



THE EIGHTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME



FEBRUARY 27, 2011

The Parochial Pen



THE CREED

Dear Parishioners,

Every Sunday we gather to celebrate the Eucharist we recite the Creed. These words flow so easily off our lips even at times without great thought or reflection. We often fail to consider the depth of these doctrines we profess or the time and labor that went into their formulations.

The early church had a deep and profound belief in God the Father, Jesus His Son and the Holy Spirit. Putting that faith into words, however, would prove difficult. Over a period of more than 400 years and numerous Ecumenical (world-wide) Church Councils the church would try to clarify and define its beliefs. This process would include both theological reflection from within and debate and discussion from outside, particularly in response to various heresies.

The culmination of this process would be found in the work of the Councils of Nicea (325 A.D.) and Chalcedon (451 A.D.) and is formulated in what we refer to today as the Nicene Creed. Through the succinct statement of beliefs, mysteries and theological truths the Nicene Creed states the major doctrines that Christians believe.

Perhaps we profess this creed too casually at times. Let us remember that when we confess its truths we are joined with the church throughout the ages. We are part of that same church that formed it and defended it with its faith, its sweat and its blood.

(Next Week: Prayers of Intercession)

May God bless you,

Father Bert



Feb. 28 **SL Meatball Preparation** 6:00pm SL Parish Hall
 Mar. 5 **IC Church Open House** 10:00am-2:00pm IC Church
 Mar. 6 **IC HNS Pancake Breakfast**
 Mar. 6 **SL/IC Evening Confirmation Class** 7-8 pm IC Parish Hall
 Mar. 20 **SL/IC Evening Confirmation Class** 7-8 pm IC Parish Hall
 Mar. 23 **SL Spaghetti Dinner**
 Mar. 27 **Red Cross Blood Drive** 9:15 am-12:45 pm IC Parish Hall
 Mar. 27 **IC/SL First Confessions** 2:00pm SL Church

REST IN PEACE

Please pray for the peaceful repose of the soul of Glen Flook, a parishioner of the Immaculate Conception Church, who died recently. Pray for the consolation of his loved ones.

SERVERS SCHEDULE

Saturday, March 5

Immaculate Conception
4:00 p.m.

Altar Servers

Kaitlyn Cowfer
Ericka Cowfer
Elliot Packer

St. Luke
6:00 p.m.

Emma Butzler
Jacob Butzler

Cantor

Gwen Baier

Kateri Cohick

Lector

Sue Sander

Barb Fedele

Eucharistic Minister

Diana Persun
Grace Callahan
Deacon Joe

Rick Morton
Michelle Rozenberg
Deacon Joe

Sunday, March 6

Immaculate Conception
8:30 a.m.

Altar Servers

Brennan Eiswerth
Coleton Eiswerth
Stephen Baier

St. Luke
10:30 a.m.

Hunter Lorson
Dillon Lorson
Thayne Muthler

Cantor

Willie Ulsamer

Richelle Haffley

Lector

Pam Hoffman

Barbara Kozlowski

Eucharistic Minister

Rose Schilling
Jerry Nau
Deacon Joe

Bob Kozlowski
Steve Eck
Deacon Joe

COMMUNION OF BOTH SPECIES

We will offer Holy Communion under both species (Bread & Wine) at both St. Luke and Immaculate Conception Churches next weekend, March 5&6 and every weekend during Lent. Please remember that it is the individual's choice whether to receive the chalice with the Blood of Christ.



† MASS INTENTIONS †

Monday (February 28) Ordinary Weekday

8:00am (SL) Michael Palednak
by Fr. Bert

Tuesday (March 1) Ordinary Weekday

8:00am (IC) Harry Rogers
by Steve & Edna Rogers

Wednesday (March 2) Ordinary Weekday

8:00am (IC) Charles J. Engel, Jr.
by Grace Callahan

Thursday (March 3) Ordinary Weekday

7:00pm (IC) Intention of Diana Persun
by St. Ann's Society

First Friday (March 4) Ordinary Weekday

8:00am (SL) Helen Suponcic
by Robert & Dolores Todd

Saturday (March 5) Vigil: Ninth Sunday Ordinary Time

4:00pm (IC) Donna Deitrick
by Marge Deitrick & family
6:00pm (SL) For the people of our parishes
by the parishioners of IC & SL Churches

Sunday (March 6) Ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:30am (IC) Swidan Moore
by Terry & Mary Kay Gamble
10:30am (SL) MaryEllen Weimer
by St. Luke Parish family



IMMACULATE CONCEPTION MOVING CREW HELP NEEDED

As we prepare to return to our house of worship, we need to move various items from the Parish Hall back to Immaculate Conception Church. Any able bodied individuals with vehicles are asked to meet on Friday, March 4 at 8:00 am at the Parish Hall.

