

Immaculate Conception Roman Catholic Church

Father Herbert T. Burke, Pastor

Reverend Mr. Andy Cilone, Permanent Deacon
Reverend Mr. Dave Faunce, Permanent Deacon,

Sharon Date, Parish Secretary
Parish Office Hours: Mon, Wed, Thurs, Fri
9:00am-4:00pm; (828) 245-4017
Office/Rector: (828) 245-4017

Weekend Masses

Saturday, 5:00pm
Sunday, 9:00am, 11:30am, and 3:00pm(Español)

Weekday Masses

Monday, 9:00am (Chapel)
Wednesday, 7:00pm (Church)
Thursday, 12:10pm (Chapel)
Friday, 12:10pm (Chapel)

Rosary and Benediction

Thursday, 7:00pm (Chapel)

Eucharistic Adoration

Thursday, 12:30pm-8:00pm (Chapel)
Friday, 12:30pm-1:30pm (Chapel)
Saturday, 4:00pm-5:00pm (Church)
Sunday, 8:00am-9:00am (Church)
Sunday, 10:30am-11:30am (Church)
Sunday, 2:30pm-3:00pm (Church)

Nocturnal Adoration

Second Saturday of the Month,
10:00pm—6:00am (Chapel)

Confession

Saturday, 4:15-4:45pm
Wednesday, 6:30pm-7:00pm

Welcome to our Parish!

We welcome all visitors and newcomers to our parish family. If you need any Information regarding Baptism, First Communion or Matrimony, please contact Deacon Andy Cilone at 828-245-6219.

For information regarding instructions in the catholic faith through the RCIA program, please contact Deacon David Faunce at:

dmfaunce@rcdoc.org

Parish email: sgdate@charlottediocese.org

Website: www.immaculateconceptionforestcity.org



March 31, 2024 Easter Sunday

Immaculate Conception Roman Catholic Church ~ 1024 West Main Street ~ Forest City, NC ~ 28043

Bulletin Editor: pjwlmg@gmail.com



Easter Sunday

March 31, 2024 ~ Bulletin No.14 XXXX

WEEKLY CALENDAR for March 30-April 7, 2024

Sat 30	Easter Vigil	7:00pm	Mass for ROS Florence Hill by Chuck & Janet Hill
Sun 31	Easter Sunday	9:00am 11:30am 7:30pm	Mass for the Parish Mass for ROS Clem Suhy by Sharon & Terry Date AA Meeting, call Floyd Kunkle at 289-6336 for information
Mon 4/1	Saint Hugh	9:00am	Mass for ROS Parents of Mieko Knight
Wed 3	Saint Richard	7:00pm 10:30am	Mass for ROS George Foradas by Renee Bursley Prayer Group, Parish Hall
Thurs 4	Saint Isidore of Seville	12:10pm 7:30pm	Mass for ROS Dianne & Steve Gledura AA Meeting, call Floyd Kunkle at 289-6336 for information
Fri 5	Saint Vincent Ferrer	12:10pm 7:00am	Mass for ROS Bill Gardner by Terry & Sharon Date Men's Prayer Group
Sat 6	Saint Marcellinus	5:00pm	Mass for ROS Dr. Robin Pendleton by Dianna Pendleton
Sun 7	Divine Mercy Sunday	9:00am 11:30am 7:30pm	Mass for Gloria Millette, Happy Birthday, by Claire Daigle Mass for the Parish AA Meeting, call Floyd Kunkle at 289-6336 for information

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

March 30-31: Second Collection-Spring Seminar-Ian Education Collection

March 31: Easter Egg Hunt, 1:00pm, for all children of the parish 10 and under. Anyone interested in helping to hide eggs for the hunt, please come to the parish hall at 11:30am. We will be hiding the eggs during the 11:30am Mass.

April 3: Ablaze, the parish high school youth group, will meet on Wednesday, April 3rd at 5:30pm in the parish hall.

April 4, 11, 18, 25, May 2: Daughters of the Visitation; 4:30-6:30pm in the Parish Hall

April 6: Confirmation Retreat; This retreat is mandatory for all students that are preparing for the sacrament of confirmation in May. Students should meet at the parish hall at 8:45am.

April 7: Divine Mercy Chaplet, after the 11:30am Mass

April 13: Bishop's Youth Retreat (See info on next page)

April 21: Knights of Columbus Spaghetti Dinner (more info on next page)

April 26-28: Diocesan Youth Conference (See info on next page)

May 19: First Communion, the 9am Mass. Students should meet outside the church at 8:45am. More information to follow on First Confession and First Communion practice.

May 22: Sacrament of Confirmation, 6:00pm. There will be a practice for all students and their sponsors in the parish hall at 5pm.

