

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

Artwork: New Christmas Banners at ICC Greene

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

First Reading

Isaiah 60:1-6
 Jerusalem shall be a light to all nations.

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 72:1-2,7-8,10-11,12-13
 Every nation on earth shall worship the Lord.

Second Reading

Ephesians 3:2-3a,5-6
 Gentiles are co-heirs in the promise of Christ.

Gospel Reading

Matthew 2:1-12
 The Magi seek out Jesus and do him homage.



“Lord, hear our prayer” ~ The ICC Prayer Chain requests your prayers for the following people: 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~*

The Saturday Mass Intention is for the parish family of Immaculate Conception Church.
The Sunday Mass intention is for the parish family of Immaculate Conception Church.
 (Per the Diocese request, we now ask for \$15 per Mass Intention to help Father with his gas and car upkeep.

Liturgical Team Schedule:

	Saturday January 6, 2024 4:00 PM Vigil Mass	Sunday January 7, 2024 10:00 AM Mass	January 13, 2024 4:00 PM Vigil Mass	January 14, 2024 10:00 AM Mass
Sacristan	Karen & Norm Montgomery	Donna Curtis	John & Marie Carucci	Margaret Hanrahan
Lector	Joe Trepa	Bonnie Norton	Joan Trepa	Rebecca Banas
E.M.	Holly Connelly	Jackie & Joe Henninge	John Carucci	Paul King and Bev Doughty
Altar		Jackson Rice & Arie King		Andrew Erickson and Easton Dopp
Counters		Joanne Kasmarcik and Mary Wentlent		Joanne Kasmarcik and Mary Wentlent

* 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.



Knights of Columbus Holy Trinity Council Chicken & Biscuit Dinner at ICC - Sat. Jan. 20, 5:00-7:00 PM

All are invited to this appeal by the Knights to raise funds for their council. The Knights are committed to helping seminarians who are preparing for the priesthood. They are asking for a free will offering. . Eat in or Take out. Please plan to attend on Saturday January 20th.



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

The visit of the Magi occurs directly before the story of the Holy Family's flight into Egypt. Matthew's Gospel tells a different version of Jesus' birth, but includes the visit of the Magi.

We know little about the Magi. They come from the East and journey to Bethlehem, following an astrological sign, so we believe them to be astrologers. We assume that there were three Magi based upon the naming of their three gifts. The Gospel does not say how many Magi paid homage to Jesus. In Matthew's Gospel, they represent the Gentiles' search for a savior. Because the Magi represent the entire world, they also represent our search for Jesus.

We have come to consider the gifts they bring as a foreshadowing of Jesus' role in salvation. We believe the meaning of the gifts to be Christological. Gold is presented as representative of Jesus' kingship. Frankincense is a symbol of his divinity because priests burned the substance in the Temple. Myrrh, which was used to prepare the dead for burial, is offered in anticipation of Jesus' death.

The word Epiphany means "manifestation" or "showing forth." Historically several moments in Christ's early life and ministry have been celebrated as "epiphanies," including his birth in Bethlehem, the visit of the Magi, his baptism by John, and his first miracle at Cana.

Circle of Friends - Tuesday January 9 at 10:30 AM. Join us for a game of cards and conversation!



The ICC Football Pool will begin selling squares following both Masses January 6 & 7, 2024. Each square costs \$25. Feel free to get as many squares as you would like. 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, 3th Qtr. winner - \$250 and Final Score winner - \$500. Thank you for supporting this winter fundraiser for our parish.

American Red Cross Blood Drive - Wednesday January 17, 2024 - [Click here](#) to choose a donation time.

Mass Intentions for 2024- It's time to get your Mass Intentions for 2024 for a friend or loved one. 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. Please remember that Intentions have increased to \$15 each to help Father with gas for his vehicle and car maintenance. Thank you.



The popular ICC Chili Bingo Night will be Saturday Feb 3 from 5-7 PM. If you enjoy cooking, start checking those recipes for the chili recipe you'd like to bring. We hope to have a great crowd that night enjoying dinner, chatting with friends and playing Bingo. And there will be some awesome prizes too!

