



IMMACULATE CONCEPTION PARISH  
MARCH 30, 2025, FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT

**Saturday, March 29, 2025**

8:00 a.m. Richard Serrano (Maureen)

4:30 p.m. Cory Korinko (Family)

**Sunday, March 30, 2025**

8:00 a.m. Jay Kacsan (Family)

10:00 a.m. Molly & Marty McHugh  
(Parents)

11:30 a.m. Jan Zilinskas (Mother)

**Monday, March 31, 2025**

7:45 a.m. Daniel Mainwaring (Mother)

**Tuesday, April 1, 2025**

7:45 a.m. Our Parish Family

5:15 p.m. - 6:15 p.m. - Confessions

6:30 p.m. Evelyn Miller (Courtney)

**Wednesday, April 2, 2025**

7:45 a.m. Thomas Chonko  
(Raymond Demski)

**Thursday, April 3, 2025**

7:45 a.m. Bill & Florence Curry (Family)

**Friday, April 4, 2025**

7:45 a.m. Dorothy Malkos (Carol)

**Saturday, April 5, 2025**

8:30 a.m. Mass at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton

4:30 p.m. Nicholas Colinear (Family)

**Sunday, April 6, 2025**

8:00 a.m. Robert Knight (Barbara)

10:00 a.m. Anna, Andrew, & Children  
of Kazimir Family (Christiana)

11:30 a.m. Margaret Burg (Lisa)

**Queen of Angels Catholic School**

**Jennifer Filak, Principal**

[jfilak@queenofangelssch.org](mailto:jfilak@queenofangelssch.org)

[www.queenofangelssch.org](http://www.queenofangelssch.org)

724-978-0144

**Diocese of Greensburg**

[www.dioceseofgreensburg.org](http://www.dioceseofgreensburg.org)

**HELP LINES**

St. Vincent DePaul

[www.svdpgreensburg.org](http://www.svdpgreensburg.org) - 724-691-3711

**Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Greensburg**

[www.ccharitiesgreensburg.org](http://www.ccharitiesgreensburg.org) - 724-837-1840



**4<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY OF LENT**

"His son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you; I no longer deserve to be called your son.' But his father ordered his servants, 'Let us celebrate with a feast, because this son of mine was dead, and has come to life again.'"  
- Lk 15:21-22a, 23b-24a

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD

GLP

**Rev. Michael Crookston, Pastor**  
[mcrookston@dioceseofgreensburg.org](mailto:mcrookston@dioceseofgreensburg.org)

**Rev. Louiegene Arnold Valdez, Parochial Vicar**  
[lvaldez@dioceseofgreensburg.org](mailto:lvaldez@dioceseofgreensburg.org)

**Rev. Vijay Kumar, Parochial Vicar**  
[vkumar@dioceseofgreensburg.org](mailto:vkumar@dioceseofgreensburg.org)

**Courtney Ruby, Business Manager**  
[cruby@dioceseofgreensburg.org](mailto:cruby@dioceseofgreensburg.org)

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[bdeveney@dioceseofgreensburg.org](mailto:bdeveney@dioceseofgreensburg.org)

**Tracy DeFelice, Administrative Assistant**  
[tdefelice@dioceseofgreensburg.org](mailto:tdefelice@dioceseofgreensburg.org)

**Susan Cheplic, Director of Faith Formation**  
[skcheplic@dioceseofgreensburg.org](mailto:skcheplic@dioceseofgreensburg.org)

**Katelyn Waterhouse, Regional Director of Youth Ministry**  
[kwaterhouse@dioceseofgreensburg.org](mailto:kwaterhouse@dioceseofgreensburg.org)

**Immaculate Conception Parish Office**  
308 Second Street Irwin, Pa 15642  
Parish Office: 724-863-9550

**Parish Office Hours:**  
8 am to 3 pm

# PASTOR'S NOTES

## ***Repent and Feast***

During this Fourth Sunday of Lent we hear the familiar story of the prodigal son. There is probably no other story that speaks so well of God's loving compassion than this parable. Throughout history this story has been the subject of much art work depicting the absolute mercy of the "loving father" and the "repentant son." Although the story is well known to us all, we can take a second look at the elements presented and learn much about ourselves and our relationship to God. There is always much power found in stories about unconditional love. Nations have been moved by events where love and compassion are present. We often hear stories about the unconditional love of a parent or concerned citizen performing miraculous deeds for perfect strangers. The characters in this parable certainly are not strangers and the miracle that is presented touches us all.

