

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION CHURCH

ST TERESA OF CALCUTTA PARISH

FEBRUARY 19, 2023 | *The Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time*

Our Lenten Journey

PRAYER

LOOK AT THE PARABLES
WITH FR. CHRIS CICCARINO
6 Week Bible Study

Wednesdays 7:00pm
March 1, 8, 15, 22,
29 and April 5

IRON SHARPENS
IRON, a Lenten
Study for Men with
Fr. Cesar Jaramillo
Thursdays 7:00pm
March 9, 23, 30

STATIONS
OF THE CROSS
Fridays in Lent 7:00pm

SPIRITUAL WELLNESS:
Steps on the Journey
with Mary Landriau
Saturday, February 25
9:00am

NO GREATER LOVE:
A Passion Play for the
Lenten Season
Saturday, March 4 | 7:00pm

FISH N CHIPS DINNER
AND FELLOWSHIP
Saturday, April 1



FASTING

"As Lent is the time for greater love, listen to Jesus' thirst...He knows your weakness. He wants only your love, wants only the chance to love you."
ST. TERESA OF CALCUTTA

GIVE FROM
YOUR TABLE
TO MARY'S PANTRY

Donate toiletries,
detergents, toilet paper,
baby products, and
other nonperishable
food items.

ALMSGIVING

"INTENSE LOVE DOES NOT MEASURE, IT JUST GIVES."

St. Teresa of Calcutta

Please take an envelope from the Cross.

Parish Info

PARISH CENTER CONTACT:

1 Munn Street, Montclair, NJ
PHONE: 973.744.5650 **FAX:** 973.744.7936
EMAIL: info@montclaircatholics.org

OFFICE HOURS:

MONDAY 9am-4pm
TUESDAY - THURSDAY 9:30 am-3:30 pm
OFFICE CLOSED Friday, Saturday and Sunday



PASTORAL TEAM

Pastor, REV. A. BENNY PRADO

Business Manager, PATTY SITAR
Patty@montclaircatholics.org

Faith Formation Coordinator, MARY PETERS
familyfaith@montclaircatholics.org

Cantor/Technology, JOSHUA BENEVENTO
Joshua@montclaircatholics.org

Parish Secretary, SAMANTHA FUSI
Samantha@montclaircatholics.org

Receptionist, LUCILLA PIERINI

lucilla@montclaircatholics.org

Maintenance

JOE ZICHELLI
joe@montclaircatholics.org

JOE MULFORD

Parish Trustees

JAN ZIOBRO • RENEE BIANCAMANO

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION CEMETERY

Supervisor, CHRISSEY NASCE
chrissy@montclaircatholics.org

PHONE: (973) – 744-5939
FAX: (973) -744- 5659

712 Grove Street
Montclair NJ 07042

MASS SCHEDULE

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION CHURCH
30 North Fullerton Avenue, Montclair

Indicates the Mass is livestreamed.

WEEKEND MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday: 5:30 pm

Sunday: 8:00 am | 10:30 am | 6:00 pm

WEEKDAY MASS SCHEDULE:

Monday - Friday at 8:00 am

Intercessions

Pope Francis for February † We pray that parishes, placing communion at the centre, may increasingly become communities of faith, fraternity and welcome towards those most in need; *We pray to the Lord.*

Intercessions for Life † That the Christian community, made one by our common baptism, may always welcome the unborn, the stranger, and all who are vulnerable; *We pray to the Lord.*

Intercessions for Immigration † That kindness and concern for newcomers in our parishes be coupled with consistent efforts at cultural communication; *We pray to the Lord.*

Vocation Intercession for February † That the grace of the Sacrament will be renewed by the Holy Spirit in all married people present here; *We pray to the Lord.*

MASS INTENTIONS

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 18

5:30pm † Jimmy Demoreville

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 19

8:00am People of the Parish

10:30am † Elizabeth Fleming

6:00pm † Ann-Marie Lezama-Petit

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 20

8:00am † Gregorio Prado

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 21

8:00am In thanksgiving

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 22

ASH WEDNESDAY

8:00am † Joan & Ed Giblin

12:00pm People of the Parish

4:00pm Ashes Distribution

7:00pm People of the Parish

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 23

8:00am † Robert Mohr

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 24

8:00am † Edward Henry

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 25

5:30pm † Joan Giblin

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 26

8:00am People of the Parish

10:30am † Lawrence & Dorothy Higgins

6:00pm † Albert Harman & Lisa Stefanaci

"To everything there is a season, and a time for every purpose under heaven."

