



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)

*Leading people to Jesus through Worship, Community, Service, and Devotion to Mary*

Celebration of

## *Holy Mass*

### SUNDAY MASSES

Saturday Vigil: 4 p.m.

Sunday: 8:30 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.

### DAILY MASSES

Monday: 8:30 a.m., Tuesday: 6:15 p.m.

Wednesday-Friday: 8:30 a.m.

### HOLY DAY MASSES

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

## *Sacraments*

### RECONCILIATION

Tuesdays: 5:30-6 p.m.

Fridays: Following the 8:30 a.m. Mass, 9:15-9:45 a.m. or by appointment

### BAPTISM

For detailed information related to preparation and scheduling, please contact Barb Fortkamp at (614) 267-9241, ext. 307 or at [bfortkamp@iccols.org](mailto:bfortkamp@iccols.org).

### MARRIAGE

Couples should inquire at least 12 months in advance of the intended date. A marriage preparation program is required. For information, contact Elizabeth DeLuca (614) 267-9241, ext. 304 or at [edeluca@iccols.org](mailto:edeluca@iccols.org).

### ANOINTING OF THE SICK AND PASTORAL MINISTRY TO THE HOMEBOUND

If there is an emergency need for Anointing of the Sick, please call the parish office. If you get the voicemail message, press "1" and leave a message on the sacramental emergency line. Pastoral Care needs contact Barb Fortkamp at (614) 267-9241, ext. 307 or at [bfortkamp@iccols.org](mailto:bfortkamp@iccols.org).

### FUNERAL AND BEAVEMENT MINSITRY

Family of the deceased loved one should contact Barb Fortkamp at (614) 267-9241, ext. 307 or at [bfortkamp@iccols.org](mailto:bfortkamp@iccols.org).

### RCIA

RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults) is the formation program of inquiry, discernment and instruction for adults. If you are interested in learning more about our faith and becoming Catholic, Please contact Mary Ann Rivera at (614) 267-9241, ext. 293 or at [marivera@iccols.org](mailto:marivera@iccols.org).

*Find us on*  
SOCIAL MEDIA

Immaculate Conception Parish



@ICColumbus



immaculateconceptioncolumbus

Immaculate Conception School



@ICRamsColumbus



@ic\_school



## MASS INTENTIONS

### SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 28

Rv 22:1-7; Lk 21:34-36

4:00 p.m. For the People of the Parish

### SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 29

Is 63:16b-17, 19b; 64:2-7; 1 Cor 1:3-9; Mk 13:33-37

8:30 a.m. Ed & Lorraine McMahon †

11:00 a.m. Deceased Members

of the Homonnay Family †

### MONDAY, NOVEMBER 30

Rom 10:9-18; Mt 4:18-22

8:30 a.m. For the Deceased Members

of the Dezsi Family †

### TUESDAY, DECEMBER 1

Is 11:1-10; Lk 10:21-24

6:15 p.m. Hank Nini †

### WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 2

Is 25:6-10a; Mt 15:29-37

8:30 a.m. John Griga †

### THURSDAY, DECEMBER 3

Is 26:1-6; Mt 7:21, 24-27

8:30 a.m. For the Deceased Members

of the Szalay Family †

### FRIDAY, DECEMBER 4

Is 29:17-24; Mt 9:27-31

8:30 a.m. Michael Fallon †

### SATURDAY, DECEMBER 5

Is 30:19-21, 23-26; Mt 9:35-10:1, 5a, 6-8

4:00 p.m. Michael Kelsey †

### SUNDAY, DECEMBER 6

Is 40:1-5, 9-11; 2 Pt 3:8-14; Mk 1:1-8

8:30 a.m. For the People of the Parish

11:00 a.m. Keenan James Sullivan †

† Deceased

## 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, one Sanctuary candle in the Church was donated by **Dennis Wilcox**, the second candle was donated by **Dennis and Paula Mong**, and the third candle was donated by the **Francis Sullivan Family**. Thank you for your generosity.

## DONATIONS TO THE SANCTUARY LAMPS

Parishioners interested in contributing to a candle for one or more of the three Sanctuary Lamps in the Church, please contact Sue Beman at (614) 214-5333 or Beman\_sue@yahoo.com to make arrangements. Contributors' names will be included in the Sunday bulletin. The suggested offering is \$25.00 per candle. The I.C. Women's Club thanks you for supporting this ministry.

