

# IMMACULATE CONCEPTION CATHOLIC CHURCH

Established – 1863

Diocese of Tyler – Most Rev. Bishop Joe Vasquez – Apostolic Administrator

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 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.icccjeffersonsx.org>

**4<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY OF ADVENT**  
**DECEMBER 24, 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 December 17, 2023

Total General Collection    \$1,197.00  
Regular Collection                \$1,017.00  
Online Collection                 \$ 180.00

Thank you for your generosity!

## Upcoming Special Collections

*December 25, 2023 – Caring for Priest*

*January 7, 2024 – Those in Need*

*January 28, 2024 – Collection for the Church in  
Latin America*

## Gift of Gratitude St. Vincent de Paul

WEEK OF 12/21/2023

Food for the poor: # of cans & packages 14

Families served: 4 (9 People)

Each client was given their choice of hat or gloves.

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

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!

## Altar Care

Week of 12/25/2023 – **Marguerite Hawthorne**

Week of 01/01/2024 – **Sharon Verhalen**

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)  
or call 903-665-2869

## December 24<sup>th</sup> Responsorial Psalm 89

For ever will I sing the goodness of the Lord.

## December 31<sup>st</sup> Responsorial Psalm 128

Blessed are those who fear the Lord and walk in his  
ways.

## Lay Ministry December 2023

Saturday, December 23, 2023

Pam Watts

Sunday, December 24, 2023

Liz Opiela

Saturday, December 30, 2023

Collette Dockery

Sunday, December 31, 2023

Troy Hines

## Lay Ministry January 2024

Saturday, January 6, 2024

Tammy Cornett

Sunday, January 7, 2024

Sharon Verhalen

Saturday, January 13, 2024

John Dockery

Sunday, January 14, 2024

Colette Hines

Saturday, January 20, 2024

Johnette Grubaugh

Sunday, January 21, 2024

Jackie Traylor

## Eucharistic Ministers

Saturday, December 23, 2023

Pam Watts / Johnette Grubaugh

Sunday, December 24, 2023

Anita Hall / Irene Webster

Saturday, December 30, 2023

Collette Dockery / John Dockery

Sunday, December 31, 2023

Irene Webster / Anita Hall



## 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	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	Ken Vrla

#### **Family & Friends**

##### December 2023

Maria Martinez	Lissa Velasquez
Bo Dylan Jordan	Haden Bayleigh Simmons

##### November 2023

Lisa Bailey	Kathy Harper
Jackie Lloyd	Eloise Lipman

##### October 2023

Tammy Bennett	Betty Carroll
Jim Carroll	Reza Hatami
Rita Hatami	Jonathan Jard
Rev. Joseph Nasser	

### Mass Intentions-December 2023

**Tuesday, December 19, 2023**– For the Repose of the Soul of Susan Wise

*(Requested by Ladies Altar Society)*

**Wednesday, December 20, 2023**– For Jackie Lloyd

*(Requested by Susanne Wix)*

**Thursday, December 21, 2023**– For Charles Cancellare

**Saturday, December 23, 2023**– For the Repose of the Soul of Robert Miller

*(Requested by Jo Miller & Family)*

**Sunday, December 24, 2023**– For all Parishioners in the Immaculate Conception Community

**Saturday, December 30, 2023**– For the Repose of the Soul of Mary Saner

*(Requested by Ladies Altar Society)*

**Sunday, January 1, 2024**– 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.**

### 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.

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

### **For persons with disabilities**

We pray that people living with disabilities may be at the centre of attention in society, and that institutions may offer inclusive programs which value their active participation.

### 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
Dominick Pondant	Kyrie Lay Redd
Desire Robertson	Salvador Sanchez Jr
Haley Sellers	Perry Staten
James Trachier	Joseph Trachier
Brent Westbrook	Joseph Woods
Heath Zeigler	

## A Message from Msgr. Zach

Dear Friends,

The incarnation is the most extraordinary, mind-dazzling, significant and fascinating event in human history. It has fired the imagination of artists of every kind. Poets, sculptors, writers and biblical experts have used striking imagery to put this unimaginable truth into human language. They've spoken of it as "a divine kiss of peace", an "explosion of God's extraordinary love for us", a "fresh bond of intimacy" between God and humanity, between the mighty God and God's tiny creatures. At the heart of this astonishing story stands a woman who is totally one with us in our humanity.

The annunciation uniquely focusses, not upon a great man, such as a general, a politician or a renowned scholar, but upon a young teenager called Mary. Almost from early childhood she has been hidden away in a tiny village called Nazareth located on the very edges of the mighty Roman Empire. She is the kind of person who might be dismissed as a "Little Miss Nobody". St. John's Gospel records that when Philip, one of Jesus' first disciples, was told that the long-awaited Messiah had come and was living in Nazareth, his cool reaction was, "What good can ever come from Nazareth?"

