

**THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT**  
**March 3, 2024**

**"DESTROY THIS  
TEMPLE, AND IN  
3 DAYS I WILL  
RAISE IT UP."**



**JOHN 2:13-25**



## 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 Kgs 5:1-15b; Ps 42:2, 3; 43:3, 4; Lk 4:24-30  
**Tuesday:** Dn 3:25, 34-43; Ps 25:4-5ab, 6-7bc, 8-9;  
 Mt 18:21-35  
**Wednesday:** Dt 4:1, 5-9; Ps 147:12-13, 15-16,  
 19-20; Mt 5:17-19  
**Thursday:** Jer 7:23-28; Ps 95:1-2, 6-9; Lk 11:14-23  
**Friday:** Hos 14:2-10; Ps 81:6c-11ab, 14, 17;  
 Mk 12:28-34  
**Saturday:** Hos 6:1-6; Ps 51:3-4, 18-21ab; Lk 18:9-14  
**Sunday:** 2 Chr 36:14-16, 19-23; Ps 137:1-6;  
 Eph 2:4-10; Jn 3:14-21; Alternate readings (Year A):  
 1 Sm 16:1b, 6-7, 10-13a; Ps 23:1-6; Eph 5:8-14;  
 Jn 9:1-41 [1, 6-9, 13-17, 34-38]

## TODAY'S READINGS

**First Reading:** God gives the law through Moses  
 (Exodus 20:1-17 [1-3, 7-8, 12-17]) or *Exodus 17:3-7*.  
**Psalm:** Lord, you have the words of everlasting life  
 (Psalm 19) or *Psalm 95*.  
**Second Reading:** We proclaim Christ crucified  
 (1 Corinthians 1:22-25) or *Romans 5:1-2, 5-8*.  
**Gospel ;** Many began to believe in Jesus' name when  
 they saw the signs he was doing (John 2:13-25) or *John*  
*4:5-42 [5-15, 19b-26, 39a, 40-42]*.

## PRAY FOR OUR DECEASED

Barbara Mietzner



## DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME

It's time to "Spring Ahead" next weekend, March 10<sup>th</sup>, as we turn our clocks ahead before we go to sleep Saturday night. We also look forward to longer days with the sun shining ... and warmer days as well!

## 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
02/25/2024	Weekly Collection	\$4,545.00
02/26/2023	Weekly Collection	\$5,214.00

**Thank you for your continuous support!**

## MASSES FOR THE WEEK

**Saturday** **March 2**  
 5:00pm Irene Barrow (Fr. Peter)  
**Sunday** **March 3**  
 8:00am Deborah Schaefer (Fr. Michael)  
 9:30am People of the Parish (Fr. Ken)  
 11:00am Rose Loos (Fr. Ken)  
 6:00pm Poor Souls in Purgatory (Fr. Mike)  
**Monday** **March 4**  
 8:00am Carmen Marrin  
**Tuesday** **March 5**  
 8:00am Richard Dackow  
**Wednesday** **March 6**  
 8:00am (Guild Mass) Don Thomasino;  
 Josephine Hewes  
**Thursday** **March 7**  
 8:00am Daisy O'Neil  
**Friday** **March 8**  
 8:00am Felipe O. Ganguzza  
**Saturday** **March 9**  
**4:00pm Confessions**  
 5:00pm Irene Barrow (Fr. Ken)  
**Sunday** **March 10**  
 8:00am Dave Francescani (Fr. Michael)  
 9:30am Joseph & Celia Maturando (Fr. Peter)  
 11:00am People of the Parish (Fr. Ken)  
 6:00pm Poor Souls in Purgatory (Fr. Mike)

## PRAY FOR OUR SICK

Tyler Accardi, Karl B., Courtney Cosentino,  
 Blythe Fickenwirth, Joe Giglia, Patricia Gillin,  
 Mary Sipp Green, Theresa Heffernan, Gina Hil,  
 Stephen Jensen, Elizabeth Kotz, John McAuley,  
 Alex Peplowski, Paul Ramondetta, John Ritter,  
 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	\$ 42,610.00
Payments Received	\$ 42,535.00

Donors: 108

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

### LENTEN MISSION

Dear ICC Family,

We had an awesome mission this week with over 80 people! Fr. Roy is an amazing speaker who's been to the Holy Land 19 times. He makes connections between the Old and the New Testaments that I never heard of before. I told him that I wanted to join him on his 20<sup>th</sup> visit! He suggested that we do a parish pilgrimage. Sounds like a great idea! So stay tuned. At some point in the future, we will do something!

God bless you,

Fr. Ken



Thank you Fr. Roy,  
for a terrific message  
during our  
Lenten Mission!

