



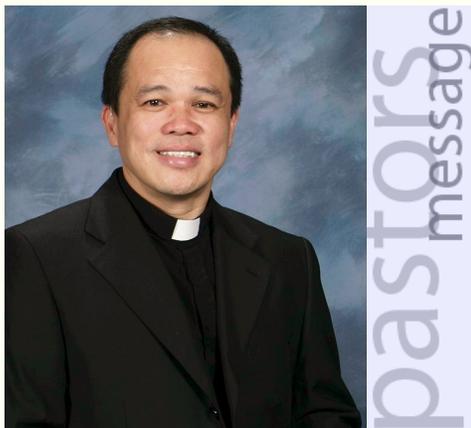
Immaculate Conception

ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

900 Darlington Ave.
Mahwah, NJ 07430
www.iccmahwah.org
201-327-1276

January 9, 2022 - BAPTISM OF THE LORD





My dear parishioners,

At Jesus' baptism the heavens opened and the spirit descended. A voice proclaimed, "You are my beloved son." At Jesus' baptism his vocation was revealed to him. God made clear to Jesus how he should live and what the purpose of his life was.

Wouldn't it be wonderful if God could deal that clearly with us? As we are trying to decide what should we do with our lives, or who we should marry or whether we should make a change in our career, wouldn't it be wonderful if the skies would open and God would say, "Do this" or "Don't do that"? We know that God usually does not speak to us in this way. Nevertheless, even if the skies never open or the spirit never descends, we still believe that God is directing us. We are called to examine the patterns in our society. We believe that what we discover there is God's way of directing and guiding us. That is why today I want to direct your attention to a dramatic new pattern that is developing in our culture. I want to speak about this pattern from the perspective of faith, because I believe this development is a significant opportunity that God is offering to many of us.

Today our society is radically redefining the meaning of retirement. That's right. I am talking about retirement because at my age, there are times that I also think about my own retirement. However, I would like to address retirement from the perspective of faith. And before all of you in your teens and 20's and 40's tune me out, I want to promise that what I say applies to everyone in this church today because the development of retirement is changing the shape of all our lives.

Today because of better nutrition and medicine Americans are living longer and better than any other people in the history of the world. Over the last fifty years the average American has gained ten years of

productive life. That is an unheard of advancement in the length and quality of living. It changes the shape of what all of us are moving towards and how we need to prepare for it. The old pattern used to be this: You grew up; you raised a family; you worked hard; you retired; you played a little golf and perhaps moved to Florida; and it was over. Today, people retiring in their 60's are facing 20 to 30 years of productive life. Now that is too long simply to play golf or travel around the world or anything that fill your time.

So what are we to do with all that time? How can it be made productive? Much research is being done on this new retirement. Already a few conclusions are coming into focus. I would like to highlight three qualities that research has shown typify people who are satisfied and happy in the new retirement. Those three qualities are: expansion, service and relationships.

Those who study retirement insist that those who are happy in these years are those who are willing to expand. Success in the new retirement involves developing new interests and abilities. Before retirement the task of life is to grow up and become productive. After retirement life's task is not to grow up but to grow out. When you are busy earning a living, your life by necessity has a narrow focus. After retirement there is more freedom to do things that are not tied to income. There is time to expand. And those who are happiest in retirement seem to be those who expand in a number of different areas and often in ways that are very different from what they used to do for a living. So you have brain surgeons learning to play the trumpet, and history teachers studying astronomy and homemakers starting businesses. The ability to stretch oneself, to broaden oneself, to enlarge oneself is the first quality for those who live the new retirement well.

The second quality is service. Those who are happy in retirement are people who have found some way of giving back. This orientation to service seems to be an essential component in assembling a new pattern of living. Spending some time volunteering in church, a hospital or teaching a child to read contributes to long-term satisfaction. Serving is the second quality of a happy new retirement.

The third quality is relationships. For those facing 20 to 30 years of retirement, nothing is more important than friendship. Because loss through death is a clear reality in the latter years of life, living the new retirement with one spouse or one

friend is often not enough. People need a network of relationships, a group of people with whom life can be shared and sorrows carried. Good and varied relationships are crucial to retirement.

