



St. Ignatius of Antioch Church

999 Reading Avenue Yardley, PA 215-493-3377

contact@stignatius.church

www.stignatius.church



Second Sunday of Advent December 7, 2025



Reading I: Isaiah 11: 1-10

This is the clearest of Isaiah’s messianic visions: The coming of an ideal Davidic king, who brings justice and peace to the world.

Reading II: Romans 15: 4-9

Paul counts himself among the strong Christians set free from Mosaic rules. Christ followed His Father’s will. Israel’s Scriptures (the Old Testament) remain essential to the life and liturgy of the Church.

The Gospel: Matthew 3: 1-12

John the Baptist is the forerunner of the Messiah, and here, in verse 2, is the overarching theme of Matthew’s whole gospel: “Repent, for the kingdom of God is at hand.” The words appear 32 times in the gospel.

SCHEDULE OF MASSES

Saturday: 5:15PM Vigil Mass
Sunday: 7:30AM, 9:30AM (Children’s Liturgy of the Word), 11:30AM, 6PM
Daily, Monday to Friday: 9:00AM
*Special Schedule for Holy Days

RECTORY OFFICE HOURS

Sunday - CLOSED
Monday- Thursday 9:00AM—4:30PM
Friday - 9:00AM-4:00PM
Saturday—CLOSED

ROSARY

The rosary is said Monday - Friday after the 9AM Daily Mass and at 7PM (during the month of September), and also Saturdays before the 5:15PM Mass.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Saturdays: 4:00 to 5:00PM
Confessions will also be heard upon request.
Please call the rectory to make an appointment.

ADORATION CHAPEL

Adoration Hours : Monday, 10 AM until Wednesday 9 PM, Thursday 9am until 12 midnight, Friday 10 AM until 8 PM, Saturday, 10 AM until 4 PM. For information on chapel closings/openings, please call 215-550-5638 and listen to the message.

CARE OF THE SICK

If you or someone you know is homebound, and would like to receive the Sacraments, please contact the rectory to arrange for a visit.



Mass Intentions

Saturday December 6, 2025
5:15PM Mike Septer
(Loretta and Bill Amerine and Family)

Sunday December 7, 2025
7:30AM Tom Stiver (Wife)
9:30AM Parishioners of St. Ignatius
11:30AM Peter R. Giovannini (Joanne Russo)
6:00PM Dorothy and Frank Young
(The Young Family)

Monday December 8, 2025
7:00AM Greg Wolf (The Wolf Family)
9:00AM Frances and Nick Tarallo / living
(Lee Smith)
7:00PM Marguerite "Marge" Kenney
(Loretta and Bill Amerine)

Tuesday December 9, 2025
9:00AM Edmund Mizerek
(Mizerek and Kearns Family)

Wednesday December 10, 2025
9:00AM Anne Mrazik / living
(Bob and Sue Mrazik)

Thursday December 11, 2025
9:00AM MaryBeth Carey
(Tom and Lorraine Humphrey)

Friday December 12, 2025
9:00AM Kathleen Madden
(Martin and Jackie Madden)

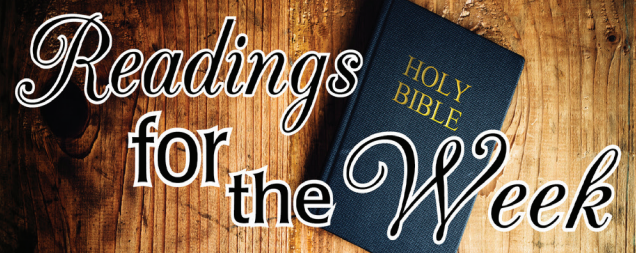
Saturday December 13, 2025
5:15PM Deceased Members of the Humphrey and
Keefe Families (Tom and Lorraine Humphrey)

Sunday December 14, 2025
7:30AM Jim Fletcher Jr. (The Fletcher Family)
9:30AM Charles and Erne Hofelder
(Raymond Hofelder)
11:30AM Parishioners of St. Ignatius
6:00PM Skip, Harry, and Jenny Bowman
(Mary Ellen and Tim)



Church Sanctuary Candle

The church sanctuary candle burns this week to the glory of Almighty God and for Karen Gray requested by Sue Ann Cook



Sunday Is 11:1-10 Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 18
 Rom 15:4-10 Mt 3:1-13

