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| ***From Father Jim*****Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord****“Peter proceeded to speak and said; ‘You know what has happened all over Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John preached, how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and power. He went about doing good and healing all those oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. We are witnesses of all that he did… they put him to death hanging him on a tree. This man God raised up on the third day and granted that he be visible not to all but to us, the witnesses chosen by God in advance who ate and drank with after he rose from the dead.’”**We can listen to many Easter sermons, telling of the events and appearances of Jesus. We visit the upper room with the apostles, meet Him with Mary in the garden, breakfast with Him on the shore of Tiberias, and share an evening meal in Emmaus. All are witness stories.The Pentecost sermon of Peter summarizes the event of Easter and its meaning for the witnesses. He was anointed with the Holy Spirit so we too have been confirmed. He was filled with power, so too we who live the life of grace. He went about doing good, the work of the church and we missionary disciples today. We too are the chosen witnesses of the Risen One who eat at His table, breaking the bread of life.Easter faith tells us that He lives and among us. Easter joy fills us with a special enthusiasm. Easter commissioning sends us to bring that joy to others.cid:6EEE9C61-746E-4982-A3E2-0724E7673DDA**Easter Schedule:****All Triduum Masses will be at Immaculate Conception** **Holy Saturday - March 31st**8:30am - Morning Prayer - IC11:00am - Blessing of food - IC Chapel7:00pm - Easter Vigil - IC**Easter Sunday - April 1st****Immaculate Conception Church:**7:00am, 8:30am, 10:15am, & Noon Mass**St. Jude:**9:00am |

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 8:30 AM Stephen Paul Almarez (Living Intention)

**April 3, 2018**

 8:30 AM Sister Mary Bertha, OSF

**April 4, 2018**

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**2018 Annual Catholic Appeal**

In the Resurrection of Jesus we find hope in the prospect of everlasting life in heaven. But to obtain eternal life, we must accept the Lord’s invitation to follow Him by imitating His love and compassion for others.

During the weekend of April 14th and 15th, our parish will participate in the 2018 Annual Catholic Appeal - a campaign conducted each year throughout the Diocese of Wilmington. Funds generated through the Appeal help provide critical financial support to nearly forty pastoral, charitable, and educational programs and ministries.

As Christian stewards, we are called to a lifelong conversion to the ways of Jesus. Each of us is asked to examine the blessings we have received from God and to discern how best to use them for others. We do this cheerfully and sacrificially and with faith in God’s love for us, knowing that he will provide for our earthly wants.

You can learn more about the Annual Catholic Appeal by reading the campaign insert in this week’s *Dialog* or visiting the diocesan website at [www.cdow.org](http://www.cdow.org); click “Giving” and then “Annual Catholic Appeal.”

**Liturgy**

**Readings for next week: Second Sunday of Easter**

**First Reading: Acts 4:32-35**

This passage describes the actions of the first community of Christians. They were of “one heart and one mind.” They had no rich or poor among them, for they shared all necessary items with one another.

**Second Reading: I John 5:1-6**

John explains that we become God’s children by believing in Jesus. When we love God and concern ourselves only with pleasing God, our faith is strong enough to conquer the evil in our world.

**Gospel: John 20:19-31**

Jesus appeared to the disciples despite locked doors, breathed on them so that they could receive the Holy Spirit, and gave them the power to forgive sins in his name. Thomas, who was not present, refused to believe without seeing Jesus for himself. Jesus appeared again when Thomas was present, and told him, “Blest are they who have not seen and have believed.”

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**Second Sunday of Easter of the Divine Mercy**

Next Sunday, April 8th is “Divine Mercy Sunday.” We invite you to celebrate Divine Mercy in any of the following ways next weekend:

1. Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament will take place at the end of the 12 noon Mass at IC Church.

2. Those gathered will pray the Chaplet of Divine Mercy at 2:00 PM concluding with Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament.

3. The requirements for the indulgence associated with this devotional activity can be satisfied by participating in any of the parish Masses next Sunday and participating in the Sacrament of Reconciliation at our scheduled times next weekend (ICC Saturday from 4:10pm - 4:50pm and SJ Sunday from 8:20am - to 8:50am.)

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**Adoration for Vocations:** On the 1st Sunday of each month, exposition of the Blessed Sacrament occurs from 1pm-3pm in IC Chapel. Join to pray for vocations to priesthood and religious life. The next opportunity is **May 6th**. Contact Dermott Mullan at 410-398-3368

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**Does your child need to be Baptized? The next Baptism Class is, May 14th.** 7:00-8:30pm in the Parish Center. It’s never too early to prepare for the Baptism of your child. Parents are required and Godparents are encouraged to attend. Contact us to register and arrange the Baptism at 410-398-1100.

