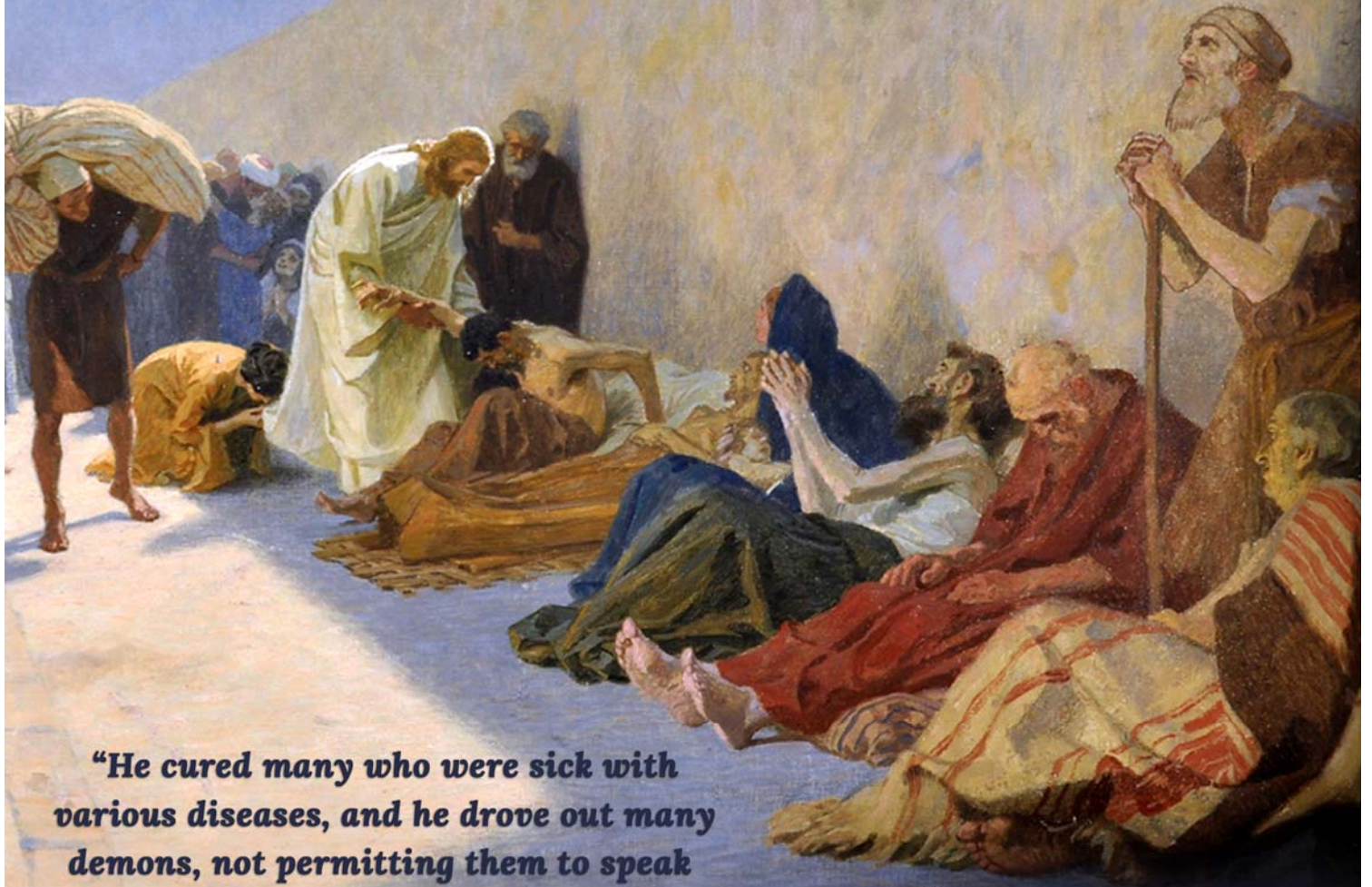




THE CHURCH OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION



“He cured many who were sick with various diseases, and he drove out many demons, not permitting them to speak because they knew him.” - MK 1:34

Gebhard Fugel [Public domain], via Wikimedia Commons | Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

FEBRUARY 4, 2018 | FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Mass Schedule

Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday 7:30 am
Thursday 8:30 am
Saturday 5:00 pm
Sunday 8:00 and 10:00 am

San Damiano Adoration Chapel

Open weekdays 7:00 am - 4:00 pm
Door code needed after 4:00 pm | Questions? Call 763-789-3246
Reconciliation
Saturday 3:30 - 4:30 pm

Mission Statement

The Mission of Immaculate Conception Catholic Church is to proclaim and celebrate our Lord Jesus Christ. We fulfill our mission as Christian disciples by intentionally responding to God's call to grow in holiness.

