

LENT

Fast + Pray + Give



Ash Wednesday 2026

Immaculate Conception Retreat & Conference Center

440 West Neck Road
Huntington, NY 11743

Dear Friends,

Lent, a forty-day season of prayer, fasting, and almsgiving, is a period of preparation to celebrate the Lord's Resurrection at Easter. During Lent, we seek the Lord in prayer by reading Sacred Scripture; we serve by giving alms; and we practice self-control through fasting.

When planning your almsgiving for Lent, we ask you to consider financial support for the Retreat & Conference Center. The goal for this year's appeal is Main Chapel air-conditioning. Cooling this vast space is currently done via fans, but not very successfully. As any June-through-September visitor can attest, the Chapel becomes unbearable due to heat and humidity. Preliminary estimates for the air-conditioning project indicate a cost of approximately \$80,000. Completion of the project will result in comfort for our guests and increase the feasibility of retreats, conferences and meetings during the Summer months. Any assistance that you can offer to help defray the cost will be gratefully received. No offering is too small. Please note that thanks to the generous response to last year's Lenten Appeal, air conditioning in the Refectory has been completed.

As a spiritual center and place of renewal, the Immaculate Conception Retreat & Conference Center continues to adhere to the mission of "education and formation in the Catholic faith in service of the local and universal Church." Religious order chapter meetings, clergy conferences, parish groups, workshops, and retreats for both religious and secular gatherings are accommodated throughout the calendar year. Metropolitan area Catholic high schools and parish Confirmation retreat groups are with us from September through early June. The Permanent Diaconate Formation Program of the Diocese of Rockville Centre is based at Immaculate Conception, and we serve as the annual retreat venue for seminarians from St. Joseph's Seminary in Yonkers.

If you are unable to help us financially, we ask for your prayers for the success of this campaign. As a spiritual gift, we invite you to note any special intentions to be included in our prayers during Lent – these will be left at the altar in the Holy Cross Chapel.

With prayers for a blessed and fruitful Lenten season, I am

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Rev. Msgr. Steven R. Camp
Rector



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