

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION PARISH

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

820 18th Ave. Seattle, WA 98122

www.icseattle.org

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

April 26, 2026

FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER



Reading 1: Acts of the Apostles 2:14A, 36-41

Responsorial Psalm: 23:1-3A, 3B-4, 5, 6 (1)

“The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.”

Reading 2: 1 Peter 2:20b-25

Gospel: John 10:1-10

From the Pastor's Desk | April 26, 2026

ST. JAMES CATHEDRAL | IMMACULATE CONCEPTION | CHRIST OUR HOPE

Dear Friends,

During this extraordinary time, we partnered with our ecumenical and interfaith friends to write the following public letter. I commend it to your reading, and your consideration to add your signature if you feel so moved.

Father Gary

At a time when armed conflicts proliferate, and democracies strain under polarization and the coercion of autocrats, truth itself is contested and trust for moral authority stands at a crossroads. This week, we are seeing how religion is used as a balm—or a blade.

Around the world, sacred traditions are being invoked to justify violence, exclusion, and domination of our neighbors. Political opportunists wrap themselves in the mantle of religious language, while advancing policies that erode human dignity and render us suspicious of empathy, the moral adhesive of any healthy society. Meanwhile, billions of everyday religious adherents—across faiths—daily practice compassion, service, and humility, even when drowned out by louder, more divisive voices.

This tension has come into stark relief this week in exchanges between Donald Trump and Pope Leo XIV. One sees a world enshrined in avarice and ambition; the other invites us into a moral universe guided by the pursuit of peace as a global virtue.

Pope Leo says he is not afraid of Donald Trump, or presumably any autocrat clothed in the vain and ruinous garments of omnipotence. The Pope is only one human being, but his service at the margins, his courage in truth-telling, and his indictment of the forces that would manipulate and destroy whole civilizations, is a compelling mandate to act. Pope Leo's words while strong and encouraging require more human beings who claim love and fearlessness, together.

When religion becomes a political blade, it loses its prophetic power, ceases to challenge injustice and instead sanctifies it. This is not new—but it is newly dangerous in an era of global instability and instant amplification.

This week we witness not only a choice between Trump's unbridled autocracy and Pope Leo's undaunted faith. We witness ourselves, our choice to be remade now, in our time. We must

concert our collective work toward justice or languish under moral death and the finality of a civilization in decline.

Religious traditions, in all their diversity, share common moral ground: the dignity of every human being, the call to care for the vulnerable, the imperative of truthfulness, and the pursuit of peace. These are not abstract ideals; they are actionable principles every day. They demand our courage; they require us to forge serious albeit imperfect bonds as close as those who founded and framed us for life on this planet undeniably suspended in all this black wonder and awe.

When political authority berates moral authority—such as the recent public attack of a US President on the Vicar of Christ—meanness should never be given a pass.

This world need not be anemic of integrity, purpose, and reverence. Our story must exude these and more. We require leaders who engage religion with humility, and religious voices that speak truth to power without fear or favor.

In this moment of global uncertainty, the world does not need more righteous rhetoric. It needs more of Pope Leo's moral clarity. It needs more of you as well.

Signatories

- Most Reverend Paul D. Etienne, Archbishop of Seattle
- Rabbi Daniel Weiner, Senior Rabbi, Temple de Hirsch Sinai
- Rev. Shelley Bryan Wee, Bishop, Northwest Synod, ELCA
- Rev. Spencer Barrett, Presiding Elder, African Methodist Episcopal Church
- Rev. Dr. Michael Reid Trice, PhD., CEIE-Seattle University, Executive Director and Spehar-Halligan Professor
- Very Reverend Gary F. Lazzeroni, Vicar General, Archdiocese of Seattle; Pastor, St. James Cathedral, Immaculate Conception, and Christ Our Hope

ADD YOUR SIGNATURE
AND A WORD OF SUPPORT HERE



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 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.

Station 4 Reflection by Kathy Gorney:

Consider how the son met his mother on his way to Calvary. Mother and son gazed at each other. Christ’s mother looks upon her son with sorrow, Jesus felt her pain yet wanted her to know that he was enduring this suffering so that all mankind would have eternal life. Mary was a consolation to Christ in his pain and loneliness. Such was the special bond between mother and son.

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.

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

Healing Prayers for Marya Castellano Bergstrom, Kathy West-Evans, Sharon Pitre - Williams, Ann Imbert and Se'Vera Dowe.

Please contact the parish office at 206-322-5970 or 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.

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

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 or (907) 244-6683.

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 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 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 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 1st Sat of the month and in person on 3rd Sat of the month** at St James Pastoral Outreach Center, 1:30 3:00pm.
Registration: 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 security cameras. 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 archseattle.org/GiveACA.

Upcoming Events

April 26 (Sun)	11AM	April Is Child Abuse Prevention Month St. Vincent de Paul 2nd Diaper Drive Community Share clothing drive organized by parishioners
May 2 (Sun)		Community Share clothing drive after mass at Fellowship
May 10 (Sun)	11AM	Flores de Mayo and Crowning of Mary
May 24 (Sun)	11AM	Pentecost Sunday
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.

