## Church of the Incarnation

240 Main Street, Mantua, NJ 08051
Parish Office 856-468-1314 \* PREP Office 856-468-7566
Visit us at www.incarnation-church.org



The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph \* December 28, 2025 We come together as a Christian community to minister the Gospel of Christ

#### **PARISH STAFF**

Reverend Stephen J Rapposelli Pastor

Reverend Shaji Muttathottil Parochial Vicar

Thomas F. O'Brien *Deacon* 

Peter Traum

Deacon

Phil Curran Deacon

Mr. & Mrs. Casey Corigliano Directors of Music

Mr. Gerald Voltura

Director of Faith Formation

Mrs. Patricia Houwen Business Manager

## PARISH MEMBERSHIP Welcome!

Please register at the parish office or online by visiting our website at www.incarnation-church.org.

#### MASS SCHEDULE

#### **BAPTISM**

Baptisms are held every Sunday and some Saturdays at 1:00 pm. Baptism Preparation Sessions are held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays of the month via Zoom. Please call the office for an appointment.

#### SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Confessions are heard Monday through Saturday following the 8:30 A.M. Mass and on Saturdays from 4:00 P.M. to 4:30 P.M. in church or by appointment.

#### **CARE OF SICK**

Arrangements should be made through the parish office for home visits with the Eucharist for the sick and elderly. The office should be contacted for the Sacrament of the Sick.

#### SACRAMENTAL SPONSORSHIP

Sponsors for Baptism or Confirmation must:

Be a registered member of a Catholic parish

Be at least 16 years of age

Received Sacraments of Initiation:

Baptism, Eucharist, Confirmation

If married, according to the laws of the Catholic Church

### Sunday, December 28 - The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

#### Matthew 2:13-15, 19-23

An angel of the Lord, appearing in a dream to Joseph, urges him to flee with Jesus and Mary to Egypt to escape the murderous schemes of Herod. Later, in another dream, an angel tells Joseph to go with Jesus and Mary to a town called Nazareth in the region of Galilee, thus fulfilling the Scriptures: "He shall be called a Nazarean."

#### Mass Intentions

#### Saturday, December 27 – St. John

8:30am Daniel O'Connor r/b wife Diane 5:00pm Armond Verratti r/b Christina McNasby

#### Sunday, December 28

#### The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

7:30am Donato M. Cristinzio r/b Karen & Joe Mullen 9:30am Teresa Jennifer Nevius r/b McSorley Family

11:30am Robert A. Wilgus r/b Fran & Family

In Thanksgiving to St. Anthony r/b RoseMary Duras

Paul Volkwine

Frank Caruso r/b his Granddaughter

Raymond DiClaudio r/b Katherine Caruso

Robert Obodzinsky r/b Steven & Fallon Corcoran

#### Monday, December 29

8:30am Living & Deceased Members of the Parish Marie F. Bowers (12<sup>th</sup> Anniversary) r/b husband Harry

#### Tuesday, December 30

8:30am Mary B. Zupko r/b husband John

#### Wednesday, December 31 – St. Sylvester

8:30am Frank Cristaudo r/b daughter Lucy 5:00pm Living & Deceased Members of the Parish Thursday, January 1

Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God

8:30am Rosemarie Sheehan r/b Susan & Scott Hurff

#### Friday, January 2

#### Sts. Basil the Great and Gregory Naziazen

8:30am Victor LaRubbio r/b son Frank

#### Saturday, January 3 – The Most Holy Name of Jesus

8:30am Michael Kemble r/b Paul & Saron Swierczynski 5:00pm Vincent Baginsky r/b Yvonne Morse & Family John McNelis r/b McNelis Family

Diane Mendel

r/b Bernadette Sandone & Nicole Sweeten Joan & Robert Wnek r/b Taylor Family Robert A. Wilgus r/b Fran Wilgus & Family

