



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. LaMounte Sayers, VF
Pastor
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jglover@eriercd.org

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abish@icclarion.org

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Lori Cratty
Principal
lcratty@clarionichawks.net

Caleigh Stout
School Office Coordinator
cstout@clarionichawks.net

Greg Pedley
Buildings & Grounds Manager
gpedley@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.



*Congratulations to
Brock McClain
Who Celebrated His First Holy Communion at
the 11:00 Mass On May 5,
the Sixth Sunday of Easter 2024*



**FROM THE CHANCERY:
BE CAUTIOUS ABOUT SHARING
PERSONAL INFORMATION**

In this age when personal data can be misused by scam artists, please be aware that the Roman Catholic Diocese of Erie, its clergy, and entities such as parishes and schools will never solicit your personal or business information by any method unless initiated by you. Should you receive an unsolicited request for such information — including a request for gift cards of any type — exercise extreme caution. Contact the person or entity by using official contact information only. Do not use contact information provided in the potential fraudulent request.

AS I LOVE YOU – By Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

This week my children were learning about energy. We set up an experiment with toy cars — one was placed in front of another, and a third was pushed into the two stationary ones.

The forward motion caused the front car to move, but not much. “Most of the energy goes into the car in the middle, not the car on the end,” my daughter concluded.

I asked her why she seems to have so much energy, and I seem to have so little.

“Because you’re old,” she replied confidently.

Most days I feel like that first car, barreling at life with all my energy and love and good intentions, only to have it almost entirely absorbed by the proverbial middle car. It’s so easy to be discouraged. The devil so badly wants us to feel discouraged.

But the law of love is not unlike the law of conservation of energy. Love is neither created nor destroyed. It is only transferred from one form to another. And yes, sometimes it certainly seems like it disappears. It appears to get lost between my hands and the plate of dinner that goes uneaten or evaporates off of my lips as words I fear are never heard. It is spat upon as a commandment the world would prefer I do not keep.

But we are not called to simply love one another — to love when it seems effective and productive and appreciated. We are called to love as Christ loved: recklessly, selflessly, and yes, even without logic. We are called to love with a love that doesn’t give up and is never withdrawn. A love that doesn’t fear death or the world’s hatred. A love that stands willing to argue, to be reviled, to be dismissed.

We are called to be that first car, hurtling ourselves against a world that isn’t ready to accept or understand us. And we trust that, even when we can’t see how, the love that seems to disappear simply changes forms.

“This is my commandment: love one another as I love you.” — John 15:12

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A MESSAGE FROM FATHER MONTY –

“Our Lady Who Runs”: A Reflection for May

I had the privilege of celebrating Mass in Fatima, Portugal last fall in Our Lady of Sorrows Chapel. This particular chapel is just yards from the “Chapel of the Apparitions” where Our Lady appeared to three children in 1917. On Saturday, August 5, 2023 Pope Francis visited the sanctuary at Fatima as part of World Youth Day 2023, centered in Lisbon. I have used the words he spoke on that occasion for meditation many times over the past nine months—including the site where the Holy Father spoke them. I offer them to you on this first Sunday in May, the Month of Mary, the Mother of God:

“Mary has many titles, but we can think of another that we could add to them: ‘Our Lady who runs’ every time there is a problem; whenever we seek her aid, she does not delay, she comes to us, she hastens. She is ‘Our Lady of haste’. Do you like that? . . . She hastens to be near to us; she hastens because she is our Mother. . . That is how Mary accompanies Jesus throughout his life; and she does not draw back after the Resurrection, but accompanies the disciples, waiting for the Holy Spirit. She also accompanies the Church that begins to grow after Pentecost. Our Lady of haste and Our Lady who accompanies. She always accompanies, never taking pride of place! Mary’s gesture of welcoming is twofold: she first welcomes and then points to Jesus. Mary does nothing in her life except point to Jesus: “Do whatever he tells you”; follow Jesus. . .

“Dear friends, Jesus loves us so such that he identifies with us, and he asks us to work together with him. Mary shows us what Jesus is asking of us: that we journey through life and share in his work. Today, I would like us to look at the image of Mary, and ask ourselves, “What is Mary saying to me as Mother? What is she showing me?” She is directing us to Jesus; yet, sometimes, she also shows us aspects of our lives that are not going so well, but she always directs us to Jesus. ‘Mother, what is it that you wish to show me?’ Let us spend a few moments in silence, each one of us asking in our hearts: ‘Mother, what is it that you wish to show me? What is it in my life that you are concerned about? What is there in my life that stirs your heart? What is there in my life that interests you? Please, show me’. And her heart directs us thus, so that Jesus will come. And just as she points us to Jesus, she points out to Jesus each of our hearts.”



THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD,
a holy day of obligation, will be observed on
Thursday, May 9, with Masses at
8:30 a.m. and 5:30 p.m.

THE FLOWERS AT THE ALTAR this Sunday are given for the Greater Glory of God and in honor of the Blessed Virgin Mary, the Patroness of our Parish in her Immaculate Conception. Thank you for your generous support of the 2024 Easter Flower collection!

CEMETERY NOTICE – Before you plant or place decorations on graves this month, please consult the Immaculate Conception Cemetery regulations. The regulations are clearly posted in the parish cemetery. These regulations have been enacted to preserve the dignity of our parish cemetery and for the protection of cemetery employees.

Immaculate Conception Parish School
Golf Outing
 Sunday, June 9, 2024
 Clarion Oaks Golf Club
 Registration at 8:00 a.m.
 Shotgun Start at 9:00 a.m.

Sponsorship Opportunities Available!

For more information or to become a sponsor
 Contact Julie Smith at
 icpsgolfouting@gmail.com or
 by phone at 814-590-4610

**IMMACULATE CONCEPTION PARISH
 SAINTLY SOJOURN
 OCTOBER 15-17, 2024**

We will be visiting:

- ❖ Sorrowful Mother Shrine, Bellvue, OH
- ❖ Notre Dame University, South Bend, IN
- ❖ Our Sunday Visitor (OSV), Huntington, IN
- ❖ National Shrine of Our Lady of Consolation, Carey, OH
- ❖ A few other stops along the way!

Trip includes:

- ❖ **Meals - 3 Lunches, 3 Dinners, 2 Breakfasts plus gratuities**
- ❖ Hotel accommodations for two nights at the beautiful Essenhaus Inn in Middlebury, IN
- ❖ Faith - an opportunity to grow your lifelong faith formation!
- ❖ Snacks
- ❖ FUN!

Cost: \$600 per person based on double occupancy. Single rooms available for \$767. Please make reservations early. Final payment due by August 15, 2024. No refunds or cancellations within 60 days of trip unless with replacement. For more information or to reserve your seat, please contact Kim at (814) 221-0241 or kkroh@live.com

Inviting ~ Uniting ~ Igniting

 **Start practicing your cornhole skills now.**
 The parish picnic is
AUGUST 4, 2024

MASS Intentions

Monday, May 6

8:30 a.m. Blake Sayers
 (Father Monty)

Tuesday, May 7

8:30 a.m. Rose Cabone (Estate)

Wednesday, May 8

NO MASS

Thursday, May 9 – The Ascension of the Lord

8:30 a.m. For the People
 5:30 p.m. Barb Wigton
 (Rodger and Kathy Shingledecker)

Friday, May 10 – Saint John of Avila

and Saint Damien de Veuster

8:30 a.m. Gerry McMillen (Grandsons)

Saturday, May 11

4:00 p.m. Marie and Richard Beichner
 (Ron and Pat Magness)

Sunday, May 12 – Seventh Sunday of Easter

Mother's Day

8:30 a.m. For the People
 8:30 a.m. **RADIO MASS** –
 Deceased Mothers and Fathers of
 Immaculate Conception Parish
 11:00 a.m. For the People

Readings for the week of May 5, 2024

Monday: Acts 16:11-15/Ps 149:1b-2, 3-4, 5-6a and 9b
 /Jn 15:26—16:4a

Tuesday: Acts 16:22-34/Ps 138:1-2ab, 2cde-3, 7c-8
 /Jn 16:5-11

Wednesday: Acts 17:15, 22-18:1/Ps 148:1-2, 11-12, 13, 14
 /Jn 16:12-15

Thursday: Acts 18:1-8/Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4/Jn 16:16-20
Ascension: Acts 1:1-11/Ps 47:2-3, 6-7, 8-9 (6)
 /Eph 1:17-23 or Eph 4:1-13 or 4:1-7, 11-13
 /Mk 16:15-20

Friday: Acts 18:9-18/Ps 47:2-3, 4-5, 6-7/Jn 16:20-23

Saturday: Acts 18:23-28/Ps 47:2-3, 8-9, 10/Jn 16:23b-28

Next Sunday: Acts 1:15-17, 20a, 20c-26/Ps 103:1-2,
 11-12, 19-20 (19a)/1 Jn 4:11-16/Jn 17:11b-19



Offertory	April 27 - 28
Envelopes	\$ 5,854.00
Loose	538.00
Monthly	446.00
Online Giving	117.04
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Mother's Day Flowers	10.00
Good Shepherd	1,816.00
TOTAL	\$ 8,847.04

Money Counters Monday, May 6 — Team 4

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