June 9-14: Totus Tuus Summer Education Program; More details to come!



From The Saints

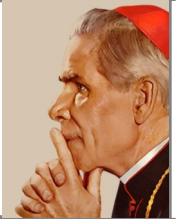
"Even if Jesus lays on us some part of the cross, He is there to help us bear it with self-sacrifice and love."

~ Saint John XXIII ~

From Church Fathers

"Unless there is a Good Friday in your life, there can be no Easter Sunday."

~ Venerable Fulton J. Sheen ~



For Annulment Information Contact:

Rachel Harrill 1-828-447-1908 or
Email: reharrill@rcdoc.org.

COLLECTION INFORMATION

Week of March 24, 2024

Regular Offering: \$6,571.44
Building Repair Loan: \$1,720.00
Seminar Education: \$160.00

COMMUNITY OUTREACH

1st Sunday (April 7)	Yokefellow Sunday	Instant coffee and/or tea bags
2nd Sunday (April 14)	Hospice Sunday	Ensure, any flavor
3rd Sunday (April 21)	Hands of Hope Sunday	Children's diapers, SIZE LARGE

~ Pick-a-Prayer ~

The Pick-a-Prayer basket for April includes both prayers for the Blessed Sacrament and the Holy Spirit, Since the Month of April is dedicated to both.

Prayers for the Sick

Mary Absher, Cynthia Beam, Wade Boswell, Father Burke, Frances Burke-Urr, Melissa Chandler, Gary Colhouer, Sabrina & Kevin Collier, Michelle Contreras, Claire Daigle, Michelle Daigle, Danya Davis, Claudia Dodrill, Priscilla & Larry Dorr, Robert DuCharme, Carol Faunce, Emanuel Garcia, Gloria Gimpaya, Silvestre Gonzalez, Nancy Goulet, Thomas Hammond, John Helenius, David Hernandez, Julian Hernandez, Sherlin Hernandez, Janet Hill, Clare Jablonski, Betsy Jackson, Father Jenkins, Kate Johnson, Erlinda Judson, Bishop Jugis, Peggy Keyes, Jim & Joan King, Jared Krantz, Charlie Kutilek, Ed Long, Stephannie Longo, Patricia Lucas, Jeff Lugo, Wilson Mancipe, Nathan I. McCain, Jennifer McDonald, Diane McEnerney, Geri Melton, Esther Mendoza, Teresa Mendoza, Gloria Millette, Kevin Millette, Alan Murfitt, Keith Oliver, Maria Parra, David Picquet, Ken Pierson, Richard Ranc, Bonnie Rackley, Ann Marie Rodriguez, Camille Russo, Nathan Ryback, Linda Samarotto, Cassie Schmanski, Gloria Sears, Linda & Keith See, Larry St. Clair, Nancy St. Clair, Beth Ann Stamper, Cole Suhy, Gladys Talley, Chris & Mark Tavernia, Richard Thelen, Valerie Thelen, Federico Trejo, Patty Wansor, Arwin Watts, Fred White, Patricia White, Sammy White, Bernice Williams

And When You Get Better... Please let us know when you are ready to be taken off our "Prayers for the Sick" list; email pjwlmg@gmail.com

Bishop's Youth Pilgrimage 2024

Saturday, April 13, 2024

The Bishop's Youth Pilgrimage, held each spring on the campus of Belmont Abbey College, is designed to provide young people of the Diocese of Charlotte with a day of reflection, prayer, formation, vocation awareness and fellowship.

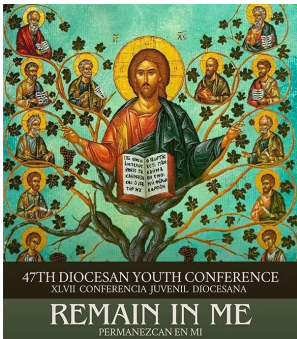
It is a component of the annual Diocese of Charlotte Eucharistic Congress.

During the day-long event, which runs from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m., youth enjoy live music, a vocations fair and motivational speakers, as well as Eucharistic Adoration and a Eucharistic Procession on the historic Belmont Abbey College campus. There are separate program tracks for middle and high school students, and the sacrament of confession is also available.

Online Registration is now open at:
<https://goeucharist.com/bishops-youth-pilgrimage-2024/youth-pilgrimage-registration-family/>

If you have any questions, please call 704-370-3244.

2024 Diocesan Youth Conference



DYC brings together high school youth from around the diocese for a theme-centered weekend of workshops, led by youth and adults alike, keynote speakers, entertainment, daily Mass, Eucharistic Adoration, and confession – all providing the opportunity to grow in the Catholic faith. Learn more and sign up today!

Ridgecrest Conference Center, Black Mountain, N.C.

