

THE SEASON OF ADVENT



**IMMACULATE
CONCEPTION**
CATHOLIC CHURCH
414 E. NORTH BROADWAY
COLUMBUS, OH 43214

PARISH OFFICE
(614) 267-9241

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

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



Celebration of Holy Mass

SUNDAY MASSES

Saturday Vigil: 4:00 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., 7:00 p.m. or as announced

Sacraments

RECONCILIATION

Tuesdays: 5:30-6:00 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 the Parish Office at
(614) 267-9241, or at icoffice@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 at
(614) 267-9241, ext. 608 or at 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. For pastoral care needs,
please contact the Parish Office at (614) 267-9241, or at
icoffice@iccols.org.


FUNERAL AND BEREAVEMENT MINISTRY

Family of the deceased loved one should
contact the Parish Office at
(614) 267-9241, or at icoffice@iccols.org.

OCIA

OCIA (Order 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. 605 or at marivera@iccols.org.

PARISH  [immaculateconceptioncolumbus](https://www.instagram.com/immaculateconceptioncolumbus)  [@ICColumbus](https://www.facebook.com/ICColumbus)

SCHOOL  [icschool.cbuc](https://www.facebook.com/icschool.cbuc)  [@ICRamsColumbus](https://www.instagram.com/ICRamsColumbus)

*Stained glass window: The Annunciation, Immaculate Conception Church, Columbus

MASS INTENTIONS

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 6
Isaiah 30:19-21,23-26; Matthew 9:35-10:1, 5a, 6-8
4:00 p.m. For the Children of the Parish

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 7
Isaiah 11:1-10; Romans 15: 4-9; Matthew 3:1-12
8:30 a.m. For the People of
Immaculate Conception Parish
11:00 a.m. Deceased of the Koszo Family †

MONDAY, DECEMBER 8
Gen 3:9-15, 20; Eph 1:3-6, 11-12; Lk 1:26-38
8:30 a.m. For the People of
Immaculate Conception Parish
11:30 a.m. Keenan James Sullivan †
7:00 p.m. Rosemary Steinbauer †

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 9
Is 40:1-11; Mt 18:12-14
6:15 p.m. Elizabeth Cauty †

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 10
Is 40:25-31; Mt 11:28-30
8:30 a.m. For the Intention of the
Parish & School Staffs

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 11
Is 41:13-20; Mt 11:11-15
8:30 a.m. Bill and Susan Stoker †

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 12
Zech 2:14-17 or Rev 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab; Lk 1:26-38
8:30 a.m. Bill Modry †

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 13
Sir 48:1-4, 9-11; Mt 17:9a, 10-13
4:00 p.m. Bill Muenz †

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 14
Is 35:1-6a, 10; Jas 5:7-10; Mt 11:2-11
8:30 a.m. Ralph & Martha Mong †
11:00 a.m. For the People of
Immaculate Conception Parish

† Deceased

PASTORAL STAFF

Pastor Fr. Matthew Hoover icooffice@iccols.org
Permanent Deacon Rev. Mr. Christopher Campbell ccampbel@cdeducation.org
Weekend Assistant Msgr. Anthony Frecker
Pastoral Care Coordinator Odee Dammarell ext. 606 | rdammarell@iccols.org

FAITH FORMATION

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Evangelization and Faith Formation Mary Ann Riveraext. 605 | marivera@iccols.org
Evangelization and Faith Formation for Youth Veronica Dannemiller vdannemiller@iccols.org

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Facilities Manager Jason Stallkamp
Communications and Social Media Director Tom Berryhill ext. 604 | tberryhill@iccols.org

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Office Manager Marina Hachwamhachwa@cdeducation.org
Preschool School Officemhachwa@cdeducation.org
School Age Child Care John Bernard jbernard@iccols.org

PARISH SUPPORT SERVICES

Faith-Based Counselor Mary Ann Jepsenjepsen.ma@gmail.com, 614-309-2270
Planned Giving Liaison Kelly Nollknoll@gbq.com, 614-352-1655

ADVISORY COUNCILS

Finance Council Chairman Andy MacKinnon amackinnon@horizon10.com
Parish Council President Rich Viertelparishcouncil@iccols.org
School Board President Danielle Culbertsondanielle.w.culbertson@gmail.com

