

# IMMACULATE CONCEPTION PARISH



Inviting—Uniting—Igniting

720 Liberty Street  
Clarion, Pennsylvania 16214

### Mass Schedule

Saturday Evening - 4:00 p.m.

Sunday Morning - 8:30 and 11:00 a.m.

Holy Days - 8:30 a.m. and 7:00 p.m.

Weekdays - Consult the bulletin or phone the parish office

**Church & School: 814-226-8433**

#### Parish Staff

The Very Reverend  
B. LaMunte Sayers, VF  
Pastor

montysayers@hotmail.com

Kim Kroh

Business Manager

KimKroh@comcast.net

Theresa McMillen

Parish Liturgical Coordinator

tmcmillen1@comcast.net

Teresa Frederick

Faith Formation Director

tdfrederick@comcast.net

Linda Summerville

Adult Faith Formation Director

linda.summerville62@gmail.com

Lori Cratty

Principal

lcratty@clarionichawks.net

Connie Eisenman

Office Coordinator

ceisenman@clarionichawks.net

#### Parish Membership

Membership includes active participation in the sacramental life of the Church, involvement in the activities of the faith community and financial support of the parish. New members are welcome to register by calling the parish office.



## Venerable Henriette Delille (1813-1862)

Venerable Henriette Delille was born in New Orleans, Louisiana, where she would live her entire life. For the love of Jesus and responding to the Gospel's mandate, she was determined to help those in need. Henriette was also a person who suffered as she made her way through life, and she bore many crosses. She taught those around her that sanctity can be attained in following the path of Jesus. It was in this manner that she dealt with her troubles and major obstacles to achieve her goals. Some of the troubles Henriette met were the resistance of the ruling population to the idea of a black religious congregation; the lack of finances to do the work; the taunts and disbelief of people in her mission; the lack of support from both the Church and civil authority; and poor health.

However, Henriette practiced heroic virtue. She had faith, lived in hope, and practiced love. She was compassionate, forgiving, and merciful. She believed in justice and was not afraid to do what was right in the eyes of God. God blessed her efforts and, in 1842, she founded the Congregation of the Sisters of the Holy Family. Henriette died 20 years later on November 17, 1862. Her funeral was held at St. Augustine Church. Her obituary stated, ". . . Miss Henriette Delille had for long years consecrated herself totally to God without reservation to the instruction of the ignorant and principally to the slave."

*From <https://www.usccb.org/>*



A sincere thank you to all who made a pledge and/or gift to the Catholic Services Appeal. You have joined together with Catholics throughout the Diocese of Erie to share of your blessings to help advance the mission of the church. I am grateful.

If you have not yet made a commitment, it is not too late. Just drop your pledge card or envelope marked 'CSA' in the collection basket or turn it in at the parish office. Your generosity is appreciated.

**LENT IS A SEASON THAT CALLS US:**

- to fast from discontent and to feast on gratitude;
- to fast from anger and to feast on patience;
- to fast from bitterness and to feast on forgiveness;
- to fast from self-concern and to feast on compassion;
- to fast from discouragement and to feast on hope;
- to fast from laziness and to feast on commitment;
- to fast from complaining and to feast on acceptance;
- to fast from lust and to feast on respect;
- to fast from prejudice and to feast on understanding;
- to fast from resentment and to feast on reconciliation;
- to fast from lies and to feast on the truth;
- to fast from wasted time and to feast on honest work;
- to fast from grimness and to feast on joy;
- to fast from suspicion and to feast on trust;
- to fast from idle talk and to feast on prayer and silence;
- to fast from guilt and to feast on the mercy of God.



(Based on a version often attributed to William Arthur Ward)

**CENTURY CLUB** — The 2021 Century Club tickets are on sale now! Prizes are:

- April 30:** (1) \$300 / (1) \$200 / (2) \$100 / (5) \$50
- May 28:** (1) \$300 / (2) \$200 / (2) \$100 / (5) \$50
- June 30:** (1) \$500 / (1) \$400 / (3) \$200 / (3) \$100 / (10) \$50

Bonus Early Bird Drawing on **March 31:** (1) \$200

Cost is \$100 — Contact Stella Miller at (814) 226-7935 to purchase your ticket

**THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION PARISH SCHOOL PTO** is sponsoring a Sarris Easter Candy Sale from February 10th to 24th. You may place an order with any of our IC students during this time frame or in the online store starting February 18th at



**SarrisCandiesFundraising.com**

Organization Name: Immaculate Conception School.  
Group ID # 10-0189.  
Contact Julie Smith at 814-590-4610 with any questions.



