### IMMACULATE CONCEPTION CATHOLIC CHURCH

Established - 1863

Diocese of Tyler – Most Rev. Joseph E Strickland - Bishop 201 N. Vale St. Jefferson, TX 75657 Phone: 903-665-2869

Welcome Everyone to Praise and Glorify the Lord.



#### **Our Mission**

We, the Roman Catholic Community of Immaculate Conception Church, under the guidance and protection of Mary, Our Blessed Mother, recognize ourselves as disciples of Jesus Christ. We strive to be a prayerful, Eucharistic Family, open to the Power of the Holy Spirit and conscious of our mission to use our time, talent and treasure in service to our brothers and sisters.

#### **Weekend Mass Schedule**

Saturday 5:00 p.m., Sunday 9:00 a.m.

#### **Devotion of the Holy Rosary**

Every Saturday @ 4:30 p.m. Every Sunday @ 8:30 a.m. Every Wednesday @ 6:00 p.m. (Unless otherwise noted)

#### **Weekday Mass Schedule**

Tuesday @ 12:10 p.m. Wednesday, Thursday, & Friday @ 9:00 a.m.

#### First Friday Adoration & Benediction Schedule

Following 9:00 a.m. Mass

First Saturday Mass @ 9:00 a.m.

#### **Sacrament of Reconciliation**

Every 3rd weekend of the Month Saturday 4:15p.m. - 4:45p.m. Sunday 8:15a.m. - 8:45a.m.

#### **Pastor**

Rev. Msgr. Zacharias (Zach) Kunnakkattuthara 903-724-0865

#### **Associate Pastors**

Rev. Father Isaac Oviedo 903-806-5164 Rev. Father Selvan Melkhias 903-360-6925

#### **Immaculate Conception Parish Office**

209 W Lafayette St
Phone: 903-665-2869
Hours –Thursday 9:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.
Email: <a href="mailto:icccjefferson@sbcglobal.net">icccjefferson@sbcglobal.net</a>
Church Website: <a href="mailto:http:/www.icccjeffersontx.org">http:/www.icccjeffersontx.org</a>

DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY APRIL 16, 2023



#### Why Stewardship

Receiving God's gifts gratefully cultivating them responsibly, sharing them lovingly in justice with others; returning them with increase to the Lord.

Your generosity and time is greatly appreciated!

### Offertory Collections

Week of April 9, 2023

Total General Collection \$2,378.00

Regular Collection \$ 2,098.00
Online Collection \$ 280.00

Good Friday \$ 547.00 Caring for Priest \$ 569.00

Thank you for your generosity!

#### Gift of Gratitude St. Vincent de Paul

WEEK OF 04/13/2023
Food for the poor: # of cans & packages: 12
Families served: 6 (12 People)

Thank You, God, for your ongoing generosity; so that, we can work to provide for those in need.

Remember our needy in the community, with a donation in the St. Vincent de Paul basket in the vestibule of the Church. It is a nice way of remembering our needy.

Thank you for helping others in our Community!
St Vincent de Paul Meetings
9:30 a.m. Thursdays in the Classroom
Everyone is welcome to attend!

St. Vincent De Paul Quarterly Report Immaculate Heart of Mary Conference Jefferson, Texas January-March 2023 April 2, 2023

Number of families served:	49
Total people served:	91
Aged/Daycare visits:	0
Prison visit:	0
Other/In Person visits:	4
Spiritual Aid/ Sacraments:	0
Hospital visit:	0
Blankets:	0
Socks:	0
Bags of groceries:	98
Parish Food Drive:	361 packages
<b>Telephone Contact:</b>	14
Home Visit:	3
Volunteer hours:	570
Volunteer mileage:	725
Food Expenses for Quarter:	\$ 1,007.17
<b>Expenses for Quarter:</b>	1,351.66
Income for quarter:	\$ 520.00
Balance:	\$ 5,477.89

#### **Upcoming Special Collections**

April 2, 2023—Fund for Those in Need April 7, 2023—Pontifical Good Friday Collection for the Holy Land April 9, 2023—Caring for Priest Collection April 30, 2023—Collection for Catholic Home Missions