There is a story about Fyodor Dostoevsky the Great Russian writer of *The Brothers Karamazov* who when he was dying he called his family to his bedside and requested that his wife read Luke's story of the prodigal son. He listened with closed eyes, absorbed in this message of mercy and forgiveness. Then in a weak and halting voice he said: "My children never forget what you have just heard. Have absolute faith in God, and never despair of his pardon. I love you dearly, but my love is nothing compared to the love of God...Even if you should be so unhappy as to commit a crime in the course of your life, never despair of God...You are God's children; humble yourselves before God as before your father, implore his pardon, and he will rejoice over your repentance as the father rejoiced over that of the prodigal son."

The real mystery about this story is that we can identify with each of the characters portrayed. We all like to think that we are compassionate and forgiving as the father is, and at the same time we can all be as self seeking as the younger son. Then there is the reality of life that causes us to be as jealous and insecure as the older brother. There is certainly something for all of us in this story.

The older son's feelings challenge us to rise above probable anger at the younger son and the father and lead us to see that God's forgiveness is absolute. God's forgiveness is not mere pardon like ours; not a half forgiveness with a promise not to forget, not a negative repair for the sake of social harmony. This is a story of God's everlasting friendship who says that all of us are honored guests in the household of God as we seek forgiveness.

This week we are reminded of the power that can be found in the Sacrament of Reconciliation. It is through the grace of that forgiving gift that we are all made to feel welcome. Each of us has been invited to the feast, we simply need to search our hearts and determine if we are ready and willing to accept and embrace God's absolute forgiving love.

~*Father Mike*

## CANDLES

### **Sanctuary Candle:**

Special Intentions for Immaculate Conception Parishioners

### **Divine Mercy:**

Special Intentions for Rose Hilinski (Divine Mercy Prayer Group)

### **St. Peregrine Candle:**

Special Intentions for Cancer Patients

### **Easter Flame Candle:**

In Memory of Pat & Dan Ritter (Family)

### **St. Joseph's Candle:**

Month's Mind

### **Altar Candles for the Month of March:**

In Memory of Donnelly Family (Kathleen)

If you would like to have a candle lit in memory of your loved one, please call the parish office. We will



Please pray for the family of Elaine Neidigh and all of our faithful departed.

*Eternal rest grant unto them O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them.*

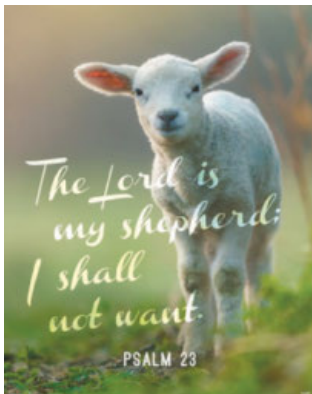
### **Prayer of a Father's Blessing**

God who wills good things for your children, Help me to trust that You will be faithful. God who will not leave me, Help me to seek You, too. God who is ever-waiting for me, Help me to run straight towards You. Amen.



### **Homebound Ministry**

If you know of any family, neighbors, or fellow parishioners who are homebound and would like to have a Homebound Minister bring them Holy Communion, please call the Parish Office 724-863-9550



## SACRAMENTS

### **Anointing of the Sick**

The sacrament is available during Confession hour and after each Mass.

### **Matrimony**

Couples wishing to celebrate the Sacrament of Matrimony must contact the parish office one year in advance of the Wedding.

### **Baptism**

Families of our parish who wish to have their child baptized please email Susan Cheplic at [skcheplic@dioceseofgreensburg.org](mailto:skcheplic@dioceseofgreensburg.org) to register for Baptism Preparation.

### **Confession**

Tuesday 5:15 - 6:15 p.m. & Saturday 9-10 a.m. (except for the first Saturday of the month)

### **Divine Mercy**

Join us for the Divine Mercy Chaplet Monday through Friday at 3:00 pm in the church.



