

Immaculate Conception Catholic Church

28297 Old Village Road
P. O. Box 166

Mechanicsville, MD 20659

Rectory Office: 301-884-3123

Fax Number: 301-884-7437

Faith Formation Office: 240-230-3167

Parish Email: Immaculateconception.md@adw.org

Parish Website: ICChurchmd.org

Parish Clergy

Rev. Michael Tietjen, Pastor

Deacon William Kyte, D.R.E.



March 3rd, 2019
Eighth Sunday
in Ordinary Time

Weekend Masses:

Saturday at 4:00 pm, Sunday at 7:00, 9:00 and 11:00 am

Weekday Masses:

Monday – Wednesday & Friday at 7:30 am

1st Saturday Mass at 9:00 am (only 1st of the month)

Confessions:

Saturdays at 3:00 – 3:45 pm, and after the vigil Mass.

Eucharistic Adoration:

1st Friday of each month, beginning after the 7:30 am Mass & ending with Benediction at 6:30 pm.

Baptisms

Parishioners of Immaculate Conception Church should contact the rectory so we can explain the process to you. Baptisms are traditionally held on the first Sunday of each month.

Marriages

Active and participating parishioners are welcome to be married at Immaculate Conception! Please contact the rectory at least 6 months in advance (preferably a year) so there is time to complete the marriage preparation process and confirm a wedding date.

Please do not reserve a reception hall before scheduling a meeting with the pastor.

Shut-Ins

If you wish to have your homebound loved-ones receive Holy Communion, please call the rectory (301-884-3123).

Catholic Education:

Grades Pre-K-8

Little Flower School – 301-994-0404

Mother Catherine Academy – 301-884-3165

Grades 9-12

Ryken High School – 301-475-2814

God's Little
Lambs



Mass Intentions

Saturday, March 2nd, 2019

9:00 am – Samuel Lewis Sherwell, Jr.

4:00 pm – Parishioners

Sunday, March 3rd, 2019

7:00 am – Special Intention

9:00 am – Bruce Mottern

11:00 am – Mary Virginia Martin

Monday, March 4th, 2019

7:30 am – Raymond Raley

Tuesday, March 5th, 2019

7:30 am – Bobby Cusic, Sr.

Wednesday, March 6th, 2019 – Ash Wednesday

7:30 am – Donna Hill

7:00 pm – Parishioners

Friday, March 8th, 2019

7:30 am – Essie Mae Gibson

Saturday, March 9th, 2019

4:00 pm – Special Intention

Sunday, March 10th, 2019

7:00 am – Parishioners

9:00 am – Raymond Fugate

11:00 am – Dorothy Blackwell

New to our Parish? We welcome you to Immaculate Conception Church. For new registrations or updates, please visit our website (ICChurchMD.org) or stop by the Rectory Office which is open: **Monday – Friday, 9:00 am to 4:00 pm.**

Pray a rosary for the sick.



Daylight savings time begins on **Sunday, March 10th** at 2:00 am. Please remember to turn your clocks ahead hour, the best time to do this is before you go to bed on Saturday, March 3rd.

Lenten Fish Fry

The Ladies Auxiliary will be having their Lenten Fish Fry on **Friday, March 8th** & **Friday March 29th** from 12:00 noon – 5:00 pm. Fish dinner is \$14, crab cake dinner is \$16, fried oyster dinner is \$18, and combo platter is \$20. Dinners include green beans, candied yams, mac & cheese, potato salad, & cornbread. For additional information call: Doris (301-884-4423) or Ella (240-434-3016).

Thank You

To all of those who signed-up online for Eucharistic Adoration this month, Thank You. We really appreciate your willingness to do that. We do pray that more will join in and sign-up for Eucharistic Adoration in the coming months.

Altar Flowers

If you're interested in dedicating altar flowers in memory or in honor of a loved one, please call Clare (301-884-3123) and she will help you schedule an available weekend. The cost is \$47.

Bible Study

Bible study is scheduled for **Monday, March 4th** at 7:00 pm and **Wednesday, March 6th** at 10:00 am in the Parish Center.

Bulletin Item Deadline

If you have an item for the bulletin, please note that all information needs to be sent to Clare.ImmaculateConception@gmail.com by the close of business on Tuesday. Messages will be edited when necessary.

Intercessory Prayer

Join others for intercessory prayer on Tuesday evenings at 7:00 pm in the Parish Center.

Mass Intentions

Have you ever wanted to do something special for a family member or a friend? Consider having one of our regularly scheduled Masses said for someone, living or deceased. Contact the rectory if you are interested in scheduling a Mass. Typically, a donation goes with the request; many donate \$10 but it is voluntary.