#### THE DEADLINE FOR ALL BULLETIN SUBMISSIONS IS FRIDAY.

Please send your submissions to:  
[parishoffice@iccwhb.org](mailto:parishoffice@iccwhb.org)

#### VOLUNTEER NEEDED

The Bulletin Editor is in search of someone who can volunteer an hour each Wednesday morning to proof the bulletin. Please contact Linda at 631-288-1423 if you'd like to help. Thank you!

#### TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

If your parish is reading from Year B of the Lectionary today, and not Year A, as is normally done when there are elect present for the scrutinies and preparing for Easter baptism, you hear about Jesus driving the money-changers from the temple. If you wished to get as close as possible to this site today, you would in fact be at a Muslim shrine, the Dome of the Rock, built on the ruins of Herod's temple.

Archeologists believe that this striking, gold-domed crown of a shrine is set precisely where the Holy of Holies once was. Jews believe that the rock is the exact spot where Abraham was prepared to sacrifice Isaac. It is not a mosque, as some think, but a shrine, the oldest one in the Muslim world. For them, the rock is the place from which the Prophet Mohammed ascended on a visit to heaven. The Crusaders mistook the shrine for the actual Temple of Solomon, and the infamous Knights Templar used it as their headquarters and model for their churches elsewhere. The geometric perfection of the shrine is a mathematician's dream. The inscriptions are not exactly hospitable though, since they encourage Christians to "depart from error" and declare that "Jesus son of Mary was only a messenger of God." In ancient times, those who prayed here after walking around the rock were given a certificate entitling the bearer to admission to paradise. The ticket had to be buried with them.



#### True Forgiveness Can Set You Free!

Do you wish confession (Reconciliation) had more meaning? Do you confess the same old sins & nothing changes? If today was your last day, have you forgiven everyone? Come discover how God confesses to US his love and mercy at a Lenten Series @ St. John the Evangelist Church, Riverhead, March 6, 13, & 20, 8:45am-10:00am or 6:30pm-8:00pm (in the church).

Presented by: Rita Dlug & Helen Halloran, Two Pilgrims on the Way. For more information contact Rita Dlug, [rmd.word@gmail.com](mailto:rmd.word@gmail.com)

## LENT



### STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Every Friday during Lent

8:30am in the Church

(Sign-up sheet in the Sacristy for those who would like to lead)

### SACRAMENTALS

The Altar Bread and Wine & Sanctuary Lamp  
for the week of February 26<sup>th</sup>  
were donated in Loving Memory of  
***William, Mary & Billy  
Ketcham***

What better time to arrange a Sacramental Remembrance for Lent/Easter? We have many available dates to arrange a remembrance of a loved one or in honor of those living. 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:** March 11, 18, 25, April 1, 8, 15, 22, 29  
**Altar Flowers:** April 21, 28, May 5, 12, 19, 26, June 2, 9, 16  
**Sanctuary Lamp:** March 11, 18, 25, April 1, 8, 15, 22, 29

### EASTER FLOWERS & REMEMBRANCE ENVELOPES

**Easter Flowers** can be dedicated to or in memory of your loved ones. Their names will be printed in the Easter bulletin if received by March 14<sup>th</sup>. Those donations received after the 14<sup>th</sup> will be printed in future bulletins. A minimum suggested offering is \$20.

You may use the envelopes you received in the mail or use envelopes you may find in the lobby of the Church and you can place them either in the collection baskets during Mass or drop off at the Parish Office. Thank you!

### FORGIVENESS

If a bad person wrongs you, forgive the person, lest there be two bad people.

—Anonymous

### KEEP HOLY THE SABBATH

There's no better way to deepen our Lenten practice than to review the Ten

Commandments. The first three, having to do with our right relationship to God, get the most ink. The one we busy people probably have the most problem with is keeping holy the Sabbath.

If we take this commandment literally, babies will go undiapered and dishes will stay on the table, or perhaps meals will not be served. The sick will go unattended and nothing that has anything to do with physical labor will be done. Is mental labor really work? How about changing that dirty diaper (poor baby!)?

We need to depend on God to discern how to observe real Sabbath time in our lives. The point of this commandment is that God has given us a great gift: one whole day per week when we are free to rest, worship God, sing, feast, love, and rejoice. As Psalm 19 proclaims: "The law of the LORD is perfect, / refreshing the soul" (19:8). Our Sabbath rest is a great gift, to be received from God with joy, not with nitpicking.



### SECOND COLLECTION

Next weekend, March 9/10, our parish will take up The Catholic Relief Services Collection. Funds from this collection provide food to the hungry, support displaced refugees, and bring Christ's love and mercy to vulnerable people here and abroad. Next week, please give generously to the collection and reveal Christ's love to those most in need. Learn more about the collection at [www.usccb.org/catholic-relief](http://www.usccb.org/catholic-relief).

