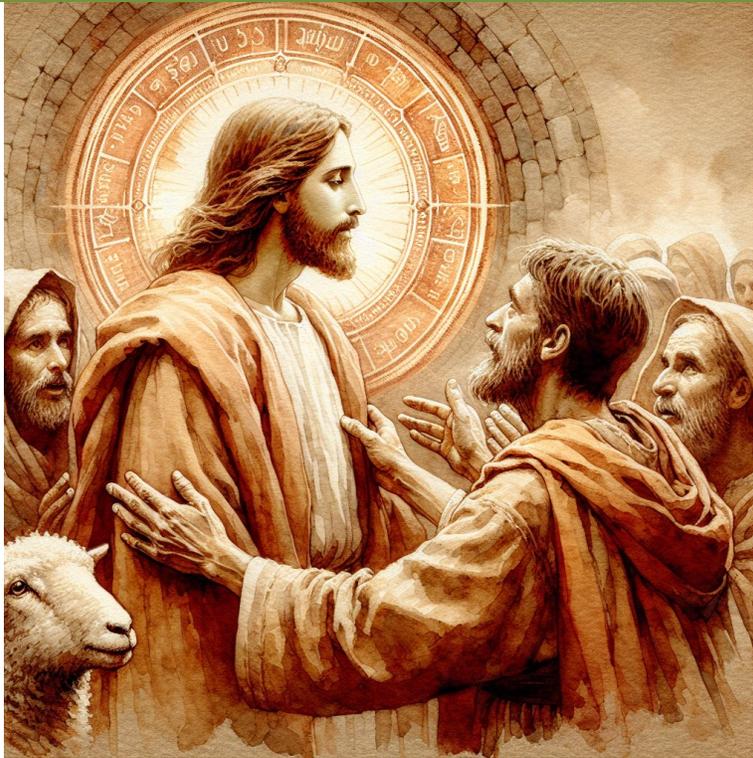


# IMMACULATE CONCEPTION CATHOLIC CHURCH

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>

2<sup>ND</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME  
JANUARY 18, 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 January 11, 2026

<b>Total General Collection</b>	<b>\$3654.00</b>
Regular Collection	\$3454.00
Online Collection	\$200.00

## Upcoming Special Collections

January 25, 2026- Church in Latin America  
February 1, 2026- Diocese of Tyler Catholic Schools  
February 8, 2026- Those in Need

## Gift of Gratitude St. Vincent de Paul

WEEK OF 01-08-26

Food for the poor: 22 # of cans & packages  
Families served: 15 (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 01/19/2026 – **Connie Woods**

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

Week of 02/02/2026 – **Collette Dockery**

Week of 02/09/2026 – **Anita Hall**

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 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	Paul Gonzalez
Todd Holt	Rousell Morris
Gerald Kennie	Kenneth Hudson
Roy Hunter	Marilyn Hines
Hector Garza	Mary Rike
Miguel Aranda	Francisco Chaidez
Chris Wood	Hailey Blunt
Brandy Campbell	Justin Rector
Melvin Williams	Mary Dixon
Brad McEnley	

### **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

**Saturday, January 17-** For the Repose of the Soul of Polly Welch Werline  
(Requested by Jo Miller Family)

**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)

**Wednesday, January 21-** For Trish Cancellare  
(Requested by Marguerite Hawthorne)

**Thursday, January 22-** For Mike Shaw  
(Requested by Jackie Traylor)

**Friday, January 23-** For Norman Hines  
(Requested by Troy & Colette Hines)

**Saturday, January 24-** For the Parishioners of ICC  
(Requested by ICC)

**Sunday, January 25-** For the Repose of the Soul of Addie Puckett Wise  
(Requested by Pam Watts)

**Tuesday, January 27-** For the Repose of the Soul of Polly Welch Werline  
(Requested by Jo Miller Family)

**Wednesday, January 28-** For Luke Ramsey  
(Requested by Pam Watts)

**Thursday, January 29-** For Marianne Manning  
(Requested by Jackie Traylor)

**Friday, January 30-** For the Repose of the Souls of Ed & Theresa Diedrich  
(Requested by Jeanette Murray)

**Saturday, January 31-** For the Repose of the Soul of Mary Saner  
(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 Second Sunday in Ordinary Time invites us to move from the joy of the Christmas season into the everyday rhythm of discipleship. In today's Gospel, John the Baptist points to Jesus and proclaims, "Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world." These words are familiar to us from the Mass, yet in John 1:29–34 they carry a powerful invitation for families to recognize who Jesus is and to witness to Him in daily life.

