



THE CHURCH OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION



Sunday of

*Divine
Mercy*

Jesus I trust in You

APRIL 8, 2018 | SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER

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



**Celebration of
The Chaplet of Divine Mercy
Adoration and Benediction**
This Sunday, April 8
3:00 - 4:00 pm
Immaculate Conception Church
Refreshments to follow.

This Weekend is Divine Mercy Sunday

Join us in church from 3:00 - 4:00 pm on Sunday, April 8 for Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, the Chaplet of Divine Mercy, Confessions, and Benediction. Refreshments will be served in Fellowship Hall after Benediction.

What is Divine Mercy Sunday and Who Was Saint Faustina?

Divine Mercy Sunday finds its origin in the appearances and words of Jesus to Saint Faustina Kowalska—a Polish nun who lived from 1905-1938. She was canonized a saint in 2000 by Pope John Paul II. Jesus asked Faustina to have a feast of Divine Mercy established on the first Sunday after Easter so that people could take refuge in Him and His mercy. Jesus said to Faustina: *“I desire that the Feast of Mercy be a refuge and a shelter for all souls and especially for poor sinners. On that day the very depths of My tender mercy are open. I pour out a whole ocean of graces upon those souls who approach the fount of My mercy.... On that day are opened all the divine floodgates through which graces flow. Let no soul fear to draw near to Me, even though its sins be as scarlet”* (Diary of St. Faustina, paragraph 699).

What is the Image of Divine Mercy?

In 1931, Jesus appeared to Faustina with two rays emanating from His heart, one red and the other pale. As she gazed on the image, Jesus said, *“Paint an image according to the pattern you see with the signature: Jesus, I Trust in You... I promise that the soul that will venerate this image will not perish. I also promise victory over its enemies already here on earth, especially at the hour of death. I Myself will defend it as My own glory... I am offering people a vessel with which they are to keep coming for graces to the fountain of mercy... I desire that this image be venerated throughout the world. By means of this image, I shall grant many graces to souls. I want this image to be blessed on the first Sunday after Easter, the eighth, or octave day of the resurrection: that Sunday is to be the Feast of Mercy”* (Diary, 47-48).

How Are We to Remember the Message of Mercy? By the ABCs.

- A. Ask for His mercy
- B. Be merciful.
- C. Completely trust in Jesus.

God Bless You,
Father John Mitchell



EASTER FLOWER MEMORIAL

Thank you to Mr. Sid Dupak for his generous donation towards the cost of our beautiful Easter flowers and candles in memory of:

Linda (Iolanda) Dupak

If you would like to make a donation for Easter flowers in memory or in honor of someone, please fill out this form and send it with your donation to the parish office.

