

# 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.

Thursday 9:00am – 12:00pm

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

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

THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD  
JANUARY 4, 2026



## 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 28, 2025

<b>Total General Collection</b>	<b>\$1753.00</b>
Regular Collection	\$1563.00
Online Collection	\$190.00
<b>Christmas</b>	<b>\$1676.00</b>
<b>Caring for Priests</b>	<b>\$684.00</b>

## Upcoming Special Collections

January 1, 2026- Solemnity of Mary Mother of God  
January 4, 2026- For Those in Need

## Gift of Gratitude St. Vincent de Paul

**WEEK OF 12-25-25-CLOSED**  
Food for the poor: # of cans & packages  
Families served: (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 01/05/2026 – **Charmaine Kresch**

Week of 01/12/2026 – **Sharon Verhalen**

Week of 01/19/2026 – **Connie Woods**

Week of 01/26/2026 – **Andrea Bautista**

If you are interested in volunteering Email us at  
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 January 2026

Saturday, January 3, 2026

**Lector:** Pam Watts

**Eucharistic Minister:**

Johnette Grubaugh  
Marguerite Hawthorne

Sunday, January 4, 2026

**Lector:** Kat Bellini

**Eucharistic Ministers:**

Liz Opiela  
Sharon Verhalen

Saturday, January 10, 2026

**Lector:** Doc Dockery

**Eucharistic Minister:**

Theresa Beard  
Collette Dockery

Sunday, January 11, 2026

**Lector:** Roger Opiela

**Eucharistic Ministers:**

Kat Bellini  
Jackie Traylor

Saturday, January 17, 2026

**Lector:** Johnette Grubaugh

**Eucharistic Minister:**

Pam Watts  
Marguerite Hawthorne

Sunday, January 18, 2026

**Lector:** Jackie Traylor

**Eucharistic Ministers:**

Colette Hines  
Roger Opiela

Saturday, January 24, 2026

**Lector:** Collette Dockery

**Eucharistic Minister:**

Johnette Grubaugh  
Theresa Beard

Sunday, January 25, 2026

**Lector:** Philip Verhalen

**Eucharistic Ministers:**

Anita Hall  
Maria Velazquez

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. (\* = Newly added)

### **Parishioners**

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

### **Family & Friends**

Eliana Faith England	Lily Buckner
Trish Cancellare	Ginny Reordan
Jessica Sistrunk	Lance Reordan
LaVern Beard	Rev. Joseph Nasser
Lyndsey Dozier	Laura Wood
Sue Holt	Sharon Traina
Todd Holt	Paul Gonzalez
Gerald Kennie	Rousell Morris
Roy Hunter	Kenneth Hudson
Hector Garza	Marilyn Hines
Miguel Aranda	Mary Rike
Chris Wood	Rita Hatten
Brandy Campbell	Jerry Hatten
Melvin Williams	Francisco Chaidez
Brad McEnley	Hailey Blunt
Mary Dixon	* Justin Rector

### **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 - January 2026

**Thursday, January 1-** For the Repose of the Soul of Beata Diedrich  
(Requested by Jeannette Murray)

**Friday, January 2-** For the Repose of the Soul of Polly Werline  
(Requested by Marguerite Hawthorne)

**Saturday, January 3- 5:00pm-** For the Parishioners of ICC  
(Requested by ICC)

**Sunday, January 4-** For the Repose of the Soul of Ed Diedrich III  
(Requested by Jeanette Murray)

**Tuesday, January 6 -** For Emery Stewart and Austin Hunt (newly engaged)  
(Requested by Scott & Jennifer Stewart)

**Wednesday, January 7-** For the Repose of the Soul of Catherine Kresslein  
(Requested by Marguerite Hawthorne)

**Friday, January 9-** For Gokan Efe  
(Requested by Jeanette Murray)

**Saturday, January 10 -** For the Parishioners of ICC  
(Requested by ICC)

**Sunday, January 11-** For Amil & Jeanette Murray (56<sup>th</sup> Anniversary)  
(Requested by Jeanette Murray)

**Thursday, January 15-** For Michael Cartier  
(Requested by Troy & Colette Hines)

**Friday, January 16-** For Mary Dixon  
(Requested by Marguerite Hawthorne)

**Sunday, January 18-** For the Parishioners of ICC  
(Requested by ICC)

**Tuesday, January 20-** For the Repose of the Souls of Bereaved Members of the Altar Society  
(Requested by Ladies Altar Society)

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 January 2026**

### **For Prayer with the Word of God**

Let us pray that praying with the word of God be nourishment for our lives and a source of hope in our communities, helping us to build a more fraternal and missionary Church.

# A Message from Msgr. Zach

Dear Friends,

The Gospel of Matthew (2:1–12) presents us with the beautiful and familiar story of the Magi—wise men from the East who set out on a long and uncertain journey, guided only by a mysterious star. Their story is not merely about distant travelers and exotic gifts; it is a story that speaks deeply to every family striving to follow God’s guidance in daily life.

