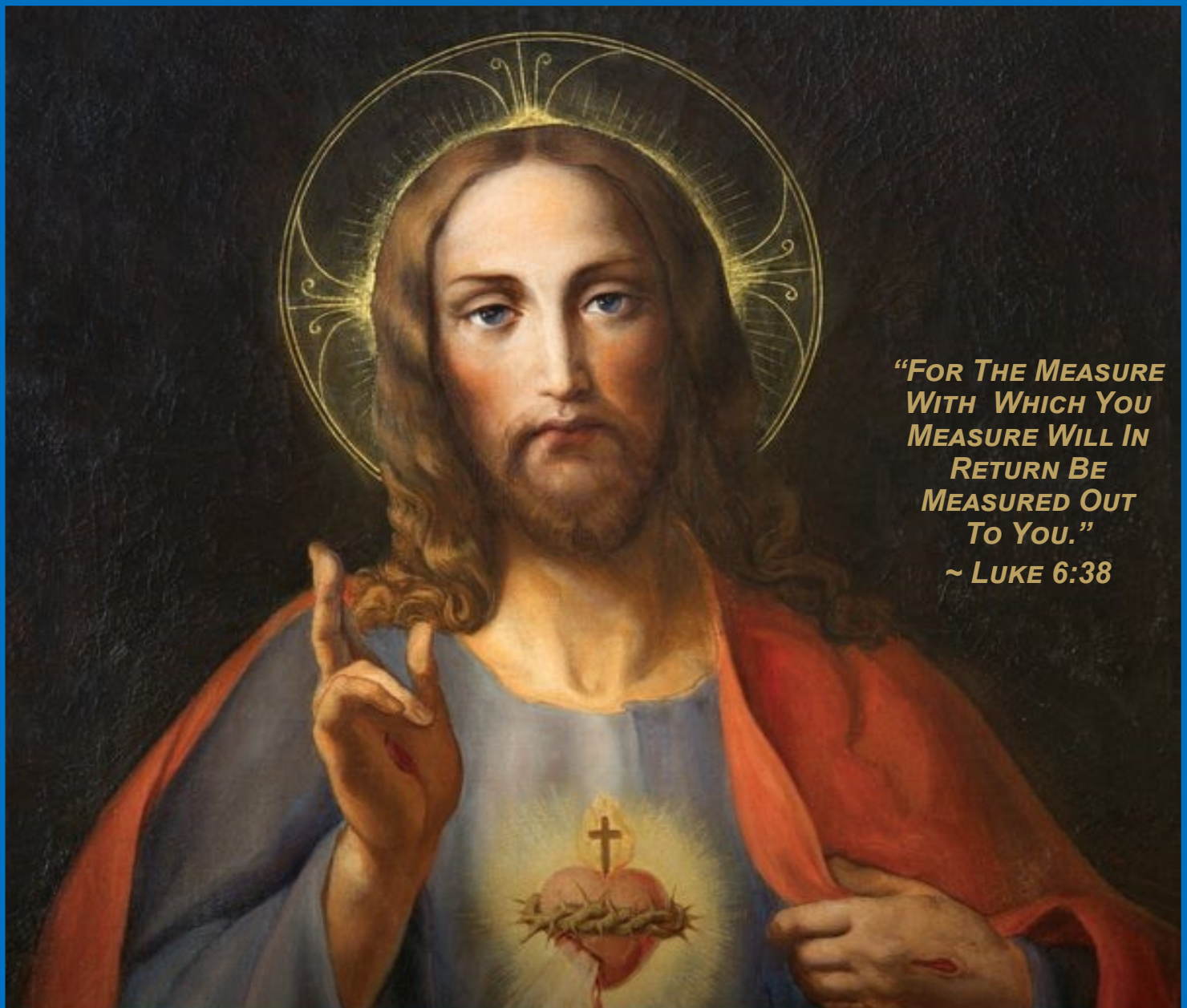




IMMACULATE CONCEPTION CHURCH

February 23, 2025
7th Sunday in Ordinary Time
316 Old Allerton Road
Annandale, NJ 08801

WELCOME TO OUR CHURCH, A CARING AND SHARING CATHOLIC COMMUNITY



“FOR THE MEASURE WITH WHICH YOU MEASURE WILL IN RETURN BE MEASURED OUT TO YOU.”
~ LUKE 6:38

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



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. Jose Lim *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*
Stacy Jones *Asst. Principal*
Maria Casserly *Office Administration*
Bill Bukowski *Maintenance*

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



SAVE THE DATE

We celebrate Christmas in July, so why not think about Summer in the cold days of February? Our Parish Festival will be held from June 18th -22nd, please mark your calendars to make sure you can help out, or attend and either way, get ready for the fun! We are already starting to plan, so please consider being a part of this Parish event!