4030 Jackson Street NE | Columbia Heights, MN 55421 | 763-788-9062 | ICCSonline.org

From the Pastor's Desk



2018 Catholic Services Appeal

I ask you to support the appeal which helps 18 Collective Ministries in our Archdiocese that serve the homeless, the hungry, the imprisoned, students in financial need, seminarians, and many others. These ministries cannot be funded by any single parish but rather need support from all of us. I have made my pledge to the appeal, and I ask you to join me in doing our part so that these important ministries can be fully funded. Furthermore, if we reach our parish appeal goal of \$33,621.00, we will receive 25% of the dollars we collect. If you contributed to the appeal in the past, then you should receive a mailing from the appeal office requesting your support. If you did not receive a mailing, you can visit the CSAF website at www.csafspm.or to make a pledge or gift, or you can fill out a pledge envelope that we will have in the pews at weekend Mass. Thank you!

A Lent to Remember

Please join in our parish-wide study during Lent on the transforming power of mercy in the Sacrament of Confession. The videos and discussion guides for *A Lent to Remember* can be found online at FORMED.org. To register for FREE with FORMED, go to www.FORMED.org, enter our parish access code **VKQPF9**, then enter your email and create a password. You can do this parish-wide study in Lent with your family or friends. Or you can join us here at church in Fellowship Hall on Mondays at 7:00 - 8:30 pm starting February 19 or on Wednesdays at 1:00 - 2:30 pm starting on February 21. Here is what to watch each week of Lent:

- Week 1 video: *Forgiven - Where Are You?*
- Week 2 video: *Forgiven - An Encounter with Mercy*
- Week 3 video: *Forgiven - Embraced in Mercy, The Rite Explained*
- Week 4 video: *Symbolon - The Paschal Mystery*
- Bonus Episode: *Forgiven - For Children, How to Make a Good Confession*

To register for the meetings here at church, or if you have questions, please contact Mary Nawrocki in our Faith Formation Office, 763-788-9062, x 210 or mnawrocki@immac-church.org.

God Bless You,
Father John Mitchell



Readings and Observances



Sunday, February 4

5th Sunday in Ordinary Time; World Day for Consecrated Life
Jb 7:1-4, 6-7/Ps 147:1-2, 3-4, 5-6 [cf. 3a]/1 Cor 9:16-19, 22-23/
Mk 1:29-39

Monday, February 5

St. Agatha, Virgin & Martyr
1 Kgs 8:1-7, 9-13/Ps 132:6-7, 8-10 [8a]/Mk 6:53-56

Tuesday, February 6

St. Paul Miki and Companions, Martyrs
1 Kgs 8:22-23, 27-30/Ps 84:3, 4, 5 and 10, 11 [2]/Mk 7:1-13

Wednesday, February 7

1 Kgs 10:1-10/Ps 37:5-6, 30-31, 39-40 [30a]/Mk 7:14-23

Thursday, February 8

St. Jerome Emiliani; St. Josephine Bakhita, Virgin
1 Kgs 11:4-13/Ps 106:3-4, 35-36, 37 and 40 [4a]/Mk 7:24-30

Friday, February 9

1 Kgs 11:29-32; 12:19/Ps 81:10-11ab, 12-13, 14-15 [11a and 9a]/Mk 7:31-37

Saturday, February 10

St. Scholastica, Virgin
1 Kgs 12:26-32; 13:33-34/Ps 106:6-7ab, 19-20, 21-22 [4a]/
Mk 8:1-10

Sunday, February 11

6th Sunday in Ordinary Time; World Day of the Sick; World Marriage Day
Lv 13:1-2, 44-46/Ps 32:1-2, 5, 11 [7]/1 Cor 10:31—11:1/
Mk 1:40-45

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**Cabaret
Mardi Gras**

Dinner and Variety Show
to benefit the IC Liturgy Ministry

February 9 and 10, 2018

Immaculate Conception Church
Fellowship Hall

6:00 - Social | 6:30 - Dinner | 8:00 - Show

Cabaret variety show features IC artists performing songs and skits about New Orleans, parties, baubles, beads, jazz and more!

