



**MARCH 25, 2018
PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD**

SATURDAY, MARCH 24, 2018

8:30 AM LEENA KATHIARI
5:00 PM PASCUAL ERIC PEREZ, Jr.
Priest of the Day: Rev. Dawid Wejnerowski

SUNDAY, MARCH 25, 2018

7:00 AM PARISHIONERS
9:00 AM MICHAEL SCHMID
11:00 AM SONIA MARRERO
Priest of the Day: Rev. Marcin Zubik

MONDAY, MARCH 26 2018

7:00 AM CHRISTOPHER GALLO
9:00 AM THOMAS LaREGINA
Priest of the Day: Rev. Dawid Adamczak

TUESDAY, MARCH 27, 2018

7:00 AM EDWARD F. FILIK
9:30 AM SALVATORE PETRUSO
Priest of the Day: Rev. Thomas S. Aenekatt

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 28, 2018

7:00 AM EDWARD FELIPPE MANGOSING
9:30 AM SALVATORE PETRUSO
Priest of the Day: Rev. John P. Alvarado

THURSDAY, MARCH 29, 2018

8:00 PM MASS OF THE LORD'S SUPPER
9:00 PM EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT
11:00 PM TENEBRAE SERVICE &
CLOSE EXPOSITION

Priest of the Day: Rev. Antony Arockiadoss

FRIDAY, MARCH 30, 2018

3:00 PM VENERATION OF THE CROSS &
COMMUNION SERVICE

7:00 PM STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Priest of the Day: Rev. John J. Barbella

SATURDAY, MARCH 31, 2018

11:00 AM BLESSING OF THE FOOD
8:00 PM EASTER VIGIL
Priest of the Day: Rev. Msgr. William Benwell

SUNDAY, APRIL 1, 2018

7:00 AM PARISHIONERS
9:00 AM MARIE T. & ANTHONY J. BILOTTA
11:00 AM OFELIA CHIRINO
Priest of the Day: Rev. Jan Bernas

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

REQUIESCANT IN PACE

In the charity of your prayers please pray for all the faithfully departed of our parish.

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.

ALTAR FLOWERS

If you would like to donate altar flowers, please contact Joanne Petrow in the Parish Office at 732-251-3110.



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>March 10 & 11</u>	<u>2018</u>	<u>2017</u>
<u>Weekly</u>	\$ 9,998.00	\$10,055.00
<u>Debt Reduction</u>	\$ 2,655.00	\$ 3,048.00

Thank you for your continued support of the parish.



SANCTUARY CANDLE

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

Readings For The Week of March 18, 2018

Sunday – Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord

Mk 11:1-10 or Jn 12:12-16 Is 50:4-7 Ps 22:8-9, 17-18a, 19-20, 23-24 Phil 2:6-11 Mk 14:1—15:47 or 15:1-39

Monday

Is 42:1-7 Ps 27:1-3, 13-14 Jn 12:1-11

Tuesday

Is 49:1-6 Ps 71:1-4a, 5-6ab, 15, 17 Jn 13:21-33, 36-38

Wednesday

Is 50:4-9a Ps 69:8-10, 21bcd-22, 31, 33-34 Mt 26:14-15

Thursday – Holy Thursday of the Lord's Supper

Ex 12:1-8, 11-14 Ps 116:12-13, 15-16c, 17-18 1Cor 11:23-26 Jn 13:1-15

Friday of the Passion of the Lord (Good Friday)

Is 52:13—53:12 Ps 31:2, 6, 12-13, 15-17, 25 Heb 4:14-16; 5:7-9 Jn 18:1—19:42

Holy Saturday – The Easter Vigil

(1) Gn 1:1—2:2 or 1:1, 26-31a Ps 104:1-2, 5-6, 10, 12-14, 24, 35 or Ps 33:4-7, 12-13, 20, 22, (2) Gn 22:1-18 or 22:1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18 Ps 16:5, 8-11 (3) Ex 14:15—15:1 (Ps) Ex 15:1-6, 17-18 (4) Is 54:5-14 Ps 30:2, 4-6, 11-13 (5) Is 55:1-11 (Ps) Is 12:2-3, 4-6 (6) Bar 3:9-15, 32—4:4 Ps 19:8-11 (7) Ez 36:16-17a, 18-28 Pss 42:3, 5; 43:3-4; or when baptism is celebrated (Ps) Is 12:2-3, 4bcd, 5-6 or Ps 51:12-15, 18-19 (8) Rom 6:3-11 Ps 118:1-2, 16-17, 22-23 (9) Mk 16:1-7

Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord

Acts 10:34a, 37-43 Ps 118:1-2, 16-17, 22-23 Col 3:1-4 or 1Cor 5:6b-8 Jn 20:1-9 or Mk 16:1-7

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.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK:

- Week 1:** Ben O'Dowd, Brayden Pratt, Kitty Sauer
 - Week 2:** Timothy Burns, Carol Doell, Tara Green, Peter Heckler, Mary Helen Karmu, Sonja Kerins, Diane Loiadono, Anthony Muldowney, Charlie Ruegger, Sandy Russell
 - Week 3:** Joey DePalma, Ann Lipovsky, Susan Oliver, Jonathan Volpe
 - Week 4:** Eulene Daniel, Jamie Cullen, Deacon John McGuire, Evelyn Pearce, Dianne Rademacher, James Wheeler
- 1 special intention 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.



"I will be their God and they shall be my people." - Jeremiah 31:33
 What does it mean to be God's people? It means we recognize that everything we have and everything we are belongs to God. We aren't "owners" of anything, we are merely "stewards" of the gifts God has given us. It means we are willing to use our gifts and our lives to care for our neighbors and the world, just as God cares for us.

THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Baptisms are scheduled on the 2nd and 4th Sunday of each month at 12:15 pm (exception March 2018).

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

BAPTISM CLASS



First time parents are required to attend Baptism Class. Our next Baptism Class will be held on **Thursday, April 19, 2018** at 7:30 PM in the rectory basement meeting room, 18 South St. To register contact the parish office at 732-251-3110.

MONTHLY FOOD COLLECTION

The next monthly food collection will be held April 14th and 15th. 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, **April 15th**.



**MINISTRY SCHEDULE - March 29 & 30
 Holy Thursday & Good Friday**

Mass	Reader	Eucharistic Ministers	Altar Servers
8 pm	P. Kowalski	P. Boyle P. Heinz	P. Perdoni C. Menezes J. Menezes A. Snediker B. Snediker
3 pm	C. Buffalino	E. Farragher P. Heinz	C. Buffalino K. Buffalino N. Kasper



ROSARY ALTAR SOCIETY

CHelsea: Come recite the rosary with the ladies' at Chelsea on Tuesday, April 3 at 2 PM. For further info, please contact RoseMarie T. at 732-521-3006.

BOARD MEETING: Wednesday, April 4 at 7 PM in the cafeteria. All Committee Chairpersons should attend. ALL ARE WELCOME.

GENERAL MEETING: Sunday, April 8 – Recitation of the Rosary at 8:30 am followed by 9 am Mass. Meeting after Mass in the cafeteria.
 Hospitality: Dorothea, Eleanor and Jay.

ROSARIAN COMMUNION BREAKFAST – Sunday) May 6 – Annual Communion Breakfast at Pierre's (South Brunswick) after the 9 AM Mass and induction of new members and officers. **Cost: \$29.00.** Check payable to ICC. Please bring check to April meeting or mail to Eileen Farragher, 484B Fairton Drive, Monroe Twp., NJ 08831

SAVE THE DATE: Saturday, June 23 trip to Sight and Sound to see the "Story of Jesus". Cost: \$135pp. More info in upcoming bulletins.

To join the Rosary-Altar Society, please call Elvi (Membershin Chairnerson) at 732-251-2739

**MINISTRY SCHEDULE March 31 & April 1
 Easter Vigil & Easter Sunday**

Mass	Reader	Eucharistic Ministers	Altar Servers
8pm	N. Hilyard P. Kowalski L. Shaughnessy D. Siravo	P. Heinz M. Kussavage N. Steen	A. Borja M. Borja S. Catanzano C. Menezes J. Menezes
7 am	A. Adamowicz	C. Gush C. Maines A. Menezes V. Phillips	E. Petrow G. Petrow J. Volpe
9 am	C. Buffalino	E. Enriquez G. Enriquez E. Farragher C. Maines	C. Buffalino K. Buffalino B. Perdoni
11 am	R. Davitt	D. Blanchett C. Draikiwicz P. Heinz M. Israel R. Kasper	K. Hunter N. Kasper L. Lee

BISHOP'S ANNUAL APPEAL STATUS

As of March 2nd, the Development Office has received pledges totaling \$44,747.00 and payments totaling \$37,965.25 from 239 parishioners. This represents 52.6% of our \$85,000.00 goal.