John the Baptist does not draw attention to himself. Instead, he directs all eyes to Jesus. He recognizes Jesus not because of family ties or personal advantage, but because God has revealed Him. John humbly admits, "I did not know him," emphasizing that faith is a gift that grows through listening and openness to God. In family life, this humility is essential. Parents, grandparents, and caregivers are not called to have all the answers, but to point their children toward Christ through trust, prayer, and example.

Calling Jesus the "Lamb of God" would have resonated deeply with John's listeners. The lamb was a symbol of sacrifice, innocence, and deliverance. For families today, this image reminds us that love often involves sacrifice—giving time, patience, forgiveness, and care for one another. In the small sacrifices made each day—waking up early to help a child, caring for an elderly family member, or choosing kindness over anger—we participate in the self-giving love of Christ, the Lamb who gives Himself for the world.

John also testifies that he saw the Spirit descend upon Jesus and remain with Him. This moment reveals Jesus as the One who baptizes with the Holy Spirit. For families, baptism is often one of the earliest and most meaningful faith experiences. It is a reminder that the Holy Spirit dwells not only in church buildings, but in our homes. When families pray together, share meals, reconcile after conflict, and serve others, they allow the Spirit to remain active in their daily routines.

The Gospel emphasizes witness. John repeatedly says, "I have seen and testified." Faith is not meant to be private or hidden. In family life, witness happens naturally when faith is lived authentically. Children learn what it means to trust God not only from catechism classes, but from watching how their parents handle stress, loss, joy, and decisions. A simple family prayer, attending Mass together, or speaking about God's presence in ordinary moments becomes a powerful testimony.

This Sunday's Gospel challenges families to ask: How do we recognize Jesus in our midst? Do we help one another see Him at work in our lives? Like John the Baptist, families are called to prepare the way for the Lord—not through grand gestures, but through daily faithfulness.

As we continue Ordinary Time, may our families echo John's words by our lives: pointing to Jesus, trusting the Spirit, and embracing the loving sacrifice that makes our homes places where Christ is truly known and welcomed.

Your friend in Jesus,  
Msgr. Zach

*Jan 18 Responsorial: Psalm 40*  
Here am I, Lord; I come to do your will.

*Jan 25 Responsorial: Psalm 27*  
The Lord is my light and my salvation.

# Community Happenings . . .

## PASTORAL COUNCIL MEETING JAN 22ND

Our Pastoral Council meeting will be held on Thursday, January 22<sup>nd</sup> at 6pm in the library in the Parish Center. All are welcome to attend this meeting.

If there is something you would like to have discussed please let the church office know so it can be included in the agenda.

## Mass Intentions for February Available

All of January's Mass intentions are now full. There are only 5 dates open for February. 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.

## Las Guadalupanas Garage Sale February 27-28

The Las Guadalupanas will be having a garage sale in the parish center on Friday, February 27<sup>th</sup> and Saturday February 28<sup>th</sup> (Times to be announced soon.) The sale is in honor of Irene Webster, as many of the clothes donated are from her son. All proceeds from the sale will go to Faith Formation, since Irene had such a special love for it.

If you have any new or gently used household items or clothes that you would like to donate for the sale, please bring items to the parish center between January 19<sup>th</sup> and February 15<sup>th</sup>. No items will be accepted after Feb 15<sup>th</sup>. If you want to drop off items during the week, please call Colette Hines to arrange a drop off time.

## 9 Days for Life Novena Jan 16-24

9 Days for Life is an annual novena for the protection of human life. Each day's intention is accompanied by a short reflection and suggested actions to help build a culture of life. Go to <https://www.respectlife.org/9-days-signup> for more information.

For those who would prefer to have the novena printed, there are some printed copies available on the table in the foyer under the bulletin board



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

Members of the Ladies' Altar Society will be selling tickets for their annual chili lunch 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.



## Las Guadalupanas Breakfast Jan 18

The Las Guadalupanas will have their breakfast on Sunday, January 18<sup>th</sup> after Mass in the Parish Center. All are invited to come enjoy a delicious breakfast.

