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Parochial Vicar

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Ms. Jennifer Feldhaus, Principal

iopprincipal@gmail.com 910-353-1300



Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel, which means "God is with us."

MATTHEW 1:23

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Infant of Prague Catholic Church & School

Marine Blvd, Jacksonville, NC

WEEKEND MASS SCHEDULE:

Saturday Vigil - 5:00PM Sunday: 8:00AM, 10:30AM, 12:15PM, Misa en Espanol

FIRST SATURDAY MASS - 10:00AM

DAILY MASS SCHEDULE:

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday – 12Noon Wednesday – 8:10AM (School Mass) Thursday – 9:00AM, Thursday – 7PM (Spanish)

RECONCILIATION:

Friday 10:30AM-12Noon Saturdays 2:00 - 4:00 PM or by Appointment

MISSION STATEMENT: Called by our Baptism and empowered by the Holy Spirit, Infant of Prague Catholic Church and School celebrates our Unity in God through worship, sacraments and adoration. We educate in faith, embrace stewardship and proclaim the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

PARISH MOTTO: "Be Christ-like in all we say and do."

Compassion, Honesty, Reverence, Integrity, Service, Trust

PARISH REGISTRATION: We welcome new parishioners to share fully in our Parish life. As new members you bring vitality and growth to our parish. Registration forms are available in the clear magazine racks in each of the entrances of the Church. You may call the Parish Office to have a registration form mailed to you or stop by and complete a registration form at the Parish Office. You may also use the Parish web site iopnc.org to register online, please call to confirm that your online registration was received.

BAPTISM: Parental Attendance at a Preparation Class for the first child to be baptized is mandatory. Please see November & December dates and locations inside the bulletin, and in Spanish on the 1st Wednesday of the month at 7PM in the Library of the Parish Hall. If you are requesting the baptism be in Spanish you will be required to attend the Spanish Baptism Instruction Class. Pre-registration is not required. To have your child baptized you must meet the following requirements (1) be a registered parishioner for at least three months (2) be practicing the faith (3) have obtained the signed Godparent Eligibility form and returned them to the Parish Office. Please check the bulletin monthly for possible changes of class dates. Parents planning to have children baptized in the near future can contact the Parish Office in advance to obtain Godparent Eligibility Forms, these forms will need to be returned to the Parish Office before any baptism date will be scheduled.

MARRIAGE: Arrangements must be made with a Parish Priest at least six months before your requested date. To be married at Infant of Prague you must be a registered member of our Parish for at least six months.

ANOINTING OF THE SICK: If you have a loved one who is in the hospital, a nursing home or homebound and in need of anointing please notify the Parish Priest at 910-347-4196 after hours please call 910-581-3101. Remember we cannot make visitations to people when we are unaware of their situation.

CHURCH OFFICES & MAILING ADDRESS:

205 Chaney Ave., Jacksonville, N.C., 28540 / Telephone (910) 347-4196 / FAX: (910) 347-9338

PARISH OFFICE HOURS: MONDAY-FRIDAY 9:00AM UNTIL 5:00PM

Parish Website: iopnc.org or find us at https://www.facebook.com/INFANTof PRAGUEJacksonville NC

NAME	TITLE	E-MAIL ADDESS	PHONE
Mr. Jose Cabrera	Business Manager	iopbmanager@gmail.com	347-4196 ext. 405
Ms. Lisa Kuna	Parish Secretary	Psecretary.iop@gmail.com	347-4196 ext. 400
Mrs. Alicia Brindel	Bookkeeper	iopbookkeeping@gmail.com	347-4196 ext. 404
Miss Trina Wilson	Youth Coordinator	Trinawilson.iop@gmail.com	910-347-4196
Miss. Jenna Wilson	Marketing Coordinator	lop.marketingcoordinator@gmail.com	910-347-4196 ext. 406
Mrs. Nelle Altman-Boyce	Music Ministry	altboy@ec.rr.com	910-340-3492
Mrs. Kim Cianci	Manager	iopthriftstore@gmail.com	910-937-1543
Mr. Pat Buhr	Liturgical Ministries	ministries1.iop@gmail.com	
Kerry Auld	Natural Family Planning	info@kerryauld.com	603-686-9824

