



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 5:30 p.m.

Weekdays - Consult the bulletin or phone the parish office

Church & School
814-226-8433

Parish Staff

Rev. B. LaMounte Sayers
Pastor
montysayers@hotmail.com

Deacon Joseph Glover
jglover@eriercd.org

Amy Bish
Office Manager
abish@icclarion.org

Teresa Frederick
Faith Formation Director
tfrederick@icclarion.org

Linda Summerville
Adult Faith Formation Director
lsummerville@icclarion.org

Lori Cratty
Principal
lcratty@clarionichawks.net

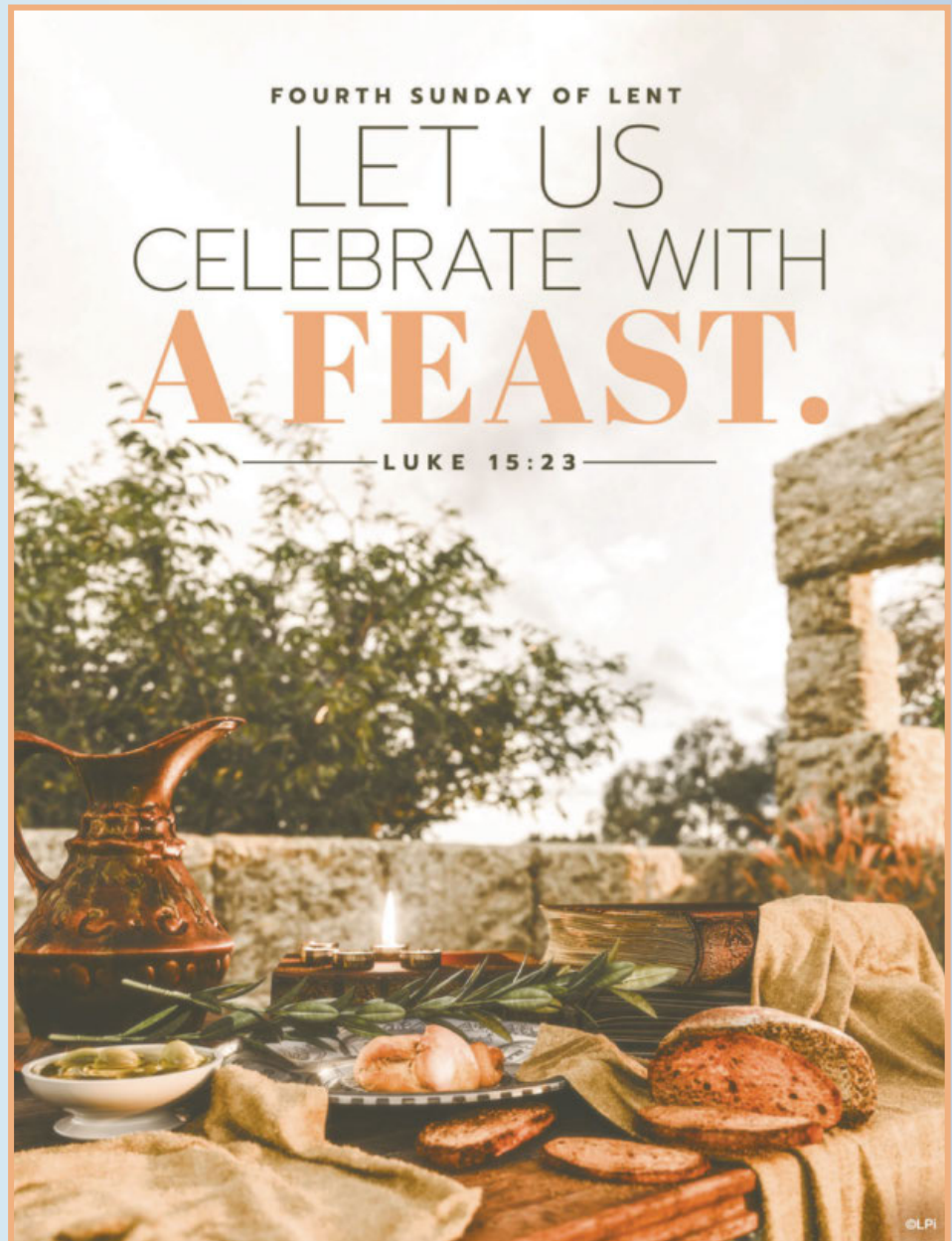
Caleigh Stout
School Office Coordinator
cstout@clarionichawks.net

Greg Pedley
Buildings & Grounds Manager
gpedley@clarionichawks.net

Parish Membership

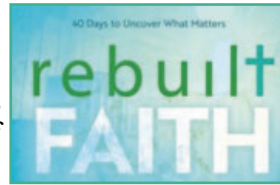
Membership includes active participation in the sacramental life of the Church, involvement in the activities of the faith community and financial support of the parish.

