



IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

Catholic Church

A Stewardship Community served by the Oblates of St. Francis de Sales



A People Not a Place
Learning to Live Jesus

OUR VISION

Our parish is the vibrant expression of the presence of the Risen Christ through sacred worship and loving service.

OUR MISSION

We live Jesus Christ by proclaiming the Gospel, by celebrating the Eucharist, by nourishing our Faith and by loving and serving all God's people.

6650 Carolina Beach Road, Wilmington, NC 28412

De Sales Faith
Formation Center
910-791-9857

Church Office
910-791-1003
Fax: 910-791-0081
www.iccwilm.org

Office Hours
Monday – Friday
9:00am – 4:00pm

Parish Staff, Councils & Commission Chairs

<u>Title</u>	<u>Staff Member</u>	<u>Phone Number & Ext.</u>	<u>Email Address</u>
Business Manager	Michele Bean	910-791-1003, Ext. 105	mbean@iccwilm.org
Director of Faith Formation	Gina Drost	910-791-1003, Ext. 112	gdrost@iccwilm.org
Secretary/Bulletin Editor/Registration	Tracey Kruger	910-791-1003, Ext. 102	tkruger@iccwilm.org
Youth Minister	Marie Marshall	910-791-1003, Ext. 110	mmarshall@iccwilm.org
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Director of Music	Andrea Reynolds	910-791-1003, Ext. 114	areynolds@iccwilm.org
Office Manager	Claudia Sing	910-791-1003, Ext. 100	csing@iccwilm.org
Treasury Assistants	Johanna Hug & Chris Puritis	910-791-1003, Ext. 107	

Commission Chairs

Fr. John McGee, OSFS (Liturgy)
Michele Bean (Facilities)
Gina Drost (Faith Formation)
Bob Smith (Inreach)
Janice Jordan (Outreach)

Parish Pastoral Council

Aaron Bean, Chair Matthew Simms, Vice Chair

Julie Bowling Judy Chmielenski

Angela Zombek

Parish Finance Council

Mike Bollinger, Chair
Pete Bartel, Vice Chair
Stephen Conroy
Paul Dries
Bob Smith
Andrew Tomlin

Liturgies and Devotions

Weekend - Saturday: 5:00 pm
Sunday: 8:30 & 10:30 am
Weekday - See "This Week at Immaculate Conception" - Page 3
Devotions - Rosary for World Peace/
Novena to Our Lady, Monday - 9:30 am
Chaplet of Divine Mercy to end human trafficking, Thursday - 9:30 am
Rosary, Devotion to the Sacred Heart,
First Friday
Fatima Rosary Devotion,
First Saturday - 3:30 pm
Eucharistic Adoration -
First Friday, 9:45 am - 11:00 am *and*
Tuesdays, 9:30 am - 10:30 am

Bulletin Deadline

Bulletin requests must be emailed to the Bulletin Editor: tkruger@iccwilm.org, by 12:00 noon on Wednesdays, ten days in advance of the weekend of publication. All articles will run for three weeks, space allowing, and must have name, phone # of contact person, and dates requested to be in the bulletin. Articles must be limited to 100-150 words and include the *who, what, why, where and when*. A summary/result article with facts and figures should be submitted within a week of the event's completion.

New Parishioners

If you are new to Wilmington or to Immaculate Conception, we would like to take this opportunity to welcome you. We are an active and vibrant parish and ask, if you have decided to join us, that you will seriously consider giving of your time, talent, and treasure for the Lord's work. Completion of an Interest Card, Parish Registration Form and

attendance to a Welcome/Orientation/Registration Event is part of active membership and provides you with parish mailings. Please find an Interest Card located in the pamphlet rack in the Gathering Area of the church.

Sacramental Life

Infant Baptism: Celebrated monthly. Registered (minimum 3 months) and participating parishioners may schedule infant baptism after completion of a baptism preparation workshop and reception of godparent documents. Contact Gina Drost, Director of Faith Formation, at 910-791-1003, ext 112, preferably prior to the child's arrival. *Children over 7 are not baptized as "infants." Instead they are prepared to receive all 3 sacraments of initiation at a later date.

To Be a Godparent/Sponsor: for Baptism or Confirmation; you must be a registered, participating member for at least 6 months prior to requesting letter.

1st Reconciliation & 1st Eucharist: Second grade is our Sacramental year for First Reconciliation and First Eucharist. First grade faith formation is a pre-requisite for the second grade Sacramental year. We require four meetings for the parents/guardians of youth receiving these Sacraments.

