

Diocese of Allentown

The Roman Catholic Community of Jim Thorpe

Immaculate Conception Parish

Pastor: Rev. Ronald J. Minner

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



Immaculate Conception Rectory
180 W. Broadway
570-325-2791 • iccjt@ptd.net
www.iccjimthorpe.org
Office Hours: Mon., Tues., Thurs., Fri:
8:30 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.
Closed Wednesday



St. Joseph Rectory
526 North Street
570-325-3731 • stjosjt@ptd.net
www.saintjosephchurch-jimthorpe.org
Office hours: Monday through Friday:
8:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Diocesan Victim Assistance Coordinator: Wendy S. Krisak, MA, NCC, LPC, Direct Phone: 800-791-9209;
Diocesan Secretary for Youth Protection: Pamela J. Russo, MSW, MS, Phone: 610-871-5200, Ext. 2204;
P.O. Box F, Allentown, PA 18105-1538, prusso@allentowndiocese.org

The Diocese of Allentown provides assistance to anyone, who as a minor, was sexually abused by a priest, deacon, or employee / volunteer of the Diocese / Parish. Parents, guardians, children, and survivors of sexual abuse are invited and encouraged to contact the Diocese of Allentown for more information about the program. The fullness of compassion should be extended to these victims by the Church. If you have an allegation of abuse against a bishop, please contact the Catholic Bishop Abuse Reporting Service www.ReportBishopAbuse.org or by calling 800-276-1562.

January 8, 2023 ~ The Epiphany of the Lord

WORSHIP

Saturday Vigil: 4:30 p.m. @ Immaculate Conception
 Sunday: 8:30 a.m. @ St. Joseph Church; 10:30 a.m @ Immaculate Conception
 Daily Mass: 8:00 a.m. Mon. & Thurs. @ ICC; Tues. & Fri. @ SJC; Wed., rotates weekly
 Holy Days: As announced
 First Saturday: 9:00 a.m. rotates Church every month, Jan-SJC; Feb-ICC; March-SJC
 Exposition & Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament: Wednesdays, 12 Noon to 6pm, Rotates Weekly

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION:

Wednesdays at 5:00 p.m.
 1st, 3rd & 5th Wednesday of month @ ICC
 2nd & 4th Wednesday of month @ SJC

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM:

Call the Rectory for registration and necessary preparations. Parents must attend a Baptism Prep Class, which are offered monthly.

SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE:

Call the rectory at least six months in advance of proposed wedding date for registration and any necessary preparations.

ANOINTING OF THE SICK:

This Sacrament is provided to any sick, or elderly person who requests it. Notify the Rectory office as soon as someone becomes seriously ill, so that they might receive this Sacrament, please do not wait until death is imminent.

COMMUNION TO THE HOMEBOUND:

Fr. Minner & Eucharistic Ministers visit monthly those who are homebound and wish to receive Communion. Please call the Rectory to notify us about someone who wishes to be visited.

NEW MEMBERS:

Welcome! Please call or email the Rectory in order to register. Please notify the office if you change your address or move away.

PARISH RELIGIOUS EDUCATION PROGRAM:

PREP Classes are held Sunday at 9:30 a.m. Sept-May
 Rose Strubinger, CRE , iccprep1@gmail.com

ST. JEROME REGIONAL SCHOOL:

Mrs. Amy Hannis-Miskar, Principal
 570-668-2757; sjrschool.com

ST. JOHN NEUMANN REGIONAL SCHOOL:

Mrs. Mary Comensky, Principal
 610-826-2354; altcsjn@ptd.net

MARIAN CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL:

Mr. Michael Brennan, Head of School
 570-467-3335; mariancatholichs.org

WEEK AT A GLANCE

Mon. 1/9: RCIA, 6:30-8:30 pm
Tues. 1/10: Flame of Love Rosary, 8:30 am; Baptism Class , 6:30 – 8 pm
Wed. 1/11: Adoration, Noon-6pm; Divine Mercy Chaplet, 3pm; Confessions, 5pm @ SJC; KoC 2nd Degree ceremony, 7 pm, Church & Brogan Room
Thurs. 1/12: SJ Choir, 6:30pm



