



# 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

**April 19, 2026**

**THE THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER**



**Reading 1: Acts of the Apostles 2:14, 22-33**

**Responsorial Psalm: 16:2, 5, 7-8, 9-10, 11 (11a)**

***“Lord, you will show us the path of life.”***

**Reading 2: 1 Peter 1:17-21**

**Gospel: Luke 24:13-35**

# From the Pastor's Desk | April 19, 2026

ST. JAMES CATHEDRAL | IMMACULATE CONCEPTION | CHRIST OUR HOPE

Dear Friends,

As we enter into this Third Week of Easter, we continue to unpack the mystery of how God creates new life through the death and resurrection of his Son, Jesus. In my Easter column I reflected on the pattern that is foundational to the Christian understanding of the meaning of life. Jesus is the model for that pattern of living, dying and rising. I shared how that pattern is also reflected in the reorganization for mission that is underway in our parish family and throughout the archdiocese, called Partners in the Gospel.

Our three vibrant faith communities of Immaculate Conception, Christ Our Hope and St. James Cathedral are in the midst of a kind of dying and rising. We are dying, or letting go of our current reality of three separate parishes and moving toward rising to a new life together as one single parish in three locations in the Central District, Downtown and on First Hill. There is loss in this as we will not be who we were. But there is also gain in our new life together.

As I have mentioned before, the remarkable commonality in what our three parishes value, namely, good liturgy, hospitality and outreach and advocacy for those in need, provides a firm foundation on which to build our new parish. This foundation allows us to live into the primary goal of Partners in the Gospel, namely equipping us even more effectively for mission.

A recent article in the Catholic Extension Society magazine names well this priority: "Great parishes are ones that are mission-focused as opposed to member-centered. Clubs are member-centered, but a Catholic community is meant to go out." Our three parishes have always focused on "going out." Our welcoming hospitality and our vibrant liturgies nourish us for the work God gives us outside of our church doors.

We certainly need to encounter the Lord in our lives. God is the center of all that is in our lives and in the life of the world. To foster our encounter with the Lord of life and to nourish our relationship with the One who created us, saved us, and accompanies us on our journey is crucial for parish life. The worship of God, primarily at Mass, is the heart and soul of fostering that encounter.

Like the disciples on the road to Emmaus though, that encounter with the Lord in dialogue and in the breaking of the bread, sends us out to



announce the good news. A vibrant parish life nourishes us for mission, for sharing the Good News, especially with those who are in need or hurting in any way.

We do this well in our parish family. All three of our parishes connect our encounter with Christ in the Eucharist with service to the poor and vulnerable. None of our three parishes are "clubs." We are mission focused. It is hard for me to put into words how grateful I am for our parish family and our priorities. As we move into the future, and toward becoming one parish, let us heed the Lord's words to the disciples after the resurrection, "Do not be afraid!" Yes, we are going to have to let go of an identity that is ours as three separate parishes. But the new life that is ahead for us and for those we serve in our new parish, will be worth it.

Yes, my friends, as we hear in today's Gospel from the disciples who encountered the Risen Christ on the road, "The Lord has truly been raised!" May our journey on the road of Partners in the Gospel help us to proclaim that Good News ever more effectively.

Wishing you the peace and joy of the Risen Lord!

*F. Gary Lazzeroni*

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 3 General Reflection:**

*The Third Station depicts Jesus falling for the first time under the weight of the cross.*

Jesus, though divine, humbles Himself to share our frailty. Although He is exhausted and weak, physically and spiritually, from scourging, crowning with thorns, and carrying the cross this fall is not one of defeat but of solidarity with humanity.

His physical burden mirrors the burdens we carry whether sin, sorrow, or life's trials. Spiritually it represents the moment when Jesus, in His humanity, is most vulnerable yet still chooses to continue the journey for our sake.

When reflecting on this Station consider:

- Acknowledging your own frailty – that we can feel knocked down by life's pressures.
- Trust in God's strength – He will lift us up.
- Persevere in faith – we are called to keep moving forward even when it is hard.

#### **Station 4 General Reflection:**

*Jesus meets His Mother*

In silence Jesus and Mary have a moment of profound intimacy and shared suffering. This example reflects the purest form of love and gives us a model of the virtue of presence in the midst of pain.

When reflecting on this Station consider:

- Share in the suffering of others – we are called to be present and offer comfort.
- Recognize the cost of love – love is not without pain but opens our hearts to compassion and mercy.
- Pray for those in need – we can seek Mary's help and intercession.
- Find strength in shared suffering – when we experience our own pain and hardships, Mary's witness can bring us comfort, she understands and cares.

## Pray for our Parishioners

For the Eternal repose of the soul of Pompeyo Neri, Cristeta Olog and Dagnev Kiflemariam Kismu  
Healing Prayers for Marya Castellano Bergstrom, Kathy West-Evans, Sharon Pitre - Williams, Ann Imbert and Se'Vera Dowe.

