

FAMILY TIES

Immaculate Conception ~ St. Joseph Parish



NOVEMBER 2021

LEAVENWORTH, KANSAS

VOLUME 2, ISSUE 7

The “Catch Up” Issue

by Patty Scharinger

In the past few months we have cautiously returned to a new “normal” after the Coronavirus Pandemic. We all have personal accounts of how our lives have changed in the past year and a half. For many reasons, our Family Ties newsletter was silent, but it is now time to get back to the presses! Prior to the Covid shutdown, the Family Ties editors were working on ideas and articles for a new edition of the newsletter. When our Church doors closed, we paused publication. When I approached Father Glenn and the Evangelization Committee about getting back on track with publication, I was concerned that the articles we gathered for the last issue were outdated. Father suggested this edition be published as a “catch up” issue, and we can get back on track from here forward . . . So, here we go!

We need your help to keep Family Ties going though! Do you have an idea for an article? Perhaps you would like to help plan the content of each edition and serve as co-editor? Please prayerfully consider offering your time and talents to this evangelization initiative. Contact Patty at pscharinger65@gmail.com or 913-651-0271 if you are interested. I welcome your assistance!

“Use the gifts you have received,
and pass on the love
that has been given to you.”



—St. Therese of Lisieux

**In memory of Michele Brungardt
Co-editor of Family Ties, Volume 2**

Dear IC-SJ Family,

I want to start off by thanking you all for the last nearly 15 years being part of this parish family. You’ve all been so supportive of me whether it was in my photography of parish events and special Masses, cantoring, writing for Family Ties or when I competed in the Princess of America National Pageant in 2019.

As most, if not all, of you know, on August 14th I moved to Nashville, Tennessee, to work as a reporter for the Diocese of Nashville’s official newspaper, the Tennessee Register. It has been a whirlwind month-and-a-half since I began work on August 16th, covering stories from the flooding in Humphreys County and its aftermath to Catholic Charities helping resettle Afghan refugees under the State Department’s Afghan Placement Assistance Program. It has pushed me farther and harder as a journalist, and I’ve already found it to be extremely rewarding.

But, while the job is what allowed me to make the move to Nashville, everyone knows music is still the passion for me, and I’m proud to say that I’ve officially made my Nashville debut performing three times now.

Additionally, in the new parish I’ve found (Christ the King) I will soon reclaim my favorite time to sing – at Mass in honor of our Lord. Even though I’ve settled nicely into this new life and found a new parish where I have registered as a parishioner, I want all of you to know that IC-SJ will always be close to my heart as my home church, and I look forward to worshipping with you all again when I come home in November for Thanksgiving and December for Christmas. Until then, I appreciate your continued prayers, and I will continue to pray for all of you, too.



**Please keep Katie in your prayers
as she travels this journey!**

Sincerely - Katie Peterson

Take Whatever It Is and See God In It

By Emily Chmidling



"I put my trust in the Lord and my mission team and I went on the trip."

Hello! My name is Emily Chmidling. I have been a lifelong parishioner of Immaculate Conception-St. Joseph Parish, and I just recently finished my freshman year at Benedictine College in Atchison, Kansas. Towards the end of my senior year of high school, I was planning on going on a mission trip to Haiti with a group of my peers. However, due to the civil unrest that was happening in Haiti at the time of the trip, I was unable to attend. Therefore, going into my freshman year of college, I knew mission work was something I definitely wanted to do!

As soon as I was able to sign up to be on a mission trip team, I applied to go to Jamaica...and I was accepted! The trip was planned during the week of my school's spring break, March 8th to 15th. I, along with ten other students from Benedictine that I had never met before, had team meetings, fundraising, and service work to accomplish in order to meet one another and prepare for the journey that we would soon be taking together. Everything was smooth sailing up until the week of our departure date.

The severity of the COVID-19 outbreak greatly intensified as all of the mission teams from Benedictine were preparing to go on their trips. Most of the trips got rerouted to places in the United States because their original destinations had outbreaks of the Coronavirus. However, the Jamaica trip was one of the very few trips that still got to go to their initial destination. At first, this made me extremely nervous because I thought that God was trying to send me a sign that maybe mission work wasn't something He was calling me to. I thought that the inability to go on the Haiti trip my senior year, and then the struggles with this Jamaica trip, were God's way of telling me He had something else in store for me. However, I put my trust in the Lord and my mission team, and I went on the trip.

