



THE CHURCH OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

Students and Faculty

WELCOME BACK TO SCHOOL!



SEPTEMBER 3, 2017 | TWENTY-SECOND 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



Labor Day and Christianity

This is Labor Day weekend, and that gives us the opportunity to reflect on the value of labor and work. Christians view human labor and work as a way to honor God: “*Work honors the Creator’s gifts and the talents received from him*” (Catechism of the Catholic Church, #2427). Furthermore, our work builds up our self-esteem and provides a sense of accomplishment. Our work can also help other people in their time of need. Of course, we should not always be working. We need time for rest and leisure and the worship of God. The Church teaches that “*On Sundays and other holy days of obligation, the faithful are to refrain from engaging in work or activities that hinder the worship owed to God, the joy proper to the Lord’s Day, the performance of the works of mercy, and the appropriate relaxation of mind and body.*” (Catechism, #2185-2187). We thank God for the opportunities to work and exercise our talents and interests. We also pray for people who are unemployed and are looking for work to earn income to support their families and loved ones.



Bible Study, “Peter”, Starting September 25 and October 4

All are welcome to join us in Fellowship Hall (church basement) for a ten-session Bible study on Saint Peter. Choose either the Monday sessions at 7:00 - 8:30 pm (led by Mary Nawrocki) or the Wednesday sessions at 1:00 - 2:30 pm (led by me). The Monday sessions will meet September 25, October 2, 9, 16, 23, 30, November 6, 20, 27, December 4. The Wednesday sessions will meet October 4, 11, 18, 25, November 1, 8, 15, 29, December 6, 13. The participant study guide

booklet for “Peter” is *free* to download from the FORMED.org website. To subscribe free to FORMED, go to www.FORMED.org and enter our parish code **VKQPF9** to register. If you choose to buy a printed copy of the booklet, the cost is \$25. To register for this Bible study, please contact Mary Scott at our Faith Formation office at 763-788-9062 x 208 or mscott@immac-church.org.

Bible Study, “Peter”, Through Online Discussion Group

Are you interested in doing the *Peter* Bible Study remotely online with me? If yes, please contact me at jmitchell@immac-church.org and join our Facebook group of 5-10 people. I will post questions for you to answer each week on our discussion page. It will be a closed group so only the group members can see the comments and discussion. You watch the video lessons when/where you want, and then join our online discussion! To subscribe free to FORMED, go to www.FORMED.org and enter our parish code **VKQPF9** to register.

God Bless You,
Father John Mitchell

Readings and Observances

Sunday, September 3

22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Jer 20:7-9/Ps 63:2-6, 8-9/Rom 12:1-2/Mt 16:21-27

Monday, September 4

Labor Day

1 Thes 4:13-18/Ps 96:1, 3-5, 11-13/Lk 4:16-30

Tuesday, September 5

St. Teresa of Kolkata

1 Thes 5:1-6, 9-11/Ps 27:1, 4, 13-14/Lk 4:31-37

Wednesday, September 6

Col 1:1-8/Ps 52:10-11/Lk 4:38-44

Thursday, September 7

Col 1:9-14/Ps 98:2-6/Lk 5:1-11

Friday, September 8

Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary; Our Lady of Charity

Mi 5:1-4a or Rom 8:28-30/Ps 136:6/Mt 1:1-16, 18-23 or 1:18-23

Saturday, September 9

St. Peter Claver, Priest

Col 1:21-23/Ps 54:3-4, 6, 8/Lk 6:1-5

Sunday, September 10

23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time, Grandparents Day

Ez 33:7-9/Ps 95:1-2, 6-9/Rom 13:8-10/Mt 18:15-20

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May the gracious care of the LORD our God
be ours; prosper the work of our hands for us!
Prosper the work of our hands!

Psalms 90:17

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

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Eucharistic Adoration

*“Thus will I bless you while I live,
lifting up my hands, I will call upon your name.”*
(from Psalm 63)

Each hour of the week day and evening, in our adoration chapel an adorer is calling upon the name of our Lord in prayer. Each adorer has a personal relationship with Jesus and confirms that relationship each time they attend their adoration hour. All are welcome to join this dedicated, prayer filled group.

