

Diocese of Allentown

# The Roman Catholic Community of Jim Thorpe

## Immaculate Conception Parish

### St. Joseph Church

*Pastor: Rev. Ronald J. Minner*

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



Immaculate Conception Rectory  
180 W. Broadway  
570-325-2791 • [iccjit@ptd.net](mailto:iccjit@ptd.net)  
[www.iccjimthorpe.org](http://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](mailto:stjosjt@ptd.net)  
[www.saintjosephchurch-jimthorpe.org](http://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](mailto: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](http://www.ReportBishopAbuse.org) or by calling 800-276-1562.

*February 19, 2023 ~ The Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time*

**WORSHIP**

Saturday Vigil: ..... 4:30 p.m. @ Immaculate Conception (*changes to 4:00 p.m. as of 2/25/23*)  
 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, March-SJC; April-ICC; May-SJC  
 Exposition & Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament: Wednesdays, 3pm to 6pm, Rotates Weekly

**SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION:**

Wednesdays at 5:00 p.m.  
 1<sup>st</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> Wednesday of month @ ICC  
 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> 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:**

Dr. Chris Heery, Principal  
 610-826-2354; altcsjn@ptd.net

**MARIAN CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL:**

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

*No Adoration this week*

**WEEK AT A GLANCE**

**Mon. 2/20:** RCIA, 6:30-8:30 pm  
**Tues. 2/21:** Flame of Love Rosary, 8:30am; Parish Council meeting, 6 pm @ ICC  
**Wed. 2/22: Ash Wednesday;** No Adoration; Confessions, 5pm @ SJC  
**Thurs. 2/23:** SJ Choir, 6:30pm  
**Fri. 2/24:** Stations of the Cross, 6pm @ SJC

**Ash Wednesday Lay Ministers Feb 22**

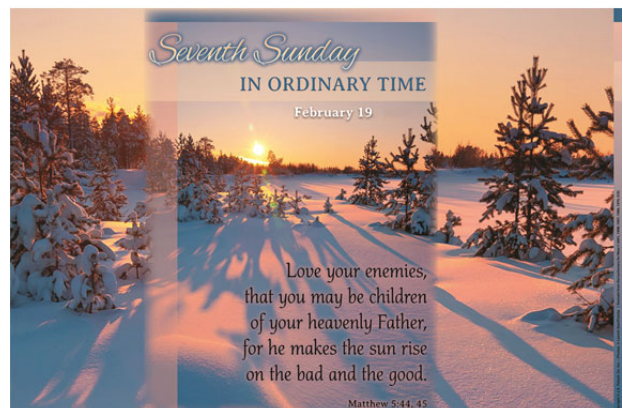
<i>Ministry</i>	<b>8:00 am ICC</b>	<b>12:05pm ICC</b>	<b>6:00 pm SJC</b>
<i>Lector:</i>	John M.	James N.	Vince R.
<i>E.M.:</i>	Mary M. / Deacon Jack	<i>Ashes Only</i> Jerry N. / James N.	Gloria K./ Deacon Jack

**Lay Ministers Feb. 25/26**

<i>Ministry</i>	<i>Sat. 4:00 pm ICC</i>	<i>Sun. 8:30 am SJC</i>	<i>Sun 10:30 am ICC</i>
<i>Lector:</i>	Daniel L.	Tricia S.	Mary F.
<i>E.M.:</i>	Deacon Jack, Caitlin M., Jerry N.	Joe O., Bernie S., Pam H.	Deacon Jack

**MASS TIME CHANGE**

Beginning next Sat., February 25<sup>th</sup> the vigil Mass at ICC will be held at **4:00 p.m.** Confessions will be heard before Mass from 3:15 to 3:45pm.



