

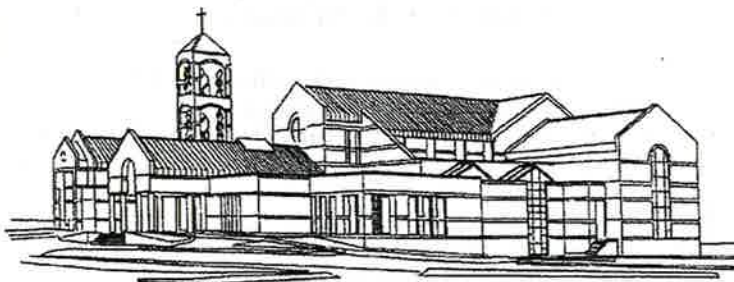
## IMMACULATE CONCEPTION PARISH

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### THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

December 14, 2025



#### Message from Fr. Shaiju

My dear brothers and sisters, the Third Sunday of Advent, or **Gaudete Sunday**, invites us to pause our waiting and let our hearts rejoice. Today's readings remind us that the joy of the Lord is already breaking into our darkness. We rejoice not because all our problems are solved, but because **the Lord is near**, walking with us in every step of our journey. Jesus asks us to notice the moments when God touches the dry or weary places in our hearts. John the Baptist stands before us not simply as a prophet, but as a mirror reflecting ourselves. He knew who he was and who he was not. He was not a crowd puller but was content to disappear so that Christ may appear, his focus was not on recognition or eloquence, but on pointing others to the true Light. Real joy comes when we stop trying to shine on our own and allow **Christ to be the light within us**. John reminds us that he is merely a voice crying in the wilderness, while Christ is already present, working quietly in our conversations, struggles, and hidden graces. Therefore, let us deepen our relationship with Jesus and rejoice in His hidden presence, as St. Paul reminds us: *"It is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me."* Have a blessed week.

*La Terza Domenica di Avvento, e lasciare che i nostri cuori si rallegrino. Le letture di oggi ci ricordano che la gioia del Signore sta già penetrando nelle tenebre. Ci ralleghiamo non perché tutti i nostri problemi siano risolti, ma perché il Signore è vicino e cammina con noi. Gesù ci chiede di notare i momenti in cui Dio tocca i luoghi stanchi dei nostri cuori. Giovanni Battista si pone davanti a noi non semplicemente come un profeta, ma come uno specchio che riflette noi stessi. Sapeva chi era. Non era un "attira-folla", ma si accontentava di scomparire affinché Cristo potesse*

#### Thank you! Grazie!

On Monday December 8, 2025, our Parish celebrated the Patronal Feast of the Immaculate Conception, with a solemn bilingual Mass followed by refreshments. Heartfelt thank you to all volunteers, parish groups and ministries for their support as well as everyone who donated baked goods.

*Lunedì 8 dicembre, 2025 la nostra Parrocchia ha festeggiato la festa Patronale dell'Immacolata Concezione con una Messa solenne bilingue seguita dal rinfresco. Un sentito ringraziamento a tutti i volontari, gruppi e ministeri parrocchiali per il loro sostegno e tutti coloro che hanno portato i dolci per il rinfresco.*

#### Advent Reconciliation for Confirmation Candidates

All Confirmation Candidates are reminded to participate in Advent Reconciliation on **Tuesday December 16, 2025 at 7:30pm** at Immaculate Conception Parish. Candidates will also be given their catechism class schedule. Parents are kindly asked to drop off and pick up the candidate.

#### Christmas Flower Donations

We are accepting donations to purchase flowers to decorate the church for Christmas using the envelopes in the lobby.

*Si accettano donazioni per acquistare i fiori per decorare la chiesa per il Natale usando le buste nell'atrio.*

## Upcoming Baptisms

Our parish is delighted to welcome the following child to the Christian community through the Sacrament of Baptism:



*Jax Joseph Di Pasquale  
Gabriel Antonio Leslie  
Chiara Teresa Mirkai  
Evan Alfonso Duarte Nunez  
Aurelia Olaedo Chuka Okeke  
Lincoln Jose Tiberio Mederios Avila  
Alexandria Maria Trozzolo  
Don Odelia Adriana Jayasundara  
Audrey Sarkodie Agbesi*

Congratulations to their parents and godparents

## Adopt-A-Family Outreach

Our Outreach Program is supporting families in need through our Adopt-A-Family program. Donations may be dropped off in the church foyer by **Monday December 15, 2025**.

*Il gruppo "Outreach" della Parrocchia torna a sostenere le famiglie in difficoltà. Le donazioni possono essere lasciate nell'atrio della chiesa entro lunedì 15 dicembre 2025.*

## CWL Meeting

The Catholic Women's League will be having their monthly general meeting on **Tuesday December 16, 2025 at 7:30pm** in the parish hall followed by prayers, refreshments and Christmas Celebrations. All members are invited to attend. New members are welcome.

## Winter Carnival Fundraiser

Our annual **Winter Carnival Fundraiser** in support of the missions of the Congregation of the Sons of the Immaculate Conception will be held on **Saturday February 7, 2026 at the Bellvue Manor**. Tickets cost \$120.

*Sabato 7 febbraio 2026 presso la Bellvue Manor si festeggerà l'annuale serata con **cena e ballo del Carnevale Invernale** a sostegno delle missioni della Congregazione dei Figli dell'Immacolata Concezione. I biglietti costano \$120.*

## Parish Office Closure

The Parish office will be closed on Thursday December 25, 2025, Friday December 26, 2025 and Thursday January 1, 2026.

*L'ufficio parrocchiale rimarrà chiuso giovedì 25 dicembre, 2025, venerdì 26 dicembre, 2025 e giovedì 1 gennaio, 2026.*

## Weekly Mass Intentions

### Monday December 15

7pm	
7:30pm	Advent Confessions

### Tuesday December 16

7pm	
7:30pm	Advent Reconciliation for Confirmation candidates

### Wednesday December 17

7pm	Eileen Carnevale
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### Thursday December 18

7pm	
7:30pm	Advent Confessions

### Friday December 19

7pm	Maria & Pietro Tonelli
8pm	Maria Antonia Tropea

## Blessing of Baby Jesus Figurines

At each Christmas Eve Vigil Mass, there will be a blessing of all Baby Jesus figurines which you will put in your Nativity Scenes on Christmas.

*Durante le Messe della Vigilia di Natale, ci sarà la benedizione delle statuine di Gesù Bambino che porrete nel vostro presepe per Natale.*

## Second Collection

During all the Christmas Masses there will be a second collection for the needs of our church.

*Durante tutte le messe di Natale ci sarà una seconda colletta per i bisogni della nostra chiesa.*



## 2025 CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE

**Christmas Novena ~ Novena di Natale  
December 16, 2025 – December 24, 2025**

5:30am: English with songs in Tagalog  
7:20am: Italian

**Christmas Eve ~ Vigilia di Natale  
Wednesday December 24, 2025**

5:00pm: English  
9:00pm: English  
11:00pm: Italian

**Christmas Day ~ Giorno di Natale  
Thursday December 25, 2025**

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