New members are welcome to register by calling the parish office.



SPIRITUAL CAMPAIGN PRAYERS AND SACRAMENTS

Please pray along with the Spiritual Campaign small groups using this prayer for the week of March 30.



O Heavenly Father,
Help us grow in our ability to hear your voice. You sent your son to teach us how to pray. Jesus developed that personal relationship with His heavenly father.

Adoration — Worship — Sacraments all remind us God comes first.

Holy Spirit, help us stand in God's love so we can receive the overflow of his graces in our lives.

O Lord, inspire us to attend daily mass. It is the perfect prayer — a communion with you.

Through our trials and challenges, remind us that our character is the only thing we take to heaven. Thank you for the guidance to help us walk in the love Christ shines in our lives.

Through our Lord, Jesus Christ, your son, and the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen.

CENTURY CLUB TICKETS —

2025 Century Club tickets are still available!

Each ticket is \$100 and will be sold after the weekend Masses in the lobby of the church. You may also contact Amy at the parish office by calling 814-226-8433 Ext. 100 or emailing her at abish@icclarion.org.

The Early Bird Drawing is on March 31st for **\$200**.

Other drawings are as follows:

April 30th: (1) \$300 / (1) \$200 / (2) \$100 / (5) \$50

May 30th: (1) \$300 / (2) \$200 / (2) \$100 / (5) \$50

June 30th: (1) \$500 / (1) \$400 / (3) \$200 /
(3) \$100 / (10) \$50

QUESTIONS of the WEEK FOR FAITH SHARING

A Generous Spirit

Then the father said to him, "Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. But we had to celebrate and rejoice, because this brother of yours was dead and has come to life; he was lost and has been found."

(Luke 15:31-32)

Adults: When have you been generous enough to forgive someone who hurt you deeply?

Kids: Is there someone you need to forgive or ask forgiveness of?

(PRACTICING) CATHOLIC – THE APOLOGY

By Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

I like to imagine the Prodigal Son practicing his apology in the mirror.

He wouldn't have, of course. Mirrors weren't exactly a dime a dozen back then. But I imagine him anyway, rehearsing the words as he contemplates his own gaunt reflection: "Father, I have sinned against God and against you. Treat me as you would treat one of your hired workers."

In other words, I have done wrong. I deserve nothing from you. But please, don't let me starve. Save me.

The apology wasn't necessary to move the heart of the father. We know that because before they meet, before anything is said, the father is overcome with compassion — not because he got his satisfaction, that long-awaited "I'm sorry, I was wrong." No, he's simply overjoyed to see his son alive. Even without apology, we know the father will beg his son to stay.

So why does the son apologize?

The father doesn't need the "I'm sorry." He isn't starving and lost. He knew all along it was a bad idea. He doesn't need to learn any lessons.

But what a tragedy it would have been, if the son had never said he was sorry. Undoubtedly, his father would have let him stay as a hired worker, and he would have had food to eat. He would have survived. But he wouldn't have been what he was born to be.

I often think of the son's apology as I am kneeling in the confessional, awkwardly reciting sins God already knows and is eager to forgive. Why are you doing this? some people would ask. God doesn't need this.

It's the apology, you see. The apology means everything. The Prodigal Son was dead. The apology brought him back to life.

God doesn't need our repentance. We need our repentance.

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BUNNY BINGO — Presented by the IC Parish School on Monday, March 31 and Monday, April 7 in the Parish Event Center. Adult cards are \$10 (3 cards for each of 20 games). Kids' cards are \$5. Doors open at 5 p.m. Bingo starts at 6 p.m. Concessions & Games of Chance will also be available.

QUESTIONS MOST CATHOLICS CAN'T ANSWER

More from The Ultimate Catholic Quiz (100 Questions Most Catholics Can't Answer) by Karl Keating.

Which of these is not one of the seven gifts of the Holy Spirit?

- Fortitude
- Piety
- Chastity
- Knowledge
- None of the above

Answer and more information on the opposite page.



