

Immaculate Conception Church

49 Vreeland Avenue, Hackensack, New Jersey 07601

Immaculate Conception Parish Website: www.icchackensack.com

Rectory Office: 201-440-2798 * *Fax:* 201-440-6756 * *Religious Education Office:* 201-440-2798

Open weekdays from 9:00am to 3:00pm or call for appointment



GOD BLESS OUR CONFIRMATION CANDIDATES

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Charles Gross

Cara Kaminski

Anthony Liggio

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Laysha Morel

Kayla Onofre

Natalie Onofre

David Ostrander

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION CHURCH, HACKENSACK, NJ



Today we celebrate the “birthday of the Church!” Pentecost is described in the first reading from the Acts of the Apostles. But before the great driving wind and tongues of fire empowering the Disciples, the Holy Spirit had already arrived. The Gospel for today’s Mass during the day is from John 20. Jesus appears to the fearful disciples after His resurrection. He first speaks a message of calm. “Peace be with you.” The apostles “rejoiced when they saw the Lord.” When the enthusiastic response settles down, Jesus “breathed on them and said to them ‘Receive the Holy Spirit.’” This action is Trinitarian, and it has happened before. If you turn your Bible back to the beginning, you’ll read: “The Lord God formed man out of the clay of the ground and blew into his nostrils the breath of life, and so many became a living being” (Genesis 2:7). In the Garden of Eden, we see God’s first, original covenant with man. The breath of life signifies that original indwelling of grace, the special state of likeness and friendship with God before the Fall. Here now, in this locked room, the Apostles receive the long-awaited promise: the very breath of God, new life, a new covenant. In the pairing of these two readings—the Pentecost experience in Acts and the breath of Jesus in John’s Gospel—we see that the coming of the Holy Spirit is not only an empowering, it is an indwelling. We have each received the breath of grace in our baptism. It is confirmed, strengthened, and deepened in each reception of the sacraments. If we persevere in virtue, the Spirit of God is alive in us, inspiring our actions of love. This Pentecost Sunday, how is the breath of God alive in you?

Remember Our Sick **That God will relieve their suffering and restore them to health.** Please pray for: Kellie Salata, Kelly Chinchar, Jessica, Carol Mangino, Gloria, Daniel Breslin, Stanley, Marie, Bonnie, Helen Traina, Joseph Marrone, Bill Marshall, Anthony, Michael, Denise Gautier, Joseph, Christine Morrison, Jessica Esopo, Jack McShera.

PLEASE VISIT OUR WEBSITE

icchackensack.com



for parish information including priest’s weekly schedules and upcoming events (calendar tab), hymns for next weekend’s Masses, sign up for electronic giving, our weekly bulletin and more!

Collection Report

**Last Sunday's collection was \$2,413.
Communicating God's Word was \$407.
E-Giving was \$380.**

Budgeted Amount needed Weekly is \$2,779.

Your generosity is most needed and greatly appreciated.

A DAY OF COMFORT AND HOPE

The Archdiocese of Newark invites all parents who have suffered the loss of a child to attend 'A Day of Comfort and Hope' on Saturday, June 2, 2018 at Notre Dame RC Church, 359 Central Avenue, North Caldwell, NJ. This full-day retreat affords bereaved parents the opportunity to join together in a caring, spiritual setting for prayer, meditation, discussion, presentations, fellowship and Holy Mass. Pre-registration is required by May 29th as space is limited. Please contact Lauren Egan at 973-497-4327 or Lauren.Egan@rcan.org.

SCRIPTURAL REFLECTIONS ON STEWARDSHIP

"There are different kinds of spiritual gifts but the same Spirit; there are different forms of service but the same Lord; there are different workings but the same God who produces all of them in everyone."

All of us are blessed, regardless of our own individual circumstances; God has given each of us many gifts. How we use those gifts is our gift back to God. For God’s plan to work, each must do what we are called to do and guess what – we are not all called to do the same thing!

LIVE THE LITURGY

INSPIRATION FOR THE WEEK

"Lord, send out your Spirit and renew the face of the earth!"
We only know that the wind exists because of what it does. A gentle breeze felt on our face or watching a tree swaying or swirling snowflakes all prove the existence of “something” causing these things to happen. But, apart from its effects, we cannot see the origin or substance of wind. The Holy Spirit is the wind of God. Watching an early Church emerge, people coming to believe, disciples of Jesus change the way they live and conduct their affairs—all give witness to the presence of the Holy Spirit. Observing the courage and conviction of those who have found faith, working for justice, feeding the poor, seeing how wounds are healed—all point to something greater than ourselves working and living among us. How do our lives give witness to the Spirit?

My dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

This weekend we celebrate Pentecost which is a celebration of the Holy Spirit who you may have heard about. I say it that way because for years I have had a great devotion to the Holy Spirit who I refer to as the forgotten person of the Trinity. Often, I have experienced with people young and old when I ask them about the Trinity and who makes up the Trinity that the answer they give quickly is the Father and the Son (Jesus Christ) but they pause on the third. They will often give wrong answers like Mary our Blessed Mother. Now Mary is truly great and truly Blessed and I have a great devotion to her as well but she is human, not God and not part of the Trinity which is made up of God and only God. To help people to answer the question I say just think about what you say when you make the sign of the cross and of course then they get it. However, that brings me to what I think is the problem and why the Holy Spirit is forgotten for we make the sign of the cross without thinking. I heard something on the Catholic channel on the radio the other day which stated that we should be celebrating Pentecost with the same joy as we do Christmas and Easter and they are correct for the Holy Spirit is equal to Jesus Christ. The Holy Spirit is the one that guides us through life and gives us wisdom. He is called the breath of life itself for He is the part of the Trinity God the Father uses to give us our very lives. I have often joked that maybe I should not point out the Holy Spirit to people for this way He has more time to answer my prayers since I am the only one talking to Him, but truth be told He as God can and will help and answer all of us if we simply remember to talk to Him about our problems, needs, questions, fears, etc. This weekend let us remember to celebrate as if it is Christmas or Easter and remember the Holy Spirit is always with us just waiting for us to talk to Him.

God Bless you and have a wonderful week, Fr. Michael

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**2018 Sharing God's Blessings
Annual Appeal**

Did you know that there is still time to support the 2018 Sharing God's Blessings Annual Appeal? We have received \$3,450 in pledges. Thank you to those parishioners who have already shown your support and generosity. Our goal, \$11,333, can only be achieved through YOUR generosity. If you have yet to give, please pick up a pledge form in the back of church or visit www.rcan.org/sharing. YOUR gift will truly make a difference. Thank you for your prayers and support.

"JESUS" AT THE SIGHT & SOUND THEATER TRIP

Saturday, October 13th - a live performance of "Jesus". The bus will leave church at 8:30 am and return approx. 9 pm. The trip includes lunch at 12 noon then the show at 3 pm. \$125 for adults and \$77 for children up to 12 years old. Registration deadline is Saturday, August 4th. There are flyers in the back of church with more information.



FAITH FORMATION

Our Faith Formation Program has concluded for the school year. We would like to thank all our volunteer teachers who so faithfully and lovingly fulfilled their duties and our students who were so faithful in their attendance. We are now registering for next year. All families currently in the program will receive a registration packet shortly. Also we are looking for teachers to start with us in September. We wish everyone a safe and happy summer! ***See you at Mass on Sunday!!***

OUR MINISTRIES NEED YOUR HELP!!

We are looking for Ministers of Hospitality (ushers), Ministers of the Word (lectors) and Eucharistic Ministers. We also need volunteers for the Environmental Committee which is responsible for decorating our church for Easter, Christmas and other occasions. Please consider donating your stewardship of time to these very important ministries.

UPCOMING *Mark Your Calendar* **EVENTS**



MONDAY, MAY 21ST

Holy Hour – 7:00 pm to 8:00 pm in Church

SATURDAY/SUNDAY, MAY 26TH/27TH

Second Collection for our Utility Expenses

MONDAY, MAY 28TH

*Memorial Day – Rectory Office Closed
No Holy Hour*

WEEKEND OF JUNE 2ND/3RD

Monthly Food Drive at all Masses



Mass Intentions

MONDAY, MAY 21, 2018

8:30 *Incoronata Competiello*
by the Family

TUESDAY, MAY 22, 2018

8:30 *Veronica Smolenski*
by the Rosary Society

WEDNESDAY, MAY 23, 2018

8:30 *Anny. Vinnie Traina*
by the Traina Family

THURSDAY, MAY 24, 2018

8:30 *Raffaella Asala*
by the Asala Family

FRIDAY, MAY 25, 2018

8:30 *Francesco Fiorino*
by Mr. & Mrs. Carmine Barricella

SATURDAY, MAY 26, 2018

8:30 *Pasquale & Christl Trivigno*
by the Family

5:00 pm *Leonard Falato*
by the Family

SUNDAY, MAY 27, 2018

8:00 *For the People of the Parish*

10:00 *Anny. Rose & John Gadino*
by the Eckel Family

12:00 *Giacomina Spina*
by Nancy Romano

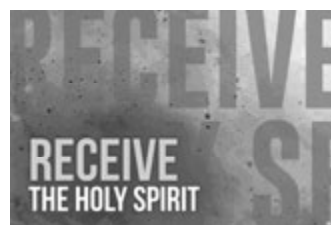
Scripture Readings

Readings for the Week of May 20, 2018

- Sun: Acts 2:1-11/Ps 104:1, 24, 29-30, 31, 34 [cf. 30]/
1 Cor 12:3b-7, 12-13/Jn 20:19-23;16:12-15
- Mon: Jas 3:13-18/Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 15 [9a]/Mk 9:14-29
- Tues: Jas 4:1-10/Ps 55:7-8, 9-10a, 10b-11a, 23 [23a]/
Mk 9:30-37
- Wed: Jas 4:13-17/Ps 49:2-3, 6-7, 8-10, 11 [Mt 5:3]/
Mk 9:38-40
- Thurs: Jas 5:1-6/Ps 49:14-15ab, 15cd-16, 17-18, 19-20
[Mt 5:3]/Mk 9:41-50
- Fri: Jas 5:9-12/Ps 103:1-2, 3-4, 8-9, 11-12 [8a]/Mk 10:1-12
- Sat: Jas 5:13-20/Ps 141:1-2, 3 and 8 [2a]/Mk 10:13-16
- Sun: Dt 4:32-34, 39-40/Ps 33:4-5, 6, 9, 18-19, 20,
22 [12b]/Rom 8:14-17/Mt 28:16-20



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