

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



BLESSED

are the poor in spirit,
for theirs is the
kingdom of heaven.

Matthew 5:1-12a

FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
February 1, 2026

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: Mal 3:1-4; Ps 24:7-10; Heb 2:14-18;
Lk 2:22-40 [22-32]
Tuesday: 2 Sm 18:9-10, 14b, 24-25a, 30-19:3;
Mk 5:21-43
Wednesday: 2 Sm 24:2, 9-17; Mk 6:1-6
Thursday: 1 Kgs 2:1-4, 10-12; Mk 6:7-13
Friday: Sir 47:2-11; Mk 6:14-29
Saturday: 1 Kgs 3:4-13; Mk 6:30-34
Sunday: Is 58:7-10; Ps 112:4-9; 1 Cor 2:1-5;
Mt 5:13-16

TODAY'S READINGS

Zephaniah 2:3; 3:12-13 "Seek the Lord, all you humble of the earth."

Psalms 146 "Blessed are the poor in spirit; the kingdom of heaven is theirs!"

1 Corinthians 1:26-31 God chose the foolish of the world to shame the wise.

Matthew 5:1-12a Blessed are the lowly, the sorrowing, the poor in spirit.

Zephaniah prepares us for today's Gospel, instructing us to seek justice and humility. Paul writes that God purposely chose the weak and lowly, for Christ has become our strength and our glory. Jesus teaches the crowds the Beatitudes, telling them that it is those who are meek, merciful, and poor in spirit who are blessed. So today we sing out, "Blessed are the poor in spirit," looking to the Lord to satisfy our every need.



MASS ATTENDANCE

DATE	5pm	8am	9:30am	11am	6pm	TOTAL
01/04/26	146	125	135	180	187	773
01/11/26	129	90	208	195	196	818
01/18/26	144	82	120	176	185	707
01/25/26	178	38	16	9	xxx	241

WEEKLY COLLECTIONS

DATE	COLLECTION	AMOUNT
01/25/2026	Weekly Collection	\$2,953.00
01/26/2025	Weekly Collection	\$4,303.00

Thank you for your continuous support!

MASSES FOR THE WEEK

Saturday 5:00pm	January 31 Mr. & Mrs. Roy Bjornson (Fr. Tom)
Sunday 8:00am 9:30am 11:00am 6:00pm	February 1 Michael Betjemann (Fr. Peter) Henry Arnold (Fr. Tom) Anthony Terrasi (Fr. Tom) The People of the Parish (Fr. Jose)
Monday 8:00am	February 2 James B. Walsh
Tuesday 8:00am	February 3 Donald Ross
Wednesday 8:00am	February 4 (Guild Mass) Intentions of Bryan Stevens
Thursday 8:00am	February 5 Mary Pennachio
Friday 8:00am	February 6 Rosemary Simms
Saturday 4:00pm 5:00pm	February 7 Confessions Rosemary Scammell (Fr. Tom)
Sunday 8:00am 9:30am 11:00am 6:00pm	February 8 Patricia & Robert Hinck, Sr. (Msgr. Mirro) Michael Thomas Triolo (Fr. Tom) Lita DeMotica (Fr. Tom) The People of the Parish (Fr. Jose)



Monday, February 2nd GROUNDHOG DAY

On this day we find out if the Groundhog sees his shadow ... giving us another 6 more weeks of this wicked winter!

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	\$ 29,425.00
Payments Received	\$ 29,200.00

Donors: 85 % of Goal: 47.38%

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.

A MESSAGE FROM FR. TOM

Dear Parishioners,

After consultation with members of the parish staff and considering the needs of the parish, I have decided to restructure our Music Ministry. As a result of this transition, Bobby Peterson will conclude his service as our Music Director on January 31st. We are grateful for his work here at Immaculate Conception and wish him every blessing in his future endeavors.

I am pleased to share that we will officially welcome our new Music Director, Renee Stakey, beginning February 7th.

