



# IMMACULATE CONCEPTION CHURCH

December 7, 2025  
2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent  
316 Old Allerton Road  
Annandale, NJ 08801

WELCOME TO OUR CHURCH, A CARING AND SHARING CATHOLIC COMMUNITY

## O Mary, Conceived without Sin,



## Pray for Us Who Have Recourse to Thee

### PARISH OFFICE

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

Hours: Mon-Thurs: 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM;

Friday: 9 AM –Noon

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. 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 LIBRARY IS OPEN FOR BUSINESS

It's not totally completed yet, but our parish library is open to borrow a book or do some light reading. We are so appreciative of the work that was done by Russ Walters, Diane Eisenhart, Michael Szalecki, the Knights of Columbus & so many more. Stop by and grow closer to Christ!



### NO 5 PM MASS NEXT SUNDAY

Next Sunday, December 14<sup>th</sup>, there will be no 5 PM Mass on Sunday evening because of our Christmas Concert.

### PARISH & SCHOOL OFFICES CLOSED ON MONDAY, DECEMBER 8

In honor of the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary, our feast day and Holy Day of Obligation, the parish offices and school will be closed.

### ADVENT 24-HOUR ADORATION

*We need adorers to sign up, especially for the early morning hours!*

This Advent spend some time with our Lord in Adoration. On Friday, December 12 (The Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe whom all in the Diocese dedicated themselves to in 2019), ICC will celebrate Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament throughout the night. Starting after the 9:00 AM Mass on Friday and concluding before the 9:00 AM Mass on Saturday. The Church will be open all night to open our hearts and minds to Christ being present to us right here and now.

- \* Deacon Mark will have a special talk at 6 PM to prepare us for the coming of Christ;
- \* Festival of Praise will be glorifying God with praise and worship Adoration from 7:30 - 9 PM and will have prayer teams available
- \* Father Jose and Father Keith will be hearing Confessions after Deacon Mark's talk and until about 11 PM. Fr. Keith will also return Saturday morning to hear Confessions from 6:30 AM until about 8:30 AM.

This is in lieu of a Penance Service this Advent; remember that priests are always available on Saturday at 11:30 AM & 3:30 PM; all Saturdays until Christmas should have both priests available at those times or you can call to schedule a time.

### OPLATEK

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



**Wesołych Świąt!**

## THIS WEEK AT IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

### Sunday, December 7, 2025

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

**8:00 AM - Noon** K of C Breakfast with St. Nick

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

**1:15 PM** Baptism

**6:00 PM** Christmas Tree Lighting

### Monday, December 8

**Holy Day: IMMACULATE CONCEPTION**

**Mass Times: 7 AM, 9 AM, Noon, 7:30 PM**

**Offices are Closed**

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

### Tuesday, December 9

Regular Mass Schedule: 7 & 9AM

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

**6:00 PM** ARS Meeting (PH)

### Wednesday, December 10

Regular Mass Schedule: 7 & 9AM

**6:45PM** Women's Corner Stone (PH)

### Thursday, December 11

Regular Mass Schedule: 7 & 9AM

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

**7:00 PM** Pro Life Mtg. (Library)

### Friday, December 12

**ADORATION ALL DAY AND NIGHT**

**FRIDAY 9:30 AM - SATURDAY 8:45 AM**

Regular Mass Schedule: 7 & 9AM

**6:00 PM** Deacon Mark Advent Talk

**7:30 PM** Praise & Worship Adoration/Prayer team

### Saturday, December 13

Regular Mass Schedule: 9AM & 4:30PM

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

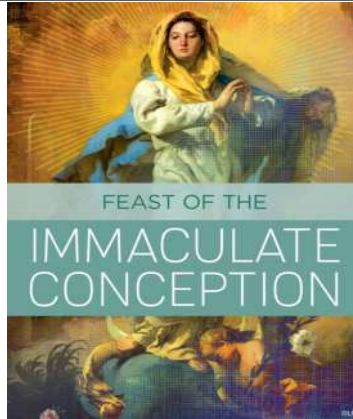
**11:30 AM & 3:30 PM** Confessions (Church)

**10:30 AM** ARS Christmas Brunch (PH)

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

**CHRISTMAS CONCERT TICKETS SOLD OUT  
NEXT SUNDAY AT 2:00 PM**

Next Sunday we welcome back Fr. Alphonse for our Annual Christmas Concert! Tickets for the event are now officially **sold out** and are not available on StubHub, SeatGeek nor Vivid Seats.



**HAPPY FEAST DAY!**

Monday, December 8 is our Feast Day of our Parish and our Country! It is a Holy Day of Obligation! We will celebrate Masses on Monday at 7 & 9 AM, 12 Noon & 7:30 PM.