Confirmation: Confirmation in our Diocese is celebrated in the high school years, and is a two year process. Candidates may enroll in Level I as a freshman with immediate preparation and celebration of the sacrament in Level II the sophomore year. Stewardship opportunities and attendance to a Confirmation retreat are mandatory.

Reconciliation: We celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation/confession, normally, Saturdays from 3:30-4:30 pm in the Church's Reconciliation Room. In addition, the sacrament is available by appointment. Please call the Parish Office to speak to the pastor.

RCIA: Adults seeking Initiation into the Full Communion of the Catholic Church are invited to contact Gina Drost, gdrost@iccwilm.org or 791-1003, ext.112

Matrimony: Only parishioners registered at ICC for at least 6 months may request to be married here. The couple must meet with a priest before setting a date and at least 6 months in advance of an anticipated wedding in order to complete the preparation process. All aspects of marriage planning requires the participation and approval of trained personnel. Contact: Claudia Sing, csing@iccwilm.org., 791-1003, ext. 100.

Anointing of the Sick: Anyone who is seriously ill or who is anticipating surgery or an extended hospital stay or who is weakened because of a prolonged illness or advanced age is encouraged to call the Parish Office to receive the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick.

Funerals: After a funeral director has been contacted but before any arrangements have been made public, the funeral director will contact the Parish Office in order to arrange for funeral time and/or vigil service. All aspects of parish funeral liturgy planning requires the participation and approval of trained parish personnel.

Vocations to Priesthood or Religious Life: Religious vocation as a priest, brother or sister, Fr. Michael Newman, OSFS, mnewman@oblates.us or 419-531-1421, x231. Vocation to diocesan priesthood, please visit the Diocese of Raleigh's Vocations website at dioceseofraleighvocations.org.

This Week at Immaculate Conception

The Altar Flowers for This Week Were
Donated by:

Mary Cain, in memory of **Patrick O'Brien**.

Sunday, February 4 - 5th Sunday in Ordinary Time

- 8:30 am Liturgy, Lorraine Grimsley
10:30 am Liturgy, Living & Deceased Members of
Immaculate Conception
12:00-2:00 JYM/TYM Faith Formation, DFFC
2:30-4:00 ICC Young Adult Fellowship, DFFC

World Marriage Weekend

Coffee & Convos Following All Liturgies

Monday, February 5, 2024

- 9:30 am Rosary/Novena

Tuesday, February 6, 2024

- 9:30 am Eucharistic Adoration

Wednesday, February 7, 2024

- 9:00 am Liturgy, Kendra Springs

Thursday, February 8, 2024

- 9:00 am Liturgy, John McSorley
9:30 am Chaplet of Divine Mercy, Adoration Chapel

Friday, February 9, 2024

- 9:00 am Funeral Liturgy, John Michael Bonforte

Saturday, February 10, 2024

- 5:00 pm Liturgy, Martin Vaughan

Super Bowl Collections at all Liturgies

Sunday, February 11 - 6th Sunday in Ordinary Time

- 8:30 am Liturgy, Lorraine Grimsley
10:30 am Liturgy, James Roselli
12:00-2:00 Elementary Faith Formation, DFFC
12:00-2:00 First Eucharist Parent Workshop #1, DFFC
12:00-2:00 TTRPG Session, DFFC
2:30-4:00 ICC Young Adult Fellowship, DFFC

Super Bowl Collections at all Liturgies

Sanctuary Candle



A 14-day Sanctuary Candle will burn in memory of **the Kay Weninger**, and was donated by **Rosemary Block and Patti Maggi**.

Stewardship - A Way of Life Following "God's Plan for Giving" Stewardship of Treasure Report

January 27 & 28, 2024

Envelopes	162 (Envelopes)	\$ 7,318.00
e-Giving	59	\$ 2,130.00
Loose Check	35 (Checks)	\$ 2,450.00
Identifiable Contributions		\$ 11,898.00
Loose Cash		\$ 1,271.00
Total Contributions		\$ 13,169.00

Collection for the Church in Latin America

Envelopes	77 (Envelopes)	\$ 1,645.00
e-Giving	27	\$ 560.00
Loose Check	3 (Checks)	\$ 100.00
Identifiable Contributions		\$ 2,305.00
Loose Cash		\$ 724.00
Total Contributions		\$ 3,029.00

Offertory/1st Collection:

Annual Budget: July 1, 2023 - June 30, 2024

\$1,001,640.00

Total Collected YTD: July 1 - Jan 28, 2024

\$ 655,207.19

*All are reminded to dress with
reverence and respect as they come
to the liturgy all year long.*

Born to Eternal Life

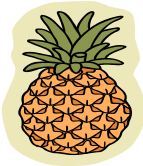
Please remember in your prayers the following people:



Frank Grissler, parishioner. Condolences may be sent to Frank's son, Jeff, at 4008 Indigo Ln, Murrells Inlet, SC 29576.

