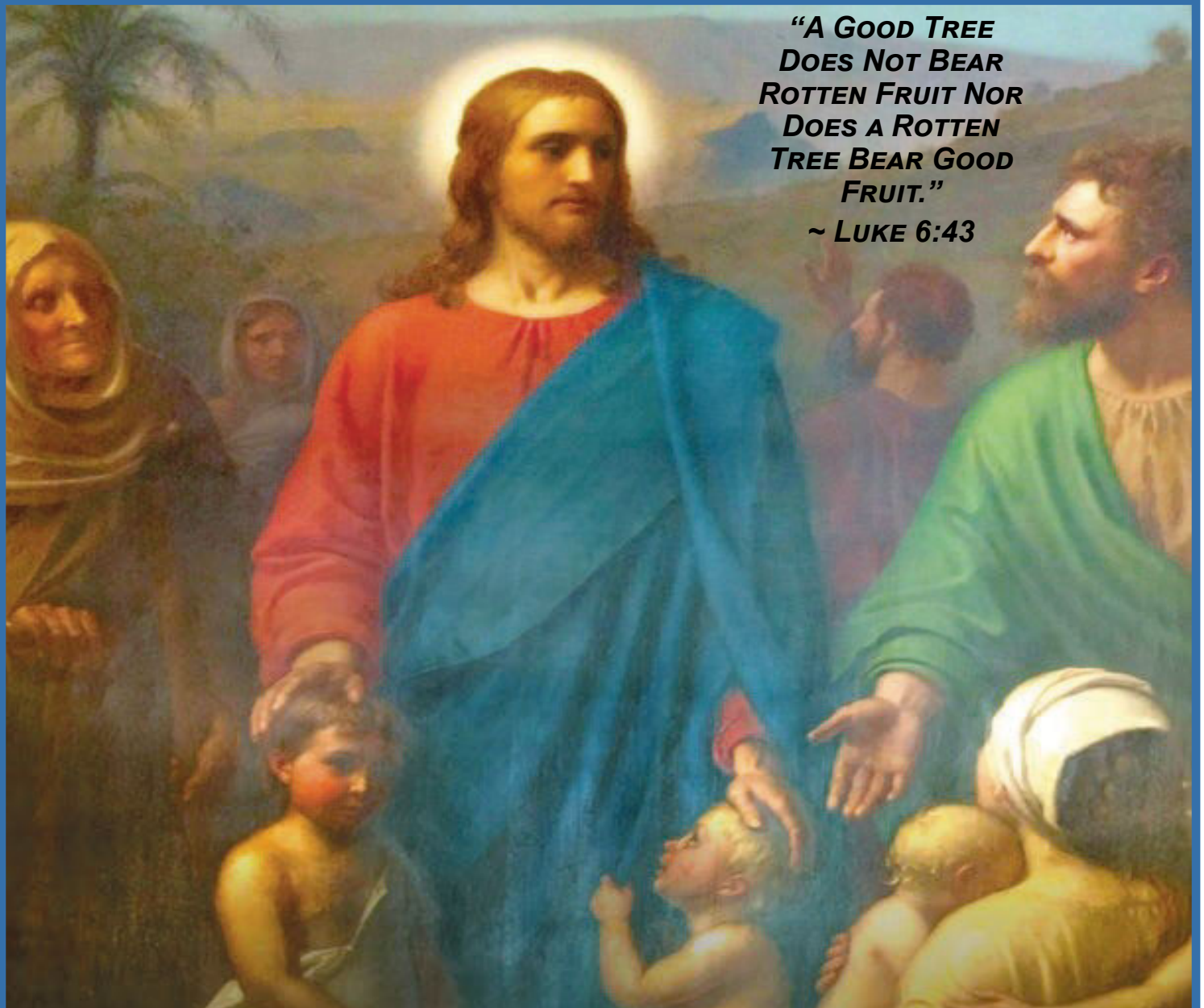




IMMACULATE CONCEPTION CHURCH

March 2, 2025
8th Sunday in Ordinary Time
316 Old Allerton Road
Annandale, NJ 08801

WELCOME TO OUR CHURCH, A CARING AND SHARING CATHOLIC COMMUNITY



**“A GOOD TREE
DOES NOT BEAR
ROTTEN FRUIT NOR
DOES A ROTTEN
TREE BEAR GOOD
FRUIT.”**

~ LUKE 6:43

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*
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

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. Children of families who are now adults living at home should register as an individual to establish your own practice. You *must* be a registered parishioner and *regularly attending* Mass to be a Confirmation or Baptism Sponsor or to be married at ICC.