#### Sunday, January 4 – The Epiphany of the Lord

7:30am John & Craig Forsman r/b Wife & Mother 9:30am Jake Gogstad

r/b MaryAnne & Mike Keresztury

Sam Gandini r/b sister Grace

Alfio Musumeci r/b Anna Musumeci

Andrew Tanzola r/b Catherine Tanzola

Ian Patrick Baker r/b Loretta & Jackie Blake

And Joan Wenzel

Sarah Ann Urbani r/b her Children

11:30am Emanuele Demonte r/b wife Beata and children Ethan & Julian

### Readings for the Week

 Monday, December 29
 1 Jn 2:3-11; Lk 2:22-35

 Tuesday, December 30
 1 Jn 2:12-17; Lk 2:36-40

 Wednesday, December 31
 1 Jn 2:18-21; Jn 1:1-18

Thursday, January 1 Nm 6:22-27; Gal 4:4-7; Lk 2:16-21

Friday, January 2 1 Jn 2:22-28; Jn 1:19-28 Saturday, January 3 1 Jn 2:29-3:6; Jn 1:29-34

### Prayer for Religious Vocations

**Priest:** Let us pray for vocations

All: O God, we earnestly beseech you to bless the Church with many priests, deacons, seminarians and

religious who will love you with their whole strength, be faithful to their vocation and gladly spend

their entire lives to teach your truths, serve your Church and make you known and loved.

Priest: Bless our families, bless our children.

All: Choose from our homes those who are needed for your work.

Priest: O Mary, Queen of the clergy,

All: Pray for us. Pray for our priests, deacons, seminarians and religious. Obtain for us many more. Amen.

Glory to God in the highest and on earth peace to people of good will. We praise You. We bless You. We adore you. We glorify You. We give You thanks for Your great glory. Lord God, heavenly King, O God almighty Father. Lord Jesus Christ, Only-begotten Son. Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father: you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us. You take away the sins of the world, receive our prayer. You are seated at the right hand of the Father, have mercy on us. For you alone are the Holy One, You alone are the Lord, You alone, are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

#### Reading I - Sirach 3:2-6, 12-14

God sets a father in honor over his children; a mother's authority he confirms over her sons. Whoever honors his father atones for sins, and preserves himself from them. When he prays, he is heard; he stores up riches who reveres his mother. Whoever honors his father is gladdened by children, and, when he prays, is heard. Whoever reveres his father will live a long life; he who obeys his father brings comfort to his mother. My son, take care of your father when he is old; grieve him not as long as he lives. Even if his mind fail, be considerate of him; revile him not all the days of his life; kindness to a father will not be forgotten, firmly planted against the debt of your sins —a house raised in justice to you.

**Responsorial Psalm - Psalm 128:1-2, 3, 4-5** - Blessed are those who fear the Lord and walk in his ways.

#### **Reading II - Colossians 3:12-21 or 3:12-17**

Brothers and sisters: Put on, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, heartfelt compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience, bearing with one another and forgiving one another, if one has a grievance against another; as the Lord has forgiven you, so must you also do. And over all these put on love, that is, the bond of perfection. And let the peace of Christ control your hearts, the peace into which you were also called in one body. And be thankful. Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, as in all wisdom you teach and admonish one another, singing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs with gratitude in your hearts to God. And whatever you do, in word or in deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him. Wives, be subordinate to your husbands, as is proper in the Lord. Husbands, love your wives, and avoid any bitterness toward them. Children, obey your parents in everything, for this is pleasing to the Lord. Fathers, do not provoke your children, so they may not become discouraged.

#### Gospel - Mt 2:13-15, 19-23

When the magi had departed, behold, the angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, "Rise, take the child and his mother, flee to Egypt, and stay there until I tell you. Herod is going to search for the child to destroy him." Joseph rose and took the child and his mother by night and departed for Egypt. He stayed there until the death of Herod, that what the Lord had said through the prophet might be fulfilled, Out of Egypt I called my son. When Herod had died, behold, the angel of the Lord appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt and said, "Rise, take the child and his mother and go to the land of Israel, for those who sought the child's life are dead." He rose, took the child and his mother, and went to the land of Israel. But when he heard that Archelaus was ruling over Judea in place of his father Herod, he was afraid to go back there. And because he had been warned in a dream, he departed for the region of Galilee. He went and dwelt in a town called Nazareth, so that what had been spoken through the prophets might be fulfilled, He shall be called a Nazorean.

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, and of all things visible and invisible. I believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the Only Begotten Son of God, born of the Father before all ages. God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father; through him all things were made. For us men and for our salvation he came down from heaven: and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary and became man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate, he suffered death and was buried and rose again on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and His kingdom will have no end. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is adored and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. I believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come.

