

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

PREPARE
the Way

Matthew 3:1-12

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT
December 7, 2025

STAFF

Rev. Thomas Pers, Pastor

Deacon Joseph Byrne
Deacon Mark Herrmann

Shawn Pinson, Sacristan
Bobby Peterson, Music Director
Donna Cosme, Director of Religious Education
Mary Lou Giacobbe, Asst 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

Spanish Apostolate
Rev. José Luis Tenas 631-914-1538

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

Eucharistic Adoration

The FIRST FRIDAYS (Novena & silent adoration to Sacred Heart) of each month at 8:30am 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. Baptisms take place the 1st Sunday of each month. 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: Is 35:1-10; Ps 85:9ab, 10-14; Lk 5:17-26

Tuesday: Is 40:1-11; Ps 96:1-3, 10ac, 11-13;
Mt 18:12-14

Wednesday: Is 40:25-31; Ps 103:1-4, 8, 10;
Mt 11:28-30

Thursday: Gn 3:9-15, 20; Ps 98:1-4;
Eph 1:3-6, 11-12; Lk 1:26-38

Friday: Is 48:17-19; Ps 1:1-4, 6; Mt 11:16-19

Saturday: Sir 48:1-4, 9-11;

Ps 80:2ac, 3b, 15-16, 18-19; Mt 17:9a, 10-13

Sunday: Is 35:1-6a, 10; Ps 146:6-10; Jas 5:7-10;
Mt 11:2-11

TODAY'S READINGS

Isaiah 11:1-10 The wolf shall be a guest of the lamb.

Psalms 72 "Justice shall flourish in his time, and fullness of peace for ever."

Romans 15:4-9 God, the source of patience, enables us to live in harmony.

Matthew 3:1-12 Prepare the way of the Lord!

Each Sunday of Advent this year, the first reading is taken from the book of the prophet Isaiah and the Gospel is from Matthew. Matthew's Gospel consistently portrays Jesus and his mission as a fulfillment of the promise God made to the Chosen People. Therefore, Matthew strives to connect the dots between Isaiah, the paramount prophet of the Hebrew scriptures, and Jesus Christ. Today we hear Isaiah and John the Baptist describe in terms poetic and practical the coming of God's chosen one. May their words strengthen our anticipation of and preparation for the Lord's coming.

MASS ATTENDANCE

DATE	5pm	8am	9:30am	11am	6pm	TOTAL
11/09/25	137	166	140	162	195	800
11/16/25	160	157	187	178	180	862
11/23/25	150	154	136	176	186	802
11/30/25	130	144	119	155	100	648

WEEKLY COLLECTIONS

DATE	COLLECTION	AMOUNT
11/23/2025	Weekly Collection	\$5,635.00
11/24/2024	Weekly Collection	\$6,884.00
11/30/2025	Weekly Collection	\$6,379.00
12/01/2024	Weekly Collection	\$8,935.00

Thank you for your continuous support!

MASSES FOR THE WEEK

Saturday

5:00pm

Sunday

8:00am

9:30am

11:00am

6:00pm

Monday

8:00am

12:00pm

7:00pm

8:00pm

Tuesday

8:00am

Wednesday

8:00am

Thursday

8:00am

Friday

8:00am

Saturday

4:00pm

5:00pm

Sunday

8:00am

9:30am

11:00am

6:00pm

December 6

Intentions of Msgr. John Graham
(Ordination) (Fr. Tom)

December 7

Richard Dunne (Fr. Peter)

The People of the Parish (Fr. Tom)

Morgan Evan Leary (Fr. Tom)

Poor Souls in Purgatory (Fr. Jose)

December 8

Mary Frances Doyle

Antonetta & Francesco Morrone

Richard Hill

The People of the Parish

December 9

Mary McGuire

December 10

(Guild Mass) Marco Oliveri;

Mario Nobisso

December 11

Irwin Billman

December 12

Claire Martino

December 13

Confessions

Deceased Members of the Franza
Family (Fr. Peter)

December 14

Karl Bonawandt (Fr. Tom)

Anthony Mineo (Fr. Tom)

Antonetta & Francesco Morrone
(Fr. Peter)

The People of the Parish (Fr. Jose)

