

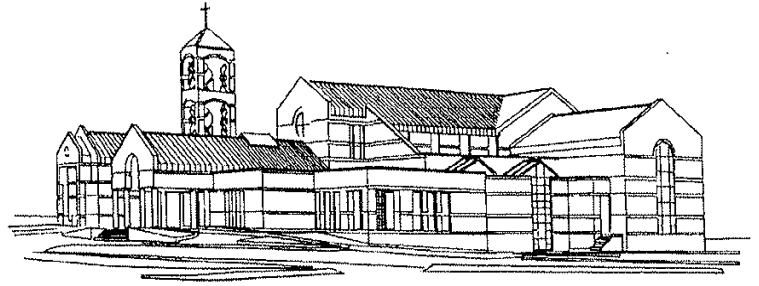
# IMMACULATE CONCEPTION PARISH

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## SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT MARCH 16, 2025

### *From the Pastor's Desk*

#### **SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT**

Today, we celebrate the Second Sunday of Lent, and the Gospel invites us to reflect on the glorious event of the Transfiguration of Jesus Christ. St. Luke tells us that Jesus took Peter, James, and John up the mountain to pray, and while they were praying, “the appearance of his face changed, and his clothing became dazzlingly white” (LK 9:29). Two emblematic figures of the Old Testament, Moses and Elijah, appeared and spoke with Him about His imminent rejection and passion in Jerusalem. Then, after they disappeared, a voice from heaven proclaimed: “This is my Son, my Chosen; listen to Him!” (LK 9:35). The Transfiguration occurred at a critical moment in Jesus’ ministry. He had just told His disciples about His impending suffering and death. Troubled and terrified, they were not ready for the darkness of Good Friday, when their master and teacher would be defaced, disfigured, and humiliated. By allowing them to witness His glory beyond the passion, Jesus strengthened their faith for what was to come during the passion. Likewise, in our lives, we all face moments of struggle, pain, setbacks, and uncertainty. Yet, in the midst of these challenges, God grants us glimpses of His glory—moments of peace, love, hope, and spiritual consolation—reminding us that suffering is not the end. Pain leads to healing, Good Friday leads to Easter Sunday, and death leads to the resurrection. Today’s Gospel calls us to remain firm in our faith, trusting that beyond our crosses there is resurrection and glory. Let us listen to Jesus, allow His light to strengthen us, and continue our journey with hope and perseverance.

#### **REMINDER: PASSION PLAY REHEARSAL**

This is a **personal reminder** to all those taking part in the **Passion Play** to attend a **rehearsal on Tuesday, March 18, 2025 at 7:00pm in the parish hall**. Your presence is important as we prepare for this meaningful presentation. Please make every effort to attend. Thank you for your dedication, and I look forward to seeing you there.

#### **THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING OUR 2024 SHARELIFE CAMPAIGN**

My dear parishioners, I would like to extend my heartfelt gratitude to each one of you for supporting our 2024 ShareLife campaign, which was a huge success story. In a time of deep economic hardship, when many families are struggling, you were generous enough to extend support to those in need. Because of your generosity, **our parish was able to exceed its goal of \$100,000—we raised a total of \$107,000**. This outpouring of love is a powerful testament to your commitment to lifting up the needy and less privileged members of our society. As Cardinal Leo stated in his thank you letter of February 2025, “Your sacrificial gifts breathed life into the work of ShareLife-funded agencies, enabling them to continue their mission of caring for the hungry, the homeless, the lonely, and those seeking a new beginning. Your support of the ShareLife Campaign is a reflection of the love of God poured into our hearts, a love that brings hope and never disappoints. Because of your selfless giving, so many in our community have found strength to move forward.” Once again, thank you, and may God bless you abundantly.

Our **2025 ShareLife Campaign** will be launched on the weekend of March 29/30, 2025. Our goal is \$106,500. I invite you to get ready to support this campaign.

#### **CONFIRMATION RETREAT ATTENDANCE**

Dear Confirmation Candidates,

This is a reminder to all Confirmation candidates to attend the upcoming **Confirmation Retreat** on:

• **Saturday March 22, 2025 from 10am-12pm:**

*St. John Bosco, St. Gabriel*

• **Saturday March 22, 2025 from 1pm-3pm:**

*St. Catherine, Immaculate Conception, Other Schools*  
Your participation is essential as you prepare for this important sacrament. We look forward to seeing you there!

Sincerely in Christ, Fr. Eugene Chianain



## Upcoming Baptisms

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



*Luciano Antunes Butera*  
*Gabriella Francesca DeConcily*  
*Sienna Louise Canale*  
*Alessio Salvatore Ianni*

Congratulations to their parents and godparents.

## Feast of St. Joseph

A Solemn Mass in honour of St. Joseph, the Patron Saint of Canada, will be celebrated on **Wednesday March 19, 2025 at 8am in Italian & 7pm in English.**

*La solennità di San Giuseppe, patrono del Canada, sarà celebrata con una Messa solenne mercoledì 19 marzo, 2025 alle ore 8am in Italiano e alle ore 7pm in Inglese.*

## “One Hour with Jesus” Eucharistic Adoration

You are all invited to the “One Hour with Jesus” Eucharistic Adoration which will be held on **Thursday March 20, 2025 at 7:30pm.** This Eucharistic adoration is a wonderful opportunity to turn to Jesus with confidence and pour out your heart to him in prayer.

## Income Tax Receipts

Income tax receipts for the 2024 taxation year may be picked up from the parish office during office hours.

*Le ricevute delle tasse per l'anno 2024 possono essere ritirate in ufficio parrocchiale.*

## 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.**

## Knights of Columbus Soccer



The Knights of Columbus are inviting adults to join for pick-up soccer at St. Catherine of Sienna gymnasium every Tuesday at 7pm-8pm, be there early! Try it out for some good exercise for free - \$50 to participate weekly until May 27th!



## Weekly Mass Intentions

### Monday March 17

7pm	Maria & Pietro Tonelli
8pm	Giuseppe Tauro & Anna Signore

### Tuesday March 18

7pm	Antonio Affattati
8pm	Ippolita Giannotta

### Wednesday March 19

#### St. Joseph

8am	Messa di San Giuseppe in Italiano
7pm	St. Joseph Feast Mass in English
8pm	Immacolata Giancola

### Thursday March 20

7pm	
7:30pm	“One Hour with Jesus” Adoration

### Friday March 21

7pm	English Mass & Stations of the Cross
8:15pm	Via Crucis

## Parish Lenten Mission in English



The English Parish Lenten Mission will be preached by **Fr. Elvise Lukong** on **March 24, 25 & 26 at 7pm.** The theme is “Come away to a deserted place all by yourself” (Mark 6:31).

## 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 March 29, 2025 from 10:45am-1pm**  
*St. Gabriel, St. John Bosco*
- **Saturday March 29, 2025 from 1:45pm-4pm**  
*Immaculate Conception, St. Catherine & Other Schools*

## Stations of the Cross

Every Friday during Lent at **7:30 pm in English** and at 8:15 pm in Italian.

*Tutti i Venerdì di Quaresima alle ore 19,30 di sera in inglese e alle 20,15 in italiano.*

## 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.