

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! Click on the words in [blue!](#)
Confessions are held before or after weekend Masses.

Saturday Vigil Mass- 4:00 PM
Sunday Mass- 10:00 AM

First Reading

Deuteronomy 18:15-20
Moses tells the people that God will raise up for them a new prophet.

Responsorial Psalm

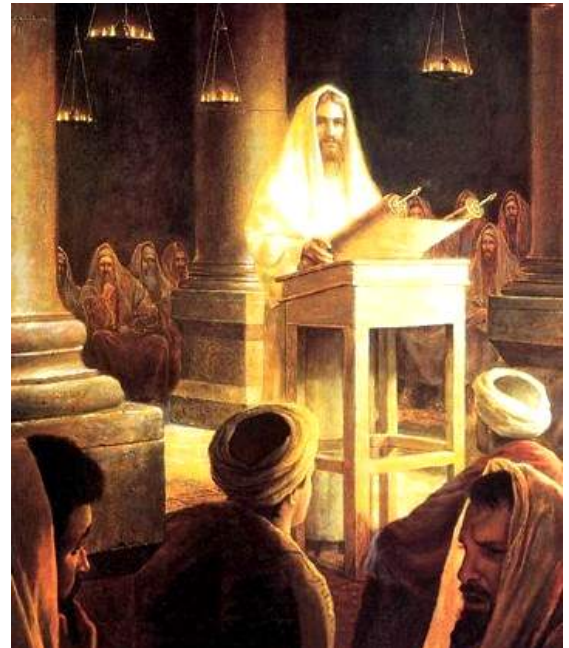
Psalm 95:1-2,6-7,7-9
A song of praise to the Lord.

Second Reading

1 Corinthians 7:32-35
Paul expresses his concern that those who are married are more likely to face the distractions of earthly life than those who are celibate.


Gospel Reading

Mark 1:21-28
Jesus heals a man with an unclean spirit and his fame spreads throughout Galilee.



To read these on the USCCB website [click here](#)

“Lord, hear our prayer” ~ The ICC Prayer Chain requests your prayers for the following people: Jebediah Trepá, Kristin and Justin and their family, Gary Husband, Marie Carucci, Bonnie Norton, Joan Schlacter, 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~*

 **Please pray for the repose of the soul of Phyllis Lerwick who passed away this past week. May she rest in peace. The family will have a celebration of her life this spring.**

The Saturday Mass Intention is for Thomas Lynes requested by Claire Gibbons and for Raymond White requested by Holly & Roger Connelly

The Sunday Mass intention is for Phyllis Lerwick requested by the parish family.
 (Per the Diocese request, we now ask for \$15 per Mass Intention to help Father with his gas and car upkeep.

Liturgy Team Schedule:

	January 27, 2024 4:00 PM Vigil Mass	January 28, 2024 10:00 AM Mass	February 3, 2024 4:00 PM Vigil Mass	February 4, 2024 10:00 AM Mass
Sacristan	Janet Taylor & Lori Edwards	Lorraine Detweiler	Karen & Norm Montgomery	Donna Curtis
Lector	Bunny Delaney	Youth	Joe Trepá	Bonnie Norton
E.M.	Joan Trepá	Joanna Tompkins & Kelly Erickson	Holly Connelly	Jackie & Joe Henninge
Altar		Ben Weiss		Arie King and Alex Anastos
Counters		Bonnie Norton & Eileen Browning		Jim Norton and Don Brown

*** 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.



IGNITE MEN'S CONFERENCE- Sat. March 23, 2024 - This annual men's conference will be held at Bishop Ludden Junior/Senior High School in Syracuse. You can [register here](#) or go to ignite.catholicmen.org.

End of Year Tithe letters of parishioner tax deductible donations

If you would like a letter detailing the total amount of your donation to Immaculate Conception, please sign up in the vestibule and a letter will be mailed to your house.



Ash Wednesday News ~ The beginning of Lent is just around the corner. Our parish will provide the following: **12:00 PM- Greene Ecumenical Service with Ashes followed by a Soup luncheon.** We are happy to host the community again this year. We are looking for folks to donate a homemade crock pot of soup. Please sign up in the vestibule or contact Deb Rice if you can help out.

5:30 PM- Communion Service with Distribution of Ashes- This will be led by Mary Wentlent, the Parish Life Director.

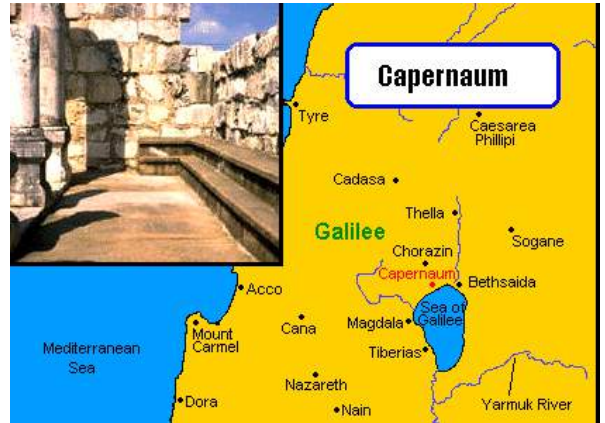


SUNDAY CONNECTION - A Bible Study on this week's Gospel Reading- By Loyola Press.com

Today's Gospel continues our reading from Mark. Jesus and the disciples that chose to follow him in last week's Gospel arrive at Capernaum, a small village on the Sea of Galilee. Jesus teaches in the synagogue on the Sabbath. After Jesus' preaching, an even more astonishing thing happens. A man possessed with an unclean spirit calls out to Jesus. As we see in this example and throughout Mark's Gospel, the spirits and demons seem to know Jesus and are often fearful of him. In fact, they seem to understand Jesus' identity better than his disciples. As we will read again and again in Mark's Gospel, Jesus orders the spirit to be quiet and drives the unclean spirit out of the man. Jesus' ability to heal those possessed by demons is an indication of his power over evil.

