

Infant of Prague Catholic Church & School

And the Word

was made flesh. And dwelt among us.

Marine Blvd, Jacksonville, NC

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

FIRST SATURDAY MASS - 10:00AM

DAILY MASS SCHEDULE: Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday – 12Noon Thursday – 9:00AM, Thursday – 7PM (Spanish)

RECONCILIATION:

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

CLERGY & STAFF:

Rev. J. Victor Gournas, Pastor 910-347-4196, ext. 230 / frvic.iop@gmail.com

Rev. Alberto Ortega, Parochial Vicar 910-347-4196, ext. 403 / fralberto.iop@gmail.com

Rev. Ernest Ruede, Pastor Emeritus 910-388-6611/ Pastoremeritus.iop@gmail.com

Sr. Barbara Marie Cady, SU Pastoral Assoc/Director of Faith Formation 910-347-4196, ext. 401 / FaithForm.iop@gmail.com

> Deacon James Marapoti jimmarapoti@gmail.com

> > Drew Navarro Seminarian

Ms. Maria Johnson, Interim Principal 910-353-1300, 910-455-0838 or 910-378-2818

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 Outreach Center Coordinator	Trinawilson.iop@gmail.com	910-347-4196
Mrs. Jenna Dewkett	Marketing Coordinator	lop.marketingcoordinator@gmail.com	910-347-4196 ext. 406
Mrs. Kim Cianci	Manager	iopthriftstore@gmail.com	910-937-1543
Mr. Pat Buhr	Liturgical Ministries	ministries1.iop@gmail.com	
Mrs. Jessica Nelis	Special Projects Coordinator	Specialprojects.iop@gmail.com	910-347-4196

INFANT OF PRAGUE SCHOOL (910) 455-0838		501 BORDEAUX ST.	JACKSONVILLE, N.C. 28540
UPPER CAMPUS	(910) 378-2818	501 ANNE ST	JACKSONVILLE, N.C. 28540
Mrs. Ann Laatsch	Administrative Assistant	iop@iopschool.net	910-455-0838
Ms. Misty Clark	School Receptionist		910-455-0838
Ana Secaida	Upper Campus Receptionist		910-378-2818

INFANT OF PRAGUE UPPER CAMPUS PROJECT TEAM

Mr. Robert Wilman	Campaign Team Leader	bobwilman.iop@gmail.com	910-554-4575
Mr. Robert Rusch	Volunteer Project Mgr.		910-526-6867

Parish Council Chair: John Kay John.Kay.iop@gmail.com Finance Council Chair: Tom Kahl Tom.Kahl.iop@gmail.com

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 <u>iopnc.org</u> to register online, <u>please call to confirm that your online registration was received</u>.

BAPTISM: Parental Attendance at a Preparation Class for the first child to be baptized is mandatory. The Baptism class takes place at 1:30PM in the Parish Hall on the last Sunday of the month 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.



ONE IN FAITH BOOK #961

Weekend of December 16 & 17

Saturday	5:00PM	+Vincent Corapi
Sunday	8:00AM	+Theresa Rutherford
	10:30AM	People of the Parish
	12:30PM	+Elipidio Moreno
Monday	12N00N	+Tom Prendergast
Tuesday	12N00N	+Barbara Marapoti
Wednesday	12N00N	+Delores Hines
		Intentions of Billy & Suzanne
		Kornegay
Thursday	9:00AM	+Lucy Brooks
	7:00PM	+Jose Rodriguez
Friday	12N00N	+Renalder Swain

Weekend of December 23 & 24

Saturday	5:00PM	+Josie Pallang
		+Babara Marapoti
		+Mary Beth Ross
Sunday	10:30AM	Intentions of Loretta Victoria
		Intentions of Rachel Bonjiorno
	12:30PM	People of the Parish

FINANCIAL NEWS:

OUR GRATEFUL RESPONSE F	OR DEC. 10, 2023
Offertory	\$17,280.00
National Collections	\$ 6,952.00

	Ψ	0,002.00
2 nd Collections Previous & Future	\$	5,354.00

BAPTISM INSTRUCTION CLASS:

The December baptism class will be held on Sunday, December 17th at 1:30PM in the Parish Hall library.



All Parish Offices, IOP Outreach Center will be closed December 25 and will remain closed until Tuesday, January 2nd at 9:00AM.



