

*Where is the newborn king of the Jews?  
We saw his star at its rising  
and have come to do him homage.*

Matthew 2:2



## **Infant of Prague Catholic Church & School**

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](mailto: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](http://iopnc.org) or find us at [https://www.facebook.com/INFANTofPRAGUEJacksonville NC](https://www.facebook.com/INFANTofPRAGUEJacksonvilleNC)

NAME	TITLE	E-MAIL ADDRESS	PHONE
Mr. Jose Cabrera	Business Manager	<a href="mailto:iopbmanager@gmail.com">iopbmanager@gmail.com</a>	347-4196 ext. 405
Ms. Lisa Kuna	Parish Secretary	<a href="mailto:Psecretary.iop@gmail.com">Psecretary.iop@gmail.com</a>	347-4196 ext. 400
Mrs. Alicia Brindel	Bookkeeper	<a href="mailto:iopbookkeeping@gmail.com">iopbookkeeping@gmail.com</a>	347-4196 ext. 404
Miss Trina Wilson	Youth Coordinator Outreach Center Coordinator	<a href="mailto:Trinawilson.iop@gmail.com">Trinawilson.iop@gmail.com</a>	910-347-4196
Mrs. Jenna Dewkett	Marketing Coordinator	<a href="mailto:iop.marketingcoordinator@gmail.com">iop.marketingcoordinator@gmail.com</a>	910-347-4196 ext. 406
Mrs. Kim Cianci	Manager	<a href="mailto:iopthriftstore@gmail.com">iopthriftstore@gmail.com</a>	910-937-1543
Mr. Pat Buhr	Liturgical Ministries	<a href="mailto:ministries1.iop@gmail.com">ministries1.iop@gmail.com</a>	
Mrs. Jessica Nelis	Special Projects Coordinator	<a href="mailto:Specialprojects.iop@gmail.com">Specialprojects.iop@gmail.com</a>	910-347-4196

**INFANT OF PRAGUE SCHOOL (910) 455-0838  
UPPER CAMPUS (910) 378-2818**

**501 BORDEAUX ST.  
501 ANNE ST**

**JACKSONVILLE, N.C. 28540  
JACKSONVILLE, N.C. 28540**

Mrs. Ann Laatsch	Administrative Assistant	<a href="mailto:iop@iopschool.net">iop@iopschool.net</a>	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	<a href="mailto:bobwilman.iop@gmail.com">bobwilman.iop@gmail.com</a>	910-554-4575
Mr. Robert Rusch	Volunteer Project Mgr.		910-526-6867

**Parish Council Chair:** John Kay  
[John.Kay.iop@gmail.com](mailto:John.Kay.iop@gmail.com)

**Finance Council Chair:** Tom Kahl  
[Tom.Kahl.iop@gmail.com](mailto: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 [iopnc.org](http://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. The Baptism class takes place at 1:30PM in the Parish Hall on the last Sunday of the month and in Spanish on the **1<sup>st</sup> 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 #974XS**

**Weekend of January 6 & 7**

Saturday	5:00PM	+Paula Nichols +Albert & Sylvia Hill
Sunday	8:00AM	People of the Parish
	10:30AM	+John Paul Kitko +Monique Lamora White
	12:30PM	+Carmen Blakewood Waslicki
Monday	12:00PM	Intentions of Michael, Hana and David Lynge
Tuesday	12:00PM	Intentions of Christopher and Tracy Lynge
Wednesday	8:10AM	
	12:00PM	Intentions of the Vander Mullen Family Intentions of the Van Dyca Family
Thursday	9:00AM	Intentions of Joyce Bius Family
	7:00PM	Intentions of Alan & Saul Ramos
Friday	12NOON	

**Weekend of January 13 & 14**

Saturday	5:00PM	
Sunday	8:00AM	
	10:30AM	People of the Parish
	12:30PM	+Margarita Ordorie

**FINANCIAL NEWS:**

**NEXT WEEKENDS SECOND COLLECTION:  
IOP SCHOOL SUPPORT**



**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 [adecandia153@gmail.com](mailto:adecandia153@gmail.com) for details.

**IOPCS Annual Gala**

Saturday, February 3, 2024.

