

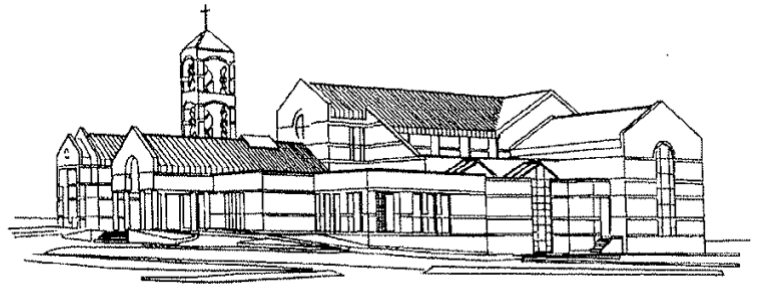
## IMMACULATE CONCEPTION PARISH

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## PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD APRIL 13, 2025



### *From the Pastor's Desk*

#### PALM SUNDAY

Beloved in Christ, together with the universal Church, we celebrate Palm Sunday, also known as Passion Sunday, marking the beginning of the holiest week in the Christian liturgical calendar. The name Palm Sunday is derived from the palm branches we bless and carry in procession to commemorate the triumphant entry of Jesus into the holy city of Jerusalem, where He would be sacrificed as the Paschal Lamb for our salvation. It is also called Passion Sunday because the Passion narrative is proclaimed. Today's celebration begins with a jubilant crowd welcoming Jesus, chanting: "Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!" (Lk 19:38). Yet, just a few days later, the same crowd would turn against Him, shouting in hostility: "Crucify him! Crucify him!" (Lk 23:21). Why? Because He did not meet their expectations of a king. They could not comprehend a king who rides on a donkey... a king who chooses the cross for His throne... a king who promises not earthly comfort, but eternal joy in heaven.

#### THE EASTER TRIDUUM

The Easter Triduum begins on **Holy Thursday** evening with the Mass of the Lord's Supper, where we commemorate the institution of the Eucharist, Holy Orders and the commandment to love and serve one another. In loving others, we make Christ present among us.

**Good Friday:** On this day we mark the Passion of the Lord — a solemn day when Christ is condemned and crucified like a criminal on the Cross of Calvary. The liturgy will consist of three parts: the proclamation of the Passion; the veneration of the Cross, and the reception of Holy Communion. As is tradition in our parish, there will be a **reenactment of the Passion at 5:00pm**, to which all are invited to attend.

**Easter Vigil:** The Easter Vigil is the high point of the Triduum and of our entire liturgical year. On this most holy night, we sing Alleluia once more because Christ is truly risen, just as He said. At the heart of our Christian faith is this proclamation: "Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have fallen asleep" (1 Cor 15:20). As St. Paul affirms, "If Christ has not been

raised, your faith is in vain" (1 Cor 15:17). The vigil includes the lighting of the Easter Candle, the singing of the *Exultet*, Baptism and Confirmation of adults, and First Holy Communion for the newly initiated.

**Easter Sunday** continues the celebration of the Resurrection of the Lord. We rejoice and proclaim: Jesus Christ is risen today! Alleluia! He has conquered sin and triumphed over death. On this day, the Gloria and Alleluia return to our liturgy, as we sing with joy and thanksgiving.

#### THOU SHALT NOT EAT MEAT!

Did you know that Catholics aged fourteen and older are required to **abstain from meat** on days of penance, such as Ash Wednesday, Good Friday, and the Fridays of Lent? This practice honours Christ who sacrificed His flesh for us on Good Friday. Abstinence is a form of penance and an expression of sorrow for our sins. It signifies our desire to repent, to avoid situations that lead us into sin, and to turn back to God with our whole hearts.

#### DONATION FOR EASTER FLOWERS

At Immaculate Conception Parish, it is customary for parishioners to generously donate for the purchase of flowers to decorate our church for Easter. If you feel inspired by the Holy Spirit to make a donation in memory of a deceased loved one or for a personal intention, please use the yellow envelopes available in the church lobby. Thank you for your generosity!