# The Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

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

## **Sat. Feb. 18**

4:30 pm (ICC) **Al "Butch" Heaney** (Tammy & Jay McElmoyle)

## **Sun. Feb. 19**

8:30 am (SJC) **Irene Cibik** (Margaret Moser & Family)

10:30 am (ICC) **Mary M. Kunkel** (Burkhardt & McGinley Families)

## **Mon. Feb. 20**

8:00 am (ICC) **Margaret Dolena** (Dan & Marcia Evans) /  
**Joseph James Forster, II** (Rowan Family)

## **Tues. Feb. 21**

8:00 am (SJC) **St. Peter Damian**  
**George Marzen** (Dinh Nguyen & Family of CA) / **James McClure** (Sarah Moss)

## **Wed. Feb. 22**

8:00 am (ICC) **Ash Wednesday**  
**All Our Parishioners, Living & Deceased**

12:05 pm (ICC) *Liturgy of the Word Service & Ashes*

5:00-5:50 pm *Confessions*

6:00 pm (SJC) **Kelsea Julian & William Barber** (Julian Family)

## **Thurs. Feb. 23**

8:00 am (ICC) **St. Polycarp**  
**Sarah Straubinger** (Thomas & Kathleen Straubinger) /  
**LaVerne Brogan** (Louise, Dan, & Karyn Goldman)

## **Fri. Feb. 24**

8:00 am (SJC) **Dorothy "Dot" Summer** (Betty Jean & Bob Biehn) / **Annette Getz** (sister, Emily)  
6:00 pm (SJC) *Stations of the Cross*

## **Sat. Feb. 25**

9:00 am (SJC) *Rosary for Life*  
10:00 am (ICC) **First Penance**

## *The First Sunday of Lent*

## **Sat. Feb. 25**

3:15-3:45 pm *Confessions*  
4:00 pm (ICC) **Mary Knorr** (Friends of Bear Creek Lake) *\*\* Note New Mass Time \*\**

## **Sun. Feb. 26**

8:30 am (SJC) **Victor Turner** (Homebound Eucharistic Ministers)

10:30 am (ICC) **Margaret "Peggy" McClafferty** (Rick & Mary Alice Kuhn)

## SAINT JOSEPH CHURCH CANDLES

SANCTUARY: In Loving Memory of *Jessica Nhem* (Requested by Aunts & Uncles)

BLESSED MOTHER: In Loving Memory of *Mary Milan* (Requested by Family)

BLESSED MOTHER: In Loving Memory of *Irene Milan, 6<sup>th</sup> anniv.* (Requested by husband, Clete & Family)

SAINT JOSEPH: *Special Intention*; HOLY FAMILY: *Special Intention*; INFANT OF PRAGUE: *Special Intention*

◆ **PARISH STEWARDSHIP:** 1/15/23: \$

*Thank you for your continued support & generosity.*

**LENT BEGINS THIS WEEK WITH ASH WEDNESDAY.** Mass will be held at 8am at Immaculate Conception and at 6pm at St. Joseph. A Liturgy of the Word service w/ ashes will be held at 12:05pm at Immaculate Conception. Confessions will be heard 5-5:50pm @ SJC.

◆ **STATIONS OF THE CROSS:** You are invited to pray the Stations of the Cross every Friday evening of Lent with us. Stations will be held at 6:00pm beginning this Friday, March 17<sup>th</sup>. Location will rotate church weekly, beginning at St. Joseph.

**THE ICC & SJC RECTORY OFFICES WILL BE CLOSED** this Monday, Feb. 20<sup>th</sup> for the President's Day Holiday.





**REST IN PEACE:** Kindly pray for the soul of **Rosemary Kuhn** who was called to her eternal reward. Please remember her, and her loved ones, in your prayers. May her soul, and the souls of all the faithful departed rest in peace.



**OUR PARISH MINISTRY FAIR** is this weekend, **February 18/19**

after all Masses. You will have an opportunity to see all of the things that our Parish has to offer, but you might not have known about. We are looking for people to take part inside during Mass & outside during the week. Our churches offer many fine things to enhance your faith life as well as advance others in theirs. A representative will be able to give you information as well as answer questions on each 'Ministry' that is offered. Please prayerfully consider taking part in a ministerial role for Mass, the sacred liturgy.

