

TEACHER



Daily: Monday-Saturday, 9 a.m.*, Chapel Saturday Vigil: 5:30 p.m., Church Sunday: 8:30 a.m. & 11:30 a.m.*, Church * In-person & virtual

CONFESSION

Saturday, 4 p.m. to 4:45 p.m., Church or by appointment

PARISH CENTER OFFICE

5000 Southpark Drive Durham, NC 27713

OFFICE HOURS

Monday-Thursday, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.; closed Friday

CONTACT US

Office: 919-544-7135 info@holyinfantchurch.org

VISIT US ONLINE

Go to holyinfantchurch.org or scan the QR code below

OPEN HEARTS · OPEN HANDS · OPEN MINDS



THOUGHTS FROM SALESIAN SPIRITUALITY

"Fasting is not a virtue in itself, but only when accompanied by conditions that make it pleasing to God. We must fast with our whole heart, willingly, wholeheartedly, universally, and entirely." - St. Francis de Sales



Parish staff					
<u>Title</u>	Staff Member	<u>Direct Line</u>	<u>Email</u>		
Pastor	Rev. Robert M. Rutledge, OSFS	919-973-0006	RRutledge@holyinfantchurch.org		
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Director of Catechetical Leadership	Michalene Sutton	919-973-0013	Msutton@holyinfantchurch.org		
Assistant Director of Catechetical Leadership	Anna Lee	919-973-0012	ALee@holyinfantchurch.org		
Director of Liturgy & Music	Jeff Rice	919-925-3714	JeffR@holyinfantchurch.org		
Communications Coordinator	Stacy Paper	919-973-0010	StacyP@holyinfantchurch.org		
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Parish Services Assistant	Brandi Rhew	919-544-7135	BrandiR@holyinfantchurch.org		
Pastor's Assistant	Karina Miranda	919-973-0008	KarinaM@holyinfantchurch.org		
Pastoral Associate	Lynn Sale	919-973-0018	LynnS@holyinfantchurch.org		
Deacon	Tom Hill	919-544-7135	Tomh@holyinfantchurch.org		

PARISH FINANCE COUNCIL

Rev. Robert M. Rutledge, OSFS, Pastor

Laura Terpack, Peter Barrett, Co-Chairmen, holyinfantpfcchair@gmail.com

John Martin, Director of Operations and Finance

Norberto Quezada, Bob Dieter, Mike Pearl, Bob Radcliffe, Gerard Musante

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

Kim McAllister	Collin McKiney	Laura Terpack
Bob Dieter	Carol Owen	ex-Officio
Lindsay Glenn	Julio Revueltas	Lynn Sale,
Matt Luedke	Mark Szczesiul	ex-Officio

Rev. Robert M. Rutledge, OSFS, Pastor Midge Bowers, Chair, midge2031@gmail.com

FIND IT ON THE WEB

Our parish website is your <u>primary</u> source for the most complete and up-to-date information about the parish. Visit holyinfantchurch.org for details on many topics, including:

- Mass and Liturgy Times
- **† Office Hours and Contact Information**
- **Calendar of Events**, including event details
- **News** within the parish and around the diocese
- Worship & Sacraments, including sacramental prep information for Baptism, Reconciliation (Confession), Eucharist, Confirmation, Marriage, Anointing of the Sick, and Holy Orders; Vocations for men and women; and Funerals
- † Faith & Learning for adults, teens, and children; becoming Catholic; Catholic schools
- Salesian spirituality and the Oblates of St. Francis de Sales
- **†** Joining the parish
- **†** Getting Involved
- **†** Ministries & Groups

Safe Environment Victim Assistance Hotline

Call 866-535-SAFE

PRAY FOR OUR SICK AND HOMEBOUND

During the General Intercessions at our weekend Masses, we remember all members of our parish and community who are homebound or suffering any illness. Please remember the following in your prayers this week:

Jean Arlotta; Mary Anthony; Jo Agusta; Nancy Balding; Jeff Baker; Colette & Clayton Bean; Jerry DeBenedetto; Jennifer Bland; Margaret Burnett; Marcia Brown; Maria Capone; Alice & Christos Chamis; Albina & Chin Chua; Eva Crowley; Lillian Davids; Rosemary Donohue; Eileen Dowling; Christine Drap; Jason Ferrigan; Adela Florey; Dot Gregory; Marjorie Goode; Mary Jane Haga; Mary Jane Harvey; Jane Helmer; Denise Herron: Ruth & Kenneth Jones: Aileen Koch: Donna LaMountain: Alice Lefebvre: Peggy McIntvre: Terry Mercaldo; Monique Mueller; Nelida Muniz; Kathleen O'Donnell; Johnathan Palermo; Louise Peloquin; Marc Peloquin: Bill Perkins: Helen Pischak: Diane Curtis-Ratliff: Rosalind Riggio; Nancy Rizzo; Shelia Rogers; Julia Schmidt; Susan Sheehan; Tom Shreve; Betty Short; Bob Smith; Hugo Sotolongo: Corrine Stavely: Katherine Strubing: Marisa Suarez; Mary Sunderland; Richard Thomas; Angel David

HOLY WEEK 2025

APRIL 13

Palm Sunday Mass at 8:30 am & 11:30 am

APRIL 17

Lord's Supper Mass at 7 pm

Night Prayer 11 pm

APRIL 18

Morning Prayer 9am

Service of the Lord's Passion Service at 3 pm

Stations of the Cross 6:30 pm

APRIL 19

Morning Prayer 9 am

Blessing of the Food for Easter 12 pm



EASTER VIGIL MASSES

April 19th at 8:30 pm April 20th at 6:30 am, 8:30 am<u>, 11:30 am</u>

MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS April 7th—April 13th

Monday, 9 am

Tuesday, 9:00 am

No Mass Aviana Fitzgerald

(birthday) Norbert Dziekanowski †

Wednesday, 9:00 am Thursday, 9:00am

Pat McGinn † Adrian Heffern † Friday, 9:00 am Saturday, 9:00 am **Vocations**

Saturday, 5:30 pm **Sunday**, 8:30 am Sunday, 11:30 am

Cristina Manalac (birthday) Chris Weimer (honor) Parishioners of Holy Infant

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday Is 65:17-21 Ps 30:2 and 4, 5-6, 11-12a and 13b Jn 4:43-54

Tuesday Ez 47:1-9, 12 Ps 46:2-3, 5-6, 8-9 Jn 5:1-16 Wednesday Is 49:8-15 Ps 145:8-9, 13cd-14, 17-18 Jn 5:17-30

Thursday Ex 32:7-14 Ps 106:19-20, 21-22, 23 Jn 5:31-47 Friday Wis 2:1a, 12-22 Ps 34:17-18, 19-20, 21 and 23 Jn 7:1-2, 10, 25-30

Saturday Jer 11:18-20 Ps 7:2-3, 9bc-10, 11-12 Jn 7:40-53 **Sunday** Is 43:16-21 Ps 126:1-2, 2-3, 4-5, 6. Phil 3:8-14 Jn 8:1-11



Stewardship of Treasure | July 1 - March 31

	Needed	Received	Difference
First Offertory	\$826,220	\$802,141	(\$24,079)
Christmas Offertory	\$26,000	\$27,832	\$1,832
Easter Offertory	\$500	\$703	\$203
Holy Day Collections	\$10,046	\$9,905	\$2,046
Maintenance Offertory	\$34,810	\$30,828	(\$3,982)
	\$895,530	\$871,409	(\$24,121)

