

**THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**  
**January 21, 2024**

*Come, follow me. . .  
and I will make you  
fishers of men.*



*Mark 1:17*



## Church of the Immaculate Conception

580 Main Street

P.O. Box 1227

Westhampton Beach, NY 11978-7227

### STAFF

**Rev. Kenneth Grooms, Pastor**

Deacon Joseph Byrne  
Deacon Mark Herrmann

Shawn Pinson, Sacristan  
Bobby Peterson, Music Director  
Donna Cosme, Director of Religious Education  
Anne Dean, Assistant to Director of Religious Ed  
Linda Geoghan, Parish Secretary  
Deacon Ed Karan, Facilities Manager  
Victor Nicotra, Maintenance Assistant  
Lyubov Pechenyuk, Rectory Cook

### Parish Office Hours:

Monday through Thursday  
9:00am to 5:00pm

CLOSED Friday, Saturday, Sunday, & Holidays

**Parish Office** 631-288-1423  
Fax 631-288-5498  
parishoffice@iccwhb.org

**Religious Education** 631-288-4188  
Fax 631-288-8215  
religioused@iccwhb.org

**Queen of Apostles, Regional School** 631-878-1033

### Celebration of the Eucharist

#### Saturday

5:00pm Vigil Mass

#### Sunday

8:00am, 9:30am, 11:00am  
6:00pm (Spanish Mass)

#### Daily Mass

8:00am Monday through Friday  
The Rosary is recited immediately after daily Mass

#### Holy Days

Vigil @ 7:00pm (Spanish Mass)  
Day @ 8:00am, 12:00pm, & 7:00pm

**First Saturday Mass** 9:00am  
Rosary starts at 8:45am

#### Eucharistic Adoration

FIRST FRIDAYS of each month following the  
8:00am Mass and LAST MONDAYS of each month  
at 7:00pm in the Church

#### Confessions

Every Saturday 4:00pm to 4:45pm

**MARRIAGES:** Arrangements should be made at least 1 year in advance. Marriage dates may be made only with the priest after he interviews the couple. Please call the Parish Office to set up an appointment. Pre- Cana classes are required.

**BAPTISMS:** Parents are required to attend one evening class before Baptism; and are encouraged to attend class during pregnancy. Baptismal class is held on the 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday of January, March, May, July, September, and November. To register for Baptism, please contact the Parish Office.

### **SACRAMENT OF ANOINTING THE SICK:**

Emergency calls for the Sacraments for the seriously ill may be made any time of the day or night, every day of the year. The Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick will also be celebrated every second Friday of the month at the 8:00am Mass. All those who are seriously ill, including those preparing for surgery or a hospital stay, are invited to receive the Sacrament.

## SCRIPTURE READINGS

**Monday:** 2 Sm 5:1-7, 10; Ps 89:20-22, 25-26;  
Mk 3:22-30  
**Tuesday:** 2 Sm 6:12b-15, 17-19; Ps 24:7-10;  
Mk 3:31-35  
**Wednesday:** 2 Sm 7:4-17; Ps 89:4-5, 27-30;  
Mk 4:1-20  
**Thursday:** Acts 22:3-16 or Acts 9:1-22;  
Ps 117:1bc, 2; Mk 16:15-18  
**Friday:** 2 Tm 1:1-8 or Ti 1:1-5; Ps 51:3-7, 10-11;  
Mk 4:26-34  
**Saturday:** 2 Sm 12:1-7a, 10-17; Ps 51:12-17;  
Mk 4:35-41  
**Sunday:** Dt 18:15-20; Ps 95:1-2, 6-9; 1 Cor 7:32-35;  
Mk 1:21-28

## TODAY'S READINGS

**First Reading:** The people of Nineveh believed God and turned from their evil ways (Jonah 3:1-5, 10).  
**Psalm:** Teach me your ways, O Lord (Psalm 25).  
**Second Reading:** The world in its present form is passing away (1 Corinthians 7:29-31).  
**Gospel:** This is the time of fulfillment. The kingdom of God is at hand (Mark 1:14-20).

