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)

<u>Online Opportunities in this newsletter!</u> Click on the words in blue! You can also find this newsletter on our website <u>iccgreene.com.</u> 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 <u>click here</u> for our Youtube channel.

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

To read the readings below on the USCCB website <u>click here</u> First Reading

2 Chronicles 36:14-16.19-23

The causes for the Israelites' captivity in Babylon are described.

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 137:1-2,3,4-5,6

A lament from exile for the loss of Jerusalem

Second Reading

Ephesians 2:4-10

In grace we have been saved, so that we may do the work of the Lord.

Gospel Reading

John 3:14-21

Jesus tells Nicodemus that the Son of Man will be raised up so that those who believe in him will have eternal life.

The Saturday Mass Intention is for Bill Opeka requested by Cathy Opeka and for Edward Restivo requested by Roger & Holly Connelly. **The Sunday Mass Intention** is for Charles Aswad requested by Bonnie & Jim 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: Jim Amell, Barbara Bok, Fred Hadlick, Jebediah Trepa, Kristin and Justin and their family, Gary Husband, 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:

| | March 9, 2024 4:00 PM Vigil Mass | · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · | , | March 17, 2024 10:00 AM Mass |
|-----------|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|----------------------|---------------------------------|
| Sacristan | Sue Carlin | Margaret Hanrahan | John & Marie Carucci | Peggy Stanton & Barb Coleman |
| Lector | Jerry Lademan | Rebecca Banas | Jerry Lademan | Donna Heisler |
| E.M. | Sue Carlin | Paul King and Bev Doughty | John Carucci | Diane and Joe Weiss |
| Altar | | Andrew Erickson | | Keaton Browning |
| Counters | | Joanne Kasmarcik and Luke Erickson | | Annie Simpson and sub |

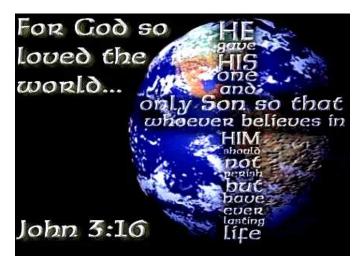
^{*} LITURGY TEAM MEMBERS THAT GET SUBS FOR DAYS AWAY SHOULD MARK THE INFORMATION ON THE SCHEDULE IN THE SACRISTY. THANK YOU!



Please consider donating to the work of our parish using online giving. <u>Click here</u> 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.



Would you like to sing with the ICC choir at the Easter Vigil or Easter Sunday Masses? We will hold two special rehearsals for all who wish to join us. We hope to see you there! Sunday March 24 from 11-12:00 PM and Tuesday March 26 from 4-5:30 PM



IGNITE MEN'S CONFERENCE- Sat. March 23, 2024 - Bishop Ludden Junior/Senior H.S.I in Syracuse. register here



Wednesday Stations of the Cross opportunity.

The church will be open for individuals to pray at the Stations of the Cross on Wednesday mornings from 9-11:30 AM. Booklets will be available to assist you on this powerful prayer journey. Karen will be in the church office if you need other assistance.

<u>Good Friday Stations at ICC- 5:30 PM - March 29</u> We will once again offer this special sung version of the Stations of the Cross prayer called, "He knows my pain". All are welcome.

Lenten Penance Opportunity at ICC! Father Paul will be at our church early on Saturday March 16 from 2-4 PM for all who wish to see him for the Sacrament of Reconciliation. This will be followed by our usual 4:00 PM Vigil Mass.



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

Today's Gospel reading is taken from John's Gospel. It consists of two parts. The first part is the final sentence of Jesus' reply to Nicodemus, the Pharisee who approached Jesus at night. Nicodemus acknowledged Jesus as someone who had come from God and seemed to want to be a follower of Jesus. Jesus greeted Nicodemus with the observation that one must be born from above to see the Kingdom of God. The dialogue

between Jesus and Nicodemus that followed was about the meaning of this phrase. Nicodemus misunderstood Jesus at every point, but there was no animosity in the questions he posed to

In the part of the conversation with Nicodemus in today's Gospel, Jesus referred to an incident reported in the Old Testament. When the Israelites grumbled against the Lord during their sojourn in the desert, God sent venomous serpents to punish them for their complaints. The Israelites repented and asked Moses to pray for them. The Lord heard Moses' prayer and instructed him to make a bronze serpent and mount it on a pole. All who had been bitten by a serpent and then looked upon the bronze serpent were cured. By recalling this story, Jesus alludes to the salvation that would be accomplished through his death and Resurrection.

