

## Mass Intentions

**HOLY SATURDAY** - All parishioners and living and deceased loved ones and for the intentions of Easter flowers  
**EASTER SUNDAY** - All parishioners and living and deceased loved ones and for the intentions of Easter flowers  
Evelyn Bianchi  
**MONDAY** - *Monday within the Octave of Easter*  
Living and deceased members of Joseph Azzara Family  
**TUESDAY** - *Tuesday within the Octave of Easter*  
Elwood McKonley, Jr.  
**WEDNESDAY** - *Wednesday within the Octave of Easter*  
Joseph Pirozzi  
**THURSDAY** - *Thursday within the Octave of Easter*  
**NO MASS**  
**FRIDAY** - *Friday within the Octave of Easter*  
Bill Groft  
**SATURDAY** - *Saturday within the Octave of Easter*  
Living and deceased members of Joseph Azzara Family  
**NEXT SUNDAY** - *Sunday of Divine Mercy*  
Cyril J. and Beatrice M. Rickrode  
People of the Parish

 Due to Immaculate Conception contracting a lawn service for our mowing needs **we have a 2017 John Deere X734 Lawn tractor w/54" deck for sale.** Please contact Mark Becker at 717-479-3370 (call/text) for more information and to make an appointment for viewing.

A special thanks to *Cremer Florist* for sponsoring an ad in our weekly bulletin. Please remember to patronize our sponsors.

This year our **Annual Diocesan Campaign** goal is **\$50,033**. To date we have collected **\$34,633**. Please keep in mind that we, as a parish, are responsible to make up the deficit that is not collected. However, the parish would receive money back from the amount over our goal. Please prayerfully consider making a donation if you have not already done so. Thank you and God Bless!

 **Were you married in 1970?** In honor of your 50<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary, there will be a special Mass and reception on Sunday, August 23, 2020 at 2:00 p.m. at Good Shepherd Parish in Camp Hill. Bishop Ronald W. Gainer will be the celebrant. To receive an invitation, please contact the parish office.

### Please pray for those who have asked for prayers

Sara Arigo  
Nadine Becker  
Ron Becker, Jr.  
Nicholas Harner  
Henry Krug  
Ellen McWilliams  
Steve Overbaugh  
Larry Redding  
Linus Smith  
Ronald Smith  
Fred Wilke

**Certificate Sales** - The next scrip order is due the weekend of April 18/19. Orders can be put through the rectory door mail slot.

## SACRIFICIAL GIVING

**Sunday Collection Budget** .....\$400,000.00  
**Weekly Total Needed** .....\$7,692.30

4/5/2020

Adult Weekly Collection.....\$1,230.00  
Adult Online Giving (3/30 to 4/3).....\$600.00  
Children's Weekly Collection.....\$0  
Weekly Collection Total .....\$1,830.00  
Weekly Shortfall .....\$5,862.30  
Y-to-D Deficit ..... \$(75,625.18)

The mission of Immaculate Conception B.V.M. will continue during these challenging times. However, in order to do that, we need your support. Please pray for our Parish, our Diocese and our Country. In addition to prayers we are asking for your continued financial support. Gifts may be dropped in the mail slot, mailed to the office, or by signing up for our online giving program. We are extremely thankful to our families who have already been mailing or dropping off their donations. Without your gifts, the Parish will struggle to continue with our most basic functions. Thank you for your continued support of Immaculate Conception B.V.M. Church. May God keep you healthy and continue to bless you and your families.

Discount tickets to *Hersheypark* are available to the friends and families of the parish for a **significant savings**. Gate admission for Regular is \$74.80; our price is **\$38.95** (ALL ages 3+). **\*ADD-ON** discount Hersheypark Meal Tickets at a savings of up to 30% off retail prices—**\$12.99 each** and **\*ADD-ON** Snack Vouchers—**\$4.50 each**. Orders must be received at the parish by **Thursday, April 30, 2020**. Order forms are available in the back of church.

*I shall spend every moment loving. One who loves does not notice her trials; or perhaps more accurately, she is able to love them. I shall do everything for Heaven, my true home.*

-Bernadette Soubirous (1844-1879), Patron against Poverty  
Feast Day April 16

**St. Teresa of Calcutta Catholic School is still accepting applications** for new and transfer students for the 2020-2021 academic year for Pre-Kindergarten 3 yr. old to 8th grade. Limited openings available in certain classes. For more information, please call Melissa Guy, Director of Marketing & Enrollment at 717-637-3135 or send an email to [mguy@stck8school.org](mailto:mguy@stck8school.org). More information about the enrollment process can be found on the school website at [www.stck8school.org](http://www.stck8school.org).

**A Family Perspective by Bud Ozar** - *Today's gospel instructs us Jesus "had to rise from the dead." The dying we experience with unmet expectations in marriage and parenting is normal to family life. Families must rise above disappointments and be Easter people all year long.*

### Religious Education News...

All paperwork required for the religious education program can be accessed online. Visit the parish website ([www.icbvmnewoxford.org](http://www.icbvmnewoxford.org)) and click the "RE Google Folder" link under the Religious Education tab (drop down under "Faith Formation" tab on the homepage.) All Confirmation files are included as well! Communication will be primarily via email. If you are not receiving emails for RE, please email Mr. Jesse Read at [jread@hbgsdiocese.org](mailto:jread@hbgsdiocese.org).