- Ecclesiastes 3:11

... A TIME TO BE HEALED ...

Michael Bruder III, Michael Arminio Jr., Anthony Pacifico Jr., Joel Rivera, Carmen Kessler, Ieda Giles, Doreen Carson, Lauren Ojido, Connie & Vinny Romano, Maria Metzel, Eileen Burris, Sylvia Magliaro, Kevin Haber, Karen Potucek, Genevieve Johnston, Ferruccio Intrivici, Frank Gallo, Barbara Regan, Paula Scaglione, Jose Fidalgo Sr, Bridget Connell, Jaxson Rivera, Carole DeCepoli, Oneida Fernandez, Michelina Giuliano, Chester Karnas Jr., Laurie Steffy, Laura McGannon, Joseph Carrier, Fabiola Fong

Please contact the Parish office if you would like to add someone to the sick list.

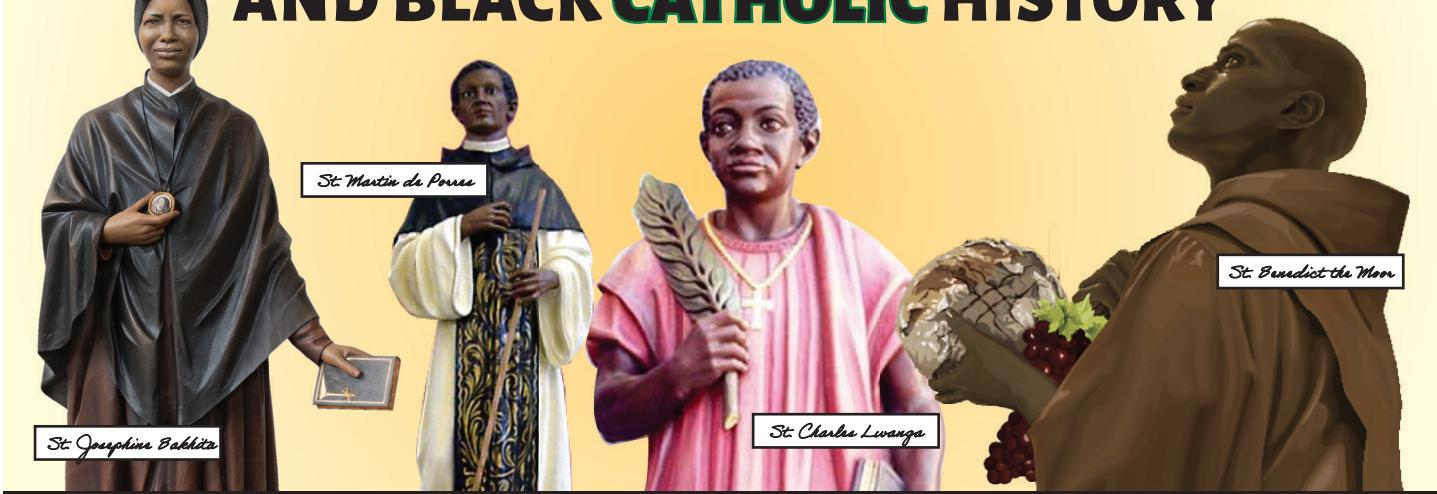
... A TIME TO DIE ...

Recently Deceased

GREGORIO PRADO



THOUGHTS ON BLACK HISTORY AND BLACK CATHOLIC HISTORY



A LITANY: Pope St. Victor I, Pope St. Miltiades, Pope St. Gelasius I, St. Perpetua and St. Felicity, St. Cyprian, St. Zeno, St. Anthony of Egypt, St. Moses the Black, St. Cyril of Alexandria, St. Monica and St. Augustine, St. Thecla, St. Benedict the Moor, St. Martin de Porres, St. Charles Lwanga and Companions, St. Josephine Bakhita, PRAY FOR US.

