

4th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

[He said to them], "Today this Scripture passage is fulfilled in your hearing." And all spoke highly of him and were amazed at the gracious words that came from his mouth. They also asked, "Isn't this the son of Joseph?"
- Lk 4:21-22

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

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The Roman Catholic Parish of Saint Mary

426 MONMOUTH STREET, GLOUCESTER CITY, N.J. 08030

www.stmarysgloucestercity.org/www.facebook.com/SaintMary'sChurchGloucesterCity

Email: stmaryrectory@comcast.net

Phone: 856-456-0052~Fax856-456-1837

Rev Msgr William A Hodge	Pastor
Rev David J Klein	In-Residence
Kevin C Heil	Deacon
Charles Reed	Sacristan
Ronnie Battersby	Financial Secretary
Dan Spencer	Admin

Organizations Meeting Schedules:

Knights of Columbus: John McNutt, Grand Knight
856-287-2547

Catholic Daughters of America: Elaine McNutt 856-981-6382

Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians: Maread Gallagher, President

Legion of Mary: Wednesdays

9:15 AM

Adoration: Thursdays 12 PM

Religious Education: Wednesdays 3:40 PM & Thursdays 3:40 PM

January

30

Mass Schedule

Saturday Vigil	4PM
Sunday	7:30 AM, 9:30 AM, 11:30 AM
Weekdays	8 AM
Saturday Morning	9AM

Eucharistic Adoration

Thursday 12 Noon

Reconciliation

Saturday 9:30 Am, 3:15-3:45 PM

Anointing of the Sick & Homebound Visitation

Please call the Rectory at 856-456-0052 if anyone is homebound, in the hospital, critically ill or wishes to receive the Eucharist or the Anointing of the Sick.

Faith Formation

Director of Christian Initiation for Adults:
Director of Youth Religious Education: Elizabeth Mariani
Directory of Music: Joe Gorman

Queen of Ireland Gift Shop

Hours: Mon-Fri 9AM-2PM and after all Masses on Sundays.
Kathy Arensmeyer, Director

Baptisms and Marriages

Baptism: See inside bulletin for exact detailed information.

Marriages: Arrangements must be made 1 year prior to marriage date. Please call the Rectory.

Policy for Certificates of Eligibility: In order to receive a certificate, **You** (Not your mother or father) must be a practicing Catholic, registered in the parish. If married, you must be married in the church. You must attend Mass regularly. Use of weekly offering envelopes will tell us you are attending regularly.

Trustees: Elaine & John McNutt

THE 7TH ANNUAL ST. PATRICK'S PARADE SPONSORED BY THE CAMDEN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS, CITY OF GLOUCESTER CITY, ST. MARY'S PARISH AND THE NEW JERSEY IRISH SOCIETY WILL TAKE PLACE ON SUNDAY, MARCH 6TH AT 1:00PM SHARP!

THE PARADE WILL TAKE THE SAME ROUTE AS PREVIOUS YEARS FROM MARTIN'S LAKE UP MONMOUTH STREET TO KING STREET. WE ARE EXCITED TO HAVE EVERYONE'S FAVORITE TRAFFIC REPORTER, BOB KELLY ONCE AGAIN AS OUR CELEBRITY GRAND MARSHAL.

IT WILL BE A GREAT DAY FOR THE IRISH AS WE CELEBRATE WITH STRING BANDS FROM THE MUMMERS PARADE, SEVERAL PIPES AND DRUMS MARCHING UNITS, IRISH BANDS, DANCERS AND MUCH MORE.

WE ARE PROUD TO ANNOUNCE THE GRAND MARSHAL FOR THE 2022 PARADE IS MARY

BOYLE, THE RETIRED SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS FOR THE DIOCESE OF CAMDEN. MARY HAS ALWAYS BEEN INVOLVED WITH SUPPORTING CATHOLIC EDUCATION IN GLOUCESTER CITY AND CURRENTLY HELPS OUT 2 DAYS A WEEK AT GLOUCESTER CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL.

WE ARE SO BLESSED TO HAVE MARY BOYLE AS AN ADVOCATE FOR GLOUCESTER CATHOLIC AND ST. MARY'S PARISH. SHE IS TRULY DESERVING OF THIS HONOR AND WE ARE EXCITED FOR MARY! WE WILL START OFF THE DAY WITH AN IRISH MASS IN HONOR OF ST. PATRICK AND PRESENT MARY WITH HER OFFICAL GRAND MARSHALL PARADE SASH AT THE 9:30AM MASS.