Now everything we are talking about pertains to the average American. It is tragically true that there are people here today who will never reach retirement and others who might not be able to retire at the normal time because of financial reasons. But for most of us the pattern of our society indicates that we will have 20 to 30 years of retired life. To live that retirement well, we must be willing to enlarge ourselves, to serve, to build relationships.

So here's the point. If the new retirement is as we have described, why not begin today? Even if you are in your 20's or 30's and certainly if you are in your 40's or 50's, now is the time to think ahead. What new interests, what new abilities should I develop? How can I serve and begin to discern what kind of service might benefit me and others when retirement gives me more freedom? How can I build a network of relationships? How can I connect with people who have similar interests, people with whom I can share life?

Although this may sound a little like a commercial, I need to point out to you that a parish community is a perfect place to develop such qualities. In a parish community you have the opportunity of Adult Enrichment which can expand your thinking and your interests beyond your work and your responsibilities. In a parish community you have opportunities to serve and to learn what kind of service would most compliment your future. In a parish community you can reach out to people beyond your family and form relationships that will last the rest of your life.

We should not wait for the heavens to open and the Holy Spirit to come down to tell us what to do. God is speaking to us today in the patterns of our society. The shape of our life is changing and God is preparing us for what lies ahead. Now is the time to enlarge our thinking, to serve others, to develop relationships so that God's gift of retirement will not be a burden to be endured, but a blessing to be lived.

Fr. Manolo

Office hours: Sunday: 8:30am - Noon; Mon-Thurs: 9am - Noon; Friday and Saturday: Closed

Come Celebrate With Us!

HOLY MASS

Saturday
5:00 PM (Vigil Mass)

Sunday
7:30, 9:30 and 11:30 AM
(9:30 Mass is also Livestreamed online at
www.ICCMahwah.org)

Weekday
12:00 NOON

Holy Day & Holiday
As announced in the Parish Bulletin

RECONCILIATION

at the Oasis of Mercy Room

1st and 3rd Saturday 4:00 - 5:00 PM - Adorno Father / Confessor
2nd and 4th Saturday 4:30 - 4:50 P.M. - Fr. Manolo / Confessor

HOLY ROSARY

Daily at 11:30 am

CHAPLET OF THE DIVINE MERCY

Daily after Mass

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament takes place every First Friday of each month from 7:00-8:00 PM.

All are welcome to spend time with the Lord.

In a world where there is so much noise, so much bewilderment, there is a need for silent adoration of Jesus concealed in the Host. Be assiduous in the prayer of adoration and teach it to the faithful. It is a source of comfort and light, particularly to those who are suffering." Pope Benedict XVI

The more time you spend with Jesus, the more you will come away feeling renewed and healed. Miracles of conversion, peace, discovery of vocations, answers to prayers, physical healings, and many other wonderful things happen where and when the Lord Jesus is adored in the Blessed Sacrament. They are the "gifts" that point to the Almighty Giver and testify to His Real Presence in the Blessed Sacrament.

Let us love being with the Lord! There we can speak with Him about everything. We can offer Him our petitions, our concerns, our troubles, our joys, our gratitude, our disappointments, our needs and our aspirations. Above all we can remember to pray: 'Lord send laborers into Your harvest! Help me to be a good worker in Your vineyard!'



GOING AWAY THIS WINTER?

We know many of our parishioner like to vacation in warmer climates during the winter and we rejoice with you, but we still count on your faithful commitment to our parish in remembering us in your prayers and financial support. So while you are away please keep connected to your home parish:

- By updating us with your mailing address
- Information on when you are leaving and returning
- Please consider setting up an ONLINE GIVING account before you go (call the Parish Office for more information 201-327-1276).
- Read the Parish Bulletins online www.ICCMahwah.org.
- If you or a family member needs prayers, let us know so we can pray for them. Enjoy your time away and we look forward to your return.

SAFETY PROTOCOLS FOR ALL OF OUR MASSES



We wish to welcome you all at our Masses. We would like to ensure that we celebrate the liturgy joyfully and safely as we welcome you to ICC.

