

Immaculate Conception Parish & St. Jude Mission Church

MARCH 15, 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. Michael Truman
Permanent Deacon

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

LENT



Parish Office: 410-398-1100
455 Bow Street, Elkton, MD 21921
Monday - Friday: 8:30 am - 4:00 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
Deacon Michael Truman / 410-398-0009

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?**

You are invited! Classes are on Monday
evenings, 6:30 - 7:30 pm in the Parish
Center. Please contact the Parish Office
in advance to register for the Baptism
Preparation Class or to arrange the date
of Baptism. Call 410-398-1100 for
information or to register.

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 - March 15, 2026

Fourth Sunday in Lent

Light from the Underground ...

A friend who works in Philadelphia recently shared a story with me that I can't seem to shake, and it ties-in quite powerfully with this Sunday's Gospel.

As my friend does most mornings, she takes the train to Center City from her suburban home about 10 miles west of downtown. One particular morning early this past week – one of those cold and rainy March mornings that makes one wish they didn't have to commute – she was packed inside a rail car that, in her words, smelled of depression and bad attitude. "No one on that train was happy that morning, myself included."

As they were pulling into one underground stop on the line leading into the city, she watched from her seat as a young blind man struggled amid the crush of commuters to find the stairs that would lead him out of the subway. It was clear, however, that he didn't know where that stairway was located. No one walking near him even seemed to notice or care that this man was clearly struggling and lost.

Just then, the woman sitting in front of my friend – who was also witnessing the same drama play itself out underground – jumped from her seat and ran to the young man to help him find the stairs. Gently taking his elbow while introducing herself, she walked with him and disappeared into Center City above.

"What shocked me," offered my friend in the retelling of the story, "was the fact that the woman who ran to help ... I knew it wasn't her stop. She rides the train with me every morning and goes beyond the place where I exit. So, I know she sacrificed herself in order to help another man she didn't know to find his way."

She continued: "It knocked me right out of my self-centered Monday morning blues. That woman showed me what it really means to be a true follower of Jesus Christ. She gave without counting the cost."

From the Gospel of John today: "Then Jesus said, 'I came into this world for judgment so that those who do not see might see, and those who do see might become blind.'"

†††††

I wanted to take a moment to thank the parishioner who has generously and anonymously contributed her time these past few weeks – without wanting any fanfare – to "spruce-up" Immaculate Conception Church. I don't think the bathroom tile has been scrubbed this clean since the church was built in 1973! (In fact, I didn't realize it was actually that color!) To all who offer their time, talent and treasure to our parish community, I thank you for your generosity and ask God to reward you for your goodness to all of us.

–Fr. Rich



Monday, March 16, 2026

Weekday – Feast Day of St. Abban

8:30 am --- Kieran Sniadowski

Tuesday, March 17, 2026

Weekday – Feast Day of St. Patrick

8:30 am --- Albert Stevens

Wednesday, March 18, 2026

Weekday – Feast Day of St. Cyril of Jerusalem

8:30 am ---- Thomas Mayton

Thursday, March 19, 2026

Weekday – Feast Day of St. Joseph

8:30 am ----- William Wyman

Friday, March 20, 2026

Weekday – Feast Day of Bl. John of Parma

8:30 am --- All Parishioners

Saturday, March 21, 2026

Weekday – Feast Day of St. Enda

8:30 am ----- Anthony Mallia

5:00 pm ----- Deceased members of the Loftus & Smith Families

Sunday, March 22, 2026

Fifth Sunday of Lent

7:00 am ----- Gerald Lee Nook

9:00 am SJ – Pat D'Annunzio (Living Intention)

11:00 am ---- Fr. James Gebhart (Living Intention)

Weekly Calendar:

Monday, March 16th

9:15 am Lenten Bible Study – IC

6:30 pm Lenten Bible Study - IC

Tuesday, March 17th

9:00 am Homeschool Group – *School Building*

9:30 am Spiritual Book Club - IC

7:00 pm Contemporary Rehearsal – IC

Wednesday, March 18th

9:30 am Cantor Rehearsal - IC

Noon LAOH Book Club - IC

7:00 pm OCIA meeting - PC

Thursday, March 19th

6:30 pm Divine Mercy Series – *PC Library*

7:00 pm Cub Scouts – *School Cafeteria*

Friday, March 20th

6:30 pm Stations of the Cross – IC

Saturday, March 21st

8:30 am Mass - IC

9:00am – 11:30am LAOH St. Patrick's Breakfast - *Cafeteria*

5:00 pm Mass - IC

Sunday, March 22nd

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

9:00 am Mass – SJ

1:00 pm Easter Egg Hunt – *IC Campus*

4:00 pm Cecil County Choral Society Concert - IC

**Daily Readings:
Fourth Sunday in Lent**

Sunday

1 Sm 16:1b, 6-7, 10-13a; Eph 5:8-14; Jn 9:1-41 or
9:1, 6-9, 13-17, 34-38

Monday

Is 65:17-21; Jn 4:43-54

Tuesday

Ez 47:1-9, 12; Jn 5:1-16

Wednesday

Is 49:8-15; Jn 5:17-30

Thursday

2 Sm 7:4-5a, 12-14a, 16; Rom 4:13, 16-18, 22;
Mt 1:16, 18-21, 24a or Lk 2:41-51a

Friday

Wis 2:1a, 12-22; Jn 7:1-2, 10, 25-30

Saturday

Jer 11:18-20; Jn 7:40-53

**Readings for Next Week:
Fifth Sunday of Lent**

First Reading: Ezekiel 37:12-14

This reading is a loving promise that the Lord will put His spirit into his people and will let them live.

Second Reading: Romans 8:8-11

Paul reminds the Romans that they are not people of the flesh but people of the Spirit because the Spirit of God dwells in them.

Gospel: John 11:1-45

In great detail, John tells the story of the raising of Lazarus to life. Upon learning of the death of Lazarus, his dear friend, Jesus goes to comfort Martha and Mary. After proclaiming, "I am the Resurrection and the Life", Jesus goes to the tomb of Lazarus and restores him to life.

WEEKLY CHURCH COLLECTIONS:

Week of 3/8:

Sunday Collection...\$ 8,863

Online Donations... \$ 1,869

Mailed In.....\$ 4,890

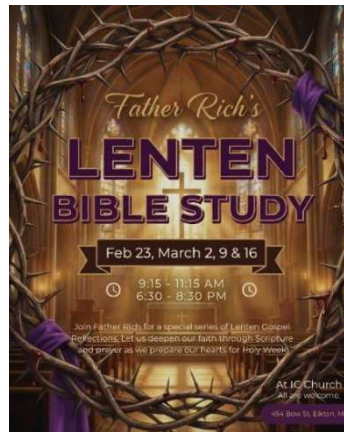
TOTAL \$15,622

PARISH INFORMATION

We extend our condolences and prayers to the families of those who have recently died:

Eternal rest Grant unto them, O Lord; And let perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace. Amen.

Thomas Baczkowski, Margaret Wood



Please join Fr. Rich in preparing for Easter by studying the upcoming weekly Lent Gospels in **Lenten Bible Study.** Ending this Monday, **March 16th** after the 8:30am Mass (9:15am) and again the same evening at 6:30pm. .

Stations of the Cross is a devotion which follows Jesus' journey from His death sentence under Pilate to His death on the cross and burial in the tomb. Stations of the Cross will be at ICC at 6:30pm on the remaining Fridays during Lent. *On April 3rd (Good Friday) Stations of the Cross will be at 12:30pm at ICC.*



Children ages 3 to 10 are invited to participate in the Easter Egg Hunt on **Sunday, March 22nd** starting at **1pm** at Immaculate Conception Church. Bring your own baskets. Pre-registration is required – scan the QR code.

Candy is needed to fill the Easter Bunny's eggs. Please consider donating individually wrapped pieces of candy. Donations of candy can be dropped off at the Parish Center by Thursday, March 19th.