ASH WEDNESDAY, MARCH 9, 2011 MASS SCHEDULE

8:00 am Immaculate Conception - Mass
10:30 am St. Luke - Liturgy of the Word
5:00 pm Immaculate Conception - Liturgy of the Word
7:00 pm St. Luke - Mass



PALMS FOR ASH WEDNESDAY

On Ash Wednesday each of us will be visibly marked by an ashen cross on the forehead. This symbol is not only a sign of public penance, but also our link to Palm Sunday of last year. The ashes should be the residue of the burnt palm we have had in our homes since last Palm Sunday. All are invited to return the palm received last year. It will be burnt and the resulting ash used to sign the faithful at the beginning of Lent. Baskets for palm branches are in the narthex of the churches. We encourage your participation in this aspect of our Lenten Liturgy.

LENTEN/EASTER VESPERS

During the Lenten season, Evening Prayer (Vespers) will be prayed in common between both our churches. Evening Prayer (Vespers) is one of the two "hinge" hours, together with Morning Prayer (Lauds) that help form the foundation of the prayer life of the church. Commonly referred to as the Divine Office and the obligation of the ordained clergy, these prayers are truly the prayer of the entire church. Evening Prayer consists of song, psalms, canticles, scripture and prayers and are deeply rooted in the tradition of our Judaic-Christian faith. They will begin at 6:30pm Tuesdays of the Lenten and Easter season. Immaculate Conception will be on March 15 & 29, April 12, 26, 10 & 24 and in St. Luke on March 22, April 5 & 19, May 3 & 17. If you have never experienced the beauty of this prayer we encourage you to come and join us. All are invited.

RICE BOWL

Please note, the annual Rice Bowl collection containers are in the vestibule of our churches. You may make use of them or use the envelope in your offertory mailing to help the hungry of the world. Please submit your contribution by Lent's end.

FAST & ABSTINENCE

Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are days of fasting and abstinence from meat. All Fridays during Lent are days of abstinence from meat. Fasting prescribes that only one full meal be taken. Two smaller meals may be taken to maintain strength, but these taken should not equal another full meal. Fasting obliges from the 18th to the 59th birthday. Abstinence forbids the eating of meat. Abstinence obliges from the 14th birthday on.

LENTEN STATIONS OF THE CROSS

How will you make this Lent a special time of prayer? What extra will you do for the love of Jesus? Stations will be prayed in common alternating between **St. Luke and Immaculate Conception each Friday of Lent at 6:30 pm and Mass will follow.**

Schedule is as follows: SL – March 18, April 1 & 15. IC – March 11 & 25, April 8 & 22. April 22 will be stations only with no Mass and will be provided by the Youth Group.



LENTEN CONFESSIONS

All parishioners are encouraged to make use of the Sacrament of Reconciliation during the season of Lent. Confessions are heard each Saturday at Immaculate Conception and St. Luke prior to the Vigil Masses. Also, confessions are heard at Immaculate Conception each Thursday at 6:30 pm prior to the 7:00 pm Mass. A communal Lenten Penance Service for both our parishes will be celebrated *Sunday, March 27 at 2:00 pm* in St. Luke Church.

LENTEN PENITENTIAL CELEBRATIONS FOR LYCOMING COUNTY

Sun., Mar. 27, 2:00pm	St. Luke, Jersey Shore
Wed., Apr. 6, 7:00pm	St. Ann's, Williamsport
Tue., Apr. 12, 7:00pm	Lourdes, Montoursville
Tue., Apr. 19, 7:00pm	Annunciation, Williamsport



ECUMENICAL LENTEN PRAYER SERVICES

The Nippenose Valley Ministerium will be conducting Lenten worship services Wednesdays in Lent starting at 7:00 pm. The following are the dates and locations:

March 16-Immaculate Conception

March 23-Oval United Methodist

March 30-Oriole United Methodist

April 6-St. James Lutheran

April 13-Antes Fort United Methodist

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION CHURCH OPEN HOUSE

To celebrate the renovations of the Immaculate Conception Church, we will host an open house on Saturday, March 5 from 10:00am -2:00 pm in the church. This will allow people to view the beautiful work done in the church without the presence of the Blessed Sacrament. If his schedule permits, we are hoping that Bob Ritterbeck will be on hand.

