



IMMACULATE  
CONCEPTION

CATHOLIC CHURCH

414 E. NORTH BROADWAY COLUMBUS, OHIO 43214

PARISH OFFICE  
(614) 267-9241  
SCHOOL OFFICE  
(614) 267-6579  
[www.iccols.org](http://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, MARCH 14**  
 4:00 p.m. Bob Roehrer †

**SUNDAY, MARCH 15**  
 8:00 a.m. For the People of the Parish  
 9:30 a.m. John Michael Griga †  
 11:30 a.m. Joe Sweeney †

**MONDAY, MARCH 16**  
 8:00 a.m. Morning Prayer  
 8:30 a.m. Brian Adkins

**TUESDAY, MARCH 17**  
 8:30 a.m. No Morning Mass  
 6:15 p.m. Dennis Devine †

**WEDNESDAY, MARCH 18**  
 8:00 a.m. Morning Prayer  
 8:30 a.m. For the Intention of Trevor Crawford

**THURSDAY, MARCH 19**  
 8:00 a.m. Morning Prayer  
 8:30 a.m. Adrienne McCann †

**FRIDAY, MARCH 20**  
 8:00 a.m. Morning Prayer  
 8:30 a.m. Fr. Michael Reis †

**SATURDAY, MARCH 21**  
 4:00 p.m. Jimmy Clark †

**SUNDAY, MARCH 22**  
 8:00 a.m. Elizabeth Canty †  
 9:30 a.m. For the People of the Parish  
 11:30 a.m. Leslie Kaminski †

† *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  
*Director of Marketing & Communications* Jacob Lammers ..... jlammers@iccols.org  
*Administrative Assistant* Karen Cannell ..... icoffice@iccols.org  
*Facilities Manager* 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* Erika Bardnell ..... ebardnell@cducation.org  
*Secretary* 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@horizon10.com  
*Parish Council President* Heather MacKinnon ..... iccolsparishcouncil@gmail.com  
*School Board President* Brian Conway ..... brianconway1@hotmail.com

# LITURGICAL MINISTERS SCHEDULE – MARCH 21/22, 2020

MASS TIMES	4:00 p.m.	8:00 a.m.	9:30 a.m.	11:30 a.m.
<b>EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS</b>	Bob Steinbauer Don Muenz Mark Kelsey Betty Kelsey Bobbi Mitch	Cathy Costello Mary Lu Harrison Don Harbaugh Diana Winkler Jeanne Stoker	Peg Tippet Keith Kidner Eileen Kidner Pete Eichel Laura Julian Molly Dodane	Anna Lohrer Dave Wall Christine Demko Elizabeth Hart Bob Poirier Julie Kaminski
<b>LECTOR</b>	E.J. Davis	Roger Hocker	Heather MacKinnon	Dan Wander
<b>ALTAR SERVERS</b>	Grace Greene Grace Monaghan Thomas Price Devon Schneider	Sophia Comer Tanner Foley Parker Jenkins	Dominic Theado Sylvia Rinderle Emily Summanen Conner Swackhammer	Lucianne Boehm William Carrier Emerson Hartshorn Isaac Nguyen
<b>USHERS</b>	E.J. Davis Mike Hatz John Groeber	Chris Mahler Ralph Mathews Michael Girard	John Longbrake Sean O'Neil Jeff Ortega John Ryle	Bob Poirier Bob Taylor Jeff Doon Brian Byrne
<b>WELCOME DESK</b>	Pat Conway	Diana Marie Winkler Suzanne Smith Ronnie Hiss	Lynn Boardwine Jen Bennett Michele Sapp	Janine Oman Anne Campbell





## PRESENTATION OF THE GIFTS AT MASS – MARCH

Please check the schedule to see if there is a weekend **Mass in March** that you/your family would like 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](mailto:icoffice@iccols.org) or go to [www.bit.ly/ICPresentationofGifts](http://www.bit.ly/ICPresentationofGifts) and sign up for the Mass or Masses at which you and your family wish to carry up the gifts. You may also stop and talk to an usher before Mass to see if a family is needed for that Mass.**

## MARCH CONTRIBUTORS TO THE SANCTUARY LAMPS

The Sanctuary lamp burns constantly to proclaim the real presence of Jesus in the Tabernacle. For the month of March, the Sanctuary candle in the Adoration Chapel was donated by an **anonymous donor**. The three Sanctuary candles in the Church were donated by the **Julian Family**. Our thanks go to these families for their generosity.