Please consider making a donation to the parish towards **Easter Flowers.** Any amount is appreciated.

FAITH FORMATION

Family Catechesis In-person class: In-person classes are held on the **second Wednesday at 6:15pm each month** through April in the school building – second floor. If you have questions, please contact the Faith Formation office at 410-392-3551.

Upcoming Academy Card Events:

Mar. 15th – Service Project/Outreach - 2pm; Youth Room
Mar. 18th – Pascal Candle – 6:30pm; School Building

Upcoming Edge Events:

Mar. 15th – Service Project/Outreach - 2pm; Youth Room
Mar. 18th – Quantum Leap – 6:30pm; Youth Room
[To inspire students to actively participate in the Mass and see how the physical and visual elements involved in the Mass draw us deeper into prayer.]

The Academy of Faith Summer Program is our religious education program for incoming Kindergarten through 8th grade. The program is a week-long program starting at 9am and ending at 3:30pm each day. It is an alternative to the Fall & Winter Sessions. Please scan the QR code to register.

We are also looking for adult and teen volunteers to help us bring the Rainforest Alive this summer for the children. Please scan the QR Code to register.



Life Teen (grades 9 through 12): Whether you attend a catholic, public or private high school, we hold monthly events so that you may get to know each other and learn a little more about your faith. Please join us at our next event on **Sunday, April 12th and 5:30pm** in the Parish Center Youth Room.

FAITH FORMATION CONTINUED

Catholic Adult Faith Formation:

SAVE THE DATE:

Immaculate Conception Parish is having a bus trip to Sight and Sound Theater on **Thursday, April 23rd** to see "Joshua".

Seating is limited. Tickets are now available for purchase by scanning the QR code.

Divine Mercy group: During the month of March, this group *will be hosting a 5-week Divine Mercy Video Series on Thursdays from 6:30pm to 8:30pm* in the Parish Center Library continuing through April 9th, but skipping April 2nd during Holy Week. **"Divine Mercy is the 2nd Greatest Story Ever"** is a dramatic video journey featuring best selling author and popular speaker Fr. Michael Gaitley, MIC. This amazing story comes to life like never before. All are welcome to join us. Please register by scanning the QR Code or contacting Heather Ulmen at 443-889-5039 or Mary Lagarelli at 443-945-7378.



Spiritual Book Club is open to all parishioners. The club meets via Zoom every Tuesday, except the 3rd Tuesday, which is in person. We will be discussing our next book entitled "The Universal Christ" by Richard Rohr this **Tuesday, March 17th at 9:30am** in the Parish Center. If you are interested in joining, please email Mary Ann Hopkins at: mah106@verizon.net.

Opportunities for personal devotion:

- Stations of the Cross: Fridays at 6:30pm at Immaculate Conception
- 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).

Sacraments:

Confirmation: Confirmation classes are on the second Wednesday of each month; April through June at 6:30pm in the Parish Center Youth Room.

SOCIAL CONCERNS

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

"You don't need a reason to feed someone."

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

Thank you!

Food: chef Boyardee, baked beans, jelly, Jell-O, tuna fish

Household Items: dish soap, laundry detergent

Toiletries: shampoo, toilet paper

Please bring in your **Redner's receipts** for Outreach! Check with Redner's courtesy desk to see how ICC Outreach can get credit for your purchase!

DIOCESAN NEWS

2026 CYM Pilgrimage: "Maps of Grace"

Our annual Pilgrimage is just around the corner!

On **Saturday, March 28, 2026**, hundreds of young people and families will journey through the streets of Wilmington. This year's theme, "Maps of Grace," invites us to carry the cross as a visible sign of our faith and a witness in a world that often loses its way.

The day will feature our usual schedule of stops for prayer, music, and reconciliation, concluding with Mass with Bishop Koenig. Registration and additional information available here: <https://cdowcym.org/pilgrimage/>



Are you a Catholic man, ages 18 and above, who has ever thought about becoming a priest? Is this path something you're willing to learn more about to see if God may be calling you to do this? You're invited to attend the Diocese of Wilmington's **Priestly Discernment Meetings** for discussions on the priesthood, dinner, fellowship, and Eucharistic Adoration. Meetings will be held on **April 14th**, and **May 12th starting at 6pm** at The Newman Center (45 Lovett Ave, Newark, DE). If you would like to attend please contact Fr. Gebhart at father.gebhart@gmail.com.