#### MASS IN MEMORY OF MY BROTHER, THE LATE MR. SONG NESTOR

*"The souls of the righteous are in the hands of God" (Wis 3:1).*

As you may have heard, my brother, Mr. Song Nestor, passed away in Cameroon on Saturday, April 5, 2025. I am deeply grateful for your kind messages of comfort and consolation during this difficult time. I will be celebrating a Holy Mass in his memory on **Monday, April 21, 2025, at 8:00pm**. Following the Mass, I will be traveling to Cameroon for the funeral. Please, remember my family in your prayers. If you are able, please join me in honouring his life and celebrating his memory.

With gratitude, Fr. Eugene Chianain



## Pontifical Collection for the Holy Land

On **Good Friday**, there will be a **Pontifical collection for the Holy Land** in support of Christian communities and the upkeep of Holy Sites.

*Venerdì Santo si farà una colletta Pontificale a sostegno della Terra Santa per sostenere le comunità Cristiane e la manutenzione dei Siti Sacri.*

## Second Collection on Easter

During all the Easter Masses there will be a **second collection for the Church renovation fund**.

*Durante tutte le messe di Pasqua ci sarà una seconda colletta per il fondo manutenzione della nostra Chiesa.*

## Parish Office Closed

The office will be closed on Good Friday (**April 18**) and Easter Monday (**April 21**).

*L'ufficio parrocchiale rimarrà chiuso il Venerdì Santo (18 aprile) e il Lunedì di Pasqua (21 aprile).*

## 2025 Holy Week Schedule



### Holy Thursday ~ *Giovedì Santo* **April 17, 2025**

7:00pm: English | 8:30pm: Italian  
Adoration until 12am & from 5am – 8am on Friday

### Good Friday ~ *Venerdì Santo* **April 18, 2025**

1:00pm: English | 3:00pm: Italian  
5:00pm: Passion Play. Via Crucis



### Holy Saturday ~ *Sabato Santo* **April 19, 2025**

8:00pm: English | 11:00pm: Italian  
N.B. No 5pm Mass.

### Easter Sunday ~ *Domenica di Pasqua* **April 20, 2025**

8:00am: Italian | 9:30am: English  
11:00am: Italian | 12:30pm: English  
NB. No 7:00pm Mass



## Lenten Reconciliation Service

Are you struggling with regret and shame over your mistakes, or do you feel that the burden of your sins is holding you back from enjoying true inner peace and joy? The Lord of mercy and compassion is waiting for you with open arms to forgive your sins and make you new again. Priests will be available to hear confessions on **Monday April 14, 2025 at 3-6pm & 7:30pm.**

## Weekly Mass Intentions

### Monday April 14

7pm

7:30pm

Confessions

### Tuesday April 15

7pm

Maria Palermo

8pm

Domenico Testani

### Wednesday April 16

7pm

### Thursday April 17

7pm

Mass of the Lord's Supper

8:30pm

Messa in Coena Domini

### Friday April 18

1pm

Liturgy of the Lord's Passion

3pm

Liturgia della Passione

5pm

Way of the Cross. Via Crucis.

## 2025 Golf Tournament

The 18th Immaculate Conception Parish Charity Golf Tournament in support of ShareLife and parish needs will be held on **Thursday June 5, 2025 at Glen Eagle Golf Club.**

## Summer Camp 2025

The camp for children entering grade 1 to 6 in September will be held from **July 7, 2025 – July 11, 2025**. The registration fee is \$75.

## Feast of the Divine Mercy

We will celebrate the Feast of the Divine Mercy on **Sunday April 27, 2025 at 3:00pm.**

*Celebreremo la Festa della Divina Misericordia domenica 27 aprile, 2025 alle ore 15.*

## Pilgrimage to St. Padre Pio Parish

Our parish will be organizing a pilgrimage to St. Padre Pio Parish – one of Holy Doors in the Archdiocese of Toronto – on **Thursday May 8, 2025 at 7pm.**

*La nostra parrocchia organizza un pellegrinaggio alla chiesa di San Padre Pio (una delle porte sante della Diocesi) giovedì 8 maggio, 2025 alle ore 19.*

## Donazioni per i fiori

*Si accettano donazioni per i fiori per decorare chiesa per la Santa Pasqua.*

## Messa in suffragio di Mr. Song Nestor

*Sabato scorso è venuto a mancare in Cameroon, Mr. Song Nestor, il fratello di P. Eugene. Una Messa in suffragio della sua anima sarà celebrata lunedì 21 aprile, 2025 alle ore 20.*