



THE CHURCH OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY AND JOSEPH

“The child grew and became strong,
filled with wisdom; and the favor
of God was upon him.” — LK 2:20

The Holy Family, Rafael Flores Google Art Project [Public Domain] | Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD

DECEMBER 31, 2017 | THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY AND JOSEPH

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
<i>Door code needed after 4:00 pm Questions? Call 763-789-3246</i>	
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

Join a Small Group during Lent 2018 to watch and discuss the 5-part video series, *Forgiven: The Transforming Power of Confession*. No matter what you have done, no matter how long you have been away, Jesus is waiting for you in the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

How it works:

- 1) Join a small group here at church or create your own small group of 3-6 people.
- 2) Once a week during Lent, meet as a group and watch a 30-minute video from the *Forgiven* series and discuss it.

The videos and discussion questions for *Forgiven* can be found at www.FORMED.org. To register for FREE, go to www.FORMED.org, then enter our parish access code VKQPF9, then enter your email and create a password.

God Bless You,

Father John Mitchell

Join a Small Group during LENT 2018
(February 14 – March 25)
Forgiven: The Transforming Power of Confession

My Name, Email, Telephone: _____

I would like to join a small group.

The best day and time for me to meet is: _____

I can host a small group at my house on (day and time): _____

I will meet at church during Lent on Monday evenings at 7:00-8:30 pm.

I will meet at church during Lent on Wednesday afternoons at 1:00-2:30 pm.

I will create my own small group.

Please return this form and/or send your questions to: Mary Nawrocki at mnawrocki@immac-church.org or call Mary at 763-788-9062, x 210.



Readings and Observances

- Sunday, December 31**
The Holy Family; New Year's Eve
Gn 15:1-6; 21:1-3 or Sir 3:2-6, 12-14/Ps 105:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 8-9, [7a, 8a] or Ps 128:1-2, 3, 4-5 [cf. 1]/Heb 11:8, 11-12, 17-19 or Col 3:12-21 or 3:12-17/Lk 2:22-40 or 2:22, 39-40e
- Monday, January 1**
Mary, the Holy Mother of God (not a holy day of obligation in 2018); Octave of Christmas; World Day of Peace; New Year's Day
Nm 6:22-27/Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8 [2a]/Gal 4:4-7/Lk 2:16-21
- Tuesday, January 2**
Sts. Basil the Great and Gregory Nazianzen, Bishops and Doctors of the Church
1 Jn 2:22-28/Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4 [3cd]/Jn 1:19-28
- Wednesday, January 3**
The Most Holy Name of Jesus
1 Jn 2:29—3:6/Ps 98:1, 3cd-4, 5-6 [3cd]/Jn 1:29-34
- Thursday, January 4**
St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, Religious
1 Jn 3:7-10/Ps 98:1, 7-8, 9 [3cd]/Jn 1:35-42
- Friday, January 5**
St. John Neumann, Bishop
1 Jn 3:11-21/Ps 100:1b-2, 3, 4, 5 [2a]/Jn 1:43-51
- Saturday, January 6**
St. André Bessette, Religious
1 Jn 5:5-13/Ps 147:12-13, 14-15, 19-20 [12a]/Mk 1:7-11 or Lk 3:23-38 or 3:23, 31-34, 36, 38
- Sunday, January 7**
The Epiphany of the Lord; National Migration Week
Is 60:1-6/Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-11, 12-13 [cf. 11]/ Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6/Mt 2:1-12

©Liturgical Publications Inc.

Inside this Issue

Parish News _____	3	Weekly Calendar _____	5
Flower Memorials _____	3	Road to Discipleship _____	5
Pastoral Ministry _____	3	Gospel Meditation _____	6
Adoration _____	3	Pray for a Priest _____	6
Year End Giving _____	4	Collections _____	6
School News _____	4	Church Directory _____	6
Reflections _____	5	9 Days for Life _____	7
Bulletin Sponsor _____	5		



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.

