# THE HOUR HAS COME FOR THE SON OF MAN TO BE GLORIFIED."

JOHN 12:20-33



# 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 7:4-5a, 12-14a, 16; Ps 89:2-5, 27, 29; Rom 4:13, 16-18, 22; Mt 1:16, 18-21, 24a or Lk 2:41-51a

**Tuesday:** Nm 21:4-9; Ps 102:2-3, 16-21; Jn 8:21-30 **Wednesday:** Dn 3:14-20, 91-92, 95; Dn 3:52-56; Jn 8:31-42

**Thursday:** Gn 17:3-9; Ps 105:4-9; Jn 8:51-59 **Friday:** Jer 20:10-13; Ps 18:2-7; Jn 10:31-42 **Saturday:** Ez 37:21-28; Jer 31:10, 11-13; Jn 11:45-56

**Sunday:** Mk 11:1-10 or Jn 12:12-16; (procession) Is 50:4-7; Ps 22: 8-9, 17-20, 23-24; Phil 2:6-11; Mk 14:1 — 15:47 [15:1-39]

#### **TODAY'S READINGS**

**First Reading**: I will place my law within them and write it upon their hearts (Jeremiah 31:31-34) *or Ezekiel* 37:12-14.

**Psalm**: Create a clean heart in me, O God (Psalm 51) or Psalm 130.

**Second Reading**: Christ became the source of eternal salvation for all who obey him (Hebrews 5:7-9) *or Romans* 8:8-11.

**Gospel**: If a grain of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it produces much fruit (John 12:20-33) *or John 11:1-45 [3-7, 17, 20-27, 33b-45]*.

#### **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!

MASS ATTENDANCE						
DATE	5pm	8am	9:30am	11am	6рт	TOTAL
3/3/24	91	103	105	111	150	560
3/10/24	110	71	85	142	160	568

WEEKLY COLLECTIONS				
DATE	COLLECTION	<b>AMOUNT</b>		
03/10/2024	Weekly Collection	\$6,832.00		
03/10/2024	Catholic Relief Services	\$1,693.00		
03/12/2023	Weekly Collection	\$5,115.00		
Thank you for your continuous support!				

#### MASSES FOR THE WEEK

Saturday March 16

5:00pm Irene Barrow (Fr. Peter)

Sunday March 17

8:00am Michael Betjemann (Fr. Ken) 9:30am Dave Francescani (Fr. Ken) 11:00am Bill Masterson (Fr. Peter) 6:00pm People of the Parish (Fr. Mike)

Monday March 18

8:00am Joseph J. Albano, DDS

Tuesday March 19

8:00am Richard V. Licata

Wednesday March 20

8:00am (Guild Mass) Poor Souls in Purgatory

Thursday 8:00am March 21
Thomas Meaney March 22
8:00am Richard Dackow

Saturday March 23 4:00pm Confessions

5:00pm People of the Parish (Fr. Ken)

Sunday March 24

8:00am Richard Dackow (Fr. Michael)

9:30am Joseph & Celia Maturando (Fr. Peter)
11:00am Deceased Members of the Morrone &

Cosumano Families (Fr. Ken)

6:00pm Poor Souls in Purgatory (Fr. Mike)

#### PRAY FOR OUR DECEASED

Carol Matthews

#### PRAY FOR OUR SICK

Tyler Accardi, Karl B., Courtney Cosentino, Alexa Dalton, 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
 \$ 16,925.00

 Payments Received
 \$ 7,770.00

Donors: 25 % of Goal: 27.25%

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 DEACON MARK'S DESK ...

So, which is your favorite quote from St. Joseph? Maybe the time he said.... Or perhaps the time he spoke out on.... Or possibly the comment he made about....

Truth is, not once in all of the bible do we read anything that St. Joseph said. He is never quoted. But we sure do have evidence of what he did. So much so that the church dedicates the entire month of March to St. Joseph and celebrates him in a special way every March 19. His feast is officially considered a Solemnity on the church calendar, as opposed to a Commemoration (such as, for instance, St. Patrick on March 17 and St. Cyril of Jerusalem on March 18).

St. Joseph holds a distinctive and vital place in all of salvation history. We do see in the bible, at the start of Matthew's gospel, that he came from the holy line of Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, Judah and David. By agreeing to take Mary into his home and act as protector for her and Jesus, Joseph opened the way for every one of us to be saved.

The fact he never is given a speaking part in any of the gospels shows he personified the expression: actions speak louder than words. He taught Jesus the ways of work and ways of the world. Envisioning Joseph and Jesus going to their job every day, it is easy to think of them as best friends.

We associate Joseph with Advent, not Lent. Notice he is never mentioned in the accounts of Jesus' final days, and that Mary is alone. Scholars agree that it appears Joseph had died some time earlier. But again, there is no obituary for him in scripture.