Weekly Adoration Schedule

Please consider joining us ~ **all are welcome** to attend at any time during the day! If you cannot make your scheduled time, and you are the only person scheduled, please find someone, or call Rita Mroz, 570-732-4130.

| SJC | Wednesday, Jan. 11 |
|------------------|---|
| 12 - 1 PM | Barbara Rodgers / Rita & Dcn Mroz |
| 1 - 2 PM | Ceil Sebelin / Charlotte Kriley |
| 2 - 3 PM | Louise Goldman / Anita Bott |
| 3 - 4 PM | Louise Goldman / Anita Bott |
| 4 - 5 PM | Pete & Maureen Gipprich /Dave Kriley |
| 5 - 6 PM | Mary Marzen / Mary Sauka / Regina Rose / Marie Damian |

| Lay Ministers Jan. 14/15 | | | |
|---------------------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|---------------------|
| Ministry | Sat. 4:30 pm ICC | Sun. 8:30 am SJC | Sun 10:30 am ICC |
| Lector: | Laura McArdle | John McGuire | Mary Figura |
| E.M.: | Caitlin McArdle J. Nederostek | G. Kehrl, M. McGuire, P. Heydt | Kim Lawrence |



The Epiphany of the Lord

Special Prayer Intentions- these are the people for whom we will be praying at Mass:

Sat. Jan. 7

4:30 pm (ICC) **Al "Butch" Heaney, 5th Anniv.** (Family)

Sun. Jan. 8

8:30 am (SJC) **For the Health of Francis J. Bilsak** (Charles Haupt, III & Family)

10:30 am (ICC) **William McArdle** (Delray & John McArdle)

Mon. Jan. 9

8:00 am (ICC) **The Baptism of the Lord**
Helen Meehan (Mary Ann Lauer) / **All Our Parishioners, Living & Deceased**

Tues. Jan. 10

8:00 am (SJC) **Lisa Holland** (Cathy & Ed Hawk) / **Robert F. Magnamo, Jr.** (Mary Ann & Gary Szwici)

Wed. Jan. 11

12 Noon-6 pm *Exposition & Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament*

5:00-5:50 pm *Sacrament of Reconciliation*

6:00 pm (SJC) **Dorothy "Dot" Summers** (Betty Jean & Bob Biehn) /
Frank Moser, Sr. (Kathy & Jeffrey Holt)

Thurs. Jan. 12

8:00 am (ICC) **Margaret "Midge" Mulligan** (Dr. Ed Beckett) /
Kathleen Reihman (Pat & Bernie Kattner)

Fri. Jan. 13

8:00 am (SJC) **St. Hilary**
Veronica Klepper (Venice Klepper) / **Emily Kattner** (White Family)

Sat. Jan. 14

9:00 am (SJC) **Blessed Virgin Mary**
Rosary for Life

The 2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sat. Jan. 14

4:30 pm (ICC) **Jillian Ann Miller** (Mom & Dad)

Sun. Jan. 15

8:30 am (SJC) **Emma Marzen** (Patricia Heaney)

10:30 am (ICC) **Rose Zurn** (Nick & Neen Kuzo)

The star...
came to
rest over
the place
where the
child was.

Matthew 2:9, ESV



SAINT JOSEPH CHURCH CANDLES

SAINT JOSEPH: In Loving Memory of **Wilma Bott** (Requested by Family)

PARISH STEWARDSHIP: 12/4/22: \$ 6,449.00

Thank you for your continued support & generosity.

THREE KINGS ~ This Saturday we will celebrate The Feast of the Epiphany. We will have a special visit at Immaculate Conception at the 4:30pm Mass by the Magi to commemorate the special meaning they have in our Christmas celebration.

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION RECTORY OFFICE will be closed on Fri, Jan 13th. If you need immediate assistance please call St. Joseph Rectory at 570-325-3731.

PLEASE NOTE: As of January 1st all parish donation accounts are closed for the year 2022. Any donations made after Sunday, January 1st will be credited for 2023.

CONTRIBUTION STATEMENTS: If you would like a statement of contribution for 2022 please sign the form in either church, please PRINT your full name, address, phone number & email if requesting digital copy. You may also call either Rectory office to request a copy. Statements will be sent the end of January.