## GIFT

What I am is God's gift to me.  
What I become is my gift back to God.  
—Anonymous

## eGIVING OPPORTUNITIES

eGiving makes it easy to give, anytime, anywhere. To continue lifesaving ministries and outreach in our parish community, we depend on generous online donations from our church family. We prayerfully invite you to use eGiving from your computer, smartphone, or tablet to set up a recurring donation or make a one-time gift.

## FAITH DIRECT

Enrolling with Faith Direct will provide Immaculate Conception with consistent support and simplify your giving without the use of envelopes. Visit:  
<https://membership.faithdirect.net/NY66>  
Thank you for your continued support!

## WEEKLY COLLECTIONS

DATE	COLLECTION	AMOUNT
01/14/2024	Weekly Collection	\$4,509.00
01/15/2023	Weekly Collection	\$4,172.00
12/25/2023	Christmas Collection	\$36,663.00
12/25/2022	Christmas Collection	\$69,211.00

**Thank you for your continuous support!**

## MASSES FOR THE WEEK

**Saturday**  
5:00pm Anna Houlihan (Fr. Peter)  
**Sunday**  
8:00am **January 21**  
Richard J. Franks (Fr. Peter)  
9:30am People of the Parish (Fr. Ken)  
11:00am Frank DiFazio (Fr. Michael)  
5:00pm Poor Souls in Purgatory (Fr. Mike)  
**Monday** **January 22**  
8:00am Cathryn Burchill Block (Fr. Ken)  
**Tuesday** **January 23**  
8:00am Cathryn Burchill Block (Fr. Ken)  
**Wednesday** **January 24**  
8:00am (Guild Mass) Intentions of Michael Fenton & Family (Fr. Ken)  
**Thursday** **January 25**  
8:00am Maureen Bane (Fr. Peter)  
**Friday** **January 26**  
8:00am MEMORIAL MASS (Fr. Ken)  
**Saturday** **January 27**  
4:00pm **Confessions (Fr. Ken)**  
5:00pm Jessica Gabriel (Fr. Ken)  
**Sunday** **January 28**  
8:00am Wacław Fabiszewski (Fr. Ken)  
9:30am Barbara McAuley (Fr. Michael)  
11:00am People of the Parish (Fr. Peter)  
5:00pm Poor Souls in Purgatory (Fr. Mike)

## PRAY FOR OUR SICK

Tyler Accardi, Karl B., Blythe Fickenwirth,  
Joe Giglia, Patricia Gillin, Mary Sipp Green,  
Theresa Heffernan, Gina Hil, Elizabeth Kotz,  
Daisy Helen O'Neill, Paul Ramondetta,  
Kendra Seth, & Ed Silvia

Please call the Parish Office (631-288-1423) to add a name to the sick list. This list will be cleared bi-monthly.

## CATHOLIC MINISTRIES APPEAL

### The 2024 Catholic Ministries Appeal

The 2024 Catholic Ministries Appeal is on-going in our parish and in parishes across the Diocese. Please give prayerful consideration to help fund the essential ministries and services supported by this appeal.

Goal	\$ 62,100.00
Total Pledged	\$ 42,450.00
Payments Received	\$ 42,330.00

Donors: 107

The parish will receive 20% of the goal once all pledged payments are received. The parish will receive an additional 80% of monies pledged & received over goal.

## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

**Religious Education Office Hours are:**  
Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday  
9am to 5pm  
631-288-4188

### WEATHER REMINDER:

For weather related cancellations, all parents and volunteers will receive notification through "Remind" text message. Also, the notice will be on the local TV – channel 12.

Congratulations to Reef M. Kirchner, a senior at Chaminade HS who achieved an honor roll average for the first trimester. Keep up the good work!