St. Michael the Archangel, defend us in battle. Be our defense against the wickedness and snares of the Devil. May God rebuke him, we humbly pray, and do thou, O Prince of the heavenly hosts, by the power of God, cast into hell Satan, and all the evil spirits, who prowl about the world seeking the ruin of souls. Amen.

To everything there is a season and a time for every purpose under heaven.

**Ecclesiastes 3:1** 

"...a time to be born..."

"...a time to welcome..."

Sharon McFadden, Karen 'Kari" Smith

"a time to be married..."

...a time to be healed..."

Ann Marie Agar, Sam Amaradio, Bernadette Andrews, George & Maureen Austin, Verna Bisconte, Edward Boyd, Joseph Brickley, Rita Bruno, Charli Burke, Carla Carelli, Colleen, Lynn Collins, Krista Collings, Bob Cooper, Jerrolyn Covely, Bob D'Alessio, Roxanne Day, Robert Deegan, Alberta DiFabio, Lucyna Dinces, Barbara, Stephen & Vincent DiTullio, Michael Donahue, Mirenda Donnian, Rich Donofrio, Ellie & Les Edwards, Jack Ewen, Francis Ferry, Anna Forsman, Marylou Furfari, Linda Gerwatoski, Jay Gigante, John Gilmore, Margaret Giordano, Michael Groody, Donovan & John Gura, John & Joseph Hart, Kathy Heisinger, Karol Hennessey, Nat Holland, Jason, Adalynne Johnson, Susan Kane, Karen, Carol Taylor-Kearney, Caroline Keenan, Marilyn Angelotti-Kelly, Fred Krumm, Steffanie Lerch, Richard Marcantonio, Michelle Marhefka, Barbara Marker, Elwood Martz III, Maryellen McAteer, John McDevitt, Dorothy McKeever, Anne McMenamin, Barbara & Ira McManus, Christina McNasby, Jack & Tim McSorley, Hannah McStay, Joan Morlachetta, Katie Mutek, Peter Myers, Frank Nowak, Nicole P., William Pappernek, Lee Peters, Giovanni Poloney, Helen Powell, Rose Quigley, Janet Rainier, Teri Reed, Joan Reilly, Mary Reilly, George Rein, Angie & Pete Richman, Patti Roberts, Jim Roche, Karen Rucci, Denise Sacco, Marguerite Sadler, Caterina & Santi Saya, Loretta Scardino, Nicholas Simeo, Sr., Linda Sesko, Eda Shannon, Jason Shipman, Frank Smith, Chris Stalker, Nick Stansbury, Janie Talemal, Jason Tallarida, Ernie Tolentino, Evelyne & Tom Tull, Lou Underwood, Rosemarie Villari, William Walsh, Justin Weaver, John Werner, Nancy Taylor-Williams, Dianne Williamson, Richard Wilson, Theresa Woods, Lois Worthington, Lori Wotypka, Lois Wunsch, Maria Wyzykowski, Catherine Zabrodski, Francesco Zarzycki, Jacqueline Zellner, their caregivers, all others in need of our prayers.

"...a time to die..."

Dolores Akers and all the Faithful Departed

## In the spirit of giving, we thank you for your generosity!

#### THANKFUL STEWARDSHIP

"And whatever you do, in word or in deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him."

-COLOSSIANS 3:17

Giving thanks to God and using our words and actions to give all glory to God is the foundation of living a Stewardship lifestyle. We were made in God's image and likeness; gratitude and generosity are in our DNA. As beloved sons and daughters of God, we are all part of God's family. Using our gifts to help others is our gift back to God and helps grow the Body of Christ here on earth and establishes a pathway to Heaven for each of us.

#### Stewardship Report

December 2 through December 8 - \$22,647.80 December 9 through December 15 - \$15,527.15

#### FORGOT YOUR ENVELOPES?

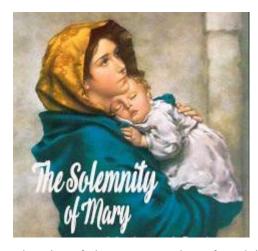
If you forgot your envelopes, are new to the parish or are visiting the parish and would like to make a donation. You can do so here. Be sure to select one-time gift – as recurring is default.



#### STEPHEN MINISTRY

## Whatever You Did for the Least of These . . . You Did for Me . . .

In Matthew 25, Jesus says, "For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, a stranger and you welcomed me..." We have many opportunities to respond to Jesus' great love by showing that love to others. Stephen Ministry is one way our congregation shows that love to people who have deep needs for care. Please call 856-468-5536 to request a Stephen Minister.



