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| ***From Father Jim***  **Second Sunday of Lent**  **Parish Lenten Opportunities:**  **Lent has begun!** We invite you to come join us in any and all of our of our many Lenten opportunities:   * **Stations of the Cross:** Friday nights in Immaculate Conception Church at 7:00pm, March 2nd, 9th, 16th, & 23rd. * **Shadow Stations of the Cross:** in ICS Gym on March 25th at 8:45am and March 28th at 6:30pm. * **Good Friday Stations of the Cross:** Immaculate Conception Church on March 30th at 3:00pm. * **Celebration of the Sacrament of Penance:**   + Saturdays 4:00-4:50pm - IC individual confessions   + Sundays 8:20-8:50am - SJ individual confessions   + Wednesday, March 7 6:30pm: ICC - Rel Ed. Reconciliation (open to all)   + Monday, March 19 7:00pm: ICC - Parish Mission Reconciliation/Taize Service (open to all)   + Any time by appointment * **Taize Prayer:** March 19, 7:00pm at IC Church * **Parish Lenten Mission with Msgr Daniel McGlynn, “Repent and Believe the Good News! Mark 1:15”** March 18-20th - ICC * **First Sunday for Adoration:** March 2nd 1:30-3:00pm in IC Chapel |

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**2018 VBS PLANNING IS HERE**! "Shipwrecked" Totally Catholic VBS is where kids learn that Jesus rescues! Our next planning meeting will be held **Monday, March 12th at 6pm in the Parish Center.** If you cannot attend the meeting but would like to be part of this exciting adventure, contact the 410-392-3551 or 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!!

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**ICS Paint Nite!! Come to Paint Nite at ICS on Friday, March 9th!** Come together for a fun evening with your friends, or to meet new ones as you help raise money to support enrichment activities for the children at ICS. Get tickets today!!

<https://www.paintnite.com/events/sunset-by-the-dock-at-immaculate-conception-school-10027062>

**SAVE THE DATE:** It’s time to get your Shamrock on!! Our annual St. Patrick’s Dinner is going to be taking place on Saturday, March 10th at 6:30pm Join us for great food, live music, prizes and more! Tickets are $30 per person or $50 per couple. They are on sale now! Visit the Parish Office or our website to purchase tickets!

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**February 26, 2018**

8:30 AM Cecelio Guipetacio

**February 27, 2018**

8:30 AM Ed Banas

**February 28, 2018**

8:30 AM Anthony Sposato

**March 1, 2018**

8:30 AM Audrey Jean Hardy

**March 2, 2018**

8:30 AM Patrick Hanyok

**March 3, 2018**

8:30 AM Donald Sentman Sr.

5:00 PM Ettore G. Fazio

**March 4, 2018 Third Sunday of Lent**

7:00 AM People of the Parish

8:30 AM Marianne & Lyle Utt

9:00 AM SJ Kazimiere Biedrzycki

10:15 AM Anthony Mallia

12:00 PM Hugh, Eleanor, and Christopher Reilly

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***We extend our condolences and prayers to the families of those who have recently died:***

*Francis Chamberlain*

***We extend a warm welcome to our new Parishioners:***

*Mr. Christopher Outlaw*

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**Altar Server Training!!**

**We are having altar server training** for anyone interested in becoming a new Altar server and current servers who would like a ‘refresher course’ **March 10th 10:00am**. If you are interested or have any questions, please contact Deacon Mike at [office@iccparish.org](mailto:office@iccparish.org) or 410-398-1100

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**Have you checked out our Lent Resources?**

-Sign up to receive Lenten reflections as well as free access to “Formed” during Lent for Movies, Books, etc. about our faith. Visit <https://formed.org/promo/lent-2018> or find the link on our website.

-Take a Lent Book available in the vestibules of Church

-Go to the Parish Website at [iccparish.weconnect.com](http://www.icc.weconnect.com) and look under Faith Formation, for Lent resources for prayer, Scripture, etc.

-Look at the weekly Scripture puzzles for children posted on our Parish Website under Children’s Corner.

**Liturgy**

**Readings for next week: Third Sunday of Lent**

**First Reading: Exodus 20:1-17**

Through Moses, God passed on the commandments he wished all people to follow. He tells us not to worship idols or take the name of the Lord in vain. All the laws God gave to us, if followed, would ensure that we could live in peace and harmony with one another as he had planned.

**Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 1:22-25**

Paul tells the Corinthians that Christ is the power and the wisdom of God. Although they claimed to possess wisdom, “God’s folly is wiser than men, and his weakness is more powerful than men.”

**Gospel: John 2:13-25**

Jesus went to the temple of Jerusalem to find merchants there selling sheep and doves. He knocked over their tables and drove the animals away. The merchants asked him for a sign that he was authorized to do this. He told them to “destroy this temple (referring to his body) and in three days I will raise it up.” The merchants misunderstood, and did not believe he could rebuild in 3 days what had taken nearly 50 years to build. Still many believed in him after seeing miracles he had performed.

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**YOUNG ADULTS:**

**Lenten Fish Fry & ‘Connections’** During the season of Lent, there will be a bi-weekly fish fry and small group session at the parish center on Fridays, March 2nd and March 16th following Stations of the Cross at Immaculate Conception Church. Stations start at 7pm. ‘Connections’ is a parish-based adult faith formation program. ‘Connections’ inspires Catholics to pursue their spiritual transformation and equips them to be fully devoted disciples of Jesus Christ. The program is made up of short independent seminars that take place over the course of the liturgical year. Each Connections seminar involves: a bi-weekly small group meeting, daily personal activities, a special group activity and one-on-one discussion with the leader or apprentice leader. The Connections program provides a workbook and website for each participant. No matter where one is on their spiritual journey, ‘Connections’ helps people realize their God given spiritual potential. If you are interested, contact Maddie at [mem.reese1010@gmail.com](mailto:mem.reese1010@gmail.com) so we can plan accordingly!

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**Via Crucis: Living Stations of the Cross at St. Anthony**

7:00pm parking and seating, 7:30pm Via Crucis, 8:30pm Head to Grotto's for cheese pizza and other Lenten fare

St. Anthony's Church is located on the corner of 9th & DuPont Streets in Wilmington. The parking lot is on 9th with another entrance on Howland. Please RSVP by **March 1st** to [mem.reese1010@gmail.com](mailto:mem.reese1010@gmail.com) so that enough pews can be reserved and to coordinate a car-pool!

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**Congratulations to ICS alumni** for their academic achievements at Padua Academy: senior, Shannon Murray for high honors; sophomore, Keeley Bedwell and freshman, Krista Kanu for honors. As we receive more information on our graduates, we will share it.

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**Daily Readings: Second Sunday of Lent**

**Sunday**

Gn 22:1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18; Rom 8:31b-34; Mk 9:2-10

**Monday**

Dn 9:4b-10; Lk 6:36-38

**Tuesday**

Is 1:10, 16-20; Mt 23:1-12

**Wednesday**

Jer 18:18-20; Mt 20:17-28

**Thursday**

Jer 17:5-10; Lk 16:19-31

**First Friday**

Gn 37:3-4, 12-13a, 17b-28a; Mt 21:33-43, 45-46

**First Saturday**

Mi 7:14-15, 18-20; Lk 15:1-3, 11-32

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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 us to pray for vocations to priesthood and religious life. The next opportunity is **March 4th**. Contact Dermott Mullan at 410-398-3368

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**Does your child need to be Baptized? The next Baptism Class is Monday, March 19th.** 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 date at 410-398-1100.

**Liturgical Ministers for Next Week: March 3-4**

***5:00pm***

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

***7:00am***

**Altar Servers:** Sarah B, Jacob B **EM’s**: Frank S, Gerald M, Alan S **Lector:** James B **Ushers:** Charles M, William C

***8:30am***

**Altar Servers:** Henry W, Damian W **EMs:** Peter G, Cecilia G, Mary Ann E **Lector:** Pat K **Ushers:** Anthony D, Steve C, Wendel S, Anthony M

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

**Altar Servers:** Jakob H, Mitchell H **EM’s:** Helen B, Pat D, Chris H, Narcy Z, Tom V **Lector:** John N **Ushers:** Kevin O, Bill D, Jule V, Jake S

***10:15am***

**Altar Servers:** Justin M, Layla B **EM’s:** Richard L, Rita M, Ben F, Gwen D, David L **Lector:** Kathleen W **Ushers:** Bob W, David B, James D, Steve A

***12:00noon***

**Altar Servers:** Gabriel O, Valerie O **EM’s:** Grace B, Corazon S, Kathy C **Lector:** Mary K **Ushers:** Teresa G, Charles C

**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, March 4th is:**

**Dana Bell**

**Faith Formation**

**Immaculate Conception School News**

**Our focus on Lent and preparation continues** throughout the school. We try to help students look beyond what they have given up to help them understand what they do with the time that the sacrifice allows is most important. We have reflected on what we can do to make Lent meaningful so that we are more fully prepared for Easter.

