

# IMMACULATE CONCEPTION PARISH

*Inspired by the Holy Spirit, We Live the Good News of Christ  
Through Worship, Community, and Stewardship*

820 18<sup>th</sup> Ave. Seattle, WA 98122

[www.icseattle.org](http://www.icseattle.org)

Parish Family with: St. James Cathedral and Christ Our Hope

**May 3, 2026**

**FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER**



**Reading 1: Acts of the Apostles 6:1-7**

**Responsorial Psalm: 33:1-2, 4-5, 18-19 (22)**

***“Lord, let your mercy be on us, as we place our trust in you.”***

**Reading 2: 1 Peter 2:4-9**

**Gospel: John 14:1-12**

## **Pray for our Parishioners**

**For the Eternal repose of the soul of Spencer George Thompson** (June 5, 2003—April 10, 2026)

Altar Server at Immaculate Conception Church. Obituary: [www.funerals.coop/obituaries/spencer-thompson](http://www.funerals.coop/obituaries/spencer-thompson).

May the perpetual light shine upon him. You will be missed!

**Funeral Mass: Friday, May 29, 2026 at 11AM at Immaculate Conception Church**

**Healing Prayers** for Sharon Pitre - Williams, and Ann Imbert.

*Please contact the parish office at 206-322-5970 or [bulletin@icseattle.org](mailto:bulletin@icseattle.org) to add a parishioner's name or your family's name to our weekly prayer's list.*

# From the Pastor's Desk | May 3, 2026

ST. JAMES CATHEDRAL | IMMACULATE CONCEPTION | CHRIST OUR HOPE

**D**ear Friends,  
On April 21, we celebrated the one year anniversary of the death of Pope Francis. So many memories flooded back to me as I thought about that day a year ago. I recalled hearing the news on that Easter Monday and being stunned. While the Pope had been quite ill, he had made a surprise appearance on Easter Sunday. And if you saw those images, it was obvious that the Pope was still very ill. But, his death only a few hours later was still shocking. In retrospect, his final appearance on Easter Sunday, and his blessing us on that day - the day when we celebrate the Resurrection of Jesus Christ - was so fitting.



The anniversary of his passing gave us an opportunity to reflect, once again, on the gift he was and continues to be for the Church and the world. One of the striking things about the message and ministry of Pope Francis emerged before the conclave that elected him. In fact, many cardinals reported that it was the speech he gave prior to the conclave that made them take notice and to begin to consider him a real viable candidate.

Robert Ellsberg in the publication *Give Us This Day*, reflected that "In his short speech, he said that the main problem facing the Church did not come from outside but from within: a kind of spiritual narcissism and ecclesial introversion. An evangelical Church, he said, goes out of itself - to the margins and peripheries, both geographical and existential."

As we make our way into the Fifth Week of Easter, the assurance from the Risen Christ is that he is "the way, the truth and the life." That is the message we have to share. We have to allow that message into our own hearts and then we are called to take it out to the world, not to keep it to ourselves.

As we continue on the path of coming together as one parish in our Partners in the Gospel process, we are reminded that the fundamental purpose of this work is so that we

can even more effectively share this Good News that the Risen Christ is the way, the truth and the life. That is also our message each year as we raise funds for the wider Catholic Church in Western Washington through the ANNUAL CATHOLIC APPEAL.

All three of our parishes of Immaculate Conception, Christ Our Hope and St. James Cathedral, have consistently and generously supported the appeal which funds so many ministries that touch the heart of Christ's mission of taking his saving love out to the margins

and peripheries of our archdiocese.

Pope Leo has continued to emphasize this need to go out and accompany those who are hurting and in need, especially the poor. He writes in *Dilexi te*, his Apostolic Exhortation on love for the poor, "...when the Church bends down to care for the poor, she assumes her highest posture" (#79). It is this "bending down" that so much of the Annual Appeal is about. I have shared with you before that I am so gratified and heartened by the common value that all three of our parishes embrace that places the care for those in need at the top of our list of priorities. The Annual Appeal gives us an opportunity to extend that care beyond Seattle to the peripheries of our Church and state.

The Lord is truly our way, our truth and our life and it is such a privilege to be formed week in and week out in that message, and then to be sent out to our community and beyond to share that Good News. Thank you for your faithful witness to the Gospel and your support of the Appeal that enables us to continue to go out from ourselves to those in need in our parishes and beyond.

May God continue to bless you abundantly!