**Spencer George Thompson** (June 5, 2003—April 10, 2026) - Altar Server at Immaculate Conception Church.  
May the perpetual light shine upon him. You will be missed.  
Obituary—<https://www.funerals.coop/obituaries/spencer-thompson>

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.

## The Life of Our Community

**SAVE THE DATE: IMMACULATE CONCEPTION 2026-27 LITURGICAL AND EVENTS CALENDAR MEETING**  
- Saturday, May 30th, 2026 - 10AM at IC Jean Moran Hall. All parishioners who are planning to host events or celebrate feast days at Immaculate Conception are invited to attend. Join us as we coordinate and plan for the upcoming liturgical year!

**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).

**CLOTHING SHARE sponsored by ICC parishioners** - dedicated to serving our parish and surrounding community by providing gently used clothing to those in need. This effort is sponsored by parishioners of Immaculate Conception. Join us for a small, casual clothing share during the May 3rd Fellowship. **Donations will be accepted through April 26.** If you would like to contribute, please bring only lightly used or new clothing items for men, women, or children, limited to one or two items per person. Your generosity helps support others in a simple but meaningful way. For questions, contact Mari Hamper at 206-351-3991 or [mari.hamper@gmail.com](mailto:mari.hamper@gmail.com)

**YOUTH MINISTRY LISTENING SESSIONS** - Blake Steller, Youth and Young Adult Director for the parish family of St. James Cathedral, invites parents and teens to a listening session to help shape the future of youth ministry. Join us **Thursday, April 30 at 7:00 PM at the Pastoral Outreach Center.** Please **RSVP** by contacting Blake 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.**

**ST. VINCENT DE PAUL - Diaper Drive coming on April 26.** Your donation of diapers or pull-ups will support families in need. Drop-off diapers before or after Mass at Immaculate Conception on April 26. Future diaper drives will be in July, and October. For questions, contact Lori Chisholm-Cook at [lori.chisholm@gmail.com](mailto:lori.chisholm@gmail.com).

**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, 1:30-3pm. Registration: [helpline@namiseattle.org](mailto:helpline@namiseattle.org)

## Upcoming Events

		April Is Child Abuse Prevention Month
April 26 (Sun)	11AM	St. Vincent de Paul 2nd Diaper Drive
		Clothing drive Dropped off
May 2 (Sun)		Clothing drive share after mass
May 10 (Sun)	11AM	Flores de Mayo and Crowning of Mary
<b>May 24 (Sun)</b>	<b>11AM</b>	<b>Pentecost Sunday</b>
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 [deacon@icseattle.org](mailto:deacon@icseattle.org)

**PARISH OFFICE**

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

By appt. - (206) 322-5970 — [office@icseattle.org](mailto:office@icseattle.org)

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

Joseph Fletcher x604 [maintenance@icseattle.org](mailto:maintenance@icseattle.org)  
Maintenance Coordinator

**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), Toni Hall, and Lori Chisholm

**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).

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 03.30.2025 - \$130,618.17

As of 03.15.2026 - \$145,954.90

**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>



*Since 2002, the Catholic Church in the U.S.A. has followed a set of rules initiated by the bishops of the country and approved by the Vatican for dealing with sexual abuse of minors by priests or deacons: The Essential Norms for Diocesan/Eparchial Policies Dealing with Allegations of Sexual Abuse of Minors by Priests or Deacons.*

## Every U.S. diocese/eparchy is required...

- To have a **written policy** for dealing with sexual abuse of minors by priests, deacons and other Church personnel
- To appoint a **victim assistance coordinator**, who is available for the immediate pastoral care of persons who report having been sexually abused as a minor by a priest or deacon
- To **report** allegations concerning child sexual abuse to **civil authorities** and to cooperate with the civil investigations
- To establish a **review board** of at least five persons, mostly members of the **laity**, who counsel the bishop on allegations and review local policies dealing with sexual abuse of minors
- To investigate **promptly** and **objectively** any allegation of sexual abuse of minors by a priest or deacon
- To **remove** offending priests or deacons **permanently** from Church ministry
- To **prohibit the transfer** of offending priests or deacons for ministerial assignment in another diocese or eparchy
- To receive necessary **background information** before permitting a priest or deacon to exercise ministry in a diocese or eparchy
- To **protect** the rights of accusers and of the accused

*For more information and to read the full text of the norms, visit:*  
<http://www.usccb.org/issues-and-action/child-and-youth-protection/charter.cfm>



Archdiocese  
of Seattle

# Theology on Tap With Bishop Frank Schuster

April 21 | 7pm

Kells Irish Restaurant & Pub

St James Cathedral Seniors  
are invited to a

*Spring*  
Sing-a-long!

Please join Angela Petrucci,  
St. James musician

**April 29, 2026 11am - 1pm**

**Refreshments and a light  
lunch will be served  
following the event!**

Please RSVP by 4/24/26 to Anisa Ralls 206-382-4269 or  
aralls@stjames-cathedral.org

**At The Pastoral Outreach Center,  
907 Columbia St.**

# You are Invited to a SPRING FOREST THERAPY WALK



## JOIN US!

Being in nature and experiencing the forest through our senses offers a world of delight – and it's good for our health! It's about slowing down, opening our senses, and feeling the beauty, relaxation and healing that nature has to offer.

