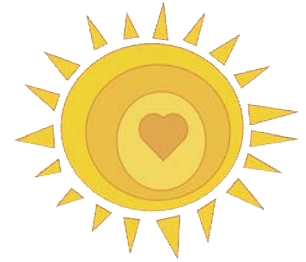




Faith Formation

Immaculate Conception Catholic Church

Volume 1, Issue 3



“Summer is Already Near ...” (Luke 21:30)

This is the time of year when things begin to wind down. Here in the Faith Formation office, our activities calendar is beginning to look a bit sparse, and we will soon begin planning for the upcoming year. Over the summer, we will continue providing instruction through programs such as Totus Tuus and baptism preparation classes. Please know, however, that we are here year round to provide you with spiritual support. Please do not hesitate to contact us with your questions and concerns.

We encourage you to take advantage of resources that will help you stay Christ-centered this summer. We are blessed with two beautiful local cathedrals, the Cathedral of St. Paul and the Basilica of St. Mary. Both offer tours where you can learn about local Church history as well as the faith. While you are there, you can gain a Jubilee Indulgence, which is being offered during this Year of Mercy. (See the Archdiocese of St. Paul and Minneapolis website to learn about obtaining indulgences.)

If you travel this summer, you will have an opportunity to visit churches in other areas. By doing so, you both honor God and add another site to your travel itinerary. When planning your visit, go to Masstimes.org, which has addresses and mass times for churches around the world.

May you cherish the gifts God gives you in the form of beautiful weather and time with family. May His presence and His love be evident to you and your loved ones.

“All the earth is filled with his glory!” (Is 6:3)

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Special points of interest:

- See inside pages for important information on program events, dates and times

A Prayer Moment with Your Child

Let’s pray now to God, the source of all love and compassion:

God of judgment and mercy, thank you for your love, which continually calls me to come closer to you. Help me to see you in

all people I meet and to recognize how to serve you by helping others, especially those in need.

Amen.

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Family and Youth Formation, April–May 2016

April 2016

Apr. 6 Wed. 6:30pm
Family Formation (K-6), Grades
7 & 8, Confirmation I

Apr. 20 Wed. 6:30pm
Grades 7 & 8, Confirmation I

May 2016

May 1 Sun. 10am Mass
Rite of Covenant, Confirmation I

May 4 Wed. 6:30pm
Family Formation, Grades 7 &
8, Confirmation I

May 11 Wed. 6:30pm
Confirmation I

May 18 Wed. 6:30pm
Grades 7 & 8, Confirmation I



Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults (RCIA)

All classes are on Thursdays at
7pm.

April 2016

April 7, 14, 21, 28

May 2016

May 5, 12, 19

What a blessing to experience the joy of Easter with an excited group of candidates as they received the sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist. We congratulate Anne Marie De Leon, Truman Lothen, and Samantha Javes.



Please pray that the Lord will bring to completion what He has begun in them!

RCIA will start again in October

2016. Classes are for anyone who: has never been baptized but would like to be; has been baptized in another Christian tradition but is thinking of becoming Catholic; was baptized Catholic but has not received the sacraments of Eucharist and/or Confirmation.

Please contact Mary Nawrocki in the Faith Formation Office for more information on RCIA.

First Eucharist

Apr. 20 Wed. 6:30pm
First Eucharist Rehearsal in the
Church

Apr. 24 Sun. 10am
First Communion

Please pray for the 18 students who are preparing for their First Communion: Given Aboni, Guadalupe

Aguilar, Lillianna Borris, Edward Cardenas, Marquis Downs, Daphne Kleinschmit, Gina Llapa-Chunchi, Mildra Lopez-Pena, Ulises Lopez-Pena, Francisco Lopez-Torres, Emir Martinez, Vanessa Martinez, Maritsa Ortiz, Jezabel Riera, Lydia Sedlak, Sophia Serie, Guillermo Torres, Lauren Traviss.



Save the Date/Dates of Note

An Evening on Intercessory Prayer

Apr. 8 Fri. 7:00pm

Learn to pray effectively for others and hear about plans for the new Intercessory Prayer Ministry. Watch the parish bulletin for additional meeting dates and details.

Healing Mass

Apr. 12 Tues 7:00pm

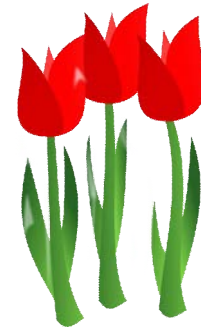
Celebrant—Fr. Jim Livingston

Graduation Mass

June 5 Sun. 10:00am

Join us to celebrate the graduation of our parish's high school seniors.

Note: Last day of the Liturgy of the Word for Children (LOW) is Sunday, May 8th. The program will begin again in September.



Totus Tuus

SAVE THE DATE FOR TOTUS TUUS—TOTALLY YOURS, our summer youth camp, is coming back!

TOTUS TUUS is a Catholic youth program dedicated to helping young people develop an intimate friendship with Jesus Christ whereby he may lead

them to the Father in the Holy Spirit.

The program runs two sessions—one for children entering grades K-6 on **June 27-July 1**, 9:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m., and for youth entering grades 7-12, on **June 26-30**, 7:30 p.m. to 9:45 p.m. The cost is \$25 per participant and \$75 max per family.

GOD IS GOOD! ALL THE TIME!



Living As Easter People

After 40 days of living the penitential season of Lent with prayer, fasting, and almsgiving, we have now entered into the joy of the Easter season. How does one live out a season of joy, particularly amidst the daily stresses of life?

We live with the assuredness that no matter what happens in life, Jesus has given us a great gift of love:

the Resurrection. The Holy Spirit, Whom we received at baptism, produces in us a joy that cannot be taken away. Even if we are dealing with such heavy burdens as loss, depression and grief, we can cling to the Lord Who loves us and His promise: "Do not fear nor be dismayed, for the LORD, your God, is with you wherever you go" (Jos 1:9). He assures us of the constancy of

His love and reminds us that beyond the sufferings of this life, a life of eternal happiness awaits us.

"... in my flesh I am filling up what is lacking in the afflictions of Christ on behalf of his body, which is the church" (Col 1:24).

Immaculate Conception Catholic Church

Pastor John Mitchell

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**We're on the web:
iccsonline.org**



Parish Mission Statement

The Mission of Immaculate Conception 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.

Immaculate Conception Church has served Catholics in Columbia Heights and surrounding areas since 1923.

Year Of Mercy Highlight: Spiritual Works of Mercy

Pope Francis is encouraging Catholics to participate in the Jubilee Year by practicing Works of Mercy. The U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) offers some ideas for carrying out Spiritual Works of Mercy.

Counseling the doubtful

- Witness with your life by following Christ so that God's love may be revealed in your actions
- Has someone asked you for advice? Orient your response to Christ, who is the Way, the Truth, and the Life

Instructing the ignorant

- Invite someone to go to mass with you this weekend
- Grow in knowledge of your

faith. Read the USCCA to learn the faith and live it

Admonishing the sinner

- Encourage others to repent by correcting your own faults
- Embrace the spirit of humility before correcting others, knowing that we all desire mercy

Comforting the sorrowful

- Take a few minutes to listen to someone going through a difficult time
- Write a letter or send a card to someone who is suffering

Forgiving injuries

- Let go of grudges
- Receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation

Bearing wrongs patiently

- Step away from a frustrating situation, pray the Our Father and ask for patience

Praying for the living and the dead

- Request a mass intention for the dead or for the concerns of the living
- Ask a friend or family member how you might pray for them

For more suggestions, go to usccb.org.