Going to Jamaica was one of the greatest experiences of my life! My team and I did our mission work in Negril, Jamaica. Another mission team from the University of Georgia in Athens, Georgia was doing mission work in the same place we were, so it was amazing to serve with them and form friendships with their team as well. Some of our mission work consisted of painting a church for the locals, bagging rice and beans to give to the less fortunate locals, teaching young students at Revival All Age School how to read, and playing with the kids at the school as well. My favorite part of working at the school was being able to spend time with the little kids.

The children loved to braid my hair and they constantly asked for piggy-back rides! Experiencing them and their joy made me realize that I was happiest while doing the simplest things, such as letting a little girl braid my hair. The adults and elderly locals that I encountered on the trip were also filled with extreme amounts of joy.

At one point during the trip, my team and I were talking to a local named Jackson. He was a kind old man that was greatly involved in the church in his town.



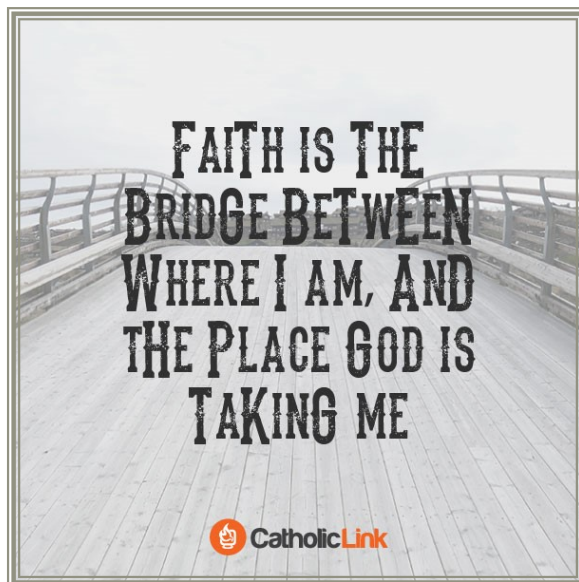
"Experiencing them and their joy made me realize that I was happiest while doing the simplest things."

A guy from my team asked Jackson, “So how’s life?” The first thing that Jackson replied with was, “I am happy.” Jackson’s response hit me so hard because it made me realize how ungrateful I can be sometimes. Jackson could have said anything. He could have complained about the heat or the lack of clean water in some areas of his town, but instead, he chose to say that he was happy.

Even though the people I met didn’t have extravagant belongings or fancy houses by any means, they were still happy. They worked hard for what they did have, and they trusted God to provide the rest. Throughout the trip I kept praying to God for forgiveness for all the times I had complained and not been thankful for what I have, and I prayed that God would grant me just a sliver of the happiness that the people in Jamaica had.

The greatest thing I learned from the people I encountered in Jamaica was to simply just be happy. I realized that I made my happiness difficult when it didn’t need to be; I told myself I could only be happy “if this specific thing happened” or “if so-and-so wanted to hang out with me.” I based my happiness on my surroundings, instead of just BEING happy.

The people in Jamaica taught me to work hard, simply be happy, and trust that God will provide the things that He sees fit for my life. A priest from Jamaica that my team and I spent a lot of time with said this: “Take whatever it is and see God in it.” Now, I try to live by these profound, yet simple, words of joy.



First Sunday of Advent November 28th

“It is the beautiful task of Advent to awaken in all of us memories of goodness and thus to open doors of hope.”