La próxima semana nuestra parroquia realizará The Catholic Relief Services Collection. Los fondos de esta colecta proporcionan alimento al hambriento, ayuda a los refugiados desplazados y llevan el amor y la misericordia de Cristo a los pueblos vulnerables aquí y en el extranjero. La próxima semana, por favor, contribuyan generosamente a la colecta y revelen el amor de Cristo a los más necesitados. Infórmense más acerca de la colecta en [www.usccb.org/catholic-relief](http://www.usccb.org/catholic-relief).

## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

### Religious Education Office Hours are:

Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday  
9am to 3:30pm  
631-288-4188

### IMPORTANT DATES

#### Monday – March 4<sup>th</sup>

7:00pm – Level 2 Communion Parent Meeting – PC

### 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.

## MEDITATION with Deacon Joe

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

## QUESTION OF THE WEEK



Who can I invite to reconcile with? How can I view my relationships based more on love than on reciprocation? How does that affect how I act?

## INTRODUCTION TO THE EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

Consumed with zeal, we once again raise up our prayer of thanks and praise to the Father, in the name of Jesus our New Covenant, through the power of the Holy Spirit.

## SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

**Sunday:** Third Sunday of Lent; First Scrutiny

**Wednesday:** Ss. Perpetua and Felicity

**Thursday:** St. John of God

**Friday:** St. Frances of Rome; Abstinence

## 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.

## PARISH SOCIAL MINISTRY



### FOOD PANTRY NEEDS

We are in DIRE need of

**Rice and Macaroni & Cheese**

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

## PRAY FOR OUR MILITARY

Ethan Bentley (Navy)

Lt. Cameron Worden

Lt. Matthew Worden (Navy)

Lt. Col. William Robesch

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

## REFLECTIONS

### Living Stewardship

When you enter church for Mass, are you conscious of the way you act and/or dress? This Lenten season, be sure to wear your Sunday best (and make that a habit even after Lent) and when you sit in your pew, pray before God—don't scroll through text messages on your phone.



### Bulletin Reflection

Meditate on the words, “Zeal for your house will consume me.”

## THE SURLY BIRD

Some doctors say that cheerful people  
resist disease better than grumpy ones.  
The surly bird catches the germ.

—Anonymous

DESTROY  
THIS TEMPLE  
AND  
IN THREE DAYS  
I WILL  
RAISE  
IT UP



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## TEDDY'S CORNER



Teddy had his first sleepover! Rob & Tammy Kneske were kind enough to answer my cry for help. They have two Cavalier King Charles Spaniels. This is Faye who's 8 years old. She and Fanny were very nice to allow Teddy into their home! Teddy got a lot of exercise running around in their backyard. Tammy said that she got a workout as well!

**Please consider continuing your lifelong stewardship by leaving a bequest to our Parish.**

For more information about remembering Immaculate Conception Parish in your Will or Living Trust, or to request a brochure, please contact Barbara Kilarjian at 516-678-5800 x257 or email [bkilarjian@drvc.org](mailto:bkilarjian@drvc.org).



# Knights of Columbus®

## Fr. Slomski FRATERNAL BENEFIT EVENT

Dear Immaculate Conception Parishioners,

As Catholics, we look to our faith and morals to guide our decisions for our families, for our work, and for our communities. Our financial decisions should be guided in a similar way.

Knights of Columbus offers financial solutions that help protect your family's financial security and plan for your retirement while working with an organization that shares your faith and conducts itself in accordance with Catholic principles. That is the Order's commitment to you.

Our field agent, Patrick McGuire will be holding a Fraternal Benefit Event on March 4th, 7:00, at Our Lady's Hall, the to talk about Estate Planning. The featured speaker will be Elder Law and Estate Planning attorney Fred Kramer.

Please reach out to Grand Knight, Joseph Sala to register.

Fratemally,

Joseph Sala, GK  
(516) 359-3901  
[JOESALA5@MSN.COM](mailto:JOESALA5@MSN.COM)





# WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

at Immaculate Conception Church

**Thursday mornings at Our Lady's Hall**

**@ 9:30am**

**All are Welcome!**

We gather at 9:30am for chat, coffee, and conversation. Bible study begins promptly at 10:00am. Zoom is also available for those unable to attend in person.

Share your Faith and Fellowship with other Ladies from the Parish while we learn more about "PETER: Keys to Following Jesus" [by Dr. Tim Gray, a highly respected Bible Scholar and Author] and Scripture from the Bible.

Our Bible Study book features "the tumultuous and inspiring life of St. Peter from his 'Yes' to Jesus's call along the Shore of the Sea of Galilee, to his denial of Jesus, through his preaching of Jesus Christ, to his martyrdom in Rome."

Also included in this Bible Study book are prayers and meditations, along with fabulous colorful Religious artwork from Masters of the Renaissance and other time periods! We also discuss the artwork and how the Church uses Religious Paintings and Art to teach and inspire.