In his book, "Joseph: The Man Who Raised Jesus," Father Gary Caster writes: "I believe that we know a great deal about St. Joseph—more than if he had penned a Gospel of his own—from the person he raised, a man we know a great deal about."

Joseph is the protector of the church. He is a model of work, faith, obedience and hope. He is a model of respect for women and care for children.

Let's celebrate him in a special way this Tuesday, March 19. Wish anyone named Joseph a Happy Name Day. And who doesn't love a St. Joseph pastry (either custard or cannoli filling)?

To be sure, even though Joseph is not included in our Holy Week gospels, we know that Easter is a great occasion for him. As the Josephite Fathers say in a novena seeking favors from St. Joseph: "I ask it by the joy which filled your soul, when the Redeemer of the world, triumphant over death and hell, entered into the possession of His kingdom and led you into it with special honors."





Following 8, 9:30, & 11 AM Masses

Tickets On Sale After Masses & At The Door

Proceeds will go to Scholorships & Seminarians.



COUNCIL #7423

#### THE STAFF'S CORNER

#### A word from our Sacristan, Shawn Pinson ...

A little about me - many of you know me, as the guy who is always busy running around checking things not once but twice and often leading the singing at mass.

Although I do have my very quiet, prayerful moments, my spirituality comes by way of participation. The truth is I'm easily distracted. It is by way of a task that I focus on the meaning of what I'm doing. As anyone who prayed the rosary can tell you, that simple prayer can center you and help keep you focused on the bigger picture. I used to think that it was just a catchy or even "corny" phrase to say "those who sing pray twice" but literally, if I'm focused on the words of a hymn I'm singing or the purpose of the task I am performing (no matter how small) that becomes my prayer.

When setting our altar and credence table for mass, I can't help but reflect on the last supper and not only how important each item is but how important our presence is to the celebration of the Eucharist! What could be better than that? After all, could you imagine how different things may have turned out if one of the apostles didn't come or if no bread was prepared? I feel very fortunate to be your sacristan first and foremost. I look at preparation of the Altar for mass as a gift. One of the many things I love about our church and the Catholic faith is that everything we do has meaning, from the placement of the corporal on the altar right through to the colors that we display based on the liturgical season - it all has meaning, and in most cases deep meaning.

So, if I have a determined or even melancholy look on my face you might say I am in deep thought or prayer, but please do remind me that a smile is what Jesus calls us each to provide - in other words, don't hesitate to stop me if you see me running around to say "Hi," and I promise to return the greeting!

Yours in prayer,

Shawn

#### **BE AWARE**

We need to be aware that happiness can sometimes sneak in through the door we didn't know we had left open.

—Anonymous



#### LENT

#### HOLY LAND COLLECTION March 29<sup>th</sup>

Pope Francis has asked our parish to support the Pontifical Good Friday Collection, which helps Christians in the Holy Land. Your support helps the church minister in parishes, provide Catholic schools and offer religious education. The Pontifical Good Friday Collection also helps to preserve the sacred shrines. The pandemic hit particularly hard the Christians in the Holy Land. Most of them depend on pilgrimages to work. In these times of crisis, the Pontifical Good Friday Collection is also necessary to meet the basic needs of the People of God still living in this Land where the Church was born. When you contribute to the Pontifical Good Friday Collection, you become an instrument of peace and join with Catholics around the world in solidarity with the Church in the Holy Land. PLEASE BE GENEROUS! For more information about Christians in the Holy Land, visit www.myfranciscan.org/good-fridav.

El Papa Francisco pide a nuestra parroquia que apoye la Colecta Pontificia del Viernes Santo, que ayuda a los cristianos de Tierra Santa. Su apoyo ayuda a la iglesia a ejercer su ministerio en las parroquias, a proporcionar escuelas católicas y a ofrecer educación religiosa. La Colecta Pontificia del Viernes Santo también ayuda a preservar los santuarios sagrados. La pandemia ha afectado especialmente a los cristianos de Tierra Santa. La mayoría de ellos dependen de las peregrinaciones para trabajar. En estos tiempos de crisis, la Colecta Pontificia del Viernes Santo es también necesaria para satisfacer las necesidades básicas del Pueblo de Dios que aún vive en esta Tierra donde nació la Iglesia. Cuando usted contribuye a la Colecta Pontificia del Viernes Santo, se convierte en un instrumento de paz y se une a los católicos de todo el mundo en solidaridad con la Iglesia en Tierra Santa. ¡POR FAVOR, SEA GENEROSO! Para más información sobre los cristianos de Tierra Santa, visitewww.myfranciscan.org/good-friday.