Annual Gala and Silent Auction to support the *Come Grow With Us* campaign. Contact the school office for details: (910) 455-0838



May this NEW YEAR bring to all an unfaltering FAITH, a heart filled with HOPE, an agape LOVE for all mankind and may there be PEACE ON EARTH and let it begin with me.

If your New Year's resolution includes Eucharistic Adoration, we have two open hours that need to be filled with committed adorers.

**WEDNESDAY early morning at 2:00 – 3:00 AM, and WEDNESDAY night at 11:00 PM – 12 midnight.**

Please contact any of our Coordinators to learn more about how to spend time with our Lord Jesus in Eucharistic Adoration.

Coordinators: Maureen Fiorello 353-0085 or 910-336-9359, Carrie Albright 928-606-4169, Bob Butler 910-320-7852, Madeleine Feagle 910-389-0764 and our Bilingual Coordinator Ariana Lopez Turner 910-554-7798

**RCIA & SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION FOR ADULTS**

Eager for a refresher about the Catholic faith? Interested in exploring the rich intellectual and spiritual tradition of the Church? Accompanying our seekers as a Sponsor or Faith Guide? Then please join us at our **weekly RCIA session Sunday from 12:15 – 1:30 PM in the Parish Hall!** We are on a brief break so the next session will be on **January 7th, 2024** and will cover: "Sacrament of Baptism". Whether you are simply interested in the faith, new to the Catholic faith, or a fully initiated Catholic, you are most welcome. Please feel free to reach out to the IOP RCIA Team by email to [ioprcia@gmail.com](mailto:ioprcia@gmail.com) or by phone/text to: **(910) 378-9869**. Again, all sessions are 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*.

**FAITH FORMATION NEWS:**

- JANUARY 7, 14, 21, 28
- FEBRUARY 4, 11, 18, 25
- MARCH 3, 10, 17 (no class 24, 31)
- APRIL 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

## 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](mailto: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](mailto:trinawilson.iop@gmail.com)

**JUNIOR CATHOLIC DAUGHTERS:** JCDA is open to girls from age 6 to 18 and meet will meet on February 2<sup>nd</sup> 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](mailto: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 [iopnc.org/young-adult-group](http://iopnc.org/young-adult-group).

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](http://iopnc.org/young-adult-group).

## THRIFT STORE NEWS:

The Thrift Store will not be accepting donations from December 23rd to January 15th. Donations will resume on January 16, 2024.

*The Thrift Store no aceptará donaciones del 23 de Diciembre al 15 de Enero. Las donaciones se reanudarán el 16 de Enero de 2024.*

## 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

### Jacksonville March For Life 2024

Please join in the prayerful Jacksonville March For Life 2024. Our goal is to allow residents of our city and county to demonstrate for the "Right to Life" for all people: born and unborn, for life is a precious gift from God. It is one of only three marches for life in North Carolina. It is sponsored by Infant of Prague (IOP) Catholic Church and hosted by the Knights of Columbus.

Saturday 27 January 2024 (rain or shine). Assemble at City Hall beginning 12:15 PM. We'll begin the March with prayer at 1 PM and then prayerfully march to IOP via Johnson Blvd. At IOP we'll pray and listen to an inspiring talk. Refreshments will be provided in the Parish Hall following the event (approximately at 2 PM). We'll have Knights to offer rides back to City Hall.

Point of contact is David Ratté at [david.ratte.iopcs@gmail.com](mailto:david.ratte.iopcs@gmail.com) or 910 548-0774 (text or leave message).

### SPIRITUAL ADOPTION – WEEK 35

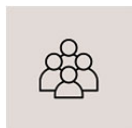
It seems I just keep getting cubbier as the days go by. I need to store up a layer of fat underneath my skin in order to help my body regulate its temperature once I leave my mother's womb. I am cute and round just like a cherub. I 'll bet once I 'm born everyone will say that I look like an angel. I must admit - - - I am so adorable! Some of the tiny hairs that have covered my body are



starting to disappear. I guess by the time I leave this place I will have a beautifully soft 'BIRTHday suit'! I can't wait to show it off! Please pray for me. "



**IOP RESPECT LIFE GROUP:** The Infant of Prague Respect Life Group meets the 4<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto:motherhoodcommunityed@gmail.com)

**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](mailto:iopbmanager@gmail.com)

### 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 [domdalmasso@gmail.com](mailto:domdalmasso@gmail.com) 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.

