

# IMMACULATE CONCEPTION CATHOLIC CHURCH

Established – 1863

Diocese of Tyler – Most Rev. Bishop Gregory Kelly  
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

Saturday @ 4:30 p.m.

Sunday @ 8:30 a.m.

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

Wednesday 8:15a.m. – 8:45a.m.

Friday 8:15a.m. – 8:45a.m.

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

Wednesday 9:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

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

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

**4TH SUNDAY OF EASTER**

**MAY 11, 2025**



### 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 May 4, 2025

<b>Total General Collection</b>	<b>\$3383.00</b>
Regular Collection	\$ 3093.00
Online Collection	\$ 290.00
<b>For Those in Need</b>	<b>\$607.00</b>

## Upcoming Special Collections

May 11, 2025- Monastery for Infant Jesus, Lufkin  
June 1, 2025- Catholic Communications  
June 8, 2025- For Those in Need

## Gift of Gratitude St. Vincent de Paul

WEEK OF 5/1/2025

Food for the poor: # of cans & packages 25  
Families served: 2 (3 People)

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 Food Pantry Room in the Parish Hall  
Everyone is welcome to attend!

## Altar Care

Week of 5/12/2025 – Collette Dockery

Week of 5/19/2025 – Anita Hall

Week of 5/26/2025 – Marguerite Hawthorne

Week of 6/2/2025 – Charmaine Kresch

If you are interested in volunteering Email us at  
[icccjefferson@sbcglobal.net](mailto:icccjefferson@sbcglobal.net)

### Safe Environment

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](http://txabusehotline.org).

The Diocese of Tyler is committed to respecting the dignity of all persons  
and to helping anyone who may have been hurt or abused by a priest,  
deacon, religious, or anyone working in the name of the Church.

Any current or past cases of abuse involving Church personnel should be  
reported to civil authorities and also to the Victim Assistance Coordinator at  
(903) 266-2159 or [vac@dioceseoftyler.org](mailto:vac@dioceseoftyler.org).

### Lay Ministry May 2025

Saturday, May 10, 2025

Lector: Pam Watts

Eucharistic Ministers:

Collette Dockery

Marguerite Hawthorne

Sunday, May 11, 2025

Lector: Colette Hines

Eucharistic Ministers:

Kat Bellini

Sharon Verhalen

Saturday, May 17, 2025

Lector: Collette Dockery

Eucharistic Ministers:

Pam Watts

Charmaine Kresch

Sunday, May 18, 2025

Lector: Liz Opiela

Eucharistic Ministers:

Jackie Traylor

Colette Hines

Saturday, May 24, 2025

Lector: Pam Watts

Eucharistic Minister:

Marguerite Hawthorne

Theresa Beard

Sunday, May 25, 2025

Lector: Troy Hines

Eucharistic Ministers:

Roger Opiela

Anita Hall

Saturday, May 31, 2025

Lector: Collette Dockery

Eucharistic Minister:

Pam Watts

Charmaine Kresch

Sunday, June 1, 2025

Lector: Philip Verhalen

Eucharistic Ministers:

Liz Opiela

Kat Bellini

If you are interested in becoming a Lector, Eucharistic Minister,  
Altar Server, Usher, or Cantor please let us know.

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



## Together We Pray

### Prayer List

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

#### **Parishioners**

Anna Bode Family	Judith Lensch
Rufe Brewton	Doc Dockery
JR Procell	Jo Miller
Maria & Cesar Chapa	Amil Murray
Sharon Deangelo	Ron Remedies
Mary Dorgan	Rebecca Cornett Sistrunk
Lane Fillinich	Jessi Brooks
Dawn Fuquay	Ken Vrla
Fred Griffin	Watts Family
Troy Hines	John Wix
Darrell Lensch	Doris Wong
Mike Lakey	Johnette Grubaugh
Andrea Bautista	David Roberts
Jack Meyer	Monica Bautista

#### **Family & Friends**

Carolyn Bostick	Carrie Martin
Charles Cancellare	Sue Martinelli
Imogene Cancellare	CL McCoy
Zach Hartfield	Tyler Murray
Melissa Jo Haynes	Rev. Joseph Nasser
Guadalupe Hernandez	Karen Nix
Sue Holt	Carter Davis
Todd Holt	Robert Hileman
Gerald Kennie	Barbara Sontag
Roy Hunter	Noelia Thomas
Hector Garza	Caleb Warren
Miguel Aranda	Beverly Sheman
Chris Wood	Mary Rike
Kenny Mills	*Marilyn Hines
Brandy Campbell	Kenneth Hudson