The Wild Goose is Loose!

Join us for the next Intercessory Prayer Ministry meeting on Friday, January 12 from 7:00-8:30 pm in the St. Clare Room. We will be viewing "Segment 3: Baptism in the Holy Spirit & Fire" from the video series *The Wild Goose*, which is part of the FORMED program. This series "is a work of the Holy Spirit, which is awakening in the hearts of all those participating in God's love and transforming power." Please bring a pen, prayer journal or notebook, and your Bible. There will be time for prayer, discussion 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!



A Donation of Christmas Flowers Was Given In Memory Of/In Honor Of:

*Theodore Alain | Rudy Amelse | Matt Amundsen
Margaret & Bob Atkinson | Shirley Beers
Earl & Jean Beers, Sr. | Ervin Bernard | Helen & Paul Bona
Herb, Irene & Jeff Breth | A.J. Breyer | Donald Breza
Charles & Mildred Brown | Joseph & Magdalen Buganski
Buganski Family | William Burgoyne | Ted & Velma Burk
Marie Burkowski | A. Carruthers, Grandmother
George Cellette | Edward & Violet Chan | D. & A. Chartraw
Amey & Ella Cherland | Corecky Family | Covalski Family
Harold DeLaria | Janina Dimants | Connie Dirkes | Jay Dowdle
Donald, Allen & Roger Dufault | Iolanda Linda Dupak
Margaret Earley | Jerome Ferri & Parents | Fish Family
Christopher Gallegos | Garner Family | John Godava
Lola & Charles Gorman | Henry & Gen Grimler
Stanley Guzik, Sr. | Ted & Letta Haeg | Hartwick Family
Eleanor Jurek | Korzenowski Family | Kruszka Family
Opal Laegeler | Joel & Jason Leibrich | Lee Lindquist
Joseph & Russell Murzyn | Nalezny Family
Harold & Trudy Netkow | Pat Nylén | Dennis O'Brien
Ray & Valeria Perkins | Miguel & Vener Rebanal | Joseph Rhode
Rodell Sandy | Glenn & Cleo Sandy Family | Richard Schmidt
Herbert & Helen Schmidt | Augustine & Theresa Schneibel
John & Tom Sichak | Robert Sikes Family | Tom Sonnentag
Marvin Sowada | Joseph, Amelia, & Edward Staniec Family
Roland & Janice Theiler | Uriartels Loved Ones
Mitchell & Lorraine Vasseur Family | Vrchota Family
Ray Wehlage | Martin & Leonore Weyers*

Fellowship

Join us for Fellowship on Sunday, January 14 in Fellowship Hall, located in the lower level of the church. Hosted by our RCIA candidates.

Anointing Masses

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

New Perspectives

3801 Hart Blvd. Columbia Heights
Thursday, January 4, 2018 at 3:15 pm

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.

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	Pat Elmberg	Lukas Reynold
Pat Anton	Mary Fredenburg	Barbara Rocek
Marian Ashlin	Rev. James Klein	Paula Ross
Beverly Badeaux	Gerald Krawiecki	Betty Schack
Claire Burgoyne	Tom Leight Jr.	Greg Sery
Barb Breen	Randy Mancuso	Irene Spensley
Michelle Cadieux	Janet Mihalik	Elaine Thunstrum
Nichole Castonguay	Mary Ann Miller	Lois Weyers
Margaret De Mars	Robert Prokott	Germaine Wolsfeld

and all those on our prayer chain

Eucharistic Adoration

***Let the peace of Christ control your hearts;
let the word of Christ dwell in you richly.***

(Col. 3:15a; 16a)

Add "become an adorer" to your list of New Year resolutions. As an adorer, you will experience the peace of Jesus and will become closer to Him. Adoration is quiet time before our Lord which allows us to pray and re-focus our lives. All are invited to join this prayer-filled ministry. We are looking for volunteers to cover the following times:

- Monday: 3:00 pm (partner)
- Tuesday: 1:00 pm (partner) and 3:00 pm (partner)
- Wednesday: 9:00 am (partner), 2:00 pm, 3:00 pm (partner), 5:00 pm (partner) and 7:00 pm
- Thursday: 11:00 am and noon
- Friday: 7:00 pm (partner)

If you would like to join this ministry and/or can volunteer for any of the hours listed above, please call Sandy at 763-789-3246 or Fran at 763-788-0924. Have a very Happy New Year!