LITURGICAL MINISTRIES

St. Luke and Immaculate Conception are looking for any parishioners interested in participating more fully in the Liturgy by becoming an Altar server, Lector, Cantor or Eucharistic Minister. Please contact the parish office Monday-Friday from 9:00 am – 3:00 pm at 745-3301.

THANKS LEOTA

After a number of years providing music for St. Luke Church, Leota Lauer is retiring. We thank her for her dedication, service and selfless sacrifice that she has given to the music ministry of St. Luke Parish. We pray that God will continue to bless her in her retirement, but we also suspect that this is not the end of her involvement in the parish and with the music ministry. Thank you once again Leota.

WELCOME SL ALTAR PAPPIES

We would like to welcome two new altar pappies to St. Luke Church. Steve Eck and Don Price have volunteered to be Morning Mass Sacristans and Altar Pappies for daily Mass.

FIRST CONFESSIONS

Children from both our parishes enrolled in Catholic school and CCD will soon celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation for the first time in preparation for their First Holy Communion. St. Luke Church and Immaculate Conception Church will be having their first Confessions heard together **Sunday, March 27 at 2:00 pm at St. Luke** during our Lenten Penance Service. Please pray for our young people as they and their families prepare to celebrate this great sacrament of God's mercy.

IC HNS PANCAKE BREAKFAST

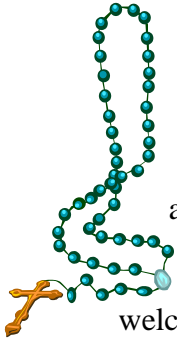
The Holy Name Society of Immaculate Conception Church will sponsor their annual Pancake Breakfast Sunday, March 6, 8 a.m. - noon in the IC Parish Hall. The cost is \$7/adult and children 10yrs and under is \$4. Menu: Pancakes, sausage patties, sausage gravy, liver pudding, OJ, coffee & tea. There is a sign-up sheet in the back of Immaculate Conception Hall for adult help in the dining room for the Pancake Breakfast.

SL SPAGHETTI DINNER

St. Luke Spaghetti Dinner will be held on Wednesday, **March 23**. Other dates to remember are: **Meatball preparation** – Monday, February 28 at 6:00pm. **Donation calls** - March 13-19, **Set tables** - Sunday, March 20 after 10:30am Mass, **Making sauce** and other kitchen work - Tuesday, March 22 at 7:00am. Tickets will be available in the vestibule of SL before and after Masses the weekends of March 5/6, 12/13 & 19/20. Tickets are also available at the Parish Office from March 7 - 22 during business hours.

CANDLE REQUESTS

The sanctuary candle will burn during the month of February at Immaculate Conception for the protection of all life from conception to natural death and for an end to abortion as requested by Tammy & Mike Packer and at St. Luke for Maria, Phillippo & Salvatori Cracchiolo as requested by the Santino & Maria Cracchiolo



NOVENA OF ROSARIES

For 9 weeks 10 decades of the rosary will be prayed in common each Tuesday at 7:30 a.m. prior to the 8:00 a.m. Mass and 5 decades after Mass at Immaculate Conception starting March 15 for pro-life intentions. All are welcome.

SICK AND HOMEBOUND

We find ourselves in the midst of our winter season and some of our parishioners may be sick or homebound and can not come to Church. We are more than happy to ensure that they receive the Sacraments and the support of their Church. If anyone desires to receive the Eucharist on a weekly or monthly basis, please notify the parish office at 745-3301.



PRAY FOR OUR SHUT-INS

Please pray for our parishioners who can not make it to Mass. St. Luke – Yvette Bedard, Vinnie Dewald, Josephine Embick & Leona Ragano. Immaculate Conception – Donna Dincher, Lilah Eck, Lucille Engel, Eugene Haas, Joan Haas, Dot Brungard, Mary Dougherty & Dorothy Keister.

OUR CHURCH COMMUNITY PRAYER CHAINS

Prayer chains are offered at both our churches if anyone is in need of solace. To contact the Immaculate Conception prayer chain, 745-7706 & 745-7488 and for St. Luke, 398-0722.

IC CHURCH CLEANING SCHEDULE

The new 2011 church cleaning schedule for Immaculate Conception Church is now available; please pick your copy up off the table in the Hall if you are one of the volunteers.