Monday Gen 3:9-15, 20 Ps 98:1, 2-3ab,
 3cd-4 Eph 1:3-6, 11-12 Lk 1:26-38

Tuesday Is 40:1-11 Ps 96:1-2, 3 and 10ac,
 11-12, 13 Mt 18:12-14

Wednesday Is 40:25-31 Ps 103:1-2, 3-4, 8
 and 10 Mt 11:28-30

Thursday Is 41:13-20 Ps 145:1 and 9, 10-
 11, 12-13ab Mt 11:11-15

Friday Zec 2:14-17 or Rv 11:19a; 12:1-6a,
 10ab Jdt 13:18bcde, 19 Lk 1:26-38 or Lk
 1:39-47

Saturday Sir 48:1-4, 9-11 Ps 80:2ac and
 3b, 15-16, 18-19 Mt 17:9a, 10-13

Sunday Is 35:1-6a, 10 Ps 146:6-7, 8-9,
 9-10. Jas 5:7-10 Mt 11:2-11

Ministerial Staff

Rev. Andrew C. Brownholtz, Pastor	215-493-3377
Rev. Charles J. Kennedy, In Residence	215-493-3377
Deacon Robert J. Skawinski	215-493-3377
Deacon Michael Cibenko	215-493-3377
George Meade, School Principal	215-493-3867
Connie Liebreich, Dir. of Religious Ed.	215-493-5204
Gregory Lucidi, Business Manager	215-493-3377
Dorothy Aschenbrenner, Tuition Coordinator	215-493-3377
Maria L. LaMantia, Parish Secretary	215-493-3377
Lee F. Milhous, Music Director	267-205-0174
Maria Shadle, Youth Minister	

fracb@stignatius.church

contact@stignatius.church

contact@stignatius.church

mrmeade@sischool.org

connie@stignatius.church

glucidi@stignatius.church

daschenbrenner@sischool.org

mlamantia@stignatius.church

leefmilhous@verizon.net

youth@stignatius.church



Whether it's your first time here or you have been coming to Mass for years, we welcome you to join our parish. Please contact the parish office or scan the QR Code to register:

We welcome the following families who have recently joined our parish faith community:

Bell, Bernier, Capuano, Dean, DeHope, Esposito, Finegan, Friel, Gasparo, Hallwachs, Hansen, Hughes, Irvin, Johnson, Kenahan, Ketting, LoGiurato, Metcalfe, Parrell, Salvatore, Schlacter, Truong, and Vickers.

We pray for our beloved deceased especially **Stephen Cesareo, Linda A. Lee, Jennie T. Maida, Patrick J. Boyce, Mary Ellen Glen, Margaret W. Shubnell, Thomas LaRocca**, those who have no one to pray for them, and the Holy Souls in purgatory. Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace. Amen.

BAPTISM



The Sacrament of Baptism is normally administered on Sundays at 12:45PM. Pre-Jordan class, for the first child only, is required for parents. Class is held on the first Monday of the month at 7:00PM in room 2B on the 2nd floor of the Meeting Center. Parents, please call the rectory to register for the class or for a Baptism.

We welcome the following children who have recently joined our Roman Catholic Faith:

Mackenzie Adden, Luciano Berardi, Christian Caggia, Nathan DeFranco, Thomas Ennis, Domenico Galloway, Summer Goldbloom, Lily Mastoris, Quinn O'Hara, Giovanni Schiotis, Navy Schlacter, James Shaw, Jason Vacirca II, and Ellie Wilson



Arrangements should be made at least six months in advance. Please call the rectory to make an appointment with Father Brownholtz.

We also welcome those couples who are civilly married and desire to receive the Sacrament of Marriage. Contact the parish office to arrange for a sacramental convalidation of your marriage.

Fiscal Corner

Our 2025-2026 Annual Parish Appeal is underway! This critical parish financial appeal will run from October through the end of January. If you can help with this effort, it would be greatly appreciated! You should receive our appeal materials in the mail. If you have not, there are appeal envelopes located in the entrances of the church. Please return your donation by placing this year's appeal envelope in the collection basket at Mass, mail your contribution or drop it off directly to the rectory.

Our goal for this year's Parish Appeal is to raise \$175,000. These funds will be dedicated to a range of important initiatives that will help us enhance the spiritual, educational, and communal aspects of our parish. We are counting on everyone to help us reach this year's goal. Thank you for your generosity!

