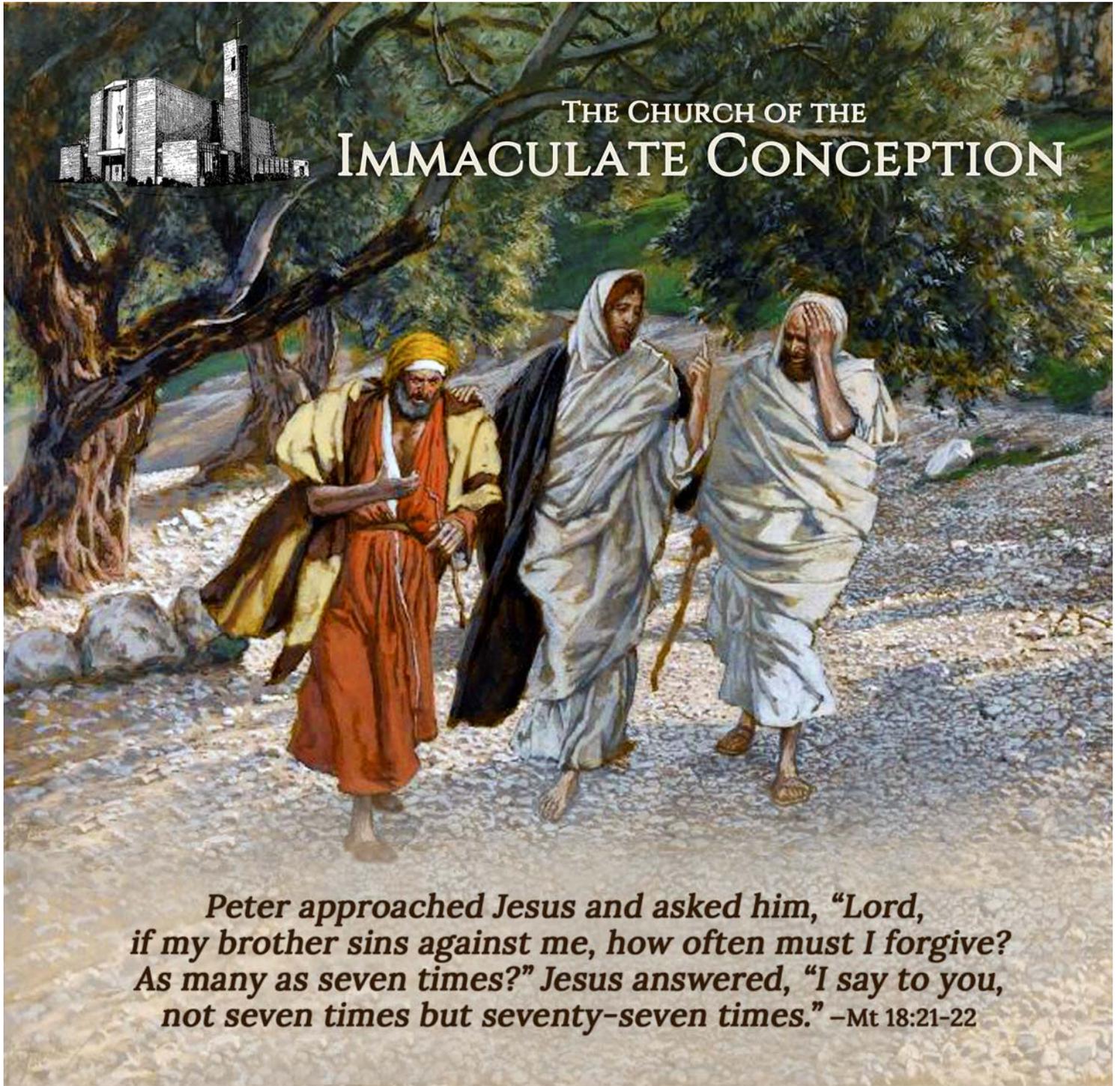




THE CHURCH OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION



Peter approached Jesus and asked him, "Lord, if my brother sins against me, how often must I forgive? As many as seven times?" Jesus answered, "I say to you, not seven times but seventy-seven times." –Mt 18:21-22