PARISH MINISTRIES & ORGANIZATIONS

(IF NOT LISTED AREA CODE IS 908)

Spiritual Growth Ministries

Bible Study Coor.	<i>Marianne Tasy</i>	730-0722
Parish Book Club	<i>Carole Curcio</i>	310-3886
Pre-Cana	<i>TBD</i>	735-7319
Men's Cornerstone	<i>Michael Wellons</i>	246-3241
Men's Journey	<i>Michael Szalecki</i>	268-6732
O.C.I.A.	<i>Deacon Mark</i>	735-7319
Stepping Stones	<i>Mary Ellen Berg</i>	892-4332
Teen Ministry	<i>Laura Zamrock</i>	735-7319
Thurs. Scripture Shar.	<i>Ed Reitter</i>	268-9671
Walking with Purpose	<i>Linda Hunt</i>	973-960-0635
Women's Cornerstone	<i>Helen Wellons</i>	856-912-5850

Social Concerns/Service Ministries

Altar Rosary	<i>Lori Dwyer</i>	812-8807
Altar Linen	<i>Ann Cosgrove</i>	229-6173
Bereavement	<i>Diane Eisenhart &</i>	347-3065
Ministry	<i>Bob Zappulla</i>	268-7360
Cub Scouts	<i>Nora Burke Klippstein</i>	735-9520
Food Pantry	<i>Peggy Smith</i>	730-7101
Girl Scouts	<i>Toni Rice</i>	732-570-5940
Haiti Project	<i>Deacon Bill</i>	610-248-7131
Employment Circle	<i>Michael Szalecki</i>	268-6732
Prayer Shawl	<i>Mary Hegarty</i>	399-8514
Pro-Life Committee	<i>Tricia Daly</i>	328-1268
Sanctuary Guild	<i>Barbara Sullivan</i>	236-6080

Community Development

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

Liturgical Ministries

Altar Servers	<i>Fr. Jose Lim</i>	735-7319
Lectors	<i>Gail Baumann</i>	845-283-1087
Eucharistic Minister	<i>Karen Mahaney</i>	268-9671
Ushers/Greeters	<i>Melanie McCarroll</i>	285-1493
Weekday Lectors	<i>Ann Standley</i>	287-2350
Mary Choir	<i>Diane Eisenhart</i>	347-3065
Spirit Alive Choir	<i>Marylu Korkuch</i>	236-9103
Youth Choir	<i>Jamie Parmese</i>	328-4116

THIS WEEK AT IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

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)

Monday, March 3

Regular Mass Schedule - 7 & 9 AM

4:30 PM - 8:00 PM PREP (Church)

Tuesday, March 4

Regular Mass Schedule - 7 & 9 AM

10:00 AM Women's Cornerstone (PH)

7:00 PM Bible Study (PH)

7:00 PM Choir Practice (Church)

Wednesday, March 5

Ash Wednesday

Mass Schedule - 7 & 9 AM, Noon, 4:30 & 7 PM

4:30PM - 7PM Knights of Columbus Fish Fry (PH)

Thursday, March 6

Regular Mass Schedule - 7 & 9 AM

9:30 AM Walking with Purpose (PH)

10:00 AM Thursday Scripture (Zoom)

1:00 PM Prayer Shawl (PH)

7:00 PM Hearts & Hands (PH)

7:00 PM Knights of Columbus (PH)

Friday, March 7

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

9:30 AM - 6PM - Eucharistic Adoration

7:00 PM Stations of the Cross (Church)

Saturday, March 8

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

9:00 AM - 12:00 PM Women's Cornerstone (PH)

2:00 PM Cherub Choir (Church)

Sunday, March 9

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

8:30 AM RCIA (MH)

7:00 PM Men's Cornerstone (PH)



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 Webpage, or fill-out a hard copy order form in the Narthex.

