

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION CHURCH

ST TERESA OF CALCUTTA PARISH

MAY 12, 2024 | Seventh Sunday of Easter - Ascension of the Lord

A PRAYER OF GRATITUDE FOR MOTHERS

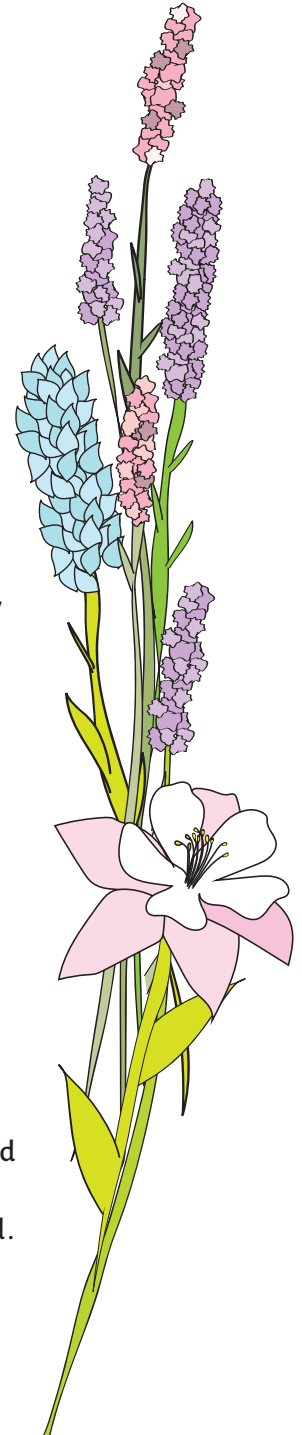
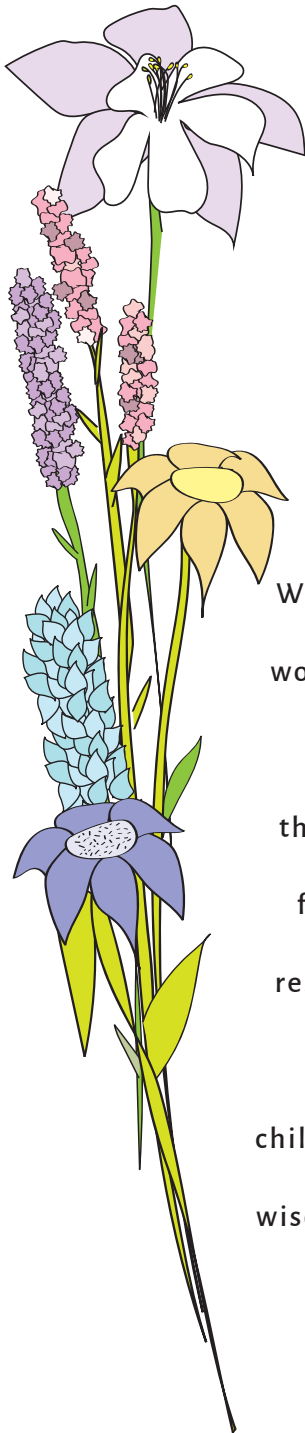
Gracious and Good God,

We express our deep thanks for our mothers and every woman who has embraced the miracle of life with You.

Even as You entered our world and became human through a woman, empower all mothers with courage for the unpredictabilities of parenting. Grant them resilience and love in their motherhood, supported by their families and friends, as they nurture their children's growth. Let them find joy in their children and wisdom to seek Your guidance in their moments of need.

Fill their hearts with love and gladness.

Amen.



Parish Info

PARISH CENTER CONTACT:

1 Munn Street, Montclair, NJ
PHONE: 973.744.5650 FAX: 973.744.7936
EMAIL: info@montclaircatholics.org

OFFICE HOURS:

MONDAY 9am-4pm
TUESDAY - THURSDAY 9:30 am-3:30 pm
OFFICE CLOSED Friday, Saturday and Sunday



PASTORAL TEAM

Pastor, REV. A. BENNY PRADO

Business Manager, PATTY SITAR
Patty@montclaircatholics.org

Faith Formation Coordinator, MARY PETERS
familyfaith@montclaircatholics.org

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Parish Secretary, SAMANTHA FUSI
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Parish Trustees
JAN ZIOBRO • RENEE BIANCAMANO

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION CEMETERY

Supervisor, CHRISSY NASCE
chrissy@montclaircatholics.org

PHONE: (973) - 744-5939
FAX: (973) -744- 5659

712 Grove Street
Montclair NJ 07042

MASS SCHEDULE

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION CHURCH
30 North Fullerton Avenue, Montclair

Indicates the Mass is livestreamed.

