



Retreat & Conference Center
of the Immaculate Conception
440 West Neck Road
Huntington, NY 11743

Lent 2024

Dear Friend,

With gratitude for the many blessings bestowed on us by our loving God, we enter into the Holy Season of Lent with hearts ready to embrace the disciplines of prayer, fasting, and almsgiving over the next forty days, and look forward to a joy-filled Easter.

Continuing our transition from Seminary to Retreat and Conference Center, the past year has seen increased usage of our facilities. As a spiritual center and place of renewal, the Center hosts workshops, lectures and retreats for both religious and secular groups. Clergy conferences, parish groups, religious groups, high school retreats, etc. from the Dioceses of Brooklyn, Rockville Centre and the Archdiocese of New York all avail themselves of our unique facilities. We also host various groups and dioceses from across the country.

The Permanent Diaconate Formation Program of the Diocese of Rockville Centre is based at Immaculate Conception, and throughout the year we serve as the retreat venue for seminarians from St. Joseph's Seminary in Yonkers. There is no question that the mission of "education and formation in the Catholic faith in service of the local and universal Church" continues to be observed.

When planning your almsgiving for Lent, we ask that you consider financial support for the Retreat and Conference Center of the Immaculate Conception. With expanded use of our beautiful, nearly 100 year-old building and facilities comes the need to maintain and refresh. While our sacred spaces are timeless, some of the guest room furnishings date back to 1932 when the first group of seminarians arrived to begin their priestly formation. Generous response to last year's appeal resulted in the updating of 30 guest rooms – for which we are deeply grateful! However, there are many more rooms in need of basic improvement.

Any assistance will be gratefully accepted. No offering is too small. The enclosed donor card lists opportunities for support. If you are not able to help us financially at this time, we ask you for your prayers. As a spiritual gift, we invite you to note any special intentions to be included in our prayers and left at the altar in the Holy Cross Chapel during Lent.

With prayerful best wishes for Easter joy and peace for you and your loved ones, I am

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Rev. Msgr. Steven R. Camp
Rector