



# IMMACULATE CONCEPTION CHURCH

November 16, 2025  
33<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time  
316 Old Allerton Road  
Annandale, NJ 08801

WELCOME TO OUR CHURCH, A CARING AND SHARING CATHOLIC COMMUNITY

## Rev. Kris Kaczynski Requiescāt in Pace



## REVEREND KRZYSZTOF KACZYNSKI, 1964-2025

**On November 5, ICC mourned the loss of our former parochial vicar, Reverend Krzysztof Kaczynski who served here from 2002-2009. We are joined in prayer with his current parishes of St. John Neumann, Califon, and St. Joseph, High Bridge who have lost their pastor, as well as St. Matthew, Edison, St. Edward the Confessor, Milford, and Our Lady of Victories, Baptistown where he also served. Fr. Kris' funeral was this Saturday, November 16, and he was laid to rest in our cemetery mausoleum. Please visit him and say a prayer. We will also be having a Mass of Remembrance in the new year with Msgr. Andy which will be announced once it is finalized. The following is but a small tribute to a priest who meant so much to so many.**

It is hard to put into words the depth of my gratitude and love for my dear friend, Father Kris. He was a prayer warrior, a theologian, and my role model. His devotion to our Blessed Mother was steadfast and inspiring. Like Mary, his soul truly magnified the Lord. Father Kris had a gift for finding humor in every circumstance, reminding us that joy and holiness go hand in hand.

What impressed me most about Father was his ability to live life authentically—without pretense, without attachment to material things. He was both intelligent and humble, grounded in truth and simplicity. During his time as a missionary in Africa, he learned the beauty of living with little. He would often share stories of their *evacuation drills*—times when they practiced leaving with only the bare necessities. That experience shaped his heart. Father Kris became a minimalist by vocation, choosing to hold fast not to possessions, but to people. His greatest treasures were the relationships he nurtured and the time he gave so freely. As he loved to say, *“Your presence is my present.”*

Father Kris lived the Gospel with joy and authenticity. His life echoed the words of Micah: *“To act justly, to love mercy, and to walk humbly with your God.”* He taught me that holiness is found in simplicity, and that love—when given freely and without expectation—is the purest reflection of Christ's heart.

They say the people we hold closest are the ones who teach us the most. Father Kris taught me what it truly means to live a faithful, humble, and joy-filled life. His shared experiences, laughter, his wisdom, and his unshakable faith will remain with me always.

As I remember him, I pray that the Lord welcomes him into eternal peace and joy, and that our Blessed Mother wraps him tenderly in her mantle. May we honor his legacy by living as he did—with faith that never falters, love, and hearts always open to God's will. May his spirit continue to guide us, and may his blessings always be upon us. Godspeed, Father. May the angels lead you into paradise! ~**Connie Fortunato, Principal**

Many of my memories of Fr. Kris revolve around food, Florida, Africa & Polish Christmas cards. He was a quiet, humble priest, whose sheepish smile and quick wit endeared him to everyone he met.

He loved fish, pork chops, sharing stories about his time in Africa and spending as much time as possible in Florida, which he referred to as the promised land. On one occasion after celebrating the noon Mass at IC he got in his car and headed south. At 8 AM Monday morning he showed up at our home in Venice with a box of donuts. He drove all night, stopped to have breakfast with us and headed off to Miami on the other coast to stay with other friends. He was a wonderful priest, a good friend, and I will miss receiving his Polish Christmas cards each year.

~**Deacon Bill Bauer**



## *WE REMEMBER FR. KRIS*

Fr. Kris came to Immaculate Conception in June 2002. He arrived by bus from the Newark area and I picked him up at the Clinton Town Bus Stop. Our inaugural Parish Festival was in full-swing. As we were driving up St. Mary's Hill we noticed the tall Ferris wheel and other rides. I turned to him and said, smiling, "Kris, this is all for you! "Witamy!" (Polish for "Welcome"). He looked at me said something like, "My goodness!," knowing that I was being humorous. After we took his luggage into the Rectory we chatted for a few minutes. He did not want to rest, but rather walk around the festival grounds parking lot and greet the people. It was his first day at ICC and his first desire was to meet the people, not knowing then who was or wasn't an ICC parishioner. Walking around the parking lot would be an almost daily evening activity for him during the seven years he ministered with me at ICC. In one hand was the Rosary.