LITURGICAL MINISTERS SCHEDULE – DECEMBER 13 & 14, 2025

MASS TIMES	4:00 p.m.	8:30 a.m.	11:00 a.m.
EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS	MaryAnn Grossman Courtney Hatchel	Jean Durbin Molly Dodane	Karen Cannell Margaret Williams
LECTORS	Jen Grant	Beth Mahler	Heather MacKinnon
ALTAR SERVERS	Allie Edwards Noah Edwards Maren Henderson Nate Henderson	Jack Abens Mia Abens Daniel Barnes Andrew DeLuca	Cole Inkrott Miles Inkrott Carter Leber Michael MacKinnon
GREETERS	Patty Conway Terry Butts Chrisine Demko Bob & Linda Bauer	Mike Demko Bobby Clark Michele Sapp Tyler Johnston	MacKinnon Family Anna Laurent Willard Family
WELCOME DESK	Patty Conway	Michele Sapp	Elizabeth Daniels

MINISTRY SCHEDULES

Ministry schedules are available on the parish website. To see complete schedules, go to iccols.org>Parish Life>Organization Schedules.

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. Mass stipends (offerings) are \$10.00 each with only one intention per Mass. Mass Intentions are scheduled by calling the Parish Office at (614) 267-9241, emailing icoffice@iccols.org, or mailing your request to the Parish Office. We will do our best to honor the dates and times requested, but no day/time can be guaranteed. **Currently, we are scheduling Mass Intentions through July 2026.**

CONTRIBUTORS TO THE SANCTUARY LAMPS

The Sanctuary Lamps in the church burn constantly to proclaim the real presence of Jesus in the Tabernacle. For the month of December, the three Sanctuary Candles were donated by an **anonymous donor**. Thank you for your generosity.

LIVESTREAMED MASSES

Immaculate Conception Parish livestreams 8:30 a.m. Sunday Masses and 8:30 a.m. Wednesday and Friday morning Masses for individuals who are unable to come to church. Go to www.iccols.org and scroll down to “Mass Schedule,” then “See the Mass.” Livestreamed Masses are archived and can be experienced at a later time.

LOW-GLUTEN HOSTS


Using low-gluten hosts is an available option at Immaculate Conception. If you require low-gluten hosts, please stop off in the Sacristy before Mass and talk to the priest or deacon.

IN OUR PARISH

MAY THEY REST IN PEACE:


Please remember in your prayers **Christine Sapp** who recently died, and **Pat Regan** who died this week. *Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May your consoling love be with their family and friends.*

GIVINGTUESDAY




Because of Henry

Established 2023



Each year, Immaculate Conception chooses a life-affirming organization to receive donations which parishioners raise during the Giving Tuesday campaign. This year the **HENRY McCANN MEMORIAL COLORECTAL CANCER FOUNDATION** has been chosen



as the beneficiary of our campaign. Their mission is to educate the community and raise funds to support research and programs to prevent, recognize, and treat young onset colorectal cancer. You can contribute by scanning the QR code.

Thank you to the **80 parishioners** who have already donated to the Henry McCann Foundation through Giving Tuesday. At the time of printing, we had received **\$7,334.00** in donations. You may still donate online until December 11 by using the QR code or going to iccols.org. You may also send your donation to the Parish Office or place it in the offertory collection by December 14.



IC SENIOR MINISTRY

DECEMBER GATHERING

The IC Senior Ministry group (IC “Old Faithfuls”) will gather Thursday, December 18 at noon. This month we will socialize over lunch at the Iron Grill BBQ & Diner, 5295 N. High Street north of Graceland. We need to supply a headcount early that week, so if you plan on attending, please email to icoldfaithfuls@gmail.com by December 14.



JOIN US FOR A TRIDUUM CELEBRATION FOR

The Feast of the Immaculate Conception

DECEMBER 7, 8 & 9

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 7:
“Grace Unveiled:
Getting Closer to Our Mother Mary in Real Time & Real Ways”
Talk by **Sr. Theresa Samson, FMA** at 7 P.M.



MONDAY, DECEMBER 8:
Feast Day Masses at 8:30 A.M., 11:30 A.M., and 7:00 P.M.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 9:
Mass at 6:15 P.M., followed by the Rosary


Join us in church on Sunday evening at 7 p.m. for a presentation by Sr. Theresa Samson, FMA, Daughters of Mary, Help of Christians. Presentation Title: **Grace Unveiled: Getting Closer to Our Mother Mary In Real Time & Real Ways.** This is Your invitation to hear and learn practical “tools” to build a relationship with Mary and let her build one with you. Sr. Theresa will share key insights from real life and bring your hearts into prayer to grow closer to Mary through life experiences, imaginative Gospel reflections, and pondering one’s images of Mary based on our human relationships. Don’t miss this chance to get enriched, inspired and invigorated in celebration of the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception and into the rush of the Christmas season.

