



IMMACULATE
CONCEPTION

CATHOLIC CHURCH

414 E. NORTH BROADWAY COLUMBUS, OHIO 43214

PARISH OFFICE
(614) 267-9241
SCHOOL OFFICE
(614) 267-6579
www.iccols.org

We are a welcoming Catholic parish of faithful disciples of Jesus Christ that fosters love, deepens faith and encourages respect and caring for fellow parishioners and neighbors through community conversations and action.

Celebration of

Holy Mass

SUNDAY MASSES

Saturday Vigil: 4 p.m.

Sunday: 8 a.m., 9:30 a.m. & 11:30 a.m.

DAILY MASSES

Monday-Friday: 8:30 a.m.

HOLY DAY MASSES

8:30 a.m., 7:00 p.m. or as announced

Sacraments

RECONCILIATION

Fridays: Following the 8:30 a.m. Mass

Saturdays: 3:00 to 3:30 p.m. or by appointment.

BAPTISM

Baptisms are held on the first and third Sundays, following the 11:30 a.m. Mass and the second Saturday, following the 4:00 p.m. Mass. All first-time parents are asked to attend a Baptism Preparation Class before scheduling their child's Baptism. For class times, contact Sr. Ruth Hamel in the Parish Office.

MARRIAGE

Based on Diocesan guidelines, couples should contact the Parish Office at least twelve months in advance of the intended date. A marriage preparation program is required.

ANOINTING OF THE SICK & PASTORAL MINISTRY TO THE HOMEBOUND

Call the Parish Office at (614) 267-9241.

Available at any time.

FUNERAL MINISTRY

Family of deceased should contact the Parish Office as soon as possible.

Find us on
SOCIAL MEDIA

Immaculate Conception Parish



@ICColumbus



immaculateconceptioncolumbus

Immaculate Conception School



@ICRamsColumbus



@ic_school



MASS INTENTIONS

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 30

4:00 p.m. Dan Best †

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 1

8:00 a.m. Hank Nini †
 9:30 a.m. Robert Sloan †
 11:30 a.m. For the People of the Parish

MONDAY, DECEMBER 2

8:00 a.m. Morning Prayer
 8:30 a.m. For the Living & Deceased Members of St. Vincent de Paul

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 3

8:00 a.m. Morning Prayer
 8:30 a.m. Donald Johnson †

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 4

8:00 a.m. Morning Prayer
 8:30 a.m. Frank Maple †

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 5

8:00 a.m. Morning Prayer
 8:30 a.m. For the Living & Deceased Members of the IC Women's Club

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 6

8:00 a.m. Morning Prayer
 8:30 a.m. Mary De Vol †

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 7

4:00 p.m. Michael Kelsey †

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 8

8:00 a.m. For the People of the Parish
 9:30 a.m. Joe, Clara, and Greg Hill †
 11:30 a.m. Keenan James Sullivan

† Deceased

HOSPITALITY SUNDAY

All are invited for fellowship and refreshments following all Sunday Masses on the first weekend of each month.

PASTORAL STAFF

Pastor Fr. Matthew Hoover icoffice@iccols.org
Permanent Deacon Rev. Mr. Christopher Campbell ccampbel@cducation.org
Weekend Assistants Msgr. Anthony Frecker
Pastoral Minister Sr. Ruth Hamel, O.P. srhamel@iccols.org

FAITH FORMATION

Adult Faith Formation Sr. Ruth Hamel, O.P. srhamel@iccols.org
Music Ministry Deanna Oppenheimer doppenheimer@iccols.org
P.S.R. Coordinator Paulette Mudrey icpsr@iccols.org

PARISH OFFICE STAFF Phone: (614) 267-9241 Fax: (614) 267-7720

Parish Business Administrator John Bernard jbernard@iccols.org
Marketing & Mission Administrative Assistant Theresa Vivona tvivona@iccols.org
Facilities Manager Karen Cannell icoffice@iccols.org
 Keith Altier

SCHOOL STAFF Phone: (614) 267-6579 Fax: (614) 267-2549

Principal Colleen Kent cokent@cducation.org
Assistant Principal Rick Logue rlogue@cducation.org
Office Manager Marina Hachwa mhachwa@cducation.org
Preschool Secretary Erika Bardnell ebardnell@cducation.org
 Peggy Heffernan pheffern@cducation.org
School Age Child Care Mary Louise West mlwest@iccols.org, (614) 267-0239

PARISH SUPPORT SERVICES

Faith-Based Counselor Mary Ann Jepsen jepsen.ma@gmail.com, (614) 309-2270
Planned Giving Liaison Kelly Noll knoll@gbq.com, (614) 352-1655