MANY OF THESE NAMES AREN'T FAMILIAR. It isn't until maybe St. Martin de Porres that we begin to sense a pattern or a connection. Can the others on the list before St. Martin also be black? Various shades, yes, as most of them find their origins in and around North Africa. But what does their color matter? Plenty, especially in America.

"The story of how Roman Catholics 'became American' is very well-known," according to Mathew J. Cressler in a June 7, 2018 article in Smithsonian Magazine. After a brief rehashing of Catholic-Protestant relations, he continues, "The culmination of Catholic Americanization arrived, symbolically, with the election of President John Fitzgerald Kennedy in 1960. By 2015, when Pope Francis was invited to speak before Congress, one-third of its members were Catholic ... (However,) The true story of Catholics 'becoming American' must include the black Catholics who launched a movement for acceptance within their own Church, and within the country."

The story of Black History Month begins in 1915, half a century after the thirteenth Amendment abolished slavery in the United States. Carter G. Woodson and Jessie E. Moorland founded the Association for the Study of Negro Life and History, an organization dedicated to researching and promoting achievements by Blacks. Mr. Cressler continues, "In the 20th century, during what became known as 'the Great Migration,' black migrants moved into Catholic metropolises ... An exceptional few white priests and Sisters committed themselves to the conversion of black migrants. These white Catholic missionaries invited black parents to enroll their children in Catholic schools. When they did so, black families were introduced to the rituals, prayers, and habits that defined Catholic culture at the time. They learned new ways of imagining, experiencing, and moving in the world."

"The Black Catholic Movement (of the 1970s) was many things all at once. It was a series of political struggles for self-determination in the institutional Church ... inspired unprecedented liturgical innovation ... made intense intellectual contributions, as a generation of black Catholic activist-scholars challenged the unspoken but ever-present assumption that white ways of being Catholic were the right ways to be Catholic ... culminated in 1984 when the 10 black bishops of the United States declared that black Catholics in the United States can be both 'authentically Black' and 'truly Catholic.'"

Let's just say, that this realization and proclamation took time to trickle

down to individual parishes, let alone, dioceses. Our own parish of the Immaculate Conception was established in 1864 with the church being completed in 1908. According to MONTCLAIR AFRICAN-AMERICAN HISTORY RESOURCE GUIDE, Elizabeth Shepard, author and editor, et al, "African-American Catholics began worshiping at St. Peter Claver Church on Elm Street in 1931 and moved to Elmwood Avenue in 1939. African-American Catholics were not welcomed at the other Montclair Catholic churches. For instance, at the Church of the Immaculate Conception, the African-Americans had to sit downstairs and listen to the Mass via a loudspeaker system. Although St. Peter Claver has always been a mixed church, both African-Americans and people from the West Indies have been the dominant members. Louis Sturdvant and William Cannady gave oral testimony about the discrimination found in Montclair, and not just in the Catholic Churches, but also bowling alleys and the YMCA, among others.

The Smithsonian article draws to a conclusion, "President Gerald Ford officially recognized Black History Month in 1976, calling upon the public to "seize the opportunity to honor the too-often neglected accomplishments of Black Americans in every area of endeavor throughout our history." Today, Black History Month is a time to honor the contributions and legacy of African Americans across U.S. history and society—from activists and civil rights pioneers such as Harriet Tubman, Sojourner Truth, Marcus Garvey, Martin Luther King Jr., Malcolm X and Rosa Parks to leaders in industry, politics, science, culture and more. The Black History Month 2023 theme, "Black Resistance," explores how "African Americans have resisted historic and ongoing oppression, in all forms, especially the racial terrorism of lynching, racial pogroms and police killings," since the nation's earliest days." Our early saints would know something about brutality.

A LITANY: Others in the making: Father Augustus Tolton, Mother Henriette Delille, Mother Mary Elizabeth Lange, Pierre Toussaint, Sister Thea Bowman, Julia Greeley, Daniel Rudd, PRAY FOR THEM—and all the others to follow.

