



Immaculate Conception Church
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Rev. Boguslaw Kobus, Pastor

Lent/Easter 2018

Dear Immaculate Conception Parishioners,

As we still might remember very well last Christmas liturgy in the Church and our families' gatherings at Christmas we all are already invited to begin Lent, our spiritual preparations for Easter, the greatest feast in the Church.

Lent is a special time for fasting, abstinence, prayer, self-discipline, reflection, penance and charity to those in need – what we call almsgiving.

During Lent we accompany Jesus on His journey of sorrow and love, the way of the Cross. The way of the Cross is the consummation of Jesus' life and the example of His obedience to the will of the Father. The Cross was the way to Christ's resurrection and the cross is the way to our resurrection. So, let us walk together along the Way of the Cross carrying in our hearts this example of love and forgiveness. Let us go with Jesus through his suffering, knowing that His death is not the end but through God's power he will be raised to new Life.

Our celebration of Lent ends before the Easter Triduum (Latin: three days). The three days recall Jesus' Last Supper with His disciples (Holy Thursday), His crucifixion and death (Good Friday) and His resurrection (the Easter Vigil and Easter Day). After celebration of Easter solemnity in the joy of Christ's resurrection we will still celebrate in the Church the Easter Season for the fifty days.

We all are invited by God to announce to the men and women of our times this message of joy and hope because Jesus who was crucified, is raised. Death no longer has the last word. The tomb does not have the last word. Life does! In light of this great event we are called to be new men and women in accordance with the Spirit, confirming the value of life. We will be men and women of resurrection, men and women of life, if in the midst of the events that afflict the world today, in the midst of worldliness which distances us from God, we will know how to offer gestures of solidarity and gestures of welcome and strengthening the universal desire for peace, love and hope.

Christ is alive. He redeems our shortcomings and reaches each human heart and gives back hope to whomever is oppressed and suffering.

As Christians we all are encouraged to make Lent a special time of spiritual renewal and growth and so I am looking forward to celebrate these celebrations and invite you all, my brothers and sisters to worship together and celebrate this sacred liturgy of the greatest mystery of Christ's passion, death and resurrection in our Church.

On the reverse of this letter, you will find our Lenten, Holy Week and Easter Sunday schedules.

We are most grateful for your donations toward Easter flowers to decorate the Church and for remembering the needs of the Immaculate Conception Parish with your continued generosity.

A very Blessed Easter to you and your families and friends.

Sincerely,

Fr. Boguslaw Kobus

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