



**DECEMBER 3, 2017
FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 2, 2017

8:30 AM MARY ZIMMERMAN

5:00 PM BARBARA RYAN

Priest of the Day: Rev. James King'ori

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 3, 2017

7:00 AM PARISHIONERS

9:00 AM MARIA & ENRICO RIGUTTO

11:00 AM BRIAN KEENAN

5:00 PM ARLENE SCATURRO

Priest of the Day: Rev. Vernon Kohlmann

MONDAY, DECEMBER 4, 2017

7:00 AM MARIA COLACO

9:30 AM MARY SCOPELLITI

Priest of the Day: Very Rev. Robert B. Kolakowski

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 5, 2017

7:00 AM DOMINICK "JC" BARBAROTTA

9:30 AM MIECZYSLAW & RISZARD WAGA

Priest of the Day: Rev. Kenneth R. Kolibas

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 6, 2017

7:00 AM FRANK ADAMIEC

9:30 AM SINFROSA TULIPANO

Priest of the Day: Rev. David Kosmoski

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 7, 2017

7:00 AM BILLY DOMILICI

9:30 AM HENRY TRAVOSTINO

7:30 PM AUREA TORRES

Priest of the Day: Rev. Joseph A. Krajewski

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 8, 2017

7:00 AM WILLIAM WAITWORD

9:00 AM MARIA RAMOS

11:00 AM MARY PARISE

Priest of the Day: Rev. Michael G. Krull

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 9, 2017

8:30 AM MICHELE & FRANCESCA GAMBINO

5:00 PM RAIMONDA & GERLANDO CARUANA

Priest of the Day: Rev. Joseph Kubiak

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 10, 2017

7:00 AM PARISHIONERS

9:00 AM MEMORIAL SOCIETY

11:00 AM JACOB ST. PHARD

Priest of the Day: Very Rev. Patrick J. Kuffner

Please pray for our Priest of the Day and for an increase in vocations to the priesthood and religious life.

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

Exposition, Adoration and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament is regularly held in our church every Friday from 7:00 PM until 8:15 PM. Any changes to this Friday schedule will be noted in the bulletin and announced at mass.

The Last Friday of the month, all are invited to join the Eucharistic Apostles of Divine Mercy reciting the Chaplet for the Sick and Dying during Eucharistic Adoration.

There will be NO EXPOSITION on December 8th or 15th.

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

Mass Schedule – Holy Day of Obligation

Thursday, December 7th Vigil Mass 7:30 PM

Friday, December 8: 7:00, 9:00, 11:00 AM

The Parish Office will be closed on Friday, December 8.



PARISH MISSION STATEMENT

We, the people of Immaculate Conception Church, are a Roman Catholic faith community with the celebration of the Eucharist as the center of our lives.

We create a vibrant parish life through prayer, discernment, education and active involvement of all. We celebrate our evolving diversity, as well as, our oneness in faith as a family in Christ.

SACRIFICIAL GIVING



<u>November 18 & 19</u>	<u>2017</u>	<u>2016</u>
<u>Weekly</u>	\$11,075.00	\$ 9,100.00
<u>Debt Reduction</u>	\$ 2,892.00	\$ 2,071.00

Thank you for your continued support of the parish.



SANCTUARY CANDLE

This week the Sanctuary Candle will burn In Memory of Frank Adamiec.

Readings For The Week of December 3, 2017

Sunday – First Sunday of Advent

Is 63:16b-17, 19b; 64:2-7 Ps 80:2-3, 15-16, 18-1 1Cor 1:3-9 Mk 13:33-37

Monday – St John of Damascus

Is 2:1-5 PS 122:1-2, 3-4ab, 4cd-5, 6-7, 8-9 Mt 8:5-11

Tuesday

Is 11:1-10 Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17 Lk 10:21-24

Wednesday – St. Nicholas

Is 25:6-10a Ps 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6 Mt 15:29-37

Thursday – St. Ambrose

Is 26:1-6 Ps 118:1, 8-9, 18-20, 15-27a Mt 7:21, 24-27

Friday – Immaculate Conception

Gn 3:9-10, 20 Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4, Eph 1:3-6, 11-12 Lk 1:26-38

