



IMMACULATE CONCEPTION PARISH

Inviting ~ Uniting ~ Igniting

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

Rev. Jason Feigh
Pastor

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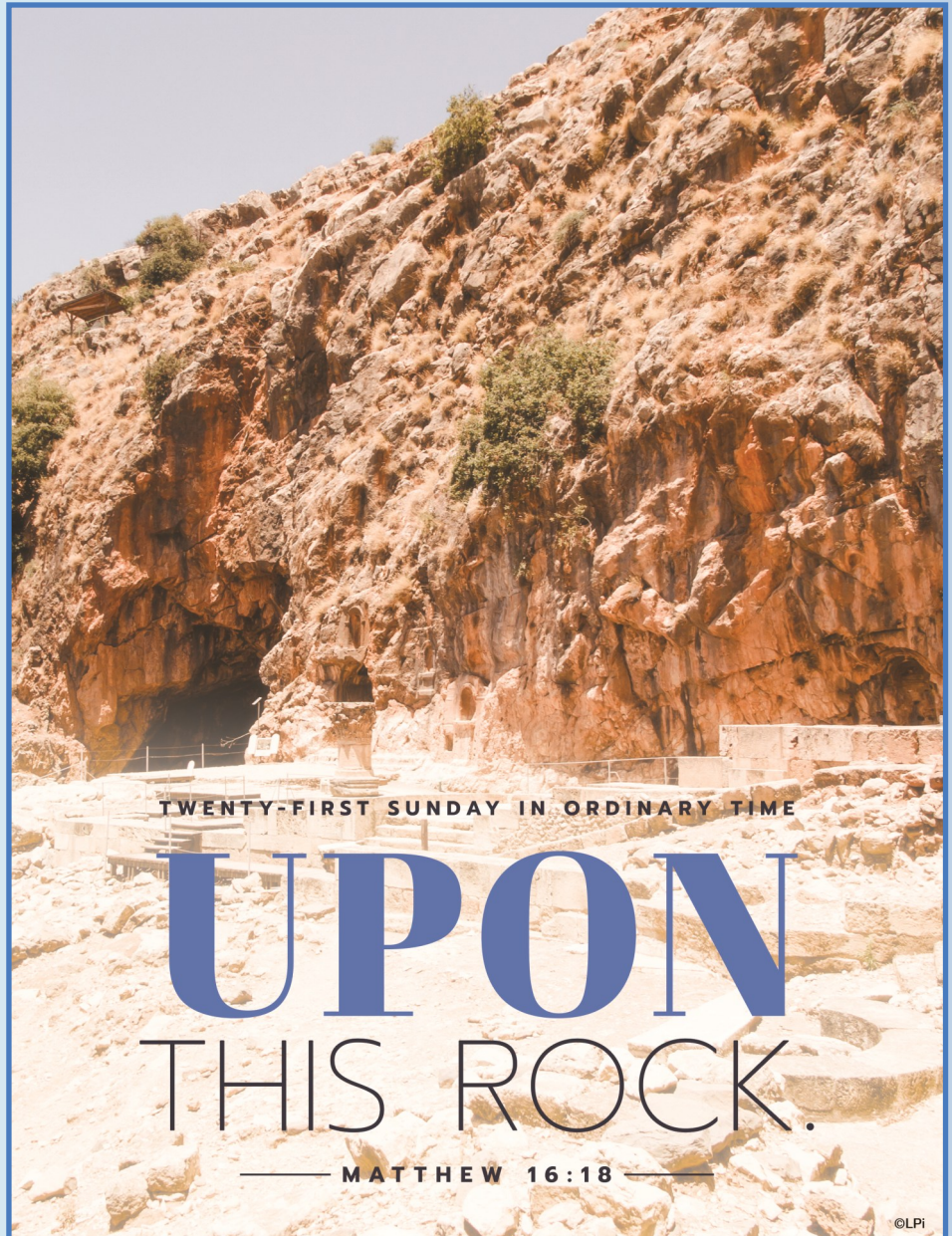
Erica Smerker
School Office Coordinator
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Greg Pedley
Buildings & Grounds Manager
gpedley@clarionichawks.net

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.



TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

UPON THIS ROCK.

MATTHEW 16:18

A MESSAGE FROM FATHER JASON – “Who”, “People”, and “You” are three words that remind us of the importance of relationship. All three are important to our lives as the Holy Trinity is three persons in ONE God. These three words help to define our lives. Jesus’ question to Peter in this weekend’s Gospel however, reminds us that how we answer defines who we are. We are called, like Peter as *imperfect* beings to proclaim *the* Christ. When we do, we are fulfilled and find our purpose. But remember we can only point out Jesus when we *know him, love him, and serve him...* That is why in the *Baltimore Catechism* we are reminded why we are made (as the answer is in the previous sentence in *italics*). Life may not always be as easy as the answer on paper, but when we allow ourselves to trust in him we will help “people” know “who” can fulfill and save....but it takes “you” to be willing to trust and see his goodness in our imperfect lives. This means we must be willing to and challenged to spend time to know him and serve him in one another.

