

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



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

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

EXALTATION OF THE HOLY CROSS

SEPTEMBER 14, 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 September 7, 2025

Total General Collection	\$2194.00
Regular Collection	\$ 1904.00
Online Collection	\$ 290.00
2nd Collection: Catholic University of America	\$372.00

Upcoming Special Collections

September 14, 2025- For Those in Need

October 5, 2025- For Those in Need

Gift of Gratitude St. Vincent de Paul

WEEK OF 9/4/25

Food for the poor: # of cans & packages 14
Families served: 10 (19 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 9/15/2025 – **Charmaine Kresch**

Week of 9/22/2025 – **Sharon Verhalen**

Week of 9/29/2025 – **Connie Woods**

Week of 10/6/2025 – **Andrea Bautista**

If you are interested in volunteering Email us at
iccjefferson@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.

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.

Lay Ministry September 2025

Saturday, September 6, 2025

Lector: Collette Dockery

Eucharistic Minister:

Pam Watts

Johnette Grubaugh

Sunday, September 7, 2025

Lector: Sharon Verhalen

Eucharistic Ministers:

Anita Hall

Maria Velazquez

Saturday, September 13, 2025

Lector: Doc Dockery

Eucharistic Minister:

Theresa Beard

Marguerite Hawthorne

Sunday, September 14, 2025

Lector: Roger Opiela

Eucharistic Ministers:

Ann Kauppi

Sharon Verhalen

Saturday, September 20, 2025

Lector: Pam Watts

Eucharistic Minister:

Collette Dockery

Doc Dockery

Sunday, September 21, 2025

Lector: Dan Kauppi

Eucharistic Ministers:

Jackie Traylor

Kat Bellini

Saturday, September 27, 2025

Lector: Johnette Grubaugh

Eucharistic Minister:

Pam Watts

Theresa Beard

Sunday, September 28, 2025

Lector: Jackie Traylor

Eucharistic Ministers:

Liz Opiela

Colette Hines

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

Email us at iccjefferson@sbcglobal.net

or call 903-665-2869



Together We Pray

Prayer List

Please remember in your prayers those who need prayers in our Parish Family and Community. (= Newly added)*

Parishioners

Anna Bode Family	Judith Lensch
Rufe Brewton	Jo Miller
JR Procell	Amil Murray
Maria & Cesar Chapa	Ron Remedies
Sharon Deangelo	Rebecca Cornett Sistrunk
Mary Dorgan	Watts Family
Dawn Fuquay	John Wix
Fred Griffin	Doris Wong
Troy Hines	David Roberts
Darrell Lensch	Monica Bautista
Mike Lakey	Mary Ann Haynes
*Fr Gabriel Uzundu	

Family & Friends

*Eliana Faith England	* Becky Hargrove
Charles Cancellare	Ginny Reordan
Imogene Cancellare	Lance Reordan
*Jessica Sistrunk	Rev. Joseph Nasser
Melissa Jo Haynes	Marsha Hinson
Guadalupe Hernandez	Carter Davis
Sue Holt	Barbara Sontag
Todd Holt	Noelia Thomas
Gerald Kennie	Beverly Sheman
Roy Hunter	Mary Rike
Hector Garza	Kenneth Hudson
Miguel Aranda	Marilyn Hines
Chris Wood	Matt Kauppi
Kenny Mills	Rita Hatten
Brandy Campbell	Jerry Hatten
Melvin Williams	* David Hollis

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 –September 2025

Saturday, September 13- For the Repose of the Soul of Jaime Martinez
(Requested by Irene Webster)

Sunday, September 14- For the Parishioners of ICC
(Requested by Ladies' Altar Society)

Tuesday, September 16- For the Repose of the Soul of Susan Wise
(Requested by Ladies' Altar Society)

Wednesday, September 17- For the Repose of the Soul of Irene Webster
(Requested by Charlie & Anita Hall)

Thursday, September 18- For the Repose of the Soul of Yvonne Thompson
(Requested by Jackie Traylor)

Friday, September 19- For the Repose of the Soul of Gloria Lampkin
(Requested by Pam Watts)

Saturday, September 20- For the Repose of the Soul of Rusty Webster
(Requested by Irene Webster)

Sunday, September 21- For the Parishioners of ICC
(Requested by Ladies' Altar Society)

Tuesday, September 23- For the Repose of the Soul of Tammy Martin
(Requested by Pam Watts)

Wednesday, September 24- For the Repose of the Soul of Glenda Davis
(Requested by Pam Watts)

Thursday, September 25- For the Repose of the Souls of Robert & Birdie Traylor
(Requested by Jackie Traylor)

Friday, September 26- For the Repose of the Soul of Irene Webster
(Requested by Charlie & Anita Hall)

Please submit your mass intentions in the envelopes provided. Cards are available in the office to notify recipients and/or families of the intentions you have submitted for them.