## IN OUR PARISH

**NEW PARISHIONERS:** We welcome new parishioners **Patrick, Noel and Finnegan Pristas** to Immaculate Conception parish. We invite and encourage you to join us as we pray, work and play together and hope that you find a welcoming and spiritual home here at Immaculate Conception.

**MAY THEY REST IN PEACE:** Please remember in your prayers **Craig Smith** who died last week. Eternal rest grant onto him, oh Lord, and may your consoling love be with his family and friends

**SACRAMENT OF MATRIMONY:** Congratulations to **Melissa Sacket and Ignacio Ruelas**, who were united in marriage on March 7, 2020.

**BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION:** Congratulations to **Libby Jackson** who will be celebrating her 100th birthday on March 16. Our best wishes go to you and your family.

## HEALTH AND SAFETY PRECAUTIONS

Amid the flu season and recent news on the coronavirus, public health agencies have urged us to be cautious and aware. To that end, Immaculate Conception Church is taking additional health and safety precautions on our church/school campus.

Parishioners who are ill or experiencing symptoms of illness are not obliged to attend Mass or other functions.

For the time being, we will not be using the Communion cups for the distribution of the Blood of Christ.

While the customary Greeting of Peace is a handshake, it is not the only expression. We urge individuals to be aware of other people's comfort and other gestures or expressions for the Sign of Peace that may be used.

The Immaculate Conception Church exercises the same prudence and charity taken during any influenza season and will continue to keep the health and safety of our parishioners at the forefront. Thank you for your patience and understanding.

## PARISHIONERS CONTINUE TO RECEIVE EMAIL AND TEXT SCAM REQUESTS

Please be aware that periodically fake texts and emails from persons alleging to be Fr. Matt are being sent to parishioners asking for help. The latest. These fake requests are asking for iTunes gift cards and like gift cards, usually under the guise of wanting to give these cards to persons in hospitals or prisons. The emails and texts appear to be real but are not.

**Please do not respond to the emails or texts and delete them.** If you have any questions, please call the parish office.



*If today you hear his voice, Harden not your hearts.*



## LENTEN OPPORTUNITIES FOR PRAYER, FASTING, & ALMSGIVING

**DAILY MASS:** Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, 8:30 a.m.; Rosary follows the 8:30 a.m. Mass, Tuesday – 6:15 p.m.

**LENT 2020 – TUESDAY EVENING MASS:** One of the ways we grow spiritually through the season of Lent is to increase attendance at daily Mass. Immaculate Conception will offer the celebration of Holy Mass at **6:15 p.m. on Tuesday evenings**. All other Mass times except Tuesdays will remain the same. During Lent, **we will NOT celebrate a Tuesday morning Mass**.

We are hoping to give our community of faith an opportunity to practice their Lenten observance by offering all parishioners this new Mass time.

**SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION:** Saturdays, 3-3:30 p.m. (Except Holy Saturday), Fridays, after the 8:30 a.m. Mass

**PARISH LENTEN PENANCE SERVICE:** Wednesday, April 1, 7 p.m. Confessions will continue until all are heard.

**EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION:** Perpetual Adoration is daily in the Adoration Chapel in the Education Center.

**STATIONS OF THE CROSS:** Fridays of Lent at 7:30 p.m. (Except Good Friday)



### ALMSGIVING – OPERATION RICE BOWL

#### Pray, Fast, Give – Be in Global Solidarity:

Rice Bowl boxes are available at the doors of the Church. CRS Rice Bowl is Catholic Relief Services' Lenten faith-in-action program for families and faith communities. Seventy-five percent of the Rice Bowl donations support CRS programs around the world, and 25 percent goes to hunger and poverty alleviation efforts in our diocese. Once a week, parishioners fast or eat a simple meal and donate the savings to support CRS services. To learn how your donation affects the lives of others, visit the CRS website at [www.csricebowl.org](http://www.csricebowl.org).