There is NO Eucharistic Adoration Tuesday April 1st. Church floors are being cleaned. Thank you for understanding.

### **Sunday Offertory**

March 16 - \$11,046.60

### **Online Giving**

March 17 - March 23 - \$3,373.35

*Thank you for supporting our parish!*

- Immaculate Conception Parish offers Online Giving.
- Scan QR Code on the new Pew Cards or QR Code below.
  - Click Create a new account.
  - Create an ID and password.
  - Allow 2 minutes to complete the process.



If you decide to switch to online giving and would like to discontinue your envelopes please contact the parish office. Thank you!

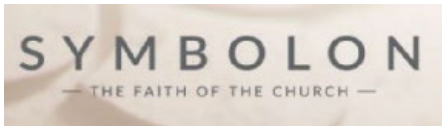
## HAPPENINGS ON THE CORNER & AROUND THE DIOCESE

### IMMACULATA MEN'S GROUP (IMG) & IMMACULATA WOMEN'S GROUP (IWG)

Saturday, March 29th for the men's group (IMG) and Sunday, March 30th for the women's group (IWG) at 6:30am, we will be starting a new series:

"Symbolon"

Symbolon brings together some of the most trusted Catholic teachers in the world to guide us through the breadth and richness of the Catholic faith. This promises to be a spiritually enriching series you won't want to miss! All are welcome!



### Lenten Series

#### "Why We Believe What We Believe"

On Monday evenings during Lent at 6:30 pm.  
Fr. Mike will offer a presentation in St. Elizabeth Ann Seton's Office.

#### "Lenten Season: The Filipino Way"

On Thursday April 3rd at 6:30 pm.  
Fr. Louiegene will offer this presentation in Immaculate Conception Church.

### IMPORTANT REMINDERS

*The church floors are being cleaned Monday March 31st - Friday April 4th.*

*No Eucharistic Adoration on Tuesday April 1st. Church will be locked & closed after 7:45 am Masses until 4:00 pm (with the exception of Friday April 4th for Noon Stations)*

*There will still be 7:45 am Masses, 3:00 pm Divine Mercy (Gathering Room), Confessions, 6:30 pm Mass, Thursday Lenten Series, and Noon & 6:30 pm Stations of the Cross.*



The Immaculate Conception Creation Care Team will meet the first Wednesday of each month at 6 p.m. in the Children's Liturgy Room. The team's focus is to study the encyclical "*Laudato Si, Care for Our Common Home*" and to turn the Pope's vision into effective actions. For more information, Chris Peta at [chris@syncrous.com](mailto:chris@syncrous.com)

### SAVE THE DATE

#### Volunteer Clearance Event

If you are in need of new volunteer clearances OR updated clearances please attend the Virtus meeting at Immaculate Conception Parish in Our Lady's Plaza on April 5th, 2025 from 9:00 am - Noon.

Information on the clearance process will be from 9:00 am - 10:00 am.  
Virtus training will follow from 10:00 am to Noon.

Please remember clearances need renewed every five years. Any questions please call the parish office.

### Save THE Date!

Immaculate Conception Parish Nut Roll Sale  
Saturday April 12th, 2025 in Our Lady's Plaza 11:30 am - 1:30 pm while supplies last.  
They will be sold frozen.  
Nut Rolls will be \$15.00 each.



#### **Christian Mothers/Women's Guild Annual Mother/Daughter luncheon**

May 4th, 2025 at Lakeview Restaurant after 11:30 Mass. Tickets will be sold after Masses on April 5th & 6th, and in parish office.  
Advanced ticket sales only.  
No tickets will be sold at the door.



#### **EASTER DECORATING HELP WANTED**

Calling men, women, and teens -- We will be meeting on Friday April 18th after Tenebrae evening (7:45 p.m.) at the church to decorate for Easter. Call the parish office (724-863-9550) by April 16 to sign up to volunteer.  
**To volunteer you must have up-to-date clearances on file at IC parish office.**





**Father Mike's Birthday is April 3rd!  
We want to wish Father Mike  
a very Happy Birthday!**

***Stations of the Cross - Fridays during Lent***

Immaculate Conception Parish -  
Noon & 6:30 pm  
St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish - 6:30 pm



**Lenten Speaker at Saint Vincent Basilica Parish**

Everyone is welcome to the Assembly Room for a presentation from Msgr. James Gaston on "Lent: A Look at Our Daily Temptations" on Wednesday April 2 at 6:30PM and Thursday April 3 at 1:00PM.

