Church of the IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

18 SOUTH STREET † SPOTSWOOD, NJ 08884

PARISH WEBSITE: WWW.CHICSPOTSWOOD.COM

Welcome to New Families!

New families moving into the parish are asked to register at the Parish Office by telephone or in person during office hours. Certificates of eligibility to sponsor at Baptism or Confirmation can be obtained at the Parish Office.

Rev. Msgr. Joseph M. Curry, *Pastor*

Rev. Ignatius Mary Okoroji, SDV, *in Residence*

Rev. Mhonchan Ezung, Parochial Vicar

Rev. Peter Akkanath Chakkunny, CMI, *in Residence*

Deacon John McGuire

Deacon Danny San Jose

Deacon Thomas Griffoul

PARISH OFFICE ---------- 732-251-3110

OFFICE HOURS

Monday---------- 10:00 am to 2:30 pm

Tuesday through Thursday----- 9:00 am to 2:30 pm

SCHOOL ---------- 732-251-3090

Mary Erath, Principal

CCD/GIFT ---------- 732-251-5973

Susan Sahli, GIFT Admin.

PRE-K ---------- 732-251-7430

MUSIC MINISTRY---------- 908-313-8674

Phillip Steffani, Director of Music

TUITION---------- 732-251-3110

CAFETERIA ---------- 732-251-7452

CONVENT ---------- 732-251-3446

Liturgical Life

SUNDAY EUCHARIST

Vigil Mass, Saturday---------- 5:00 pm

Sunday ----------7:00, 9:00, 11:00 am*

**Interpreted for the hearing impaired*

Youth Mass, October - June, 1st Sunday of the month ---- 5:00 pm

DAILY EUCHARIST

Monday through Friday ---------- 7:00 & 9:30 am

Saturday ----------8:30 am**

***Miraculous Medal Novena is prayed at 8:15 am*

HOLY DAYS OF OBLIGATION

Vigil Mass---------- 7:30 pm

Holy Day ---------- 7:00, 9:00, 11:00 am

CONFESSIONS

Saturday ---------- 3:30 to 4:30 pm or by appointment

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

Friday----------7:00 - 8:15 pm

SACRAMENTS OF INITIATION

Infant Baptism: Call the Parish Office for information and registration. Preparation Sessions for parents, Third Thursday of every month at 7:30 pm.

Baptisms: 2nd & 4th Sunday of each month at 12:15 pm.

RCIA

Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) is a process to welcome new members to our faith. For information, call Parish Office or contact RCIA@icspotswood.com.

MARRIAGE AND HOLY ORDERS

Contact the Parish Office for information.

Mass Intentions FOR THE WEEK

MAY 20, 2018
PENTECOST SUNDAY

SATURDAY, MAY 19, 2018
8:30 AM THOMAS CLEARY
5:00 PM LISA DOMINGUEZI
Priest of the Day: Rev. Edward R. Flanagan
SUNDAY, MAY 20, 2018
7:00 AM PARISHIONERS
9:00 AM SANTINA SPIINELLA
11:00 AM MAUREEN ROHAN
Priest of the Day: Rev. Javier Flores, SDV
MONDAY, MAY 21, 2018
7:00 AM CHARLES E. DONNELLY
9:30 AM MARY SCOPELLITI
Priest of the Day: Rev. Michael Fragoso
TUESDAY, MAY 22, 2018
7:00 AM STEVE ALAIMO
9:30 AM THERESA SMITH
Priest of the Day: Rev. Msgr. David I. Fulton
WEDNESDAY, MAY 23, 2018
7:00 AM LINDSEY MARIE TUNLYA
9:30 AM RONALD SCHLEGEL
Priest of the Day: Rev. Thomas P. Ganley
THURSDAY, MAY 24, 2018
7:00 AM MARIAN SINGARI
9:30 AM DiVALENTIN FAMILY
Priest of the Day: Rev. Joemar Garboso
FRIDAY, **MAY 25, 2018**
7:00 AM FOR ALL SOULS IN PERGATORY AND NON-BAPTIZED CHILDREN
9:30 AM DENNIS CARECCIA, PAUL CARECCINA & PAUL MINENNA
Priest of the Day: Rev. Timothy Gatitu, IMC
SATURDAY, MAY 26, 2018
8:30 AM KENNY RICHTER
5:00 PM FRANCESCA MORSELLINO
Priest of the Day: Rev. Juan Carlos Gaviria
SUNDAY, MAY 27, 2018
7:00 AM PARISHIONERS
9:00 AM LORRAINE SUTERA
11:00 AM SKIP & JEAN WALKER
Priest of the Day: Rev. John C. Gloss
Please pray for our Priest of the Day and for an increase in vocations to the priesthood and religious life.