**FIRST PENANCE** will take place next Saturday, Feb 25<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 am at Immaculate Conception Church. Please pray for these young people as they take the next step in their faith journey. All are welcome to attend!

**NEXT WEEK, WE WILL TAKE UP THE CATHOLIC HOME MISSIONS APPEAL.** Today, over 40 % of dioceses in the United States are considered mission territories because they are unable to fund the essential pastoral work their communities need. Your support of this appeal helps ease the struggle of these dioceses. Please prayerfully consider how you can support this appeal. More info can be found at [uscbb.org/home-missions](http://uscbb.org/home-missions).



**CELEBRATION IN HONOR OF ST. PATRICK**

On Sunday, March 12<sup>th</sup> at the 10:30am Mass we will honor Past & Present Carbon County AOH/LAOH Members, and the Women's Club is going to host a small social gathering with refreshments following Mass. All are welcome! If anyone would like to donate please call Judy at 570-325-3310!



**WARM HEARTS, HAPPY FEET:** Catholic Daughters are sponsoring their annual sock collection. We are asking our parishioners to donate new socks for men, women and children to be distributed at our local food pantry to the needy families. Please put your donated socks in the box in the church vestibule through the end of February. Thank you for your support.

**OUR LENTEN OBLIGATION**

Church law considers every Friday and the season of Lent as penitential days and times. The practice of penance is a part of our faith and Christian life. When we do penance, we imitate Jesus, who Himself recommended it as necessary to His followers, and gave them the example of His prayer and fasting.

The Lenten obligation, as determined for Catholics in the United States by our bishops, requires that fasting be observed on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. The law of abstinence is to be observed on Ash Wednesday and all the Fridays of Lent.



**Who must fast?** All Catholics who are between the ages of 18 and 59. The obligation ceases when one begins his/her 60<sup>th</sup> year on his/her 59<sup>th</sup> birthday.

**Who must abstain?** All Catholics who are 14 years and older.

**What does fasting mean?** The observance of fasting means that those obliged may take only one full meal on the day of fast. Two lighter meals (not equal to another full meal) may be taken to maintain strength according to one's needs.

**What does abstinence mean?** The law of abstinence forbids the eating of meat, including poultry. Voluntary abstinence refers to refraining from lawful pleasures in a spirit of penance.

**Can anyone be dispensed or excused from fast and/or abstinence?** Individuals for a just cause may be dispensed by their pastor or by a priest with the faculty to do so. In our Diocese all priests may dispense individuals who are committed to their pastoral care. Those who are ill or have a similar serious reason are excused from the observance of fast and abstinence. Catholics are reminded that they should not lightly excuse themselves from this obligation.

**Are there other obligations which we should fulfill?** Catholics are obliged to fulfill what has been called their "Easter Duty." They are required to receive Holy Communion during the Easter time. In the United States this obligation can be fulfilled from the First Sunday of Lent until Trinity Sunday (*Feb 26 to June 4, 2023*). Those conscious of serious sin are reminded of the obligation to confess their sins at least once a year during this time.

**Catholics also are encouraged** to make Lent a time of more intense prayer and to practice almsgiving and other works of charity. Parishes are encouraged to continue participation in Operation Rice Bowl.

*DISPENSE*  
All the faithful of the Diocese of Allentown,  
whether actually present within the territorial limits of the Diocese,  
or absent from the territory,  
as well as those traveling (*peregrinus*) within the territorial limits of Diocese,  
from the universal obligation of abstaining from meat  
on Friday, 17 March 2023  
the Commemoration of Saint Patrick.