Sunday, December 24th

There will be a change to the regular Sunday masses on Sunday, December 24th masses for the 4th Sunday of Advent will be as follows:

10:30AM & 12:30 (Spanish)

Christmas Eve – Sunday, 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 – Monday, December 25th

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

FEAST DAY CELEBRATION:

Mark your calendars for the Infant of Prague feast day procession and potluck on Saturday, January 13th after 5 pm Mass. any questions, contact Jessica Nelis at special <u>projects.iop@gmail.com</u>



HELP WANTED: Do you have experience as a bus driver and possess an up-to-date CDL with a Passenger Endorsement? Are you interested in serving the parish on an as-needed basis? Please contact the Business Manager, Jose R Cabrera, for information! Drivers will be compensated. 910-347-4196, iopbmanager@gmail.com

SENIOR SOCIAL DINNER:

There will not be a Senior Social Dinner in December. We started this event to be a blessing to the seniors of Infant of Prague Parish. We wanted to enjoy a meal and to get to know each other and fellowship. It has come to our attention that tickets were sold or given to members of the community. Please remember we are not professional; we are seniors trying to serve seniors. This event is for our church Seniors only. The only exception is if members need a driver who does not belong to the church. Also our senior volunteers were a bit stressed with so many request for take outs. As I mentioned above, the purpose of this event is for us to get together, so in the future take out request will be honored for shut in members only. We are volunteers who love to serve and are happy to serve you. Please remember we are learning as we go and ask you to help us to make this a success. See you in January.

MEN'S BIBLE STUDY

The Men's Bible Study will resume on Wednesday, January 10th at 7 pm in the Holy Spirit Room of the Parish Hall. Contact Tony DeCandia at <u>adecandia153@gmail.com</u> for details.



FAITH FORMATION NEWS:

DECEMBER 17 (no class 24 or 31); JANUARY 7, 14, 21, 28

CONFIRMATION will be celebrated on Saturday, March 2, 2024 at 2pm.

FIRST COMMUNION will be celebrated on Saturday, April 13, 2024

NOTICIAS DE FORMACIÓN DE FE

La CONFIRMACIÓN se celebrará el sábado 2 de marzo de 2024.

PRIMERA COMUNIÓN se celebrará a las sábado 13 de abril de 2024

Las clases de FORMACIÓN EN LA FE comienzan el domingo 10 de septiembre. Si aún no ha registrado a su

THRIFT STORE NEWS:

IOP Thrift Store will only be accepting donations Tuesday – Friday, 9:30 AM - 4:00 PM. Proceeds from the Thrift Store (after utilities) help us to assist families in danger of disconnection of utilities. Without these funds this assistance program would come directly out of parish funds.

YOUTH MINISTRY

All Middle and High school youth are welcome to join the IOP 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

Todos los jóvenes de secundaria y preparatoria son bienvenidos a unirse al grupo de jóvenes de IOP. Este grupo brinda una oportunidad para que los jóvenes de nuestra parroquia formen una comunidad, sirvan y construyan su fe en un ambiente atractivo bajo la tutoría de nuestro equipo de ministerio de adultos jóvenes. Nos reunimos todos los domingos de 4 a 6 p. m. en el gimnasio de la parroquia. Para obtener información, comuníquese con trinawilson.iop@gmail.com

JUNIOR CATHOLIC DAUGHTERS: JCDA is open to girls from age 6 to 18 and meet will meet on January 5th in the Outreach Center (327 Mildred Ave.) from 6 pm to 8 pm. If you are interested in joining JCDA, please email jcda1643@gmail.com or call/texting Jessica Nelis at 616-322-5299.

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 <u>iopnc.org/young-adult-group</u>.

El Ministerio de Jóvenes Adultos está abierto a jóvenes de 21 años a 40 años. Se reúnen todos los miércoles a las 7 pm en el Centro de Recursos de Extensión de IOP (327 Mildred Ave). Para obtener más información, visite iopnc.org/young-adult-group.

FOOD PANTRY NEEDS & NEWS

Donations can be dropped off at the Outreach Resource Center at 327 Mildred Ave, next the Parish Office. Canned fruit, Applesauce, Instant potatoes, Canned peas, Carrots,, Mixed veggies, Pancake mix and syrup, Tuna helper, Hamburger helper, Grape jelly. 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.

FAMILY LIFE MINISTRY

SPIRITUAL ADOPTION – WEEK 32

"There are so many things happening to me this week! My brain is growing quickly now and I am thinking all sorts of new things. It is taking hugh amounts of calcium for my bones to harden and I am continuing to gain more weight. I am even starting to look a little chubby. I'll bet my parents will just love to squeeze my pudgy cheeks. I am healthy and beautiful and thanks to God, I am wonderfully made."