Saturday – St. Juan Diego

Is 30:19-21, 23-26 Ps 147:1-2, 3-4, 5-6 Mt 9:35-10:1, 5a, 6-8

Sunday – Second Sunday of Advent

Is 40:1-5, 9-11 Ps 85:9-10, 11-12, 13-14 2Pt 3:8-14 Mk 1:1-8

HOSPITAL AND HOMEBOUND VISITATION

Visits are made to St. Peter's and Robert Wood Johnson Hospital by request. If you have a family member in either of these two hospitals or any of the area hospitals, please call the parish office and let us know. Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist bring Communion to the sick and homebound on a regular basis. If you are sick or confined at home and would like a visit from a Eucharistic Minister, please call the parish office.

PRESENTATION OF THE GIFTS



The Liturgy Committee extends an invitation to anyone interested in the Presentation of the Gifts to the Altar. If you are willing, upon arrival at Mass, please inform an usher/greeter that you wish to participate in this important church practice. Thank you.

ALTAR FLOWERS

If you would like to donate altar flowers, please contact Bonnie Kelly at 732-251-2468.

REQUIESCANT IN PACE

In the charity of your prayers please pray for Karoline F. Shahinian, Patricia Jones, mother of a parishioner, and all the faithfully departed of our parish.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK:

- Week 1:** Sonja & Marty Kerins, Harriet Kunzman
Week 2: David Beardsley, Sean Pohle
Week 3: Teresa Artz, Maureen Benner, Roger Decibus, Joey DePalma, Alfred Gleason, Grace Gildersleeve, Robert Hesse, Ann Lipovsky, Jonathan Volpe
Week 4: Emily Amador, Jerry Boyle, Kathy Clark, Deacon John McGuire, David Nicolini, Charlene Poupolo, Brayden Pratt, James Wheeler

15 healing, 8 special intentions and all the sick and recovering of our parish. *If you would like to have a name placed on the "Pray for the Sick" list, please call the parish office during business hours. Names on the Sick List will be included for four weeks. If you would like a name to be listed beyond four weeks, please call the Parish Office at that time.*

If you or someone you know is sick or in the hospital, please let us know so that we can pray for them.

NEWLY BAPTIZED

Please welcome to our parish Brooklyn Juliana Basilico who was recently baptized.

THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Baptisms will be scheduled on the 2nd and 4th Sunday of each month at 12:15 pm.

December 10

Please contact the parish office to make arrangements for baptism.

For 2018, baptisms will be schedule on the 2nd and 4th Sunday of each month at 12:15 pm (exception March 2018).

January 14 and 28	July 8 and 22
February 11 and 25	August 12 and 26
March 11	September 9 and 23
April 8 and 22	October 14 and 28
May 13 and 27	November 11 and 25
June 10 and 24	December 9 and 23

BAPTISM CLASS

Our next Baptism Class will be held on **Thursday, December 21, 2017**, at 7:30 PM in the rectory basement meeting room, 18 South St. To register contact the parish office at 732-251-3110.



LABELS FOR EDUCATION

The **Labels For Education** program is ending this year. Participating products are Campbell's, Pepperidge Farm, SpaghettiOs, V8, Pace and Swanson. Please submit only the UPC with the Label For Education (LFE) logo on it by December 25th. A bin is located in the church lobby. Labels without the LFE logo will not count towards submissions. Immaculate Conception School has benefitted from this program over the years and is award sports equipment and/or art supplies based on the number of labels submitted. Thank you for all those who have supported this program.

PARISH EMAIL ADDRESSES

Msgr. Joe Curry	jcurry@icspotswood.com
Rev. Mhonchan Ezung	mezung@icspotswood.com
Deacon Thomas Griffoul	deacontomgriffoul@gmail.com
Deacon John McGuire	deacjmcg@aol.com
Deacon Danny San Jose	deacondannysj89@yahoo.com
Mark Sahli, PCL	msahli@icspotswood.com
Susan Sahli, GIFT Admin.	ccd@icspotswood.com
Phillip Steffani, Director of Music	phillipstefani@gmail.com
Parish Office	office@icspotswood.com



ROSARY ALTAR SOCIETY

GRAVE BLANKETS & WREATHS: Pick-up date - Sunday, December 3 after the 7 AM Mass until 1 PM.