Note: The chapel will be closed on Monday, January 1.

*As 2017 comes to a close,
please remember
Immaculate Conception Parish
in your year-end giving.*



**ONLINE
GIVING**
By WeShare



To make a tax-deductible gift by cash, check or online before midnight, December 31, 2017

- Visit ICCSonline.org and click Donate Online with WeShare or
- Place your donation in the collection basket at Mass or hand to an usher or parish employee

For information on stock donation and other gifting options in 2018 contact:

Kathy Fraser-Business Administrator

763-788-9062 x207

kfraser@immac-church.org

~ We are grateful for your support. Thank You! ~

School

School News

Part of our professional development each year is to complete a book study as a staff, learning more on a topic that will make us more effective with our students. The book we are studying this year is entitled, "The Growth Mindset Coach". The book challenges us all to turn from a "Fixed Mindset" and work toward a "Growth Mindset" in all we encounter. It is the belief that people have limitless potential to learn and grow! We have displayed an image of a brain in the hallway and all classes participated in learning what each part of the brain allows us to do. For example, students have written: "The cerebellum helps me when I play basketball and volleyball, teaching me how to dribble the basketball or bump the volleyball over the net." or, "I use my cerebrum doing my algebra homework because I have to problem solve."



This has been a very good exercise for the staff, but also of course, it has translated well to the children and their learning. One child wrote her teacher a note and left it on her desk one day recently. It read:

Dear Mrs. Kulikowski,

Thank you for teaching us about science, social studies and religion. I really appreciate that, and do you know what? You make my brain grow Mrs. Kulikowski!

Love, Melat

As you can see our brains grow, but also our hearts with love for each other!

A Blessed New Year to All!

Jane Bona and the ICS Staff and Students

THE BREAD
which you
DO NOT USE
is the bread
OF THE HUNGRY

THE GARMENT
hanging in
YOUR WARDROBE
IS THE GARMENT
of him who
IS NAKED

THE SHOES
that you
DO NOT WEAR
ARE THE SHOES
of the one who
IS BAREFOOT

THE MONEY
that you keep
LOCKED AWAY
is the money
OF THE POOR.

— St. Basil the Great

© LPI

Reflections

Word of Life

"Your own quiet, patient presence can provide important support as your loved one prepares emotionally and spiritually for his or her passing."

—USCCB Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities,
Caring for Loved Ones at Life's End

Why Do We Do That?

Catholic Traditions Explained

Question: What can I do to help our family practice our faith each day?

Answer: Some families practice their religion together as just another event on their schedule: go to church, observe Lent, help at the parish picnic, go to a meeting, volunteer time, make your confession, use your envelope... But the focus needs to be on who we are—God's people, in relationship with him, loved, forgiven, and redeemed, and called to live and proclaim the Gospel. Our awareness of God's presence and our sense of mission are supported by the daily rituals, celebrations, and traditions that help us stay focused. Sharing our faith strengthens us and clarifies the beliefs and values of Christian living.

Daily family practices include time for prayer—before meals, before bed, before important meetings and activities. Attend Sunday Mass together and discuss the homily afterward. Create family celebrations for holy days and holidays. Make religion a regular part of your discussions. Include others, especially the elderly and the less fortunate, in your activities and charitable efforts. By applying the virtues of faith, hope, and love to each day, faith becomes part of who your family is. It influences how you act towards others, what you value, and how mindful of God you are. Faith is the leaven of life that helps all of us rise to our calling and dignity as God's people.

