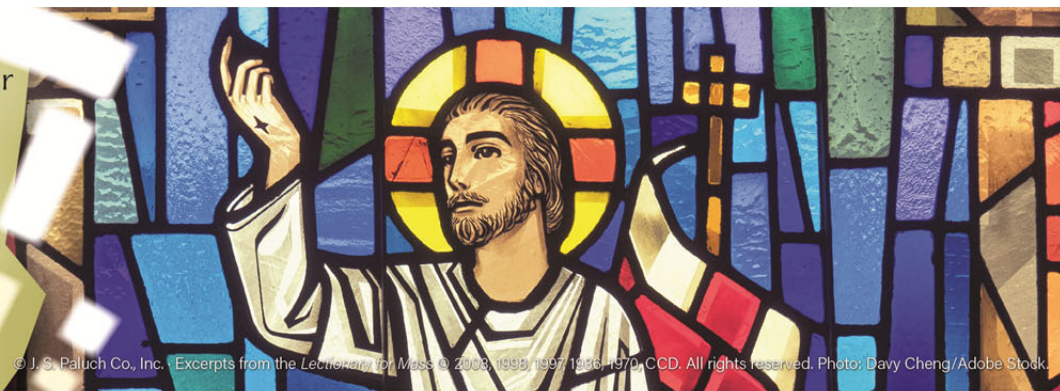


Thus it is written that the Christ would suffer and rise from the dead on the third day and that repentance, for the forgiveness of sins, would be preached in his name to all the nations.

LUKE 24:46-47



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# THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

APRIL 18, 2021

## NEW LIFE

Peter saw Jesus after the Resurrection. He listened as Jesus told the disciples all that had been written about him in the scriptures, all that he had said and done when he was ministering among them. Peter heard how Jesus had fulfilled all in the law of Moses, the prophets, and the psalms. Jesus, the Messiah, had come to be among them to bring them peace, to offer forgiveness of their sins. Peter shared this Good News with the crowds who gathered to hear him tell the sacred story, the story of God's love, poured out in Jesus the Christ and offered to the whole world. All who hear and believe are offered new life, life in which God's love is perfected in them. Are you listening? Are you ready to share in this abundant new life?

## NOT WHAT WAS EXPECTED

Have you ever waited for something for so long you began to think it might never happen? Your graduation day, or the day of your marriage, or the birth of a child, perhaps. The Israelites had waited for centuries for the coming of the Messiah. Yet when Jesus, the long-awaited Anointed One came, many failed to believe in him. He wasn't what they expected. The Messiah was supposed to be a strong, powerful commander of armies, not humble, compassionate, and suffering. After his resurrection, Jesus appeared to the disciples and explained all that he had said in his time with them, opening their minds to what had been written in the scriptures so that they could accept his suffering and death and rejoice in his resurrection.

## GOD'S LOVE IN FLESH AND BONE

While the disciples had come to believe that Jesus was the Messiah, his crucifixion and death had left them fearful and confounded. The news of the empty tomb and his appearance to the two disciples on the road to Emmaus added to their confusion. It seems that at first, Jesus' presence with them did not alleviate their uncertainty. In fact, they were "startled and terrified and thought they were seeing a ghost" (Luke 24:37). Jesus saw that they needed physical proof that it was he who stood among them. They needed to see the nail marks in his hands and feet, to see God's love in flesh and bone, in one who ate among them. Only when their fear and confusion had been quelled could they hear the story, the sacred story of how the Christ would suffer and rise from the dead. Only when they were filled with the peace of Christ would they be ready to witness, to share the sacred story with others. We, too, are invited to hear the sacred story and to perceive God's love for us in Jesus Christ.