IOP RESPECT LIFE GROUP: The Infant of Prague Respect Life Group meets the 4th Friday of each month beginning at 6:00PM in the Parish Hall.



New Mom Community Night: Are you a new or expectant mother seeking support in your parenting journey? New Mom Community Nights is a social ministry group that

provides support and education to new and expectant mothers through community and peer-based ministry. We meet on Thursdays from 5:30-7:30 at members' homes to share the roses and thorns of our week and learn the art of motherhood through dialogue and periodic presentations on pertinent topics. To learn more, please contact

email motherhoodcommunityed@gmail.com

RCIA & SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION FOR ADULTS

On December 10th, 2023, we joyfully celebrated two Rites of initiation for seekers in the RCIA process: the **Rite of Acceptance** into the Order of Catechumens (for those preparing for their Baptism at Easter) and the **Rite of Welcome** (for those already baptized - Catholic or in another Christian tradition - who are seeking full communion with the Catholic Church).

The following **catechumens** celebrated the Rite of Acceptance: Abraham "Benny" Benitez, Christian Jolman, Kathy Marks, Nicholas West, Ryan Lawson, Torianne "Tori" McRae

The following **candidates** celebrated the Rite of Welcome: Anna Paul, Ashley Zetina, Bryan Flores, Clint Lopez, Derrick McKinley, Edward Murphy, Hailey Day, Jacky de la Rosa, Lee Holmes, Mercedes Gallagher, Michael Pounds, Sarah Rochelle, Tyler Duty

A very special thanks to all who helped in any way with the celebration! Please continue to pray

for our catechumens and candidates, by name, as they now enter into a period of deeper formation in the RCIA process. We also invite you to take an active role in welcoming them and being models for faith and Christian charity for them. Our next RCIA session on the "Sacrament of Baptism" will be on **January 7th**, **2024** from 12:15 – 1:30 PM in the Parish Hall (after coffee & donuts). We hope to see you there! Your presence would be a blessing. Let us seek God with our whole *mind, heart,* and *will*. Please feel free to reach out to the IOP RCIA Team by email to <u>ioprcia@gmail.com</u> or by phone/text to: **(910) 378-9869**.

GREGORIAN CHANT:

Gregorian Chant Choir: Join us as we learn the fundamentals of this ancient art and practice traditional hymns. Beginners are welcome! The Gregorian Chant Choir practices in the choir loft on Wednesday at 6pm. Contact Dom Dalmasso at <u>domdalmasso@gmail.com</u> for information.

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.



In Glory, Praise and Thanksgiving and with a humble heart, I pray: My Lord Jesus Christ, Your Eucharistic presence teaches me how to love as you have loved me. In your great love for me you continue to give yourself, body, blood, soul and divinity in this sacrament of your love. As I pray here in your Eucharistic presence. enkindle in me the fire of your gospel. Nourish me with your love and compassion so that I may be your living presence to all I meet. Amen. With this beautiful Holiday upon us; this is just a friendly reminder that Holy Hours will be needing coverage. For those who feel they may be able to help with any coverage; please come in and check the clipboard in the back of the adoration chapel or you may contact one of the Coordinators below to find out what coverage is needed. With sincere appreciation, we thank you one and all. God Bless You! Coordinators:

Maureen Fiorello 353-0085 or 910-336-9359 Carrie Albright 928-606-4169, Bob Butler 910-320-7852

CATHOLIC DAUGHTERS NEWS:

Next meeting will be Jan. 3rd at 7 pm in the Parish Hall. CDA is open to Catholic women, age 18 and above. The Religious Article gift shop at the parish hall entrance of the church is open after most weekend Masses. Come shop with us today!

CDA EDUCATION CONTEST:

The annual CDA education contest is open. Please find information in the magazine racks by the church doors or at the parish website. It is open from Grade 4 to adult. Theme is "How does my love shine for others?" Or "God's love and kindness will shine upon us like the sun that rises in the sky" (Luke 1:78).

DIOCESAN NEWS:

The Catholic Charities New Bern Office is looking for an Office Manager. The position is part-time (25 hours per week) and will be responsible for maintaining a hospitable, confidential, efficient and professional atmosphere in the office; providing administrative, bookkeeping and office management skills to the operation of the regional office; establishing and maintaining appropriate professional standards; and representing Catholic Charities and its mission to the public. To apply or for more information, please visit www.CatholicCharitiesRaleigh.org/careers.