Welcome Events

Welcome/Orientation/Registration Events



New to the area? Want to join ICC? Pick up an Interest Card in the pamphlet rack in the Gathering Area, fill it out and return to the church office, then attend one of the listed

Welcome / Orientation / Registration Events. The events are on Saturday mornings, 9:00 am-10:45 am (refreshments available at 9:00 am).

The Next Welcome Events

May 11, 2024

June 1, 2024

The Help Center Needs

The Help Center Food Donations

The following items are needed in **February 2024**:

February 4 **Mac and cheese**
February 11 **Beans (not green)**
February 18 **Cold cereal**
February 25 **Canned meat**



Any other packaged or canned food items or toiletries are gratefully accepted. **Thank you so much for your continued generosity.**

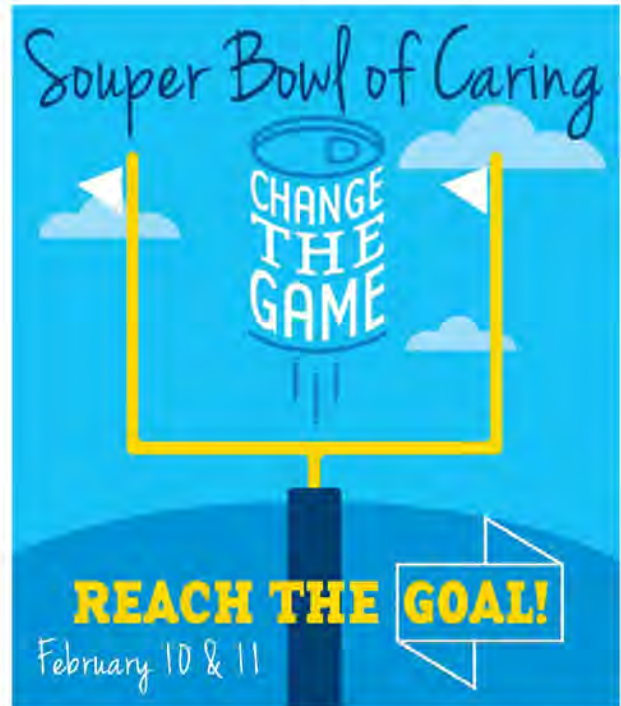
Return Your Old Palms

Bring in Your Old Palms



For those of you wondering what to do with your palms from Palm Sundays past, this is for you. Please feel free to bring in your old palms and leave them in the receptacle in the Gathering Area. All palms collected will be burned for ashes.

Souper Bowl of Caring



Before we sit down to give thanks for our blessings, we are reminded of the needs of the more than 38 million Americans who are food insecure, meaning they lack consistent access to nutritious food. Our JYM & TYM have chosen to participate in Souper Bowl of Caring who make a difference each year in the fight against hunger and poverty in America.

On the weekend of Super Bowl Sunday, **February 10 & 11**, we are asking households to please bring in a can of soup or broth for our own Souper Bowl Collection. Pull tab cans (those that do not require the use of a can opener) are preferred.

Last year we collected a record breaking number of cans at 2,460. We want to do the same this year. Our goal for 2024 is:

2,400 cans of soup

All of the cans collected will be given to The Help Center and Sister Isaac Outreach to serve those in our community who are most in need of a warm, full belly. We are grateful for your compassion, generosity, and willingness to help people in need.

Our Parish COMMUNITY

February 4, 2024

Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time (B)

Job 7:1-4, 6-7 / 1 Corinthians 9:16-19, 22-23 / Mark 1:29-39



Why Is There Evil?

FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

At some point in one's faith journey, every believer asks: If God is good and loving, why is there evil in the world? Why is there war? Why do children die prematurely? Why do pandemics rage? The biblical story of Job seeks to speak to that question, though it never really answers it.