### FORMED, THE CATHOLIC FAITH ON DEMAND:

Access FREE Catholic materials to watch, listen, read or study with FORMED: podcasts, movies, eBooks, youth programming, Catholic audio talks, video-based studies and Spanish programming. Visit <http://iccols.formed.org> and register for access by creating your own free account.

## CHURCH SOUND SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS

We are excited to inform you about the new sound system improvements that we've made over the last few months. The updates include:

- New multi-part amplification system in the sacristy
- Additional loudspeakers in the choir loft, under the choir loft and sanctuary
- Three new microphones in the sanctuary for the pulpit, altar and priest's chair
- Improved wiring for sanctuary and choir loft

We have elected to not replace all the speakers since the current ones are working well, and new speakers would be much larger and aesthetically less pleasing. These upgrades have improved the overall quality and consistency of the speech and sung word within our church. Additionally, we are very grateful for Chris Lind and all the hard work he has put into the sound system at Immaculate Conception.

## TIME, TALENT & TREASURE

*Fostering Stewardship as a Way of Life*

### Fiscal Year 7/1/2019-6/30/2020 • Offertory Report 3/8/2020

	3/8/2020	YTD 2019/2020
Recorded Envelopes/Checks	\$ 25,967.50	\$ 862,357.81
Loose Cash & Checks	\$ 659.00	\$ 24,335.29
<b>TOTAL RECEIVED</b>	<b>\$ 26,626.50</b>	<b>\$886,693.10</b>
Weekly Operating Expenses	\$ 25,000.00	\$900,000.00
Weekly Overage ( <i>Shortage</i> )	(\$ 1,626.50)	(\$ 13,306.90)
<hr/>		
Families Receiving Envelopes		1,056
Envelopes Received		214
Families on EFT		337

Manage your electronic contributions online! Visit [www.iccols.org](http://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

### IC LENTEN FISH FRY – VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

IC Lenten Fish Fry continues this week! Plan to enjoy the great food and family of the IC community in this Lenten journey! Same great event sponsored by the IC Knights of Columbus. Dinner begins at 5 p.m. Take-out is available. Stations of the Cross will follow immediately after at 7:30 p.m.

We need your generous support of volunteer time and desserts for the Fish Fry to be successful! It's an enjoyable experience! Volunteer signups and dessert donation signups are on Sign-Up Genius found on the IC website under News & Events. Contact John Bruzzese (614) 284-9226 with any questions.

### SEASONS OF HOPE

#### BEREAVEMENT MINISTRY AT IC

Are you suffering the loss of a loved one? Are you looking for friends to share in your grief and healing? Please join us at our Seasons of Hope Bereavement Ministry meetings. This is a Christ-Centered peer support group that meets for six weeks, four times per year. Each session includes Scripture, prayer, reflection, and sharing. During the spring season, we will meet on March 15, 22, 29, April 5, 19, and 26 in the Marian Hall of Immaculate Conception Catholic Church.

Registration is from 1:30 to 1:55 p.m. each Sunday, with group sharing following from 2-4 p.m. You may join us for any or all of our sessions. Please feel free to bring a friend! If you have any questions, you may contact Michael Julian, a parishioner at Immaculate Conception, at [mjulian@columbus.rr.com](mailto:mjulian@columbus.rr.com) or at (614) 282-7156.

### THE MARTHA PANEL

Every year The St. Martha Giving Circle, also known as The Marthas, gather together to learn about different organizations doing wonderful work in our community. Last year The Marthas granted \$45,000! This year 10 organizations will have 10 minutes to share their mission, how they serve the needs in our community, and volunteer opportunities that might be available for any interested Marthas. The Martha Panel will take place on Thursday, March 19 at 5 p.m. at The Catholic Foundation located at 257 East Broad Street, Columbus Ohio. For more information on The Marthas and to see who will be speaking on the panel, please visit [www.catholic-foundation.org/themarthas](http://www.catholic-foundation.org/themarthas). If you are interested in attending please RSVP to Kristin Shuey at [kshuey@catholic-foundation.org](mailto:kshuey@catholic-foundation.org) or (614) 443-8893.