Memorial Poinsettia Sale

Honor someone special in your life, while enhancing the beauty of our worship space during the Christmas season!

Order by December 15

MEMORIAL FLOWERS
Each Christmas season, we 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 ordering through the parish website at iccols.org, using the QR code, placing your order in the offertory collection, or mailing or dropping 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 Monday, December 15. (Please print.)



1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

“Justice shall flourish in his time,
and fullness of peace forever.”

”

TIME, TALENT & TREASURE

Fostering Stewardship as a Way of Life

Fiscal Year 7/1/2025-6/30/2026 • Offertory Report 11/30/2025

	11/30/2025	YTD 2025/2026
Recorded Envelopes/Checks	\$ 28,457	\$ 545,126
Loose Cash	\$ 918	\$ 19,358
TOTAL RECEIVED	\$ 29,375	\$ 564,484
Weekly Operating Expenses	\$ 27,000	\$ 594,000
Weekly Overage/(Shortage)	\$ 2,375	\$ (29,516)
Families Receiving Envelopes		838
Envelopes Received		80
Families on EFT		365



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

"For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also." (Matthew 6:21)

IT'S THAT TIME OF YEAR! TIME TO BEGIN YOUR HOLIDAY BAKING AND MAKE CHRISTMAS COOKIES FOR IC HOMEBOUND PARISHIONERS



Women of the parish are invited to help assemble cookie packages for homebound members of the parish. **Please bring one or two dozen homemade cookies to Marian Hall at 7:30 p.m. on Tuesday, December 9.** Questions? Call Marilynn Poirier at (614) 261-1261.



2025 PARISH OFFERTORY APPEAL UPDATE PLEASE TURN IN YOUR PLEDGE CARD SOON!

The parish has now received **170 responses** to our Parish Appeal. Please complete your commitment card soon and return it to the offertory basket or the Parish Office. Or, you can pledge online today by scanning this QR Code with your phone's camera or going to the parish website. Pledge cards are also available to pick up at the doors of the church. We hope to get many more and complete the appeal by the end of December. The primary source of funding the church receives is from your offertory generosity. This offertory commitment not only covers utilities, building maintenance, and staff salaries, but also provides funding for our ministries, school and parish faith formation programs, and our parish mission of "Leading people to Jesus through Worship, Community, Service, and Devotion to Mary."



Wednesday, December 17 at 7:00 p.m.



IC KNIGHTS KEEPING CHRIST IN CHRISTMAS

Thanks to the IC Knights who set up our outdoor nativity scene. They also funded a "Keep Christ in Christmas" billboard in at Reed and Henderson Roads.



SUNDAY, DECEMBER 14

BREAKFAST WITH THE KNIGHTS

AFTER 8:30 A.M. & 11:00 A.M. MASSES



KNIGHTS WILL BE SERVING PANCAKES, EGGS, BACON, SAUSAGE, OATMEAL & DONUTS WITH BEVERAGES TO THANK THE IC PARISH COMMUNITY FOR DONATING 4,000 LBS. FOR THE THANKSGIVING FOOD COLLECTION.

COME JOIN US!