ADVISORY COUNCILS

Finance Council Chairman Brian Byrne bbyrne@horizonio.com
Parish Council President Heather MacKinnon iccolsparishcouncil@gmail.com
School Board President Brian Conway brianconway1@hotmail.com

LITURGICAL MINISTERS SCHEDULE – DECEMBER 7 & 8, 2019

MASS TIMES	4:00 p.m.	8:00 a.m.	9:30 a.m.	11:30 a.m.
EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS	Nancy Moushey Tim Moushey John Groeber Karen Groeber Christine Sapp	Paul Duffy Kathy Copeland Don Harbaugh Chris Mahler Marilynne Poirier Lynne Owens	Jennifer Gardner Mary Leathley Herbert Poling Cathy Poling Chris Atzberger Matt Finnegan John Jackson Dee Dee Dodane	Rosemary Velasquez Joe Urquhart Kathy Urquhart Sue Beman Bob Poirier
LECTOR	Layton McCallum	Layton McCallum	Dean Monin	Gail Hogan
ALTAR SERVERS	Elliot Schmidt Devon Schneider Sophia Shultheis Bobby Steinbauer	Luke Wenning Atticus Colucy Sophia Comer	Sami Stout Emily Summanen Connor Swackhammer Dominic Theado	Lizzy Fields Ella Fortcamp Frank Gill Julia Gill
USHERS	E.J. Davis Mike Hatz John Groeber	Chris Mahler Ralph Mathews Michael Girard	Sean O'Neil Jeff Ortega John Ryle John Longbrake	Bob Poirier Bob Taylor Jeff Doon
WELCOME DESK	Pat Conway	Diana Marie Winkler Suzanne Smith Ronnie Hiss	Lynn Boardwine Jen Bennett Michelle Sap	Janine Oman Anne Campbell Carolyn Smith



PRESENTATION OF THE GIFTS AT MASS – OPEN MASSES IN DECEMBER

Please check the schedule to see if there is a Sunday Mass in December that you/your family are able to

carry up the offertory gifts. In the offertory procession, the bread and wine are presented (offered) by the faithful to God before they are consecrated. Members of the parish are invited to bring up the gifts at the Mass(es) of their choosing, throughout the year.

To participate in this ministry, email the parish office at icoffice@iccols.org or go to www.bit.ly/ICPresentationofGifts and sign up for the Mass or Masses at which you and your family wish to carry up the gifts.

DECEMBER CONTRIBUTORS TO THE SANCTUARY LAMPS

The Sanctuary lamp burns constantly to proclaim the real presence of Jesus in the Tabernacle. For the month of December, the Sanctuary candle in the Adoration Chapel was donated by the **Spinosi Family**. The Sanctuary candles in the church were donated by the **Sullivan Family**, the **Little Family** and the **Dennis Mong Family**. Our thanks go to these families for their generosity.

IN OUR PARISH

WEDDING ANNIVERSARY: We congratulate parishioners **Daryl and Sandy Spinosi**, who will celebrate their 50th Wedding Anniversary on December 25, 2019.

ROSARY AT THE GROTTTO

Please join us each Sunday evening to pray the Rosary at the IC Marian Grotto Sundays at 8 p.m. All are welcome! Questions? Please contact peterjmccann@sbcglobal.net.

PASTORAL CARE OF THE SICK

The parish office may not always be notified in a timely manner by the hospital that an IC parishioner has been admitted. Parishioners wishing to have a home, hospital or nursing home visit should contact the parish office. If you, or a family member, wish to be anointed due to illness or an upcoming medical procedure, please contact the parish office by calling (614) 267-9241 or emailing icoffice@iccols.org.

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL ANNUAL FOOD DRIVE

Food donations are still being accepted for the food pantry at IC. Items needed are canned green beans, peas and corn, non-cream soups, cans of tuna, macaroni and cheese, dry pasta, Hamburger Helper, Tuna Helper, peanut butter, cans of fruit and canned dinners. Your donations can be deposited in the wooden boxes at the doors of the church.

#GIVINGTUESDAY

Giving Tuesday is this Tuesday! This global day of giving designed to harness the generosity of millions of people around the world to support the causes they believe in and the communities in which they live. As communicated these past few weeks, this year, Immaculate Conception is directing 100% of the funds collected on Giving Tuesday to the life-saving work of Pregnancy Decision Health Centers, or PDHC. Visit our parish web site and social media pages to learn more about how PDHC serves our community and don't forget to make your gift on Tuesday, December 3 by visiting <https://bit.ly/2019ICGivingTuesday>.