Families today, like the Magi, are often on journeys filled with questions and uncertainties. Parents seek the best paths for their children, children look to adults for direction, and all of us search for meaning, security, and hope. The star that guided the Magi can be seen as a symbol of God’s presence within the family—sometimes bright and clear, at other times faint and hard to follow, yet always leading toward Christ.

The Magi begin their journey with openness and courage. They leave behind the familiarity of home and comfort, trusting that God is calling them forward. In family life, faith often requires similar courage. Parents are called to lead their households with trust in God, even when the road ahead is unclear—whether facing financial stress, health challenges, or difficult decisions. Children, too, learn faith by watching adults take those steps, guided not by fear, but by trust.

When the Magi arrive in Jerusalem, they are momentarily confused. They expect to find a king in a palace, yet God’s plan leads them instead to a humble home in Bethlehem. Families also experience moments when expectations do not align with reality. We may look for God in grand successes or perfect situations, but often Christ is found in the simplicity of everyday family life—in shared meals, bedtime prayers, forgiveness after disagreements, and quiet acts of love.

Upon finding the Child with Mary, the Magi kneel in worship. Their response reminds us that faith is not only about searching, but about recognizing and honoring God when He is present. In the home, creating space for worship—through prayer, Scripture, and participation in the sacraments—helps families recognize Christ dwelling among them. A simple prayer together can transform an ordinary household into a holy place.

The gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh symbolize giving our best to God. Families are invited to reflect on the gifts they offer: time spent together, patience during struggles, forgiveness after conflict, and love freely given. These offerings, though simple, are precious in God’s eyes.

Finally, the Magi return home “by another way.” An encounter with Christ always changes us. Families who truly welcome Jesus into their lives are gradually transformed—learning to love more deeply, serve more generously, and live more faithfully.

As we reflect on the journey of the Magi, may our families continue to follow God’s guiding light. May we seek Christ together, recognize Him in the ordinary moments of life, and allow our encounter with Him to shape the way we live, love, and walk forward as families of faith.

Your friend in Jesus,  
Msgr. Zach

*Jan 4 Responsorial: Psalm 72*  
Lord, every nation on earth will adore you.

*Jan 11 Responsorial: Psalm 29*  
The Lord will bless His people with peace.

# Community Happenings . . .

## NO FAITH FORMATION OR BIBLE CLASSES

There will be no Faith formation classes on January 4<sup>th</sup>. Classes will resume on January 11<sup>th</sup>.

There will be no Bible classes from on January 7<sup>th</sup>. Bible classes will resume on January 14<sup>th</sup>.

## MEN'S CLUB BREAKFAST JAN 4<sup>TH</sup>

All are invited to come enjoy a special New Year breakfast provided by the Men's Group on Sunday, January 4 after Mass in the Parish Center. They will have omelets made to order.

## Men's Club Meeting January 15<sup>th</sup>

The Men's Club is having their monthly meeting on Thursday, January 15<sup>th</sup> at 6:00pm in the Parish center. All men age 18 and older of the parish are welcome to attend.

## Ladies' Altar Society Chili Lunch February 11, 2026

Members of the Ladies' Altar Society will be selling tickets for their annual chili lunch beginning January 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> after all Masses. Tickets are \$15 each and include chili, drink and a home-made dessert.

Tickets are for dine-in or take out at the Parish Center. The chili lunch will be on February 11, 2026 from 11:00am to 2:00pm.



## Prayer for New Year 2026

Heavenly Father, as I stand at the threshold of this new year, I come before You with a heart full of hope and trust. Thank You for the gift of another year, for the grace You have given me, and for Your faithful presence in my life.

I place this new year into Your hands. Guide my steps, protect my heart, and help me grow closer to You each day.

Bless my family, my work, my relationships, and all the intentions I carry in my heart. Give me strength in trials, wisdom in decisions, and peace in uncertainty.

Lord, may this year be one of grace, renewal, and deeper faith. I trust in Your providence and surrender all to Your will. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

## Ladies Altar Society Meeting Jan 5<sup>th</sup>

All ladies, age 18 and older are invited to attend the Ladies Altar Society Meeting on Monday, January 5<sup>th</sup> at 6pm in the Parish Center. Altar Society meets the first Monday of each month at 6pm.

## Mass Intentions for January Available

There are still 9 Mass intentions available for January. The dates available are January 8<sup>th</sup>, 13<sup>th</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup>, 17<sup>th</sup>, 22<sup>nd</sup>, 25<sup>th</sup>, 27<sup>th</sup>, 28<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup>. If you would like to have a loved one remembered during the Mass, please fill out a Mass Intention envelope (located in the foyer on the table), and either put in the collection basket or drop in the mail slot of the church office.

Just a reminder, that one Mass on either Saturday or Sunday must be offered for the community. Therefore, you may not always get the exact date you would like to have for your loved one. If a date is not available, the request will be moved to the closest available date. Please look over the bulletin for existing Mass Intentions.

