

# 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.icccjeffersontx.org>

**5TH SUNDAY OF EASTER**  
**MAY 18, 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 11, 2025

<b>Total General Collection</b>	<b>\$1821.25</b>
Regular Collection	\$ 1616.25
Online Collection	\$ 205.00
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Coll. Monastery of Infant Jesus</b>	<b>\$495.02</b>

## Upcoming Special Collections

June 1, 2025- Catholic Communications  
June 8, 2025- For Those in Need  
June 15, 2025- Priest Pension Fund

## Gift of Gratitude St. Vincent de Paul

WEEK OF 5/8/2025

Food for the poor: # of cans & packages 35  
Families served: 10 (21 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 5/19/2025 – **Anita Hall**

Week of 5/26/2025 – **Marguerite Hawthorne**

Week of 6/2/2025 – **Charmaine Kresch**

Week of 6/9/2025 – **Sharon Verhalen**

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	*Marvin Mehlum
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 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)

**Sunday, May 25-** For Pope Leo  
(Requested by Marguerite Hawthorne)

**Tuesday, May 27-** For the Repose of the Soul of  
CL McCoy  
(Requested by Troy & Colette Hines)

**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)

**Friday, May 30-** For the Repose of the Souls of  
Randy & Irene Webster  
(Requested by Jo Miller & Family)

**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**

### **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,

As we journey through the Easter season, the Church offers us today a powerful and intimate moment from the Gospel of John—a moment that captures the heart of Jesus' teaching and His call to discipleship. In John 13:31–35, Jesus speaks to His disciples not long after washing their feet and just before His betrayal. These verses are part of what is often called the "Farewell Discourse," a tender and profound teaching Jesus shares as His earthly mission nears its climax.

In this brief passage, we hear Jesus say, *"Now is the Son of Man glorified, and God is glorified in Him."* At first glance, it seems paradoxical. Jesus speaks of being glorified in the very moment when Judas has gone out to betray Him. Yet, this is precisely how Jesus redefines glory—not as triumph in the eyes of the world, but as love poured out, even unto death. His impending crucifixion will not be a moment of shame but the ultimate revelation of God's love. In His Passion, Jesus glorifies the Father by revealing the depth of divine mercy, and the Father glorifies the Son by exalting Him through the Cross and Resurrection.

In this context of self-giving love, Jesus gives His disciples a "new commandment": *"Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another."* At first, this command may not seem new. After all, the command to love others is deeply rooted in Jewish tradition. What makes this commandment new is the standard Jesus sets—*"as I have loved you."* The love Jesus speaks of is not simply kindness or mutual respect, but a love that is sacrificial, enduring, forgiving, and unconditional.

Jesus' love was a love that served others, as He demonstrated by washing the disciples' feet. It was a love that healed the sick, welcomed the outcast, forgave sinners, and ultimately, gave His life on the cross. This is the love He calls His followers to embody. It is not a love based on convenience or comfort, but one that often requires great courage, humility, and perseverance.

In a world that can be marked by division, selfishness, and fear, the command to love as Christ loves is more relevant than ever. It is also one of the greatest challenges of Christian discipleship. Loving others in this way means choosing compassion over judgment, reconciliation over resentment, and service over self-interest. It means seeing Christ in every person—especially those we find difficult to love.

Jesus also tells His disciples, *"By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another."* The witness of our love becomes the most convincing sign of the Gospel. The early Church grew not through eloquent preaching or powerful institutions, but because people were drawn to the radical, transforming love that Christians showed one another. That same call is ours today. Love is our mission, our identity, and our greatest testimony to the world.

As we reflect on this Gospel during the Easter season—a time of renewal and new life—let us ask ourselves how we are living out this "new commandment." Is our love for one another marked by the same depth and sincerity as Christ's love for us?

Your friend in Jesus,  
Msgr. Zach

*May 18th Responsorial: Psalm 146*  
I will praise your name forever, my king and my God.  
*May 25th Responsorial: Psalm 67*  
O God, let all the nations praise you!



## 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>.



### 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.



### PASTORAL COUNCIL MEETING-MAY 22<sup>ND</sup>

Our next Pastoral Council meeting is Thursday, May 22<sup>nd</sup> at 6pm in the library of the Parish Center.

### Men's Club Meeting May 22<sup>nd</sup>

The Men's club meeting is Thursday, May 22<sup>nd</sup> at 6pm downstairs in the parish center. All men of the parish are welcome to attend.

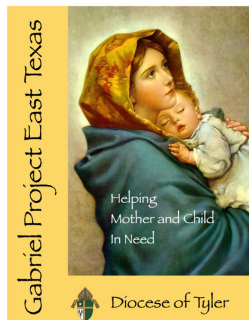
### LAS GUDALUPANAS BREAKFAST AND BIRTHDAY CAKE

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.

### Priests for Tomorrow Update

**Goal:** \$150,000.00      **Pledged:** \$111,240.00  
**Payments Received:** \$75,510.00

50.3% of Goal      67.9% of Pledge  
**Pledge Remaining Balance:** \$35,730.00



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>

### 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 . . .

### 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.



*A Memorial Mass for CL McCoy will be on Tuesday, May 27<sup>th</sup> at 10am at Immaculate Conception. A reception will follow in the Parish center.*

### NO NOON MASS ON MAY 27TH

Since CL's Memorial Mass will be at 10am that day, we will not have a noon Mass.

## 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. Pope John I, Pope and Martyr-May 18

Pope John I was born in Tuscany, Italy, around the year 480. John was elected Pope while he was still an archdeacon upon the death of Pope Hormisdas in 523, during a time when the Western Roman Empire was in decline and the Church was facing numerous challenges. Despite these difficulties, Pope John I remained steadfast in his commitment to preserving the unity of the Church and promoting its mission. John was very frail when he was elected to the papacy.

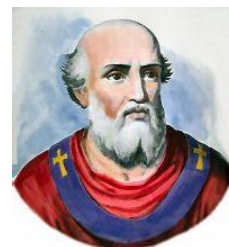
At that time, the ruler of Italy was Theodoric the Goth who subscribed to the Arian brand of Christianity, but had tolerated and even favored his Catholic subjects during the early part of his reign. However, about the time of St. John's accession to the Papacy, Theodoric's policy underwent a drastic change due to in part by the severe edict against heretics enacted by the emperor Justin I, who was the first Catholic on the Byzantine throne in fifty years.

Spurred on by the appeals of Eastern Arians, Theodoric threatened to wage war against Justin but ultimately decided to negotiate with him through a delegation of five Bishops and four senators. At its head he named Pope John - much against the latter's wishes. John succeeded in persuading the Emperor to mitigate his treatment of the Arians and thus avoid reprisals against the Catholics in Italy.

However, Theodoric had been becoming more suspicious with each passing day. While waiting for the delegation to return, he ordered the execution of the philosopher Boethius and his father-in-law Symmachus on a charge of treason. As he got word of the friendly relations between the Pope and the emperor, he concluded that they were plotting against him. Hence, on the delegation's return to the capitol city of Ravenna, Pope John was imprisoned by order of Theodoric and died a short time later as a result of neglect and ill treatment. His body was transported to Rome and buried in the Basilica of St. Peter.

St. Pope John I is also remembered for his contributions to the liturgical and musical life of the Church. He is said to have composed several hymns and was a strong supporter of the use of Gregorian chant in the liturgy. Pope John I's love for the Church and his commitment to preserving its unity and promoting its mission continue to inspire Catholics to this day.

St. Pope John I was canonized by the Catholic Church in 872. Saint John I, Pope is the patron saint of priests.



# 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