



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	Charlie DaVolio	910-791-1003, Ext. 105	cdavolio@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
Pastor & Dean, Cape Fear Deanery	Rev. John McGee, OSFS, VF	910-791-1003, Ext. 106	jmcgee@iccwilm.org
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)
 Charlie DaVolio (Facilities)
 Gina Drost (Faith Formation)
 Mary Swack (Inreach)
 Position Open (Outreach)

Parish Pastoral Council

Matthew Simms, Chair Julie Bowling, Vice Chair

 Mike LaBruno Caroline Paulhus

 Susan Taylor Angela Zombek

Parish Finance Council

Pete Bartel, Chair
 Stephen Conroy
 Paul Dries, Vice Chair
 Connor Duncan
 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
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 prerequisite 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

There Are No Altar Flowers During Lent

Sunday, March 15—Laetare Sunday

8:30 am Liturgy, John the Baptist & Joseph
 10:30 am Liturgy, Living & Deceased of Immaculate Conception
 12:00–2:00 Level 2 1st Eucharist Parent Workshop, DFFC
 2:30–3:30 The Athanasius Center, DFFC

Monday, March 16, 2026

9:30 am Stations of the Cross, Church

Tuesday, March 17, 2026

9:30 am Eucharistic Adoration

Wednesday, March 18, 2026

9:00 am Liturgy, Paul & Elizabeth Bellm

Thursday, March 19, 2026

9:00 am Liturgy, Brian Lyle
 9:30 am Chaplet of Divine Mercy, Adoration Chapel

Friday, March 20, 2026

9:00 am Funeral Liturgy, Michael Weir

Saturday, March 21, 2026

3:30 pm Reconciliation, Church
 5:00 pm Liturgy, Mary Ann Craig

Sunday, March 22—5th Sunday of Lent

8:30 am Liturgy, Beverly B. Harper
 10:30 am Liturgy, Living & Deceased of Immaculate Conception
 12:00–2:00 Faith Formation Family Event, DFFC
 2:30–3:30 The Athanasius Center, DFFC

Liturgical Color for March 21 & 22 is Purple



Sanctuary Candle

A 14-day Sanctuary Candle will burn in honor of **another wonderful year together**, and was donated by the **Chapter by Chapter 1 Group**.

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

The offertory report for March 7 & 8 will appear in the bulletin for the weekend of March 21 & 22.

Sorry for any inconvenience.

Diocesan Second Collection

Catholic Relief Services

This week we take up the Catholic Relief Services Collection to reveal Christ's love to our brothers and sisters in need. This collection makes grants to six Catholic agencies that provide relief and support for struggling communities and work for peace and reconciliation among our marginalized brothers and sisters, both here and around the world.

Please prayerfully consider how you can support the collection. Learn more about the collection at www.usccb.org/catholic-relief.

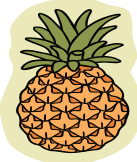
Reasons to sign up for e-Giving

- No need to write checks or bring cash to church.
- More secure than checks.
- Peace-of-mind knowing that the church is receiving your contribution even if you are unable to attend.
- All contributions are recorded for you on your bank statement with date of settlement.

Immaculate Conception Church offers an electronic option for making regular offerings by debiting automatically from your checking or savings account or credit card. Our e-Giving program offers convenience for you and much-needed donation consistency for our parish. Contact Charlie DaVolio, cdavolio@iccwilm.org, 910-791-1003, ext. 105.

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 8:30 am).

The Next Welcome Events

June 6, 2026

The Help Center Needs

The Help Center Food Donations

The following items are needed in **March 2026**:

March 1	Rice
March 8	Pasta sauce
March 15	Jelly
March 22	Canned carrots
March 29	Pasta



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

Stewardship Reflection

“Not as man sees does God see, because man sees the appearance, but the Lord looks into the heart.”

(1 Samuel 16:7)

How often do we invest our time, talent, and treasure in creating an appearance that does not matter at all to God? We strive to impress with our clothing, home, career, possessions, car, and other marks of distinction. But none of these illusions of greatness will impress God. Instead, He will look into our hearts to see how much we loved Him, how much we loved others, and how we showed that love by the way we used our time, talent, and treasure here on earth.

