



THE CHURCH OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION



The Parable of the Sower

“But the seed sown on rich soil
is the one who hears the word
and understands it, who indeed
bears fruit and yields a hundred
or sixty or thirtyfold.”

- Matthew 13:23

The Sower - By James Tissot [Public domain], via Wikimedia Commons | Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD

JULY 16, 2017 | FIFTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Weekday Mass Schedule

Tuesday - Friday

7:30 am

Weekend Mass Schedule

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



Summer Picnic for IC Teens

Immaculate Conception Church teens are invited to a summer picnic this weekend on Sunday, July 16, 3:00-5:30 pm, at Sullivan Lake Park, 721 51st Ave. NE, Columbia Heights. This event is FREE and sponsored by the St. Anthony of Padua Franciscan Fraternity, a group of lay Catholic men and women who follow the ways of St. Francis, and some of the members are parishioners at our church. The picnic will begin with a short prayer service followed by a lunch and outdoor games. Bring a friend! After parents drop off their teens at the picnic, they may stay if they wish. Parent permission forms will be available at the event when teens are dropped off. Questions? Contact Mary Nawrocki at mnawrocki@immac-church.org.



Men's Group

I.C. Men's Group, Bar-b-q and Cookout, Wednesday, July 26. All men are invited to our I.C. Men's Group event on Wednesday, July 26, from 6:00-9:00 pm at the Rectory Garage and Driveway (Father John's house) at 4059 Quincy Street NE. Beverages, beer (must be age 21), food, and fun. Send RSVP and questions to Mike Bridgeman (612-770-1169) or Patrick McVary (612-803-3020).

I.C. Men's Group, Saint Paul Saints Tailgating and Game, Tuesday, August 29. All men are invited to join us for tailgating and the St. Paul Saints game at CHS Field on Tuesday, August 29. Our group's bar-b-q starts at 5:30 pm in the Saints Tailgating Lot at the corner of Kellogg Blvd. and Lafayette Street. The game starts at 7:05 pm. Please RSVP soon so that we can order group tickets. We can add more tickets the day of the game, if needed. Please send RSVP to Mike Bridgeman (612-770-1169) or Patrick McVary (612-803-3020).

GET FORMED!

We are excited to announce that our parish has subscribed to a dynamic new online platform called FORMED. Every parishioner will have 24/7 access to inspiring Catholic movies, videos, audios and books on your computer, smartphone and tablet with internet access FREE OF CHARGE. To get started, go to www.FORMED.org and enter the parish code: VKQPF9. Next, set up a username and a password, and then start exploring!

God Bless You,

Father John Mitchell

Readings and Observances

Sunday, July 16

15th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Is 55:10-11/Ps 65:10-14/Rom 8:18-23/Mt 13:1-23 or 13:1-9

Monday, July 17

Ex 1:8-14, 22/Ps 124:1b-8/Mt 10:34—11:1

Tuesday, July 18

St. Camillus de Lellis, Priest

Ex 2:1-15a/Ps 69:3, 14, 30-31, 33-34/Mt 11:20-24

Wednesday, July 19

Ex 3:1-6, 9-12/Ps 103:1b-4, 6-7/Mt 11:25-27

Thursday, July 20

St. Apollinaris, Bishop and Martyr

Ex 3:13-20/Ps 105:1, 5, 8-9, 24-27/Mt 11:28-30

Friday, July 21

St. Lawrence of Brindisi, Priest and Doctor of the Church

Ex 11:10—12:14/Ps 116:12-13, 15, 16bc-18/Mt 12:1-8

Saturday, July 22

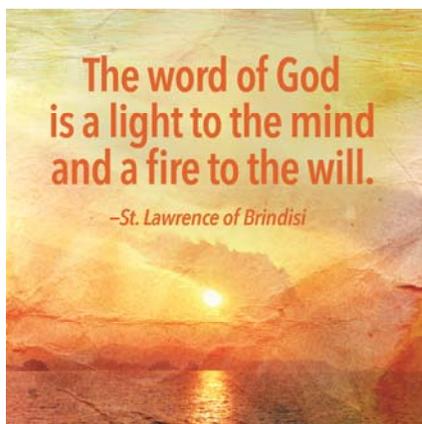
St. Mary Magdalene

Sg 3:1-4b or 2 Cor 5:14-17/Ps 63:2-6, 8-9/Jn 20:1-2, 11-18

Sunday, July 23

16th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Wis 12:13, 16-19/Ps 86:5-6, 9-10, 15-16/Rom 8:26-27/Mt 13:24-43 or 13:24-30