## QUESTION OF THE WEEK



How do I go about inviting others to journey to the kingdom with me?



## MEDITATION with Deacon Joe

Tuesdays at 2pm in the Parish Center  
Try this spiritual practice, it will surprise you!

## INTRODUCTION TO THE EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

In praise we offer this prayer of thanksgiving in the name of the One who calls us each by name.

## SACRAMENTALS

The Sanctuary Lamp will burn this week  
In loving memory of  
***Shari Noble***

To arrange one of these in loving memory of or for the intentions of your loved one, please visit the Parish Office.

### Available Dates:

**Altar Bread/Wine:** January 29, February 5, 12, 19, 26  
**Altar Flowers:** January 28, February 4, 11  
**Sanctuary Lamp:** January 29, February 5, 12, 19, 26

## PARISH SOCIAL MINISTRY



### FOOD PANTRY NEEDS

Canned fruit, Toiletries (shampoo & soap),  
Juice Boxes, Rice, Beans, Cereal, Pasta, Tuna,  
Peanut Butter, Jelly, Canned Vegetables  
(all varieties)

## SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

**Sunday:** Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

**Monday:** Day of Prayer for the Legal Protection of Unborn Children

**Tuesday:** St. Vincent; Saint Marianne Cope

**Wednesday:** St. Francis de Sales

**Thursday:** The Conversion of St. Paul the Apostle

**Friday:** Ss. Timothy and Titus

**Saturday:** St. Angela Merici; Blessed Virgin Mary

## REFLECTIONS

### Living Stewardship

As Catholics, we should never fear  
preaching the Faith to others. Let us be at  
service to the Faith and spread it to others.



### Bulletin Reflection

Jesus calls us to, "Repent, and believe in the Gospel."

## SECOND COLLECTION

This weekend, January 20/21, our second collection will help defray the cost of Fuel to heat all our parish buildings. Thank you for your generosity.

Next weekend, January 27/28, we take up a second collection for the Church in Need. Please be as generous as your means will allow. Thank you!

## PRAY FOR OUR MILITARY

Ethan Bentley (Navy)  
Lt. Cameron Worden  
Lt. Col. William Robesch

Please contact the Rectory @631-288-1423 to add a loved one to the military list

## PRAYER REQUESTS

There is a great power in prayer. It is our lifeline to God. Through it we communicate with God, and people are strengthened, helped, and made whole.

Do you know of some concern, or of some person with a special need for whom we ought to pray? We have 29 prayer warriors praying, please call Charles Schmidt at 631-288-4243 and leave a message with your prayer request.



## FROM DEACON MARK'S DESK

Chaos in the streets and everywhere else. A society aggressively hostile to the Catholic faith. A severe shortage of priests.

That scenario, which might seem somewhat familiar now, was what confronted St. Francis de Sales in the Savoy region of Switzerland more than 400 years ago. Yet those challenges were met and overcome through the saint's use of his gifts and his goodness. He still has much to teach us today as we approach his feast day, January 24.

Calvinists had overrun the diocese of Geneva, Switzerland, expelling Catholic clergy, closing churches and outlawing the practice of the Catholic faith. Francis was encouraged by an exiled bishop to become a priest in 1593. While Francis could not visit every place in the underground diocese, he used the talent he had developed as a university student: Writing.

He started by distributing leaflets about the Catholic religion and went on to write several books. The most notable was *Introduction to the Devout Life*, which became a best-seller and all-time classic. It remains valuable and relevant today because Francis explained how all of us are called to holiness in our own lives, our own circumstances.

Francis wrote that a bishop can't lead the solitary life of a monk. A married person cannot spend the entire day in prayer the way a religious does. He wrote that true devotion embellishes and enhances any calling or occupation, adding, "In whatever situation we happen to be, we can and we must aspire to the life of perfection."