Our Eucharistic adoration chapel is open Monday through Friday beginning at 7:00 am and closing at 11:00 pm. At this time we are in need of volunteers to cover Mondays at 10:00 am (partner), Tuesdays at 3:00 pm (partner), Wednesday at 9:00 am (partner), Thursdays at noon and Fridays at 7:00 pm (partner) and 10:00 pm. If you would like information about adoration, are able to cover any of the hours listed or would like to cover any other hour, please call Sandy at 763-789-3246 or Fran at 763-788-0924.

Note: The chapel will be closed on Monday, September 4 for the Labor Day Holiday. The chapel will reopen at 7:00 am on Tuesday, September 5.



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.*

September 3 – Rev. Benny Mekkatt
September 4 – Rev. Philip Merdinger
September 5 – Rev. Aaron Meszaros
September 6 – Rev. Frederick Meyer
September 7 – Rev. John Meyer
September 8 – Rev. Nathaniel Meyers
September 9 – Rev. Stanislaw Michalek

Music Ministry

Choir Rehearsals Return This Week

Our Parish Choir is for young and old, students, workers, and retirees, high school age or older. We meet on Wednesdays from 7:00 - 8:30 pm in the church and sing on Sundays at 10:00 am Mass. We welcome all new and returning members. Experience and ability to read music appreciated, but not mandatory—you'll learn along with us.

The Bell Choir meets on Thursdays from 7:00 - 8:30 pm and will play eight times during the coming year. Ability to read music is appreciated, as is previous experience playing bells (we will help those with limited experience).

The Funeral Schola meets once a month on Thursdays at 10:00 am. This groups assists with music for funerals and also sings one Saturday night per month. Participants will be asked to sing for funerals based on scheduling, occasionally with little notice—most funerals occur on weekday mornings.

School News

Some of the Awesome Things We Learn in ICS Preschool!

- We learn how to move smoothly from one activity to another.
- We learn how to express ourselves creatively through art, music and play.
- We learn to be grateful for all of our blessings and we learn how to accept our defeats as part of the Religion Class.
- We learn how to respect our friends, our teachers and our belongings.
- We prepare ourselves for Kindergarten by learning classroom routines and rules.

We offer a flexible preschool program with full or part time attendance options. We invite you to explore Immaculate Conception as the school for your child or grandchild for preschool.

Contact us for a tour or information!

School News

Registration for the 2017-18 school year continues at our school. We are a preschool-8th grade school with a personalized learning plan in place for students. We have expanded our technology to be a 1:1 program for our students, meaning each child uses an iPad or Chrome Book at the school to enhance their learning. Please visit our school's website to learn more about the programs we offer. There is a new two minute video on our website that explains our Personalized Learning approach for children in the school.

Another unique thing about our school are the programs we offer in athletics. Our students can begin playing soccer in first grade! Soccer, volleyball, basketball, softball and baseball are all popular. Students take classes in Spanish, Technology, Physical Education and Music. Band and Chorus are offered for children in grades 4-8. We added a Chess Club this past year and that has been a good opportunity for children to try a game of skill and strategy.

A parent's thought on why they chose Immaculate Conception for their child:

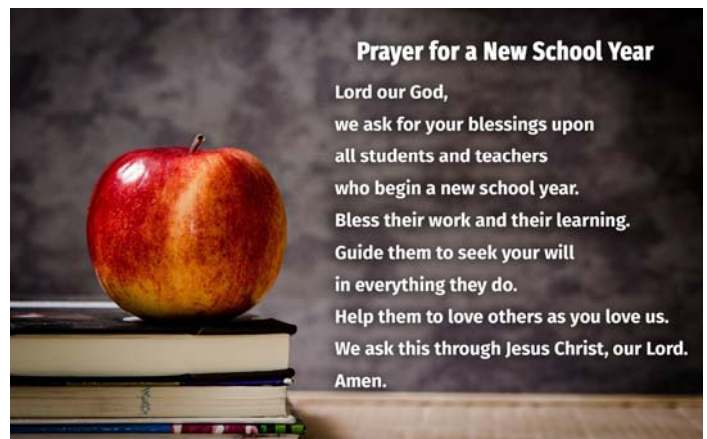
“The personalized education plans along with a safe and nurturing environment have enabled our children to realize their full learning potential. They are excited about learning and love Immaculate Conception School—so do we!