All Parish Offices will be

CLOSED

Monday, December 8th

in honor of the

Feast Day of the Immaculate Conception



**IMMACULATE
CONCEPTION
of the
BLESSED VIRGIN MARY**

A Holy Day of Obligation

Monday, December 8th

8:00am, 12:00pm, 7:00pm,
& 8:00pm in Spanish

(Due to the Sunday Mass Schedule, there is
NO VIGIL MASS for the Holy Day this year)

INTRODUCTION TO THE LITURGY OF THE DAY

“Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand!” So proclaimed John the Baptist as he prepared the world for the coming of the Messiah. We may not be preparing for Jesus Christ’s arrival in the flesh or plunging into the Jordan River, but John’s words apply just as much today as they did then. We must recognize and repent of our sins in order to be prepared for the Lord’s arrival in our lives in any way. And the kingdom of heaven is still at hand, glimpsed when we are reconciled with God and our neighbor. May we hear John’s words as if they were directed to us here and now.

QUESTION OF THE WEEK



How can my family live together more harmoniously? What can I do to help make this happen?

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	\$ 27,160.00
Payments Received	\$ 26,891.00

Donors: 80 % of Goal: 43.74%

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.

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!

REFLECTIONS

Living Stewardship

This week, find time to go to confession. Make this Advent season holy and prepare yourself for the coming of our God.



Bulletin Reflection

In today’s Gospel, St. John the Baptist calls us to repent and prepare ourselves for the coming of the Lord.

SACRAMENTALS

The SANCTUARY LAMP
will burn this week in loving memory of

***Irwin Billman and the
Daly & O’Loughlin Families***

Wondering what to give that hard-to-buy-for loved one for Christmas? Having a Mass said or arranging a Sacramental for the living is a beautiful way to say “I love you!”

Visit the Parish Office to arrange yours today!

Available Dates:

Sanctuary Lamp: December 15, 22, 29

Bread & Wine: December 15, 22

Altar Flowers: January 11, 18, 25, February 1, 8, 15

Please contact the Parish Office for more information.

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Sunday: Second Sunday of Advent

Monday: The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Tuesday: St. Juan Diego

Wednesday: OL of Loreto

Thursday: St. Damasus I

Friday: OL of Guadalupe

Saturday: St. Lucy

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

Isaiah has given us a glimpse of God's holy mountain, where true justice reigns. In the mystery of the liturgy, we catch a glimpse of that holy mountain. At this table we receive a mere foretaste of the riches waiting for those who long for God's revelation.

WORDS OF OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE TO JUAN DIEGO

"Let not your heart be disturbed. Do not fear that sickness, nor any other sickness or anguish. Am I not here, who is your Mother? Are you not under my protection? Am I not your health? Are you not happily within my fold? What else do you wish? Do not grieve nor be disturbed by anything."

SECOND COLLECTION

Next weekend, December 13th/14th, our 2nd Collection will be for Religious Retirement. Thank you for your continued generosity!

To share your Christmas cheer with Fr. Ken:

Rev. Kenneth Grooms
Corpus Christi Church
155 Garfield Avenue
Mineola, NY 11501

PRAY FOR OUR SICK

Cathy Burch, Deacon Joseph Byrne, Claire Cowcer,
Jeffrey Davis, Millie Ferrin,
Rev. Dan Fitzpatrick (& fellow Jesuits in Nursing Home),
Gerri Martin, & Barbara Storer

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

MEDITATION with Deacon Joe

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

PRAY FOR OUR MILITARY

NAVY: Ethan Bentley, Julia Blake, Michael J. DiLeo,
William Robesch, RJ Ruggiero, Matthew Worden, &
Cameron Worden

MARINES: Christopher Fencel

AIR FORCE: Joseph Ferraro III

USSF: Thomas Hellman

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

PARISH SOCIAL MINISTRY



FOOD PANTRY

Some items our Food Pantry needs are:
RICE (2, 3, or 5 lb. packages), BLACK BEANS, CANNED VEGETABLES, TOILETRIES, HEARTY-TYPE SOUPS, CONDIMENTS, & #6 DIAPERS. But ANY food/toiletry is welcomed!

On behalf of the many families in need that we serve here at Immaculate Conception Parish ... THANK YOU and may God bless you in your giving!

TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION



Did St. Francis of Assisi invent the Christmas crib? Not exactly, but his devotion to the Incarnation and his love for the poverty of the Christ Child certainly popularized this beloved custom. Long before Francis, it was a custom at the Basilica of St. Mary

Major in Rome to enshrine a rich image of Mary, gilded and bejeweled, embracing the child Jesus. This church was founded as a kind of home for the feast of Christmas in the fourth century. In 1223, Francis was ready to celebrate this feast in a new way. In the tiny city of Greccio, he asked friends to prepare a place where they could experience the poverty and suffering embraced by Christ in his birth. It was a living scene: an ox from the barn, an ass from the stable, and peasants standing in for shepherds and kings. The night of the celebration was beautiful, the weather was warm, and people came in crowds, bearing candles and singing hymns that echoed through the forest. Francis himself chanted the Gospel and preached. The custom spread quickly, and by the sixteenth century cribs were seasonal features not only in church, but in the home.

On December 17, the liturgy begins to unfold the Lord's birth before us, and it's the right time to follow this beautiful tradition. In Germany, each night throughout Advent children prepare a bedding for the manger. At bedtime prayer, a child places a single straw in the manger for each act of devotion or virtue performed during the day. If the children are good, then the Christ child will have plenty of soft bedding when he is placed in the manger on Christmas.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

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

Happy Advent!!

Here is a family prayer as we begin this season of hopeful anticipation:

*Lord Jesus, as we begin Advent, help us prepare our hearts for Your coming. Fill our home with hope, peace, joy, and love. Come, Lord Jesus, be with us.
Amen.*

DATES TO REMEMBER IN DECEMBER

Monday, December 8th

NO CLASSES: Feast of the Immaculate Conception — A Holy Day of Obligation

Sunday, December 14th

Level 2 & Level 9 Mass @ 9:30am in Church

Monday, December 15th – Wednesday, December 17th

Adoration w/ parents in Church (Levels 1-9)

Monday, December 22nd – Wednesday, December 31st

NO CLASSES — Merry Christmas & Happy New Year!

SAINT FAIR

Our Level 1-6 parents joined their children for a Saint Fair in November. They learned about one of our newest Saints – St. Carlo Acutis and “what we mean when we profess the communion of saints in the Apostles’ Creed. The children rotated among the classrooms where they “met” various Saints and received a takeaway from each one.

Many thanks to our wonderful Level 1-6 Catechists. We couldn’t have made this happen without their untiring efforts, creativity and dedication– they did a phenomenal job!

Pictured here are St. Peter/Francis (Carol), St. Anthony (Mariann), St. Cecilia (Luna) & St. Nicholas (Denise).



FATHER CHARLES AND LAURIE MANGANO PRESENT

A Christmas Concert



Immaculate Conception Church

580 Main Street, Westhampton Beach, NY
631-288-1423

*No tickets will be sold only
a Free Will Offering*

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 12TH ✦ 7:00 P.M.

We hope you can join us for a wonderful evening of beautiful Christmas music, featuring many of the classics we have come to treasure as we focus on the true meaning of Christmas, as well as some "new" favorites. Please invite a friend, as it will be an uplifting evening for all.



Father Charles and Laurie have united their gifts to praise God and minister to His people in a very special way. They have been singing for the Lord since childhood, and together they have touched the hearts of thousands with their meditative and inspirational music. In addition to producing 13 albums, a DVD and music video, Father Charles and Laurie have also co-hosted their own TV show on Telecare for many years. They have sung at countless venues and benefit concerts. In addition, through their music ministry, they continue to donate to many charities. This beautiful Christmas Concert on Friday, December 12th is *guaranteed to be most uplifting!* It is our hope that through this experience we will come to know, love and trust the Lord Jesus in a deeper and more intimate way, leading us to serve the Lord with gladness.



Fr. Joseph Slomski Council
Knights of Columbus
The Knights are back this year
selling Christmas Wreaths and
Cemetery Pillows
after every weekend Mass now
through December 14th.
Thank you for your support!



**Knights of
Columbus®**



**If you haven't yet purchased your Christmas wreath, pillow or decorative pot, please stop by after Sunday Mass and let one of our Knights of Columbus brothers help you to choose the perfect item to spread Christmas cheer this holiday season.
Thank you for your support!**

A large silhouette of a nativity scene is set against a warm, orange-toned background with soft, out-of-focus bokeh lights. The silhouette includes the figures of Joseph, Mary, and the infant Jesus in a manger, with a donkey and a star above them.

BLESSING OF BABY JESUS

Bring Baby Jesus
from your Nativity
to the 9:30am Mass
on Sunday, December 14
and have him blessed!

