The Immaculate Conception Parish
Churches of
Immaculate Conception & St. Joseph
Jim Thorpe, PA 18229

Pastor: Rev. Ronald J. Minner
Deacon: Mr. Jack Mroz • Pastor Emeritus: Rev. James J. Ward

St. Joseph Rectory
526 North Street
570-325-3731 • stjosjf@ptd.net
www.saintjosephchurch-jimthorpe.org
Office Hours: Mon., Wed. & Fri. 8:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.
Tues. & Thurs. 12:30 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.
St. Joseph Church side entrance is open
daily for private prayer

Immaculate Conception Rectory
180 W. Broadway
570-325-2791 • iccjf@ptd.net
www.iccjimthorpe.org
Office Hours: Mon., Tues., Thurs., Fri.
8:30 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.
Closed Wednesday

Diocesan Victim Assistance Coordinator: Wendy S. Krisak, MA, NCC, LPC, Direct Phone: 800-791-9209;
Diocesan Secretary for Youth Protection: Pamela J. Russo, MSW, MS, Phone: 610-871-5200, Ext. 2204;
P.O. Box F, Allentown, PA 18105-1538, prusso@allentowndiocese.org

The Diocese of Allentown provides assistance to anyone, who as a minor, was sexually abused by a priest, deacon, or
employee / volunteer of the Diocese / Parish. Parents, guardians, children, and survivors of sexual abuse are invited and
encouraged to contact the Diocese of Allentown for more information about the program. The fullness of compassion
should be extended to these victims by the Church.

If you have an allegation of abuse against a bishop, please contact the Catholic Bishop Abuse Reporting Service

August 22, 2021 ~ The Twenty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time
WORSHIP
Saturday Vigil: .......................... 4:30 p.m. @ Immaculate Conception Church
Sunday: ..................................... 9:00 a.m. @ St. Joseph Church
Daily Mass: .............................. 8:00 a.m. Mon. & Thurs. @ ICC; Tues. & Fri. @ SJC; Wed. - Private
Holy Days: ................................. As announced
First Saturday: ........................ 9:00 a.m. rotates Church every month, Sept-SJC, Oct-ICC, Nov-SJC
Exposition & Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament after 8 a.m. Mass on Tuesday & Thursday

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION:
Wednesdays at 6:00 p.m.
1st & 3rd Wednesday of month @ ICC,
2nd & 4th Wednesday of month @ SJC

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM:
Second Sunday of the month after Mass. Call the Rectory for registration and necessary preparations.
Parents must attend a Baptism Prep Class, which are offered monthly.

SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE:
Call the rectory at least six months in advance of proposed wedding date for registration and any necessary preparations.

ANOINTING OF THE SICK:
This Sacrament is provided to any sick, or elderly person who requests it. Notify the Rectory office as soon as someone becomes seriously ill, so that they might receive this Sacrament, please do not wait until death is imminent.

COMMUNION TO THE HOMEBOUND:
Fr. Minner & Eucharistic Ministers visit monthly those who are homebound and wish to receive Communion. Please call the Rectory to notify us about someone who wishes to be visited.

NEW MEMBERS:
Welcome! Please call the Rectory in order to register. Please notify the office if you change your address or move away.

PARISH RELIGIOUS EDUCATION:
Please contact the Rectory office, Classes will resume Fall 2021

ST. JEROME REGIONAL SCHOOL:
Mrs. Amy Hannis-Miskar, Principal
570-668-2757; sjrschool.com

ST. JOHN NEUMANN REGIONAL SCHOOL:
Mrs. Mary Comensky, Principal
610-826-2354, altcsjn@ptd.net

MARIAN CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL:
Mr. Michael Brennan, Head of School
570-467-3335; mariancatholichs.org

TODAY’S READINGS
First Reading: Joshua challenges the Israelites to serve either the Lord or other gods. They choose the Lord (Joshua 24:1-2a, 15-17, 18b).
Psalm: Taste and see the goodness of the Lord (Psalm 34).
Second Reading: Paul reflects on how husbands and wives should reverence and love each other (Ephesians 5:21-32 [2a, 25-32]).
Gospel: Master, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life (John 6:60-69).