God and the satan (the name he is called in the Book of Job) are discussing Job and what a fine man he is. The satan suggests Job is a good man only because everything is going well for him. God then tells the satan that he may do whatever he wishes to test Job but may not harm him. By a series of catastrophes, then, Job loses his flocks, his camels, and even his sons and daughters. It is at this point that we hear today's first Scripture reading—Job's lament of misery and hopelessness.

Though Job's friends suspect that the cause of all

that has befallen him must be due to some grave sin on his part, Job denies this accusation and continues believing in the goodness of God, never wavering in his faith. Though frustrated by what life has brought, Job never blames God or asks God to fix his life. God is God, concludes Job, whether we understand the ways of life or not. To seek any more is to seek to be God. He continues to trust in God and admits that the ways of God are incapable of being understood. This becomes Job's only answer to the question about the "why" of evil. ●

Reflect

How do you answer the question of why evil exists?



They brought to him all who were ill
or possessed by demons.

MARK 1:32B

MONDAY

February 5
St. Agatha, Virgin
and Martyr
1 Kgs 8:1-7, 9-13
Mk 6:53-56

TUESDAY

February 6
St. Paul Miki
and Companions,
Martyrs
1 Kgs 8:22-23,
27-30
Mk 7:1-13

Wednesday

February 7
Weekday
1 Kgs 10:1-10
Mk 7:14-23

THURSDAY

February 8
Weekday
1 Kgs 11:4-13
Mk 7:24-30

FRIDAY

February 9
Weekday
1 Kgs 11:29-32;
12:19
Mk 7:31-37

SATURDAY

February 10
St. Scholastica,
Virgin
1 Kgs 12:26-32;
13:33-34
Mk 8:1-10

SUNDAY

February 11
Sixth Sunday in
Ordinary Time
Lv 13:1-2, 44-46
1 Cor 10:31-11:1
Mk 1:40-45

Stewardship Reflection

*“Brothers and sisters: I should like you to be free of anxieties.”
(1 Corinthians 7:32)*

How much anxiety do we bring upon ourselves by constantly worrying about not having enough or attaining more things? God won't necessarily give you everything that you want, but He will provide everything that you need. Try this - use the word 'pray' instead of the word 'worry' in the future. Then spend your time praying instead of worrying.

Catholic Estate Planning

Virtual Catholic Estate Planning Webinar

As a way to help educate parishioners in their knowledge as faithful stewards of the Lord's gifts, the Foundation of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Raleigh is offering another Estate Planning Webinar on Tuesday, February 13, 2024, from 10:00 - 11:15 am.

The webinar will be led by Foundation staff and a local estate planning attorney, providing an excellent opportunity for parishioners to learn more about what personal planning is, and what it involves. Webinar topics will include:

- Legal steps required in personal planning
- Understanding wills and trusts
- Catholic advanced medical directives
- Power of attorney
- Overview of the various charitable vehicles for estate planning

Guest speakers will include:

- Ryan Flood, Planned Giving Specialist, The Foundation of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Raleigh
- Andrew W. Blair, Attorney and CPA, Partner, Poyner Spruill LLP

Please note that this is a free seminar, and no solicitations will be made. For more information or to reserve a virtual seat please call Donna Ashcraft, 919-568-1067, or email office@FoundationDOR.org.

Valentines for Denise

Calling All Cupids

Following the most generous and loving outpouring of Christmas cards sent to Fr. John's sister, Denise, several folks have asked whether they might be able to send a Valentine. The answer is, yes, please!

If you would like to send a card to Denise, please make sure to drop or send it to us here at ICC by **February 10th** so that Fr. John can send all of them to Denise in time for Valentine's Day.



Young Adult Fellowship Ministry

ICC Young Adult Fellowship Ministry

Are you a young adult looking for an opportunity to dialogue with fellow Catholics? The Young Adult Fellowship Ministry offers a uniquely intellectual and personal experience with other young adult members on a variety of topics of faith. We will meet on Sundays at 2:30 pm in the DeSales Faith Formation Center.

For more information, please email or text us:

- **Oliver Galbraith:** olivergalbraith@gmail.com or text 910-619-3033
- **Clint Turbeville:** turbeville_r@lynchburg.edu or text at 910-523-2987



Immaculate Conception Parish Mission 2024
All Through Love Nothing Through Fear



Discovering the Best in People

Monday, February 26 at 10:00 AM and 6:30 PM

In a culture of mistrust and divisiveness and in a church of secrecy and duplicity, how do we maintain our faith and hope. We do so by discovering the best in people. This presentation and discussion will focus on the “human encounter,” how to welcome others for who they are and as they are, how to accept differences in one another, and how to engage one another in healthy dialogue without demonizing the other.