One of my goals is to make relationship with the Lord and his church accessible as possible and that begins with the sacraments and then our works of charity. It is also no coincidence that after Peter offers his answer to Jesus, he commissions Peter to lead and to loose and bind. Peter always stands for the authority/ordained leadership of the Church. Since Peter, the Lord has never abandoned his church from raising up Bishops and Priests to offer the sacraments to us particularly Confession and Eucharist. That is why we try to offer as many opportunities as possible to receive them. Remember, the Sacrament of Reconciliation is available every Saturday and should be received (at least) once per year or anytime under the pain of mortal sin. To help you discern what is a sin, an “Examination of Conscience” helps us. Remember, we don’t get to decide what is a sin; but we are called through *humility*, to let go of the sin in this powerful sacrament. Whether it has been 80 years or one month, or if you had a tough experience of confession before; please take advantage of this gift as the Lord in his mercy is always waiting for you and I. In your email this week, I will be sending an examination of Conscience as a guide (there is also one available on MyParishApp and FORMED as well). If it has been a while that you went to confession, consider one of the times coming up.

If you have not taken time to pray or are finding difficulty in doing so, come to the church to spend a few minutes to listen, or in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament in Adoration. He is as close to us as possible, but we must be willing, like Peter, to spend time with him.

With this Gospel in mind, I am offering a slight adjustment to our weekday Mass Schedule to allow the opportunity for more of us to Worship. Although Monday/Wednesday/Friday will remain at 7:30 am; Thursday remaining at 8:30 am (which is also our School Mass); beginning September 15, **our Tuesday weekday Mass will rotate between 12:10 pm and 6 pm** (no 8:30 am Mass in the morning). Again, this will be our regular schedule excluding holydays, special events, etc.; if there are changes during the week we will communicate to the best of our

abilities. Further, I will also be doing my best to offer an additional opportunity for the Sacrament of Reconciliation beyond Saturdays as well.

As the school year begins please remember the following:

1. You are always welcome to join us in person during our School Mass (Thursday’s at 8:30 am). That Mass is not livestreamed.
2. Certain parking spots are coned off around the school. You are not permitted to park in the coned areas for any reason (including weekday Mass/funerals, etc.).
3. Unattended cars that are not on campus for church/school business will be asked to move/towed at owners expense.

August 12 marked our first year being together. I am blessed to be with you and enjoy being with you! Although it was a busy year with a lot of unexpected twists, the Lord is so good to all of us! I come back to the words from my first weekend:

“I am not coming with an agenda, just promising to the best of my ability transparency and openness to Eucharist, Evangelization, and support of Vocations. That is why I ask for your prayers and patience. I hope to know what is important to you. That is why you will receive a lot of questions from me. Now I know the way will not always be perfect as there may be a change or two that you may not like that we have to make; or we may be able to offer a new perspective on a great opportunity already present. Whatever the case may be, I ask for your prayers and patience. I also ask that you offer me a time to get to know you and what is important to you. I hope that this does not sound too forward, but I would always be open to an invitation to meet you, have dinner, watch a Steelers Game, a high school game your son/daughter may be in, a hike to enjoy the autumn, enjoy a beverage, dinner, etc. Although we lead busy lives I will be as present as I can be as I am eager to get to know you as well. Please don’t hesitate to ask.”

Thank you for continuing to show me the love of Jesus as well....know of my prayers for you. Please say an extra prayer for all beginning the new school year as well!

ISABELA BARBOZA – If you would like to receive a monthly newsletter from Isabela Barboza during her time as a Volunteer Missionary at Oregon State University in their Catholic Newman Center, please send her a text or email. She and the other missionaries will focus on walking with students wherever they are in their faith journey and encouraging them to grow. Also, if you would like to learn more about how you can support the mission spiritually and financially please contact her. She would love to share more with you!!

Isabela Barboza
isabelabarboza03@gmail.com
(814) 319-8546

**“STUDENTS FOR CHRIST,
CHRISTIANS FOR THE WORLD”**
OSU Newman Center Motto

Immaculate Conception Parish's
Faith Formation Registration
 for children in Kindergarten through grade 9
 IS NOW OPEN.

Go to our parish website www.icclarion.org,
 select "Faith Formation" from the menu bar,
 then select "Youth Faith Formation".
 Contact Teresa Frederick with questions
tfrederick@icclarion.org

RETREAT – The Villa Maria Education & Spirituality Center in Villa Maria, PA will sponsor a *Walking with Mary through the Light and Darkness of Our Daily Life* with Melannie Svoboda, SND. It runs from Friday, October 9 to Sunday, October 11, 2026.

