***From Father Jim***

**“Since many have undertaken to compile a narrative of the events that have been fulfilled among us, just as those who were eye witnesses from the beginning and ministers of the word have handed them down to us, I too have decided, after investigating everything accurately, to write it down in orderly sequence for you, most excellent Theophilus, so that you may realize the certainty of the teachings you have received.”**

Our weekly reflections are entitled ‘His Word Today.’ Week after week we hear the gospel proclaimed, we spend time reading the daily meditations, and today we are reminded where this good news originates. Luke addresses a Lover of God, as his name is translated and he writes to him for us. He informs us with what he intends to do and why. The church then jumps to chapter four introducing us to the mission of Jesus as He proclaimed it in His own town of Nazareth.

As He unrolls the prophet of Isaiah telling of liberty for captives, recovery from blindness, freeing the oppressed and announcing the good news, He says in our words ‘this is happening today.’ The mission of Jesus is the mission of the church today; calling all to carry out what Pope St. John Paul II says ‘is still far from completion.’ As Jesus was sent, so are we.



**ICS** is having an **Willy Wonka-themed Open House** on the first day of Catholic Schools Week, **TODAY, Jan. 27th, from 9:30 am -12:30 pm.** They will also be having their annual **Waffles & Raffles**, from 8:00am - 12:00pm, and will feature the Mayor’s famous sausage gravy! It’s going to be a lot of fun!! There will be school tours, Wonka Rooms, bubbles, balloons, Oompa Loompa photo station, Wonka activities, Wonka Story Time, and the opportunity to talk to teachers and parents about the Immaculate Conception School experience. Every child that attends the Open House will be given a **FREE raffle ticket.** Join us! RSVP - Emily Murphy, [emurphy@icschoolweb.org](mailto:emurphy@icschoolwebv.org) or call 410-398-2636



**January 28, 2019 St. Thomas Aquinas**

8:30 am Jeffrey D’Alexander

**January 29, 2019**

8:30am Frank D’Alexander

**January 30, 2019**

8:30 am Betty Murray

**January 31, 2019 St John Bosco, Priest**

8:30 am David Janes Ennis

**February 1, 2019**

8:30 am Betty Murray

**February 2, 2019 The Presentation of the Lord**

8:30 am Betty Murray

5:00 pm Thomas James McMillan

**February 3, 2019 4th Sunday in Ordinary Time**

7:00 am Steven Ross Hardy

8:30 am Jose De Jesus

9:00 am SJ Ignatius Steinert

10:15 am Tom Wells

12:00 pm Hugh, Eleanor, and Christopher Reilly

**2018 Giving Statements**

As per IRS requirements, we have mailed out acknowledgement letters to those who donated at least $250 between January 1, 2018 and December 31, 2018. Acknowledgement letters for any donation amount can be sent by request. To request a letter, please contact [office@iccparish.org](mailto:office@iccparish.org). **Thank you for your generosity supporting Immaculate Conception/St. Jude Parish!**

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**God Is Love**

**Parish Concert**

Please join us on **Saturday, February 16th**, for our parish concert! Music will begin at 6:30pm at Immaculate Conception, followed by food and fellowship in the school gym. Tickets are $10 and will be sold at masses February 2nd & 3rd and will be available in the parish center. All parish ensembles will participate in this evening of music. Please contact the parish office for more information. Hope to see you there!

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

*Mr. Ritchie H. Staats Jr.*

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

*Nicoli Lucas*

**Readings for next week:**

**4th Sunday in Ordinary Time**

**First Reading: Jeremiah 1:4-5, 17-19**

God tells Jeremiah that he was chosen to be a prophet to the nations before he had even been born. He promises him strength and protection, if Jeremiah does as God asks.

#### Second Reading: [1 Cor 12:31—13:13](http://usccb.org/bible/readings/bible/1Corinthians/12:31)

Paul discusses the importance of love and claims that one who possesses any gift, but lacks love, has nothing. He explains that true love never fails, although knowledge or other talents can fail to endure in the same manner. Paul says that three things last: "faith, hope, and love, the greatest of these being love."