IF YOU HAVE A GROUP OR ORGANIZATION WHO WOULD LIKE TO MARCH IN THE PARADE, REGISTRATION FORMS ARE AVAILABLE DURING BUSINESS HOURS AT THE PARISH OFFICES, MARY'S HOUSE. THE REGISTRATION FEE IS \$35.00 PER GROUP. ALL ARE WELCOME!

Baptisms and Marriages

Baptism: Held the 2nd & 4th Sunday of the month following the 11:30 Mass. Class is held the 1st Wednesday of every month at 7PM in the Rectory. You **CANNOT** attend class until eligibility slips are received. Parents and Godparents must attend class.

Marriages: Arrangements must be made 1 year prior to marriage date. Please call the Rectory.

Policy for Certificates of Eligibility: In order to receive a certificate, **You** (Not your mother or father) must be a practicing Catholic, registered in the parish. If married, you must be married in the church. You must attend Mass regularly. Use of weekly offering envelopes will tell us you are attending regularly.

Attention:

To all prospective Godparents:

The Rectory requires a minimum of **6 weeks** notice to verify and provide certificates of eligibility. Please be mindful of the Baptismal date when asking for the certificate of eligibility.



If you would like to make an online donation, you can do so by visiting our website: www.stmarysgloucestercity.org and follow the direction under the Giving Tab.

By contributing electronically, the parish will have the benefit of stable monthly contributions and achieve a significant reduction in administrative costs.

Keep in mind that you can always use your credit card to receive rewards. If you need assistance contact the Rectory.

Collection

1/02		1/09		1/16		1/23		12/26	
Parish Offerings	3338	Parish Offering	3141	Parish Offering	3391	Parish Offering	3535	Parish Offering	4118
Special Collection	1885	Parish Improvement	827.86	Parish Improvement	3274	Parish Improvement	1962	Parish Improvement	1858
Total	5223	Total	5968.86	Total	6662	Church in Latin America	395	Total	5976
						Total	5892		

Anyone who may be contributing to House of Charity via Employee Giving/Payroll Deduction thru United Way, United Way funds come in thru a bulk batch donation and if the acknowledgement is not sent to the diocese office it's not credited to any parish/individual. Please contact the Coordinator Carole Lackore at 856-583-6156 or carole.lackore@camdendiocese.org

All Lectors and Eucharistic Ministers: please email Sarah Murphy @ cupcakeeva04@yahoo.com with your name, phone number, email address and mass preferences in order for her to make a current contact list.

Going forward Masses will be limited to 3 recipients per Mass as per the Bishop's Office.

We would like our sick and shut-ins to receive Holy Communion frequently. If any of our Eucharistic Ministers would like to bring the Blessed Sacrament to any of their confined neighbors or family members please call the staff at Mary's House 856-456-0052. Ask them to write down your name and phone number down to pass along to Monsignor Hodge. Also, ask the communicant if he or she would like Monsignor to come to hear their Confession and/or give them the Sacrament of the Sick. We want our elderly, our sick and our home-bound to know they are an integral member of the parish whose prayers are most powerful.

BEGINNING AT THE VIGIL MASS FOR SUNDAY, JANUARY 9th – parishioners should be encouraged to wear masks while attending Mass. If a pastor wishes, those who chose to not wear a mask may be asked to sit in particular places in the church which are so marked. Priests, deacons and Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion **are required to wear a mask which covers their mouth and nose** whenever they distribute Holy Communion and to use hand sanitizer before and after distribution. Social distancing should be practiced where possible. Holy Water may be retained, but parish staff should make sure to change the water frequently.

All parish meetings/gatherings that take place indoors are **limited to the number that can be present while maintaining** all social distancing protocols. In addition, **all participants are expected to wear masks which cover their nose and mouth** for the duration of the meeting. If someone is unable to do so for health reasons – they must be reminded to keep a greater than six-foot distance from other participants.

While there is no prohibition on offering hospitality – best practices suggest that buffets and beverage centers should be limited.

