

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION CHURCH

ST TERESA OF CALCUTTA PARISH

Christmas 2024



Blessed Christmas

BEHOLD, THE VIRGIN SHALL
BE WITH CHILD AND BEAR A SON,
AND THEY SHALL NAME HIM EMMANUEL

MATTHEW 1:23

Parish Info

PARISH CENTER CONTACT:

1 Munn Street, Montclair, NJ

PHONE: 973.744.5650 FAX: 973.744.7936

EMAIL: info@montclaircatholics.org

OFFICE HOURS:

MONDAY- THURSDAY 9:00 am-4:00 pm

OFFICE CLOSED Friday, Saturday and Sunday



PASTORAL TEAM

Pastor, REV. A. BENNY PRADO

Business Manager, PATTY SITAR

Patty@montclaircatholics.org

Faith Formation Coordinator, MARY PETERS

familyfaith@montclaircatholics.org

Music Director, BRENDA FERGUSON

brenda.ferguson@montclaircatholics.org

Parish Secretary, SAMANTHA FUSI

Samantha@montclaircatholics.org

Receptionist, LUCILLA PIERINI

lucilla@montclaircatholics.org

Maintenance

JOE ZICHELLI

joe@montclaircatholics.org

JOE MULFORD

Parish Trustees

JAN ZIOBRO • RENEE BIANCAMANO

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION CEMETERY

Supervisor, CHRISSEY NASCE

chrissy@montclaircatholics.org

PHONE: (973) - 744-5939

FAX: (973) -744- 5659

712 Grove Street

Montclair NJ 07042

MASS SCHEDULE

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION CHURCH

30 North Fullerton Avenue
Montclair NJ 07042

Indicates the Mass is livestreamed.

CONFESSION: Saturday 4:30 pm (or by appointment)

WEEKEND MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday: 5:00 pm

Sunday: 8:00 am | 10:30 am | 6:00 pm

WEEKDAY MASS SCHEDULE:

Monday - Friday at 8:00 am

Anticipating Christmas
at IMMACULATE

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 24 Christmas Eve Mass

4:00 pm | 6:00 pm | 10:00 pm

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 25 Christmas Day Mass

8:00 am | 10:00 am | 11:30 am
(no 6 pm Mass)

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 31 Solemnity of Mary

5:00 pm Mass

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 1 Solemnity of Mary

Mass 8:00 am 10:00 am
(no 6 pm Mass)

SUNDAY, JANUARY 12 Celebration of 3 Kings

following the 10:30 am Mass



MASS INTENTIONS

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 21

5:00 pm † Richard N. Mueller
† Carol Muzas

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 22

8:00am † Gangone & Chiulli Families

10:30am Salvatore & Giuseppina Porporino

6:00 pm People of the Parish

MONDAY, DECEMBER 23

8:00am † Angela Hamel-Smith

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 24 *Christmas Eve*

8:00am No 8 am Mass

4:00pm People of the Parish

6:00pm † Gary D. Nattini

10:00pm † Victor Chapa Jr.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 25 *Christmas Day*

8:00am † Maria Cecilia Montoya de Gallo

10:00am † Gregorio A. Prado

11:30am † Liam Simon Kosciolk

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 26

8:00am No Mass

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 27

8:00am Romeo Homicillada

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 28

5:00 pm † Lorraine Kits

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 29

8:00am † Maria Esposito

10:30am People of the Parish

6:00 pm † Don Howard

"To everything there is a season, and a time for every purpose under heaven." - Ecclesiastes 3:11