In light of the still ongoing strains of Covid-19 and the new variant Omicron virus, we would like to suggest and recommend to always being mindful of your own safety and the safety of others.

Masking is recommended for everyone at Mass especially for those who are not vaccinated and for those who are high risk. Masks are readily available at church entrances if you need one. Thanks to ACUPAC PACKAGING, Inc. through Mrs. Sue Murken for donating thousands of masks to ICC.

As you enter church, please sanitize your hands. If you are sick, don't feel well or have been exposed to COVID-19, please stay home and follow our Livestream Mass via our website.

Don't Let Your Guard Down. By following our recommendation, the risk of exposure to COVID-19 can be reduced in our community.

UPDATING OF SICK LIST IN THE BULLETIN

We pray for each other out of love for one another. In our parish bulletin, we maintain a list of those who are sick. Each week, the parish family prays for all those listed. Beginning January 2022, current names will remain on the prayer list for a month. You need to contact the office to renew the individual's name. Request Forms are available at the Parish Office.

Each renewal is good for a month. In addition, parishioners are invited to add their prayer intentions to the book located at the altar of Our lady of Our lady of Guadalupe and the saints by the church entrance. Thank you very much.



WE BEGIN WITH NEW LIST IN FEBRUARY 2022

PRAYER REQUEST FOR PARISH BULLETIN

Name the sick Person _____ Age: _____

Address _____

Phone Number: Home _____ Cellphone: _____

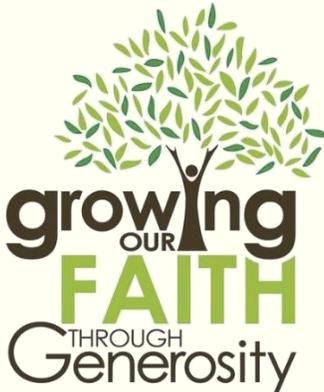
Email Address: _____ OK to be contacted? Yes _____ No _____

Remarks: _____

Requested by: _____ Cellphone # _____

Address _____ Email _____

NON TAXABLE IRA DIRECT DONATIONS TO IMMACUALTE CONCEPTION CHURCH



If you are 70 1/2 and you have a traditional (taxable) IRA (not a Roth), then you can donate up to \$100,000 a year to Immaculate Conception Church and **avoid any tax if the donation is made as a direct donation to ICC**. These tax exempt direct distributions are known as "Qualified Charitable Distributions" (QCDs) since that is the term used for them in the Internal Revenue Code. IRC § 408 (d) 8 (A) – (B). Although this is not a tax deduction, it is just as good---you are using pre-tax income and avoiding taxes on that income. Furthermore, the QCD also counts towards your Required Minimum Distribution (RMD). This is particularly beneficial if you are not fully utilizing your Required Minimum Distribution and if you don't normally itemize deductions. But, to get this tax benefit you have to meticulously follow the rules. Please call the office or email Robert Herpst for assistance: rherpst@bortecklaw.com

At this time of year, our hearts are moved even more to generosity. We buy gifts for those we love, we spend more on special foods to celebrate Christmas and we splurge to express our joy for all the blessings we have in our lives. Hopefully we also remember the poor and those in need who don't have the means to celebrate as some of us can. We ask everyone also to remember our Immaculate Conception Church at Christmas. We work hard year round to worship God as Christ commanded us, and to bring the Good News of salvation to all through the celebration of the sacraments and the many ministries we have here at ICC. We can only do this because of the generosity of our members and visitors who support our parish. The Christmas collection and Christmas donations make up an important part of our annual budget.

If you haven't done so already, please remember to offer a gift to the Church this year at Christmas. Help us to continue to bring the good news of the coming of the Lord Jesus to all.



CONVALIDATION ANNULMENTS DIVORCE

Can I still get an annulment if my ex-spouse doesn't agree?

Yes...

Are divorced people excommunicated or unable to participate in the sacraments?

No...

If we had children, can the marriage still be annulled?

Yes...

Do annulments render children illegitimate in the Church?

No...