### CATHOLIC DAUGHTERS NEWS:

Next meeting will be February 7, 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).

### KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS NEWS:

7 Jan - Breakfast after 8:00 AM Mass, Coffee and Pastries after 10:30 AM Mass

8 Jan- Knights of Columbus meeting at 7:00 PM Parish Hall



### New Bern Deanery Summit Youth Retreat

Event Timing: January 20, 2024  
Event Address: 214 N. Marine Blvd, Jacksonville, NC 28540  
Who: 8th-12th grade students  
Cost: for individuals \$45  
Contact us at (910) 347-4196 ext. 409 or [trinawilson.iop@gmail.com](mailto:trinawilson.iop@gmail.com)

14 Jan - Rosary after 8:00 AM Mass for our Troops and First responders. All are invited to join us

21 Jan - Coffee and Pastries after both Masses

28 Jan - Rosary after 8:00 AM Mass for Right to Life and Traditional Marriages. All are invited to join us

**Free Throw Championship 2024 ;**

The Knights of Columbus are hosting the annual Free Throw Challenge (Last year an IOP child took 2<sup>nd</sup> place at the State tournament in her age bracket!). Sunday 21 January from 2-4 PM at the IOP gym for children ages 9-14. Point of contact is David Ratté at [david.ratte.iopcs@gmail.com](mailto:david.ratte.iopcs@gmail.com).

**Abortion healing retreat  
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: [project.rachel@raldioc.org](mailto:project.rachel@raldioc.org) or call (919) 852-1021. The website is: [rachelnc.org](http://rachelnc.org). 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.

**DIOCESAN NEWS:**

**North Carolina Mass for Life in Washington, DC**

The North Carolina Mass for Life at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington, DC, will be held Jan. 19, 2024, at 11:30 a.m. The National March for Life begins at 1 p.m.

**2024 Diocesan Mass for Life in Raleigh, NC**

The 2024 Diocesan Mass for Life (Bilingual) will be held Saturday, January 13, 2024, at Holy Name of Jesus Cathedral, 715 Nazareth St., Raleigh, NC. Rosary begins at 10:30 a.m., Mass with Bishop Luis Zarama starts at 11:00 a.m. (The NC March for Life has been moved to May 18, 2024.)



Is your marriage going down the right road . . . or is it a little off track? Life can be difficult, and so can the challenges you face in marriage.

Does the distance between you seem wide? Are you already separated? Looking for a better way? Retrouvaille can help and offers hope for a better relationship. Retrouvaille is a peer ministry of volunteer couples that can help you learn the tools of healthy communication, build intimacy, and heal, just as they have done in their own marriages. Retrouvaille is Christian-based and Catholic, but welcomes couples of all faiths as well as non-religious couples. Retrouvaille can help get your relationship back on track. For more information about our upcoming Retrouvaille Weekend program in Raleigh on March 8-10, 2024: email [retrouvailleraleigh@gmail.com](mailto:retrouvailleraleigh@gmail.com), call 567-225-6115, or visit <http://bit.ly/41sFcW6> or [helpourmarriage.org](http://helpourmarriage.org)

**LITURGICAL MINISTERS FOR:  
JAN. 13 & 14, 2024**

**READERS:**

SAT. 5:00PM Sharon Henderson  
SUN. 8:00AM Kris Burritt  
10:30AM IOP School Student

**ALTAR SERVERS:**

SAT. 5:00PM  
SUN. 8:00AM Evelyn & Olivia Moulton, Lily Place,  
Linwood Taylor Jr  
10:30AM Lucas & Reuben Alexander, Matthew  
Curran, Evelyn Selleck

**EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS:**

SAT. 5:00PM Sherri Branham, Richard Cole, Robbie  
Hilton, Laurie Holmes, Immanuel Israel,  
Tim Weber  
SUN. 8:00AM Johnny Carr, Richard Dodson, Joe  
Frank, Brian Hazel, Theresa Misko,  
Clare Rupp  
10:30AM Jennifer Correro, Wilma Davis, Christina  
Dixon, Carol Frugoli, Jesse Morales,  
Katherine Selleck



Holy Hour & Procession 4pm, Potluck 5pm

# *INFANT of PRAGUE*

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SUNDAY, JANUARY 14, 2024



# Diocesan is proud to now be printing *The Infant of Prague's Sunday Bulletin*

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