

Immaculate Conception Parish & St. Jude Mission Church

JULY 5, 2026



454 Bow Street
Elkton, MD 21921

MASSSES

Saturday Evening: 5:00 pm
Sundays: 7:00 & 11:00 am
Holy Days: As announced
Weekdays: Mon. - Sat., 8:30 am

CONFESSIONS

Saturday, 9:15 - 10:15 am

BAPTISMS

2nd & 4th Sundays of
the month, 12:15 pm

Rev. Richard J. Jasper
Pastor

Rev. James Gebhart
Associate Pastor

Rev. Gerald Dunne, OSFS
Priest in Residence

Mr. Ben Feril
Permanent Deacon



928 Turkey Point Rd.
North East, MD

MASSSES

Sundays: 9:00 am
Holy Days: As announced

CONFESSIONS

Before Sunday Mass,
8:20 - 8:50 am

BAPTISMS

3rd Sunday of the
month, 10:15 am

Schedule of Liturgies



Parish Office: 410-398-1100
455 Bow Street, Elkton, MD 21921
Monday - Friday: 8:30 am - 4:00 pm
Summer Hours:
Monday - Friday: 8:30 am - 3:00 pm
Fax: 410-398-1175
Email: iccoffice455@gmail.com
Web: <http://iccelkton.org>
Rev. Richard J. Jasper
iccpastor455@gmail.com
Rev. James Gebhart
Father.Gebhart@gmail.com
Rev. Gerald Dunne, OSFS
iccassociate455@gmail.com
Registration: Please call the Parish
Office for a registration form, or
register online.
Office of Faith Formation
Vickie Eichler / 410-392-3551
Coord. of Primary Faith Formation
reledoff@gmail.com

Marriages
Please contact a priest one year in
advance.
Ministry to the Sick and Homebound
Call Parish Office whenever you or a
family member are hospitalized or needs
a visit.
Parish Outreach / 410-398-2110
Open Mon, Wed., & Fri. from
9:30 am - 11:30 am
Coordinator of Music & Liturgy
George I. Gregory / 410-398-3244
icsjmusic@gmail.com
Contemporary Ensemble Rehearsal
Tuesday at 7:00 pm (*Sept. to May*)
Cantor Rehearsal
Wednesday at 9:30 am

Immaculate Conception Cemetery
Our cemetery is conveniently located off
of Rt. 213 and Childs Road, Elkton, MD
21921. For current availability and
pricing, contact Peggy O'Donnell in the
Parish Office at 410-398-1100 or
iccmanager455@gmail.com.

Baptisms: Pregnant? Have a newborn?
Does your child need to be Baptized?
Please contact the Parish Office
in advance to register for the Online
Baptism Preparation Class or to arrange
the date of Baptism. For information call
410-398-1100.

Pastoral Council Meeting
3rd Wednesday of the month (*Sept. - June*)
at 5:00 pm in the Parish Center.

Parish Liturgy & Finance Committees
Meets monthly

REFLECTION

By Fr. Rich Jasper - July 5, 2026
Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Where He'd Be ...

Another week, another Wawa-Jesus moment. (Yes, I know – it should be an additional mission site of our parish!)

Last week, running between appointments, I stopped for a quick bite at the convenience store located closer to North East. Two women who were a few customers ahead of me in line were clearly distraught about something, and although I couldn't hear what it was they were saying to the cashier, I decided it best to say a prayer for them as I waited my turn.

As it happened – or as God worked it out – I ended-up behind them as we left the store, and as the older of the two women turned to me as she held the door, she started to cry. (I seem to have that effect on people ... haha!) "Oh Father," she said as we walked toward our cars, "you have no idea how much I needed to see you right now. Please just give me a blessing." So, there I stood in the middle of Wawa's parking lot during the lunch-time rush, praying for these women who clearly were seeking comfort and hope during a trying time. When she asked my name and where I was assigned, her face lit-up when I told her.

"You'll never know how God just used you to answer a prayer by saying the name 'Jude,' she told me, and then hugged me before getting in her car.

Truthfully, I have no idea what God did through me that Wednesday afternoon, but clearly, one of God's beloved needed to know He hadn't abandoned her in her hour of need. It was humbling for me to witness how He made His love known to her. And here's the most incredible thing: all we have to do is stay open to becoming God's instrument for others in ways that help them find Him. We may never know this side of heaven how the Spirit uses us, but I suspect we will in eternity.

