

# Immaculate Conception Roman Catholic Church

**Father Herbert T. Burke, Pastor**

Reverend Mr. Andy Cilone, Permanent Deacon  
Reverend Mr. Dave Faunce, Permanent Deacon,

Sharon Date, Parish Secretary  
Parish Office Hours: Mon, Wed, Thurs, Fri  
9:00am-4:00pm; (828) 245-4017  
Office/Rectory: (828) 245-4017

## **Weekend Masses**

Saturday, 5:00pm  
Sunday, 9:00am, 11:30am, and 3:00pm(Español)

## **Weekday Masses**

Monday, 9:00am (Chapel)  
Wednesday, 7:00pm (Church)  
Thursday, 12:10pm (Chapel)  
Friday, 12:10pm (Chapel)

## **Rosary and Benediction**

Thursday, 7:00pm (Chapel)

## **Eucharistic Adoration**

Thursday, 12:30pm-8:00pm (Chapel)  
Friday, 12:30pm-1:30pm (Chapel)  
Saturday, 4:00pm-5:00pm (Church)  
Sunday, 8:00am-9:00am (Church)  
Sunday, 10:30am-11:30am (Church)  
Sunday, 2:30pm-3:00pm (Church)

## **Nocturnal Adoration**

Second Saturday of the Month,  
10:00pm—6:00am (Chapel)

## **Confession**

Saturday, 4:15-4:45pm  
Wednesday, 6:30pm-7:00pm



*“At that time there shall arise Michael, the great prince,  
guardian of your people.”*

## **Welcome to our Parish!**

We welcome all visitors and newcomers to our parish family. If you need any information regarding Baptism, First Communion or Matrimony, please contact Deacon Andy Cilone at 828-245-6219.

For information regarding instructions in the catholic faith through the RCIA program, please contact Deacon David Faunce at:  
[dmaunce@rcdoc.org](mailto:dmaunce@rcdoc.org)

Parish email: [sgdate@charlottediocese.org](mailto:sgdate@charlottediocese.org)  
Website: [www.immaculateconceptionforestcity.org](http://www.immaculateconceptionforestcity.org)

# November 17, 2024 33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

**Immaculate Conception Roman Catholic Church ~ 1024 West Main Street ~ Forest City, NC ~ 28043**

**Bulletin Editor: [pjwlmg@gmail.com](mailto:pjwlmg@gmail.com)**

**3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time**  
November 17, 2024 ~ Bulletin No.47 XXXX

**WEEKLY CALENDAR for November 16-24, 2024**

Sat 16	Saint Gertrude the Great	5:00pm	Mass for ROS Charles Hill, Sr. by Chuck & Janet Hill
Sun 17	<b>33<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time</b>	9:00am 11:30am 7:30pm	Mass for ROS George Watson by the McEnerney Family Mass for the Parish AA Meeting, call Floyd Kunkle at 289-6336 for information
Mon 18	St. Rose Philippine Duchesne	9:00am	Mass for ROS Daniel Smith by Heather McEnerney & Family
Wed 20	Saint Felix of Valois	7:00pm 10:30am	Mass for Blake Bracket by Gloria Campos Wolfe Prayer Group, Parish Hall
Thurs 21	Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary	12:10pm 7:00pm 7:30pm	Mass for ROS Beuna Watson by the McEnerney Family Rosary and Benediction in the Chapel AA Meeting, call Floyd Kunkle at 289-6336 for information
Fri 22	Saint Cecelia	12:10pm 7:00am	Mass for Deacon Andy Cilone, Happy Birthday, by JoAnn Cilone Men's Prayer Group
Sat 23	Blessed Miguel Agustin Pro	5:00pm	Mass for Richard Thelen, Happy Birthday, by Joe & Jamie Thelen
Sun 24	<b>Christ the King of the Universe</b>	9:00am 11:30am 7:30pm	Mass for Andy Cilone, Happy Birthday, by John & Rosanne Staab Mass for the Parish AA Meeting, call Floyd Kunkle at 289-6336 for information

**MARK YOUR CALENDAR!**

**November 16: Happy Feast Day Mother Gertrude!**  
**November 16-17: Holy Land Souvenirs at all Masses**  
**November 21: Daughters of the Visitation, 4:30-6:30pm, Parish Hall**