ROSARIAN MASS – Sunday, December 3 at 9 AM with recitation of the Rosary at 8:30 AM.
No December meeting.

CHELSEA – Recite the Rosary at 2 PM on Tuesday, December 5. For further info, call RoseMarie T. at 732-521-3006.

CHRISTMAS PARTY – December 10 (Sunday) at Ria Mar, South River from 12- 4 pm. Cost; \$38 per person Spouses/friends are welcome to attend our Christmas Party. **Payment is past due. Please mail check ASAP** to Nancy Krahn, 5 Brian Lane, Spotswood, NJ 08884. For further info, please call Nancy at 732-251-7309.

To join the Rosary-Altar Society, please call Elvi (Membership Chairperson) at 732-251-2739.

THANK YOU

A note to the parishioners of Immaculate Conception Church:

The Bishop has graciously allowed me to stay in active ministry these last few years beyond the require retirement age. But not it is time for me to retire. I do so with a heart grateful for all the blessings I have received serving the parishioners of Immaculate Conception Church; grateful for having served with wonderful priests who example and encouragement have meant to much to me over the years; grateful to the pastors who have mentored and guided me; grateful to the Felician community whose witness to the sacredness of consecrated life has been a source of inspiration; grateful to my brother Deacons, Tom and Danny, who support and encouragement have kept me balance and on track.

I am most grateful to the parishioners of Immaculate Conception Church who welcomed me before most knew what a deacon was and for their ongoing and continued support of Cathy and me.

It's been a great tide. Thank you all so much!

Deacon John McGuire

CHRISTMAS CONCERT – Save the Date!

Enjoy an evening filled with Christmas carols and music led by our fantastic parish choir, accompanied by a 45-piece, professional orchestra.

Friday, December 15th at 8:00 PM

Admission Adults \$20 -- Seniors and Children under 12 \$15 It will be a memorable evening for you, your friends and family. Help spread the word! !



MINISTRY SCHEDULES
Weekend of December 9 & 10

Mass	Lector	Eucharistic Ministers	Altar Servers
5 pm	M. Israel	D. Kornacki M. Kussavage D. Raschdorf N. Steen	C. Menezes J. Menezes
7 am	D. Cigini	E. Farragher C. Maines A. Menezes V. Phillips	K. Hunter T. Kowalski
9 am	N. Hilyard	P. Boyle P. Kowalski K. Sauer C. Tosado	E. Cugini B. Perdoni
11 am	D. Siravo	P. Heinz M. Israel G. Montalvo	E. Petrow G. Petrow

A SAFE PLACE

A *Safe Place* is a group that welcomes those who have experienced the tragic death of a loved one through drugs, suicide and other hard to face things.

It offers, as its name states, a safe place to:

- Speak about what happened, without having to dress it up or explain.
- Where judgement will be suspended, so we can talk freely
- Speak about what you are feeling, without having to explain
- To ask questions, some of which cannot be answered, but need at least to be spoken.
- To know that the discussions, although difficult, will be safe and others will make sure they have my back.
- To speak with at least the hope that God is present, even if I do not feel Him, or am angry with Him.

The purpose of this group is NOT to:

- Offer an answer
- Fix you.

This group will be facilitated by:

- Msgr. Joseph Curry, Pastor of Immaculate Conception Church, Spotswood
- Mrs. Marianne Majewski, LCSW, Executive Director, Catholic Charities.

Meeting dates are the 1st Thursday of every month

Next Meeting – December 7th at 7 pm

Immaculate Conception Rectory
18 South St
Spotswood, NJ 08884

ANNUAL TOY DRIVE

Our annual Toy Drive is taking place on **December 2 & 3** in the school corridor. As in the past we need your help to make this Christmas a happy day for the needy children and senior citizens in our area who, through the Catholic Charities, will benefit from your gift. We need gifts for children from infants to teenagers and also for senior citizens.