Ways to Give at ICC

Donating at ICC

Donations may be made via check or debit/credit card. Please make checks payable to Immaculate Conception Catholic Church and write the collection on the memo line. For debit/credit cards, scan the QR code on the front cover of the Breaking Bread book, or visit the parish website at www.iccwilm.org. You can also set up regular electronic giving by going to the parish website, or by contacting Business Manager Charlie DaVolio at 910-791-1003, ext. 105 or cdavolio@iccwilm.org.

Thank you for your stewardship and support.



JOIN US FOR STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Mondays 9:30 am in the Church

**Feb 23 -The Way of the Cross-Kelly
Leader: Joe Mazur**

**March 2- Praying the stations with
Pope Francis Leader: Susan Taylor**

March 9- Canceled due to Funeral

**March 16- Mary's Way of the Cross
Leader: Gina Drost**

**March 23 -The Way of the Cross with
St. Francis de Sales Leader: Phyllis
Filgate**

Our Parish COMMUNITY

March 15, 2026

Fourth Sunday of Lent (A)

1 Samuel 16:1b, 6-7, 10-13a / Ephesians 5:8-14 / John 9:1-41 or 9:1, 6-9, 13-17, 34-38



Live as children of light, for light produces every kind of goodness and righteousness and truth.

EPHESIANS 5:8B-9

Born Free

MIGUEL DULICK

Today's gospel, the healing of the man born blind, is a terrific story that includes many details. Notice that Jesus, who has his own agenda, "so that the works of God might be made visible through him," does not even wait for the man to ask to be healed. But the man is a willing subject, allowing mud and saliva to be smeared on his eyes, agreeing to go to Siloam and wash. And, he's a quick learner. At first, all he knows is "the man called Jesus" healed him. Soon, however, he's calling Jesus "a prophet." Then, as a "division" ("schism" in the original) opens among the authorities and even in his own family, he defends Jesus' divine calling when the Pharisees mock Jesus as a "sinner." Finally, expelled from the synagogue, the man finds Jesus waiting for him with the ultimate revelation: he sees before him the Son of Man, "and he worshiped him."

Now, maybe we weren't born blind, but I venture to say a lot of us are short-sighted. Do I "see the works of God"? Starting from "the man called Jesus," do I keep going forward in faith, defending Jesus when he is mocked by people, to a deeper, fuller reality than even my own family may not understand? All the way to adoration, worship, a total handing over of my whole self to the Son of Man? Or, as Thomas would later say, when his own eyes were opened, "My Lord and my God!" (John 20:28). ●



LEARN ABOUT THE AUTHORS OF OUR PARISH COMMUNITY

Reflect

This week, I will pray for my eyes to be opened to something important for me to see.

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A WORD FROM POPE LEO XIV

Dear brothers and sisters, let us trustfully bring our ailments before Jesus, and also those of our loved ones; let us bring the pain of those who feel lost and without a way out. Let us cry out for them too, and we will be certain that the Lord will hear us.

GENERAL AUDIENCE, ROME, JUNE 11, 2025

Do you have a question for the Padre?

Go to DearPadre.org to send your question and to learn more about *Dear Padre*.

Monday

MARCH 16

Lenten Weekday

Is 65:17-21

Jn 4:43-54

Tuesday

MARCH 17

Lenten Weekday

Ez 47:1-9, 12

Jn 5:1-16

Wednesday

MARCH 18

Lenten Weekday

Is 49:8-15

Jn 5:17-30

Thursday

MARCH 19

St. Joseph, Spouse

of the Blessed

Virgin Mary

2 Sm 7:4-5a,

12-14a, 16

Rom 4:13, 16-18,

22

Mt 1:16, 18-21,

24a or Lk 2:41-

51a

Friday

MARCH 20

Lenten Weekday

Wis 2:1a, 12-22

Jn 7:1-2, 10,

25-30

Saturday

MARCH 21

Lenten Weekday

Jer 11:18-20

Jn 7:40-53

Sunday

MARCH 22

Fifth Sunday

of Lent

Ez 37:12-14

Rom 8:8-11

Jn 11:1-45 or

11:3-7, 17, 20-27,

33b-45

Lenten Reflection



"The worse the times are, the better we must become."

