

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION CHURCH
STONY POINT, NEW YORK

TEMPTATION IN THE DESERT

Ash Wednesday

Transfiguration

THE WATERS OF ETERNAL LIFE

THE MIRACLE OF
THE BLIND MAN

I AM THE RESURRECTION AND THE LIFE

THE
PASSION
OF
OUR
LORD

LENT

Dear Friends in Christ,

Please consult the insert in this week’s bulletin. It is information about the Lenten Season we will begin this coming Wednesday, Ash Wednesday. You will see information about fasting, abstinence, almsgiving and enhancing one’s prayer life during the Lenten Season.

With my letter to you last weekend providing an update on our *Renew + Rebuild Campaign*, space became very limited to share some personal reflection on the announcement made two weeks ago by Deacon John Sadowski.

What a blessing for us here at Immaculate to have Deacon John back with us! Although for the past 18 months or so Immaculate has continued to be his parish, I only had the joy of Deacon John assist me at mass two or three times.

As we know, the Holy Spirit called Deacon John to minister full time to the people of the Church of Saint Joseph in Spring Valley. Since that appointment, Deacon Marino many, many times served in double time. Thank God for his youth and vitality! Recently, the Holy Spirit called Deacon Sadowski ‘home’ to us at Immaculate. For the month leading up to the formal announcement, both I and Deacon Marino began to breathe a sigh of relief. Yes, I am very good at keeping secrets until the appropriate time for Deacon Sadowski

to read his Formal Appointment from Cardinal Dolan two weeks ago.

I have said since taking on the role first as Administrator and now Pastor that we are blessed here at Immaculate with two fine Deacons, Phil Marino and John Sadowski. Now, that The Three Musketeers are reunited, I can humbly promise you all that the fine preaching, spiritual and ministerial works done by our two deacons will only continue, and that indeed is a blessing to us all at Immaculate!

May the upcoming journey of Lent, by way of our own self-sacrifice and denial, prepare us for the glory of Easter.

-Rev. Herbert T. DeGaris

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As of Friday, February 21, 2020, we have received 42 gifts amounting to \$12,460 pledged. This amount is 23% of our goal of \$54,000. As part of one’s Almsgiving aspect of Lent, you may feel moved to give to this year’s Appeal.

FROM THE DEACON’S BENCH
THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK
There are two ways to live your life; one is the thought that nothing is a miracle and the other is the thought that everything is a miracle.
Albert Einstein

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CLASSES RESUME THIS TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 25th and THURSDAY, 27th.

ASH WEDNESDAY - FEBRUARY 26TH. Ash Wednesday is the day Lent begins. **Pope Francis suggests: Fasting:**
Fast from hurtful words and speak kind words.
Fast from sadness and be filled with gratitude.
Fast from anger and be filled with patience.
Fast from pessimism and be filled with hope.

Fast from worries and have trust in God.
Fast from complaints and contemplate simplicity.
Fast from pressures and be prayerful.
Fast from bitterness and fill your heart with joy.
Fast from selfishness and be compassionate.
Fast from grudges and be reconciled.
Fast from words and be silent so you can listen.

FOURTH GRADE FAMILY MASS: Sunday, March 1, 2020 at 9:30 am. Students please arrive **at 9:15 am for attendance.** The children will process into the Church with Fr. Herb. What an honor it is for the children to be participants in the Mass and to host the Mass. Host the Mass is life-learning our faith. They also have been working very diligently on their hospitality centerpieces. As at every Family Mass, our prayer petitions will be included in the Mass. A special welcome to family and friends who will be attending the Mass. Hospitality will follow the Mass in the school gym – all are welcome.

We are one family caring for each other.

FLOWERS

We call to your attention that during the Season of Lent our altars are left in a barren state to remind us of the simplicity of the Lenten Season, and no flowers will be decorating our altars. We will be accepting donations for flowers approximately three weeks after Easter. Once Easter comes the altar will be decorated for several weeks with the Easter flowers. We thank you for your devotion and consideration in helping us to decorate the Church during the ordinary course of the year.

ASH WEDNESDAY MASS SCHEDULE

Ash Wednesday February 26th

The *Mass Schedule is as follows:*

7:30 a.m. and 7:30 p.m.

Ashes will be distributed after the homily at the Parish Masses on Ash Wednesday

Service of The Word will be at:

12 Noon and 4:00 p.m.

Ashes will also be distributed in conjunction with a brief Service of the Word in accordance with Church norms ashes will only be distributed at Mass or at one of the scheduled Word Services. Ashes will be available to bring to the homebound, after the service.

**40 Days
for Life**

Please consider one hour a week for Lent praying on public property outside Planned Parenthood in Spring Valley. God hears every prayer! For more information, please contact 845-492-6709 or Rachelminister1@aol.com.