Rosary

The rosary is prayed at the following times:

- **First Sunday of the month** – 30 minutes before each Mass.
- **Every Saturday** – 30 minutes before the 4 pm Mass.
- **First Saturday of the month** – 30 minutes before the 9:00 am Mass.
- **Every Wednesday** – immediately following the 7:30 am Mass.

RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults)

RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults) is a program that assists those who want to learn more about the Catholic faith.

If you have any questions, please call Fr. Tietjen (301-884-3123) or Amy Downs (301-904-7439).

Prayers for the Sick

Please remember the sick members of our parish community in your prayers: J. Allan; Heather Ballard; Sandy Burns; Mary Clancy; Thomas Farrell; Melanie Gibson; David Hoffmaster, Sr.; Scott Hughes; Meagan Humbert; Jennifer Burroughs Murphy; Lisa Durst Owens; John Redding; Laura Redding; Ed Shade; Claire True; and Betty Williams.

If you would like to add your family member to the sick list, please call the rectory (301-884-3123) or email

Clare.ImmaculateConception@gmail.com.

Prayers for our Soldiers

We pray for those soldiers serving our Country – serving away from home. Blake Guy; and Paige Guy. Please feel free to call us or email

Clare.ImmaculateConception@gmail.com to add your soldier serving

FlockNote

FlockNote is a way for us to reach out to all our parishioners, or a single group, at a moment's notice via text or email. We can inform you of last minute cancellations, requests for prayer, changes in a scheduled meeting, and more. Consider signing up, go to (ICChurchmd.org), click on *Subscribe-Flocknote* and choose the groups you would like to receive information from.

Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper

The Knights of Columbus will be serving a Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper on **Tuesday, March 5th** from 5:00 pm – 7:30 pm in the Parish Center. The menu consists of pancakes, sausage, ham, homefries, fruit cocktail, and drinks. The cost is \$5 per person (ages 6 and up) or \$20 for a family of 4 or more. Children 5 and under eat free!

Immaculate Conception's 2019 Seafood Dinner and Festival

Our 2019 Seafood Dinner and Festival will be held on **Sunday, May 5th**.

We still need volunteers to join our clean-up committee for after the event is over. Please consider volunteering your time and energy, email

Morris.Turtles33@gmail.com.

Parish Finance Information

The **Regular Collection** (not counting online donations) last week was \$7,178.51

The **Church in the Developing World Collection** last week was \$910.00.

Online donations for **January** to our **Regular Collection** was \$975.00.

Online donations for **February** to our **Regular Collection** was \$1,850.00.

Online donations for **January** to our **Renovation Collection** was \$70.00.

Online donations for **February** to our **Renovation Collection** was \$70.00.

The financial float this month is \$25,318.89 (approximately 2 1/2 weeks float)

Extra large expenses for last month were:

- \$8,299.00 (remove underground oil tank and replace it with an above ground tank at the Old Hall.)
- \$1,017.00 (lights in the church.)
- \$960.00 (repair ac/heat pump at the rectory.)
- \$3,167.20 (new signs for the church and other buildings.)

Online Giving

For those interested in donating to our parish online, please visit our website and see the online giving tab. If you have any questions, please call Clare on Monday – Wednesday or Fridays, 9:00 am – 4:00 pm.

Schedule for Saturday, March 9th and Sunday, March 10th, 2019.

Please arrive 10-15 minutes before Mass begins.

	<u>Lectors</u>	<u>Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion</u>	<u>Altar Servers</u>
4:00 pm Saturday	Marian Taylor	John Krznarich	(none)
7:00 am Sunday	Joseph Thomas	Judy Ramsey	Chris Holton & Madison Myers
9:00 am	Terry Casselman (sub)	Dan Clark	Joe Davis
11:00 am	Mary Ellen Evans (sub)	Richard Adams	Bryce Manuel

Reflections on the Eighth Commandment

“You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.” If you were to ask me which Commandment is violated more than any other, I would say this one. You could make a strong case for the Sixth with all the sexual sins being normalized today, but by my reasoning the Eighth takes the cake in terms of sheer volume. And it's not a trivial commandment – not that any of them are, mind you. But I'm a bit surprised that the Eighth is not higher up in the pecking order. I say that because of the true horror of breaking this Commandment.