OVERFLOW SEATING AT THE 4 PM CHRISTMAS EVE MASS

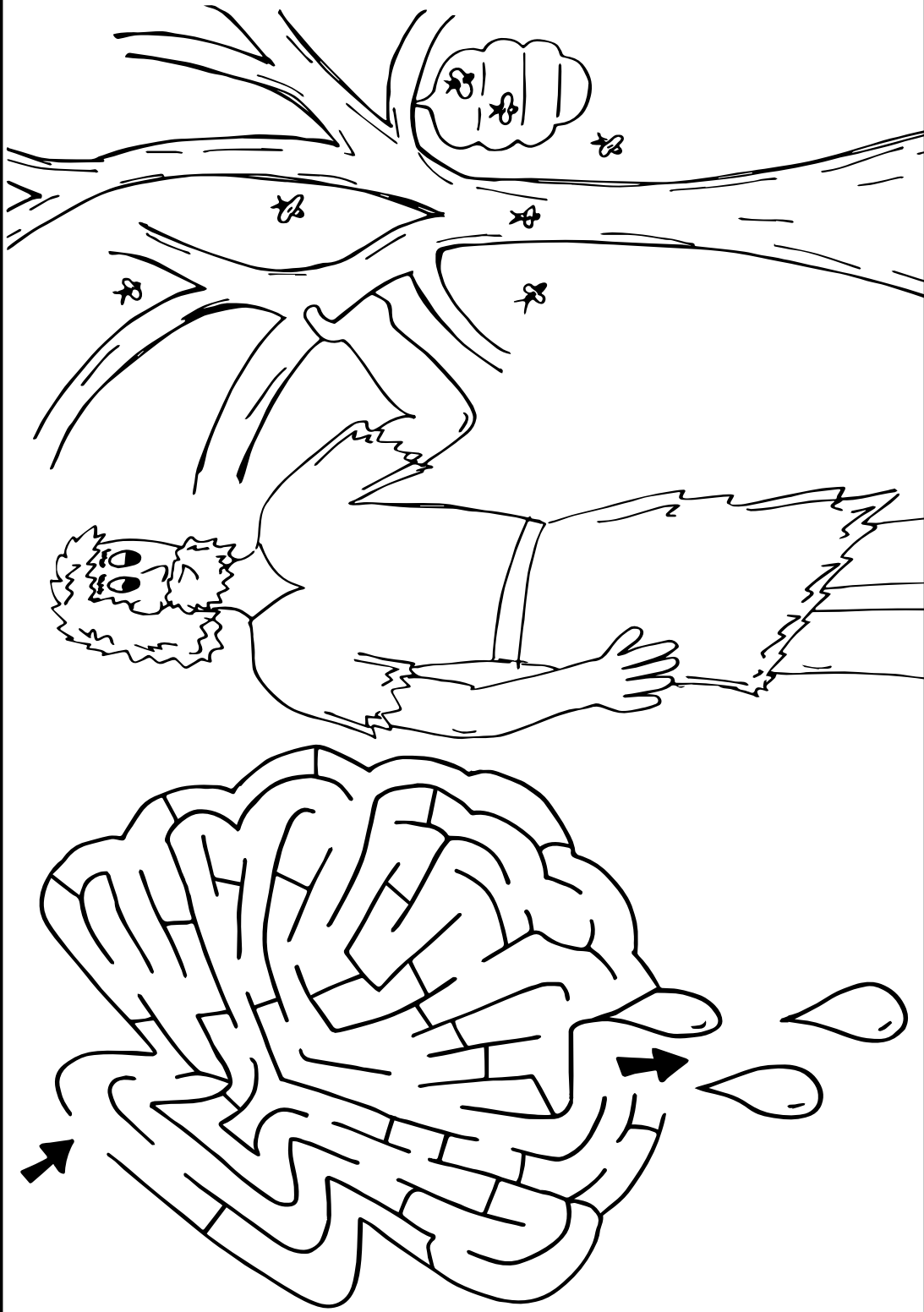
Our Christmas Eve 4 p.m. Mass is our most highly attended Christmas Mass, and we quickly reach the church's seating capacity. This year, to accommodate everyone safely, the Mass will be livestreamed and we will have overflow seating in Marian Hall. Safety and security of our parishioners is a priority. Ushers will direct all to Marian Hall once capacity is reached. You may want to consider attending one of our other Masses at 7 p.m. and 10 p.m. Christmas Eve, or 10 a.m. Mass on Christmas Day. Your understanding is appreciated.




Countdown
to Jesus'
Birthday...

3

Sundays!



Gospel 

John the Baptist baptized people so they would be ready to see God. He said, "Prepare the Way of the Lord."

Immaculate Conception

December 8th is the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception. All of us are born with the sin of Adam and Eve, but Mary didn't have that sin. She was completely pure so she could be Jesus' Mom.

Saint Joachim and Saint Anne are thinking of baby Mary, who will be born without sin.



Catholic Kids Bulletin

December 8, 2025
Immaculate Conception
Color: White

BKEDDEDSOWKEICOL

Sing to the Lord
a new song, for
He has done
marvelous
deeds.

BKNEWLPSONGLFOR

AHEHASDONEOMARVELOUSOEI

Today we celebrate that
Mary was born
without sin.





Discovering **hope** and **joy** in the Catholic faith.

December 2025

Immaculate Conception Church

Fr. Matthew Hoover

One Minute Meditations

St. Lucy

St. Lucy was born into 4th century pagan Syracuse, Sicily, and is one of the most famous martyrs of the early Church. Her family arranged for her to marry a pagan, but since she had consecrated her virginity to Christ, St. Lucy refused him. Offended, he betrayed her to the authorities for her Faith. She was questioned and tortured, but all attempts to discourage her failed. She was finally executed. She is the patron saint against eye problems.