In the meantime, I am thinking of setting-up shop in the local Wawa parking lot: prayer, Confession, blessings, you name it. I sometimes think this is *exactly* where the Lord would be these days!

†††††

If you haven't done so already, please take a moment to visit the Mary grotto by the chapel entrance. Scattered throughout the garden are 81 colorful rocks that our Summer Academy students painted during art class during our special week of religious education. Each rock represents not only a prayer offered for family, our parish and the world, but it also reveals the creativity and heart of our youngest parishioners. Please ask Our Lady to bless our religious education students and keep them always close to her Immaculate Heart. – Fr. Rich



Monday, July 6, 2026

Weekday – Feast Day of St. Maria Goretti

8:30 am --- Margaret Bratkowski

Tuesday, July 7, 2026

Weekday – Feast Day of the St. Willibald

8:30 am --- All Parishioners

Wednesday, July 8, 2026

Weekday – Feast Day of St. Grimbald

8:30 am ---- Rick Jasper

Thursday, July 9, 2026

Weekday – Feast Day of St. Augustine Zhao Rang

8:30 am ---- Terry Williams

Friday, July 10, 2026

Weekday – Feast Day of Bl. Emmanuel Ruiz

8:30 am ---- Patricia Jedlowski

Saturday, July 11, 2026

Weekday – Feast Day of St. Benedict

8:30 am ----- Thomas Coiner (Living Intention)

5:00 pm ----- Roland & Margaret Blansfield

Sunday, July 12, 2026

Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

7:00 am ----- Arthur & Mary Jones

9:00 am SJ --- Trish Little

11:00 am ----- Patricia Dacey

Weekly Calendar:

Monday, July 6th

8:30am – 3pm Summer Hours for Parish Office

9:30 – 11:30 am Outreach Office Open – PC Lower Level

Tuesday, July 7th

Wednesday, July 8th

9:30 – 11:30am Outreach Office Open – PC Lower Level

12 Noon – 2pm Leisure Club - PC

7:00 pm Summer OCIA Program - PC

Thursday, July 9th

6:30 pm Catholic in Recovery – PC

Friday, July 10th

9:30 – 11:30am Outreach Office Open – PC Lower Level

6:30 pm Adoration – IC Chapel

Saturday, July 11th

8:30 am Mass - IC

5:00 pm Mass - IC

Sunday, July 12th

7:00 am and 11:00am Masses - IC

9:00 am Mass – SJ

Daily Readings: Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sunday

Zec 9:9-10; Rom 8:9, 11-13; Mt 11:25-30

Monday

Hos 2:16, 17c-18, 21-22; Mt 9:18-26

Tuesday

Hos 8:4-7, 11-13; Mt 9:32-38

Wednesday

Hos 10:1-3, 7-8, 12; Mt 10:1-7

Thursday

Hos 11:1-4, 8e-9; Mt 10:7-15

Friday

Hos 14:2-10; Mt 10:16-23

Saturday

Is 6:1-8; Mt 10:24-33

Readings for Next Week: Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Times

First Reading: Isaiah 55:10-11

Just as the rain and snow water the earth and make it fruitful, so does the word of God bring forth good seed.

Second Reading: Romans 8:18-23

Reminding all that the trials and sufferings of this life are "as nothing," Paul says that the glory we shall receive will overshadow all things.

Gospel: Matthew 13:1-23

Jesus tells the parable of the Sower and the seed. The seed that landed on the footpath, on rocky ground, or among thorns withered and died; the seed that fell on good ground -- "the man who hears the message and takes it in"... "bears a yield of a hundred-fold."



PARISH INFORMATION



Please join us next **Sunday, July 12th** at St. Jude Church in the Cry Room for "**Donut Sunday**" following the 9am Mass.

Please join us at Immaculate Conception Church next weekend **July 11/12** for "**Coffee Social**" following all the Masses in the vestibule.

It is time to renew your Magnificat or become a

new subscriber. The Magnificat is a monthly publication designed for daily use, to encourage both liturgical and personal prayer. It can be used to follow daily Mass and can also be read at home or wherever you find yourself for personal or family prayer.

