

# IMMACULATE CONCEPTION CHURCH



**MARCH 10, 2024**

## WELCOME!

### Parish Information

129 Graham Avenue  
Brookville, PA 15825  
P: (814) 849-8697  
F: (814) 849-5265  
W: [www.icbrookville.com](http://www.icbrookville.com)

### Our Staff

Pastor | Rev. William M. Laska  
Religious Ed. | Penny Rakovan  
Secretary | Chris Koladish

### Mass Schedule

#### Immaculate Conception

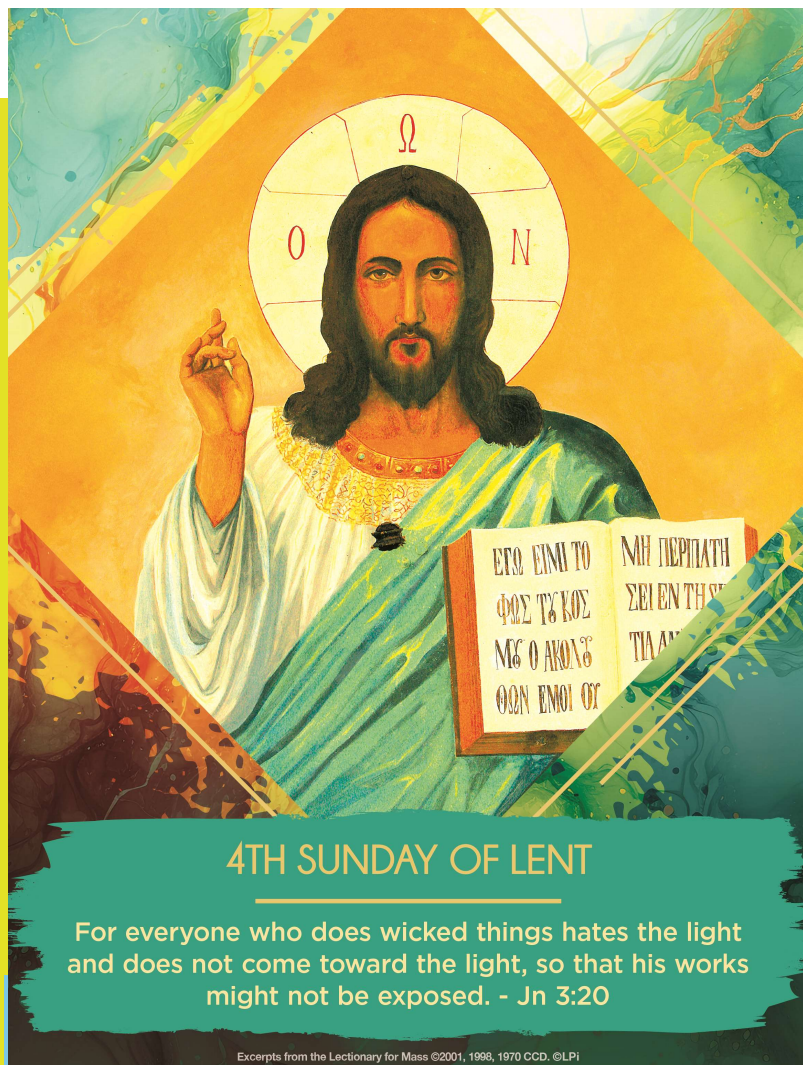
Weekdays: 8:00 a.m.  
Saturday: 5:15 p.m.  
Sunday: 10:30 a.m.  
Holy Day: 8:00 a.m. & 7:00 p.m.

### St. Dominic

Sunday: 8:30 a.m.  
Holy Day (Vigil): 6:00 p.m. Reconciliation: 8 a.m.  
Sunday

### Reconciliation

Saturday: 4:30 p.m. (IC),  
also by appointment  
Sunday: 8:00 a.m. (SD)



## 4TH SUNDAY OF LENT

For everyone who does wicked things hates the light  
and does not come toward the light, so that his works  
might not be exposed. - Jn 3:20

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1988, 1970 CCD. ©LPI

## MORE PARISH INFORMATION...

### Sacrament of Marriage

By appointment. A six-month preparation period is required.