As of week #9 of the Parish appeal, 230 families have contributed \$121,635 toward our goal of \$175,000. We are at 69.51% of this year's goal. Thank you for your generosity!

Weekly Collection

Counting our Blessings	12/1/24	Env	11/30/25	Env
Sunday Offering	\$13,024.00	256	\$15,204.00	233
Online Parish Giving	\$9,969.62		\$9,886.44	
Total Weekly Contribution	\$22,993.62		\$25,090.44	

Counting our Blessings	11/24/24	Env	11/23/25	Env
Sunday Offering	\$15,458.00	237	\$14,697.00	270
Online Parish Giving	\$10,916.22		\$15,316.14	
Total Weekly Contribution	\$26,374.22		\$30,013.14	
Thanksgiving	\$2,690.00		\$2,357.00	

We are thankful for your consistent stewardship. ©JPPC



Lord hear our prayer for the sick in our community that they return to the comfort of good health:

Baby Kayden Hledik, Emil Abinader, Angelo Alvarez, Loretta Amerine, Sabrina Amerine, Jeff Bacon, Dolores Barrett, Joseph Bednarski, Maria Cane, Ruthann Carroll, Brynn Clare Connor, Kathleen Cook, Gloria Coyne, JoAnne Cumming, Shellie D., Michael Ennis, Marykay Greco, Grace Griffin, Jonathan Grubb, Lou Gunkel, Ruth Gunkel, Marge Heriley, Julia Horvath, Tom Humphrey, Michaeline Hynoski, Judith Kearney, Olivia Kraemer, Amy Layden, Don Lippolis, Tina Lippolis, Michelle Mahle, Steven Marcinkowski, Jean M. Maxian, Kevin McBeth, Kevin McBeth Jr., Kevin McCarthy, Toni McConnell, Janet Miller, , Walter Miller, Susan Mockenhaupt, Anna Monastera, Michele Mulholland, Michael Murphy, Sharon Murphy, John Murray, Debbie Neal, Tom O'Donnell, Nancy Paravecchia, Steven Pellegrino, Margaret R., Christine Rogers, Mary Claire Rossi, Peter Sidoti, Theresa Sortino, Elsie Stolic, Darwin Stout, Kyle Stout, AJ Tantalala, Nick Tarallo, Gideon Thomas, Mark Waldinger, Lora Warner, Brendan Weisinger, Patricia Yorkus, Vincent Yorkus, and all the residents of Sunrise, Artis, and Floral Creek.



RECTORY OFFICE HOLIDAY CLOSURES

- Wednesday, 12/10 – Open 9am to 11am**
- Wednesday, 12/24 - Closed**
- Thursday, 12/25 - Closed**
- Friday, 12/26 - Closed**
- Wednesday, 12/31 - Closed**
- Thursday, 1/1 - Closed**



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Please join us in decorating our church for Christmas on Sunday, December 21st at 1:00PM. This is a great opportunity for service hours! Your assistance is greatly appreciated.



Second Sunday of Advent - December 7, 2025

**“The kingdom of heaven is at hand!”
(Matthew 3:2)**

John’s call to prepare for Christ echoes in every family. In holy matrimony, love and faith creates the foundation where God’s kingdom flourishes. Is God calling you to build a holy family? Ask Him to show you His way by praying for your (future) spouse and children.

God our Father, Thank you for calling Griffen Schlaepfer, JD McEwing, Juan Builes, Jude Opara, Matthew Pace, Jacob Sanz, Jonathan Amgott, Pasquelge Don Sandun Tharuka, and Camilo Abedrop-Escobosa to prepare for the priesthood. Grant them the grace to grow closer to You through daily prayer.

Help them form their personalities as credible witnesses to others. Bless them while they study Your word and the teachings of the Church, and give them generous hearts to serve Your people. We ask this through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our great High Priest. Amen

To learn more about our seminarians visit: <http://heedthecall.org/poster>



NOVEMBER 500 CLUB WINNERS

- \$50 (#275) Bridget Hosler**
- \$100 (#46) Danielle Van Wert**
- \$250 (#298) Henry Zerella**
- \$500 (#12) Gary Gorecki**