New Year's Retreat

New Year's Retreat. Let a certified 'coach' guide you through some time-honored spiritual practices in this year's retreat, "Spiritual Exercises for the New Year." Enter the year spiritually renewed and well-equipped with some techniques to keep you spiritually fit throughout the year. In addition to engaging presentations, there'll be Mass, confession, Matins, Vespers, and Adoration. Plus time to simply reflect upon the New Year in our sacred spaces, enjoy the gas logs in our lounge, or explore the beautiful grounds of the Catholic Conference Center in Hickory, NC. Two nights, December 30-January 1. As a special treat, there will be a New Year's Eve banquet with some traditional festivities. The last two years have sold out, so register now at www.catholicconference.org/new-years. For more information, email info@catholicconference.org or call 828.327.7441.

Project Rachel Post Abortion Healing Retreat January 5-7, 2024

If you desire healing from a past abortion, you are invited to experience the love of Jesus Christ at a Project Rachel weekend retreat January 5-7, 2024, in the Raleigh area. 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, contact Project Rachel at: <u>project.rachel@raldioc.org</u> or call (919) 852-1021. The website is: <u>rachelnc.org</u>. Cost is \$200 for lodging, meals, and all retreat materials. Discount of \$50 for early registration. If there is a financial burden, assistance is available.



LITURGICAL MINISTERS FOR: DECEMBER 23 & 24, 2023

READERS:

SAT. 5:00PM	Alissa Fender
SUN. 8:00AM	Joe Frank
10:30AM	Mary Beth Poole

ALTAR SERVERS:

- SAT. 5:00PM
- SUN. 8:00AM Stefan Aragona, Andrew, Ashley and Michelle McNicoll 10:30AM Lucas & Reuben Alexander, Evelyn
 - 10:30AM Lucas & Reuben Alexander, Evelyn Selleck, William Smith

EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS:

- SAT. 5:00PM Elizabeth Barone, Sharon Henderson, Immanuel Israel, Andrea Sopko, Bob Wilman, Mary Wilman
- SUN. 8:00AM Bob Blick, Richard Dodson, Michael Higginbotham, Theresa Misko, David Ratte, Clare Rupp
 - 10:30AM Jennifer Correro, Jerry Gray, Caroline Martin, Fran Montcrieff, Jesse Morales, Katherine Selleck

LITURGICAL MINISTERS FOR: CHRISTMAS EVE & CHRISTMAS DAY DECEMBER 24 & 25, 2023

READERS:

SUN. 4:00PM (Church) Laurie Holmes 4:00PM (Hall) Elizabeth Barone 6:00PM Margie Bates 11:00PM Alissa Fender MON.10:30AM Mary Beth Poole

ALTAR SERVERS:

SUN. 4:00PM	(Church) Abraham Borja, Simon Borja,
	Xavier Borja
4:00PM	NEED VOLUNTEERS
6:00PM	NEED VOLUNTEERS
11:00PM	Judah Alexander, Lucas Alexander,
	Reuben Alexander
MON.10:30AM	NEED VOLUNTEERS

EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS:

SUN. 4:00PM	(Church) Regina Edwards, Darwing
	Preciado, Nitza Preciado
4:00PM	(Hall) Patrick & Rita Buhr,
	Bob & Mary Wilman
6:00PM	Ginny Albano, Tim Weber
11:00PM	Sherri Branham, Kris Burritt, Shay
	DeCandia, Joe Frank
MON.10:30AM	Wilma Davis, Bradford Duross, Carol
	Frugoli, Brian Hazel

BULLETIN ARTICLES: All bulletin items must be submitted to the Parish Office in writing or e-mailed to <u>psecretary.iop@gmail.com</u> no later than **10:00AM** on **Monday**. If Monday falls on a holiday items still need to be submitted by 10AM.

With the upcoming holidays we will have early transmittal dates for the bulletin:

December 31st bulletin - All bulletin items need to be submitted to the Parish Office by Wednesday, December 20th at 2:00PM. Transmission is on Friday by 11:00AM.

January 7th bulletin - All bulletin items need to be submitted to the Parish Office by Wednesday, December 27th at 2:00PM. Transmission is on Friday by 11:00AM.

View Our Parish Supporters at www.DiscoverMass.com



To Advertise 1-800-997-4986 or Advertising@Diocesan.com VISA

DISC. VER

4417

DIOCESAN

-