



DECEMBER 31, 2017

THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY AND JOSEPH

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 30, 2017

8:30 AM THOMAS LaREGINA

5:00 PM IRENE CASTORIA

Priest of the Day: Rev. Msgr. Robert W. Medley

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 31, 2017

7:00 AM PARISHIONERS

9:00 AM DOMINICK J. BARBAROTTA

11:00 AM ARLENE SCATURRO

Priest of the Day: Rev. J. Maciej Melaniuk

MONDAY, JANUARY 1, 2018

7:00 AM GEORGE R. BALASCAK

9:30 AM HELEN TRAVOSTIINO

Priest of the Day: Rev. Robert V. Meyers

TUESDAY, JANUARY 2, 2018

7:00 AM EDWARD OBAL - 4th Anniversary

9:30 AM JOHN PERDONI, Jr.

Priest of the Day: Rev. J. W. Mickiewicz

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 3, 2018

7:00 AM ANTONIO DAVI

9:30 AM ANNA MAE MAHER

Priest of the Day: Rev. Msgr. James P. Moran

THURSDAY, JANUARY 4, 2018

7:00 AM STANLEY PIATEK

9:30 AM ARTHUR KOWALESKI

Priest of the Day: Rev. John J. Morley

FRIDAY, JANUARY 5, 2018

7:00 AM SZUSZKO FAMILY

9:30 AM VERONICA & JAMES CREEGAN

Priest of the Day: Rev. Joseph Murphy

SATURDAY, JANUARY 6, 2018

8:30 AM ANNA MARIA, DIANE & JOSEPH LaCAMERO

5:00 PM MIKE MINDIAK

Priest of the Day: Rev. Kenneth R. Murphy

SUNDAY, JANUARY 7, 2018

7:00 AM PARISHIONERS

9:00 AM THOMAS LAPCZYNSKI

11:00 AM ROSE & JOHN AMOROSO

5:00 PM MAUREEN MAKOWSKI PRANIO

Priest of the Day: Rev. Joseph Myladil

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.

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 all the faithfully departed of our parish.



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>December 16 & 17</u>	<u>2017</u>	<u>2016</u>
<u>Weekly</u>	\$11,630.00	\$11,096.00
<u>Debt Reduction</u>	\$ 3,421.00	\$ 3,087.00

Thank you for your continued support of the parish.



SANCTUARY CANDLE

This week the Sanctuary Candle will burn
In Memory of Thomas LaRegina.

Readings For The Week of December 31, 2017

- Sunday – The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph**
Gn 15:1-6; 21:1-3 Heb 11:8, 11-12, 17-19 Ps 105:1-6, 89 Lk 2:22-40 or 2:22, 39-40
- Monday – Solemnity of Mary, The Holy Mother**
Nm 6:22-27 Ps 67:2-3, 5-6, 8 Gal 4:4-7 Lk 2:16-21
- Tuesday – Sts. Basil and Gregory Nazianzen**
1Jn 2:22-28 Ps 98:1-4 Jn 1:19-28
- Wednesday – The Most Holy Name of Jesus**
1Jn 2:29—3:6 Ps 98:1-3, 6 Jn1:29-34
- Thursday – St. Elizabeth Ann Seton**
1Jn 3:7-10 Ps 98:1, 7-9 Jn 1:35-42
- Friday – St. John Neumann**
1Jn 3:11-21 Ps 100:1-5 Jn 1:43-51
- Saturday – St. Andre Bessette**
1Jn 5:5-13 Ps 147:12-15, 19-20 Mk 1:7-11 or Lk 3:23-28 or 3:23, 31-34, 36, 38
- Sunday – The Epiphany of the Lord**
Is 60:1-6 Ps 72:2, 7-8, 10-13 Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6 Mt 2:1-12

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.



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.