WEEKEND MASS SCHEDULE
Saturday: 5:30 pm
Sunday: 8:00 am | 10:30 am | 6:00 pm

WEEKDAY MASS SCHEDULE:
Monday - Friday at 8:00 am

MASS INTENTIONS

SATURDAY, MAY 11

5:30 pm † Charles "Rob" Roberts

SUNDAY, MAY 12

8:00am † Gregorio A. Prado
For All Mothers

10:30am For All Mothers

6:00 pm For All Mothers

MONDAY, MAY 13

8:00am † John Daniel Dwyer V

TUESDAY, MAY 14

8:00am All Mother's Living and Deceased

WEDNESDAY, MAY 15

8:00am † Gregoria Reyes,
Perlita Cerrato &
Gladys Hernandez

THURSDAY, MAY 16

8:00am † Mario Corado Avila

FRIDAY, MAY 17

8:00am † Catalino B. So

SATURDAY, MAY 18

5:30 pm † All Souls in Purgatory
† Barbara Ann Ellert

SUNDAY, MAY 19

8:00am † John & Marie Carrara

10:30am † Elizabeth Fleming

6:00 pm † Gregorio A. Prado
People of the Parish

"To everything there is a season, and a time for every purpose under heaven." - Ecclesiastes 3:11

"... A TIME TO BE HEALED..."

Michael Bruder III, Anthony Pacifico Jr, Joel Rivera, Carmen Kessler, Ieda Giles, Doreen Carson, Lauren Ojido, Connie & Vinny Romano, Maria Metzel, Eileen Burriss, Sylvia Magliaro, Kevin Haber, Karen Potucek, Frank Gallo, Barbara Regan, Jose Fidalgo Sr, Bridget Connell, Jaxson Rivera, Carole DeCepoli, Oneida Fernandez, Michelina Giuliano, Chester Karnas Jr., Laura McGannon, Joseph Carrier, Fabiola Fong, Charlene Widmaier, Kenneth Busku, Rose Bruner, Edward T. Crowe, William Crowe, Terry Henson, Robert Henson, John Rahilly, Kent Riggs, Harriet Riggs, Jim Norris, Gary Davila, Charlene Widmaier, Melba Espinoza, Kevin Cole, Carlos Mario Moreno, Anne Granja, Shannon Finnegan, Jacob Rivera, Gloria Dwley, Clara Rojas, John Giustiniani, Cliff Schaffer, Khameryn Oliver, Lindsay Trembulak

Please contact the Parish office if you would like to add someone to the sick list.

"... A TIME TO DIE..." Recently Deceased

MAY THE SOULS OF THE FAITHFUL DEPARTED REST IN PEACE.



SUMMER MISSION TRIP
CATHOLIC CHARITIES RESPITE CENTER
MCALLEN, TEXAS | JULY 27, 2024- AUGUST 2, 2024

Purchase your 50/50 tickets today and help support our teen missionaries traveling to Catholic Charities Respite Center in McAllen, Texas.

With your ticket purchase, we will be able to:

PROVIDE ACCOMMODATIONS FOR OUR 11 TEENS

MAKE DONATIONS TO THE RESPITE CENTER FOR SUPPLIES

MEET THE NEEDS OF THE FAMILIES WE ARE SERVING

Additional tickets are available for purchase at our Parish Office, M-F, 9am-4pm

Please look for the collection board located in the back of the Church, with tags of items that are requested for the teens to bring on the Mission trip to McAllen, Texas in July. All items can be returned to the Church, or Parish Office.

The families at the Respite Center are in need of a warm meal, clean clothes, a place to rest, and a welcoming smile, and that's just what we will provide during our week of service.