**THE CENTER FOR GREAT EXPECTATIONS
Somerset, NJ**

The Center for Great Expectations is "A safe place, a safe presence and a safe path" for homeless, pregnant or parenting adult women and adolescents & their children. The Center is always in need of items and the Rosarians would like to help them obtain the items on their "Needs List". Gift Cards: Dollar Tree, Target, Baby Bottles (Avent, Parent's Choice), Bottle Brushes, Bassinet Sheets (white, green or yellow), Crib Sheets (pink or blue), Boy's Sleep & Plays (0-3 mos. & 3 mos.), Girl's Sleep & Plays (0-3 mos. & 3 mos.), Infant Bath Tubs (new or gently used), Infant Receiving Blankets, Infant Rattles, Soft Rubber Blocks, Adult Plastic Hangers, 5 Adult Bed Pillows, 5 Adult Body Pillows, and Nursing Pads. **THE CENTER HAS REQUESTED NO DIAPERS OR WIPES. The Rosarians will have a box in the foyer of the church on April 7 and April 8 until 11:30 AM. Thank you.**

**CHRISM MASS – March 26, 2018 - 7:30 PM
CATHEDRAL OF ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI, METUCHEN**

On Monday, March 26, 2018 Bishop James F. Checchio will celebrate the Chrism Mass with the priests of the Diocese. At this Mass, the Bishop will bless the Holy Oils which each parish receives for the rites of anointing. Saint Ambrose [340-397] began this custom – which we now call the Chrism Mass – in his Cathedral in Milan. These Holy Oils, which are used to sanctify the Faithful, have been channels of holiness for centuries! The **Oil of Catechumens** is used to anoint the chest of infants and hands of adults before their Baptism; the **Oil of the Sick** is used on the forehead and hands of the infirm in the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick; and **Sacred Chrism** is used to anoint the head of the newly baptized, the foreheads of confirmand, the hands of a priest at his ordination, the head of a bishop at his ordination, and the altar and walls of new churches. At the Mass, all priests make a **Renewal of Commitment to Priestly Service**, recommitting themselves to their Bishop and to their ministry to God and His People; the Bishop and all Priests then ask the people for a pledge of their prayerful support. All are strongly encouraged to join in the ancient, grace-filled Chrism Mass at the Cathedral of St. Francis of Assisi in Metuchen at 7:30pm.



**LET'S NOT FORGET
COLLECTION FOR OUR RETIRED DIOCESAN
PRIESTS**

The second collection this weekend is for the Fund for our Retired Diocesan Priests. This collection is exclusively for the benefit of our 30 retired priests, as well as, our active priests upon their retirement. May your generosity to this collection reflect your gratitude and love for our retired priests who have been dedicated and faithful to their priesthood over the years. Let's not forget.

PARISH EMAIL ADDRESSES

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

BLAST!

Believing, Living and Sharing Together
YOUTH GROUP NEWS

Calendar of Future Events:

- March 29th - Visitation of the Seven Churches
- March 30th - Live Stations of the Cross Experience
- April 13th - Youth Group Meeting
- April 27th - YG Meeting - International Nite
- May 11th - Youth Group Meeting
- May 20th- Catholic Youth Rally Six Flags
- June 3rd - Youth Group Mass & Picnic

The Youth Group is open to all students in grades 6 through 12. Come see for yourself how fun and exciting living our faith can be! You don't want to miss it.

Check us out on Instagram: **Blast_2k17**

Do you want to get text reminders for meetings and special events? Text **@askura to 81010**.
Know anyone else that might benefit from Youth Group?
Invite them along. Bring a friend and share your faith!



Show your support - Dine to Donate
Taverna Della Pizza
(Old Stage Rd. in the ShopRite Plaza)
Taverna Della Pizza will be donating back 10% of each sale to Immaculate Conception Church & School
February 14th through April 1st
Dine in or Take out.

