P.O. Box 1227 580 Main Street Westhampton Beach, NY 11978

Church of the IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

Website: iccwhb.org

Parish email: parishoffice@iccwhb.org FB: www.facebook.com/iccwhb

YouTube: www.youtube.com/@iccwhb

"Whoever loves me will keep my word, and my Father will love him, and we will come to him and make our dwelling with him.

John 14:23-29

SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER May 25, 2025

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
Juan Vicente, Maintenance Manager

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 Thursday 12:00pm 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

Due to an issue with scheduling availability, we are no longer able to offer the First Saturday Mass each month.

Eucharistic Adoration

The FIRST FRIDAYS (Novena & silent adoration to Sacred Heart) of each month at 12:30pm and the LAST MONDAYS of each month at 7:00pm in the Church.

Confessions

Every Saturday 4:00pm to 4:45pm

PARISH TRUSTEES

Beth Hard & Linda O'Brien

PARISH COUNCIL

Michael Berdinka, Tom Day, Lori Francescani, Lisa Guzman, Tara Hudson, Verna Merkel, & Amabilia Estrada Ruiz

PARISH FINANCE COMMITTEE

Kevin Dwyer, Beth Hard, Daily Hill, Christine Lennon, Linda O'Brien, Scott O'Brien, Joe Sala, & Michael Strebel

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 12:00pm 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: Acts 16:11-15; Ps 149:1b-6a, 9b;

Jn 15:26-16:4a

Tuesday: 1 Cor 15:1-8; Ps 19:2-5; Jn 14:6-14 Wednesday: Acts 17:15, 22-18:1; Ps 148:1-2, 11-14;

Jn 16:12-15

Thursday: Acts 1:1-11; Ps 47:2-3, 6-9; Eph 1:17-23 or Heb 9:24-28; 10:19-23; Lk 24:46-53

(for Ascension): otherwise Acts 18:1-8: Ps 98:1-4: Jn 16:16-20

Friday: Acts 18:9-18; Ps 47:2-7; Jn 16:20-23 **Saturday:** Acts 18:23-28; Ps 47:2-3, 8-10; Jn 16:23b-28

Sunday: Acts 7:55-60; Ps 97:1-2, 6-7, 9; Rv 22:12-14, 16-17, 20; Jn 17:20-26 or (for Ascension) Acts 1:1-11; Ps 47:2-3, 6-9;

Eph 1:17-23 or Heb 9:24-28; 10:19-23; Lk 24:46-53

TODAY'S READINGS

Acts 15:1–2, 22–29: Faced with controversy, the disciples reach a decision under the Holy Spirit's guidance.

Psalm 67: "O God, let all the nations praise you!" Revelation 21:10–14, 22–23: John sees the city of God illumined in splendor.

John 14:23–29: Jesus promises to send the Holy Spirit to guide his followers.

Today's readings reel from the practical to the visionary and back again. In the first reading, the original apostles, guided by the Holy Spirit, decide what to require of uncircumcised Gentile converts, of which there were many. Next, we hear another vision of John's from Revelation. Finally, Jesus prepares the apostles for the time after he has ascended to the Father. His message is both practical and visionary. May God's word also enhance our faith in both ways.

MASS ATTENDANCE						
DATE	5pm	8am	9:30am	11am	6рт	TOTAL
04/27/25	149	162	88	186	177	762
05/04/25	125	158	160	176	150	769
05/11/25	102	115	123	194	100	634
05/18/25	109	140	101	226	175	751

WEEKLY COLLECTIONS					
DATE	COLLECTION	AMOUNT			
05/11/2025	Weekly Collection	\$6,274.00			
05/12/2024	Weekly Collection	\$7,082.00			
05/18/2025	Weekly Collection	\$5,943.00			
05/19/2024	Weekly Collection	\$6,682.00			
Thank you for your continuous support!					

MASSES FOR THE WEEK

Saturday May 24

5:00pm Karl Bonawandt (Fr. Ken)

Sunday May 25

8:00am Nova Mary Birkmier (Fr. Peter) 9:30am Miriam Arnold (Msgr. Mirro) 11:00am Robert Barrett & Susan Barrett

Malone (Fr. Ken)

6:00pm The People of the Parish (Fr. Jose)

May 26 Monday

8:00am Alfred Francis Kelly

Tuesday May 27

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

Wednesday **May 28**

8:00am Deacon Ken Geoghan

(26th Ordination Anniversary)

7:00pm The People of the Parish

Thursday May 29 8:00am Nancy Bott 12:00pm Richard Tierney

Intentions of Rev. Kenneth Grooms 7:00pm

Friday May 30

Christopher J. Meekins 12:00pm

Saturday May 31 4:00pm **Confessions**

5:00pm Rev. Pat Fitzgerald (Fr. Peter)