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Parish News

Life in the Spirit

Did you know you can have a personal relationship with the Holy Spirit? What could that look like and what could it mean for you? Imagine a life with a clearer understanding of who God is and what His plan is for you. Imagine a life of hope, peace and JOY! The Life in the Spirit Seminar could be what you need! The seminar will be offered Friday, July 28 through Saturday, July 29 at Immaculate Conception Church in Fellowship Hall beginning Friday from 6:30 - 9:30 pm and continuing on Saturday, from 8:30 am - 4:30 pm.

Lunch and snacks will be provided. There is no charge to attend. *All are welcome—invite a friend!*

For more details and/or to register call Mary Nawrocki at 763-788-9062 x 210 or email mnawrocki@immac-church.org

Help Needed

Our Morning Journeys program needs a person to work three mornings per week from 6:30 am - 7:45 am. The position welcomes children to school, reads with them, plays games, and sends them to their classrooms at 7:45 am. Please contact Jane Bona or Mary Beth Pfeifer if you are interested. Thank you.

Meals on Wheels

We will be driving for Meals on Wheels the week of July 31 - August 4. Thank you to all our dedicated drivers!

*My word shall not return to me void, but shall do my will,
achieving the end for which I sent it.*

Is 55:11b

—Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

Eucharistic Adoration

*“Blessed are they who dwell in your house,
forever singing your praise”*

(from Psalm 84)



The adoration chapel is where adorers come to pray and praise Jesus for all he has done for them. Adorers often say their adoration hour is the best hour of their week. Our chapel is available Monday through Friday, 7:00 am until 10:00 pm and all are welcome to come and praise our Lord. It is a beautiful, peaceful place to spend time with Jesus.

In order to continue to have our chapel open each day, we are looking for adorers for many hours but especially need volunteers for **Thursdays at noon**, and partner adorers for **Mondays at 11:00 am**, **Tuesdays at 8:00 pm** and **Wednesdays at 9:00 am and 4:00 pm**. We are also looking for additional substitute adorers to fill in for daytime and evening hours as needed. If you would be available to cover an hour, please call Sandy at 763-789-3246 or Fran at 763-788-0924.

Note: Adorers if you have vacation plans and will not be attending your adoration hour, please find a substitute or call your hourly coordinator so they can help find a substitute. Please remember we cannot leave the Blessed Sacrament unattended.



We Need Your Help!

The following events at our Northeast Summer Jam-Fun Fest are in need of a chair to oversee and lead them. If you're interested in chairing one of these events and would like information on what is required, time commitment, etc., please contact Jami at 763-788-9062 or jbridgeman@immac-church.org. Thank you!

- Information Booth
- Outdoor Market
- Co-Chair for Raffle
- Co-Chair for Bingo

Raffle Tickets

Pre-assigned Northeast Summer Jam general raffle tickets are available for pick up in the back of church or in the parish office during the week. If we missed your name or you would like to buy/sell additional tickets, please call the parish office. State regulations require that all tickets be accounted for, so please return all purchased ticket stubs with payment and un-purchased tickets to the Mass collection baskets or the parish office.

Spiritual Gift Basket

The 12th Annual Spiritual Gift Basket features a sterling silver deluxe glass bead Rosary, complete Audio CD set of the New Testament Bible, chaplets, books and much more. The drawing is free to enter. Register at the Northeast Summer Jam Fun Fest information booth or at the parish office.

CCW Summer Jam News

St. Michael Circle—Bottlemania Booth

The members of St. Michael Circle are requesting donations of two-liter bottles of pop for their booth at the Northeast Summer Jam-Fun Fest. There will be boxes for your donations at all church entrances. We appreciate and thank you for your generosity and support.

St. Jude's Circle Bake Shoppe

A variety of breads, muffins, bars and cookies are needed for our booth at the Summer Jam – Fun Fest on Friday, Saturday and Sunday. Your baked goods will be accepted and greatly appreciated. Questions: call Mary Lou at 763-788-3178.

Please note: In order to comply with Minnesota Health Regulations, we ask that all baked goods donated for our booth be labeled with the name of the person who baked them. Thank you!

