

Immaculate Conception Roman Catholic Church

Father Herbert T. Burke, Pastor

Reverend Mr. Andrew Cilone, Permanent Deacon

Reverend Mr. David Faunce, Permanent Deacon

Sharon Date, Parish Secretary

Parish Office Hours: Mon, Wed, Thurs, Fri

Office/Rectory: (828) 245-4017



January 19, 2025
Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

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

Parish email: sgdate@rcdoc.org

Website: www.immaculateconceptionforestcity.org

Bulletin Editor: pjwlmg@gmail.com

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)

4th Thursday 12:30pm-Friday 12:00pm (Chapel)

Nocturnal Adoration

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

Confession

Saturday, 4:15pm-4:45pm

Wednesday, 6:30pm-7:00pm

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 Andrew Cilone at 828-245-6219.

For information regarding instructions in the Catholic faith through the RCIA program, please contact Deacon David Faunce at 828-429-1469.

2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

January 19, 2025 ~ Bulletin No.1 XXXXI

WEEKLY CALENDAR for January 18-26, 2025

Sat 18	Saint Prisca	5:00pm	Mass for ROS Jeff Bnosky by Karen Lugo
Sun 19	2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time	9:00am 11:30am 7:30pm	Mass for the Parish Mass for ROS Becky Kesterson by Jackie Beam AA Meeting, call Floyd Kunkle at 289-6336 for information
Mon 20	Saint Sebastian	9:00am	Communion Service
Wed 22	Saint Vincent of Saragossa	7:00pm	Communion Service
Thurs 23	Espousals of Mary and Joseph	12:10pm 7:00pm 7:30pm	Communion Service Rosary And Benediction AA Meeting, call Floyd Kunkle at 289-6336 for information
Fri 24	Saint Francis de Sales	12:10pm 7:00am	Mass for Father John Zec by Floyd & Ginny Kunkle Men's Prayer Group
Sat 25	Conversion of Saint Paul	5:00pm	Mass for Marian on Baptism Anniversary, by Madison LaForenza
Sun 26	3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time	9:00am 11:30am 7:30pm	Mass for ROS Art & Norma King by Bryan & Kristi King Mass for the Parish AA Meeting, call Floyd Kunkle at 289-6336 for information

Save the Date

January 23-24: Twenty-Four Hour Eucharistic Adoration: From Thursday the 23rd after the 12:10pm Mass, to just before the 12:10pm Mass on Friday, the 24th

January 25: Ladies Guild Christmas Luncheon at Mario's; 12:00-2:00pm

January 25: Knights of Columbus Christmas Dinner at Mario's; 7:00pm

January 25: Usher Orientation session: 1:00pm, School Building Parish Hall

February 8: Womens' Day of Reflection: 9:00am-3:00pm; (See info on next page)

February 22: Usher Training session; 10:00am, School Building (More info on next page)

February 27-28: Twenty-Four Hour Eucharistic Adoration: From Thursday the 27th after the 12:10pm Mass, to just before the 12:10pm Mass on Friday, the 28th



COMMUNITY OUTREACH

1st Sunday (January 5)	Yokefellow Sunday	Saltine Crackers
2nd Sunday (January 12)	Hospice Sunday	Ensure, any flavor
3rd Sunday (January 19)	Hands of Hope Sunday	Children's diapers, SIZE LARGE
4th Sunday (January 26)	Backpack Sunday	Individual-serving size of Mac & cheese, ravioli, beanie-weenies, etc

Hope Quotes

"I wait for the Lord, my soul waits, and I hope for His word. My soul looks for the Lord more than sentinels for daybreak. Let Israel hope in the Lord"

~ Psalm 130: 5-6 ~

"Optimism is the faith that leads to achievement. Nothing can be done Without hope and confidence."

~ Helen Keller ~

COLLECTION INFORMATION

Collection for January 12, 2025

Regular Offering: \$5,949.92

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

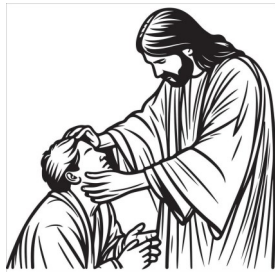
For Annulment Information Contact:

Rachel Harrill 1-828-447-1908 or
 Email: reharrill@rcdoc.org.

Anyone who wishes to receive the bulletin and alerts can contact Bulletin Editor at pjwlmg@gmail.com

Prayers for the Sick

Mary Absher, Cynthia Beam, Emily Bailey, Alisha Benfield, Iris Borras, Wade Boswell, Father Burke, Melissa Chandler, Deacon Andy Cilone, 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, 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, Benny Montanez, Scott Moore, Lucas Cade Motter, Alan Murfitt, Barbara Olencki, Keith Oliver, Luis Parra, Maria Parra, Carmen Perez, David Picquet, Ken Pierson, Bonnie Rackley, Richard Ranc, Rick Rorey, Deborah Rowlands, John Rowlands, Camille Russo, Nathan Ryback, Linda Samarotto, Cassie Schmanski, Linda & Keith See, Samantha Smith, Sister Mary Olivia, Larry St. Clair, Nancy St. Clair, Beth Ann Stamper, Cole Suhy, Doug Suhy, Mark Tavernia, Richard Thelen, Federico Trejo, Patty Wansor, Arwin Watts, Fred White, Patricia White, Sammy White, Bernice Williams, Marshall Williams, Mary Wright



Please let us know when you are ready to be taken off our "Prayers for the Sick" list; email pjwlm@gmail.com

Women's Retreat Day Hosted by the Ladies Guild

February 8th, Mass in the Chapel at 9:00am in the Chapel, Program to follow, ending at 3:00pm
Light lunch will be served at no charge.
Sister Regina will present "A Spiritual Pilgrimage to Lourdes and Lisieux-Embracing the Cross".
Sign up by February 2nd in the Narthex.