In honor/memory of: _____

Amount: _____

Donor: _____

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Readings and Observances

Sunday, April 8, 2nd Sunday of Easter/

Divine Mercy Sunday

Acts 4:32-35/Ps 118:2-4, 13-15, 22-24 [1]/1 Jn 5:1-6/
Jn 20:19-31

Monday, April 9, The Annunciation of the Lord

Is 7:10-14; 8:10/Ps 40:7-8, 8-9, 10, 11 [8a, 9a]/

Heb 10:4-10/Lk 1:26-38

Tuesday, April 10

Acts 4:32-37/Ps 93:1ab, 1cd-2, 5 [1a]/Jn 3:7b-15

Wednesday, April 11, St. Stanislaus, Bishop & Martyr

Acts 5:17-26/Ps 34:2-3, 4-5, 6-7, 8-9 [7a]/Jn 3:16-21

Thursday, April 12

Acts 5:27-33/Ps 34:2 and 9, 17-18, 19-20 [7a]/Jn 3:31-36

Friday, April 13, St. Martin I, Pope & Martyr

Acts 5:34-42/Ps 27:1, 4, 13-14 [cf. 4abc]/Jn 6:1-15

Saturday, April 14

Acts 6:1-7/Ps 33:1-2, 4-5, 18-19 [22]/Jn 6:16-21

Sunday, April 15, 3rd Sunday of Easter

Acts 3:13-15, 17-19/Ps 4:2, 4, 7-8, 9 [7a]/1 Jn 2:1-5a/
Lk 24:35-48

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The Road to Discipleship

Recognize God in Your Ordinary Moments

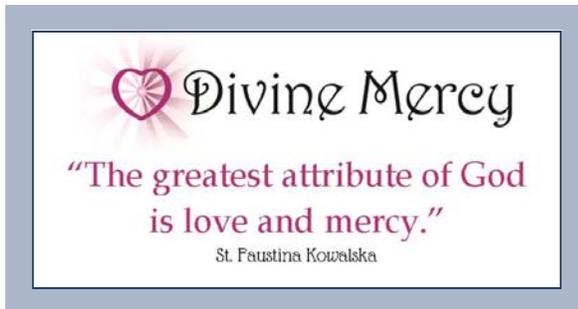
“What do you own and what owns you? You can find this question asked many times in several different contexts. Are you looking to find some kind of financial freedom? How about trying to live simply in a complex world? Has a mountain of stuff invaded your home garage to the point where parking a car inside is only a dream?”

The early Church practiced a radical form of fellowship called *koinonia*, which literally means “sharing in common.” Those who had homes and other major possessions would sell them and then place the proceeds in the care of the Apostles to be shared with the entire community. People focus mostly on the fact that people sold all their possessions for the benefit of the community. However the real point is the action that occurred after every selling: the proceeds were given to Church authority, in essence, to God first. I wasn’t just selling my house and then giving the money to random people. My offering was to God and it was for the Apostles (those who personally encountered Jesus and now represented him on earth) to decide how to divide up the wealth.

Why do such a thing? One could say it was so that no one wanted for anything. If we push that thinking too far, as some in history have done, we can create a system that takes from some to give to others. Nothing was taken from anyone in that first Christian community. It was freely given. And perhaps the reason why people were moved to do so lies at the heart of stewardship: because all we have already belongs to God anyway.”



—Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS



Parish News

The Wild Goose is Loose!

Join us for the next Intercessory Prayer Ministry meeting on Friday, April 13 from 7:00 - 8:30 pm in the St. Clare Room. We will be viewing a segment 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, your homework, and 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.

Faith Formation

Easter Joy!

What a blessing to experience the joy of Easter with an excited group of catechumens and candidates as they received the sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist. We congratulate: *Brenda Chiqui Luna, Josalynn Sherman, Jacob Sherman, Alana Sherman, Lisa Thomas, Lourdes Jara, Kathryne Saunders-Blank Chiqui, Juan Carlos Maigua, Jeraldin Avila, Evelin Rojas, Simon Castro-Santos, Marcos Castro-Santos, Heidi Engracia, Katherine Ponciano, and Mayka Mendez.* Please pray that the Lord will bring to completion what He has begun in them!

Bake Sale and Heggies Pizza

Pick up some yummy baked goods at the bake sale benefiting our Faith Formation programs the weekend of April 14-15 after all Masses.

Heggies Pizza Sale benefiting our Faith Formation Programs will be happening after all Masses the weekends of April 14-15 and 21-22. Be sure to sample the pizzas during the Pancake Breakfast after the 8:00 and 10:00 am Sunday Masses on the 15th. Call Mary Nawrocki 763-788-9062 x 210 to place orders during the week. Delivery will be the weekend of May 12-13 after all Masses. What a great time to stock up on the BEST frozen pizza!

Another way to help us in this fundraiser is to take an order sheet to your workplace. Heggies is the pizza people love to buy! Contact Mary Nawrocki at the number above. Thanks in advance for your support!