**November 18: Prayer Shawl Ministry, 10:00am, Parish Hall**

**November 21-22: 24-Hour Adoration**

**November 24: Happy Birthday Deacon Andy!**

**December 5: Daughters of the Visitation, 4:30-6:30pm, Parish Hall**

**December 7: Ladies Guild Christmas Bazaar: 8:00am-2:00pm (See info on next page)**

**December 7-8: 2nd Collection: Religious Retirement**

**December 8: After 9:00am and 11:30am Masses: Knights of Columbus Pancake Breakfast and a Movie, 'Star'; more info on next page.**

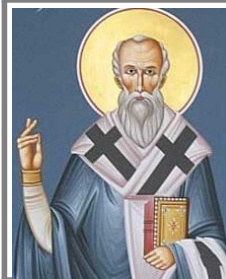
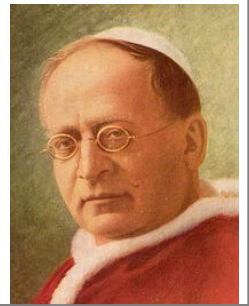
**December 9: Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception It is a Holy Day of Obligation**

**December 14: Knights of Columbus Annual Christmas Basket and Coat Drive: see mor information on next page.**

**From the Holy Fathers**

*"When once men recognize, both in private and in public life, that Christ is King, society will at last receive the great blessings of real liberty, well-ordered discipline, peace and harmony."*

~ Pope Pius XI ~



**From the Saints**

*"For 86 years I have served Christ, and He has never abandoned me. How could I curse my blessed King and Savior?"*

~ Saint Polycarp ~

**COLLECTION INFORMATION For November 10, 2024**

Regular Offering: \$7,423.00  
Seminarian Education: \$ 75.00  
Building Repair: \$75.00

You can make online donations through the following link:  
<https://giving.parishsoft.com/app/giving/immaculateconceforestcity>

The Knights of Columbus announced that it's local councils have surpassed \$100 million dollars in financial support for the seminarians, postulants, and novices through its Support Vocations Program. Our Immaculate Conception Immaculate Heart of Mary Council #12266 has been contributing to the Seminarians for many years. Currently we are supporting our own seminarians, Michael, and Gabriel Lugo.

Year-round Contribution Envelopes are on the table in the Narthex.

**COMMUNITY OUTREACH**

1st Sunday (November 3)	Yokefellow Sunday	Canned beans, (15 oz) any type (pinto, kidney, etc.)
2nd Sunday (November 10)	Hospice Sunday	Ensure, any flavor
3rd Sunday (November 17)	Hands of Hope Sunday	Children's diapers, SIZE LARGE
4th Sunday (November 24)	Backpack Sunday	Individual-serving size of Mac & cheese, ravioli, beanie-weenies, etc



Please Pray for Our  
First Responders, especially for:

**Officer Max DeLauter**, Shelby Police  
Department  
and  
**Officer Nathan Shomette**, Charlotte Mecklenburg  
Police Department



**ESPECIALLY FOR....**

E2 Private First Class Jayden Mills, USMC,  
Stationed at Camp Hansen, Okinawa, Japan;  
CDR Stuart Whitaker; John Escalera, also in the  
Navy; CDR Jeffrey Gerring of the US Navy.  
Please consider adding the name of someone you  
love to our prayer list for our Troops. Email to [pjwlmg@gmail.com](mailto:pjwlmg@gmail.com)

### Prayers for the Sick

Mary Absher, Cynthia Beam, Emily Bailey, Alisha Benfield, Iris Borrás, Wade Boswell, Father Burke, Melissa Chandler, Gary Colhouer, Frank Colini, Joanne Colini, Sabrina & Kevin Collier, Julie Collins, Michelle Contreras, Michelle Daigle, Danya Davis, Claudia Dodrill, Robert DuCharme, Danya Evans, Carol Faunce, Emanuel Garcia, Rebekah Giltner, Gloria Gimpaya, Silvestre Gonzalez, Nancy Goulet, Ellie Graves, Gertrude Hand, David Hernandez, Julian Hernandez, Sherlin Hernandez, Janet Hill, Clare Jablonski, Betsy Jackson, Father Jenkins, Kate Johnson, Gabriel Jones, Erlinda Judson, Bishop Jugis, Ronnie Kennedy, Jim & Joan King, Jared Krantz, Charlie Kutilek, Ed Long, Stephannie Longo, Patricia Lucas, Jeff Lugo, Wilson Mancipe, Monica Martin, Elias Martinez, Nathan I. McCain, Jennifer McDonald, Joan Meade, Geri Melton, Esther Mendoza, Teresa Mendoza, Gloria Millette, Kevin Millette, Scott Moore, Lucas Cade Motter, Alan Murfitt, Keith Oliver, Luis Parra, Maria Parra, Carmen Perez, David Picquet, Ken Pierson, Charles Plateroti, Bonnie Rackley, Peter Ranc, Richard Ranc, Rick Rorey, Deborah Rowlands, Camille Russo, Nathan Ryback, Linda Samarotto, Cassie Schmanski, Gloria Sears, Linda & Keith See, Samantha Smith, Sister Mary Olivia, Larry St. Clair, Nancy St. Clair, Beth Ann Stamper, Cole Suhy, Doug Suhy, Gladys Talley, Mark Tavernia, Richard Thelen, Federico Trejo, Patty Wansor, Arwin Watts, Fred White, Patricia White, Sammy White, Bernice Williams.