Frequently touched surfaces should be sanitized on a regular basis. Parishioners should be asked to sanitize the bathroom after they use it or the parish may choose to have facilities staff available to do so.

ADORATION FOR LIFE

"If everyone prayed one hour of Adoration a week, there would be no abortion "

Mother Teresa

The Eucharist and Prayer has sustained the Pro-Life movement since the regrettable decision to legalize abortion in the United States in 1973.

We are as close as we have ever been to overturning Roe vs Wade.

Please be a voice for the unborn and sign up for an hour (or 1/2 hour) of Adoration here at St. Mary's on THURSDAY, JANUARY 20th anytime between 12 noon and 7 pm.

We need as many parishioners as possible to ask our Lord, the Father of all Life, to end Roe and the brutal practice of abortion. We are also praying that as a Parish we can better support mom's in need.

With God All things are possible.

Sign up sheets are on all the tables in the back of church.

God Bless You,

Pro-Life Ministry

St Mary's is pleased to offer both **Masses** and **Bell Ringing**. We offer a beautiful card for the living and deceased memorializing the ringing of our magnificent Bells of St Mary. The donation for the Ringing is the same as announced Mass: **\$15**. St Mary's is pleased to now offer the ability to sponsor **Altar Flowers**. The cost is **\$50** per spray with upgrades available upon request.

The Candles for the week of January 30, 2022 for the following Intentions

BLESSED MOTHER ALTAR CANDLE is burning for

ST. JOSEPH ALTAR CANDLE is burning for

SANCTUARY CANDLE is burning for **Baby Caden Patrick Cassidy (Healing Int)** R/b Mom Mom Maryann Gorman

Saint Francis of Assisi Candle is burning for

Saint Anthony of Padua is burning for **Special Int** R/b Pat Schwarz

St Patrick is burning **In Memory of Joseph P Driscoll** R/b Wife Olive Driscoll

The Divine Child Jesus is burning

Altar Flowers are in Memory of

Saturday January 29, 2022

9:00 AM Mary Dotti Bocchicchio (D) R/b Brian Hadley

4:00 PM Margaret Saunders (D) R/b Patricia Kulba

Sunday January 30, 2022 **Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time** *Bells: In Appreciation Living & Deceased Members of Saints & Singers*

7:30 AM Int Denny/McHugh Children (L) R/b Herbert Family, **Marge Kahlan (D) (Birth Rem)** R/b Karl

9:30 AM Rosemarie Cicalese (D) (Birth Rem) R/b Joanna & Michael McSweeney

11:30 AM Joan Staas R/b Legion of Mary

Monday January 31, 2022 **Saint John Bosco, Priest and Religious Founder**

8:00 AM Brian Gregal R/b Joe & Gloria Schoppy

Tuesday February 1, 2022

8:00 AM In Honor of St Brigid R/b LAOH

Wednesday February 2, 2022 **Presentation of the Lord**

8:00 AM Int of Denny/McHugh Children (L)

Thursday February 3, 2022 **Saint Blaise, Bishop and Martyr**

8:00 AM Jimmy Bobcock R/b The Murphy Family

Friday February 4, 2022

8:00 AM People of the Parish

Saturday February 5, 2022

9:00 AM Edward J Hayes Bequest, **Helen M Hayes** Bequest

4:00 PM Carol Levins (D) (Birth Rem) R/b Joe Levins

Sunday February 6, 2022 **Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time** *Bells: In Appreciation Living & Deceased Members of Saints & Singers*

7:30 AM Int Denny/McHugh Children (L) R/b Herbert Family

9:30 AM Margaret Saunders (D) (Birth Rem) R/b Jim & Rita Kain & Family

11:30 AM Ivar Jergensen (D) (15th Ann Rem) R/b Lynne & Family, **Joanne Krasowski (D) (Ann Rem)** R/b Family