Pope Benedict XVI

5 WAYS TO PREPARE YOUR HEART THIS ADVENT

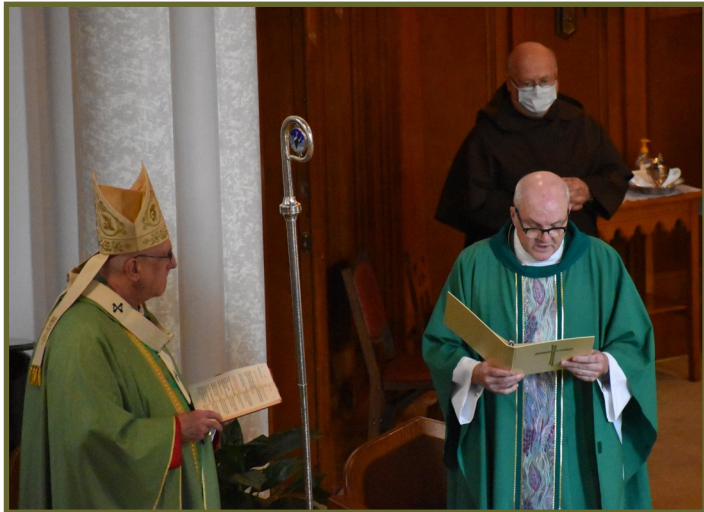


- 1 Prepare room at the Inn**
Make room in your heart for Jesus.
- 2 Clean out the cobwebs**
After an Examination of Conscience, go to Confession.
- 3 Hang new curtains**
“Decorate” your heart with joy and hope.
- 4 Get out the fine china and set the table**
Let your attitude be one of enthusiastic expectation.
- 5 Open the front door and wait**
Wait for Christ’s arrival silently and in a spirit of prayer.

INFORMATION BY CATHOLICNEWSAGENCY.COM CatholicLink

“It all just fits; it is home!”

by Patty Scharinger



On August 22, 2020, Archbishop Joseph Naumann officially installed Fr. Glenn Snow as the new pastor of Immaculate Conception-St. Joseph Parish.

While reviewing the notes I took when I interviewed Father Glenn for Family Ties, there was no question that the title of the article should be *“It all just fits; it is home!”* During the course of our conversation, Father subtly mentioned this simple yet profound phrase more than once. It occurred to me - how many of us describe our Catholic faith in exactly that same way? - *“It all just fits; it is home!”*

Father said his vocation to become a priest was more of a process than an event; it came bit by bit. The Carmelites began as hermits, coming together to eat, pray and talk. “I liked the way the Carmelites live in community, get along and work together. Being an introvert, I have no problem sitting quietly for hours at a stretch; being in prayer for long periods of time. It is natural for me. *“It all just fits; it is home.”* He recalled a time when he was visiting his younger brother. In the quiet, dark hours of the morning while getting ready for his walk, he unknowingly slipped on his brother’s shoes which were sitting right next to his. The shoes were the same size and brand, yet they didn’t feel right; they didn’t fit. He reached over and slid his feet in to the other pair, realizing they felt good and comfortable as he laced them up - these were his; *they just fit!* As he was walking that morning he realized his vocation was much like the shoes . . . *“It just fit!”*

When I asked Father what advice he would give to a young person considering religious life, he recalled a first grade student named Andrew who is now a sophomore at the University of Idaho. Andrew recently submitted an application to join the Carmelites. Father met with him while in Arizona over Thanksgiving. “There are a lot of ways to serve; I wanted to be sure Andrew wasn’t doing this for me, as he looks up to me. You can’t build a vocation on that. The

process is long; there is discernment, pre-novitiate and novitiate time and internship before four years of theology, and finally ordination. Don’t rush it, whatever you do. Don’t fake any part of it; make sure this is who you are.” I thought to myself, there it is again - *make sure it fits!*

Father will tell you there are no typical days on his journey. “My days start with the sunrise and after that, it just depends on the day!” The only really typical elements are getting up early and Morning Prayer. He has the names and passing dates of every Carmelite that has passed away in the Ordo on his phone. “The first thing I do is see who passed away on this day and I invite them to join me in Morning Prayer. I also invite Carmelites that are very important to me - Lenny Kinzler, John Knoernschild (he brought me in to the Carmelites), and Father Terry Cyr.” After Morning Prayer, there is weekday Mass followed by an assortment of meetings, individual visits, meeting with families for funeral arrangements and responding to emails.

What does Father enjoy doing with his “free” time? He is a history fan! He is the non-resident historian for a ghost town in Gleeson, Arizona. When he lived there, he enjoyed going to the museum and visiting with visitors.

I asked if there is ever a time when he feels lonely. “Lonely and I are old friends; we way go way back and still meet up once in a while. My response to that is like any other feeling. You let it on the bus but it doesn’t get to drive.” This is taken from the children’s book *“Don’t Let the Pigeon Drive the Bus”* by Mo Willems. Father has used the metaphor outlined in this book for dealing with strong feelings when speaking to groups or individuals. “Let the feeling on the bus, let it have a seat, call it by name, but don’t let it drive! Lonely sometimes gets on the bus, but once you listen it, it will get off. Identifying a feeling by its name or label is the first step towards dealing positively with it.” Good advice for us all!