Please note that our Parish Office & School are closed on Monday to celebrate our Feast.

### ANNUAL CHRISTMAS TREE LIGHTING THIS SUNDAY!

Our Annual Christmas Tree Lighting is scheduled to take place on the night before our feast day, December 7<sup>th</sup> after the 5 PM Mass. Come join our cherubs and IC Singers to get in the holiday spirit as we sing a few songs to defrost the snow we have already received!



### PANCAKE BREAKFAST WITH ST. NICHOLAS

**This Sunday, December 7<sup>th</sup>**, the Knights of Columbus Council #6245 will host their monthly Pancake Breakfast from 8 AM-12 PM in the Parish Hall. Please join us as our special guest, **St. Nicholas**, enjoys a good meal after his feast day! The proceeds benefit the various charities and activities supported by the K of C including scholarships for high school & college bound students. We thank you for your continued support of our ministry! *Reminder that if you or your family cannot afford breakfast, we have vouchers available at the parish office.*

## WELCOME HOME

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

**Sunday, December 7** (2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent)

**Vigil** John Brodeur (Celine Brodeur & Family)  
8 am John T. Smith (Frank & Suzanne Ocello)  
10 am For our Parishioners  
12 pm Annabelle Mastrangelo (Family)  
5 pm Frances Fanelli (Powers Family)

**Monday, December 8** (Immaculate Conception)

7 am Helene Jankowicz (R & R Delmastro)  
9 am Lynda Magliochetti (Loving Husband)  
12:pm For our Parishioners  
7:30pm Frances Fanelli (Resua Family)

**Tuesday, December 9** (St. Juan Diego)

7 am Gail Kuzmiskas (Family Friends)  
9 am Frances Fanelli (Petterman Family)

**Wednesday, December 10** (Our Lady of Loreta)

7 am Int's of Donna Pezik (Michele Bernard)  
9 am Int's of Lourdes Estrellado (Rose Murjani)

**Thursday, December 11** (St. Damasus)

7 am Craig Highsmith (Stacey Crew)  
9 am Craig Highsmith (Women's Cornerstone)

**Friday, December 12** (Our Lady of Guadalupe)

7 am Anthony Giacona (Fr. Keith M. Cervine)  
9 am Edna Queeney (Family)

**Saturday, December 13** (St. Lucy)

9 am Frank Ocello Sr. (Mary Ocello)

**Sunday, December 14** (3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent)

**Vigil** Msgr. Vernon (James Noonan)  
8 am For our Parishioners  
10 am Eileen Tener (Dolores Silva)  
12 pm Rita Carol Straka (Patty Family)  
**5 pm NO 5 PM MASS**



The Sanctuary candle for **Dec 7– Dec 13 is lit in memory of John Paciga**

### **CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE**

**Christmas Eve**, Wed. Dec 24<sup>th</sup>: 4PM\*, 6 PM, 8PM, **Midnight**

**Christmas Day**, Thur. Dec 25<sup>th</sup>: 8, 10 AM & Noon  
\*4PM Mass celebrated in Church and Parish Hall

**There is no 5 PM Mass on Christmas Day**

### **CATHOLIC CHARITIES**

**Diocese of Metuchen**

### **VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY**

Catholic Charities, Diocese of Metuchen Thrift Store and Food Pantry in Phillipsburg is in need of volunteers. Please call Maria Hunter at 732-387-1315 for more information.



### **PARISH GIVING TREE**

Our parish giving tree is up in the Narthex, please take a tag to help those in need! A great idea in which you can help two groups in one shot is by purchasing any gift cards that have been requested from the Giving Tree through out SCRIP Program! Order forms are in this bulletin! Due date for gifts is **Monday, Dec. 15<sup>th</sup>**.

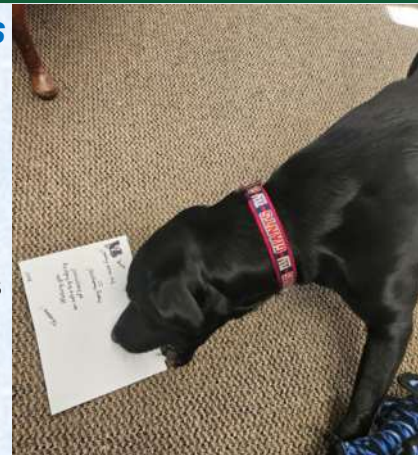


### **TENEBRAE TALKS**

I like to bark and welcome all people to the rectory & offices. One of my favorite people to bark at is the mailman. He comes just about every day. Sometimes it makes me sad, because once the mailman comes Fr.

