

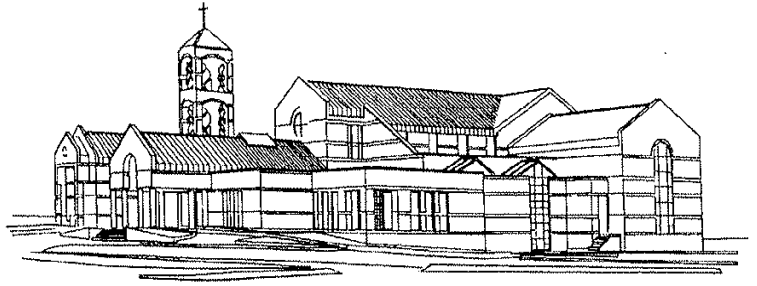
IMMACULATE CONCEPTION PARISH

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PENTECOST: JUNE 8, 2025



From the Pastor's Desk

PENTECOST: YOU ARE MY WITNESESS!

Dear friends, prior to leaving, Christ gave his disciples clear instructions: *"Do not depart from Jerusalem, but wait for the promise of the Father"* (cf. Acts 1:4–5). He asked them to stay together, to prepare their hearts in prayer to receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. And so, they gathered in the Upper Room with Mary, united in prayer, awaiting the promised event (cf. Acts 1:14). Today, we celebrate the fulfillment of that promise. In the first reading from Acts 2, we hear how the Holy Spirit came down upon the apostles like a rushing, violent wind on the day of Pentecost, and tongues as of fire appeared and rested on each of them. People from every nation heard the apostles speaking in their own language, and more than 3,000 responded by being baptized into Christ. This is the mystery and miracle of Pentecost: that one single Spirit-filled sermon brought about a great conversion. That's why Pentecost is often referred to as the **birthday of the Church**. Before Pentecost, the apostles were behind locked doors, afraid, uncertain, and overwhelmed. But after Pentecost, they stepped out boldly, proclaiming the Gospel. The Holy Spirit transformed fishermen and tax collectors into fearless evangelists and martyrs. Brothers and sisters, on the day of our **baptism and confirmation**, we too received the same Holy Spirit. And yet, how often are we afraid to publicly bear witness to the Gospel of Christ? Many of us remain locked in by fear, by insecurity, or even by indifference. Pentecost reminds us that **we are not alone**. The Spirit who empowered the apostles' dwells in us. That same Spirit fills us with **courage, wisdom, and love**. We are called to carry this Spirit into the world—to become evangelizers by our words and actions, especially in a secular world that is increasingly hostile to God and to religion. Let us not be afraid to stand strong and firm in our faith. Let us speak the truth in love, live the Gospel with integrity, and radiate the joy of Christ to those around us. So, we pray today with one heart and one voice: **"Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful and kindle in them the fire of your love."**

WHY IS FR. EUGENE STEPPING DOWN AS PASTOR?

As I announced last weekend, I will be stepping down from my position as **Pastor of Immaculate**

Conception Parish, effective **June 27, 2025**. **Fr. Shaiju Ponnmalakunnel** will assume leadership of the parish as **Administrator** beginning on that date. I will be dedicating my time fully to my responsibilities as **Superior of the North American Delegation (NAD)** of the **Congregation of the Sons of the Immaculate Conception (CFIC)**. Over the past two years, I have carried both roles—Pastor and Delegation Superior—but it has become clear that I can no longer continue to serve both effectively. As Superior, I am responsible for approximately **forty priests (brothers)** of our religious congregation who are ministering across the **United States, Mexico, and Canada**. With this change, I will now have the freedom to travel, visit, and support them more closely in their mission. For the time being, I will continue to **reside at Immaculate Conception Parish in Woodbridge**, and I will remain available to support the parish in any way I can. I sincerely thank each of you for your prayers, friendship, and support over these past years. It has been a profound blessing and privilege to serve you as your pastor. Please keep **Fr. Shaiju** in your prayers as he begins this new chapter in service to our parish. May the Lord continue to bless you and your families abundantly.