The three comings of Christ

This season of Advent, we celebrate the three comings of Christ: in glory at the end of time, in time when He was born in Bethlehem, and His coming in our own lives and hearts. Advent is a time of "busy stillness," of preparing and waiting, like Mary certainly did, for the arrival of the Savior. This Christmas, let's renew our "Yes" to God's request to dwell in our hearts and be "born" in the daily living of our lives.

"The King comes as a helpless infant, born of insignificant parents in a small town of a distant outpost of the Roman Empire. He will conquer through the finally irresistible power of love, the same power with which he made the universe." Most Reverend Robert E. Barron

Find peace before Christmas by slowing down

The busyness leading up to Christmas can be exhausting, but the Advent season holds a better path. It's a time to breathe, reset, and prepare our hearts for the coming of the King. Advent is a built-in gift, a chance to slow the pace and lift our eyes to what matters most.

Renew a sense of the holy: Advent is a chance to wake up the soul. When we lean into our Faith with intention, the season stops feeling rushed and starts feeling radiant. Light the Advent Wreath and let its glow steady your heart. Go to Confession and feel the weight lift as mercy takes over. Spend a few quiet minutes before Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament and let His presence ground you. Pray the Joyful Mysteries, the "Christmas mysteries" that still speak powerfully to our lives today.

Tune out the noise: Advent becomes richer when we clear space for God to speak. The world buzzes with distractions, but your soul needs room to breathe. Build small pockets of

silence into your day and let stillness sharpen your awareness of God's presence. Reach for a spiritual book instead of a scroll through your feed. Cut back on the constant stream of news that crowds the mind. When the noise quiets, the Holy Spirit has space

"Behold, a virgin will be with child and bear a son, and she will call His name Immanuel" (Isaiah 7:14).

to guide, steady, and renew you.

Streamline and prioritize: Choose what draws you closer to Christ. When your heart is ordered toward what matters, even the cooking, decorating, singing, and gift-giving gain a deeper beauty. You may decide to attend fewer events, keep the décor simple, or choose more modest gifts. Far from taking away joy, this clears space for it. You move through the season with more peace, more purpose, and a heart in step with Jesus.

Why Do Catholics Do That?

Every Christmas, we remember that Jesus, the Son of God, took on our humanity without losing His divinity. It is a mystery, yet we hold it with confidence because God, who is Truth, has revealed it.

During His earthly life, Jesus spoke and acted with divine authority. He

Why do Catholics believe Jesus is God?

said, *"The Father and I are one"* (John 10:30). He forgave sins, clarified the Law, and worked miracles. His Resurrection stands as the clearest confirmation of His identity, showing that His claim to be God was real. As man, He could suffer and die. As God, He rose and conquered death.

The most meaningful gifts of Christmas aren't wrapped

We know that the most valuable gifts are often the ones we cannot wrap. Alongside whatever you give your loved ones this year, do not let Christmas pass without offering these gifts as well:

Your time: Being present with the people we love is one of the simplest and strongest ways to show care. A short visit, an unhurried coffee, or an evening without phones can mean more than any item we put under a tree. When we give someone our attention, we affirm their worth.

Your forgiveness: Forgiveness does not excuse the hurt. It frees you from the weight of anger and resentment. It

also gives the other person room to grow and seek healing. Letting go is often the first step toward real peace. In many ways, forgiveness is a gift you give yourself.

Your gratitude: Giving thanks to God at Christmas is more than a warm sentiment. It is a heartfelt response to the depth of His love.

Look at the Crucifix, the Nativity, or the Eucharist and consider the humility behind such a gift. Our gratitude matters to God (see Luke 17:17-18). So after attending Mass on Christmas Day, take a moment to say, "Thank you." It is a small act that carries real meaning.

from Scripture

Matthew 2:13-15, 19-23, Obedience is trust in action

By the time Mary gave birth to Jesus, Saint Joseph had already formed a habit of steady obedience to God. So when the angel spoke to him in a dream and instructed him to flee to Egypt, Joseph acted without delay. He trusted that God would care for him and for the family entrusted to him.

This trust is even more striking when we consider the circumstances of Jesus' birth. Mary and Joseph had traveled from Nazareth to Bethlehem during the final stages of her pregnancy. Whether by foot or by donkey, the trip would have been long, uncomfortable, and

exhausting. When they finally arrived, they found no suitable place to stay and settled among animals. Soon after, they faced the threat against Jesus' life and fled to Egypt, living for years in a foreign land without the support of relatives or friends. Through every hardship, Joseph relied on God to protect his family.