“

Let us go rejoicing to the house of the Lord.

”



ABOUT ADVENT WREATHS

Traditionally, Advent wreaths are constructed of a circle of evergreen branches into which four candles are inserted, representing the four weeks of Advent. Ideally, three candles are purple and one is rose, but white candles can also be used.

The purple candles in particular symbolize the prayer, penance, and preparatory sacrifices and good works undertaken at this time. The rose candle is lit on the third Sunday, Gaudete Sunday, when the priest also wears rose vestments at Mass; Gaudete Sunday is the Sunday of rejoicing, because the faithful have arrived at the midpoint of Advent, when their preparation is now half over and they are close to Christmas.

The progressive lighting of the candles symbolizes the expectation and hope surrounding our Lord's first coming into the world and the anticipation of His second coming to judge the living and the dead. www.usccb.org

HELP THE WOMEN'S CLUB

ASSEMBLE CHRISTMAS COOKIE PACKAGES

Women of the parish are invited to help assemble cookie packages for shut-in members of the parish. Please bring one or two dozen homemade cookies to Marian Hall at 7 p.m., on Tuesday, December 10. Questions, call Marilynne Poirier at (614) 261-1261 or Beth Ann Yablonski at (614) 447-1605.

A SPECIAL CHRISTMAS GIFT

A special Christmas gift: a Mass celebrated by a missionary priest for your loved ones and friends. Your loved ones and friends will receive a beautiful Christmas themed Mass card acknowledging your gift. This is also a critical means of support in helping missionary priests with their pastoral needs. Visit www.columbuscatholic.org/request-a-Mass, click the applicable link for Mass(es) as Christmas gift. Print and mail the form with payment to Diocese of Columbus Missions Office, 197 E. Gay St. Columbus, OH 43215. The Mass stipend is \$10. Call (614) 228-8603 or send an email to mismailbox@columbuscatholic.org if you have any questions.

SOCIAL CONCERNS

OPEN SHELTER DINNER

The Open Shelter ministry serves the homeless and marginally housed persons in Columbus. Our parish assists in this ministry by serving dinner one evening a month, year round, at the Broad Street United Methodist Church. **The next date is this Monday, December 2, 2019.** We need volunteers to make sloppy Joes, macaroni & cheese or cookies. If you are interested, please call Cheryl Costello at (614) 774-8879. Food must be hot and will be picked up behind the rectory at 5 p.m. on that Monday. Arrangements can be made for pickup if this time is inconvenient. Donations for buns, bananas and drinks are welcome.

TIME, TALENT & TREASURE

Fostering Stewardship as a Way of Life

Fiscal Year 7/1/2019-6/30/2020 • Offertory Report 11/24/2019

	11/24/2019	YTD 2019/2020
Recorded Envelopes/Checks	\$ 23,548.50	\$466,489.26
Loose Cash & Checks	\$ 593.00	\$ 12,867.63
TOTAL RECEIVED	\$ 24,141.50	\$479,356.89
Weekly Operating Expenses	\$ 25,000.00	\$525,000.00
Weekly Overage	(\$ 858.50)	(\$ 45,643.11)

Families Receiving Envelopes	1,059
Envelopes Received	185
Families on EFT	331

Manage your electronic contributions online! Visit www.iccols.org and click "Offertory & Stewardship" under the Giving menu. Thank you for your financial support of our Catholic faith here in our parish.

"My God will fully supply whatever you need, in accord with His glorious riches in Christ Jesus."
- Philippians 4:19

CHRISTMAS CHOIRS

Have you been thinking about joining the choir, but were unsure about the commitment? Now is a great time to join us for several weeks, grow spiritually in a new way this Advent Season, and experience the beauty and joy of being in a choir! Contact the Music Director, Deanna Oppenheimer, at doppenheimer@iccols.org if you have any questions.

Contemporary Ensemble and Choir: Singing for the 7 p.m. Christmas Eve Mass. Christmas rehearsals are Tuesdays, December 3, 10, and 17 in the choir loft from 7-8:15 p.m.

Traditional Choir: Singing for the 10 p.m. Christmas Eve Mass. Christmas rehearsals are Thursdays, December 5, 12, and 19 in Room A of the rectory from 7-8:15 p.m.

Children's Choir: Singing for the 4 p.m. Christmas Eve Mass. The children's choir includes children in grades 3-5. Christmas rehearsals are Wednesdays, December 4, 11, and 18 in the choir loft from 3-4 p.m. If you did not already turn in a permission slip from the October Children's Choir rehearsals and Mass, please contact the Music Director, Deanna Oppenheimer, at doppenheimer@iccols.org to receive the permission form which can be turned into the school office, rectory office, or music director at the first rehearsal.