The Road to Discipleship

“The **biggest crisis** of our time is not economic, health care, or vocations but **is an identity crisis**. We have forgotten our mission to become saints and forgotten our story as Catholics. We must rediscover mission and hold each other accountable to accepting responsibility for that mission.”



—Ordinary Lives Extraordinary Mission, John R. Wood, back cover

Pastoral Ministry

Fellowship

Join us next Sunday, July 23 for fellowship hosted by our Maintenance Committee. The Maintenance Committee meets once a month. The responsibilities of this group include planning for capital improvements, identifying maintenance needs, and working with the maintenance staff and parish business administrator to obtain objectives. Thank you to all who serve on this committee.

Anointing Mass

Crest View on 42nd

(located at the corner of Central and 42nd Avenues)

August 10, 2017, 3:15 pm

Presider, Rev. John Mitchell

All are welcome!

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 Donna Kenyon, Theresa Mancuso and 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	Barbara Eagan	Robert Prokott
Sabrina Anderson	Mary Fredenburg	Lukus Reynold
Pat Anton	Mary Lou Goodman	Barbara Rocek
Marian Ashlin	Katherine Hoefs	Paula Ross
Shari Backman	Rev. James Klein	Greg Sery
Debra Braak	Gerald Krawiecki	Betty Schack
Michelle Cadieux	Tom Leight Jr.	Irene Spensley
Nichole Castonguay	Randy Mancuso	Mary Ann Steenburg
Marie Couillard	Janet Mihalik	Ella Verbrugge
Margaret De Mars	Mary Ann Miller	Germaine Wolsfeld
Nick Dickson	Lavern Nelson	

and all those on our prayer chain

Social Justice

Coins for Social Justice Next Weekend

Small Change Can Do a World of Good!

“Coins for Social Justice” raises funds to support programs that promote the gospel of peace and social justice. The fourth week-end of each month, IC parishioners are asked to fill the collection basket with their pocket change to benefit the Social Justice Ministry. The next collection will be on July 22 and 23. Donations made using bills or checks should be placed in an envelope marked Social Justice. Small envelopes can be found on tables at all entrances of the church. Only the loose change or marked envelopes from this collection is designated for Social Justice. Thank you for your support!



School News

Congratulations Katherine Wall!

We were blessed to have our teacher of preschool – grade 4 students attend a Sacred Music Colloquium this June. Katherine Wall teaches both middle school mathematics and elementary music. This fabulous opportunity was made possible by a grant from the Catholic Community Foundation. Here is information about the conference that was featured in The Catholic Spirit:

The Sacred Music Colloquium is the annual conference of the Church Music Association of America, which promotes the use of Gregorian chant, polyphony and other traditional sacred music in the liturgy, as well as new compositions that advance the traditional styles. Held for the first time in St. Paul, the June 19-24 event has drawn more than 200 sacred music professionals, academics, vocalists and musicians from around North America as well as Africa, Australia and Europe for workshops, rehearsals, performances and liturgies. During the conference, attendees participate in a chant choir and polyphony choir and sing for the colloquium’s Masses and other liturgies. According to the CMAA, the colloquium is “the largest and most in-depth teaching conference and retreat on sacred music in the world.”

Congratulations to Katherine for being selected for this. We know we are blessed to have her teach in our school!



IC Student Selected as Jamboree Princess

One of our wonderful third grade students was selected as a princess in the Columbia Heights Jamboree. She and her Mom were so excited to share the news with me and that they are most excited to be a representative of Immaculate Conception School! Please share the news about our school with family, friends and neighbors!

ICS Alumni Honor Students

Immaculate Conception School has a long tradition (77 years!) of preparing children for high school and beyond. Our area high schools send us information regarding Honor Roll achievement. I am happy to share congratulations to the following students from Totino-Grace High School for the second semester of 2017-18!

A Honor Roll

Ashley Cordero - 12th grade

B Honor Roll

Justin Mraz - 12th grade

Eliza Dahly - 12th grade

Bryan Doty - 11th grade

Blessings,
Jane Bona, Principal

Advertiser of the Week

Thank Our Advertiser of the Week...

Ready Meats

An Old Fashion Meat Market

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.

Reflections

Word of Life

“The challenge is to *make the Church’s ‘yes’ to Life concrete and effective*. The struggle will be long, and it needs each one of you. Place your intelligence, your talents, your enthusiasm, your compassion and your fortitude at the service of life!”