The story of the annunciation begins with the arrival of the unexpected visitor at Mary's little cottage. An angel, the bearer of startling news, reveals that she is to conceive, carry in her womb, give birth and finally be mother to the long-awaited Messiah.

In the days before Jesus' coming, people generally acknowledged God's almighty power. A prophet like Isaiah could picture God holding the whole world in his hands and encompassing the heavens with an outstretched palm. But even Isaiah could never have begun to imagine what we celebrate at Christmas time – this same God coming to live among us as one of us – coming as a tiny baby, a bundle of weakness and helplessness and, in the end, dying in shame on a wooden cross. He comes into our world, just as we did, by being born of a woman. Without a woman's cooperation, there would have been no incarnation. Without Mary's cooperation, there would be no Christmas. It is that thought that leads many people, even small children, to try to reflect her love by practical acts of kindness to their sisters and brothers.

If we take time, make time – even just a few minutes each day in this often hectic period to recall how Mary treasured and pondered "these things" in her heart, we too will ponder them, and come to appreciate why the wonder of Christ's birth – even at the end of a difficult year like 2023 – calls for celebration, for rejoicing, and for gentle, loving wonder, in the company of Mary. It is she who best teaches us how to love Jesus; it is she who shows us, despite our littleness, to love Jesus as she did by making him the love of our lives.

And so as Pope St. John Paul II put it, "the faithful, living in the spirit of the liturgy, by thinking about the inexpressible love with which the Virgin Mother awaited her son, are invited to take her as model and prepare themselves to meet the Savior."

## Wish Y'all A Merry Christmas!

Your friend in Jesus  
Msgr. Zach

*Community Happenings. . .*

# CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE



## *Christmas Eve*

*Christmas Eve Vigil Mass @6:00 p.m.*

## *Christmas Day*

*Christmas Morning Mass @9:00 a.m.*

## *Feast of the Holy Family*

*December 30, 2023*

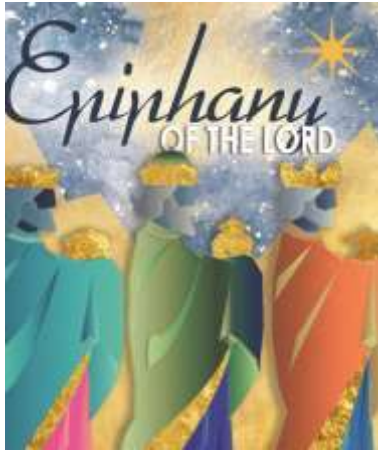
*Mass @9:00 a.m.*

## *New Year's Day*

*January 1, 2024*

*Mass @9:00 a.m.*

# *What's Coming & Valuable Information . . .*



## *Celebration of the Epiphany of our Lord*

*Saturday, January 6, 2023*

*We will gather for a meal in the Parish Hall*

*Following 5:00pm Mass*

*Please bring your favorite food to share*



*MERRY CHRISTMAS TO ALL!!  
FELIZ NAVIDAD A TODOS!!*

This is the season of love, joy, and generosity. It's a time to cherish the special moments and create unforgettable memories with loved ones. As we gather around the Christmas tree, exchange gifts, and share meals, let us remember the true meaning of Christmas. It's a celebration of the birth of Jesus Christ, who came to earth to bring hope, peace, and salvation to all humanity. So, let's spread love and kindness to everyone around us, especially those who are less fortunate. May this Christmas fill our hearts with warmth, happiness, and gratitude, and may the blessings of the season be with us throughout the coming year.

*~yours truly ICCS Staff*

Esta es la temporada del amor, la alegría y la generosidad. Es un momento para apreciar los momentos especiales y crear recuerdos inolvidables con sus seres queridos. Mientras nos reunimos alrededor del árbol de Navidad, intercambiamos regalos y compartimos comidas, recordemos el verdadero significado de la Navidad. Es una celebración del nacimiento de Jesucristo, quien vino a la tierra para traer esperanza, paz y salvación a toda la humanidad. Entonces, transmitamos amor y bondad a todos los que nos rodean, especialmente a aquellos que son menos afortunados. Que esta Navidad llene nuestros corazones de calidez, felicidad y gratitud, y que las bendiciones de la temporada nos acompañen durante el próximo año.

*~Atentamente personal de ICCS*

# Rosary Schedule and Marian Feast Days December 2023



**WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 6<sup>TH</sup>**

**ROSARY @ 6:00 P.M.**

**THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE VIRGIN MARY**

**FRIDAY, DECEMBER 8<sup>TH</sup>**

**OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE**

**TUESDAY, DECEMBER 12<sup>TH</sup>**

**WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 13<sup>TH</sup>**

**ROSARY @ 6:00 P.M.**

**WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 20<sup>TH</sup>**

**ROSARY @ 6:00 P.M.**

**THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD**

**TUESDAY, DECEMBER 25<sup>TH</sup>**

**WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 27<sup>TH</sup>**

**ROSARY @ 6:00 P.M.**

**THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY AND JOSEPH**

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 31<sup>ST</sup>**