Faith Formation

Our parish of St. Ignatius has been blessed for over 25 years with our committee members who have given of their time, talent, and treasure to create and sponsor over 200 programs on morality, ethics, religion, bible study, faith sharing, and Catholic education for adults in our parish. These programs average about 6-8 per year, some a one-time event; some 24-weeks ongoing like our Walking with Purpose and our men's bible studies; some DVD; some live 'in person' speakers; some speakers from our parish like our priests, Deacons, and those with special expertise in certain areas; some guest speakers; some retreats. All programs have been offered as 'free will offerings' with refreshments. Programs have 'moved' from time-to-time based on availability of space. There is much effort going into planning, preparing, shopping, set-up, clean-up, and sometimes personal funding. The topics are varied and some have been repeated with updated information. Most topics are current and relevant on how to address one's life from a faith-based perspective whether it be in marriage, employment, family, child-rearing, personal self-development, even politics and yes, death. The current committee members are working hard to come up with new ideas, new energy, and new ways of continuing to have programs for our parish. Time is of the essence in having some new volunteers step up. Are you being called to share? Are you being called to serve? Let us know. Now is the time to start preparing for programs for next year. Don't let this resource go by the wayside. If interested contact mmphinney28@gmail.com or hlar1118@gmail.com. St. Thomas Aquinas, pray for us.



"Jesus calls each of us to 'care for the other as a person for whom God has made us responsible' (EV 87). ...The encyclical The Gospel of Life recognizes the full range of threats against human life, from poverty and malnutrition to murder and war. Particular emphasis, however, is placed on threats to life at its beginning and end—precisely when it is most in need of protection. In modern times, children in their mothers' wombs and those approaching the end of their lives are certainly among the 'least of these' in our world's estimation." *Excerpt from Evangelium vitae, © 1995, Libreria Editrice Vaticana.. When Jesus uttered His words from the Cross 'Forgive them Father, for they know not what they do,' these very words could be applied to how we here in the U.S. approach life from its beginning at conception until natural death. As we approach the Nativity of our Lord Jesus, we also need to reflect on the Incarnation... Jesus becoming human, for what reason and purpose? We need to understand that the 'Word became flesh and dwelt among us' and that our humanity has been elevated by His divinity. We need to see the 'Christ' in others and love our neighbor as ourselves because we all have the same heavenly Father and we are all brothers and sisters in Christ. Holidays can bring out the 'worst' in us as family, or, it can bring out the 'best'.... this year...let it be the best.

Our Lady of Guadalupe, pray for us.

Intercessory Prayer: May God help us prepare the way of the Lord by acting with tenderness and compassion, especially toward the most vulnerable among us; We pray to the Lord:

Rose of Life Intention: May we respect Baby Jesus and all babies.



Fr. James J. McCafferty Council #11013 Our council meets regularly the fourth Thursday of every month at 7:30 PM in the Wise Meeting room in the Antioch Center. We begin with the rosary at 7 PM followed by food/beverage/fellowship. We are looking for new members always. We have many activities and charities, fun gatherings and fellowship and events along with prayer and study. If interested in joining us contact Tom Kearney at thomasfkearney@verizon.net.

Advent Penance Service



ADVENT PENANCE SERVICES

St. Ignatius Parish will celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation during our Advent Penance Service on Tuesday, December 16th at 7:00 PM in our church. Several priests will be present to assist in hearing confessions. Please take this opportunity to prepare yourself for the birth of the Savior.

For your convenience, our surrounding parishes will celebrate their Advent Penance Services at 7:00 PM on December 15th at St. John the Evangelist, Makefield and Big Oak Roads, Lower Makefield and on December 17th at 7:00PM at Our Lady of Grace, 225 Bellevue Avenue, Penn-del.



Merry Christmas

CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE

Christmas Eve - Wednesday, December 24th
4:00PM Vigil in the Church
(4:05pm Auditorium for overflow)
8:00PM Vigil

Christmas Day - Thursday, December 25th
7:30AM, 9:30AM, 11:30AM

SOLEMNITY OF MARY MOTHER OF GOD **MASS SCHEDULE**

December 31st - 5:15PM
January 1st - 9:00AM



TURKEY DRIVE UPDATE

Thanks everyone for helping make this another successful Turkey Drive! We collected over 250 turkeys, hundreds of bags of groceries, and thousands of dollars in gift cards to share with families who need help. We are fortunate to be surrounded by so many kind, generous, and capable people.