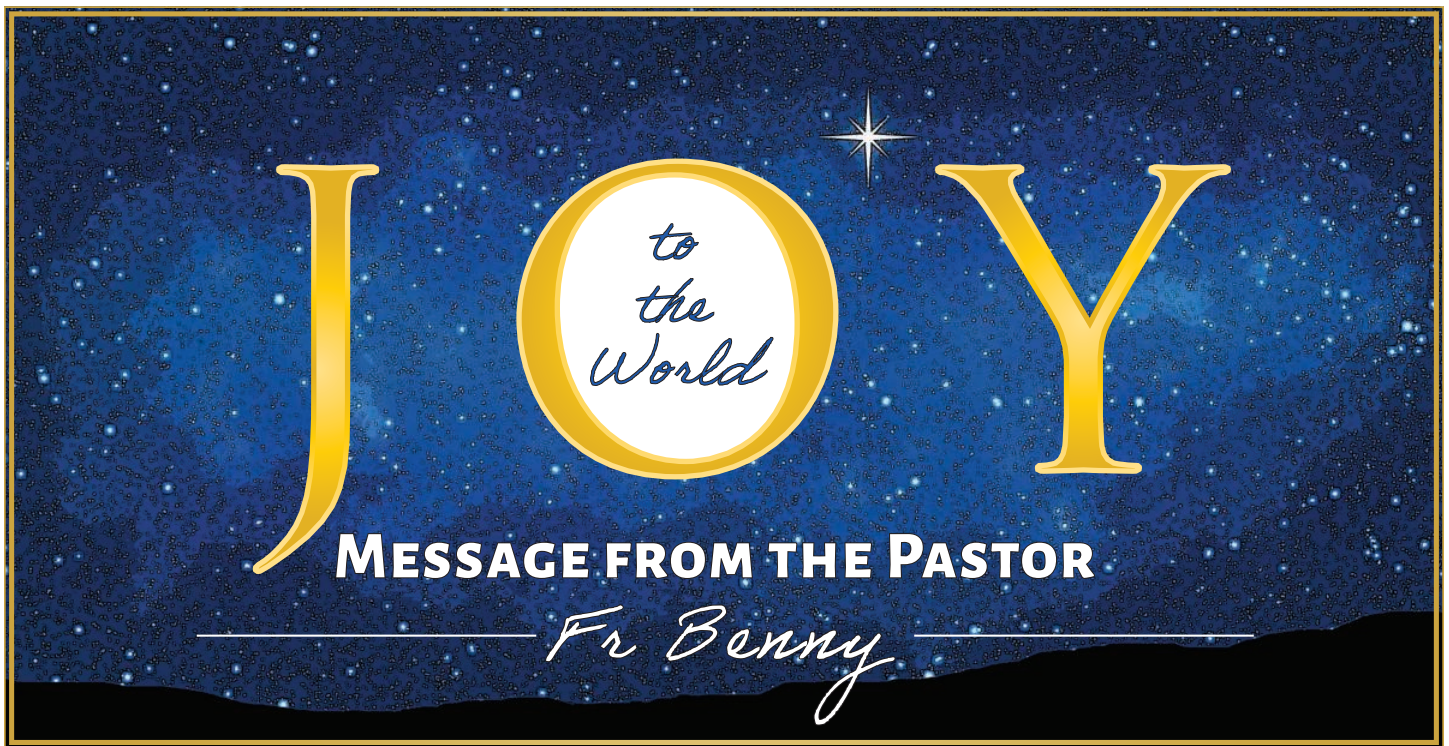
"... A TIME TO BE HEALED..."

Michael Bruder III, Anthony Pacifico Jr, Joel Rivera, Carmen Kessler, Ieda Giles, Doreen Carson, Lauren Ojido, Connie Romano, Maria Metzel, Eileen Burriss, Kevin Haber, Karen Potucek, Frank Gallo, Barbara Regan, Jose Fidalgo Sr, Bridget Connell, Jaxson Rivera, Carole DeCepoli, Oneida Fernandez, Michelina Giuliano, Chester Karnas Jr., Laura McGannon, Joseph Carrier, Fabiola Fong, Kenneth Busku, Rose Bruner, Edward T. Crowe, William Crowe, Terry Henson, Robert Henson, John Rahilly, Kent Riggs, Harriet Riggs, Jim Norris, Gary Davila, Melba Espinoza, Kevin Cole, Carlos Mario Moreno, Anne Cranja, Shannon Finnegan, Jacob Rivera, Clara Rojas, Cliff Schaffer, Lindsay Trembulak, Don Peters, Stefano Rum, Ayan Kapoor, John Nicastro, Paolo Rum, Massimo Macarelli, Michael Munoz

Please contact the Parish office if you would like to add someone to the sick list.