Come annunciato, lascerò il mio incarico di Parroco della Parrocchia dell'Immacolata Concezione a partire dal 27 giugno 2025. P. Shaiju Ponnmalakunnel assumerà la guida della parrocchia come Amministratore a partire da quella data. Dedicherò il mio tempo pienamente alle mie responsabilità di Superiore della Delegazione Nordamericana della Congregazione dei Figli dell'Immacolata Concezione. Come Superiore, sono responsabile di circa quaranta sacerdoti che svolgono il loro ministero negli Stati Uniti, in Messico e in Canada. Per il momento, continuerò a risiedere in questa chiesa e sarò disponibile a sostenere la parrocchia in qualsiasi modo possibile. Vi ringrazio per le vostre preghiere, la vostra amicizia e il vostro sostegno in questi ultimi anni. È stata una profonda benedizione e un privilegio servirvi come vostro parroco. Vi prego di tenere Padre Shaiju nelle vostre preghiere. Che il Signore continui a benedire abbondantemente voi e le vostre famiglie.

In Christo, **Fr. Eugene**

Upcoming Baptism

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



Vienna Rose Prochilo

Congratulations to their parents and godparents.

This Week's Marriages



Jennifer Caravaggio & Giancarlo Vittori
Sara Spagnuolo & Ledio Muclari
Samantha Marchese & Adriano Abballe



AMOUNT RAISED: \$40,934

PARISH GOAL: \$106,500

You are the light of hope this ShareLife Sunday

On the third ShareLife Sunday of the year, you can extend God's compassion and solidarity to our brothers and sisters. Together with your support, let us illuminate His light in the darkest of places, providing strength to those enduring unimaginable hardships.

TODAY is ShareLife Sunday.

Questa è la terza Domenica di ShareLife dell'anno e tu puoi offrire la compassione e la solidarietà di Dio ai nostri fratelli e sorelle.

OGGI è una domenica di ShareLife.

Knights of Columbus Father's Day Raffle

The Knights of Columbus are hosting a special Father's Day Raffle! Tickets are for sale at all Sunday Masses until June 15. Win great prizes, including gift cards, electronics, and a 55" 4K TV! All proceeds support parish and community initiatives. Tickets: \$5 (1), \$10 (3), \$20 (8), \$50 (25). Don't miss out—get yours today!

I Cavalieri di Colombo organizzano una lotteria per la Festa del Papà. I biglietti saranno in vendita dal 1° giugno fino al 15 giugno dopo la Messa. I biglietti costano \$5 per 1, \$10 per 3, \$20 per 8, \$50 per 25.

Rosary Apostolate

The Rosary Apostolate in the schools is seeking volunteers who have a great devotion to the Mother of God and who are willing to visit our elementary schools to pray the Rosary with the children once a week from October to May. Training and screening will be provided. If you are interested, please contact Rose at 905-856-6035.

Weekly Mass Intentions

Monday June 9 The Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of the Church

7pm Leo Fonatin

8pm Silvio Fiorini

Tuesday June 10

7pm Maria DiBartolomeo

8pm Angelo & Salvatore Lamonica

Wednesday June 11

7pm Leonardo Panza

8pm Nunzia Gulizia

Thursday June 12

7pm

8pm Franco Roccatani

Friday June 13 St. Anthony of Padua

7pm

8pm Gregorio Sera

Feast of St. Anthony

We will be celebrating the Feast of St. Anthony on **Friday June 13, 2025** with an Italian Mass at 8am and an English Mass at 7:00pm.

Celebreremo la Festa di Sant'Antonio, venerdì 13 giugno, 2025 con una S. Messa in italiano alle ore 8am, e in inglese alle ore 19.

Second Collection Marygrove Camp June 14 & 15, 2025

Next weekend, **June 14 & 15, 2025** there will be a second collection for Marygrove Girls Camp run by the Society of St. Vincent de Paul.

Il prossimo fine settimana del 14 & 15 giugno, 2025 si farà una seconda colletta per il Marygrove Girls Camp gestito dalla Società di San Vincenzo de' Paoli.

Solemnity of Corpus Christi: June 22, 2025

The Solemn Procession for the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ will take place on **Sunday June 22, 2025 at 6pm, following the 5pm Mass.**

NB. The 7pm Mass on Sunday June 22, 2025 is CANCELLED.

La processione solenne per il Corpus Domini verrà fatta domenica 22 giugno, 2025 alle ore 18,00, subito dopo la Santa Messa delle ore 17,00.

NB. Sarà CANCELLATA la Santa Messa delle ore 19,00 di domenica 22 giugno, 2025.