**Gospel: Luke 4:21-30**

Jesus spoke in the synagogue at Nazareth, appealing to all present. But he knew that they would be expecting him to do the things he had already done in other towns. He reminded them of other prophets who had preached and gained acceptance in foreign places instead of their home towns. This angered the people, who expelled him from town.

**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, next weekend, **February 3rd.** Contact Dermott Mullan at 410-398-3368.

**Inspirational Quote of the Week:**

“Show mercy, then, while you are on earth, and mercy will be shown to you in heaven.” -- Saint Caesarius of Arles

**St. Jude’s 50th Anniversary:**

Our parish will be celebrating the 50th Anniversary of St. Jude Church in 2019! The committee will be collecting pictures and stories to share. There will be a box at the entrance to the church where you can leave items you would like to share or you can drop them off at the parish center. Don’t forget to include your contact information so that the items can be returned to you! Please contact [youthministry@iccparish.org](mailto:youthministry@iccparish.org) with ideas or for more info about planning this celebration!

**The Order of Blessing an Engaged Couple**

In 2016, the US Conference of Catholic Bishops presented a new *Order of Celebrating Matrimony to* be used. Within this Liturgical Text is The Order of Blessing an Engaged Couple. The blessing may be given either by the parents of the engaged couple, or by a Priest, a Deacon, or another lay person. If any engaged couples would like to receive this blessing, contact Fr. Jim, Fr. Gerry, or Deacon Mike.

**Environment Committee:** We need a volunteer to oversee the environment at ICC. This includes caring for the plants, helping to plan and set up for the different seasons, note any need for repairs, and keep inventory of hosts and wine. Please contact Cheryl Nickle at [youthministry@iccparish.org](mailto:youthministry@iccparish.org) if you are interested.

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

The next Baptism Class is **March 18th**, 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 at 410-398-1100.

**Daily Readings:**

***Third Sunday in Ordinary Time***

**Sunday..................**.Neh 8:2-4a, 5-6, 8-10; 1 Cor 12:12-30;

Lk 1:1-4, 4:14-21

**Monday**..................................Heb 9:15, 24-28; Mk 3:22-30

**Tuesday**.......................................Heb 10:1-10; Mk 3:31-35

**Wednesday**..................................Heb 10:11-18; Mk 4:1-20

**Thursday.***...................................*Heb 10:19-25; Mk 4:21-25

**Friday**.........................................Heb 10:32-39; Mk 4:26-34

**Saturday**.....Mal 3:1-4; Heb 2:14-18; Lk 2:22-40 or 2:22-32

**Liturgical Ministers Next Week: *February 2nd & 3rd***

***5:00 pm***

**Altar Servers:** Mark B, Nathan S •**EM’s:** Cheryl N, Mary Anne S, Carol K • **Lector:** John N • **Ushers:** Eileen P, Pat C, Bill B

***7:00 am***

**Altar Servers:** Benedict J • **EM’s:** \*UNFILLED,\* Frank S • **Lector:** James S • **Ushers:** Charles M, William C

***8:30 am***

**Altar Servers:** Alex L, Sean M • **EMs:** Mary Ann H, Peter G, Cecilia G •**Lector:** Mary K •**Ushers:** Anthony D Wendel S Anthony M, Steve C

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

**Altar Servers:** Luke T, Matthew T • **EM’s:** Tom V, Peggy O, Dotty F, Les F, Chris H • **Lector:** Helen B • **Ushers:** Jule V, Bill D, Kevin O

***10:15 am***

**Altar Servers:** Donovan O, Justin M • **EM’s:** James D, Gwen D, Richard L, David L, Julie M • **Lector:** Rachel W •**Ushers:** Bob W, Steve A

***12:00 noon***

**Altar Servers:** Alex F, Andrew F • **EMs:** Mary C, Corazon S, Charles C • **Lector:** Frank E • **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 stay in church.

**The catechist for Next week, February 3rd is:**

Lindsay Partridge

**Immaculate Conception**

**School News**

**Walk-In Wednesdays** areevery Wednesday from 9:00am–11am. Tours are offered to those who wish to see the school in action!