SEPTEMBER 17, 2017 | TWENTY-FOURTH 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



Bus to Cathedral for Mass Friday, October 13, 5:15 pm

We have hired a bus to take us from our church parking lot to the Cathedral of St. Paul for the 5:15 pm Mass on Friday, October 13 when Archbishop Hebda will celebrate a special Mass to celebrate the 100th Anniversary of the apparitions of Our Lady of Fatima. During Mass the Archbishop will consecrate our Archdiocese to Our Lady's Immaculate Heart. We will leave the church parking lot on the bus at 4:00 pm. At the conclusion of Mass, we will board the bus by 6:45 pm and arrive back at the church parking lot around 7:15 pm. If you would like to reserve a place on the bus, please call the parish office at 763-788-9062 and give us your name(s). The suggested free will offering for the bus is \$5 per person. There is room for 48 people on the bus.

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Blessing of the Animals

Come join us on Sunday, October 1, 11:30 am in the church parking lot for a Blessing of the Animals in honor of Saint Francis of Assisi. Bring a pet treat to share if you like.

Capital Campaign Pledge Weekend, September 23-24

We are now in Year 2 of our three-year capital campaign to address maintenance needs and eliminate parish debt. In the next two years, we plan to fix our church parking lots, retire our debt, replace carpeting in Fellowship Hall and repair the school windows most in need. We currently have campaign pledges of \$1,123,475. Next weekend at Mass, I will invite new members who have joined our parish this past year, people who did not pledge in Year 1, and people who have paid off their original pledge to make a campaign pledge for the next two years (September 2017 - June 2019) to help us raise more funds for necessary repairs and maintenance on our campus. We will have pledge cards available in the pews next weekend, or you may contact me if you have questions. I can be reached at 763-788-9062, x 215 or jmitchell@immac-church.org. Thank you!

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 start September 25. The Wednesday sessions will start October 4. 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 msscott@immac-church.org.

God Bless You,
Father John Mitchell

Readings and Observances

Sunday, September 17

24th Sunday in Ordinary Time; Catechetical Sunday

Sir 27:30—28:7/Ps 103:1-4, 9-12/Rom 14:7-9/Mt 18:21-35

Monday, September 18

1 Tm 2:1-8/Ps 28:2, 7-9/Lk 7:1-10

Tuesday, September 19

St. Januarius, Bishop and Martyr

1 Tm 3:1-13/Ps 101:1b-3ab, 5-6/Lk 7:11-17

Wednesday, September 20

Sts. Andrew Kim Tae-gön, Priest, and Paul Chông Ha-sang, and Companions, Martyrs

1 Tm 3:14-16/Ps 111:1-6/Lk 7:31-35

Thursday, September 21

St. Matthew, Apostle and Evangelist

Eph 4:1-7, 11-13/Ps 19:2-5/Mt 9:9-13

Friday, September 22

1 Tm 6:2c-12/Ps 49:6-10, 17-20/Lk 8:1-3

Saturday, September 23

St. Pius of Pietrelcina, Priest; First full day of autumn

1 Tm 6:13-16/Ps 100:1b-5/Lk 8:4-15

Sunday, September 24

25th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Is 55:6-9/Ps 145:2-3, 8-9, 17-18/Phil 1:20c-24, 27a/Mt 20:1-16a

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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 17 – Rev. Raymond Monsour
September 18 – Rev. Hugo Montero
September 19 – Rev. Mark Moriarty
September 20 – Rev. Robert Morin
September 21 – Rev. Paul Morrissey
September 22 – Rev. Paul Moudry
September 23 – Rev. Desmond Murtal

Parish News

Meals on Wheels

Meals on Wheels will be delivered the week of
October 2 - 6
Many thanks to all who drive!