Father Gary Lazzeroni  
Pastor

# Catechesis 101

## Easter Season

Have you noticed that during the Easter Season the first reading on Sunday is taken from the New Testament? It is always from the Acts of the Apostles! Usually on Sundays the first reading is from the Old Testament. This shift during the Easter season focuses on the event of the resurrection and the growth of the early Christian community, the Church.

### **Sharing our Faith: Our Lenten Journey here at Immaculate Conception.**

Started last week, the bulletin will include Lenten Living Stations personal reflections from our parishioners. If we have not received the reflection from the person who shared, we will provide a general reflection on that station.

## Station 5 – reflection from Connor Trapp

### *Simone of Cyrene helps Jesus carry the cross*

In the fifth station, we see Simon of Cyrene helping Jesus carry His cross. Simon did not wake up that morning expecting to be part of the Lord's journey to Calvary. He was simply on his way, tending to his own concerns, when suddenly he was stopped, "compelled" or seized by the Romans.

Isn't that often how God comes into our lives? We begin with our own plans, our own worries, our own responsibilities, and then suddenly a cross is placed before us. A burden in our family, a sorrow we did not expect, a person in need whom we cannot ignore. And do we not sometimes ask, "Lord, why this? Why now?"

Yet in this station, what seems like an interruption becomes a moment of grace. Simon helps Jesus carry the cross, and in doing so, he comes close to the Lord. What looked like a burden became an encounter with Christ. Could that also be true in our lives? Can we be open to meeting Jesus in places we don't foresee or intentionally seek out?

I think about that in my own life. When I joined the Jesuit Volunteer Corps for a year of service at a nonprofit that used running circles to break down barriers of isolation and stigma. At that time, I was not deeply engaged with my faith, and yet I felt called to go. It meant leaving a stable job in education, accepting a modest stipend, and moving away from my family and home in Chicago. It was not the easier path – and the call did not involve coercion as the one Simon heard -- but that year changed me like it changed Simon.

In that time, I met men and women living in rehabilitation houses, searching for work, struggling in treatment, trying to rebuild their lives. Their crosses were not hidden. And if we truly believe that Christ is present in every person, then how could I not come to see Christ at those points in their lives? How could I not be changed by walking and running with those who so openly carry their own burdens?

## Station 6 – reflection from Lori Chisholm-Cook

### *Veronica uses her veil to wipe the face of Jesus*

When I think of Veronica's simple act of compassion and courage in a crowd of people mocking the suffering of Jesus; and, Veronica, who as a woman likely had very little of her own rights or possessions, felt compelled to provide what comfort to Jesus that she could.

It shows me that even simple acts of mercy can leave an impression and it challenges me to serve others with compassion and courage. I pray that I can remember these four reflections so that I can use Veronica's example in my own life:

1. **Courageous Compassion** - showing us that true compassion requires overcoming fears and acting when others may not.
2. **Seeing Christ in Others** – to look beyond someone's circumstance or appearance to see the face of God.
3. **Small Act, Large Impact** – that we may not be able to address all the needs of someone, but our actions can provide a moment of dignity and humanity.
4. **The "True Image"** – Veronica's name means "true image" which reminds us that when we comfort the suffering, we become a true image of God.

## The Life of Our Community

### Parish Calendar Planning Meeting

Immaculate Conception will host a **Parish Calendar Planning Meeting on Saturday, May 30, 2026** for all ministry leaders and parish family members planning to host events, meetings, or fundraisers in the upcoming year.

This meeting will establish the official parish calendar for **June 1, 2026 through June 1, 2027**, so it is important that all groups planning activities attend. Please register in advance so we can prepare accordingly and begin organizing event details ahead of time: <https://archseattle.ccbchurch.com/goto/forms/7926/responses/new>

We appreciate your cooperation as we work together to plan a well-organized and successful year for our parish family.

**Note:** Events not submitted at this meeting may not be included on the parish calendar.



**BIBLE STUDY** (*happening now*) - Study "*Psalms: The School of Prayer*" **8 Weeks, March 16—May 25 (Mondays) 6:00-7:30pm**. For questions, contact Lori Chisholm-Cook at [lori.chisholm@gmail.com](mailto:lori.chisholm@gmail.com).

**SIGS MEALS**—This gathering takes place on the last Tuesday of each month, and volunteers are always welcome. The event is named in honor of our beloved parishioner and donor, Sig Haugland. Next gathering—**May 26, 2026 3:00 PM Jean Moran Hall Kitchen**. For questions, contact Alex Soto at (206) 271-2463

**YOUNG ADULTS!** Join us for a night of peace and prayer with Taizé at St. James Cathedral on **Friday, May 1 at 6:30pm**. Through candlelight, music, and silence, encounter God in a powerful way. Afterward, we'll gather for fellowship and light refreshments in the Pastoral Outreach Center. For questions or to RSVP, please contact Blake Steller at [bsteller@stjames-cathedral.org](mailto:bsteller@stjames-cathedral.org) or (907) 244-6683.