Addition to the Prayer List: Martin Murphy

**A MESSAGE FROM FATHER MONTY — “Lent 21 In 21”**

Teresa Frederick, Linda Summerville and I worked for about six weeks putting together the parish program “Lent 21 in 21”. The suggestions they devised for prayer, fasting and almsgiving ought to help all of us become bold signs of hope, peace, joy and love as we move through the season.

I want to make the case today for you reading the Gospel of John this Lent. First, John has **21** chapters. Second, passages from John are proclaimed on the Third, Fourth and Fifth Sundays of Lent—March 7, 14 and 21—emphasizing Jesus’ glorification through his cross and resurrection.



In the weekday Lectionary, beginning on the Monday of the fourth week of Lent, there is a semi-continuous reading of the Gospel of John. By ancient tradition these texts were used for the catechesis of the Elect as they made their final preparation to renounce sin and receive Baptism.

At the beginning of Holy Week, the Gospel of John’s account of Jesus’ triumphal entry into Jerusalem will be proclaimed at the opening procession on Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord.

During the Triduum, we hear John’s account of Our Lord washing the feet of his disciples at the Thursday of the Lord’s Supper evening Mass. On Friday of the Passion of the Lord, John’s narrative of Jesus’ passion, death and burial is proclaimed. On Easter Sunday it is John’s version of Mary of Magdala finding the tomb empty and encountering the Lord, face to face, raised from the dead.

During the Easter season the Gospel of John figures prominently on the Second, Fourth, Fifth, Sixth and Seventh Sundays of Easter with excerpts from Jesus’ teaching on the Good Shepherd and from his discourse and prayer in the Upper Room at the last supper.

On Pentecost, readings from the Gospel of John are proclaimed at the vigil and daytime Masses.

One final note: the brevity of the Gospel of Mark is supplemented by the “Bread of Life” discourse from the Gospel of John on four Sundays in the Summer of 2021.

Why not make an investment this Lent that will last you a lifetime—an Eternal Lifetime—and read the **21** chapters of the Gospel of John in ‘21’?

**FAMILY CATECHESIS:**

**About the Gospel:** In this week’s Gospel, we are told, “the Spirit drove [Jesus] into the desert” so he could pray, and “the angels ministered to him.” The Holy Spirit always moves us in ways that are good for us.

**Life Question:** What is testing your spirit this Lent?

**Gospel Question:** What is Jesus asking when he says to repent and believe in the Good News?

**Question of the Week:** How does the Holy Spirit help you to live as a follower of Jesus?

**Family Prayer:** Holy Spirit, help us to make good choices that are pleasing to God. Amen.





**MAY THE LENTEN SPRINGTIME...**

- **Read the Holy Father's 2021 Lenten Letter** – Google “Pope Francis 2021 Lenten Message” for multiple sites featuring this document.
- **Wednesday Evening Devotions** - “The Way of the Cross – Praying the Psalms with Jesus” begin on February 24 at 7:00 p.m. You will need to purchase a book to participate and bring it with you each week. Books will be available for \$2.00 a copy.
- **Rice Bowl** - Join our school community—and more than 14,000 Catholic communities across the United States—in a life-changing Lenten journey of encounter with CRS Rice Bowl. Your family's CRS Rice Bowl is included in your “21 in ‘21” packet.
- **The Sacrament of Penance** - is scheduled for the following dates in March:
  - Thursday, March 4 – Following the 8:30 Mass;
  - Saturday, March 6, 13, 20 and 27 at 3:00 p.m.
 On Saturday afternoons, you must be present by 3:00 for instruction about celebrating the sacrament at Immaculate Conception. If you arrive after 3:00 p.m. you will have to return on the next scheduled date.