Live the Liturgy—Inspiration for the Week

Families face many challenges. All of the demands of work, school, and society can easily put a strain on even the best intentioned of families. Hurt, anger, and bitterness can grow in our families especially when conflicts are not properly resolved or relationships nurtured. Human beings require time, patience, love, and nurturing. We need to take time to celebrate the gift of family and not allow other demands to rob us of the time we need to spend together. Life is short. The Holy Family stands before us today showing us that love, commitment, and perseverance can see us through any difficulty or challenge life can bring. May we learn from their example!

Catholic Quotations

"The gate of heaven is very low; only the humble can enter it."

—St. Elizabeth Ann Seton

Thank Our Advertiser of the Week... Minneapolis Saw, Inc.

Power Equipment • Outdoor Lawn Equipment • Snowblowers
Sales and Service Since 1957

763-781-9312 • MinneapolisSaw.com

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

Weekly Calendar

Sunday, December 31, New Year's Eve

Mass, Intention, IC Parishioners _____ 8:00 am

Mass, Intention, Bertha Margotto _____ 10:00 am

Mass, Holy Day—Mary, Mother of God _____ 5:00 pm

Intention, IC Parishioners

Prayer Group New Year Celebration _____ 6:00 pm - 12:00 am

Monday, January 1, New Year's Day

Parish Office and School Closed

Mass, Holy Day—Mary, Mother of God _____ 9:00 am

Intention, +Ida Peltier

Tuesday, January 2

Mass, Intention, +Mona Lundholm _____ 7:30 am

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

Wednesday, January 3

Mass, Intention, +Clyde and Jenny Ketelson _____ 7:30 am

Communion Service, Crest View _____ 3:15 pm

Family Formation Dinner _____ 6:00 pm - 6:30 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

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

Thursday, January 4

Mass, (School), Intention, +Josephine Davitt _____ 8:30 am

Anointing Mass, New Perspectives _____ 3:15 pm

KC BVM Council Officers Meeting _____ 7:00 pm - 8:30 pm

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

Friday, January 5

Mass _____ 7:30 am

Intentions, +LeeRoy Hince, +Colleen Cadwell

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

RCIC II _____ 4:30 pm - 5:30 pm

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

Saturday, January 6

Saturday Morning Club _____ 9:00 am - 10:30 am

Reconciliation _____ 3:30 pm - 4:30 pm

Mass, Intention, +Joe Goodman _____ 5:00 pm

Our Lady of Guadalupe Prayer Group _____ 6:30 pm - 9:00 pm

Sunday, January 7

Mass, Intention, IC Parishioners _____ 8:00 am

Mass, Intention, +Janet Gillespie _____ 10:00 am

Music and Liturgy Volunteer Party _____ 1:00 pm - 3:00 pm

+Deceased

The Road to Discipleship



"God loves the world so much—that is, you and me. He doesn't love riches or greatness, He didn't come to dwell in a palace. No, when he came into the world He became so very small—He became a child, born to a virgin, placed in a manger. Mary did not expect Him to be born in a humble way. This seems so strange that we must stop and ask ourselves why He did this. Jesus could have had wealth; instead, he chose poverty. I think poverty must be seen as beautiful in heaven if Jesus would choose to become so small, so poor.

To understand the poor, we must know what poverty is and why Jesus made Himself poor. If we understand our poverty, our smallness, our weakness, our littleness, then we will be able to serve the poor and give Christ to the poor."

—Thirsting for God; Daily Meditations, Mother Teresa,
Edited by Angelo D. Scolozzai (page 197)

Gospel Meditation



The Holy Family

“When they had fulfilled all the prescriptions of the law of the Lord, they returned ... to their own town of Nazareth.” Mary and Joseph were faithful Jews who followed the norms of their

religion. Today’s Gospel describes the event we call “The Presentation.” Jesus’ parents, like every Jewish family, presented their infant son to the Lord in a formal ceremony at the temple in Jerusalem. Having done what their religious rites required (and having heard the prophetic words of Simeon and Anna), Mary and Joseph returned home. It was back in their native region of Galilee, amidst the daily routine of domestic life, that Jesus “grew and became strong, filled with wisdom.”

