***From Father Jim***

**“Now I know brothers that you acted out of ignorance, just as your leaders did.** But God has thus brought to fulfillment what He had announced beforehand that through the mouth of all the prophets that His Christ would suffer. Repent, therefore and be converted that your sins may be wiped away. Then he opened their minds to understand the Scriptures. Thus it is written that the Christ would suffer, and rise from the dead on the third day, and that repentance for the forgiveness of sins would be preached in his name to all the nations.”

The wonderful sermon of Saint Peter offers encouragement, not judgment, summoning his hearers to listen more closely. The scriptures they knew, the prophets and psalms, pointed to the events which had taken place in Jerusalem. As they listened, they were able to conclude ‘this makes sense, I’ll follow what he says and begin living as a witness.’

Twenty centuries have passed, the sermon of Peter is repeated for my benefit as he opens our minds and hearts. If these words changed the hearts of his listeners, what is happening in my heart at this moment? Am I, or am I not a witness?

***Congratulations to those who were recently baptized:***

*Mason Reese Boney*

*Abraham Luke Brooks*

*Clark James Rath*

*Axel Valis*

***Congratulations to the couple recently married in the parish:***

*Mr. and Mrs. Charles and Hanna O’Brien*

**Fr. Michael Connolly, OSFS returns, May 13th at 1:15pm**

After the Easter Season the Church’s Sunday Eucharist will return to Mark’s Gospel. Having celebrated Christ’s victory over sin and death in his Passion, Death, and Resurrection, we now return to Jesus’ Miracles and Parables-to cherish and practice the lessons He taught by His words and deeds. Come join with fellow parishioners for this presentation on **Sunday, May 13th at 1:15pm in the Chapel.**



**April 16, 2018 -**

8:30 am Joseph Amberg

**April 17, 2018**

8:30 am Ruth Green

**April 18, 2018 -**

8:30 am Vincente Sanchez

**April 19, 2018**

8:30 am Joseph Amberg

**April 20, 2018** -

8:30 am Winifred Iannuzzo

**April 21, 2018 *St. Anselm, Bishop and Dr. of the Church***

8:30 am Joseph Amberg

5:00 pm William Biedrzycki

**April 22, 2018 - *Fourth Sunday of Easter***

7:00 am Betty Lewis

8:30 am Rosanne Keegan

9:00 am SJ Victor Gottemoller

10:15 am Joseph Coiner (Living Intention)

12:00 pm People of the Parish

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**2018 Annual Catholic Appeal**

“*Disciples of Christ, Witnesses of Faith”*

St. Luke recalls for us in today’s Gospel that it was only when Jesus opened their eyes and minds through his explanation of the scriptures and the breaking of the bread that the two disciples on the road to Emmaus came to recognize Him.

As men and women of faith, we are like those disciples, living our lives in the real world, walking along with Jesus who is always there accompanying us, whether we recognize Him or not.

Our Lord teaches us that at the end of our mortal life, He will call us to be with Him for all eternity. He will do so because of His great love for us and because of our response to do what He has asked: to feed the hungry, give drink to the thirsty, clothe the naked and attend to the needs of our brothers and sisters not only in our parishes and diocese but throughout the world.

The Annual Catholic Appeal, with its theme, “*Disciples of Christ, Witnesses of Faith”* challenges each of us to bear witness to our faith and open our minds and hearts to bring those less fortunate closer to God’s table. To know Christ is to know His message of salvation; to love Christ is to imitate His love for all people; and to serve Christ is to manifest His teachings through acts of Christian Stewardship.

Today, you are invited to participate in the 2018 Annual Catholic Appeal. Please respond by pledging a sacrificial gift to this important campaign.

To learn more about the Annual Catholic Appeal, visit [www.cdow.org](http://www.cdow.org); click “Giving” then “Annual Catholic Appeal.”

**Readings for next week: 4th Sunday of Easter**

**First Reading: Acts 4:8-12**

Peter explains to the elders that his healing of a cripple was done in the name of Jesus Christ. He reminds he elders that they crucified Jesus, but God rose him up so that all could be saved in his name.

**Second Reading: I John 3:1-2**

John expresses amazement at the fact that God allowed us to be called his children. Although we are unsure exactly what we will be after this life, we do know that we will see God as he is and be like him.

**Gospel: John 10:11-18**

Jesus speaks of a shepherd working only for pay, with no real concern for the sheep being well cared for. But Jesus is our shepherd and would lay down his own life for all those in his flock. God loves him for his willingness to sacrifice himself for the sake of all God’s children.

