

Immaculate Conception Catholic Church

28297 Old Village Road
P. O. Box 166
Mechanicsville, MD 20659
Rectory Office: 301-884-3123
Faith Formation: 240-230-3167

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Parish Clergy

Rev. Michael Tietjen, Pastor
Deacon William Kyte, D.R.E.

Weekend Masses:

Saturday at 4:00 pm
Sunday at 7:00, 9:00 and 11:00 am

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Weekday Masses:

Monday – Wednesday & Friday at 7:30 am
1st Saturday Mass at 9:00 am (only 1st of the month)

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Confessions:

Saturdays at 3:00- 3:45 pm,
and after the vigil Mass.

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Eucharistic Adoration:

1st Friday of each month, beginning after the 7:30 am Mass & ending with Benediction at 6:30 pm.



December 3rd, 2017
First Sunday of Advent

Mass Intentions

Saturday, December 2nd, 2017

4:00 pm – Tony D’Onofrio

Sunday, December 3rd, 2017

7:00 am – Mr. & Mrs. Darnell King & Family (Living)

9:00 am – Matthew Riggleman

11:00 am – Parishioners

Monday, December 4th, 2017

7:30 am – Cosmo Anthony Quattrone

Tuesday, December 5th, 2017

7:30 am – Rev. Auxentius Panares

Wednesday, December 6th, 2017

7:30 am – Diana Hoffman

Friday, December 8th, 2017 – Feast of the Immaculate Conception

7:30 am – Parish

12:00 pm – Special Intention

7:00 pm – Barbara Plater

Saturday, December 9th, 2017

4:00 pm – Fred Szatkowski

Sunday, December 10th, 2017

7:00 am – Vivian Yorkshire Bonds

9:00 am – Parishioners

11:00 am – Albert Slampak

Baptisms:

Parishioners of Immaculate Conception Church should contact the rectory so we can explain the process to you. Baptisms are traditionally held on the first Sunday of each month.

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Marriages:

Active and participating parishioners are welcome to be married at Immaculate Conception! Please contact the rectory *at least 6 months* in advance (preferably a year) so there is time to complete the marriage preparation process and confirm a wedding date.

Please do not reserve a reception hall before scheduling a meeting with the pastor.

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Shut-Ins:

If you wish to have your homebound loved-ones receive Holy Communion, please call the rectory (301-884-3123).

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Parish Email: Immaculateconception.md@adwparish.org

Parish Website: www.ImmaculateConceptionMD.com

To Register at Immaculate Conception:

We welcome you to Immaculate Conception Parish. If you are new to the Parish please register using the forms found in the church vestibule or on our website and drop off the completed form at the church office which is open:
Monday through Friday from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm.

The altar flowers were donated
in memory of
George & Peggy Baden.

The Feast of the Immaculate Conception - Holy Day of Obligation!

Friday, December 8th is the Feast of the Immaculate Conception; it is a holy day of obligation. Mass will be celebrated on Friday at 7:30 am, 12:00 noon, and 7:00 pm.

WARM PROGRAM Volunteer Update TIME IS RUNNING OUT! HELP IS NEEDED NOW.

So many of you have volunteered to help in some way, and that is greatly appreciated. However, some CRITICAL tasks still remain to be filled as indicated below. Sign-up Forms are in the back of the church by the WARM poster. Time is running out! If we don't have enough people, we cannot help keep others out of the cold night air.

- **Monitoring:** Need 6 evening monitors and 3 night monitors.

Donations of snacks; liter bottles of soft drinks (no diet drinks, please); small water bottles would also be greatly appreciated. Mandatory meeting is Thursday, December 7th in the Parish Center at 7:00 pm.

For further information contact (call, text, or email):
Debbie Myers (240-298-4546, his4everservant@gmail.com) or
Theresa Payne (240-298-8824, tbadenrb@hotmail.com).

Auction Results

The Auction committee would like to thank all who participated in the auction this year. We hope everyone liked the new setup and enjoyed themselves. For those who put in all the hours to make it happen, we thank you. Preliminary amounts show that we netted over \$11,000 for the parish.

Altar Flowers

If you're interested in dedicating altar flowers in memory of a loved one, please call Clare (301-884-3123) and she will help you schedule an available weekend. The cost is \$47.

Bible Study

Join us for Bible study on Mondays at 7:00 pm in the Parish Center. Come at 6:30 pm on **Monday, December 4th** to enjoy some Maryland vegetable crab soup before Bible study begins.

Bulletin Item Deadline

If you have an item for the bulletin, please note that all information needs to be sent to Clare.ImmaculateConception@gmail.com at the end of the day by **Tuesday each week**. Messages will be edited when necessary.

RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults)

RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults) is a program that assists those who want to learn more about the Catholic faith. If you have questions, please call Fr. Tietjen (301-884-3123) or Amy Downs (301-904-7439). Our first class was held **Wednesday, September 20th** at 7:00 pm in the Parish Center.

FAITH FORMATION INFORMATION

Sunday, December 3rd, 2017

WELCOME TO THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT 2017 – Four Weeks of Advent and the birth of Jesus Christ - Thanks for bringing your children to Faith Formation. God loves to start His week knowing that all His children are learning their faith.

PARENT AND KIDS – “KIDS ZONE”. No PARKING YOUR CAR or DROPPING your kids off by the front door or riding through the coned off area. It's for the love of the KIDS.

FAITH FORMATION AIDES – We still need Aides for K, 3rd, 6th and 8th grades for Session A, how about U? See the Deacon.

MARY'S GARDEN – Come and see. John 1:39. Give praise to Mary, for her beauty is everywhere. Need someone to talk to? Stop by Mary's garden and share your thoughts with her. She loves you too. I have a question? What happens on December 8th? Do U know???

PARENTS AND KIDS – This new school year, if you are having any problems or concerns at home, or here in Faith Formation, please come and see me right away. Don't wait. Come see me. If you need someone to talk to, come see me. If you need a friend, I'll be that friend who can introduce you to “JESUS.” Come see me.

KEEP CHRIST IN CHRISTMAS POSTER CONTEST – And the winner is???? Did you turn in your Christmas Poster?? Time will run out after Faith Formation today.

CHRISTMAS PAGEANT – PRACTICE HAS ALREADY STARTED - next practice is Thursday, December 7th and dress rehearsal is Thursday, December 14th. U still have some time to join us. Come, please join us. We still need some Angels and one Sheep. The PAGEANT is December 17th, at 2:00pm. Any questions see the Deacon.

PARENTS OF 7TH GRADE KIDS – FIRST TIME EVER: Want to join the 8th grade class retreat to St. Clement's Island on April 14th, 2018; rain date is April 21st, 2018. Please let me know if you are interested and see the sign-up sheet on OUR webpage, under Parish Forms. Any questions, call or see Deacon Bill.

SAFE EDUCATION TRAINING PROGRAM FOR 2017– This year their training session was on “INTERNET SAFETY”. On behalf of the Teachers who helped support this training and to all of the students in attendance, thanks. A special “THANKS” to Mr. Donald McLeod, for his time and effort in supporting our Makeup session.

PARISH WEBSITE – Please visit the Parish Website @ www.ImmaculateConceptionMD.com often to learn about Parish and Faith Formation events, updated Faith Formation calendar, and closing alerts for inclement weather.

CHRISTMAS ALERT – FAITH FORMATION CLASSES WILL BE CLOSED ON DECEMBER 24TH AND DECEMBER 31ST. IF YOU KNOW OF ANYONE WHO DOES NOT COME TO CHURCH, READS THE DRE CORNER, WHO DOES NOT LOOK ON OUR WEBSITE, OR GRANDPARENTS THAT DROP OFF THEIR CHILDREN IN A DARK BUILDING, PLEASE TELL THEM FAITH FORMATION IS CLOSED FOR CHRISTMAS BREAK. THANKS.

Deacon Bill - 240-230-3167 or deacon.kyte@gmail.com

The **Regular Collection** last week was \$5,591.00.

The **St. Vincent de Paul Christmas Project Collection** last week was \$3,459.41.

The **Christmas Flower Collection** last week was \$1,484.00.

Renovation Fund Account Update: We have \$121,331.59. Our ultimate goal is \$160,000.

The **Second Collection** next week is for the *Religious Retirement Fund*.

SCHEDULE for Saturday, December 9th and Sunday, December 10th.

(Parents—it is very important that if your child cannot serve at this time to please arrange a substitute.)

	Lectors	EMoHC	Altar Servers
4:00 pm Saturday	Mary Smith	Charlie Widmayer	(none)
7:00 am Sunday	Marian Taylor	Tim Steelman	Chris Holton & Madison Myers
9:00 am	Debbie Myers	Raymond Burch	Brandon Bowman & Matthew Mejia
11:00 am	Theresa Payne	Joseph Thomas	Sammy & Joseph Chick

Youth Choir – Grades K - 12

The Youth Choir of Immaculate Conception is looking for children to join us for Christmas Eve Mass and beyond. We are starting our Christmas music and would love to add more voices to our choir. If you are interested or know of a singer (grades K-12) that want to sing their heart out, please join us for choir practice on Wednesday evenings in the church at 7:30 pm. For more information, please contact Kara McCray Demer (410-610-4922 or Kara430@gmail.com). Practices usually run about an hour long and are fun and light-hearted with a focus on praising God through the music. We look forward to meeting you!