The Holy Family was perfect in love, yet not spared from difficulty. Mary and Joseph met each challenge with faith and allowed God's Word to guide them. We can follow the same path.

Q & A

Why is it said that Mass brings us closer to God than anything else?

At every Mass, Jesus is really and truly present in the Eucharist in His Body, Blood, Soul, and Divinity (*Catechism of the Catholic Church*, 1374). In this moment, the Sacrifice of Christ is made present to us in a mysterious but real way. His self-giving is the greatest act of love, and our participation at Mass is our strongest response, our way of saying, "I love you, too."

Worshipping together also strengthens our faith in the God who is everywhere yet unseen. Faith grows in community. It grows through the physical actions of the Mass as well. When we sit, stand, bow, and kneel, we express with our bodies what we believe in our hearts.

Finally, the Real Presence of Jesus on the altar draws us into a closeness to God that we cannot find anywhere else in this life. Nowhere do we meet Him more directly than when He feeds us with His very life. In the Eucharist, He is as present to us as He was to Mary and Joseph in Bethlehem and to His apostles in the Upper Room.

Feasts & Celebrations

December 6 – St. Nicholas of Myra (4th century). St. Nicholas had a very generous heart and always gave to the poor. He is credited with saving three girls from being sold to pay their father's debt. St. Nicholas is also the patron saint of children.

December 8 – Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary. We commemorate that Mary was conceived in St. Anne's womb without original sin, preparing Mary to be the Mother of God. Though given to Mary, this special grace was for our sake. Pope Pius IX declared this doctrine in 1854. This year, it's considered a holy day of obligation.

December 9 – St. Juan Diego (1548). St. Juan Diego was visited by Our Lady at Tepeyac Hill, Mexico. She requested a chapel be built and sent him with roses to the bishop as a sign. When St. Juan emptied the roses before the bishop, his cloak retained the image of the Blessed Mother.

December 29 – St. Thomas Becket (1170). Thomas enjoyed power and riches as a close friend of England's King Henry II, who appointed him chancellor of England. In 1162, King Henry had St. Thomas named Archbishop of Canterbury. St. Thomas refused to allow the King to regulate Church matters and was exiled. He fled to France for safety. Thomas returned to England and was martyred.

Our Mission

To provide practical ideas that promote faithful Catholic living.

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(Unless noted Bible quotes and references are from the Revised Standard Version and the New American Bible - Revised)

FAITH FORMATION

Immaculate Conception Church

December 7, 2025

The gospel reading for the Second Sunday of Advent (Matthew 3:1-12) offers one of my favorite Christmas-time traditions: Our annual visit from John the Baptist. Every year, on the Second Sunday in Advent, our gospel reading features this remarkable prophet, whose sole task in life was to prepare the way of the Lord. And he does it with style, doesn't he? Out in the wilderness, dressed strangely, living off of the land, baptizing in the river Jordan, and proclaiming a powerful message. John knew a very simple but world-changing truth – that the Messiah was coming; and it is time to get ready. The Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world, is on his way; the long-promised

Savior who would rescue Israel from its sin.

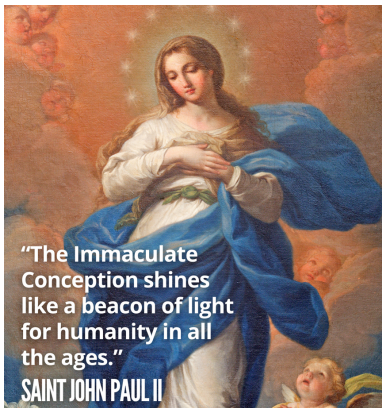
John believed what the world only hoped for – that the Savior was about to come, and with him would come the whole kingdom of heaven. And he dedicated his life to preparing the way. Fearlessly. Passionately. Without counting the cost, which would be his very life.

But he didn't care. Because he was doing what God wanted him to do. And nothing else mattered more.

Advent is a season when we are invited to say, humbly and faithfully, "I can't." I can't do it myself. I can't get ready for Christ's coming by my own effort. I need help. And that does take humility. But I also find it to be something of a relief. Because it means that we don't have to figure it all out. We don't have to climb our way to heaven. We don't have to make the world perfect. We just have to surrender. Give in to Jesus. Let him do his work in us, and through us. We simply repent, die to our ways of sin, and let him raise us to new life. Let grace do its work in us.