The Solemnity of the Mary, Mother of God is on Thursday, January 1 and is a Holy Day of Obligation. Masses will be celebrated on Wednesday, December 31 at 5:00 PM and on Thursday, January 1 at 8:30 AM.

#### FIRST FRIDAY ADORATION

Start the new year off by spending some quiet time with Jesus at First Friday Adoration – Friday, January 2 from 7:00 PM to 8:00 PM.

#### FIRST RECONCILIATION

Incarnation's First Reconciliation will be on Saturday, January 3 in the church at 10:00AM. Contact either the PREP office at 856-468-7566 or our webpage (www.incarnation-church.org and then click on the PREP tab) for more information.

Please keep these students in your prayers as they receive this Sacrament.

#### KNIGHTS' KNEWS

Save the date, this year's March for Life Pilgrimage will be on Friday, January 23, in Washington D.C. Join the Knights of Columbus as we march to promote the sanctity of life. Sponsored by Incarnation Council #6364 Inc.

Please call the parish office at 856-468-1314 if you want a seat on the bus.





And I said to the man who stood at the gate of the year: "Give me a light that I may tread safely into the unknown". And he replied: "Go out into the darkness and put your hand into the Hand of God. That shall be to you better than light and safer than a known way".

#### JOSEPH HOUSE

In spite of the changeover to Incarnation, we had a great December! The next pick up will be Monday, January 5. Thank you for all you do to support the Joseph House of Camden! May God bless you and your family this Christmas season!

Drop-off schedule remains the same: Sunday: 9:00 AM – 6:00 PM Monday (Delivery Day): 8:00 AM – 9:00 AM If you have any questions, please contact: Jerry Campbell - 856-579-7004 jerbotemple@comcast.net

#### GCHS CENTENNIAL JUBILEE:

This year marks Gloucester Catholic's Centennial Jubilee, a milestone that reflects one hundred years of faith, tradition, and the strong spirit of community that has shaped generations of Rams. Please join us this spring as we gather to honor our past, celebrate our present, and continue the proud story of Gloucester Catholic. Once A Ram, Always A Ram!

GCHS Centennial Jubilee March 22, 2026, 6:00 PM-10:00 PM Collingswood Ballroom, Collingswood, NJ Tickets: GCHS100.org – order yours below



Inquiries: gchscentennial@gchsrams.org

#### **DONATE YOUR RECIPES!!**

It's not too late to submit your recipe – but time is running out!! Incarnation's Leadership Team is putting together a parish cookbook that celebrates the diversity, love of food and fellowship of our parish community. Please share a treasured family recipe, a holiday treat, a busy night go-to or your favorite comfort dish. Recipes should include Family Name, Recipe Name, Ingredients and Instructions and a short note about the dish's significance (optional). Please email to <a href="recipes4goodness@gmail.com">recipes4goodness@gmail.com</a> or bring a hard copy to the parish office. All proceeds will benefit our parish pantry and those in need in our community.

#### LIVING AS MISSIONARY DISCIPLES

Our Scripture passage for this Sunday comes from the Gospel of Matthew 2:13-15 and 19-23. In this passage, we read about Joseph taking Jesus and Mary to Egypt in order to protect them from Herod's violent intent. This passage offers several points of reflection for us as we apply its message to our own families and especially to the Church as the Family of God.

One of the most important responsibilities of marriage and family life is that of caring for children. Joseph and Mary were willing to change countries, cultures, and cities to protect Jesus. That effort required great sacrifice and incurred inconvenience for them. It was worth it. They understood that caring for their child was the greatest responsibility and most important priority of their lives. Their professional life, personal interests, and other individual concerns were all secondary to that one great priority. Sometimes people have difficulty putting their children and family first. Also, Mary and Joseph weren't primarily guided by what their child (Jesus) wanted; they did what God, in a dream, asked of them. Disciples are called to fulfill the will of God for others and not to merely please others by our actions. Doing what God wants for someone else may be very different from what that person desires for themselves. Maybe Jesus didn't want to go to Egypt. Nonetheless, Mary and Joseph knew what was needed, and they did what was best for Jesus according to the divine plan.

Think about it: What happens when parents do what their children want rather than what God wants for their children





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Wednesday, March 18, 2026 7:00 - 9:00 PM

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