## 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.

## PRIESTS FOR TOMORROW UPDATE

Goal: \$150,000.00

Pledged: \$111,240.00

Payments Received so far: \$78,210.00

52.14% of Goal and 70.31% of pledged amount

Pledged Remaining Balance: \$33,030.00

## Grow in Faith

### *Why the Sign of Peace Comes Before Communion, not After*

Many people think the Sign of Peace is just a friendly moment: a chance to smile, to greet neighbors, or to feel "welcome."

But the Church did not place it there for social reasons. She placed it there for salvation. The placement comes straight from Christ Himself. Jesus said: "If you are offering your gift at the altar and remember that your brother has something against you, leave your gift there... first be reconciled."

Notice the order: Reconciliation first, Offering after. So before we approach the altar to receive Christ, the Church pauses and asks: Are you at peace? Peace Is a Requirement, Not a Courtesy. The Sign of Peace is not about friendliness. It is about readiness.

You cannot receive the Prince of Peace while clinging to hatred, bitterness, or division. The Church is saying quietly: Do not come forward divided.

### *Why the Sign of Peace Cannot Come After Communion:*

After Communion, the Sacrifice has already been received. Placing peace afterward would suggest: Receive Christ first, reconcile later. That reverses the Gospel. Christ demands the heart be prepared before the encounter.

Saint Paul warned the early Church: "Whoever eats the bread or drinks the cup unworthily brings judgment upon himself." Unforgiveness is not a small thing. The Sign of Peace is the Church's final examination of conscience before Communion.

### *Why the Priest Prays for Peace First*

The priest does not say: "Let us greet one another." He prays: "Lord Jesus Christ... look not on our sins, but on the faith of your Church, and graciously grant her peace." Peace is given, not created. Only Christ can give it.

The peace we exchange is not: "I like you." It is: "I forgive you.", "We are one Body." That is why the sign is brief, restrained, and sober. Because the altar is near.

The Church places the Sign of Peace where Christ placed it: before the Gift: before the Lamb, before the Banquet, before Heaven touches earth. Peace is not an afterthought. It is the doorway. *Written by Catholics Online Class*

## 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. Sebastian – January 20th*

Nothing is known about St. Sebastian's youth other than the fact he may have come from southern France and he was educated in Milan. He joined the Roman Army in 283 AD, to be of service to other Christians who were being persecuted by the Romans. St. Sebastian distinguished himself and for his excellent service, he was promoted to serve in the Praetorian Guard to protect Emperor Diocletian.

While serving as a Praetorian Guard, Marcus and Marcellian, twin brothers, were imprisoned for refusing to make public sacrifices to the Roman gods. The brothers were deacons of the Christian Church. During their imprisonment, their parents visited them to implore them to renounce Christianity. However, St. Sebastian convinced both parents to convert to Christianity. St. Sebastian also converted several other prominent individuals, including the local prefect.

This led to his discovery and he was reported as a Christian to Emperor Diocletian in 286. The Emperor, who was already infamous for ordering the deaths of hundreds of Christians, scolded Sebastian and ordered him to be killed by having him tied to a stake on a training field and used as target practice.

Archers riddled his body with arrows. His body was described as, "full of arrows as an urchin." Believed to be dead, the archers left his body for retrieval and burial. He was recovered by Irene of Rome. Irene discovered that Sebastian was still living and she hid him and nursed him back to health.

Once well, Sebastian went in search of Diocletian to surprise him. He managed to catch Diocletian by a stairwell and proceeded to criticize him loudly and publically for his persecution of the Christians. Diocletian, surprised that Sebastian was still alive, was immediately taken aback, but recovered his composure. This time, he would not permit Sebastian to escape with his life. He ordered his former guard to beat Sebastian to death with clubs, and then throw him into the sewers.

His body was recovered by a Christian woman, named Lucina, and she secretly buried him in the catacombs beneath Rome.

Nearly 80 years after his death, around 367, his remains were moved to a basilica in Rome, built by Pope Damasus I. Some relics from his body were reportedly removed and shared with a community of monks in France.

St. Sebastian is the patron saint of soldiers, athletes, and those who desire a saintly death.



# 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.