Buffet dinner includes chicken skewers, jambalaya, rice, corn bread, salad, vegetable and King Cake.

Reserved Seat Tickets \$30 (Buy a table of 8 in one transaction and get one seat free!)
Available in the parish office during the week

Eucharistic Adoration

“Come away by yourselves to a deserted place and rest a while”

Mark 6:30

Our Eucharistic Adoration Chapel is a quiet, peaceful place to go to pray and rest in Jesus’ presence. Much like Jesus and his disciples needed to get away from the crowds, we also need to get away. Eucharistic adoration gives adorers the opportunity to shut out the rest of the world for a short time and be refreshed through prayer. All are welcome to visit our adoration chapel. We are looking for volunteers to cover the following hours where we do not have a committed adorer:



- Mondays at 3:00 pm
- Wednesdays at 2:00 pm
- Thursdays at 11:00 am and noon
- Fridays at 8:00 am

Partner adorers are needed for the following hours:

- Mondays at 1:00 pm
- Tuesdays at 1:00 pm and 3:00 pm
- Wednesdays at 9:00 am, 3:00 pm, 5:00 pm and 7:00 pm
- Thursdays at 8:00 pm
- Fridays at 7:00 pm

If you can volunteer for any of the hours listed above, please call Sandy at 763-789-3246 or Fran at 763-788-0924.

Parish News

Volunteers Needed!

We are in desperate need of volunteer snow shovelers to help our custodians. Our campus is so big that our paid custodial staff cannot get snow cleared as quickly as needed. Weekends are a significant challenge. If you are willing to help us out, please call Kathy in the business office at x 207 or Bob in the maintenance office at x 218. Thank you.

Position Available



Immaculate Conception Parish is looking for a full-time (32 hours/week) financial analyst to manage all financial processes for the parish. Responsibilities include; payables, receivables, financial analysis, school tuition management, human resource support, payroll, and account management.

Qualifications: 4 year degree. Experience with Microsoft Excel and Word and QuickBooks. some previous accounting or related experience. Non-profit accounting experience a plus.

Please call Kathy at x 207 in the parish office.

Christmas Flower Memorial

A donation of Christmas flowers was given in memory of:

Gail Kovacs & James Kovacs, John Lenzmeier

Thank You

The following is a from letter sent to Immaculate Conception by Saint Mary’s Mission & School in Red Lake, MN thanking our parish for the contribution of \$500 received from the “Coins for Social Justice” fund on October 31, 2017.

Dear Friends,

Thank you for your generous support over the past year. Donors like you make it possible for us to help so many others in need... We look forward to your continued support and to sharing the success of the mission with you.

Sincerely,

*Fr. Jerry Rogers, Pastor
St. Mary’s Mission*

Pray for a Priest

Will You Pray for a Priest Each Day?

Prayer Suggestion: *Dear Jesus, hear my prayer on behalf of your priest, Father [N]. Give him a deep faith, a bright and firm hope, and a burning love which will ever increase in the course of his priestly life. Be his comfort, his joy, and his strength. Amen.*

- February 4 – Rev. Steve Ulrick
- February 5 – Rev. Mark Underdahl
- February 6 – Rev. Victor Valencia
- February 7 – Rev. Bob Valit
- February 8 – Rev. James Van Dorn
- February 9 – Rev. Nicholas VanDenBroeke
- February 10 – Rev. John Vander Ploeg

FEBRUARY 4, WORLD DAY
CONSECRATED LIFE

Pastoral Ministry

Fellowship

Join us next Sunday, February 11 in Fellowship Hall (lower level of the church), for fellowship, hosted by Pastoral Care.

Anointing Mass

There will be an opportunity to attend an Anointing Mass (presided by Father John Mitchell) at the following location:

Crest View
42nd and Central Avenue
February 8, 2018 at 3:15 pm

Individual Anointing of the Sick is available by request—call the parish office at 763-788-9062 x 212.

Reminder:

If you are hospitalized and wish to receive Eucharist it is very important to state that in your records. Privacy laws do not allow for medical staff to enquire, therefore it is up to you to make the request, best done before or during admission. If you are unable to attend Mass, our Pastoral Ministry Visitors are available for home visits. Please call Vicki 763-788-9062 x 212 to make arrangements.