Please keep in Your Prayers

Our Sick: Annetta & Hugo Adorno, Florence Underwood, Martin Roach, Thomas Kain, Claire Dunn, Olive Driscoll, Caroline Dougherty, Justin Locker, Billy Gormley, Bob Glassman, Bob Ludwick, Eva Christ, Maryann Liebrand, John Risely, John Greene III, Denise Glassman, Grace Cooney, Barbara Burns, Eleanor Kain, Dominic Abate, Donna Musick, Charlene Riley, Carol Samsanavicius, Frank Angeloni Sr, George Springer, Grace Piscopio, Jack Heiser, James E Miller, Jillian DePoder, Cindy Dolson, Joe Flinn, John Battersby, Annette Pecina, Samantha Boulden, Johnny McDevitt, Jordan Neff, Joseph Carlino Sr, Ronnie Convey, Kelli Cline-Perrone, Marion Hakanson, Linda & Tom Ryan, Linda White Locker, Lynne Jergensen, Marie "Franny" Spencer, Marion Scalzo, Mary Lou & Bill Adams, Mike Murphy, Nicholas Mecchione, Elise Cowgill, Ed Hlopak, Mike Battersby, Rich Notis, Judy McGrath, Selma Toal, Sr Nora Foley, Lindsey Sobelewski Eller, Theresa Gorman, Carolyn Foyle, Nick Pinolini, Troy Lail, Vickie Virden, Wayne Bradlock, William Kelly, William Livengood, Winifred Settler, Richard & Pat Schwartz, Tom Pierman, Kelly Gartland, Frances Bregler, Susan Stano, Clare Kearney, Richard Dolson, Jon Sciarra, Chrissy Barron, Bill Ritchie, Marge Laarkamp, Connie Klein, Jill Mosco, Georgette Carter, Sally Ludwick, Ms Cerelle, Dolores "Ducky" Whilleson, Bob Stone, Bill Ritchie Jr, Sue Green, Nancy McKoewn, Joseph C Perry Sr, Pat Sullivan, Frank Knox, **Danielle Harkins, George Griffiths, , Michael Grello, Shirley Fox**

Our Military: Colin Ward, Marine; Johnathan T Brown, Navy; John (Jak) Sullivan, US Air Force; Jacqueline Myers-Barton, US Army; AJ Parent, US Coast Guard, Sean Patrick Ward, US Army, Christopher James Grieco, US Air Force

Our Deceased:

Our Recently Baptized:

Prayer for the Spread of Perpetual Adoration

Heavenly Father, increase our faith in the Real Presence of Your Son Jesus Christ in the Holy Eucharist.
We are obliged to adore Him, to give Him thanks and to make reparation for sins.
We need your peace in our hearts and among nations.
We need conversion from our sins and the mercy of Your forgiveness.

Dear St Mary's Parishioners,

I wish to take this opportunity to thank anyone for answering my 23 year old granddaughter, Alexa Long, 2nd Lt US Army request for Christmas Care Packages and Christmas cards for her soldiers in Lithuania 6,000 miles away from home.

Because technology today is so amazing, I was not only able to talk to Alexa but see her in person. She said, "her soldiers were so happy to receive so many Christmas Care Packages and Cards." The soldiers are busy writing thank you notes.

Also, she reminded her family that she may be coming home around March of 2022. It could change.

Let's cross our fingers and pray a lot for her safety and for her young soldiers serving our country.

May God Bless you, Happy New Year and Thanks again.

Regards,

Alexa's Grandmom

Olive M Driscoll

New Parishioners

We warmly welcome new parishioners and visitors. Let us know how we may be of service to you. You may register at the Rectory: Monday-Friday 9AM-3PM.

A reminder we are still cleaning the Church after each Mass due to the Covid Virus.

A big thank you to those who are spraying the disinfectant. We appreciate your help.

We also thank those wiping the pews and doors.

If everyone could help us by leaving kneelers down at the end of Mass that will let the cleaner know someone was in the pew.

If you are able to bring disinfectant wipes with you and wipe down your pew after Mass that would be great. You can then leave the kneeler up.

In case of a cardiac emergency in church, please keep in mind that there is an AED located behind the pillar near the St Joseph's Altar. In case of a relevant emergency, someone should call 911 while someone else who is trained should use the AED.