**All classes will attend Stations of the Cross** each week. We welcome you to join us in the church. Here is the schedule for this week:

**Tuesday**, February 27th 1:00pm – 4th & 5th grades

**Thursday**, March 1st 12:30pm – 6th grade

**Friday** 10:15am – 8th grade; 11:00am - 7th grade; 12:30pm - K & 1st grades; and 1:30 – 2nd & 3rd grades

**Congratulations to our current students for the following success:**

* **Declamation:** Our team finished 3rd in the St. Mark’s Spartan’s Speech Classic, with Leo D. winning an individual 2nd place.
* **Patriot’s Pen Essay contest:** In Local Post 6027, ICS took the top three places, with Peter M. taking 1st place in the district. In Local Post 7687, Madison T. took 1st place and 2nd place in the district.
* **Catholic Math League:** After the first two rounds of competition, our students ranked very well! In 6th grade, two students are in 5th and 6th place in our district. As a class, they are 4th in our district. In 7th grade, a student is in 5th place, with the class in 4th in the district. In 8th grade, Sean M. and Ariane S. are tied for 1st place in the district, and they are tied for 3rd place nationally! As a class, our 8th grade is 1st in our district and 4th in the nation**.**
* **National Geographic Geography Bee:** 5th grader, Brooks R. is our school champion, and he has completed an on-line test to see if he will move on to the next level.
* **Scripps Spelling Bee:** Hadlee H. is our school champion and is eligible to compete at St. Mark’s in the diocesan bee next month!
* **Honor Band**: Brooks R. is the youngest member of the Philadelphia Area Honor Band this year.
* **Scholarships:** 6 of our eighteen 8th graders have been awarded scholarships to our diocesan and private Catholic high schools. A total of fourteen scholarships were earned.

**We hope you are as proud** of these accomplishments as we are! Please pray for these, and all of our students as they work to share their God-given talents.

**Have you always thought** that you can’t afford to send your child to ICS? Contact us to find out about our Tuition Transfer Grant program. You may schedule a school tour at any time by calling Emily Murphy at 410-398-2636. If you are considering applying for tuition assistance, now is the perfect time to come visit ICS.

**Faith Formation**

**Religious Education & Sacraments**

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

**Sunday Program:** Classes for Gr. K-8 will be held today, Feb. 25th at 8:30am

**Wednesday Program:** Classes for Gr. 1-8 will be held this Wednesday, Feb. 28th at 6:15pm.

**Religious Ed./Youth Ministry Registration:**

**Now is the time to register for next year’s religious education/youth ministry and sacrament programs!! Religion Classes are held** on Sunday mornings from 8:30-10am or Wednesday evenings from 6:15-7:45pm. You choose the session to attend.

**You can register either:**

* Online under Faith Formation on the Parish Website
* Complete a hard copy and return to the religion office.

**\*Register now through the month of March** to reserve your child’s place in our programs and **avoid a late fee!!**

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

**Did You Know that…**

**\***A child must have attended First grade in order to register for Second grade/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:**

**Today, Feb. 25th,** a Parent/Child 1st Communion Meeting will be held from 4-5:30pm in Church. All those in the 1st Communion Program are expected to attend!

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**Youth Ministry & Confirmation**

**CONFIRMATION PROGRAM:**

Regular meeting times this week. Turn in your homework/letter to the Holy Spirit.

**DONATIONS NEEDED:** clip boards- used are fine! Drop off at parish center/Cheryl Nickle.

**Youth Group: Meeting tonight at 6:00** Plan to join us!

**YM Wish-list:** paper products, water, pizza gift cards

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**Adult Education**

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

**ADULT ENRICHMENT PROGRAM:**

This **Monday, Feb. 26th at 6:30pm & Tuesday, Feb. 27th at 9:15am** the second session of the Symbolon program will be held. The Topic: “Divine Revelation: God Seeking Us and the Compass for Our Lives.”