This retreat weaves together prayer, music, scripture, in-person sessions, videos, art, personal reflection time, and sharing. This time together will help us to know Mary better as our mother, sister, companion, and fellow disciple of Jesus.

For more information on this program, go to:
<https://vmesc.org/programs-retreats/all-events?id=1080>

GOSPEL MEDITATION - The first time I stood inside St. Peter's Basilica in Rome, its majesty overwhelmed me. The sheer beauty of Michelangelo's dome seemed to lift my soul right out of my body. Later, I joined the Scavi tour that winds below the basilica, down into the ancient pagan cemetery where Peter was buried. There, in the dim light and narrow passageways, I found myself looking at the bones of a murdered Jewish fisherman, his feet cut off so his crucified body could be taken down more easily.

What a paradox. Above me, the most glorious church ever built. Beneath me, the remains of a backwater fisherman. But this man dared to answer Jesus' question, "Who do you say that I am?" And crowning that immense dome above his tomb are the words from today's Gospel, "You are Peter, and upon this rock I will build my Church."

Within you and me is the drama of the lowest and the highest. Every time we confess Christ, humbly, imperfectly, maybe even trembling, we enter that same mystery. The dust of our humanity, touched by the splendor of heaven. God's presence and our dry bones together. Humility and glory. May our lives embrace both the lowest and the highest, like that great basilica, as we profess Jesus.

— Father John Muir

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Offertory	August 8 – 9	August 15 – 16
Envelopes	\$ 6,227.00	\$ 6,402.00
Loose	1,162.00	1,174.00
Monthly	560.00	2,710.00
Online	760.25	438.95
Church in Latin Am.		2,429.00
Assumption		1,388.00
Votive	60.60	127.02
TOTAL	\$ 8,769.85	\$ 14,668.97

MASS Intentions

Monday, August 24 – Saint Bartholomew

7:30 a.m. Father William Donnabauer
 (Mary Lou Zacherl)

*Exposition and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
 after the 7:30 a.m. Mass until noon.*

Tuesday, August 25 – Saint Louis and Saint Joseph Calasan

8:30 a.m. Vic and Anna Marie Cherico
 (Jean and John Blachier)

7:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m. Sacrament of Reconciliation
*Exposition and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
 from 7:00 pm until 9:00 pm.*

Wednesday, August 26

7:30 a.m. Father Monty (Jenn Conner)

Thursday, August 27 – Saint Monica

8:30 a.m. Mary Nick (Ray and Sandy Bell)

*Exposition and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
 from 5:30 pm until 6:30 pm with Benediction*

Friday, August 28 – Saint Augustine

— NO MASS —

Saturday, August 29 – The Passion of Saint John the Baptist

3:00 p.m. – 3:40 p.m. Sacrament of Reconciliation

4:00 p.m. James and Mary Kay Hartle
 (Bob and Kathy Smerkar)

Sunday, August 30 – 22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:30 a.m. For the People

8:30 a.m. **RADIO MASS** – Colleen Faller (Family)

11:00 a.m. John and Delores Weaver (Jacky Bolents)

Sanctuary Candle: for Marie Mauersberg
 by Cookie and Family

Readings for the week of August 23, 2026

Monday: Rv 21:9b-14/Ps 145:10-11, 12-13, 17-18
 /Jn 1:45-51

Tuesday: 2 Thes 2:1-3a, 14-17/Ps 96:10, 11-12, 13
 /Mt 23:23-26

Wednesday: 2 Thes 3:6-10, 16-18/Ps 128:1-2, 4-5
 /Mt 23:27-32

Thursday: 1 Cor 1:1-9/Ps 145:2-3, 4-5, 6-7/Mt 24:42-51

Friday: 1 Cor 1:17-25/Ps 33:1-2, 4-5, 10-11/Mt 25:1-13

Saturday: 1 Cor 1:26-31/Ps 33:12-13, 18-19, 20-21
 /Mk 6:17-29

Next Sunday: Jer 20:7-9/Ps 63:2, 3-4, 5-6, 8-9
 /Rom 12:1-2/Mt 16:21-27

PICNIC CORNHOLE WINNERS – We had six teams compete in the cornhole challenge at the parish picnic on August 2. The winning teams were:

3rd place – **Alex Hummel and Patrick Durish**

2nd place – **Darren Frederick and Gary Wolbert**

1st place – **Nathan Frederick and Noah Frederick**

The other teams who participated were Fran and Rich Hanlon; Dave Durish and Dave Cussins; and Courtney and Matt Hummel

Thanks to everyone who played and made it entertaining!

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