

# Immaculate Conception Catholic Church

28297 Old Village Road  
P. O. Box 166

Mechanicsville, MD 20659

**Rectory Office:** 301-884-3123

**Fax Number:** 301-884-7437

**Faith Formation Office:** 240-230-3167

**Parish Email:** [Immaculateconception.md@adw.org](mailto:Immaculateconception.md@adw.org)

**Parish Website:** [ICChurchmd.org](http://ICChurchmd.org)

## Parish Clergy

Rev. Michael Tietjen, Pastor

Deacon William Kyte, D.R.E.



February 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2019  
Fourth Sunday  
in Ordinary Time

## Weekend Masses:

Saturday at 4:00 pm, Sunday at 7:00, 9:00 and 11:00 am

## Weekday Masses:

Monday – Wednesday & Friday at 7:30 am

1st Saturday Mass at 9:00 am (only 1st of the month)

## Confessions:

Saturdays at 3:00 – 3:45 pm, and after the vigil Mass.

## Eucharistic Adoration:

1st Friday of each month, beginning after the 7:30 am Mass & ending with Benediction at 6:30 pm.

## Baptisms

Parishioners of Immaculate Conception Church should contact the rectory so we can explain the process to you. Baptisms are traditionally held on the first Sunday of each month.

## Marriages

Active and participating parishioners are welcome to be married at Immaculate Conception! Please contact the rectory *at least 6 months in advance* (preferably a year) so there is time to complete the marriage preparation process and confirm a wedding date.

Please do not reserve a reception hall before scheduling a meeting with the pastor.

## Shut-Ins

If you wish to have your homebound loved-ones receive Holy Communion, please call the rectory (301-884-3123).

## Catholic Education:

### Grades Pre-K-8

Little Flower School – 301-994-0404

Mother Catherine Academy – 301-884-3165

### Grades 9-12

Ryken High School – 301-475-2814

God's Little  
Lambs



## Mass Intentions

**Saturday, February 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2019**

4:00 pm – Parishioners

**Sunday, February 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2019**

7:00 am – Rose Marie Ciorciari

9:00 am – Frances Greenwell

11:00 am – Frances Holyoak

**Monday, February 4<sup>th</sup>, 2019**

7:30 am – Bobby Cusic, Sr.

**Tuesday, February 5<sup>th</sup>, 2019**

7:30 am – Helen Elizabeth McGurk

**Wednesday, February 6<sup>th</sup>, 2019**

7:30 am – Ernest Williams

**Friday, February 8<sup>th</sup>, 2019**

7:30 am – Francis Bernard Istvan, Jr.

**Saturday, February 9<sup>th</sup>, 2019**

4:00 pm – All Priests in the Archdiocese of Washington (Living)

**Sunday, February 10<sup>th</sup>, 2019**

7:00 am – Parishioners

9:00 am – Matthew Riggelman

11:00 am – Special Intention

**New to our Parish?** We welcome you to Immaculate Conception Church. For new registrations or updates, please visit our website ([ICChurchMD.org](http://ICChurchMD.org)) or stop by the Rectory Office which is open: **Monday – Friday, 9:00 am to 4:00 pm.**

Pray a rosary for an end to abortion.

### St. Vincent de Paul

There will be a St. Vincent de Paul (SVdP) meeting on **Wednesday, February 6<sup>th</sup>** at 6:00 pm in the Parish Center. If you are looking to help our friends in need, please join our ministry. All are welcome.

### Old Palms

Lent is quickly approaching. Please bring your palms from last year back and place them in the marked box in the vestibule next weekend. We would like to have all of them by **Sunday, February 17<sup>th</sup>**. Thank you.



Have you subscribed to FlockNote yet? Don't know what it is? Let me tell you, FlockNote is a way for us to reach out to all our parishioners, or a single group, at a moment's notice via text or email. If you are interested in keeping up-to-date on what's going on in the Parish, please visit our website ([ICChurchmd.org](http://ICChurchmd.org)), click on *Subscribe-Flocknote* and choose the groups you would like to receive information from.