Parish Council Chair: John Kay John.Kay.iop@gmail.com

Finance Council Chair: Tom Kahl Tom.Kahl.iop@gmail.com

INFANT OF PRAGUE SCHOOL 501 BORDEAUX ST. JACKSONVILLE, N.C. 28540

Mrs. Ann Laatsch	Administrative Assistant	iop@iopschool.net	910-455-0838
Ms. Misty Clark	School Receptionist		910-455-0838



READINGS: One in Faith Book #960

Weekend of December 17 & 18

Saturday 5:00PM +Beatriz Eljaiek

Intentions of Loretta Victoria

Intentions of Marie Enos

Sunday 8:00AM

10:30AM

12:15PM People of the Parish

Monday 12NOON +Barbara Marapoti

+Fey Calangi

Tuesday 12NOON

Wednesday 12NOON +John Marks, Sr. Thursday 9:00AM +Claudine Yates

7:00PM

Friday 12NOON +Rita Seguin

+Claudine Yates

Intentions of Christine Degeberg

Weekend of December 24 & 25

Saturday	4:00PM	People of the Parish
	4:00PM	People of the Parish
	6:00PM	People of the Parish
	8:00PM	People of the Parish
	11:00PM	People of the Parish
Sunday	10:00AM	People of the Parish
	12:00PM	People of the Parish



Christmas Eve - Saturday, December 24th

4:00PM mass in the Church

4:00PM - Overflow mass in the Parish Hall

6:00PM, 8:00PM (Spanish), 11:00PM

Christmas Day - Sunday, December 25th

10:00AM and 12:30PM (Spanish)

All Parish Offices, IOP Outreach Center will close at 12Noon on December 23rd and will remain closed until Monday, January 2nd at 9:00AM.



THANK YOU:



We would like to thank you for your generous donations of gift cards to assist families in need with Christmas gifts and/or food. As always your donations are deeply appreciated.

FINANCIAL NEWS:

OUR GRATEFUL RESPONSE FOR DEC. 11, 2022

Offertory \$ 15,818.00 National Collections \$ 1,856.00 2nd Collections Previous & Future \$ 2,864.00

NEXT WEEKENDS SECOND COLLECTION: DIOCESAN PRIEST WELFARE & RETIREMENT



Now through December 23, you can enter to win a beautiful olive wood Nativity Scene. Hand-carved in the Holy Land, this is sure to become a family heirloom. You can see a photo of this beautiful nativity scene on our Facebook page. Tickets are \$5 each and can be purchased after the masses this weekend or at the parish office. Proceeds from this raffle will benefit the Priest & Religious Retirement Fund!

50 PLUS CLUB MEETING

The IOP 50 Plus club will meet on Wednesday, December 21st at Long Horn Steak House after the 12:10 mass. All parishioners 50 years of age and older are cordially invited to attend.

IOP YOUTH GROUP:

All Middle and High school youth are welcome to join the youth group. This group provides an opportunity for the youth of our parish to form community, to serve, and to build their faith in an engaging environment under the mentorship of our young adult ministry team. We meet each Sunday from 4-6pm in the parish gym. For information please contact trinawilson.iop@gmail.com

YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY:

The Young Adult Ministry is open to 21 year olds to 40 year olds. They meet every Wednesday at 7 pm in the IOP Outreach Resource Center (327 Mildred Ave). For more information, check out iopnc.org/young-adult-group.

THRIFT STORE NEWS:

The IOP Thrift Store will not be taking donations from 12th of December - 2nd of January. Sorry for the inconvenience, but we're trying to organize the warehouse.

FOOD PANTRY NEEDS:

The Food Pantry is need of the following non-perishable items: dried beans, canned beans, canned ham, canned stew, canned fruit, applesauce, cereal, grits, pancake mix, syrup, shelf stable milk or milk alternatives, tuna and hamburger "helpers", pasta side dishes, dehydrated potatoes, canned raviolis, grape jelly, flour, sugar, vegetable oil and spray; we also accept fruit and vegetables donations on Monday and Wednesday mornings from 10:30am-noon. Thank you for your generosity! We will also begin collecting items for Christmas dinners, grocery bags will be available on the benches around the altar for donations. Gift cards to local grocery stores like Aldi's, Walmart, Food Lion, and Piggly Wiggly help us provide perishable items like milk and bread. Paper grocery bags and empty egg cartons are always needed. Thank you.

