

Saint Michael the Archangel Church

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Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary

December 8, 2013

Fr. José M. Zepeda, FSSP, Pastor

Mass Intentions

Sun. Dec. 8th	Immac. Conception of Blessed Virgin Mary, <i>I Class</i>
8:00 a.m.	Mr. Stephen Pendrak
10:15 a.m.	<i>Pro Populo</i>
Mon. Dec. 9th	Feria of Advent, <i>IV Class</i>
7:45 a.m.	† Gabriel Testo - <i>Cardi Family</i>
Tues. Dec. 10th	Feria of Advent, <i>IV Class</i>
7:45 a.m.	Bauer Family - <i>Mitchell Family</i>
Wed. Dec. 11th	St. Damasus I, <i>Pope & Confessor, III Class</i>
7:45 a.m.	Matthew Heisler - <i>Dad</i>
Thur. Dec. 12th	Our Lady of Guadalupe, <i>III Class</i>
7:45 a.m.	Fr. Jose Zepeda, FSSP - <i>Christian & Joyce Keifer</i>
Fri. Dec. 13th	St. Lucy, <i>Virgin & Martyr, III Class</i>
6:00 p.m.	† Bishop Joseph P. McFadden - <i>Ann</i>
Sat. Dec. 14th	Rorate Mass, <i>III Class</i>
6:00 a.m.	Intentions of Leonard & Mary Tabone
Sun. Dec. 15th	Third Sunday of Advent, <i>I Class (Gaudete)</i>
8:00 a.m.	† Walter Heisler - <i>LaFata Family</i>
10:15 a.m.	<i>Pro Populo</i>

MASS SCHEDULE

Sunday

Low Mass: 8:00 am

High Mass: 10:15 am

Weekdays

Monday-Thursday: 7:45 am

Friday: 6:00 pm

Saturday: 9:00 am

CONFESSIONS

Monday-Saturday

One half hour before Mass

Sunday: 7:15-7:50

& 9:15-10:05

DEVOTIONS

Exposition-Benediction

Friday 5:00 pm

Saturdays 8:00 am

DAILY ROSARY

Monday-Thursday — After Mass

Friday-Sunday — Before Mass

OFFICE HOURS

Mon-Friday 9 am-4 pm

THURSDAY - CLOSED

Saturday - 10 am-Noon

Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary

INTROIT

Is. 61, 10

I will greatly rejoice in the Lord, and my soul shall be joyful in my God: for He hath clothed me with the garments of salvation, and with the robe of justice He hath covered me, as a bride adorned with her jewels. Ps. 29, 2. I will extol Thee, O Lord, for Thou hast upheld me: and hast not made my enemies to rejoice over me. V. Gloria.

COLLECT

O God, Who by the Immaculate Conception of the Virgin, didst prepare a worthy dwelling for Thy Son, we beseech Thee that Thou, Who, by the death, foreseen by Thee, of the same Thy Son, didst preserve her from all stain, wilt grant us also, by her intercession, to come to Thee pure in heart. Through the same.

EPISTLE

Prov. 8, 22-35

The Lord possessed me in the beginning of His ways, before He made anything, from the beginning. I was set up from eternity, and of old, before the earth was made. The depths were not as yet, and I was already conceived; neither had the fountains of waters as yet sprung out; the mountains with their huge bulk had not as yet been established: before the hills I was brought forth; He had not yet made the earth, nor the rivers, nor the poles of the world. When He prepared the heavens, I was there; when with a certain law and compass He enclosed the depths; when He established the sky above, and poised the fountains of waters; when He compassed the sea with its bounds, and set a law to the waters that they should not pass their limits; when He balanced the foundations of the earth, I was with him, forming all things, and was delighted every day, playing before Him at all times, playing in the world: and my delight is to be with the children of men. Now, therefore, ye children, hear me: blessed are they that keep my ways. Hear instruction, and be wise, and refuse it not. Blessed is the man that heareth me, and that watcheth daily at my gates, and waiteth at the posts of my doors. He that shall find me shall find life, and shall have salvation from the Lord.

GRADUAL

Judith 13, 23

Blessed art thou, O Virgin Mary, by the Lord, the most high God, above all women, upon the earth. V. Thou art the glory of Jerusalem, thou art the joy of Israel, thou art the honor of our people.

ALLELUIA

Alleluia, alleluia. V. Thou art all fair, O Mary, and there is in thee no stain of original sin. *Alleluia.*

GOSPEL

Luke 1, 26-28

The angel Gabriel was sent from God into a city of Galilee, called Nazareth, to a virgin espoused to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David: and the virgin's name was Mary. And the angel being come in, said unto her: Hail, full of grace, the Lord is with thee: blessed art thou among women.

OFFERTORY

Luke 1, 28

Hail, Mary, full of grace: the Lord is with thee: blessed art thou among women, *Alleluia.*

SECRET

Receive, O Lord, the saving oblation which we offer Thee on the solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary, and grant that, as we confess her to have been preserved, by Thy prevenient grace, from all taint of evil, so through her intercession, we may be freed from all sin. Through our Lord.

COMMUNION

Glorious things are spoken of thee, O Mary; for He that is mighty hath done great things unto thee.

POSTCOMMUNION

May the sacrament which we have received, O Lord, our God, heal in us the wounds of that sin from which, by a singular privilege, Thou didst preserve immaculate the conception of blessed Mary. Through our Lord.