PARISH OFFICE

Office Hours: M-F, 9 AM to 3 PM or
By Appt. - call (206) 322-5970, office@icseattle.org

Alice Davis x602 paa@icseattle.org
Pastoral Assistant for Administration and Facilities

Shanita Burrell-Stewart x603 shanitasb@icseattle.org
Volunteer Coordinator

Grace Neri x601 office@icseattle.org
Administrative Assistant

Blake Steller bsteller@stjames-cathedral.org
Parish Family Director of Youth and Young Adult Ministry

CHOIR

Michaela Credo (Family) mjcredo08@yahoo.com
Sherrell Mitchell (Gospel) rell4christ@gmail.com

COUNCILS

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

Finance Council Chair Jane Powers

Please visit the church website at 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 - \$136,508.97
As of 04.19.2026 - \$149,115.50

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 or use the QR code.



REPORTING ABUSE

Helpline 800-446-7762 helpline@seattlarch.org

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>

Ten Tips for Protecting Children and Offering Outreach to Victims/Survivors

1 Sexual abuse is about the victim.

Many people are affected by abuse but the individual most impacted is the victim who has suffered a violation of trust that can affect his or her entire life.

2 No one has the right to have access to children.

No one, no matter who they are, has an automatic right to be around children or young people who are in the care of the Church without proper screening and without following the rules.

3 Common sense is not all that common.

Dioceses, schools, parishes, and especially families, must educate themselves and others on how to protect children.

4 Child sexual abuse can be prevented.

It is critical to build safety barriers around children and young people to keep them from harm—such as protective guardians, codes of conduct, background evaluations, policies and procedures, and safety training programs.

5 The residual effects of having been abused can last a lifetime.

The sense of violation goes deep into a person's psyche and feelings of anger, shame, hurt and betrayal can build long after the abuse has taken place. Those who have been abused can heal, but it often takes time, therapy, and the support of loved ones.

6 Feeling heard leads toward healing.

Relief from hurt and anger often comes when one feels heard, when one's pain

and concerns are taken seriously, and a victim/survivor's appropriate sense of rage and indignation are acknowledged.

7 You cannot always predict who will be an abuser.

Experience shows that most abuse is committed by someone who has gained the trust of a victim/survivor and his/her family.

8 There are behavioral warning signs of child abusers.

Some abusers isolate a potential victim by giving him or her undue attention or lavish gifts, others allow young people to participate in activities which their parents or guardians would not approve, such as watching pornography, drinking alcohol, using drugs, and excessive touching, such as wrestling and tickling.

9 People can be taught to identify grooming behavior.

Grooming behaviors are the actions which abusers take to project the image that they are kind, generous, caring people, while their intent is to lure a minor into an inappropriate relationship. Offenders can be patient and may groom their victim, his or her family, or community for years.

10 Background checks work.

Background checks in churches, schools and other organizations keep predators away from children both because they scare off some predators and because they uncover past actions which should ban an adult from working or volunteering with children.





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



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 18th Avenue Seattle, Washington
206-322-5970 ~ office@icseattle.org ~ www.icseattle.org

Contact information: Fred Verzosa – fred_verzosa@yahoo.com (206-953-3954 text)

Meydenbauer Center • Bellevue, WA
May 16, 2026

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!



ASCEND

EUCCHARISTIC REVIVAL

In Him, We Rise.

This moment is a time to refresh and renew our hearts in hope and ignite a deeper love for the Real Presence of Jesus in the Eucharist. We are called to become a beacon of Christ's love for humanity in our struggling world.

Mark your calendars for **May 16, 2026** and join us in drawing deeper into the mystery of Christ's Real Presence in the Eucharist.



FEATURING



Chris Stefanick



Dr. Tim Gray



Dr. Andrew & Sarah Swafford



Deacon Charlie Echeverry



Mass with Archbishop Etienne



Floriani



Marie Miller

Get the details and stay updated at:

AscendEucharisticRevival.church

Scan here to get alerts on registration!



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



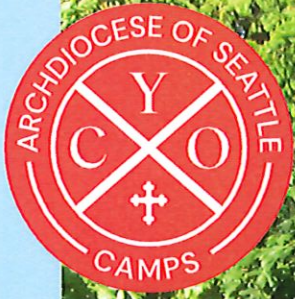
JOE STEVENS

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.

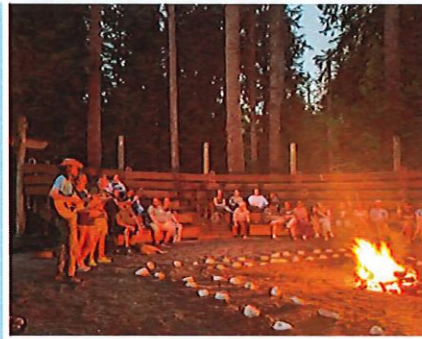
Joe is currently a member of the Seattle Archdiocese Mental Health Ministry Board and a certified safeTALK suicide prevention trainer.



CYO Camps 2026

Archdiocese of Seattle's CYO Camps is a summer camp experience like no other, where youth:

- Leave the screens at home and plug into adventure, nature and real connection
 - Grow personally in faith, leadership and confidence building
 - Feel a sense of belonging, joy and friendship
 - Have fun in a safe and supportive environment
 - Encounter God through his creation and shared experiences.
- ...all while living, learning and growing in the Catholic faith.



Learn more and register today at cyo.camp

“TO WALK ON WATER ...

“ ... LEAVE THE BOAT”

Oct. 30 - Nov. 1, 2026

Fr. Sylvester Chanda

**“TO WALK ON WATER, ... LEAVE THE BOAT,” Oct.30th - Nov.1st, Fr. Sylvester Chanda
Archbishop Brunett Retreat Center at the Palisades, Federal Way
Saint Anthony Prayer Group Renton (206-992-1034, 206-409-5066)**