

LENT 2010

The Church of the Immaculate Conception

Worship

Ash Wednesday Services

Wednesday, February 17, 2010

Masses will be held on Ash Wednesday at the following times: 6:30 am, 8:30 am, 12:10 pm and 7:00 pm. Ashes will be distributed at all Masses.

Adoration Chapel

Perpetual Adoration at Immaculate Conception is an important and much needed prayer program. The Adoration Chapel is open from 5:00 am to 10:00 pm daily. For security reasons, only scheduled adorers will have access to the chapel from 10:00 pm - 5:00 am.

We invite you to visit the Chapel during the Lenten season. This is a great time to make a commitment to an hour a week before the Blessed Sacrament. Please contact the Parish Office at 410-427-4700 if you are interested.

NOTE: The Adoration Chapel will close at 9:00 am on Holy Thursday and remain closed until 2:00 pm on Easter Sunday.

Stations of the Cross with Benediction every Friday during Lent at 7:00 pm

February 19, 26, March 5, 12, 19

March 26 - Living Stations as depicted by the eighth grade students of Immaculate Conception School.

April 2 - Good Friday Stations of the Cross.

Abstaining & Fasting Guidelines

Abstinence: Healthy Catholics age 14 and older are required to abstain from eating meat on Ash Wednesday and every Friday during Lent.

Fasting: On Ash Wednesday and Good Friday, healthy adult Catholics (ages 18-59) are required to fast, limiting food to one full meal with minimal food at the other two meal times and nothing in between.

The Light Is On For You

Every Parish throughout the Archdiocese of Baltimore will offer the Sacrament of Reconciliation during Lent. We will offer the Sacrament of Reconciliation on Wednesday evenings during Lent from 7:00 – 8:30 pm on February 24, March 3, 10, 17, 24 – excluding Ash Wednesday and the Wednesday of Holy Week.

If it has been some time since you have been to confession, maybe now is the time. The Sacrament is necessary to our growth, healing and strength as Christians and disciples of the Lord. You are invited to share the peace and joy that comes with letting go of our sins, hearing that we are forgiven and beginning anew in the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

There are additional opportunities for Confession every Saturday 3:30 pm - 4:30 pm in the Church.

Tenebrae Service & Reconciliation

Tuesday, March 30 – 7:00 pm

TENEBRAE is a Latin word meaning darkness or shadows. The mood is somber, quiet, and reflective. The distinctive feature of this service is the gradual extinction of all the lights in the church until only a single candle, considered a symbol of the Lord, remains. Toward the end of the service, this candle is hidden typifying the apparent victory of the forces of evil. At the very end, a loud noise is made, symbolizing the earthquake at the time of the resurrection, the hidden candle is restored to its place, and by its light all depart in silence.

Following the Tenebrae Service, there will be opportunity for individual Confession. We encourage you to receive the Sacrament of Penance during the season of Lent. Please note: This is the last opportunity for Confession before Easter.

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Learning

Parish Mission 2010

Presented by Rev. T. Austin Murphy

March 8, 9, 10 at 7:00 pm

Join us on March 8, 9 & 10 for our annual Parish Mission entitled, *From the Magic Kingdom to the Kingdom of God: Finding Faith in Popular Culture*. This year we are pleased to welcome Fr. Austin Murphy, Catholic Chaplain to Towson University and Director of the Towson University Newman Center.

This three-day mission will begin on Monday, March 8 at 7:00 pm with evening prayer and conclude with Mass at 7:00 pm on Wednesday, March 10. Fr. Austin is an engaging, energetic speaker who will share his thoughts on how faith and popular culture interconnect. *This year's Parish Mission will certainly appeal to the young and the young at heart.* All are welcome.

Why Catholic? Journey through the Catechism

Discover the meaning of The Lord's Prayer according to the Catechism of the Catholic Church. We invite you to join us as we complete our fourth and final year of Why Catholic? We offer many convenient meeting times including weekdays, evenings, and weekends. Young adults, we have a group just for you! Contact Glenda Sorteberg at gsorteberg@theimmaculate.org or 410-427-4726 for more information. Cost for the participant book is \$10.

Children's Liturgy of the Word

We invite our young parishioners ages 3-9 to participate in the Children's Liturgy of the Word at the 8:30, 10:00, and 11:30 am Masses. Here, they have the opportunity to worship God and celebrate their faith in a way that is joyful and relevant to their young lives especially during the Lenten season.

Service

Our Daily Bread

Our Daily Bread Sunday during Lent is March 7th. Help our parishioners serve the hungry. Volunteer chefs are needed to prepare a meatloaf, and/or to donate a box of instant mashed potatoes, canned string beans, and hard boiled eggs, staples (tea, sugar, salt, pepper, ketchup, brown paper lunch bags, and small plastic baggies). Cash donations are always welcome. Take your donations to the parking lot of the Bykota House located at Joppa Road and Central Avenue on Sunday morning, between 8:00 am and 9:30 am. Meatloaves should NOT be frozen upon delivery. Recipes and pans for the meatloaf are available in the vestibule. Please "sign up" if you will be able to prepare a meatloaf for Sunday, March 7th and we surely hope you will!

Hunger Knows No Season

A growing number of our Baltimore County neighbors are experiencing serious difficulty in obtaining food to feed themselves and their families. You can help by purchasing a small denomination grocery card from Giant, SuperFresh or Mars (not larger than \$20) and dropping it in the collection basket from the beginning of Lent (Feb. 20-21) through Palm Sunday (March 27-28).

Palm Sunday Luncheon & Ministry Fair

Sunday, March 28, 2010

Bring your family to the Parish Hall after the 11:30 am Mass on Palm Sunday for some food and fellowship. Meet the members of our parish ministries. Easter crafts will be available for the children to make and take home in preparation of Holy Week.



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