READINGS FOR THE WEEK
Monday: 1 Thes 1:1-5, 8b-10; Ps 149:1b-6a, 9b; Mt 23:13-22
Tuesday: Rv 21:9b-14; Ps 145:10-13, 17-18; Jn 1:45-51
Wednesday: 1 Thes 2:9-13; Ps 139:7-12ab; Mt 23:27-32
Thursday: 1 Thes 3:7-13; Ps 90:3-5a, 12-14, 17; Mt 24:42-51
Friday: 1 Thes 4:1-8; Ps 97:1, 2b, 5-6, 10-12; Mt 25:1-13
Saturday: 1 Thes 4:9-11; Ps 98:1, 7-9; Mt 25:14-30
Sunday: Dt 4:1-2, 6-8; Ps 15:2-5; Jas 1:17-18, 21b-22, 27; Mk 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23

WEEK AT A GLANCE EVENTS
Tues., 8/24: Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, 8:30am – 3pm @ SJC
Wed., 8/25: Confessions at SJC, 6pm
Thurs., 8/26: Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, 8:30am – 3pm @ ICC; SJC Choir Rehearsal, 7 pm
Fri, 8/27: Flame of Love, 1 pm - School

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES
Sunday: 21st Sunday in Ordinary Time
Monday: St. Rose of Lima
Tuesday: St. Bartholomew
Wednesday: St. Louis; St. Joseph Calasanz
Friday: St. Monica
Saturday: St. Augustine
The Twenty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time

As for me and my household, we will serve the LORD. - Joshua 24:15b

Special Prayer Intentions- these are the people for whom we will be praying at Mass:

**Sat. Aug. 21**
4:30 pm (ICC) Our Lady of Knock (LAOH) / Nathaniel Davis (Mom & Dad)

**Sun. Aug. 22**
9:00 am (SJC)  Steve Yuhas (Claire Hoherchak) / Oscar & Peggy McClafferty, anniversary (Peggy Sue & Family)

**Mon. Aug. 23**
8:00 am (ICC) Michael McHugh (Jean McElmoyle) / Craig Knaup (Marge & Jim Smith)

**Tues. Aug. 24**
8:00 am (SJC)  Jake & C. Virginia Llewellyn (son, Jake) / Fred Beers (Lisa & Bob Schaninger)
8:30am-3pm Exposition & Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

**Wed. Aug. 25**
private  Frank Testa (Testa Family)
Missa Pro Populo - *All Our Parishioners, Living & Deceased*

**Thurs. Aug. 26**
8:00 am (ICC) Anthony Malaska (Sally & Joe Bott & son) / Maddie Hoben (Mary & Mike Marzen)
8:30am-3pm Exposition & Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

**Fri. Aug. 27**
8:00 am (SJC) Yong Cha Kurak (Nick & Neen Kuzo) / Intentions of Daniel Gilberry (brother, David)

**Sat. Aug. 28**
Rosary For Life at 9am @ SJC

The 22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

**Sat. Aug. 28**
4:30 pm (ICC) Fran & Joe O’Donnell, bday (Children & Grandchildren) / Joseph “Tiger” Conzoneri, 25th Anniv. (Family)

**Sun. Aug. 29**
9:00 am (SJC) Aldo & Bernadette Donati (Family) / Elaine Herman (Husband)

**ST. JOSEPH CHURCH CANDLES**

SAINT JOSEPH: In Memory of Frank J. Gavornik (By, grandson, Thomas)
BLESSED MOTHER: In Loving Memory of Louise Cheese (By, brothers & sisters)
BLESSED MOTHER: In Loving Memory of Asuncion Aguillon, always in my heart, I love you Ma. (By, Rap)
BLESSED MOTHER: In Loving Memory of Asuncion Aguillon, we pray that you rest forever in the arms of the Lord & Blessed Mother Mary (By, Loti & Mike)
SAINT THÉRÈSE OF LISIEUX: In Loving Memory of Asuncion Aguillon, we love you and miss you! (By, Romeo, Faye, Kevin, Froye, Elijah, Freya, Ali, Fernand & Mely)
SACRED HEART: In Loving Memory of Asuncion Aguillon, a life so beautifully lived, & a heart so deeply loved. We miss & love you so much. (By, Rap, Elijah, Freya & Ali)
MOTHER TERESA: In Loving Memory of Asuncion Aguillon, sending you peace light & love (By, Melanie Costa)

**PARISH STEWARDSHIP:** 8/1/21: $ $ 4,131.00
Thank you for your continued support & generosity.
SUNDAY MORNING MASS ADDITION
We will be adding a Sunday Morning Mass at Immaculate Conception Church soon. It is important to remember the PREP students and a Sunday class must be considered when choosing times. Let’s be understanding in dividing times fairly and equitably. This may seem to be a daunting task, but when we work for the common good; everyone will benefit. We will work, sacrifice and pray together for a combined, unified, strong parish in Sunday Morning Mass times!

REFLECTION
Jesus comes to teach us what we need to do to live eternally. He tells us to love Him and to eat His Body and drink His Blood. Those who feed on Him will have peace. He also tells us to listen to His Word. There are reasons why people do not listen or heed His Word. When Jesus first said we must eat His Body and Drink His Blood, many of His followers left Him. Throughout history there are people who hear His word and honestly are strengthened by it, but they put off acting upon it. Because of this they never really put into practice what they have heard. When this occurs sin could take over the body and the soul starves. We who hear, but do not ‘listen’ and do not ‘feed’ get caught up in daily routine and forget what we have heard. After hearing God, we must take time to incorporate His life into ours; we do this by quiet meditation after receiving Holy Communion. We then transform our lives to be like Christ’s. As we trust in God we begin to trust ourselves; we begin to love by living out the love we have for Him. It is this love that establishes peace on earth and ultimately brings us into Heaven.