**YOUTH MASS** - Calling all youth, we NEED YOU to help us make our youth mass awesome! Whether you're into reading (lectoring), helping with gifts, singing in the choir, ushering, or even altar serving, we want YOU to be part of the Mass. This is a great opportunity to get involved and serve God. If you want to join us, please complete the online form - <https://archseattle.ccbchurch.com/goto/forms/7459/responses/new> or scan the QR code *or* going to [www.icseattle.org](http://www.icseattle.org) under parish life -> ministries to sign up and let us know how you'd like to help. **Youth masses - May 31, August 30 and November 29.**



**SUNDAY FELLOWSHIP Hospitality** - Need sponsor for the 3rd Sundays. We are looking for **individuals, families, groups of friends, or ministries** to sponsor our **Sunday Fellowship** on the following dates: **May 17 and Jun 14**. This is a beautiful opportunity to build community by offering light hospitality after Mass. If you're interested or would like more information, please contact the parish office at [office@icseattle.org](mailto:office@icseattle.org) or call (206) 322-5970.

**MEMORIAL DAY REMEMBRANCE MASSES**—**May 23 & 25 | Various times | Holyrood, Gethsemane, Calvary and St. Patrick cemeteries**. Join us for Memorial Day Remembrance Masses at all four of our Associated Catholic Cemeteries to pray for the souls of our fallen veterans and for the faithful departed. <https://archseattle.org/events/memorial-day-masses/>



**NAMI FAMILY SUPPORT GROUP** - Open to anyone who has a family member with a mental illness, meets **online on 1<sup>st</sup> Sat of the month and in person on 3<sup>rd</sup> Sat of the month** at St James Pastoral Outreach Center, 1:30 3:00pm. *Registration:* [helpline@namiseattle.org](mailto:helpline@namiseattle.org).

### THE 2025 ANNUAL CATHOLIC APPEAL BEGINS

**Together in faith** is the theme of this year's **Annual Catholic Appeal**, and this weekend kicks off the 2025 campaign! The Annual Catholic Appeal funds ministries and services for your local Catholic community across Western Washington. This combined effort of parishes and the Archdiocese of Seattle ensures the availability of outreach ministries, Catholic education, faith formation, administrative services for parishes and much more! This year, our parish's goal is **\$28,480**. All gifts received over our goal will be returned to the parish to complete the project we began last year of installing sec. Please prayerfully consider how you can participate in helping our parish be a light to others.

It's easy to give to the 2025 Annual Catholic Appeal. Scan the QR code or visit [archseat-](http://archseat-)



## Upcoming Events

|                     |             |   |
|---------------------|-------------|---|
| May 3 (Sun)         |             | Community Share clothing drive after mass at Fellowship                   |
| May 10 (Sun)        | 11AM        | Flores de Mayo and Crowning of Mary                                       |
| <b>May 24 (Sun)</b> | <b>11AM</b> | <b>Pentecost Sunday</b>   |
| May 24 (Sun)        | 12PM        | George Floyd Remembrance during fellowship (see flyer)                    |
| May 26 (Mon)        | 3PM         | SIGS Meals, Immaculate Conception Jean Moran Hall                         |
| May 29 (Fri)        | 11AM        | Funeral Mass and hospitality for our beloved Spencer Thompson             |
| May 30 (Sat)        | 10AM        | 2026-27 Liturgical and Events Calendar Planning Meeting - Jean Moran Hall |

### MASS SCHEDULE:

**11:00 AM SUNDAYS (10:30 Holy Rosary)**

Also live streamed at

<https://www.facebook.com/ImmaculateConceptionSeattle>

**8:00 AM SUNDAYS – Eritrean Community**

**Pastor** – The Very Reverend Gary F. Lazzeroni

**Parochial Vicars** – Rev. Francis Thumbi &

Rev. Sylvester Chanda

**Pastor Emeritus** - Very Reverend Michael G. Ryan

**Deacon** Joseph Connor

**Pastoral Care Request** - If you would like to request a house blessing, Communion, or the Anointing of the Sick, please contact Fr. Chanda directly at [schanda@stjames-cathedral.org](mailto:schanda@stjames-cathedral.org).

