

# 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.

## Matthew 13:44

Again, the Kingdom of Heaven is like treasure hidden in the field, which a man found and hid. In his joy, he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field.

### 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 Gabriel Uzundu

903-907-1446

#### Immaculate Conception Parish Office

209 W Lafayette St

Phone: 903-665-2869

Hours –Thursday 9:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

Email: [icccjefferson@sbcglobal.net](mailto:icccjefferson@sbcglobal.net)

Church Website: <http://www.icccjeffersonstx.org>

**SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**  
**JULY 30, 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 July 23, 2023**

<b>Total General Collection</b>	<b>\$1,853.00</b>
Regular Collection	\$ 1,673.00
Online Collection	\$ 180.00

**Church in Africa \$370.00**

**Thank you for your generosity!**

## Gift of Gratitude St. Vincent de Paul

**WEEK OF 07/27/2023**

**Food for the poor: # of cans & packages: 29  
Families served: 5 (15 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!**

## 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](http://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](mailto: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.

## Altar Care

**Week of 07/31/2023 – Sharon Verhalen**

**Week of 08/07/2023 – Connie Woods**

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](mailto:icccjefferson@sbcglobal.net)

## Upcoming Special Collections

**August 6, 2023— Fund for Those in Need**

**August 13, 2023— Collection for Heat Relief (Special Collection)**

**August 15, 2023— Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary**

## Lay Ministry Schedule June 2023

Saturday, July 29, 2023

*Collette Dockery*

Sunday, July 30, 2023

*Roger Opiela*

## August 2023

Saturday, August 5, 2023

*Susan Wise*

Sunday, August 6, 2023

*Troy Hines*

Saturday, August 12, 2023

*Tammy Cornett*

Sunday, August 13, 2023

*Irene Webster*

Saturday, August 19, 2023

*John Dockery*

Sunday, August 20, 2023

*Colette Hines*

Saturday, August 26, 2023

*Johnette Grubaugh*

Sunday, August 27, 2023

*Liz Opiela*

**July 30<sup>th</sup> Responsorial  
Psalm 119**

**Lord, I love your commands.**

**August 6<sup>th</sup> Responsorial  
Psalm 97**

**The Lord is King, the Most High over  
all the earth.**



*Together We Pray*

### **Prayer List**

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

#### **Parishioners**

Anna Bode Family	Rufe Brewton
Martina Cerda	Sharon Deangelo
Mary Dorgan	BeBe Dorgan
Dawn Fuquay	Fred Griffin
Troy Hines	Lorraine Jolin
Darrell Lensch	Judith Lensch
Linda McCollim	Jo Miller
Wayman Moore	Amil Murray
Sandra Remedies	Yvonne Thompson
Rebecca Cornett Sistrunk	The Watts Family
Suzanne Wix	Ken Vrla

#### **Family & Friends**

##### **August 2023**

Bill Deware	Rogelio Guel
Roy Hall	Linda McCacken
Rev. Joseph Nasser	Jack Parker
Emerson S.	

##### **July 2023**

Marsha Foss	Nancy Horn
Mary Mallet	Paul Morehead
Dr. John Parsons	Claire Rose
Lissa Velasquez	