## PASTORAL STAFF

<i>Pastor</i>	Fr. Matthew Hoover ..... icoffice@iccols.org
<i>Permanent Deacon</i>	Rev. Mr. Christopher Campbell..... ccampbel@cducation.org
<i>Weekend Assistants</i>	Msgr. Anthony Frecker
<i>Pastoral Care</i>	Barbara Fortkamp ..... bfortkamp@iccols.org
<i>&amp; Bereavement Ministry</i>	

## FAITH FORMATION

<i>Music Ministry</i>	Deanna Oppenheimer..... doppenheimer@iccols.org
<i>PSR Coordinator</i>	Paulette Mudrey..... icpsr@iccols.org
<i>Evangelization and Faith Formation</i>	Mary Ann Rivera ..... marivera@iccols.org

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

<i>Parish Business Administrator</i>	John Bernard ..... jbernard@iccols.org
<i>Office Assistant</i>	Elizabeth DeLuca..... edeluca@iccols.org
<i>Director of Marketing &amp; Communications</i>	Jacob Lammers..... jlammers@iccols.org
<i>Administrative Assistant</i>	Karen Cannell ..... icoffice@iccols.org
<i>Facilities Manager</i>	Keith Altier

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

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

## PARISH SUPPORT SERVICES

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

## ADVISORY COUNCILS

<i>Finance Council Chairman</i>	Brian Byrne..... bbyrne@horizon10.com
<i>Parish Council President</i>	Mary Ann Grossman..... parishcouncil@iccols.org
<i>School Board President</i>	Katie Lewis ..... lewisk9@me.com

## SCHEDULING MASS INTENTIONS

One of the greatest acts of charity is to pray for the living and the dead (a spiritual work of mercy). The greatest and most powerful prayer we have is the Mass, since the fruits of the Mass are the very fruits of Jesus' redemption. You can schedule a Mass intention for deceased friends and loved ones by calling the parish office at (614) 267-9241, or by turning in a written request (iccols.org). Mass stipends (offerings) are \$10 each. Mass intentions can also be requested for special intentions.

## IN OUR PARISH

**SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM:** We welcome this new member of the parish: **James Callahan Kennedy**, who was baptized on November 22, 2020.

## CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE

Our Christmas Mass schedule is Christmas Eve at 4 p.m., 7 p.m. and 10 p.m. Mass on Christmas Day will be at 10 a.m. We had an overwhelming response to our Christmas survey and are now developing a plan to accommodate as many parishioners as social-distancing allows. Please realize that space is limited so we will need a reservation system and we ask that you be flexible. We will be live-streaming some Masses and encourage families to take advantage of this. More information will be available soon.

**LIVE-STREAM LINK**

To view the Mass, either live-streamed or recorded, please go to the parish website at [www.iccols.org](http://www.iccols.org) and click on the tab "Live-streaming Masses" on the Home Page OR go to <https://www.iccols.org/icmass/>.

**FEAST OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION**

Tuesday, December 8, 2020 is the Feast of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary, the patron saint of our country and our parish. This is a holy day of obligation. We will celebrate the Feast of the Immaculate Conception with Masses at 8:30 and 11:30 a.m. and 7 p.m.

**FEAST OF OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE**

On Saturday, December 12, we celebrate the Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe. There will be a 9 a.m. Mass that day as we commemorate the appearance of Mary to the Mexican peasant Juan Diego in 1531.