Biographer Louise Stacpoole-Kenny called Francis "The Gentle Saint" and said that St. Vincent de Paul called Francis the best Christian he had ever met. It is said that by the end of Francis' time as bishop of Geneva, just about the entire diocese was converted back to the Catholic faith.

He was proclaimed a saint in 1665. Just over 100 years ago, he was declared patron saint of writers. That remains a cherished title. Some years ago, I was appointed by Bishop Murphy to the board of The Long Island Catholic newspaper (due to my own background in the newspaper business). When Bishop Murphy attended the meetings, he would open and close them with words that would still be beneficial for us: "St. Francis de Sales, pray for us."

Deacon Mark Herrmann



## TEDDY'S CORNER



Teddy had his first day at the beach ...  
he loved it!

## MASS TIME CHANGE

Effective immediately,  
the 5:00pm Spanish Mass on Sunday  
will now be held at  
**6:00pm every Sunday.**

## FROM THE SACRISTAN

If you would like to be part of the Eucharistic procession for a specific Mass (date & time) there will be a sign-up sheet in the back of the Church. Then just prior to the Mass starting, please see an Usher and confirm your arrival. You will then proceed to the rear of the Church at the offertory to bring up the gifts.

## THE DEMANDS OF DISCIPLESHIP

Today we encounter readings that already have a Lenten feel about them. Nineveh undergoes a forty-day fast, the psalmist reminds us that God alone can show sinners the way, Paul shows us how fleeting the things and events of this world are, and Jesus cries out "Repent!" before he calls his new followers. "Come after me," Jesus says, but if we are to truly live out the commands and demands of our discipleship through baptism, we must first know our need for conversion, our repentance, our need to believe in the gospel fully. Today's Gospel opens with the stark reminder of what befell John the Baptist for completely living out his vocation as the herald of Christ and the gospel: he was arrested, imprisoned, and martyred. Though few of us will experience consequences that extreme, we must all be ready to risk some sort of rejection as, heeding the call of Jesus, we live out the kingdom of God at hand, repent of our sins, and believe in the good news of salvation.



## Our Lady Queen of Apostles Regional Catholic School

FOR MORE  
INFORMATION:  
(631) 878-1033  
[OLQANY.ORG](http://OLQANY.ORG)

# OPEN HOUSE

Sunday, Jan. 28 @ 11AM-1PM  
following the Catholic Schools Week Mass @ 10AM  
at St. John the Evangelist in Center Moriches

Schedule a  
tour!



### About Us:

- Grounded in our Catholic Faith & Service
- Small, Individualized Educational Program
- Before & After Care
- Financial Aid
- AND MORE...

OLQA: Called to be a "Family of Families"



## Community Outreach Bus

Free health screenings with a brief cardiac history, blood pressure, simple blood test for cholesterol, and diabetes screenings for clients above 18 years old.

**10:00 am to 2:00 pm**

***Monday, 1/22***

Smithtown Library  
148 Smithtown Blvd  
Nesconset, NY

***Tuesday, 1/23***

Riverhead Library  
330 Court St  
Riverhead, NY

***Wednesday, 1/24***

Riverhead Ambulatory Care  
800 Old Country Rd  
Riverhead, NY

***Thursday, 1/25***

St Isidore Church  
622 Pulaski Street  
Riverhead, NY

For more information  
call 516-629-2013



**World Marriage Day Dance 2024**



**Saturday February 3rd**

**Mass at 6pm**

**followed by Dinner & Dancing  
until 11pm**

**Price per couple: \$175**

**3 Course Sitdown Dinner**

**Open Bar**

**DJ & Photo Booth**

**Raffle Baskets and 50/50**

**Venue:**

**O'Connell Gardens**

**2985 Kenneth Pl**

**Oceanside, NY 11572**



**Scan QR code or Register at:**

**<https://www.menyli.org/enrichment.php>**

**Need help? call**

**Maria & Chuck Reiss (631) 486-8607**