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

Exposition, Adoration and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament is regularly held in our church every Friday from 7:00 PM until 8:15 PM. Any changes to this Friday schedule will be noted in the bulletin and announced at mass.
THERE WILL BE NO EXPOSITION ON JUNE 1, 8 or 15.
The Last Friday of the month, all are invited to join the Eucharistic Apostles of Divine Mercy reciting the Chaplet for the Sick and Dying during Eucharistic Adoration.

REMEMBER THOSE IN THE ARMED FORCES

Heavenly Father, keep safe the women and men serving our country in the Armed Forces around the world, especially those who work to bring order to Iraq and Afghanistan, and give eternal rest to those who have died in the struggle for peace and freedom.

PARISH MISSION STATEMENT

We, the people of Immaculate Conception Church, are a Roman Catholic faith community with the celebration of the Eucharist as the center of our lives.
We create a vibrant parish life through prayer, discernment, education and active involvement of all. We celebrate our evolving diversity, as well as, our oneness in faith as a family in Christ.

SACRIFICIAL GIVING

May 5 & 6	2018	2017
First Collection	$10,336.00	$11,974.00
Debt Reduction	$ 3,024.00	$ 3,290.00

Thank you for your continued support of the parish.

Readings For The Week of May 20, 2018

Pentecost Sunday
Acts 2:1-11 Ps 104:1ab, 24ac, 29bc-30, 31, 34 1Cor 12:3b-7, 12-13 or Gal 5:16-25 Jn 20:19-23 or Jn 15:26-27; 16:12-15
Monday – St. Christopher Magallanes
Jas 3:13-18 Ps 19:8-10, 15 Mk 9:14-29
Tuesday – St. Rita of Cascia
Jas 4:1-10 Ps 55:7-11, 23 Mk 9:30-37
Wednesday
Jas 4:13-17 Ps 49:2-3, 6-11 Mk 9:38-40
Thursday
Jas 5:1-6 Ps 49:14-20 Mk 9:41-50
Friday – Sts. Bede the Venerable, Gregory VII, Mary Magdalene dePazzi
Jas 5:9-12 Ps 103:1-4, 8-9, 11-12 Mk 10:1-12
Saturday – St. Philip Neri
Jas 5:13-20 Ps 141:1-3, 8 Mk 10:13-16
The Most Holy Trinity
Dt 4:32-34, 39-40 Ps 33:4-6, 9, 18-20, 22 Rom 8:14-17 Mt 28:16-20

PRESENTATION OF THE GIFTS

The Liturgy Committee extends an invitation to anyone interested in the Presentation of the Gifts to the Altar. If you are willing, upon arrival at Mass, please inform an usher/greeter that you wish to participate in this important church practice. Thank you.

HOSPITAL AND HOMEBOUND VISITATION

Visits are made to St. Peter's and Robert Wood Johnson Hospital by request. If you have a family member in either of these two hospitals or any of the area hospitals, please call the parish office and let us know. Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist bring Communion to the sick and homebound on a regular basis. If you are sick or confined at home and would like a visit from a Eucharistic Minister, please call the parish office.