<https://charlottediocese.org/form-2024-diocesan-youth-conference-registration/>



Prayerful Ponderings

"Prayer offered in holiness from a faithful heart rises like incense from a holy altar."

~ Saint Augustine ~



ESPECIALLY...

E2 Private First Class Jayden Mills, USMC, Stationed at Camp Hansen, Okinawa, Japan
Peter F Siviglia III, Air Force Senior Airman, Load Master, flying on C17 cargo planes, stationed in NJ.
CDR Stuart Whitaker
John Escalera, also in the Navy
CDR Jeffrey Gerring of the US Navy
Please consider adding the name of someone you love to our prayer list for our Troops. Email to pjwlmg@gmail.com



Sponsored by the Knights of Columbus



Sunday April 21 from 10am – 3pm.

\$5.00 for the Large Plate

\$3.00 for the Small Plate

A sign-up list of items needed to supply will be available in the narthex. We would appreciate your help with the supplies. Items need to be brought in on a timely basis. Times are listed when on the sign-up sheets. Thank you for your assistance in the past, and we look forward to your help for this event. Proceeds from the Spaghetti Dinner will go toward the Knights Charities.

~ ALSO ~

Knights of Columbus State Raffle Tickets are available in the Narthex after Mass. Tickets are \$5.00 each; First Prize is \$4,000.00

The Meaning of Easter

By Servant of God John Hardon, SJ

Easter is the most important feast in Christianity. In fact, it is the pivot of the ecclesiastical year around which everything in the Church's calendar revolves.

Already in the first century of the Christian era, Sunday replaced Saturday as the Lord's Day, a weekly commemoration of Easter. Yet in secularized cultures like the United States and Canada, Easter is not much celebrated except liturgically. It is too religious and too Christian for people who are immersed in the things of this world to come and to a life after death, yet that is what Easter is all about.

On Easter Sunday, we commemorate the fact that Jesus Christ rose from the grave on the third day after His crucifixion and death on Calvary.

Of course, the Resurrection of Christ is a mystery that we believe. But it is also and emphatically a historical fact that we know actually took place. It is a historical fact that Jesus of Nazareth really lived, really died, was really buried, and really rose from the grave.

It is a provable fact that Jesus came back to life after being crucified, that His disciples were unwilling to accept the fact, but were given overwhelming evidence that Jesus had truly risen. It is a fact that Christ's resurrection was no mere subjective experience. It was no illusion or merely spiritual phenomenon. No, the risen Christ had a body, and flesh, and could be seen, heard and touched.

Besides confirming our faith in His divinity, Christ's resurrection gives the hope of our own restoration from the grave. As the first fruits of those who sleep, the Head of the Mystical Body became a pledge of immortality to His faithful members on the last day. This is integral to the promise of Christ that those who follow Him in labor and suffering will also follow Him in glory. For the soul, this reward is the beatific vision, for the body, it is the resurrection which endows the sensible faculties with transcendent powers and inebriates them, in the words of revelation, with the torrent of God's pleasure.

Most importantly, the resurrection of Christ is the cause of our reinstatement in the friendship of God. As the result of Adam's fall we were twice removed from divine love, once by reason of original sin that infected our human nature and once again by loss of sanctifying grace that gave us a title to the vision of God. Two kinds of life were to be restored, as there were two kinds of death from which we had to be redeemed, the one bodily and the other spiritual. As the passion of Christ removed both forms of death, so His Resurrection restored both forms of life.

So, how, then, can we live the mystery of Christ's Resurrection?

The answer to this question is as simple as it is startling. We live the mystery of Easter by our devotion to the Holy Eucharist. How is that possible? It is not only possible but practicable because the Holy Eucharist is the Risen Christ. It is the Risen Jesus, now on earth in our midst.

In the Eucharist the Risen Lord is ready to bestow His graces, provided we believe and humbly ask Him for what we need. The Eucharist is the Risen Savior offering Himself in the Mass, coming to us in Communion, and living among us by His very Real Presence on our altars.

The Catholic Church is undergoing the most difficult ordeal in her history. She has had more martyrs since 1900 than in all the previous centuries put together. But the Church will survive and even thrive where and in so far as she has faithful members who believe that the risen glorified Jesus Christ is with us-as He promised-in the Holy Eucharist, even until the end of time.

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*"Christ's resurrection is the strength, the secret of Christianity. It is not a question of mythology, or of mere symbolism, but of a concrete event. It is confirmed by sure and convincing proofs. The acceptance of this truth, although the fruit of the Holy Spirit's grace, rests at the same time on a solid historical base. The new effort of evangelization can begin only from a renewal experience of this Mystery, accepted in faith and witnessed to in life."*

~ Saint John Paul II ~