IMMACULATE CONCEPTION PARISH

Leading People to Jesus Through Worship, Community, Service and Devotion to Mary

Immaculate Conception Parish Pastoral Council Meeting
October 14, 2026, in Marian Hall

Attendees: ~~Council President Julie Clemens~~, Council VP Matt Hummer, Fr. Seth Keller, Rev. Mr. Christopher Campbell, Principal Colleen Kent, Janet Wilks, Paula Mong, Jack Griffin, Jaclyn Curtis, Frank Copeland, Robert Bevilacqua.

Visitor: Dan Costello

Opening

- Matt Hummer called the meeting to order at 7:40pm. Paula Mong led the opening prayer. It was noted that Julie Clemens is traveling and not available for this meeting.

Announcements – Council Vice President Matt Hummer

- **Website Update:** The Parish Council page on the Parish website is being updated. Tom Berryhill attended the meeting and took photos of Council members. Per Julie's email, bio information is still required for many Council members.
- **Parish Pastoral Council Membership:** The Council welcomed our newest member, Frank Copeland. Frank had served on the council previously and the Council is grateful that he has returned.

Current Business

- **Giving Tuesday:** Dan Costello discussed the procedures being used to establish the Giving Tuesday recipient in past years and reviewed the procedure for this year. The Council had no concerns with the process established below.
    - Nominations: An email will be sent out asking for nominations. Once nominations are received, Dan will review each nominee to verify that they meet the Diocesan and Parish requirements. This may require discussion with the Catholic Social Services or others to verify compliance. Once the list has been established, it will be sent to Fr. Keller and the Council Vice President. Distribution to the Council will follow.
    - Nominee Eligibility: It will be noted that nominees that were selected in the past 5 years will not be eligible this year.
    - Voting: Some of last year's votes were returned "reply to all" which is not acceptable. To eliminate this and any cross-discussion during voting, the voting email will be sent out to all recipients by BCC. This will certify that all responses will only be returned to the originator of the email. The final voting process may utilize Google Docs, but further review is needed. There is also a recommendation that a full list of nominees be listed at the top of any correspondence and that detailed information be available later in the document.
    - Voter List: The number of eligible voters increased in 2022 to potentially increase voting responses. Even though the number of voters did not change last year, there was a spike in responses.
- **Springs of Love Ministry at IC:** Prior to the meeting, Julie Clemens distributed by email the proposal from Springs of Love for a Christmas Gift collection for 20 children that Clintonville Resource Center kinship support group helps. This will be in the form of a Giving Tree located in the gathering space.

    - The council discussed the proposal. The final logistics are still to be worked out regarding location of the tree. Michelle Sapp attended this month's Commissions meeting and shared examples of the tags for the tree. It was noted that gifts will be collected and removed from the church after every mass and that there will be a second drop off at her house. Her address will only be on the tags and not on fliers or the Parish website.
    - ***VOTE: The council unanimously approved the proposal for this year.***
- **Boxes of Joy:**
    - This year 500 boxes have been distributed. Turn-in dates are All-Saints Day - November 1st and All Souls Day – November 2nd. The filled boxes will be picked up from the church on November 7th.

Pastor's Topics

- **View from the Pew:** Fr. Keller introduced a new discussion at the Parish Pastoral Council meeting. This will be an opportunity for Parish Council members to inform the Pastor of any word-of-mouth comments or concerns overheard from others the parish. This could include spiritual, logistical or general discussion items. Responses to these could be addressed from the pulpit, the bulletin, or in flock notes.

View from the Pew

- **Confirmation Changes:** IC is implementing changes to the age that students receive the Sacrament of Confirmation. Over a few years, the age will be changed from 8th grade to 4th grade. The parents of children affected have been informed of this decision. There is a concern that this needs to be addressed to the entire Parish
- **New Women's Program:** There have been discussions that a program similar to "That Man is You". There is a program "Blessed is She" that could be started here at IC. More discussion is needed.
- **Incense & Vestments:** There has been an increase in use of incense. There are also new vestments. This could be a topic addressed to the Parish.

Commissions Meeting Notes

- **Faith Formation and Spiritual Life:**
    - Triduum, including tree lighting and boutique are being planned. The Triduum speaker will be scheduled from 5-7pm to allow for more attendance and the Grotto will be highlighted on Monday with candlelight. Logistics and schedule are being finalized. More volunteers are needed.
- **Social Concerns:**
    - Upcoming events include Nov 14-15 Thrift-store truck at IC with barrels for collecting Christmas gifts for children of needy families.
- **Parish and Community Life:** Upcoming events include:
    - October 19 – Women's Club potluck with Cane's chicken.
    - November 14 – Parish clean-up from 10am-12pm followed by burgers and hot dogs.
    - December 6 – Open House at school.

Closing and Next Meeting

Matt Hummer closed the meeting at 8:40pm. The next Parish Pastoral Council meeting will be in Marian Hall at 7:30pm on November 11, 2026.

Meeting notes submitted by Robert Bevilacqua, Parish Council Secretary.