—Pope John Paul II, “Homily,” August 15, 1993.
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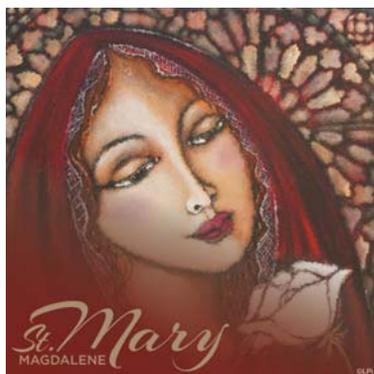
Why Do We Do That?

Catholic Traditions Explained

Question: *July 22 is the feast of Mary Magdalene. Who was she and is it true that she was a prostitute who followed Jesus around in his ministry?*

Answer: Recent biblical scholarship has been trying for a long time to correct Mary Magdalene’s misconstrued reputation as a prostitute. Biblical information reveals her as one of the most important disciples of Jesus, following and financially supporting him during his ministry. She is also a faithful witness both to the Crucifixion and the first to see the risen Jesus.

Her reputation as a prostitute arose from the misunderstandings of certain texts in Luke. Luke 8:2 reports Mary as being a follower of Jesus “from whom seven demons had gone out.” This passage follows Luke’s story of the sinful woman, a prostitute, who bathed Jesus’ feet with her tears and dried them with her hair. Since that woman is not named, there came to be an association of that woman with Mary Magdalene, “from whom seven demons had gone out.” Thus Mary became known as a prostitute. The readings and prayers for her feast day make no mention of her reputation as a sinner. Rather, they emphasize and highlight her role as the first witness to the risen Lord, and the first one commissioned by Jesus to tell of the good news to the disciples. Let us continue to be Mary Magdalene to the world.



Live The Liturgy—Inspiration For The Week

We are reminded today that the seed that falls on good ground will yield a fruitful harvest. What kind of soil do we have? God’s word needs to take root in our lives so that we can remain faithful not only when life is easy but when it gets challenging and difficult. Anxiety, worldly cares and concerns, personal challenges, experiences of loss and death, and even fear and disappointment can prevent us from trusting God’s promise. We can even find ourselves doubting God’s fidelity and lose touch with his presence. Our soil can easily become rocky, hard, and unyielding. Open your eyes and ears today and let all that is around you lead you to God’s presence. Then, do all in your power to cultivate and nurture a life that is eager to receive him and fertile for growing the seeds of God’s kingdom.

Weekly Calendar

Sunday, July 16

Mass, Intention, +*Mona Lundholm* _____ 8:00 am
Mass _____ 10:00 am

Monday, July 17

Summer Intramurals _____ 9:00 am - 4:00 pm
St. Jude Circle _____ 1:00 pm - 3:00 pm

Tuesday, July 18

Mass _____ 7:30 am
Intentions, Bené, +Clarence & Richard Emon
Summer Intramurals _____ 9:00 am - 4:00 pm
Charismatic Prayer Group _____ 7:00 pm - 8:30 pm

Wednesday, July 19

Mass, Intention, +*Mona Lundholm* _____ 7:30 am
Summer Intramurals _____ 9:00 am - 4:00 pm

Thursday, July 20

Mass, Intention, +*Donald Quinn, Sr.* _____ 7:30 am
Summer Intramurals _____ 9:00 am - 4:00 pm
Communion Service, Royce Place _____ 3:15 pm

Friday, July 21

Mass _____ 7:30 am
Intentions, +Joe Guzik, +Andrew Ambrose, +Jo Ann Molan
Our Lady of Guadalupe Formation _____ 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm

Saturday, July 22

Reconciliation _____ 3:30 pm - 4:30 pm
Mass, Intention, +*Iolanda (Linda) Dupak* _____ 5:00 pm
Our Lady of Guadalupe Prayer Group _____ 6:30 pm - 9:00 pm

Sunday, July 23

Mass, Intention, *IC Parishioners* _____ 8:00 am
Fellowship _____ 8:30 am - 12:30 pm
Mass _____ 10:00 am
+*Deceased*