Pope Leo Prayer Intentions September 2025

For our relationship with all of creation
Let us pray that, inspired by Saint Francis, we might experience our interdependence with all creatures who are loved by God and worthy of love and respect.

A Message from Msgr. Zach

Dear Friends,

On the Feast of the *Exaltation of the Holy Cross*, we are drawn into the very heart of our Catholic faith — the mystery of the Cross. As families rooted in Christ, this feast is not only a liturgical celebration but a reminder of how love, sacrifice, and redemption shape our homes and lives.

The Gospel from John 3:13-17 presents a conversation between Jesus and Nicodemus. Jesus refers to Moses lifting up the serpent in the desert, pointing to the saving power of obedience and faith. Then, He speaks of Himself being “lifted up,” foretelling His crucifixion. This is no ordinary lifting. It is the moment where love meets suffering, and suffering is transformed into glory. The Cross, once a symbol of shame and death, becomes the throne of mercy and the bridge to eternal life.

As Catholic families, we sometimes face our own “deserts” — seasons of difficulty, loss, or confusion. Perhaps it's the loss of a job, the sickness of a loved one, the struggles of raising children in a chaotic world, or the simple exhaustion that comes with daily life. In these moments, the Cross teaches us not to run from pain but to carry it with Christ. The Cross reminds us that no suffering is wasted when united to the love of Jesus. Just as He was lifted up to heal and save, our own crosses — when embraced with faith — become moments of grace.

St. John tells us that “God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world might be saved through him.” What a powerful assurance for every parent, spouse, and child! God’s love is not transactional; it’s total. He does not love us because we succeed or have perfect homes. He loves us *first* — even in our weakness and sin — and from that love flows our healing and transformation.

In the family setting, the Cross becomes a daily reality in simple acts of love: when spouses forgive each other, when children learn obedience, when parents sacrifice quietly for their children’s good, when we choose prayer over convenience, service over self. These small “liftings” reflect the great lifting of Christ on the Cross. In fact, it’s often within the home that the Cross is most exalted — not in grand gestures, but in ordinary love lived faithfully.

The Cross also challenges us to teach our children the truth of the Gospel. In a culture that often avoids sacrifice and pursues comfort at any cost, we must raise them with eyes fixed on Christ crucified, who shows us that real love costs something. But it also leads to something far greater: the Resurrection.

This Feast calls us to *exalt* the Cross in our homes — to honor it not as a burden but as a blessing. Place a crucifix where your family gathers. Pray before it. Teach your children to trace the Sign of the Cross with reverence. Let it be a visible sign that, in your household, Christ reigns — not in fear or condemnation, but in saving love. May our families, like the Cross, stand tall in the world — rooted in sacrifice, radiant with love, and always pointing to heaven.

Your friend in Jesus,
Msgr. Zach

Sept 14 Responsorial: Psalm 78
Do not forget the works of the Lord!
Sept 21 Responsorial: Psalm 113
Praise the Lord who lifts up the poor.

Community Happenings . . .

Mary's Hall in use on September 13th

On Saturday, September 13th, Mary's Hall will be in use for an event from 12pm to 6pm. Please do not enter the Hall during these times. Thank you.

"Understanding the Scriptures" Class begins Sept 24th

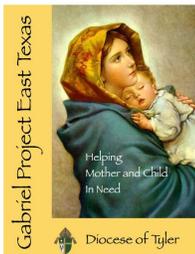
Fr. Isaac's Class "Understanding the Scriptures" will resume on Wednesday, September 24th at 5pm in the library of the parish center. He will be covering the New Testament section. If you didn't make the first half, but would like to join for the 2nd half of the class, please contact the church office to order a book.

Books are \$20 each.

Las Guadalupanas Tamale Sale

The Las Guadalupanas are having a tamale sale. They are offering both pork and chicken tamales for \$20 for one dozen.

There is a sign-up sheet in the foyer under the bulletin board to pre-order your tamales. They will be delivered on September 20th. Contact Andrea Bautista with any questions.



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 unflinching 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>

Meet & Greet the new formation team Sept 14!

We have a new Faith formation team! Come meet those who will be helping with the OCIA and Sacramental Prep classes on Sunday, September 14th after Mass in the Parish Center. Breakfast will be provided for everyone.

All those who will be taking the classes are encouraged to come meet the formation team. But everyone is invited!