## Bishop's Annual Appeal Update

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

Paid to date is **\$10,244.88**

Pledged so far: **\$12,875.08** which is 80.5% of our goal.

To meet our goal: **\$3124.92.**

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

## PARISH CENTER KITCHEN IN USE JAN 13-15

The Ladies' Altar Society will be using the kitchen in the Parish Center from January 13-15. Please do not use this space during this time. Thank you.

## Surprise Baby Shower for Ester Perez Jan 11<sup>th</sup>

The Las Guadalupanas are hosting a surprise baby shower for Ester Perez (a parishioner at ICC) on January 11<sup>th</sup> after Mass and during the breakfast in the Parish Center. Everyone is invited to celebrate with them. A meal and games will be provided. Ester is having a girl. Her name will be Ehlani White.

# Community Happenings . . .

## Epiphany

Epiphany is a wondrous celebration in our Catholic tradition that marks the moment when Jesus was revealed to the world, especially to the Gentiles through the visit of the Magi. It is a time filled with hope and light, reminding us that Christ's glory is meant for every nation and every heart. This feast invites us to see beyond our everyday lives and to welcome the divine mystery with open souls.

(<https://www.thecatholicvoice.com/holidays/epiphany>)

Epiphany has several meanings, including "manifestation" or "sudden insight." In the context of the feast, it means that the God-man Jesus Christ was manifested to the world, as represented by the Magi and the different peoples from whom they came.

The Epiphany is the manifestation of Jesus as Messiah of Israel, Son of God and Savior of the world. The great feast of Epiphany celebrates the adoration of Jesus by the wise men (magi) from the East, together with his baptism in the Jordan and the wedding feast at Cana in Galilee. In the magi, representatives of the neighboring pagan religions, the Gospel sees the first-fruits of the nations, who welcome the good news of salvation through the Incarnation. The magi's coming to Jerusalem in order to pay homage to the king of the Jews shows that they seek in Israel, in the messianic light of the star of David, the one who will be king of the nations. Their coming means that pagans can discover Jesus and worship him as Son of God and Savior of the world only by turning towards the Jews and receiving from them the messianic promise as contained in the Old Testament. The Epiphany shows that "the full number of the nations" now takes its "place in the family of the patriarchs," and acquires *Israelitica dignitas* (is made "worthy of the heritage of Israel"). *Catechism of the Catholic Church* (paragraph 528)

## 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 [iccejferson@sbcglobal.net](mailto:iccejferson@sbcglobal.net)

## St. Elizabeth Ann Seton – January 4th

Elizabeth Ann Bayley Seton was the first native born American to be canonized by the Catholic Church. Born two years before the American Revolution, Elizabeth grew up in the upper class of New York society. She was a prolific reader, and read everything from the Bible to contemporary novels.

In 1794, Elizabeth married the wealthy young William Seton, with whom she was deeply in love. The first years of their marriage were happy and prosperous.

This time of Elizabeth's life was to be a brief moment of earthly happiness before the many deaths and partings she was to suffer. Within four years, William's father died, leaving the young couple in charge of William's seven half brothers and sisters, as well as the family's importing business.

Both William's business and health failed. He was finally forced to file a petition of bankruptcy and, in a final attempt to save William's health, the Setons sailed for Italy, where William had business friends.

Unfortunately, William died of tuberculosis while in Italy. Elizabeth's one consolation was that he had recently awakened to the things of God.

In Italy, Elizabeth captivated everyone by her kindness, patience, good sense, wit, and courtesy. During this time Elizabeth became interested in the Catholic Faith and, over a period of months, her Italian friends guided her in Catholic instruction.

Having lost her mother at an early age, Elizabeth felt great comfort in the idea that the Blessed Virgin was truly her mother. She asked the Blessed Virgin to guide her to the True Faith and officially joined the Catholic Church in 1805.

At the suggestion of the president of St. Mary's College in Baltimore, Maryland, Elizabeth started a school in that city. Seton and two other young women began plans for a Sisterhood. They established the first free Catholic school in America. When the young community adopted their rule, they made provisions for Elizabeth to continue raising her children.

On March 25, 1809, Elizabeth Seton pronounced her vows of poverty, chastity, and obedience, binding for one year. From that time she was called Mother Seton.

Mother Seton died in 1821 at the age of 46. She was canonized on September 14, 1975 by Pope Paul VI. Mother Seton is the patron of in-law problems, against the death of children, widows, death of parents, and opposition of Church authorities.



# Rosary Schedule and Marian Feast Days January, 2026



**THURSDAY, JAN 1ST**  
SOLEMNITY OF MARY, MOTHER OF GOD

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

**THURSDAY, JAN 8TH**  
OUR LADY OF PROMPT SUCCOR

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

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

**SATURDAY, JAN 24TH**  
OUR LADY OF PEACE

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