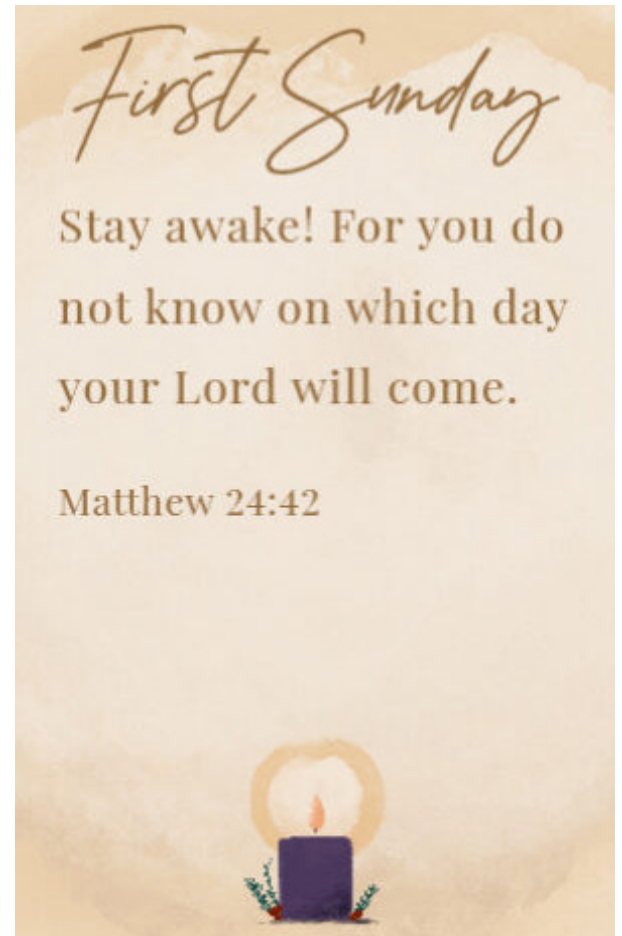
**Our Lady of Guadalupe Diocesan Celebration:** A diocesan-wide celebration in honor of Our Lady of Guadalupe will take place on Saturday, December 12, 10 a.m.-noon at St. Joseph Cathedral. There will be songs, dance, a keynote speaker, and Rosary. The event will culminate with Mass with Archbishop Christophe Pierre, the Apostolic Nuncio to the United States. Due to the pandemic, there will be a limited number of invited guests in the Cathedral that day. However, everyone is encouraged to participate virtually via television (NBC4), radio (103.1 La Mega), and social media (YouTube). The event will be in Spanish, with English translation available.

**ROSARY AT THE GROTTO**

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

**THE CATHOLIC CAMPAIGN FOR HUMAN DEVELOPMENT**

Thank you for your generous support for the Catholic Campaign for Human Development annual collection! If you missed the collection, it's not too late to give! To donate, you can use the designated envelope in your packet or place your donation in an envelope marked CCHD and place it in an offertory/candle box in a side chapel. Donations can also be dropped in the slot by the parish office door. More information can be found at [www.usccb.org/cchd/collection](http://www.usccb.org/cchd/collection) or by contacting Erin Cordle at the Diocesan Office for Social Concerns, [socmailbox@columbuscatholic.org](mailto:socmailbox@columbuscatholic.org).

**ANNUAL APPEAL**

**SUPPORT  
IMMACULATE CONCEPTION**

[HTTP://BIT.LY/IC\\_ANNUAL\\_APPEAL](http://bit.ly/ic_annual_appeal)



All parishioners should have received information in the mail for the Parish Annual Offertory Appeal. Our parish operations – which includes salaries, utilities, routine and preventative maintenance, and support of all of the programs and ministries normally happening here on our Clintonville campus – are dependent on offertory income. Increasing offertory giving is key to our continued parish growth and sustainability! Please consider your commitment to meet the operational needs of Immaculate Conception Parish by returning your 2020-21 Offertory Commitment card or pledging online as soon as possible. No gift is too great or too small!

**#GIVINGTUESDAY™**

**Dec. 1, 2020**

Immaculate Conception Parish is excited to direct 100% of the funds we collect on #GivingTuesday to

**WOMEN'S CARE CENTER**  
COLUMBUS, OHIO



Any donation to our #GivingTuesday campaign can help make a difference in the life of a mother and child!

- \$10 - 1 Bottle of Prenatal Vitamins
- \$25 - 5 Brand New Children's Books
- \$50 - 1 Infant Car Seat
- \$83 - Life-saving Counseling & Ultrasound for 1 Woman
- \$100 - Care Beyond a Choice for Life: Classes & Goals Sessions
- \$150 - 1 Crib & Mattress
- \$300 - Care for 1 Woman from a Choice for Life to Self-sufficiency

Donate today at

[https://bit.ly/2020GivingTues\\_WomenCareCtr](https://bit.ly/2020GivingTues_WomenCareCtr)



*Lord, make us turn to you; let us see your face and we shall be saved.*



**TIME, TALENT & TREASURE***Fostering Stewardship as a Way of Life***Fiscal Year 7/1/2020-6/30/2021 • Offertory Report 11/22/2020**

