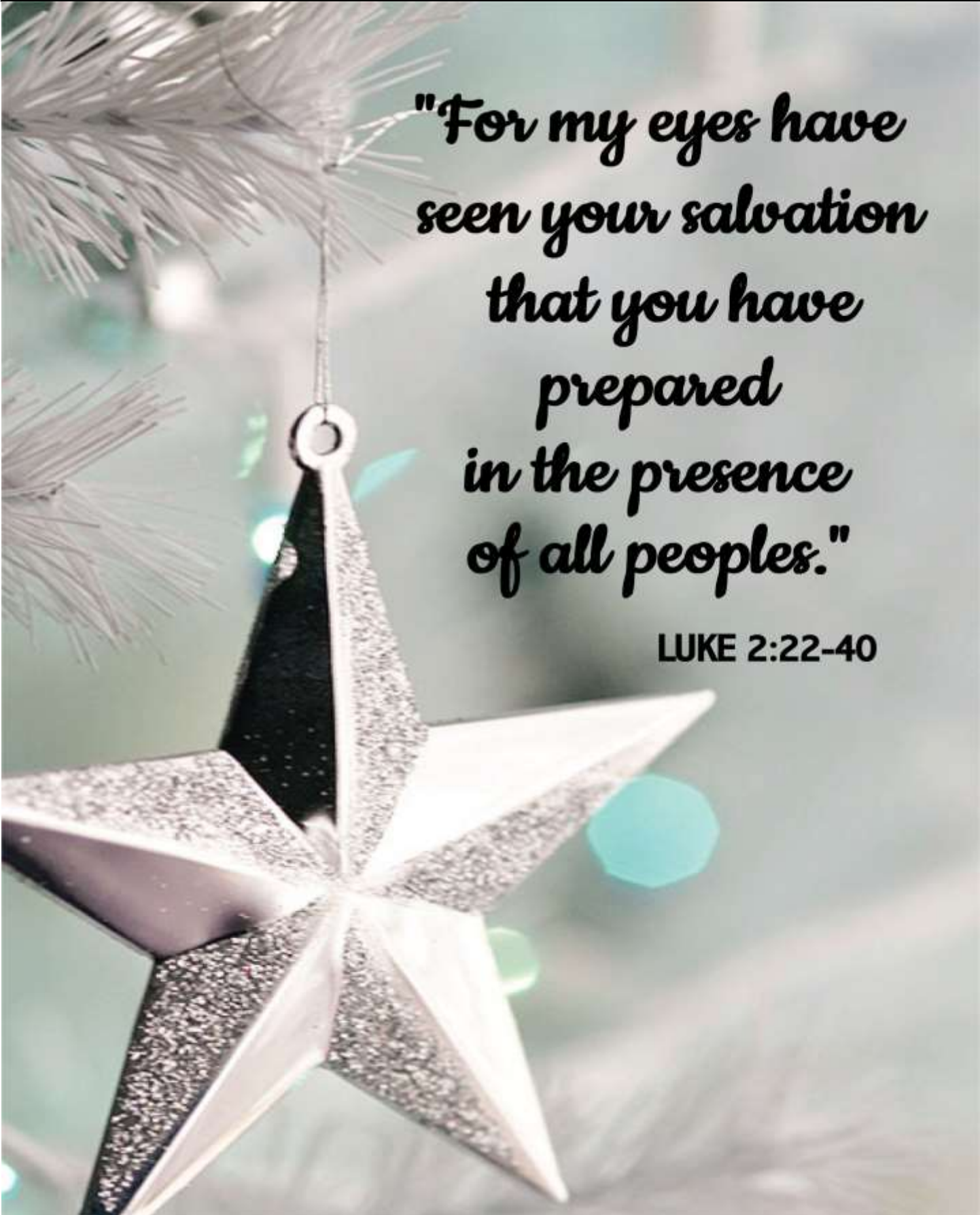


THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY AND JOSEPH
December 31, 2023



*"For my eyes have
seen your salvation
that you have
prepared
in the presence
of all peoples."*

LUKE 2:22-40



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
5:00pm (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 1st 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: Nm 6:22-27; Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8; Gal 4:4-7;
Lk 2:16-21
Tuesday: 1 Jn 2:22-28; Ps 98:1-4; Jn 1:19-28
Wednesday: 1 Jn 2:29-3:6; Ps 98:1, 3cd-6;
Jn 1:29-34
Thursday: 1 Jn 3:7-10; Ps 98:1, 7-9; Jn 1:35-42
Friday: 1 Jn 3:11-21; Ps 100:1b-5; Jn 1:43-51
Saturday: 1 Jn 5:5-13; Ps 147:12-15, 19-20;
Mk 1:7-11 or Lk 3:23-28 [23, 31-34, 36, 38]
Sunday: Is 60:1-6; Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-13;
Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6; Mt 2:1-12

TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading: Those who honor their parents will be greatly blessed and will atone for sins (Sirach 3:2-6, 12-14) or *Genesis 15:1-6; 21:1-3.*

Psalms: Blessed are those who fear the Lord and walk in his ways (Psalm 128) or *Psalm 105.*

Second Reading: Be thankful; do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus

(Colossians 3:12-21 [12-17]) or *Hebrews 11:8, 11-12, 17-19.*

Gospel: The child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom (Luke 2:22-40 [22, 39-40]).

All Parish Offices
are **CLOSED**
Monday, January 1st
in observance of New Year's Day
HAPPY NEW YEAR!!!

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

Due to early bulletin submission requirements, the weekly collection figures from December 24th and Christmas will be reflected in next week's bulletin. Thank you.

MASSES FOR THE WEEK

Saturday	December 30
5:00pm	Charles Palmer (Fr. Peter)
Sunday	December 31
8:00am	George Rose (Fr. Peter)
9:30am	Rose Ann Naughton (Fr. Ken)
11:00am	Kathleen Tolan (Fr. Michael)
5:00pm	People of the Parish (Msgr. Mirro)
Monday	January 1
9:00am	Robert DeYoung (Fr. Ken)
12:00pm	People of the Parish (Fr. Peter)
Tuesday	January 2
8:00am	Michael E. Broderick (Fr. Ken)
Wednesday	January 3
8:00am	(Guild Mass) Charles Schiwautz; William Schiwautz; Joseph Schiwautz; Jeffrey Mead; Pamela Mead (Fr. Ken)
Thursday	January 4
8:00am	John Carroll (Fr. Peter)
Friday	January 5
8:00am	Arthur Carine (Fr. Ken)
Saturday	January 6
9:00am	Jorge SanJuan (Fr. Ken)
4:00pm	Confessions (Fr. Ken)
5:00pm	People of the Parish (Fr. Ken)
Sunday	January 7
8:00am	Ray Nethaway (Msgr. Mirro)
9:30am	Frank DiFazio (Fr. Peter)
11:00am	Intentions of Sr. Kathryn Schlueter, CSJ (60 th Anniversary) (Fr. Michael)
5:00pm	Poor Souls in Purgatory (Fr. Mike)

PRAY FOR OUR SICK

Blythe Fickenwirth, Joe Giglia, Patricia Gillin,
Theresa Heffernan, Gina Hil, Elizabeth Kotz,
Daisy Helen O'Neill, Paul Ramondetta,
& Kendra Seth

*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	\$ 40,950.00
Payments Received	\$ 40,676.00

Donors: 100

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.

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK



Dear ICC Family,

Happy New Year! As we welcome 2024 in, I'm reflecting on my first few months here with all of you. I'm very happy to be here as your Pastor. The friendships I've made, the people I've come to know, and the beautiful area of Westhampton Beach have all been such a blessing to me ... thank you for welcoming me!

Wishing you all the love of God, the peace of Jesus, and the strength of the Holy Spirit in this brand new year! Let's make it a good one for the parish – together!

Peace! Fr. Ken



NEW YEAR'S DAY MASS SCHEDULE

Monday, January 1st

9:00am & 12:00pm

(NOT a Holy Day of Obligation this year)

TIME

Do not squander time,
for that is the stuff life is made of.

—Benjamin Franklin

TEDDY'S CORNER



Fr. Ken is out on a walk with Teddy ... except, Teddy's in a carrier! Poor puppy is pooped!



BEARERS OF THE WORD

The Church has placed a number of notable feast days immediately after Christmas. The feasts of Stephen, John the Evangelist, and the Holy Innocents form a summary of the life lived in Christ, the Word made flesh. What do these have to do with the feast of the Holy Family, which crowns the Octave of Christmas? These feasts remind us that suffering will occur in fulfilling the mission of Christ, and that we are all called to be bearers of this Word whose birth we celebrate.

We also see this manifested in the lives of Joseph and Mary, both of whom took social and religious risks in obedience to the will of God, and both of whom were open to the word of God sent to them from on high. In these ways they prefigured the life of Jesus himself.

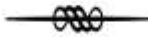
Most likely, few of us found ourselves at Mass this past Tuesday, Wednesday, or Thursday, but the essence of these feasts and the essence of the holiness of Joseph, Mary, and Jesus remain central, a holiness we celebrate today.