Show your support - Dine to Donate
Antonio's II Pizza in Monroe, NJ
(400 Spotswood-Englishtown Road).
Antonio's II will be donating back 10% of each sale to Immaculate Conception Church & School
February 14th through April 1st
Buy 10 and earn 1 FREE large plain pie!
Dine in or Take out.

**Brighten Your Child's Summer at
Immaculate Conception Camp**

June 18– August 10
Ages 3-7 years old
Full day 9am– 3pm or Half day 9am – 11:30 am
Monday– Friday 2, 3, 4 or 5 days per week
Choose your own weeks with extended care available

Themed Activities, Creative Arts and Crafts, Musical Games, Indoor and Outdoor Play, Wading Pools Daily, Enrichment Activities

Register today! Registration fee waived before May 1st.
732-251-7430 - gmartin@icspotswood.com

HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

PALM SUNDAY – March 25

March 24, Saturday Vigil Mass: 5:00 PM
Sunday Masses: 7:00 AM, 9:00 AM, 11:00 AM
Palms will be blessed at all Masses.

HOLY THURSDAY – March 29

8:00 PM: Mass of the Lord's Supper
9:00 PM: Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
11:00 PM: Tenebrae Service and close Exposition

GOOD FRIDAY – March 30

3:00 PM: Veneration of the Cross and Communion Service
7:00 PM: Stations of the Cross

HOLY SATURDAY – March 31

Food will be blessed in the Church at 11:00 AM
(Note: There will not be confessions on Holy Saturday.)
8:00 PM: Easter Vigil Mass

EASTER SUNDAY – April 1

Masses: 7:00 AM, 9:00 AM, 11:00 AM

PARISH OFFICE SCHEDULE

The Parish Office will be closed on Good Friday, March 30, 2018 and Easter Monday, April 2, 2018. The Daily Mass for Monday, April 2, 2018 will be held 9 am.

INTERFAITH SUNRISE SERVICE

On Easter morning, Sunday, April 1st there will be an interfaith sunrise service at 6:30 AM in the Immaculate Conception parking lot by the dam. **All are welcome!**



EASTER FLOWER COLLECTION

Our Easter Flower Collection is scheduled for this weekend **March 17th and 18th**. An Easter 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 "Easter Flowers". A list of these names will be included in our Easter Bulletin. **Please clearly print** all names on the envelope so that the names can be correctly typed in the bulletin insert.



Note: The list of names appearing in the Easter bulletin will include all names for those envelopes received up to and including **Monday, March 26th**. Offering envelopes received after that date will appear in a future bulletin.

**PILGRIMAGE TO BALTIMORE, MD
with St. James the Less, Jamesburg**

Join us for a pilgrimage to Baltimore, MD. We will visit the Baltimore Basilica (the 1st Roman Catholic Church in the US), take a tour of St. Mary's Seminary with St. James the Less' very own seminarian, Joseph Illes, and enjoy lunch while we are there. Finally, we will top off the day with a Mass at The Cathedral of Mary Our Queen with Fr Michael Fragoso as our celebrant.

- WHEN: April 16, 2018
- TIME: Bus departs at 8:00 am sharp
- COST: \$35 pp (includes lunch)

To make a reservation, contact Angelo Deliso at 718-948-4205 or email him at: nysiad1@yahoo.com.

**OPERATION RICE BOWL
CATHOLIC RELIEF SERVICES**

Our parish is participating in CRS Rice Bowl, Catholic Relief Services' Lenten program, as a way to encounter Jesus through others, especially through the most vulnerable in our world. Rice Bowls are available in the church foyer.



ENCOUNTER OUR NEIGHBORS - We encounter Jesus this week in Jerusalem, a community he knew well. We prayerfully enter our own communities too, encountering those who are hungry and thirsty, those who need our help. How does our Lenten journey motivate us to serve those we meet in our daily lives? Visit crsricebowl.org for more

2017 CONTRIBUTION STATEMENT REQUEST

If you would like a contribution statement for 2017, please complete this form and return in it the collection basket or mail it to the rectory office: Church of the Immaculate Conception, Attn: Rose Saracino, 18 South Street, Spotswood, NJ 08884.

