom Dance Class, and we will be inviting you in the near future to view a movie about a Franciscan, Blessed Solaris Casey, "More Love than Skill, a Saint and his Fiddle" in the Parish Hall. This past Sunday, we enjoyed the K of C Pancake Breakfast together. We had two tables and next month probably three! In March, we have booked "The Irish Cabaret", Lunch and Show, later in the month we will enjoy the music and stories of Sinatra "Come Fly with Me". We will go to a local theatre to see the Angel production of Cabrini. For more information, please call Donna Branco at 908-246-6756 or Bob Zappula at 908-268-7360 or email [leisureinfo2023@gmail.com](mailto:leisureinfo2023@gmail.com).



### GIRL SCOUT SUNDAY MARCH 10TH

All Girl Scouts are invited to the 5 PM Mass to celebrate Girl Scout Sunday, please come in uniform and we will take pictures in the Mary Garden after Mass.

*"The motivating force in Girl Scouting is spiritual."*

—Preamble, Constitution of Girl Scouts of the USA

At the heart of Girl Scouting are many of the same values most faiths hold:

- Supporting girls
- Making our world a better place
- Building compassionate leaders

### PARISH FESTIVAL COMMITTEE HELP WANTED!

Plans for our Annual Parish Festival are beginning to kick off and we are looking for new committee members to help plan and run our annual festival.

Please prayerfully consider being part of our leadership team!

For additional information, contact Laura Vitelli in our Parish Office 908-735-7319.

**SAVE THE DATE**  
**THE ICC FESTIVAL JUNE 19 - 23**



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Diocese of Metuchen • Edison, NJ



### A "WARM" WORD OF THANKS FOR A SUCCESSFUL POLAR PLUNGE

Last week, Fr. Keith said thanks and now St. Thomas Aquinas High School would like to extend heartfelt appreciation to the generous donors and enthusiastic participants who made the annual Polar Plunge a resounding success. With a collective effort from students, faculty, family members, and dedicated alumni, the event raised over \$41,000 to support the mission of STA. The school community rallied together to "Face the Freeze." Participants fearlessly embraced the icy waters, symbolizing their commitment to making a positive impact. Fr. Keith hopes you'll join him in the water next year!



## STEWARDSHIP ON ST. MARY'S HILL



### WEEKLY CONTRIBUTIONS UPDATE

**Offertory February 11<sup>th</sup>: \$10,883**

*Thank you for your continued support,  
especially for the less fortunate!*



### 2024 BISHOP'S ANNUAL APPEAL

## STAY WITH US, LORD:

*Renew our Hearts and Send Us on Mission*

***"Were not our hearts burning within us while He spoke to us on the way and opened the scriptures to us?" (Luke 24:32)*** Just as the two disciples on the Road to Emmaus "set out at once" to share their experience of the Risen Lord with others, we too are inspired to go out into the world and tell everyone we meet of His love and grace. Your gift to the Bishop's Annual Appeal supports the work of the ***Vicariate for Evangelization and Communication***.

Responsible for our website, social media platforms, videos, podcasts and written content about our Catholic faith, the Evangelization & Communication ministry is essential to how we expand our effort to share the Gospel message and make His love known to all. More and more, we have come to understand that these tools are necessary for reaching people where they live and work. A gift of any amount is important and greatly appreciated.



Make sure you take a Rice Bowl home for your Lenten journey of fasting, prayer and almsgiving with your family. This year

Catholic Relief Services is focusing on Indonesia, Uganda and El Salvador. As we start our Lenten journey, let us thank God for the gifts He has given us as we plan to assist those who haven't been blessed with those same gifts.



### From the Pastor's Desk

"This is the time of fulfillment. The kingdom of God is at hand. Repent, and believe in the gospel." (Mark 1:15) These three sentences are the essence of everything Jesus taught; it is the central idea of Christ's mission to the world. Most importantly this text requires a response of repentance and faith... but it must be out of love, not out of obligation. As we begin the Lenten Season, I have a plethora of times of Penance, for the school, for PREP, our own Penance Service and a myriad of other churches and schools. Especially when it comes to elementary school and PREP, we march the entire class over to the Church. The line of young people can be similar in appearance to the line at a store (OK, next customer). However, the main point of this is getting them comfortable with something that we hope will be an important part of their life. I would tell my students in high school that we don't really do that once they're at that grade level; sure we have times of Reconciliation—but they should know when and if they need to go to Confession and it is always available. That's what adults do as well.