UPCOMING EVENTS

Apr 7 Funeral Mass, Pauline White, 11 am

Apr 7 Caring for Our Common Home meeting, 7 pm

Apr 7 Lenten Moms Small Group, 8 pm

Apr 8 Centering Prayer, 8 am

Apr 8 Justice Garden Workday, 9 am

Apr 8 Stephen Ministry Meeting, 6:30 pm

Apr 9 Catechesis of the Good Shepherd, 4:30 pm

Apr 10 Marian Prayer, 9:30 am

Apr 10 Stephen Leaders Meeting, 10:30 am

Apr 10 Eucharistic Adoration, 12 pm

Apr 11 Fish Fry @ Holy Infant, 4:30 pm

Apr 11 Stations of the Cross, 6:30 pm

Apr 12 CFC April Assembly, 9 am

Apr 12 Justice Garden Workday, 9 am

Apr 12 Daughters of St Francis de Sales, 10 am

Apr 12 Servants of God Prayer Group, 3 pm

Apr 12 Reconciliation, 4 pm

Apr 13 Family Formation, 9:45 am

Apr 13 Catechesis of the Good Shepherd, 9:45 am

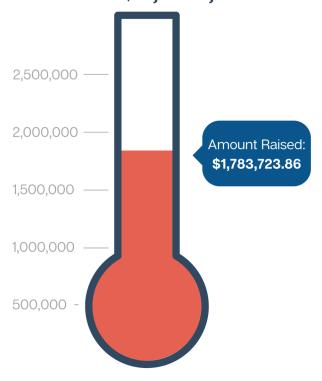
Apr 13 TYM/JYM, 6:30 pm

Apr 13 St Monica Ministry for Praying Parents, 7 pm

The parish library is open on Sundays from 8 am-4 pm



GOAL: \$3,000,000





As we continue to grow and thrive as a faith community, we are excited to embark on the next phase of our parish's development: the renovation of the DeSales Center. This project is a vital step in enhancing our facilities to better serve our expanding congregation and to foster deeper connections within our parish family.

A VISION FOR THE FUTURE

In 2016, Holy Infant Catholic Church outlined a two-phase plan to address the evolving needs of our parish. Phase 1 saw the successful completion of our new worship space in 2021, which now stands debt-free—a testament to the generosity and commitment of our community. With our parish now encompassing nearly 1,200 families and continuing to grow, the time has come to advance to Phase 2: transforming the former worship space into the DeSales Center, a hub for education, fellowship, and ministry activities.

PLANNED ENHANCEMENTS

The DeSales Center renovation aims to address several key areas:

- Replacing essential systems such as HVAC, lighting, roofing, ceilings, insulation, and ensuring ADA-compliant restrooms to create a comfortable and accessible environment.
- Reconfiguring and renovating spaces with new flooring and wall finishes to enrich our children's faith formation experiences.
- Revitalizing the Fellowship Hall with updated flooring, lighting, wall finishes, and a new platform to host a variety of parish events.
- Modernizing and expanding restrooms to meet current building codes and accommodate our growing community.

Additional upgrades include the addition of flexible meeting rooms, an expanded kitchen with modern amenities, a welcoming lobby with improved accessibility features, and enhanced outdoor connections between the DeSales Center and the church.

YOUR SUPPORT MAKES A DIFFERENCE

The total campaign goal for this ambitious project is \$3,000,000. To achieve this, we are inviting every parish family to consider pledging. Pledges can range from \$3,000 to \$300,000, payable over three years. This equates to as little as \$1.50 per day over 36 months—a small daily sacrifice that can make a monumental impact.

WAYS TO GIVE

There are multiple avenues to contribute to the DeSales Center renovation:

- Stocks & Bonds: Donating appreciated securities can offer significant tax advantages.
- IRA Gifts: Individuals over 70½ years old may be eligible to make charitable gifts from IRA assets without tax complications.
- Wills & Bequests: Including Holy Infant in your estate planning can provide lasting support.
- Matching Gifts: Many employers offer matching gift programs, effectively doubling your contribution.

All gifts are tax-deductible as provided by law, and receipts will be provided upon request.

JOIN US IN BUILDING OUR FUTURE

Your participation is crucial to the success of this endeavor. By coming together as a community, we can create a space that nurtures our faith, fosters fellowship, and serves the needs of all parishioners for generations to come. Thank you for your prayerful consideration and unwavering support. Together, we can achieve this remarkable milestone in our parish's journey.