Are You SMARTER than a Presbyter?
Answer to last week’s question- Why does a special candle burn above the Tabernacle? ~A special candle called “The Sanctuary Lamp” burns above the Tabernacle to signify that Jesus is truly present in the church, inside the Tabernacle.

This week’s question:
Who was depicted conversing with Jesus during the Transfiguration and why?

FOOD PANTRY: St. Joseph Ecumenical Food Pantry, located on the corner of North & 6th St., will be open Wed., August 25 from 9am–1pm.

BOTH RECTORY OFFICES will be getting new connected phone systems installed over the next week. Please be patient if you no one answers or the voicemail is not available, and try to call back again later. There may be some down times during the transition.

MEN’S GROUP COLLECTION: WE ARE MAKING A DIFFERENCE with your donations!! All are invited to be part of our mission to help the children of Tanzania with food, clothing, uniforms, and the expansion to existing buildings. The collection cans will be at the doorways to both churches next weekend, Aug. 21/22. Please help us to continue growing the program for the children of Tanzania!

RCIA – Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults: If you would like more information on becoming a Catholic Christian or if you were Baptized Catholic but never received Eucharist and/or Confirmation please call Deacon Jack and Rita Mroz 570-732-4130. We assure you that there are no tests to pass or fail. . .there is only faith to give and share. Come and See!

CLERGY COMEDY – The Priest’s Pun
A scheming young man went to the rectory and placed a glass filled half way with water in front of his pastor. He said to the priest…”Father are you an optimist or a pessimist?” The priest thought for a moment, then picked up the glass and drank all the water. He said to the man “I’m a problem solver!”

OUR NEXT GARAGE SALE will be Saturday, August 28th from 9am–1pm. New arrivals daily! Lawn Furniture, Sofa, kitchen tables, microwave, mirrors, pictures, kids games, toys, jewelry, dishes, glassware, vinyl records and many, many knick knacks. Stop by and check out the great deals!

PENNSYLVANIA MARCH FOR LIFE: Join CareNet of Carbon County on Mon., Sept. 27, on a chartered bus to Harrisburg, provided by PA Family Institute. Please call bus captain, Mary Marzen at 610-597-6727 to reserve your seat. Bus will leave from Immaculate Conception Parking Lot, (exact time to be announced, approx. 9am–4pm).

“REAL DIAMOND” SHOW: The F.Y.I. Group has tickets to see “Real Diamond”, a tribute to Neal Diamond as part of their yearly celebration. This is a luncheon show at Penn’s Peak on Thursday, September 30. Tickets are $45 each. Anyone wishing to join us please call Diana at 570-732-4262.

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**UPDATES & CHANGES:** If you have disconnected your landline at home and use only a cell phone, we ask you to please update the Rectory office by calling 570-325-2791 or email iccj@ptd.net.

We noticed some people in the Jim Thorpe area have had their house numbers changed by USPS recently, please make sure to notify the Rectory, so we can update our records and make the change with the envelope company.

If you have not made a donation or used the envelopes in the last 6 months, we will stop the mailing to save our cost. The last day to make changes for the next set of envelopes for November/December will be Sept 30.

**DIOCESAN SPECIAL MASSES:**

**Legion Of Mary 100 th Anniversary Mass:** You are invited to Mass with Bishop Schlert on Saturday, Sept. 18 at 1pm in celebration of the 100th year of the Legion of Mary in the Diocese of Allentown. Join us beginning at 12:30 pm for the Rosary & Legion Prayers, followed by Mass at the Cathedral Church of St. Catherine of Siena. Refreshments and social to follow after the Mass at the Cathedral's Parish Activity Center beneath the sanctuary. Please RSVP to legionofmaryallentown@gmail.com by Sunday, August 29 if you plan to attend.

**Annual Diocesan Anniversary Mass:** Married couples around the Diocese will be invited to renew their vows and thank God for the gift of the Sacrament of Marriage during the annual Diocesan Wedding Anniversary Mass on Sunday, Sept. 19. Bishop Alfred Schlert will celebrate the Mass at the Cathedral of Saint Catharine in Allentown at 3pm on Sunday, Sept. 19th. The Mass will also be live-streamed on AD Today and the Diocese of Allentown Facebook page. The Mass will fulfill your Sunday obligation. If you have questions or to register call 1-800-831-4443, or email stewardship@allentowndiocese.org

**A Celebration Of The Heroes Among Us!** Red, White, & Blue Mass The Most Reverend Alfred A. Schlert, D.D., Bishop of Allentown cordially invites you to a celebration of police, firefighters, first responders, healthcare workers, military, and elected officials! Wear your uniform and join us at St. Joseph the Worker, Orefield, Sat., Sept. 11th at 3pm. Reception to follow in Parish Center. RSVP to stewardship@allentowndiocese.org.