Our next two presentations are  
May 7 at 6:30 and May 8 at 1:00PM with  
Fr. Leon Hont, OSB

June 4 at 6:30PM and June 5 at 1:00PM with  
Fr. Killian Loch, OSB

Contact Erin Colcombe at the Parish Office for more information, 724-539-8629 ext. 16 or [erin.colcombe@stvincent.edu](mailto:erin.colcombe@stvincent.edu)



The 17th annual Race For Grace to benefit the Reflections of Grace Foundation is Saturday, April 5, 2025 at Norwin High School.

Please visit <https://www.reflectionsofgrace.org/> to learn more about Grace's story, register or how to help.



**Noah! Live on Stage**

St. Agnes Parish has an epic day trip on Friday May 16th to the spectacular Sight and Sound Theater in Lancaster, PA to see the production of Noah. Includes transportation, reserved theater ticket and buffet dinner. \$221 for adults, \$168 for children 12 & under. Call Debbie with questions 412-956-3105.



**IMMACULATE CONCEPTION IRWIN  
CHRISTIAN MOTHERS/WOMEN'S GUILD**

**JOKERS WILD CARD PARTY**



**THURSDAY, APRIL 24, 2025**

**OUR LADY'S PLAZA**

DOORS OPEN AT 6:00 PM

\$15.00 light lunch included

Card Party Tickets will be sold in Immaculate Conception Parish Office Monday – Friday from 9:00 am – 2:00 pm

For ticket information call Patty at 724- 972-1250



TICKETS WILL NOT BE SOLD AT THE DOOR

**CHRISTIAN MOTHERS/WOMENS GUILD WILL BE SELLING SPECIAL RAFFLE BASKET TICKETS & DELALLO RAFFLE TICKETS AFTER MARCH 29<sup>TH</sup> & MARCH 30<sup>TH</sup> MASSES!  
YOU DO NOT NEED TO BE PRESENT AT CARD PARTY TO WIN!**

**Eucharistic Miracles of the World  
Blessed Carlo Acutis relic on exhibit April 3-6  
at St. Bruno Parish, Greensburg**

An exhibit of Eucharistic miracles of the world and a Blessed Carlo Acutis relic will be at St. Bruno Parish, Greensburg, Thursday, April 3rd through Sunday, April 6th. Hours are 9 a.m.-7 p.m. Thursday and Friday, 3-7 p.m. Saturday and 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Sunday. The exhibit is the result of three years of research, compilation and design by Blessed Acutis. There will be a special opening Holy Hour Wednesday, April 2, at 5 p.m., and a closing Holy Hour on Sunday. For information, email [GBGAdoresHim@gmail.com](mailto:GBGAdoresHim@gmail.com) or call 724-836-0690.

Bingo on Wednesday, April 2<sup>nd</sup> at St Barbara Parish, Ramaley Rd, Harrison City, PA. Payouts of \$110, \$150, \$1400. Two magic numbers of \$750 & \$100 each. Admission packages start at \$29 and include Regular, Special & Jackpot games, Magic Numbers, and Door Prizes. Also available are Early Birds, Quickies, All-Nighter, 50/50, & Games of Chance. Doors open 5:00pm; games 6:45pm. Handicap Accessible. Kitchen/Free Coffee. 724-744-4594 or 724-744-7474.

## Immaculate Conception Parish's Lenten Stewardship

The season of Lent is about examining our lives and doing whatever we can to become more aware of God's gifts. Through prayer, fasting and almsgiving we can learn more about our relationship not only with God but with one another. Almsgiving is an important part of Lent, one we sometimes overlook. To share what we have been blessed with is a real gift. This year during Lent, IC will pair up with Heifer International which is an organization that takes animals around the world and helps people use them to help build a better life. We are going to try and buy an "ARK" which is a collection of different animals that can truly bring a better life to many people. Throughout the season of Lent, you can make a donation and we will "buy" the animals to fill the ARK. **Please put your donation, payable to Immaculate Conception Church, in an envelope marked HEIFER and place it in the offertory basket.** Below are the animals that will fill the ARK.