ALTAR FLOWERS

This weekend the flowers on the St. Joseph altar are offered in memory of Andrew Scozzari on his second anniversary in heaven by his loving wife.
If you would like to donate altar flowers, please contact Joanne Petrow in the Parish Office at 732-251-3110.

REQUIESCANT IN PACE

In the charity of your prayers please pray for all the faithfully departed of our parish.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK:

Week 1: Joan Engelbrecht, Brayden Pratt, Kitty Sauer
Week 2: Richard Boyle, Timothy Burns, Samantha Chan, Carol Doell, Tara Green, Peter Heckler, Anthony Muldowney, Liam Petson, Sandy Russell,
Week 3: Patricia Bendorf, Joey DePalma, Anthony Dumas, Fred Fulham, Ann Lipovsky, Jonathan Volpe Baby Lily
Week 4: Nicholas Carissimo, Jamie Cullen, George Hunt, Mary Helen Karmu, Sonja Kerrins, Andrew Klinger, Menachem Mendel, Ben O'Dowd, Susan Oliver Diane Rademacher

2 special intentions and all the sick and recovering of our parish. *If you would like to have a name placed on the "Pray for the Sick" list, please call the parish office during business hours. Names on the Sick List will be included for* ***four weeks****.* ***If you would like a name to be listed beyond four weeks, please call the Parish Office at that time.***

If you or someone you know is sick or in the hospital, please let us know so that we can pray for them.

THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Baptisms are scheduled on the 2nd and 4th Sunday of each month at **12:15 pm**.

May 27	September 9 and 23
June 10 and 24	October 14 and 28
July 8 and 22	November 11 and 25
August 12 and 26	December 9 and 23

BAPTISM CLASS

First time parents are required to attend Baptism Class. Our next Baptism Class will be held on **Thursday, June 21, 2018** at 7:30 PM in the rectory basement meeting room, 18 South St. To register contact the parish office at 732-251-3110.

MEMORIAL DAY
MONDAY, May 28

On Memorial Day, the daily mass will be at 9:00 AM. There will be no other masses that day. The parish office will be closed on Memorial Day.

ATTENTION PLEASE

Bishop Checchio will visit our Parish on **SUNDAY, June 17th**, to celebrate the 9:00 am Mass and to greet all of our parishioners.

FIRST COMMUNION

Congratulations to the 106 children who received their First Communion over the past few weeks here at Immaculate Conception. We offer our thanks to their parents and teachers as we all share in the great gift of the Body and Blood of Jesus!

PARISH EMAIL ADDRESSES

Msgr. Joe Curry	jcurry@icspotswood.com
Rev. Mhonchan Ezung	mezung@icspotswood.com
Deacon Thomas Griffoul	deacontomgriffoul@gmail.com
Deacon Danny San Jose	deacondannysj89@yahoo.com
Mark Sahli, PCL	msahli@icspotswood.com
Susan Sahli, GIFT Admin.	ccd@icspotswood.com
Phillip Steffani, Director of Music	phillipsteffani@gmail.com
Parish Office	office@icspotswood.com

ROSARY ALTAR SOCIETY

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING – Wednesday, May 30 at 7 PM in the cafeteria. All Committee Charipersons should attend. ALL MEMBERS ARE WELCOME.

SIGHT N SOUND - OPEN TO ALL PARISHIONERS & FRIENDS - Saturday, June 23- 11 AM Show to see the "Story of Jesus". Join us on a miraculous journey from the streets of Jerusalem to the Sea of Galilee alongside the most famous personal friend ever to walk the earth, JESUS. We will leave IC at 7:30 am for the 11 am show. Will stop for coffee. After the show an early dinner at the famous "Shady Maple". Approximate return 8:30 pm. Cost: $135.00 includes show, dinner, transportation and gratuity. Please make check payable to IC Church. Mail check to Eileen Farragher, 484B Fairton Drive, Monroe Twp., NJ 08831. For additional info, please call Eileen at 609-860-0641. Payment due immediately.