JOIN US ON THE PILGRIMAGE TO ITALY

If you were unable to attend the information session about the June pilgrimage, the information can be found on the parish website at iccols.org. Wait for the scrolling picture titled "Borngiorno! We're Going to Italy" then "Click here for Details" or go to News and Events.



IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

PILGRIMAGE TO ITALY
JUNE 5 - 18, 2020

Join Fr. Matt and fellow IC parishioners for this once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to explore Rome, Naples & Sicily!

Visit the parish web site for details or contact the Parish Office at (614) 267-9241 with specific questions!

IC PRAYER MINISTRY

The I.C. Prayer Ministry is dedicated to praying for members or friends of our parish and their families, who have physical, financial, emotional or other special needs. Members of the ministry have a commitment to pray for the requests daily. If you have a request, please call Jeanne Stoker at (614) 880-1205 or williamstoker@att.net.



BREAKFAST WITH THE KNIGHTS COMING IN DECEMBER

On December 15, 2019 Immaculate Conception Knights of Columbus Council 14962 will again sponsor Breakfast with the Knights after all Sunday Masses. All parishioners and guests are invited to enjoy assorted breakfast foods, each other's company and seasonal music. We encourage everyone to share your favorite breakfast food along with donating an unwrapped gift for children ages infant to 17 years of age. The gifts will be donated to Saint Vincent de Paul's Christmas Store to assist families in need. All monetary donations received will be utilized to assist in supporting Immaculate Conception's seminarians at the Pontifical College Josephinum. Any questions, please contact Bob Taylor at bobtaylor601@gmail.com.



ALPHA RETURNS IN JANUARY

Immaculate Conception is excited to bring back Alpha for a winter 2020 session! Alpha is a chance to explore life's big questions and the Christian faith in a friendly, open and informal environment. We provide a great meal and video to kick start small, group discussion where you can share your thoughts and hear others' points of view. There is no pressure. **EVER.**

Join us for 10, consecutive Tuesdays at 6:30 p.m. in Marian Hall beginning January 14. Register online today at <https://bit.ly/RegisterforICAlpha>. Questions or want to volunteer? Contact Jim Bowling at jallenbowling@gmail.com or Martha Bowling at martha.bowling.2@gmail.com.

Growing in FAITH™

Discovering hope and joy in the Catholic faith.

December 2019

Immaculate Conception Church

Fr. Matthew Hoover

One Minute Meditations

St. Maria di Rosa

Born "Paula" in Brescia, Italy,

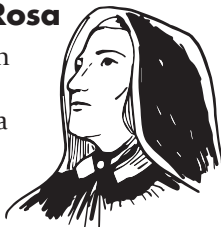
Maria di Rosa

was the daughter of a mill owner and a countess. Coming from a wealthy family didn't spare her from difficulty. She lost her mother when young. At seventeen years old, she left school to work with her father at the mill. During the cholera epidemic of 1836, she cared for the sick. In 1840, she founded the Handmaids of Charity to care for the wounded during the wars.

Agent of change

True conversion is the work of the Holy Spirit. Salvation and faith are gifts from God – gifts that are not ours to give. Yet, believers are called to join with the Holy Spirit to bring others to God. When we have a strong and personal relationship with Jesus, we can be his agents of change.

"Then the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together; for the mouth of the Lord has spoken."
(Isaiah 40:5).



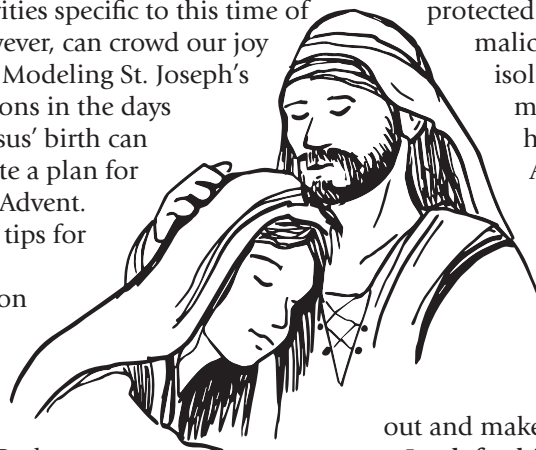
The joyful expectation of Advent

Jesus' birth at Christmas is real and amazing evidence of God's love. The priorities specific to this time of year, however, can crowd our joy and awe. Modeling St. Joseph's preparations in the days before Jesus' birth can help create a plan for our own Advent. Try these tips for joyful expectation of our Savior's birth.

