

Immaculate Conception Catholic Church

28297 Old Village Road
P. O. Box 166

Mechanicsville, MD 20659

Rectory Office: 301-884-3123

Fax Number: 301-884-7437

Faith Formation Office: 240-230-3167

Parish Email: Immaculateconception.md@adw.org

Parish Website: ICChurchmd.org

Parish Clergy

Rev. Michael Tietjen, Pastor

Deacon William Kyte, D.R.E.



March 10th, 2019 First Sunday of Lent

Weekend Masses:

Saturday at 4:00 pm, Sunday at 7:00, 9:00 and 11:00 am

Weekday Masses:

Monday – Wednesday & Friday at 7:30 am

1st Saturday Mass at 9:00 am (only 1st of the month)

Confessions:

Saturdays at 3:00 pm – 3:45 pm, and after the vigil Mass.

Wednesdays from 6:30 pm – 8:00 pm during Lent.

Eucharistic Adoration:

1st Friday of each month, beginning after the
7:30 am Mass & ending with Benediction at 6:30 pm.

Baptisms

Parishioners of Immaculate Conception Church should contact the rectory so we can explain the process to you. Baptisms are traditionally held on the first Sunday of each month.

Marriages

Active and participating parishioners are welcome to be married at Immaculate Conception! Please contact the rectory *at least 6 months* in advance (preferably a year) so there is time to complete the marriage preparation process and confirm a wedding date.

Please do not reserve a reception hall before scheduling a meeting with the pastor.

Shut-Ins

If you wish to have your homebound loved-ones receive Holy Communion, please call the rectory (301-884-3123).

Mass Intentions

Saturday, March 9th, 2019

4:00 pm – Special Intention

Sunday, March 10th, 2019

7:00 am – Parishioners

9:00 am – Raymond Fugate

11:00 am – Dorothy Blackwell

Monday, March 11th, 2019

7:30 am – Bobby Cusic, Sr.

Tuesday, March 12th, 2019

7:30 am – Rev. Henry Januszkiewicz

Wednesday, March 13th, 2019

7:30 am – Patrick Wood

Friday, March 15th, 2019

7:30 am – Wayne Wood

Saturday, March 16th, 2019

4:00 pm – Curtin Smith

Sunday, March 17th, 2019

7:00 am – Bobby Cusic, Sr.

9:00 am – Parishioners

11:00 am – Carl Raley

Catholic Education:

Grades Pre-K-8

Little Flower School – 301-994-0404

Mother Catherine Academy – 301-884-3165

Grades 9-12

Ryken High School – 301-475-2814

God's Little
Lambs



New to our Parish? We welcome you to Immaculate Conception Church. For new registrations or updates, please visit our website (ICChurchMD.org) or stop by the Rectory Office which is open: **Monday – Friday, 9:00 am to 4:00 pm.**

Pray a rosary for
all those who have left the Church.

Acoustical Panels Update

As you hopefully know, we're in the process of addressing the acoustic problem that's plagued our church for some time. The first "stage" of implementing the solution is placing acoustic panels on the walls to absorb some of the sound, which should reduce the reverberations to acceptable levels. As of now, measurements have been taken and the panels are in the process of being manufactured. This will take about six weeks to complete. Once the panels are here, they will be installed. The whole process should be completed sometime after Easter – when we know a firmer date we'll let you know. With the wall treatment in place the next "stage" will be to upgrade our sound system. We don't have details on the sound system yet, but when we do we'll pass them on. Thank you for your patience. This has been a very long and difficult problem for us all but we're on the verge of a permanent solution. So bear with us! Thanks again for all the ways that you support I.C.

- Fr. Tietjen

Altar Flowers

If you're interested in dedicating altar flowers in memory or in honor of a loved one, please call Clare (301-884-3123) and she will help you schedule an available weekend. The cost is \$47.

Bible Study

Bible study is scheduled for **Monday, March 11th** at 7:00 pm and **Wednesday, March 13th** at 10:00 am in the Parish Center.

Bulletin Item Deadline

If you have an item for the bulletin, please note that all information needs to be sent to Clare.ImmaculateConception@gmail.com by the close of business on Tuesday. Messages will be edited when necessary.

Intercessory Prayer

Join others for intercessory prayer on Tuesday evenings at 7:00 pm in the Parish Center.

Mass Intentions

Have you ever wanted to do something special for a family member or a friend? Consider having one of our regularly scheduled Masses said for someone, living or deceased. Contact the rectory if you are interested in scheduling a Mass. Typically, a donation goes with the request; many donate \$10 but it is voluntary.

Rosary

The rosary is prayed at the following times:

- **First Sunday of the month** – 30 minutes before each Mass.
- **Every Saturday** – 30 minutes before the 4 pm Mass.
- **First Saturday of the month** – 30 minutes before the 9:00 am Mass.
- **Every Wednesday** – immediately following the 7:30 am Mass.

RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults)

RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults) is a program that assists those who want to learn more about the Catholic faith.

If you have any questions, please call Fr. Tietjen (301-884-3123) or Amy Downs (301-904-7439).

Stations of the Cross

Join us for Stations of the Cross on Fridays at 7:00 pm during Lent and at 3:00 pm on Good Friday.

Prayers for the Sick

Please remember the sick members of our parish community in your prayers: J. Allan; Pat Anderson; Heather Ballard; Doris Anne Bradburn; Sandy Burns; William Irvin Butler; Mary Clancy; Jessie Marie Davis; Thomas Farrell; Melanie Gibson; David Hoffmaster, Sr.; Scott Hughes; Meagan Humbert; Robert Morgan; Jennifer Burroughs Murphy; Lisa Durst Owens; John Redding; Laura Redding; Ed Shade; Richard Szatkowski; Claire True; and Betty Williams. If you would like to add your family member to the sick list, please call the rectory (301-884-3123) or email Clare.ImmaculateConception@gmail.com.

Prayers for our Soldiers

We pray for those soldiers serving our Country – serving away from home. Blake Guy; and Paige Guy. Please feel free to call us or email Clare.ImmaculateConception@gmail.com to add your soldier serving AWAY FROM HOME back on the list.

Free Breakfast

The Knights of Columbus will be serving their free breakfast on **Sunday, March 17th** after all Masses. The menu will consist of eggs, sausage, ham, biscuits, pancakes, home fried potatoes, fruit, and beverages. Donations for this month's breakfast will be for the *Christian Refugee Relief Fund*.

Immaculate Conception's - 2019 Seafood Dinner and Festival

Our 2019 Seafood Dinner and Festival will be held on **Sunday, May 5th**. Letters, volunteer forms, and raffle tickets will be mailed on Monday. If you do not receive your letter by Friday, please feel free to call the rectory to request some. Please notice the prize money on the raffle has increased this year as well as the cost of the tickets.

Vanguard: Outreach and Evangelization

Vanguard: Outreach and Evangelization is a new ministry we're starting here at Immaculate Conception. It's a spiritual outreach group of publicly active members and auxiliary members. Guided by a Spiritual Director, this assemblage engages in monthly organizational meetings focused on highlighting activities of parish organizations and groups to strengthen and build evangelization efforts within the parish and the wider community. Publicly active members engage in evangelization efforts, daily prayer, and event organization. Auxiliary members dedicate themselves to prayer, Mass intentions, and Holy Hours. All members of this committee seek, in charity, to strengthen, build upon, and encourage the spiritual life of all individuals. **Next meeting: Sunday, March 10th at 12:15 pm in the Parish Center.** If you are interested in more information, please contact Tim Steelman (tcsworkplace@gmail.com).

Engaging the Mission Workshop

Held by the Archdiocese of Washington Secretariat for Pastoral Ministry and Social Concerns on **Saturday, March 16th** from 8:30 am to 3:00 pm in the **Edward J. Prybyla Center at The Catholic University of America**. An opportunity "to reflect on current parish reality and to discern ways to revitalize parish life and evangelization."

Event details: <https://adw.org/engaging-the-mission/>

Interested? Please contact Tim Steelman via tcsworkplace@gmail.com.

Parish Finance Information

The **Regular Collection** (not counting online donations) last week was \$7,170.10.

The **Renovation Fund Collection** last week was \$4,009.50.

Online Giving

For those interested in donating to our parish online, please visit our website and see the online giving tab. If you have any questions, please call Clare on Monday – Wednesday or Fridays, 9:00 am – 4:00 pm.

Schedule for Saturday, March 16th and Sunday, March 17th, 2019.

Please arrive 10-15 minutes before Mass begins.

	<u>Lectors</u>	<u>Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion</u>	<u>Altar Servers</u>
4:00 pm Saturday	Mary Ann Bean	Charlie Widmayer	Sarah Redding & Paul Baden
7:00 am Sunday	Joseph Woodland	Tim Steelman	Joe Davis
9:00 am	Jean Adams	Levi Parker	Christian & Allie Redding
11:00 am	Eileen Seyfried	Ann Thomas	Joe Davis

Reflections on the Eighth Commandment (Part Two)

This is a continuation of last week's topic – the Eighth Commandment: “You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.” In the previous reflection, the focus was on the seriousness of the offense, a listing of the ways people can break this commandment (because this Commandment encompasses more than just lying about a person's character), and an exhortation on standing up for the truth in all things.

That sounds easy, but as we all know, in practice it's anything but. One problem is lying to avoid punishment or conflict. But another problem is revolves around protecting sensitive information from those who do not have a right to that knowledge.