Accepting and Extending God's Mercy

Tuesday, February 27 at 10:00 AM and 6:30 PM

Come explore the Gospel stories of the blind man named Bartimaeus (Mark 10: 46-52) and the tax collector Zacchaues (Luke 19: 1-10) and discover the secrets to accepting and extending God's mercy. We will spend time reflecting how Bartimeaus came to accept God's mercy and discover how we can learn to accept God's mercy in our lives. Also, we will spend time reflecting on the conversion story of Zacchaues and discover how he came to extend the mercy of Jesus to others. How do we take that intimate experience of God's mercy and forgiveness and share it with other people?

To register, please go to our website www.iccwilm.org and click on the banner link
If you have any questions, please contact Gina Drost, Director of Faith Formation, at
gdrost@iccwilm.org or 910-791-1003, ext. 112.

Prayer Matters

Please remember the following people in your prayers:

Steven Astriakis	Gregg Lysaght
Charles Babinski	Erin Mabry
Drew Baker	The Maney Family
Gabrielle Baldwin	Petar Manolev
Megan Bardeen	Frankie Marcinkiewicz
Marley Basurto	John H. Martin
Gail Bean	Teri Massey
Carol Bigwood	Connie Mercier
Iliana Bouneva	Ernest & Margie Messing
Whitney Brenner	Bill Moore
Barry & Teresa Brighten	Chris Moore
Christopher Brooks	Irene Muccia
Phyllis Cameron	Kyle Muccia
Eva Congleton	Ernie Munoz
Susan Craig	Maurice Murphy
Debbie D.	Joanne McAteer
Margaret Deaton	Barbara McCann
Don DeBragga	Denise McGee
Marion DeCoursey	Gerald McGovern
Patrick Delaney	Josephine McGovern
Leslie Dixon	Joan McKillop
Kathy Driscoll	Ann Noack
Carol Dubin	Kelly O'Connor
Kathleen Estep	Edward & Sharon O'Neill
AC Everett	Joanne Owens
Tony Farone	John Paulhus
Mark Reynolds Farrington	Debra Paulson
Judy Faulk	Martin Plage, Jr.
Eleanor Flannery	Lexie Queen
Robert Flavin	Anne-Marie Regan
Brenda Floyd	Susan Reynolds
Jennifer Freeman	Kerri Schafer
Walt & Mary Gable	Jonathan Schoo
Keira Gibson	Beatrice Schultz
Kellie & Lilly Gibson	Rita & Ralph Seidl
Sandy Greggs	Susan Self
Dale Guy	Brian Slater
Don & Gloria Harris	Linda Snow
Louise Hebert	Lesley Stevens
Sandra Hobbs	David Stiver
Anthony Jenkins	Cynthia & Paul Streb
Barbara Jezek	Marieange Tribie
J.J. Jones	Pat Tyson
Denise Kassem	Rob Verderosa
Lauren Kelly	Jack Walsh
Carol Konicki	T. Michael Werner
Addison LaCourse	John Weisenreider
Robert LaGoe	Richard Weisenreider
Tracy Langone	Stephen Weisenreider
Beth Lessard	Maria Woodcock
Christine Levy	Anita Wynn
Margaret Lupton	
Nicholas Lusk	

Names will remain on the list for one month from time of request. Please call the office if you wish to renew.

Liturgy Corner

By Paul Turner



Fr. Paul Turner is pastor of the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Kansas City, Missouri, and director of the Office of Divine Worship for the Diocese of Kansas City-St. Joseph. He serves as a facilitator for the International Commission on English in the Liturgy. He is the author of these bulletin inserts.

Valid and Licit

IN ADMINISTERING the sacraments, the Church observes what is valid and licit. The terms come from canon law to express a celebration that is effective and permitted.

For example, you need a driver's license to operate a car, and you're supposed to observe other traffic rules. If you drive without a license, you're in big trouble. If you're supposed to wear a seat belt while you drive, but don't, you are guilty of another kind of offense. In that case, you may have a valid license but your behavior is illicit. When we celebrate the sacraments, certain circumstances render them valid and licit. Although we strive to observe both categories, validity is more important than liceity.