All Order forms must be in by 6 PM on Tuesday March 4th, 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).

BAPTISM & CONFIRMATION SPONSOR

It is a great honor to be selected as a Godparent or Sponsor, but it is not just a title for the Catholic Church.



According to Canon Law: "a person to be baptized is to be given a sponsor *who assists an adult in Christian initiation* or together with the parents presents an infant for baptism. A Sponsor also helps the baptized person to lead a Christian life in keeping with baptism and to fulfill faithfully the obligations inherent in it."

Certificates of Eligibility for sponsorship for Baptism or Confirmation will be given **only to active** (weekly Mass attendance) **registered** parishioners of ICC. Qualified members should use the QR code.



DON'T BE FOOLED

If you ever get a suspicious email from Fr. Keith or anyone from ICC, please first check the email address that it is coming from (if it is not @iccannandale.org or @icsclinton.org, it is not from us). We do not use our personal email addresses and we never solicit funds via email or text. Also note, that if we ever asked for gift cards we would ask you to use the SCRIP program to fulfill the order as it helps our school at the same time. When in doubt, call the office; with AI becoming more prevalent these scams are getting more deceptive & we must remain diligent. Thank you in advance!



The Sanctuary candle for March 2 - 8 is lit in Memory of Joao Vitor de Moraes



@ICCAnnandaleNJ

WELCOME HOME!

THIS WEEK'S MASSES AND INTENTIONS

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)

Monday, March 3 (St. Katharine Drexel, Virgin)

7 am James Codd (Lori & Mike Dwyer)

9 am Laura Phelps Howells (Janis Gross)

Tuesday, March 4

7 am Ints. of Patrick Noonan (Jim Noonan)

9 am Helen Resua (John & Pat Hughes)

Wednesday, March 5 (Ash Wednesday)

7am Gearleen Hinds Cote (Jack, Janet, Bonnie Brennan)

9 am John McGourty, Sr. (McGourty Family)

12 pm Ernesto R. Dayquea (Moreno-Gonzalez Family)

4:30 pm Ints. of Ruth Noonan (Jim Noonan)

7pm John R. Lensis (Carroll Family)

Thursday, March 6 (Thursday after Ash Wednesday)

7 am Stanley Sondej (Fr. Keith Cervine)

9 am John Charles Vella (van Duynhoven Family)

Friday, March 7 (Friday after Ash Wednesday)

7 am James Codd (Melanie McCarroll)

9 am Patricia McCarroll (Catherine Beaton)

Saturday, March 8 (Saturday after Ash Wednesday)

9 am Joseph M. Ocello (Ocello Family)

4:30 pm Ints. of Gail Baumann (Vicki Panzarino)

Sunday, March 9 (1st Sunday of Lent)

8 am Mary Ann Phillips (Peter & Kathy Sandrian)

10 am La Mae K. Perez (Husband)

12 pm Joseph McGonnell (De Saro Family)

5 pm For Our Parishioners



SAVE THE DATE

Our Parish Festival will be held from June 18th - 22nd, please mark your calendars to make sure you can help out, or attend & either way, get ready for the fun! We are already starting to plan, so please consider being a part of this event!



REGISTRATION IS OPEN

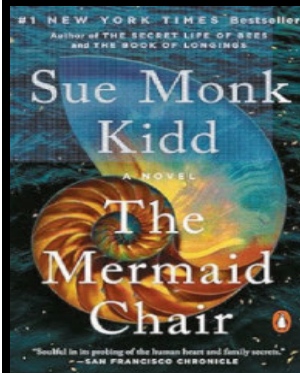
for the WOMEN'S CORNERSTONE
EXPERIENCE on Saturday,
March 22nd at ICC's Parish Hall.

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

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.