Keith and others in the office seem to be more interested in what he brought them instead of me. But guess what, last week, I got a letter from the mailman too! It was very exciting. There was no return address, but I am truly thankful, now I know why the others ignore me to see what the mailman brings. While I taught myself how to type to write these notes to you every week, I have not yet mastered my paw-writing (the pen is too tempting to chew on instead of write with).

I know a lot of you asked Fr. Keith, so I wanted to let you know that I am feeling my normal self again, thank you for all the prayers and support. I even got to frolic in the snow this week and I hope you did too! Especially as you go see St. Nicholas at the pancake breakfast this week, be sure to Be a Good Boy!



## HAITI HOMEBUILDING PROJECT

***“You are being enriched in every way for all generosity, which through you produces thanksgiving to God” (2 Cor. 9:11)***

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ:

We are in the midst of our 20th annual Haiti Home Building Project. Your generosity over the years on behalf of the people of Haiti has reduced the suffering and frustrations of the poor and has helped to transform lives through the powerful gift of a safe and secure home.

For 20 years the parish community of Immaculate Conception has been supporting the poor and homeless people of Haiti through the construction of clean, safe housing. To date your contributions of more than \$451,000 to our annual *Haiti Home Building Project* has enabled *Food for the Poor* to build 116 homes which are providing a safe, clean, warm place to live for hundreds in need.

Additionally, because of your generosity we have purchased thousands of pounds of food, farm animals and trees, which help to combat the overwhelming problem of food insecurity, school supplies, solar lamp kits, water pumps, each of which provides an entire village with clean water for drinking, cleaning and personal hygiene, computers, safety lighting and playground equipment.

The stark realities of life such as the ongoing gang violence and the devastation from the recent Hurricane Melissa paint a somber picture for the Haitian people..

Beginning this weekend and continuing through to December 28, we will again be accepting your donations. If you would like to be a part of this work of Christian charity please email Deacon Bill at [wrogerb2@msn.com](mailto:wrogerb2@msn.com) and let him know how much you can donate. Then simply make your donation at <https://giving.parishsoft.com/App/Giving/FD-123>. You may also pay by check made payable to Immaculate Conception and either put it in the collection basket or drop it off at the parish office. In the memo line please write HAITI PROJECT which will insure your donation is credited to our Haiti Project.

*Thank you and may God bless you and your family during this holiday season and always.*

Your brothers in Christ,

Deacon Bill Bauer,  
Project Coordinator

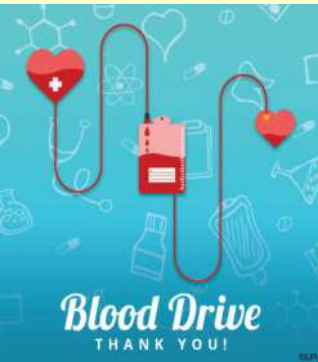
Rev. Keith M. Cervine,  
Pastor





## MONTHLY CONTRIBUTION REPORT

Due to the early bulletin deadline of the holiday season, our monthly contribution report for the month of December will be in next week's bulletin.



### THANKS FOR BEING A LIFESAVER

A word of thanks to all who came out to support our blood drive last Sunday. It was another great success with over 30 donors and we look forward to seeing you at our next one!

### THANKS DEACON MARK & NANCY

You might not have noticed it, but Deacon Mark used his carpentry skills to recreate the top of our Advent wreath holder. Along with the beautiful work of Nancy, our florist, and many others, our Advent wreath really stands out! Thank you for using your talents to enhance our worship space!



2<sup>nd</sup> SUNDAY OF ADVENT



## From the Pastor's Desk

It is already the Second Sunday of Advent and we have seen our first snow of the year... where does the time go? As we approach our Feast Day this week, we are reminded that just as God prepared our Blessed Mother for her ultimate yes, he has prepared us as well to handle what might seem impossible at first glance. We just began year A in the Church liturgical cycle, which is focused on the Gospel of Matthew. One of my favorite lines from the Gospel is Matthew 19:26: "For human beings this is impossible, but for God all things are possible." Whenever stress or anxiety come into my life, I remember the yes I said to Him at my ordination - placing my trust in Him and His Church. It is not about me, but about our Lord. All things are possible with God. This time of Advent reminds us just as John the Baptist provokes his listeners to prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his path. Repent, for the Kingdom of God is at hand! We ready ourselves for his two comings by preparing as if the Lord will be coming tomorrow.

