

# Immaculate Conception Church

49 Vreeland Avenue, Hackensack, New Jersey 07601

*Immaculate Conception Parish Website:* [www.icchackensack.com](http://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*



## *Parish Staff*

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Rev. Michael S. P. Trainor  
*Pastor*

Rev. Brian Muzas  
Rev. Jerry Bracken  
*Weekend Assistants*

Rev. Michael Otuwurunne  
*Weekday Assistant*

Susan Chinchar  
*Parish Secretary*

Marivic Villanueva  
*Organist*

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## *Mission Statement*

We, the Parish Community of Immaculate Conception, Hackensack, N.J., believe that the Gospel of Jesus Christ is of prime importance. We are committed to loving and serving Him by our love and care for all persons, creatures and the earth, which is our home. We hope to achieve this gospel life by nourishing ourselves deeply with the Eucharist and living the truth of His Word, so that we are empowered by Christ and the Spirit to embrace all, as we have been embraced by Jesus.

### *Liturgical Celebrations*

Saturday Eve: 5:00 pm

Sunday: 8:00 am, 10:00 am & 12:00 noon

Monday - Saturday: 8:30 am

Holy Day: 8:30 am, 12:00 noon & 7:30 pm

### *Sacrament of Reconciliation*

Saturday: 4:00 to 4:45 pm

### *Sacrament of Baptism*

Parents should meet with the priest prior to baptism.  
Please call the rectory office.

### *Sacrament of Holy Matrimony*

Couples should contact the parish priest at least one year in advance.

### *Parish Membership*

If you are not registered officially as a part of the parish family, please do it now at the parish office. You are important to us and hopefully we are to you. Please notify us of an address change or if you are moving out of the parish.



*“Now there were some Greeks among those who had come to worship at the feast. They came to Philip...and asked him, ‘Sir, we would like to see Jesus.’”* It has begun. News of Jesus has spread beyond native-born, Aramaic-speaking Jews. We don't know if the Greeks mentioned here heard of Jesus from fellow travelers or if news of this intriguing rabbi had reached all the way to their home. What we do know is that this interaction spurred an interesting comment from Jesus: *“The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified.”* In other words, it has begun. The time has come for the message to move beyond the geographic bounds of Israel. But what does this message require? The Gospel is clear: *“He said this indicating the kind of death He would die.”* A grain of wheat falls to the ground and dies to its life as only a seed. A caterpillar takes on the appearance of temporary death in order to transform into a butterfly. In the Gospels, sacrifice and death are a way of becoming something more than you were before. This Lent, new life can come from our sacrifices. When we enter into the season with Jesus, our difficulties can transform our perspective. *“Unless a grain of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it remains just a grain of wheat; but if it dies, it produces much fruit.”* As we abstain from meat and fast from eating between meals, we can grow in compassion for the hungry. We can give alms of our time, sacrificially spending time with the lonely, the sick, and the marginalized. Our little Lenten “deaths” – death to unnecessary preferences, death to selfish living, death to ignorance of other's pain – can bring new life to the world long after the season is over. This is the invitation this Sunday and every Lenten season, to begin anew from death to life.

*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.



**PLEASE VISIT OUR WEBSITE**

[icchackensack.com](http://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 \$2,185.***

***Peter's Pence collection was \$580.***

***E-giving was \$360.***

***Budgeted Amount needed Weekly is \$2,779.***

***Your generosity is most needed and greatly appreciated.***

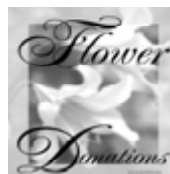
**2018 Sharing God's Blessings  
Annual Appeal**

*Thanks to the parishioners who have made their gift to the 2018 Sharing God's Blessings Annual Appeal. The Archdiocese sets our goal which this year is \$11,333. Our pledges to date are \$1,875. The Archdiocese looks at our participation in this appeal as evidence that we are a vibrant, thriving parish. There are brochures and pledge cards in the pews. Your pledge can be paid off over the next year in monthly installments.*

**SCRIPTURAL REFLECTIONS ON STEWARDSHIP**

*"I will be their God and they shall be my people."*

What does it mean to be God's people? It means we recognize that everything we have and everything we are belongs to God. We aren't "owners" of anything, we are merely "stewards" of the gifts God has given us. It means we are willing to use our gifts and our lives to care for our neighbors and the world, just as God cares for us.