Create silence. God found the quiet he needed in St. Joseph's life to speak and be heard over the noise of the carpenter's shop, the needs of neighbors, the demands of tax collectors. In the silence St. Joseph created just for him, God was able to work miracles.

Keep out the devil. When Joseph found out Mary was pregnant, he protected her from the evil of malicious gossip and isolation. He helped her to make a God-centered home filled with Love. Although the devil is powerful, he cannot go where he is not permitted. When we stay close to the Sacraments and live a God-centered life, we, too, keep the devil out and make room for Love.

Look for him. Can you imagine the joy with which St. Joseph expected Jesus' coming? We celebrate Jesus' arrival in Bethlehem with joy. We can joyfully welcome him into our lives now. And, with joy we can look forward to Christ's coming in glory on the Last Day.



Why Do Catholics Do That?

Why do Catholics celebrate Christmas after December 26?

The Catholic Christmas is not just one day but an entire liturgical season. It begins with the vigil Mass on Christmas Eve and ends on the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord (January 12th this year). During the celebration of Christmas,



we rejoice in the realization of God's plan for our salvation. God became man to save us.

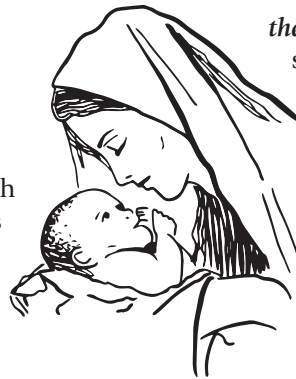
Thus, the Church makes sure we have enough time — almost a month — to fully celebrate such a joyful, hope-filled, destiny-altering event.

Open your heart to the Christmas promise

This time of year reminds us of our hope for a future of peace. But we cannot achieve this peace on our own. We must open our hearts to the promise of Christmas.

“One nation shall not raise the sword against another, nor shall they train for war again” (Isaiah 2:4). Violence flourishes if the world accepts it as inevitable. The world can change if the love of the Christmas Child takes root in our hearts. Peace flows from hearts that love.

“The poor will eat their fill; those who seek



the Lord will offer praise” (Psalm 22:27). Peace spreads more easily when all have enough. These days the poor are everywhere and people are struggling to hold onto hope. If we each make our holiday charitable efforts a year-round habit, perhaps the words of the psalmist will come true.

“The virgin shall be with child, and bear a son, and shall name him Immanuel” (Isaiah 7:14). This Christmas we can once again rekindle our own sense of innocence and hope.

from Scripture

Matthew 2:13-15, 19-23, Trust God like St. Joseph did

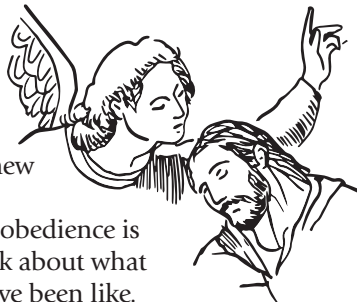
By the time Mary gave birth to Jesus, St. Joseph was used to following orders from God without question. So when the angel appeared to him in his sleep urging him to flee to Egypt, Joseph obeyed immediately. He trusted that God would take care of him and his new family.

Joseph’s unquestioning obedience is remarkable when we think about what the birth of Jesus must have been like. Mary and Joseph had traveled in the last stages of her pregnancy from Nazareth to Bethlehem. Whether on foot or donkey, it was a dirty, exhausting journey.

Once there, there was nowhere to stay except with the animals. After a short time, they fled to Egypt to escape danger, and stayed there for some years without family or friends.

Through it all, Joseph trusted God to protect his family.

Being perfect didn’t shield the Holy Family from experiencing pain and difficulty much like we do. Yet Scripture tells us that Mary and Joseph found strength from their faith in God and were guided by his Word. We can do the same.



Q & A Why does the Church year begin in Advent?

The Church has a liturgical year with its own seasons that help us to mark events that are important to Catholics. However, the Church year doesn’t start on January 1, or even on December 25 — when we celebrate Christ’s birthday. Instead, it begins on the first Sunday of Advent, the season before Christmas.



Advent is the perfect season for new beginnings. It’s a season of preparation: the King of Kings is coming! There are three “arrivals” of Christ to prepare for and celebrate: as an infant at Bethlehem, at Mass in the Eucharist, and as the King of Glory at the end of time.