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**Are you 18 years of age of older and desire to celebrate the Sacrament of Confirmation?** A session to prepare for Confirmation will be held **Thursday, April 12th** **at 7pm in the Parish Center**. It is important to contact Sr. Grace at 410-392-3551 prior to this meeting.

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**Daily Readings: Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord**

**Sunday**

Acts 10:34a, 37-43; Col 3:1-4 or 1 Cor 5:6b-8;Jn 20:1-9 or Mk 16:1-7

or, at an afternoon or evening Mass, Lk 24:13-35

**Monday**

Acts 2:14, 22-33; Mt 28:8-15

**Tuesday**

Acts 2:36-41; Jn 20:11-18

**Wednesday**

Acts 3:1-10; Lk 24:13-35

**Thursday**

Acts 3:11-26; Lk 24:35-48

**First Friday**

Acts 4:1-12; Jn 21:1-14

**First Saturday**

Acts 4:13-21; Mk 16:9-15

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**FR. MICHAEL CONNOLLY, OSFS** will continue a reflection on the Gospel of Mark with a presentation on **May 13th at 1:15pm.**

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**Liturgical Ministers for Next Week: April 7th & 8th:**

***5:00pm***

**Altar Servers:** Mark B, Nathan S **EM’s** Diana B, Julie M **Lector:** Francis C **Ushers:** Eileen P, Bill B, Pat C

***7:00am***

**Altar Servers:** \*Unfilled\* **EM’s** Sandra H, Alan S, Gerald M **Lector:** William K **Ushers:** Charles M, William C

***8:30am***

**Altar Servers:** Jeremy M, Elizabeth R **EM’s** Don H, Frank S, Mary Ann H **Lector:** \*Unfilled\* **Ushers:** Anthony D, Steve C, Wendel S, Anthony M

***9:00am (SJ)***

**Altar Servers:** Joseph H, Robert H **EM’s**: Chris H, Dorothy D, Peggy O, Diane C, Mary Ann S **Lector:** Michele C **Ushers:** Kevin O, William D, Jule V, Jake S

***10:15am***

**Altar Servers:** Hayden S, Ariane S. **EMs:** Gwen D, Jim D, Richard L, Grace B **Lector:** Tina B **Ushers:** Bob W, Steve A, David B

***12:00noon***

**Altar Servers:** Cecilia G, Benedict J **EM’s:** Corazon S, Charles C, Kathy C **Lector:** Roberto O **Ushers:** Theresa G

**Children’s Liturgy of the Word**

Children’s Liturgy is for children ages 5-8 ONLY. Children who are not in this category are asked to remain in church.

**The catechist for next Sunday, April 8th is:**

**Donna Mulkern**

**Faith Formation**

**Immaculate Conception School News**

**Alleluia! He is Risen!**

**The students and staff of Immaculate Conception School would like to wish you a very blessed and happy Easter.** May God’s blessings upon your family prove St. Augustine’s words, “God loves each of us as if there were only one of us.”

**Would you like your children** to have access to the strong faith-based education that ICS provides, but you always thought that you couldn’t afford it? Contact us about our Tuition Transfer Grant program! For students transferring in to grades K - 8, it is $1,000 off the first year’s tuition and $500 off the second year. You may schedule a school tour at any time by calling Emily Murphy at 410-398-2636. We will hold an Open House on **April 14**. If you are considering applying for tuition assistance, **now** is the perfect time to visit ICS!

**Do you stay at home with the kids** during the day? Has the weather created ‘cabin-fever’ for you and the children? We have an answer for you! Join Gwen Davis for a seasonal activity and story geared to pre-school aged children. Our next Story Time session will be **Tuesday, April 17** at 9:00am. If you have questions about the program or are interested in helping, please contact Emily Murphy at 410-398-2636.

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**Faith Formation**

**Religious Education & Sacraments**

**Religion Classes for Grades K-8:**

**Sunday Classes have ended.**

**Wednesday Program:** Classes for Gr. 1-8 will be held **Wednesday, April 4th** at 6:15pm.

**Parents are invited to attend the Closing Prayer Service in the Gym at 6:30pm**

**Religious Ed/Youth Ministry Registration:**

**This is the absolute last week** to register for next year’s religious ed/youth ministry classes and sacrament programs AND AVOID A LATE FEE.

**You can register either:**

-Online: on the parish website under Faith Formation

-Complete a hard copy of the forms (in the religion office)

**\*Note:** Finances are never a reason not to register! Payment plans/assistance are available if needed.

**Did You Know that…**

-A child must have attended 1st grade in order to register for 1st Communion classes

-A student must have completed Grades 7 AND 8 to register for Confirmation?