Fr. Brisson is here bemoaning the state of the world with its violence, poverty, suffering, war, and polarization – not today but back in 1891! It can be tempting to think that the world has never been worse than it is now, that life has never been more difficult than now, and that we are helpless. But a casual glance at history will show us that life has been difficult before and that this is a temptation to despair.

It's in moments like these that I find Fr. Brisson's quote above so helpful because it does say what I can do today. I can become better. There's not much that's in my control, but I can control how I react to the world and to the people around me. I can choose today to love or hate. I can decide to work for peace and reconciliation or violence and war. I can choose today to make myself and my little corner of the world better or worse. And so can you.

Lenten Adoration

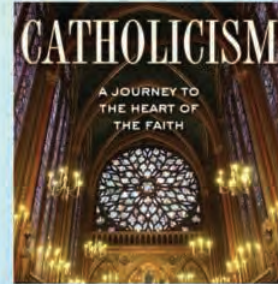
Lenten Hour of Adoration

Come experience the joy and blessings of spending quiet time with Jesus, sharing your heart's desires, longings, sufferings, and joys.

A Holy Hour of Adoration normally takes place every Tuesday morning from 9:30—10:30 in the church. Come for all or any part of the hour.

Adult Faith Formation

Catholicism & Community: MONTHLY LUNCH AND LEARNING



De Sales Faith Formation Center 12-2

- | | |
|-------------|--------------|
| January 14 | July 8 |
| February 11 | August 12 |
| March 18 | September 16 |
| April 22 | October 14 |
| May 13 | November 11 |
| June 17 | December 9 |

Join fellow parishioners as we explore our Catholic faith through the award-winning Catholicism Series by Bishop Robert Barron. Each month we'll watch an episode and enjoy a guided community discussion. Bring your lunch or sign up for a Firehouse Subs Box Lunch.

Register online at ICCWilm.Org or contact Gina Drost Director of Faith Formation for more information

Born to Eternal Life

Please remember in your prayers the following people:



Dorothy Maloney, parishioner. Condolences may be sent to Dorothy's family via her daughter, Diane Tolley, at PO Box 85, Brookside, NJ 07926-0085.

2026 COLLEGIATE SCHOLARSHIP
sponsored by
Cape Fear Deanery
and
Knights of Columbus
KofC2017.org/scholarship

The **Cape Fear Deanery Parishes and Knights of Columbus** are excited to offer the **2026 Collegiate Scholarship** for graduating high school students! If you are a **registered parishioner** in the Cape Fear Deanery, this is your chance to earn up to **\$4,000** to support your college journey. Submit your application, including a biography, essay, and high school transcript, by **Thursday, April 30, 2026, at 11:59 PM**. Don't miss this opportunity—visit Kofc2017.org/scholarship or email scholarship@Kofc2017.org to apply today!

Lenten Family Project



Meals in a Bag Lenten Family Project

“Meals in a bag” are simple, budget-friendly meal kits. Each bag contains everything needed for one complete meal for four people, and are shelf-stable items like pasta, canned vegetables, beans, rice, or packaged proteins. These meals are designed to be affordable, easy to assemble, and require minimal cooking skills or equipment.

As part of our Faith Formation Family Lent Event, our families will be assembling meal bags for donation to The Help Center and Catholic Charities. By assembling these bags, we support local food pantries and neighbors in need while gaining a deeper understanding of how communities work together to help one another. We just need our parishioners to help by donating the items we need.

We will be collecting these items over the weekends of
March 14 & 15 and 21 & 22.

If you're able to donate a single item, or an entire meal kit, your support is greatly appreciated! Please remember, these items should be shelf-stable, and can be found at Dollar Tree as well as any grocery store.