To join the Rosary-Altar Society or would like to know what we are all about, please call Elvi (Membership Chairperson) at 732-251-2739.

MINISTRY SCHEDULE
May 26 & 27

Mass	Reader	Eucharastic Ministers	Altar Servers
5pm	C. Buffalino	M. Hunter D. Kornacki M. Kussavage D. Raschdorf N. Stee	B. Perdoni R. Ramos
7 am	J. Decker	C. Gush C. Maines A. Menezes V. Phililips	G. Rambaud K. Rambaud
9 am	R. Davitt		N. Kasper K. Hunter
11 am	N. Hilyard	D. Blanchett P. Boyle E. Enriquez G. Enriquez P. Heinz	E. Petrow G. Petrow

READERS AND EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS

Sign-ups for the months of June and July will take place this weekend, May 19 & 20 in the altar server sacristy after all masses.

THE POWER OF YES
Women's Retreat

A simple Yes from Mary changed the world; imagine what your "YES" could do. There will be a Retreat for Women held in the Church on Tuesday, May 22nd at 7 pm. The Facilitator will be the dynamic speaker Colleen Rayner. Come laugh, cry, and experience a new way to look at your faith that you will not soon forget. Please pick up a flyer in the foyer.

Brighten Your Child's Summer at Immaculate Conception Camp

June 18– August 10
Ages 3-7 years old
Full day 9am– 3pm or Half day 9am – 11:30 am
Monday– Friday 2, 3, 4 or 5 days per week
Choose your own weeks with extended care available

Themed Activities, Creative Arts and Crafts, Musical Games, Indoor and Outdoor Play, Wading Pools Daily, Enrichment Activities
Register today!
732-251-7430 - gmartin@icsspotswood.com.

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HAVE YOU SIGNED UP FOR SUMMER CAMP?

4 Week Enrichment Program
July 9th – August 3rd ● Grades3 - 5

2 Week Enrichment Program
July 23rd – August 3rd ● Grades 6 - 8
Trips ● Themed Weeks ● STEM Based Activities
For more information visit
www.icsspotswood.org/summer-program

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HOLY HOUR OF PRAYER

A Holy Hour of Prayer on Good Shepherd Sunday and World Day of Prayer for Vocations, co-sponsored by the Office for Religious and the Office of Vocations will be held on May 20th at 3 p.m. at St. John Neumann Pastoral Center, Piscataway. Fellowship and refreshments will follow the service. For information, call (732) 562-1990.

KICK OFF THE SUMMER!
IMMACULATE CONCEPTION CARNIVAL

June 12th - 16th
Tuesday - Friday 6pm 11pm
Saturday 5pm-11pm
Saturday Night Fireworks
Games • Raffles • Super 50/50 • Food
Preschool Corner • Rides • Family Fun
Live Entertainment • Free Admission & Parking • Nightly Tricky Tray Baskets
Meet & Greet Kid Characters • Face Painting

ADVANCE TICKETS ON SALE NOW!
www.chicspotswood.com/carnival

SHARE IN THE CARNIVAL FUN – LOOKING FOR VOLUNTEERS!

Your parish needs you! Join the festivities - Volunteer your time to help make our parish carnival a big success! There are opportunities to volunteer at various shifts during the carnival hours and also each day for set up. Volunteers of all ages are needed.
Sign-up is easy. Just visit the parish website at www.chicspotswood.com and click on the Volunteer Signup link and follow the instructions to select available dates or visit http://signup.com/go/cCMbzHv.

BLAST!

Believing, Living and Sharing Together
YOUTH GROUP NEWS

Calendar of Future Events:

- June 3rd - Youth Group Mass & Picnic

YOUTH GROUP SUMMER RETREAT

This year, high school students are invited to attend the IC Youth Group Summer Weekend Retreat – July 20-22, 2018. We will be attending the Life Teen Retreat hosted at St. John's University with other teens from the NY/NJ metropolitan area.