### PARISH OFFICE

**Office Hours: M-F, 9 AM to 3 PM or**

**By Appt. - call (206) 322-5970, [office@icseattle.org](mailto:office@icseattle.org)**

**Alice Davis** x602 [paa@icseattle.org](mailto:paa@icseattle.org)  
Pastoral Assistant for Administration and Facilities

**Shanita Burrell-Stewart** x603 [shanitasb@icseattle.org](mailto:shanitasb@icseattle.org)  
Volunteer Coordinator

**Grace Neri** x601 [office@icseattle.org](mailto:office@icseattle.org)  
Administrative Assistant

**Blake Steller** [bsteller@stjames-cathedral.org](mailto:bsteller@stjames-cathedral.org)  
Parish Family Director of Youth and Young Adult Ministry

### CHOIR

**Michaela Credo** (Family) [mjcredo08@yahoo.com](mailto:mjcredo08@yahoo.com)

**Sherrell Mitchell** (Gospel) [rell4christ@gmail.com](mailto:rell4christ@gmail.com)

### COUNCILS

**Pastoral Council** Maria Batayola (Chair), Connor Trapp, Deacon Joe Connor, Fred Verzosa, Marisa Harvey, and Sharon Pitre-Williams.

**Finance Council** Jane Powers (Chair), Lori Chisholm, and Toni Hall.

Please visit the church website at [www.icseattle.org](http://www.icseattle.org) for other requests like Baptismal, Wedding, Bulletin Post, Giving and more.

## Stewardship: Caring for Our Church and Community

### Year-to-Date Collection Stewardship of Treasure Report

As of 04.20.2025 - \$138,274.97

As of 04.19.2026 - \$150,956.05

**Blessings and Thank you!**

### ARE YOU A REGISTERED PARISHIONER AT IMMACULATE CONCEPTION CHURCH?

Many who attend Immaculate Conception church regularly and consider the ICC their parish have never officially registered. We strongly encourage you to register. Registered parishioners receive important mailings from the church, are able to celebrate their wedding at ICC, and their children may attend any of the Catholic Rainbow Schools at Parishioner rates. To register, visit [www.icseattle.org](http://www.icseattle.org) or use the QR code.



### REPORTING ABUSE

Helpline 800-446-7762 [helpline@seattlarch.org](mailto:helpline@seattlarch.org)

[protectandheal.seattlarchdiocese.org](http://protectandheal.seattlarchdiocese.org). Report any suspicion of abuse by any church personnel to the local law enforcement. Call the Helpline if you know of sexual abuse or misconduct by a member of the clergy, an employee, or volunteer of the Archdiocese of Seattle. The Archdiocese of Seattle has a longstanding commitment to transparency, accountability, and assistance to persons sexually abused by clergy or anyone working on behalf of the church.

For children's safety and victim assistance see <https://preventionusccb.org/resources>



**May 9**

**Disability Inclusion**  
**Mass & Dance**

A celebration of diversity in our  
Catholic faith community

Mass | 11am  
St. James Cathedral

Social | 12pm  
St. James Cathedral Hall  
907 Columbia Street, Seattle

Everyone is welcome.

The Archdiocese of Seattle's Disability Inclusion Ministry serves and works collaboratively with our parishes and schools to promote the inclusion and meaningful participation of people with disabilities in the life of our Catholic faith community.



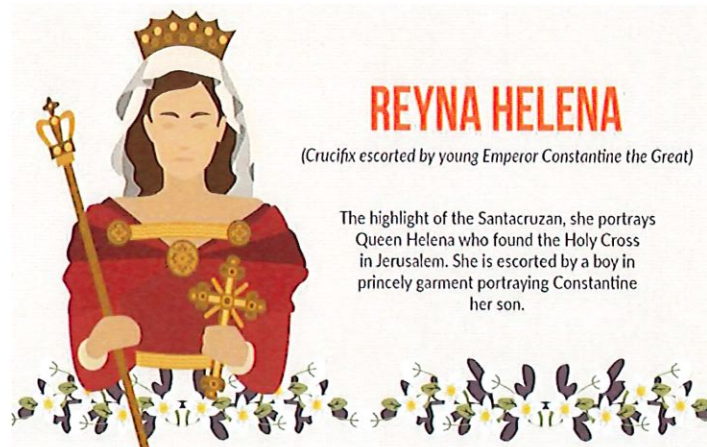
For any questions, please  
contact Miguel Smith at  
[miguel.smith@seattlearch.org](mailto:miguel.smith@seattlearch.org)



Learn more and register

# COME & CELEBRATE

## Flores de Mayo, Santacruzán & Crowning of Mary



**SUNDAY, MAY 10, 2026**

Procession begins at 10:30 AM, followed by Mass at 11:00 AM

*Fiesta Reception to follows at the Church Hall*

Join us for a joyful community gathering honoring Our Blessed Mother Mary on Mother's Day. Come Celebrate Our Beautiful Filipino Traditions. A vibrant celebration of Faith, Culture, and Devotion.