Individual Items Needed

Black Beans
Canned Chicken
Canned Diced Ham
Carrots
Chili Seasoning Packet
Cream of Chicken Soup
Cream Style Corn
Diced Potatoes
Diced Tomatoes
Diced Tomatoes & Green Chiles
Evaporated Milk
Garlic & Herb Biscuit Mix
Green Beans
Kidney Beans
Mixed Vegetables
No Bean Chili
Pasta Sauce, 24 oz

Pinto Beans
Small Pasta
Spanish Rice
Tomato Sauce
Whole Kernel Corn

***Want to shop a whole bag?
Here's what you'll need for the
heartiest meals we're
assembling!***

Creamy Chicken & Dumplings

1 Box of Garlic & Herb Biscuit Mix
2 cans of Chicken
1 can of Cream of Chicken Soup
1 can of Evaporated Milk
1 can of Mixed Vegetables
1 can of Diced Potatoes

Homestyle Ham Chowder

2 5 oz. cans Diced Ham
1 can Diced Potatoes
1 can Whole Kernel Corn
1 can Cream Style Corn
1 can Cream of Chicken Soup
1 can Evaporated Milk

Cheesy Chicken and Rice Soup

1 large can of Chicken
1 can Black Beans
1 can Whole Kernel Corn
1 can Diced Tomatoes & Green Chiles
1 package Spanish Rice

**bags and certain additional ingredient items have already been acquired*

Prayer for Peace

(Written by Cameron Bellm)

How do we pray for peace from half a world away?

How can words salve and soothe real wounds,

Assuage real fears, Wipe tears from real eyes?

God of endless compassion, transform our prayers

From words into bridges, that span the distances

Between us, uniting our hearts in yours.

Every time we turn our keys in a lock,

May we remember all who are losing their homes.

Every time we step into our cars,

May we remember all who are having to flee.

Every time we embrace our children,

May we remember all who are trying to shield theirs
from war.

May our besieged sisters and brothers

Be drawn into the arms of the suffering Christ,

And may our cry be heard as one voice,

Ringing out from every corner of the earth:

God of endless mercy, grant us peace!

Amen.

Homeworks 2026

Home Works

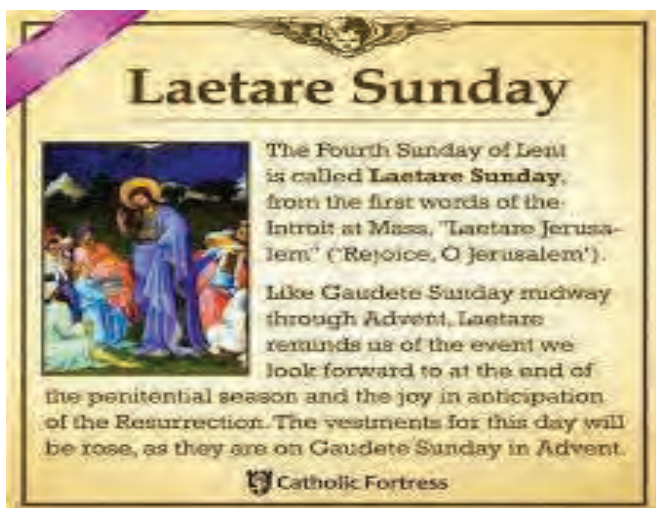
Summer Mission

A group of 20 teens and adults will be traveling to Fayetteville, NC on June 14–19, 2026 to take part in a week long session that offers service projects that are prayerful and spiritual in nature. Home Works' activities focus on providing repairs to homeowners in need, assisting youth in their development, and empowering communities to meet the needs of its members. To learn more about the program, you can visit their website at www.homeworksofamerica.org.

The cost of the trip is a \$200 dollar donation, which will be covered this year through the generosity of the parishioners of ICC. If you are interested in attending, a non-refundable \$50 deposit with completed registration form should be turned into Marie Marshall, Youth Minister, in the Parish Office. You can only secure a spot with your registration and the deposit, and it is first come first serve! If you are unable to make the deposit, please reach out to Marie - no one will be turned away for inability to pay. Registration forms are available on the parish website and through the Youth Ministry Office.

Sponsoring a Youth

Want to help out? The registration fee may be out of the budget for some interested families. If you would like to help sponsor a youth for this trip (partially or fully), or would like to contribute to the overall cost of this mission, please let Marie Marshall know today at mmarshall@iccwilm.org or 910-791-1003x110!



