



Immaculate Conception

CATHOLIC CHURCH

406 Alta Vista Avenue | 329 Maryland Avenue | Fairmont, WV 26554

MAY 11, 2025 | FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

MOTHER'S DAY BLESSINGS



ALL ARE WELCOME!

304-363-5796 (p) | 304-366-4937 (f)

website: icfairmont.com

facebook.com/icfairmontchurch

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

Monday-Thursday | 9:30am-1:30pm

PASTORAL STAFF

Pastor | Fr. Kishore Varaparla, HGN

304 532-9744 (cell)

Pastoral Secretary | Bonnie Chisholm

church@icfairmont.com | Ext. 11

Bookkeeper | Teresa Rundle

church@icfairmont.com | Ext. 10

Pastoral Music Director | Melissa Gump

musicdir@icfairmont.com

Faith Formation

DRE | Kelly Smith

dre@icfairmont.com | 304 290-9168

MISSION STATEMENT

We, the Faith Community of Immaculate Conception, Empowered by Our Baptism, Commit Ourselves to Live the Gospel Message. Affirmed through the Grace of our Eucharistic Celebrations, It is Our Vision to Reach Out Lovingly in Prayer, Formation and Service.

WELCOME TO IMMACULATE CONCEPTION PARISH!

Catholic over the age of 18 (unless they are in school), we invite you to become registered members of our parish! This is a great way to practice the Catholic Faith. Registration forms are available on the bulletin boards in the back of the church. Please fill out this form and return it either by mail or the collection basket. Soon after, you will get a letter confirming your membership in the mail. Please make sure you introduce yourself to the Priest celebrating the Mass you attend!

LITURGY SCHEDULE

Saturday, May 10

5:30 pm †Harry Smith req. by Anita Ruggiero

Sunday, May 11 - Mother's Day

8:10am - Rosary

8:30am Our Parish Family

11:00am - Living & †Deceased Alumni of St. Peter High School

Monday, May 12 - 16 No Mass

Saturday, May 17

5:30 pm †Bryan Francis req. by Margaret Blake

Sunday, May 18

8:30am Our Parish Family

11:00am - Rodney Anselene req. by Wayne Hartley

PLEASE NOTE: In the event of a Funeral or school has been closed or delayed for inclement weather, all Masses for that day will be cancelled. Mass intention will be rescheduled.

Please keep Father in prayer while he's away...

Gracious and loving God, we thank you for the gift of our priest, Father Kishore, and for the time he is taking to visit with his family and friends. May he experience Your grace and peace during his time away, and may he be refreshed and strengthened in spirit, body and soul. Bless his journey and guide him safely back to us. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

"Thank You, Mom"

From the initial wonder to the morning sickness,

From the sleepless nights to the giggles of delight,

From the first steps to the temper tantrums,

Thank you, Mom.

From school day pride to detention day disappointment,

From the big game to the big show to the big "uh-oh,"

With secret shared moments and home-cooked meals,

Thank you, Mom.

Through tears and laughter,

Through sorrow and joy,

For all the ups and downs,

and for the journey yet to come,

Thank you, Mom!

Fr. Kishore will be visiting friends in Italy and his family and Religious Order in India from April 28 through May 30, 2025 and then Pastoral Retreat in Charleston from June 2 to 6, 2025. Please keep him and the pilot in your prayers. For any emergency, contact the church office at 304-363-5796. If outside of office hours, contact Melissa Gump at 681 753-2638.

Fr. Daniel Pisano will be joining us while he is gone. Fr. Pisano is a retired priest residing in Bridgeport. We are very blessed to have him.

If you would like to attend weekday Masses at one of the local churches, their schedules are listed below for your convenience.

St. Peter the Fisherman - Mon.-Fri. 8:15 a.m.;

St. Anthony - Tues. 6:00 p.m.; Wed. 6:00 p.m.

Holy Spirit - Thurs. and Fri. 8:30 a.m.