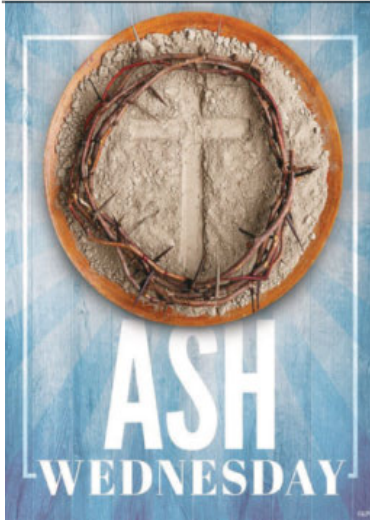
All are welcome! For more information, call Carole at 908.310.3886.

Q: Why do we place ashes on our forehead?

A: Ashes are rich in spiritual symbolism. We recall in the second chapter of Genesis, when the human person is fashioned "out of the dust of the ground" and receives the breath of life (Genesis 2:7). In death, a person returns to the ground from which we came. The ancient Hebrews used ashes as a sign of repentance, reminding themselves that God is God and we are not.

As the minister places ashes on our forehead, we hear either "remember that you are dust and unto dust you shall return" or "turn away from sin and be faithful to the Gospel." When we receive ashes, we remember our own mortality. We're reminded that we have limited time on this earth and we ought to make the best use of it that we can! We all need to continually rediscover the love of God. The forty days of Lent are the perfect time to assess our own awareness of these realities.

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION CHURCH



ASH WEDNESDAY SCHEDULE

This **Wednesday, March 5**, is Ash Wednesday

**Mass times are:
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)**

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.*

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Stations of the Cross will be prayed every Friday at 7:00 PM in the Church. Friday, March 7th will be led by Fr. Keith and he will be utilizing *The Way of the Cross with text from Scripture by St. Alphonsus Ligouri.*



LENTEN ALMSGIVING

Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of Lent. Catholic families across the country unite to put their faith into action through prayer, fasting and almsgiving. Through Catholic Relief Services' 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.

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

WILL YOU FOLLOW JESUS TO CALVARY? 3 Wednesday Evenings in Lent

Please join our Altar Rosarians and clergy on a virtual Lenten pilgrimage of prayer & reflection.

No Greater Love, A Biblical Walk Through Christ's Passion was filmed on location in the Holy Land with best-selling author Edward Sri as the guide. Over three sessions, we will walk step-by-step with Jesus from the Garden of Gethsemane to Mount Calvary.

Our hope is that your personal Lenten journey will be enhanced by experiencing a deeper understanding and appreciation of God's immeasurable & unconditional love for you.

Please join us for one or all
March 19th, March 26th, and April 2nd
7:00 pm in the Parish Hall
NO REGISTRATION IS NECESSARY

SPEND SOME QUIET TIME WITH THE LORD

Please take a copy of the Little Black Book, a reflection book to pray with this Lent.

STEWARDSHIP ON ST. MARY'S HILL



DONATIONS TO THE BISHOP'S ANNUAL APPEAL
AS OF TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 2025

BAA Goal = \$170,000



2025 BISHOP'S ANNUAL APPEAL PILGRIMS OF HOPE:

Journeying Together in Faith, Hope & Charity

By now you have received a letter from Bishop Checchio inviting your participation in the 2025 Bishop's Annual Appeal. The diocesan ministries supported by the Appeal directly impact many of the parishioners here in Immaculate Conception Parish. Your gift provides formation opportunities for our catechists, youth and young adults. In the coming days, you will be receiving a letter from Fr. Keith, encouraging your participation. If you have yet to make your gift, please prayerfully consider doing so today by either returning your pledge card in the mail or going to the secure website: <https://diometuchen.org>.



TENEBRAE TALKS

I went to the groomer for the first time this week. It was a little scary... I never had been before and there were all these other dogs there... would they be my friends or should I just run away and be safe? I didn't want to go in the front door despite the nice lady. Why couldn't I just keep the way I smelled? It really only affected me, right? Boy, was I wrong. It was wonderful to get all nice and clean and to get my nails trimmed. I feel so much better now, I don't know what I was afraid of... I still will play outside and get dirty, but it feels so good to be clean and shiny. I hear Fr. Jose and Fr. Keith talking about humans being worried about Confession, maybe that is kind of the same thing... well, take it from me, no matter how dirty or smelly you are, don't worry, just go, you will be glad you did... Be a good boy!