Palm Sunday & Holy Week 2026



Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord

No Confession/Reconciliation on Saturday

(Courtyard Palm Procession)

Saturday, March 28

5:00 pm, Liturgy

Sunday, March 29

8:30 am and 10:30 am, Liturgies

Monday, March 30

No Rosary or Stations of the Cross

Tuesday, March 31

10:30 am, Chrism Liturgy

Holy Name of Jesus Cathedral, Raleigh

The Chrism Liturgy will be celebrated with the diocesan & religious priests of the Raleigh Diocese. Parishioners are encouraged to attend.

Wednesday, April 1

No Liturgy / Activities

Parish offices close at 1:00 pm

The Paschal Triduum

Holy Thursday, April 2

The Evening Liturgy of the Lord's Supper 7:00 pm

Foot Washing - One essential part of the liturgy is the Washing of the Feet, a profound sign of service to one another given to us by Jesus at the Last Supper. We invite and encourage all members of the community to have their feet washed. If you desire to have your feet washed, we encourage you to dress accordingly.

Adoration - Following the Holy Thursday Liturgy, all parishioners are invited to participate in Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament until 8:45 pm. Adoration is both a private devotion and a communal one. Adoration takes place in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel.



Good Friday, April 3

Silent Meditation

12:00 pm - 2:30 pm

Liturgy of the Lord's Passion

3:00 pm

Easter Vigil (Holy Saturday), April 4

The Vigil in the Holy Night begins at 8:00 pm
(outside in the courtyard)

No Confession/Reconciliation or 5:00 pm Liturgy on Holy Saturday



Easter Sunday

Easter Sunday, April 5

Liturgies: 8:30 am and 10:30 am

We encourage everyone to arrive early for the Liturgies

Prayer Matters

Please remember the following people in your prayers:

Herbert Aiken	Nicholas Lusk
Margaret Ager	John Lyons
Kelly Avgerinos	Julia Macdougall
Denise Barnes	The Maney Family
Marley Basurto	Petar Manolev
Iliana & Maria Bouneva	Frankie Marcinkiewicz
Lee Bowling	Sonia Martin
Barry & Teresa Brighten	Teri Massey
Julie & John Bussi	CJ Miley
The Casiere Family	Diane Miller
John Clavin	Chris Moore
Christine Coco	Irene & Kyle Muccia
Eva Congleton	Barbara McCann
Lizzie Cooper	Ed McCann
Joe Craig	Paul McCauley
Margaret Deaton	Leah McDaniel
Marion DeCoursey	Denise McGee
Bertha Dennard	Maura McGoldrick
Leslie Dixon	Joan McKillop
Judith Dreisbach	Loretta McManus
Kathy Driscoll	Maureen & Vince McNally
Skip & Charlotte Fairall	Anne Obermeyer
Robert Flavin	Edward O'Neill
Jennifer Freeman	Joanne Owens
Mary Gable	John Paulhus
Jim Gallagher	Debra Paulson
Keira Gibson	Camden Peterson
Donna Glisson	Natalina Pittari
Brenda Grainger & Family	Martin Plage, Jr.
Sandy Greggs	Lexie Queen
Lisa Plarre Griffith	Alice Radewicz
Lenora Guy	Susan Reynolds
Maureen Hayes	Ken Rowe
Sandra Hobbs	Tom Russell
Linda Hogan	Patti Schacht
Ruth Hohmann	Jonathan Schoo
Marcia Horvath	Beatrice Schultz
Pam Hulst	Misty Moore Seals
Ann & Don Hutton	Rita & Ralph Seidl
Dan Janusek	Bob Smith
Theresa Jeffers	Fr. Greg Spencer
Dwayne Jessup	Lorraine Stattel
Denise Kassem	Cynthia & Paul Streb
Tom Lakas	Luanne Styron
The Lancaster Family	Christopher Swan
Tracy Langone	Ginny Tascone
Gene Laskowski	Mike Temple
Eileen Lavelle	Marieange Tribie
Riley Liberati	Jack Walsh
Emily & Lauren Limbach	John Weisenreider
Darryl Lindner	Suzanne Westlake
Margaret Lupton	Diane Wiegand
Dianne Lusk	Jim Wirth

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

Catholic High School Information

Fr. Thomas F. Price Catholic High School

Fr. Thomas F. Price Catholic High School, located at the Tileston Building at the Basilica of St. Mary in Wilmington, has officially launched!