Sunday June 1

8:00am Patricia Roache (Fr. Peter)

9:30am Cecelia & Joseph Krajewski (Fr. Ken)

11:00am Florence Flood (Fr. Ken)

The People of the Parish (Fr. Jose) 6:00pm

MARRIAGE BANNS

Ш Camryn LaSala to Kyle Sheehan

П Lisa Langiulli to John Lovett

I Jessica Haber to Evan Gagne

CATHOLIC MINISTRIES APPEAL

The 2025 Catholic Ministries Appeal

The 2025 Catholic Ministries Appeal is happening 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 \$ 18,320.00 Payments Received \$ 15,793.00

Donors: 48 % of Goal: 29.50%

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,

It is with great sadness that I announce my resignation as pastor and my departure from Immaculate Conception on Wednesday June 25, 2025. My last Sunday Mass will be 11:00am on June 22nd.

The past two years have been a wonderful experience for me. I have met some of the most amazing people and you have welcomed me with open arms. But, I have also learned something about myself and have come to the conclusion, after much soul-searching and consultation, that my true vocation is to be a regular priest. I have neither the interest nor the ability to be an administrator or business manager, both of which I have come to believe are necessary qualifications to be a successful pastor. I just want to be with the people and share the love and joy of God.

The good news is that my replacement, **Fr Tom Pers**, is a seasoned pastor (even though he is only 49) and a wonderful priest. Tom is currently serving as associate pastor at St. Mary's in East Islip. He's one of the nicest guys you will ever meet. He's also extremely smart, comes from a nice area (Brightwaters), was an Eagle Scout, and is a gifted preacher - no props, but hey nobody's perfect! Lol.

Just as I am convinced that **Pope Leo** is the perfect pope for this particular time in the US and world history, I am convinced that Fr. Tom is the perfect pastor for Immaculate Conception. He is also very traditional and bilingual. What's not to like?! You are going to LOVE Fr. Tom and he will love you!



Please pray for me as I return to my former parish, Corpus Christi in Mineola, where I go every week on my day off. I am confident that you will have an amazing experience with your new pastor, Fr Tom!

May God bless you all and enjoy the Summer!

Fr. Ken

TEDDY'S CORNER

As you may have heard ... Fr. Ken cannot take Teddy with him at his new Parish, so he has found a loving family (in our Parish) that will take Teddy as their own. Here are pics with Teddy's new family ... the Alvarenga family ... Alexandra, Dilan, and Christopher. Good luck with Teddy ... we know he'll love being with you!







RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

First Communion 2024-2025

Congratulations to all the children who received their First Holy Communion this May!!



We are grateful for the many hands that helped to make these days as special as they were. Communion Day wouldn't have been so beautiful without **ALL** your help and commitment!

Thank you to ...

- ~ Father Ken for his support throughout the year and for his joyous First Holy Communion Celebrations. He made everyone feel welcome and special.
- ~ The families of the children for their commitment to them during this special Sacrament.
- ~ Our Catechists who nurtured the children's faith through the past 2 years: Olivia Archer, Anne Dean, Mary Lou Giacobbe & Cathy Glover.
- ~ Our musicians: Bobby Peterson, Thomas Killourhy, Laura Laureano, Kari Mancuso-Cates, and Shawn Pinson for their gift of glorious music.
- ~ Our Eucharistic Ministers: Valerie Ansalone, Cathy Glover, Laurie Lizak, Libby Lunding and Diana Waldron.
- ~ Our Altar Servers: Gabe Dawson, Catherine Robesch, & Claire Robesch.
- ~ Our Sacristan Shawn Pinson for making sure everything was ready for Mass.
- ~ Our Helpers: Regina Culver, Marina Xiloj & Diana Waldron whose assistance on Communion Day, Rehearsals, and ALL year (in so many ways) led to joyous Communion Masses.
- ~ Lauren Crennan & Heidi Magner for making our beautiful Communion Banner.
- ~ Georgia Joyce for her wonderful calligraphy for the children's gold book certificates.

God Bless our Children and Families as they continue to receive Jesus each week. Please pray for them as they continue their journey in our Catholic Faith!