#### Lay Ministry Schedule April 2023

Saturday, April 1, 2023 Palm Sunday Vigil

Regular Reading: Tammy Cornett Voice: Pam Watts Narrator: Susan Wise

Sunday, April 2, 2023 Palm Sunday

Regular Reading: Liz Opiela Voice: Roger Opiela Narrator: Jackie Traylor

#### Easter Sunday, April 9, 2023

Phillip Verhalen Sharon Verhalen

Saturday, April 15, 2023 John Dockery Sunday, April 16, 2023 Roger Opiela

Saturday, April 22, 2023
Johnette Grubaugh
Sunday, April 23, 2023
Irene Webster

Saturday, April 29, 2023 Collette Dockery Sunday, April 30, 2023 Kathy Warner

### Altar Care

Week of 04/17/2023 – Tammy Cornett Week of 04/24/2023 – Collette Dockery

If you are interested in volunteering your time for one or two weeks a year to assist with altar care and help keep your church beautiful for our parishioners and our visitors to enjoy, please let us know.

Email us @ icccjefferson@sbcglobal.net



#### Prayer List

Please remember in your prayers those who need prayers in our Parish Family and Community.

#### **Parishioners**

Andrea Bertrand Anna Bode Family Rufe Brewton Martina Cerda Sharon Deangelo Mary Dorgan BeBe Dorgan Dawn Fuguay Fred Griffin **Troy Hines** Lorraine Jolin Darrell Lensch Judith Lensch Linda McCollim \*Jo Miller Wavman Moore **Amil Murray** Sandra Remedies

Yvonne Thompson Rebecca Cornett Sistrunk

The Watts Family \*Susan Wix

Ken Vrla

#### Family & Friends

#### **April 2023**

Rev. Bernard Botej Elizabeth Brown
Sharon DeAngelo Cynthia Grillo
Rita Hatami Beverly Heard
Roy Knight Rev. Joseph Nasser

March 2023

Cynthia Orms

Morriss Moore Geneva Nixon Alisha O'Hagan Eve Pasquale

February 2023

Lee Piccolo Macy Foster
Teresa Hensley Michaela Onderko
Luisa Seelbach Marsha Snider

### Pope Francis Prayer Intentions for April 2023

For a culture of peace and non-violence
We pray for the spread of peace and
non-violence, by decreasing the use of weapons by
States and citizens.

April 16<sup>th</sup> Responsorial Psalm 118:1

Give thanks to the Lord for he is good, his love is everlasting.

Apríl 23<sup>rd</sup> Responsorial Psalm 16:11a

Lord, you will show us the path of life.

### <u> Mass Intentions – April 2023</u>

Saturday, April 8, 2023 – For Michaela Onderko

(Requested by Ladies Altar Society)

Sunday, April 9, 2023– For all Parishioners in the

Immaculate Conception Community

Tuesday, April 11, 2023– For Roy Knight

Wednesday, April 12, 2023– For the repose of the Soul of Fr. Owen Davy

(Requested by Yen Khang Van)

Thursday, April 13, 2023– For all Souls in Purgatory

(Requested by Shaw Family)

Friday, April 14, 2023 – For Luisa Seelbach

(Requested by Jackie Traylor)

Saturday, April 15, 2023 – For Carsyn Thomas

(Requested by Kathy Warner)

Sunday, April 16, 2023- For all Parishioners in the

Immaculate Conception Community

Tuesday, April 18, 2023 – For Dayne Love

(Requested by Kathy Warner)

Wednesday, April 19, 2023– For the Repose of the Soul of Gary Tucker

Thursday, April 20, 2023– For all Souls in Purgatory

(Requested by Shaw Family)

Friday, April 21, 2023– For the Repose of the Soul of

Elmer Kelly

Saturday, April 22, 2023– For all Parishioners in the

Immaculate Conception Community

Sunday, April 23, 2023– For the Repose of the Soul of

Xavier Serrano Parents (Requested by Jo Miller)