In order to properly greet such a Guest, the Church sets aside this time for us to purify our hearts and souls. Whether that means being with God in prayer, attending Confession, volunteering in the community or cleaning house, Advent is the time for it. The Church wants us to begin the year well by preparing to welcome the King who comes to “make all things new” (Revelation 21:5).

Feasts & Celebrations

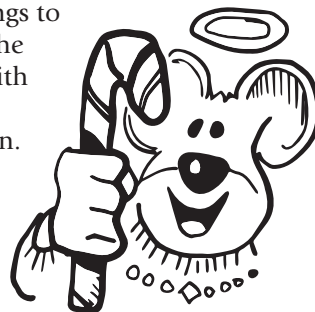
Dec. 1 – First Sunday in Advent. During this season, we anticipate Christ’s coming. Catholics around the world light candles in an Advent wreath to signal the coming of the light of Christ.

Dec. 9 – Feast of the Immaculate Conception (1854). This feast day commemorates that Mary was conceived in St. Anne’s womb without Original Sin. Attending Mass is a wonderful way to celebrate.

Dec. 9 – St. Juan Diego (1548). St. Juan Diego was visited by the Blessed Mother at Tepeyac Hill in Mexico. She

asked that a chapel be built and sent him to the bishop with roses as a sign. When the roses were emptied from his cloak, it retained the image of Our Lady which can still be seen today.

Dec. 21 – St. Peter Canisius (1597). Born in Holland, he was ordained into the Society of Jesus and worked strenuously through his writings and teachings to safeguard the Catholic faith after the Reformation. His work, *The Catechism*, is still used today.



Our Mission

To provide practical ideas that promote faithful Catholic living.
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<http://www.growinginfaith.com>
 (Unless noted Bible quotes and references are from the Revised Standard Version and the New American Bible)

FR. CHRISTOPHER YAKKEL TO SPEAK AT THE CATHOLIC MEN’S LUNCHEON

The December 6, 2019 Catholic Men’s Luncheon Club will feature the annual presentation of one of the diocese’s newly ordained priests. This year Fr. Christopher Yakkel, who spent a summer placement at IC and is Parochial Vicar for the Perry County Consortium of Catholic Parishes, will share his vocation story. The December luncheon is sponsored by Michele Cleary of HER Realtors on behalf of the Bethesda Healing Ministry. The Bethesda Healing Ministry - offers a safe, confidential community for women and men to walk through healing from the suffering and trauma incurred by an abortion in their past. For more information, please call Tim Welsh at (614) 419-6985. **Michele Cleary - of HER Realtors, will donate 10% of her earnings from the sale or purchase of your home to your favorite Catholic Parish or Catholic Ministry.** Contact Michele at michele.cleary@herrealtors.com or (614) 774-5139. Join us Friday, December 6 at St. Patrick Church in downtown Columbus; Holy Mass (optional) begins at 11:45 a.m. followed by lunch at 12:10 p.m. and Fr. Yakkel’s talk. Free parking available in the Columbus State Grant Avenue parking lot (25-S) across the street from St. Patrick. No reservations are necessary. \$10 covers the lunch and meeting. Bring a friend! There will be no luncheon club in January as we prepare for the Catholic Man of the Year Luncheon which will be on Friday, February 7, 2020. For information on Catholic Men’s Luncheon Club, visit www.catholicmensministry.com/cmlc or contact Craig Heppner, CMLC President craigkofc@gmail.com.

CATHOLIC CAMPAIGN FOR HUMAN DEVELOPMENT

Thank you for your generous support of the Catholic Campaign for Human Development (CCHD) collection. As a parish we raised \$840.00 to support those who live on the margins and in poverty in the United States. If you missed the collection, it’s not too late to give! Visit www.usccb.org/nationalcollections, and click on “How to Give” on the left.

THE RETIREMENT FUND FOR RELIGIOUS

Give in thanksgiving. “The nuns left lasting impressions on me,” writes a donor. “I shall always be grateful for my Catholic education.” Please join in thanking the thousands of senior Catholic sisters, brothers, and religious order priests who worked tirelessly to educate the young and serve those in need. It is time for the Retirement Fund for Religious Collection, which helps hundreds of religious communities care for aging members. Please give generously.



SAVE THE DATE!

The IC Women’s Club Annual Martin Luther King Drive is on Monday, January 20, 2020 from 12 p.m. to 6 p.m. If you last donated on or before Monday, November 25, 2019 you may be eligible to donate. You can now schedule an appointment by visiting RedCrossBlood.org, sponsor code: IC or call 1-800-RED CROSS.