We enjoyed numerous conversations. Many were theological in nature. He held a doctorate degree in sacred theology, so I was no match for him! (He never "showed off.") Conversations were also light-hearted, and sometimes self-effacing. When entering the Rectory through the side door and he saw me sitting in the parlor, he usually announced: "It's me" or "I am here." When I would depart on my annual 10-day Caribbean cruise, I reminded him to take good care of the parish. His usual reply, "I am here." His culinary tastes were not complicated. Therefore, he ate my uncomplicated cooking. He enjoyed my beef pot roast and barbecued pork spare ribs. On rare occasion, he sipped one glass of wine. It was always Kendall Jackson Chardonnay.

When Fr. Kris began his first pastorate a short time after he left ICC, his "thank you" comments after Communion included the concelebrating clergy. When introducing me he said, paraphrasing, "This is Fr. Andy Szaroleta from Immaculate Conception. We lived in the same house for seven whole years! And, look, we are still friends!!" Fr. Kris and I remained friends until his untimely passing. We did not communicate with regularity via telephone, email, or text. But we always remembered each other on personal dates, that is on our birthday, priesthood anniversary and feast day. As Fr. Kris' soul approaches the Pearly Gates, I imagine him calling out to St. Peter, "It's me." "I am here."

**~Msgr. Andrew L. Szaroleta; Pastor 1993-2009**



I was blessed to work with Fr. Kris in both the parish and the school. He was the most grounded priest I knew. He always surprised us with his amazing understanding of theology and his willingness to share and explain, opening the scriptures for us. He was the priest that started the Divine Mercy prayer service that we continue today. What a blessing!

Fr. Kris loved to joke. He recently told me that the social group for bereaved members at St Joe's was better than the sharing group we have at ICC. After chuckling, he agreed with me that both are important. One of my most fond memories was when I was an administrator at ICS and some of my grandchildren were students. I said I was lucky to see them every day and he shared that his grandmother made his lunch every day. I thought he was talking about at home but it turned out that she was the lunch lady at his school.

My husband Tom, also had a great affection for Fr. Kris. Even though he had not been at our parish for quite a few years, I was so touched when he came to concelebrate Tom's funeral. Fr. Kris will indeed be missed by so many of us who he ministered to. We were blessed to know him and we surely loved him! May he rest in peace!

**~Diane Eisenhart**

He was such a kind and devout priest who always told great stories. My favorite was when he told us about a time when a big storm came while he was paddling across a lake to say Mass in a small village in Africa. He was frightened, but prayed to God for safe passage. Thankfully his prayers were answered and he arrived safely to the other side. We will miss you Fr. Kris!

**~Diane Koury**

# IMMACULATE CONCEPTION CHURCH

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

## PARISH OFFICE

**Rev. Keith M. Cervine, Pastor**

Hours: Weekdays 9:00AM to 3:00PM

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.

## 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



## WHEN IN ROME...

The Smith Family visited with our Seminarian Bruce Cargill and Fr. Jose's friend Luke on their trip to Rome. If Luke looks familiar, he did come to visit us here at ICC earlier this summer when he went on vacation with Fr. Jose. They had a jolly good time. (Luke is from England).



## THIS WEEK AT IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

### Sunday, November 16

**Christmas & Advent Bazaar after all Masses**

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

**8:30 AM** OCIA (Mary House)

**7:00 PM** Men's Cornerstone

### Monday, November 17

Regular Mass Schedule: 7 & 9AM

**9:30 AM** Sanctuary Guild Cleaning of Church

### Tuesday, November 18

Regular Mass Schedule: 7 & 9AM

**7:00 PM** Choir Practice (Church)

### Wednesday, November 19

Regular Mass Schedule: 7 & 9AM

**1:00 PM** Bereavement Group (Library)

**6:30 PM** Bereavement Group (Library)

**6:45 PM** Women's Cornerstone (PH)

**7:00 PM** Men's Group (Mary House)

### Thursday, November 20

Regular Mass Schedule: 7 & 9AM

**10:00 AM** Walking With Purpose (PH)

**7:00 PM** K of C Regular Meeting (PH)

### Friday, November 21

Regular Mass Schedule: 7 & 9AM

**9:30 AM - 6:00 PM** Adoration (Church)

**10:30 AM** Leisure Club Friendsgiving (PH)

### Saturday, November 22

Regular Mass Schedule: 9AM & 4:30PM

**9:30 AM** Miraculous Medal Novena (Church)

**11:30 AM** Confessions (Church)

**2:00 PM** Cherub Choir Practice (Church)

**3:30 PM** Confessions (Church)

**6:00 PM** K of C Roast Beef Dinner

### CHRISTMAS CONCERT TICKETS ON SALE!

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 14<sup>TH</sup> AT 2:00 PM**

We are blessed to welcome back Fr. Alphonse for our Annual Christmas Concert!