2025 LENTEN OBLIGATIONS

Bishop Checchio has approved this year's Lenten Obligations

1. *The days of both fast and abstinence are Ash Wednesday (March 5) and Good Friday (April 18).*
2. *The other Fridays of Lent (Mar. 7, 14, 21, 28; April 4, and 11) are days of abstinence.*
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.*

ASH WEDNESDAY SCHEDULE

March 5: 7 AM, 9 AM, Noon, 4:30 PM & 7 PM

Please note: Ashes will only be distributed at Masses (ICS will have services in school)

A SPECIAL LENTEN OPPORTUNITY AT ICC: LAST SEVEN WORDS

The Lenten season is fast approaching with Ash Wednesday next Wednesday. Lent is a time that our church reflects on Christ's passion and death in an intensely focused way. After Jesus was nailed to the cross, He spoke 7 short expressions, commonly referred to as the "Last Seven Words". Each Good Friday, our church holds a special devotion that commemorates the three hours Christ suffered and died on the cross for the redemption of the world. This devotion begins at 12:00 noon on Good Friday. **We are looking for 7 volunteers** who would want to share with others a personal reflection or life teaching on one of the 'Last Seven Words', to help provide meaning to what our Lord said and did. We are also looking for a pianist and vocalist to volunteer during those 3 hours to help with the music / song parts of the devotion.

Please prayerfully consider being a part of this beautiful devotion. If you would like more information or you're interested in participating, contact:

Monique F Patti Cell: 908-894-0995

Email: moniquepatti72@gmail.com

John T Patti Cell: 908-963-2926

Email: jpatti74@comcast.net

THIS WEEK AT IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

Sunday, February 23

Regular Mass Schedule: 8 & 10AM, Noon & 5PM

8:30 AM RCIA (MH)

1:00 PM Baptism (Church)

Monday, February 24

Regular Mass Schedule - 7 & 9 AM

4:30 PM - 8:00 PM PREP

Tuesday, February 25

Regular Mass Schedule - 7 & 9 AM

7:00 PM Bible Study (PH)

7:00 PM Choir Practice (Church)

Wednesday, February 26

Regular Mass Schedule - 7 & 9 AM

1:00 PM Bereavement Group (PH)

Thursday, February 27

Regular Mass Schedule - 7 & 9 AM

9:30 AM Walking with Purpose (PH)

10:00 AM Thursday Scripture (Zoom)

12:00 PM Leisure Club (PH)

7:00 PM - 10:00 PM Protecting God's Children (PH)

Friday, February 28

Regular Mass Schedule - 7:00 am & 9:00 am

9:30 AM - 6PM - Eucharistic Adoration

Saturday, March 1

Regular Mass Schedule - 9:00 am & 4:30 pm

9:30 AM Miraculous Medal Novena (Church)

9:30 AM Marian Study Group (YR)

2:00 PM Cherub Choir (Church)

Sunday, March 2

Regular Mass Schedule: 8 & 10AM, Noon & 5PM

8:00 AM - 12 PM K of C Pancake Breakfast (PH)

8:30 AM RCIA (MH)

6:00 PM BSA ADA (SR)

SOUP AND A MOVIE FOR SENIORS

The Senior Leisure Club is hosting lunch and the movie, "The Hiding Place" on **Thursday, February 27th at 12:30 PM** in the **Parish Hall**. Soup and drinks will be provided by the Club and you are welcome to bring your own sandwich. **RSVP was required by February 21**; Donna Branco at Leisureinfo2023@gmail.com



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS PANCAKE BREAKFAST

Next Sunday, **March 2nd**,
8:00 am-12:00 PM in the

Parish Hall. The proceeds benefit the various charities and activities supported by the K of C including scholarships for high school & college bound students. In addition to delicious homemade pancakes, the breakfast will feature waffles, french toast, bagels, bacon, sausage, breakfast potatoes, scrambled eggs and an omelet bar, juice, coffee and tea.