Save the Date

Join us Fridays during Lent (February 16 - March 23) for Soup Lunch, 11:30 am - 1:30 pm; followed by Stations of the Cross at 2:00 pm. Free will offerings accepted.

Women's Lenten Retreat

Presented by: Angela Jendro
Immaculate Conception Church
Saturday, March 3, 2018

Check in/Continental Breakfast: 8:30 am - 9:00 am
Retreat: 9:00 am - 12:00 pm, lunch to follow
Admission \$18.00 (lunch included)

Registration forms are available at all entrances of the church.

In Need of Prayer? Please Call Us.

To add a name to the weekend Mass petitions or the bulletin, please call Vicki at 763-788-9062 x 212. For private prayer call Larene at 763-789-4246.

Pray For Our Loved Ones Who Have Died

Especially all who have died from war. May God grant them everlasting peace and joy in the kingdom of heaven.

Pray For All the Sick—Especially:

Amanda Allen	Joan Graves	Paula Ross
Paul Bona	Rev. James Klein	Betty Schack
Claire Burgoyne	Gerald Krawiecki	Greg Sery
Barb Breen	Tom Leight Jr.	Cliff Shedlov
Michelle Cadieux	Randy Mancuso	Irene Spensley
Nichole Castonguay	Janet Mihalik	Elaine Thunstrom
Margaret De Mars	Mary Ann Miller	Lois Weyers
Pat Elmberg	Lukus Reynold	Germaine Wolsfeld
Mary Fredenburg	Barbara Rocek	

and all those on our prayer chain



*"To the weak I became weak, to win over the weak.
I have become all things to all, to save at least some."*

1 Corinthians 9:22

Social Justice



Feed My Starving Children

The IC Social Justice Committee is inviting all parishioners to join us to help collect funds for *Feed My Starving Children*.

Ways to help:

- M&M's fill the tube program: 300 tubes will be available while they last in the narthex beginning the first weekend of Lent, February 17-18. Return them by Palm Sunday, March 25, filled with \$14 in quarters. We will provide a basket in the narthex each Sunday for returns.
- We are accepting cash contributions also—if writing a check; please make it payable to Immaculate Conception. Please drop in the collection basket at Mass in an envelope clearly marked: *Feed My Starving Children*.
- Pray for all those who are hungry.

For more information contact Vicki at 763-788-9062 x 212.

School News

Science Fair

Congratulations to all of our Grade 6-8 students and Mrs. Beth Pender for their excellent work on the Science Fair projects. Twelve judges worked with students on January 4 and commented on the high caliber of thought that went into the science fair projects! Special recognition to

Sixth Grade

Anaya Boseman, Honorable Mention
Lauren Grabowske, Third Place
Mia Silva, Second Place
Rico Pender, First Place

Seventh Grade

Vinnie Broschofsky, Third Place
Kajsa Posusta, Second Place
Nevaeh Daniels-Smith, First Place

Eighth Grade

Abel Sulamo, Third Place
Patience Akon, Second Place
Rebecca Bergen, First Place.

Pictured are three of our students with their projects. The Science Fair has become a wonderful tradition at our school. The students always comment that they learned a remarkable amount of information, and they understand the scientific process that they will use many times throughout their lives!



Reflections

Word of Life

“Our relationships on earth are meant to help us and others grow in perfect love. We are meant to depend on one another, serve each other in humility, and walk together in times of suffering.

—USCCB Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities Respect Life Program Flyer

Why Do We Do That?

Catholic Traditions Explained

Question: *What is holy water and how do I explain the reason that it is placed at the entrances of churches to my non-Catholic friends?*

Answer: Holy water is a sacramental; a reminder of the life of the Church expressed and celebrated through the sacraments. By blessing ourselves with holy water as we enter the church, we are reminded of our own baptism and our call to conversion. Remember, the Church is sacramental. God’s grace is mediated through word and gesture (the outward signs). This comes to us through Jesus (instituted by Christ) as he entrusts to the Church his saving mission (to give grace). In turn, the Church shares that grace and mission with us.

We especially use holy water during Easter when the priest sprinkles the people. It serves to remind us that we are indeed on a journey of faith that makes us one with Christ. Blessing ourselves not only reminds us that we are baptized into a community of faith, but also helps us renew our own baptismal promises to reject sin and to believe in God. It is the heart of Christian belief to turn from sin and toward God. Holy water and baptism make it a visible sign for all of us to follow.