2022-2023 FAITH FORMATION SCHEDULE OF CLASSES:

December 18 (no class December 25) January 8, 15, 22, 29 (no class January 1) February 5, 12, 19, 26 March 5, 12, 19, 26 April 16, 23, 30

CONFIRMATION will be celebrated on Saturday, March 25, 2023

FIRST COMMUNION will be celebrated on Saturday, April 29. 2023

CATHOLIC MEN'S PRAYER GROUP:

Are you looking for a Catholic Men's Prayer Group? . Look no further than Tuesday evenings at IOP. Where: Holy Spirit Classroom of Parish Hall on Tuesday evenings at 7 pm.

IOP RESPECT LIFE GROUP:

The Right to Life group will not meet in December. Our next meeting will be on Friday. January 27th at 6pm. The Infant of Prague Respect Life Group meets the 4th Friday of each month beginning at 6:00PM in the Parish Hall. For more information please contact Shay at 704-968-8341.

ROSARY MAKING GROUP:

The Infant of Prague Rosary making group meets the third Wednesday of the month at 9:30 am in the Parish Hall. We make cord and bead Rosaries for the missions. Everyone is welcome to attend! For more information contact Theresa Bogue at (910)-382-5559 or at theresabogue@yahoo.com



New Mom Community Nights are up and running! You can help serve this group of new and expecting moms in need by volunteering to help with childcare, donating lightly-used maternity and baby clothes to our upcoming swap event, and most, importantly, inviting anyone you think would benefit. For more information please contact Avery West, 301-820-0061.

PRAYER CHAIN:

Do you need a prayer said for yourself, loved one, friend or someone? We are here to pray for you! Please email our confidential prayer chain

at: prayerchain.iop@gmail.com today and we will pray for you and yours!



As we continue with our season of GLORY, PRAISE and great JOY, I feel it imperative to give praise and heartfelt thanks to those that have selflessly and lovingly devoted their time to JESUS in the Adoration Chapel. Under the true dedication and supervision of Maureen Fiorello, she and her faithful divisional leaders Madeleine Feagle, Bonnie DeBlieux, Robbie Hilton and Bob Butler, have strived diligently towards coverage of all HOLY hours; and at this time, Tuesday 4-5 p.m. and Sunday 8-9 p.m. are the only hours needing coverage. What an achievement and what an honor to know that our Adoration Chapel has been open and ongoing for more than 25 years. Infant of Prague is blessed to have an Adoration Chapel available 24 hours, but even more blessed for Maureen Fiorello, the divisional leaders and ALL the adorers; for without them, this privilege would not be possible.

O COME LET US ADORE HIM, O COME LET US ADORE HIM, O COME LET US ADORE HIM CHRIST THE LORD!

HOURS -- midnight to 6:00 a.m. Maureen Fiorello 353-0085 or 910-336-9359

HOURS -- 6:00 a.m. to 12 noon Bonnie DeBlieux 265-2970

HOURS -- 12 noon to 6:00 p.m. Bob Butler 320-7852



An invitation for adults who are interested in our Catholic Faith. Are you thinking of joining the Church? Do you have a family member or friend you would like to introduce to the Catholic faith? Do you have questions about what we believe? The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) is a process developed by the Catholic Church for those over the age of 16 who wish to convert to Catholicism. The process introduces and teaches Catholic beliefs and practices.

Additionally if you are a Baptized Catholic desiring to complete your Sacraments please contact us for information and classes. All classes are held on Sunday in the Parish Hall from 11:30-12:45. If you are interested, or have questions, please call Larry Snow - 910-746-3904.

ORIENTATION:

Individuals who are seeking answers to questions about the Catholic faith or the process for becoming Catholic are encouraged to attend the Orientation process. If you are interested, or have questions, please call <u>Larry</u> Snow 910-746-3904.



NEXT Sacraments Prep Course will start with Orientation on Sunday, Feb. 26, 2023. If you are interested in the class OR in becoming sponsors please contact Zarah by phone: 910-389-9551 or email: zarah davis@hotmail.com.