#### **Active Military from our Community**

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

### Mass Intentions – May 2025

**Saturday, May 10-** For the Parishioners of ICC  
(Requested by Ladies' Altar Society)

**Sunday, May 11-** For the Repose of the Soul of  
Irene Webster  
(Requested by Charlie & Anita Hall)

**Thursday, May 15-** For Robert & Janet Williams  
(Requested by Jackie Traylor)

**Saturday, May 17-** For the Repose of the Souls of  
Randy and Irene Webster  
(Requested by Jo Miller & Family)

**Sunday, May 18-** For the Parishioners of ICC  
(Requested by Ladies' Altar Society)

**Tuesday, May 20-** For the Repose of the Soul of  
Susan Wise  
(Requested by Ladies' Altar Society)

**Wednesday, May 21-** For the Repose of the Soul of  
Wayman Moore  
(Requested by Billy & Juliee Denman)

**Thursday, May 22-** For Susan Best  
(Requested by Jackie Traylor)

**Friday, May 23-** For the Repose of the Soul of  
Irene Webster  
(Requested by Charlie & Anita Hall)

**Saturday, May 24-** For the Parishioners of ICC  
(Requested by Ladies' Altar Society)

**Wednesday, May 28-** For the Repose of the Soul of  
Cassie Loyd  
(Requested by Johnette Grubaugh)

**Thursday, May 29-** For the Repose of the Souls of  
Jerry & Anne Best  
(Requested by Jackie Traylor)

**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 of the intentions you have submitted for them and/or their loved ones**

### **Pope Francis Prayer Intentions May 2025**

#### **For working conditions**

Let us pray that through work, each person might find fulfillment, families might be sustained in dignity, and that society might be humanized.

## A Message from Msgr. Zach

Dear Friends,

This Fourth Sunday of Easter, known as Good Shepherd Sunday, invites us to reflect on one of the most tender and reassuring images in all of Scripture—Jesus as our Good Shepherd. In John 10:27–30, Jesus speaks with clarity and confidence about the relationship He shares with His followers, using the familiar and intimate language of a shepherd and his sheep. The words of Jesus, though brief in this passage, are rich with comfort and promise. “My sheep hear my voice,” He says. This statement reminds us that our relationship with Jesus is not distant or abstract—it is deeply personal. The sheep recognize their shepherd’s voice because they have learned to trust it. In a world crowded with competing voices and constant noise, it is the voice of Christ that brings peace, clarity, and guidance. His voice is not loud or forceful, but it speaks directly to the heart with love and truth.

Jesus continues, “I know them, and they follow me.” The knowing that Jesus speaks of is not mere familiarity; it is a deep, relational knowing—a knowing of who we truly are, even in our weakness and wandering. He knows us completely and still calls us His own. And our response? We follow. Not perfectly, not without stumbling, but in trust, we walk behind the One who leads us in paths of righteousness.

Perhaps the most powerful promise in this passage comes next: “I give them eternal life, and they will never perish.” What greater assurance can we receive than this? Eternal life is not just a future hope, but a present reality—life in communion with God that begins now and stretches beyond death. The promise that “no one will snatch them out of my hand” speaks to the incredible security we have in Christ. Even when we feel weak or lost, even when the path seems uncertain, we are held firmly in the strong, gentle hand of the Shepherd.

Jesus then declares, “My Father, who has given them to me, is greater than all, and no one can snatch them out of the Father’s hand. I and the Father are one.” These words highlight the divine unity and authority behind the Shepherd’s care. Our security is not based on our ability to hold on to God, but on God’s unshakable hold on us. Jesus, one with the Father, ensures that we are doubly held—by the Son and by the Father—in an eternal embrace of love and protection.

On this Good Shepherd Sunday, we are invited to find rest in the presence of the One who knows us, loves us, and leads us. In Him, we are not lost sheep, but beloved ones who belong. As we hear His voice in Scripture, in prayer, and through the Spirit, may we respond with hearts ready to follow.

Let this Sunday be a renewal of trust in the Shepherd’s care. Whether we find ourselves on the mountaintop or in the valley, in confidence or in confusion, Jesus is near. He is speaking. He is guiding. And He is holding us in hands.

Your friend in Jesus,  
Msgr. Zach

*May 11th Responsorial: Psalm 100*

We are His people, the sheep of His flock.

*May 18th Responsorial: Psalm 146*

I will praise your name forever, my king and my God.



## Community Happenings . . .

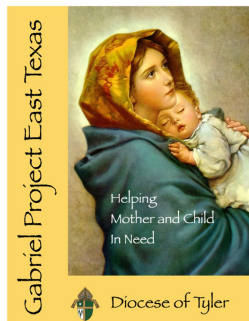
### *Mother's Day Activities on May 11th*

Las Guadalupanas is having a special Mother's Day celebration on May 11<sup>th</sup> after Mass in the parish center. There will be food, raffles, and door prizes available to all the moms. (and food for everyone else, too.)

Please come and celebrate all our wonderful mothers at Immaculate Conception!

### LECTORS NEEDED FOR MASS

If you are looking for a way to serve the Church more, here is your invite. We are in need of more lectors for the weekend Masses, especially the Saturday Mass, as we only have 3 people reading on Saturdays. If you would like to help with the readings, please contact the Church office to be added to the schedule. You must have the ethics and integrity training prior to being a lector.



#### Gabriel Project East Texas

A Pro Life Ministry of the Diocese of Tyler  
Since 1995

PREGNANT AND NEED HELP?