**EASTER FLOWERS:** *If you wish to help decorate our Church for Easter, your donation would be gratefully appreciated.*

*You may put your donation in your Easter Altar Decorations envelope or just drop a donation in the collection basket.*

**FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT**

**My dear brothers and sisters in Christ,**

We are entering our last full week of Lent. I know many people are rejoicing; for example a relative of mine who gave up chocolate for Lent cannot wait to be able to eat it again as of Holy Thursday evening. On the surface there is nothing wrong with that and it is even very understandable as long as the big picture of Lent has not been lost. What I mean by this is that if the person who gave up the chocolate was giving the money they would have spent on chocolate to feed the hungry homeless, do they now stop doing that? After all the hungry are still going to be hungry even though Lent has ended. We, during Lent, are called to give up bad habits, give to charity, be kinder to the people around us, etc. But this is not something that is meant to happen just during Lent. As noted the hungry are still hungry outside of Lent, bad habits are still bad habits outside of Lent, the homeless are still homeless outside of Lent. People should still be treated with kindness outside of Lent. You see Lent is suppose to instill good habits in us that last the rest of our lives, not just for the 40 days of Lent. God has called us to be Holy like He is Holy and if each Lent we improve ourselves a little bit more eventually we will be Holy!

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

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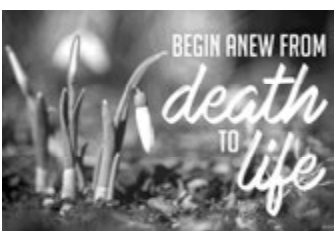
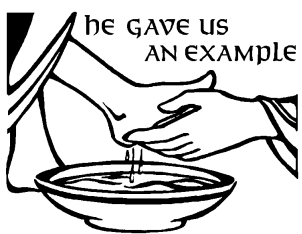
THERE ARE SIGN UP SHEETS IN THE VESTIBULE FOR LECTORS AND EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS FOR PALM SUNDAY AND HOLY WEEK MASSES.

**COMMUNION BREAKFAST**

On Sunday, April 15<sup>th</sup>, the Rosary Altar Society will sponsor a "Communion Breakfast" in our Church basement from 11:00 am until 1:00 pm. Tickets are \$20.00 per person. Registration flyers are in the back of church or for more information please call Marie Nasta at 201-440-0788 or Cheryl Prinjinski at 201-641-8531.



**WOMEN'S CIRCLE EASTER EGG HUNT** for young children will be on Palm Sunday, March 25<sup>th</sup> behind the church after 10:00 am Mass.



**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**  
We need 12 people to have their feet washed during the Lord's Supper on Holy Thursday which starts at 7:30 pm. If you would like to volunteer, please sign up on the sheet in the vestibule or call the rectory and let us know.

**VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED TO COOK AND/OR SERVE THOSE IN NEED AT THE HOUSING, HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICE CENTER IN HACKENSACK ON SUNDAY, APRIL 15<sup>TH</sup>.**  
**There are flyers with more information in the back of church and we would like to thank the people who generously support this very important and rewarding program by cooking and serving every few months.**



**MONDAY, MARCH 19<sup>TH</sup>**

***FAITH FORMATION CLASSES-Gr. 1-6***

*3:15 pm to 4:30 pm - Memorial School*

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

***PALM SUNDAY, MARCH 25<sup>TH</sup>***

*Women’s Circle Egg Hunt after 10 am Mass  
Second collection for our Utilities at all Masses*