MESSAGE FROM *Fr Benny*

Dear Parishioners,

HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY! Today we honor all our moms, both the living and deceased. Let us give thanks to our mothers for their dedication, sacrifices, and above all, their unconditional love for us. Their love is exceptional, and for that reason this weekend we celebrate them. For those whose moms are gone to their Creator, pray for them as I am sure they are watching down on all of you. Visit their graves, share their memories with your children and grandchildren, perhaps cook her favorite dish. Have a glass of wine in her memory. It is a day to remember all our mothers. Pope Francis said: "Let us recall with gratitude and affection all mothers, those who are still with us and those who have gone to Heaven, let us entrust them to Mary, the mother of Jesus."

Easter came so early this year, just at the beginning of Spring. Some of the trees had not yet come into bloom. However, we are now almost at the end of our Easter celebration. Next weekend is the feast of Pentecost, 50 days after Easter! Spring is fully upon us, and it is a very special weekend for our parish community, not only because it's Mother's Day but also because we celebrate our First Communions. These children will be receiving the Eucharist for the first time. After a whole year of preparation these little ones will be coming to the altar of God, to receive Jesus Christ in the form of his own body and blood. Let us congratulate them and their families. It is the beginning of their special relationship with God. They can be anywhere in the world and they will always be able to receive the Eucharist. I remember as a seven-year old receiving the Eucharist for the first time, it was so exciting, and I felt so lucky to have a party afterwards.

TODAY AS WE CELEBRATED THE ASCENSION OF OUR LORD, let us recall what Jesus told his followers: "Go into the whole world and proclaim the gospel to every creature." Here at Immaculate, we strive to proclaim the Gospel of Jesus Christ, by welcoming all at the altar of God. May you feel His presence as you enter the doors of our Church.

May God bless you

Fr Benny

A beautiful prayer to Mary by St. John Paul II as a legacy to families

Anna Ashkova | Aleteia.org

Everyone knows the deep love St. John Paul II had for Mary. On the 100th anniversary of his birth in this month of May dedicated to the Mother of God, we invite you to embrace this prayer for families that the Holy Father addressed to the Blessed Virgin.

"In this grave hour which gives rise to trepidation, we cannot do other than turn our mind with filial devotion to the Virgin Mary, who always lives and acts as a Mother in the mystery of Christ, and repeat the words 'Totus tuus' (all thine)," he proclaimed in St. Peter's Square in Rome on the day of his installation, October 16, 1978. Then on May 13, 1981, the pontiff miraculously survived an assassination attempt, and it was to Our Lady of Fatima that he attributed this miracle.

May the Virgin Mary, Mother of the Church, be also mother of the domestic church.

Through her maternal help, may every Christian family truly become a little church

which reflects and relives the mystery of the Church of Christ.

May you who are the servant of the Lord, be our example of a humble and generous welcome of the will of God!

You who are the mother of sorrows at the foot of the cross,

be there to lighten our loads,

and wipe away the tears of those afflicted by family difficulties.

May Christ the Lord, King of the Universe, King of families,

be present, as at Cana, in every Christian home,

to communicate his light, joy, serenity, and strength.

May every family generously add its share to the coming of his kingdom on earth.

To Christ and to you, Mary, we entrust our families.

Amen.

God Bless Our

 First Communicants



XAVIER BARKIE



ELLA BOGLE



ANGELINA CHAN



ALEXANDER COLWELL



ELISE CONWAY



ANNABEL CUOCO



NINA DOS SANTOS



TAYLOR DURAND



MICAH ESTELA



ANTHONY ESTRELLA, JR.



LOLA FERNANDEZ-STEARNES



JAMES KELLY KALLEN



LUCA LIM



MADELYN MADAUS



OLIVIA MONGI



JULIAN MONTALTO



AMATA MORIARTY



JAMES PODVESKER



JOSEPH REYNICS



ARI SCHWAM



JONNY SNEMYR



SIENNA STREIFF

FROM THE VATICAN:

Cycle of Catechesis. Vices and Virtues. 8. *Acedia*

Paul VI Audience Hall | Wednesday, 31 January 2024

AMONG ALL THE CAPITAL SINS, there is one that is often overlooked, perhaps because of its name, which is often incomprehensible to many: I am talking about acedia. This is why the term acedia is often substituted by another in the list of vices, one which is much more commonly used: sloth, or laziness. In reality, laziness is more an effect than a cause. When people are idle, indolent, apathetic, we say they are lazy. But as the wisdom of the ancient Desert Fathers teaches us, the root of this laziness is often acedia, which literally means “lack of care”, in Greek.