ICC/SJ Church offers a yearly subscription to parishioners (starting in October 2025). The cost is \$39 if you wish to receive the subscription through us. Please contact Joan at the Parish Office at 410-398-1100 and payments need to be made by **July 31, 2026**.

NEW MINISTRY OPPORTUNITY at Immaculate

Conception/St. Jude: We are looking for a few women to pray as part of a Magdala Grove for our priests and deacons: *Fr. Rich, Fr. Gebhart, Fr. Dunne, and Deacon Ben*. This is an apostolate specifically for women in "hidden" seasons of life – homebound, tied to young children's routines, working long hours or shifts, those who can offer up sickness and suffering, etc. Praying as part of a Magdala Grove requires no specific prayers or time commitments! If you are interested in learning more, visit www.MagdalaGrove.com or contact parishioner Maryellen Knorr at mmsmom2012@gmail.com.

Registration is now open for the **Fall/Winter Session of OCIA (Order of Christian Initiation of Adults)**.

Classes will be every Wednesday at 7pm at the Parish Center. This program is a welcoming opportunity for individuals to explore the Catholic faith. These sessions will cover the core teachings and experiences of the Church and will help prepare participants for the Sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation, and Eucharist. For more details, please contact Deacon Ben Feril at iccdeaconben@gmail.com or call 443-907-8159.

We are thrilled to announce that we now offer an *American Sign Language (ASL) Inclusive Mass* on the **2nd Sunday of each month; at the 11:00am Mass** at Immaculate Conception Church! This Mass will be interpreted every month, ensuring our Deaf and hard-of-hearing community members always have a guaranteed, accessible service.

FAITH FORMATION

Parents, we invite you to consider registering your kids to become Altar Servers! It's a wonderful opportunity for them to grow in their faith, build leadership skills, and earn service hours—all with a completely flexible schedule that works around your family's busy life. No prior experience is needed, as full training will be provided.

Please check out the flyer below for more awesome perks and details.



STEP UP TO THE ALTAR.
MAKE AN IMPACT!
A job so big only a kid can do it!

Why Join the Altar Server Team?
Serving at the altar is a beautiful way to grow in your faith, build great friendships, and gain confidence through leadership. As an Altar Server, you step up as a young leader in our parish. Serving at the altar is more than just helping out — it's a unique way to lead by example and make a real difference in our celebration. We would love to have you on our team!

No experience? No problem!
We provide full, step-by-step training. Our first session will be during the *Summer Academy*, with another opportunity this fall. Our goal is to make sure you feel completely confident before you step up to the altar.

Awesome Perks for Middle Schoolers:

- Earn Service Hours:** Need hours for school or other programs? We are happy to provide service hour certificates for your dedication!
- Zero Cost to Families:** We provide the official alb (robe), so there is absolutely no financial investment required to start serving.

Family-Friendly Scheduling
Parents, we know middle school schedules are incredibly busy! We want this to be a joy, not a burden, and completely work around your family's commitments.

- You Are in Control:** Once a quarter, we will send home an availability sheet so you can easily coordinate with your family's unique demands and extracurriculars.
- Tailored to You:** Simply tell us which Masses and Church locations work best for your family, and we will only schedule your child based on your answers.

Ready to join?
Registration is super easy and fully online! Scan the QR Code and fill out the form.

"Let the children come to me, and do not prevent them; for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these." - Matthew 19:14

Immaculate Conception Parish

Fall Faith Formation Changes! Heads up, families! We are updating our 2026-27 Fall program format this September. Please note the different structures depending on your child's grade:

Grades 1 to 5: Our Fall program is shifting to a fully homeschool/online model.

Grades 6 to 8 (Edge): Students will participate in the Edge program, which meets in-person twice a month. For more information, contact the Faith Formation Office at 410-392-3551 or reledoff@gmail.com.

Catholic Adult Faith Formation:

Opportunities for personal devotion:

- Holy Hour: Fridays from 6:30 to 7:30 pm in the IC Chapel
- Pray the Rosary: Saturday mornings after 8:30am Mass in the IC Chapel
- Pray the Rosary Virtually: Sunday afternoons at 3pm, contact Maureen Whelan for the link at (fordewhelan@yahoo.com).

