

Immaculate Conception Parish & St. Jude Mission Church

JULY 26, 2026



454 Bow Street
Elkton, MD 21921

MASSES

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

MASSES

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 26, 2026
Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Of Great Price ...

Dressed as a priest in public – especially in places where people don't expect to see one – often leads to interesting conversations.

Case in point: Shopping at Grocery Outlet last week, I was standing in the check-out line when the woman behind me offers this observation after determining I was, in fact, a priest: "I used to be Catholic, sir, until I realized how much Scripture the Church was keeping from me. Besides, all we ever did was pray the Rosary when I was growing up. Boring!" (She rolled her eyes as she made that final statement.)

I try by God's grace in moments like these to take a page out of Jesus' playbook: Listen without automatically becoming defensive, and ask engaging questions. Don't just simply erupt in frustration in an attempt to try to prove the other person wrong (even if they are).

After inquiring where she was attending church now and asking about the format of worship there, I did offer her the following response: "I'm really glad you've fallen in love with Scripture again. Why not pray about coming back to Mass sometime soon to see how the Mass really is completely composed with the Word of God from beginning to end? I know the Word means a lot to you; it does to us, too."

Hopefully some food for thought in the check-out line that afternoon. In the meantime, let's pray a decade of the Rosary this week (no eye-rolling here, for even the Rosary is Scripture-based) for all who have walked away from the treasure of our beautiful faith, including my Grocery Outlet friend who once called this Church her home. We always lose a little bit of our luster when a beloved son or daughter walks away, and how His Heart hungers to have them back in the fold. So do we!

†††††



Please join us next **Sunday, August 2nd** at St. Jude Church in the Cry Room for "**Donut Sunday**" following the 9am Mass.

MASS Intentions

Monday, July 27, 2026

Weekday – Feast Day of St. Pantaleon

8:30 am --- John Petro

Tuesday, July 28, 2026

Weekday – Feast Day of St. Innocent I

8:30 am --- William Wyman

Wednesday, July 29, 2026

Weekday – Feast Day of Sts. Martha, Mary and Lazarus

8:30 am ---- Cornelius & Rose Perrone

Thursday, July 30, 2026

Weekday – Feast Day of St. Peter Chrysologus

8:30 am ---- Dominic Papa

Friday, July 31, 2026

Weekday – Feast Day of St. Ignatius of Loyola

8:30 am ---- Richard R. Mahoney

Saturday, August 1, 2026

Weekday – Feast Day of St. Alphonsus Marie Liguori

8:30 am ----- Anna Sniadowski

5:00 pm ----- Cythina Ewen

Sunday, August 2, 2026

Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

7:00 am ----- Elizabeth Reddish

9:00 am SJ -- Leonardo Anyayaham

11:00 am ----- Deceased members of the Reilly Family

Weekly Calendar:

Monday, July 27th

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

Tuesday, July 28th

Wednesday, July 29th

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

9:30 am Cantor Rehearsal - IC

7:00 pm Summer OCIA Program - PC

Thursday, July 30th

6:30 pm Catholic in Recovery – PC

Friday, July 31st

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

6:30 pm Adoration – IC Chapel

Saturday, August 1st

8:30 am Mass - IC

5:00 pm Mass - IC

Sunday, August 2nd

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

9:00 am Mass – SJ

Daily Readings:
Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sunday

1 Kgs 3:5, 7-12; Rom 8:28-30; Mt 13:44-52 or 13:44-46

Monday

Jer 13:1-11; Mt 13:31-35

Tuesday

Jer 14:17-22; Mt 13:36-43

Wednesday

Jer 15:10, 16-21; Jn 11:19-27 or Lk 10:38-42

Thursday

Jer 18:1-6; Mt 13:47-53

Friday

Jer 26:1-9; Mt 13:54-58

First Saturday

Jer 26:11-16, 24; Mt 14:1-12

Readings for Next Week:
Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Times

First Reading: Isaiah 55:1-3

With great enthusiasm and fervor, God urges his people to come to him and to accept the gifts he extends to them.

Second Reading: Romans 8:35, 37-39

In words that are both stirring and courageous, Paul exclaims that nothing will separate him and his followers from the love of Christ--neither trial--nor persecution--nor death.