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. We meet in the parish center on the **2nd Tuesday** of each month at **7pm**. If you would like to join today, simply go to www.KofC.org/joinus and enter our council #2427.

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. *Due to Holy Week Service Set-up to be done at St. Jude Mission Church, we will meet on Wednesday, April 8th from 1pm to 2:30pm.* For more information contact Anne Fazio, President at 443-206-3710.

LAOH is sponsoring a **"40-Days for Life" Diaper Drive** during Lent. Collection boxes are placed at both churches during Lent. Looking for sizes 4, 5, 6 as well as 3-4T and 4-5T pull-ups. This drive will benefit the Cecil County Pregnancy Center and the Heritage Pregnancy Center.

The Cecil County Ladies Ancient Order for Hibernians (LAOH) is once again hosting the **St. Patrick's Breakfast** featuring live Irish music, silent auction, 50-50, children's activities and a visit from St. Patrick. **All tickets sold in advance:** \$15 per person; ages 7-11 are \$7; kids under 7 are free. Tickets can be purchased at the parish office. The **deadline to register is March 15th**. For more information contact Chris Hild at chrishild7@gmail.com.

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. Our next book selection is "Murder in an Irish Pub" written by Carlene O'Connor. We will meet on **Wednesday, March 18th from Noon - 2pm** in the parish center. For additional information, please text Cheryl at 443-553-5625.

ICC/SJ Leisure Club is open to all parishioners who are 50 years old and above. We play cards and board games. We meet on the **2nd and 4th Wednesdays** of each month from **1-3pm** in the Parish Center Library. For more information, please contact Bette Green at 443-553-9129.

Cub Scouting is for boys and girls from kindergarten to 5th grade. Regular weekly meetings are held on **Thursdays at 7pm** in the ICS cafeteria. For more information about Pack 444, please contact: iccpack444@gmail.com.

Their enthusiasm is high as they look forward to warmer weather and the chance to put their skills into action with upcoming hikes, fishing, and camping adventures.

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION PARISH

Holy Week

Schedule

Reconciliation Monday - March 30

3pm – 5pm: 2 priests available ●

5pm – 8pm: 1 priest available ●

6pm – 8pm: 1 priest available ●

(This is the last opportunity for confessions until after Easter)

Holy Thursday - April 02

8:30am: Morning Prayer ●

6:30pm: Mass ●

8:00pm – 9:00pm: Adoration ending with Night Prayer ●

Good Friday - April 03

8:30am: Morning Prayer ●

12:30pm: Stations of the Cross ●

6:30pm: Commemoration of the Passion of Christ ●

Holy Saturday (Easter Vigil) - April 04

8:30am: Morning Prayer ●

(No Confessions on Holy Saturday)

11:00am: Blessing of Easter Food ●

7:30pm: Mass ●

Easter Sunday - April 05

7:00am: Mass ●

9:00am: Mass ●

(No Confessions on Easter Sunday)

11:00am: Mass ●

● Immaculate Conception Church: 454 Bow St, Elkton, MD

● St. Jude Mission Church: 928 Turkey Point Rd, North East, MD

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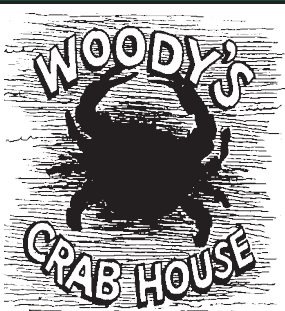
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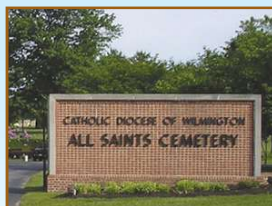
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SUNDAY 9:00AM-6:00PM



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