### Sacrament of Baptism

By appointment. Please call the rectory for information.

### Sacrament of the Sick

Please call the rectory if anyone in your family is hospitalized  
or is a shut-in.

### Parish Membership

Membership in the parish is required to be a sponsor for a  
Sacrament, to be married in the parish, or to have a child  
baptized. Please notify the rectory office of a change of  
address or phone number.

### Religious Education Classes

Sunday: 9:00 a.m. - 10:15 a.m. (All Grades)

**\*Bulletin Deadline: Monday at 9:00 a.m.**

# THE CHURCHES OF IMMACULATE CONCEPTION AND ST. DOMINIC

## MASS INTENTIONS

### Schedule for the Week

#### MONDAY, MARCH 11

Monday Mass is offered privately  
Irene Solensky

#### TUESDAY, MARCH 12

8:00 AM Ellen Rowan  
by the John Grottenthaler Family  
7:00 PM Betty Sowers by Art Manfroni and Family

#### WEDNESDAY, MARCH 13

8:00 AM Terry Smith by Betty and Kathi Ransel

#### THURSDAY, MARCH 14

8:00 AM Ruth Hilton by Betsy Milford  
7:00 PM Stations of the Cross and Benediction

#### FRIDAY, MARCH 15

8:00 AM The Wargo and Pucalik Families  
by Marie Pucalik

#### SATURDAY, MARCH 16

5:15 PM Dick Wolfe by Merlyn Wolfe and Family

#### SUNDAY, MARCH 17

8:30 AM (St. Dominic) Parish Family of Immaculate  
Conception and St. Dominic  
10:30 AM Patricia Field by Glenna Haight

## LITURGICAL SCHEDULE—MARCH 16 & 17

### Altar Servers

Saturday, 5:15 p.m. | Please volunteer if you attend this  
Mass

Sunday, 10:30 a.m. | Nora O'Donnell

### Lectors

Saturday, 5:15 p.m. | Jim Stanley

Sunday, 10:30 a.m. | Barbara Chestnut

St. Dominic | Denny Kinol

**Rosary Leaders:** Denny Kinol, Steve Rowan

## STEWARDSHIP - MARCH 2 & 3

### Immaculate Conception & St. Dominic

Envelopes .....	\$3,857.00
Loose .....	\$1,163.00
Fuel Collection .....	\$140.00
Steeple Fund .....	\$500.00
Catholic Services Appeal—Assessment .....	\$41,567.00
Pledged .....	\$71,245.00
Paid .....	\$33,638.00
Weekly Goal to meet Operating Budget .....	\$4,806.00
Accumulated goal since July 1, 2023 .....	\$154,956.00
Surplus ( <b>Deficit</b> ) (Week #35) .....	<b>(\$13,254.00)</b>

**Thank you for supporting your parish.**



The Sanctuary Lamp burns for a Special Intention.

### THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT

The fourth Sunday of Lent is sometimes called *Laetare* Sunday. *Laetare* is a Latin word that means “rejoice.” Even as we observe our Lenten sacrifices, we rejoice in anticipation of the joy that will be ours at Easter.

Today’s Gospel reading is taken from John’s Gospel. It consists of two parts. The first part is the final sentence of Jesus’ reply to Nicodemus, the Pharisee who approached Jesus at night. Nicodemus acknowledged Jesus as someone who had come from God and seemed to want to be a follower of Jesus. Jesus greeted Nicodemus with the observation that one must be born from above to see the Kingdom of God. The dialogue between Jesus and Nicodemus that followed was about the meaning of this phrase. Nicodemus misunderstood Jesus at every point, but there was no animosity in the questions he posed to Jesus.

The second part of today’s Gospel is a theological reflection on Jesus’ words to Nicodemus. The Gospel of John is known for this kind of reflection offered within the narrative. The words of the Evangelist are in continuity with the words of the prologue to John’s Gospel. In these reflections, John elaborates on a number of themes that are found in his Gospel: light and darkness, belief and unbelief, good and evil, salvation and condemnation.