***FAITH FORMATION CLASSES-Gr. 7-10***

*10:45 am to 12:00 Noon – Church Basement*

***HOLY THURSDAY, MARCH 29<sup>TH</sup>***

*Mass of the Lord’s Supper – 7:30 pm*

***GOOD FRIDAY, MARCH 30<sup>TH</sup>***

*Passion of the Lord – 3:00 pm*

*Collection for the Holy Land*

*Stations of the Cross – 7:00 pm*

Good Friday is a day of fast and abstinence, which means everyone over 14 years of age may not eat meat and those between 21 & 59 are obligated to fast.

***HOLY SATURDAY, MARCH 31<sup>ST</sup>***

*Easter Vigil Mass – 8:00 pm*

***EASTER SUNDAY, APRIL 16<sup>TH</sup>***

*Masses: 8, 10 am & 12 Noon*

*Monthly Food Drive at all Masses*



*Mass Intentions*

**MONDAY, MARCH 19, 2018**

**8:30 *In Honor of St. Joseph***

*by the Barricella Family*



**TUESDAY, MARCH 20, 2018**

**8:30 *Incoronata Competiello***

*by Antino DiSanto*

**WEDNESDAY, MARCH 21, 2018**

**8:30 *Koliwe Moyo Stephens***

*by Christina Cooper*

**THURSDAY, MARCH 22, 2018**

**8:30 *Rosemarie Giotis***

*by Maria Giotis*

**FRIDAY, MARCH 23, 2018**

**8:30 *Annv. Pat Maglio***

*by Bobbie Pizza*

**SATURDAY, MARCH 24, 2018**

**8:30 *For the People of the Parish***

**5:00 pm *Suzanne England***

*by Gloria Palazzi*

**PALM SUNDAY, MARCH 25, 2018**

**8:00 *Jean Dalessio***

*by the Family*

**10:00 *Gertrude Grabowski***

*by the Family*

**12:00 *Annv. Virginia & Sebastian Ruta***

*by the Family*

*Scripture Readings*

***Readings for the Week of March 18, 2018***

Sun: Jer 31:31-34/Ps 51:3-4, 12-13, 14-15 [12a]/Heb 5:7-9/Jn 12:20-33  
 Mon: 2 Sm 7:4-5a, 12-14a, 16/Ps 89:2-3, 4-5, 27, 29 [37]/Rom 4:13, 16-18, 22/Mt 1:16, 18-21, 24a or Lk 2:41-51a  
 Tues: Nm 21:4-9/Ps 102:2-3, 16-18, 19-21 [2]/Jn 8:21-30/Ps 17:1, 6-7, 8b and 15 [15b]/Jn 11:1-45  
 Wed: Dn 3:14-20, 91-92, 95/Dn 3: 52, 53, 54, 55, 56 [52b]/Jn 8:31-42/Ps 17:1, 6-7, 8b and 15 [15b]/Jn 11:1-45  
 Thurs: Gn 17:3-9/Ps 105:4-5, 6-7, 8-9 [8a]/Jn 8:51-59/Ps 17:1, 6-7, 8b and 15 [15b]/Jn 11:1-45  
 Fri: Jer 20:10-13/Ps 18:2-3a, 3bc-4, 5-6, 7 [cf. 7]/Jn 10:31-42/Ps 17:1, 6-7, 8b and 15 [15b]/Jn 11:1-45  
 Sat: Ez 37:21-28/Jer 31:10, 11-12abcd, 13 [cf. 10d]/Jn 11:45-56/Ps 17:1, 6-7, 8b and 15 [15b]/Jn 11:1-45  
 Sun: Mk 11:1-10/Is 50:4-7/Ps 22:8-9, 17-18, 19-20, 23-24 [2a]/Phil 2:6-11/Mk 14:1—15:47 or 15:1-39

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