School News

Open House and Playdate

Saturday, April 14, 2018
Immaculate Conception School

Open House, 9:30 am - Noon

- Tour our multiple award winning Preschool - Grade 8 school
- Meet teachers, current parents and Principal Jane Bona
- Learn about Personalized Learning and the individual education plan each student receives so they thrive and succeed!



Tuition Assistance Available

Preschool and Kindergarten Playdate, 9:30 - 11:00 am

Enjoy a morning of fun with your preschool or kindergarten student and get to know other parents and the staff at ICS. We'll have crafts, gym time and snacks. No charge to attend.

Every child attending the open house or play date will receive a special gift! All are welcome at ICS!

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.

Social Justice

Did You Know?

In fiscal year 2017, 275 unduplicated, individual volunteers provided 35,851 hours of services and 217 unduplicated groups provided 110,132 hours of services to Catholic Charities. *At Immaculate Conception we do our part to support Catholic Charities!*

Catholic Charities Opportunity Center, is located downtown Minneapolis and provides a place for those experiencing homelessness to connect with resources to help move toward self-sufficiency. The Church of the Immaculate Conception provides and serves a hot meal on the second Saturday of each month. Our breakfast consists of sausage, scrambled eggs, hash browns, fruit, pastry and orange juice. We need nine volunteers every month to complete this mission. Some volunteers pack the food in their vehicles and head to Minneapolis at 5:30 am. Others meet and leave at 6:00 am on the second Saturday of each month to cook, prepare, serve and clean the kitchen. Dishwashers are part of the staff at the center. Our volunteers serve two groups and are usually back to church around 8:30 am.

At this time we are looking for a few additional adults that are willing to cook or serve. (Volunteers must be 18 years of age or 16 when accompanied by a parent or guardian) It is helpful to have the ability to lift 50 pounds. One need not go every month but we are looking for volunteers with a strong commitment. Please contact Vicki Bazille at 763-788-9062 x 212 if interested or for more information.



Thank you to all who supported the Lenten fund raisers and special events:

Feed My Starving Children

Thanks to the generosity of the people of our parish, we collected \$2,859.84 for *Feed My Starving Children*.

Minnesota Food Share March Campaign

Thanks to the generosity of the people of our parish, we collected 185 pounds of food and \$1,015.00. All proceeds were given to SACA.

Social Justice Committee Meeting

Tuesday, April 17 at 6:00 pm in the St Francis room (second floor of the school).

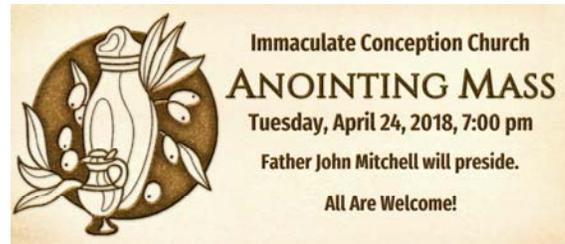
Pray for a Priest

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.*

April 8 – Rev. Luis Branchs-Plaza
April 9 – Rev. Rick Banker
April 10 – Rev. Patrick Barnes
April 11 – Rev. David Barrett
April 12 – Rev. James Barry
April 13 – Rev. Michael Barsness
April 14 – Rev. Cletus Baskela

Pastoral Ministry



Individual Anointing of the Sick is available by request—call the parish office at 763-788-9062 x 212.

Fellowship

Join us this Sunday, April 8 in Fellowship Hall (lower level of the church), for fellowship, hosted by our Greeters.

Growing Through Loss

The spring series begins on Thursday, April 12 from 6:45 - 9:00 pm at St. Philip's Lutheran Church, 6180 Highway 65 NE, Fridley. Join speaker Judy Connolly, Chaplain, University of MN Medical Center, as she speaks on *Understanding Grief and Loss*. The series runs six consecutive Thursdays from April 12 - May 17. Each session is complete in itself. Brochures are available at all entrances of the church. For more information contact Vicki at 763-788-9062 x 212

Pastoral Ministry Visitors Meeting

Tuesday, April 10 at 2:00 pm in Fellowship Hall (lower level of the church).