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**Does your child need to be Baptized?**

The next Baptism Class is, **May 14th**, 7:00-8:30 pm 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 the Parish Office to register and arrange the date of Baptism at 410-398-1100.

**2018 VBS PLANNING IS HERE!**

**"Shipwrecked" Totally Catholic VBS is where kids learn that Jesus rescues!** Our next planning meeting will be held **This Monday, April 16th at 6pm in Parish Center.** If you cannot attend the meeting but would like to be part of this exciting adventure, contact the parish religion office at 410-392-3551or email [donnamichelangelo@yahoo.com](javascript:void(window.open('/cpsess7748102409/horde/imp/dynamic.php?page=compose&to=donnamichelangelo%40yahoo.com&popup=1','','width=820,height=610,status=1,scrollbars=yes,resizable=yes')))

**We need YOU!**

**PLANNING ON ATTENDING VBS?**

**Register Early** so that T-Shirts and supplies can be ordered. VBS is for children ages 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/)

**Adoration for Vocations**

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

**Daily Readings:**

***Third Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord***

**Sunday** Acts 3:13-15, 17-19; 1 Jn 2:1-5a; Lk 24:35-48

**Monday** Acts 6:8-15; Jn 6:22-29

**Tuesday** Acts 7:51—8:1a; Jn 6:30-35

**Wednesday** Acts 8:1b-8; Jn 6:35-40

**Thursday** Acts 8:26-40; Jn 6:44-51

**Friday** Acts 9:1-20; Jn 6:52-59

**Saturday** Acts 9:31-42; Jn 6:60-69

**Liturgical Ministers for Next Week: *April 21-22***

***5:00 pm***

**Altar Servers:** Thomas L, Mason H • **EM’s:** Carol K, Gina L, Madison L

• **Lector:** Mary Ann E • **Ushers:** Eileen P, Bill B, Pat C

***7:00 am***

**Altar Servers:** Jacob B, Sarah B • **EM’s:** Sandra H, Alan S, Gerald M

• **Lector:** Jeanne D • **Ushers:** Charles M, William C

***8:30 am***

**Altar Servers:** Henry W, Damian W • **EMs:** Mary Ann H, Don H, Frank S

• **Lector:** Rachel W • **Ushers:** Anthony D, David D, Steve C, Wendel S

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

**Altar Servers:** Matthew T, Luke T • **EM’s:** Lester F, Dotty F, Diane C, Peggy O, Dorothy D • **Lector:** Monica V • **Ushers:** Kevin O, Bill D, Jule V, Jake S

***10:15 am***

**Altar Servers:** Hans S, Hendric S • **EM’s:** Dana B, David L, Gwen D, Jim D, Richard L• **Lector:** Helen B • **Ushers:** Bob W, David B, Steve A

***12:00 noon***

**Altar Servers:** Valerie O, Gabriel O • **EMs:** Cynthia J, Corazon S, Charles C • **Lector:** Pat K • **Ushers:** Teresa 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 22nd is:

**Justine Quirk**

**Inspirational quote of the week:**

“God is so good that He never ceases to work in our hearts to draw us out of ourselves, out of vain and perishable things, so that we can receive His grace and give ourselves wholly to Him.”

*- St. Jane de Chantal*

**Immaculate Conception**

**School News**

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**Alleluia! He is Risen!**

**As we continue to celebrate Easter,** our students and staff returned after a week-long Easter vacation, rested and rejuvenated for the race to the end of the school year. On Tuesday, our 2nd and 3rd graders will lead us in our Easter liturgy. Please join us at 10:00 as our students resurrect the “Alleluia” that we buried on Ash Wednesday.

**Congratulations to Hannah King and Sophia Wethrerill** who were each named State Grade-Level Winners for the Zaner-Bloser National Handwriting Contest! Both have advanced to be considered for the Grand National Champion title

**Due to Mother Nature’s wrath with snow and ice** and the resulting school closures, our thespians have missed too many rehearsals. In order to make up the time, we have **postponed the Godspell shows** originally set for later this month. Stay tuned for the new dates so you don’t miss this fantastic musical!

**This week, we will hold our annual induction ceremony for the new members of our chapter of the National Junior Honor Society.** Our 1st graders will welcome special guests for their Special Persons’ Lunch. We will also send a group of student representatives to Wilmington to participate in the annual Sacred Night of Music sponsored by the Catholic Elementary Principals’ Organization.