**Story Time** is Wed, **February 6th** at 10:00am in the PreK Room. Please visit the ICS Facebook page at [www.facebook.com/icschoolmd](http://www.facebook.com/icschoolmd) and mark “Going” if you plan on attending. Space is limited, but all are welcome!

**In the spirit of Giving:** Our 5th and 6th graders are doing a great job heading up Outreach donations!

**Spring Musical:**

**“*Honk! Jr”.*** We are so excited to get started with this heartwarming and hysterical musical! Please contact Mrs. Karleen at [kobrien@icschoolweb.org](mailto:kobrien@icschoolweb.org).if your child in gr. 3-8 is interested!

**Catholic School’s Week starts this weekend, January 27th!** We have a lot of exciting events planned for each day of the week!

**Sunday, 1/27:** Join us for Willy Wonka- themed Waffles and Raffles from 8am- 12pm in the cafeteria.

We also will be having our Willy Wonka Open House and school tours from 9:30am-12:30pm.

**Monday, 1/28:** Pajama Day! Geography Bee at 9:30am.Come to Pat’s Pizza Fundraising Night from 4pm-8pm at Pat’s in Elkton!

**Tuesday, 1/29:** Jersey Day! Pennies for Patients and “Stuck for a Buck”. The “Day of Giving” begins at 12pm. The Challenge Game (faculty vs. 8th grade) begins at 1pm.

**Wednesday, 1/29:** Red/White/Blue Day! 7th gr trip to St. Elizabeth’s Variety Show at 9:15am. School Mass at 10am. Spelling Bee at 1pm.

**Thursday, 1/31:** “60’s/70’s/80’s Day! No Homework, No Backpack, No Problem! Whole School Bowling at 10am. ICS Talent Show at 6pm.

**Friday, 2/1:** Blue/White Day! 1st Friday Mass at 8:30am. Blue/White Rally at 1pm.

**Faith Formation**

**Religious Education & Sacraments**

**Religion Classes** There will be NO Religion classes on Sunday, January 27th! The school is having their Waffles and Raffles/Open House

**Wednesday class will meet on January 30th**

**Sunday classes will resume Sunday, February 3rd.**

**First Communion:** Parent orientation meeting is TOMORROW, **Monday,** **January 28th at 6:30pm at ICC.**

**Outreach Donations**: Please remember to bring in Outreach Donations!!

**Youth Ministry & Confirmation**

#### whats-your-story

**CONFIRMATION**

**Next class will be**: Sun, February 10th & Wed, February 13th.

**YOUTH GROUP**

Meeting tonight, **Sunday, January 27th at 6:00pm.**

**There will be NO meeting Sunday, February 3rd.**

**CONFIRMATION WISH LIST:**

Paper products, sparkling grape juice, sparkling cider and applesauce

**YOUTH MINISTRY WISH LIST:**

Bottled water and sodas

**YOUNG ADULTS**

Contact Maddie Reese at [memreese1010@gmail.com](mailto:memreese1010@gmail.com) for updates.

**ADULT EDUCATION**

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

**“Mary, a Biblical Walk with the Blessed Mother”** will meet again on Monday, January 28th at 6:30pm and repeats on Tuesday, January 29th at 9:15am in the parish center. All are welcome!

**RESOURCES FOR THE SEASON:**

Visit the Parish Website at [iccparish.weconnect.com](http://www.iccparish.weconnect.com) and look under Resources to find Resources for Prayer, Scripture, etc.

**SOCIAL CONCERNS**

**Outreach**

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

**The Parish outreach is currently in need of:** Pasta (no sauce needed,) Jelly, and toilet paper. Thank you!

**PARISH & FAMILY LIFE**

**Parish Coffee**

Join us for Parish Coffee, **February 3rd** after 9:00 am Mass at St. Jude’s.

Join us for Parish Coffee, **February 10th** after 10:15am Mass at ICC!

**PARISH EVENTS/INFORMATION**

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**Weekly Church Collections: Week of Jan. 20th**

ICC $9,010

St. Jude $1,565

Online $4,716

Total Offertory $15,291

**Keep up with regular offerings by giving electronically!!**

Just as you rely upon receiving income on a regular basis, we rely on your regular contributions. We greatly appreciates the efforts of our parishioners to make consistent donations throughout the year - especially when winter weather makes it difficult to attend services! To assist you, the church provides a convenient electronic giving option for setting up regular contributions. Simply visit our website and click the Online Giving Button!