## GIVE OF YOUR TIME AND MUSICAL TALENT THIS LENTEN SEASON!

Have you thought of joining the choir? This is your chance to experience the joy of being in the choir for a short time, with the option of staying on board until summer break! Singing sacred music is a great way to memorize scripture verses, develop new friendships, grow spiritually and participate in parish life. You have the option of joining the 9:30 a.m. Sunday Mass Contemporary Choir or the 11:30 a.m. Sunday Mass Traditional Choir; both choirs will be uniting for two Holy Week Liturgies. Come join us in the loft for the following rehearsals or contact the Music Director, Deanna Oppenheimer, at [doppenheimer@iccols.org](mailto:doppenheimer@iccols.org) for more information.

#### 9:30 Mass

#### Choir Rehearsals

Tuesday, March 17, 7-8:30

Tuesday, March 24, 7-8:30

Tuesday, March 31, 7-8:30

#### 11:30 Mass

#### Choir Rehearsals

Thursday, March 19, 7-8:30

Thursday, March 26, 7-8:30

Thursday, April 2, 7-8:30

Combined Choir Rehearsal: Sunday, April 5 from 2-4:00

### 33 DAYS TO MERCIFUL LOVE

All women, including mothers with young children, are welcome to St. Michael's women's group video study of Fr. Gaitley's "33 Days to Merciful Love" on the following Tuesdays at 9:15 a.m.: March 17, 31; April 7, 21; and May 5, 19, at St. Michael's in Worthington! Mothers may bring their young children as we'll have access to the MDO toy closet. No reading required! \*\*All participants must have their fingerprints on file with the diocesan database and have completed the PGC class before the attending. \*\* Contact Eva DeCenzo at [evadecenzo@gmail.com](mailto:evadecenzo@gmail.com) if interested in joining us!

### THE FRUITS OF THE GOSPEL OF LIFE:

#### EVANGELIUM VITAE 25 YEARS LATER

Upcoming speakers panel on Wednesday, March 25, 2020, from 7 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. at St. Matthew the Apostle Catholic Church, 807 Havens Corners Road, Gahanna. Come learn how the encyclical letter *Evangelium Vitae* has produced many fruits in the work of building a culture of life and how it continues to address the challenges of our day. Written by Pope St. John Paul II, this Church teaching on the value and inviolability of every human life inspired Catholics around the world. The evening includes a video anniversary message from Bishop Robert J. Brennan and presentations on the following topics: Walking with Mothers by Monica Flynn of Mommies Matter; Post Abortion Reconciliation and Healing by Becky D'Alesio of Catholic Social Services' Project Rachel; Bioethics and End of Life Issues by Fr. Bob Penhallurick, Chaplain of the Catholic Medical Association Guild of Central Ohio; and the Death Penalty by Jim Tobin of the Catholic Conference of Ohio. Co-sponsored by St. Matthew the Apostle Catholic Church and the diocesan Office for Social Concerns. Free and open to the public. For more details, call (614) 241-2540 or email [socmailbox@columbuscatholic.org](mailto:socmailbox@columbuscatholic.org).

### SOCIAL CONCERNS

#### YWCA FAMILY CENTER DINNER

Immaculate Conception Church will be preparing and serving dinner at the YWCA Family Center, Friday, March 20. The food sign-up board is located in the gathering space of the church. Thank you for any help.

## SCHOOL NEWS & ACTIVITIES

### IMMACULATE CONCEPTION SCHOOL

**Scholarships applications are due on Wednesday, March 18. If your son or daughter plan to apply for any of the following scholarships, please remind them they are due soon.**

- **Monsignor Missimi Scholarship**
- **John and Mary Ryan Scholarship**
- **Cleary Family Scholarship**
- **Home and School Service Scholarship**

**Spring Break for IC School is March 23-27.** Classes resume on Monday, March 30. Have a safe and peaceful break.

**School Advisory Board Nominations and Elections:** The School Advisory Board is seeking candidates to fill three (3), 3-year terms to begin in the 2020-2021 school year. The School Advisory Board exists to give the Catholic Lay Community a voice in education decision making. Regular meetings are typically held the third Thursday of the month, with the exception of June, July, and December. Additional committee meetings may also be scheduled. Interested candidates should submit their photo and short bio to School Advisory Board Vice President, Stephanie Baird, at [sksgcc@yahoo.com](mailto:sksgcc@yahoo.com) by April 24. Stephanie will confirm with candidates once she has received their email. Candidate information will be shared with the parish community. Voting will be conducted following Masses the weekend of May 16-17 in the gathering space.