Please let us know when you are ready to be taken off our "Prayers for the Sick" list; email [pjwlmg@gmail.com](mailto:pjwlmg@gmail.com)

**Ladies Guild Christmas Bazaar!**  
**December 7<sup>th</sup>, 2024,**  
**8:00 AM to 2:00 PM.**



It's that time of year again!  
The Immaculate Conception Ladies  
Guild will be holding their annual  
Christmas Bazaar on Saturday December 7<sup>th</sup>  
from 8:00 AM to 2:00 PM in the Parish Hall.  
We are calling **all** parishioners to put your baking  
and craft skills to work! We need lots of frozen  
meals, baked goods, and craft donations for our  
sale. Please bring your donation to the parish  
hall on Friday December 6<sup>th</sup> between 1:00 PM  
and 4:00 PM or early Saturday morning before  
the sale begins (Between 7:00 and 8:00 AM).  
Please include a card with the list ingredients for  
each baked good, and cooking and/or reheating  
instructions for your frozen entrée.  
All Bazaar proceeds will benefit the Ladies Guild  
ministries. Thank you and God Bless!

**Knights of Columbus**  
**Annual Christmas Basket,**  
**Toys & Coats for Needy Families**  
**December 14th**

We thank the Parish again for the  
tremendous support in the past  
with this program. We are again  
asking the parish for financial dona-  
tions or donations of toys and new  
coats for ages 1 to 16. Adult coats will be  
accepted as well to be made available for  
families who otherwise would not have  
these items this Christmas. **We are ex-  
pecting 75 families** this year up from the  
typical 60. Knights will collect toys and  
coats before the masses, or these items  
can be dropped off in the parish  
hall. Financial donations can be given to  
your favorite Knight or can be dropped  
off at the Parish office in an envelope  
marked for KoC Christmas Baskets.



*Pancakes  
and a Movie*

Come join the Knights, after the  
9 and 11:30 Masses on December 8,  
as we celebrate Keeping Christ in  
Christmas with pancakes  
(Plain, Chocolate Chip and Peppermint), and the Nativity movie,  
The Star.

Funds raised will be for the LAMB founda-  
tion - Least Among My Brethren. All pro-  
ceeds/donations will support our program  
for the Intellectually Challenged - where  
85% of funds stay in the county.

If you would like to donate, reach out to  
any Knights of Columbus member for more  
information. Donations can be dropped  
off at the Parish office in an envelope  
marked for KoC Disaster .

### Next Week Is the Feast of Christ the King of the Universe (From The Catholic Company website)

The early 20th century saw great destruction, tyranny, and corruption. Recognizing this profound need, in 1925 Pope Pius XI wrote the encyclical *Quas Primas* ("In the first") in response. This encyclical addressed the reality of Christ's kingship over the entire world and instituted the feast of Christ the King of the Universe. He recognized that attempting to "thrust Jesus Christ and his holy law" out of public life would result in continuing discord among people and nations. This solemnity reminds us that while governments come and go, Christ reigns as King forever.

The feast of Christ the King is celebrated on the last Sunday of the liturgical calendar, closing out each liturgical year with the hopeful reminder that Christ will always reign. This year, the feast of Christ the King will be celebrated on Sunday, November 24th. Since the feast of Christ the King occurs right before the Advent season, it also serves as a profound reminder to keep Christ as King of our hearts and to use the upcoming weeks as prayerful preparation to make our hearts fit for such a King.

Keep Christ enthroned in your homes and hearts.

There are many ways to explain the Kingship of Jesus Christ. In preparation for this feast of Christ the King of the Universe on next Sunday, Bishop Sheen's words give us something to think about.