Live the Liturgy—Inspiration for the Week

When we suffer, we can easily find ourselves thinking that we have been abandoned by God or have done something to displease him and are now paying the price. Suffering is not God’s fault. The reality of suffering and death is much more complicated than this and even somewhat mysterious. When Jesus preached the Gospel, it was made clear that suffering has meaning and always brings with it new life. It requires faith in order to understand this mystery. The Gospel brings us new life both here and in the life to come. This is truly Good News! When this Good News is understood by the believer it stirs within us a passion to urgently preach this healing and life giving message to others.

The Road to Discipleship

Message to Marija, January 25, 2018

Our Lady appeared to Marija Pavlovic-Lunetti and gave the following message:

“Dear children! May this time be for you a time of prayer, so that the Holy Spirit, through prayer, may descend upon you and give you conversion. Open your hearts and read the Sacred Scripture, that through the testimonies you also may be closer to God. Above everything, little children, seek God and the things of God and leave earthly ones to the earth, because Satan is attracting you to the dust and sin. You are called to holiness and created for Heaven; therefore, seek Heaven and the things of Heaven. Thank you for having responded to my call.”



Weekly Calendar

Sunday, February 4

Mass, *Intention, IC Parishioners* _____ 8:00 am
Cabaret Ticket Sale _____ 8:00 am - 11:30 am
Mass (*Scout Sunday*) _____ 10:00 am
Intention, +Delfina Gutierrez

Monday, February 5

RCIC I _____ 4:30 pm - 5:30 pm
Boy Scouts Troop 119 _____ 7:00 pm - 8:00 pm

Tuesday, February 6

Mass _____ 7:30 am
Parish Leadership Meeting _____ 3:00 pm - 4:00 pm
Cabaret Rehearsal _____ 6:00 pm - 9:00 pm
Charismatic Prayer Group _____ 7:00 pm - 8:30 pm

Wednesday, February 7

Mass, *Intention, +John Commers* _____ 7:30 am
Honor Roll Breakfast _____ 8:30 am - 9:00 am
Girl Scouts _____ 3:00 pm - 4:15 pm
Communion Service, Crest View _____ 3:15 pm
Faith Formation Family Dinner _____ 6:00 pm - 6:30 pm
Cabaret Rehearsal _____ 6:00 pm - 9:00 pm
Faith Formation, Pre-K - Grade 6 _____ 6:30 pm - 8:00 pm
Faith Formation, Grades 7 - 8 _____ 6:30 pm - 8:00 pm
Intramurals _____ 6:30 pm - 8:00 pm
Confirmation I, Grade 9 _____ 6:30 pm - 8:30 pm

Thursday, February 8

Mass, (School) _____ 8:30 am
Intention, +John & Barbara Botzet, Sr.
Girl Scouts _____ 3:00 pm - 4:15 pm
Anointing Mass, Crest View on 42nd _____ 3:15 pm
Cabaret Rehearsal _____ 6:00 pm - 9:00 pm

Friday, February 9

No School—Teacher In-Service
Mass _____ 7:30 am
Intention, In Thanksgiving, +Rosemary Soukup
Our Brothers Keeper _____ 9:00 am - 12:00 pm
RCIC I _____ 4:30 pm - 5:30 pm
Cabaret _____ 6:00 pm - 10:00 pm
Our Lady of Guadalupe Formation _____ 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm

Saturday, February 10

RCIA _____ 8:00 am - 12:00 pm
Saturday Morning Club _____ 9:00 am - 10:30 am
Reconciliation _____ 3:30 pm - 4:30 pm
Mass, *Intention, +JoAnn Molan* _____ 5:00 pm
Catholic Schools Raffle Ticket Sale _____ 5:00 pm - 6:30 pm
Cabaret _____ 6:00 pm - 10:00 pm
Our Lady of Guadalupe Prayer Group _____ 6:30 pm - 9:00 pm

Sunday, February 11

Mass, *Intention, IC Parishioners* _____ 8:00 am
Catholic Schools Raffle Sale _____ 8:00 am - 11:30 am
Fellowship Sunday _____ 8:30 am - 12:30 pm
Mass, *Intention, +Randal Wilcox* _____ 10:00 am

+Deceased

Gospel Meditation

Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

“For most of us, the dynamic between prayer and action is imperfect. Breakfast needs to be made and the kids dressed. Work demands our energy and additional responsibilities fill our evenings and weekends. Then there’s the football game or a new TV series to stream. After all, don’t we need to relax?”