I asked Father what he dreams of doing someday. “I am mostly doing what I want right now. Although I dream of once again being able to have a month or two off and drive on back roads only, no interstates, and do photography around the country. Yes - it would be nice to do that again!”

One of the most profound things I learned about Father Glenn is that he is the author of a website entitled “So Here’s the Good News.” Each morning he scours the web looking for a snippet of good news to share. He has done this every single day for the past 6 years. “I look for some good small thing to share. If a 10-year old kid learned to make masks for a children’s hospital - that’s good news.” You will find more than 2,500 good news stories to lift your soul on his website at www.goodnews.ecarmel.org. In today’s challenging times, discovering a little bit of good news each day might be just what we need to *“make it all fit.”* Thank you Father, for sharing the Good News in so many ways!

Golden Jubilee of Carmelite Priesthood

by Patty Scharinger



Father David Simpson was ordained May 24, 1970 in the chapel of Mount Carmel Spiritual Centre, Niagara Falls, Ontario. God's abundant blessings in the years to come!

"From the time I was in 3rd grade I wanted to be a priest. I wanted to help people and I witnessed priests helping people. I wanted to be able to celebrate the Sacraments. I loved going to Mass and Confession where I encountered the priest doing his "priestly" ministry." These are a few of the reasons Father David Simpson wanted to become a priest. "I served Mass from the 3rd grade on through high school. Often our family had our pastor for dinner. I used to "play" being a priest and saying Mass."

A native of Port Huron, Michigan (north of Detroit on the mouth of Lake Huron), Father David celebrated his 50th anniversary of priestly ordination on May 24, 2020. In his retirement he resides at St. Boniface Priory in Scipio, Kansas and continues to make a difference to many others on their spiritual journey and in their daily lives..

"I like the fact that I can make a difference in someone's life through my ministry as a priest whether it is teaching, preaching, offering spiritual direction, celebrating the sacraments, or whatever I am called to do for others as a priest." he replied when asked what he enjoys about his lifestyle.

"I also treasure the call I have received to live in community as a Carmelite." I asked Father why he chose the Carmelite Order, "I had two first cousins in the Order. When I visited them while I was in high school, I loved everything I experienced: the friendliness of the students in formation, the majestic beauty of Mt. Carmel Monastery, the awesomeness of

the Fraters chanting the Divine Office in the beautiful chapel, and the interest and acceptance I felt from those I met."

Father rises early each day for contemplative prayer and joins his community members for Morning Prayer and Mass. "Exercise is important to me, so I take a long walk (five, six miles) daily." His daily activities often include Spiritual Direction either in person or on the phone, and appointments with retreatants for an hour of direction.

As the day winds down, he enjoys walking and playing with Jack and Tess, the Priory's two dogs. "Father Jerry cooks and I do the dishes. We watch television for an hour together each evening. Often friends drop by at some point in the day (before the pandemic)."

He is also content to relax with some good reading or working in the gardens around the Priory. "I like to help create a welcoming atmosphere for our guests whether they be Carmelites visiting or guests on retreat. The two hermitages we have for retreat folk demand some time and energy in keeping them in shape and ready for the next guest."

"My life as a Carmelite has been a rich experience and very blessed. Everything I have ever dreamed of doing (international travel, going to Australia, seeing Rome and Saint Peter's, etc) I have been able to do at some point in the past. I am quite content to continue being a "home-body" with periodic visits with family and Carmelites around the Province. If a good cruise came along in a safer time, I could be tempted to sign on for it. Six of we Carmelites ordained in 1970 had planned a cruise to Alaska to celebrate our Golden Jubilee of Carmelite Priesthood, but the pandemic put the skids on that plan."

It is intriguing for me to contemplate throughout Father David's 50+ years as a priest, how many Sacraments has he administered to the faithful; how many words of comfort and encouragement has he shared? How many prayers have been said? May we all be inspired by his enduring example of faith.

"Let us pray for all good and faithful priests who dedicate themselves to their people with generosity and unknown sacrifices."

- Pope Francis -

*Thank you Father Glenn and
Father David for your dedication and faith.
God bless you always!*

Congratulations Deacon Patrick!

by Katie Peterson



"We must bring the word of God to the people in times of trial." - Deacon Patrick

Parishioner Patrick Hood is officially Deacon Patrick Hood following his ordination on June 20, 2020.