Who Can Attend: Youth entering High School (9/18) through graduating senior
Cost: $275 per person – Money due 5/28/18 (we will be having a plant sale this weekend and next to raise funds to defray some of cost – depending on our success – the price will be reduced)
RSVP: if interested, please RSVP to youthgroup@icspotswood.com **as soon as possible. We need a count by May 15th.**

Summer Retreat
Life Teen Steubenville NYC
July 20-22, 2018 at St. John's University
The Steubenville Youth Conferences, an outreach of Franciscan University of Steubenville, are a series of 25 conferences across North American that help teens encounter the love of Christ every summer. Each summer, Life Teen hosts six Steubenville Youth Conferences (East, West, Atlanta, NYC, Lone Star, and NorCal) with the hopes of strengthening and inspiring teens and youth groups in their collective journeys to Christ. Join us in Queens, NY for Steubenville NYC 2018!

The Youth Group is open to all students in grades 6 through 12. Come see for yourself how fun and exciting living our faith can be! You don't want to miss it.

Check us out on Instagram: **Blast_2k17**

Do you want to get text reminders for meetings and special events? Text **@askura to 81010**.
Know anyone else that might benefit from Youth Group? Invite them along. Bring a friend and share your faith!

COLUMBIETTES SCRAMBLE

The Columbiettes of Knights of Columbus Council #4907, Spotswood, NJ will be hosting a fundraising Scramble/Tricky Tray at the Columbian Club Hall, Crescent Avenue on Friday, June 8, 2018. Doors open at 6:00 PM – calling starts at 7:30 PM. Admission is $10.00. Advance tickets suggested. Call Liz at 732-251-2173 or Dorothy at 732-257-7718. No BYOB - cash bar available.

DIOCESAN EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

Eucharistic Adoration is now being held in the chapel at the St. John Neumann Pastoral Center, 146 Meltars Lane, Piscataway. Adorers and intercessors are needed Monday through Friday, 9 to 11:45 a.m. Daily Mass is held at 11:45 a.m. For information or to volunteer, call Laura Ferreras, (732) 529-7932. To submit a prayer request, call (732) 765-6445 or email Adoration@diometuchen.org.

PARISH MINISTRY CONTACTS

Prayer and Worship

Altar Servers	Deacon Danny	deacondannysj89@yahoo.com
Divine Mercy	Sandra Cunningham	smc4jmj@gmail.com
Eucharistic Ministry	Catherine Sauer	kitty144@verizon.net
	Carol Maines	marblesm@verizon.net
Lectors		office@icspotswood.com
Liturgy	Deacon Tom	deacontomgriffoul@gmail.com
Music Ministry	Phillip Steffani	phillipsteffani@gmail.com
Prayer Group	Phyllis Marks	phyllis225@verizon.net
Ushers/Greeters	Parish Office	office@icspotswood.com

Christian Formation

Adult Initiation/RCIA	Edward Spinella	rcia@icspotswood.com
Religious Education	Mark & Sue Sahli	ccd@icspotswood.com
IC School K-8	Mary Erath	merath@icsspotswood.com
IC Pre K	Gloria Martin	gmartin@icsspotswood.com

Community Building

Athletic Assoc. (ICS)	Adam Perdoni	aperdoni@icsspotswood.com
Boy Scouts Troup 35	Matthew Riti	matt.riti@comcast.net
Columbiettes	Eileen Cella	emcc1227@msn.com
Cub Scouts Pack 35	Mark Lesniak	spotswoodpack35@gmail.com
Father's Club	Steve Rogala	srogala1@hotmail.com
Girl Scouts		info@gscsnj.org
Home School Assoc.	Karalyn Herban	kherbanot@gmail.com
Immaculate Conception Univ		office@icspotswood.com
Knights of Columbus	Jason Consorti	wgk4907ic@gmail.com
Marriage Encounter		office@icspotswood.com
Ministry to the Deaf	Tevis Thompson	deaf1@comcast.net
Retrouvaille	Pat and Tom Gallo	patntomg@msn.com
Rosary Altar Society	Maria Tiberi	nonnatiberi1@gmail.com
Social Activities	Paul Mastrobuoni	twobeachbums@verizon.net
Youth Group		youthgroup@icspotswood.com
Youth Organization	Richard Lancia	richlancia@comcast.net

