

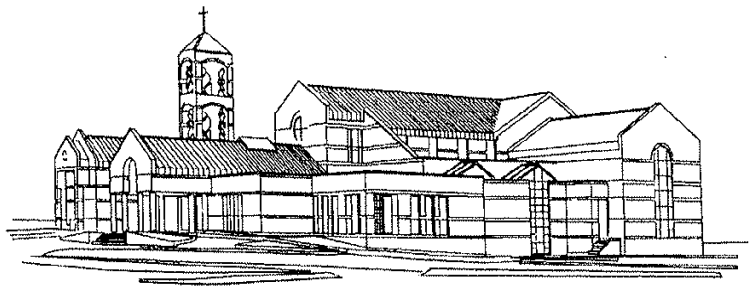
IMMACULATE CONCEPTION PARISH

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FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

January 28, 2024

CWL Collecting Socks and Gloves for Shelters from January 20 - January 28, 2024

The Catholic Women's League of Immaculate Conception Parish is collecting socks and gloves for our community shelters. With the cold weather there is a need for socks and gloves, as these are the least donated items to shelters. Your donations of these much-needed items can be left at the **church office during the week of January 20 – 28** and we will deliver them to local Shelters right away. We thank you for your support during our collection campaign.

Le Donne dell'Azione Cattolica stanno raccogliendo calzini e guanti per i rifugi comunitari. Potete portare le vostre donazioni di guanti e calzini **all'ufficio parrocchiale dal 20 al 28 gennaio** e saranno consegnati ai rifugi locali. Grazie di cuore per il vostro sostegno.

Confirmation Sponsor Forms

Completed sponsor forms along with proof of Confirmation are to be returned to the Parish office by **Wednesday January 31, 2024**.

Evening Rosary

All are invited to pray the rosary **every Monday at 7:30pm in the chapel** for peace in our families and peace in the world.

Parent/Child Workshop for First Holy Communion Candidates

All First Holy Communion candidates **must** attend the Parent/Child Workshop. Please bring the *We Share in the Eucharist* Book. Only parents and First Communion candidates should attend.

- Saturday February 3, 2024 at 1:45pm-4pm
Immaculate Conception
- Sunday February 4, 2024 from 1:45pm-4pm
St. John Bosco
- Saturday February 24, 2024 from 1:45pm-4pm
St. Gabriel
- Sunday February 25, 2024 from 1:45pm-4pm
St. Catherine & Other Schools

St. Blaise

After the **8:00 am Mass on Saturday February 3rd, 2024**, there will be the traditional blessing of the throat. According to this ancient tradition, St. Blaise is the Saint invoked by those suffering with a throat illness.

Sabato 3 Febbraio, 2024 dopo la Messa delle ore 8am ci sarà la tradizionale benedizione della gola. Secondo un'antica tradizione, San Biagio è il santo invocato durante le malattie che interessano la gola.

Stewardship Reflection

In today's Gospel we hear about Jesus delivering a man with an unclean spirit. When the crowds saw this great miracle they were all amazed by Jesus' words and deeds and began to speak about Him in astonishment. The Gospel ends by saying that "at once Jesus' fame began to spread throughout the surrounding region of Galilee." The news of this miracle helped others in the region come to know about Jesus. So too, as stewards of Christ we should share with others the wonderful deeds God has done for us. All of us who have chosen to follow Christ more closely have our own testimony of how God entered into our lives. St. Peter says that it is important to "always be ready to make your defense to anyone who demands from you an accounting for the hope that is in you" (1 Peter 3:15). Therefore, whenever someone asks us why we take our faith and stewardship so seriously, we should be able to tell them why. These are prime opportunities to share the faith with others. The next time a family member or friend asks us why we choose to follow Christ, let us share with them how God has beautifully worked in our lives. This way, just as Jesus' fame spread in the Gospel, it can also spread here in the Archdiocese. Bishop Robert Barron says that "the minute you walk outside of your church on Sunday you're in mission territory." As stewards, let us live this missionary call and spread the good news of Jesus Christ.

Office for Refugees Update

The Archdiocese's Office for Refugees is excited to announce the commencement of its 2024 Refugee Sponsorship Program for Parishioners. This initiative is designed to aid parishioners interested in sponsoring family members seeking refugee resettlement. If you are a parishioner and wish to sponsor a family member, kindly reach out to the parish office to arrange a meeting with the pastor. Interested parishioners will be asked to provide the necessary funds required for sponsorship.

Weekly Mass Intentions

Monday January 29

7pm	Giovanni Marincola
8pm	Luigi Veloce

Tuesday January 30

7pm	Teresa Romeo
8pm	Corrado Pietrelli

Wednesday January 31 St. John Bosco

7pm	Tony Gentile
8pm	Giuseppe Mandarino

Thursday February 1

7pm	
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Friday February 2 The Presentation of the Lord

7pm	Ernesto Infusino
8pm	Teresa Limarzi

Marriage Sunday 2024

As part of Marriage Sunday 2024 celebrations, Archbishop Francis Leo will preside at a special Mass to honour married couples, with special recognition for those celebrating 25th, 40th, 50th, 60th and 60+ wedding anniversaries in 2024. The Mass will take place at **3:00 p.m. on Sunday, February 11, 2024 at St. Michael's Cathedral Basilica** (65 Bond Street, Toronto). All married couples will have an opportunity to renew their marriage commitment during the Mass. All are welcome to attend. Couples celebrating a 25th, 40th, 50th, 60th or 60+ anniversary in 2024 may register for reserved seating. Reserved seating is limited, so please register early. All other seating is on a first-come, first-served basis. Those who are unable to attend at the Cathedral are invited to join the celebration via livestream Mass. Registration and other important information can be found at www.archtoronto.org/marriage.