- Everyone is welcome
- No experience necessary
- Slow-paced and gentle

An easy walk with many rests, 2 hours in total. Led by Dan Stroh, with the nonprofit organization Ancient Earth Outings. Dan is a forest therapy guide certified by the Association for Nature and Forest Therapy.

[ancienteearthoutings.org](http://ancienteearthoutings.org)

Our new series of forest therapy walks launches this Spring!

Two sessions offered:

- Sat, May 2, 2026, 10 am - 12 noon  
Seward Park, Seattle
- Weds, June 10, 2026, 10 am - 12 noon  
Washington Park Arboretum, Seattle

Space is limited; registration is required but there is no cost. To register or for additional information, please contact:

*Anisa Ralls, (206)382-4269*

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

Sponsored by the Mental Health and Wellness Ministry, St. James Cathedral





**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



### REYNA HELENA

(Crucifix escorted by young Emperor Constantine the Great)

The highlight of the Santacruzán, she portrays Queen Helena who found the Holy Cross in Jerusalem. She is escorted by a boy in princely garment portraying Constantine her son.

**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)



# In Our Own Voice

A personal perspective of  
mental health conditions

## ATTEND OUR UPCOMING IN OUR OWN VOICE PRESENTATION

- Free 60 minute presentation led by trained presenters with mental health conditions
- Presenters share their personal story, journey of recovery, and hope
- Challenging stereotypes & misconceptions about people with mental illness and creating supportive communities

**Date: Saturday, 5/16**

**Time: 11am-12pm**

**Location: Pastoral Outreach  
Center, 907 Columbia St.**



**nami** Seattle  
National Alliance on Mental Illness

"Hearing a detailed first person account of inpatient psych treatment and eventual recovery was extremely eye opening to me. I also appreciated learning about resources/ strategies to help individuals in crisis."  
- IOOV attendee

# “Search & Serve” Retreat

May 20 - 25, 2026

San Francisco Bay Area

*Explore your Vocation with Us!  
Is God Calling You to be a Sister?*



**Stay with us! Serve with us!**

*Search your Heart during this Prayerful Retreat.*

*Serve those Living in Poverty with Us.*

See what it is like to be a Sister.

**Meals, Housing & Daily Transportation is provided.**

**For Single Catholic Women 18-40**



# THE HEALING POWER OF FORGIVENESS

*NAMI Eastside Spiritual Support Retreat*

Peace and Spirituality Center  
St. Mary-On-The-Lake  
1663 Killarney Way, Bellevue WA 98004

Saturday, May 23 | 9:00am - 4:00pm



## WHAT TO EXPECT

### Retreat from 9:00am to 4:00pm

- Check-in opens at 8:30am with coffee, juice, pastries, and fruit.
- Lunch provided by NAMI Eastside

The topic for this non-denominational retreat will be **The Healing Power of Forgiveness**. The day will focus on the importance of Mind, Body and Spirit in making one whole and healthy. We will reflect on the power of forgiveness in the healing process. Both forgiveness of others and more importantly, forgiveness of ourselves. We cannot truly love ourselves until we can forgive ourselves. We cannot forgive others until we can forgive ourselves. So, one can see just how important forgiveness is for a healthy and happy life. The goal of the retreat will be to give all who attend a quiet and peaceful setting in which to have some uninterrupted reflection time on the importance of forgiveness in their life. We invite you to do something special and treat yourself to a self-care ME day. We hope to see you there!

### Bring if you would like:

- Any books, poems, or literature that you use to reference for spiritual guidance
- Notebook or Journal
- Comfortable pillow
- An open mind

## REGISTER NOW!

**Space is limited to the first 30 people so don't delay.**



Please register individually if you are joining as a couple or group.

Questions? Email: [stevensfmly@msn.com](mailto:stevensfmly@msn.com)



## JOE STEVENS

Member of Holy Family Church | Kirkland

Joe has been touched by mental illness in a very profound way. His father, brother, sister, ex wife, and his current wife, all lived with mental illness. His brother died of mental illness at the age of 35. Joe has been a facilitator for the NAMI Eastside spiritual support group for the last 16 years. Joe is also a member of the NAMI national Hall of Fame and was awarded the 2016 and 2019 Outstanding Achievement Award by NAMI Eastside. Joe also received their highest award, The Rynas award in 2025. He also presented a workshop at the 2016 NAMI Washington State Convention on the importance of Spirituality in the healing process.

In the past, Joe has served in numerous other ministries, including chairman of the Holy Family Kirkland AIDS ministry, chairperson for the Saint Brendan's Divorce and Beyond Group, founder of a men's, spiritual support group that has been meeting for over 21 years, and founder of the Eastside Aids Ministry, which consisted of 18 Eastside faith communities.

Joe is currently a member of the Seattle Archdiocese Mental Health Ministry Board and a certified safeTALK suicide prevention trainer.