Gospel: Matthew 14:13-21

Matthew gives us a straightforward and convincing account of the miracle of the loaves and fishes. Because the crowds following Jesus were hungry, he took five loaves and two fish, blessed them, and gave them to the crowds. Although the people numbered about five thousand, there was still food remaining.

WEEKLY CHURCH COLLECTIONS:

Week of 7/19:

Sunday Collection...\$ 7,997

Online Donations... \$ 3,337

Mailed In.....\$ 4,215

TOTAL \$15,549

PARISH INFORMATION

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.

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**.



Summer is flying by, and we want to celebrate it together! We invite your whole family to join us for a fun-filled **Parish Family Night** at Frawley Stadium on **Friday, August 7th**, games starts at 6:35pm. Come cheer on the Wilmington Blue Rocks as they take on the Brooklyn Cyclones, enjoy some great ballpark food, and stick around for an amazing post-game fireworks show! Cost: \$17 per person (*special parish group rate*). Purchase your ticket through the QR Code on the flier found in this bulletin, Flocknotes, and our website.

Special Altar Serve Appreciation: We are incredibly grateful for the beautiful dedication of our Altar Serves. To say thank you for your service this past year, the parish is gifting all active servers a FREE game ticket and as stadium meal voucher!

Important Notes: We have secured a special discounted group block so our parish family can sit together, but these tickets are limited and will go fast! Please register as soon as possible to secure your family's spot. (*Friendly reminder: All minors must be accompanied by adult guardian unless they are high schools driving themselves*).

As we prepare to host our **16th Annual Golf Classic** on **Monday, September 21st**, we invite you to join us at the Newark Country Club, 300 W. Main Street, Newark, DE. You are welcome to join us for dinner and evening activities. You can register by scanning the QR Code, picking up a tri-fold at either church or go to our website or link below:

<https://birdease.com/35437>



FAITH FORMATION

Relive Our Summer Academy! Did you miss the jungle at Immaculate Conception? Last month, our parish was transformed into a vibrant rainforest for our 2026 Summer Academy of Faith!

Over the course of five amazing days, our youth completed their entire year of in-person religious education (30 hours of official catechesis!) packed into one high-energy, immersive week. From beautiful, quiet moments in Adoration to exciting reptile encounters, arts and crafts, and our wet-and-wild Friday Finale, it was truly a week where faith, fun, and friendship grew together.

One of our wonderful volunteers put together a special highlight video to capture the joy of the week, and we'd love for our whole parish family to see it.

Watch the Summer Academy highlight video at this link:
<https://icc.flocknote.com/note/37716246/video/602699514>

A massive thank you to all the dedicated volunteers, parents, and children who brought this incredible week to life. We couldn't have done it without our amazing parish community!

SAVE THE DATE: Next year's Summer Academy will be June 21-25, 2027!

Religious Education Classes:

Fall Faith Formation Changes! Heads up, families! The 2026-27 Fall program format will start 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 Vickie Eichler at 410-392-3551 or reledoff@gmail.com.

Catholic Adult Faith Formation:

Opportunities for personal devotion:

- Holy Hour: Fridays from 6:30 to 7:30pm 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).

OCIA: As a parish family, we are all called to share the joy of our faith! Registration is now officially open for the **Fall/Winter Session** of our Order of Christian Initiation of Adults (OCIA) program.

If you have a friend, family member, or spouse who has been asking questions about the Catholic Church, or if you are an adult looking to prepare for and receive your Sacraments. For more details, please contact Deacon Ben Feril at iccdeaconben@gmail.com or call 443-907-8159.

MARRIAGE AND FAMILY LIFE

The Office for Marriage and Family Life is sponsoring the Annual Mass of Remembrance and Healing for Pregnancy and Infant Loss – **"The Annual Footprints Mass"** on **Monday, October 19th** at St. John the Beloved Parish, Wilmington, DE at 9:30am. A special invitation is extended to parents, grandparents and siblings who grieve the death of children as a result of miscarriage, stillbirth, abortion or early infant death. These losses may be recent or extend over many years. If you have questions, please email the Office for Marriage and Family Life at OMFL@cdow.org.

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..

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

Thank you!