AN OPPORTUNITY TO LEARN HOW TO BE A PROTECTOR OF CHILDREN

PROTECTING GOD'S CHILDREN CLASSES

Thursday February 27

7:00PM 3 hours ICC Parish Hall

PREREGISTRATION REQUIRED at www.virtus.org

Course mandated by the Catholic Dioceses of New Jersey for their volunteers including all groups meeting on Catholic properties or sponsored by Catholic institutions. This course meets requirements for **3 hours professional development credit**.

To view a list of all diocesan PGC classes and preregister please log onto www.virtus.org, then select Registration/ View a list of Sessions/ Metuchen, NJ Diocese, then Immaculate Conception Annandale so that adequate materials and set up can be arranged. For persons required by the Catholic Church to take the course computer registration is mandated.

These programs are open to anyone interested in learning about child abuse and most particularly, child sexual abuse, in the United States. The primary purpose is to arm volunteers with the knowledge necessary to keep children safe, to identify persons and practices that represent a threat to children, to understand legal obligations and pitfalls and to change caring adults' behavior in ways that will make it more difficult for predators of children to succeed. *Additionally, the new fifth edition/2022 version, discusses internet/cyber issues impacting our youth with advice to parents on how to protect their children.*

The Protecting God's Children program is restricted to adults who are defined as persons over 18 who have graduated from high school; however, some classes have a special teen leader section available upon advance discussion with the instructor.

Attendees are asked to arrive on time and remain the entire class to receive credentials for attendance. No children are permitted present.

Although teaching "Catholic" policies the program material is both universal and ecumenical; aimed at all who honor a duty to God, family and community. The trainer for ICC is Nora Burke Klippstein (Pah.trained@gmail.com).

The www.virtus.org website is a valuable resource for anyone interested in keeping all children from age 0 to 18 safe. Check it out for a course preview.



*The Sanctuary candle for Feb 23 - Mar 1
is lit in Memory of Anne McCarroll.*

Please welcome our newest parishioners
who have recently been baptized:
Alexander Vogel & William Vogel



WELCOME HOME!

THIS WEEK'S MASSES AND INTENTIONS

Sunday, February 23 (7th Sunday in Ordinary Time)

- 8 am For Our Parishioners
- 10 am Mary Ann Phillips (Ira & Tricia Daly)
- 12 pm Ints. of Pat Hughes (Sandra Milkowski)
- 5 pm Charlotte Povalski (Povalski Family)

Monday, February 24

- 7 am Bernadette Allison (Altar Rosary Society)
- 9 am Richard Howard (Bob & Laurie Keeling)

Tuesday, February 25

- 7 am Emily Klopotek (Fr. Keith Cervine)
- 9 am Diana Ruggieri (Vitelli Family)

Wednesday, February 26

- 7am Dennis Mickalowski (Ocello Family)
- 9 am Ernesto R. Dayquea (Moreno-Gonzalez Family)

Thursday, February 27 (St. Gregory of Narek, Abbot & Doctor of the Church)

- 7 am Ints. of Fr. Edgar (Altar Rosary Society)
- 9 am Stas Liszewski (Liszewski Family)

Friday, February 28

- 7 am Mary Ann Phillips (Linda & Andy Lauchaire)
- 9 am Elisa Russano (Russano Family)

Saturday, March 1

- 9 am Laura Phelps Howells (John McGourty)
- 4:30 pm Donna Panek (Stepping Stone Sisters)

Sunday, March 2 (8th Sunday in Ordinary Time)

- 8 am For Our Parishioners
- 10 am Annette & Tom Cannizzaro & Frank Fanelli (Fanelli Family)
- 12 pm Patricia McCarroll (Ira & Tricia Daly)
- 5 pm Richard Maas (Stephanie & Michael Pierce)

PARISH REGISTRATION

New to the area or a current parishioner who has moved? Contact the parish office or register online: <https://www.iccannandale.org/become-a-parishioner>. 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 parishioner and regularly attending Mass to be a Confirmation or Baptism Sponsor or to be married at ICC.



ASH WEDNESDAY FISH FRY

The Knights of Columbus #6245 will be sponsoring a Fish Fry Dinner on Ash Wednesday, March 5th, 2025 from 4:30 PM to 7 PM in the Parish Hall. The menu will consist of: fried battered cod fish, French fries, coleslaw and a beverage for \$16 or; grilled cheese sandwich, French fries, coleslaw and a beverage for \$7.

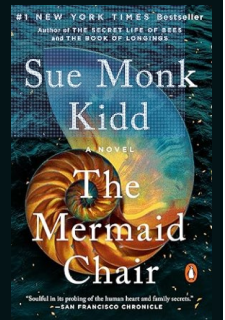
You may order a "take-out dinner" or "eat-in dinner" in the Parish Hall. Pre-orders thru the ICC Web, or fill-out a hard copy order form in the Narthex.

All Order forms must be in by 6 PM on Tuesday March 4, 2025. While we encourage pre ordering your meal(s), we do accept "Walk-ins" the day of the dinner. Remember, you pay when you pick up your order (cash, checks made out to "K of C 6245", or Venmo (Code 6016).

THE PARISH BOOK CLUB & THE MERMAID

The Parish Book Club has chosen "The Mermaid Chair" by Sue Monk Kidd to be discussed at their next meeting on Thursday, March 20th at 7 PM in the sofa room.

In this novel, the author tells a beautiful and haunting story centered around forty-two year-old Jessie Sullivan, a woman in quiet crisis, who returns home to the island of a mermaid. For Jessie, this becomes a pilgrimage to self-awakening and the healing mercy of love and forgiveness. Please join us for an evening of literary fun, friendship and relaxing conversation. All are welcome! For more information, call Carole at 908.310.3886.



LENTE ALMSGIVING

March 5th is Ash Wednesday and the beginning of Lent. Catholic families across the country unite to put their faith into action through prayer, fasting and almsgiving. Through CRS Rice Bowl, families learn about how our sisters and brothers across the globe overcome hardships like hunger and malnutrition, and how through Lenten alms, we have the power to make the world a better place for all.



@ICCAnnandaleNJ

STEWARDSHIP ON ST. MARY'S HILL

DONATIONS TO THE BISHOP'S ANNUAL APPEAL
AS OF TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 2025

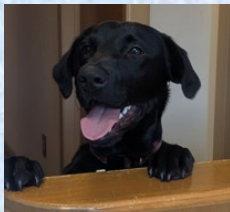
BAA Goal = \$170,000



2025 BISHOP'S ANNUAL APPEAL PILGRIMS OF HOPE:

Journeying Together in Faith, Hope & Charity

One of the key ministries supported by the Annual Appeal is **Seminarian Formation**. We are blessed to have 19 men currently studying for the priesthood in the Diocese of Metuchen. It is a blessing that brings with it the responsibility of providing for their education. Quality formation is essential for our future priests who will be the sacramental presence of the Lord in the midst of our parishes, nourishing and healing with Word and sacraments the people they are called to serve. Your gift to the Bishop's Annual Appeal helps to defray the costs of forming the future shepherds of our Church.



TENEBRAE TALKS

I had a ruff week, Coleen, our secretary, decided to go and spend time with her grandchildren and so I was stuck with Fr. Keith and Fr. Jose. I got really excited when they kept saying "let us play" but got sad when I realized they said **pray** not **play**. They are really confusing... they were talking the other day about Catholic **dogmas** and I thought I might be able to meet some of them, but apparently that wasn't what I thought it was supposed to be either. I can't believe that I am almost 9 months old! I have really enjoyed my time here at Immaculate Conception, the people are wonderful, the kids are energetic, the deer and geese help me run and keep in shape and oh my goodness... the smells are out of this world... I am really looking forward to next weekend's pancake breakfast and the fish fry. I hope to see you around campus; until then be a good boy.