# EASTER FLOWERS & REMEMBRANCE ENVELOPES

Easter Flowers can be dedicated to or in memory of your loved ones. 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! A minimum suggested offering is \$20.

## Holy Week & Easter Schedule



Palm Sunday March 24<sup>th</sup>

5:00pm, 8:00am, 9:30am, 11:00am, 6:00pm (Spanish)

## Reconciliation Day, Monday, March 25th

8:30am – 8:00pm



#### Holy Thursday March 28<sup>th</sup>

8:00am Morning Prayer 7:30pm Mass of the Lord's Supper

(followed by Adoration in Our Lady's Hall until Midnight)



#### Good Friday March 29<sup>th</sup>

8:00am Morning Prayer 12:00pm Stations of the Cross 3:00pm Liturgy of the

Lord's Passion
4:00pm Spanish Living Stations

of the Cross

7:30pm Stations of the Cross 8:00pm Spanish Service

#### Holy Saturday March 30<sup>th</sup>

8:00am Morning Prayer 10:30am Blessing of Food 8:00pm Easter Vigil





#### Easter Sunday March 31<sup>st</sup>

8:00am

9:30am (Church & Parish Center)

11:00am (Church & Parish Center)

12:30pm Spanish

## 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)

#### **RELIGIOUS EDUCATION**

#### **Religious Education Office Hours are:**

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

#### **IMPORTANT DATES**

#### Monday - March 18th

4:00pm – Lenten Stations of the Cross for Level 5 & 6 Parent – Church

Tuesday – March 19<sup>th</sup>
4:00pm – Lenten Stations of the Cross for Level 3 & 4 and Parent – Church

7:30pm – Lenten Stations of the Cross for Level 7 & 8 and Parent – Parish Center

#### Wednesday - March 20th

7:30pm – Lenten Stations of the Cross for Levels 9 & 10 and Parent – Church

<u>Saturday – March 23<sup>rd</sup></u> 10:00am – First Reconciliation – Church

#### **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.

> Molloy University **Spring Open House** Sunday, April 14<sup>th</sup> 1:00pm Register at: www.molloy.edu/openhouse24

#### **MEDITATION** with Deacon Joe

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

#### 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 **CANNED FRUIT & SIZE 4 DIAPERS**

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**

As we celebrate the Feast of St. Patrick, let Stewardship us drive out all of the snakes in our lives the actions and thoughts that separate us from Christ.



#### **Bulletin Reflection**

In today's Gospel, Jesus tells all of us that we must serve Him and follow Him

#### **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:** April 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, May 6, 20, 27 **Altar Flowers:** April 28, May 5, 12, 19, 26, June 2, 9, 16 Sanctuary Lamp: March 25, April 1, 8, 15, 22, 29

#### INTRODUCTION TO THE **EUCHARISTIC PRAYER**

We come to this holy table to give God glory for the sacrifice of Christ.

#### **QUESTION OF THE WEEK**



What part of myself that I've become attached to in a self-centered way can "die" so that I will clear more space in my heart and my schedule for love of neighbor?

## WOULD YOU LIKE TO BECOME AN ALTAR SERVER?

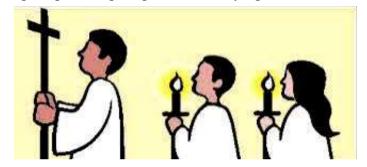
Altar servers are the boys and girls who assist the priest at Mass on Sundays and on other special occasions. They have an important leadership in the celebration of the Mass and are special people for giving and participating so actively in the Mass.

Duties of an Altar Server involve everything from assisting the priest, lighting candles, carrying the cross,

ringing the bells and praying. They join with Jesus as they give their time in his service at the altar.

#### Who can do this?

Boys and girls who have received their First Communion.



#### What you have to do

- Decide if you are willing to give this service to Jesus in your church. You have to be at the Mass you are assigned on Sundays as you would have to be at every practice and game on a sports team.
- Talk it over with your parents since this will affect them also. Remember, they have to get you there. Of course, if there is an occasional conflict, you can ask another altar server to substitute for you.
- Fill out the form below and ask your parent to sign it. If you or your parents have any questions, please call Fr. Ken.
- Return the completed form to Fr. Ken at the Parish Office. You will be contacted by Colleen Robesch who coordinates the schedules.
- You will be notified of the Training dates. A parent will need to attend as well.

#### Dear Father Ken:

I would like to join Jesus by being an Altar Server at Mass on Sunday. I have talked it over with my parents and they will help me by bringing me to my assigned Masses.

Name

Address		
Phone #		
Email:		
Grade in school	Age	
(my signature)	(parent's signature)	



# WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

at Immaculate Conception Church

Thursday mornings at Our Lady's Hall @ 9:30am
All are Welcome!

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.