Repent, and believe in the Gospel... those go hand-in-hand. When we sin, we don't follow the Gospel message. If we don't want to repent, can we really say that we believe in the Gospel? Jesus states this in the first chapter of Mark's Gospel! Lent gives us an opportunity to go into the desert with the Lord. We know we aren't perfect and need to get right with God. This is the time of fulfillment, when we get away from the distractions of our life to focus on what is truly important and to confirm our faith in Him. My brothers and sisters in Christ, make this Lent a true time of fulfillment of prayer, fasting & almsgiving and you will see the Kingdom of God is truly at hand.

Pax et bonum,  
*Fr. Keith*






## AROUND THE DIOCESE

20  24

# DIOCESAN YOUTH DAY


LIFE WITH CHRIST IS A WONDERFUL ADVENTURE

APRIL 20, 2024 / 10:30 AM-5:00 PM  
ST. THOMAS AQUINAS HIGH SCHOOL, EDISON

 **CHIKA ANYANWU**  
KEYNOTE SPEAKER

Throughout the course of this day, 8th-12th grade teens from across the diocese will come together to enter into the sacrament of the Mass, have fun with one another, hear talks from our keynote speaker Chika Anyanwu, have the opportunity for Adoration and Confession, enjoy live music, good food, and more!

**COST: \$20 Per Person**

**Register Today!** 

Scan QR code or visit [www.diometuchen.org/diocesan-youth-day](http://www.diometuchen.org/diocesan-youth-day)

# Pilgrimage to the National Eucharistic Congress

**INDIANAPOLIS**  
**JULY 17 - 21, 2024**

with Bishop James F. Checchio and the Diocese of Metuchen




Participate in this pivotal moment in the Church and draw into a deeper intimacy with our Lord. Join our diocese by registering today! Scan the QR code or click Book Now to attend this historic event.

 [BOOK NOW!](#)

### INVITATION TO DIACONATE ORDINATION

Seminarian Randy Gamboa Espinoza, has been called to the Transitional Diaconate; Randy is a student at Immaculate Conception Seminary at Seton Hall University. Bishop Checchio will ordain Randy on **Thursday, February 22**, the Feast of the Chair of Saint Peter, at **7:00 pm** in **Mary, Mother of God Church, Hillsborough**. All are welcomed to join the Diocese in this joyful celebration! Please pray for Randy and all of our seminarians!



20  24

# ChoicesMatter

A CRITICAL LIFE ISSUES CONFERENCE

**March 16, 2024**

St. John Neumann Pastoral Center, Piscataway, NJ

 **EVIE WEST**  
AUTHOR, PRO-LIFE SPEAKER  
ADOPTION ADVOCATE

 **JIM TOWEY**  
AUTHOR, CONSULTANT  
AND PERSONAL FRIEND OF  
ST. TERESA OF CALCUTTA

 **KEVIN DUNN**  
AWARD WINNING FILM MAKER  
INTERNATIONAL PRO-LIFE SPEAKER

FEATURING EXHIBITS, EUCHARISTIC ADORATION AND CONFESSION

**GENERAL ADMISSION \$35**  
**STUDENT ADMISSION \$15**  
Admission includes lunch and hand-outs

OPENING MASS WITH BISHOP CHECCHIO AT 9:00 AM  
CONFERENCE SESSIONS BEGIN AT 10:15 AM

SCAN QR CODE TO REGISTER  
OR REGISTER AT [www.diometuchen.org/choicesmatter](http://www.diometuchen.org/choicesmatter)