I know this time can be overwhelming and there are not enough hours in a day to get everything done that we feel we need to before Christmas is upon us. I want to encourage you this Advent to truly take some time to prepare yourself. Whether it be in the Sacrament of Reconciliation or a some quiet time before the Lord in Adoration or doing the daily reflections in our Advent prayer books. Make ready your heart and mind by making a place for Christ first and the other things will not seem as daunting. He is the Prince of Peace and wants you to be that peaceful person. We might still be worried about finding the time to do all we would like to accomplish, but we can rest assured when we know the most important thing is done.

Pax et bonum,  
*Fr. Keith*

## ON TO STATES

Congratulations to our two ICS Robotics teams that advanced on to the state competition. You literally are building a great foundation within our community and world with your skills in the exciting world of STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering & Mathematics). Go Blue Knights!



# SCRIP GIFT CARDS & IMMACULATE CONCEPTION SCHOOL

## ARE GIFT CARDS ON YOUR CHRISTMAS SHOPPING LIST?

The Scrip Team can help you with your gift card shopping! Simply complete an order form on the next page, attach payment, and we'll take care of the rest! Your gift cards will be assembled and ready for you to pick up at the Parish office!

- 1) **Please include a legible email address and a daytime phone number** where we can contact you with questions.
- 2) **Attach exact payment** in the form of cash or check made out to ICS.
- 3) **Return your order form at mass, to the Parish Office or the School Office.**

**Orders will be available for pick up as follows (pick up at the Parish Office after 12pm):**

Order & payment received by Monday, 12/8 - pick up on Friday, 12/12

Order & Payment received by Monday, 12/15 - pick up on Friday, 12/19

These are just our 72 most popular gift cards, bold companies are local vendors, visit [raiseright.com](http://raiseright.com) to see over 500 retailers available; multiple denomination options available.

**Need more help?** Contact Marika Andrushkiw at [scrip@icsclinton.org](mailto:scrip@icsclinton.org) for assistance.

**Thank you for your support!**

**\*\*Please be aware** that School Families must place scrip orders online to receive credit for each purchase.\*\*



**ICS celebrated our Thanksgiving Break by our own Thanksgiving Balloon Parade throughout our school. The third grade brought joy to us all and of course at the end of the parade was the Santa balloon. We hope next year to include some musical acts and get broadcast on tv throughout the country.**

### THANK YOU

A word of thanks to all who cheered our float on at the Clinton Christmas Parade! It was great to see you all!



IMMACULATE CONCEPTION



## *SCRIP ORDER FORM*

Please include a daytime phone & legible email address so that we may contact you with questions.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Ph # \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Product	Amt	Qty	\$Total	Product	Amt	Qty	\$Total
Aéropostale	\$25			J. Crew	\$25		
Amazon.com	\$25			Kohl's	\$25		
AMC Theatres	\$25			L.L. Bean	\$25		
American Eagle	\$25			Land's End	\$25		
Apple Store	\$25			Lowe's	\$25		
Applebee's	\$25			McDonald's	\$25		
Barnes & Noble	\$10			Michael's Craft Store	\$25		
Barnes & Noble	\$25			Macy's	\$25		
<b>Beaver Brook Spa</b>	<b>\$50</b>			Nordstrom	\$25		
Bath & Bodyworks	\$10			Olive Garden/LongHorn	\$25		
Bath & Bodyworks	\$25			Outback/Bonefish	\$25		
<b>Beyond Bijoux - Clinton</b>	<b>\$25</b>			Panera	\$25		
<b>Bishop's Supermarket</b>	<b>\$50</b>			Regal Theatres	\$25		
Bloomingdale's	\$25			Sephora	\$25		
Buffalo Wild Wings	\$25			<b>Shammy Shine</b>	<b>\$25</b>		
Build-A-Bear	\$25			Shoprite	\$25		
Burlington	\$25			Shoprite	\$100		
Cabela's	\$25			Starbucks	\$25		
Carter's/OshKosh	\$25			Stop & Shop	\$25		
Children's Place	\$25			Stop & Shop	\$100		
Chili's/Maggiano's	\$25			Target	\$25		
Chipotle Mexican Grill	\$25			The Home Depot	\$25		
Cheesecake Factory	\$25			T.J. Maxx/Marshall's	\$25		
Cracker Barrel	\$25			Top Golf	\$50		
Crate & Barrel	\$25			Tractor Supply	\$25		
Dick's Sporting Goods	\$25			Under Armour	\$25		
Disney	\$25			Visa ( <i>No activation fee</i> )	\$25		
Dunkin' Donuts	\$10			Visa ( <i>No activation fee</i> )	\$50		
Dunkin' Donuts	\$25			Visa ( <i>No activation fee</i> )	\$100		
DSW	\$25			Walmart	\$25		
Famous Footwear	\$25			Walmart	\$100		
<b>Frank's Italian Rest.</b>	<b>\$25</b>			Wawa	\$25		
Game Stop	\$25			Walgreens	\$25		
Gap/Old Navy	\$25			Wegmans	\$50		
<b>Heartstrings - Clinton</b>	<b>\$25</b>			Wegmans	\$100		
<b>Harper's Table</b>	<b>\$50</b>			Williams Sonoma/P.Barn	\$25		