**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 your giving

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

1. Creates consistency of giving
2. Increases efficiency of processing giving

**How to sign up?**

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

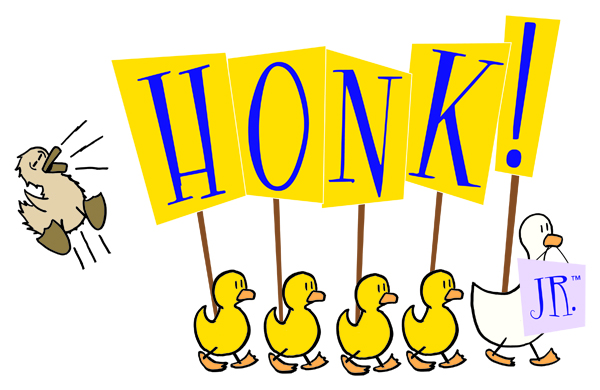
**PARISH EVENTS/INFORMATION**

***Many Gifts, One Nation: A Day of Giving to Catholic Schools***

20 years ago, St. Pope John Paul II said to an audience of Catholic educators in New Orleans, “Yours is a great gift to the Church, a great gift to your nation.”

Countless people in our country have been blessed by the many gifts of Catholic schools. They have carried what they have learned and witnessed with them; however, many have lost touch with our local Catholic school communities. It is time for these people to reconnect with Catholic schools and give back.

It is with this recognition in mind that Immaculate Conception School is pleased to participate in *Many Gifts, One Nation: A Day of Giving to Catholic Schools*. Scheduled for January 29, 12:00pm - January 30 12:00pm, this is a time for individuals to give to their local Catholic school.

Visit **www.NCEA.org/csw/manygifts** to find the giving page link and search for Immaculate Conception School. *Many Gifts, One Nation* is made possible by NCEA and FACTS Management.

**ICC Spring Musical!!**

We are so excited to announce this year's spring musical, **Honk Jr!** We are even more excited about our musical this year because we are asking **parish kids to participate as well as ICS Students!** Honk! Jr is a delightful adaptation of the beloved fable, “The Ugly Duckling.” This musical is witty and hilarious, but also deeply heartwarming. We are so excited to get started with this awesome production! We are asking any interested kids in grades 3-8 to please contact Mrs. Karleen O’Brien at [kobrien@icschoolweb.org](mailto:kobrien@icschoolweb.org) or Mrs. Kathleen Davis at [office@iccparish.org](mailto:office@iccparish.org)! Hope to hear from you soon!!

**ROTATING SHELTER:**

Immaculate Conception/St Jude will participate in the rotating Shelter for the homeless again this year. We will be partnering with Five Rivers Church (290 Whitehall Road, Elkton) **March 4-11**. Many volunteers are needed! For information or to volunteer you can contact Carol and Bill Dale, 410-287-9548, or email [dales7@comcast.net](mailto:dales7@comcast.net). Our parish has participated in this mission for the past 13 years with overwhelming support. We touch many lives performing this service to the neediest in our community. God bless and thanks to everyone!

**Baby Bottle Campaign.**

**The Cecil County Pregnancy Center** provides support for pregnant mothers and their families. The Center depends entirely on donations. An important source of donations is a campaign in which people take home a Baby Bottle from Church, use it to collect money or checks at home, and then return it to the Church after a few weeks. This year, the Center will provide baby bottles to ICC/SJ parish February 2nd-3rd. Please consider taking home one of the bottles so that the Center can continue its work of building a Culture of Life in Cecil County.