In some sense, the issue of truth-telling hinges on the right of a person to know something. If a person has a right to information, we should give it. Parents have a right to know what their teenagers are hiding in their sock drawers. They do not have a right to the innermost feelings of those same teenagers. If a person has a right to requested information, then we need to tell them. We say it in charity, but we say it.

But if a person is asking for the truth, they need to be able to accept it. So many conflicts come down to people not owning up to this basic principle of communication. It's the “Does this dress make me look fat?” dilemma (and please feel free to create your own example). Because what if it does? What's a hubby to do? It comes down to the real reason behind the question. People say things for all sorts of reasons: to exchange information, to stroke someone's ego, to set them up for a future confrontation, etc. Truth should be said in charity, always. But if someone is lying to us repeatedly – maybe that's because of their weakness, *or maybe it's because they're sick and tired of dealing with the emotional backlash and/or passive-aggressive games we play with them.* Lying is wrong, but if our actions are the reason behind them, then we are just as much to blame (if not more) for the lying.

Don't ask any question unless you're ready for the answer. When in doubt, shut the mouth.

Let me make a quick aside regarding jokes. Deceiving a person for the sake of a joke can be fine *if the joke is harmless in the end and we're not sinning in the process.* Otherwise it's, well, no joking matter. Moving on....

Back to the right-to-know dilemma. What if a person doesn't have a right to know the information they're asking for? Then things get a bit complicated. To use a common example: what if you're hiding Jews in your basement and the Nazis come to the door asking whether you're hiding any Jews. What do you say? Let me quote the Catechism: “The right to the communication of the truth is not unconditional. Everyone must conform his life to the Gospel precept of fraternal love. This requires us in concrete situations to judge whether or not it is appropriate to reveal the truth to someone who asks for it. Charity and respect for the truth should dictate the response to every request for information or communication. The good and safety of others, respect for privacy, and the common good are sufficient reasons for being silent about what ought not be known or for making use of a discreet language. The duty to avoid scandal often commands strict discretion. No one is bound to reveal the truth to someone who does not have the right to know it.” (CCC #2488-2489)

So for our Nazi example, we're not obliged to aid them in any way. But this also points out the importance of remaining principled in withholding information. To continue with our example: if we're not hiding them and tell the Nazis the truth but later we are hiding them and the Nazis come back, what then? If we're principled enough to state “it's not your business” to people who pry, we can prevent the inadvertent disclosure of sensitive information from manipulators.

– *Fr. Tietjen*

FlockNote

FlockNote is a way for us to reach out to all our parishioners, or a single group, at a moment's notice via text or email. We can inform you of last minute cancellations, requests for prayer, changes in a scheduled meeting, and more. Consider signing up, go to (ICChurchmd.org), click on *Subscribe-Flocknote* and choose the groups you would like to receive information from.

FAITH FORMATION INFORMATION

Sunday, March 10th, 2019
FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

WORD OF TODAY AND FOR THE NEXT 40 DAYS – LENT. PLEASE LISTEN. CAN YOU HEAR JESUS CALLING YOU? “RETURN TO ME WITH YOUR WHOLE HEART” (Joel 2:12). Parents and kids, attend Mass every Sunday and seek God in the Sacrament of Reconciliation. This is why you attend Faith Formation.

MOMS AND DADS: Please take a minute out of your busy schedule to reexamine the FAITH FORMATION CALENDAR for 2018/2019 on our parish website @ ICChurchmd.org. Parents are the first teachers of the Faith to their children; make sure you are teaching them by your good example and words. Please remember your promise to God at their Baptism. PLEASE, TAKE THEM TO CHURCH.

KIDS OF FAITH FORMATION AND THE PARISH: You are the new and future parishioners of our parish. Learn everything you can about your faith. One day you will see God's face.

KIDS IN GRADES 6, 7, AND 8 – ONLINE FAITH FORMATION CLASSES – Are you maintaining a grade of 70% or better in each chapter? If you need help, please see your teacher. I don't want to have you in my office every Sunday or call your parents. Trust me, **I can see everyone's scores, and I won't let you hide or slip through the door with less than a 70%.**

ARE YOU THINKING ABOUT STARTING A NEW CAREER – HOW ABOUT TEACHING YOUR CATHOLIC FAITH? Please call me, stop by and see me, or send me an email. I would love to hear from you. THANKS.

TEACHERS, PARENTS, AND KIDS – Just a little glimpse into the future – the annual Faith Knowledge Assessment Test will be coming to Immaculate Conception Church between **March 31st** and **April 14th**. I'm waiting on the official date from the Archdiocese of Washington. There will be make-up days scheduled for this exam. Every student in Grades 3 through 8 in Faith Formation is required to participate in the Assessment test.