To report an incidence of suspected child sexual abuse, please contact your local law enforcement agency, or you may confidentially contact WV Child Protective Services at 800.352.6513. In addition to civil authorities, to report suspected cases of sexual abuse by personnel of the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston to the Diocese, please contact the Diocese at 888.434.6237 or 304.233.0880. Please visit www.dwc.org under "Accountability" for additional information and reporting methods. Immaculate Conception Church has made Kelly Smith the coordinator for our church's Safe Environment team.

Don't forget the **Knights of Columbus Spring Sausage Sale**. Pre-orders Only. Call 304 363-6286 M-F 10 AM - 1PM to order. Italian Sausage: Mild, Hot, and Extra Hot (in casing or bulk) Country Breakfast Sausage (bulk only). 3 pound minimum order. Last Day to order is Monday, June 2. Pick up is Wednesday, June 11. 8:00 am to 4:00 pm.



The Knights of Columbus are proud to support the Pregnancy Resource Center through our **2nd Annual Baby Bottle Drive**. Starting **May 3rd thru May 18th**, baby bottles will be available in the back of the church. We invite you to take one home, fill it with spare change, cash or checks (made payable to Knights of Columbus Council #942) and return the bottle(s) by May 18th. Every dollar collected goes directly to helping mothers, babies, and families in need right here in our community. Thank you for your generosity and support of this life-affirming mission.



~Pat McFarland 304-365-3504

Our GIFT total this year was \$4,317.39. Your generosity is greatly appreciated and will help many in need.

Social Action Committee

SECOND COLLECTION

THIS WEEK - FAIRMONT CATHOLIC
NEXT WEEK - NO SECOND COLLECTION



At the Easter Vigil, Immaculate Conception joyfully welcomed Eriq Gulley as a full member of our church. This means he received all three sacraments of initiation: Baptism, Confirmation, and First Holy Communion. Jonathan had already been baptized (catechumens) and only received Confirmation and First Holy Communion. Please continue to keep Eriq and Jonathan in your prayers.

Catholic Trivia

Question: What pope served the shortest pontificate at only 13 days?

Pope Urban VII

Ministry Schedule

	Security	Ministers of Hospitality	Sacristan	Lector	Altar Server	Extraordinary Minister
Saturday, 5:30 PM May 17	Tom Cole Daniel Serge	Tom Cole Daniel Serge Cindy Serge Edna Wilson	Carol Boyers	Carol Boyers	Nicky Marchesani Anthony Pagliaro Sophia Paqliaro	Denise Sacchetti Stacey Spadafore Melanie Yergovich
Sunday, 8:30 AM May 18	Reuben Mick Larry Willett	Reuben Mick Jo Ellen Mick Larry Willett Xaden Willett	Ann Gaskins	Nancy Ripoli	Kaelyn Willett Zoe Willett NOT FILLED	Dave Riffle Chuck Sayre Debbie Slamen
Sunday, 11:00 AM May 18	Gabby Jordan Chuck Jordan	Gabby Jordan Chuck Jordan Pat McFarland Lisa Mugnano	Rosa Anna Gallucci	Aden McFarland	Benjamin Borgheirnk Gwyn DeMoss Franki Mileto	Rosa Anna Gallucci Carol Hoffman Ricky Massullo

If you are unable to serve, please find a substitute.

Birthdays

May 11 - Jerry Cunningham, Paula Cinalli, Pamela Hartman, Victoria Taft, Jeffrey Walker, Paxton Chichester, Silvano Potesta

May 12- Larry Hill, Daniel Stevens, Scott Stevens

May 14 - Janet Parr, Cynthia Bonafield

May 15 - Cindy Anselene, Carol Licata, James Sheets

May 16 - Betty Nichols, Mary McFarland, Robert Urse, Carol Corrothers, Cory Casuccio, Ryan Carter, Kaelyn Willett

17 - Bernie Barrett, Kyle Koenig

Save THE Date!

It's that time to start cleaning out your closets!!
Our annual Rummage Sale will be June 21. Drop-offs will begin June 15. More info to follow!!