School

School News

School has begun and the children and staff are happy to be back in the routine of classes. We know the parents are often the happiest to have the children return to a set schedule and schoolwork. One of the joys of this time of year is to see families who are thrilled to know that we assist in making Catholic education affordable to their families if they go through the application process. I received a beautiful thank you note from a young girl who is a new student this year:

Dear Mrs. Bona,

I really appreciate your generosity for the scholarship (assistance) awarded to me. I am promising you that I will be a good student, study my books, do all my homework, and I will not let you down.

Thank you so much from my whole family!

And, I want to add, “Dear Parishioners”, to that note. We have Catholic Education as an important ministry here at Immaculate Conception because it was desired by the parishioners in 1939, and continues today to serve children. It is powerful to know that we are making a difference in children’s lives. Each one of you supports our school through prayer and monetary donations. We are grateful for that! And, as you see, the families are as well.

Please consider supporting children as they ask for Marathon sponsorships in the narthex after the Masses the upcoming week-ends. We have this fundraiser and others to help with our budget.

God Bless You!

Jane Bona, Principal

Labels for Education

The collection program of Campbell’s Soup labels will continue through December, 2017. These *Labels for Education* as well as *Box Tops* fund activities in our school from purchasing books to hiring a guest speaker. Thank you for your help with these programs over the years!

Faith Formation

Faith Formation Classes

Faith Formation classes for K-6 Family Faith Formation, 7th and 8th grades, and Confirmation are set to start this month. Please contact Mary Nawrocki for more information or to register at 763-788-9062 x 210 or mnawrocki@immac-church.org.

Catechetical Sunday

Sunday, September 17 is Catechetical Sunday. Faith Formation volunteers will be available after all the Masses to answer question and/or to register anyone interested in the parish Faith Formation programs. These include:

- K-6 Family Faith Formation
- 7th and 8th grades
- Confirmation
- RCIA—for adults interested in becoming Catholic

Please contact Mary Nawrocki for more information or to register.

Kick-Off Celebration

Join our Faith Formation *Kick-Off Celebration, Wednesday, September 20, 6:00-8:30 pm*. We will begin with an end of summer hot dog dinner at 6:00 pm in Fellowship Hall followed by an evening of fun and games celebrating the 100th year of Fatima. Contact Mary Scott at Faith Formation Office to RSVP at 763-788-9062, x 208.

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

[f ICChurchandSchool](https://www.facebook.com/ICChurchandSchool) [ig IC.Church.School](https://www.instagram.com/IC.Church.School)

Pastoral Ministry

Fellowship

Join us next Sunday, September 24 for fellowship, hosted by our lectors.

Annual Fall Anointing Mass

Immaculate Conception Church, Tuesday, October 3, 1:00 pm. Reception to follow in Fellowship Hall. Rev. John Mitchell presiding.

SACA Food Shelf and Thrift Store

Two Saturday mornings remain: September 23 and October 14 from 8:30 am - 12:00 pm, unless they run out sooner. These are rain or shine events. In case of rain, they will move the produce into the warehouse and distribute it inside.



40 Days for Life Twin Cities

40 Days for Life Twin Cities is the local campaign of the largest international prayer campaign to end abortion. Since 2007, Pro-Life Action Ministries has coordinated 40

Days for Life Twin Cities with thousands of participants and scores of churches of various denominations. From two participants to over 500, they have persevered with God's help to pray for the end of abortion—and with results! Immaculate Conception will once again participate in 40 days of prayer. Join us **Saturday, October 21, 2017** to pray at Planned Parenthood in the Midway section of Saint Paul. We have committed to having two (or more) persons, participating in prayer, from 6:00 am to 6:00 pm; we will need a minimum of 24 people to fill our commitment of 12 one hour shifts. *By standing or sitting peacefully in prayer at Planned Parenthood on Saturday, October 21, we will show our commitment in defense of the sanctity of life from conception to natural death.* Please consider a one hour commitment and maybe ask a friend or family member to join you.