### *SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES*

Sunday: Third Sunday of Easter

Wednesday: St. Anselm

Thursday: Earth Day

Friday: St. George; St. Adalbert

Saturday: St. Fidelis of Sigmaringen

# Immaculate Conception Parish

## Immaculate Conception Church & St. Joseph Church

*Pastor: Rev. James J. Ward • Deacon: Mr. Jack Mroz*

Immaculate Conception Rectory: 570-325-2791 • [iccjt@ptd.net](mailto:iccjt@ptd.net) • [www.iccjimthorpe.org](http://www.iccjimthorpe.org)  
St. Joseph Rectory: 570-325-3731 • [stjosjt@ptd.net](mailto:stjosjt@ptd.net) • [www.saintjosephchurch-jimthorpe.org](http://www.saintjosephchurch-jimthorpe.org)  
*St. Joseph Church side entrance is open daily for private prayer*

**Sacrament of Reconciliation:** Tuesdays after 8 a.m. Mass, & Wednesdays, 6:30pm @ ICC;  
Thursdays after 8 a.m. Mass @ St. Joseph Church

Diocesan Victim Assistance Coordinator: Wendy S. Krisak, MA, NCC, LPC [Direct](mailto:Direct) Phone: 800-791-9209; Diocesan Secretary for Youth Protection: Pamela J. Russo, MSW, MS Phone: 610-871-5200, Ext. 2204; If you have an allegation of abuse against a bishop, please contact the Catholic Bishop Abuse Reporting Service [ReportBishopAbuse.org](http://ReportBishopAbuse.org) or by calling 800-276-1562.

### Third Sunday of Easter



#### **Sat. April 17**

4:30 pm (ICC) **Rita Shanfelt** (Shanfelt Family) / **Francis O'Donnell** (Tom Brogan)

#### **Sun. April 18**

9:00 am (SJC) **All Our Parishioners, Living & Deceased** / **Alice Rita Mulligan** (Mary Mulligan)

#### **Mon. April 19**

(private) **Agnes Johnson** (Bonnie McElmoyle & Family) / **James Ward** (Homlak Family)

#### **Tues. April 20**

8:00 am (ICC) **Walter Ligenza, Sr.** (Lea Paluck) / **Richard Galloway** (Susan Schatz & Family)

#### **Wed. April 21**

(private) **Benjamin Beckett** (M/M Ronald Savitsky) / **Mildred Snisky** (Thomas Brogan)

#### **Thurs. April 22**

8:00 am (SJC) **Betty Brown** (Brown Family) / **Fred Hutterer** (Victor & Eileen Newton)

4:30 pm (SJC) **Confirmation**

#### **Fri. April 23**

(private) **Eugene Tokosh** (M/M Jack Hager) / **Gwendolyn Gillespie** (Dick & Karen Reed)

### *Fourth Sunday of Easter*

#### **Sat. April 24**

9:00 am (SJC) *Rosary for Life*

4:30 pm (ICC) **Dolores Gillespie** (Hugh & Fran Dugan) / **Bernie Gillespie** (M/M Michael Spillman)

#### **Sun. April 25**

9:00 am (SJC) **Irene Milan** (Clete Milan & Family) / **Tracy McElmoyle, 28<sup>th</sup> Anniv.** (Mom & Dad)

RESPONSORIAL PSALM ~LORD, LET YOUR FACE SHINE ON US.

#### IMMACULATE CONCEPTION CHURCH CANDLES

INFANT OF PRAGUE CANDLE burns In Honor of *Susan Schatz* on her birthday (From, Judy & Jerry)

**PARISH STEWARDSHIP:** 3/28/21: \$ 5,230.88  
*Thank you for your continued support & generosity.*

**REST IN PEACE:** Kindly pray for the souls of **Fred Cerimele**, and **Jim Maiura**, (better known as "Little Jim" around the church). Please remember them and their loved ones in your prayers. May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed rest in peace.

### CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR FIRST COMMUNICANTS!!

Over the next few weeks members of our First Communion class will be receiving their First Communion at the Saturday night & Sunday morning Masses. Please keep the First Communicants and their families in your prayers.