God bless you all ~ Donna & Anne

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

First Holy Communion 2024-2025

Mateo Albrecht Argote

Austin Arrasate

Nicolas Bedoya

Audrey Bennett

Peter Cavouto

Colin Crennan

Chris Crespo-Morocho

Tristan Froelich

John Gerardi

Henry Hancock

Adelaide LeFort

Liam Luna

Connor Luzim

James Lynch

Finley Magner

Sebastian Molinaro

Alejandra Morales Tipaz

Reilyn Moran

Kevin Perez

Addison Peters

Ainhoa Denisse Guachichullca Quilli

Brooke Redlus

Liana Roman

Luke Santinon

Enzo Santonocito

Riley Set

Sebastian Set

Asher Sullivan

Bradley Sullivan

Eric Sundin

Madison Trelease

Denis Valdivia

Natalie Veliz-Alvarado

Addison Wright









RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Religious Education Office Hours are:

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

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Sunday: Sixth Sunday of Easter;

Monday: St. Philip Neri

Tuesday: St. Augustine of Canterbury

Thursday: The Ascension of the Lord; St. Paul VI **Saturday:** The Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary

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!

MEDITATION with Deacon Joe

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

PRAY FOR OUR SICK

Aurora Antunes, Deacon Joseph Byrne, Kevin Chisholm, Rev. Simplicio D'Sousa, Alexa Dalton, Brian Dalton, Lisa Falcone, Blythe Fickenwirth, Richard Hewes, Young Katie Kennedy, Rosanna, & Daniel Standing

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

PRAY FOR OUR MILITARY

Ethan Bentley (Navy) Julia Blake (Navy) Joseph Ferraro III (Air Force) Thomas Hellman (USSF) Lt. Col. William Robesch RJ Ruggiero (Navy) Lt. Cameron Worden Lt. Matthew Worden (Navy)

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

PARISH SOCIAL MINISTRY



FOOD PANTRY NEEDS

Toiletries (shampoo & soap), Juice Boxes, Cereal, Pasta, Tuna, Peanut Butter, Jelly, Hearty Soup, & Condiments.

The Pantry is in **DIRE NEED** of:

Peanut Butter, Jelly, Soap, Shampoo, Toothpaste, Deodorant, & Size 6 Diapers.

QUESTION OF THE WEEK



What resentments, jealousies, or ambitions do I have in my heart that interfere with the presence of peace? How can I

overcome these?

SECOND COLLECTION

Next weekend, May 31st/June 1st, our second collection will be for COMMUNICATIONS. Thank you for your generosity.

REFLECTIONS

Living Stewardship

Listen to the promptings of the Holy Spirit in your life. Ask the Spirit to guide you. Perhaps God is guiding you to be at some service to others.



Bulletin Reflection

In today's Gospel, Jesus comforts His Apostles by telling them about the Holy Spirit.



All offices will be **CLOSED** Monday, May 26th in observance of Memorial Day

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.

INTRODUCTION TO THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

Brighter than the sun and moon together, with a light that makes the walls of the holy city sparkle like crystal, God's Lamb shines in splendor. In the eucharistic feast, all created things stream into the twelve gates of the new Jerusalem to begin the supper of the Lamb.

INTRODUCTION TO THE LITURGY OF THE DAY

As we continue this glorious Easter season, we approach the solemnity of the Ascension, marking Jesus' ascent from this earth to be with the Father in heaven forever. In John's account of the Last Supper, Jesus, knowing that his time here was short, prepared the disciples for the future. He specifically promises to leave them with two gifts: his peace and the Holy Spirit. Let us give thanks for the peace of Christ and the Holy Spirit, two incomparable gifts which nearly two thousand years later we have been given as well.

NEEDED EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS for the HOMEBOUND

Immaculate Conception Parish is in need of Trained Eucharistic Ministers for the Homebound Ministry. If you would like to join us in serving Communion to individuals at the Westhampton Care Center and/or individuals in their homes who cannot attend mass, please contact susanvalentino@yahoo.com.

SECRETARY NEEDED

Sacred Heart Parish, Cutchogue, seeking a Secretary Pt – Ft (20 to 35hrs). Salary commensurate with experience & skills (\$20 - \$25.00 per hr.) Excellent people, computer & organizational skills a must. Bi-Lingual preferred (Spanish/English). Submit Resume to: Rev. Michael J. Bartholomew, Pastor pastor@sacredheartolgc.org.

SACRAMENTALS

BREAD & WINE, SANCTUARY LAMP, & ALTAR FLOWERS

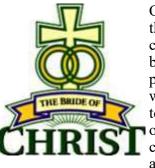
To arrange a sacramental in loving memory of or for the intentions of your loved one, please visit the Parish Office.

Available Dates:

Sanctuary Lamp: June 2, 9, 16, 23, 30 **Bread & Wine:** June 2, 9, 16, 23, 30 **Altar Flowers:** June 1, 8, 15, 22, 29

Please contact the Parish Office for more information.

TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION



One ancient Roman custom that was approved by the church was the veiling of the bride. When a single woman pledged her life to Christ, in a way of life not dissimilar to today's religious women, the outward sign of this commitment was a veiling. In ancient Rome, a woman with

uncovered head was unmarried, and a veiled woman was "off limits to suitors." It was one small step to decide that a bride should receive a veil from the hands of the church as a sign of her new state in life. The prayer that accompanied the veiling was beautiful, and sung, a kind of consecratory prayer that was very similar to the prayer of ordination, or the prayers for blessing holy water or chrism. The "nuptial blessing" originally mentioned only the woman, although we know that the veil was often extended to cover the husband's shoulders also. The blessing was located before the kiss of peace, which the priest gave to the husband, and the husband to his new bride. Remember that this is in the early centuries, long before the kiss of peace virtually disappeared from liturgy.

The veiling and blessing was required when priests or deacons married, was recommended to laypersons, but forbidden for certain public sinners and second marriages. The veiling of the couple was preserved in England until the Reformation, and is returning to practice among Swedish Lutherans after having fallen into disuse about seventy-five years ago.



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

Father Joseph Slomski Council #7423

SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

Eligibility: The candidate must be a high school senior who has been accepted and will attend an accredited four or two year college or vocational program beginning in the fall of 2025. In addition, the candidates family must be registered parishioners in the Immaculate Conception Parish. A completed application must be submitted to the Parish Office in the Parish Center by the close of business on May 27, 2025. The candidate must complete the application and submit it along with a copy of their high school transcript and a copy of their college essay or similar personal statement that will help us to better understand their goals and unique qualifications.

Please drop off your completed application at the Parish Office in the Parish Center (or outside in the Religious Ed. Mailbox outside the front entrance), or mail it to:

Immaculate Conception Church

Knights of Columbus Council #7423

PO Box 1227 Westhampton Beach, NY 11978



Knights of Columbus, Fr. Jos. Slomski Council, No. 7423

21ST Annual Car Wash Fundraiser

Mill Road, Front of the Westhampton Beach Middle School

Sunday June 8 9 AM to 2 PM Rain or shine \$20 per Vehicle



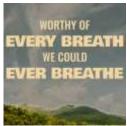
Tickets on sale following the Masses:

May 24 - 25, May 31 - June 1, and June 7 - 8.

To help fund Middle & High School Scholarships.

Call 631- 338-0212 for additional information.

OUT & ABOUT



TAKE A BREATH

June 12th @ 10:00am – 1:00pm \$40.00Advanced payment required

Breathing is a powerful tool for rest, recovery, and relaxation – a gateway to a more profound sense of peace and well-being. We invite you to join us at Cormaria Retreat Center, where you can explore simple yet effective breathing techniques to ease everyday stress and enhance relaxation. Under the gentle guidance of Karen Easton, a registered yoga teacher with 500 hours of training, you'll delve into the philosophy and methodology of

breath work. This program requires no special equipment – just bring your presence and an open heart. By engaging in this practice, you'll discover how conscious breathing can transform your life, offering a sanctuary of calm amidst the chaos of daily life. Embrace the opportunity to connect with your breath and unlock the natural tranquility that resides within you. To register, call 631-725-4206 or email info@cormaria.org.

CATHOLIC PILGRIMAGE TO ITALY

September 29 - October 12, 2025. Rome, Papal Audience, Trevi Fountain, Holy Stairs, Church of St. Alphonsus Liguori, St. Peter's Basilica and the other Papal Basilicas, Vatican Museum, Appian Way, Catacombs, Cascia, Assisi, Orvieto, Florence, Pisa, Cinque Terre, Turin, Milan, Breakfast and Dinner Daily, Mass Daily. Airfare from JFK included. For more info or a brochure please call Mike Milano at 631-569-2620.

THE BEGINNING EXPERIENCE® MINISTRY

A Christian peer led ministry that serves those grieving the end of a marriage or spousal relationship due to death, divorce, or separation. We invite men and women of all ages and faiths to attend our upcoming program - *In the Beginning...Coping with Life Alone.* This is a one day remote via Zoom program which will be held on Saturday, June 28th from 9am to 4pm. For information or to please call Jim at 845-220-7883 or Denise at 845-325-3147.

THE CANNON OF PEACE

An Italian Film with English Subtitles Saturday, May 31st @ 3:30pm Sisters of St. Dominic, Amityville \$10 donation

Based on the life of Niccolo Paganini the principal violin virtuoso of the 19th Century and his violin which he called "My Cannon," this film offers us an opportunity to view a different vision of the world where culture and art become instruments of peace and transformation. It is a striking example of Pope Francis' vision of integral ecology.

WORLDWIDE MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER

Discover unity in your marriage on the next Worldwide Marriage Encounter Experience on **June 27-29 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 https://www.nenyli.org/.



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Deborah Pirro, ABR

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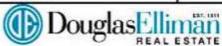
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