In the pre scientific age of Jesus' time, all illnesses were understood to be manifestations of evil and sinfulness. Our modern understanding of illness is very different. Possession by unclean spirits may have been a way to describe what we might call mental illness today. It may have even been a way of describing certain kinds of physical conditions.

There is evidence that there were many kinds of exorcists and healers in first-century Palestine. Jesus appears to be like these healers, but he heals with unique authority. We are missing the point that Mark is trying to make in this Gospel, however, if we try to explain away the healing work of Jesus. The crowds see in Jesus' cure of the possessed man further affirmation of his authority. Jesus impresses the crowds through his words, which are manifested with power in his deeds. Because of the authority with which he healed, Jesus' fame spread throughout all of Galilee.



The ICC Football Pool- As of this newsletter printing, we have just 10 squares left. Each square costs \$25. Please make your check out to ICC with Football Pool in the memo line. You can also go to our online giving platform to purchase your square. For online giving [click here](#). Please write Football Pool in the text box. If you prefer to use cash, please see the parish rep after Mass in the church hall. The payout will be: 1st Qtr. winner - \$250, 2nd Qtr. winner - \$250, 3rd Qtr. winner - \$250 and Final Score winner - \$500. Thank you for your support!

Circle of Friends Cards & Conversation! Tuesday January 30, 2024 from 10:30-12:00 PM
Join this fun group of senior members for a morning of the card game "Golf"!

Mass Intentions for 2024- Please stop by the church office on Wednesdays between 9-11 or fill out one of the Mass Intention envelopes located at the rear of the church, and drop it in the collection plate. We will try to accommodate the dates you request and will send you a confirmation letter in the mail. Intentions have increased to \$15 each to help Father with gas for his vehicle and car maintenance. Thank you.

Dear friends,

Sometimes the middle of January can be...a little tough. Shorter days with melting snow, but happy birds at the bird feeder. So it's how we look at it, that is important. Norma Rossouw writes that the trick to finding happiness in your life is in your attitude - how you look at life, whether you see the glass half full or half empty. We can look outside and see the melting dirty snow or we can see the vibrant blue sky and praise God for another day! We must choose whether our attitude will be our greatest asset or our greatest obstacle. St. Paul writes to the people in Philippi: "Whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable - think about such things. And the God of peace will be with you." Great advice! So I ask you, what is lovely today in your life? What is praiseworthy? Seek and ye shall find! Peace my friends, Mary Wentlent



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

[The Bible Timeline study program](#) will take you on a guided journey to learn the amazing story woven through scripture, revealing the major people, places and events of the Bible. All are welcome.



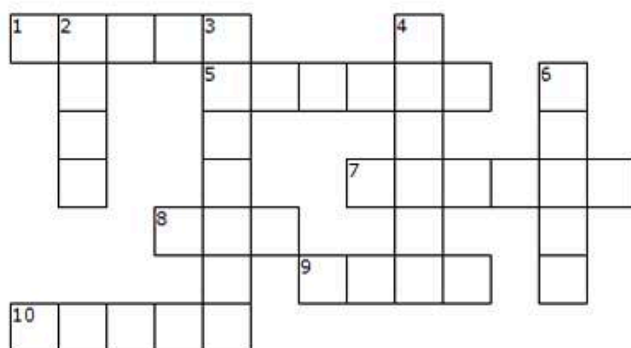
Family page



Who's In Control?

The people were all so amazed that they asked each other, "What is this? A new teaching—and with authority! He even gives orders to evil spirits and they obey him." Mark 1:27

Based on Mark 1:21-28



ACROSS

1. The Son of God
5. To be extremely surprised
7. A supernatural being such as a demon
8. An adult male human being
9. To do what you are told or expected to do
10. To instruct or train someone

DOWN

2. Immoral, bad, or wicked
3. The day of the week set aside by some religions as a day of rest and worship
4. Human beings; men, women and children
6. Making very little or no noise

SPIRIT	OBEY	SABBATH	MAN	TEACH
PEOPLE	EVIL	JESUS	QUIET	AMAZED

Religious Education

Youth Mass
January 21, 2024.
Children should arrive at 9 AM for preparation.

NO Confirmation 1 & 2 Class on Sunday January 28, 2024



If God is present all around us, why does the Church teach Transubstantiation? [Click here to read](#) And hear a short podcast by Father Dave from The Busted Halo Radio Show.



The popular ICC Chili Bingo Night will be Sat.Feb 3 from 5-7 PM. Please sign up in the vestibule if you can bring a crock pot of chili or a dessert to share.



Resources for young parents at ICC Greene!

Children's Bulletin- Each week we leave copies of the The Kids Bulletin at the back of the church. These are colorful, educational and entertaining with a lesson each week based on the Bible readings for that Sunday. There is also a short story about the life of a saint. Feel free to pick one up for a child you know or even for an adult who is young at heart!

Children Book Shelf- There is a little book shelf located by the nursery in the social hall. There are classic and contemporary books for children there. Stop by and borrow one to take home for some fun weekly family reading. This week we are highlighting "*Joan of Arc*", a *Brave Soldier for Peace*. **This is a colorful and engaging children's book in the Saints and Me series.**