From the Pastor's Desk

I love the first reading this week from 1 Samuel. David was anointed and chosen by God to take over as king from Saul who had lost God's favor during his kingship and Saul is now pursuing David and wants to kill him. Our reading finds David and his men able to catch Saul sleeping, yet although it is within David's power, he does not kill him. He recognizes that, despite his differences with Saul and his desire to kill David, David knows that Saul still was anointed by God to be king. He recognizes the goodness of God's chosen one and decides to let him go. How many of us would do the same thing? The Lord said at David's anointing that he possessed a heart like his and he proves it here. Jesus speaks in Luke's Gospel: "love your enemies and do good to those who hate you." In a world that has become more polarized, this is unheard of, it truly is counter-cultural to think in this way, especially today. All of us are anointed at our Baptism and Confirmation, we are all chosen by God and yet, all of us are still sinners as well. To hold that person's sin against them while looking past our own and those who think like us accomplishes nothing, *even sinners do the same*. We are called to forgive those who trespass against us. "For the measure with which you measure will in return be measured out to you." It takes the Grace of God to be able to look beyond our own desires and pride in these situations. Yet our Lord challenges us nonetheless. Take this last week and a half before we get into the Lenten Season to contemplate what you are going to be giving up or taking on during our journey into the Wilderness. All of us our sinners and all have work to do, but let today's Gospel instructing us to love our enemies really sink in; the world in general can use more dialogue, understanding and love. Our goal shouldn't be annihilation of our enemies, but helping each other see where each can grow and thrive.

Pax et bonum,

Fr. Keith

7TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



IMMACULATE CONCEPTION CHURCH

THE SAINTS GO MARCHING IN!

The Rosarians welcomed our special guests to speak to us as about their lives. We learned so much about St. Isidore of Seville the patron Saint of Farmers and the Internet, Saint Pope John Paul II the athletic Saint with a love of skiing and swimming and of course we learned about all of his teachings and his devotion to our Blessed Mother, and St. Michael the Archangel our protector and the defeat of Satan.



IMMACULATE CONCEPTION SCHOOL & AROUND THE DIOCESE



Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton Roman Catholic Church

105 Summer Road + Three Bridges, NJ 08887

Phone: 908-782-1475 + Fax: 908-782-6230

Parish Website: www.easeton.net

Dioocese of Metuchen website: www.diometuchen.org

The Military Outreach Ministry at Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish will host an Adult and Pediatric First Aid/CPR/AED life-saving training class which will be taught by the American Red Cross. The training consists of a three-hour online training (completed prior to the in-person class) and a two-hour in-person skills session that will take place on Saturday, 3/1 at 11 a.m. in the parish center. For cost, class details and how to sign up for this emergency training, please reach out to Denise McGuire, themcgs1@comcast.net

Franciscan Friars OF THE Renewal



St. Magdalen de Pazzi Church

105 MINE STREET
FLEMINGTON, NJ 08822



PATHWAY TO FREEDOM IN CHRIST

Healing & Deliverance - Inner Healing CONFERENCE

Presented by

FR. GIUSEPPE MARIA SINISCALCHI, CFR

SATURDAY, 8 MARCH 2025

Conference - 9:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

Confessions - 2:45 p.m.

Mass - 4:00 p.m.

- * CONNECTING WITH GOD
- * EMOTIONAL WOUNDS
- * MARITAL/FAMILY DISCORD
- * RELATIONSHIP STRUGGLES
- * HABITUAL SIN
- * NO COST TO ATTEND!
- * PRE-REGISTRATION REQUESTED
- * PLEASE BRING LUNCH & WATER.
- * FREE WILL DONATIONS WILL BE ACCEPTED.

LET'S BREAK THE CHAINS THAT HOLD US
BACK AND THROW OFF THE ROPES
THAT TIE US DOWN. (PSALM 124)

Suggested Preparation: Pre-read *Unbound* by
Neal Lozano (Chapters 1-7)
www.heartofthefather.com

(This is not a Heart of the Father event)

Pre-Register by visiting
<https://stmagdalen38.eventbrite.com>

ANNUAL ICS TRICKY TRAY

Our Annual Tricky Tray will be on **Saturday, March 29th from 2 - 6PM** in the School. Tickets can be purchased at the door or pre-ordered online. (Cash and check only).