Name: _____
Street: _____
City: _____
State: _____
Zip Code: _____
Telephone #: _____



**Immaculate Conception Pre-K
TODDLER TIME (A Mommy and Me Program)**

WHO: You and Your Toddler (18 months to 30 months) (Mom, Dad or Relative with your Toddler)
WHERE: Immaculate Conception Pre-K (Room 2A)
23 Manalapan Road
Spotswood, NJ 08884
WHEN: Tuesday, April 10th through Tuesday, May 29th
from 9:30 to 11:00 a.m. on Tuesday mornings
Program will run for 8 weeks.
WHAT: You and your child will enjoy a multitude of experiences which include arts and crafts, music, story time, movement and gymnastics. (There will also be a time to share parenting concerns.)
COST: \$200.00 for 8 sessions
\$ 10.00 registration fee
\$210.00 total

To receive an application to register, please call 732-251-7430 or download the forms on our website at icsspotwood.org. Applications must be received by Thursday, March 29, 2018

**23 Manalapan Road
Spotswood, NJ 08884
732-251-7430 (Fax) 732-251-7425**

CATHOLIC SCHOOL 2018-2019 TUITION ASSISTANCE

ONLINE APPLICATION PROCESS OPEN

Families interested in applying for tuition assistance to attend an eligible Diocese of Metuchen Catholic elementary or high school may do so now. The application process is online through FACTS Grant & Aid Assessment. Online applications must be completed (including supporting documentation) by no later than **Saturday, March 31, 2018**. Applications are available in English and Spanish.

Families that need assistance completing the online application, or need access to the technology to apply, may register for one of two Application Workshops, which will be held in two locations in January and February going to www.diometuchen.org/tuition-assistance and following the Workshops link.

ICU 2018 SPRING SEMESTER

Immaculate Conception University needs FACILITATORS with a knowledge of, experience in, or a love for any faith-based or secular hobby or interest. Some examples are:

- | | | |
|---------------|-------------|-------------|
| saints | bible study | Catechism |
| prayer | sacraments | music |
| sign language | movies | dance |
| painting | exercise | crafts |
| sewing | puppetry | photography |
| pottery | computer | sculpting |

We can provide DVD studies on any book in the Bible that you would like to learn more about. All classes are held in the Rectory Basement or School. Please don't feel you have to be an expert or certified instructor. All you need is the desire to share your knowledge or interests with others. A facilitator is responsible for choosing the dates and time (AM or PM) within the two month spring semester. Any number of classes, from one to twelve is acceptable. Call: 732-251-5777 or email:

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

ST. VINCENT dePAUL SOCIETY

The St. Vincent de Paul Society is very grateful for the generous food, monetary, and gift donations we have received from the parishioners of Immaculate Conception Parish. Thank you so much for your generosity!

Donation Request

Our St. Vincent De Paul conference has a new case of a single mother and teenaged son with an urgent need for apartment furniture. They currently have very little so we would greatly appreciate donations of any usable furniture to help them. Please contact Gary (908-616-1296, garyc@ebsvdp.org) if you can help. Thank you for your continued generosity toward our charitable efforts.

Spirit of St. Vincent

"Life according to the Spirit, whose fruit is holiness (cf. Rom 6:22; Gal 5:22), stirs up every baptized person and requires each to *follow and imitate Jesus Christ*, in embracing the Beatitudes, in listening and meditating on the Word of God, in conscious and active participation in the liturgical and sacramental life of the Church, in personal prayer, in family or in community, in the hunger and thirst for justice, in the practice of the commandment of love in all circumstances of life and service to the brethren, especially the least, the poor, and the suffering." (Pope John Paul II, *The Lay Members of Christ's Faithful People*, #16)

About the Society

Members of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul are men and women who strive to grow spiritually by offering person-to-person service to individuals in need. We can be reached at 732-597-1507 or by email at info@ebsvdp.org. If getting involved and helping others is something you've been meaning to do, please consider this an invitation to join us!

ANNUAL COLUMBIETTES FLEA MARKET

Got stuff? Want to sell it?

The Immaculate Conception Columbiettes will be hosting a flea market on Saturday, April 14, 2018, in the Immaculate Conception parking lot, 23 Manalapan Rd, Spotswood. \$15 a space for additional information, contact Rose Lubrano at [\(908\)331-0054](tel:9083310054). All Shoppers welcome from 9am-3pm.



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					
Quality of Desperation Depression/Hope	April	04/21/18	04/22/18	04/23/18	04/24/18	