##### **June 2023**

Regina Guel	Rita Hatami
Anthony Herman	Terry Johnson

### **Mass Intentions – July 2023**

**Saturday, July 22, 2023**– For the Repose of the Soul of Panfilo Martinez

*(Requested by Irene Webster)*

**Sunday, July 23, 2023**– For all Parishioners in the Immaculate Conception Community

**Tuesday, July 25, 2023**– For Victims of Gun Violence

**Wednesday, July 26, 2023**– For the Repose of the Soul of Rose Mary Moore

*(Requested by Pam Watts)*

**Thursday, July 27, 2023**–For the Repose of the Soul of Mike Moore

*(Requested by Pam Watts)*

**Friday, July 28, 2023**– For Rita Hatami

**Saturday, July 29, 2023**– For the Repose of the Soul of Archie Jones

**Sunday, July 30, 2023**– For all Parishioners in the Immaculate Conception Community

### **August 2023**

**Tuesday, August 1, 2023**– For the People in Ukraine

**Wednesday, August 2, 2023**– For all the Souls in Purgatory

**Thursday, August 3, 2023**–For all our Priest in the Diocese

*(Requested by Jo Miller)*

**Friday, August 4, 2023**– For Brian Bode

*(Requested by Pam Watts)*

**Saturday, August 5, 2023 9:00 am**– For Kendal Whelan

*(Requested by Kathy Warner)*

**Saturday, August 5, 2023 5:00 pm**– For Peggy & Steve Spilker daughter Lissa Velasquez

*(Requested by Jo Miller)*

**Sunday, August 6, 2023**– For all Parishioners in the Immaculate Conception Community

**Tuesday, August 8, 2023**– For John Parsons

*(Requested by Jo Miller)*

**Wednesday, August 9, 2023**– For all the Souls in Purgatory

**Thursday, August 10, 2023**–For Shanna & Gary Brown

*(Requested by John & Collette Dockery)*

**Friday, August 11, 2023**– For all the Souls in Purgatory

*(Requested by Shaw Family)*

**Saturday, August 12, 2023**– For the Repose of the Soul of Wayne Adamik

*(Requested by John & Collette Dockery)*

**Sunday, August 13, 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.**

### **Pope Francis Prayer Intentions for August 2023**

#### **For World Youth Day**

**We pray the World Youth Day in Lisbon will help young people to live and witness the Gospel in their own lives.**



# A Message from Msgr. Zach

Dear Friends,

Inhabitants of areas around the Indian Ocean have dived for pearls for almost thousands of years. Experienced divers are able to free-dive to depths well beyond the safe limits for normal scuba divers. In Japan, for more than one thousand years, many of these divers have been women, known as “Ama” or “sea women”. These women, who also dive for food are revered even today for their courage and perseverance, though their numbers are declining. However, in most cultures diving for pearls has often been the work of poor people, and sadly the financial rewards of their efforts usually went to those who were already well off. Looking for pearls is a dangerous task, though if someone is lucky enough to find one that is valuable and be able to keep it, the effects could be life-changing.

We speak of people who possess the gift of wisdom as being able to offer “pearls of wisdom”. King Solomon, though young, in asking the Lord for a “heart to understand how to discern between good and evil,” is rewarded by God with “a heart wise and shrewd” as none before him or after him will possess. God had a purpose for Solomon: he was chosen by God to lead the people of Israel.

Each of us is uniquely called to be a son or daughter of God our Father, and we are invited to live out our Christian vocation as brothers and sisters in Christ. In comparing the kingdom of heaven to a treasure hidden in a field, or a pearl of great value, Jesus reminds us that the kingdom of heaven is both something to be sought after and something that requires wisdom and perseverance to attain. As with those who dive for pearls, those of us in search of the kingdom of heaven may find that we have a plumb depths within ourselves in search of courage, faith and a future with God as our Lord and guide. We may be called to sacrifice the lesser “treasure” or “pearls” in our lives so that we can rejoice in the greater gifts that Christ offers. Like those who sift the haul that is brought ashore by fishers or divers, our lives, our hearts and minds can be full of many things, but not all of them will lead us forward as we search for God in our lives. In fact, some of them may even be an obstacle for us in our journey towards peace, love and joy.

We might say that it requires “the wisdom of Solomon” to be able to see what is of real value in our lives. We need to seek the treasure that leads us to love God and to love one another. Jesus has promised us the kingdom of God; this is the promise to those who are poor, to those who are merciful, to peacemakers, to those who seek justice for others. In these words of Christ, we have the signposts that point us in the direction of the “treasure” of the kingdom of heaven. These are the kingdom values, and we may need to “sell” or let go of less valuable things that lay claim to our time and our way of life if we want to truly possess God’s kingdom.

Called, as we are, to be “true images” of Christ for our world, we need to choose wisely and seek the “real” treasure, which is Christ. We can, like Solomon, in prayer ask for understanding and a greater ability to judge wisely. Such gifts will engender in us a greater love and compassion for those around us. For when we understand more deeply, we can love more generously and forgive more readily.