Known today as the Association for the Study of African American Life and History (ASALH), the group sponsored a national Negro History week in 1926, choosing the second week of February to coincide with the birthdays of Abraham Lincoln and Frederick Douglass. The event inspired schools and communities nationwide to organize local celebrations, establish history clubs and host performances and lectures.

In the decades that followed, mayors of cities across the country began issuing yearly proclamations recognizing "Negro History Week." By the late 1960s, thanks in part to the civil rights movement and a growing awareness of Black identity, "Negro History Week" had evolved into Black History Month on many college campuses.

-Retired Fr Tom

Spiritual Wellness: STEPS on the Journey

with presenter

**MARY LANDRIAUX,
LCSW**

**SATURDAY
FEB 25**

9:30AM

MADONNA HALL
IMMACULATE
CONCEPTION

Mary Landriaux received her B.A. from Mount Holyoke College and her M.S.W. from Rutgers University School of Social Work. She is currently a Faculty Associate and Director of Field Education in the B.S.W. Program at Seton Hall University. Prior to this, she was Clinical Supervisor of the Raymond Lesniak Recovery High School, the first public high school in NJ for students in recovery from drug and alcohol abuse. She is committed to and passionate about the prevention and treatment of those who suffer from alcohol and drug addiction and mental health related disorders, particularly adolescents. She has provided direct practice and supervision in the social work field for over 30 years. She has written curricula for both the B.S.W. and M.S.W. programs. She serves as the Campus Academic Coordinator for the Baccalaureate Child Welfare Educational Program, President of the New Jersey Baccalaureate Social Work Education Association, and President of the Board of Directors of Prevention Links. She is also an Adjunct professor with the Seton Hall-Hackensack Meridian School of Medicine. She was recently elected to serve on the Association of Baccalaureate Program Directors' Board of Directors. She is actively involved in ministry at her parish, St. Bernard Clairvaux and St. Stanislaus Kostka, in Plainfield, NJ. She is presently studying for her Masters in Pastoral Theology at the Immaculate Conception Seminary School of Theology at Seton Hall University.

THE XAVIER COMPANY PRESENTS:

No GREATER LOVE

A Passion Play For The Lenten Season

Written By Janeen Stevens

Directed And Choreographed
By Dr. Carol Ferrone

Musical Direction By
Gerard De Man, Jr.

No Greater Love, a vibrant musical drama that celebrates the passion, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ, will be performed in the sanctuary of churches throughout the tri-state area during the 2023 Lenten Season. Pasqualino Beltempo plays the role of Jesus and Nikki Casseri plays Mary. The cast also features Benjamin Culpepper, Dorothy Dobkowski, Leo Grinberg, Annie Lewis, Rebekah Rawhouser, Brandon Schraml and Tony Bartoli, percussionist.

The Xavier Company is a unique group of Christian performing artists in residence at St. Francis Xavier Church in New York City. These professionally trained actors, singers and dancers perform original works focused on themes of faith and social justice. Founded in 1982, The Xavier Company is celebrating its thirty fourth anniversary of performing arts ministry in the tri-state area. The Xavier Company is renowned for performances that display both spiritual content and artistic excellence.



SATURDAY
MARCH

4

7 PM

IMMACULATE
CONCEPTION
CHURCH



WHERE?

Catholic Charities Respite Center
[McAllen, Texas]

WHEN?

July 22, 2023 - July 28, 2023

WHO IS ELIGIBLE

- Students in grades 10-12
- Up to 15 students per parish

COST: \$1,200

- \$400 deposit out of pocket
 - \$800 fundraised
- (Up to 50% of the deposit is refundable)

APPLY FOR TRIP:

- Applications are due by March 31, 2023
- Visit your parish website for submission details



ST TERESA OF CALCUTTA
[MONTCLAIR]



ST TERESA OF AVILA
[SUMMIT]



ST CATHERINE OF SIENA
[CEDAR GROVE]

YOUTH GROUP 180

Mission Possible

FEATURING

GAMES * PIZZA DINNER *
HELPING HANDS MISSION TRIP

26 FEBRUARY
7PM - 9 PM

1 MUNN STREET
ENTRANCE
MONTCLAIR, NJ

BEFORE THE FUN BEGINS,
JOIN US FOR 6 PM MASS

Hosted by Immaculate Conception Church

Annual Appeal ^{the}2023

Our 2023 Parish Goal is \$32,674



Each year our parish is invited to participate in the Annual Appeal, which is an opportunity to support essential ministries and programs of our Archdiocese. Your sacrificial support makes it possible to carry out the important work that we are called to do as missionary disciples of Jesus.