"Waiting on ordination once we were done with classes seemed like one of the hardest things I had to do, but it also allowed me more time to reflect on where I was in my relationship with God, and how I could grow even deeper into that relationship," Deacon Patrick said. His ordination came after six years of applications and studies.

"The process is quite a long one, just the application process takes about a year. If selected by the formation team, the first year is that of the aspirant," he said. "Following acceptance to enter candidacy, the next four years is primarily spiritual, intellectual and pastoral development. It is during these four years that we become instituted Lectors and Acolytes."

He said for him, the process began long before it became official. "The discernment process started quite some time ago. It is not that I decided to become a deacon, rather I felt drawn to the Diaconate. After much thought and prayer and still not knowing if this was what I was being called to do, that question seemed to be answered while at Mass one morning with his wife, Virginia.

"It was then that I decided to move forward with the application process," he said. "Having been involved with the Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults (RCIA), marriage prep and much volunteer work, that service to the church is what I felt I was called to do."

Now, service is his main goal as he officially begins his life as a deacon. "My goal is simply to serve the people of God, wherever they are in life and whatever their condition is. I hope to open the Gospels to them, thus allowing them to enter a relationship with God."

Deacon Pat said he couldn't have done it alone. "I would like to take this opportunity to thank all those who supported me and offered prayers during my formation, particularly my family," he said. "None of this would have been possible without the support from my wife, Virginia."

Virginia Hood said her being part of the reason Pat was able to complete the diaconate was literal. "A wife of a deacon in formation has to handwrite a letter to the Archbishop for each phase of discernment giving her permission for him to continue, and in the final one, her complete permission for him to be ordained," she said. "Beyond that, it was so very rewarding and humbling to go through this discernment with him. I was blessed to be able to attend every weekend of classes with him. I learned a lot about our faith and bonded with others discerning this vocation and their wives," she continued. "We both were so rewarded with the opportunity to learn about our faith and become such friends with these men and women. . . . And his first time assisting at Mass and homily were so rewarding to witness as the Holy Spirit's graces were ever evident."

**"Do something beautiful for
God. Do it with your life.
Do it every day.
Do it in your own way.
But do it!"
- St. Mother Teresa**

We welcome those baptized in 2020!

May the waters of Baptism guide you along each step of your journey!

Mary Caroline Babb	John Kevin Jones
Emma Juliette Marie Buckel	Everett Andrew Klepper
Elizabeth Ann Chapman	Wyatt Eugene Klepper
Belvolisa Zayne Chingyin-Abdullah	Loretta June Meinert
Blake Aaron Cox	Matthew Meinert
Frankie Jane Flynn	August Thomas Dwane Monroe
Cameron Warren Hanson	Evan Morris
Thomas Joseph Hund	Abel Howard Smith
Doris Hund	Isabel Marie Thompson
Tristan Isaac Johnston	Eric Wendt



Check out our website!

www.icsj.org

Thank you to John Nelson for his continued work to bring the best of our parish life to the world wide web!

Congratulations to our newlyweds, married in 2020!

May God be the Center of your marriage and the foundation of your family!

Marvin and Brenda Clayter*
 Jack and Mary (Thorne) Foster
 Gary and Sandra (Cole) Heim
 Kevin and Brenda Jones*
 John and Martha Willis*

*Convalidations (civil marriage now blessed in the Church.)

*love is patient
 love is kind*
1 CORINTHIANS 13:4

FORMED

FORMED provides the very best Catholic content from more than 60 organizations to help parishes, families and individuals explore their faith anywhere. Supporting thousands of movies, children’s programs, ebooks, audio, parish programs and studies direct to your browser, mobile or connected device!

If you are a registered parishioner at Immaculate Conception - Saint Joseph you can register for free at www.formed.org

Our deepest sympathy to the families and friends of those parishioners who passed away in 2020.



*Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord,
 and let perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace.*



Kathleen Boyer	Catherine (Kay) Grady	Margaret Pierron
David Boyle	James Haupt	Larry Redford
Melba Brown	Rita Heim	Mary Reindl
Michele Brungardt	Ruth Jauernig	Kristin Rodriguez
James Calway	Daniel Kell	Thomas Rogacki
Diana Cooper	Mary Ann Kennedy	John Sander
Rita Dahl	Georgeann Kreutzer	Mary Sanders
Mary "Toni" Dix	Mary Lietzen	Helen Stewart
Ronald Ernzen	Richard Lockwood	Alison Sweet
William Filbert	Anita McLaughlin	Edmund Theis
Jane Foris	Cynthia Moore	Dennis Visocky
Mary Frye	Nancy Oberforcher	Deborah Wood
Helen Gallagher	Helen Parr	Jeanette Zielinski

UPCOMING EVENTS

- ◇ **Thanksgiving Masses** - Wednesday, November 24, 7:00 PM at Sacred Heart Kickapoo and Thursday, November 25th, 9:00 AM (SJ)
- ◇ **First Sunday of Advent** - November 28
- ◇ **#GiveCatholic 2021** In this year of Saint Joseph, the patron Saint of workers, please consider helping our Parish maintain our buildings and grounds with your generous donation. Ways to support our 2021 project: #1 visit our Parish's public giving page at <https://www.givecentral.org/location/1279/event31297>, #2 use the Text-to-Give phone number 913-361-5354 and enter the Text-to-Give Keyword: imcst to directly access our GiveCatholic 2021 site, #3 pick up a #GiveCatholic 2021 envelope found at the back of the church and insert cash or a check made out to the parish and drop in the collection. Donations given by cash or check will be included on the parish giving site. Donations can be made starting Sunday, November 21 through Sunday, December 5.
- ◇ **Feast of the Immaculate Conception** (Holy Day of Obligation) Mass - Tuesday, December 7, 4:00 PM (SJ), Wednesday December 8, 8:30 AM (IC), Noon (SJ), 7:00 PM (IC) *(No Eucharistic Adoration December 8)*
- ◇ **Advent Confessions** - Sunday, December 12, 1:00 PM (IC)
- ◇ **Christmas Mass Schedule:** December 24, 4:00 PM (SJ), 5:30 PM (IC), 7:00 PM (SJ), 9:30 PM (SHK), 11:00 PM (IC); December 25, 8:00 AM (SJ) and 10:30 AM (IC) *(No confessions Saturday, December 25; no Vigil Masses at 4:00 and 5:30 PM)*
- ◇ **Solemnity of Mary the Mother of God** - January 1. Mass schedule - Friday, December 31, 4:00 PM (SJ) and 5:30 PM (IC); Saturday, January 1, 8:30 AM (SJ)
- ◇ **First Reconciliation** - Saturday, January 29, 10:00 AM (IC)
- ◇ **Confirmation** - Wednesday, February 23, 7:00 PM (IC)
- ◇ **First Communion** - Saturday, April 30, 10:00 AM (SJ)

The Parish Office will be closed November 25 & 26, December 23, 24, 30, 31 and January 17th
ONGOING WEEKLY OPPORTUNITIES FOR WORSHIP AND REFLECTION

- ◇ Confessions are each Saturday 1:00 - 1:30 PM (IC)
- ◇ Saint Joseph Church is open for prayer 8:00 AM - 4:00 PM, Monday - Friday, if the parish office is open for business.
- ◇ Eucharistic Adoration is each Wednesday from 9:00 AM - 9:00 PM (IC)
- ◇ The Rosary is prayed each Tuesday at 6:00 PM (SJ)

Welcome! We're glad you're here!
 Just reading this means that you are open to what God has in store for you! Thank you for including us in your faith journey!

*Do you have an idea for our
 Family Ties newsletter?*

We'd love to hear it!
 Please call Patty at
 913-651-0271 or email her at
pscharinger65@gmail.com

FAMILY TIES

ICSJ Parish Newsletter
 Fr. Glenn Snow, O.Carm.
 Publisher
 Patty Scharinger, Editor

Connecting @ Immaculate Conception ~ St Joseph Parish

Did you know we have a website and Facebook page? Take time to connect with all the sources of information for our parish!

Parish Website: www.icsj.org

- Quick links to bulletins
- Parish information
- Mass schedule
- Registration information

Facebook: Immaculate Conception and St. Joseph Church

- Upcoming events
- Prayers and inspiration
- Photos
- Like us and share!



YouTube: Immaculate Conception - St. Joseph Parish

- Mass livestream