"We pledge to persevere in prayer, fasting and witnessing to the sacredness of every human life."

- Bishop Barre's statement regarding the U.S. Supreme Court Decision in *Dobbs v. Jackson*, June 24, 2022



Rosary for Life



JOIN the OFFICE of HUMAN LIFE, FAMILY and BIOETHICS in PRAYER

Every Friday - 3:00 PM

Via Zoom

Click here for link

Meeting ID: 811 9648 1100

Passcode: 20EWp7

Call In #: 1 (646) 876-9923

Email lhonkanen@drvc.org

if you would like the link sent to you each month.



www.drvc.org



2024 MASS BOOK

The 2024 Mass Book is OPEN!

To schedule a Mass for the deceased or for the intentions of the living, please visit the Parish Office Monday through Thursday between 9:00am - 5:00pm.

TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION



There's no more unusual setting to celebrate today's Feast of the Holy Family than Barcelona, Spain and the towering unfinished sandcastle known officially as the Temple Expiatori de la Sagrada Familia. In 1882, the plan was hatched to build a vast place of

worship in reparation for the revolutionary and liberal leanings of the city. The modern artist Antoni Gaudi dedicated his life to the project, living in the building, attending Mass daily, and giving up his personal wealth. When people pressed him to pick up the pace, he responded, "My client is not in a hurry." (Gaudi's cause for beatification is moving along, and he could be the first professional artist and architect to be beatified.) The Spanish Civil War, a disaster for the Catholic Church in which thousands of priests, brothers, and nuns were murdered, halted work in 1935. In the 1950s work began anew, speeded up by computers in the 1980s. Still, the final stage of construction is not due to end until 2026. If the original methods had stayed in place, it would take several hundred more years to complete the plan. So far there are eight towers, with four to go. The highest steeple is three feet shorter than the nearest hill, since the architect didn't want his work to surpass God's artistry. The three faces of the basilica each have three doors, with the faces named Passion, Nativity, and Grace. The interior is crammed with geometric figures that almost seem to spin, crazy-quilt windows, spiral staircases, and jumbles of statues and figures. Although inspired by ancient Gothic cathedrals, the style is called Expressionist, and very little is left unexpressed by the masonry. If you can't afford a visit, Sagrada Familia maintains a web site, and virtual visits are free.



RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Religious Education Office Hours are:

Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday
9am to 5pm
631-288-4188

Wishing you all a Joyous Christmas season
and a Happy & Health New Year
~ Donna & Anne

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.



INTRODUCTION TO THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

One of the great gifts of this holy season is that we take the time in our families to gather around the table to share festive meals. As God's family we gather around this holy table to offer our prayer of endless praise and thanksgiving.

SACRAMENTALS

Altar Bread and Wine
Altar Flowers
Sanctuary Lamp

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 8, 15, 22, 29

Altar Flowers: January 14, 21, 28, February 4, 11

Sanctuary Lamp: January 8, 15, 22, 29, February 5, 12, 19

MEDITATION with Deacon Joe

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

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: The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph
Monday: Mary, the Holy Mother of God; The Octave Day of the Nativity of the Lord; World Day of Prayer for Peace; New Year's Day

Tuesday: Ss. Basil the Great and Gregory Nazianzen

Wednesday: The Most Holy Name of Jesus

Thursday: St. Elizabeth Ann Seton

Friday: St. John Neumann; First Friday

Saturday: St. André Bessette; First Saturday

REFLECTIONS

Living Stewardship

As we enter the new year, make a resolution to deepen your prayer life. Adopt a new spiritual practice, like praying the Rosary daily, attending a weekday Mass, going to confession monthly or attending Meditation on Tuesdays with Deacon Joe.



Bulletin Reflection

This upcoming year, let us open our hearts and minds to the Lord and let Him guide us.

QUESTION OF THE WEEK



How does my faith affect the way that I treat the members of my family? How can my faith help me grow to be a better parent/sibling/daughter/son?

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.

National Blood Donor Month

Donate blood and be a lifesaver



BLOOD DRIVE

Immaculate Conception Church

580 Main Street, Westhampton Beach

Our Lady's Hall

Monday, January 8, 2024

1:00pm – 7:00pm

To make an appointment:
scan the QR code, call 800.933.2566
or email Melissa at mgatto@nybc.org



Please remember to eat, drink, and bring your ID with your name and photo. Appointments are preferred however walk-ins will be welcomed if space permits. Visit nybc.org/coronavirus for COVID-19 safety protocols.



800.933.BLOOD • nybc.org     #nybloodcenter