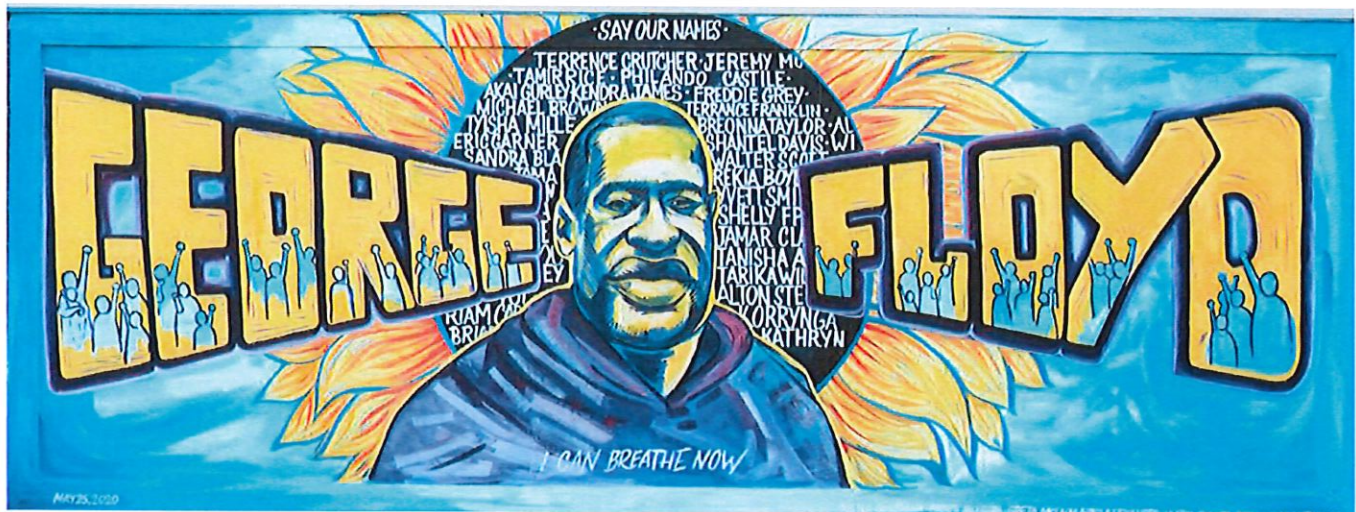


*Immaculate Conception Church*

820 18<sup>th</sup> Avenue Seattle, Washington  
206-322-5970 ~ office@icseattle.org ~ www.icseattle.org

Contact information: Fred Verzosa – [fred\\_verzosa@yahoo.com](mailto:fred_verzosa@yahoo.com) (206-953-3954 text)

# *Rekindling Our Flame: Recommitting to Racial Justice and Peace*



**Sunday, May 24, 2026**  
**Immaculate Conception Church**  
*820 18th Avenue, Seattle*  
**Mass at 11am**  
**Lunch and Presentation to follow**

Join Catholics from the North Seattle and South Seattle deaneries in a collective cry of lament for the sin of racism as we anticipate the 6th anniversary of the murder of George Floyd. We will pray together as we celebrate the Feast of Pentecost and then enjoy a free lunch. Sharon Yoo, *Facing Race* reporter for KING-5 News, will share her experiences reporting on the murder of George Floyd when she was the race and equity reporter for KARE-TV in Minneapolis. Lisa Matchette, co-chair of the St. James Cathedral Racial Solidarity Team, will extend an invitation to recommit to racial justice and peace.

*Sponsored by the North Seattle Racial Solidarity Network,  
Immaculate Conception Church and St. James Cathedral.*

*Information, Patrick Barredo,  
206-382-4515 or pbarredo@stjames-cathedral.org*

**[www.stjames-cathedral.org](http://www.stjames-cathedral.org)**



ROOTED  
IN LOVE

SENT TO  
SERVE



SUMMER 2026... | ARE YOU READY TO MAKE AN IMPACT?

Service-Immersion Week with

# AGAPE SERVICE PROJECT

Encountering the farmworker community of Whatcom County

DISCOVER CHRIST IN COMMUNITY

...SUMMER 2026

Dates: August 2-6

For more information, contact Blake Steller

[bsteller@stjames-cathedral.org](mailto:bsteller@stjames-cathedral.org)

