

The Church of the Immaculate Conception

Welcome to our parish! *As a Church Family, we will use the wisdom of the past to shape our thoughts, words and actions, to bring the love of Christ to the world.” (ICC Mission Statement)*

Online Opportunities in this newsletter! Click on the words in blue! You can also find this newsletter on our website iccgroene.com. From there, click on weekly bulletins. Scroll down to find the bulletin or flier you want to see, then click the words in blue to access the extra news and articles.

To watch our Sunday Mass via livestream [click here](#) for our Youtube channel.

Confessions are held before or after weekend Masses.
Saturday Vigil Mass- 4:00 PM
Sunday Mass- 10:00 AM

Artwork: “Garden of Gethsemane”
 Newest Stained Glass by Parishioner Clyde Eckler

To read the Bible readings below on the USCCB website [click here](#)

First Reading

Acts of the Apostles 4:8-12
 Peter announces an act of healing in the name of Jesus Christ.

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 118:1,8-9,21-23,26,28,29
 A prayer of thanksgiving to God for his kindness

Second Reading

1 John 3:1-2
 God revealed his love for us by calling us children of God.

Gospel Reading

John 10:11-18
 Jesus says that he is the good shepherd who knows his sheep.
 Jesus appears again to his disciples and shares a meal with them.



The Saturday Mass Intention is for Grace Connelly requested by Holly & Roger Connelly.

The Sunday Mass intention is for Peg Norton requested by Jim & Bonnie Norton

Per the Diocese request, we now ask for \$15 per Mass Intention to help Father with his gas and car upkeep.)



“Lord, hear our prayer” ~ The ICC Prayer Chain requests your prayers for the following people: Mark Greene, Gary Ives, Marianne Hardy, Mia Murray, Jebediah Tropa, Kristin and Justin and their family, Dilon Dickerson, Felix, Vinny and Frank Lamanna and family, and Selena Wanjiku Wangui, our sponsored friend from Kenya.

Reminder: If you requested prayers for someone and it has been over 2 weeks, please call Ruth Coppola, Pam McLaren or the church office if you would like them to remain as recipients of our prayer chain. Thank you~

Liturgy Team Schedule:

	April 20, 2024 4:00 PM Saturday Vigil Mass	April 21, 2024 10:00 AM Sunday Mass	April 27, 2024 4:00 PM Saturday Vigil Mass	April 28, 2024 10:00 AM Sunday Mass
Sacristan	Lori Edwards & Janet Taylor	Lorraine Detweiler	Sue Carlin	Donna Curtis
Lector	Joe Tropa	Youth	Doris Maginsky	
E.M.	Holly Connelly	Joanna Tompkins and Kelly Erickson	Sue Carlin	Jackie & Joe Henninge
Altar		Ben Weiss, Alex Anastos, Connor Anastos, Jackson Rice		Arie King and Alex Anastos
Counters		Bonnie Norton and Eileen Browning		Luke Erickson and Joanne Kasmarcik

* LITURGY TEAM MEMBERS THAT GET SUBS FOR DAYS AWAY SHOULD MARK THE INFORMATION ON THE SCHEDULE IN THE SACRISTY. THANK YOU!



Please consider donating to the work of our parish using online giving. [Click here](#) for a direct link to Weshare, our safe online giving platform. It will take you to an option for a one time or a recurring donation.



The ICC Volunteer Thank You Luncheon will be immediately after the Sunday Mass on April 28! Anyone that volunteers at our parish in any way, is invited! Please make sure you are signed up to attend, so we can let the caterer know the right amount of food to prepare. This will be a fun gathering for our parish family!



SUNDAY CONNECTION - A Bible Study on this week's Gospel Reading- By Loyola Press.com

The fourth Sunday of Easter is also called Good Shepherd Sunday. Unless we consider this chapter in the greater context of John's Gospel, we will miss the radical nature of the statement Jesus makes when he declares himself to be the Good Shepherd.

In the portion of the chapter that we hear proclaimed today, Jesus describes his relationship with his followers as similar to the relationship between a good shepherd and his sheep. As a good shepherd will risk and lay down his life in order to protect his sheep, Jesus willingly sacrifices himself for the sake of his sheep. Jesus contrasts the actions of the good shepherd with the actions of the hired shepherd who abandons the sheep in the face of danger.