2 Sheep	\$240.00
2 Trios of Rabbits	\$120.00
2 Pigs	\$240.00
2 Oxen	\$500.00
2 Goats	\$240.00
2 Beehives	\$ 60.00
2 Flocks of Geese	\$ 80.00
2 Flocks of Chicks	\$ 50.00
2 Trios of Guinea Pigs	\$120.00
2 Water Buffalo	\$500.00
2 Cows	\$800.00
2 Trios of Ducks	\$ 50.00
2 Donkeys	\$800.00
2 Camels	\$900.00
2 Llamas	\$300.00



**As of March 24 we have the following animals for our "Ark".**

**2 Sheep, 2 Trios of Rabbits, 2 Pigs  
2 Oxen, 2 Goats, 2 Beehives,  
4 Flocks of Geese, 2 Flocks of Chicks,  
2 Trios of Guinea Pigs, 2 Water Buffalos,  
2 Trios of Ducks, 2 Llamas  
2 Cows, and 2 Camels**

**We only need 2 Donkeys to fill our "Ark"  
We \$580.00 away from buying 2 Donkeys.**



North Huntingdon Parishes

## Lenten Penance Services

St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Monday. April 7th 6:30 PM	Immaculate Conception Tuesday. April 8th 6:30 PM	St. Agnes Thursday. April 10th 6:30 PM
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As we await the resurrection of Christ, prepare your heart for his coming and join us for the sacrament of reconciliation.



4:12 HIGH SCHOOL MINISTRY

**First SUNDAYS**  
**Welcome**  
**New members and 8th graders!**  
**Bring a friend, get a tasty prize!**  
**Night will be fun, food, and friendly competitions!**



MAR

2

APR

6

MAY

4

Meetings are 6-8pm

@ Youth Ministry Building  
on the Queen of Angels Campus  
NEW MEMBERS ARE WELCOME!

KWaterhouse@DioceseofGreensburg.org



# BURGER BASH 2025

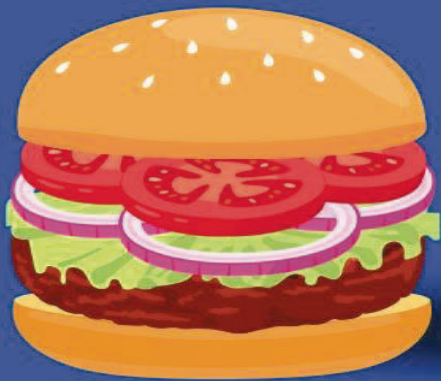
## Dates

May 10

June 14

July 12

August 9

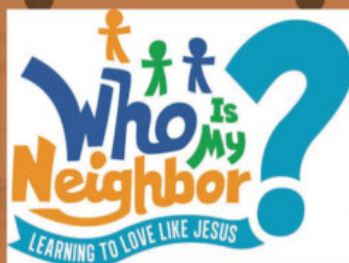


## Interested in Volunteering?

Please fill out the survey linked on the QR code



Pop and Water donations will be accepted at the Parish office!



## IMMACULATE CONCEPTION VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

**JUNE 23RD-26TH**  
9AM TO 12:30PM

FAITH

MUSIC

ARTS & CRAFTS

For More Information contact Susan Chepic  
skchepic@dioceseofgreensburg.org

Scan the QR code to register- \$25 per child!



## IMMACULATE CONCEPTION CHURCH EASTER EGG HUNT

Saturday, April 19th

After the Easter Basket Blessing  
(11am)