To serve the goals of sponsors you must be active, practicing Catholics. The ideal sponsor is mature in their faith and active, so as to connect their candidate or catechumen to the parish, via parish activities, ministry, and overall parish life, <u>and</u> be objective in their judgment of a person's readiness or calling. Parishioners interested in becoming a sponsor must:

- Be at least 18 years old;
- Be fully initiated in the Catholic Church (Baptism, Confirmation, 1st Holy Communion),
- If married, current marriage was witnessed by a Catholic priest .

BENEDICTINE OBLATES:

St. Michael the Archangel Deanery is the local chapter of Benedictine Oblates of St. Vincent Archabbey. We meet every third Tuesday of the month in the Parish Hall at 7 pm. For more information contact Rob Hilton at 910- 330-0637 or just show up in the Parish Hall on the 3rd Tuesday at 7 pm.

CATHOLIC DAUGHTERS NEWS:

CDA meets the first Wednesday of the month at 7 pm in the Parish Hall, with the next meeting on December 7th. It is open to women of the parish. Thank you for your continued support.

CDA EDUCATIONAL CONTEST:

Informational forms for the CDA Education Contest are available in the magazine racks of each entrance of the Church. Deadline for submissions is Jan. 20, 2023.

JUNIOR CATHOLIC DAUGHTERS:

JCDA is open to girls from age 6 to 18 and meet the first Fridays of the month from 6 pm to 8 pm at IOP. If you are interested in joining JCDA, please email jcdaofiop@yahoo.com or call/texting Jessica Nelis at 616-322-5299.

TROOPS OF ST. GEORGE:

The Troops of St. George, Troop 1941 sponsored through Infant of Prague parish, is a Catholic father/son organization to build strong relationships with each other and the Lord. The troop focuses on catechesis, outdoor skills, and praying together as a group. We will gather for s'mores to discuss the annual schedule at our first meeting of the 2022-2023 year on Sunday, October 16th 4-6pm at the Infant of Prague Parish Center. Fathers and boys in grades first through high school are welcome. If you are interested or want more information, please contact Captain Brendan O'Boyle at 202-309-0063, or TSGCJNC@gmail.com.

DIOCESAN NEWS:



Save the Dates for Ignited By Truth's 20th Anniversary Conference with Steubenville Night of Worship! April 28-29, 2023, at NC State Reynolds Coliseum in Raleigh. Join our mailing list for the latest updates: IgnitedByTruth.org

Project Rachel Post Abortion Healing Retreat

If you desire healing from a past abortion, you are invited to experience the love and mercy of Jesus Christ at a Project Rachel weekend retreat January 6-8, 2023. The weekend retreat is strictly confidential for both women and men and includes discussions, spiritual exercises, the sacrament of reconciliation, a Memorial Service and a Mass of the Resurrection. Participation offers a beautiful opportunity to experience God's love, forgiveness and compassion. For more information or to register for the retreat, go to website Project Rachel (rachelnc.org) and/or email project.rachel@raldioc.org or call (919) 852-1021. The cost for the weekend is \$150 (\$100 for early registration) for lodging, meals and all retreat materials. If you have a financial burden, assistance is available.

LITURGICAL MINISTERS FOR DECEMBER 24 & 25, 2022

READER:

Caroline Martin

4:00PM

SAT.

(Hall)	4:00PM 6:00PM 11:00PM 10:00AM	Judy Itable
SAT. (Hall)	4:00PM 6:00PM 11:00PM	Stefan Aragona, NEED VOLUNTEERS
SUIV.	IU.UUAIVI	
		EUCHARISITIC MINISTERS:
SAT.	4:00PM	EUCHARISITIC MINISTERS: Ofelia Abel, Jennifer Correro, Regina
SAT. (Hall)	4:00PM 4:00PM	Ofelia Abel, Jennifer Correro, Regina Edwards, Andrea Sopko Rita Buhr, Robbie Hilton, Bob Wilman,
		Ofelia Abel, Jennifer Correro, Regina Edwards, Andrea Sopko Rita Buhr, Robbie Hilton, Bob Wilman, Mary Wilman Ginny Albano, Richard Cole, Brian
	4:00PM	Ofelia Abel, Jennifer Correro, Regina Edwards, Andrea Sopko Rita Buhr, Robbie Hilton, Bob Wilman, Mary Wilman

A charitable trust of Gift Annuity guarantees that you will receive a regular income for life. Your parish can be named the beneficiary after you die. See your attorney for additional.