**Registration is OPEN for Preschool and our K-8 Main School:** Classes will fill on a first come, first served basis at this time. Families currently enrolled in K-8 do not need to re-enroll. All preschool families must re-enroll each year due to the varied class options. Call our school office for any questions or information (614) 267-6579.

### BISHOP WATTERSON

**Art Show:** Bishop Watterson will hold its annual Art Show on Thursday, April 2 from 4-7 p.m. Artwork by students from Bishop Watterson and its feeder schools will be featured and the Drama Department will hold a bake sale. All are welcome!

**BWHS Summer Camps:** Bishop Watterson is offering a variety of summer camp options! Art and wood shop camps complement our extensive sports offerings: baseball, boys basketball, girls basketball, cheerleading, field hockey, football, boys lacrosse, boys soccer, girls soccer, boys and girls tennis, track, and girls volleyball. Go to [bishopwatterson.com](http://bishopwatterson.com) for dates, registration and other details.

**Eagle Gala:** It is time to register for Bishop Watterson's Eagle Gala! Join us on Sunday, April 19 at The Exchange at Bridge Park for dinner, music, live and silent auctions and more. All proceeds go toward tuition assistance and the Dominican Program, which is Bishop Watterson's program that offers academic and emotional wellness support for our students. Go to [bishopwatterson.com](http://bishopwatterson.com) to register! Registration closes April 5.

### ST. CHARLES

**Upcoming Spring Orientation Evening and Cardinal Spring Fling at St. Charles Preparatory School:** St. Charles Preparatory School will be holding two events the first week in April: A special **Spring Orientation Evening** on Thursday, April 2, 2020, for 8th grade boys who will become part of the school's graduating Class of 2024. This special night starts 7 p.m. and will be an opportunity to meet new classmates, families, and schedule classes for the 2020-2021 school year. Then on Saturday, April 4, 2020, St. Charles will host the **Cardinal Spring Fling** from 11 a.m. - 2 p.m. This day is for boys in 5th- 8th grades, who along with their families, can see the Volleyball, Lacrosse, Ultimate Frisbee, and Robotics teams in action, as well as take tours of the campus. There will be Food Trucks on campus to provide meals and refreshments. RSVP by April 1 to Salvador Mercado ([smercado@scprep.org](mailto:smercado@scprep.org)) if you'd like to attend. If you have other questions about this day of fun, please contact our school office at (308) 209-2222 for more information.

## JOSEPHINUM SEMINARY TO HOST SPRING "LIVE-IN" WEEKEND

The Pontifical College Josephinum ([www.pcj.edu](http://www.pcj.edu)) will host a spring live-in weekend from 4 p.m. Thursday, March 26, through noon Saturday, March 28, for young men of high-school and college age, along with men who already have their undergraduate degrees who are discerning a vocation to the priesthood. The live-in weekend is designed for participants to discuss and experience various aspects of seminary life – prayer and spirituality, academic classes, liturgies and communal life – and to speak with formation faculty, seminarians and staff. Discussions on human, spiritual and pastoral dimensions of seminary formation are part of the live-in experience. There is no cost associated with the live-in experience, however registration is required. For more information please contact Father Michael Lumpe, Vice-Rector, at [mlumpe@pcj.edu](mailto:mlumpe@pcj.edu), or Arminda Crawford at [acrawford@pcj.edu](mailto:acrawford@pcj.edu); both can also be reached by calling the Josephinum at (614) 885-5585. The Pontifical College Josephinum is located at 7625 North High Street, Columbus, 43235.

## CIVILIZE IT – DIGNITY BEYOND THE DEBATE

The USCCB is calling on Catholics to bring the best of ourselves and our faith to the public square through civil discourse. *Civilize It* is a non-partisan call to focus on the dignity of all people, even when we disagree and to put faith in action by bearing witness to a better way forward. To take the *Civilize It* pledge visit [www.civilizeit.org](http://www.civilizeit.org).