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; frankiernan@gmail.com; or Kris0330@optonline.net

#### **TEDDY'S CORNER**



I just want to thank Duke the Beagle and Liz his owner, for taking care of Teddy last week. Duke is the BEST! He insisted that Teddy play with him and wouldn't take "no" for an answer! Good boy, Duke!





Fr. Joseph Slomski Council, Knights of Columbus, from Immaculate Conception Church marched in the Westhampton Beach Parade on March 9<sup>th</sup>. We had a delicious Corned Beef and Cabbage lunch after the parade. A special Thank You goes to Brother John Peter Bottke for doing all the cooking. It was a great St. Patrick's Day celebration.

Joe Sala Grand Knight



# VIRTUS CLASSES NOW AVAILABLE AT IMMACULATE CONCEPTION CHURCH

We are happy to announce that 2 classes for VIRTUS Training have been scheduled for Thursday, April 27<sup>th</sup> at 3pm and 7pm. Please register at VIRTUS.org.

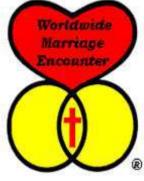
All Volunteers are REQUIRED by the Diocese of Rockville Centre to attend 1 training class in order to volunteer in any parish. A background check, done by a reputable agency through the Diocese, and a completed Code of Conduct is also needed and can be done on-line when you register for the class.

If you are NOT sure if you've taken the class, or if you have any questions, please contact the Parish VIRTUS Facilitator and Safe-Environment Coordinator:

Linda at 631-288-1423, Monday through Thursday, 9am-5pm.



#### WORLDWIDE MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER



We have made a covenant in our marriage with God and with our spouse to love one another and to fulfill our vows. To nourish your sacrament, sign up for a Worldwide Marriage Encounter Experience. Learn how to listen better, communicate more, and be a better couple. You will be glad you did! You can find one by looking up WWME.org. The next date is **June 21-June 23 in Huntington**. Worldwide Marriage Encounter sponsors a variety of in-person and virtual marriage experiences, some on weekends and some on seven weekdays. Couples explore their relationship with each other, God, and the Church. Registration is limited; there is a \$100 application fee. For more information or to apply, call Kevin & Regina Hickson at 516-554-3835 or <a href="https://www.nenyli.org/">https://www.nenyli.org/</a>.

# Living Healthy Workshop Series

# Catholic Health St. Catherine of Siena Hospital

# March 29, April 5, 12, 19, 26 and May 3

#### 10:00 am - 12:00 pm

St. Catherine of Siena Hospital 50 Route 25A Medical Office Building, Lower Level St. Vincent Conference Room

Feel better - Increase your energy and get relief from pain, fatigue and difficult emotions.

Take control of your life - Helps you do the things you want to do each day.

Get connected - Learn from others who have similar health and lifestyle issues.

The Living Healthy Workshop Series is a free, peer-led health education program for seniors and people with an ongoing health condition. The purpose of the workshop is to enhance one's skills and ability to manage their health and maintain an active and fulfilling lifestyle. The course is facilitated by two trained volunteers, over a six-week period.

#### Program includes:

- Decision making and problem-solving skills.
- Developing and maintaining a safe, long-term physical activity program.
- Fatigue management.
- Dealing with anger, depression and difficult emotions.
- Cognitive management of pain and stress.
- Communicating effectively with family, friends and health care professionals.
- Using prescribed medication appropriately.
- · Healthy eating.
- Making informed treatment decisions.
- Planning for future health care needs.

of Suffolk and St. Catherine of Siena Hospital.

Please register at (631) 870-3444

Presented by RSVP (Retired & Senior Volunteer Program)

There is no cost to attend, but we ask that you participate for the full six weeks.

# **Suffolk County Department of Health**

# Learn to be... Tobacco-free program



Date	Details		
Class 1, March 18	Program overview		
Class 2, March 25	Tobacco additives		
Class 3, April 8	Pam Laffin video presentation		
Class 4, April 15	The physical, psychological & habitua		
Class 5, April 22	Creating support systems		
Class 6, April 29	Relapse prevention		
Class 7, May 13	Reunion class		

# Free smoking cessation classes 6:00 pm – 7:30 pm

Location: St. Catherine of Siena Hospital Medical Office Building, Lower Level St. Vincent Conference Room 48 Rte. 25A Smithtown, NY 11787

For more information or to register, please call Debora at (631) 853-2928, Wanda at (631) 853-4017 or email debora.rippel@suffolkcountyny.gov







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Scan the

OR Code

631-878-1033

2 St. John's Place

"Though you have recourse to many saints as your intercessors, go especially to St. Joseph, for he has great power with God."

- St. Theresa of Avila

March 19 Feast of St. Joseph



DIOCESE of ROCKVILLE CENTRE Office of Human Life, Family and Bioethics