**WE RECENTLY RECEIVED** checks from Jim Thorpe Market in the amount of $765 and from Redner’s Market for $173.99. Thank you again to all those who take part in this fundraiser! Keep saving your receipts!

**APPEAL UPDATE:** As of Aug 17th Our parishioners have raised $20,988, from 111 families representing 15.97% of our total number of registered families in our parish. THANK YOU!

**DECISIONS:** There is an axiom that states, “Not to decide is to decide.” This saying was popular in the turbulent times of the Vietnam War. It urged us not to allow others to answer the moral questions raised by our nation’s involvement in that terrible conflict, but to decide for ourselves. Making such choices is never easy. Avoiding them is common. Jesus, for his part, was not only a gallant risk-taker, but a clear decision-maker. As he pursued the mission to which the Father called him, he continually decided for us and for the Father. He worked hard to lay out a scenario that would enable others to make similar choices. Never did he make decisions for others or force others into decisions, even decisions that had eternal ramifications. Jesus is inviting us to make such decisions today. We won’t be absolutely sure. What is sure, however, is the command that issues from God’s word: Take the risk. Decide! © J. S. Paluch Co.
LADIES, THERE IS A LOT OF IMPORTANT WORK TO BE DONE....
WE NEED YOUR HELP

Please join the Diocese of Allentown Catholic
Women's Society of Giving for our Sip, Savor and Share evenings.

OUR GOAL IS TO UNITE AS WOMEN FROM ALL OVER THE DIOCESE AND SUPPORT
ORGANIZATIONS AND MINISTRIES THAT NEED OUR HELP. PLEASE JOIN US AT
ONE OF OUR INFORMATION SESSIONS TO LEARN MORE ABOUT OUR SOCIETY.
ENJOY FEMALE FELLOWSHIP AND REFRESHMENTS!
YOUR INVOLVEMENT WILL MAKE A DIFFERENCE!

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PLEASE RSVP TO STEWARDSHIP@ALLENTOWNDIocese.ORG
OR BY CALLING 800-831-4445
WHOM SHOULD WE FOLLOW

Today’s Gospel is the conclusion of the Bread of Life discourse in John. After Jesus’ continued insistence that he is the Bread of Life come down from heaven, and that his words are “Spirit and life,” most of his disciples drift away. The Twelve, however, affirm their faith in Jesus, whom Simon Peter professes to “have the words of eternal life.” In the first reading, Joshua and the Israelites are preparing to enter the Promised Land, and Joshua asks the people to decide which god they will follow, the LORD their God, or the gods of neighboring peoples. The Responsorial Psalm features Psalm 34, the “taste and see” psalm, that reflects the kinds of struggles the Israelites faced during their sojourn in the wilderness. In the second reading, Paul gives counsel for maintaining domestic peace and happiness.

CROSSROADS IN LIFE, THEN AND NOW

Sometimes in life we find ourselves at a crossroads, faced with an existential choice that will alter the course of our life. We are aware, at these moments, just how significant our choice will be and that there will be no going back. In both the first reading and the Gospel we see such moments calling people to make such choices. Which god will the Israelites follow? Joshua, their leader after Moses, knows that the area around the Promised Land is occupied by other peoples, with other gods. Perhaps remembering how, after Moses had gone up Mount Sinai, the Israelites set up a golden calf to worship, Joshua worries that they may again be susceptible to such attractions. He is asking them for a commitment, and proclaims, “As for me and my household, we will serve the LORD.”

WE FACE THE SAME QUESTION: CAN WE STAY WITH JESUS?

The people who were frenetically following Jesus, crossing the lake twice to pursue him, eating the bread he miraculously provided, are now puzzled by Jesus proclaiming himself as “the bread of life,” and they are incredulous. They can go with him no farther, so they gradually drift away. The Twelve, however, stay with Jesus. What else could they do? Who else offers such a profound vision of human life? Peter expresses it well: “Master, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life.”

Not all of our life’s crossroads involve our faith, but some do. Perhaps there is someone in your parish who chose to become Catholic and is now alienated from their family; someone who is unhappy with a new pastor and wondering about looking for a different parish; someone who was especially distressed by the clergy sex abuse and prayed long and hard before deciding that she needed her parish to get through it. There may be many in your parish facing such choices, and they need our support and our prayers. In the meantime, we can hope that someday they will again experience Jesus as the Holy One of God, offering them words of eternal life.

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