Meet in the Lower Parking Lot

AGES 2-10. NO REGISTRATION NECESSARY

IN THE EVENT OF RAIN, EASTER EGG HUNT  
WILL BE CANCELLED





## ANGELS CORNER—QUEEN OF ANGEL CATHOLIC SCHOOL



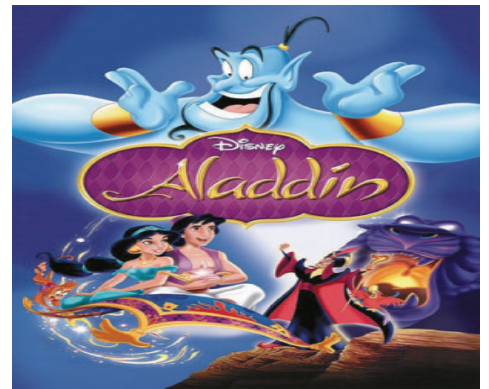
### Queen of Angels Catholic School

Congratulations to our 2025 Student Spotlight - **Tyler Shields**. Tyler was honored recently at the Celebration of Catholic Schools Breakfast at Stratigos Banquet Centre. Tyler is a sixth grader, a member of the CYO cross country team and is a student council treasurer. He participates in Boy Scouts, is an altar server at his parish, Immaculate Conception, and holds a brown belt in karate. Congratulations Tyler!

### Queen of Angels Catholic School Save the date!

Our school's Drama Club Production of Aladdin Jr will be held on April 25th and 26th and we need your help! If you would like to purchase items for our show, please visit the Amazon Wishlist below. Any questions, please contact the school office at 724-978-0144. Thank You!

<https://a.co/0s5upac>




# JUBILEE CONCERT OF HOPE

JUBILEE 2025  
PILGRIMS OF HOPE

Friday, April 11 | 7:00 PM  
Blessed Sacrament Cathedral  
FREE EVENT

This concert will feature the world premiere of the "Stabat Mater," a moving new composition by Nancy Galbraith. The second piece of music is the "Passion According to Saint Matthew" by Dr. Thomas Octave.

Reserve a seat, become a patron, sponsor the event or register for the pre-concert reception at [DioceseofGreensburg.org/JubileeConcert](https://www.dioceseofgreensburg.org/JubileeConcert) today!



Diocese of Greensburg

## Walking as Pilgrims of Hope

Be a part of this Walking, Praying Pilgrimage for the Year of Jubilee

Saturday, April 12, 2025 beginning at 7:30 a.m.

St. Bartholomew Parish, Crabtree  
to  
Blessed Sacrament Cathedral, Greensburg

Starting Point:  
St. Bartholomew  
Parish, Crabtree

End Point:  
Blessed Sacrament  
Cathedral,  
Greensburg

Pilgrims will be provided with a FREE Walking with Jesus bag, water, and a Jubilee 2025 shirt.

Approx. 8 Miles  
Pilgrimage Concludes with Noon Mass at the Cathedral



To Register Visit  
<https://www.dioceseofgreensburg.org> or  
Contact Elizabeth Haberstroh,  
[ehaberstroh@dioceseofgreensburg.org](mailto:ehaberstroh@dioceseofgreensburg.org)





# Lent is a time to Share



## International Priests

Over the years, four international priests have shared their love of Jesus with our parish! Will you share your support of our international priest program? Your donations are used to offset the cost of this important ministry, and Lent is *A Time to Share*. Visit [DioceseofGreensburg.org/DLA2025](https://DioceseofGreensburg.org/DLA2025) to give a gift.



Scan to donate

**Donate today at [DioceseofGreensburg.org/DLA2025](https://DioceseofGreensburg.org/DLA2025)**

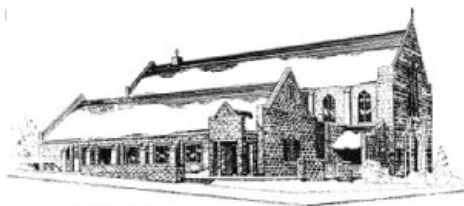
*A Time to Share* is the theme for our 2025 Diocesan Lenten Appeal. We know that when we take the time to share our gifts with our parish and Diocese, God promises to multiply them, like the loaves and fish, which then enables your parish and the Diocese to share them with others. Our Diocesan goal is **\$162,067.00**. On the diocesan level, these monies support the international priests, seminarian's education, faith formation programs, Catholic Charities, and other diocesan ministries. Secondly, any monies over the diocesan goal will stay here at Immaculate Conception parish to support our missions, ministries, and to assist with upkeep of our parish buildings and grounds.