**Next week’s topic:** “The Bible: God’s Love Letter to Humanity.” **All who want to learn more about their faith are welcome.**

Call the religion office with any questions

**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:** canned fruit, pudding, jello, canned ravioli and spaghetti-o’s and feminine hygiene products

**Parish and Family Life**

**Parish Coffee**: Join us for Parish Coffee **March 4th** after the 9 AM Mass at St. Jude’s.

**Join us for Parish Coffee, March 11th after 10:15 mass at IC!** Hope to see you there

**Parish Events / Information**



**Offertory Week of: February 18 Fiscal Budget**

Immaculate Conception $7,921.15 $9,217.00

St. Jude’s $1,673.00 $1,826.00

Online $3,277.00 $2,773.50

Total: $12,871.15 $13,816.50

**2017-2018 Fiscal YTD Offertory Surplus** $3,708.48

**These charts show only Weekly Collections. Our weekly collections make up 33% of our total income. It covers only 32% of our total expenses.**

**Consider switching to Electronic Giving**. It's easy, convenient, & consistent. Visit iccparish.webconnect.com, click “GO TO ONLINE GIVING” and sign up. It's that easy



**Sunday, February 25**

8:20 AM Confessions - SJ

8:30 AM Religious Ed

4:00 PM Confirmation Whole group - SJ

6:00 PM HS Gathering

Monday, February 26

9:00 AM Novena – CH

6:30 PM Adult Ed Class - PC

6:30 PM Golf Committee Mtg - PC

8:00 PM AA Mtg - Caf

Tuesday, February 27

9:00 AM Holy Hour – CH

9:15 AM Book Discussion - PC

9:15 AM Adult Ed Class - PC

6:00 PM Basketball - gym

6:30 PM Handbell Rehearsal - IC

6:30 PM Cub Scout Leader Mtg - PC

7:00 PM Knights of Columbus Mtg - PC

Wednesday, February 28

9:00 AM Rosary Crusade/SJ Novena - CH

9:30 AM Cantor Reh - IC

1:00 PM Leisure Club - PC

3:45 PM Children’s Choir Reh - IC

6:15 PM Religious Ed

Thursday, March 1

9:00 AM Rosary Crusade - CH

3:00 PM Godspell Rehearsal - gym

6:30 PM Boy Scout Mtg - PC

6:30 PM Cub Scouts - Caf

6:30 PM PSO Exec Committee Mtg - ICS

6:30 PM Cantor Rehearsal - IC

7:00 PM Parish Choir Reh - IC

Friday, March 2

9:00 AM Rosary Crusade - CH

6:00 PM Young Adult Mtg

7:00 PM Stations of the Cross - IC

7:00 PM NA - Caf

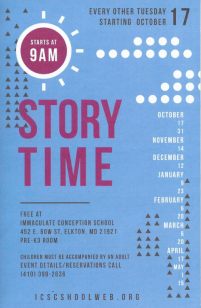
**Saturday, March 3**

9:00 AM Rosary Crusade - CH

4:15 PM Confessions - IC

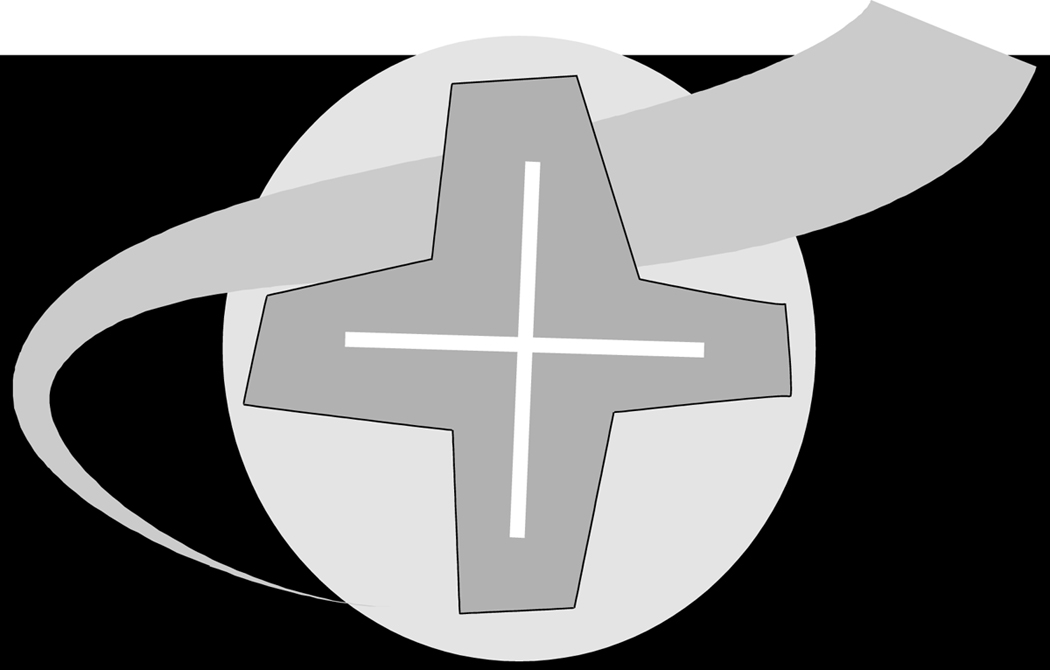
7:00 PM NA - Caf

**During this season of giving, Immaculate Conception School asks for your contribution**, to keep the mission of the school going strong. Any type of donation will be greatly appreciated and put to good use by marketing the school, increasing enrollment, strengthening programs and repairing the building. We need your help! Please deposit your donations in the church vestibule. If you would like to help the school in other ways, contact **Emily Murphy,** at ICS at 410-398-2636 or [emurphy@icschoolweb.org](mailto:emurphy@icschoolweb.org).

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**Do you have a young child at home?** **Are you looking for ideas to help you foster a love of reading** for your child? Do you home school your child, and you want fresh ways to encourage reading? We may have an answer for you. Our next Story Time session will be **Tuesday, March 6 at 9:00.** If you have questions about the program or are interested in helping, please contact Emily Murphy at the school, 410-398-2636.