Applications for admission for the 2026-2027 school year are now being accepted. For more information, or to apply, please visit <https://www.ftpchs>.



How Can We Hear the Cry of the Poor During Lent?

Hearing the cry of the poor starts with desire and a few choices. If we recognize a desire to be more attentive to the poor and to grow in solidarity with them, then it is likely that this is a grace we have received. Many things may have happened to open us to this grace, but it is important to name it and welcome it. God has been offering us this grace for some time and perhaps is preparing us to receive it this Lent. If we don't feel this desire, we can ask for it. We can ask our Lord to help us grow in a desire to better hear the cry of those most in need. Who are the poor? Who are most in need? Who are pushed to the margins of neglect and powerlessness? It doesn't take a great social analysis to come up with some immediate answers, locally in our own world and across the globe. Listening to the news is a beginning. Who is suffering? Who is tremendously burdened? Poverty doesn't always make the news, but being sensitive to the stories we do hear is a place to start.

This is from *Praying Lent* by Andy Alexander, SJ, and Maureen McCann Waldron.

EASTER COLLECTION

As you contemplate donations this Easter season, please keep Immaculate Conception in mind. **The Easter Offertory on April 4 & 5** is part of the parish's operating budget and supports all of the wonderful ministries here at Immaculate Conception. Your contribution to this year's **Easter Offertory** is an opportunity to renew our commitment to maintaining our parish's financial wellbeing. We ask all to prayerfully consider what they can do to make this renewal happen. Our efforts may well require sacrificial giving. If you plan to be away from the parish this Easter, please consider making your contribution the preceding weekend or alternatively, by mail or through our parish website at www.iccwilm.org.

Our goal for this year's Easter Collection is \$30,000.

PRIEST WELFARE & RETIREMENT COLLECTION

During our Easter liturgies there will be a second collection for the Priests' Welfare and Retirement Fund. The Oblates of St. Francis de Sales, who administer parishes throughout the Diocese of Raleigh, receive a portion of this fund. Many of our senior priests retire after 40 or 50 years of active ministry, far exceeding the typical years worked in most professions. Because our priests are paid a very modest stipend during their active ministry, their corresponding Social Security benefit upon retirement is extremely small compared to workers with similar years of service. This fund is needed to provide additional resources for these priests.

All dioceses provide financial support for retired priests in accord with the Gospel. The cost of this financial support is allocated amongst all parishes of the diocese. Parishes meet this required goal through second collections, paying any remaining balance from its operating budget.

This year our required goal is \$67,000.

We again ask for your support in reaching the required goal. Your response helps tangibly express our gratitude as a community for the sacrifice and service of our priests!

Thank you for your generosity to our parish and to the many priests who serve our Diocese.

Fr. John McGee, OSFS, Pastor
Charlie DaVolio, Business Manager

- 70 † *the normal retirement age for priests of the Diocese of Raleigh*
- 53% † *portion of the parish contribution that funds the Diocese of Raleigh Clergy Pension Plan.*
- 21% † *portion that pays long-term nursing home costs for priests of the Diocese of Raleigh and to pay salary, benefits and living expenses for priests of the Diocese of Raleigh and to provide support for priests who are ill, infirm, or otherwise unable to serve at this time.*
- 12% † *portion the Diocese of Raleigh provides to Religious Orders of priests working in the Diocese of Raleigh to assist with their retirement.*
- 5% † *portion that funds medical expenses of priests working or retired in the Diocese of Raleigh that are not covered by insurance (after priests have paid \$500 deductible).*
- 7% † *portion funds health insurance and Medicare premiums for retired priests of the Diocese of Raleigh.*
- 1% † *portion that funds the Clergy Care Management Program which provides acute health care intervention and wellness programs for priests of the Diocese of Raleigh.*
- 1% † *portion that funds legal, actuarial and other professional services to maintain the Clergy Pension Plan of the Diocese of Raleigh.*

ICC Spotlight



Immaculate Conception
Catholic Church

Spotlight on:

Grace McGee Catechist



Did you know:

Miss Grace is originally from New York and has been a member of ICC for 26 years. She has been a Catechist for 12 years. Her favorite Saint is St Teresa of Calcutta better known as Mother Teresa. She met with the rich and powerful so she could serve the poor and and sick.