Announcements

1. THE NEW BOOK CLUB READING IS AVAILABLE IN SAINT JOSEPH'S SACRISTY. THE DONATION IS ONLY \$3.00. THE BOOK WILL BE DISCUSSED ON THE LAST THURSDAY IN JANUARY; THE 27TH.
2. PRO-LIFE MINISTRY IS ASKING YOU TO PRAYERFULLY CONSIDER SIGNING UP FOR ADORATION ON THURSDAY, JANUARY 20TH FOR AN END TO ABORTION AND THAT AS A PARISH WE CAN BETTER SUPPORT MOM'S IN NEED. SIGN UP SHEETS ARE ON THE TABLES IN THE BACK OF CHURCH. PLEASE SEE BULLETIN FOR MORE INFORMATION.
3. THE 2022 SHAMROCK CELEBRATION COMMITTEE IS IN NEED OF THEMED BASKET DONATIONS OR ITEMS TO BUILD A BASKET FOR OUR IRISH AUCTION TO BE RAFFLED OFF FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 25TH. ITEMS NEEDED ARE GIFT CARDS, SPORTING OR EVENT TICKETS, AS WELL AS THEMED BASKETS, BUT ANY DONATION IS APPRECIATED. PLEASE CONTACT FRAN POLLANDER FOR FURTHER DETAILS.

Dear Msgr Hodge,

Just a note to thank you for giving permission to St Mary's Pro-Life Group to hold the annual Baby Shower for our 1st Way Life Center.

We received beautiful baby items that arrived at just the right time of the year! The new moms will be delighted to receive these new presents for their newborns.

A special thank you to Claire Marie Deveraux for coordinating this event for us. It is a big undertaking and we are so grateful.

Gratefully for the Preborn,
Denise F Cocciolone
President

4TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



WORSHIP & MEDITATION



FIRST READING

The word of the LORD came to me, saying:
Before I formed you in the womb I knew you,
before you were born I dedicated you,
a prophet to the nations I appointed you. (Jer 1:4-5)



PSALM

I will sing of your salvation. (Ps 71)



SECOND READING

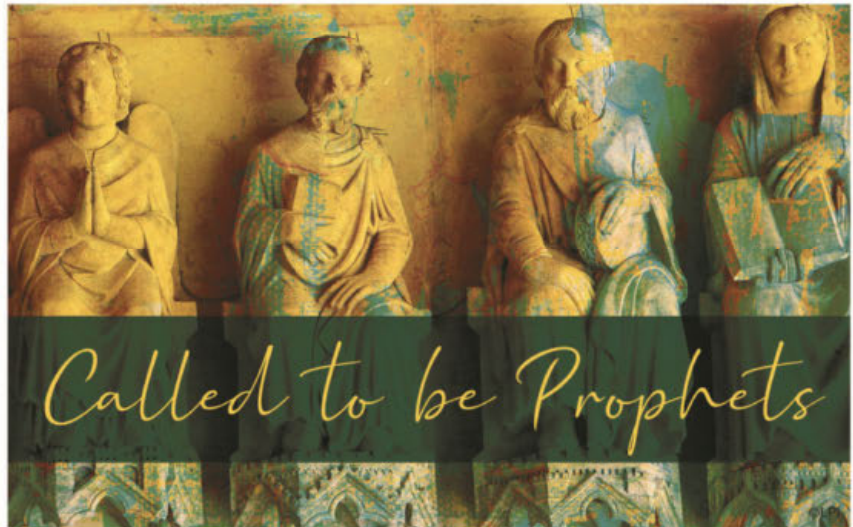
So faith, hope, love remain, these three;
but the greatest of these is love.
(1 Cor 13:13)



GOSPEL

And he said, "Amen, I say to you,
no prophet is accepted in his own
native place." (Lk 4:24)

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GOSPEL MEDITATION

Encourage Deeper Understanding of Scripture

St. Oscar Romero (1917-1980) was a "Salvadoran Roman Catholic archbishop who was a vocal critic of the violent activities of government armed forces, right-wing groups, and leftist guerrillas involved in El Salvador's civil conflict (Encyclopedia Britannica)." As a voice of the voiceless, he was an outspoken champion of the poor who were the ones most affected by the civil unrest and violence. His advocacy provoked several attempts on his life. Nonetheless, St. Oscar Romero was convinced that before all else his faith in the resurrected Christ and the values of the Gospel trumped any earthly concern or worry. He walked with complete confidence and trust. On March 24, 1980, St. Oscar Romero was assassinated while celebrating Mass. Such is often the fate of those who challenge the socio-political agendas of the day.