Thank You from the IC Angels

The IC Angels Ladies Auxiliary would like to thank the parishioners for their support of our recent All-Occasion cards, Christmas cards and ornaments sale. Due to its success, we have made donations to Helping Hands food bank, the WARM program, St. Vincent de Paul, and Grieving with Great Hope bereavement program.

Intercessory Prayer Group

Intercessory Prayer is prayer that pleads with God for your needs, the needs of others and the Church. It is prayer that does not give up! It endures all setbacks and overcomes every obstacle as it presses on – seeking God's will in every situation. Please join us in prayer in the Parish Center beginning on **Tuesday, December 5th** at 7:00 pm. This will be a weekly Tuesday night meeting! If you are not able to attend every Tuesday, come when you can. It is an open invitation! This is a great opportunity to prepare spiritually for Christmas during this season of Advent – all are welcome and encouraged to come experience the beautiful gift of community prayer! If you have questions or want further information, contact: Pat Copsey (PatCopsey@msn.com) or Mary Ellen Evans (301-904-9078).

Local Author Has Book Signing

Local author Leonard Wathen, Jr., will have a book signing on his most recent book “Remain in Me – Scriptural Reflections on Growing as a Disciple of Jesus.” The book signing will take place on **Saturday, December 9th** from 12:00 pm to 3:00 pm at Heavenly Presents in Leonardtown Square.

Save the Date

The Immaculate Conception Ladies Auxiliary of the Knights of St. Johns is sponsoring a trip to the Sight and Sound Theatre in Pennsylvania on **Saturday, September 29th, 2018**, to experience the story of “Jesus.” The coach bus will leave Charlotte Hall Park and Ride at 7:00 am and return around 7:00 pm. The cost will be \$160. More information will follow after the first of the year.



K of C Corner—Jesus, our Cornerstone Council #8159.

Are you thinking about becoming a Knight at Immaculate Conception Church? If you would like more information on the Knights, you can also just LOG IN to Maryland State Council Web page: www.kofc-md.org. You can also get more information @ www.kofc.org/join.

- Deacon Bill

Prayers for the Sick

Please remember the sick members of our parish community in your prayers: Phillip Adams; J.A.; Chicchina Bailey; Larry Bark; Kathy Bergling; Dorothy Blackwell; Doris Anne Bradburn; Therese Braithwaite; T.C.; Dennis Carr; Jimmy Davis; Joyce Edgington; Dottie Estep; Karen Finch; James Gibson; Eddie Grumbling; Billy Guy; Cindy Hall; Courtney Hall; Jimmy Hawkins; Joey Heiston; Nancy Heiston; Sonny Hill; Dwayne Hindt, Sr.; Marian Holley; Raymond Louis Holt, Sr.; Frederick Holton; Joshua Hosier; Frank Hull; Kathleen Johnson; Angie Kalnasy; D. Lambert; Nancy Lippert; Cole Martinez; Dennis Maury; Artina Miles; Lisa Durst Owens; Max Padgett; Haley Palmer; Robert Palmer; Jennifer Peacock; Grace Pennington; Fr. Robert S. Pittman, SSS; Sis Robey; Rachel Stewart-Johnson; Carrie Stoots; Debbie Stoots; Nicki Thorne; Rick Turner; Frankie Vera; James Young; and James Zalovick. Immediate family members may place names of *parishioners* on our sick list.

If you'd like to add your loved one to the sick list please contact the rectory (301-884-3123 or email Clare.ImmaculateConception@gmail.com).

Prayers for our Soldiers

We pray for those soldiers serving our Country – serving away from home are: Trevor Adams, Ivan Cerkez, Alex Costa, Blake Guy, Jeremy Heacock, Nathan J. Holton, Matthew Pennington, Joseph G. Thomas and Gregory Wilkinson.

Our Lady of Guadalupe and Vivian Mestey Healing Ministry

A 6'x 4' copy of the Image of the 1531 Tilma of Juan Diego that is displayed in the Basilica of Mexico City will be hosted by **St. John Francis Regis Church, Hollywood, MD on Friday, December 8th**.