On Faith Formation:

Its success is in creating a friendly, welcoming Church community for students and their families. Our students build friendships that last for years.

Miss Grace's favorite Bible story is the Last Supper. Jesus tells the apostles (and us) that he came to serve and that we must do the same.

Fun tidbit:

Miss Grace's niece has twin girls who consider her and her husband grandparents. They would visit every summer and moved here permanently when they were just 7. They are now 26 and the joy of their lives.

Interested in becoming a Catechist? Contact Gina Drost, Director of Faith Formation for more information. gdrost@iccwilm.org 910-791-1003

EverTide Event

EverTide Presents “I AM”

EverTide offers a worship experience of prayer and reflection, combining scripture and music in a sacred setting. In this hour-long event, **EverTide** leaders weave contemplative Christian music with readings from God’s Word, creating time for stillness, listening, and renewal.

The event will be led by John and Andrea Reynolds, and will take place from 2:30—3:30 PM on Sunday, April 26, here at ICC. For more information, please contact John at EvertideEvents@gmail.com.



St. Stanislaus Food Sale

Frozen Food Sale

On Saturday, March 21, St. Stanislaus Catholic Church will host their Easter frozen food sale from 9:00 am - 12:00 pm in the church parish hall.



The pierogis, which are imported from our supplier in PA, are available in Potato & Cheese, Jalapeno & Cheese, Sauerkraut, Farmer’s Cheese, Cabbage, Cheddar & Bacon, Spinach & Feta, and Prune.

The kielbasa is from our supplier in NJ and there will be nut rolls and poppyseed rolls as well.

For more information, please call Rebecca at the St. Stanislaus Parish office at 910-675-2336.

2026 Bishop’s Annual Appeal

\$46,620.47 Received of ICC Goal of \$150,556

How Does My Gift to the Bishop’s Annual Appeal Help?



The Bishop’s Annual Appeal funds many ministries that allow us to proclaim the Gospel and reach even the most remote areas of Eastern NC. Your support plays a critical role in funding ministries in the areas of evangelization, discipleship, worship, liturgy, sacramental preparation, and a slew of programs that pour forth God’s grace, love, and mercy.



Welcome Our Newest Members

The following households have joined our parish community at the March 7 Welcome/Orientation Registration Event:

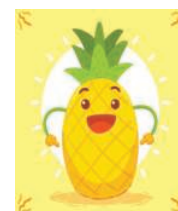
Gerri Boyle

Larry & Linda Ferrell

Dennis & Jamie Knutson

Kit & Tony Yannone

Let us extend a warm welcome to our parish community and invite them to join us in ministry!





ALTAR FLOWERS

January to June 2026

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 3 & 4, 2026 - Epiphany of the Lord
- Jan 10 & 11, 2026 - Baptism of the Lord
- Jan 17 & 18, 2026
- Jan 24 & 25, 2026
- Jan 31 & Feb 1, 2026

- Feb 7 & 8, 2026
- Feb 14 & 15, 2026 - World Marriage Weekend

No Flowers during Lent

- Apr 18 & 19, 2026
- Apr 25 & 26, 2026

- May 2 & 3, 2026 - 1st Eucharist
- May 9 & 10, 2026 - Mother's Day
- May 16 & 17, 2026 - The Ascension of the Lord

- May 23 & 24, 2026 - Pentecost
- May 30 & 31, 2026 - Most Holy Trinity

- June 6 & 7, 2026 - The Most Holy Body & Blood of Christ

- June 13 & 14, 2026
- June 20 & 21, 2026 - Father's Day
- June 27 & 28, 2026

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