Tickets are now available online and in the Parish Office. We are happy to say the cost has stayed the same! \$45 per ticket (plus service fee on credit payments). Get your tickets early, as this concert typically sells out! Scan the QR code to get tickets now!



### KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS COUNCIL #6245

#### ROAST BEEF DINNER - NOVEMBER 22

**Next Saturday from 6:00 - 9:00 PM** in the Parish Hall. The cost is \$20 for adults, \$15 for children under 15 yrs. and \$50 for a family. Meals can be ordered to go. Meal includes Roast Beef, Vegetable, Potatoes, Salad and Bread. Bring your own wine or beer.



**Thank you to all who came out for the ICC tailgate party/watch party last week hosted by Men's Cornerstone. Although the results were disappointing, the fellowship & fun were not!**

### BISHOP CHECCHIO'S MASS OF WELCOME LIVESTREAM

On November 18, the Mass of Welcome for Coadjutor Archbishop-Designate Checchio in the Archdiocese of New Orleans will take place; this event will be livestreamed on YouTube.

<https://www.youtube.com/@ArchdioceseOfNO>

Their channel is "Archdiocese of New Orleans."

Please continue to pray for him, our Diocese and the Archdiocese of New Orleans.

### Immaculate Conception School

#### Christmas Greenery Sale

Order by November 16!

22" Live Decorated Wreath - \$30/\$33

Grave Blankets - \$32/\$48

Decorated Cemetery Log - \$25

Purchase at our Advent & Christmas Bazaar or online:

<https://icsannandale.org/christmas-greenery>



## WELCOME HOME

### **THIS WEEK'S MASSES AND INTENTIONS**

**Sunday, November 16** (33<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of OT)

**Vigil** Mario Albano (Vitelli Family)

8 am Lisa Mims (Vitelli Family)

10 am Bernie Alliston

12 pm Frances Fanelli (ICS Maintenance)

5 pm For Our Parishioners

**Monday, November 17** (St. Elizabeth of Hungary)

7 am Frances Fanelli (Diane Klein)

9 am Kathleen Conroy (ICC)

**Tuesday, November 18** (St. Rose Philippine)

7 am Jeffrey Leonia (Grandma & Pop Caruso)

9 am James D. Smith Sr. (Ursula Infantino)

**Wednesday, November 19**

7 am Frances Fanelli

(Joanie McKeever-Thomas)

9 am Frank Curcio (Carole Curcio)

**Thursday, November 20**

7 am Joseph Strucich (The Doda Family)

9 am Int. of Karl & Yuet Strohmaier

(Roberta & Werner Strohmaier)

**Friday, November 21** (Presentation of BVM)

7 am Santa Ocello (Ocello Family)

9 am Carmen Zappulla (Zappulla Family)

**Saturday, November 22** (St. Cecelia)

9 am Joseph M. Ocello (Ocello Family)

**Sunday, November 23** (Christ the King)

**Vigil** For our Parishioners

8 am Edna Queeney (Family)

10 am Carol & Jim Fay (Brett Family)

12 pm Frances Fanelli (Ira & Tricia Daly)

5 pm Vitelli Family (Kathy Clare)



The Sanctuary candle for Nov 9 - Nov 15 is lit in memory of Anthony Rofrano

### **PRO LIFE CORNER**

**Nov 15th & 16th:** See us at the Christmas/Advent Bazaar in Parish Hall.

**Nov 17th** at 10 am: Cooking for SHIP (Samaritan Homeless Interim Program)

**Nov 22nd/23rd:** Giving Tree set up in Narthex.



New Jersey  
Blood Services

## Blood Drive

Roll up your  
sleeve in memory  
of someone special.



B. Jonathan Sekula

**Sunday, November 30<sup>th</sup>**

**8:30 AM – 2:30 PM**

**Immaculate  
Conception Church  
Church Hall**

316 Old Allerton Rd. Annandale, NJ

To make an appointment please scan QR code



All donors will receive a long sleeve shirt!