And that is the basic life-changing message of John the Baptist. That in Christ, the kingdom of heaven comes to us; and the best way to prepare for it is to confess our need for him. The best way to prepare for Christmas is to acknowledge our need for Christ. mypastoralponderings.com James Laurence

In those days John the Baptist came preaching in the wilderness of Judea, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand."
Matthew 3:1-2



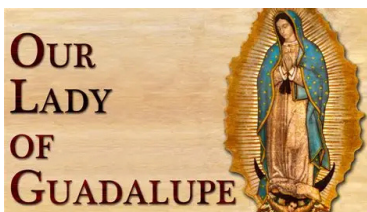
Most Highly-Favored One

The feast of the Immaculate Conception centers on God's loving power to make us holy. Our Blessed Lady's integrity or holiness right from the moment of her conception is not something she achieved by her own power. It is a pure gift of God, given to her for a saving purpose. It was in her genes, as we might say today, on behalf of us all. For it was supremely fitting that the woman who brought our Savior into the world should be herself totally free from sin and available to do God's work.

Belief in the Immaculate Conception of Mary is belief in a provident God, who provides for the future, who prepares His children for their assigned task in life even before they are born, a God who foresees and equips us with all the natural and supernatural qualities we need to play our assigned role in the drama of human salvation.

God anoints them already in the womb those men and women whom He appointed as prophets. Jeremiah was told, "Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, and before you were born I consecrated you; I appointed you a prophet to the nations." As we admire our Blessed Lady, God's most favoured one ("Full of grace") on the feast of her conception, let us thank God for His love and mercy which embraces us right from the moment of our own conception.

<https://associationofcatholicpriests.ie/>



Feast Day December 12

Our Lady of Guadalupe - Meaning and History

The story of Our Lady of Guadalupe began in 1531, when the Virgin Mary appeared to Juan Diego on Tepeyac Hill near Mexico City. This sacred encounter marked a turning point in the faith journey of millions. The image left on Juan Diego's tilma is seen as a divine sign of Mary's love and mercy, symbolizing hope and unity in a time of great change.

Divine Encounter: Her appearance brought reassurance during a period of cultural and spiritual transformation.

Sign of Unity: The miraculous image unites people of various backgrounds, blending elements of Spanish and native traditions.

Call to Faith: Her message inspires believers to embrace love, prayer, and service to others.

This tradition endures as a living testimony to God's presence in the world. Our Lady of Guadalupe continues to guide, comfort, and call all to a deeper relationship with Christ through her boundless compassion. www.thecatholicvoice.com

SCHOOL NEWS & ACTIVITIES



Immaculate Conception School
We are a dedicated, Christ-centered school that nurtures faith-filled, lifelong learners who serve others as disciples of Christ.

OPEN HOUSE

Preschool - Eighth Grade
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 7, 2025
9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

You Will Have A Chance To:

- Tour IC Campus
- Attend an informational session at 9:45am in the school gym
- Discover faith-filled curriculum
- Meet students, teachers, specialist, administrators, and staff
- Enjoy shopping at our Christmas Boutique in Marian Hall
- Participate in school scavenger hunt to win a prize!

Register Today!



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BULLETIN DEADLINE – EARLY DEADLINES

The usual deadline for all articles for the Sunday bulletin is Friday afternoon, (9) days before the article appears in the bulletin. **Due to the holidays, the deadline is 15 days before publication.** 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. 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.**

SOCIAL CONCERNS



SOCIETY OF
ST. VINCENT DE PAUL

5TH SUNDAY COLLECTION – THANK YOU!

Thank you to all who have contributed to the St. Vincent de Paul 5th Sunday Collection. Your SVdP conference at Immaculate Conception has helped 35 families with utility and rental assistance. We try to offer immediate short-term support, pointing them to additional resources and financial counseling. We provided 900 sandwiches this year to the Holy Family Soup Kitchen, made by our conference on the 4th Monday of each month. Each Friday, we make food calls to neighbors who are experiencing food insecurity. These shut-in food deliveries include food from our pantry and some fresh items purchased at the local grocery. Each week we serve between 4 to 6 of these neighbors. New St. Vincent de Paul members are always welcome to join us in this essential ministry. For additional information or to express an interest in this ministry, email immaculateconceptionsvdp@gmail.com. Help us, help them!

Donations to our IC Conference can be made at any time. Donations may be placed in the offertory basket, sent to the Parish Office, or made online at iccols.org>Give Now>choose St. Vincent de Paul from the dropdown box.



Catholic Leadership INSTITUTE

We want to hear from our parishioners!