	<u>11/22/2020</u>	<u>YTD 2020/2021</u>
Recorded Envelopes/Checks	\$ 25,217.00	\$ 453,785.00
Loose Cash	\$ 97.00	\$ 3,154.00
<b>TOTAL RECEIVED</b>	<b>\$ 25,314.00</b>	<b>\$ 456,939.00</b>
Weekly Operating Expenses	\$ 25,000.00	\$ 525,000.00
Weekly Overage ( <i>Shortage</i> )	\$ 314.00	(\$ 68,061.00)

Families Receiving Envelopes	1,011
Envelopes Received	98
Families on EFT	365



Manage your electronic contributions online! Visit [www.iccols.org](http://www.iccols.org) and click "Offertory & Stewardship" under the Giving menu. Alternatively, text "Give" to (614) 953-6436. Thank you for your financial support of our Catholic faith here in our parish. We are grateful for your generosity.

*"As each one has received a gift, use it to serve one another as good stewards of God's varied grace."*  
- 1 Pt 4:10

**POPE FRANCIS' ENCYCLICAL ON SOLIDARITY**

Pope Francis' new social encyclical on solidarity, *Fratelli Tutti: On Fraternity and Social Friendship*, promotes authentic ways to build a more just and peaceful world, within relationships, social life, politics, and institutions. The Holy Father addresses the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic and many of the social issues the world is struggling with today. Reminding us that we are all brothers and sisters as children of the one Creator, Pope Francis calls on the Church and all people of good will to enter into a renewed commitment to seek unity of the human family. To read *Fratelli Tutti* online, visit [www.vatican.va](http://www.vatican.va).

**THE HOLY SPIRIT'S CALL: IGNITE THE FIRE MEN'S RETREAT - DECEMBER 4, 2020**

**Jesus said, "I have come to light a fire on the earth, How I wish the blaze were ignited! (Luke 12:49)"**

**Where:** Presentation Ministries' Our Lady of Guadalupe Discipleship Center, 5701 Lawshe Road, Peebles, OH 45660

- Guest Rooms available
- Meals provided
- Take some extra time to enjoy our trails, rock formations and wooded hillsides

**Cost:** A freewill offering. Pray and "Do whatever He tells You." For more information and to Preregister, go to [retreats@presentationministries.com](mailto:retreats@presentationministries.com) and click on Retreats or call (513) 373-2397.

**SOCIAL CONCERNS****FIFTH SUNDAY COLLECTION FOR ST. VINCENT DEPAUL**

The St. Vincent de Paul 5th Sunday Collection is this weekend, November 28 and 29. You may use the donation envelope in your packet or place your donation in an envelope marked St. Vincent at any time. Due to the current situation, members will be unable to stand at the church doors to accept your donations. Your envelopes and cash donations can be placed in the safe in the Gathering Space. Donations in envelopes, can be placed in the offertory boxes or sent to the parish office.

We ask your continued financial support for their charitable works. Many more families than usual are experiencing food insecurity at this time.

**NEXT YWCA DINNER, DECEMBER 4, 2020**

Sign up for the next YWCA Family Shelter dinner by going to the parish website at [www.iccols.org](http://www.iccols.org), clicking on Quick Links on the blue bar, then the YWCA Shelter Dinner Sign-up. Many items are still needed.

Those who donate are to deliver donations directly to the shelter at 900 Harvey Court, Columbus, OH 43219. Please do not drop off your donations at Immaculate Conception. When you drop off donations at the YWCA directly, please call the front desk when you arrive at (614) 253-3910, ext. 3910, and a staff member will meet you at your car.

**OPEN SHELTER MINISTRY - DECEMBER 7**

Due to COVID, we will be delivering the Open Shelter food on Monday, December 7 at 9:30 a.m. Donations can be dropped off or pick up can be arranged. We will be donating hotdogs and buns (to be cooked at the Open Shelter office) along with items that can be included in sack lunches i.e. chips, water, fruit snacks, desserts, etc. Please text or call Cheryl Costello at (614) 774-8879 to make arrangements for pick up or drop off. Items should not be dropped off at IC. Thank you!

**DONATING FOOD ITEMS TO PARISH FOOD MINISTRIES**

Your food donations to the IC ministries to the homeless, needy, and those experiencing food insecurity, are a way of practicing the corporal work of mercy "To feed the hungry." God calls us to reach out and help those in need. Your food donations to the YWCA Family Shelter, Open Shelter and the IC St. Vincent de Paul food pantry are essential and appreciated.

