

# 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**

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

**First Reading**

1 Samuel 3:3b-10,19  
*The Lord calls Samuel.*

**Responsorial Psalm**

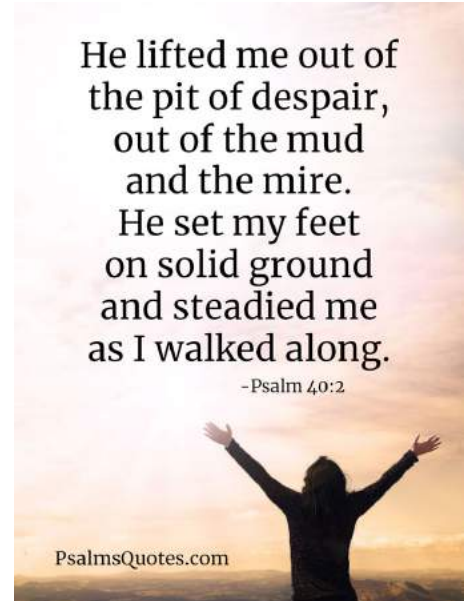
Psalm 40:2, 4, 7-8, 8-9, 10  
*A prayer of commitment to follow the will of the Lord.*


**Second Reading**

1 Corinthians 6:13c-15a,17-20  
*Paul reminds the Corinthians that their bodies are temples of the Holy Spirit.*

**Gospel Reading**

John 1:35-42  
*John the Baptist recognizes Jesus as the Lamb of God, and Jesus receives his first followers.*



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

**The Saturday Mass Intention** is for Bill Opeka requested by Cathy Opeka.  
**The Sunday Mass intention** is for Dorothy Turrell requested by Judy Adams.  
 (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 13, 2024<br>4:00 PM Vigil Mass | January 14, 2024<br>10:00 AM Mass  | January 20, 2024<br>4:00 PM Vigil Mass | January 21, 2024<br>10:00 AM Mass  |
|------------------|--|------------------------------------|--|------------------------------------|
| <b>Sacristan</b> | Karen & Norm Montgomery                | Margaret Hanrahan                  | Sue Carlin                             | Peggy Stanton & Barb Coleman       |
| <b>Lector</b>    | Joan Trepa                             | Rebecca Banas                      | Jerry Lademan                          | Donna Heisler                      |
| <b>E.M.</b>      | Sue Carlin                             | Paul King and Bev Doughty          | Sue Carlin                             | Diane & Joe Weiss                  |
| <b>Altar</b>     |  | Andrew Erickson and Easton Dopp    |  | Keaton Browning and Connor Anastos |
| <b>Counters</b>  |  | Joanne Kasmarcik and Mary Wentlent |  | Annie Simpson and sub              |

\* 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. Free will offering- Eat in or Take out.

**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.



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

Although the liturgical season of Ordinary Time begins this week, today's reading continues with the celebration of the Baptism of the Lord, which concludes the Christmas season. We are familiar with the title that John the Baptist uses for Jesus—the Lamb of God. We hear it weekly at the fraction rite during Mass. For those who heard John the Baptist in person, however, this title recalled key themes from the Old Testament. It alludes to the paschal lamb offered as a sacrifice when God freed the Israelites from slavery in Egypt, the event that is commemorated by the Jewish Passover celebration. In using this name for Jesus, John the Baptist predicts Jesus' passion and death and the new interpretation of Passover that will begin with Jesus' Last Supper.

We learn in today's reading how Jesus' first followers were gathered. The first two, Andrew and another man, were followers of John the Baptist. After hearing John's testimony, they became followers of Jesus. Andrew then brings his brother, Simon, to Jesus. Immediately, Jesus gave Simon a new name, calling him *Peter*, which means "rock" in Greek. The renaming of Simon to Peter is reported in all four of the Gospels.