Father's Day Breakfast: come enjoy the Ladies Society preparing a full Father's Day breakfast on June 15th after the 8:30am Mass.
Sign up sheets will be at the back of church.

Fairmont Catholic School Support

2025 Goal: \$24,000

Total Collected: \$6,481.32

Thank you so much for your generosity .

STEWARDSHIP

May 4

Attendance	270
Weekly Collection (Regular & Online)	\$4,717
Building Fund (Regular & Online)	\$1,063
FC School Support (Regular & Online)	\$50
Ascension	\$25
Catholic Sharing Appeal	\$25
Catholic Relief Services	\$25

Your offerings and support are deeply appreciated.

ACTIVITY SCHEDULE 2025

MOTHER'S DAY BREAKFAST

9:30am Marian Hall

SUN 11

MEN'S SOCIETY MEETING

5:30pm Marian Hall

MON 12

LADIES SOCIETY MEETING

6:00pm Marian Hall

TUES 13

LADIES GAME NIGHT

6:00pm Marian Hall

MON 26

ALL ARE WELCOME

Immaculate Conception Parish, Fairmont Catholic Sharing Appeal as of 5/5/2025

47%

Raised \$9,900 of \$21,200 with 45 gifts

Job Posting: Principal – PK-8th Grade

Fairmont Catholic Grade School, West Virginia

Fairmont Catholic Grade School is seeking a dedicated and dynamic individual for the position of PK-8th Grade Principal. The ideal candidate must be a practicing Catholic in good standing with Church teachings and serve as a role model and motivator in upholding the Catholic philosophy of the school.

Qualifications:

- The candidate must be a practicing Catholic in good standing with Church precepts.
- The ideal candidate must have an earned Master's Degree in Educational Leadership or Administration (preferred), or be in the process of completing the degree requirements; or the candidate should hold a valid Educational Leadership certification from the state of West Virginia or be eligible for such certification.

A minimum of three years of successful educational experience is required, with preference given to those with administrative experience.

Application Instructions:

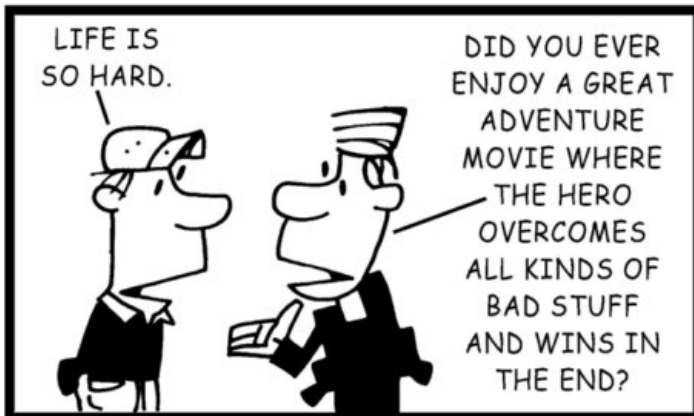
Please submit your resume, along with three professional references, in PDF format to **Julie Link** at jlink@dwc.org. Resumes will be accepted until **April 25, 2025**.

Winner's Circle Number is #59.



The "empty seat" or sede vacante period in the Catholic Church is symbolized by a special coat of arms featuring a red umbrella (umbrellaing), representing the Church in waiting, and the crossed keys of St. Peter, symbolizing papal authority. The umbrella, half-open, indicates the pope's absence while the Church continues. This symbol is used in various Vatican documents, including the Osservatore Romano, until a new pope is elected.

4TH SUNDAY OF EASTER



IC Graduation Mass and Reception 2025

Marion County Graduates of 2025: Sunday, June 1, 2025 there will be an 11 a.m. Mass recognizing and honoring our church's college and high school graduates.

Graduates will proceed in Mass wearing their school's gowns. Please call the church office or Sandra Costello (304.629.0102) to let us know who's being recognized.

A reception at Marian Hall will follow.