Volunteers from our Social Justice Committee will be in the narthex after all Masses October 7-8 and 14-15 to assist in sign-up. For additional information contact Vicki Bazille at 763-788-9062 x 212 or Diane Tieden at 763-788-1897.



Prayer for Catechetical Sunday

*Dear Lord Jesus,
after you rose from the dead
but before you ascended into heaven,
you gathered your followers to you.
You told them to baptize all in your name,
and that of your Father and the Holy Spirit.
You told them to make all nations followers of you
and to teach them obedience to all your words.
Most important, you said you would be with them
always, even to the end of the world.
As we honor our catechists today,
give them the grace to be ministers of your word
and your sacraments.
Give them courage to counsel others to obedience,
and faith to remember that you are with them always.
Amen.*

“Growing Through Loss”

The fall grief support series will meet on Monday evenings beginning this Monday, 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

Coins for Social Justice

*Next Weekend, September 16-17
Small Change Can Do a World of Good!*



Save the Date

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

and all those on our prayer chain

Eucharistic Adoration

“Let us go rejoicing to the house of the Lord”.

(from Psalm 122)

Our Eucharistic adoration chapel is a house of the Lord here on earth. Everyone is invited to visit our chapel to rejoice in prayer before the Blessed Sacrament. All are welcome!

Our 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) and 1:00 pm (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.



*The Lord is kind and merciful,
slow to anger, and rich in compassion.*

Psalm 103

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 Church’s teaching on marital sexuality is an invitation . . . to receive the gift of God’s love and care, and to let this gift inform and transform us, so we may share that love with each other and with the world.”

—USCCB, *Married Love and the Gift of Life*, © 2006

Why Do We Do That?

Catholic Traditions Explained

Question: *Why do we celebrate Catechetical Sunday?*

Answer: The mission of the church reflects the mission of Jesus to teach, preach, heal, and forgive. Through these acts, Jesus shares the good news of salvation and invites all people to share in the life and love of God. The church continues this mission in all its ministries, but especially, and perhaps most importantly, through catechesis.

Live The Liturgy—Inspiration For The Week

Relationships are the focus of our reflection again this week, calling us to practice forgiveness unconditionally. This is a difficult thing for us to do. Forgiving someone does not mean that we necessarily tolerate or condone their behavior. Rather, it has to do with letting go of the anger and the hurt that really is more self-destructive than productive. We are called to recognize the brokenness and sinfulness of each other. We may, at times, have to walk away from an abusive or destructive relationship. However, keeping in mind the lessons it taught, we can free ourselves from its hurtful grasp by learning how to forgive as God forgives. It’s a tall order.

Catholic Quotes—Words to Inspire the Faithful

“Pray, Hope and Don’t Worry. —St. Padre Pio

The Road to Discipleship

“Loving trust and total surrender made Our Lady say yes to the message of the angel, and cheerfulness made her run in haste to serve her cousin Elizabeth. So much in our lives, too, is saying yes to Jesus, and running in haste to serve him in the poorest of the poor.”

—Saint Teresa of Calcutta

Beyond Our Parish

Volunteers Needed!

Sharing & Caring Hands/Mary’s Place needs volunteers ages 14+ willing to help with our *After School Tutoring Program*. This includes helping students with homework, helping students practice reading, and working with a large population of refugee children just learning English. No teaching/tutoring experience required. We will provide you a training to orient you/help you feel comfortable!

Program Starts : Mid-September

Open Mondays, Tuesdays, and Wednesdays from 4:00 - 6:00 pm

Volunteers pick one day per week to attend

Interested? Email kklement@sharingandcaringhands.org

Visit our website www.sharingandcaringhands.org.