Dear friends,



It feels like just yesterday we were talking about our New Year's Resolutions. Some people write goals and then check them throughout the year to see their progress. Some people write them and then don't think about them again until Jan. 1 of the next year! And then of course some people don't write goals at all. I've been thinking of what goals our parish might have. The words of seminarian Cornelius Deep came to mind. "It's easy to love people we like." I feel like as a parish family we are succeeding in our goal to become a warm, welcoming parish. I heard several positive comments over the Christmas Holidays to this effect. It whirled my thoughts. Let's continue to welcome others, regardless of their age or appearance and be mindful of why we come to church in the first place. It isn't to continue loving the easy people in our life: the ones we like. As Christians we are called to reach out in Christian Fellowship to all people, to worship together the God who made us, and as Catholics, to enter into the love story each week where we experience the love God has for us. Holy Communion is powerful! For 2024 how about a goal to remember that this opportunity is a powerful gift? What goals do you think would be good for our parish family? Please send them to me, or write them on a slip and drop in the Parish Goals Suggestion box in our vestibule. Thank you for your continued support of our parish. Peace my friends and Happy New Year!~Mary Wentlent



The Bible Timeline Great Adventure Bible Study begins Thursday January 11, 2024- 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. We will discover how these all come together to show the remarkable story of our faith. The weekly sessions will include a video lesson and discussion. This is a 24 week study. If you must miss a lesson, you can access the videos online and use your study binder to stay on track. This is a study that our church offered several years ago, back by popular demand! Please sign up in the church vestibule so we can order the proper amount of study materials. Old and new friends welcome!

Trojan Treasures Drop off at ICC! This "store" set up in the middle school at GCS is accepting donations of clothing and

toiletory items that a middle school student could use. The donation box is on the table in the ICC church vestibule and will remain for the school year. Thank you for your generosity!



Family page



Is Christmas Really Over?

Yet to all who received him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God.

John 1:12 (NIV)

Based on John 1:10-18

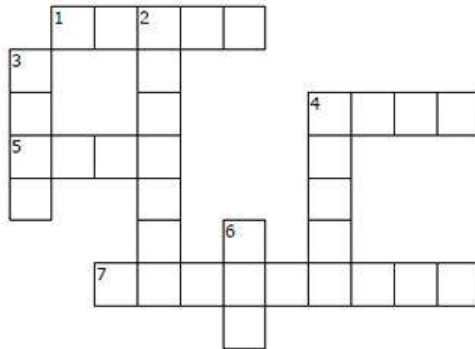


Religious Education

Class will resume Sunday
January 7, 2024

Confirmation 1 and 2

Class will resume
Sunday January 7, 2024



ACROSS

1. The earth and all its inhabitants
4. The place where a person lives
5. A word or words that a person is known by
7. To know someone because you have seen them before

DOWN

2. To get or be given something
3. Male decendants
4. A man, woman, or child; a person
6. The creator of and ruler of the earth and its people

SONS	RECOGNIZE	NAME	HUMAN
GOD	HOME	WORLD	RECEIVE

Chalking the Door Blessing!

As we celebrate the Feast of the Epiphany, chalk the doors of your homes using this ancient tradition. [Click here to watch](#) a 3-minute lesson by Jared Dees, The Religion Teacher!

Visio Divina - Reflective prayer through Sacred Art

Adoration of the Shepherds by Gerard von Honthorst in 1622, captures the beauty of the Light Divine in the Holy Child. The painting is intensely quiet. This scene of meditation invites the viewer to adoration. As Mary teaches the shepherds, she teaches us, inviting us to adore the child, too.



Visit this piece of Sacred Art

and take time to notice all that is happening. Sit with the picture. Spend some time in your own adoration.

- Where do you focus when you look at the painting?
- Are you drawn to a particular person in the painting?
- Who are you in the painting?
- This is a quiet painting but if they were to speak, what would Mary, Joseph, the shepherds or Jesus say to you?