IMMACULATE
CONCEPTION SCHOOL

presents

A NIGHT IN NASHVILLE

16th Annual Gala Fundraiser

March 15, 2025 | 6:00 - 11:00 PM

Fiddler's Elbow Country Club

Bedminster, NJ

\$150.00 Per Ticket

Open Bar | Full Buffet | Music

Live & Silent Auctions | 50/50 Raffle

Dress to impress; please no denim.

IMMACULATE
CONCEPTION SCHOOL

TRIVIA
NIGHT

New
Date!

March 8, 2025
ICS MPR

Doors open at 6:30 PM | 7:00 PM start time

CORNERSTONE



REGISTRATION IS OPEN
for the **WOMEN'S CORNERSTONE**
EXPERIENCE on Saturday,
March 22nd at ICC's 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, faith, and community building during Lent. Our day begins at 8 AM and ends with a celebration following an 8 PM Mass. Come see what the day may renew in you!



TO REGISTER, SCAN THE QR CODE OR GO TO:
www.iccannandale.org/womens-cornerstone

Thank you for taking the time to listening to our pulpit talks this weekend at all Masses. And for the support that you have given us since 1997 to celebrate this wonderful ministry. Please prayerfully consider taking the time out of your busy schedules to make this Lent special by setting aside this time to listen to the Lord. If you have any questions at all, please do not hesitate to reach out to:

Jaime Sanderson

908-399-0024 JLowrey24@hotmail.com

or

Eileen Summerfield

203-887-7088 eileen.summerfield@tiffany.com

We look forward to seeing you in March!



A group photo from the 2024 Women's Cornerstone, we hope that you will be in this year's photo!



Cornerstone Social outing to the Music Mountain Theater in Lambertville, members went to see "VANYA AND SONIA AND MASHA AND SPIKE", a comedic masterpiece about middle-aged siblings that won the 2013 Tony Award for Best Play and shared a meal together. There is much more to Cornerstone than the actual experience, many people make friends for a lifetime! If you haven't experienced a Cornerstone event, maybe this is the year!

FOR THE KIDS & TEENS

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS FREE THROW CONTEST

Our K of C council #6245 will be holding the annual Free Throw Championship at ICS on Sunday, March 9th. It is open to boys and girls ages 9 - 14. The IC Council Championship will be from 1 PM - 3 PM and the winners will advance to the District Competition with other local council champions from 3 PM - 4 PM. Winners of the District Competition will move on to the Metuchen Regional Competition on March 22. You DO NOT NEED TO BE A MEMBER OF ICS to join this competition. Contact Rick Benson for more info: 908.514.7059



YOUTH GROUP UPDATE

"Breaking Free: Mission Accomplished!"



Our Youth Group had an amazing time at the Ultimate Xscape Room in Somerville! Working together, we cracked codes, solved puzzles, and "broke free"—all while strengthening our teamwork and trust in God's plan. After the challenge, we celebrated with sweet treats at Dunkin' and great conversation.

SHARING THE GOSPEL

Treat others the way you want to be treated. God doesn't want us to treat other people the same way they treat you. Choose to be kind, even when other people are mean. Choose to forgive, even when someone has hurt you.

LIVING THE GOSPEL

When someone hurts your feelings this week, instead of getting even, pray for that person.

PRAYER FOR THE WEEK

Dear God, help me to love other people the way You love me.



Want to be part of the fun? Join us for future adventures filled with faith, friendship and excitement! Contact Laura Zamrok at izamrok@gmail.com to get involved!

Next Meeting: Sunday, March 16 6:00 PM

Hey teens! Have you ever had questions about your Catholic faith but weren't sure who to ask? Now's your chance! Join us for Youth Group for a special "Ask the Priest" night! No question is too big, too small, or too random! Bring your curiosity, bring your friends, and be yourself!



Unscramble the words from today's Gospel.

love	pray	lend
good	give	reward
bless	kind	pity

lvoe	<u>l</u>	<u>o</u>	<u>v</u>	<u>e</u>		
gvie	—	—	—	—		
ptyi	—	—	—	—		
ldne	—	—	—	—		
besls	—	—	—	—	—	
godo	—	—	—	—		
pary	—	—	—	—		
rwrdea	—	—	—	—	—	—
knid	—	—	—	—		