"... A TIME TO DIE..." **Recently Deceased**

MAY ALL THE SOULS OF THE
FAITHFUL DEPARTED REST IN PEACE



Dear Parishioners,

Merry Christmas! Feliz Navidad!

“THE PEOPLE WHO WALKED IN DARKNESS HAVE SEEN A GREAT LIGHT; upon those who dwelt in the land of gloom a light has shone” (Isaiah 9:1-6).” This first reading

of Mass at Midnight sets the tone of the Christmas season, and is my favorite reading. This message speaks to us as the world seems to be in darkness. It is only in darkness that we can see and truly appreciate light when it arrives. Isaiah speaks about a true light, a light that has shone for us. The darkness in which we find ourselves has been formed over time from anger and hatred towards, the fear of neighbors, near and far. As I see the world today, I can only conclude that we need the light proclaimed by Isaiah to enlighten our hearts, to direct our actions toward the same virtues Jesus Christ proclaimed each day of his earthly ministry. And so, we are challenged spiritually to remain faithful to our call to discipleship. We must, likewise, challenge our world and national leaders, and people in positions of power, to open their eyes to the light and redirect their programs and policies so that humanity, even in the darkest places in our world, may have their hope encouraged and their direction placed on a straight path. May Isaiah's vision be fulfilled, “The voice of one crying out in the desert: Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight in the wilderness the paths of our God” (Isaiah 40:3).

We must always remember that the good news, proclaimed in sacred scripture and as spoken by the prophet, speaks a simple but empowering reality. The Lord does not want the world to live in darkness but in the light. The brilliance of a star emblazoned the sky and directed shepherds and kings to a new beginning. When the fullness of time came to the small and seemingly insignificant town of Bethlehem, creation was gifted a second chance to live lives worthy of God's love and Christ's redeeming

sacrifice. God's act proclaimed that human beings, regardless of state of birth or worldly status, have worth and value beyond our imaginations.

JOY! JOY TO OUR WORLD. Joy to the people whom we love. Joy to our families and people in our communities. God offers us something no one else can give and that is the precious gift of joy. “You have brought them abundant joy and great rejoicing, as they rejoice before you as at the harvest, as people make merry when dividing spoils.” Isaiah continues as his proclamation opens our ears to the sound of celebration, even as he opened our eyes to sight of light. He reminds us that something is missing in our society, and it is the ability to experience joy. Why joy? That is the most mystifying human question? But the answer is not a mystery, or too complex for us to discern. It is the meaning and source of our celebration tonight: Isaiah bursts full throated, “For a child is born to us, a son is given us; upon his shoulder dominion rests. They name him Wonder-Counselor, God-Hero, Father-Forever, Prince of Peace.” Yes, Christ's birth brought joy to our world, proclaimed the inherent beauty of humanity and our ability to live virtuous and holy lives worthy of God's great love.

Here is my wish for you: May the Child who is born to us today bring light to your darkness and joy to your world. May the Child whom the Lord has given to us as our Savior help you seek peace and reconciliation through faithfulness to your discipleship. Be a light in others' darkness and share the joy you received from the Prince of Peace.

May you and your loved ones have a blessed and Holy Christmas.

Fr Benny





FROM MOTHER TERESA HOUSE TO YOURS,

The Refugee Ministry would like to wish you a Christmas filled with joy, love and His peace.

In deep gratitude for your support over the years. We ask you to continue to pray for our newly arrived friends. Our best wishes for a wonderful New Year!

The Finance Committee

is very grateful for your gifts and donations to the parish throughout the year. Your continued support and generosity is critical to ensuring Immaculate Conception remains a vibrant and giving community. In the name of all members of the Committee, merry Christmas, and have a happy 2025!



"Heavenly Father, we lift up those who carry heavy hearts this Christmas season due to loss and grief. Surround them with Your love and grant them the peace that surpasses all understanding".