## EASTER SUNDAY OF THE RESURRECTION OF THE LORD

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The continuing restrictions on assembling prevent us from celebrating Easter together in church. No one had any idea a few weeks ago that this could even be possible. But we still proclaim with our lives our joy in the renewal of the world, our Easter joy. We see the numbers of those who are suffering from the corona virus increase daily, and we keep them all in our prayers. But be assured, no one is suffering from the loss of our Easter joy. No illness or pandemic can destroy Easter.

The celebration of Easter somehow stands in stark contrast to our commemoration of Good Friday. Think about the Good Fridays you have experienced in the past. On Good Friday, we had no flowers or alleluias. There were no musical instruments. All there was, was the Cross.

Yet, both Good Friday and Easter, along with Holy Thursday, were bound together into one celebration, the celebration of the Paschal Mystery (the Holy Triduum). The name paschal refers to the lamb who was sacrificed and whose sacrifice brought life.

Please know that you-all are remembered in my daily Masses and prayers and that I look forward to the day when we will be together at Mass again. My personal thanks and appreciation to those who have been able to make a sacrifice and send in your financial contribution to the parish as we also still have bills to pay. It may not be possible to place your offering through the office mail slot with the States "Stay at Home Order." So if you would like to mail your envelope(s) to the office, we will be able to process them during this time. Please remember that you may not send cash through the US mail. If it is easier, you may do a monthly offering.

I pray and look forward to the day, hopefully soon, when we will be able to come together again in our church and truly celebrate our Lord's victory over death. When we will sing "Alleluia" together with a renewed sense of Joy and Victory.

*Fr. Michael*

### **Some ideas for you during this continued time of isolation to help us stay connected to our faith:**

#### **Make a Spiritual Communion Today and Every day.**

Catholics are encouraged to make a 'spiritual communion'. St. John Paul II writes that "it is good to *cultivate in our hearts a constant desire for the sacrament of the Eucharist*. This was the origin of the practice of 'spiritual communion', which has happily been established in the Church for centuries and recommended by saints who were masters of the spiritual life. Saint Teresa of Jesus wrote: 'When you do not receive communion and you do not attend Mass, you can make a spiritual communion, which is a most beneficial practice; by it the love of God will be greatly impressed on you.'" (*Ecclesia Eucharistia*, no. 34) Bishop Gainer has encouraged Catholics in the diocese to watch local Masses. You can find a list of parishes within our Diocese who are transmitting their Masses on the Diocesan webpage: [www.hbgdiocese.org](http://www.hbgdiocese.org).

#### **How Do You Make a Spiritual Communion?**

Below are recommendations for how to make a 'spiritual communion' when unable to participate in the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass. The recommendations can be adapted based upon personal and family needs.

- Gather with others in your household and begin a time of prayer with the sign of the cross.
- Take time to read and reflect upon the readings from Sunday Mass. You can find the readings at [www.usccb.org](http://www.usccb.org) and a wonderful Sunday Gospel reflection by Bishop Barron on Word on Fire. Additionally, watch the Mass on TV or over the internet.
- Share prayer intentions quietly or aloud.
- Pray the Lord's Prayer.
- Pray one of the prayers of spiritual communion (see example below).

#### **An Act of Spiritual Communion by St. Alphonsus Liguori**

My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament.

I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul.

Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally,

come at least spiritually into my heart.

I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to You.

Never permit me to be separated from You.

Amen.

#### **Pope Francis's Prayer to Mary during Coronavirus Pandemic**

O Mary, you always shine on our path as a sign of salvation and of hope. We entrust ourselves to you, Health of the Sick, who at the cross took part in Jesus' pain, keeping your faith firm.

You, Salvation of Your People, know what we need, and we are sure you will provide so that, as in Cana of Galilee, we may return to joy and to feasting after this time of trial.

Help us, Mother of Divine Love, to conform to the will of the Father and to do as we are told by Jesus, who has taken upon himself our sufferings and carried our sorrows to lead us, through the cross, to the joy of the resurrection. Amen.

Under your protection, we seek refuge, Holy Mother of God. Do not disdain the entreaties of we who are in trial, but deliver us from every danger, O glorious and blessed Virgin. Amen.

*(Adapted from Vatican News.)*

#### **Plenary Indulgence**

On the Solemnity of St. Joseph, the Apostolic Penitentiary granted a plenary indulgence to the faithful suffering from Coronavirus, family members of those suffering from Coronavirus, health care workers caring for the sick, and to all members of the faithful. Since some of the usual conditions for plenary indulgences (namely, sacramental Confession and reception of the Eucharist) cannot be fulfilled immediately, the desire by the faithful to fulfill the conditions, as soon as possible, suffices for the granting of the indulgence.