Toys, games, books, jewelry, toiletries, gloves, scarves, cookies, etc. will be greatly appreciated. Please wrap your gifts and indicate BOY or GIRL and the appropriate age the gift is suited for. If your gift is clothing, also mark the size. For seniors, please indicate Man or Woman. May God's blessings be with you. If you have any questions, please call Jay at 609-409-0199 or Maria at 732-254-1775.



BLAST!

Believing, Living and Sharing Together

YOUTH GROUP NEWS

Youth Group – Join Us before year-end!

December schedule:

Friday, December 8th – Christmas Gathering & Cookie Swap 7 PM – 9:30 PM (Rectory Basement)
Experience the Nativity story from a whole different perspective and participate in Adoration of our Lord. Once filled with the Lord, fill your tummies with Christmas cookies – Yum, Yum!

All students are asked to dress in Christmas PJs and bring ONE dozen HOMEMADE cookies to swap with friends. Bring a dozen, receive a dozen (to eat or to bring home – that is up to you!)

Friday, December 29th – *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat* at the State Theater, New Brunswick, NJ 7 PM showing (*Show is approximately 2 hours*)

For 23 seasons Plays-in-the-Park's production of JOSEPH at State Theatre New Jersey has delighted audiences of all ages with its bright array of song and dance, based on the timeless Biblical story of Joseph and his coat of many colors. Music by Andrew Lloyd Webber and Lyrics by Tim Rice.

We have secured 30 tickets to the show – attendance is on a first come first serve basis. Tickets are \$7. If you are interested in attending, please RSVP to youthgroup@icspotswood.com. Please include name, grade, phone number. Permission slips and transportation details will be provided upon confirmation of RSVP.

Upcoming dates in the New Year –

Friday January 12th – Youth Group Meeting
Friday, January 26th – Youth Group Meeting

Watch for more information to follow! Follow us on Instagram: **Blast_2k17** and/or sign up for text reminders - Text **@askura to 81010**.

PARISH BLOOD DRIVE – DECEMBER 3

Our parish blood drive will be held on **Sunday, December 3** from 8 am to 1 pm The Community Service will handle this event in the cafeteria. Join us for Coffee, tea, juice and homemade breakfast treats. You can donate blood if you are:

1. in good health, free of cold symptoms
2. at least 18 yrs. old
3. weigh at least 110 lbs.
4. bring ID
5. eat and drink plenty of water before donating.

Thank you for your gift of life



REMEMBER THOSE IN THE ARMED FORCES

Heavenly Father, keep safe the women and men serving our country in the Armed Forces around the world, especially those who work to bring order to Iraq and Afghanistan, and give eternal rest to those who have died in the struggle for peace and freedom.

PARISH MINISTRY CONTACTS

Prayer and Worship

Altar Servers	Deacon Danny	deacondannysj89@yahoo.com
Divine Mercy	Sandra Cunningham	smc4jmj@gmail.com
Eucharistic Ministry	Catherine Sauer	kitty144@verizon.net
	Carol Maines	marblesm@verizon.net
Lectors		office@icspotswood.com
Liturgy	Deacon Tom	deacontomgriffoul@gmail.com
Music Ministry	Phillip Steffani	phillipsteffani@gmail.com
Prayer Group	Phyllis Marks	phyllis225@verizon.net
Ushers/Greeters	Parish Office	office@icspotswood.com

Christian Formation

Adult Initiation/RCIA	Edward Spinella	rcia@icspotswood.com
Religious Education	Mark & Sue Sahl	ccd@icspotswood.com
IC School K-8	Mary Erath	merath@icspotswood.com
IC Pre K	Gloria Martin	gmartin@icspotswood.com