While it's fun to report record-breaking numbers, the real story comes when we take a moment to consider the impact of these donations. One minister reminded us that we are reaching much further than we know. Many drivers who come to accept the donations become overwhelmed by the generosity they see, and then they struggle for the words to convey the enormity of its impact on the communities they serve. Yesterday, an individual stopped, not to deliver a bag of groceries, but to request one for herself and her child; imagine the strength that took. These donations helped hundreds of families. We did a good thing. It was a tremendous team effort, and it is an honor to be a part of it.

ST. IGNATIUS OF ANTIOCH

Catholic Church & School

PLANNING STUDY RESULTS

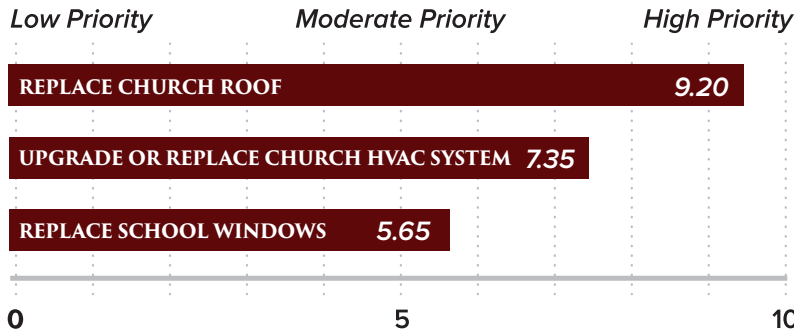
We would like to extend a special thanks to all who participated in the recent planning study at St. Ignatius of Antioch. We sincerely value the input of our parishioners, so it was important to hear feedback on our needs and proposed plans.

Following the completion and analysis of the study, representatives from the Steier Group presented their findings and recommendations to our parish leaders on Wednesday, November 5. Please see below for a summary of the planning study results.

STUDY PARTICIPANTS

73 Personal Interviews : **182** Mail and Online Surveys : **70** In-pew surveys

PRIORITY OF RESPONDENTS



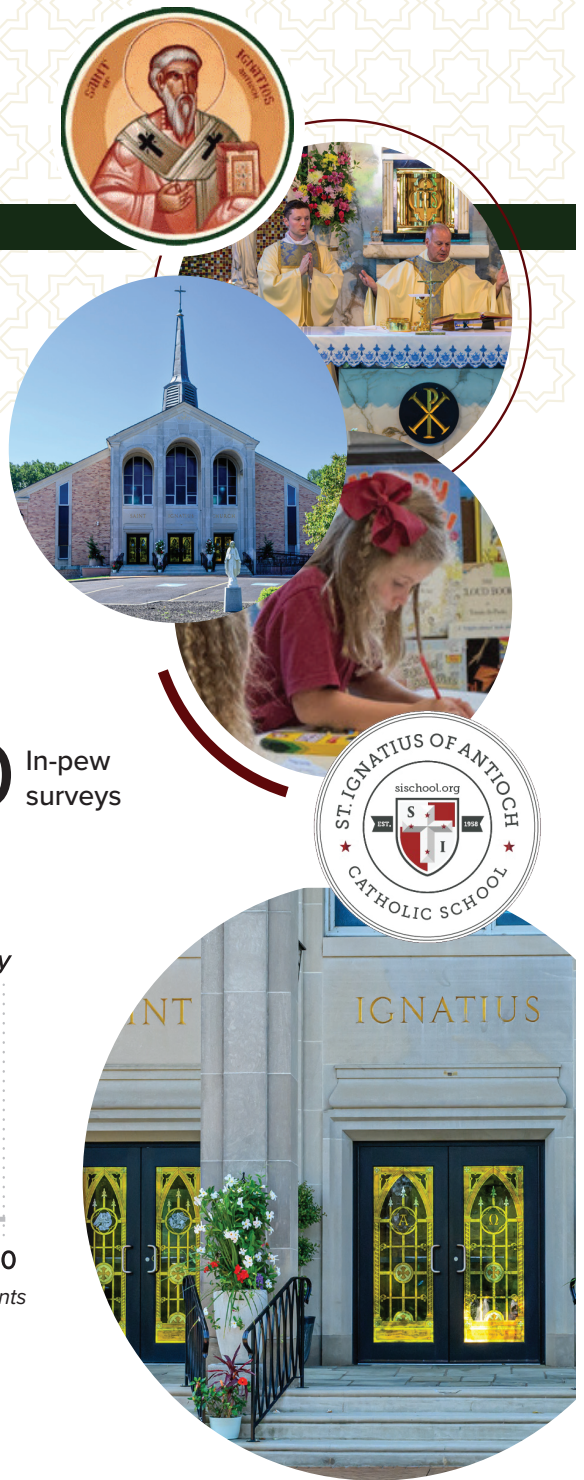
Scores were calculated by assigning a value of 10 points for a high priority, 5 points for a medium priority and 0 for a low priority, and then determining the average. Scores of 6.5 and above are considered a high priority. Scores ranging from 5 – 6.5 are considered a moderate priority.