In the exchange between Andrew, the other disciple, and Jesus, we see an example of the usual pattern for first-century Jewish rabbinical schools. Jews sought out rabbis and established themselves as disciples of a particular rabbi. Jesus appears to have been unique in that he sought out individuals, inviting them to be his followers. Jesus asks Andrew and the other disciple, "What are you looking for?" This is a telling question, and one that we might often ask of ourselves. Andrew, Simon, and the other first disciples were looking for the Messiah, whom they also came to know as the Son of God. What do we look for and what do we find in Jesus?



**The ICC Football Pool** has begun selling squares for this year's Super Bowl Football Pool. 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.



Dear friends,

This devotional reflection went so well with our Bible readings this week, that I am sharing it with you dear friends. The title is overcoming Addiction, but I believe you could plug in anything in your life that is dragging you down. The author writes, "Addiction is much more than alcohol and drugs - it can be TV, eating, shopping, Facebook scrolling, pornography, etc. Addiction is when you are no longer in charge and something takes control of you. Don't try to conquer the flesh on your own; this war can only be won through the Spirit. Most of your victories will start small, but don't despair, keep going. Jesus called out on the cross, 'Tetelestai!' - it is finished!! This is for you and me as well, so that we can overcome these weights in our life.

I am used to hearing that word 'Tetelestai' mostly during Holy Week with the readings of the passion. I have never thought of it in this context before! Jesus called out those words during the hardest moment of his life! And it transcends time to help you and me. When we feel weighed down with addiction or the burdens of life, God will give us the strength and courage to also call out Tetelestai! - It is finished! I'm done with this having control in my life!! With the help of the Holy Spirit we can do it. Peace my friends ~Mary Wentlent

*"Don't copy the behavior and customs of this world, but let God transform you into a new person by changing the way you think. Then you will learn to know God's will for you, which is good and pleasing and perfect."*  
from St. Paul's letter to the people in Rome - Romans 12:2



**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!



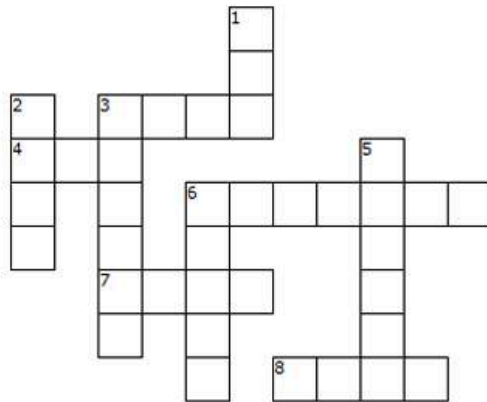
# Family page



## The Call of Samuel

And the Lord came and called as before, "Samuel! Samuel!"  
And Samuel replied, "Speak, your servant is listening."  
1 Samuel 3:10 (NLT)

Based on 1 Samuel 3:1-10



### ACROSS

- Another name for God
- A priest in the temple at Shilo (1 Samuel 3:1)
- A person who is employed to do work for another person
- The pair of organs of seeing in the faces of humans and animals
- To ask someone to come to you

### DOWN

- A piece of furniture with a flat surface that a person can lie on to sleep
- Not strong
- To give attention to a person who is speaking
- A boy who ministered with Eli
- To say words; to use the voice

|        |       |      |         |        |
|--------|-------|------|---------|--------|
| SAMUEL | SPEAK | CALL | ELI     | WEAK   |
| BED    | EYES  | LORD | SERVANT | LISTEN |

### Religious Education

In-Person Class on Sunday  
January 14, 2024

### Confirmation 1 and 2

In-Person Class on  
Sunday January 14, 2024



John the Baptist calls Jesus the "Lamb of God". Curious about the christian meaning? [Click here](#) for a short video lesson by Jared Dees. Learn something new!

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



**The popular ICC Chili Bingo Night will be Sat. 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.



### **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 "***Kindness is my Superpower***" by ***Alicia Ortego***. This is a children's book about empathy, kindness and compassion. Check it out!