Pastoral Services

Bereavement	Mary Hamm	rmtm26@aol.com
	Robert Balascak	bobtp01@aol.com
	Josephine Gorini	gorinifirstgrade@verizon.net
Interfaith Network of Care		www.interfaithnetworkofcare.org
Lazarus Ministry	Patricia Kowalski	pkrn61@verizon.net
	Eileen Farragher	efmf@comcast.net
	Rosemarie Nolan	rmn1943@gmail.com
Right to Life	Tom Gallo	patntomg@msn.com
Social Concerns Outreach		office@icspotswood.com

Parish Consultative Councils

Finance Committee		office@icspotswood.com
Liturgy	Deacon Tom	deacontomgriffoul@gmail.com
Pastoral Council	Christine Velsor	tomtina@comcast.net

QUO VADIS DAYS
June 25-27, 2018

Young men ages 14-17! You're invited to spend three days living, praying and interacting with priests, seminarians and faith-filled teens your own age. The days will include dynamic talks, a visit from Bishop Checchio, sports and activities, prayer, small group discussion and so much more. For more information, visit www.diometuchen.org/QuoVadis or email quovadis@diometuchen.org.

"There are different kinds of spiritual gifts but the same Spirit; there are different forms of service but the same Lord; there are different workings but the same God who produces all of them in everyone." – 1 CORINTHIANS 12:4-6

All of us are blessed, regardless of our own individual circumstances; God has given each of us many gifts. How we use those gifts is our gift back to God. For God's plan to work, each must do what we are called to do and guess what – we are not all called to do the same thing!

PASTORAL COUNCIL HELP WANTED

The Immaculate Conception Pastoral Council is seeking new members. We are a community of parishioners who work with Monsignor Joe to develop, nurture, articulate and institute the vision of the Parish. We generally meet on the 3rd Wednesday of the month at 7 pm in the rectory basement, September through June. We have one meeting left for this year on June 20th. If you would like to become more involved with our Parish community, please consider sitting in on the meeting to see if it would be a good fit for you. Participating in one of our ministries can provide fuel for both personal and spiritual growth. Please consider joining us. For additional information, please contact Christine Velsor at tomtina@comcast.net.

PARISH BLOOD DRIVE JUNE 3RD 2018

Our parish blood drive will be held on **Sunday, June 3rd** in the school cafeteria from **8:00 AM to 1:00 PM**.

The Community Blood Service will handle the event in our cafeteria.

You can donate blood if you are:

1. in good health, free of cold symptoms
2. at least 18 yrs. old weigh at least 110 lbs. and
3. wait at least 56 days from last donation and
4. have eaten and had lots of water to drink

Please bring ID with signature or photo. Consider offering 30-40 minutes from your day, and help save a life, at our parish blood drive. Please join us for coffee, tea, juice and homemade breakfast reats.

CATHOLIC CHARITIES – DIOCESE OF METUCHEN

Please consider supporting our local poverty relief services by donating gently used clothing, shoes, household items and small appliances to Catholic Charities-Diocese of Metuchen. Clearly marked donation boxes are available in more than 30 locations throughout our four-county diocese, including the ICS parking lot. For a complete list of drop-off locations, visit http://www.ccdom.org/how-you-can-help/clothing-donation-drop-boxes. If you have an item that is too big to fit in a donation box, call 877-343-3651 to arrange for a free pick up at your home.