"PETER" BIBLE Study Guide is a keepsake!

We hope you will decide to join us on Thursdays for our ICC Women's Bible Study. It is a wonderful way to engage with amazing women who want to learn, discuss Scripture, share ideas, laugh, find comfort in shared life stories, and enhance your knowledge of CHRIST and ST. PETER, while nurturing your spirituality.

Come enjoy a cup of Coffee, or Tea with us!

All are Welcome!

Invite a Friend! We'd love to meet you!

BIBLE Study Guides are available at the meeting

**NOTE:** To Register and Reserve a copy of the Bible Study Book, please email at: [mtpilo.esq@gmail.com](mailto:mtpilo.esq@gmail.com); [frankiernan@gmail.com](mailto:frankiernan@gmail.com); or [Kris0330@optonline.net](mailto:Kris0330@optonline.net)

"To fall in Love with GOD is the greatest Romance.

To seek Him, the greatest Adventure.

To find HIM the greatest human achievement."

~ St. Augustine





# **COFFEE with JESUS**

## **Lenten Series via Zoom**

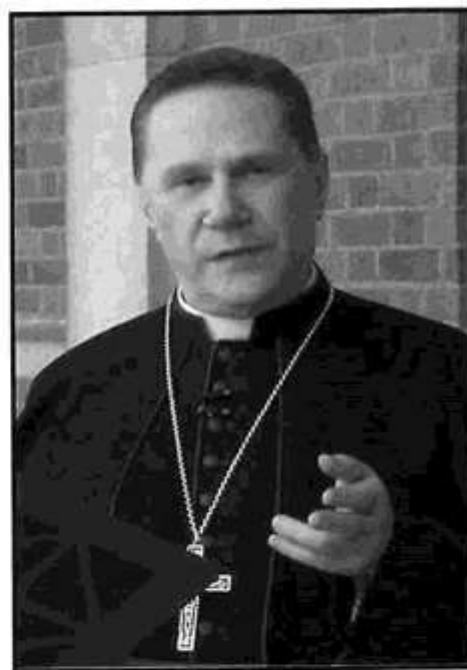
### **Join Bishop Andrzej**

10:00 am on Friday mornings during Lent:

**February 23, March 8 and March 22**

Online Lenten Reflections  
on Scripture Readings,  
with the special emphasis  
on the Last Words of Jesus.

Join this great opportunity to prepare and nourish your mind,  
spirit and heart in preparation for Easter.



To register,  
please call Suzanne 516-744-6850  
or email [westernvicariate@drvc.org](mailto:westernvicariate@drvc.org).

Once you are registered, you will be emailed the  
ZOOM information prior to each session  
of this Lenten series.

# Our Lady Queen of Apostles Regional Catholic School Spring Basket Auction and Food Extravaganza



Saturday, March 9th  
6:00 PM

Doors open at 4:45

Tickets \$35 each

(Ticket price includes food to try from various restaurants)

**CALL TO PURCHASE  
YOUR TICKETS!**

Tickets available till March 6th  
or

we are sold out

 **(631) 878-1033**

[www.olqany.org](http://www.olqany.org)

**NUMEROUS BASKETS  
TO CHOOSE FROM !**

(Basket raffle tickets purchased  
separately at the event)







**Lenten Breakfast**  
**Trusting God in the storms of life;  
why does He allow them?**

**Saturday, March 9, 2024**

**9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.**

**Doors open at 9:00 a.m.**

**Breakfast begins promptly at 9:30 a.m**

***Moose Lodge #1742***  
***On the beautiful Peconic River,***  
***51 Madison Street***  
***Riverhead, NY 11901***



**GUEST SPEAKER:**  
**FR. CHARLES MANGANO**

Father Charles Mangano was born March 4, 1961, the youngest of four children and grew up in Dix Hills, on Long Island. Father Charles attributes his personal relationship with Jesus and Mary to the charismatic prayer meeting he started attending with his parents when he was in 8th grade till his early 20's. After our Lady confirmed his priestly vocation while on a Marian pilgrimage he entered the seminary in Huntington in 1984. Father was ordained a Diocesan priest for the Diocese of Rockville Center in 1990.

Father Charles is a priest for 32 years and has served in six parish assignments, was a pastor for 14 years and then took a two-year sabbatical to take care of his elderly parents until the two passed away. Father Charles and his sister Laurie hosted a television show for 20 years on the Catholic Faith Network and for 30 years have evangelized through their music ministry. Father is presently associate pastor of Our lady of Lourdes Church in West Islip. Serving God is the joy of his heart.

**Cost \$50 per person**  
**Scan QR or click code to register.**

**By March 7, 2024**

**For more information please email**  
**[magnificatofsuffolk@gmail.com](mailto:magnificatofsuffolk@gmail.com)**