REST IN PEACE: Prayers for peace and consolation are extended to Bishop Schlert and his family at the passing of his mother Marylou. In addition to the Bishop, Mrs. Schlert is survived by her husband of 72 years Alfred, Sr., and son Theodore. Should you wish to send an expression of sympathy to the Bishop, you may send it to: Most Rev. Alfred A. Schlert, Diocese of Allentown, PO Box F, Allentown, PA 18105-1538.

MEMORIAL FUND DONATIONS: We would like to acknowledge donations made: ***In Memory of Mary (Sis) McElmoyle & Mary Agnes McElmoyle***, from Ned McElmoyle, Del & Keith.

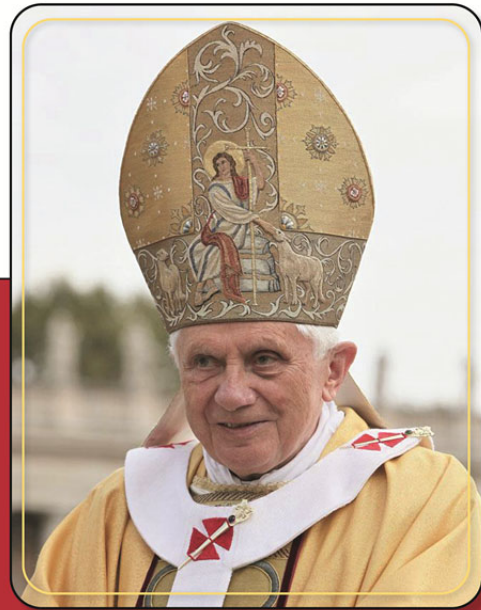
2023 CALENDARS HAVE FINALLY ARRIVED AFTER A PROCESSING DELAY!! Please be sure to pick one up today! Calendars are compliments of Melber Funeral Home, David J. Stianche Funeral Home, and Marzens Hardware.

1000 HAIL MARY'S: Please join us on Friday, January 20 from 9am-4pm in St. Joseph Church. You do not need to stay all day, just come spend an hour or as long as you can. Lunch will be provided.

MEN'S MISSION: Our collection for the children in Tanzania amounted to \$390. Thank you to all who support this mission each month. Our next collection will be January 21 & 22.

THE 2023 MASS BOOK IS OPEN FOR REQUESTS. **Mass Intentions**

Requests for specific dates can be scheduled through Immaculate Conception Rectory Office, 570-325-2791, Mon, Tues, Thurs, Fri, from 8:30am to 2pm, or email iccjt@ptd.net. General Mass intentions without a specific date request can be done through either St. Joseph or Immaculate Conception Rectory. The Mass stipend is \$10/request. Please note that due to the high volume of weekend requests, a limit of two requests a year per family will be accepted for a Saturday vigil/Sunday Mass. Weekday Mass requests are not limited at this time.



POPE EMERITUS BENEDICT XVI

APRIL 16, 1927 – DECEMBER 31, 2022

IN MEMORIAM

Prayer for Pope Benedict XVI

Almighty ever-living God,
who made Pope Benedict XVI
a wise teacher of your people,
a gentle shepherd of your flock,
and a faithful pastor of your Church,
grant in your kindness that your
humble servant, who in this life
believed in you and loved you,
may now receive your mercy and
rejoice in your presence for ever
in the glory of the Saints.
Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Copyright © 2022, United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, Washington, DC. All rights reserved.

GET A WINTER WEATHER CHANGE NOTIFICATIONS!

Normally when JTASD is delayed or cancelled due to winter weather the daily 8am Mass will typically be held at Noon to allow the streets to be cleaned & the temps to rise a bit for safety. Because of incidents when the schools are cancelled and the snow has not started we sometimes will keep Mass at 8am. **We are now signed up with WFMZ** to announce our Mass time on their website. Visit wfmz.com and click on School/Business Closings & we are listed under "Immaculate Conception Parish". You can also sign up for a StormCenter text alert from WFMZ when updates are made! Religious Updates will not be listed on the the TV scroll, only online.