**Please remember if Immaculate Conception Parish does not reach our diocesan goal, the parish will receive a bill for the difference that must be paid out of our savings.**

It is important to note that every penny we raise above our Diocesan goal is **ASSESSMENT FREE**. That means all those dollars stay here at Immaculate Conception parish.

*Thank you to all who have already given a gift to the 2025 Diocesan Lenten Appeal and to those who will give a gift. Thank you for your support!*

*To donate online visit - <https://www.dioceseofgreensburg.org/diocesan-lenten-appeal/dla-donate/>  
Or scan the QR code above.*



# IMMACULATE CONCEPTION PARISH

Irwin, Pennsylvania

Office of Liturgical Music Ministry

## THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT

March 30, 2025 - Order of the Mass

### VOCATIONS PRAYER

Lord Jesus, raise up from our homes those called by the Father:  
courageous and humble men to the Priesthood, generous servants to the Permanent Diaconate,  
faithful people to Consecrated Life, and holy men and women to the Sacrament of Marriage.  
Holy Spirit, help us to live our universal vocation to holiness by listening to the Father's voice and  
responding with a sacrificial love. Holy Mary, Model of vocations, pray for us.

### PROCESSIONAL HYMN

### I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light

1. I want to walk as a child of the light.  
2. I want to see the bright-ness of God.  
3. I'm look - ing for the com - ing of Christ.

I want to fol - low Je - sus.  
I want to look at Je - sus.  
I want to be with Je - sus.

God set the stars to give light to the world. The  
Clear sun of right-eous-ness shine on my path, And  
When we have run with pa-tience the race, We

star of my life is Je - sus.  
show me the way to the Fa - ther.  
shall know the joy of Je - sus.

In him there is no dark-ness at all. The  
night and the day are both a - like. The  
Lamb is the light of the cit - y of God.

Shine in my heart, Lord Je - sus.



## THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

### FIRST READING

Joshua 5:9a,10-12

The LORD said to Joshua, "Today I have removed the reproach of Egypt from you." While the Israelites were encamped at Gilgal on the plains of Jericho, they celebrated the Passover on the evening of the fourteenth of the month. On the day after the Passover, they ate of the produce of the land in the form of unleavened cakes and parched grain. On that same day after the Passover, on which they ate of the produce of the land, the manna ceased. No longer was there manna for the Israelites, who that year ate of the yield of the land of Canaan.

The Word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

### RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 34  
*Richard Hillert*

*Taste and see the goodness of the Lord.*

### SECOND READING

2 Corinthians 5:17-21

Brothers and sisters: Whoever is in Christ is a new creation: the old things have passed away; behold, new things have come. And all this is from God, who has reconciled us to himself through Christ and given us the ministry of reconciliation, namely, God was reconciling the world to himself in Christ, not counting their trespasses against them and entrusting to us the message of reconciliation. So we are ambassadors for Christ, as if God were appealing through us. We implore you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. For our sake he made him to be sin who did not know sin, so that we might become the righteousness of God in him.

The Word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

### GOSPEL READING

Luke 15:1-3, 11-32

Tax collectors and sinners were all drawing near to listen to Jesus, but the Pharisees and scribes began to complain, saying, "This man welcomes sinners and eats with them." So to them Jesus addressed this parable: "A man had two sons, and the younger son said to his father, 'Father give me the share of your estate that should come to me.' So the father divided the property between them. After a few days,

the younger son collected all his belongings and set off to a distant country where he squandered his inheritance on a life of dissipation. When he had freely spent everything, a severe famine struck that country, and he found himself in dire need. So he hired himself out to one of the local citizens who sent him to his farm to tend the swine. And he longed to eat his fill of the pods on which the swine fed, but nobody gave him any. Coming to his senses he thought, 'How many of my father's hired workers have more than enough food to eat, but here am I, dying from hunger. I shall get up and go to my father and I shall say to him, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. I no longer deserve to be called your son; treat me as you would treat one of your hired workers."' So he got up and went back to his father. While he was still a long way off, his father caught sight of him, and was filled with compassion. He ran to his son, embraced him and kissed him. His son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you; I no longer deserve to be called your son.' But his father ordered his servants, 'Quickly bring the finest robe and put it on him; put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. Take the fattened calf and slaughter it. Then let us celebrate with a feast, because this son of mine was dead, and has come to life again; he was lost, and has been found.' Then the celebration began. Now the older son had been out in the field and, on his way back, as he neared the house, he heard the sound of music and dancing. He called one of the servants and asked what this might mean. The servant said to him, 'Your brother has returned and your father has slaughtered the fattened calf because he has him back safe and sound.' He became angry, and when he refused to enter the house, his father came out and pleaded with him. He said to his father in reply, 'Look, all these years I served you and not once did I disobey your orders; yet you never gave me even a young goat to feast on with my friends. But when your son returns who swallowed up your property with prostitutes, for him you slaughter the fattened calf.' He said to him, 'My son, you are here with me always; everything I have is yours. But now we must celebrate and rejoice, because your brother was dead and has come to life again; he was lost and has been found.'"