Faith Development

DirectorMichalene Sutton
919-973-0013
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Assistant Director
Anna Lee
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OCIA TRAINING SERIES

Want to journey alongside people who are becoming Catholic and learn how to share your faith with others? Join the OCIA team for an upcoming training series led by expert Mary Birmingham!

In five weeks, we will walk through each step of the initiation process and discuss how we can improve it at Holy Infant. This is an exciting opportunity for the current OCIA team and anyone who may be interested in serving as a Sponsor or Catechist in the future as our program continues to grow.

Curious but don't want to commit yet? Just join us for the first overview session on **April 29th**! We will meet at 7 pm in the Hospitality room of the DeSales Center.

Mary Birmingham, (MA Liturgy/Theology, St. John's University, Collegeville, MN) is the former director of music, liturgy and Christian Initiation at Ascension Catholic Church in Melbourne, FL and has been involved in OCIA ministry on a national level since 1992. Mary is a former presenter for the North American Forum on the Catechumenate and travels extensively throughout the United States and Canada presenting workshops on the OCIA for dioceses as well as the Catechist School, a two day seminar that teaches skills for the implementation of the OCIA that she developed with her colleague Nick Wagner of TEAMRCIA.

Mary brings her passion for the liturgy and the Rite of Christian Initiation and its power to transform hearts to this work of evangelization hoping it will assist catechists in their remarkable conversion-centered ministries.



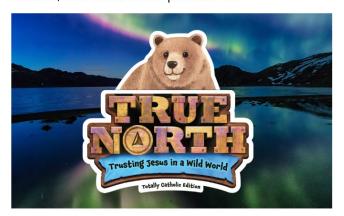
FINAL FISH FRY

Join the Knights of Columbus for the last Fish Friday from 4:30 - 7 pm on **April 11**th at Holy Infant. Each plate is \$15 and includes Fried Fish, French Fries, Macaroni & Cheese, Hush Puppies, Coleslaw and a Dessert.

KIDS GEAR SWAP

Join us on Saturday, **May 31**st from 8 - 11 am for a fun and eco-friendly Kid's Gear Swap event. It's the perfect opportunity to declutter your child's belongings and find new treasures for them.

Stay tuned for more details coming out in April on how to drop off clothes, toys, and other kid's gear for the swap. Whether your kids have outgrown their toys or you just need a refresh for the spring season, this event is the place to be.



ADOPT A PROP FOR VBC

We are looking for volunteers to adopt a prop for our Vacation Bible Camp set. Volunteers will be given a take home craft project to be completed on their own time and returned to the parish before VBC. Reach out to Michalene at the information above. Thank you!



SCAN ME!

ing Jesus in a Wild World

Totally Catholic Edition

FINDING YOUR WAY in a world gone wild.

We have Jesus—our true north! Give kids a rock-solid foundation and point them to Jesus.

Vacation Bible Camp 2025 June 29 -July 2nd, 5:30 - 7:30 pm

Ministries

Pastoral Associate

Lynn Sale lynns@holyinfantchurch.org



BECOME A STEPHEN MINISTER

Have you been told that you are a compassionate, caring person? If so, Stephen Ministry may be the place for you to serve. Stephen Ministry is a one-to-one ministry that provides compassionate companionship for those who are going through challenging times, such as illness or loss.

A new 50-hour training course will be offered at Holy Infant for new Stephen Ministers beginning Thursday, **August 28th**. Applications are now being accepted. Information Meetings about the training will be held Tuesday, April 29th. Contact Lynn Sale to inquire.

DEMENTIA AND MEDICATION STUDY

Are you aged 75 or older and looking to contribute to groundbreaking research? A large national study is currently underway to explore if a widely used cholesterol-lowering medication could potentially prevent dementia in older adults. Participating sites such as Duke, Durham VA Medical Center, and UNC are seeking individuals who are interested in taking part. For more details call 833-385-3899.