... LEAD YOU TO

**AN EASTER OF UNENDING JOY!****GENUFLECTING & KNEELING —**

**Question:** Does it matter what leg you kneel on when you are genuflecting?

**Answer:** Genuflection is an act of devotion that literally means “to bend the knee.” For many Catholics, it's an almost automatic gesture that we perform before entering our pew or row of seats at Mass. But, like many of the symbols and gestures of our faith tradition, genuflecting can also be an invitation for deeper reflection.

The practice of “bending the knee” is an ancient way of recognizing the presence of someone greater than we are. It has been said that the practice dates back to the time of Alexander the Great, but it became a common part of etiquette in the royal courts of the Middle Ages. From throne rooms and palaces, it was a small step to genuflecting, becoming part of the devotional lives of Christians who used this secular gesture as a way of recognizing the presence of the One who is King of Kings, especially in the Eucharist. In our tradition, although many have been taught or prefer to genuflect by placing their right knee on the ground, there is no prescribed way to genuflect. This is especially important to keep in mind if physical limitations or age make certain movements difficult for us.

Today, Catholics are asked to genuflect in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament (whether in the tabernacle or exposed on the altar during eucharistic adoration). So, while it has become second nature to genuflect before entering your seat in church, we should pay attention to where the Blessed Sacrament is kept in each church or chapel we visit, and genuflect in the direction of the tabernacle where the Blessed Sacrament is kept. In churches or chapels in which the tabernacle is in a separate space, we are invited to simply bow toward the altar.

©LPi

**MASS Intentions****Monday, February 22 -****The Chair of Saint Peter the Apostle**

8:30 a.m. Edward Osterried (Family)

**Tuesday, February 23 - Saint Polycarp**

8:30 a.m. Ron Perry (Yvonne Perry)

**Wednesday, February 24**5:30 p.m. Leo and Romane Stiglitz  
(Ann and John Stiglitz)**Thursday, February 25**

8:30 a.m. Rose Lowman (I.C. Faculty)

**Friday, February 26**

12:10 p.m. My Parents (Father Monty)

**Saturday, February 27**4:00 p.m. Deceased Members of DelGreco and  
Grine Families (JoAnne Grine)**Sunday, February 28 - Second Sunday of Lent**

8:30 a.m. Joan Lander (Madge Copenhaver)

8:30 a.m. RADIO MASS — Gordon Rice (Estate)

11:00 a.m. For the People

**Readings for the week of February 21, 2021****Monday:** 1 Pt 5:1-4/Ps 23:1-3a, 4, 5, 6 [1]/Mt 16:13-19**Tuesday:** Is 55:10-11/Ps 34:4-5, 6-7, 16-17, 18-19 [18b]  
/Mt 6:7-15**Wednesday:** Jon 3:1-10/Ps 51:3-4, 12-13, 18-19 [19b]  
/Lk 11:29-32**Thursday:** Est C:12, 14-16, 23-25/Ps 138:1-2ab, 2cde-3,  
7c-8 [3a]/Mt 7:7-12**Friday:** Ez 18:21-28/Ps 130:1-2, 3-4, 5-7a, 7bc-8 [3]  
/Mt 5:20-26**Saturday:** Dt 26:16-19/Ps 119:1-2, 4-5, 7-8 [1b]  
/Mt 5:43-48**Next Sunday:** Gn 22:1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18/Ps 116:10, 15,  
16-17, 18-19 [9]/Rom 8:31b-34/Mk 9:2-10**IMMACULATE CONCEPTION PARISH SCHOOL  
INVITES YOU TO PARTICIPATE IN...**

Registration is February 1 through March 15.

Entry fee is \$35. Proceeds benefit the IC School PTO.

T-shirt Included!! To register, go to

<https://runsignup.com/race/pa/clarion/walkacrossamerica5k>  
Sign up to walk or run 5K (3 miles). Do it whenever and wherever you want and record your time. You can enter your completion time when you register or return to the registration page and enter it later. Pick up your t-shirt at Dan Estadt's in Clarion or it can be mailed to you.

**FOOD PANTRY** – Please help our local Community Action Food Pantry. This month, we are asking for **Box Food (Pasta), Sauces and Soup**. The pantry welcomes all non-perishable food items at any time. Please place donated items in the containers in the lobby of the Church. **THANK YOU!**

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