www.icclarion.org DECEMBER 7, 2025



# IMMACULATE CONCEPTION PARISH

Inviling ~ Uniling ~ Igniling

720 Liberty Street Clarion, Pennsylvania 16214 Mass Schedule

Saturday Evening - 4:00 p.m.
Sunday Morning - 8:30 and 11:00 a.m.
Holy Days - 8:30 a.m. and 5:30 p.m.
Weekdays - Consult the bulletin or phone the parish office

# Church & School 814-226-8433 Parish Staff

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### **Parish Membership**

Membership includes active participation in the sacramental life of the Church, involvement in the activities of the faith community and financial support of the parish.

New members are welcome to register

by calling the parish office.

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT /AKE STRAIGHT

A MESSAGE FROM FATHER JASON – A blessed Second Sunday/Week of Advent and I hope this final month of the year is off to a peaceful start! I always look up to our parents, but especially this time of year as they balance the many tasks, obligations, and utter craziness that this joyous time of year brings. Speaking of people to look up to, the church presents to all of us this weekend the character of John the Baptist. It is Matthew's account that gives us the most information in descriptive detail about this key player in salvation history. He also teaches us how to look to the Old to find the New. He teaches us how to bring to life the words of our first reading to rely on the Holy Spirit that has been present with God and before time. It is the Holy Spirit that helps us to pray and to live our purpose. Advent, this time of year, our family traditions, and most importantly Faith (portrayed in this Advent Season) help us to live anew in the spirit and to make an everyday effort to:

- 1. Go from the Old to the New: You can do this with each new day. Perhaps incorporate a simple prayer to the Holy Spirit in your own words when you wake up to thank and ask for guidance. Another great way to be prompted by the Spirit is to take advantage of the Newness of his mercy through the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Throughout this season there are 24 opportunities (including our weekly Saturday afternoon times that also happen every Saturday throughout the year) for this amazing sacrament. If you prefer to go to another priest that is also fine. (Because of early publishing deadlines, the other parishes have not notified us of their confession/penance service times.) However, there is no better way to prepare the way of the Lord than his mercy. Whether its been 50 years or one month, please take advantage of this opportunity!
- Be courageous in the Lord: John the Baptist's courage was not his alone but the Lord working through him. Where in your life do you need the Spirit to guide you in the gift of Courage? Advent is a great time to reflect and be courageous in helping others (and us) know the faith and to also let the Lord make things right in our lives. Both Isaiah (First Reading) and the Baptist teach us to be courageous through trust.
- Ask for what you need: With repentance and courage, the key to living a life in the Spirit is to ask and listen. Be intentional in this short season to be quiet, listen, and then ask. This is my favorite time of the year because I have always loved Christmas, but I love Advent because it teaches us to slow down, listen, and then ask. Set up a prayer space in your house, spend 5-10 minutes in the Church, turn the radio off driving to work/school, turn off all the lights in your living room except your tree and open your devotional book.

The key to this season is to not get so caught up in the fun and joy that we forget that all this is rooted in faith and relationship in the one both the Prophet Isaiah and John the Baptist foretold. They were only able to by the power of the Holy Spirit. The same must be true for us!

Continued at top of next column.

#### A few reminders:

- Please join us Monday/Tomorrow **December 8** for our Feast Day of the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception! Masses for this HOLY DAY OF **OBLIGATION** are 8:30 am and 6 pm (4 pm at St. Richard's in Rimersburg). After the 6pm Mass we will have an opportunity to celebrate our feast day for a few minutes....stay tuned!
- Next weekend when you come to Mass, please don't forget to bring your Baby Jesus from your Nativity to be blessed! Again, for up-to-date information, please check our website and the mailing sent home to you! Also, a reminder if you have not downloaded MyParishApp, please do so!
- Thank you for your generous help in #iGiveCatholic. Although we do not have an exact number yet due to early bulletin deadlines, all funds will help our facilities particularly through security upgrades and other improvements. Again, thank you!

In the meantime, I am looking forward to celebrating with you on Monday and have a great Second Week of Advent as we heed the words of the Baptist to "Prepare the Way of the Lord"!



FROM DEACON JOE - This year we will again collect items for our Stockings for Seniors Activity. There is a box in the church lobby as well as in the school cafeteria for you to drop off items. We will meet to fill stockings at 9:30 a.m. on Sunday, December 14 at the OLCC. Please drop off any of the following items in the drop boxes by 9:30 the morning of December 14:

> **Individually wrapped candies Travel size toiletries** Crackers **Pudding / Gel / Fruit Cups Crossword Puzzle Books Word Search Books** Coloring Books Cravons **Colored Pencils** Pens **Pet Treats**

Thank you for helping to make Christmas brighter for the seniors in our community.