The concern of a good shepherd for his sheep is part of the shepherd's job. Jesus says, however, that the actions of the good shepherd are based upon the relationship that develops between the shepherd and the sheep. This is at the heart of the difference between the good shepherd and the hired shepherd. The good shepherd knows the sheep and therefore acts out of love. For the Good Shepherd, this is never simply part of a job; this love-in-action is integral to his identity.

As with so much of John's Gospel, one hears in this passage John's particular focus on Christology. As the sheep are known by the Good Shepherd, the Father knows Jesus and Jesus knows the Father. There is an essential unity between the Father and the Son. The freedom with which Jesus acts when he lays down his life is rooted in the unity that he shares with his Father.

In this context, Jesus also refers to others with whom he shares a relationship. By this reference, John probably understands the eventual inclusion of the Gentiles in the Christian community. Our modern ears hear this as a reference to Christian unity. The work of ecumenism is to restore unity among all Christians so that we form one flock under one shepherd, as God desires.



Parish Council Nominations will be taken at both Masses this weekend April 20/21 and next week 27/28. New members will begin at the May meeting and will serve for 2 years. This council meets 4x per year to discuss the pastoral life of the church. (May, August, November and February) We offer zoom participation for those that cannot make it to these in person meetings. Each meeting lasts 1 hour and is focused on cooperation and thoughtful discussions about the life of our parish. Start thinking of who you could nominate to represent you.



The Bible Timeline Great Adventure Bible Study- Thursdays- 5:30-7:00 PM

Dear friends,



This weekend, our Confirmation Students are welcoming students from the other Chenango County Catholic Churches for a retreat following the Sunday Mass. The theme is "Who am I?" The students will complete several written exercises and share their thoughts by journaling, with small group and with large group discussions. One exercise is to read several excerpts from the book, "*The Imitation of Christ*" and tell the group what they mean on a personal level. I thought I would list a few here for you to think about and stretch your brain! What do you think these mean? Share it with a friend! Please keep all these High School Confirmation Students in your prayers as they get ready for this important sacrament. Peace my friends, Mary Wentlent

"Transfer your affections in life to the things invisible."
 "Man sees the face; God sees the heart."
 "Without toil you cannot arrive at rest; nor without a battle
 can you attain victory."
 "Without the Way - you cannot go, Without the truth - you
 cannot know, and without life - you cannot live."



Cards and Conversation - Tuesday April 30 from 10:30-12:00. Join us for a fun game of the card game "Golf", some laughs and fellowship. All are welcome!



Final Youth Mass Sunday April 21 - All children and youth in grades K-7 will be participating in the last youth Mass this Sunday April 21. The children in grades K-7 should arrive at 9 am for preparation. We welcome our Confirmation Students in grades 8-10 plus Confirmation students around Chenango County to this Mass as they begin their retreat. Seminarian Cornelius Deep and Deacon Dale from Norwich will assist Father Paul this day. Following the Mass we will have a coffee hour in the social hall, and an informal parent meeting for Gr. K-7.



Bread Sunday for our First Communion Students- This annual event at ICC will take place during their First Communion Mass on May 5 during the 10:00 AM Mass. The children will prepare a loaf of bread at home with their families and they will give it to someone special in our church in return for special prayers as they begin their Eucharistic Journey with Christ. Please keep these children in your prayers: Ava Dunlap, Stella Gilbeau and Lucas Weiss.



The Confirmation Mass for Our Second Year Confirmation Students- St. Paul's Catholic Church in Norwich. Thursday May 23 at 6:30 PM. Please keep these High School Church Members in your prayers: Johanna Trepa, Macie Browning, Arie King and Giuseppie Sferrazza.



Garden Planning Meeting at ICC- Monday April 22, 2024 at 5:30 PM

We will meet on Wednesday afternoon at 5:30 PM to plan the care of the historic Mary Garden, the garden by the Unborn Child Statue, the outside Stations Walking Path, the garden around the Statue of Mary, the new raised vegetable beds, and the care of the bushes in front of the church. We will not be getting our hands dirty on this day, but we will do a walk-about to see the spring growth. If you cannot join us on this date but would still like to help in some way, please contact Mary at 607-644-3883 or email mwentlent@syrdio.org.