APRIL UMD SHELTER DINNER

Our next dinner will be on Easter Sunday, **April 20th**. You can volunteer to provide food items or to help prepare and serve the meal. Learn more and register using the QR code.

HEALING FROM ABORTION

If you desire healing from a past abortion, you are invited to experience the love of Jesus Christ at a Project Rachel weekend retreat **June 6th-8th**, in the Raleigh area. The weekend retreat is strictly confidential, for both women and men and includes discussions, spiritual exercises, the sacrament of reconciliation, a Memorial Service, and a Mass of the Resurrection. Participation offers a beautiful opportunity to experience God's love, forgiveness, and compassion.

For more information or to register for the retreat, contact Project Rachel at: project.rachel@raldioc.org or call (919) 852-1021.

INSIGHTS ON IMMIGRATION POLICY

Do you have strong views on immigration policy? Would you like to better understand the views of others on this emotionally charged topic? The Migration Policy Institute reveals that the number of unauthorized immigrants in the United States has reached a historical high of 13.7 million as of mid-2023. Despite a current decline in unauthorized immigration, the issue remains prevalent and complex.

Join us on **May 21st** at 7 pm in the DeSales Center for an insightful discussion on immigration policy hosted by Braver Angels. Explore different perspectives, delve into the implications of unauthorized immigration, and engage in constructive dialogue to foster understanding and collaboration.

We are looking for participants who are both in favor of and opposed to the recent resolutions on immigration. Please email Rosemary Ford (rosemaryford1@me.com) to express interest in the discussion.



CHECK OUT OUR PARISH CALENDAR FOR MORE UPCOMING EVENTS AT HOLY INFANT



Oblates of St. Francis de Sales

WHICH WILL TO FOLLOW?

What does God ask of me today? What is God's Will for me today and for my life? These are important questions to answer. You might be familiar with the phrase: "Ask for nothing; refuse nothing." I don't know about you, but I ask for many things:

- "Please let the weather be nice for our outing."
- "Please bring healing to someone close to me."
- "Please continue to improve Pope Francis' health."

You've got the idea. I also refuse some things: I get physically ill when eating liver, so I refuse it; I need to protect my fingers, so I refuse an offer to play a sport or game that could harm them; I refuse sweets on my better days, because I live with diabetes.

During a conference on hope, St. Francis de Sales said: "Desire nothing but what God desires for you, embrace lovingly; the events and the different effects of God's divine will." (Conference VI on Hope, p. 102). That sounds so nice, but it isn't easy. And it often takes the kind of honest dialogue that Mary has with God through the Angel Gabriel. We heard the Gospel of the Annunciation on Tuesday of this week. Mary asked: "How can this be since I do not know a man?" "How will this happen?" Gabriel answers: "The Holy Spirit will overshadow you." Mary is finally able to answer: "Fiat! Let it be done to me as you say."

We often learn about God's Will through another person, a messenger of God. When it became clear to me that God was inviting me to transfer from the Dominicans to the Oblates, God and I had quite a conversation. I asked: "Are you sure this is what You want? After all, I love my Dominican identity." God answered through others who knew me well: "You will bring your Dominican identity with you." I continued: "But this will be quite a change for me." God answered: "Yes, but change can be a great gift, especially if it is a good change." I was finally able to say: "Yes, Lord, help me to live Your Will." I consulted with people who knew me well, both those who might have wanted me to remain a Dominican and those who wanted me to transfer. Living God's Will each moment of our lives is a key element of our Salesian Spirituality.

I prepared a couple for Marriage. They had a solid relationship, but they still had many questions. As we met, they answered the question: "What is God asking of me at this moment in my life?" The more we explored each of their answers to that question, it became clear that they loved each other deeply, but they were not ready to make an important commitment like the Sacrament of Marriage asks. They took time to pray with this question more deeply. They took time to explore their love and their options. After about a year they were able to say "Yes" in answer to that question. They could own that marrying one another was God's Will for each of them and for their life as a couple. They desired to do God's Will. They desired each other. It was clear that

marrying one another was doing God's Will. All of their desires meshed. It was a wonderful day when I could witness their marriage.