2023 BLESSING CARDS & Chalk for above your door at home are available at the entrance of both Churches. They are the New Year blessing of the Magi for good health and prosperity upon your family. Because the Epiphany celebrates the *20 + C + M + B + 23* visit of the *May Christ Bless This Dwelling Place* Magi to the house of Jesus, it is customary to bless homes on this day. As we welcome others to our home in hospitality, we welcome Christ. Encountering Christ in others, we open hearts to God's graciousness.

EPIPHANY HOME BLESSING

In the Name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit . . . Amen

The Lord be with you . . . and with your spirit

Together as a family let us ask God's Blessing upon our home . . . (pause) . . . The Word was made Flesh and dwells among us. It is Christ who enlightens our hearts and homes with His love. As the Magi traveled to share in this love, let us share Jesus' love with all who travel and enter our home.

THE PRAYER OF BLESSING

Let Us Pray: Lord God of Heaven and Earth, You revealed Your only begotten Son to the world by the light of a star. Bless this home and all who live within it and those who are attracted to the light of our love. Surround them with guidance and protection that they may find comfort and joy in Christ Jesus our Lord. We ask this through Jesus, who lives forever and ever . . . Amen

THE MARKING OF THE DOOR

(Now place the card or mark with chalk:
20+C+M+B+23 and as you do say the following)

The Three Wise Men, Casper + Melchior + Balthasar, followed the star to God's Son, Who became human two thousand and twenty-two years ago! May Christ Bless our Home and remain with us throughout this year. Together let us Pray the Our Father . . . (pray the prayer out loud together)



THE CLOSING PRAYER

May all who come to our home this year rejoice to find Christ living among us. Let us who dwell here, reflect Jesus' love to the world as the wise men did long ago. Through Christ Our Lord. . . . Amen
(End with the sign of the cross together)

THE FIRST THOUGHT I HAD after thinking of today's ensemble of Readings was that of an eclipse of the moon. It's a picture of a slowly creeping darkness overcoming brilliance completely, at least for a brief time. The familiar conflict of virtue against sin that we experience almost daily comes to the birth story of Jesus, & the present day life of His Church, our Church too. The extended Christmas story easily conjures up the struggled we all have against negative powers. Almost as soon as the last notes of the beloved Christmas carols fade from our hearing, we got the jolt of St. Stephen's cruel martyrdom on Dec. 26. That was followed up with the slaughter of the Holy Innocents, with an easy application to modern day abortion.

In all of that, we are taught by the Holy Spirit, speaking through the Scriptures, not to give in to any Pollyanna outlook on life. Or about the process of our redemption. It involves crisis & the Cross before any rejoicing over the Resurrection.

We professed followers of the true Messiah, Our Lord & Master Jesus Christ, have to be ready for repeats, in substance, of all the pain & setbacks recorded in Church history over the centuries. Another image, like that of an eclipse that entered my mind is that of an imaginary "Gloomy Gus Association" at its annual convention. All members must dine on cold pea soup with bland crackers for three days & learn what to do with the fresh pin cushions distributed to them with an assortment of newly minted pins. Each pin represents a potential negativity they can introduce into anything positive in the coming year. King Herod would of course be a charter member of the group.

Returning to reality, I'd like to ask my fellow optimists to celebrate today this outbreak of the Good News of Christ. To free it from any confinement to a past time & place. This news came via the Magi visit to the vastly wide world of the Gentile nations. That should elicit an "Alleluia" from us all. That leads me to this easy depiction of the problem out there in Secular City: Once upon a time an optimist invited a pessimist to go duck hunting. The optimist wanted to show off his newly registered hunting dog that could do things no other dog could. The pessimist looked at the dog & said, "Looks like a mutt to me." At that moment, a flock of ducks flew over. The optimist shot one of the ducks & it fell into the middle of the lake. He snapped his fingers & his new dog ran out on the water, picked up the duck, & ran back on the water. The optimist took the duck from the dog's mouth, turned to the pessimist & said, "What do you think of the dog now?" The pessimist replied, "Dumb dog—can't even swim." God love you & give you His peace.

Reflection by Rev. Leonard N. Peterson