From the Pastor's Desk

Many of you know that I love Star Wars and one of my favorite lines comes from the original movie. As Han Solo is complaining about getting caught by the empire, he calls Obi-Wan Kenobi an old fool. And Obi-Wan simply retorts: "Who is the more foolish? The fool or the one who follows him?" This week in Luke's Gospel, Jesus asks if a blind person can guide a blind person. He is not talking about permanent blindness, but something that is temporary and can be fixed, but can cause a great deal of distress as we have not really learned how to live with this condition. As we begin Lent this week, our eyes focus on the sin that Jesus would ultimately die for - our sin. Whether we were led astray by some fool (but who really is the more foolish?) or are stumbling around because of our sinfulness; the answer seems to be to take the opportunity, compose yourself and practice prayer, fasting and almsgiving to get to our goal of heaven and lead others there as well.

It is a time to get back to the simpler things, strip away the stuff that accumulates in our life to lead us away from God and take on new tasks that build a stronger relationship with Him. During Lent this year, I am going to have a Prie Dieu (kneeler) out in front of the altar to focus prayer on the Tabernacle and Cross. I hope it will stand as a reminder during the Lenten Season as an invitation to come closer to our Lord and focus solely on Him. Outside of Mass feel free to come in at any time and reflect. Some individuals have also asked to utilize it for receiving our Lord in the Eucharist and I invite those people who would like to, to do so. Simply kneel and myself or a Eucharistic Minister will go to the kneeler to allow you to receive. Please know this is a work in progress, just like all of us are, so what works in my mind may not be practical. Hopefully in growing closer to God this Lent, we can heal whatever may blind us and be less foolish in the future when it comes to sin.

Pax et bonum,
Fr. Keith



IMMACULATE CONCEPTION SCHOOL



HELP WANTED

Immaculate Conception School is seeking a caring and enthusiastic After Care Lead Teacher to join our team. This position provides a safe, engaging, and nurturing environment for students in grades K-8 after school hours. The hours are 2:45 PM to 5:30 PM, Tuesday & Thursday (with the option of more hours), and a competitive salary is offered.

The ideal candidate loves working with children and creating a supportive, structured atmosphere. An understanding of developmentally appropriate practices for elementary and middle school students is essential. This role involves supervising and engaging students in activities, providing homework support, and fostering a positive environment aligned with our Catholic values.

If you're interested in making a difference in the lives of our students, apply today! To learn more or submit your application, contact Connie Fortunato at principal@icsclinton.org

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.

2025-2026 CATHOLIC SCHOOL TUITION ASSISTANCE ONLINE APPLICATION PROCESS OPEN

Families interested in applying for tuition assistance to attend an eligible Diocese of Metuchen elementary (like ICS) or high school may apply online now through FACTS Grant & Aid Assessment at <https://online.factsmgt.com/aid>. Online applications must be completed (including all required documentation) by no later than **March 31, 2025**. A signed Parish Verification Form is also required by the Diocese, and should be signed by your Pastor, and submitted to the school or schools your children attend.

Eligibility requirements, instructions and forms can be found at <https://diometuchen.org/tuition-assistance>. 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.

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
TRIVIA NIGHT
March 8, 2025
ICS MPR
Doors open at 6:30 PM | 7:00 PM start time

AROUND THE DIOCESE

Franciscan Friars OF THE Renewal



St. Magdalen de Pazzi Church
105 NINE 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.

- | | |
|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * CONNECTING WITH GOD * EMOTIONAL WOUNDS * MARITAL/FAMILY DISCORD * RELATIONSHIP STRUGGLES * HABITUAL SIN | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * 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>

Diocesan Youth Day

April 5th, 2025
Immaculata High School, Somerville NJ
Check-in Begins at 10:30am. The day will run from 11:00am-5pm.