Having decided from all eternity to make Mary Mother of the Incarnate Word (Epistle), God willed that she should crush the head of the serpent from the moment of her conception. He covered her with a "mantle of holiness" (Introit) and, "preserving her soul from all stain. He made her a worthy dwelling place for His Son" (Collect). The feast of the "Conception" of the Virgin was, from the eighth century, celebrated in the East on December 9th, from the ninth century in Ireland and May 3rd and in the eleventh century in England on December 8th. The Benedictines with St. Anselm, and the Franciscans with Duns Scotus, (1308) favored the feast of the "Immaculate Conception," which in 1128 was kept in the Anglo-Saxon monasteries. In the fifteenth century Pope Sixtus IV., a Franciscan, erected at the Vatican the Sixtine Chapel in honor of the Conception of the Virgin. And on December 8th, 1854, Pius IX officially proclaimed this great dogma, making himself the mouthpiece of all the Christian tradition summed up in the words of the Angel: "Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee, blessed art thou among women" (Gospel). "Thou art all beautiful, O Mary, and the original stain is not in thee" says in truth the alleluia verse. Like the dawn which announces the day, Mary proceeds the Sun of justice which will soon illuminate the world of souls. Bringing to us her Son, it is she who first appears in the liturgical cycle. Let us ask God, "to heal us and to deliver us from all our sins" (Secrete, Postcommunion) in order that by the grace which specially belongs to the feast of the "Immaculate Conception" we may become more worthy of receiving Jesus in our Hearts when He comes into them on December 25th. (The St. Andrew Daily Missal)

THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

Ineffabilis Deus

Apostolic Constitution issued by Pope Pius IX on
December 8, 1854.

God Ineffable - whose ways are mercy and truth, whose will is omnipotence itself, and whose wisdom "reaches from end to end mightily, and orders all things sweetly"

having foreseen from all eternity the lamentable wretchedness of the entire human race which would result from the sin of Adam, decreed, by a plan hidden from the centuries, to complete the first work of his goodness by a mystery yet more wondrously sublime through the Incarnation of the Word. This he decreed in order that man who, contrary to the plan of Divine Mercy had been led into sin by the cunning malice of Satan, should not perish; and in order that what had been lost in the first Adam would be gloriously restored in the Second Adam. From the very beginning, and before time began, the eternal Father chose and prepared for his only-begotten Son a Mother in whom the Son of God would become incarnate and from whom, in the blessed fullness of time, he would be born into this world. Above all creatures did God so loved her that truly in her was the Father well pleased with singular delight. Therefore, far above all the angels and all the saints so wondrously did God endow her with the abundance of all heavenly gifts poured from the treasury of his divinity that this mother, ever absolutely free of all stain of sin, all fair and perfect, would possess that fullness of holy innocence and sanctity than which, under God, one cannot even imagine anything greater, and which, outside of God, no mind can succeed in comprehending fully.

Supreme Reason for the Privilege: The Divine Maternity

And indeed it was wholly fitting that so wonderful a mother should be ever resplendent with the glory of most sublime holiness and so completely free from all taint of original sin that she would triumph utterly over the ancient serpent. To her did the Father will to give his only-begotten Son - the Son whom, equal to the Father and begotten by him, the Father loves from his heart - and to give this Son in such a way that he would be the one and the same common Son of God the Father and of the Blessed Virgin Mary. It was she whom the Son himself chose to make his Mother and it was from her that the Holy Spirit willed and brought it about that he should be conceived and born from whom he himself proceeds. [1]

VISIT: The Very Rev. John Berg, Superior General of the Fraternity of St. Peter, is here today and will celebrate Solemn High Mass at 10:15. A potluck and a talk by Father Berg will follow the Mass. Everyone is welcome.

SUNDAY ENVELOPES: 2014 Sunday envelopes are available in the vestibule of the church.

UPCOMING MASSES: Please note the following Sung Mass in December:

Dec. 14th - 6:00 a.m. Rorate Mass

All children ages 5-16 years old are invited to sing in the St. Michael's Children's Christmas Choir, which will sing with the Adult Choir before Midnight Mass for about 50 minutes. Practices will be on Sundays after the 10:15 Mass and will begin next Sunday, **December 1st**. Red binders with the music are in the choir loft for interested children (**One binder per family please**). The taped music will be sent to your parents email.

VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED to help decorate the Church for Christmas. The Church will be decorated on the last Sunday in Advent, December 22, starting at 1:00 p.m. Men, women, and teens are needed! Please contact Mrs. McGuirk 570-333-1484 or email athomewith8@epix.net. May God reward you!

LITURGICAL ANNOUNCEMENT: In churches where the faithful are accustomed to stand for the Collects and Postcommunion prayers at Mass, they are to kneel for these prayers on the ferias, of Advent (not however, on Sundays, feast days, or the Vigil of Christmas).

COLLECTION: December 1st - \$3,435.00

Altar Boy Schedule

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF OUR BLESSED MOTHER

December 8th

8:00 a.m. Mass

AC1 Joshua Sica
AC2 Timothy Sica

TEAM A

MC James McWhirter
TH John Gillenkirk
AC1 Joseph McWhirter
AC2 Patrick Seeley
C Robert Seeley
S1 John Pheasant
S2 Andrew Pheasant
S3 Matthew Gillenkirk
S4 Timothy Emig

WEEK ONE

Monday Joseph Schneider
7:45 a.m. Patrick Schneider

Tuesday
7:45 a.m.

Wednesday John Pheasant
7:45 a.m. Andrew Pheasant

Thursday William Skuba
7:45 a.m. John Skuba

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT (GAUDETE)

December 15th

8:00 a.m. Mass

AC1 Dominic Gardner
AC2 Jack Gardner

TEAM B

MC Andrew Mitchell
TH Anthony Mitchell
AC1 Matthew Davidson
AC2 Joshua Sica
C Timothy Sica
S1 John Mitchell
S2 Brian LaFata
S3 Francis LaFata
S4 Stephen LaFata