**Help Wanted! Volunteer Fundraising Coordinator:** The volunteer fundraising coordinator acts as a liason between the four 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](mailto:Mguns@live.com) or 443-309-0616. Thank you!



**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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**Help kick off a year to remember! Diocesan 150th anniversary to begin March 3rd.** You are cordially invited to join Bishop Malooly at the Diocese of Wilmington’s Sesquicentennial Kick-off Mass on Saturday, March 3, 2018 at 12:00 pm at the Cathedral of Saint Peter, Sixth and West Streets in Wilmington. Gather and pray with Catholics from across Delaware and Maryland’s Eastern Shore to celebrate the 150th anniversary of the founding of the Diocese of Wilmington by Blessed Pope Pius IX on March 3, 1868.

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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. Please register for this program at Redners if you have not already done so. Thank you for your support!!

**The Cecil County Pregnancy Center banquet** is coming up on March 22nd at 6:30pm at the Singerly Fire Hall in Elkton. The cost is $25 at the door. There will be a great meal and speakers with client stories. Please call 410-398-7888 to RSVP. You will be glad you came!

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**The Maryland Catholic Conference** has important information about new legislation under consideration by the Maryland State Legislation on its website. This website provides information on the positions taken by the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops and the Maryland Catholic Conference concerning respect for life, social and economic issues, and education. To stay informed, please consult [www.mdcathcon.org](http://www.mdcathcon.org)

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**St. Anthony of Padua Church** invites you to participate in its 2018 presentation of the Via Crucis, a live re-enactment of the last days of Christ by area schoolchildren. The one-hour performance, blending traditional music, pantomime, and the words of the Gospel is staged at 7:30 pm at St. Anthony’s Church, 905 North DuPont Street in Wilmington. Performances for 2018 are: Friday, March 2, Friday, March 9, Friday, March 16, Friday, March 23 and ending on Good Friday, March 30. Over 100 students from area elementary, high schools, and colleges make up the cast of the Via Crucis. **There is no admission charge** for Via Crucis, although a free-will donation is welcomed. Call St. Anthony’s Rectory at 302-421-3700 for reservations. No reservations are accepted for Good Friday’s presentation.