The Gospel of the Lord.  
**Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

# CREED

I believe in one God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible. I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ, the Only Begotten Son of God, born of the Father before all ages. God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father; through him all things were made. For us men and for our salvation he came down from heaven, and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary, and became man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate, he suffered death and was buried, and rose again on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead and his kingdom will have no end. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is adored and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church. I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead and life of the world to come. Amen.

## PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL

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#### Our Father We Have Wandered

1. Our Fa - ther, we have wan - dered And  
2. And now at length dis - cern - ing The  
3. O Lord of all the liv - ing, Both

hid - den from your face; In fool - ish - ness have  
e - vil that we do, Be - hold us, Lord, re -  
ban - ished and re - stored, Com - pas - sion - ate, for -

squan - dered Your leg - a - cy of grace. But  
turn - ing With hope and trust to you. In  
giv - ing, And ev - er - car - ing Lord, Grant

now, in ex - ile dwell - ing, We  
haste you come to meet us And  
now that our trans - gress - ing, Our

rise with fear and shame, As, dis - tant but com -  
home re - joic - ing bring, In glad - ness there to  
faith - less - ness may cease. Stretch out your hand in

pell - ing, We hear you call our name.  
greet us With calf and robe and ring.  
bless - ing, In par - don, and in peace.



Ho-ly, Ho-ly, Ho - ly Lord God of hosts. Heav'n and earth are  
 full of your glo - ry. Ho-san-na in the high - est.  
 Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.  
 Ho-san-na in the high - est. Ho-san-na in the high - est.

When we eat this Bread and drink this Cup, we pro-claim your  
 Death, O Lord, un - til you come a - gain.

A - men, a - men, a - men.

Steven C. Warner  
 Music © 1960, 2010, WLP

A-gnus De - i, qui tol - lis pec - cá - ta mun - di: mi - se - ré - re no - bis. *(repeat)*

A - gnus De - i, qui tol - lis pec - cá - ta mun - di: do - na no - bis pa - cem.

Taste and see, taste and see the good - ness of the  
 Lord. O taste and see, taste and see the  
 good - ness of the Lord, of the Lord.

Text: Psalm 34; James E. Moore, Jr., b.1951  
 Tune: James E. Moore, Jr., b.1951  
 © 1983, GIA Publications, Inc.

IN BABILONE

1. There's a wide-ness in God's mer - cy Like the wide-ness  
 2. For the love of God is broad-er Than the mea-sures  
 3. Trou-bled souls, why will you scat - ter Like a crowd of  
 1. of the sea; There's a kind - ness in his jus - tice  
 2. of our mind, And the heart of the E - ter - nal  
 3. fright - ened sheep? Fool - ish hearts, why will you wan - der  
 1. Which is more than lib - er - ty. There is plen - ti - ful re -  
 2. Is most won - der - ful - ly kind. If our love were but more  
 3. From a love so true and deep? There is wel - come for the  
 1. demp-tion In the blood that has been shed; There is  
 2. sim - ple We should take him at his word, And our  
 3. sin - ner And more grac - es for the good; There is  
 1. joy for all the mem-bers In the sor - rows of the Head.  
 2. lives would be thanks - giv - ing For the good-ness of our Lord.  
 3. mer - cy with the Sav - ior, There is heal - ing in his blood.

Text: 87 87 D; Frederick W. Faber, 1814-1863, alt.  
 Music: *Oude en Nieuwe Boerenlities*, c. 1710.



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