The Diocese of Metuchen's Office of Youth and Young Adult Ministry will run our **Diocesan Youth Day at Immaculata High School in Somerville, NJ on Saturday, April 5th, 2025.**

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



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
Diocese 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



Choices Matter

A CRITICAL LIFE ISSUES CONFERENCE

Saturday March 29, 2025

at the St. John Neumann Pastoral Center, Piscataway, NJ
Opening Mass with Bishop Checchio at 9 a.m.
Conference sessions 10:15 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.
Speakers, Exhibits, Eucharistic Adoration



The Pain is Real but so is Hope
Deacon Ed Showers
Pastoral Theologian for Catholic World Ministry



Mental Health as a Pro-Life Issue
Erin McCole Copp
Steno Cook, Author
Catholic Mental Health Advocate



The Light in Our Darkness
Lisa Kratz Thomas
Speaker, Author, Servant



The Road to Hope - Responding to the Crisis of Addiction
Keaton Drogan
Teacher and Former Director of (MSJ) Salazar

General Admission \$35, Student Admission \$15
Admission includes lunch and hand-outs
Register at www.diometuchen.org/choicesmatter or scan QR code here →



SAVE THE DATE!
NEW JERSEY CATHOLIC YOUTH RALLY
at **SIX FLAGS GREAT ADVENTURE**
MAY 18, 2025

NJ Catholic Youth Rally is a day-long event that gathers teens from across the state of NJ for a day of fun, fellowship, Mass, and more held at Six Flags Great Adventure in Jackson, NJ. The day starts with a dynamic opening ceremony. Teens then get the day to enjoy the park and all the rides. The day concludes in the Batman Stunt Arena with a Mass. Open to all Jr. High, High School & Young Adult Ministry, Scouts, teens and their families!

FOR THE KIDS & TEENS



YOUTH GROUP

**Next Meeting: Sunday, March
16th 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!

lzamrok@gmail.com to get involved!

SHARING THE GOSPEL

When you give food and clothes to charity, don't be a show-off. When you pray, find a quiet place to talk to God alone. When you skip meals to pray, do it privately. God will see you giving. God will hear your prayers. When you do good things quietly, God will reward you.

LIVING THE GOSPEL

As a family, decide to skip a meal. Instead of eating, use that time to pray together and give the money you would have spent on food to help the poor. Remember, don't tell anyone so God can reward you.

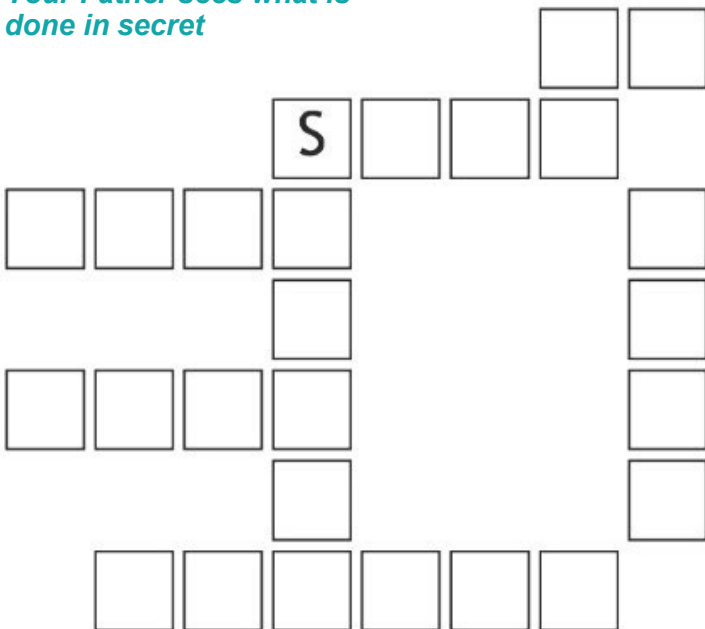
PRAYER FOR THE WEEK

God, help me to do good things quietly, instead of showing off.

Fit this Gospel message into the empty square:



Your Father sees what is done in secret



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



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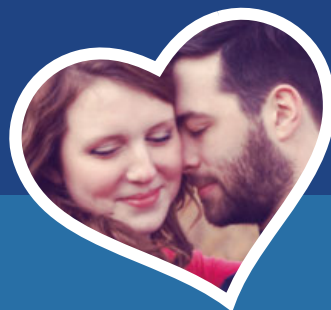
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