{Mujer Embarazada y Necesita Ayuda?}

The Catholic Church sees the birth of each baby as God's unfailing love. We offer immediate and practical help to any woman facing the challenges of an unplanned or unexpected pregnancy  
888-300-5112 24/7

<https://gabrielprojecteasttexas.org>



### CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR GRADUATING SENIORS, CLASS OF 2025!

Matt Woods, Nick Woods, Christian McCoy, and Vanessa Bautista will be graduating on May 23<sup>rd</sup>. Bags will be available for the graduates on the small table in the foyer to give them cards or small gifts.



### *Bishop's Annual Appeal Update*

Our Goal for the Bishop's Annual Appeal is **\$16,000.**

Paid to date is **\$5254.48**

Pledged so far: **\$10,705.08** which is 67% of our goal.

To meet our goal: **\$5,294.92.**

**21** Families have pledged so far.

If you have not yet made a pledge please prayerfully consider donating to this campaign.

## Community Happenings . . .

### RIGHT TO LIFE EAST TEXAS BABY BOTTLE CAMPAIGN BEGINS MAY 11<sup>TH</sup>

The Right to Life East Texas will have their annual baby bottle campaign to help raise money for various pro-life organizations in the area as well as award scholarships to 2 high school students. Bottles will be available starting May 11<sup>th</sup>. They will need to be returned on June 15<sup>th</sup>.



### LAS GUDALUPANAS BREAKFAST AND BIRTHDAY CAKE

On May 18<sup>th</sup>, the ladies from Las Guadalupanas will be having a breakfast after Mass in the Parish Center. They will also provide a birthday cake to celebrate Msgr Zach's belated 75<sup>th</sup> birthday. All are invited to attend.

### *Prayer for Pope Leo XIV-our new Pope!*

May the new pope be a faithful witness to Your truth, a compassionate minister to all in need, and a unifying presence in our divided world. We ask this through Christ our Lord, Who lives and reigns with You in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, forever and ever. Amen.

## Welcome

to Immaculate Conception Catholic Church! We are so happy you are here with us!



Are you interested in becoming a parishioner here or do you need more information about becoming Catholic?

Please contact the church office at 903-665-2869 or email at [icccjefferson@sbcglobal.net](mailto:icccjefferson@sbcglobal.net)

### *St. John the Silent-Feast Day May 13*

St. John the Silent was born in 454 AD in Nicopolis, Armenia. His parents died when he was 18, and he then built a monastery. Under John's direction, he and the monks led a life of hard work and devotion.

John built a reputation for leadership and sanctity, which led the archbishop of Sebaste to consecrate him bishop of Colonia in Armenia. He had no desire for such a role. Nevertheless, he held the post of bishop for nine years. In 490, however, John went to Constantinople to secure the emperor's intervention to quell a local persecution. Afterwards, he did not return to Colonia, but seeking to return to a life of seclusion, he instead went to Jerusalem.

While John was praying one night, he saw a bright cross form in the air and heard a voice say to him, "If you desire to be saved, follow this light." He saw the light move and point to the monastery of St. Sabas, where he joined the monastery. Around 494, St. Sabas let John have a separate hermitage for uninterrupted contemplation. For five days a week he fasted only leaving his cell on Saturdays and Sundays when he went to public Mass.

John had never told anyone he had been bishop, so after four years St. Sabas thought John was worthy to become a priest and presented him to the patriarch Elias of Jerusalem. John requested a private audience with the patriarch. John told him, "Father, I have been ordained bishop; but on account of the multitude of my sins have fled, and am come into this desert to wait the visit of the Lord." The patriarch was startled but told St. Sabas, "I desire to be excused from ordaining this man, on account of some particulars he has revealed to me."

St. Sabas prayed to God to reveal the truth to him. Sabas complained to John about keeping the secret from him, and John wanted to leave the monastery. Sabas convinced him to stay by promising to keep his secret. John stayed in his cell for four years, speaking to no one except the person who brought him necessities.

In 503 AD St. John moved to a nearby wilderness where he spent six years in silence, conversing only with God and eating only wild roots and herbs. St. Sabas found John and convinced him to move back to the monastery. John had become used to speaking only with God. He treasured obscurity and humility, so he wanted to live unknown to men, but was unable to do so. He returned with St. Sabas and lived in his cell for forty years.

John died in 558 AD at the age of 104. He lived in solitude for 76 years, interrupted only for the 9 years he was bishop.



# Rosary Schedule and Marian Feast Days May 2025



**WEDNESDAY, MAY 7TH**  
ROSARY @ 6:00 P.M.

**TUESDAY, MAY 13<sup>TH</sup>**  
OUR LADY OF FATIMA

**WEDNESDAY, MAY 14TH**  
ROSARY @ 6:00 P.M.

**WEDNESDAY, MAY 21ST**  
ROSARY @ 6:00 P.M.

**WEDNESDAY, MAY 28TH**  
ROSARY @ 6:00 P.M.

**SATURDAY, MAY 31<sup>ST</sup>**  
THE VISITATION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY