***From Father Jim***

**“But you, man of God, pursue righteousness, devotion, faith, love, patience and gentleness. Compete well for the faith. Lay hold of eternal life, to which you were called when you made the noble confession in the presence of many witnesses... I charge you… to keep the commandment without stain or reproach…”**

Every Sunday, as we stand to profess our faith in the creed, we renew our commitment, with all at worship with us. In this way, we not only recite that in which we believe, but grasp again the gift of eternal life.

In many letters Paul offers a litany of virtues to be sought, fruits to be made manifest, and the elements present in our Christian family life. Whether it is the hymn of charity in Corinthians, the fruits of the Spirit in Galatians, or the building blocks in Colossians, we are given the foundation stones for solid Christian living. The list offered to Timothy today is intended to be added to many others. Thank you, Paul, for such wonderful reminders.

**Our Parish is celebrating the 50th Anniversary of St. Jude Church in 2019!**

 As part of our Parish Celebration, we have invited priests who have served our parish to join us during the Anniversary Season. We are happy to announce that Monsignor Dan McGlynn will be celebrating the 9am Mass at St. Jude’s **TODAY, Sunday, September 29th** Msgr McGynn joined Bishop Mulvee on October 30, 1994 for the 25th anniversary of St. Jude’s as well! Join us in welcoming Msgr. McGlynn and celebrating this special event as a Community.

 We are also excited to announce that Father Ralph Castelow will celebrate the 9:00am Mass at St. Jude **next Sunday, October 6th.** Fr. Castelow served our parish as Associate Pastor from 1991 - 1995.

 Lastly, Fr. Stanislao Esposito, who served as Associate Pastor from 2007-2010, will celebrate the 9:00am Mass on **October 13th**. Fr. Stanislao is warmly remembered for greeting us each week with, “Welcome Home.” Thank you all for coming to celebrate with us!!

**Ministry Day October 5**

On October 5, from 10:00am-12:00pm at Immaculate Conception, we will be holding a ministry day for Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion, Proclaimers, Ushers, and Music Ministers. We will join in Morning Prayer together, hear some reflections about why we participate in ministry and why liturgical ministry is important, and then go through the specifics of each ministry. Refreshments will also be served. Please mark your calendar and plan to attend!



**September 30, 2019 Saint Jerome**

8:30 am Maryrose Truman

**October 1, 2019 Saint Thérése of the Child Jesus**

8:30 am Charlotte Wiles

**October 2, 2019 The Holy Guardian Angels**

8:30 am Tony Sniadowski

**October 3, 2019**

8:30 am Mary Katherine Crawford

**October 4, 2019 Saint Francis of Assisi**

8:30 am Emma Haigh

9:30 am Blessing of Animals

5:30 pm Blessing of Animals

**October 5, 2019 Blessed Francis Xavier Seelos**

8:30 am Gabriel Ortiz (Living Intention)

5:00 pm Arthur and Alice Jones

**October 6, 2019 27th Sunday in Ordinary Time**

7:00 am People of the Parish

8:30 am Grace and Harry Blendy

9:00 am SJ Joan T. Harrison

10:15 am George Armstrong

12:00 pm Hugh, Eleanor, and Christopher Reilly

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

*Mr. and Mrs. Jesse Fulk and Family*

*Ms. Elizabeth Russell*

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

*Thomas James Heckert*

**Holy Hour for Blessed Louis Brisson October 11**

We will have a holy hour on Friday, October 11 from 5:30-6:30pm at Immaculate Conception. This is the vigil of the feast of Blessed Louis Brisson, who founded the Oblates of St Francis de Sales. The Blessed Sacrament will be exposed on the altar, and we will join in readings, music, and silence, ending with Benediction.

**Share in the spirit collection**

Thank you to everyone who contributed to the diocesan *Share in the Spirit* tuition assistance collection last week! For those of you who were unable to participate last weekend, you may still contribute to the *Share in the Spirit* collection for tuition assistance. Please drop your envelope in the collection basket or at the parish office. If you have misplaced your envelope, extras can be found at the entrances of the church. This important collection supports the mission and ministry of our Catholic schools by assisting parents who seek a Catholic education for their children but who struggle to afford the full cost of tuition. Your support is gratefully appreciated!

For further information, visit the diocesan website at [www.cdow.org/sharespirit.html](http://www.cdow.org/sharespirit.html).

**Readings for next week:**

***TWENTY-SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME***

**First Reading: Habakkuk 1:2-3; 2:2-4**

The prophet Habakkuk cries out despairingly to God because of the state Jerusalem has fallen into. He asks why God does nothing to stop the violence and misery. God assures him that a time will come when only the just and faithful will live.

**Second Reading: 2 Timothy 1:6-8, 13-14**

Paul writes to Timothy from prison and urges him to continue to spread the gospel without fear or shame. He also tells Timothy to draw upon the strength of the Holy Spirit to help him face the hardships he will encounter while preaching.

**Gospel: Luke 17:5-10**

The disciples ask Jesus to increase their faith. Jesus replies that "faith the size of a mustard seed could transplant a sycamore," indicating that a person either has faith, strong and complete, or none at all. Jesus also explains that a servant will not receive gratitude for simply following his master's orders. Similarly, we are all God's servants doing no more than our duty when we obey God's commands.

**Daily Readings:**

***Twenty-sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time***

**Sunday** ......................... Am 6:1a, 4-7; 1 Tm 6:11-16; Lk 16:19-31

**Monday** .................................................. Zec 8:1-8; Lk 9:46-50

**Tuesday** ............................................... Zec 8:20-23; Lk 9:51-56

**Wednesday** ...................................... Neh 2:1-8; Mt 18:1-5, 10

**Thursday** ........................... Neh 8:1-4a, 5-6, 7b-12; Lk 10:1-12

**Friday** ................................................ Bar 1:15-22; Lk 10:13-16

**Saturday** .................................. Bar 4:5-12, 27-29; Lk 10:17-24

**Are you unbaptized and have a desire to be baptized? Are you a baptized Christian interested in becoming a Catholic? Are you a baptized Catholic who never received the sacraments of Eucharist and Confirmation? If you answer yes to any of these questions then RCIA is for you!!**

**A new RCIA program has begun**. RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults) is the process by which baptized Christians and those who are not baptized become members of the Catholic Church. It is also the process by which baptized Catholics receive the sacraments of Eucharist and Confirmation. If you feel God calling you to have a deeper relationship with Him, please call the Parish Office at 410-398-1100 to register with Pat Kosman. The RCIA process is a wonderful way to have a greater understanding of the Catholic faith and become closer to God in the process.

**Sponsors are needed to walk with those** who are going through the RCIA process. If you love your Catholic faith and want to share it with others, consider being a sponsor! It requires a small amount of effort, yet yields large rewards.

**Adoration for Vocations**

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

**Liturgical Ministers Next Week: *October 5th & 6th***

***5:00 pm*** Nathan S, AJ S •**EM’s:** Julie M, Mary Ann E • **Lector:** Alison D • **Ushers:** Bob E, Pat C, William B

***7:00 am***

•**Altar Servers**: Benedict J • **EM’s:** Gerald M, Sandra H • **Lector:** James S • **Ushers:** Charles M

***8:30 am***

**Altar Servers:** Henry W, Damian W • **EMs:** Don H, Peter G, Cecilia G • **Lector:** Rachel W •**Ushers:** Anthony D, Anthony M, Wendel S

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

**Altar Servers:** Matthew T, Luke T • **EM’s:** John N, Cheryl N, Larry B, Pat D, Peggy O • **Lector:** Louis N • **Ushers:** Jule V, Jake S, Kevin O, William D

***10:15 am***

**Altar Servers:** Alex F, Andrew F • **EM’s:** Richard L, Grace B, Mary L•**Lector:** Francis C • **Ushers:** Bob W, Steve A

**12:00 *noon***

**Altar Servers:** Valerie O, Gabriel O •**EMs:** Pat K, Corazon S, Cynthia J • **Lector:** Tina B • **Ushers:** Teresa G, Charles C

**St. Jude’s Memories: Crop Walk**

For three years we have used St. Jude’s for “whole group gatherings” for Confirmation. One gathering is “Prayer and the Saints”. In the Saints segment candidates go to stations set up in the church. Each visit focuses on the lives of saints, what they are patrons of, or the study of art work: the statues of St. Jude, St. Joseph, Blessed Mother, and drawings, paintings, icons, prints brought in for the event. Two drawings we use are framed sketches of St. Pope John XXIII and St. Leonie Aviat by parishioner Mark Hendron. They were gifted to John Nickle by Mark’s father-in-law, Ed Fischer several years ago. Till the end of October they will be on display in the St. Jude’s prayer alcove opposite the confessional. Spend a moment in prayer before these two images of God’s saints. We will continue this practice of highlighting parishioners’ and contemporary artists’ renderings of the saints, life of Jesus, Biblical, and inspirational works. Call the Rel. Ed. Office to suggest or offer works of art for the future.

**Children’s Liturgy of the Word**

CLW is for children 5-8 years old. Children under 5 are welcome if they are accompanied by a parent (not a sibling!)

Also, CLW is in desperate need of adult help for. If interested, please contact Gwen Davis at 410-392-8078

**The Catechist for next Sunday, October 6th is:**

**Lynn O’Brien**

**Our Lady of Fatima Rosary**

In honor of Our Lady of Fatima - A public rosary is being planned for **OCT. 12**, at 11:00 a.m. at the ICC Cemetery on Singerly Road. Please bring a rosary as well as a chair if desired. Feel free to contribute light refreshments for afterwards. Please contact Theresa McKay 410-378-9274 with any questions..

**Immaculate Conception**

**School News**

**Have you seen our test scores?!**

Our Tera Nova Test scores are incredible! Our students test in the 88th - 94th percentile compared to other schools in the Diocese! This is in part because of how passionate we are about our students’ education! This is also in part due to our small class sizes:

 “Small classes have a positive impact on student “engagement behaviors,” which include the amount of effort put forth, initiative taken, and participation by a student. Not surprisingly, these characteristics have been shown to be important to classroom learning. Finn finds that students who were in small classes in STAR continued to have higher engagement ratings in subsequent grades.” -Diane Whitmore Schanzenbach, Northwestern University, February 2014, National Education Policy Center.

**COMING UP...**

**Story time continues at ICS!**

Bring your little ones, ages 2-5 to ICS! Gwen Davis reads classic children’s stories and provides themed activities, music, crafts, and snacks! **Story time is FREE!!** Your children will love it! The next Story Time is **Wednesday, October 16th at 10:00am.** Call 410-398-2636 to register.

**High school placement test prep:**

Saint Mark’s High School and Padua Academy are pleased to offer High School Placement Test Prep Courses for current 8th-grade students! This is a unique opportunity which allows students to work with their faculty and examine the format of the exam and the types of questions they will encounter on the day of the test, as well as learn and practice test-taking skills and strategies. The HSPT Prep Courses are **Saturday, October 5th at 9:00am**.

**We’re enrolling!**

**If you are interested in learning more about ICS or would like to enroll your child,** please contact our Advancement Director, Emily Murphy at emurphy@icschoolweb.org. Now is the time to consider the benefits of the strong, faith-based, challenging academic program that ICS provides.

**Faith Formation**

**Religious Education & Sacraments**

**Religion Classes:** Classes have started! We will only accept transfers after September 30th!

**Home School Meeting**: Thursday, **October 3rd** at 6:00 pm in the parish center.

**Outreach:** for October is canned fruits and vegetables. Thank you for any donations

**Celebration for Sr. Grace** – Please save the date Sunday, November 3rd. More information to follow.

**Youth Ministry & Confirmation**

**CONFIRMATION**

Rite of Beginning – All Masses **this weekend!** Please honor the commitment to mass you have signed up for. Report to the Sacristy to sign in and pick up your card.

**YOUTH GROUP – Grades 9 thru 12**

**Meetings are 6 – 8 pm in the parish center**

Meeting - tonight September 22nd. Bring a friend!