Community Building

Athletic Assoc. (ICS)	Adam Perdoni	aperdoni@icspotswood.com
Boy Scouts Troup 35	Matthew Riti	matt.riti@comcast.net
Columbiettes	Eileen Cella	emcc1227@msn.com
Cub Scouts Pack 35	Mark Lesniak	spotswoodpack35@gmail.com
Father's Club	Steve Rogala	srogala1@hotmail.com
Girl Scouts		info@gscsnj.org
Home School Assoc.	Karalyn Herban	kherbanot@gmail.com
Immaculate Conception Univ		office@icspotswood.com
Knights of Columbus	Jason Consorti	wgk4907ic@gmail.com
Marriage Encounter		office@icspotswood.com
Ministry to the Deaf	Tevis Thompson	deaf1@comcast.net
Retrouvaille	Pat and Tom Gallo	patntomg@msn.com
Rosary Altar Society	Maria Tiberi	nonnatiberi1@gmail.com
Social Activities	Paul Mastrobuoni	twobeachbums@verizon.net
Youth Group		youthgroup@icspotswood.com
Youth Organization	Richard Lancia	richlancia@comcast.net

Pastoral Services

Bereavement	Mary Hamm	rmtm26@aol.com
	Robert Balacak	bobtp01@aol.com
	Josephine Gorini	gorinifirstgrade@verizon.net
Interfaith Network of Care		www.interfaithnetworkofcare.org
Lazarus Ministry	Patricia Kowalski	pkrn61@verizon.net
	Eileen Farragher	efmf@comcast.net
	Rosemarie Nolan	rmn1943@gmail.com
Right to Life	Tom Gallo	patntomg@msn.com
Social Concerns Outreach		office@icspotswood.com

Parish Consultative Councils

Finance Committee		office@icspotswood.com
Liturgy	Deacon Tom	deacontomgriffoul@gmail.com
Pastoral Council	Christine Velsor	tomtina@comcast.net

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION YOUTH ORGANIZATION

2018 Rec Basketball Registration begins October 16th

<https://go.teamsnap.com/forms/85575>

Registration Ends: 12/03/17

Girls division (K-2, 3rd-4th, 5th-8th)

- Season begins : 1/6/18
- Season ends: 3/10/18

Boys division (K-2, 3rd-4th, 5th-8th)

- Season begins: 1/7/18
- Season ends: 3/11/18

PARISHIONER Registration Fee: \$75.00

Non-PARISHIONER registration fee: \$95.00

To register go to - <https://go.teamsnap.com/forms/85575>

If you're interested in coaching or being a team sponsor,

please e-mail: icyorecball@gmail.com



Breakfast with Santa & Mrs. Claus

Sunday, December 10, 2017

9am-12pm

ICS Cafeteria



FEATURING:

- _ Buffet Breakfast
- _ Photograph with Santa Claus & Mrs. Claus
- _ Basket Raffles - 50/50 Raffles – Calendar Raffle
- _ Holiday Crafts for kids
- _ Kids can write letters to Santa and include their 'wish list'

Cost: Children under 2: Free, Children: \$7.00, Adults: \$14.00

Reservations available through advanced sale only until Wednesday, December 6th; no reservations the day of the breakfast.

Reservations can be made by submitting the form below with payment (cash or check made payable to ICFC) to:

Breakfast with Santa, IC Fathers' Club,
23 Manalapan Rd., Spotswood, NJ 08884

Breakfast with Santa & Mrs. Claus Reservations

Family Name: _____

(Reservations will be held at the door)

_____ # Children under 2 (Free) _____ # Children

_____ # Adults

Amount Enclosed _____

CHRISTMAS FLOWER COLLECTION

Our Christmas Flower Collection was conducted the weekend of **November 25 & 26**.

A Christmas Flower envelope was included with your offering envelopes. Space is provided on the offering envelope to list the names of those relatives and friends for whom you would like to donate in memory of. Those parishioners enrolled in Faith Direct can place their list of names in the collection basket with a notation "Christmas Flower". A list of these names will be included in our December 24th bulletin.

Please clearly print all names on the envelopes so that the names can be correctly typed in the bulletin insert.

Note: The list of names appearing in the December 24th bulletin will include all names for those envelopes received up to and including Monday, December 11th. Offerings received after that date will appear in a future bulletin.