ICC Summer day trip to the Sight and Sound Theater!



“Daniel”

ICC presents a summer excursion to the Sight and Sound Theatre!
Wednesday August 7, 2024

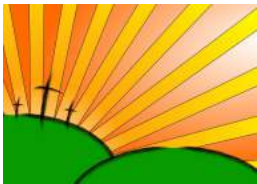
Parish members are invited to reserve their spot on the bus for this trip by signing up in the church vestibule. The cost per person is \$75. This covers the bus, show and buffet lunch. There is financial assistance. Please contact Mary in the church office.



Spring Flower Sale at ICC ~ May 11 & 12

Once again we will be selling spring annuals and hanging baskets. There are order forms in the vestibule. The plants are from Schaefer Gardens. Please take home an order form and use it when you are dreaming and planning your spring/summer flower beds. We ask that order forms be returned to the flower basket in the church vestibule no later than Sunday May 5. Plants and hanging baskets will be available for pick up on Saturday May 11 from 11-12 and also after both weekend Masses May 11 and 12. Thank you for supporting this spring fundraiser. All proceeds will benefit our lovely Mary Garden.

Volunteer Opportunity at ICC Greene- Our church volunteers at the local Greene Area Churches Food Pantry during the **month of May**. The hours they are open are Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9:30-12:00 and every other Saturday from 10-12:00 PM. If you would like to help at the Food Pantry on one of the dates needed in May, please contact Joanna Tompkins at jtompkins@syrdio.org.



Family page

The Good Shepherd

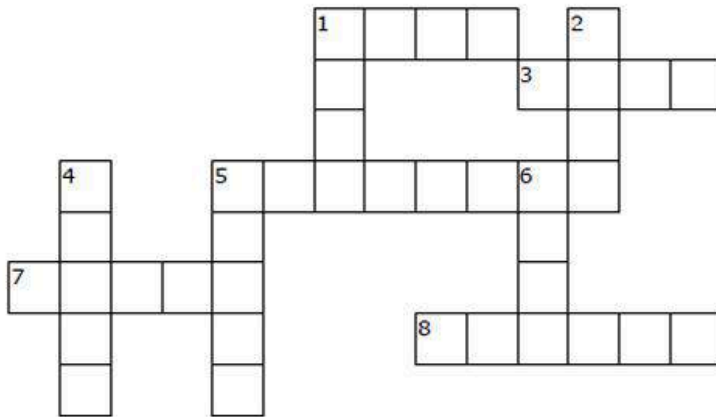
"I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep." John 10:11 (NIV)

Puzzle is based on John 10:11-18



"Who were the Zealots in the New Testament?"

[Here's a short video lesson](#) by Jared Dees! Enjoy learning something new.



ACROSS

1. The period from birth to death
3. A wild animal that look like a dog and hunts in a pack
5. One who takes care of the sheep
7. What we use to speak
8. To hear or pay attention to something

DOWN

1. A strong feeling of affection
2. The opposite of bad
4. A group of sheep herded together
5. Woolly animals which are similar to goats
6. Goes faster than walking

SHEPHERD	GOOD	LIFE	SHEEP	WOLF
FLOCK	RUNS	VOICE	LISTEN	LOVE



Deacon Tim McNerney invites you to explore God's Grace in your life in five sessions. Each participant will receive a copy of "Beautiful Mercy" edited by Matthew Kelly. Meeting information below.

SCHEDULE OF FOUR THURSDAY & ONE WEDNESDAY EVENING SESSIONS

Session One: An Invitation to Mercy – 4/11/24

Session Two: Faithful Mercy – 4/18/24

Session Three: The Overture of Mercy – 4/25/24

Session Four: Hope and Faith – 5/2/24

Session Five: Never Lose Hope – Wednesday, 5/8/24

Location for Session One: St. John the Evangelist Church, Bainbridge

Time: 7:00PM

Contact Dc. Tim McNerney to Register: tmcnerney@syrdio.org or (315) 570-3114