### Altar Server Training

There will be altar server training on **Monday, February 11<sup>th</sup>** at 5:00 pm in the church. Those who are interested must have received their first Holy Communion, have a great love for the Mass, and be tall enough to lift heavy objects onto the altar.

### Altar Flowers

If you're interested in dedicating altar flowers in memory or in honor of a loved one, please call Clare (301-884-3123) and she will help you schedule an available weekend. The cost is \$47.

### Bible Study

Join us for Bible study on **Monday, February 4<sup>th</sup>** at 7:00 pm in the Parish Center and **Wednesday, February 6<sup>th</sup>** and 10:00 am in the Parish Center.

### Bulletin Item Deadline

If you have an item for the bulletin, please note that all information needs to be sent to [Clare.ImmaculateConception@gmail.com](mailto:Clare.ImmaculateConception@gmail.com) by the close of business on Tuesday. Messages will be edited when necessary.

### Intercessory Prayer

Join others for intercessory prayer on Tuesday evenings at 7:00 pm in the Parish Center.

### Mass Intentions

Have you ever wanted to do something special for a family member or a friend? Consider have one of our regularly scheduled Masses said for someone, living or deceased. Contact the rectory if you are interested in scheduling a Mass. Typically, a donation goes with the request; many donate \$10 but it is voluntary.

### Rosary

The rosary is prayed at the following times:

- **First Sunday of the month** – 30 minutes before each Mass.
- **Every Saturday** – 30 minutes before the 4 pm Mass.
- **First Saturday of the month** – 30 minutes before the 9:00 am Mass.
- **Every Wednesday** – immediately following the 7:30 am Mass.

### RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults)

RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults) is a program that assists those who want to learn more about the Catholic faith.

If you have any questions, please call Fr. Tietjen (301-884-3123) or Amy Downs (301-904-7439).

### Prayers for the Sick

Please remember the sick members of our parish community in your prayers: J. Allan, Sandy Burns; Mary Clancey; Thomas Farrell; Melanie Gibson; Meagan Humbert; Jennifer Burroughs Murphy; Lisa Durst Owens; and Betty Williams.

If you would like to add your family member to the sick list, please call the rectory (301-884-3123) or email [Clare.ImmaculateConception@gmail.com](mailto:Clare.ImmaculateConception@gmail.com).

### Prayers for our Soldiers

We pray for those soldiers serving our Country – serving away from home. Please feel free to call us or email

[Clare.ImmaculateConception@gmail.com](mailto:Clare.ImmaculateConception@gmail.com) to add your soldier serving AWAY FROM HOME back on the list.

### Immaculate Conception's 2019 Seafood Dinner and Festival

Our 2019 Seafood Dinner and Festival will be held on **Sunday, May 5<sup>th</sup>**.

The next Seafood Dinner and Festival meeting will be **Wednesday, February 27<sup>th</sup>** at 6:30 pm in the Parish Center.

For those who are interested, we still have spots open for those who would like to have their group's or business' name printed on the raffle tickets, please contact the Rectory @ 301-884-3123. The first 15 Sponsors will be the ones printed on the tickets. *The cost is \$100 and the deadline is Monday, February 18<sup>th</sup>, to be a sponsor this year.*

We are in desperate need of volunteers to commit themselves to the clean-up crew for after our Parish Dinner/Festival is over. Each year it is left up to a couple of individuals who have worked tirelessly over several days/months for OUR BIG Parish event. Please consider volunteering your time and energy, email [Clare.ImmaculateConception@gmail.com](mailto:Clare.ImmaculateConception@gmail.com) OR [Morris.Turtles33@gmail.com](mailto:Morris.Turtles33@gmail.com) soon so we can count you in.

We also need someone to volunteer to be the chairperson for the dining room committee.

We hope you all plan to come out and enjoy a fantastic meal (dine-in, drive-thru, or carry-out) of crab balls, steamed spiced shrimp, ham, fried chicken, parsley potatoes, coleslaw, pickled beets, green beans, applesauce, garden salad, and beverages. Participate in the festivities: Big Raffle, White Elephant Room, Bake Table, Garden Area and Bingo. All proceeds to benefit Immaculate Conception Church. Credit /Debit cards accepted.

### Parish Finance Information – New & Improved

We at I.C. have been publishing the amount we've received for our collections for some time. But this number is largely meaningless without a context – if we pull in \$5,700 for a given week, is that good or not? So, in an effort to be more transparent, we're planning on the first weekend of the month to print not only the collection numbers but the amount of "float" or financial reserves we have.

The Archdiocese recommends parishes to have at least two months of reserve funds on hand. Each month costs us approximately \$35,000 to pay all our typical expenses. This does not include other expenses (new church signs, new oil tank for the Old Hall, etc.). When you account for other revenue streams (Parish Center rentals, bulletin ads, donations) we need about \$6,400 in our regular collection each week to break even. Today we'll publish our collections and our reserves ("float"); next month we'll explain the reasons it's gone up or down.

The **Regular Collection** last week was \$5,598.00.

**Our reserves** are \$31,000 (a little less than a month float).

### Schedule for Saturday, February 9<sup>th</sup> and Sunday, February 10<sup>th</sup>, 2019.

Please arrive 10-15 minutes before Mass begins.

	Lectors	Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion	Altar Servers
<b>4:00 pm Saturday</b>	Michael Munshaw	Julia Redding	(none)
<b>7:00 am Sunday</b>	Terry Casselman (sub)	Tim Steelman	Chris Holton and Madison Myers
<b>9:00 am</b>	Eric Holm	Sara Neill	Joe Davis
<b>11:00 am</b>	Theresa Payne	Richard Adams	Joe Davis

## Reflections on the Fourth Commandment

"Honor your father and your mother." So says the Fourth Commandment. If you read the comments on my first installment of this series, you may remember that there's a subtle delineation in the Commandments: the first three focus on our behavior toward God, and the remainder focus on our behavior toward others. So while this may be the fourth Commandment, it is also the first about us.

*And the first thing God would have us cherish is our families.* It is hard to overestimate the importance of families. In a very real sense, they are a visible representation of God on earth. Well, at least they're supposed to be. That notion comes from Genesis 1 where God talks about how we're made in His image and likeness. Families have a God-given calling to love and cherish each other. They give their children the great gift of life itself and they are the first to introduce the Christian faith to them. Children owe them their gratitude for these gifts. (see [CCC #2197](#))

This Commandment spells out the lines of authority that parents have with their children. If we were to ask the question of why should children listen to their parents, how would we respond? Is it because the kids are weaker, smaller, don't have the know-how and skills to run a household, and (in a phrase) dependent on their parents? While it is true that children are dependents, the foundation for a parent's authority is founded on God's love for us. They're God's children first, and they are entrusted to their human parents who have God's permission to raise them. To honor one's parents is to honor the Creator who is reflected in the holiness their parents instill in them.

In a similar way, this Commandment also involves all those who have responsibility to raise and teach others: "...instructors, teachers, leaders, magistrates, those who govern, all who exercise authority over others or over a community of persons." ([CCC #2199](#))

Raising one's child in the faith goes hand-in-hand with this Commandment. Education in general is paramount: "The *role of parents in education* is of such importance that it is almost impossible to provide an adequate substitute." ([CCC #2221](#)) It is a grave moral duty for Christian households to raise their children in the faith. They do this, first and foremost, by creating a family environment that teaches through example the principles of kindness, generosity, forgiveness, and self-mastery that are not only foundational to the faith but essential for a person to be truly free. ([CCC #2223](#))

Allow me to put in a word to those who think that it's ok to disregard the faith when it comes to their children. This usually manifests itself as refusing to take their kids to church. May I simply remind everyone that all the Commandments are linked. The third and fourth have a special affinity for each other in that denigrating one leads to the erosion of the other. To put it bluntly: *if you teach your kids that the third Commandment is optional, it won't take them long to figure out that the fourth Commandment is optional too.* If we, God's children, act out against our Father in heaven, don't be surprised if our little ones act out too. Just sayin'!

A quick word on respect. This Commandment does not imply a blind loyalty to a parent's decisions. Sometimes parents make bad decisions that their children can (and should) disagree with. But we can still be grateful for the gift of life (and other gifts) we received from them.

- *Fr. Tietjen*

## Local Food Pantry Donations

Please consider donations of non-perishable food including: jelly/jam; canned fruit; cereal; tea bags; Coffee; Manwich; canned pasta meals; Hamburger Helper, Complete meal kits; Pork & Beans; Side dish packets of pasta or rice (Simply noodles, Knorr etc); dried beans; rice;sweets (cookies, etc); pudding; jello; canned meats (chicken, Tweet, Spam, potted meat, vienna sausages, etc); canned soup/ramen soup; canned vegetables; dried or canned milk; instant potatoes; Stuffing mixes; sugar; flour; cornmeal; salt/pepper; common spices; ketchup; mustard; mayonnaise; toiletries (soap, toilet paper, paper towels, toothbrushes, toothpaste, deodorant, feminine hygiene items, shampoo, conditioner, etc); laundry soap (any size - large, trial, etc); and Quart and gallon size Ziploc bags.

## FAITH FORMATION INFORMATION

Sunday, February 3rd, 2019  
FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

**MOMS AND DADS:** Please take a minute out of your busy schedule to reexamine the FAITH FORMATION CALENDAR for 2018/2019 on the parish website @ [ICChurchmd.org](#). Parents are the first teachers of the Faith to their children; make sure you are teaching them by your good example and words. Please remember your promise to God at their Baptism. PLEASE, TAKE THEM TO CHURCH.

**KIDS IN GRADES 6, 7, AND 8 – ON LINE FAITH FORMATION CLASSES** – Are you maintaining your 70% grades in each chapter. If you need help, please see your teacher. I don't want to start the New Year having you in my office every Sunday or calling your parents. Trust me, I can see everyone's scores, and I won't let you hide or slip through the door with less than a 70%.

**TEACHERS** – Would you like to become a Certified Catechist this New Year 2019? Please let me know and I'll be happy to help you begin the process. I believe that all classes are on-line. Please think about it.

**ARE YOU THINKING ABOUT STARTING A NEW CAREER IN 2019 – HOW ABOUT TEACHING YOUR CATHOLIC FAITH?** - Please call me, stop by and see me, or send me an e-mail. I would love to hear from you. THANKS.

**TEACHERS, PARENTS, AND KIDS** – Just a little glimpse into the future – The Annual Faith Knowledge Assessment Test will be coming to Immaculate Conception Church between March 31<sup>st</sup> and April 14<sup>th</sup>, 2019. I'm waiting on the official date from the Archdiocese of Washington.

**PARENTS AND KIDS, 2<sup>ND</sup> GRADE – SATURDAY, SATURDAY, SATURDAY, SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 23<sup>RD</sup>, 2019.** YES, you did read that RIGHT! On **Saturday, February 23<sup>rd</sup>** from 9:00 am – 11:00 am there will be a First Confession Retreat in the Parish Center. Kids from both Sessions, A and B, home school and Catholic school must attend. Please, don't put sports before God.

*Deacon Bill*

(240-230-3167 or [Deacon.Kyte@gmail.com](mailto:Deacon.Kyte@gmail.com))

## Separated or Divorced?

At the Well is a ministry open to anyone who needs comfort, counsel, and clarity after separation or divorce. We use a program called *Surviving Divorce*. Our next sessions will be held on Sunday evenings from February 10 – May 5, 2019. You are welcome to register through February 24, 2019. Time and Location: 6:00-7:30 pm at Immaculate Heart of Mary, 22375 Three Notch Road, Lexington Park, MD 20653. Babysitting is available with advanced notice. If you would like more information, please email [atthewell@ihmrcc.org](mailto:atthewell@ihmrcc.org) or call Amy Miller at 912-663-7588.

\*\*\*DATE CORRECTION\*\*\*

## Scholarship Awards Ceremony & Black History Celebration

The St. Mary's County Black History Coalition, a non-profit 501c3 organization, is honored to hold its 8<sup>th</sup> **Annual Dinah K. Miles Somerville Scholarship Awards Ceremony and Black History Celebration** featuring keynote speaker Dr. Adams. This event, themed "Black Migration", will be held **Sunday, February 24<sup>th</sup>** (not February 4<sup>th</sup> as previously advertised) at 2:00 pm in the Parish Center. There is no charge for this event, but they do accept donations. Donations can be made by visiting their website at <http://smcbhc.wixsite.com>. All are invited to attend. For more information, please contact Francis Bonds (email – [Bonds.Francis@md.metrocast.net](mailto:Bonds.Francis@md.metrocast.net), call or text – 301-385-2201).



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 someone in need.*

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**Other Events in Town**

- *St. Mary Church, Newport's Mass with Healing Prayers* will be on **Thursday, February 7<sup>th</sup>**. The Litany of St. John Vianney will be recited after Communion and Fr. Briese will offer prayers of healing for the body and soul. Confessions begin at 6:00 pm; Mass begins at 6:30 pm. For additional information, please call the parish office at 301-934-8825.
- *Men's Retreat – Man's Vocation: Priest, Prophet and King* will take place at the Priestfield Pastoral Center (4030 Middleway Pike, Kearneysville, WV 25430) from **Friday, February 8<sup>th</sup> through Sunday, February 10<sup>th</sup>**. The cost is \$235 (double occupancy) and includes accommodation and meals. There will be Mass, Adoration, confessions, and talks. Please register at [2019adwmenretreat.eventbrite.com](http://2019adwmenretreat.eventbrite.com).
- *Quo Vadis? – A Shadow Day for young men in High School (juniors and seniors)* on **Friday, February 15<sup>th</sup>** at the Saint John Paul II Seminary. For more information and to register visit [DCPriest.org](http://DCPriest.org) or email [vocations@adw.org](mailto:vocations@adw.org).
- *Faith, Food, & Fellowship (A Series of Spiritual Presentations & Discussions)* with guest speaker, *Gail Yearick* will be held at **Camp Maria Retreat Center, Leonardtown, MD** on **Wednesday, February 20<sup>th</sup>** from 6:00 pm – 8:00 pm in the Dining Hall. The cost is \$20 per person. Reserve your spot by Feb. 15<sup>th</sup>.
- *From Newtown to Georgetown: Connections and Legacies* – a talk given by Dr. Adam Rothman, a Georgetown University professor, will be held at **St. Francis Xavier, Leonardtown, MD** on **Sunday, February 24<sup>th</sup>** at 6:30 pm. Desserts and coffee will be served.
- *Purse and Bags Bingo* will be held at the **Mechanicsville Volunteer Fire Department Social Hall** on **Saturday, March 16<sup>th</sup>**. The doors will open at 5:00 pm and Bingo begins at 6:00 pm. For more information see the flyer on the bulletin board or on [ICChurchmd.org](http://ICChurchmd.org). Look under *Get Involved* and click on *Other Events in Town*.
- *Lenten Day of Prayer*, titled "*The Lord Hears our Cry*" will be held at Loyola on the Potomac on **Monday, March 18<sup>th</sup>** and **Monday, April 15<sup>th</sup>**. Each day will begin at 9:00 am and includes a continental breakfast, lunch, and Mass. The fee is \$40.00. Please call (301-392-0801) to make a reservation or go to [www.loyolaonthepotomac.com](http://www.loyolaonthepotomac.com).
- *Encounter Grace Women's Series – RECLAIM* – Ladies, join the Encounter Grace team at **St. John Vianney Catholic Church and Family Life Center** on **Saturday, March 23<sup>rd</sup>** from 8:30 am – 1:00 pm for a day of reflection and sisterhood. Tickets are on sale at [EncounterGrace.com](http://EncounterGrace.com). Early bird pricing through February 15<sup>th</sup> is \$25 and includes breakfast and materials. After February 15<sup>th</sup> the cost is \$30 per person. Appropriate for ages 16+.