Questions? Contact the religion office at 410-392-3551.

**FIRST COMMUNION PROGRAM:**

THE LAST PRACTICE WITH UNCONSECRATED BREAD AND SONGS IN CHURCH WILL BE HELD ON **TUESDAY, APRIL 10TH AT 1PM.**

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**Youth Ministry & Confirmation**

**CONFIRMATION PROGRAM:**

Wednesday class: make-up date is Wed. April 4. Retreat April 14, 8 am to 2:30 pm. Report to ICS gym.

**YOUTH GROUP: No meeting tonight, Easter Sunday. Join us on April 8 at 6 pm.**

**YOUTH MINISTRY WISH LIST:**  paper products, BOTTLED WATER, pizza gift card

**YOUNG ADULTS**

**Contact Maddie Reese for updates.**

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**Adult Education**

**Interested in a study group?** Many opportunities are available. Call the office at 410-392-3551.

**Adult Enrichment Program: Symbolon**

**No Adult Classes** will be held this week. Classes will resume on Monday, April 9th and Tuesday, April 10th. The topic will be: Who Is Jesus? Just A Good Man Or Lord of Our Lives?

**RESOURCES FOR THE EASTER SEASON:**

**-Go to the Parish Website** at [icc.weconnect.com](http://www.icc.weconnect.com) and looked under Resources to find Resources for Prayer, Scripture, etc.

**-The weekly Scripture puzzles** continue to be posted on our Parish Website under Children’s Corner.

**-Holy Heroes Free Mass Prep Resources available:** Sign up at HolyHeroesFun.com



**2018 VBS PLANNING IS HERE**! "Shipwrecked" Totally Catholic VBS is where kids learn that Jesus rescues! Our next planning meeting will be held **Monday, April 16th at 6pm in the Parish Center**. If you cannot attend the meeting but would like to be part of this exciting adventure, contact the religion office at 410-392-3551 or donnamichelangelo@yahoo.com We need YOU!

**PLANNING ON ATTENDING VBS?**

Register Early so that TShirts and supplies can be ordered! VBS is for kids Age 4 through the completion of Gr 5 **Online registration available:** [iccparish.weconnect.com/vbs](http://iccparish.weconnect.com/vbs). Like us on Facebook: [www.facebook.com/immaculateconceptionvbs/](http://www.facebook.com/immaculateconceptionvbs/)

**Social Concerns**

**Outreach:**

**Please consider donating non-perishable foods to the Outreach! Thank you for your** help, prayers, & donations to this essential ministry!!

**We are currently in need of:** Pork and Beans, Spaghetti-o’s peanut butter, and Jelly

**Parish and Family Life**

**Parish Coffee**: Join us for Parish Coffee**, April 8th** after the 9 AM Mass at St. Jude’s.

**Join us for Parish Coffee, April 15th after 10:15 mass at IC!** Hope to see you there

**Parish Events / Information**

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**Thank you so much for your continued generosity and support to your parish!**

**Weekly Church Collections: Week of March 4th**

ICC: $10,076.00

St. Jude: $1,880.00

Online: $3,271.00

Easter: $670.00

Total Offertory $15,227.00

**The Offertory at Mass** is an integral part of the Sunday liturgy, not just because it is the primary means by which the parish receives financial support from the parishioners, but because it is also an expression of our gratitude to God for the blessings He has given us to return a portion of them back to Him for use by His Church.

**By our baptism as Catholics we are called** to be stewards of God’s gifts to us, to use them in ways that build up our families, our parish, our community, and our world. In that stewardship, we are encouraged to be deliberate and intentional in weighing our various obligations against our limited resources as we decide where we spend those resources of time and money and effort. When we give to our parish and to the greater Church, we are witnessing to our children and to the world about our values and about what’s important to us.

**Just a reminder that we offer electronic giving! How does Online giving benefit you?**

1. It’s easy, convenient, and safe
2. Allows you to give any amount, any time.
3. Allows you to track all offerings and giving

**How does Online giving benefit the parish?**

1. Gives consistency to help with financial planning
2. Increases the efficiency of processing giving

**How to sign up?**

1. Visit [iccparish.weconnect.com](http://www.iccparish.weconnect.com)
2. click “Go to Online Giving”
3. Sign up! It’s that easy!