Save the date October 27th bonfire night.

**YOUTH MINISTRY WISH LIST:** Youth group is looking for a donation of a replacement refrigerator. We also are asking for sodas (cans please!)

**JUNIOR YOUTH GROUP – Grades 6 thru 8**

Announcing Junior Youth Group!! Join us to grow in faith thru fun and fellowship!

Meets Sunday, Oct. 6th at 4:00 pm in the parish center. Expect games, music, and movies.

Please bring a donation for outreach.

**ADULT EDUCATION**

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

**Adult Education classes** –

Catholicism Class, Mon, Sept. 30th at 6:30pm and repeats on Thurs, Oct. 3rd at 9:15am in the parish center.

**Book Study**

Tuesday, Oct. 1st at 9:15 am in the parish center.

**Fr. Michael Connelly, OSFS** – Sunday, Oct.6th and 20th from 1- 3 pm at Immaculate Conception Come join Fr. Connelly explore the Letters of St. Paul to the Church.

**SOCIAL CONCERNS**

**Outreach**

**Please consider donating** to the Outreach! Thank you so much to all of the angels who have donated!! Thank you for your help, generosity, prayers, & donations to this essential ministry!!

**Food items:** Chef Boyardee, tea, coffee, and cereal

**Non-Food items:** Soap and deoderant

**No clothing please!** As much as we appreciate the gesture, we do not have the space to store them. Thank you!

**PARISH EVENTS/INFORMATION**

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**Weekly Church Collections: Week of Sept 22nd**

 ICC $7,364

 St. Jude $1,342

Online $5,561

 Total Offertory $14,267

**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 appreciate the efforts of our parishioners to make consistent donations throughout the year! 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 www.iccparish.org
2. Click “Go to Online Giving”
3. Sign up! It’s that easy!

**PARISH & FAMILY LIFE**

**Parish Coffee**

Please join us at St. Jude’s for Parish Coffee **Oct 6th** following the 9:00 Mass.

**Join us** for Parish Coffee, **October 13th** after 8:30am and 10:15am Masses at ICC!

**PARISH EVENTS/INFORMATION**

**COMMUNITY KITCHEN:** our next Community Kitchen will be held on October 25th at the Elkton Presbyterian Church at noon. We will again be serving the ever popular Fried Chicken luncheon for our guests! We are asking for donations of large size cans of green beans, ready to serve dinner rolls, applesauce, pans of scalloped potatoes, and desserts. We will begin around 11:00am for preparation, and then serve the meal at noon.

If you are able to help with any of these items or want to join us for this enjoyable community meal, please call Joyce Speakman at 610-597-3135, or Kathy Chamberlin at 410-398-7299. Of course, cash donations are always welcome and are always directly used for buying food. If donating by check, please make it out to Immaculate Conception Church, and just write “Community Kitchen” in the memo section. Thank you so much for all you have done to make our Community Kitchen so outstanding!

**The Knights of Columbus “Annual Chicken BBQ”**

Make sure to join us on October 6th after the 10:15 and 12 noon Masses for the Knights of Columbus “Annual Chicken BBQ” The take-home meal will include Cole Slaw, Corn on the Cob and Sweet Roll to be sold outside the Church for $10.00. All funds raise will be used in support of our Parish and Community.

***All meals will also include a raffle ticket for a brand new Ford Mustang!!!***



**CHRISTMAS BAZAAR:**

Mark your calendars for the annual Parish Christmas Bazaar to be held on November 9th & 10th. Our online Sign-Up Genius is now available so you can sign up to work at a parish-sponsored booth at the bazaar. Go to <https://bit.ly/ICC-SJ-ChristmasBazaar2019> to sign up. We accepting donations of used books and CD's for the Book Nook. Donations can be dropped off at the Parish Center during normal business hours. Anyone interested in joining the Christmas Bazaar planning committee is warmly invited to join us at our next meeting. For upcoming meeting dates or for other information about the Christmas Bazaar, please contact one of the following: Lisa Kaminski, 410-392-9558, kaminski-uch@comcast.net; Jackie Gedz, 410-392-0396, Jackie.gedz@verizon.net; or Terry Gustafson, 443-553-2324, teresa.gustafson@verizon.net