—Mary Beth and Steve Pfeifer

Contact me for more information!

Blessed to Serve,

Jane Bona
Principal



The Road to Discipleship

Advancing God's Kingdom

"O God, who gives your missionaries the zeal to bring the Good News of Jesus Christ to the nations, give us the desire to advance your kingdom wherever we may be. May we share a deep desire to show you more clearly to others, to love you more dearly in others, and to follow you more closely in all that we do each day of our lives. Amen."

—Franciscan Media, May 5, 2017 from the book *Saint Junipero Serra's Camino: A Pilgrimage Guide to the California Missions*

Parish News

Knights of Columbus Picnic

The Knights of Columbus summer picnic will be held on Sunday, September 10 at Kordiak Park in Columbia Heights, starting at noon. Please call 763-789-8362 or 651-636-2382 to make a reservation and to get additional details.

Intercession: Effective Prayer

Join us for the next Intercessory Prayer Ministry meeting, which will take place Friday, September 8 from 7:00 - 8:30 pm in the St. Clare Room. We will review the eighth lesson in our study from *Intercession: A Guide to Effective Prayer*. Please bring a pen, homework/prayer journal/notebook, and your Bible. There will be time for prayer and sharing how God is answering prayers for the church and school. Refreshments and fellowship time are included. If you would like more information, please contact Mary Scott in the Faith Formation Office at 763-788-9062 x 208. All are welcome—invite a friend.

Pastoral Ministry

Fellowship

Join us next Sunday, September 10 for fellowship, hosted by our School Advisory Board.

Anointing Mass

September 6, 2017, 3:15 pm at **Crest View**, 4444 Reservoir Boulevard. Presider, Rev. John Mitchell. All are welcome!

SACA Food Shelf and Thrift Store

SACA's annual *Farm Fresh Produce Distributions* produce will be picked from area farms late in the week and distributed at SACA on the following Saturday mornings: September 9, September 23 and October 14. They will distribute produce from 8:30 am - 12:00 pm, unless they run out sooner. The produce will be whatever is ready for harvest, so it will vary each time. SACA's produce distributions are open to the community. These are rain or shine events. In case of rain, we will move the produce into the warehouse and distribute it inside.

"Growing Through Loss"

The fall grief support series will be held on Monday evenings, September 18 through October 23 from 6:45 pm - 9:00 pm at Centennial United Methodist Church in Roseville. Brochures are available at all entrances of the church. For more information contact Vicki at 763-788-9062 x 212

Save the Date

- **Pastoral Ministry Visitors Meeting**—September 12, 2017, 2:00 - 3:00 pm, Fellowship Hall
- **Social Justice Meeting**—September 19, 2017, 6:00 pm, St. Frances Room (2nd floor of the school)

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	Nick Dickson	Mary Ann Miller
Pat Anton	Pat Elmberg	Robert Prokott
Marian Ashlin	Mary Fredenburg	Lukus Reynold
Shari Backman	Katherine Hoefs	Barbara Rocek
Casimir Burzynski	Rev. James Klein	Paula Ross
Michelle Cadieux	Gerald Krawiecki	Greg Sery
Nichole Castonguay	Tom Leight Jr.	Betty Schack
Marie Couillard	Joe Lewandowski	Irene Spensley
Josephine Davitt	Randy Mancuso	Mary Ann Steenburg
Margaret De Mars	Janet Mihalik	Germaine Wolsfeld

and all those on our prayer chain

My soul is thirsting for you, O Lord my God.

Psalm 63

The English translation of Psalm Responses from Lectionary for Mass © 1969, 1981, 1997, International Commission on English in the Liturgy Corporation. All rights reserved.

Reflections

Word of Life

“The sufferings caused by chronic or terminal illness ... cry out for our compassion, a word whose root meaning is to ‘suffer with’ another person. True compassion alleviates suffering while maintaining solidarity with those who suffer. It does not put lethal drugs in their hands and abandon them.”