**Sunday, April 1**

8:20 AM Confessions - SJ

Monday, April 2 ICS No School

9:00 AM Novena – CH

7:00 PM Christian Yoga - gym

8:00 PM AA Mtg - Caf

Tuesday, April 3 ICS No School

9:00 AM Holy Hour – CH

9:15 AM Book Discussion - PC

6:00 PM Liturgy Committee Mtg - PC

6:30 PM Handbell Rehearsal - IC

7:00 PM Boy Scout Leader Mtg - PC

7:00 PM Parish Council Mtg - PC

7:30 PM Contemporary Rehearsal - IC

Wednesday, April 4 ICS No School

9:00 AM Rosary Crusade/SJ Novena - CH

9:30 AM Cantor Reh - IC

1:00 PM LAOH - PC

3:45 PM Children’s Choir Reh - IC

6:15 PM Religious Ed

Thursday, April 5 ICS No School

9:00 AM Rosary Crusade - CH

6:30 PM Boy Scout Meeting - PC

6:30 PM Cub Scouts - Caf

6:30 PM Cantor Reh - IC

7:00 PM Parish Choir - IC

Friday, April 6 ICS No School

9:00 AM Rosary Crusade - CH

7:00 PM NA - Caf

**Saturday, April 7**

9:00 AM Rosary Crusade - CH

4:15 PM Confessions - IC

7:00 PM NA - Caf



**Help Wanted!**

**Volunteer Fundraising Coordinator:** The volunteer fundraising coordinator acts as a liaison between the parish fundraising committees, the parish council, and the parish staff; attends fundraiser committee meetings to provide insight and coordination with other events; coordinates scheduling in advance with committees and parish staff in regards to advertising and room reservations; drafts announcements, mailings, scheduling of speakers, etc; assists in creating and scheduling advertising notices and communications while utilizing established means of advertising as well as seeking new advertising opportunities. If you are interested, please contact Mark Guns at Mguns@live.com or 443-309-0616.

**COMMUNITY KITCHEN:** Our next Community Kitchen will be held on April 27th at the Elkton Presbyterian Church at noon.  We will be serving homemade soup, sandwiches, and desserts, along with fruit. We are asking for donations of any of these items to be delivered to the Presbyterian Church, or the Parish Center. We also need volunteers to help set up, serve, and/or clean up after. This all begins around 11:00, and we are usually all done by around 1:30. Please consider joining us for this worthwhile time of fellowship, not to mention a wonderful lunch!  Please call Joyce Speakman at 610-597-3135, or Kathy Chamberlin at 410-398-7299 for more details. Cash donations are another way to help with the luncheon, and much appreciated. If donating by check, please write Community Kitchen in the Memo section. We thank you for your past support.

**Community Events / Information**

**Knights of Columbus**

**Bishop Becker Council 2427**

**443-616-5370 or** [**www.kofc2427.org**](http://www.kofc2427.org)

**Meetings:** 2nd & 4th Tuesdays of the month at 7:00pm at the Parish Center

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**Habitat for Humanity Susquehanna** presents the revitalization of our Faith Relations Committee, where all faith communities are welcome to be a cornerstone in the development of building a solid foundation. We welcome **Immaculate Conception Parish** to partner with Habitat Susquehanna’s mission to serve as a reflection of God’s love in the earth and show your ***Love*** *in* ***Action***by being a part of our First Quarterly Faith Relations Committee meeting on **Thursday April 19th 1:30pm at our main office 205 S Hays St. Bel Air, MD 21014**. Together we can create a future where everyone has a safe, decent and affordable place to live. People of all faiths share a common goal to care for individuals in need and have long traditions of supporting decent shelter. We are called by our faith in God to serve families in need with generosity, humility and love. We invite you to join us for this exciting opportunity, where we unite as a faith community to build homes, transforming lives for low income families. Refreshments will be provided Please contact Nijah Barnes to confirm your attendance at 410-638-4434 ext. 7 or Nbarnes@habitatsusq.org

**The LAOH (The Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians)** Meetings will be held the first Wednesdays of the month at 1:00p.m. in the ICC Parish Center. Meetings run September - May. We are always looking for new members! The LAOH is a Catholic Action Group. If you are a woman who is Irish, Catholic and wanting to serve your community and learn more about your Irish heritage come join us. Contact Janice White at 410-378-3493

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**Christian Yoga:**

All are welcome to join in a Christ-centered meditative and gentle stretching Yoga classes. Classes are: **Mondays** **7 - 8:30pm** in ICS gym. The next class is **tomorrow, April 2nd!** Wear comfortable clothes and bring a yoga mat and towel. A $7 per class offering is suggested. Come to one or all classes and feel free to bring a friend!

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**Registered Redners's Shoppers:** Please remember to drop off your Redners's Grocery Receipts to Outreach. Once we reach a certain amount of money earned through the Redner's 'Save-A-Tape' program, Outreach can use the Save-A-Tape awards to purchase needed supplies. Kindly remember each week to generously give food donations and supplies to this important Ministry. It is greatly appreciated by those in need!

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