Total Amount Ordered: \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Check # \_\_\_\_\_ Cash \$ \_\_\_\_\_

SHARING THE GOSPEL

John the Baptist taught people to get ready for Jesus. He told them to change their lives. John helped many people wash away all their mistakes and bad choices. He washed away all their cheating, lying, fighting, and stealing. Once they were clean, John wanted them to see that living God's way is so much better. John told the people not only to clean their bodies, but to show that they love God by the way that they live.

LIVING THE GOSPEL

Pray that people thinking of doing evil will choose God's way instead.

PRAYER FOR THE WEEK

Dear God, help my words and my choices to show that I love you.

CELEBRATE OUR FEAST DAY!

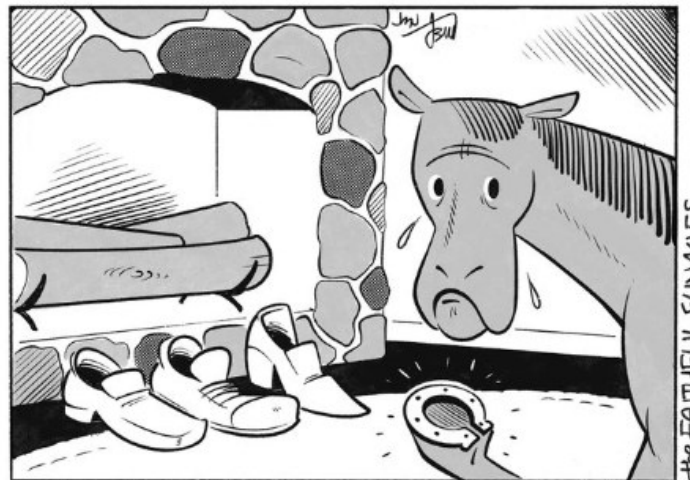
We thank our Blessed Mother Mary for saying yes to God and having Jesus. But we remember that God prepared her to say yes. He prepares us too for great things that might seem difficult at first, so we can say "Yes!" at ICS.



Read today's Gospel & color the image.

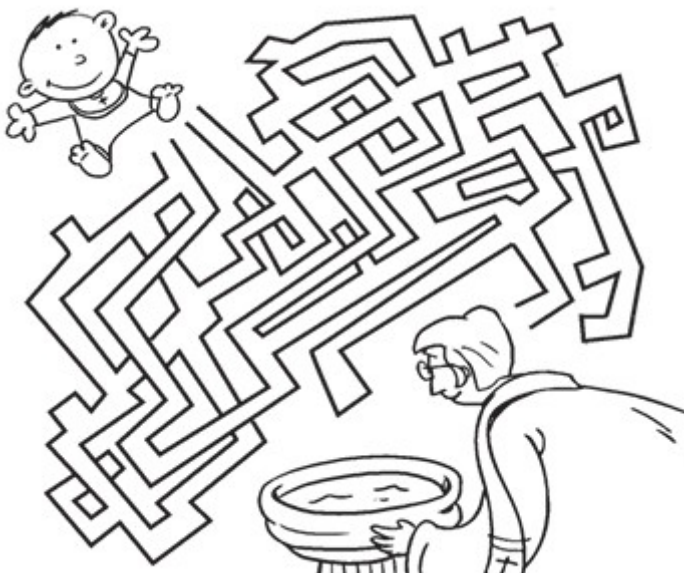


"Why was the horse sad?"



"He couldn't put out his shoes for St. Nicholas Day."

PUZZLE Help the baby find his way to the priest & his Baptism



FUN FACT! On December 6, children around the world eagerly line up their shoes for St. Nicholas to fill with treats — a tradition that inspired the modern Santa Claus.



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a graduation, or whatever.

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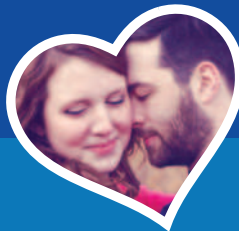
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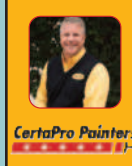
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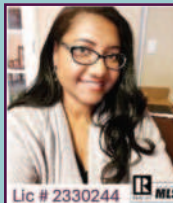
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