What is God's Will, God's desire for you? What is your desire? Take your answer to these questions to prayer. Refuse whatever is not in keeping with your sense of God's Will for you. Turn to the Scriptures for guidance. Turn to someone whose living of God's Will you trust. Be honest in your dialogue. And then, hopefully, you will be able to pray with Mary: "Let it be done as you say."

May God be praised.

Fr. Paul Colloton, OSFS, D.Min.



Novena for Vocations April 18th - 26th



The Diocese of Raleigh is inviting the faithful to uplift its seminarians this Lenten season through prayers, sacrifices, and personal messages of encouragement. Father Michael Schuetz, director of Vocations, is spearheading the initiative, emphasizing the importance of supporting these men as they discern their call to the priesthood.

"Your prayers and words of encouragement mean so much to these men," Father Schutz said, expressing gratitude for the community's support and assuring them of the seminarians' and priests' prayers in return.

The diocese is asking individuals to pray daily for seminarians by name, offer sacrifices for an increase in vocations, and send short videos or notes of encouragement.

Join us in prayer as we come together for a special Novena for Vocations from April 18th through April 26th, we invite you to participate in this powerful nine-day prayer journey to support and uplift those discerning their calling to religious life.

Vocations are a vital aspect of our faith community, and through this Novena, we can join our hearts and minds in seeking guidance and clarity for those on this important path. Whether you are called to a religious vocation yourself or wish to support others in this discernment process, your prayers are invaluable.

Let us come together as one community, united in faith and prayer, to uplift and encourage vocations within the Diocese of Raleigh and beyond. Thank you for joining us on this spiritual journey.

Use the QR to view the daily novena prayers.

Oblates of St. Francis de Sales



HARDENED HEART?

"If today you hear his voice, harden not your heart." This was the Gospel acclamation from the Psalms on Ash Wednesday. I took it as my prayer throughout Lent. Since we just celebrated the Third Sunday of Lent, I think I should do a check-in with you.

I met with my spiritual director before Lent. To be honest, I told her about some growing anger and frustration in my heart. I explained the circumstances for my anger to justify it and defend it. After speaking for some time, I exclaimed, "What is this?" My spiritual director looked at me and said, "Oh Joe... Have you ever heard of pride?"

She was right, it was pride. I actually laughed when she said it. I laughed because her insight was a gift, and it was on point. I have not always received insights in this fashion. Maybe you can relate. I often take my imperfections and make them my identity. I get spiritually trapped by shame.

Let me detail the difference between guilt and shame. Guilt identifies an action or decision that is off target. For example, I lied yesterday. Guilt is different from shame. Shame makes the fault our identity – I am a liar. Do you see the difference? I cheated (guilt). I am a cheater (shame). I acted impatiently (guilt). I am impatient (shame). I am reacting pridefully (guilt). I am prideful (shame).

St. Francis warns against the shame trap. This happens when we recognize our imperfections and overly identify with them, and immediately believe we are wretched and worthless. In The Introduction to the Devout Life, Part III, Chapter 9, DeSales writes about meekness toward ourselves, "Although reason requires that we must be displeased and sorry whenever we commit a fault, we must refrain from bitter, gloomy, spiteful, and emotional mispleasure. Many people are greatly at fault in this way." St. Francis identifies the source of a bitter and angry reaction against ourselves not as repentance or sorrow but as pride and self-love. The source of the shame trap is actually pride. If you have a copy of the Introduction, I recommend reading all of chapter nine, it's short and so good!

It was a moment of grace when my spiritual director identified pride as the source of my anger. This insight was a gift because now I can see it! As I see it during my Lenten journey, I follow St. Francis' advice, "Lift up your heart again whenever it falls, but do so meekly by humbling yourself before God."

"If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts."

May God be Praised!

-Fr. Ioe Newman, OSFS