However, due to this unusual year, we ask that you deliver donations directly to the organization requesting them. **Your donations to these ministries should not be dropped off in the Church, Gathering Space or Rectory.**



My loving Jesus, I choose You, this Advent, as my King and my God. I abandon myself to You and seek to put all my trust in Your tender care. Draw me close to You and free me from my sin so that I may love You with a pure and holy heart.

Mother Mary, as You carried your dear Son in your immaculate womb, you also carried Him in your heart. Pray for me, this Advent, that I may surrender myself to the will of the Father in imitation of you. You said “Yes” to all that God asked of you and never hesitated to fully embrace His divine will. Pray that I may imitate your perfect example so as to share a deeper union with you and your divine Son.

Come, Lord Jesus,  
Come, Lord Jesus,  
Come, Lord Jesus!  
Amen.

## Celebrate the Advent Saint Feast Days

Celebrate the saints of the Advent & Christmas season. In addition to **St. Andrew's feast day on November 30**—the Advent kickoff— there are other saints with feast days during Advent that have special cultural traditions associated with them. **St. Nicholas Day** is on **December 6**, the **Feast of the Immaculate Conception (a Holy Day of Obligation)** is **December 8th**, **Our Lady of Guadalupe Feast Day** is **December 12**, and **St. Lucy's feast day** is **December 13**.



## Blessing of the 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.



Blessing of the Advent Wreath taken from *Catholic Household Blessings and Prayers, Revised Edition* (Washington, DC: USCCB, 2007), 73-75. Copyright © 2007, United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, Washington, DC. All rights reserved. Image: CNS photo/Nancy Wiehede.

## Special Advent Prayers

**Adopt special prayers during the Advent season.** You can often find them in Advent devotional books.

There is the **St. Andrew Christmas Novena** which is traditionally prayed from the feast of St. Andrew (November 30) until Christmas Eve.

Another tradition is praying the **O Antiphons from the Liturgy of the Hours in the eight days leading up to Christmas.** The O Antiphons are the antiphons of the Evening Prayers (Vespers) during the week before Christmas. Each antiphon welcome the birth of the Savior by heralding one of the resplendent Biblical titles of the soon-to-be-born Son of God as foreshadowed in the Old Testament by the prophet Isaiah.

**Jesse Tree:** If you have kids, the Jesse Tree (named after the father of King David, the ancestor of Jesus, as mentioned in Isaiah 11) is a fun biblical activity during the Advent season which prepares for the birth of Christ and his mission. It's fun for kids and great catechesis. It goes through the ancestry of Jesus and how all of his ancestors played a role in salvation history. The tree created can then be used as a holiday decoration.

## St. Andrew Novena



HAIL AND BLESSED BE THE HOUR AND MOMENT  
IN WHICH THE SON OF GOD WAS BORN OF THE  
MOST PURE VIRGIN MARY, AT MIDNIGHT, IN  
BETHLEHEM, IN PIERCING COLD. IN THAT HOUR,  
VOUCHSAFE, O MY GOD! TO HEAR MY PRAYER  
AND GRANT MY DESIRES, THROUGH THE MERITS  
OF OUR SAVIOUR JESUS CHRIST, AND OF HIS  
BLESSD MOTHER. AMEN.

Imprimatur  
+MICHAEL AUGUSTINE, Archbishop of New York  
New York, February 6, 1897

*It is piously believed that whoever recites the above prayer fifteen times a day from the feast of St. Andrew (30th November) until Christmas will obtain what is asked*

CHRISTMAS NOVENA  
NOVEMBER 30 - DECEMBER 24

JOYfilledfamily.com




First Sunday of Advent  
Light the Prophecy  
Candle which  
represents hope.  
Pray and give thanks for  
the moments of hope  
this year.

Second Sunday of Advent  
Light the Bethlehem  
candle which represents  
Faith. Pray that Jesus  
may give us faith in all  
circumstances.

Third Sunday of Advent  
Light the Shepherd's  
Candle which  
represents Joy. Pray  
that in the waiting we  
may wait with Joyful  
hearts.

Fourth Sunday of Advent  
Light the Angel's candle  
which represents peace.  
Pray that we may be filled  
with God's deep abiding  
peace and share that peace  
with others.