**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 **this** **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.

**Applications are being accepted** for next school year. If you missed our open house, don’t worry! Individual tours are available upon request by calling 410-398-2636. Now is the time to consider the benefits of Immaculate Conception’s strong, faith-based, challenging academic program.

**Religious Education & Sacraments**

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

All Classes have ended for this year.

**You must register** to be included in next year’s program!

**RELIGIOUS ED/YOUTH MINISTRY REGISTRATION:**

If you have a child who will be new to the program next year, it is important to register now.

**You can register either:**

-Online on the parish website under Faith Formation

-Complete a hard copy of the forms from the parish office.

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

**Did You Know that…**

-We have a Kindergarten Class that meets on Sunday Morning?

-Children must have attended 1st grade to register for 1st Communion.

-Students must have completed Grs 7 and 8 to register for Confirmation

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

**FIRST COMMUNION PROGRAM:**

**Eucharistic Ministers and Altar Servers are needed for the First Communion celebration on Sunday, May 6th at 2pm at ICC!** Contact Sr. Grace at 410-392-3551 **ASAP** if you are able to minister at this Liturgy.

**1st Communion Celebration & Rehearsal Schedule:**

**Next Sun., Apr. 22nd, 9am at St. Jude**

Rehearsal: Thurs., Apr. 19th, 6:30pm St. Jude

**Sat., May 5th, 5pm at ICC**

Rehearsal: Mon., Apr. 30th, 6:30pm ICC

**Sun., May 6th, 2pm at ICC**

Rehearsal: Wed., May 2nd, 6:30pm ICC

**Youth Ministry & Confirmation**

**CONFIRMATION PROGRAM:**

**Confirmation Rehearsal:** Saturday, **April 28th** from 6 - 7:30pm ICC

**Celebration of the Sacrament of Confirmation: Sunday, April 29th** Candidates: arrive at ICS Gym by 12:30pm. Mass at 2:00pm at IC.

**YOUTH GROUP:**

**Tonight, April 15 at 6:00pm** - Movie night!

**Apr. 22 -** Talent Night: display/share/show what you do best.

**Apr. 29 - no class** (Confirmation)

**May 6 - Confirmation After-Party:** share the experience of receiving the sacrament while feasting on desserts.

**May 13 -** Paint the Walls - literally!

**YOUTH MINISTRY WISH LIST:** paper products, water, pizza gift cards

**Adult Education**

**ADULT ENRICHMENT PROGRAM: SYMBOLON**

Adult Classes will be held this week on **Mon, Apr. 16th** at 6:30pm and **Tues., Apr. 17th** at 9:15am. The topic will be: The Holy Spirit and The Life of Grace; God’s Divine Life Within Us. Next week’s topic will be: Why Do I Need the Church? The Mystery of the Catholic Church.

**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:** Cereal, canned fruit, and **chicken noodle soup**

**PARISH & FAMILY LIFE**

**Parish Coffee**

Join us for Parish Coffee: May 6th after the 9:00 am Mass at St. Jude’s.

Join us for Parish Coffee May 13th 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 April 1st**

ICC $9,498.00

St. Jude $2,543.00

Online $3,061.00

Total Offertory $15,102.00

Easter $13,904.00

***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. Puts all offerings at your fingertips to track your giving

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

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

**How to sign up?**

1. Visit iccparish.weconnect.com
2. Click “Go to Online Giving”
3. Sign up! It’s that easy!

**Support ICC Parish when you shop!**

Go to [smile.amazon.com/ch/52-6015220](http://www.smile.amazon.com/ch/52-6015220) and Amazon donates a percentage of your purchase to Immaculate Conception Parish!