On behalf of Fr. Benny and the staff at Immaculate Conception Cemetery we wish everyone blessed Christmas.

Chrissy Nasce

May God bless your family with peace and joy and inspire us all to spread cheer this Christmas to family, friends, neighbors and strangers, too!

Christine James and the Parish Pastoral Council



Dear Parishioners,

As we celebrate this Christmas season, I want to take a moment to thank you for your generous support of Mary's Pantry throughout the year. Your kindness and generosity have made a real difference in the lives of many in our community.

May the blessings of Christmas fill your hearts with peace, joy, and gratitude.



MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR!

Samantha Fusi

THE SENIOR MINISTRY



St. Teresa's Society for Seniors

As we grow older, we realize that the best Christmas gifts are those that can't be bought. May this Christmas bring you the best gifts - wrapped in the arms of those you love and the love of Christ!

Christmas Blessings to all our parishioners and visitors!

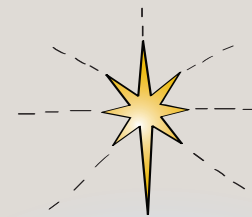
The Senior Ministry Team -
Deana Campion, Barbara Ferguson, Juby George-Vaze, Marilyn Graham, Eileen McEnroe, and Maria Sandoval

THE ORDER OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS (OCIA) TEAM AND CANDIDATES WISH YOU A VERY BLESSED AND MERRY CHRISTMAS.



Thank you for your prayers as our Candidates continue their journey to full communion in our Faith.

JAN & ELIZABETH ZIOBRO



A Christmas Prayer for our Faith Formation Families:

Loving God,

During this holy season of Christmas, we ask for Your blessing on all families.

Let Mary's openness to Your wondrous ways be an inspiration to place all trust in You.

Let Joseph's courage provide hope during times of anxiety and uncertainty.

Let Jesus' life ignite all families with a spirit of light and love.

May the grace that encircled the Holy Family widen to embrace all families.

For this we pray. Amen.

May the light of Christ, born this holy night, shine brightly in your heart and home throughout this Christmas season and into the New Year!

Mary Peters,
Family Faith Formation Coordinator

Merriest Christmas to all my new Immaculate Conception friends! Thank you for your warm reception as together we offer our music in worship. Please come to our Christmas Concert on Sunday, December 22 at 3:30 pm "Dreaming of a White Christmas" with super talented musicians in the beauty of your church - and bring a friend!



Our spirits will be lifted with good cheer as we share beautiful sounds of the season.

"God bless us, each and everyone."

Brenda



And the Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us, and we saw his glory, the glory as of the Father's only Son, full of grace and truth. John 1:14

Emmanuel- God with us! The first Christmas sealed our intimate relationship with God through the birth of Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior. We celebrate "Emmanuel" not just once a year, but at EVERY celebration of the Eucharist!

We are so grateful to our Lectors and Eucharistic Ministers who help us to fully experience that intimate relationship with our Lord by enthusiastically proclaiming the Word and distributing the Body and Blood of Christ to us. Yes, God is indeed with us! And by your generous and faithful service, you help bring Him even closer to our hearts.

To our Immaculate Conception parish family, we wish you and your loved ones a blessed Christmas and a beautiful New Year full of joy, love, peace and hope in Emmanuel!

Merry Christmas!

JIM & SETON FEENEY, MINISTRY COORDINATORS

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION CHURCH PRESENTS



THE THIRD ANNUAL

THREE KINGS PARADE

SUNDAY, JANUARY 12

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION CHURCH
30 NORTH FULLERTON AVENUE
FOLLOWING THE 10:30 AM MASS

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with the cost of the parade
are greatly appreciated.
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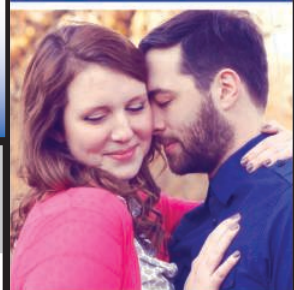


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