Why is that? Because people are hard wired for the truth. You see it in children. You see it in adults. You even see it in hardened criminals. Everyone, at some level, wants shared information to be truthful. No deception, no lies, just an explanation of reality. Have you ever seen a child try to process, for the first time, the realization that someone lied to them? It may have never crossed their minds yet that people could deceive each other. And that act of breaking trust now opens the door for that child (that victim, truly) to contemplate acting that way themselves in the future. Perhaps calling it a form of spiritual rape is too strong, but clearly something innocent has been taken from them, something that cannot be given back – the sense of wholeness and community among one's fellow human beings.

The gravity of this action cannot be overstated. It was Jesus Himself who said “Whoever causes one of these little ones who believe in me to sin, it would be better for him to have a great millstone hung around his neck and to be drowned in the depths of the sea. Woe to the world because of things that cause sin!” ([Matthew 18:6-7](#)) Bearing false witness – lying – causes other sins. It's an evil door that leads to all the other sins. Families, corporations, governments – all human institutions – suffer greatly from the mistrust that is earned through deceptive words and deeds. The first original sin in the garden of Eden was caused by a lie. Cain lied to Abel before he killed him. The arguments for the crucifixion of Jesus were founded on premeditated lies. Every sin is founded on lies.

Show me someone who's angry, bitter, or in a rage and I'll show you someone who's experienced the destructive power of this Commandment.

The Catechism lists several ways people break this Commandment. *Bearing false witness* (lying in court), *perjury* (lying under oath), *rash judgment* (assuming the worst in someone without knowing the full story), *detraction* (disclosing someone's faults without a good reason), *calumny* (lies that ruin the reputation of another), and (of course) ordinary lying. (see [CCC #2476-2477, 2482](#)) In our society today, these actions are so commonplace they're almost expected. Politicians, journalists, and those involved in marketing too often make careers with deceptive statements. Teachers and scientists, who should be motivated by the truth, are often pressured into stating as fact things that are not. The leaders of the Catholic Church have been caught in a major coverup that we're all too aware of. Other religions are no different. We could go on....

Don't be part of the problem. Stand up for the truth. This takes courage and, practically speaking, a bit of planning. I say that because people can (and have) lost their job or had their career sidetracked for saying things the Establishment didn't want to hear. Living as independently as possible makes one less vulnerable to manipulation by outside forces and is worth the extra planning.

There's a lot more that needs to be said regarding the practicalities of this Commandment. I'll try to cover some of them next week.

– *Fr. Tietjen*

FAITH FORMATION INFORMATION

Sunday, March 3rd, 2019

EIGHTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

MOMS AND DADS: Please take a minute out of your busy schedule to reexamine the FAITH FORMATION CALENDAR for 2018/2019 on our parish website @ [ICChurchmd.org](#). Parents are the first teachers of the Faith to their children; make sure you are teaching them by your good example and words. Please remember your promise to God at their Baptism. PLEASE, TAKE THEM TO CHURCH.

KIDS OF FAITH FORMATION AND THE PARISH: You are the new and future parishioners of our parish. Learn everything you can about your faith. One day you will see God's face.

KIDS IN GRADES 6, 7, AND 8 – ONLINE FAITH FORMATION CLASSES – Are you maintaining a grade of 70% or better in each chapter? If you need help, please see your teacher. I don't want to have you in my office every Sunday or call your parents. Trust me, **I can see everyone's scores**, and I won't let you hide or slip through the door with less than a 70%.

TEACHERS – Would you like to become a Certified Catechist?

ARE YOU THINKING ABOUT STARTING A NEW CAREER – HOW ABOUT TEACHING YOUR CATHOLIC FAITH? Please call me, stop by and see me, or send me an email. I would love to hear from you. THANKS.

TEACHERS, PARENTS, AND KIDS – Just a little glimpse into the future – the annual Faith Knowledge Assessment Test will be coming to Immaculate Conception Church between **March 31st** and **April 14th**. I'm waiting on the official date from the Archdiocese of Washington. There will be make-up days scheduled for this exam. Every student in Grades 3 through 8 in Faith Formation is required to participate in the Assessment test.

ATTENTION TO ALL 2ND GRADE PARENTS AND KIDS: FIRST RECONCILIATION FOR ALL 2ND GRADE CHILDREN from Faith Formation and MCA –

- **SATURDAY, MARCH 9th, in church**, from 9:00 am – 10:00 am. Father will hear confessions for children from **Session A and MCA**. Please make sure you sign-in. Parents are also urged to go to confession.
- **SATURDAY, MARCH 16th, in church**, from 9:00 am – 10:00 am. Father will hear confessions for children from **Session B and make up**. Please make sure you sign-in. Parents are also urged to go to confession.

PLEASE NOTE – ALL children in 2nd grade MUST go to confession before receiving Holy Communion in May. If you miss the scheduled times, it's up to the parents to make arrangements with Father.