ATTENTION TO ALL 2ND GRADE PARENTS AND KIDS: FIRST RECONCILIATION FOR ALL 2ND GRADE CHILDREN from Faith Formation and MCA –

- **SATURDAY, MARCH 16th, in church, from 9:00 am – 10:00 am.** Father will hear confessions for children from **Session B and make up.** Please make sure you sign-in. Parents are also urged to go to confession.

PLEASE NOTE – ALL children in 2nd grade MUST go to confession before receiving Holy Communion in May. If you miss the scheduled times, it's up to the parents to make arrangements with Father.

DID YOU GET YOUR RICE BOWLS – Make sure you take them home and fill them up. Please help the Children of the World. They need us.

Deacon Bill

(240-230-3167 or Deacon.Kyte@gmail.com)

Quo Vadis Hiking Trip

On **Sunday, March 31st**, all high school aged men who are interested in the priesthood are invited to go on a Quo Vadis hiking trip at Great Falls National Park. The day will include Mass, lunch, Eucharistic adoration, dinner, and the opportunity to spend time with priests, seminarians, and other high school aged men who are open to the priesthood. The day will run from 9:45 am – 5:15 pm. Bus transportation will be available from throughout the archdiocese. More information is available and registration is open at www.DCpriest.org! Please contact the Office of Priest Vocations (vocations@adw.org or 202-636-9020) with any questions.



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 the Rosary today?*

*Offer it up for
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Other Events in Town

- *Nunsense* is a Cabaret Production presented by Rob Misko and John Baldino and will be held live on stage at **St. Francis Xavier Parish, Leonardtown, MD** in the church hall on **Saturday March 16th** at 7:00 pm and on **Sunday, March 17th** at 2:00 pm. The cost is \$20 per person (in advance) or \$25 per person (at the door). Tickets can be purchased online at <https://www.brownpapertickets.com/event/4067914>.
- *Lenten Day of Prayer*, titled "*The Lord Hears our Cry*" will be held at Loyola on the Potomac on **Monday, March 18th** and **Monday, April 15th**. Each day will begin at 9:00 am and includes a continental breakfast, lunch, and Mass. The fee is \$40.00. Please call (301-392-0801) to make a reservation or go to www.loyolaonthepotomac.com.
- *Encounter Grace Women's Series - RECLAIM* - Ladies, join the Encounter Grace team at **St. John Vianney Catholic Church and Family Life Center** on **Saturday, March 23rd** from 8:30 am - 1:00 pm for a day of reflection and sisterhood. Tickets are on sale at EncounterGrace.co. The cost is \$30 per person. Appropriate for ages 16+. For more information please contact St. John Vianney (410-535-0223).
- *Spring Seafood Dinner* will be held at **Holy Angels, Avenue** on **Sunday, March 24th** from 11:30 am - 4:00 pm. Fried oysters, steamed spiced shrimp, crab balls, fried chicken and much more. The cost is \$28 for adults, \$26 for caryouts and advance tickets (under March 15th), \$8 for children 6-12, and 5 & under eat free. Call 301-769-3100 for more information or advance tickets.
- *Sacred Music Concert* on **Sunday, March 31st**, at 3:00 pm at **St. Aloysius, Leonardtown, MD**. This concert is part of the Kalnasy concert series. Father David Beaubien will be singing sacred music; many selections have been arranged by him. The St. Aloysius Handbell Ensemble will also be performing.
- *The Way Retreat for Survivors of Abuse is being sponsored by the Archdiocese of Washington*. A retreat will take place from **April 5th - 7th** for men and **April 12th - 14th** for women. The retreat is an occasion for survivors to reflect on God's plan for their lives and for healing through prayer and the sacraments. For more information and to register, go to adw.org/the-way-retreat or call Deborah McDonald (301-853-4466).
- *Lenten Seafood Dinner* will be held at **Immaculate Heart of Mary, Lexington Park** in the Parish Hall on the following Fridays: **March 15th, March 22nd, April 5th, and April 12th** from 4:30 pm - 7:00 pm. Menu includes: fish dinners, fried oysters, boiled shrimp, various sides, and more. Kid's meals are available, and home baked goods will be sold to benefit *The St. Vincent DePaul of IHM*.
- *Annual Spring Craft Show* will be held at the **Hollywood Volunteer Fire Department Social Hall** on **Sunday, April 14th**. The Craft Show is open from 10:00 am - 3:00 pm with free admission and parking. There are about 100 vendors featuring handmade items. The Ladies Auxiliary will have various lunch items for sale including Stuffed ham and chicken salad sandwiches as well as stuffed ham for sale by the pound. There will be a Bake Sale and a 50/50 raffle. An ATM machine will be on site. All proceeds benefit the Hollywood Volunteer Fire Department. For more information contact Leone Gatton (Craftshow@HVFD7.com).