PASTORAL COUNCIL: Tom Cole (President), Johnna Barker, Steve Wilson, Brian Glance, Charles Jordan, Mary Ann Starkey, Carol Colasessano, David Bonasso, Joyce Keefover, | Ex-officio: Fr. Kishore Varaparla Ex-officio: Steve Wilson, Carol Boyers as Vicarate Council Members.

FINANCE COMMITTEE: Jeanina Butcher (President), Jim Gaskins, John Barnes, Mark Jurick, Carol Hoffman, Leah King, Ex-officio: Fr. Kishore Varaparla & Teresa Rundle.

(PRACTICING) CATHOLIC

Mini Reflection: I don't have all the answers to the questions I would love to ask Christ. "Why is this happening? Where are you taking me? What comes next?" But the beautiful thing is, I don't actually need those answers. I know him. He's got my hand. Wherever we're going is where I want to be.

We Don't Follow Strangers

I get a little crazy when it comes to my kids' safety. We've probably had a few too many conversations that could be entitled "What to Do If Mommy Loses You At the State Fair" or "Don't Trust People Just Because They Smile At You." Am I making them paranoid? Possibly. But that's something they can sort out later with their therapists.

Because here's the bottom line of it all — I don't want to instill a fear of strangers into my kids, but I do want them to understand that you can't always trust people you don't know (heck, you can't always trust the people you *do* know, but that's another therapy-provoking conversation we can have when they're older).

If someone says, "Hey, follow me," and we don't know them, it's not always a great idea to comply. First, we have to ask questions. "Where are you taking me? Why are we going? Who else will be there?"

But if someone we know and love and trust says, "Hey, follow me," we don't even think twice, and we don't need to ask any questions. We know wherever we're going is a safe place for us because we have a relationship with the person doing the leading. We feel comfortable putting ourselves in their care.

That's why it's so important to Christ that we know him. That we have a relationship with him. That we trust him.

Because we don't follow strangers, do we?

I don't have all the answers to the questions I would love to ask Christ. "Why is this happening? Where are you taking me?" But the beautiful thing is, I don't actually *need* those answers. I know him. He's got my hand. Wherever we're going is where I want to be.

— Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

Why do we do that? **Catholic Life Explained**

Question:

Why do Catholics genuflect?

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.

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 that 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.

In addition to genuflecting before the Blessed Sacrament, we are also instructed to genuflect before the cross used for veneration on Good Friday (during the solemn celebrations of the Lord's Passion) and any time a relic of the True Cross is displayed for veneration. This long-standing tradition is a way of honoring the cross as the great sign of our salvation and of showing devotion to the passion of Jesus.

ATTENTION PARISHIONERS!

Volunteering is a great way to help your parish family and serve Jesus at the same time! Also, coming together with other parishioners to volunteer is a great way to meet others you may not know. Our parish is very blessed with various social events throughout the year to bring us together as family and community! These events also provide opportunities for volunteers to serve.

Please consider adding your name to a list of willing volunteers for this ministry to serve at events for our parish! You would then be contacted when a need arises to see if you are available to help. Examples of help could be to provide a baked good for an event, come early to help set up in advance, replenish food table items during events, or staying after to clean up.

If you're contacted and you can't come for the entire event, but you have an hour or two available to help, that's great! If you're not available to help with that particular event, no problem! We understand it can sometimes be difficult to align schedules and balance other obligations. Your name will stay on the list and you would be contacted for a future event when there's another opportunity.

Signing up for this ministry is easy by completing just one of the following steps:

- 1. Complete the sign-up information below and place in the collection basket; or
- 2. Email the information to the office at church@icfairmont.com; or
- 3. Call the office at (304) 363-5796 to sign up.

PARISH EVENTS VOLUNTEER MINISTRY

SIGN-UP

(Place completed form in collection basket)

Name: _____

Phone #: _____

Email address: _____

Family members: _____



And let us not grow weary of doing good, for in due season we will reap, if we do not give up.
So then, as we have opportunity, let us do good to everyone,
and especially to those who are of the household of faith.
~Galatians 6:9-10

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