MONTHLY FOOD COLLECTION

The next Monthly Food Collection will be June 9 and 10. Non-perishable food items, baby food and disposable diapers (sizes 3 and 4) are always needed! Please leave your donations in the church foyer before 12:00 noon on Sunday, June 10th.

GROWING IN FAITH TOGETHER REGISTRATION

Re-registrations must be received by the GIFT office *NO LATER THAN JUNE 30, 2018*. Any re-registration received or postmarked after that date will be returned. Registration forms may be handed in at the Parish Office at 18 South Street, Spotswood, NJ, mailed to the GIFT Office (also 18 South Street) or handed in at the GIFT Office.

If you did not attend the last session in April and need a registration form, you can obtain one in the Rectory or by stopping in at the GIFT Office in the School. NO REGISTRATION FORMS WILL BE MAILED.

BISHOP'S ANNUAL APPEAL STATUS

As of May 2nd, the Development Office has received pledges totaling $76,598.00 and payments totaling $68,476.75 from 365 parishioners. This represents 90.1% of our $85,000.00 goal.

FOOD VOUCHERS

You may purchase vouchers on weekdays in the church foyer when school is in session from 8 AM – 11:30 AM Monday to Friday. Vouchers will be sold in the church foyer before and after Saturday evening mass and all Sunday masses. Vouchers can be used as cash at your favorite supermarket. 5% of every voucher purchased goes to our church. We carry:

Shoprite, Stop & Shop, ACME, Wholefoods *($25 & $100)*
Kohl's, JC Penney, Macy's
Dunkin Donuts ($10 & $25 denomination)
Sam's Club/ Walmart ($25 & $100 denominations),
BP and ***Exxon*** ($50 denomination),
Starbucks ($10 denomination)
Mathnasium
Especially For You Florist
WaWa ($25 & $100 denomination)
Manhattan Bagel ($10 denomination)
Panera ($10 denomination)

We thank and greatly appreciate the families currently using vouchers and urge all to join them.

AMAZON SMILE AT IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

Welcome to the Amazon Smile Program Immaculate Conception! Do you shop on Amazon? Now your purchases can earn money for the Church/School. Amazon donates 0.5% of the price of your eligible Amazon Smile purchases to the charitable organization of your choice.

Step 1: Visit www.smile.amazon.com
Step 2: Log on to your Amazon account
Step 3: Choose the Church as your Charity of Choice "Church of the Immaculate Conception – Spotswood, NJ"
Step 4: Happy Shopping!

SUPER EASY!

**Amazon Smile is the same Amazon you know. Same products, same prices, same service. Your regular favorite, shopping cart and wish lists will appear.*

*Helpful Tips:
For purchases to count they must be done through the Smile.Amazon.com site.
Bookmark the main page so you always have it at the ready!
Thank you for your continued support of our parish!

CATHOLIC CHARITIES - CONNECTIONS

Catholic Charities Connections Program is seeking volunteer mentors. Both male and female mentors are needed to participate in one-to-one activities and be a role model to young people. Do you:

1. Have a minimum of three hours per week to offer a child?
2. Like having fun?
3. Reside in or near Middlesex County or Franklin Township?
4. Want to make a difference in a child's life?

Anyone interested is asked to contact Jeanette Cullen at 732-738-1323 or jcullen@ccdom.org, for additional information.

OUR LADY OF FATIMA CANDLELIGHT PROCESSION

All are invited to attend the 17th annual event on Sunday, May 20, gathering at the Our Lady of Fatima Church, located at 501 New Market Road in Piscataway, NJ at 7:00pm. Our guest presider will be Father Timothy Christy, Vicar of Evangelization and Communications for the Diocese of Metuchen. The procession begins at 7:30pm. The Rosary will be recited in the church for those unable to walk in the procession. Rosaries, candles and handkerchiefs are available for a small donation. Please join us. For information call Roberta at 732-245-9124.