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.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK:

- Week 1:** Julie Hildebrand, Braden Pratt
- Week 2:** Maureen Benner, Roger Decibus, Alfred Gleason, Robert Hesse
- Week 3:** Jamie Cullen, Joey DePalma, Virginia Gorman, Ann Lipovsky, Ben O'Dowd, Jonathan Volpe
- Week 4:** Timothy Burns, Carol Doell, Tara Green, Peter Heckler, Deacon John McGuire, Anthony Muldowney, Susan Oliver, Sandy Russell, 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.

THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Baptisms are scheduled 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

First time parents are required to attend Baptism Class. Our next Baptism Class will be held on Thursday, January 18, 2018 at 7:30 PM in the rectory basement meeting room, 18 South St. To register contact the parish office at 732-251-3110.

"...as the Lord has forgiven you, so you must forgive." - COLOSSIANS 3:13

Forgiveness – one of the hardest things for people to do. It's amazing how long we can hold a grudge or be angry with someone. As we celebrate the feast of the Holy Family, take this opportunity to give the gift of forgiveness to someone - maybe someone in your family, maybe a friend, maybe a co- worker or neighbor or, maybe yourself. Pick up the phone or text someone right now.




BUS TRIP TO THE RALLY FOR LIFE

The Diocese of Metuchen's Respect for Life Office will be running a bus trip to the Rally for Life in Trenton, NJ on Monday, January 22, 2018. The bus ride is free of charge, but since space is limited all passengers must reserve their seats. Passengers will board the bus at the Diocesan Center in Piscataway at 9:30 AM. The Rally at the State House begins at 11:00 AM and ends at 1:00 PM. The bus will bring everyone back to the Diocesan Center between 2:00 – 2:30 PM. If you have any questions or would like to reserve a seat please email amarshall@diometuchen.org or call 732-562-1990 exts. 1543 or 1629.

PARISH EMAIL ADDRESSES

- Msgr. Joe Curry jcurry@icspotswood.com
- Rev. Mhonzhan 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 phillipsteffani@gmail.com
- Parish Office office@icspotswood.com



ROSARY ALTAR SOCIETY

CHELSEA – Recitation of the Rosary with the ladies at Chelsea on Tuesday, January 2 at 2 pm. For further info, please contact RoseMarie T. at 732-521-3006.

ROSARIAN MASS & GENERAL MEETING – Sunday, January 7. Recitation of the Rosary at 8:30 am; Mass at 9 am followed by our meeting in the cafeteria. **EVENT:** Silly Scramble.
 Hospitality Geri, Grace & Betty.

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

**MINISTRY SCHEDULE
January 6 & 7**

Mass	Lector	Eucharistic Ministers	Altar Servers
5 pm	L. Miller	M. Hunter P. Kowalski M. Kussavage R. Nolan N. Steen	E. Petrow G. Petrow
7 am	J. Decker	C. Gush C. Maines A. Menezes V. Phillips	G. Gopez J. Gopez
9 am	C. Buffalino	D. Blanchett P. Boyle E. Farragher D. Raschdorf C. Tosado	A. Snediker B. Snediker
11 am	M. Israel	P. Heinz A. Kagwe R. Kasper	T. Andersen L. Lee M. Rogala

GUATEMALA DONATIONS NEEDED

Msgr. Joe, along with some people from our parish, will once again be visiting our sister parish in Guatemala the week of January 8-12, 2018. He will not only be visiting our sister parish but a clinic for children and a home for abandon adults. If you would like to help here are some ways:

- Prayer is always most welcome!
- The children are looking for backpacks for school. If you have a gently used back pack or would like to purchase one, they will be taken to those children
- Basic over the counter medicines like Benadryl, Imodium, Tylenol, both children's and adult.
- Any financial donations will also be most appreciated.

These donations can be brought to church or dropped off at the parish office.

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.