Sincerely yours in Christ,
Fr. Tom



Renée Stakey



From the Music Director

I am honored to begin my service as Music Director here at Immaculate Conception Church. With many years of experience in sacred music, choral leadership, and liturgical planning, I am grateful for the opportunity to place these gifts at the service of the Church and the prayer of the faithful.

Sacred music holds a vital role in the liturgy, drawing us more deeply into the mystery we celebrate. I warmly invite parishioners who feel called—singers and instrumentalists alike—to consider participating in our music ministry. Whether seasoned musicians or those offering their talents for the first time, all are welcome to contribute to the beauty and reverence of our worship.

I look forward to working together to uphold the Church's rich musical tradition and to support the liturgy with music that is prayerful, dignified, and worthy of the sacred rites. Please feel free to introduce yourself after Mass or contact the parish office for more information.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

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

A PRAYER FOR FEBRUARY

Dear Lord,
Thank you for the gift of a new month and the opportunities it brings. As we begin this February, we pray that you will fill our hearts and homes with your Joy. May we embrace the beauty of each day, finding delight in the little things. Help us to cultivate gratitude for all you have given us. Let our spirits be uplifted, and may we spread joy like a warm light in the world. We ask this through Christ, our Lord. Amen.

*This is my commandment:
love one another as I love you.
~ John 15:12*

DATES TO REMEMBER FOR FEBRUARY

Monday, February 2

7pm - First Communion Parent Meeting - PC

Saturday, February 7

First Reconciliation - Church

February 9 – 11

Mass 101 - Parents attend class with children this week - Church

Wednesday, February 11

Level 8 Retreat Form Due

February 15 - 18

NO CLASSES - Winter Break

Wednesday, February 18

Ash Wednesday - Lent begins
Please attend a Mass or Service today

Saturday, February 28

Level 8 Retreat - PC

QUESTION OF THE WEEK



How will I allow myself to be meek, merciful, and poor in spirit, choosing to rely more often on God's grace?

REFLECTIONS

Living Stewardship

When you hear the Beatitudes, think of ways you can change the way you live to be more in line with Jesus' teachings.



Bulletin Reflection

In today's Gospel we hear about the Beatitudes and how important it is to spend time trying to live in accordance with God's will.

SACRAMENTALS

The BREAD & WINE, ALTAR FLOWERS, & SANCTUARY LAMP

are offered this week in loving memory of

Grace Guerra

in honor of her 5th Anniversary in Heaven

There are many opportunities to have the Sanctuary Lamp burn a week in memory of ... or perhaps having the Bread & Wine in someone's honor for a week. We also have Altar Flowers that can be in your loved ones name for the week. Visit the Parish Office to arrange yours today!

Available Dates:

Sanctuary Lamp: February 9, 16, 23

Bread & Wine: February 9, 16

Altar Flowers: February 8, 15

Please contact the Parish Office for more information.

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Sunday: Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Monday: The Presentation of the Lord

Tuesday: St. Blase; St. Ansgar

Thursday: St. Agatha

Friday: St. Paul Miki and Companions, Martyrs

Saturday: Blessed Virgin Mary

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 LITURGY OF THE DAY

Matthew structures his Gospel around five lengthy sermons of Jesus and today we hear the beginning of the first of them, the well-known and oft-quoted Sermon on the Mount. It can be a challenge to hear it as the radical departure from conventional thinking that it was when Jesus first spoke these words from the mountaintop. May we ask God for the grace to realign our ideals and realize the kingdom of heaven.



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

MEDITATION with Deacon Joe

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

PRAY FOR OUR SICK

Jeffrey Davis, Millie Ferrin, Eve McNeil, Fay Mack, & Nancy Ruffell

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

PARISH SOCIAL MINISTRY



FOOD PANTRY

Some items our Food Pantry needs are: TOILETRIES, HEARTY-TYPE SOUPS & JELLY. But ANY food/toiletry is welcomed!

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!

INTRODUCTION TO THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

The Beatitudes describe those who will gather around the table of the heavenly banquet. There, the poor in spirit, those who mourn, the merciful, and peacemakers will eat and be satisfied. At this table, we are given a glimpse of that heavenly banquet. With hearts filled with thanksgiving, we echo the prayer offered by the angels and saints.