OFFICE OF VOCATIONS
Invites you to join us!
Ordination to the Priesthood
Deacon Tholitho
Deacon Robert Pinnisi

Saturday, June 9, 2018 – 11:00 am
Cathedral of St. Francis, Metuchen
Sponsored by the Office of Vocations
Diocese of Metuchen
For directions or questions, please contact:
vocations@diometuchen.org / 732-562-2457 /
www.diometuchen.org/vocations

ELECTRONIC GIVING: *FAITH DIRECT*

Do you often find yourself without your checkbook or envelope on Sunday morning? Join the many parishioners who have already enrolled in Faith Direct for automated giving to Immaculate Conception. Faith Direct is secure and convenient, and will provide you with an offertory card to place in the basket during the collections. There is no cost to you, and the program provides a great benefit to our parish. Sign up today by visiting **www.faithdirect.net**. Our parish code is **NJ107**. You can also pick up an enrollment form at the parish office or call Faith Direct's toll-free number, 866-507-8757, for more information. *Please consider using Faith Direct today!*

You may also wish to make a one-time gift to Immaculate Conception!

7th ANNUAL STRAWBERRY FESTIVAL

St. George's Church in Helmetta is holding our 7th Strawberry Festival on Saturday, June 2nd. The Festival runs from 9AM to 3PM, rain or shine.

FOOD – start with a breakfast sandwich before moving on to strawberry smoothies and chocolate covered strawberries. New this year is Jersey Johnny's food truck providing both breakfast and lunch options. Before the festival closes at 3p there surely is room for strawberry shortcake and some strawberry lemonade. And be sure to pick up something from the ***Ye Olde Bake Shoppe*** to take home or to a neighbor.

FELLOWSHIP – The Strawberry Festival is a nice relaxing time to sit with friends, catch up, and enjoy one another's company. Take a stroll together along the vendor aisle and see what they have to offer. We have many different vendors offering things from hand made products, to Tastefully Simple and Origami Owl.

Come inside air-conditioned Ericson Hall and check out the ***Raffle*** table. Each of our vendors are providing an item for the raffle table along with gift cards from many local merchants. Also available are items handmade by parishioners.

FUN – Be a kid and visit the ***Kidz Zone***. Get your face painted by ***Sparkles the Clown***. Walter Santos from Santos Ministries will entertain us with his doo-wop Christian music. We also have an inflatable for the kids to bounce away some of their energy!

The Strawberry Festival is for everyone – from the young to the young at heart. Handicap parking is available right in front of Ericson Hall. Tables and chairs will be set up both inside Ericson Hall and in the grove for your dining enjoyment. Come and enjoy the food, fellowship, and fun.

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Feasts of the Blessed Mother

Dear Parishioners,

As we continue to think about the feasts of Our Blessed Mother, it happens that May 31st is the Feast of the Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary so it is that particular event in Mary's life that is the topic of this letter.

In St. Luke's Gospel we read about the angel appearing to Mary with the message that she was to be the Mother of God. The angel continues with the words:

"Know this too: your kinswoman Elizabeth has in her old age herself conceived a son, and she whom people called barren is mow in her sixth month, for nothing is impossible to God." Luke 1: 36-38

In her love for her cousin, Mary set out as quickly as she could to be of assistance to Elizabeth in her old age. St. Luke also tells us that as soon as Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, *"the child leapt in her womb and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit." Luke 1:42* Honor came to Elizabeth because she is visited by the Mother of God who remained with her for three months.

Among all the gifts that God has given us, our own particular family is of supreme importance. This feast of the Visitation is a grace-filled occasion for appraising our family and our inter-family relationships. The family is the place where children are surrounded with love and begin to absorb human values that make for uprightness, goodness and happiness.

There is no place like a home that has been a haven of love; love which is the fullness of life, and can overcome all obstacles and turn everything into good.

During this lovely month of Mary when the fullness of spring is so evident, let us pray specially to Our Lady for the assistance that we need to nurture loving family values that will help our children grow into faith-filled men and women. God bless you.

Sincerely,

Miss Mary R. Erath
Principal