Please remember to eat, drink, and bring your ID with your name and photo. Appointments are preferred however walk-ins will be welcomed if space permits. Visit [nybc.org/coronavirus](https://nybc.org/coronavirus) for COVID-19 safety protocols.

Jonathan Sekula was a bright, athletic, and kind-hearted individual who touched many lives with his humor, warmth, and ability to connect with others. His playful spirit and genuine nature made him well-loved by all who knew him.

This blood drive is dedicated to Jonathan's memory, with the hope that it will continue to bring life to others and honor the legacy he left behind.

#njbloodservices      
800.933.BLOOD • [nybc.org](https://nybc.org)

Each November, the Church remembers all souls, at ICC, one way we do this is by using a ciboria in memory of Jonathan Sekula. Jonathan was a local resident having moved from Philadelphia with his parents to High Bridge before his second birthday. He lived in High Bridge until his family moved to Lebanon Township in 1995. Jonathan attended High Bridge Elementary and Middle School and Voorhees High School. Tragically Jonathan was killed in March 2003 in a single car accident while at St. Mary's College of Maryland just 2 months before he was to graduate. Jonathan was a truly unique and gifted individual – naturally athletic, outgoing, intelligent, respectful, creative, articulate and expressive. He wanted people to be happy and could brighten one's day with his infectious smile, sense of humor or unique stories. Jonathan loved life, had a playful heart and could interact comfortably with anyone. His ability to connect with people allowed Jonathan to have a tremendous impact on those around him despite his young age. For these qualities he was respected and well-liked by all. We dedicate this blood drive in Jonathan's memory and hope that your support will continue to give life to others and keep his legacy alive.



OCTOBER CONTRIBUTIONS

Total Offertory for month: \$65,118.89

Average per week (September): \$16,279.72

Approximately 38.3% came via Faith Direct

Average per week (all 2025): \$17,668.49

Debt Reduction: \$5,133.08

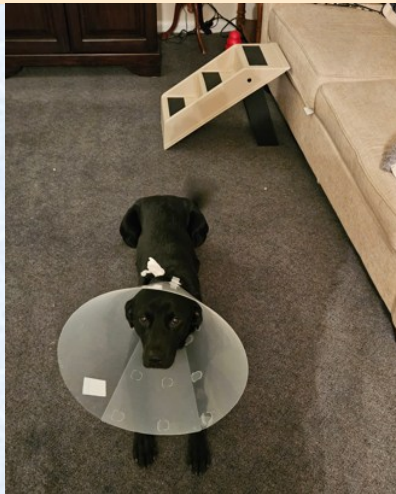
World Mission Sunday: \$3,766.05

All Souls' Day: \$2,537.00

Thank you for your continued support of our parish community!

TENEBRAE TALKS

I am sorry but this letter is going to be shorter than Fr. Keith. I am finding it hard to concentrate as I am still in recovery and the cone of shame makes it very difficult for me to type and really do anything. I am supposed to stay calm for the next couple of days, but that is even more difficult when I am frustrated. Please pray that I recover quickly, I miss you all. I noticed that when I walk with the cone of shame, my head droops, I look kind of like people on Saturday mornings before they go to that thing called Confession - weighed down by something that is irritating, on their way to something great until it gets caught on a common, everyday thing. They look so much better and happier when they get out, maybe I should go there. Be a Good Boy!



From the Pastor's Desk

In these last days of Ordinary Time along with the first days of Advent, we hear the Scriptures take a bit of a darker tone often dealing with end times. This can be disconcerting for many, however, it is a part of our life. All things of this world eventually come to an end, often much sooner than we would like. I spoke about this during my homilies this week remembering Fr. Kris, how he would often say to me when I saw him at a gathering of priests or spoke with him on the phone: "Please come." This open invitation to be a part of his life is something that I (and many of us, I believe) often take for granted. We tell others that we are far too busy or that now is just not the right time. It might even become just a convenient excuse that we use without thinking or checking our schedule. If these readings or the regrets of letting those invitations go unanswered cause us to be uneasy, perhaps it is God's way of reminding us of the importance to just say yes to others and to Him.

Especially during this preparation time for the upcoming holiday season, our Lord asks us to "please come," just like the shepherds and the wise men were called to come. Yet, they were called to see not a great theologian to speak the answers of life, but simply to stand in the presence of a baby. Not all conversations with a priest need to be about the great questions of life, much of our ministry is simply meeting people where they are. Some of my favorite conversations with Fr. Kris were about hockey and how New Jersey was playing, hope they can keep this start up and win another Cup for him this year.