Immaculate Conception Church / 900 Darlington Ave / Mahwah / NJ / 07430

March, 18th 2022 at 7:30 PM

An evening of Q&A with a canon lawyer and divorced Catholics in various stages of the nullification process

Call Robert Herpst at (201) 602-7953 to reserve your spot
Your Anonymity & Confidentiality Will Be Respected

PLEASE CONSIDER ICC IN YOUR ESTATE PLAN

Have you ever heard that phrase? I bet that someplace and sometime over the years, you may have run across this statement. Maybe you've seen it on the back of an envelope or in a newsletter?

Have you ever wondered if anyone ever does this? Does anyone ever really remember their parish in their will? The simple answer is yes. Churches has received many generous bequests from a number of estates over the years. Many Catholics have determined that they wish to provide for the Church through a gift from their estate. Yet I've heard it said many times before that sometimes, people just don't consider charitable giving when deciding how to make best use of their hard earned earthly assets.

When considering gifts to a charity in your Will or Trust please remember Immaculate Conception Church. Gifts can be made as a restricted donation to the parish in the following manner through your Will or Trust:

- ◆ **A specific dollar amount.**
- ◆ **A percentage of your estate.**
- ◆ **A particular asset such as real estate or other valuables.**
- ◆ **You may also name the parish as a beneficiary of a retirement plan or life insurance policy.**

ESTABLISHING AN ESTATE PLAN

Everyone should have an estate plan comprising of either a will or a trust. A will is a legal document that allows you to control how your assets are distributed after your lifetime. Without a will, the probate court will decide who gets your assets upon your death. Typically, the court will split your assets between your surviving spouse and children, or your blood relatives. A trust allows you to control how your assets are distributed both during and after your lifetime. Establishing a trust requires that you transfer ownership or title of your assets to the name of your trust. Since the trust owns the assets, there is nothing for the courts to control when you die. This is beneficial since, unlike a will, you avoid all the costs, delays and publicity of the probate process.

YOU ARE LEAVING A LEGACY

No matter how you decide to remember your parish, a gift from your will accomplishes several key benefits. It sends a strong message to your heirs that the Church played an important role in your life.

- ◆ It guarantees that your generosity to the Church will be continued even after you are gone.
- ◆ It provides important assistance to our parish.
- ◆ It may even provide tax benefits for your heirs.

Talk to your lawyer or financial counselor today about the best way for you to remember your parish in your will.

Many Catholics lived lives of stewards while on this earth. They gave of their time, talent and treasure. And now, after they have been called to a life with Christ, the accumulation of their earthly treasure will provide a lifetime of benefit to many in our parish. In living the life of stewardship, we give 10% of our treasure back to the Lord. Why not consider a gift in our will of 10% to the Church?



IN HONOR OR MEMORY OPPORTUNITIES

Memorial gifts to Immaculate Conception Church perpetuate the memory of a loved one or honor a living person.

SANCTUARY LAMP - Catholic churches often have at least one lamp continually burning before the tabernacle, not only as an ornament of the altar, but for the purpose of worship to indicate and honor the presence of Christ. **The Sanctuary Lamp is lit in honor or in memory of your loved ones for a \$25.00 donation a week**

ALTAR CANDLES - Candles are required to be placed on the altar for the celebration of Mass. The symbolism of prayer has been connected with candles; the burning flame of the candle represents the prayer that rises to God. **The Altar Candles are lit every Mass in honor or in memory of your loved ones for a \$25.00 donation a week**

BREAD AND WINE - In all the Masses celebrated all over the world, Bread and Wine are the two important elements of this Eucharistic Sacrifice. **The Bread and Wine can be requested to honor or memorialize a loved one for a \$25.00 donation a week.**

ANNUAL MEMORIAL CANDLES - Honor gifts and memorial opportunities are also available in our Saints' Altar in the rear of the church. There are a few candles still open in our Candle Stand in the rear of the Church. **The donation of \$150.00 for a candle to lit for one full year with your personal inscription.**