Tuesday, April 25, 2023– For Jason Cohn

(Requested by Kathy Warner)

Wednesday, April 26, 2023 – For Cynthia Grillo

Thursday, April 27, 2023– For all Souls in Purgatory

(Requested by Shaw Family)

Saturday, April 29, 2023– For the Repose of the Soul of

Mary Saner

(Requested by Ladies Altar Society)

Sunday, April 30, 2023– For all Parishioners in the

Immaculate Conception Community

Please submit your mass intentions in the envelopes provided. You may put them in the collection basket or turn them in at the office. Cards are available in the office to notify recipients and/or families. Intentions you have submitted for them and/or their loved ones.

# A Message from Msgr. Zach

#### Dear Friends,

"The quality of mercy is not strained./It droppeth as the gentle rain from heaven/ upon the place beneath." Thus begins the famous speech by Portia in Shakespeare's *Merchant of Venice*. She continues: "It is twice blessed:/ it blesseth him that gives and him that takes." In these few words Portia sums up the far-reaching power of mercy, which, as she will later say, is "an attribute to God himself." Just as repentance and forgiveness run thru our Christian belief and practice, so they are dependent for their effectiveness upon the God who is merciful to all.

It takes a long time for feelings to mellow after some disagreements, whether we are talking about personal differences or wars between nations. For example would be the way in which South Africa transformed itself from an apartheid country into a democratic one. The way this was achieved was thru the divergent groups getting together beforehand to discuss how they might move forward. At an early stage they had to find a scenario that would allow them to raise difficult issues without immediately polarizing into prejudice. They came with four descriptions. The "Ostrich" involved the present government putting its head in the sand; the "Lame Duck" meant the new government would be very much limited in its freedom to act; "Icarus" would see a new government instituting radical economic reforms; and finally "Flamingo", which may take off slowly but they take off together.

In the scriptural account of the risen Lord appearing to his disciples, the disciples do not at first recognize him. It is only when he calls them by their name, as with Mary Magdalene that the penny drops and they realize who is speaking to them. Most commonly he appears among them and offers them his peace, using words that become part of every Mass: "Peace be with you." In today's Gospel, Jesus repeats these words, as though he needs to hammer home the foundation of our belief. If we do not receive his peace and share it among us, we cannot even begin our Christian journey.

With that peace alive within us, we are sent out to forgive and retain sins for Jesus also gives us gift of the Holy Spirit. This is John's version of the Pentecost story. If in Luke's account, in the Acts of the Apostles, the disciples then go out and speak in tongues in a way that everyone listening to them understands, in John's account the emphasis is on forgiveness and reconciliation. How do we heal and restore what is broken and lost? The story of Thomas' doubt helps us with this. Thomas is absent from the first resurrection appearance of Jesus among his disciples, and demands evidence if he is to cast off his doubt. Jesus himself provides that evidence, while noting that such visual proof is not going to be available to many. The Gospel stories are precisely what is offered to stimulate our belief and so have life thru his name.

The majority of the risen appearances of Jesus occur when his disciples are gathered together. Even before he appears, they find a sense of safety in their companionship; and after the Lord ascends to his Father, as today's first reading relates, they even go so far as to live together and own all things in common. Their two practices of going to the Temple for prayer and then meeting in their own homes for the breaking of bread would become fused in time into what we now do in the Mass together. The Liturgy of the Word is followed by the Liturgy of the Eucharist, but they are both acts we share together, and it is out of that sharing – just as with the evolution of the "flamingo" – that we are empowered to bring the peace and mercy of Christ into our troubled world.

Your friend in Jesus Msgr. Zach

#### Safe Environment

When you have reasonable cause to suspect abuse or neglect of a minor or vulnerable adult, you must report:

- 1. To the DFPS Abuse Hotline at (800) 252-5400 or www.txabusehotline.org.
- 2. To local law enforcement or 911 if you believe someone is in immediate danger.
- 3. To the diocesan Victim Assistance Coordinator at (903) 266-2159 or vac@dioceseoftyler.org if the report involves Church personnel.