—USCCB, *To Live Each Day with Dignity: A Statement on Assisted Suicide*, © 2011

Why Do We Do That?

Catholic Traditions Explained

Question: As we celebrate Labor Day, can you tell me about Catholic teaching regarding labor?

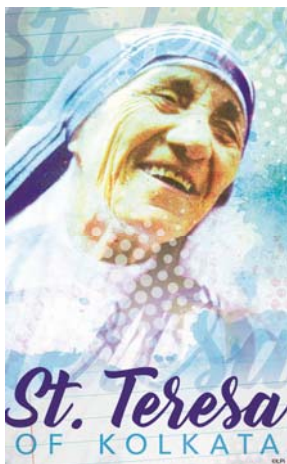
Answer: One of the most important principles of Catholic social teaching is the dignity of work and the rights of workers. Four encyclicals address this foundational social teaching: “Rerum Novarum” (1891) by Leo XIII, “Quadragesimo Anno” (1931) by Pius XI, “Laborem Exercens” (1981) and “Centesimus Annus” (1991) by John Paul II. They address both the theology and dignity of work. In Genesis, God takes the initiative in creating the world, calling forth human beings to be faithful stewards of creation. From this perspective, work can be spiritually understood in terms of sharing in God’s ongoing activity to build, create, and transform the world. Human beings are co-creators with God. This vocation demands self-discipline.

Besides an exercise in self-discipline, work is also the means by which we develop and fulfill ourselves. In work, we shape the world and our environment. Through work, we also shape ourselves. Pope John Paul II summarized this point in “Laborem Exercens”, “The value of human work is not primarily the kind of work being done but the fact that the one who is doing it is a person” (#6). Labor Day offers an excellent opportunity to reflect on how we view work in light of our Catholic social teaching.

Live The Liturgy—Inspiration For The Week

Even as people of faith we often find ourselves reasoning our way through our trials and difficulties. It makes a huge difference using our own eyes and not those of God. God knows that we live in an imperfect world filled with suffering, pain, difficulties, disappointments, and death; all part of the mix. Jesus shows us by example that when we encounter hardships God transforms them into something better. We do not need to despair. God gives us hope. When we view our lives through God’s eyes and not our own this gift of hope and transformation becomes very apparent. We must lose our lives in order to gain them.

Catholic Quotes—Words to Inspire the Faithful



“God is a Father who forgives. His mercy is greater than our sin.”

Mother Teresa

Weekly Calendar

Sunday, September 3

Mass, Intention, IC Parishioners _____ 8:00 am
 Mass, Intention, +Pat Gerads _____ 10:00 am

Monday, September 4, Labor Day

Parish Office and School Closed

Tuesday, September 5, First Day of School

Mass _____ 7:30 am
 Intentions, +Oliver F. Kaylor | +Marge Deleki
 Uniform Exchange _____ 8:00 am - 3:00 pm
 Charismatic Prayer Group _____ 7:00 pm - 8:30 pm

Wednesday, September 6

Mass, Intention, +Harriet Korzenowski _____ 7:30 am
 Uniform Exchange _____ 8:00 am - 3:00 pm
 Trustee Meeting _____ 8:30 am - 9:30 am
 Anointing Mass (Crest View) _____ 3:15 pm
 Faith Formation (Preschool - Gr. 6) _____ 6:30 pm - 8:00 pm
 Faith Formation, (Gr. 7 - 8) _____ 6:30 pm - 8:00 pm
 Confirmation II _____ 6:30 pm - 8:30 pm
 Parish Choir Rehearsal _____ 7:00 pm - 8:30 pm

Thursday, September 7

Uniform Exchange _____ 8:00 am - 3:00 pm
 Mass (School), Intention, +George Rozek _____ 8:30 am
 Funeral Schola Rehearsal _____ 10:00 am - 11:00 am
 Communion Service (New Perspectives) _____ 3:15 pm
 ICCW Membership Meeting _____ 6:30 pm - 9:00 pm
 KC BVM Council Officer Meeting _____ 7:00 pm - 8:30 pm
 Bell Choir Rehearsal _____ 7:00 pm - 8:30 pm