Will you prayerfully consider making a gift to the 2022 Annual Appeal and help meet our Parish goal?

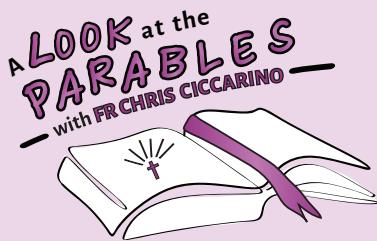
To make a gift online, visit rcan.org/sharing



**Stewardship of Treasury
week ending Feb 10**

805 REGISTERED FAMILIES

Collections	Weekly	Fiscal YTD
Budgeted	\$7,098	\$220,038
Actual	\$6,941	\$205,234
Excess (Deficit)	(\$157)	(\$14,804)
Means of Giving	Weekly	YTD
Envelopes	53	1,701
Loose checks	14	249
Other	3	99
Online gifts	51	1,903



COMING THIS LENT: Six Week Adult Bible Study!

All are welcome!
Wednesdays | 7 PM

Madonna Hall (Church Basement)

Week 1
March 1



- THE PARABLES OF JESUS: AN INTRODUCTION
- THE WOMAN IN THE HOUSE OF SIMON

Week 2
March 8

- TBD

Week 4
March 22



- THE PARABLE OF THE SOWER
- THE PARABLE OF THE HIDDEN TREASURE AND PEARL OF GREAT PRICE

Week 5
March 29



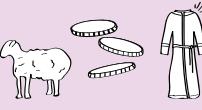
- THE PARABLE OF THE PHARISEE & THE TAX COLLECTOR
- THE PARABLE OF THE GREAT BANQUET

Week 3
March 15



- THE PARABLE OF THE UNFORGIVING SERVANT
- THE PARABLE OF THE TWO SONS

Week 6
April 5



- THE PARABLES OF THE LOST: LOST SHEEP, LOST COINS, AND LOST SONS

ABOUT FR. CHRIS



Reverend Christopher M. Ciccarino grew up in Scotch Plains and is the youngest of five. He attended Bucknell University, majoring in history and religion, then entered seminary. After a year of Pre-Theology at Immaculate Conception Seminary, he continued at the North American College in Rome. He completed an S.T.B. at the Pontifical Gregorian University and was ordained a priest of the Archdiocese of Newark on May 25, 1996. Archbishop John Myers appointed him to the faculty of Immaculate Conception Seminary and asked him to return to Rome for graduate studies. Fr. Ciccarino completed an S.S.L. at the Pontifical Biblical Institute and an S.T.D. at the Pontifical Gregorian University.

Earthquake Relief for Syria & Turkey



On February 6, a 7.8 magnitude earthquake devastated large areas of central Turkey and northwest Syria. The death toll has surpassed 17,000 and continues to climb.

We continue to witness via news reports the horrible loss of life and damage in Turkey and Syria, and we stand in solidarity and prayer with our brothers and sisters there. Catholic aid agencies have launched emergency collections for quake victims.

Catholic Relief Services (CRS), the international humanitarian agency of the U.S. Church, is already on the ground offering emergency relief efforts led by local partners with Caritas Turkey, Caritas Syria in Aleppo and Lattakia, and others.

They are bringing displaced people to safe spaces and distributing hot meals, clean water, hygiene supplies, and other essentials. They are collecting donations. If you wish to help in these efforts or make a donation, please visit crs.org.

Along with financial support, prayer remains essential. Let us continue to offer our prayers to our brothers and sisters who mourn losses and face this devastation.