ST. JOSEPH THE WORKER PARISH LENTEN BAKED FISH DINNERS

Ash Wednesday **March 9** @ Annunciation Fleming Center, 720 W 4th St., 4-7pm. Friday **March 11** @ Ascension Hall, 2100 Linn St., 4:30-7pm. Friday **March 25** @ Ascension Hall, 4:30-7pm. Friday **April 1** @ Annunciation Fleming Center, 4-7pm. Friday **April 15** @ Annunciation Fleming Center, 4-7pm. Advance Adults: \$7.50/door \$8.00 – Children: \$4.00.

JERSEY SHORE MINISTERIUM

There will be a "Gathering of Faith" service on February 27 at 7:00 pm in the Jersey Shore Middle School Auditorium. Various pastors from our community are taking part and music will be provided by members and choirs from our churches as well. It will be a time to worship together as Christians and pray for our Nation, State, and local community.

“PASS THE SALT” YOUTH CONFERENCE

All youth in grades 9 to 12 of SL and IC parishes are invited to attend a “Pass the Salt” retreat on Sunday, March 6, from 2 to 8 pm, at the Annunciation Parish Center, Williamsport. Guest speaker will be Sarah Hart. To register, please call Judy Morlock at 398-2180.

LIFE LINES

Cultural trends exist that seek to anaesthetize consciences with spurious arguments. With regard to the embryo in the mother's womb, science itself highlights its autonomy, its capacity for interaction with the mother, the coordination of biological processes, the continuity of development, the growing complexity of the organism. It is not an accumulation of biological material but rather of a new living being, dynamic and marvelously ordered, a new individual of the human species. This is what Jesus was in Mary's womb; this is what we all were in our mother's womb. We may say with Tertullian, an ancient Christian writer: "the one who will be a man is one already" (*Apologeticum IX*, 8), there is no reason not to consider him a person from conception.~ Pope Benedict XVI, Homily, Vigil for All Nascent Human Life, Nov. 27, 2010

MONTHLY OPERATING STATEMENT January 2011

<u>INCOME</u>	<u>SL</u>	<u>IC</u>
Offertory Envelopes	\$11,781.00	\$18,783.00
Loose Collection	1,301.31	537.00
Special Envelopes	494.00	534.00
Misc. Income	277.08	55.38
Non Operating Income	0	5.29
Religious Education	0	160.00
Christmas Collection	670.00	2,320.00
Diocesan Collection	<u>924.13</u>	<u>2,475.00</u>

Total Income: \$15,447.52 \$24,869.67

<u>EXPENSES</u>		
Administration	\$ 6,647.67	\$ 6,757.34
Rectory Expenses	335.04	772.73
Liturgy	709.29	876.99
Religious Education	100.00	100.00
Oper. & Maint. of Plant	1,899.60	3,486.97
Self Insurance Assessment	701.17	695.58
Cath. School Assessment	3,154.00	5,206.00
Diocesan Collection	924.13	2,228.00
Non-Operating Expense	<u>0</u>	<u>71.68</u>

Total Expense: \$14,470.90 \$20,195.29

Cash Increase/decrease	\$+ 976.62	\$ + 4,674.38
Cash Beginning	22,961.49	56,066.21
Cash Ending	\$ 23,938.11	\$ 60,740.59

ST. LUKE MEAT COLLECTION

There will be a second collection taken up at both Masses at St. Luke Church this weekend, February 26/27, to defray the costs of purchasing meat for the Spaghetti Dinner.

CARE AND EDUCATION OF PRIESTS COLLECTION

There will be a second collection following communion next weekend, March 5/6 for the care and education of priests. Please make checks payable to your parish as one amount will be forwarded to the Diocese.

WEEKLY OFFERING

St. Luke Church

Envelopes	\$2,518.50
Monthly	501.00
Loose	166.00
Utilities	360.00
Care & Edu. of Priest	47.00
Human Development	1.00
Christmas	20.00
Building Fund	<u>59.00</u>
Total Collection:	\$ 3,672.50
INCOME GOAL:	<u>3,447.89</u>
Over Goal	+ 224.61

Immaculate Conception Church

Envelopes	\$4,461.00
Loose	119.00
Human Development	15.00
Care & Edu. of Priest	231.00
Initial Offering	10.00
Building	<u>30.00</u>
Total Collection:	\$4,866.00
INCOME GOAL:	<u>4,558.55</u>
Over Goal	+ 307.45

May the Lord reward your generosity.