In addition to abuse, you must report any suspected criminal behavior by Church personnel to law enforcement and the diocese.

#### Please Pray for the Active Military from our Community

Juan Carlos Acuna Mary Alder Kendall Benton Aubrey Sperier Arenavas Gabriel Cantu Dillon Corpier **Drew Downey** Winston J Jones Bo Dylan Jordan Matthew Kopecky Robert Miller **Dominick Pondant** Kyrie Lay Redd Desire Robertson Salvador Sanchez Jr **Haley Sellers** Perry Staten James Trachier Joseph Trachier **Brent Westbrook** Joseph Woods Heath Zeigler

## Community Happenings. . . .

### Marian Center Meeting

Wednesday, April 19, 2023 Following Rosary at 6:00pm Everyone is Welcome!

### Men's Club Meeting

Thursday, April 20, 2022 in the Parish Hall &6:00 pm.

#### PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

#### Meeting

Thursday, April 27, 2023 @ 6:00 p.m. In the Parish Hall



#### **Bishop's Annual Appeal 2023**

Our appeal goal is \$16,000 and, thanks to you, as of March 2023, we have already received \$14,508 in commitments from 34 donors. To continue this success, and exceed our goal, we need additional donors to turn in a sacrificial gift in support.

Thank you for your participation so far and in praying for our success.





April is National Child Abuse Prevention Month
This year a **Safe Environment Week is**April 24-30

We have packets with more information in the vestibule.

How to Report Abuse If you know or suspect that a minor or vulnerable adult is currently being abused or is in danger, immediately report it to state/local law enforcement or the Texas Department of Family and Protective Services at (800) 252-5400 or txabusehotline.org.

Call 9-1-1 in an emergency.

# What's Coming & Valuable Information . . .



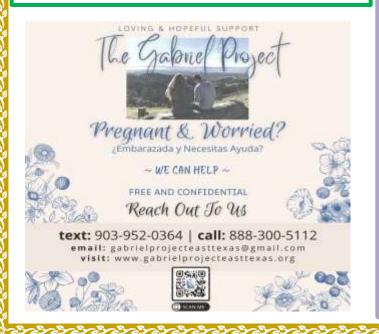
### Divine Mercy Chaplet

Sunday April 16th at the conclusion of the Mass

St. Faustina was a Polish nun who received visions from Jesus, including one of Jesus wearing a white garment with beams of red and white coming from His heart, which came to be known as the image of Divine Mercy. She wrote in her diary that He said: I want the Image to be solemnly blessed on the first Sunday after Easter, and I want it to be venerated publicly so that every soul may know about it...

My daughter, tell the whole world about My inconceivable mercy. I desire that the Feast of Mercy be a refuge and shelter for all souls, and especially for poor sinners. I pour out a whole ocean of graces upon those souls who approach the fount of My mercy. According to the vision, those who receive communion and attend confession on the Feast of Mercy receive total forgiveness of sins.

Divine Mercy Sunday focuses on the gift of mercy and love given through Christ's death, burial, and resurrection. As Pope John Paul II stated, "Divine Mercy reaches human beings through the heart of Christ crucified."





### Mother's Pay Remembrance Envelopes

Remember your mother in prayer during the month of May. Submission envelopes are in the vestibule.

We will continue to collect names for the Mother's Day list through the month of May so please don't hesitate to give us the names of your Mothers.



# Rosary Schedule and Marían Feast Days Apríl 2023



SUNDAY, APRIL 2™ PALM SUNDAY

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 5™ ROSARY @ 6:00 P.M.

### **HOLY WEEK**

THURSDAY, APRIL 6™ HOLY THURSDAY

FRIDAÝ, APRIL 7™ GOOD FRIDAÝ

SATURDAY, APRIL 8<sup>™</sup>
HOLY SATURDAY

SUNDAY, APRIL 9™ EASTER SUNDAY

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 12<sup>™</sup> ROSARY @ 6:00 P.M.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 19<sup>™</sup> ROSARY @ 6:00 P.M.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 26™ ROSARY @ 6:00 P.M.