Weekly Calendar

Sunday, September 17

Mass, *Intention, +Eleanor Jordahl* _____ 8:00 am

Parish Pancake Breakfast _____ 8:30 am - 11:45 am

Mass, *Intention, IC Parishioners* _____ 10:00 am

Monday, September 18

St. Jude’s Circle _____ 1:00 pm - 3:00 pm

Tuesday, September 19

Mass _____ 7:30 am

Intentions, Bene / +Shirley Peters

Retreat Team Meeting _____ 4:15 pm - 5:15 pm

Marathon Meeting _____ 5:15 pm - 6:15 pm

Social Justice Committee _____ 6:00 pm - 7:00 pm

Finance Council _____ 6:00 pm - 8:00 pm

Charismatic Prayer Group _____ 7:00 pm - 8:30 pm

Wednesday, September 20

Mass _____ 7:30 am

Intention, +John, Hedwig & Raymond Krokus

Faith Formation, Grades 7-8 _____ 6:30 pm - 8:00 pm

Confirmation I, Grade 9 _____ 6:30 pm - 8:30 pm

Parish Choir Rehearsal _____ 7:00 pm - 8:30 pm

Thursday, September 21

Mass (School), *Intention, +Mickey Misik* _____ 8:30 am

Girl Scouts Meet and Greet _____ 3:00 pm - 4:30 pm

Communion Service (Royce Place) _____ 3:15 pm

Bell Choir Rehearsal _____ 7:00 pm - 8:30 pm

Friday, September 22

Mass, *Intention, +Norbert Malisheski* _____ 7:30 am

Our Brothers Keeper _____ 9:00 am - 12:00 pm

Our Lady of Guadalupe Formation _____ 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm

Saturday, September 23

Virtus Training _____ 9:00 am - 12:00 am

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 24

Mass, *Intention, IC Parishioners* _____ 8:00 am

Fellowship _____ 8:30 am - 12:30 am

Mass _____ 10:00 am

Intention, +David Mensa & Ama Gilbert Amarvi, &

Semeon & Abumei Sado

Organ Recital _____ 2:00 pm - 3:30 pm

followed by reception in Fellowship Hall

+Deceased



Gospel Meditation

Twenty-Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

"I forgave you your entire debt because you begged me to. Should you not have had pity on your fellow servant, as I had pity on you?" The parable Jesus tells today is the story of a king, but in truth it is about Jesus himself. He is the "king" who has forgiven our debts. We are the "servants" whose sins have earned us chastisement. But when we repent and ask for Christ's mercy, he grants it to us without hesitation.

The point of the parable, then, is that we too should extend this mercy to others. We should not be like that "wicked servant" who begged for mercy but would not show it to others. Elsewhere, Jesus teaches us to pray, "Forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors" (Mt. 6:12). We use different words, but a similar meaning when we pray the Our Father asking God to "forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us." But are we sure that we mean what we say?

It's important to pause and evaluate how we are doing in this regard. Are we harboring any grudges? Are there people we refuse to forgive? Is there a situation where we are seeking revenge instead of extending mercy? Jesus asks us to do otherwise. He reminds us that we have already been forgiven. We are right now enjoying the benefits of his forgiveness. So we are called to bear in mind our own sins, failings, weaknesses, and "debts" when we deal with others instead of thinking that we are perfectly innocent and acting as if we've never been the beneficiary of mercy. So let us do our best to forgive as we have been forgiven. This doesn't mean approving of wrong behavior; God doesn't ask us to do that. But he does ask us to let go of bitterness and foster mercy instead.



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**Forgive your neighbor's injustice; then
when you pray, your own sins will be forgiven.**

(Sir 28:2)

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

Advertiser of the Week

Thank Our Advertiser of the Week...

**ROC
Commercial Cleaning**

Art Harris, Owner
612-251-3598

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 Office763-788-9065

School Fax763-788-9066

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 11—September 9/10, 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.

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION CHURCH
COLUMBIA HEIGHTS

ORGAN RECITAL

Featuring works by Bach, Stanley, Hook, and Boyce
plus Handel: Concerto #13, with Fr. John Mitchell, piano

SEPTEMBER 24, 2017

2:00 PM

~ Free will offering ~

To benefit organ repair and maintenance

Reception will follow

4030 JACKSON STREET NE 763-788-9062 ICCSONLINE.ORG



Organist
Dr. Ray Bannon
I. C. Director of
Music and Liturgy