## OFFICE OF THE BISHOP

Mailing Address  
POST OFFICE BOX F  
ALLENTOWN, PENNSYLVANIA  
18105-1538

4029 WEST TILGHMAN STREET  
ALLENTOWN, PENNSYLVANIA 18104  
(610) 437-0755  
Fax (610) 433-7822

*Lent 2023*

...go to your inner room..."

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Each year, the Church in her wisdom proclaims the Gospel of Matthew on Ash Wednesday. At the very beginning of Lent, the Church wants us to reflect on the interior disposition that should accompany us during this sacred time of prayer, fasting, and almsgiving.

In particular, in verse six of chapter six, Matthew records Jesus' exhortation, "But when you pray, go to your inner room, close the door, and pray to your Father in secret." I propose that this one phrase can present a great challenge and a great gift to us this Lenten Season.

On one hand, to go apart from the noise and hurry of our lives and be in quiet sounds so inviting. On the other hand, to be immersed in silence with just God can seem frightening. What will I say? What will He say? Will I hear anything? What if I don't like what I hear? What if I don't know what to do with all this quiet?

Despite this trepidation, I encourage us to truly enter our "inner room." Spiritually, our inner room is an interior place in our heart that is the deepest part of our being where we speak intimately with God. This is a far different place than the frenetic world of twenty-four-hour talk, endless blogs, social media postings, tell-all books, and immediate opinion with harsh judgment. Rather, our inner room is a place of peace, tranquility, and being in the presence of God.

As we rediscover the peace of being with God in silence, we also can practice a Lent which prompts us to be more sparing in our speech as well. We can resolve to be charitable in our words, circumspect in making judgments, and humble in offering opinions. The Sacraments of Penance and the Holy Eucharist will orient us toward this goal as well as Lenten prayer, fasting, and good works.

May this Lent be a time when we quiet our hearts, reflect on God's Word in Sacred Scripture, and "pray to (our) Father in secret. And your Father who sees in secret will repay you." God bless you and all your efforts to grow closer to Him in this quiet Season of Lent.

Devotedly yours in Christ.

✠ Most Reverend Alfred A. Schlert  
Bishop of Allentown

### OPERATION RICE BOWL

Millions of Catholics join together through Operation Rice Bowl & reach out in solidarity with those who suffer from hunger & poverty through **prayer, fasting, learning, & giving** during the Lenten season. Your prayers, sacrifices, & generous donations support Catholic Relief Services' food security projects overseas as well as local hunger & poverty alleviation efforts in your diocese. Operation Rice Bowl provides a tangible opportunity to put our faith into action & help people in communities around the world & here in the United States. For more info please visit [csrcricebowl.org](http://csrcricebowl.org)



#### OPERATION RICE BOWL INVITES YOU TO:

- 1) Eat a special sacrificial meal on a designated day each week during Lent.
- 2) Deposit the money saved by eating less in a small rice bowl while family is at the table.
- 3) Offer this meal & sacrifice in an atmosphere of family prayer and devotion. Discuss poverty & those less fortunate.

**MEN'S RETREAT - SAVE THE DATE!** The L. J. Ferdinand Malvern Retreat Group will hold their annual retreat July 14-16 at the Malvern Retreat House. The group has been hosting retreats for over 80 years and many men from both Immaculate Conception and St. Joseph's have joined them. Contact the captain, John M. Nonnemacher for more details, 570-788-1012. John is a former Jim Thorpe resident and "son" of our parish.

**LENTEN WOMEN'S RETREAT:** All women are invited to join us for an Lenten evening of Mass, Adoration & reflection on **Tuesday, March 14** from 6-8 pm @ Holy Cross Parish, 99 Valley Street, New Philadelphia. Mass begins at 6pm, adoration following; light refreshments and Lenten Reflection by Maggie Riggins at 7pm. The event is free, but an rsvp is appreciated to plan for refreshments. If you have any questions about the event, please contact Maggie Riggins @ [riggins@allentowndiocese.org](mailto:riggins@allentowndiocese.org)