Food: spaghetti, jelly, and cereal

Household Items: toilet paper, dish detergent

Toiletries: tooth paste, soap bars

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!*

Wellness Tip: During the hot summer months, it's especially important to eat foods that support hydration. Fresh fruits and veggies like watermelon, cucumbers, oranges, and strawberries not only help replenish fluids but also provide essential vitamins and antioxidants. Snack on them throughout the day or add them to smoothies and salads for a delicious, hydrating boost.



Union Hospital is seeking new or slightly-used Bibles to offer to patients with substance abuse disorders who have asked for a copy of the Scriptures as they begin their courageous steps toward recovery. Donations can be dropped-off at the Hospital, Attn.: Katie Hunter and Lisa Fields.

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.**

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

Heading to the Beach? Find a Mass near you!

If your summer plans include a well-deserved trip to the Delaware or Maryland beaches, keeping Sunday Mass part of your weekend is easy! The Diocese has put together a quick guide to help you find local parishes and Mass times while you're on vacation. Visit the diocesan website at cdow.org/find-a-parish/summer-vacation-mass-guide.

2026 Faith and Charity Catholic Appeal – Thank you to all who have supported the Faith and Charity Catholic Appeal. If you have pledged, please remember to fulfill your commitment as payments are received throughout the year. If you have not yet participated, there is still time to make a gift and help support the many ministries that serve our Diocese. Every gift makes a difference.

Please go to our website at: www.cdow.org/FAC or scan the QR Code to make your donation.

New and returning donors also help our parish qualify for special rebate opportunities that directly benefit local parish ministries and programs.



Thank you for your continued generosity and support of the Faith and Charity Catholic Appeal.

Catholic Men of Delmarva: Inaugural Conference –

Calling all men in the diocese! You are invited to the first-ever Catholic Men of Delmarva (CMD) Conference on **Saturday, October 3rd** from 9am to 5pm at St. Mark's High School, Wilmington. All men 18 and older (younger sons are welcome to attend with an adult male). Titled *Authentic Masculinity: A Call to Catholic Men*, this day will be a powerful opportunity for fellowship. It features inspiring guest speakers, Adoration, the Sacrament of Reconciliation, lunch, and a closing Mass with Bishop Koenig. To register please visit DelmarvaCatholic.org for more information and to secure your spot. For additional information, you can also reach out to CMD Founder Ed Roberts at edw.roberts.28@gmail.com.

	MEN FROM THE DIOCESE OF WILMINGTON YOU ARE INVITED TO THE CATHOLIC MEN OF DELMARVA'S INAUGURAL CONFERENCE
Saturday, Oct. 3, 2026, 9 AM - 5 PM (Closing Mass at 4 PM) Saint Mark's High School Wilmington, Delaware	Day includes music ministry; confessions; vendors; morning refreshments, lunch, and fellowship with men from throughout the Diocese. Inspirational speakers include Father Larry Swink, Matthew Leonard, Gary Zimak, Father James Gebhart, Father John Solomon, and Deacon Philip Belt. Closing Mass and Fellowship with Bishop William Koenig
Conference Theme: Authentic Masculinity	
For more information, go DelmarvaCatholic.org	

PARISH FAMILY NIGHT

at the Blue Rocks!



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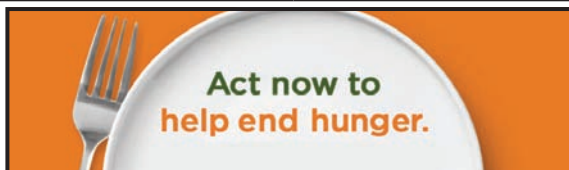


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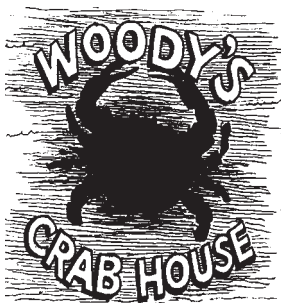
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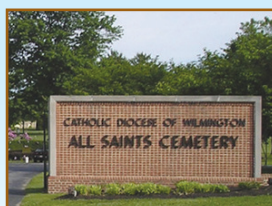
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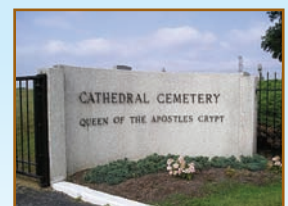
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