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 – January 4th at 7 pm

Immaculate Conception Rectory
18 South St

Spotswood, NJ 08884

ELECTRONIC GIVING: FAITH DIRECT

Do you often find yourself without your checkbook or envelope on Sunday morning? Join the many parishioners who have already enrolled in Faith Direct for automated giving to Immaculate Conception. Faith Direct is secure and convenient, and will provide you with an offertory card to place in the basket during the collections. There is no cost to you, and the program provides a great benefit to our parish. Sign up today by visiting www.faithdirect.net. Our parish code is **NJ107**. You can also pick up an enrollment form at the parish office or call Faith Direct's toll-free number, 866-507-8757, for more information. *Please consider using Faith Direct today!*

You may also wish to make a one-time gift to Immaculate Conception!

FOOD VOUCHERS

You may purchase vouchers on weekdays in the church foyer when school is in session from 8 AM – 11:30 AM Monday to Friday. Vouchers will be sold in the church foyer before and after Saturday evening mass and all Sunday masses. Vouchers can be used as cash at your favorite supermarket. 5% of every voucher purchased goes to our church. We carry:

Shoprite, Stop & Shop, ACME, Wholefoods (\$25 & \$100)

Kohl's, JC Penney, Macy's

Dunkin Donuts (\$10 & \$25 denomination)

Sam's Club/ Walmart (\$25 & \$100 denominations),

BP and Exxon (\$50 denomination),

Starbucks (\$10 denomination)

Mathnasium

Especially For You Florist

WaWa (\$25 & \$100 denomination)

Manhattan Bagel (\$10 denomination)

Panera (\$10 denomination)

We thank and greatly appreciate the families currently using vouchers and urge all to join them.

BLAST!

Believing, Living and Sharing Together

YOUTH GROUP NEWS

**Youth Group – Join Us before year-end!
December schedule:**

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.

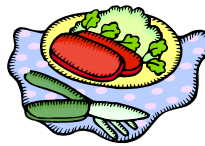
Upcoming dates in the New Year –

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.

ANNUAL BEEFSTEAK DINNER



The Immaculate Conception Social Activities Committee will be once again hosting its Annual Beefsteak Dinner on **Saturday, January 20th, 2018!** Cost of the dinner is \$37.50 per person which includes all the salad, French fries and of course all the Filet Mignon and Italian bread you can eat! Also included is all the beer, wine, soda or water you can drink! Dessert includes ice cream and coffee/tea. There will be raffles for wonderful baskets and a cash 50/50 raffle. Music to dance to and trophies for the champs will include the coveted team trophy "The Curry"! Please plan on spending a great night with the parish family and help support this Parish "Fun"draiser! For additional information and reservations please email twobeachbums@verizon.net.

Help us make the Beefsteak Dinner all it can be!

The Social Activities Committee is looking for prizes for our Trick Tray raffle on January 20th. Any gifts that can be used to make baskets to help raise money for the parish would be appreciated. Tickets to sporting/entertainment events, rounds of golf at your club, electronic devices, gifts of fine wine/spirits, time-share at vacation spots/homes are just a few items that would help us! If you are able to help us, email twobeachbums@verizon.net and we will arrange to pick-up the items. If you are unsure if you have something to help, please email. Thank you for your generosity!

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 Sahli	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 Balascak	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

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS FUNDRAISER

The Spotswood Knights of Columbus will be hosting their annual Carrabbas Fundraiser Dinner at the Columbian Club Hall on Sunday, January 28th. Please save the date! For tickets and further details, please visit our website www.spotswoodkofc.com and check the Bulletin in the weeks ahead.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

Alice's CUP Food Pantry is in search of inventory personnel! We are looking to assemble a team of organized individuals to work together for this weekly volunteer position. This team would be in charge of maintaining pantry inventory and assisting with monthly deliveries from the Community Food Bank of NJ. If you are interested in this opportunity, send us a message on Facebook or email us at Communityhope@comcast.net. Thank you!



An invitation to COME AND TAKE A LOOK

OPEN HOUSE at Immaculate Conception School
23 Manalapan Road, Spotswood, NJ 08884
School 732-251-3090 / Pre-K 732-251-7430
Website: www.icspotswood.org

PRE-K THROUGH GRADE 8
Sunday, January 28, 2018
10:00 to 1:30 P.M.