As Christians, we too consecrate our children to the Lord when we have them baptized in the Church. Seeing our children receive this sacrament of initiation is always a moment of great joy and hope as we anticipate the life that lies ahead for them, both on earth and in eternity. But the baptism of a baby is only the beginning of this journey towards heaven. In truth, the little daily details, the simple living of family life in our own home paves the way for our children to reach their eternal home.

And so it was with the Holy Family. Jesus’ childhood, his formation and development took place not primarily amidst the public drama of the temple, but in the quiet privacy of his home. How important this home was, where his parents raised him in their faith and helped him live in such a way that “the favor of God was upon him.” May we too, in our homes and our families, remember that although our mission may be lived out in very small moments, taken together they have an eternal significance.

©Liturgical Publications Inc.

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.*

- December 31 – Archbishop Bernard Hebda
- January 1 – Pope Francis
- January 2 – Rev. John Mitchell
- January 3 – Rev. Michael Slusser
- January 4 – Rev. David Smith
- January 5 – Rev. Larry Snyder
- January 6 – Rev. Walter Sochacki

Collections

Week 26—December 23/24, 2017

Due to an early bulletin deadline, the collection report for the weekend of December 23/24 will be printed at a later date.

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

Dave Kellner

Kathy Johnson

Charles Karanja

Stacy McVary

Marcus Paulson

Sandy Sichak

Kathy Fraser (Business Administrator)

Jane Bona (School Principal)

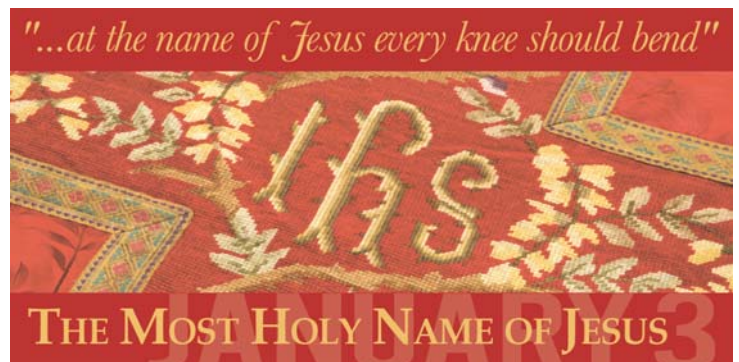
Steve Smith (Parish Trustee)

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.



How do we live out the message of Christmas in the New Year?



Art: Gerard van Honthorst, Adoration of the Shepherds, 1622.



Join today!
9daysforlife.com

JANUARY 18-26
9DAYS FOR LIFE
PRAYER • PENANCE • PILGRIMAGE

How do we live out the message of Christmas in the New Year, rather than pack it away with the ornaments?

Each year the Octave Day of Christmas falls on the first day of the New Year, on which we also celebrate the Solemnity of the Blessed Virgin Mary, the Mother of God.

Her open heart and courageous “yes” to God show us how to live year-round—with hearts open to the Lord, following where He leads. We are called to place our trust in Him, to enter compassionately into the suffering of others, and to love one another as Christ loves us. Like Our Blessed Mother welcomed Jesus, we are called to cherish and protect the gift of human life, at every stage and in every circumstance.

One way to live out the message of Christmas and follow Our Lady’s example is to join 9 Days for Life, a digital pilgrimage of prayer and charitable action.

The U.S. Catholic bishops invite you to join thousands of Catholics nationwide from Thursday, January 18 – Friday, January 26.

Join today at www.9daysforlife.com!



iStock.com/AlexMotrenko