For example, for the valid celebration of the Eucharist you must have a validly ordained priest. However, that priest is restricted in the number of times he celebrates the Eucharist every day (twice on weekdays, three times on Sundays). If he does so more often, his behavior is illicit, but the sacrament is valid. In Matrimony, a Catholic is required to follow the Catholic form of marriage. If a Catholic marries in some other setting (without obtaining the proper dispensation), the Catholic Church considers the marriage invalid. When a Catholic marries a Christian baptized in another faith, the priest or deacon should obtain a dispensation for the ceremony. If he does not, the marriage is illicit.

The judgments of what constitutes validity and liceity are entrusted to the authority of the Church. These judgments assure the faithful that their celebrations have the effect intended. In celebrating sacraments, however, we should beware of a minimalist approach, which accomplishes only what is valid and licit. A full celebration, rich in imagery and symbol, will better convey the significance of our rituals and more easily invite the assembly of the faithful into their spirit.

K of C Scholarship

College Scholarship for Future Saints

Cape Fear Deanery parishes, with Knights of Columbus Msgr. Christopher Dennen Assembly 2017 administrative support, will be awarding **\$4,000 Gold** award, **\$3,000 Silver** award, and **\$2,000 Bronze, plus \$1,000 across Honorable Mentions**, award scholarships to Catholic students enrolling for the first time in a college or university beginning in Fall 2024. The student must demonstrate academic proficiency for college admission and identify some service to church, school, or their local community. The winners will be discerned by the Knights of Columbus Scholarship for Future Saints Committee members.

To apply for the scholarship, **a student must fill out a one-page application**, write an essay on the spiritual journey of a saint, and provide the requested biographical information. The application is available on our parish website and social media or can be obtained by emailing the Scholarship Chairman at scholarship@kofc2017.org . Applications must be **emailed by May 30, 2024**.

Ministers to the Homebound

Ministering to Our Homebound

Can you imagine that someday you may be mentally alert but not physically able to attend Sunday Liturgy and receive Jesus?

Do you have a few hours on Thursday morning a couple of times a month to take Communion to people in their home?

Our ministers attend Thursday morning Liturgy and then take Communion to homebound parishioners.

It's a beautiful way to share your faith and love of Jesus with others.

If this ministry sparks an interest in you, please contact coordinator Cindi Wallace at 919-274-4813 to find out more.



JOIN US FOR STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Monday's 9:30 am in the Church

February 19-Mary's way of the Cross

March 4- Praying with Pope Francis

March 11- The Way of the Cross, Ondrla

March 18- The Way of the Cross with St. Francis de Sales



ALTAR FLOWERS January to June 2024

Our weekly Altar Flowers depend solely on donations from you, our parishioners. We need your help to ensure that we have flowers at all the weekend liturgies.

Fill out this form with the date (s) you would like to donate the Altar Flowers in memory of a loved one or in celebration of a special event.

The size of the flower arrangement is determined by the number of households that contribute on a given weekend. We accept up to 4 households per weekend. Memorial contributions are **\$65.00**. Make your check payable to **Immaculate Conception Church** with *"Altar Flowers"* written on the memo line.

Place your form and check in an envelope marked *"Flowers - Tracey Kruger"* and put in the collection basket or drop off during office hours, Mon-Fri, 9:00 am to 4:00 pm.

"The flowers appear on the earth, the time of pruning the vines has come, and the song of the turtledove is heard in our land."

Song of Songs 2:12

Choose from the following weekends:

- Jan 6 & 7, 2024 - Epiphany of the Lord
- Jan 13 & 14, 2024
- Jan 20 & 21, 2024
- Jan 27 & 28, 2024
- Feb 3 & 4, 2024 - World Marriage Day
- Feb 10 & 11, 2024

No Flowers during Lent

- Apr 13 & 14, 2024
- Apr 20 & 21, 2024
- Apr 27 & 28, 2024
- May 4 & 5, 2024 - 1st Eucharist
- May 11 & 12, 2024 - Mother's Day
- May 18 & 19, 2024 - Pentecost
- May 25 & 26, 2024 - Most Holy Trinity
- June 1 & 2, 2024 - Body & Blood of Christ
- June 8 & 9, 2024
- June 15 & 16, 2024 - Father's Day
- June 22 & 23, 2024
- June 29 & 30, 2024

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone #: _____

Intention: _____