MEMORIAL POINSETTIAS

This year, we will continue to decorate our church and sanctuary with poinsettias in memory of our deceased loved ones. If you would like to contribute to our Christmas flowers, you may do so by placing your order, including the name of the deceased, in an envelope marked “Christmas Poinsettia” in the Sunday Offertory or send it to the parish office. Your \$10.00 donation will not only honor someone special in your life, but it will enhance the beauty of our worship space during the Christmas season.

In order to publish these names in the Christmas bulletin, names and donations must be received no later than Monday, December 16.

I WISH TO REMEMBER THE FOLLOWING INDIVIDUALS WITH A DONATION TO OUR CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS:

(Please print.)

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

Requested By: _____

Phone _____

Number of loved ones _____

_____ at \$10 each.

My contribution of _____

\$ _____ is enclosed.

SCHOOL NEWS & ACTIVITIES

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION SCHOOL NEWS

Junior High Musical Open Position: We are currently seeking an adult to take a key role in the production of the junior high musical. This person would work closely with Mrs. Kay and Mrs. Mayo who will facilitate the acting, singing, and costumes. This newly added person/position would act as a co-producer facilitating committee chairpersons and working in tandem with the artistic directors already in place.

If interested, please contact Ms. Colleen Kent (cokent@cdeducation.org) at your earliest convenience.

Our Preschool Class Options have Expanded – We now have two classrooms with additional class options for 3s, 4s, and 5s.

- 3 year olds – Classes held Tuesday and Thursday from 8:15 a.m.-11:45 a.m.
- 4/5 year olds – Classes held Monday, Wednesday, and Friday from 8:15 a.m.-11:45 a.m.
- 4/5 year olds – Classes held Monday through Friday from 8:15 a.m.-11:45 a.m.

[Lunch bunch and extended care options are available for each class until 2:45 p.m.]

Your Amazon purchases can now benefit HASA! When you shop smile.amazon.com and designate Immaculate Conception Parish (<https://smile.amazon.com/ch/31-4379506>) as your preferred charity, 0.5% of the purchase price of eligible products goes to IC Home and School Association (HASA). Funds will be used to support enhancements and programs at Immaculate Conception School through IC HASA. Giving is simple:

1. Sign in to your account at smile.amazon.com. First time? You will be prompted to pick your preferred charity. Been here before? Change your charity under Your Account/Your Amazon Smile.
2. Search for Immaculate Conception Parish, Columbus, OH and click select!
3. Shopping Amazon? Make sure you always start at smile.amazon.com!

ADULT FAITH FORMATION PAGE

Immaculate Conception Catholic Church, December 1, 2019



The First Sunday of Advent

“When the church celebrates *the liturgy of Advent* each year, she makes present this ancient expectancy of the Messiah, for by sharing in the long preparation for the Savior’s first coming, the faithful renew their ardent desire for his second coming. [Cf. Rev. 22:17] By celebrating the precursor’s birth and martyrdom, the

Church unites herself to his desire: “He must increase, but I must decrease.” [Jn 3:30] (CCC, 524)

The Catechism of the Catholic Church

“This is what Isaiah, son of Amoz, saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem. In days to come, the mountain of the LORD’s house shall be established as the highest mountain and raised above the hills. All nations shall stream toward it; many peoples shall come and say: “Come, let us climb the LORD’s mountain, to the house of the God of Jacob, that he may instruct us in his ways, and we may walk in his paths.” For from Zion shall go forth instruction, and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem. He shall judge between the nations, and impose terms on many peoples. They shall beat their swords into plowshares and their spears into pruning hooks; one nation shall not raise the sword against another, nor shall they train for war again. O house of Jacob, come, let us walk in the light of the LORD!” [Isaiah 2:1-5]

What is Children’s Liturgy and Why is it Important to talk about?

Our Sunday Children’s Liturgy of the Word, or, C.L.O.W. has started. Last Sunday, November 24, 2019 on the Feast of Christ the King we dismissed our children grades K-2 to celebrate the Liturgy of the Word on their level. In the coming weeks look for catechetical explanations about Children’s Liturgy and why the Church celebrates this important Liturgy for our children

FORMED picks for the 1st week of Advent

Gray 17 Episodes WATCH:

“The Story of Christmas: An Audio Drama About the First Christmas” Brother Francis – Augustine Institute – Run Time: 27 mins. [Children]

Brother Francis: The Days of Advent

“Join Brother Francis this Advent!” Augustine Institute Run Time: 4m 14s [Children]

LISTEN:

“Come, Lord Jesus: Meditations on the Art of Waiting” by Mother Mary Francis, P.C.C.