In the part of the conversation with Nicodemus in today’s Gospel, Jesus referred to an incident reported in the Old Testament. When the Israelites grumbled against the Lord during their sojourn in the desert, God sent venomous serpents to punish them for their complaints. The Israelites repented and asked Moses to pray for them. The Lord heard Moses’ prayer and instructed him to make a bronze serpent and mount it on a pole. All who had been bitten by a serpent and then looked upon the bronze serpent were cured. By recalling this story, Jesus alludes to the salvation that would be accomplished through his death and Resurrection.

In John’s reflection, we find an observation about human sinfulness. Jesus is the light that has come into the world, but people preferred the darkness. We wish to keep our sins hidden, even from God. Jesus has come into the world to reveal our sins so that they may be forgiven. This is the Good News; it is the reason for our rejoicing in this season of Lent and throughout our lives.

USHERS SCHEDULE

March 16 Rick Cherico, Bob Deter  
March 17 Jim Holencik, Steve Hoak

EVENING MASS AND  
STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Our evening schedule for Mass and Stations of the Cross during Lent is as follows:

Tuesday evening at 7 pm for Mass

Thursday evening at 7 pm for Stations of the Cross and Benediction.

This gives us the opportunity to do something extra for Lent.

CHILD PROTECTION AND CREATING SAFE  
ENVIRONMENTS-PLEDGE TO HEAL

The Diocese of Erie remains committed to helping survivors of clergy sexual abuse heal and recover. The diocese will provide counseling assistance for those who have been abused by a member of the clergy. For more information, please contact Dr. Gerard Tobin, our Victim Assistance Coordinator, at 814-451-1521. *The diocese encourages anyone who has experienced abuse or misconduct by a member of the clergy or any employee or volunteer of the church to contact their local law enforcement. To report abuse to the independent investigators retained by the diocese, email [ErieRCD@KLGates.com](mailto:ErieRCD@KLGates.com). To report abuse directly to the diocese call 814-451-1543.*



A FAMILY CONNECTION

Parents whose children are afraid of the dark are struck by John’s observation that darkness is preferred to light. Perhaps this is as it should be. God made us to live in the light of his love. But this original friendship with God was corrupted by sin. Our sin causes us to shy away from Christ, the light that has come into the world. During the season of Lent, we try to fight this tendency by remembering God’s great mercy and the salvation that we have received through Jesus. We do not fear confessing our sins, knowing that God forgives us, and so, during Lent, we seek out opportunities to celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

After your family gathers, sit for a time in darkness, then light a candle. Invite people to talk about what it felt like to be in the darkness and to compare that to their feelings when the candle was lit. What are we able to see by the limited glow of the candlelight that we couldn’t see when we were sitting in darkness? Read today’s Gospel, John 3:14-21. John’s Gospel teaches us that Jesus was the light that came into the world. In this light we know ourselves to be sinners, but we are not condemned. Instead we have been saved because we have been forgiven through Jesus’ sacrifice on the cross. Conclude in prayer together, thanking God for the great gift of forgiveness we have received through Jesus. Pray together the [Act of Contrition](#).

A FAMILY PERSPECTIVE

Today’s gospel speaks of light and darkness. Often a parent is deliberately “left in the dark.” Darkness can be comforting for it makes no demands on us. Light can be disturbing for it forces us to take action. Parents walk a delicate balance of when to “sit in the dark” and when to “turn on the lights.”

LENTEN PENANCE SERVICES

The Lenten Penance Services continue today, Sunday, March 10th, at 3 pm at Immaculate Conception Church.

The remainder of the Lenten Penance Services for our area are listed below. Please make every effort to attend one of the services to fulfill your Easter Duty, which includes the Sacrament of Penance and receiving Holy Communion.

St. Tobias, Brockway	Sunday, March 17th	3 pm
Holy Spirit, DuBois	Sunday, March 24th	3 pm

Please note that all the Penance Services will take place on Sunday afternoons in the hope that it encourages more people to take advantage of receiving the Sacrament of Penance before Easter and to accommodate those who do not drive after dark.