KEY STATISTICAL FINDINGS

 **92%**
of respondents will make a personal gift to a campaign

 **76**
will serve in a volunteer leadership position for a campaign

 **15**
have already included St. Ignatius of Antioch in their estate plans





OVERALL OBSERVATIONS

- Parishioners are spiritually connected to the tight-knit, faithful community and appreciate the lively, active ministries of St. Ignatius of Antioch.
- Parishioners want to see these pressing facility needs addressed in order to continue the parish mission of “seeking unity in the Body of Christ through our shared faith.”
- Parishioners want to ensure that St. Ignatius of Antioch receives the best value for its investments and is transparent throughout the contractor selection process and campaign communications in general.



KEY RECOMMENDATIONS

- St. Ignatius of Antioch’s leaders should use the campaign’s preparation phase to determine the campaign goals based on the responses in the planning study and the projected fundraising potential.
- Develop a project advisory team consisting of parishioners with experience in facilities management who can assist in reviewing bids and promoting transparency.
- Develop a comprehensive communications plan, including a list of FAQs that address the most common questions that were raised during the planning study.
- Begin identifying and recruiting a strong, diverse volunteer team to work on the capital campaign.

NEXT STEPS

Given the positive feedback and data from the planning study, the parish council and finance committee voted unanimously to move forward into the preparation phase of a capital campaign. Additionally, the Archdiocese of Philadelphia has given their blessing for an immediate start.

Our next task is to review the data from the planning study – your input – and work to finalize, prioritize and communicate the campaign goals.

In the upcoming weeks and months, you will hear much more about our plans and how you can make an investment in the future of our parish. In the meantime, we ask that you pray for the success of our upcoming effort.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Fr. Andrew C. Brownholtz".

Rev. Andrew C. Brownholtz
Pastor





Caring for Friends™

Caring for Friends provides free meals for the elderly, ill, poor, homebound, and/or homeless in the greater Philadelphia area. **So far this year we have assembled approximately 7,000 meals for our needy friends! Thank you to all of our loyal volunteers who work tirelessly for this ministry. Please join us as we serve some of the neediest and forgotten members in our society.**

We only ask for a few hours, one day per month of your time and you will be helping so many needy people! Our next meeting to assemble meals will be held on Thursday, December 11th from 9 am – noon in the church auditorium kitchen. We are truly blessed, but more helping hands are always needed and welcome. If you can't stay to help assemble the meals, a main dish or starch can be delivered on the morning of the meeting or a donation can be given to help us buy supplies. Your gifts and talents are always appreciated.

Our annual Christmas luncheon will be held immediately after our meeting. Caring for Friends will provide the food. Please stay for a bit as we all reconnect and take a few moments to enjoy each other's company.

If you would like additional information on how you can help, please call Kathy, 203-837-0519 or Jayne, 215-321-5739. Hope to see you on December 11th!

“We are not asked merely to call ourselves Christians; we are asked to be Christians through our deeds.” – St. Ignatius of Antioch



HOLY HOUR

Young Adult Holy Hour and Vespers

St. Ignatius will be holding its 3rd annual Young Adult Christmas Holy Hour and Dinner on Monday, December 29th, 2025! The evening will begin with a Holy Hour at 5pm in the church, all in the parish are invited to join! Afterwards, there will be a catered dinner for young adults! **The celebrant and homilist will be Bishop Christopher Cooke.** All Young Adults ages 18-30 are welcome to the dinner portion! There is a \$15 suggested donation, any questions and to RSVP, email: joedom2003@gmail.com by 12/23/25.



IMMACULATE CONCEPTION MASS SCHEDULE

**MONDAY, DECEMBER 8TH
7:00AM, 9:00AM, 7:00PM**