MONTHLY FOOD COLLECTION

The next monthly food collection will be **December 9th and 10th**. Non-perishable food items, baby food and disposable diapers (sizes 3, 4 and 6) are always needed! Please leave your donations in the church foyer before 12:00 PM on **Sunday, December 10th**.



CHRISTMAS WAFERS – Oplatek

The Felician Sisters will be selling the "Oplatek" - Christmas Wafers - in the church foyer after all Masses on the weekends of December 2 & 3 and December 9 & 10. Requested offering is \$3.00.

YOUTH RALLY & MASS FOR LIFE

Bishop James Checchio will concelebrate the Youth Rally & Mass for Life in Washington DC on Friday, January 19, 2018. The Youth Rally & Mass for Life is held at the Capital One Arena starting at approximately 6:45 AM prior to the March for Life. Anyone wishing to attend must request tickets through the Respect Life Office 732-562-1990 ext. 1543 or amarshall@diometuchen.org. The deadline for requests is Tuesday, October 31, 2017. For more information on the Youth Rally & Mass please visit www.youthrallyandmassforlife.org.

COUNSELING AND WELLNESS SERVICES

Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Metuchen is offering Counseling and Wellness Services. If you or someone you know needs counseling or is impacted by addiction, we can help. Individual and family therapy for children and adults is available. For an appointment, call (800) 655-9491.

“Take heed, watch and pray; for you do not know when the time will come.” - MARK 13:33



We all take things for granted. In particular, we take time for granted. Our lives are so busy, many of us are planning our time - our days, weeks, months, even years in advance.

Remember, our time on earth is a gift. None of us knows how long we will be here. Start today and begin thanking God for each and every day. Take time in silence, every day, and listen to what God is saying to you.

PLEASE PATRONIZE OUR BULLETIN SPONSORS

Our advertisers have been generous with their support of our parish bulletin. **Let us say thanks by supporting their businesses and please mention you saw their ad in our bulletin.** Some ads feature a money saving coupon.



NEW YEAR'S EVE “EVE” BASH

Friday, December 30, 2017

7pm-10pm

ICS Cafeteria



Ring in the night BEFORE New Year's Eve featuring:

- _ DJ & Dancing
- _ Family Game Night – Bring your favorite board game
- _ Desserts & Candy Bar
- _ Basket Raffle – 50/50 Raffle
- _ Holiday Crafts
- _ BYOB

Cost: \$7.00 per person

Reservations available through advanced sale only until December 22nd.

Reservations can be made by submitting the form below with payment (cash or check made payable to ICFC) to: New Year's Eve “Eve” Bash, IC Fathers' Club, 23 Manalapan Rd., Spotswood, NJ 08884

New Year's Eve “Eve” Bash Reservations

Family Name: _____

(Reservations will be held at the door)

_____ # Children

_____ # Adults

Amount Enclosed _____

MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER WEEKEND

January 26-28, 2018



Celebrate your marriage and its many blessings by attending a Marriage Encounter Weekend. A Marriage Encounter weekend gives you the time and tools to revitalize romance, deepen communication and nourish the spirituality in your marriage. Space is limited. Early registration is advisable. For cost and location, visit www.aweekendforyourmarriage.org or call (732) 904-9636.

GIFT SCHEDULE

	Session	“A”	“B”	“C”	“D”	Mandatory Mass
	Time	9a-12p	10:15a-1:15p	6p-9p	5p-8p	5PM Assigned Date and Grade
	Day	Saturday	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	
TOPICS	Dates					
Society's Outcast and relationship w/them	December	12/16/17	12/17/17	12/18/17	12/19/17	12/3/17 - Seasonal
Human Life Dignity	January	01/20/18	01/21/18	01/22/18	01/23/18	1/7/18 – 3 rd
The Lord/Slaves and Laborers	February	02/17/18	02/18/18	02/19/18	02/20/18	2/4/18 – 4 th
The road to freedom Through forgiveness	March	03/10/18	03/11/18	03/12/18	03/13/18	3/4/18 – 5 th & 6 th
Quality of Desperation Depression/Hope	April	04/21/18	04/22/18	04/23/18	04/24/18	