RICE BOWLS ARE COMING – RICE BOWLS will be HANDED out this weekend, and next weekend. PLEASE, be kind and give.

ASH WEDNESDAY – MARCH 6th, 2019 – The meaning of Ash Wednesday – it's the first day of LENT. LENT is 40 days long and precedes EASTER—the greatest Holy Day in the Church.

Deacon Bill

(240-230-3167 or Deacon.Kyte@gmail.com)

Mass with Healing Prayers

St. Mary Church in Newport has a monthly Healing Masses that are held on the first Thursday of each month in honor of St. John Vianney. The Litany of St. John Vianney will be recited after Communion and Fr. Michael Briese will offer prayers of healing for body and soul. All are welcome and encouraged to come. Confessions begin at 6:00 pm (and continue throughout Mass). Mass begins at 6:30 pm, followed by Healing Prayers. Location: St. Mary Church, Newport, 11555 St. Mary's Church Road, Charlotte Hall, MD 20622. For additional information, please call the St. Mary Church Parish Office (301-934-8825).



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*Have you prayed
 the Rosary today?*

*Offer it up for
 someone in need.*

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Other Events in Town

- *Fried Shrimp Dinner* will be held at the Mechanicsville Volunteer Fire Department Social Hall on **Friday, March 8th** from 5:30 pm – 7:00 pm. The cost is \$13.
- *Catholic College and Vocations Fair* will be held at **St. John's Parish in Hollywood, MD** on **Saturday, March 9th** from 11:00 am – 3:00 pm. Eucharistic Adoration and Mass (9:00 am – 11:00 am) will precede the fair. If you have students in high school or you just enjoy listening to great Catholic speakers, this event is for you. A dozen of the top colleges from the Newman Guide to Catholic Colleges will be present along with many religious orders. Dr. John Cuddaback, professor of philosophy at Christendom College and Mr. Brent Johnson, V.P. of Enrollment at Ave Maria University are the keynote speakers this year. The event is open to all and there is no admission charge. More information can be found online at www.StJohnsSummerProgram.com/CCVF.
- An *Indoor Flea Market* will be held on **Saturday, March 9th** from 8:00 am – 1:00 pm at **St. Mary's Church Bryantown**. Tables rent for \$20. Lunch and baked goods will be available. Proceeds will go to the Church Emergency Fund for the less fortunate. Call Mary Branick (301-274-4507) for more information.
- *Purse and Bags Bingo* will be held at the **MVFD Social Hall** on **Saturday, March 16th**. The doors will open at 5:00 pm and Bingo begins at 6:00 pm.
- *Nonsense* is a Cabaret Production presented by Rob Misko and John Baldino and will be held live on stage at **St. Francis Xavier Parish, Leonardtown, MD** in the church hall on **Saturday March 16th** at 7:00 pm and on **Sunday, March 17th** at 2:00 pm. The cost is \$20 per person (in advance) or \$25 per person (at the door). Tickets can be purchased online at <https://www.brownpapertickets.com/event/4067914>.
- *Lenten Day of Prayer*, titled *"The Lord Hears our Cry"* will be held at Loyola on the Potomac on **Monday, March 18th** and **Monday, April 15th**. Each day will begin at 9:00 am and includes a continental breakfast, lunch, and Mass. The fee is \$40.00. Please call (301-392-0801) to make a reservation or go to www.loyolaonthepotomac.com.
- *Encounter Grace Women's Series – RECLAIM* – Ladies, join the Encounter Grace team at **St. John Vianney Catholic Church and Family Life Center** on **Saturday, March 23rd** from 8:30 am – 1:00 pm for a day of reflection and sisterhood. Tickets are on sale at EncounterGrace.co. The cost is \$30 per person. Appropriate for ages 16+. For more information please contact St. John Vianney (410-535-0223).
- *Spring Seafood Dinner* will be held at **Holy Angels, Avenue** on **Sunday, March 24th** from 11:30 am – 4:00 pm. Fried oysters, steamed spiced shrimp, crab balls, fried chicken and much more. The cost is \$28 for adults, \$26 for caryouts and advance tickets (under March 15th), \$8 for children 6-12, and 5 & under eat free. Call 301-769-3100 for more information or advance tickets.
- *The Way Retreat for Survivors of Abuse* is being sponsored by the Archdiocese of Washington. A retreat will take place from **April 5th – 7th** for men and **April 12th – 14th** for women. The retreat is an occasion for survivors to reflect on God's plan for their lives and for healing through prayer and the sacraments. For more information and to register, go to adw.org/the-way-retreat/ or call Deborah McDonald (301-853-4466).