We’re all busy. But just imagine Jesus’ situation in today’s Gospel. He heals Peter’s mother-in-law, drives out demons, and cures diseases late into the night. With very little sleep, he arises before dawn to capture some peace and quiet, only to find “those who were with him pursued him.” How often do we feel pursued by the harried commitments, even when we try to seek rest? Perhaps we can learn something from the response of Jesus.

Jesus models two key things: the essential nature of prayer and the essential call of vocation. “He went off to a deserted place, where he prayed.” Despite inevitable exhaustion, Jesus prioritizes time with the Father. We might not have easy access to deserts and mountaintops, but today’s Gospel challenges us to take intentional time set apart for God. We can designate a “prayer chair” in a corner of our home or leave a little earlier to pick our children up from school so we can snatch time in a nearby chapel. We can pray the rosary on our commute or take the dog for a long walk in silence.



However, when the Apostles arrive, Jesus doesn’t linger overlong in the deserted place or make an excuse for why he can’t return with his friends. Jesus is true to his calling. He continues on in his state of life, serving the people nearest to him. Like Jesus, we are invited to set intentional time for communion with God so that we can be refreshed and empowered for our communion with others.

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“He heals the brokenhearted and binds up their wounds.”

Psalms 147

Collections

Week 31—January 27/28, 2018

Our weekly financial contributions will not publically available on our website. If you would like this information, please call Kathy Fraser, Parish Business Administrator. She can be reached at x 207. Thank you.

Church Directory

Emergency (Death or Anointing) 763-788-9062 (#2)

PARISH

- Parish Office 763-788-9062
(Open Monday - Friday, 8:00 am – 4:30 pm)
- Parish Fax 763-788-0202
- Reception Desk** x 201
- Pastor, Fr. John Mitchell** x 215
- Accounting Specialist** x 202
- Director of Advancement and Discipleship,**
Mary Beth Pfeifer x 203
- Deacon, Larry Palkert**
- Business Administrator, Kathy Fraser** x 207
- Communications Coordinator, Sue Ashmore** x 205
- Records Coordinator, Terri Glaeser** x 227
- Director of Marketing, Cathleen Cary** x 213
- Director of Music and Liturgy, Ray Bannon** x 214
- Maintenance Supervisor, Bob Hoisington** x 218
- Pastoral Minister, Vicki Bazille** x 212
- Special Event Coordinator, Jami Bridgeman** x 221
- Wedding Coordinator, Barb Hartwick** x 204
- FAITH FORMATION**
- Director of Faith Formation, Mary Nawrocki** x 210
- Administrative Assistant, Mary Scott** x 208

SCHOOL

- School Office 763-788-9065
- School Fax 763-788-9066
- Principal, Jane Bona** (jbona@immac-church.org) x 220
- Administrative Assistant, Barbara Breza** x 219

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL MEMBERS

- | | |
|--|----------------------|
| <i>Dave Kellner</i> | <i>Kathy Johnson</i> |
| <i>Charles Karanja</i> | <i>Stacy McVary</i> |
| <i>Marcus Paulson</i> | <i>Sandy Sichak</i> |
| <i>Kathy Fraser</i> (Business Administrator) | |
| <i>Jane Bona</i> (School Principal) | |
| <i>Steve Smith</i> (Parish Trustee) | |

Copies of the Parish Council meeting minutes are available in the pamphlet racks at the entrances to the church.

LOW GLUTEN HOSTS

Low gluten hosts (.002 gluten) are available. Come to the Sacristy before Mass to request one.

Thank Our Advertiser of the Week...

Ready Meats

An Old Fashion Meat Market

*Quality Sausage, Italian, Swedish, Brautwurst
Freezer Beef • Fresh Chicken*

3550 Johnson Street NE • 612-789-2484

This advertiser, and the others on the back of the bulletin, make this bulletin possible, please support them when you can.

**Thank you for voting us
Best Place to Worship and Best Principal!**



**2018 Sun Focus Newspaper
Columbia Heights/Fridley
Readers' Choice Awards**



~ BEST PLACE TO WORSHIP ~
Immaculate Conception Church



~ BEST PRINCIPAL ~
Ms. Jane Bona