We may look at the example of witness of St. Oscar Romero as something extraordinary. In one sense it is. Through the power of God, an ordinary human being did extraordinary things. But, in and of himself, St. Oscar Romero was simply a humble, loving servant of God. Oscar knew not only the power of love but the risk that comes when loving unconditionally. The beauty of God's message was able to shine in and through him because he was able to step out of the way and be a vessel. One can assume that for St. Oscar Romero, one's earthly life has no merit when faith, integrity, conviction, zeal and love are jettisoned. Fear and apprehension had no grip on this man who not only saw but spoke the truth.

Do we speak the truth? It makes us feel good to speak of God as love. But have we ever considered the ramifications of this radical message? There are assaults on human life occurring daily. More and more the value and worth of a human being is being reduced and minimized. We are becoming widgets in the production of life. In our whole simple humble ways, we too are called to be prophets. Knowing who you are and what is within your means to do, how can you make God's love real, stand up for what is right, and give witness to the sacredness of all that is around you?

LITURGICAL LIFE

RESPONDING *to the Call*

EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP

Recognize God In Your Ordinary Moments

First Corinthians and the Stewardship of Social Media

“Love is patient, love is kind ...” As familiar as these words are, they never seem to stray into the territory of becoming trite or silly. At their core they communicate a truth about us and about our Creator that never fails to inspire.

But despite the fact that you’ve probably heard it at many weddings over time, First Corinthians isn’t just for newlyweds. It wasn’t written for married folks. It’s for every single one of us, in every state of life and every social situation, in every country and culture and language across the globe.

Which means that First Corinthians is even for the online world. It’s for Facebook and Twitter and Instagram and all the other platforms I’m forgetting (there seems to be a new one every day, doesn’t there?).

A sense of division — whether rooted in politics, culture or anything else — is growing in our world, and it’s never more obvious than when we observe interactions online. It is far easier, after all, to remember what love is when a human being of flesh and blood stands before us. When all we see is an avatar or a profile picture on a screen — especially accompanied by an opinion with which we vehemently disagree — even the most loving Christians can throw First Corinthians out the window.

As everyday stewards we know that we are charged to be not only gracious but grateful. We receive others but we also give thanks for what they bring to us — even if that’s an opportunity to “strive eagerly for the greatest spiritual gifts.”

So before the next time you post anything online, I suggest giving First Corinthians a read — and remember, love never fails.

— Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

PLEASE CONSIDER ONLINE GIVING

Our parish is grateful for your continued support. Thank you!



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SUNDAY, JANUARY 30, 2022 | 4TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



WHY DO WE DO THAT? Catholic Life Explained:

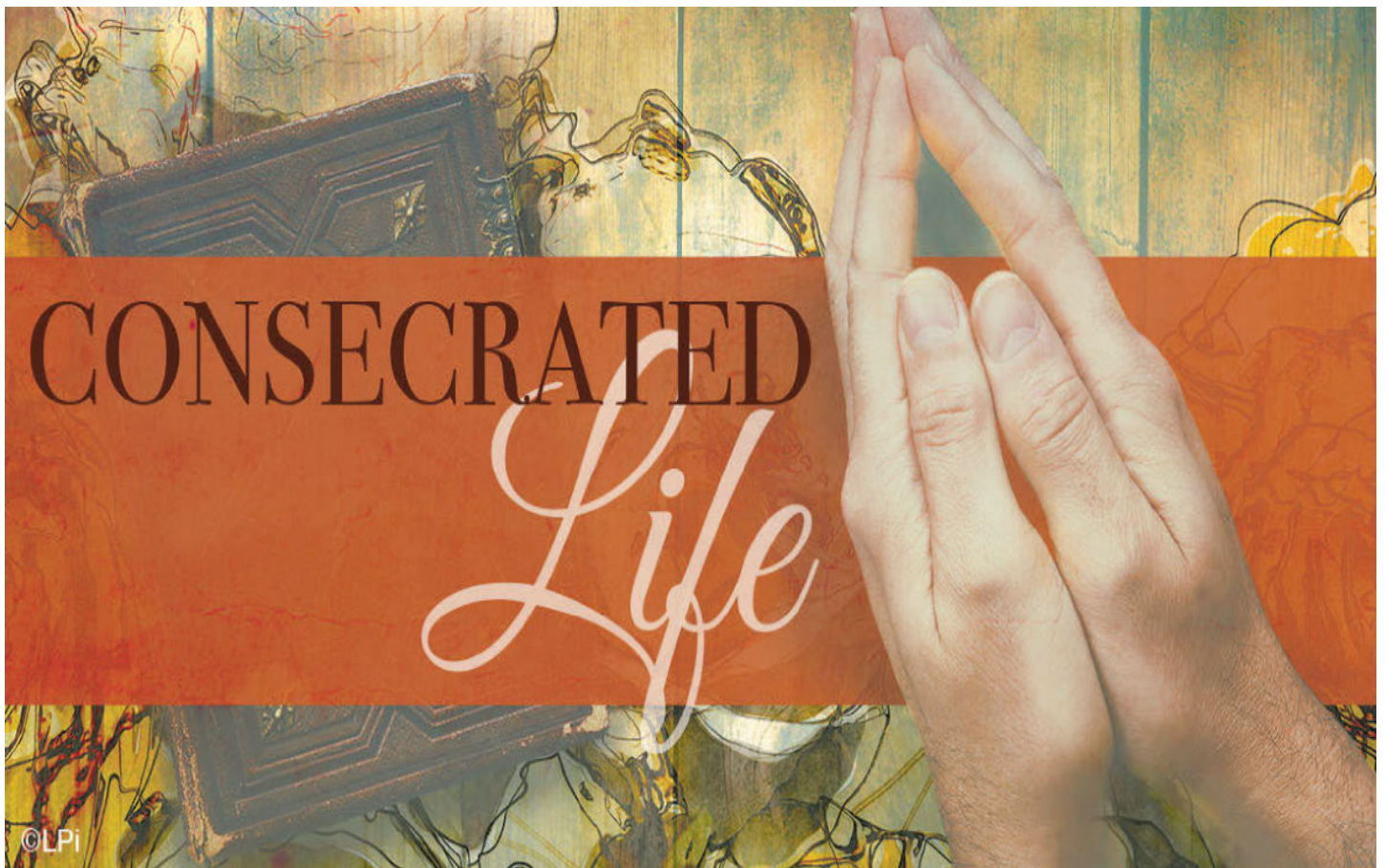
Question:

I’ve heard people call Jesus’ conception by the Holy Spirit being “immaculately conceived.” Is that what the Immaculate Conception is?

Answer:

While these two events are often confused, they are not the same thing. We celebrated the conception of Jesus on March 25th, the feast of the Annunciation. While that was surely miraculous, it isn’t what we refer to as the “immaculate conception.” The Immaculate Conception is Mary’s conception, and we typically celebrate it on December 8th. If the 8th happens to be a Sunday, the Church moves the feast to December 9th. It is a holy day of obligation. Why does the Church consider it so important to celebrate?

Mary’s conception is immaculate because she was conceived without original sin. The angel Gabriel acknowledges this when he hails Mary as “full of grace” (Luke 1:28). Scripture scholars identify several theological ideas that confirm this. In the Old Testament, the sacred, pristine Ark of the Covenant held the presence of God. The presence of God is now held within a new “arc” — the womb of Mary. Genesis 3 also prophesies of a woman who would oppose the devil and whose child would crush the devil’s head. Christ is the “New Adam.” This passage sets up Mary, then, as the “New Eve.” Jesus and Mary are the beginnings of a new creation, one we all can participate in through the grace of our baptism. After all, God’s love is more “original” than our sin!



Lighter Side Divine Delivery

A businessman ordered flowers to be sent to the opening of his friend's new branch office. When the businessman got to the event, he was shocked to see the flowers with the inscription "Rest in Peace." He was so outraged that he stopped at the florist to complain.

"It could be worse," the florist said, "Just think: Today someone was buried beneath a floral arrangement with the inscription 'Congratulations on Your New Location!'"

One for Every Room

One Sunday our priest announced he was passing out miniature crosses made of palm leaves. "Put this cross in the room where your family argues most," he advised. "When you look at it, the cross will remind you that God is watching."

As I was leaving church, the woman in front of me walked up to the priest, shook his hand, and said, "I'll take five."

Confession

En route to church to make his first confession, my nervous seven-year-old grandson asked me what he could expect.

"Confession is where you tell all the bad things you've done to the priest," I told him. He looked relieved.

"Good. I haven't done anything bad to the priest."

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