- 4:00 – 6:00 6:30pm Veneration, Prayers of Healing and Testimony
- 7:00 pm Mass of the Immaculate Conception
- 8:00 – 9:00pm. Veneration

Touch the Image – Some are able to feel the Heartbeat of Our Blessed Mother and the Heartbeat of the Baby Jesus. Others have experienced warmth when touching her hands and some have smelled the scent of roses. There have been instances of the Blessed Virgin weeping tears of oil and she has been known to leave Holy glitter in the church. *Pray, Venerate, Worship the Son of the Living, God, Jesus Christ, Our Lord and Savior.*

Bear Hugs For Healing

To give a sick child a bear hug this Christmas, please drop off your donated bears by **December 12th** at Heavenly Presents, Leonardtown, MD. Store hours are Tuesday – Saturday, or use the after-hours drop box. Your tax-deductible monetary donations will be used to purchase bears at a discounted price! Please make checks payable to the “*Bread of Life Center for Peace*” and mail them to: PO Box 338, Leonardtown, MD 20650. You may also purchase a bear or make donations through our website at www.breadoflifecenterforpeace.org – click on Bear Hugs Project. Due to health and safety concerns, donated bears must be newly purchased and delivered in their original packing with store tags attached. Sorry, **used stuffed bears are not accepted by the hospitals**. Please contact Patricia Disandro (240-681-3606) for more details about how you can participate in this special outreach.

Mother Catherine Academy (MCA)

MCA is having Santa Bingo on **Sunday, December 10th** at 1:00 pm. The cost to play bingo is \$5.00 a child. Food will be sold at 12:00 pm before bingo. If you have any questions please call the school (301-884-3165).

Non-Perishable Food Items and toiletries that are needed: jelly/jam; pancake syrup; pancake mix; canned fruit; cereal; tea bags; coffee; Manwich; Beefaroni, Ravioli, Spaghetti & Meatballs, etc.; Hamburger Helper; Pork & Beans; side dish packets of pasta or rice (Simply noodles, Knorr, etc.); dried beans; rice; sweets (cookies, etc.); pudding; jell-o; canned meats (chicken, Tweet, Spam, potted meat, vienna sausages, etc.); canned soup; dried or canned milk; instant potatoes; stuffing mixes; sugar; flour; cornmeal; salt/pepper; common spices; ketchup; mustard; mayonnaise; toiletries (soap, toilet paper, paper towels, toothbrushes, toothpaste, deodorant, feminine hygiene items, shampoo, conditioner, etc.); laundry soap; quart & gallon size ziploc bags. If you have something to give that isn't on this list, we will definitely put it to good use! Thanks so much for helping folks in our community that are in need! This food is for the food pantries at *Our Lady of the Wayside* and *Helping Hands* throughout the year.

Serve God
by helping others.

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SOCIETY OF
ST. VINCENT DE PAUL



Other Events in Town

- Talks on "Early Society of Jesus" and "Today's Society of Jesus Community" will be given by Fr. Thomas Clifford, SJ. This event will take place at St. Francis Xavier Church Hall on **Sunday, December 3rd** at 6:30 pm. All are welcome.
- A Franciscan Monastery Christmas Open House – Enjoy visits to the full-size replica of Bethlehem's Nativity Grotto, items handmade by Christians in the Holy Land, the Nativities of the World exhibit, a concert by the Ron Freeman Chorale, visits from St. Nicholas and more at the Franciscan Monastery Christmas Open House, **Sunday, December 3rd**, 11:00 am – 4:00 pm. The Franciscan Monastery of the Holy Land in America is at 1400 Quincy St. NE, Washington, DC 20017. Free parking. For more Information visit <https://myfranciscan.org> or call 202-526-6800.
- An Advent Day of Prayer – "Love Comes Down" will take place on **Monday, December 4th** at **Loyola on the Potomac (A Jesuit Retreat House) in Faulkner, MD**. The Day of Prayer begins at 9:00 am with coffee, fruit, juice and pastries and includes lunch. During the day our retreatants are invited to spend time in quiet meditation reflecting on the theme. Confessions are offered and there is a celebration of the Mass. Retreat Fee: \$40. For more information email reservations@loyolaretreat.org or visit website – www.loyolaonthepotomac.com.
- Annual Orange & Grapefruit Sale is taking place on **Saturday, December 16th** at St. John's School in Hollywood, MD. Full or half boxes plus pecans. Quality guaranteed. **Order by Tuesday, December 5th**. Best to go to the school website to order (sjshollywood.org). Call Mike Thompson (301-373-8545) for more information.
- "A Loyola Christmas Sainly Tea and Market Place" at Loyola on the Potomac. A Jesuit Retreat House in Faulkner, MD, invites you to attend on **Sunday, December 17th**. Their Market Place doors will open at 1:00 pm – shopping will last until 3:00 pm at which time the Tea will begin. The Tea will include delicious assorted finger sandwiches & dessert. Christmas Tea - \$20 per person. R.S.V.P. to lisa.white@loyolaretreat.org.
- An Advent Evening of Recollection for Women will take place at **Our Lady of the Wayside Church, Chaptico MD** on **Monday, December 18th** starting at 5:00 pm on with a Mass followed by Exposition of Blessed Sacrament, meditation (Talk by Fr. Michal Sajnog), silent prayer, Benediction, Rosary and confessions.