What a wonderfully
precious tradition
for your family!



Our Lady Queen of Apostles
Regional Catholic School

**Contact
Us!**

631-878-1033
olqany.org



Scan QR Code

Thanksgiving Feast 2025!





"Donors like you have made it possible for me—and religious like me—to continue our mission in spirit and in prayer. Thank you for helping us live with dignity and peace."

Sister Maria Cigolini, MSCS, 86, center

Retirement Fund for Religious

Please give to those who have given a lifetime.

Our senior sisters, brothers, and religious order priests need your help. They have spent decades caring for those in need, but years of service for little or no pay have left many religious communities without sufficient retirement savings. Today, over 20,500 elderly religious depend on the Retirement Fund for Religious to help cover their rising health care costs, medication, and daily living expenses. Your gift can help ensure they receive the care they deserve. Please give back to those who have given a lifetime.

From left:
Brother Jordan Coonen, OP, 84;
Sister Maria Cigolini, MSCS, 86;
Sister Sharon Glumb, SLW, 76.
Visit retiredreligious.org/2025photos
to meet the religious pictured.

retiredreligious.org

To give at your parish: Make your check payable to your parish. (Write RFR on the memo line.)

To donate by mail: Make your check payable to Retirement Fund for Religious. Please do not mail cash.

Amount: ☐ \$1,000 ☐ \$500 ☐ \$250 ☐ \$100 ☐ \$50 ☐ Other \$ _____

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____

Zip code _____

Email address (for e-newsletters) _____

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Data Preference (Please check Yes or No.)

The data I provided may be used to complete this transaction and may be used and stored in the records of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops' Retirement Fund for Religious.

☐ Yes, I agree.

☐ No, the data I provided may only be used for this transaction.

Please check with your employer about matching gifts.

National Religious Retirement Office • 3211 Fourth Street NE • Washington DC 20017-1194 • Phone (202) 541-3215 • Fax (202) 541-3053



“Donantes como ustedes han hecho posible que yo, y los religiosos mayores, continuemos nuestra misión en espíritu y en oración. Gracias por ayudarnos a vivir con dignidad y paz”.

Hermana Maria Cigolini, MSCS, 86, centro

Fondo para la Jubilación de Religiosos

Done a los que donaron su vida.

Nuestras hermanas, hermanos y sacerdotes mayores de órdenes religiosas necesitan que ustedes los ayuden. Han pasado décadas atendiendo a los necesitados, y años de servicio con poca o ninguna paga han dejado a muchas comunidades religiosas sin ahorros suficientes para su jubilación. Hoy, más de 20,500 religiosos ancianos esperan que el Fondo para la Jubilación de Religiosos los ayude a cubrir los gastos crecientes del cuidado de la salud, los medicamentos y gastos de vida diarios. El donativo de ustedes asegurará que ellos reciban el cuidado que merecen. Les rogamos que donen a los que dieron toda una vida.

Desde la izq.:

Hermano Jordan Coonen, OP, 84;
Hermana Maria Cigolini, MSCS, 86;
Hermana Sharon Glumb, SLW, 76.

Visite retiredreligious.org/2025photos para conocer a los religiosos en esta foto.

retiredreligious.org

Para entregarlo a su parroquia: Haga su cheque pagadero a su parroquia. (Escriba RFR en la línea del memo.)

Para donar por correo: Haga su cheque pagadero a Retirement Fund for Religious. No envíe efectivo.

Cantidad: ☐ \$1,000 ☐ \$500 ☐ \$250 ☐ \$100 ☐ \$50 ☐ Otro \$ _____

Nombre _____

Dirección _____

Ciudad _____

Estado _____

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Dirección electrónica (para boletines electrónicos) _____

(Arqui)diócesis _____

Su preferencia con los datos (Marque Sí o No.)

Los datos que proporciono se pueden usar para completar esta transacción y almacenarse para los registros del Fondo para la Jubilación de Religiosos de la Conferencia de Obispos Católicos de los Estados Unidos.

☐ Sí, de acuerdo.

☐ No, los datos que proporcioné se pueden usar solo para esta transacción.

Verifique con su empleador los donativos paralelos.

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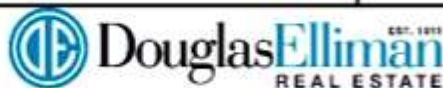
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