FR. JM MANOLO A. PUNZALAN, STL-MA

Pastor, phone extension # 12
Fr.Manolo@ICCMahwah.org

ADORNO FATHERS

Weekend Assistants / Confessors

SALESIANS OF DON BOSCO

Weekend Assistants

DEACON JOSEPH YANDOLI

Permanent Deacon

PASTORAL MINISTRY COUNCIL

SR. JUANITA ARNISTER, CSSP

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JAKE MURKEN

Altar Servers Ministry Coordinator

ANN MARIE KELLY

Lazarus Ministry Coordinator
Baptismal Preparation Coordinator
9:30 & 11:30 Liturgical Ministers' Coordinator
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PEG THORNTON

5:00 & 7:30 Liturgical Ministers' Coordinator
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CATHY ILARDI

Ministry for Senior Parishioners, ICAPS President
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NESTOR & AVELINA HERNANDEZ

Liturgical Linens and Vestment Care

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RICHARD WOLF

Chairman, Parish Finance Council

ROBERT HERPST

Parish Legal Assistant & RCIA Coordinator
rherpst@optonline.net

JOE KEYS

Chairman, Buildings and Grounds Committee

GARY BARBEAU and JOHN EGAN



Saturday, January 8

9:00 a.m. Living and Deceased Members of I.C.A.P.s

5:00 p.m. Monica Schweisguth by Bridget Schweisguth

Sunday, January 9 BAPTISM OF THE LORD

7:30 a.m. Intentions of Babuin Family

9:30 a.m. Living & Deceased Members of the Parish

11:30 a.m. Salvatore & Mary Ruffino by Angela Ruffino

Monday, January 10

9:00 a.m. Robert Justiniano by Walter Terry

Tuesday, January 11

12:00 p.m. Toefista Diaz by Nestor and Avelina Hernandez

Wednesday, January 12

12:00 p.m. Sheila Soledad by Tom & Rosario Fiesta

Thursday, January 13

12:00 p.m. Intentions of Michael Fiesta & Family by Efren & Chatto

Friday, January 14

12:00 p.m. Joe & Paula Diaz by Efren & Rosario Fiesta

Saturday, January 15

5:00 p.m. Maria & Tony Jacobini by Zack Family

Sunday, January 16

7:30 a.m. Mary Ann Belfield by Tom Worsley

Living & Deceased Members of the Parish

9:30 a.m. Carolyn Kiernan by Kiernan Family

11:30 a.m. Intentions of Elaine Lewandoski by Kathy Safai



Gabriel Scura, Adeline Grace Shelhorse, Russ Kamp, Lena Piccione, John Balsamo, Donna Wolf, Alfred Paloscio, Rita Nichols, Rado Petric, Elaine Lewandoski, Cole Mckeon, David Gutierrez, Jeanne Paolillo, Christopher Zullo, Mercedes Tabije, Vincent Brosnan, John Chmielowiec, Belisario Machado, Sandra Machado, Ann Gallina, Helen Gallina DeLucca, Katrina Consunto, Eva Jungay, Era Ocampo, Homer Pabustan, Ma. Neny Pabustan, Nemia Consunto, Staci Alfano, Frank Arcaroli, Suzann Baker, Gene Boylan, John Burgio, Loretta Carroll, Jorge Castellanos, Kevin Corcoran, Sean Crosby, Matthew Donohue, Cristin Famularo, Allison Florio, Terry Gill, Lynn Goodman, Leighton Heisey, Frank Howard, Rose Ifebigh, Ryan Ilardi, Sue Karlewicz, Ruth Kavanagh, John LaBruna, Roger Leon, Vi Ludovici, Kristen Mansfield, Joshua McGrath, Cassidy McPartland, Robert Miotto, McKenna Morey, Fe Murphy, Kim Naucodie, Kunbi Olagbaju, Patricia Scura, Andrew Orotelli, Catherine Pannenbacker, Francis Paolillo, Joan Parkin, Dolores Pieken, Andrew Pisani, Louis Roselli, Jake Santoriella, Laura Sardone, Michael Sargenti, Jeff Steele, Marlene Terhune, Paul Traina, Estella Vercollone, Cesar Mamayson, Tara Hannan-Karbon, Nicholas Androurlidakis, Eleni Lambrinides