GOD'S WORD IS LIVING AND EFFECTIVE

A Reflection on Father Simeon Leiva-Merikakis, O.C.S.O.'s Commentary Fire of Mercy, Heart of the Word: Meditations on the Gospel according to Saint Matthew and its Contribution to Contemplative Catholic Biblical Theology, Scholarship, and Lectio Divina

This new pastoral letter from Bishop Barres can be found on their website: DRV.org

EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

7:00pm

Because of the snow storm last week, Adoration was canceled and rescheduled for Monday, February 2nd. All are encouraged to come spend some time in quiet with the Lord.



THE CHRISTIAN IDEAL

The Christian ideal has not been tried and found wanting. It has been found difficult and left untried.
~ Gilbert K. Chesterton



ST. BLAISE

Feast Day: February 3

Patron Saint of throat illnesses, animals, wool combers, and wool trading

Saint Blaise was the bishop of Sebastea and a doctor. The first known record of the saint's life comes from the medical writings of Aëtius Amidenus, where he is recorded as helping with patients suffering from objects stuck in their throat.

Saint Blaise is believed have begun as a healer then, eventually, became a "physician of souls." He then retired to a cave, where he remained in prayer. People often turned to Saint Blaise for healing miracles.

In 316, the governor of Cappadocia and of Lesser Armenia, Agricola, arrested then-bishop Blaise for being a Christian. On their way to the jail, a woman set her only son, who was choking to death on a fish bone, at his feet.

Blaise cured the child, and though Agricola was amazed, he could not get Blaise to renounce his faith. Therefore, Agricola beat Blaise with a stick and tore at his flesh with iron combs before beheading him.

In another tale, Blaise was being led to the prison in Sebastea, and on the way came across a poor old woman whose pig had been stolen by a wolf. Blaise commanded the wolf return the pig, which it did - alive and uninjured - to the amazement of all. When he reached Sebastea, the woman came to him and brought two fine wax candles in an attempt to dispel the gloom of his darkened cell.

Saint Blaise is often depicted holding two crossed candles in his hand, or in a cave with wild animals. He is also often shown with steel combs. The similarity of the steel combs and the wool combs made a large contribution to Saint Blaise's leadership as the patron saint of wool combers and the wool trade.

Join us at the 8:00am Morning Mass THIS Tuesday, February 3rd, as we celebrate the Feast Day of St. Blaise ... all are encouraged to come forward to have your throat blessed.

Our Lady Queen of Apostles Regional Catholic School

Spring Basket and Food Extravaganza



Saturday, March 21st
6:00 PM

Doors open at 5:30
at

Our Lady Queen of
Apostles Auditorium

(Ticket price includes food to try from various restaurants)

Tickets \$50 each

*CALL TO PURCHASE YOUR
TICKETS!*

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Tickets available till February 25th
or we are sold out





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**The Basilica Parish of the Sacred Hearts
Announces a Special Music Event**

The Celtic Tenors



**Monday, March 2, 2026
at 7:00 PM**

An evening of new and traditional Irish Music

Join us for an unforgettable evening!

Monday, March 2, 2026 at 7:00 PM

168 Hill Street, Southampton, NY 11968

Tickets Online: celtictenors26.eventbrite.com

or call 631-283-0097

**CYOL East End
presents**

WINTER OLYMPICS GAME NIGHT

Girls & Boys Grades PreK thru 3

Friday, February 27th @ 5:00-7:00 pm

@ St. John Paul II Regional School
515 Marcy Ave, Riverhead

\$20, includes a slice of pizza

FOR PROGRAM DETAILS & TO REGISTER VISIT

cyolieastend.org

(under Sports & Programs-
Winter Olympics Game Night)

Bring your own
homeade flag
for the opening
ceremony



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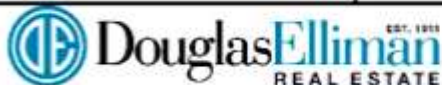
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