The second part of today's Gospel is a theological reflection on Jesus' words to Nicodemus. The Gospel of John is known for this kind of reflection offered within the narrative. In these reflections, John elaborates on a number of themes that are found in his Gospel: light and darkness, belief and unbelief, good and evil, salvation and condemnation.



In John's reflection, we find an observation about human sinfulness. Jesus is the light that has come into the world, but people preferred the darkness. We wish to keep our sins hidden, even from God. Jesus has come into the world to reveal our sins so that they may be forgiven. This is the Good News; it is the reason for our rejoicing in this season of Lent and throughout our lives.

The next <u>American Red Cross Blood Drive</u> at our church will be Wednesday <u>March 13</u>, 2024 from 12:30-5:30 PM. Generous supporters are offering incentives for folks to donate blood. If you give this month you will receive a \$10 pet supply e-gift card which means you can use it for online orders of pet supplies. You will also be enrolled in a chance for a \$3k gift card. Please <u>click here to sign up to reserve a time</u> for your donation.



Dear friends,

That picture of the world on the front cover went well with something I read the other day. It was about the idea of changes in our world and in our life. Change can make people uncomfortable. We feel safe with familiar things. Horses worked fine, so why do we need cars? That rotary phone on the wall worked well, so why do we need cell phones? But change is necessary for growth. God changes and renews our mind and our lifestyle so

we can grow into the image of Christ. Every change to a new season brings its own joys. Let's trust that God is in control of the changes in our life. To everything there is a season and a purpose. Let's rest in that assurance. St. Paul tells us in his letter to the people of Rome, "Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind." (Romans 12:2) Read that verse again and see what word jumps out to you. To me it was the word transformed. I'm going to take that with me this week. How about you? Peace my friends, Mary Wentlent



<u>The ICC Volunteer Thank You Luncheon</u> will be immediately after the Sunday Mass on April 28! All volunteers at our parish are invited!



Family page

Religious Education

Grades k-7 will be visiting the NYS

Veterans home on March 10.

They will present handmade cards and play several chime songs for the residents.

2nd year Confirmation students will meet in person March 10 at 9 AM.



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



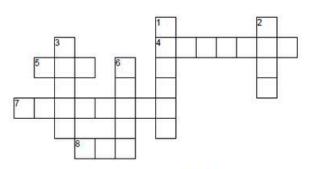
Here is an interesting lesson on what the words "Holy" and "Holiness" mean.

Check it out by clicking here!

God So Loved the World

For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. John 3:16 (NIV)

Complete the activity below.



ACROSS

- 4. Lasting forever; without end
- Male offspring
- 7. Accept something as being true, genuine, or
- 8. The creator of heaven and earth

DOWN

- 1. To die or be destroyed
- 2. To rescue from danger or harm
- The earth with its inhabitants and everything on it
- 6. Cared very deeply for someone

| ETERNAL | WORLD | PERISH | SAVE | |
|---------|-------|----------|------|--|
| LOVED | GOD | BELIEVES | SON | |



"Cabrini" at Regal Cinema Binghamton!!

From the Director of Sound of Freedom comes the biopic of one of the most influential people at the turn of the 20th century: Cabrini. When Italian immigrant Francesca Cabrini steps foot in America in 1889, she is greeted by disease, crime, and impoverished children living in New York's slums. Armed with a fearless spirit and a compassionate heart, Cabrini sets off on a daring mission to convince the hostile mayor to secure housing and healthcare for society's most vulnerable. Despite broken English and poor health, Cabrini leverages her entrepreneurial mind to build an empire of hope unlike anything the world had ever seen. This inspiring movie will be at Regal Cinema Binghamton on Upper Front Street for one week beginning March 8. The movie runs 2 hrs. 25 min.

Click here to go to the Regal Website, see showtimes and order tickets.

The next cards and conversation "Card Party" hosted by the Circle of Friends

will be Tuesday March 19 from 10:30-12:00 PM. All are welcome!