MONTHLY FOOD COLLECTION

The next monthly food collection will be held the weekend of January 13th and 14th. 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, January 14th**.



STAR WARS PASTA DINNER

The Star Wars Pasta Dinner is back. Calling all Jedi to join the Republic for a Star Wars Pasta Dinner on Saturday, January 27, 2018 from 6:00pm to 9:00pm in the ICS Cafeteria. Featuring:

- Buffet Dinner (Pasta, Salad, Bread, Desserts)
- Professionally Dressed Star Wars Characters
- Photograph with Star Wars Characters
- Star Wars Crafts
- Toy Raffles
- 50/50 Raffle
- Calendar Raffle



Cost: Adults: \$14.00, Children (3-15yrs): \$7.00, and Children under 2: Free
 Reservations are available through advance sales only until January 22nd. Make reservations by submitting form below with payment (Cash, check made payable to: ICFC) Submit the form through the school in an envelope marked:

Star Wars Pasta Dinner,
 Steve Rogala, IC Fathers' Club
 c/o Maddie Rogala 6th Grade -OR-

mail to
 Star Wars Pasta Dinner,
 Steve Rogala, IC Fathers' Club,
 23 Manalapan Road,
 Spotswood, NJ 08884.

Star Wars Pasta Dinner

Family Name: _____

Email: _____

Reservations: _____ # Adults

_____ # Children

_____ # Children under 2

Amount Enclosed: _____
 (No tickets are issued - Reservation will be held at the door)

ANNUAL DIOCESAN RESPECT LIFE MASS AND PRO-VITA AWARDS

All are welcome to attend the Annual Diocesan Respect Life Mass on Sunday, January 21, 2018 at 12 Noon at the Cathedral of St. Francis of Assisi in Metuchen. Bishop Checchio will present the 2018 Pro-Vita awards at this time. This year's recipients are Kevin and Mary Dugan of Immaculate Conception in Somerville who are being recognized for their dedication to promoting the sanctity of human life in the parish and beyond and Arlene Lippincott of St. Philip & St. James in Phillipsburg for her service to women facing unplanned pregnancies at Life Choices, Inc. in Phillipsburg. Please plan to attend as a show of support for these pro-life champions! Immediately following the Mass, there will be a small reception in the Community Room downstairs. Please call 732-562-1990 ext. 1629 or 1543 or visit www.diometuchen.org for more information.

RETRouvaille

Stress in your marriage?



- Do you feel lost, alone or bored in your marriage?
- Are you frustrated, hurt or angry with your spouse?
- Are you constantly fighting? Or, do you simply shut down?
- Have you thought about separation or divorce?
- Does talking about it only make it worse?

RETRouvaille is a Lifeline to Help Couples Heal and Renew their Marriages sponsored by the Office of Family Life, Secretariat of Pastoral and Family Life, Diocese of Metuchen, NJ. Retrouvaille consists of a weekend experience for married couples (no group discussions) with six follow-up sessions. The upcoming weekend is **February 9-11, 2018**. All inquiries are confidential. For further information, please contact the Family Life Office 732-243-4573, Rich & Annette Colasuonno 732-236-0671 or Tom & Pat McTague 732-583-4468 (evenings).

Christmas Flowers Donations

In Memory of

Requested by

Ruth Arelt	Suzanne Wong
Alice Brown	Suzanne Wong
Allen Chin	Suzanne Wong
Antonio DaSilva	Suzanne Wong
Cecelia Dwyer	
Margery Hayes	
Susan Hinners	
Mary & John Hinners	
Peg Hinners	
Richard Hinners	
John McGuire	Suzanne Wong
Mildred & George Miles	
Robert Rodgers	Suzanne Wong

CHRISTMAS FLOWER OFFERINGS

Mr. & Mrs. Mark Conklin
 Mrs. Gloria Glinane
 Mr. & Mrs. Andrew Oresto
 Mr. & Mrs. Timothy White

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					
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	