MARRIAGE AND FAMILY LIFE

Retrouvaille: Rediscover the Love in your Marriage:

Couples learn to build communication skills and to increase intimacy. It provides help for marriage problems, difficulties or crises. The next program begins the weekend of **July 31 – August 2**, at the Malvern Retreat House in Malvern, PA. For more information, or to register, visit www.MarriageHelpDelVal.org or call 215-766-3944 or 800-470-2230. All inquiries are strictly confidential.

Rachel's Vineyard Catholic Retreat will be held the weekend of **November 6-8, 2026**. This retreat offers emotional and spiritual healing for anyone who has struggled with grief and loss from abortion or miscarriage. Whether you are post-abortive or know someone who is, freedom awaits. Contact Nan Bernardo-Freeman at 302-463-7711 (call or text) or lucyminn929@gmail.com by October 11.

SOCIAL CONCERNS

ICC OUTREACH: Outreach is open every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday mornings from 9:30am - 11:30am located in rear of the Parish Office Building..

"Food donation empowers individuals to be agents of positive change in their communities."

If you can donate any of the items below, please drop them off at the Parish Office during business hours.

Thank you!

Food: baked beans, jello, chef Boyardee

Household Items: laundry detergent, toilet paper

Toiletries: shampoo, tooth paste

Please bring in your **Redner's receipts** for Outreach! *Be sure to check with Redner's Courtesy Desk to see how ICC Outreach can get credit for your purchase!*

Immaculate Conception provides dinner to the Paris Foundation at 200 Road B, Hollingsworth Manor in Elkton on the **second Thursday each month – our next date is July 9th!**

Patricia Gibson (ICC Parishioner) is the coordinator for our day of service. If you are able to offer some of your time or food donations, please contact her at 443-907-7529.

Community Kitchen: Our next Community Kitchen will be held on **Friday, July 24th** at the Elkton Presbyterian Church at Noon. We plan on serving fried chicken, watermelon, a variety of salads, rolls, and dessert. We could use donations of several of these items. We also need people to help with minor prep, serving, and cleaning up after. Plan to arrive around 11am and be finished cleaning up by 1:30pm. (not to mention enjoying a wonderful lunch with our guests!) Please call Joyce Speakman 610-597-3135 if you can help in any way.

PARISH ORGANIZATIONS

Knights of Columbus - Bishop Becker Council 2427:

The Knights of Columbus is an international Order of Catholic men who are called to lead with faith, protect our families, serve others, and defend values in a busy changing world. If you would like to join today, simply go to www.KofC.org/joinus and enter our council #2427 for local information. We meet in the Parish Center on the **2nd Tuesday of each month at 7pm.**

Fishing Event... The Knights of Columbus held a successful family fishing event on July 20th. We had 10 kids along with parents and grandparents. Many fish were caught, and fun was had by all. Once the fishing was done we enjoyed a beach-front lunch. Thank you to all participants!

Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians: Friendship, Unity, and Christian Charity is our motto. So, if you want to surround yourself with a dynamic and interesting group of local Irish women who enjoy their heritage and are committed to serving the community, contact Anne Fazio, President at: anne.fazio1@outlook.com. ***We will take a break for the summer and resume in the Fall.***

LAOH Book Club is open to any book lover. We focus on Irish authors' novels, non-Irish writers' works set in Ireland, or nonfiction related to Ireland. ***Have a relaxing summer and see you in the fall.*** Please text Cheryl Nickle at 443-553-5625 if you wish to join.

ICC/SJ Leisure Club is open to all parishioners who are 50 years old and above. Please come join us for games, fellowship, snacks, and fun. Meet new friends. We meet on the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of each month. **During the summer months we will meet from Noon – 2pm** in the Parish Center. For more information, please contact the parish office at 410-398-1100.

Cub Scouting : Upcoming activities for the Cub Pack 444 include a Fellowship Event in July, and a Blue Rocks game in August. **Regular meetings will resume in late August.** For more information about Pack 444, please contact: iccpack444@gmail.com.

Catholic in Recovery: Catholic in Recovery provides healing from addictions, compulsions, and unhealthy attachments. Weekly meetings combine the spiritual principles of 12-step recovery and the sacraments of the Catholic Church. Join us as we overlap scripture from Sunday's Mass readings, liturgical themes, and recovery topics with honest discussion and prayer. Confidentiality is protected and adults are welcome to attend at any time.