Run Time: 5h 45m

STUDY:

“FORMED Daily: Advent” with Dr. Tim Gray

“Saint Nicholas: The Real Story” hosted by Mark Wilson Run Time: 55 mins.

Opening the Word “1st Sunday of Advent—

December 1, 2019” Run Time: 6m 49s

BLESSING OF AN ADVENT WREATH

The use of the Advent Wreath is a traditional practice which has found its place in the Church as well as in the home. The blessing of an Advent Wreath takes place on the First Sunday of Advent or on the evening before the First Sunday of Advent.

When the blessing of the Advent Wreath is celebrated in the home, it is appropriate that it be blessed by a parent or another member of the family.

All make the sign of the cross as the leader says:

Our help is in the name of the Lord.

Response (R/.) Who made heaven and earth.

Then the Scripture, Isaiah 9: (lines 1-2 and 5-6) or Isaiah 63 (lines 16-17 & 19) or Isaiah 64 (lines 2-7) is read:

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

R/. Thanks be to God.

With hands joined, the leader says:

Lord our God,
we praise you for your Son, Jesus Christ:
he is Emmanuel, the hope of the peoples,
he is the wisdom that teaches and guides us,
he is the Savior of every nation.

Lord God,

let your blessing come upon us
as we light the candles of this wreath.
May the wreath and its light
be a sign of Christ’s promise to bring us salvation.
May he come quickly and not delay.
We ask this through Christ our Lord.

R/. Amen.

The blessing may conclude with a verse from “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”:

O come, desire of nations, bind
in one the hearts of humankind;
bid ev’ry sad division cease,
and be thyself our Prince of peace.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
shall come to thee, O Israel.

—From “Catholic Household Blessings & Prayers”

www.usccb.org

Pope Francis’ Prayer Intentions for NOVEMBER 2019

Dialogue and Reconciliation in the Near East:

That a spirit of dialogue, encounter, and reconciliation emerge in the Near East, where diverse religious communities share their lives together.

exploring THE SUNDAY READINGS

IGNORANCE ISN'T ALWAYS BLISS: FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

FIRST READING

ISAIAH 2:1-5

"Come, let us climb the Lord's mountain ... that he may instruct us in his ways."

My first thought come December is that happy days are here again! There's nothing like a season of holiday cheer to lift the spirits. Advent is a merry, hopeful time. The world around us seems to put on its best face, and the moment we send or receive the first Christmas card or hear the first carol, it's as if love is returning to the social order after a long absence.

However-there's more to Advent than decorations, parties, and fa-la-las. The start of a new Church year also invites us to begin at the beginning with fresh hearts. The signature prophet for the season is Isaiah. He offers a remarkable vision of the world coming together again: one in vision, values, and purpose. Can you see this world from where you're sitting? How far are you willing to "climb the Lord's mountain"?

» Consider a sword you bear that needs to be beaten into a tool for peace. What can you do to be the peacemaker?

SECOND READING

ROMANS 13:11-14

Let us throw off the works of darkness and put on the armor of light.

You know the time, Paul says, so wake up and get ready! But according to Jesus (spoiler alert: it's in the gospel for today), we actually don't know the time. This sense of dislocation and directional anxiety where we usually find ourselves in apocalyptic generations-and let's be clear, every generation is apocalyptic. Both Paul and Jesus are telling the truth. We know the hour to act is passing quickly. But we don't know the hour when we'll wish we'd done something about it earlier.

Still, we know what to do right now, and that's the important thing. Walk away from the darkness and towards the light. That means no more nursing old injuries, assigning blame, carrying grudges, hurling insults. It also means gentler words, gentler thoughts, gentler intentions everywhere we go. The night has been long, but the day draws near.

» Identify your daily dip toward darkness. How can you choose the light?

GOSPEL

MATTHEW 24:37-44

"One will be taken, and one will be left."

As atmospheres go, the apocalyptic mood has a scary edge. One stays, one goes. It's like an episode of the Twilight Zone in which people start disappearing and you don't know if that's better or worse than being left behind. Noah's neighbors had no idea their whole society was about to be washed away. They were peeling potatoes for supper, planning their next vacation, buying a suit for an upcoming event. Those potatoes would never be served, that vacation never enjoyed. The event would not take place.

How do you live in light of the fact that someday you'll die? That's the question. How do we live knowing we'll die but we don't know when, exactly? The religious answer is always: live mindfully. Live like you mean it. Live like what you're doing, who you're with, how you spend your love and time and resources matters ultimately. Because it does.

» What are you doing this week that you wouldn't be doing if this were your last?

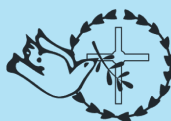
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