Whether it is to Eucharistic Adoration, the Sacrament of Reconciliation, praying the Divine Mercy Chaplet at 3PM, being a missionary, living a Christian lifestyle of service to the less fortunate, loving your family or simply sharing a cup of coffee and a smile with an old friend, our Lord continues to say "Please come." Come as you are, as He made you, with the hope that time with Him is never wasted and will only lead to a desire to know and love Him more. We only have a limited amount of time, but that should not make us anxious. We should be encouraged to make the most of each and every day. Made in God's image, each of us is called to be a missionary disciple bringing Christ to others; this is why we come and go.

Pax et bonum,  
Fr. Keith



Ordering Christmas Cards or Gifts?

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to receive 20% off your order PLUS Minted will donate 15% of your total back to ICS! Share the code with family & friends!

Use code FUNDRAISEICSNJ

## ADVENT/CHRISTMAS BAZAAR IS THIS WEEK!



### CHRISTMAS & ADVENT BAZAAR

November 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> after all Masses, we will be having a one-stop shop for all your Christmas and Advent needs down in the Parish Hall! Come support our School & Parish Altar Rosary, Knights of Columbus, Pro-Life & Prayer Shawl Ministries and talented parishioners. Unfortunately, Santa and his photography elf got sick and won't be there this year.



We will have our Christmas Concert tickets on sale (if not sold out), Advent wreaths, Rosaries, magnets, Alpaca socks, gloves & wool, SCRIP gift cards available for purchase or order, handcrafted items by our Parishioners and ministries, tasty home baked goodies and much, much more. We will be in Parish Hall after every Mass that weekend, so stop by and say Hello and do some shopping!





## FOR THE KIDS & TEENS



### NEXT YOUTH GROUP MEETING HOLIDAY POTLUCK DINNER

Our Youth Group is thriving! Our next meeting is scheduled for **Saturday, December 6th after the 5PM mass** and ending at 8PM. We will meet in the ICS gym (thank you Mrs. Fortunato and the ICS students and staff) where we will participate in a service project for our Christmas celebration, then enjoy a potluck dinner, games and a gift exchange.

Youth Group members should bring a potluck dinner item or side dish using our [SIGN UP GENIUS](#). We will also be exchanging a mystery gift!. Members should bring a gift valued between \$5-\$10 wrapped and ready to give. Email Laura Zamrok [lzamrok@gmail.com](mailto:lzamrok@gmail.com) for more information and/or a direct link to the sign up. In order to attend, **please sign up using the sign up genius so we can accommodate all!**

### PUZZLE Unscramble the words from today's Gospel.

temple	starve	wisdom
stones	trial	betrayed
attack	faith	saved

tmepel	<u>t e m p l e</u>
fitha	_____
stneso	_____
widoms	_____
atackt	_____
btrayede	_____
sarvet	_____
sveda	_____
tialr	_____

### SHARING THE GOSPEL

Sometimes this world can be a scary place in which to live. Fighting, sickness, and storms can kill a lot of people. Jesus says that when those things happen around you, do not be afraid. Even when you die, you can still live forever with God. You have heaven to look forward to. When scary things happen around you, tell the people you love about Jesus. Tell them they can live forever with Jesus, too, so they don't need to be afraid.

### LIVING THE GOSPEL

Write down three things that scare you. Tell God about them. Ask God to help you.

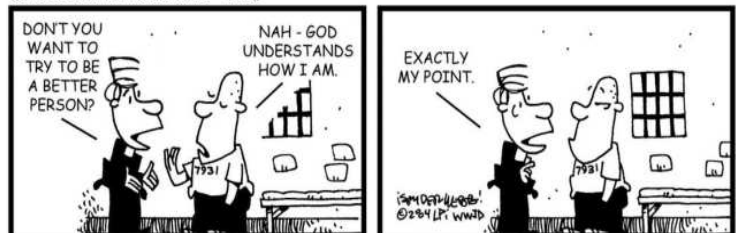
### PRAYER FOR THE WEEK

Dear God, help me to be brave and tell other people about you.

### COLOR Read today's Gospel & color the image.



33rd SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

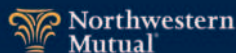




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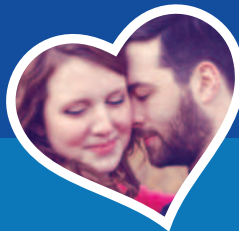


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