Meetings will be held in the Parish Center every Thursday from 6:30 - 7:30pm. For more information visit www.catholicinrecovery.com or contact Lucy Sneeringer at lucy@catholicinrecovery.com

DIOCESAN NEWS

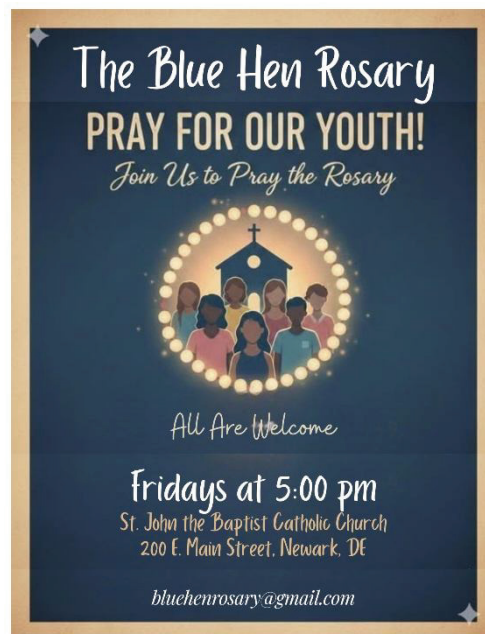
Are you traveling to the Diocese of Wilmington this summer? Find a parish and Mass near you! Visit the diocesan website at cdow.org/find-a-parish/summer-vacation-mass-guide.

2026 Faith and Charity Catholic Appeal – Thank you to everyone who has supported the Faith and Charity Catholic Appeal. Our Diocese is experiencing a very successful Appeal this year, and we are grateful for your generosity. If you have already pledged, please remember to fulfill your commitment as payments are received throughout the year, and help fund the ministries that serve our communities. If you have not yet participated, there is still time. Every gift supports the mission of the Church and helps our parish qualify for special rebate opportunities that benefit our local ministries. Go to our website at: www.cdow.org/FAC or scan the QR Code to make your donation.



Join us each week on Fridays at 5pm at St. John the Baptist Catholic Church in praying the Rosary for our youth—especially those who may be struggling with addiction, facing personal challenges, or who have drifted away from the Church.

For more information, or to add someone's name to the prayer log, contact bluehenrosary@gmail.com.



< KID'S > KORNER

Gospel Today

Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time | Matthew 11:25-30

Blessed are the children and child-like who are open to receiving the Word of Jesus. Living His Word will give peace and rest.

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BIBLE WORD SEARCH

Find all the words...
left, right, up,
down or diagonally.

Some of the words are
listed two or three times,
can you find them?



Blessed
Children
Open
Receiving
Praise
Father
Lord
Heaven
Earth
Living
Word
Jesus
Knows
Peace
Revealed
Come
Burdened
Take
Learn
Meek
Gentle
Humble
Heart
Rest
Find
Yoke
Upon
Easy
Light

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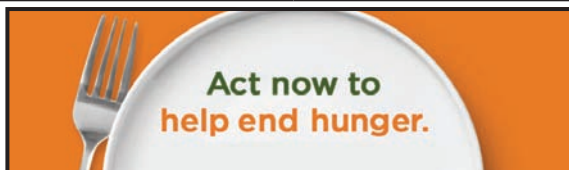


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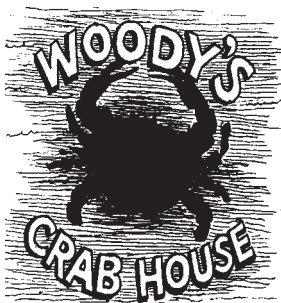
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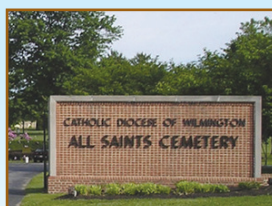
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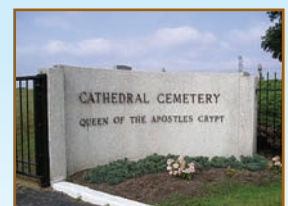
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