Our new faith formation classes including OCIA and Sacramental Prep will begin on Sunday, September 21st

OCIA (Order of Christian Initiation for Adults) classes for those seeking to become Catholic or to learn more about the Catholic faith will start on Sunday, September 21st at 10:45am in the parish center downstairs classroom.

Also Sacramental prep for First Communion and Confirmation will also be held at the same date and time in the parish center classroom by the elevator.

Classes will be on Sundays from 10:45am to 12pm.

SIGN-UP FOR YOUTH SACRAMENTAL PREP

To sign up for youth age 2nd grade to 7th grade for Sacramental prep classes, please scan the below QR Code or go to

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1m-kF1z3g5_uUPgaNIODY9gdNEwHme1mtqTG7T9FQDEC/edit

Please fill out the entire form and submit it.



2 New Saints for the Catholic Church!

Pope Leo XIV proclaims the canonization formula in Latin, officially declaring two new saints for the Catholic Church on Sunday September 7th. Saint Carlo Acutis and Saint Pier Giorgio Frassati, pray for us and for the youth of the world!

Community Happenings . . .

Bishop's Annual Appeal Update

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

Paid to date is **\$7,799.68**

Pledged so far: **\$11,975.08** which is 74.8% of our goal.

To meet our goal: **\$4024.92.**

24 Families have pledged so far.

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

Ethics and Integrity Updates

Thank you to everyone who came to the Recertification training in August. There are still a few people (listed below) who need to complete either a background check or take the recertification training to be completely up to date on your training.

Background checks:

Joe Bellini
Kat Bellini
Jack Dellinger
Dirk Domas
BR McCoy
Liz Opiela

Training:

JR Beard
Walter Martin
Jack Dellinger
Dirk Domas
Anita Hall
Charlie Hall

Sign into your virtusonline.org account to do your background check and to sign up for a training class. Contact Colette Hines with any questions.

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

St. John Chrysostom – September 13th

John of Antioch was born around 349 in Antioch (Antakya in present-day Turkey). John grew up with his mother who transmitted a deep faith to him. He studied philosophy and rhetoric, becoming the greatest orator of Greek antiquity, and was called Chrysostom, which means "Golden Mouth," because of his eloquence.

John was baptized in 368 and entered ecclesiastical life as a "reader." He then attended a seminary in Antioch. Soon after, he decided to live as a hermit in the caves of Mount Silpio and would lead this life of asceticism for four years, spending his time meditating on the Gospels and the Letters of [Saint Paul](#). In his hermitage, John acquired a deep knowledge of the Bible that he would transmit throughout his life in his pastoral mission.

Having fallen ill, the hermit John was forced to join the Christian community of Antioch in order to be cared for. Returning to the city in 378, John began to preach the word of God to all. In 381, he became a deacon and was ordained a priest in 386.

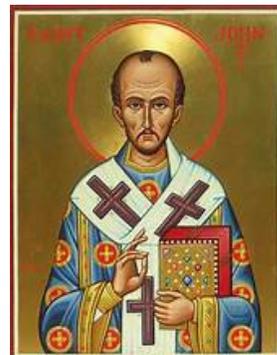
Saint John Chrysostom also gave beautiful catechisms for the preparation for baptism. He explained in particular that the value of man lies in the "exact knowledge of the true doctrine and in the rectitude of life". For him, these two elements always go hand in hand: knowledge of the truth and life in accordance with the Gospel.

John was appointed bishop of Constantinople in 397. From the beginning of his ministry, he worked to reform his Church into a sense of austerity.

Exercising episcopal ministry in the capital of the Empire was not without trials, and John defended the Christian faith despite the pressure of imperial power. For this reason, he was sentenced to exile on two occasions, between 403 and 407, first on the shores of the Black Sea (in present-day Georgia) and then in Armenia.

Bishop John did not recover from the imposed fatigue and died in exile in Comana on September 14, 407, on the feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross.

Saint John Chrysostom is one of the Fathers of the Eastern Church and Doctor of the Catholic Church, he is celebrated on September 13. He is the patron saint of speakers, television presenters, lecturers, etc.



Rosary Schedule and Marian Feast Days September, 2025



WEDNESDAY, SEPT 3RD

ROSARY @ 6:00 P.M

MONDAY, SEPT 8TH

BIRTH OF MARY

WEDNESDAY, SEPT 10TH

ROSARY @ 6:00 P.M

FRIDAY, SEPT 12TH

MOST HOLY NAME OF MARY

MONDAY, SEPT 15TH

OUR LADY OF SORROWS

WEDNESDAY, SEPT 17TH

ROSARY @ 6:00 P.M

WEDNESDAY, SEPT 24TH

ROSARY @ 6:00 P.M