2025 MOTHER-DAUGHTER TEA —

Girls who are 10 years of age or older, along with their mothers are cordially invited to the Diocese of Erie Mother-Daughter Tea. A special time to connect, talk about becoming a woman, and prepare for puberty. The remaining available date is **May 3, 2025** from 1:00 to 4:00 pm at Saint Mark Catholic Center, 429 E. Grandview Blvd., Erie, PA 16504 (RSVP by 4/25/25). For more information and to sign up, go to <https://www.eriecatholic.org/chastity/tea.html>

Faith Formation April and May Events

April 6 EDGE 9:30 - 10:45 PURPOSE 9:30 - 10:55	April 13 PURPOSE 8:30 - 1:00 PALM SUNDAY BREAKFAST	April 17 First Eucharist families attend "Mass of the Lord's Supper" 7:00 p.m.
April 27 EDGE 9:30 - 10:45 PURPOSE 9:30 - 10:55 Donut Miss Mass	May 4 PURPOSE 9:30 - 10:55 First Eucharist Family Retreat 9:30 - 2:00	May 11 FIRST EUCHARIST Celebrated at all weekend Masses
May 18 EDGE 6:30 - 8:00 Confirmation Rehearsal TBA	May 22 CONFIRMATION 7:00 P.M.	

CHILD PROTECTION AND CREATING SAFE ENVIRONMENTS – Pledge to Heal: The Diocese of Erie remains committed to helping survivors of clergy sexual abuse heal and recover. The diocese will provide counseling assistance for those who have been abused by a member of the clergy. For more information, please contact Dr. Gerard Tobin, our Victim Assistance Coordinator, at 814-451-1521. *The diocese encourages anyone who has experienced abuse or misconduct by a member of the clergy or any employee or volunteer of the church to contact their local law enforcement. To report abuse to the independent investigators retained by the diocese, email ErieRCD@KLGates.com. Victims/survivors or concerned individuals can report abuse directly to the diocese by calling 814-451-1543.*

ANSWER TO "QUESTIONS MOST CATHOLICS CAN'T ANSWER"

- a. Fortitude is one of the seven gifts of the Holy Spirit, the others being wisdom, understanding, counsel, knowledge, piety, and fear of the Lord (in the sense of wonder or awe, not in the sense of being frightened of him). The origin of the list is found in Isaiah 11:2.
- b. Piety is another gift of the Holy Spirit.
- c. Nope. Chastity isn't listed among the seven gifts of the Holy Spirit. It is one of seven virtues that are opposed to the seven deadly sins: Chastity versus lust, temperance versus gluttony, charity versus greed, diligence versus sloth, patience versus wrath, kindness versus envy, and humility versus pride.
- d. Knowledge is another gift of the Holy Spirit.
- e. Answer **c** is correct.

MASS Intentions

Monday, March 31
 — NO MASS —

Tuesday, April 1 – April Fools' Day
 11:00 a.m. Ron Perry (Yvonne Perry)

Wednesday, April 2 – Saint Francis of Paola
 — NO MASS —

5:30 p.m. Stations of the Cross

Thursday, April 3
 11:00 a.m. Carol Siegel (Bob and Kathy Smerkar)

Friday, April 4 – Saint Isidore
 — NO MASS —

Saturday, April 5 – Saint Vincent Ferrer
 4:00 p.m. Deceased Members of the Fesenmyer and Nick Families (Elaine and Tom Fesenmyer)

Sunday, April 6 – Fifth Sunday of Lent
 8:30 a.m. Robert Selker (Zachary Selker) **INCENSE**
 8:30 a.m. **RADIO MASS** – Maureen and Mont Sayers (Father Monty)
 11:00 a.m. For the People

Readings for the week of March 30, 2025

Monday: Is 65:17-21/Ps 30:2 and 4, 5-6, 11-12a and 13b /Jn 4:43-54

Tuesday: Ez 47:1-9, 12/Ps 46:2-3, 5-6, 8-9/Jn 5:1-16

Wednesday: Is 49:8-15/Ps 145:8-9, 13cd-14, 17-18 /Jn 5:17-30

Thursday: Ex 32:7-14/Ps 106:19-20, 21-22, 23/Jn 5:31-47

Friday: Wis 2:1a, 12-22/Ps 34:17-18, 19-20, 21 and 23 /Jn 7:1-2, 10, 25-30

Saturday: Jer 11:18-20/Ps 7:2-3, 9bc-10, 11-12/Jn 7:40-53

Next Sunday: Is 43:16-21/Ps 126:1-2, 2-3, 4-5, 6 (3) /Phil 3:8-14/Jn 8:1-11

FOOD PANTRY — During the month of April, please support the Community Action Food Pantry with donations of **Paper Towels, Tissue, & Toilet Paper**. Non-perishable food items are also always welcome. Please place items in the designated containers in the lobby. Thank you so much!



THE WAY OF THE CROSS ACCORDING TO SAINT LUKE - April 2 and April 9 at 5:30 p.m.



**Money Counters
Monday,
March 31
Team 3**

Offertory	March 22 - 23
Envelopes	\$ 7,421.00
Loose	638.00
Monthly	620.00
Online	480.20
Easter Flowers	430.00
Votive	52.00
TOTAL	\$ 9,641.20

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