## “Are You the King of the Jews?”

By Venerable Fulton J. Sheen

One charge worried Pilate slightly. Was this Prisoner before him a king? Pilate summoned Our Lord inside the house. Once in the judgment hall, Pilate asked “Are you the King of the Jews?”

The charge was only that He was a king. Pilate knew that if Christ was setting Himself up as a rival king to the Romans, the Gentiles would be there to testify against Him. So he asked if He were King of the Jews. Our Lord in answer to the question penetrated the conscience of Pilate; He asked him if he was saying that because his suspicions had been aroused by the false charge of His enemies. Pilate had expected a direct answer. Our Lord now made clear that a distinction had to be made between a political and religious kingship; political kingship, which was the only interest Pilate had in the case, the Master rejected; religious Kingship which meant that He was the Messiah, Our Lord admitted. To the skeptical Pilate, Our Blessed Lord had to make clear that His Kingship was not that of an earthly kingdom obtained by military power; it was rather a spiritual Kingdom to be established in truth. He would have only moral subjects, not political ones; He would reign in hearts, not in armies.

*“My Kingdom does not belong to this world. If My Kingdom did belong to this world, My attendants would be fighting to keep me from being handed over to the Jews; but as it is, My Kingdom is not here.” (John 18:36)*

Pilate's worry about a challenge to Roman power was, for the moment, put at ease. Christ's Kingdom was not of this world; therefore He was not like Judas the Galilean, the son of Ezechias, who had led the rebellion against Rome a few decades before by inciting the people not to pay taxes. Pilate may have heard that the night before when Peter had argued with his sword, Our Lord had reprimanded the wielder of the weapon and had healed the injured man. If His Kingdom were of the world, Our Lord argued, He would need the help of armies of men; but a Heavenly Kingdom was sufficient unto itself, for its power came from above. His Kingdom was in the world, but not of it.

The quiet and dignified bearing of the One before him, so helplessly bound with ropes—His face marred with the beatings after the first trial, His assertion that His Kingdom was not of this world, that He had servants who would not use the sword, and that He was to establish a Kingdom without fighting—all this puzzled Pilate, who changed his question. The first time Pilate had asked, “Are You the King of the Jews?” Now he asked “Then You are a King?”

The religious trial centered on Christ the Prophet, the Messiah, the Son of God. The civil trial revolved about His Kingship. Strange how the Gentiles were associated with Christ under this royal title! The Magi at His birth asked where the King was born; it was the imperial edict of Caesar that fulfilled the prophecy of Micha that He would be born in Bethlehem.

Pilate, satisfied that Christ was not a political Rival, in wonderment prodded a little deeper into His Kingly claim. Our Lord, having already avowed His Kingly state, acknowledged the inference which Pilate had somewhat scornfully drawn and answered:

*“You say I am a King. For this I was born and for this I came into the world, to testify to the truth. Everyone who belongs to the truth listens to My voice.” (John 18:37)*

## We All Need Marthas



*Mary and Martha* by David Lindsay

We all need a “Martha”. It’s true. Someone has to take on the physical management of a home in real life— the cooking, cleaning, caring, and serving. And sometimes we see that the “Martha” could be a father and husband, or even a child who assumes that responsibility. But let’s just acknowledge that we all need “Marthas” in our life.

Now we know from Luke 10:38-42 that of the two sisters, Mary and Martha, Jesus said that Mary chose the better portion, sitting at the Master’s feet, listening to what Jesus had to say. Martha was serving the people in the house. Because Jesus travelled with his followers, one can only imagine the work that Martha had to do. Still, Jesus said that Mary chose the better part.

But consider this commentary by Saint Gregory the Great. He wrote that in his opinion, Martha signifies the active life as she busily labors to honor Christ through her work. Mary exemplifies the contemplative life as she sits attentively to listen and learn from Christ. Both activities are essential for Christian living.

That leads us to a topic that lives in the heart of our parish...the Ladies Guild. And here’s a little secret about the Ladies. They can do the things they do **because** they are filled to overflowing with the gifts that God has shared with them. That’s why they can share these gifts with the rest of us.

The Ladies Guild of Immaculate Conception Parish is filled with women like that. It’s a good thing too, because the Parish needs them. Why? Because there is a need to help our fellow parishioners in many ways. Our parish community is a busy one, and

the hearts of the ladies in the Ladies Guild are sometimes stretched pretty thin.