USHERS



Our parish needs additional Ushers at several masses. The Saint Michael's Shield team has organized both an orientation session and a training session for parishioners interested in participating in the Usher program. **We will have sign-up sheets in the Narthex after masses over the next few weekends.**

- **Orientation session - Saturday, January 25th** at 1 pm in the School Building
 - **Training session - February 22nd** at 10 am in the School Building
- You can contact Steve McNally at 828-412-2198 or Brian Cilone at 623-202-5956 for more information.

C A T E C H I S M

O R N E R

On Indulgences

¶ 1471 The doctrine and practice of indulgences in the Church are closely linked to the effects of the Sacrament of Penance.

An indulgence is a remission of the temporal punishment due to sins whose guilt has already been forgiven, which the faithful Christian who is duly disposed gains under certain prescribed conditions through the action of the Church which, as the minister of redemption, dispenses and applies with authority the treasury of the satisfactions of Christ and the saints.

An indulgence is partial or plenary according as it removes either part or all of the temporal punishment due to sin. The faithful can gain indulgences for themselves or apply them to the dead.



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 pjwlm@gmail.com

Please Pray for Our First Responders, especially for:



Officer Max DeLauter, Shelby Police Department and

Officer Nathan Shomette, Charlotte Mecklenburg Police Department

Please consider adding the name of someone you love to our prayer list for our First Responders. Email to pjwlm@gmail.com



Prayerful Pondering

During Eucharistic Adoration

"If the Heart wanders or is distracted, bring it back to the point quite gently and replace it tenderly in its Master's Presence. And even if you did nothing during the whole of your hour but bring your heart back and place it again in Our Lord's Presence, though it went away every time you brought it back, your hour would be very well employed."

~ Saint Francis de Sales ~

The Newest Carmelite Saints The 16 Carmelite Martyrs of Compiègne

This past December, Pope Francis declared sixteen Discalced Carmelite nuns of Compiègne, France, as saints of the Catholic Church. He canonized them through an equippolent (equivalent) canonization. That means that the process was completed without researched miracles, and Pope Francis canonized the nuns who were identified for their ultimate bravery and adherence to their faith, as well as the long-standing veneration of these Carmelite martyrs.

This timely canonization has a special message for us today because prosecution and martyrdom of Catholics still continues today. Here is their story.

During the years of the French Revolution (7/14/1789-11/9/1799) laws were passed that subordinated the Catholic Church to the government. The laws imposed the death penalty on priests as well as those who sheltered and protected them. Even wearing clerical garb or religious habits was forbidden. Catholic sites, churches, shrines, and schools were desecrated and destroyed. Church property was confiscated.

The French Revolutionaries had an extreme hatred of Catholicism, and took over Catholic schools and massacred any of the local Catholics who fought to defend their faith. They were bloodthirsty, even to the point of burning down buildings if they knew Catholics were hiding inside. History tells us that the guillotine was their weapon of choice.

The story of the Martyrs of Compiègne has been treasured for over 200 years. They lived a strictly cloistered life within their cloister walls, and for this they were targeted by the revolutionaries. The nuns lived a life of prayer, and this life was considered to be a crime. The state hated the church and all religious practices. In fact, in 1790 the government suspended all religious vows.

On August 4, 1790, the cloister's contents were inventoried. Each nun was interviewed and offered the opportunity to renounce her vows. The nuns of Compiègne all refused. By August of 1792 all women's monasteries and convents were ordered closed. Wearing religious habits were forbidden. Friends of the nuns helped to shelter them in four locations, and provided one set of clothing for each of them. Soon after, the prioress, Mother Teresa of Saint Augustine shared with the four nuns who lived with her that she wanted to invite the entire community offer their lives for the salvation of France. Initially she met with a little resistance. No one wanted to be decapitated by the guillotine. But within hours, they all agreed.

Each day they recited a prayer of self-offering that had been written by Mother Teresa.

On June 21, 1794, the living quarters of the nuns were searched. The 16 nuns were arrested because evidence had been found that they continued to live their consecrated lives. They were imprisoned in a former convent along with 17 Benedictine nuns.

On July 12th, the Carmelites laundered their only set of civilian clothes, and were wearing their habits while the other clothes were drying. The mayor of Compiègne, along with a group of soldiers, invaded the convent and took the nuns to Paris to undergo trial.

The 16 Carmelites and 24 other defendants were found guilty of being enemies of the people, fanaticism and sedition; then sentenced to death. They were paraded down the streets of Paris on their way to the guillotine. As they walked through the city, they sang the Divine Office along the road to their death.

When they arrived to the scaffold, the executioner permitted the nuns to complete their prayers. Then...one by one...they walked to the guillotine, kissed a relic, and received a blessing from Mother Teresa, and were decapitated.

Stories written about this martyrdom, and one amazingly haunting opera (*Dialogues of the Carmelites* by Poulenc) have the nuns singing the *Salve Regina*, as one by one, the voices stopped. The hymn *Salve Regina* is actually the Hail Holy Queen in Latin. The first sentence? "*Hail holy Queen, Mother of Mercy, our life, our sweetness, and our hope.*"

In this Jubilee Year of Hope, the Martyrs of Compiègne give us a needed message. The martyr's charges of fanaticism and sedition have been repeated many times to Catholics right here in the United States during the recent past few years. This might lead some of us to quietly step back, and not defend the faith when the opportunity to do so arises, such as discussions on abortion, pornography in school libraries and other current issues.

There message, "*Hail holy Queen, Mother of Mercy, our life, our sweetness, and our hope*" may help us out when challenged.