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!

## BULLETIN DEADLINE

*The deadline for all articles for the Sunday bulletin is Friday afternoon, (9) days before the article appears in the bulletin. Please include contact information with a phone number and email address. Your written submission may be sent to the parish office or emailed to [ic.bulletin@iccols.org](mailto:ic.bulletin@iccols.org). All bulletin items and flyers must be approved by the parish office. Notices for bulletin boards must also be approved by the parish office before posting.*



# ADULT FAITH FORMATION PAGE

## The Third Sunday of Lent

### Catechism Corner

*"If you knew the gift of God!"* [Jn. 4:10]  
The wonder of prayer is revealed beside the well where we come seeking water: there, Christ comes to meet every human being. It is he who first seeks us and asks us for a drink. Jesus thirsts; his asking arises from the depths of God's thirst with ours. God thirsts that we may thirst for him."<sup>8</sup> (CCC, 2560)  
The Catechism of the Catholic Church  
8: Cf. St. Augustine, *De diversis quaestionibus octoginta tribus* 64, 4: PL 40, 56.

In today's Gospel reading, Jesus approaches the woman at the well with no hesitation. Throughout their conversation, Jesus shows the woman that he truly knows her, that she is not a stranger. How can you open yourself up to God this Lent so that you can know him, like he knows you?

**FORMED.org** picks for this week:

#### Watch/Study/Listen:

**"Joseph of Nazareth: The Story of the Man Closest to Christ"** – Augustine Institute – 1 hr; 37 mins; 7 secs.

**"Opening the Word"** 3rd Sunday of Lent - March 15, 2020 – Augustine Institute – 5mins. 45secs.

**"In the Footsteps of Saint Patrick"**  
Augustine Institute - 2 Episodes

**"Did Jesus Really Rise from the Dead?"**  
Augustine Institute – 56 mins.

#### LISTEN:

**"The Passion of Christ in Light of the Holy Shroud of Turin"** by Fr. F. Peffley – 1 hr.

**"St. Joseph: Patron of the Universal Church"** by Mark Miravalle 1 hr. 1min.

#### READ:

**"The Year and Our Children"** by Mary Newland Reed

**"The School of Nazareth: A Spiritual Journey with St. Joseph"** by Mark Hartfiel

#### KIDS:

**"Brother Francis-Let's Learn About Lent"** - Augustine Institute



**What are the Scrutinies?** Just as the season of Lent calls each of us to a 40 day journey with Christ in preparation for Easter, those in the RCIA are called to a period of more intense spiritual preparation as they journey towards full initiation in the Catholic faith. Our catechumens have now entered into the *period of purification and enlightenment*. This period includes the three "**Scrutinies**" for the unbaptized (known as "*the elect*") on the Third, Fourth, and Fifth Sundays of Lent., We will celebrate the scrutinies at Immaculate Conception at the 11:30am mass.

These rites engage the entire parish community in the RCIA process. The three Scrutinies are meant to bring a growth to holiness. Each includes prayers of exorcism as well as invocations to God meant to uncover and then heal what is weak, defective, or sinful in hearts while strengthening what is good, strong, and holy in the lives of not only the elect, but the entire assembly as they travel a journey of conversion with those in the RCIA. The prayers of the scrutinies are based on the gospel readings from Cycle A: the Samaritan woman at the well, the man born blind, and the raising of Lazarus. These stories, all rich in meaning, will guide them in searching their hearts and opening them to Jesus. Please keep our elect and their sponsors in your prayers during this time of preparation.

### **Saint Joseph, Husband of Mary--March 19**      **Saint Watch**

The Bible pays Joseph the highest compliment: he was a "just" man. The quality meant a lot more than faithfulness in paying debts.

When the Bible speaks of God "justifying" someone, it means that God, the all-holy or "righteous" one, so transforms a person that the individual shares somehow in God's own holiness, and hence it is really "right" for God to love him or her. In other words, God is not playing games, acting as if we were lovable when we are not.

By saying Joseph was "just," the Bible means that he was one who was completely open to all that God wanted to do for him. He became holy by opening himself totally to God.

The rest we can easily surmise. Think of the kind of love with which he wooed and won Mary, and the depth of the love they shared during their marriage.