## IMMACULATE CONCEPTION SCHOOL

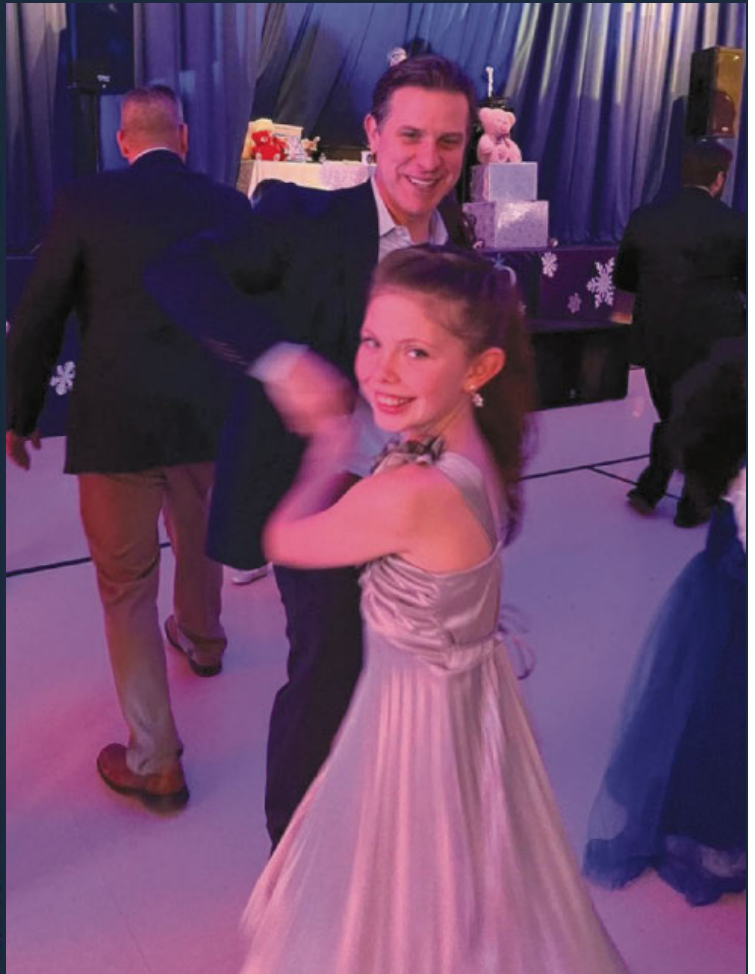


### TRICKY TRAY THANKS!

Thank you to all who came out to support the Tricky Tray on Saturday. The event was a huge success! Congratulations to all those who won!

### ICS GALA

Get dressed up and come out to support our school at our annual Gala. (yes, we know this picture is from last year's Daddy-Daughter dance, but we were crunched for time & it supports them)



IMMACULATE  
CONCEPTION SCHOOL

PRESENTS

PASSPORT  
to the  
WORLD



MARCH

SATURDAY 16 6:00 - 11:00PM  
2024

FIDDLERS ELBOW COUNTRY CLUB  
811 RATTLESNAKE BRIDGE ROAD, BEDMINSTER, NJ

\$150.00 PER TICKET

OPEN BAR / FULL BUFFET / MUSIC  
LIVE AUCTION / SILENT AUCTION

COCKTAIL ATTIRE, NO DENIM PLEASE

Busy that night? No problem, support us by purchasing a 50/50 ticket:

<https://www.icsannandale.org/50-50>



## FOR THE KIDS & TEENS



### YOUTH GROUP PUTS DEACON MARK IN THE HOT SEAT!

Deacon Mark graciously sat down with our Youth Group to answer any and all questions they had about the faith. If you are a high school teen and have questions about the faith, come ask us at our next Youth Group Meeting! We'd love to help you find the answers and have fun at the same time!

#### SHARING THE GOSPEL

Every day turn back to God. If your bedroom is messy, straighten it up. If you push your sister off her bike, help her get up and ride again. If you tear down your brother's blocks, help him build something new. If you disobey your parents, go and do the right thing right now. Ask God to help you stay close to him today. Then you will be close to him in heaven forever.

#### LIVING THE GOSPEL (MY MISSION FOR THE WEEK)

I will be a builder not a wrecker.

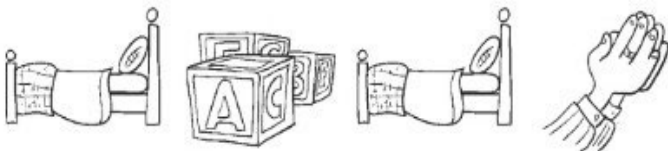
#### PRAYER

Holy Spirit, help me remember to obey you every day.

Read the Gospel of the week & color the image below

#### PUZZLE

Circle the picture that is the same as the first one.



 **COLOR**





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a baptism, a marriage,  
a graduation, or whatever.

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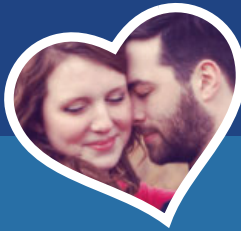
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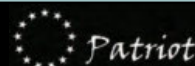
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