Friday, September 8

Mass _____ 7:30 am
 Intention, +Frankie & Matilda, Jim, Lynn, Larry Reinholtz
 Uniform Exchange _____ 8:00 am - 3:00 pm
 Our Brother Keeper _____ 9:00 am - 12:00 pm
 Marathon Pep Fest _____ 2:00 pm - 3:00 pm
 Intercessory Prayer Ministry _____ 7:00 pm - 8:30 pm
 Our Lady of Guadalupe Formation _____ 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm

Saturday, September 9

Reconciliation _____ 3:30 pm - 4:30 pm
 Mass, Intention, +Veronica Morgel _____ 5:00 pm
 Our Lady of Guadalupe Prayer Group _____ 6:30 pm - 9:00 pm

Sunday, September 10

Mass _____ 8:00 am
 Intention, Bob & Marlene Prokott, (Anniversary),
 Joe & Sarah Prokott (Anniversary)
 Fellowship _____ 8:30 am - 12:30 pm
 Mass, Intention, +Agnes & Leonard Knoll _____ 10:00 am
 +Deceased



Gospel Meditation

Twenty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

“You are thinking not as God does, but as human beings do.” Peter had expressed horror at the prophetic words announcing that Jesus’ suffering and death were imminent. Peter didn’t want his friend and teacher to undergo this terrible ordeal. He wanted “no such thing” ever to happen to his Lord. But Jesus sharply rebuked Peter’s response, comparing it to that of the tempter, Satan. Just as temptation becomes an obstacle to our doing what is right, so Peter was presenting an obstacle to Christ’s mission. Suffering was part of it, like it or not. To deny this difficult element of Christ’s work would be to deny the bigger plan of God. And so Jesus rightly told Peter that he wasn’t thinking like God thinks.

Of course, since we are human, it’s only natural that we should think as human beings do. We, like Peter, tend to recoil at the idea of facing unpleasant or painful circumstances. But clearly God sometimes allows such situations to take place for a greater good. Jesus understood this; even as he prophesied about his death, he also mentioned his resurrection.

Today’s Gospel challenges us to think “as God does” by holding both of these elements together. Unlike Peter who only focused on the sad part of the story, we are called to recognize the Resurrection on the other side of the cross, and to be willing to do whatever is necessary to get there. In fact, Jesus tells us later in this Gospel to take up our cross and follow him. That is not the



“human” way of thinking. It’s the Godly way. Our natural response is to reject and scorn the trials and tribulations that we face, but Jesus wants us to embrace them patiently and “come after” him on the (sometimes rough) road to eternal life.

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“Whoever wishes to come after me must deny himself, take up his cross, and follow me.”

Mt 16:24b

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

Advertiser of the Week

Thank Our Advertiser of the Week...

Heights Bakery

Debbie Doty, Parishioner

4925 Central Avenue NE, Columbia Heights
763-572-0624

*Open Tuesday - Friday, 5:00 am - 6:00 pm
Saturday, 6:00 am - 4:00 pm*

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

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

Kathy Johnson

Stacy McVary

Marcus Paulson

Sandy Sichak

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 9—August 26/27, 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.

We'll roll out barrels of fun at the
Immaculate Conception Parish



Saturday, October 7, 2017

6:00—8:30 pm
German Dinner
in the School Cafeteria

~ A La Carte Menu ~

- ◆ **Pork Ribs**
w/Sauerkraut or Potato Salad \$10.00
- ◆ **Brat with Sauerkraut** \$5.00
- ◆ **Kid's Meal-Hot Dog & Chips** \$5.00
- ◆ **Desserts** various prices
- ◆ **Giant Pretzels, Chips** various prices
- ◆ **Beer, Wine, Pop & Water** various prices
(Coffee available at no charge)

6:30—9:30 pm
Music & Dancing
in the School Auditorium

**Polkas and music from
throughout the decades!**

*Enjoy
Premium
German &
Domestic
Beer!*



Immaculate Conception Church and School
4030 Jackson St NE, Columbia Heights, MN 55421
ICCSonline.org | 763-788-9062

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