It is a very dangerous temptation, which one must not joke about. It is as though those who fall victim to it are crushed by a desire for death: they feel disgust at everything. Their relationship with God becomes boring to them, and even the holiest acts, those that used to warm their hearts in the past, now appear entirely useless to them. A person begins to regret the passing of time, and the youth that is irretrievably behind them.

Acedia is defined as the “noonday devil”: it grips us in the middle of the day, when fatigue is at its peak and the hours ahead of us seem monotonous, impossible to live. In a famous description, the monk Evagrius represents this temptation thus: “The eye of the slothful person is continually fixed on the windows, and in his mind he fantasizes about visitors [...] When he reads, the slothful person often yawns and is easily overcome by sleep, wrinkles his eyes, rubs his hands and, withdrawing his eyes from the book, stares at the wall; then turning them back to the book, he reads a little more [...]; finally, bowing his head, he places the book underneath it, and falls into a light sleep, until hunger awakens him and urges him to attend to his needs”; in conclusion, “the slothful man does not do God’s work with solicitude” [1].

Contemporary readers perceive in these descriptions something that closely recalls the evil of depression, both from a psychological and a philosophical point of view. Indeed, for those who are gripped by acedia, life loses its significance, prayer becomes boring, and every battle seems meaningless. If in youth we nurtured passions, now they seem illogical, dreams that did not make us happy. So, we let ourselves go, and distraction, thoughtlessness, seem to be the only ways

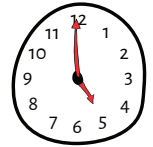
out: one would like to be numb, to have a completely empty mind. It is a little like dying in advance, and it is ugly.

Faced with this vice, which we recognize to be very dangerous, the masters of spirituality provide various remedies. I would like to note one that to me seems most important, and which I would call the patience of faith. Although in the clutches of acedia, man’s desire is to be “elsewhere”, to escape from reality, one must instead have the courage to remain and to welcome God’s presence in the “here and now”, in my situation as it is. Monks say that for them the cell is the best teacher of life, because it is the place that concretely and daily speaks to you of your love story with the Lord. The demon of acedia wants to destroy precisely this simple joy of the here and now, this grateful wonder of reality. It wants to make you believe that it is all in vain, that nothing has meaning, that it is not worth taking care of anything or anyone. In life we meet slothful people, people about whom we say, “He is boring!”, and we do not like to be with them; people who even have an attitude of boredom that is infectious. This is acedia.

How many people, in the grip of acedia, stirred by a faceless restlessness, have stupidly abandoned the good life they had embarked upon! The battle of acedia is a decisive one, that must be won at all costs. And it is a battle that did not spare even the saints, because in many of their diaries there are some pages that confide terrible moments, of genuine nights of the faith, when everything appears dark. These saints teach us to get through the night in patience, accepting the poverty of faith. They recommended, under the oppression of acedia, to maintain a smaller measure of commitment, to set goals more within reach, but at the same time to endure and persevere by leaning on Jesus, who never abandons us in temptation.

Faith, tormented by the test of acedia, does not lose its value. On the contrary, it is the true faith, the very human faith, which despite everything, despite the darkness that blinds it, still humbly believes. It is that faith that remains in the heart, like embers beneath the ashes. It always remains. And if one of us falls prey to this vice, or to the temptation of acedia, try to look within and fan the embers of faith; that is how we keep going.

PLEASE
NOTE:



Mass Schedule change
beginning June 1:
Saturday Vigil Mass
5:00 pm

THE *Legacy* FUND

This fund is specific to our parish needs and also helps support our ministries and community outreach and programs.

Your online contributions can also be directed toward The Legacy Fund. Thank you for your generous giving.

Stewardship of Treasury week ending April May 3

Collections	Weekly	Fiscal YTD
Budgeted	\$6,692	\$261,000
Actual	\$9,009	\$294,146
Excess (Deficit)	\$2,316	\$33,146
Means of Giving	Weekly	YTD
Envelopes	63	2,176
Loose checks	8	406
Other	2	137
Online gifts	79	2,387

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