**CLARION COUNTY COMMUNITY CHOIR** invites you to their annual holiday concert on December 7th at 7:00 p.m. in the Marwick-Boyd Auditorium where they will present "The Heart of Christmas, A Season of Love and Remembrance".



According to the #iGiveCatholic #iGIVECA HOLIC website, online donations of \$10 or more recorded through Dec. 9 will

be counted towards campaign totals and leaderboards. The easiest way to donate online is to use the links on the parish website.

# Christmas Caroling

You are invited to come caroling with the Immaculate Conception 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, and 5<sup>th</sup> graders!

Date: Friday December 12, 2025

Time: 5:00 - 7:00 pm

Place: Meet at the school

#### breezeway doors

After caroling up and down Main Street we will enjoy hot chocolate and cookies back at the school!

Hope to see you there!

# Cookie donations will be greatly appreciated.

\*Children in 3rd grade and under require parental supervision for this event.

# LOTTERY CALENDARS make

excellent Christmas gifts for anyone on your list. Tickets are currently available from school families or in the school office. They will also be available to



purchase after Masses. Calendars are \$20, giving you 365 chances to win in 2026! Just buy the ticket and watch your mailbox for a check with your winnings!



PLEASE
WELCOME
Jodie Heffner
to our Catholic
community.
Jodie was
received into
full communion
with the

Catholic Church on November 23 when she received the sacraments of Confirmation and Holy Eucharist. Jodie's husband, Mike Heffner, was her sponsor. Please keep Jodie and Mike in your prayers.

#### SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Monday, December 8

After the 8:30 a.m. Mass

Wednesday, December 10

5:30 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Saturday, December 13

Saturday, December

3:00 p.m. to 3:40 p.m.

Sunday, December 14

Following the 11:00 a.m. Mass

#### ALSO THIS WEEK

#### Monday, December 8

Tree lighting and snacks after the 6:00 p.m. Mass

# Friday, December 12

3:00 pm Blessing of Christmas Trees

via livestream/Facebook

### Weekend Masses December 13 – 14

Blessing of baby Jesus from your home nativity at the conclusion of Masses



# Monday, December 8 – The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary

8:30 a.m. Bernard Ochs (Carmelita Blair)

9:30 a.m. to 5:45 p.m. Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

6:00 p.m. For the People

# Tuesday, December 9 – St. Juan Diego Cuauhtlatoatzin

8:30 a.m. Rob McElravy (Maribeth Kidney)

# Wednesday, December 10 - Our Lady of Loreto

NO MASS

5:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

# Thursday, December 11 - Saint Damasus I (Pope)

8:30 a.m. Emmy and Ray Summerville (Sid and Debbie Miles)

#### Friday, December 12 – Our Lady of Guadalupe

7:30 a.m. Joseph White (Phyllis White)

# Saturday, December 13 – Saint Lucy

4:00 p.m. Charles and Ruth Beichner (Chuck and Karla Beichner)

#### Sunday, December 14 – Third Sunday of Advent

8:30 a.m. Maureen Hassan Sayers (Estate)

8:30 a.m. **RADIO MASS** – Robert and Joan Donahue

(Jim and Mary Lou Delaney)

11:00 a.m. For the People

## Readings for the week of December 7, 2025

Monday: Gn 3:9-15, 20/Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4

/Eph 1:3-6, 11-12/Lk 1:26-38

**Tuesday:** Is 40:1-11/Ps 96:1-2, 3 and 10ac, 11-12, 13

/Mt 18:12-14

**Wednesday:** Is 40:25-31/Ps 103:1-2, 3-4, 8 and 10

/Mt 11:28-30

**Thursday:** Is 41:13-20/Ps 145:1 and 9, 10-11, 12-13ab

/Mt 11:11-15

**Friday:** Zec 2:14-17 or Rv 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab /Jdt 13:18bcde. 19/Lk 1:26-38 or Lk 1:39-47

Saturday: Sir 48:1-4, 9-11/Ps 80:2ac and 3b, 15-16, 18-19

/Mt 17:9a, 10-13

**Next Sunday:** Is 35:1-6a, 10/Ps 146:6-7, 8-9, 9-10

(see Is 35:4)/Jas 5:7-10/Mt 11:2-11

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