We could wisely spend some time this week looking at what we most treasure, what is our “pearl of great value”. Let us also find time this week to appreciate and give thanks for the treasure of our faith and our family, as well as the many gifts that God has given to each one of us.

Your friend in Jesus  
Msgr. Zach

## *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. . . .



Baby Bottles need to be returned by  
**July 30<sup>th</sup>**.  
You can return them into the baby  
gift bag in the vestibule.

Please return the bottles  
whether you donate or not as they  
are reused every year.

**Eucharistic Minister**  
We are in need some of  
Eucharistic Ministers.  
Training will be provided  
for returning & new Ministers.  
If you are interested  
sign up sheet  
is out in the vestibule.  
Contact the office for more  
information or questions.  
Email us @ [icccjefferson@sbcglobal.net](mailto:icccjefferson@sbcglobal.net)  
or call 903-665-2869

### FIRST FRIDAY MASS

**August 4, 2023**

**Mass @9:00 am**

**Followed by Adoration and  
Benediction  
Confession available during  
Adoration**

### FIRST SATURDAY MASS

**August 5, 2023**

**Mass @9:00 am**

### Marian Center Meeting

Wednesday, August 16, 2023

Following Rosary at 6:00pm

Everyone is Welcome!

### Parish Council Meeting

Thursday, August 17, 2023

@6:00 pm

In the Parish Hall

### Finance Council Meeting

Thursday, August 24, 2023

@6:00 pm

In the Parish Hall

### Men's Club Meeting

Thursday, August 31, 2023

in the Parish Hall

@6:00 pm.

# What's Coming & Valuable Information . . .



SANCTITY OF LIFE ACTION COMMITTEE INVITES YOU:

## LIFE MATTERS BIOETHICS CONFERENCE

August 19, 2023

HOLIDAY INN & CONFERENCE CENTER



Great Speakers such as Bishop Strickland,  
Deacon Dr. Patrick Lappert, Dr's. Jose & Stacy Trasancos, and more!

Early Bird tickets \$75 ends August 4th

Sponsor a priest or student for \$25

Includes meals

FOR MORE INFORMATION & TO FIND TICKETS

[WWW.SANCTITYOFLIFETYLER.ORG](http://WWW.SANCTITYOFLIFETYLER.ORG)

## LOST AND FOUND

IF YOU BELIEVE YOU HAVE LOST SOMETHING IN THE  
CHURCH COME BY THE OFFICE OR CONTACT US

Call us @ (903) - 665 - 2869

Email us @ [Icccjefferson@sbcglobal.net](mailto:Icccjefferson@sbcglobal.net)



Thank you to the  
Immaculate Conception  
Altar Society  
and to all those  
who contributed to the  
Lenten Alms Giving Dinners.  
Your support allows  
The Gabriel Project  
in the Diocese of Tyler  
to continue our efforts  
to promote LIFE  
here in East Texas.

*"Good works are links that form a chain of love."*

*— Saint Mother Teresa*

[www.gabrielprojecteasttexas.org](http://www.gabrielprojecteasttexas.org)

888-300-5112



# Rosary Schedule and Marian Feast Days

## August 2023



**WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 2<sup>ND</sup>**  
**ROSARY @ 6:00 P.M.**

**THE TRANSFIGURATION OF THE LORD**  
**SUNDAY, AUGUST 6<sup>TH</sup>**

**WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 9<sup>TH</sup>**  
**ROSARY @ 6:00 P.M.**

**THE ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY**  
**SUNDAY, AUGUST 15<sup>TH</sup>**

**WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 16<sup>TH</sup>**  
**ROSARY @ 6:00 P.M.**

**THE QUEENSHIP OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY**  
**SUNDAY, AUGUST 22<sup>ND</sup>**

**WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 23<sup>RD</sup>**  
**ROSARY @ 6:00 P.M.**

**WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 30<sup>TH</sup>**  
**ROSARY @ 6:00 P.M.**