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**Sunday, April 15**

8:20 AM Confessions - SJ

10:30 AM Baptisms - SJ

12:00 PM ICS Bingo - gym

6:00 PM HS Gathering - PC

Monday, April 16

9:00 AM Novena – CH

6:00 PM VBS Planning Meeting - PC

6:30 PM Adult Ed Program - PC

7:00 PM Christian Yoga - gym

8:00 PM AA Mtg – Caf

Tuesday, April 17

9:00 AM Holy Hour – CH

9:15 AM Book Discussion - PC

9:15 AM Adult Ed Program - IC

10:00 AM ICS Mass

4:45 PM Finance Meeting - PC

6:30 PM Cub Scout Leader Mtg - PC

6:30 PM Handbell Rehearsal - IC

7:30 PM Contemporary Rehearsal – IC

Wednesday, April 18

9:00 AM Rosary Crusade/SJ Novena - CH

9:30 AM Cantor Reh - IC

3:45 PM Children’s Choir Reh - IC

3:00 PM Godspell Reh - Gym

7:00 PM Parish Council - PC

Thursday, April 19

9:00 AM Rosary Crusade - CH

3:00 PM Godspell Reh - gym

6:30 PM Boy Scout Meeting - PC

6:30 PM Cub Scouts - Caf

6:30 PM First Communion Rehearsal - SJ

6:30 PM Cantor Rehearsal - IC

7:00 PM Parish Choir Reh – IC

Friday, April 20

9:00 AM Rosary Crusade - CH

7:00 PM NA – Caf

**Saturday, April 21**

9:00 AM Rosary Crusade - CH

4:15 PM Confessions - IC

7:00 PM NA – Caf



**Save the Date!! Our 8th Annual Golf Classic** is going to be held on Monday, **June 11th, 2018 at the Newark Country Club!!** Join us for a fun-filled day of golf, great food, and some amazing auction items and golf prizes; including a hole-in-one car donated by Newark Chrysler Jeep Dodge!

Spaces are limited!! You can sign up and participate by:

* Golfing
* Sponsoring
* Contributing Auction Items
* Volunteering
* Joining us for dinner

Register online at iccparish.weconnect.com or by filling out one of the registrations found in the churches or parish office. We need volunteers on the planning committee and to help the day of. Contact the Parish Office at 410-398-1100 to register, volunteer, or for more information.

**COMMUNITY KITCHEN:** Our next Community Kitchen will be held on **April 27th** at the Elkton Presbyterian Church at noon. We will be serving soup, sandwiches, fruit, and desserts. 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. Community Kitchen is from 11:00-1:30. Please consider joining us for this worthwhile time of fellowship, not to mention a wonderful lunch! Contact Joyce Speakman at 610-597-3135, or Kathy Chamberlin at 410-398-7299 for more details. Cash donations are also greatly appreciated. If donating by check, please write ‘Community Kitchen’ in the Memo section. We thank you for your support.

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**Friday Night at the Movies!!**

**The Knights of Columbus are sponsoring Friday Knight at the Movies** for families and children on **April 27th at 7:00pm** in the ICS Gym. They will be providing Free Hot Dogs, an Ice Cream Sundae Bar, and beverages! Come enjoy the timeless Classic, “The Wizard of Oz!” (Parent or Adult Chaperones are required to attend with children.) Hope to see you there!!

**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 16th!** 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!

**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 7:00 pm at the Parish Center

**The LAOH (The Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians)** Meetings will be held the first Wednesdays of the month at 1:00 pm 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.

**As the sesquicentennial celebration of the Diocese of Wilmington** continues, 135 people from throughout the diocese prepares to launch its 10-day pilgrimage to France and Italy. The group leaves April 16 for its trip to Annecy, Assisi, and Rome. The journey led by Bishop Malooly will be tracked with daily reports on thedialog.org. “Annecy to Rome: Diary of #CDOW150th” will include quotes, highlights, photos and details of the trip each day. The pilgrimage to Annecy and Rome is set for April 16-26; it will begin in Annecy, France, where St. Francis de Sales, the patron saint of the diocese, ministered. The schedule in Rome includes attending an audience with Pope Francis! More information is available at: [www.cdow.org/150th](http://www.cdow.org/150th), [www.facebook.com/CDOW150th](http://www.facebook.com/CDOW150th), and @CDOW150th on Instagram and Twitter.

**Did you know that Immaculate Conception is an affiliate Partner of The Franklin Institute?**

As a parishioner, you get discount pricing for admission and exhibits!! Go to [www.fi.edu/affiliates](http://www.fi.edu/affiliates) and enter our organization code: ICCPMGRP. Check out some of the awesome exhibits they are currently running:

**Game Masters: The Exhibition, March 31-September 3:** This exhibit is a history of the science and graphic design that goes into creating video games. It is unbelievably fun and interactive.

**Vikings: Beyond the Legend, October 13-March 2, 2019:** Voyage back to the times when Vikings ruled the North Atlantic and sailed the seas for treasure. Come see how the Vikings lived, changed the world, and how their influence continues today!