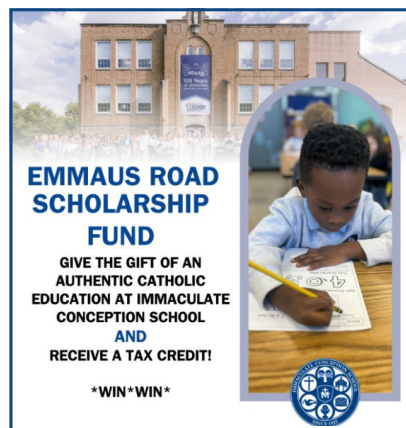
Complete the Disciple Maker Index survey today. The survey assesses our unique strengths and opportunities. Share your perspective now to help strengthen Immaculate Conception and better prepare us for the future!

The ten to fifteen-minute survey can be accessed online at portal.catholicleaders.org/dmi/survey/c621xc (or scan the QR code).

Paper surveys are available in the Gathering Space. Drop your completed paper survey in the collection at Mass, or in the mail slot at the front of the rectory.



All responses are confidential, and the parish will only receive information about the community as a whole.



EMMAUS ROAD SCHOLARSHIP FUND

GIVE THE GIFT OF AN AUTHENTIC CATHOLIC EDUCATION AT IMMACULATE CONCEPTION SCHOOL AND RECEIVE A TAX CREDIT!

*WIN*WIN*

SUPPORT IC STUDENTS WITH YOUR OHIO TAX DOLLARS

Help make Catholic education more accessible for our families! Through the Emmaus Road Scholarship Fund, your Ohio tax dollars can be directed to Immaculate Conception School at no added cost. Find out how you can take part in this incredible opportunity today! If you do this before December 31,

2025, IC will be able to use those funds for the 2026-2027 school year.
<https://emmausroadscholarship.org/gift/>.

YWCA FAMILY SHELTER DINNER – DECEMBER 19

Immaculate Conception is providing dinner for the YWCA Family Shelter on Friday, December 19. Food donations are needed. Volunteers are also needed to help in the preparation and boxing of meals at the Family Center. For more information, or to sign up for food donations or time, go to iccols.org, Quick Links, YWCA Shelter Dinner Sign-up.

DO YOU VOLUNTEER IN CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES, IC SPORTS, OR ANY PROGRAM INVOLVING CHILDREN?

Our parish is blessed with many generous volunteers who help make our ministries, programs, and liturgies possible. As we continue our commitment to providing a safe and welcoming environment for all children and vulnerable persons, we are preparing for the Diocese of Columbus' updated Safe Environment requirements.

All volunteers are asked to be **fully compliant with Protecting God's Children training and complete the required background checks by January 2, 2026.** **If you are currently volunteering, your background check must have been completed during the last 5 years.** These steps help ensure that our parish remains a place of trust, protection, and faith for every member of our community.

Background Check Requirements: To meet diocesan policy, the following background checks are required for volunteers:

- **BCI (Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation) background check** – required for all volunteers.
- **FBI background check** – in addition to BCI, FBI is required for volunteers who have lived outside the state of Ohio at any point in the past five years.

If you are currently volunteering, or plan to volunteer in the future, we warmly encourage you to check that your VIRTUS account is active and up to date, and that your background checks have been completed within the required timeframes. Please contact the Parish Office with any questions or for assistance completing your background check or VIRTUS requirements. Our staff is happy to help guide you through the process. Thank you for your faithful service and continued commitment to protecting God's children. Scan the QR code to visit the Diocese of Columbus Safe Environment webpage for more details.

**PRAY FOR PRIESTS SERVING IN OUR DIOCESE**

Please join Our Lady of Peace parish in praying for a different priest or seminarian of our diocese each day of the month. The calendar for December can be found at <https://olp-parish.org/pray-for-priests>.



St. Charles

PREPARATORY SCHOOL

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Lessons and Carols

Choir Concert

Celebrating the Birth of Jesus


December 14 • 7PM



Immaculate Conception will be hosting St. Charles' Lessons and Carols in our church next Sunday, December 14 at 7:00 p.m.

 <p>PURE MAINTENANCE OF OHIO</p> <p>Demolition-Free Mold Remediation</p> <p>614-965-4470 puremaintenanceohio.com</p>		 <p>EGAN RYAN FUNERAL SERVICE</p> <p>NORTHWEST 4661 Kenny Rd. • 451-5900</p> <p>CENTRAL 403 E. Broad St. • 221-6665</p> <p>A Growing Tradition www.egan-ryan.com</p> <p><small>Owned and Operated by the same family since 1859</small></p>	 <p>WEDDINGS EVENTS EVERYDAY OCCASIONS</p> <p>3378 Indianola Avenue 614.262.0880</p>		
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