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.*

July 16 – Rev. Charles Lachowitz
July 17 – Rev. Nathan LaLiberte
July 18 – Rev. John Lapensky
July 19 – Rev. Roy Lepak
July 20 – Rev. James Liekhus
July 21 – Rev. Matthew Linn
July 22 – Rev. Ben Little

Gospel Meditation

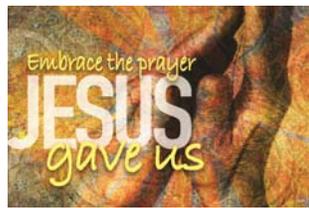
Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

“But some seed fell on rich soil, and produced fruit, a hundred or sixty or thirtyfold.” In the parable of the sower that Jesus tells in today’s Gospel, the ideal is to be “the seed sown on rich soil” that yields an abundant harvest. As Jesus explains, this means we should strive to be “the one who hears the word and understands it.”

So how do we place ourselves in this category? How do we assure that we will hear God’s voice (i.e., the word) and actually understand what he’s saying to us? The answer comes in the parable itself. Jesus explains what we need to avoid in order to make sure our seed bears fruit. First, we must beware of “the evil one” who comes and steals away the seed of God’s word. Faithfully praying the Lord’s Prayer, with its request to “deliver us from evil,” is a good starting point here. Placing ourselves under God’s protection every day is like taking up a shield against the forces that would seek to derail us.

Secondly, we must be committed enough to God’s word that “tribulation or persecution” do not uproot us or make our faith wither and die. Here, too, sincerely praying the petition in the Lord’s Prayer—“Thy will be done”—can prepare us to accept whatever comes our way without waffling or wavering.

Finally, we must be careful that “worldly anxiety and the lure of riches” do not “choke” us. Again, we turn to the Lord’s Prayer and find an antidote built in: “Give us this day our daily bread.”



We pray not for a new car or a winning lottery ticket, but for our basic needs.

So let us embrace the prayer Jesus gave us, indeed the words he himself gave us to say, as we seek to truly hear and understand God’s word.

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*The seed that falls on good ground
will yield a fruitful harvest.*

Psalms 65

—Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

Beyond Our Parish

Vatican Synod on Youth/Young Adults

Pope Francis is calling a general assembly (synod) of the bishops on the theme, “Youth, Faith, and Vocational Discernment” in October 2018. The Church wishes to listen to the voices of young people, their sensitivities, their faith, even their doubts and criticisms.

A series of Listening Sessions are being held throughout our Archdiocese. The next session is Wednesday, July 19, 6:30 pm at O’Gara’s, Saint Paul (part of the Theology on Tap summer series). In addition, young adults ages 16-30 are encouraged to take a brief online survey. For many more details, please visit www.archspm.org/YoungAdultVoices.

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, Lekenka Beja 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

Dave Kellner

Stacy McVary

Sandy Sichak

Kathy Johnson

Marcus Paulson

Veronica Velez

Kathy Fraser (Business Administrator)

Jane Bona (School Principal)

Steve Smith (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.

Collections

Week 2—July 8/9, 2017

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.



Volunteer - We Need You!

Northeast Summer Jam Fun Fest is our biggest fundraiser supporting both our church and school. It is very important that we all come together to do our part to make this event a success. We need everyone to sign up and spend a little time August 4, 5, & 6 serving God through serving His church. It is a fun event and there are many areas to choose from where you can be of help. Come serve and enjoy! *Sign up today online on our website or in the narthex before or after Mass.*

For more information contact Diane Tieden at 612-916-8365 or tiedenc@gmail.com.

Your Donations are Needed!

BAKE SHOPPE

A variety of breads, muffins, bars and cookies are needed for the St. Jude's Circle Bake Shoppe booth on Friday, Saturday and Sunday. Your baked goods will be accepted and greatly appreciated.

Questions: call Mary Lou at 763-788-3178.

BOTTLEMANIA

Donations of two-liter bottles of pop are needed for the St. Michael's Circle Bottlemania booth. Boxes will be available at all entrances of church for your donations or you can drop them off at the parish office.

WINE TOSS

Bottles of wine are needed for the "Wine Toss" booth. If you would like to donate a bottle or two, please bring your donation to the parish office or give to an usher before weekend Masses.

MEDIA BOOTH

If you have books you no longer need, you can put them to good use by donating them to our Media Booth! Donations (books only) may be dropped off at the parish office.

Remember, all proceeds benefit our parish. Thank you for your generosity and support!