*The flowers this week are
In Loving Memory
of
John A. Langdon
donated by
The Family*

REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

All those who are ill at home, in the hospital and in nursing homes, especially: John Capria, Billy Keenan, Michael Fay and Ruth Ann Melia , Nora Malloy.

Our recently deceased: Vincenzo Lavore, Sylvester J. Jones, James Patterson.

We will announce at the Mass on Sunday for a period of one month the intentions of those who are sick and then we will print them for one month. After that we ask that you please contact us to make sure that they are placed on the list again for another cycle. It is the only way we know if someone has recovered. We thank you for your understanding and cooperation.

MASSES FOR THE WEEK

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 22ND

5:30 Rose Hagen (req. by family)

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 23RD

7:30 Barbara Willett Walsh (req. by family)

9:30 Michael Hayes (req. by family)

11:30 *For the People of the Parish*

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 24TH

7:30 Salvatore & Carmela Villani

(req. by Terry & Roseann Light)

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 25TH

7:30 Natale Mucerino (req. by Kathy Messina)

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 26TH

ASH WEDNESDAY

7:30 Special Intention

12 Noon Service of the Lord

4:00 p.m. Service of the Lord

7:30 p.m. Thomas Cavataio

(req. by Mary & Victor Siciliano)

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 27TH

7:30 Adrianna Santiago (req. by Kathy Vitti)

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 28TH

7:30 Kathy Delle Chiaie

(req. by Tom & Joyce Robinson)

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 29TH

8:30 Eileen F. Cox (req. by Carol & Jay Wolk)

5:30 John G. Griffin (req. by family)

SUNDAY, MARCH 1ST

7:30 *For the People of the Parish*

9:30 John M. Sullivan

11:30 The Colleluori Family)

Men's Club Bus Trip to Atlantic City
Saturday, March 28th

The Men's Club is running a bus trip to Bally's Casino in Atlantic City on Saturday, March 28th. The bus leaves from the front of the Church at 8:00AM and returns at 8:00 PM. Cost is \$40 per person and includes \$15 in slot play, snacks and refreshments on the bus and lots of laughs. Please call Peter Morris at 786-3770 or Tom Robinson at 786-3005 for reservations.

LIVING STATIONS
GOOD FRIDAY APRIL 10TH

Mary gave birth on Christmas Eve to her only son! As we approach the Holy season of Lent she has to endure Jesus dying on the cross at his crucifixion. Good Friday April 10th, 2020 the parishioners of Immaculate Conception will be re-enacting Jesus's final journey to his death. He died for the forgiveness of our sins. Think about that! Would you be willing to give up some of your time to take part in this Holy hour to partake in the Stations of the Cross. Acting experience isn't necessary, just be. All women, men, teenagers and children are welcomed to participate. A meeting will be announced to familiarize everyone with the Stations and three or four practices will be needed. All who have participated in previous years are most welcomed. Please come back.

Please email or call, the following people.

Carol Senatore sengirl@verizon.net, 845 942 0128
Mary Gail Loucas, mgloucas@aol.com, 845 942 0109
Cookie McGillicuddy, cookiemcgill@gmail.com, 845 942,1024

FOOD PANTRY NEWS

For the month of February, the food pantry will be collecting **cereal**. Please leave your donation in the food bin in the narthex of the Church. Thank you for your generosity.

OUR MASS BOOK
HAS OPENED

Our Mass book has opened for the months of July to December. The weekday mass offering is \$15.00 and Saturday evening and Sunday Masses are \$20.00.

SECOND COLLECTION
FEBRUARY 23RD
FUEL COLLECTION

There will be a second collection next weekend to help defray our heating costs. Please be generous in next week's second collection. Thank You,.

CALENDAR RAFFLE WINNERS

<u>Date</u>	<u>Prize</u>	<u>Ticket</u>	<u>Winner</u>
2/17	\$ 25	994	Schaffer Family
2/18	\$ 25	145	Tom Larkin
2/19	\$ 25	810	Rose McMahon
2/20	\$ 25	010	Angelina Ardiri
2/21	\$ 25	667	Carmelo Ritrovotto
2/22	\$100	1677	Kurt DeGaris
2/23	\$ 50	618	Nicole Jessie

NEWS OF INTEREST

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- Knowledge of auto mechanics, electrical and plumbing a plus
- Must be able to communicate in English

Please call Laura at (845) 947-2200 Ext 303 for more information

SACRIFICIAL GIVING

Collection for Feb. 16, 2020 was: \$4,953
Collection for Feb. 17, 2019 was: \$6,324

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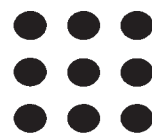
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