# Advent 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>November 29</b> Buy or make an Advent wreath. Bless it and light the first candle tonight and every night this week. Read Mark 13:33-37.	<b>30</b> Advent is about waiting for the Savior to come. Offer a simple prayer of praise anytime you have to wait during Advent.	<b>December 1</b> The presence of Jesus reminds us to hope in God's mercy. Make a list of reasons for your hope today.	<b>2</b> Pick one habit that is keeping you from holiness. Identify your "go-to sin" and resolve to conquer it during Advent.	<b>3</b> Add 20 minutes of daily prayer during Advent. Set an alarm to remind you to pray for 10 minutes each morning and night this month.	<b>4</b> In gratitude that God provides for your needs, set aside gently used clothing and give it to the poor. Add a piece you love as a special sacrifice.	<b>5</b> Perform an examination of conscience today. Then go to Confession, if your parish offers it, to get ready to greet the Savior.
<b>6</b> At sundown tonight, light two violet candles in the Advent wreath and read Mark 1:1-8.	<b>7</b> St. Nicholas was a generous man and a courageous bishop. Today, make at least one generous act of love in his honor.	<b>8</b> The feast of the Immaculate Conception celebrates Mary's freedom from Original Sin. Attend or stream Mass and pray a Rosary.	<b>9</b> Today, let nothing discourage you in honor of St. Juan Diego. He never gave up, placing his trust in Jesus and his Mother.	<b>10</b> In your Christmas cards write a note about the blessings you received this year as a witness to God's love.	<b>11</b> Buy Christmas gifts from merchants that carry "fair trade" items to support workers in developing countries.	<b>12</b> To honor Our Lady of Guadalupe, place a rose in a vase in your home and pray a "Hail Mary" whenever you pass it.
<b>13</b> <b>Gaudete Sunday-Joy!</b> Celebrate the halfway point of Advent. Light two violet candles and the rose one. Read John 1:6-8, 19-28.	<b>14</b> Spend time in silence today. Say "no" to unnecessary distractions. In silence and peace, you will be open to God's will.	<b>15</b> Think of Biblical accounts of God's mercy to sinners. Ask forgiveness from someone you have hurt and forgive those who wronged you.	<b>16</b> In honor of Las Posadas remembering the Holy Family's trek to Bethlehem, pray for all those who have been forced from home.	<b>17</b> Send a card to someone who lost a loved one in the last year. Offer your thoughts and prayers for healing and comfort.	<b>18</b> Pray for the men and women in the armed services who won't be able to spend Christmas with their families.	<b>19</b> Pray the Angelus at 6:00 am, 12:00 pm, and 6:00pm every day until Christmas.
<b>20</b> Light all four candles in the wreath tonight and all week. Read Luke 1:26-38.	<b>21</b> This can be a sad time for those who are alone, especially in a pandemic. Pray for anyone you know who will be alone on Christmas.	<b>22</b> As a gift to the coming Savior, repair a relationship with a friend or family member that needs healing.	<b>23</b> Make an effort to share God's love today. Say a kind word or listen with compassion to someone who is suffering.	<b>24</b> Even if you live alone, put up and decorate a Christmas tree. Light it as a symbol of Christ, the Light of the World.	 <b>Rejoice!</b> Read the story of Jesus' birth in Luke 2:1-20 and meditate on each miraculous detail. Think of how joyful it will be to meet Jesus when he comes again.	<b>25</b>

# FAITH FORMATION

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION CHURCH NOVEMBER 29, 2020

ADVENT IS A TIME OF WAITING FOR CHRIST, ALLOWING JESUS TO BE REBORN IN OUR LIVES. IT IS ALSO A TIME FOR PURIFYING OUR HEARTS BY REPENTANCE AND FOR RENEWING OUR LIVES BY REFLECTING ON AND EXPERIENCING THE SEVERAL COMINGS (ADVENTS) OF CHRIST INTO OUR LIVES. BESIDES HIS FIRST COMING AT HIS BIRTH, JESUS COMES TO OUR LIVES THROUGH THE SACRAMENTS (ESPECIALLY THE EUCHARIST), THROUGH THE WORD OF GOD, THROUGH THE WORSHIPING COMMUNITY, AT THE MOMENT OF OUR DEATH AND, FINALLY, IN HIS SECOND COMING TO JUDGE THE WORLD. [Catholicmedia.com](http://Catholicmedia.com)

**I**t's a time of great anticipation as we await the arrival of Christ on Christmas morning. In fact, the word Advent comes from the Latin word ad-venire that means coming or arriving.