**Sunday, January 27**

8:00 AM - Waffles & Raffles - Caf

8:20 AM - Confessions - SJ

9:30 AM - ICS Open House - ICS

1:30 PM - Baptisms - IC

6:00 PM - HS Gathering - PC

Monday, January 28 Catholic Schools Week

9:00 AM - Novena - CH

6:00 PM - Varsity Girls Basketball - gym

6:30 PM - Adult Ed Program: Mary - PC

6:30 PM - 1st Communion Parent Mtg - IC

8:00 PM - AA Mtg - Caf

Tuesday, January 29 Catholic Schools Week

9:00 AM - Holy Hour - CH

9:15 AM - Adult Ed Program: Mary - PC

5:30 PM - Pre-JV Basketball - gym

6:30 PM - Varsity Boys Basketball - gym

7:30 PM - Contemporary Rehearsal - IC

Wednesday, January 30 Catholic Schools Week

9:00 AM - Rosary Crusade/SJ Novena-CH

9:30 AM - Cantor Reh - IC

10:00 AM - School Mass - IC

6:15 PM - Religious Ed

6:30 PM - JV Boys Basketball - gym

Thursday, January 31 Catholic Schools Week

9:00 AM - Rosary Crusade - CH

6:00 PM - ICS Talent Show - Gym

6:30 PM - Boy Scouts - PC

6:30 PM - Cub Scouts - PC

6:30 PM - Cantor Rehearsal - IC

7:00 PM - Parish Choir Rehearsal - IC

7:00 PM - RCIA - PC

Friday, February 1

9:00 AM - Rosary Crusade - CH

5:30 PM - Pre- JV Basketball - gym

7:00 PM - NA – Caf

**Saturday, February 2**

9:00 AM - Rosary Crusade - CH

4:15 PM - Confessions - IC

7:00 PM - NA – Caf

**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

**LAOH (The Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians)**

The Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians, Inc. Cecil County Division 1, an Irish Catholic Action group has meetings on the first Wednesdays of the month at 1:00pm in the ICC Parish Center. Meetings run September through May. We are always looking for new members! If you are an Irish Catholic woman and want to serve your community, and learn more about your Irish heritage come join us! Contact Janice White, President at 410-378-3493

**Mount Aviat’s Annual Cream Puff Day**

Mount Aviat’s Cream Puff Day is **February 8!** Delicious, homemade cream puffs —a specialty of the Oblate Sisters — are available for **pre-order only until February 1st**. Pricing is $2.75 each or $33/dozen. Pick up is Friday, February 8th at the MAA gym between the hours of 8:00am - 3:00pm. Delivery is available for large orders in Elkton and Newark. Order forms are available on the MAA website at [www.MountAviat.org](http://www.MountAviat.org). Contact Pat Seigel at 410.398.2206 during school hours with any questions.

***Worldwide Marriage Encounter*** - It has been said that the greatest gift you can give your children is two parents very much in love with each other. Polish up this gift and put a bow on it at a Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend! The next Marriage Encounter weekend with be March 1-3, 2019 in Rehoboth Beach, DE. For information, visit our website at [www.me-delmar.org](http://www.me-delmar.org) or to register for the weekend, please call Tony and Linda Massino at 302-220-9833. Don’t Delay! Your marriage deserves this gift!

**SACRED:**

Celebrate our Catholic Faith with a day of spiritual renewal on Saturday, February 23rd at 8:00am-3:00pm. Cost is $45, or $40 if paid by Tues, January 31st online at [www.sacred.salesianum.org](http://www.sacred.salesianum.org). The price includes coffee, a light breakfast, lunch and over 15 courses in adult religious education. Reconciliation is offered at 8am and 3pm. Optional Mass at 4pm. Don’t miss out on a fun filled and informative way to celebrate our Catholic Faith and to enter the season of Lent. This popular day of spiritual renewal through the lens of Salesian Spirituality has had over 150 attendees each year.

**Archives to hold exhibit for Diocesan 150th anniversary celebration.**

The Archives of the Catholic Diocese of Wilmington will present a special exhibit in celebration of the 150th anniversary of the founding of the Diocese. The exhibit will take place on Sunday, February 24 from 12:00 pm - 3:00pm. in the Family Center of Saint Joseph on the Brandywine Church, 10 Old Church Road in Greenville, Delaware. The exhibit will feature dozens of items and documents going back to the 1600s when the first Catholic Europeans arrived in present-day Delaware and the Eastern Shore of Maryland. It is free and open to the public.