Your Come to Learn Go to Serve team is extremely disappointed with our campaign start regarding the individual packets we sent out. I personally mailed 1,400 envelopes over a month ago and now it seems that at least 10% of you never received them (including me)! I need to personally apologize to those who never received their packets. In hopes of countering this, I have placed copies of the Pastor's letter and pledge cards in the racks at each church entrance and invite those of you who did not receive the packet to pick up the materials. Several parishioners have contacted me, and I have

been able to assist them with their pledge or one time donation. No donation is too small or too big. We need everyone's help to make our educational dream come true. If you need help, please contact me via email at bobwilman.iop@gmail.com or call at (910) 554-4575 / or email Ms. Lisa Kuna at psecretary.iop@gmail.com or call her at (910) 347-4196. A packet will be mailed to your address. Bobby the Builder



Te invitamos a celebrar las tradicionales

Posadas Navideñas. Con su forma particular de festejo y símbolo del nacimiento del niño Jesús.

Estas fiestas recuerdan el peregrinar de José y María a Belén, en busca de posada.

*Rezos, Cánticos y Refrigerios *Se llevarán a cabo los días 16 al 23 de diciembre, en la Parroquia Niño Jesús de Praga, a partir de las 7:00 pm. ¡Compartamos todos juntos y mantengamos la tradición familiar!

We invite you to celebrate the traditional Posadas. With its form of celebration and symbol of the birth of the baby Jesus. These festivities recall the pilgrimage of Joseph and Mary to Bethlehem.

> *Prayers, Songs and Refreshments *They will take place from December 16 to 23, at the IOP Church, starting at 7:00 pm.

> > Let's all share together and keep the family tradition!



TRUE GRATITUDE

Advent's four Sundays each have their own focus: "Stay awake!" (First); John the Baptist (Second); Rejoice! (Third); Joseph/Mary (Fourth). We might need to have a little pity on the Fourth Sunday, however, since the hectic realities of the secular calendar can overwhelm it, particularly in those years when there are only one or two (or zero!) days before Christmas. This year we have the luxury of a whole week! What shall we do with this gift from God? Perhaps a bit more charity or social action on behalf of God's poorest. Maybe take some time to listen for the voice of God in our dreams, as Joseph did. Attend daily Mass, Advent reconciliation, or pray the "O" antiphons (which began this Saturday evening). As with every gift, we show true gratitude by using it. Let us do so, as Paul tells us in Romans, for the sake of the name of Jesus, whose coming we await.

WHOSE HOUSE?

Interest in genealogy is much, much older than current fascination with using DNA analysis to trace our heritage. Matthew's Gospel opens with the genealogy of Jesus, going all the way back to Abraham, Israel's father in faith. This is what immediately precedes today's Gospel reading, and is crucial to how we hear the opening sentence: "Now this is how the birth of Jesus Christ came about." It's not so much as a starting point, but a pivot point that places Jesus firmly in the "house of David" through Joseph (in first-century Judaism, lineage and heritage was traced solely through males). An essential understanding of the Messiah was that he would come from the house and lineage of King David. For those of us who follow Jesus in faith, it's important to recall that it was through Joseph that Jesus both came from the house of David and was made a son of the covenant of Moses.

WHOSE HOME?

Matthew's Gospel also contains an angelic annunciation scene; we hear from it today. Another pivot point is presented, when the angel says "Do not be afraid to take Mary into your home." As with most angelic appearances in scripture, the angel provides an instruction not to fear. More importantly, Joseph is instructed by God's messenger to take Mary into his home. When Joseph and Mary were betrothed, they were officially constituted as husband and wife; the next step—approved by an angel—would have been for Joseph to take Mary into his home. So he provided a safe place for a young

woman in a troubled pregnancy, and offered her child a home, a heritage, and a lineage. This rather difficult and risky move on Joseph's part might inspire us in this season to seek out and help out in those places where people are longing to have a house and—more importantly—a home.

TODAY'S READINGS

Isaiah 7:10-14 Psalm 24:1-2, 3-4, 5-6 Romans 1:1-7 Matthew 1:18-24

Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall name him Emmanue which means "God is with us

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The Infant of Prague's Sunday Bulletin

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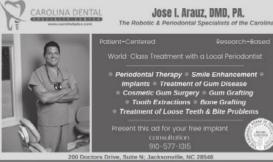
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