Just as in Lent, the liturgical color of Advent is purple. Both of the seasons prepare for great feast days in the Church year. The purple color also connotes the penitential dimension of the season as Advent is a time of preparing, quieting and disciplining our hearts for the full joy of Christmas. The altar is also meant to be decorated in a more restrained manner during this season.

The Advent season is a time of preparation that directs our hearts and minds to Christ's second coming at the end of time and also to the anniversary of the Lord's birth on Christmas. Right in the middle of Advent, several Marian feasts are also celebrated. They are the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of Mary and the feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe. The final days of Advent, from December 17 to December 24, focus particularly on our preparation for the celebrations of the Nativity of our Lord (Christmas).

(USCCB)

"At Christmas, we on earth receive Jesus, the bread from heaven. It is a bread that never grows stale, but enables us even now to have a foretaste of eternal life. . . I want to come to Bethlehem, Lord, because there you await me. I want to realize that you, lying in a manger, are *the bread of my life*. I need the tender fragrance of your love so that I, in turn, can be bread broken for the world." (Pope Francis, Homily, Dec. 24, 2019)



Getty Images

**Today's Advent Prayer**  
FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Son of Man, coming unexpectedly into Mary and Joseph's life and ours, show up in our Advent preparations.  
*Meet us in the busy-ness and the silence.*  
Interrupt our comfortable lives with your newness of life.  
Prepare us to be unsettled by the unconditional love of God who is born in our lives, over and over again. Amen.

MAKE THIS THE BEST CHRISTMAS YOU HAVE EVER HAD BY OPENING YOUR HEART AND HOME TO JESUS. LET JESUS COME TO VISIT YOUR HEART AND HOME THIS CHRISTMAS. JUST AS YOU PREPARE FOR THE VISIT OF A GUEST AND GET A ROOM READY, LET US PREPARE OUR INTERIOR ROOM. ADVENT IS A SPECIAL TIME OF GRACE GIVEN TO US TO PREPARE FOR THE VISIT OF JESUS TO YOUR HEART AND HOME. IN THE GOSPEL TODAY JESUS SAYS, BE WATCHFUL! BE ALERT! YOU DO NOT KNOW WHEN THE TIME WILL COME...WHAT I SAY TO YOU, I SAY TO ALL: 'WATCH!' (MARK 13:33,37)

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## SCHOOL NEWS & ACTIVITIES

### IMMACULATE CONCEPTION SCHOOL

Due to the in-person restrictions due to COVID-19, Immaculate Conception School has created a Thanksgiving Prayer Service video to share with the school and community. We are all so thankful for the many blessings that God has given us. <https://youtu.be/7AHZMowqgPc>.

### BISHOP WATTERSON HIGH SCHOOL

**Our Fall Open House has gone virtual.** – Find out what we are all about! Bishop Watterson's traditional fall open house has gone virtual for 2020 and all are invited! Our Virtual Open House, available 24/7, offers an opportunity to hear from Deacon Chris Campbell, our principal, and learn about topics such as school counseling, college counseling, campus ministry, athletics, performing arts, service, student wellness, finance and scholarships and our Dominican Program. Don't miss the virtual tour of our campus or the Zoom panel with current BWHS students! Start your "visit" by clicking to tell us about your potential Eagle and to be added to our communication list! <https://www.bishopwatterson.com/virtualopenhouse2020/>

### ST. CHARLES PREPARATORY SCHOOL

The St. Charles Preparatory School's Drama Department is pleased to announce auditions for its winter production, *Elephant's Graveyard* by George Brant. Men's & women's auditions for *Elephant's Graveyard* will be held Tuesday and Wednesday, December 8 & 9 at 4 p.m. at the St. Charles Campus Theater, 2010 E. Broad St. Masks must be worn at auditions. Auditions are open to all area high school women in Central Ohio. Rehearsals for *Elephant's Graveyard* will begin Monday, January 4 at 4 p.m. Production Dates: Late February/early March 2021 – TBA. If you would like additional information, please email drama director Doug Montgomery – [dmontgomery@scprep.org](mailto:dmontgomery@scprep.org). This production of *Elephant's Graveyard* will be presented following the guidelines set forth by Ohio Department of Health – Responsible RestartOhio – Performing Arts Theater



## 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 candle/offertory boxes in the side chapel, or mail or drop it off at 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 Wednesday, December 16.**

**I WISH TO REMEMBER THE FOLLOWING INDIVIDUALS WITH A DONATION TO OUR CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS: (Please print.)**

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_

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