**Sunday, September 29**

8:20 AM - Confessions - SJ

8:30 AM - Religious Ed

1:30 PM - Baptisms - IC

6:00 PM - HS Gathering - PC

Monday, September 30

9:30 AM - Novena - CH

5:30 PM - Volleyball - gym

6:30 PM - CYO Soccer

6:30 PM - Catholicism

8:00 PM - AA Mtg -caf

Tuesday, October 1

9:00 AM - Holy Hour - CH

9:00 AM - Adult Ed Book Study - PC

6:00 PM - Liturgy Committee Mtg - PC

7:30 PM - Contemporary Rehearsal - IC

Wednesday, October 2

9:00 AM - Rosary Crusade / Novena-CH

1:00 PM - LAOH - PC

6:15 PM - Religious Ed - ICS

6:30 PM - CYO Soccer - grounds

Thursday, October 3

9:00 AM - Rosary Crusade - CH

9:15 AM - Catholicism - PC

6:00 PM - Homeschool Rel Ed - PC

6:30 PM - Boy Scout Mtg - PC

6:30 PM - cub scout mtg - caf

6:30 PM - Cantor Rehearsal - IC

7:00 PM - Parish Choir Rehearsal - IC

Friday, October 4

9:00 AM - Rosary Crusade - CH

6:30 PM - CYO soccer - grounds

7:00 PM - NA Mtg - Caf

**Saturday, October** **5**

9:00 AM - Rosary Crusade - CH

10:00 AM - Ministry Day - IC

4:15 PM - Confessions - IC

7:00 PM - NA Mtg - Caf

**community EVENTS/INFORMATION**



**Knights of Columbus**

***Bishop Becker Council 2427***

**Meetings:** 2nd & 4th Tuesdays of the month at 6:30 pm at the Parish Center

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

**Help the LAOH feed the hungry!**

The Cecil County Division 1, Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians would like to thank this parish for helping us during our annual participation in Boscov’s “Friends Helping Friends” campaign! The funds are used to assist the Immaculate Conception/St. Jude Outreach Program. **The LAOH is assisting local charities** by collecting your $5 donation at Boscov’s in Christiana on October 16 from 9am-6pm. Passes are also available in the Parish Office.

In return, you will receive a Boscov’s 25% discount shopping pass to be used on **October 16th** for “Friends Helping Friends” Day shopping pass at all Boscov locations. In addition, you are eligible to register to win fabulous prizes, including shopping sprees and more! Thank you in advance for helping us help others.

**Introduction to Journaling,**

Join us Saturday, October 5th from 9:30-11:30am at Holy Angels in Newark, DE. Have you thought about Journaling but had no idea where to start? Do you know the difference between keeping a Journal vs a Diary? Do you have questions about how to use this tool for your personal growth and to be more mindful and aware of your life? This introductory workshop will address the basics of Journaling using the fundamentals of the “Intensive Journal” system. It is free, and open to anyone with any religious/philosophical background and a willingness to look at their life “as a whole.” Registration is encouraged but not required. Contact 302-731-2219 or apress@holyangels.net.

**Cecil Cares Neighborhood Clean up!**

**Join us on October 5th** from 9am - 12pm at the Family Education Center on 200 Road B Hollingsworth Manor in Elkton as we join the Paris Foundation and the Hollingsworth Landing Association on the countywide day of service by participating in a neighborhood clean-up! For more information or to register, contact Sheilagh Weinert at sheilaghweinert@yahoo.com Let's make Cecil County beautiful!

**Paint and Sip night:**

Come join us for a Paint & Sip session where we will laugh and paint the afternoon away! ***Saturday, October 5 at 1:00 PM in the Parish House of Trinity Episcopal Church on the corner of Main & Bridge Street in Elkton.*** Cost is $40.00 includes all painting supplies, wine, cold beverages and finger foods. For more information call Mary Katharine at 443-350-2439.