A perfect example is a recent funeral luncheon. These luncheons are one of the most important undertakings of the Ladies Guild (LG). A few years ago there would have been 15-20 ladies helping to set up, serve, clean up before and after each event. At a recent luncheon, there were only 8, and this was not the luncheon held right after Hurricane Helene. To provide a much appreciated corporal work of mercy, to bury the dead, it takes a lot of effort. As LG members age, they may not be as able to do the full-day of work to set up, deliver, and clean up the luncheon. After all, clean-up alone takes two hours! And let’s not talk about laundering the tablecloths!

So, we need help, and not just for funeral luncheons. The LG sees to the seasonal and special event decorations in the chapel and the church. A sub-group of the LG is the Prayer Shawl Ministry. In the last three years they have provided over 90 prayer shawls, lapghans and afghans to members of our parish family. The LG Bake Sales help to bring in the needed funds to help with parish projects. With the Knights of Columbus, they provide simple meals before Stations of the Cross during Lent. The LG also sends out ‘thinking of you’ cards to the homebound, as well as birthday cards.

Going out on a limb here, and making a guess, the average age of the LG members is around 73. Several are in their late 80s, while others are in their 50s. Some of the members have raised families, retired from successful careers outside the home, and have successfully completed the struggles of personal and professional growth. After all that, they have found the time to spread their wings of faith and found the time to volunteer. Add up all the talent and experience among these valiant and hard-working women, it is a certainty that their value in God’s eyes is immeasurable.



Here are a few things you might not already know about the LG. First of all, every woman in our parish is a member. Here are a few other points that are worth mentioning.

Meetings are held monthly, September through May, on the second Monday of the month, at 10:00am. Many of the ladies attend the 9am mass before the meeting because the LG members treasure their relationship with Christ. **NOTE: Meeting attendance is not required.**

At the LG meetings, we frequently hear that we would like to get more younger members. That isn’t always possible if you are a mom who is homeschooling the children, or working outside the home to help support the family. But there are a lot of other ways that you can help support the work of the LG. Here are a few examples.

One home-schooling mom gets three of her sons together and they set up tables for funeral luncheons and special events like Confirmation and First Communion.

Another mom knits prayer shawls when the children go to sleep and brings them to the prayer shawl team.



Other women help out by baking desserts for the LG bake sales and funeral luncheons. The luncheons, in particular, are often last-minute events, and their culinary efforts are so much appreciated. The same thing goes for hot entrees and salads for these luncheons, as well as for the pre-Christmas bake sale/frozen entrée sale.



The point is, Marthas are multidimensional, talented women. They have to be.

The secret here, or maybe it isn't really a secret, is that our parish "Marthas" are able to give because they have already been filled by God with many gifts. And while Martha's may be "*anxious and troubled by many things*" as Jesus said in Bethany, they are generous with those gifts because they are filled with the Holy Spirit.

There is a little piece of prose that goes this way...

*There are women who make things better...simply by showing up.*

*There are women who make things happen.*

*There are women who make their way.*

*There are women who make a difference.*

*And women who make us smile.*

*There are women of wit and wisdom who, through strength  
and courage make it through.*

*There are women who change the world every day...*

*Women like you!*

## **We Need YOUR Help!**

Over the years we have seen by experience that people are willing to help when there is a need, when they know how, and when they are asked.

The Ladies Guild is asking a big favor of our parishioners. Several years ago (and some of you might remember this), a member of the LG would call parishioners and ask if they would make an entrée, salad, or dessert for an "after the funeral Mass" luncheon for the family of a parishioner who had died. These luncheons have always been one of the most important gifts we can share with each other. It helps relieve a little pressure from a grieving family

In recent years, the calling has not happened. Sadly, the dear person who did the calling passed away after a long fight with cancer. But since her faithful service worked so well, the LG is bringing it back.

A member of the LG has volunteered to be "The Caller". She will call the people on an established volunteer list. **Note: The numbers on this list will not be shared with other committees, just the Funeral Luncheon Committee.**

When a date and time has been set for a funeral luncheon, "The Caller" will get to work calling on the parishioners who have volunteered to be on this list. The turn-around time is usually only a few days so sometimes the donor won't have much notice to make something to share. But please...help the Ladies Guild, and your fellow parishioners with this very important ministry.

**In the next week or so, members of the LG will be available to answer questions after the weekend Masses, but if you already know that you want to volunteer, contact the Bulletin Editor (the "Designated Caller) at [pjwlmg@gmail.com](mailto:pjwlmg@gmail.com) and the list will grow.**