It is no contradiction of Joseph's manly holiness that he decided to divorce Mary when she was found to be with child. The important words of the Bible are that he planned to do this "quietly" because he was "a righteous man, yet unwilling to expose her to shame" (Matthew 1:19).

The just man was simply, joyfully, wholeheartedly obedient to God—in marrying Mary, in naming Jesus, in shepherding the precious pair to Egypt, in bringing them to Nazareth, in the undetermined number of years of quiet faith and courage.

<https://www.franciscanmedia.org/saint-joseph-husband-of-mary/>

The spouse of Mary the mother of Jesus and the legal father of Jesus according to Jewish law, Joseph is a model of humility and obedience to God's will. He followed God's instructions, given by angels in dreams, and took the pregnant Mary into his home as his wife, protected her and Jesus at the child's birth in Bethlehem through the family's sojourn in Egypt, and provided for them as a carpenter in Nazareth. He is the patron saint of carpenters, the dying, and workers.

"St Joseph persevered in this mission with fidelity and love. The Church, therefore, offers him to us as an exceptional model of service to Christ and to his mysterious plan of salvation. And she calls upon him as the special patron and protector of the whole family of believers. In a special way, Joseph is presented to us on his feast day as the saint under whose powerful protection divine Providence has wished to place the persons and ministry of all who are called to be "fathers" and "guardians" among the Christian people." (St. John Paul II, Homily, March 19, 2001) [www.usccb.org](http://www.usccb.org)



# exploring THE SUNDAY READINGS

## THE CONVERSATION DEEPENS : THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT

### FIRST READING

#### EXODUS 17:3-7

So Moses cried out to the LORD, "What shall I do with this people?"

God and Moses: what a pair! Moses didn't know God when his life was rescued at the hour of birth by swift-acting midwives. Or during the period when his mother hid him, or his sister watched over him in a reed basket at the Nile. Or when a bathing princess discovered the basket and adopted him. For all the years Moses received divine and human protections, he was completely unaware of it.

It's only after an adult Moses murders an Egyptian and goes on the lam that he runs into God. He's not in what we traditionally called a state of grace. He isn't primed for a sacred encounter. But God comes to him anyway in the burning bush, and Moses starts a conversation that will last a lifetime. The dialogue isn't always easy and sometimes grows quite heated. Among intimates, even a quarrel can be a form of love and trust.

» *How do your arguments with those you love differ from disagreements with others?*

### SECOND READING

#### ROMANS 5:1-2, 5-8

Indeed, only with difficulty does one die for a just person....

Many of us would give our lives to save a loved one. Some among us, including firefighters, police officers, and soldiers, routinely sacrifice themselves for strangers. It is much rarer that any of us would entertain the idea of risking our lives for someone we dislike or disapprove of. An enemy would be the least likely recipient of our self-sacrifice.

Perhaps if we knew that a national hero, genius, or saintly person was in imminent danger, we would put our lives on the line for someone we deemed more worthy or necessary. But if the person in danger of death were some scoundrel, would we leap up to take the bullet? Yet Jesus chooses to die for sinners, as we tell it. Jesus hangs on the cross for scoundrels like us. Only in heaven does such a decision make sense.

» *Few of us will face martyrdom for our faith. But if not to die for Jesus, how are we willing to live for him?*

### GOSPEL

#### JOHN 4:5-42

His disciples were amazed that Jesus was talking with a woman.

It's the 21st century. Fewer of us than ever are shocked that a woman might have something to say worth hearing. Catholics, at least, shouldn't be surprised when God chooses the conversation with a girl in Nazareth as the turning point of salvation history. Still, we might forgive the disciples of twenty centuries ago for needing to suppress the urge to ask Jesus: "Why are you talking with her?"

Because this was a conversation that shouldn't be happening. The woman says it herself: you're a Jewish man and I'm a Samaritan woman. What could we say to each other that won't involve us in some sin? Jesus initiates a conversation anyway. And it turns out they have a good deal to talk about. The encounter changes the woman's life and those of her people as well. Maybe it's time to attempt more impossible conversations.

*Which conversations are you not a part of that might hold some hidden harvest?*

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