## CONFIRMATION

will be held this **Thursday, April 22** at 4:30 p.m. at St. Joseph Church. We joyfully welcome Bishop Schlert to celebrate the Sacrament of Confirmation for the parishes of Immaculate Conception, S.S. Peter & Paul, & St. Peter the Fisherman. Due to Covid-19 restrictions, only Candidates and their immediate families may attend.

### BISHOP SCHLERT HAS OFFICIALLY ACCEPTED

Father Ward's retirement from active ministry, which will be effective June 15, 2021. We have **not** been notified of who will be his replacement. A new Parish Pastor will be announced shortly before his last day.

**MEMORIAL FUND:** We would like to acknowledge donations made: In Memory of **Frank Jacobs** from Cynthia Jacobs; In Memory of **Margaret Dolena** from Jean Engler; In Memory of **Elizabeth Bach** from the Engeldrum Family.

### GARAGE SALE NEXT SATURDAY!

We will have our first Garage Sale of the year next Saturday, April 24 from 9am-1pm behind SJC Church. Stop by and browse the hundreds of items from lamps, pictures, knick knacks, children's toys,



dishes, glassware, furniture pieces, a kitchen table, end tables, double bed oak foot and headboard, twin bed with drawers, china closet, and more!

**MEN'S MISSION:** You are making a difference with your donations!! You are invited to be part of our mission to help the children of Tanzania with food, uniforms, & the expansion to existing buildings. The collection cans will be at the doorways to St. Joseph Church this Sunday.

**LOOKING FOR HELP!** Mother Pauline's Thrift Shop is looking for an extra set of hands to help carry boxes up & down stairs on Mondays or Wednesdays for about an hour, anytime between 9am-1pm. If you can help, please call Rita at 570-732-4130.



**ST. JOSEPH ECUMENICAL FOOD PANTRY** @ 6<sup>th</sup> & North St. will be open Wed. April 21, May 5 & 19 & Saturdays, May 1 & 15 from 9am-11am. The Food Pantry will be closed Memorial Day weekend, Sat, May 29.

### A NOTE FROM MARY'S SHELTER

Dear Rev. Ward,

Thank you for your continued Pro-Life support and generous donation of \$861.

For 25 years, Mary's Shelter has listened and responded to the needs of our community. Young women found a home for themselves and their newborns. Homeless teenagers found safety, compassion, and way off the streets. Hundreds of our neighbors found a helping hand when needed. 2020 has been a year filled with turbulence, anxiety, losses and triumphs. As we wait for this roller coaster ride to end, let's find strength in each other. Our young people know that you care about them and their well-being. Each day I get to see the joy on their faces, because they realize and appreciate everything you are doing to help them achieve their goals.

YES, we are here, open and operating every day, providing love, support, and comfort to all those in need.

YES, we plan on being here for the next 25 years and with your continued support, Mary's Shelter will remain a beacon of hope, love, and security for our community. Together we can continue changing lives.

Sincerely, Jodi Tucci



**FATHER WARD EXPRESSES HIS THANKS & SINCERE APPRECIATION**

for all those who remembered him on his 75<sup>th</sup> Birthday!



**LOST KEYS:** If anyone lost a lanyard with a car key and second key on it, can be claimed in the rectory office @ St. Joseph Church. The keys were found on the sidewalk of North Street.

**PRAYERS AND CARDS:** Just a little note to let those of you who know Sister Stanislaus that she fell & is in rehab for a few weeks. Sr. Stanislaus served here in the 50's, then again in the 60's & 70's in our school & most recently when we had the House of Prayer with Sister Marlene. If anyone is interested in dropping her a note, get-well card or call, her contact information is:

Sister Stanislaus, SCC,  
Mercy Heart Senior Living Center  
200 Route 10 West, Succasunna, NJ 07876  
Ph: 973-584-4000 ext. 1254



### Week at a Glance Events

Wed, 4/21: Baptism Class, 6:30-8pm, SJC Brogan Room  
Fri, 4/23: Flame of Love, 1pm, SJC Brogan Room  
Sat, 4/24: Garage Sale, 9am -1pm