Thank You to all who served on our Retreat Team and to those who served the day of our Women's Lenten Retreat. It was a wonderful day, with 125 women in attendance. We are very blessed to have so many great volunteers at IC. We are also very appreciative to all who participate and our continued growth in attendance. It is a blessing to hear of the many ways our God touches lives during this time.

A Very Special Thank You to the many volunteers that were committed to our annual Soup Lunch! Those who diced and sliced, cooked and cleaned, set-up and cleaned-up; what a fabulous group of devoted hard working volunteers we have for this event. It is a tremendous amount of work over an extended period of time, but everyone involved offered their help with a devoted spirit, filled with great joy! *Our crew thanks everyone who supported Soup Lunch.*

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:

Paul Bona	Joan Graves	Greg Sery
Claire Burgoyne	Gerald Krawiecki	Irene Spensley
Barb Breen	Tom Leight Jr.	Elaine Thunstrom
Michelle Cadieux	Randy Mancuso	Lois Weyers
Nichole Castonguay	Janet Mihalik	Germaine Wolsfeld
Mary Fredenburg	Leon Reinarts	

and all those on our prayer chain

If your name was removed and you would like to continue to be on the prayer list please call 763-788-9062 x 212.

Reflections

Word of Life

“While many Catholics want to help women and men heal from past abortions, most don’t know how to begin.” Learn how you can become an instrument of mercy at www.usccb.org/bridges-of-mercy.

—USCCB Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities,
“Bridges of Mercy for Post-Abortion Healing”

Why Do We Do That?

Catholic Traditions Explained

Question: *What is the story behind Divine Mercy Sunday?*

Answer: In Poland during the early 1930s, Jesus appeared to a religious sister, St. Maria Faustina Kowalska. These private revelations had one key theme: the love and mercy of God. The relevance of this message was evident then and would continue to resound in importance throughout the social and political upheaval of the 20th century.

One of Jesus’ requests was the institution of a feast of God’s mercy. St. Faustina records in her diary, “*I desire that the Feast of mercy be a refuge and shelter for souls... let no soul fear to draw near to me... It is my desire that it be solemnly celebrated on the first Sunday after Easter*” (Diary, no. 699). After St. Faustina’s canonization in 2000, the Vatican declared that the Second Sunday of Easter would be known as Divine Mercy Sunday.

Live the Liturgy—Inspiration for the Week

What does it take to believe that something is real? We live in an age of computer technology complete with things like Photoshop and other programs that can enhance photographs, create realistic images, and mimic artistic renderings. When looking at a picture of something, we find ourselves wondering if what we are seeing is real or just the result of technological creativity. Early believers came to believe because of what they witnessed in these new communities of faith. They saw people authentically living out Jesus’ command to love and to show mercy. What do people witness when they see us in action?

Eucharistic Adoration

*“For the sake of His sorrowful passion,
have mercy on us and on the whole world”*

(from the Divine Mercy Chaplet)

Today being Divine Mercy Sunday, we call upon the Lord for mercy not only for ourselves, but for the whole world. As we know, His mercy endures forever! All are invited to come and spend some time in prayer before the Blessed Sacrament in our adoration chapel. Our chapel is open Monday through Friday beginning at 7:00 am.

If you would like to sign up for an hour of adoration, please call Sandy at 763-789-3246 or Fran at 763-788-0924.

Adorers are urgently needed for the following hours:

- Wednesdays at 2:00 pm
- Thursdays at 11:00 am and noon
- Fridays at 8:00 am

Partner adorers are needed for the following hours:

- Mondays at 1:00 pm
- Tuesdays at 1:00 pm and 3:00 pm
- Wednesdays at 3:00 pm and 5:00 pm
- Fridays at 7:00 pm

Weekly Calendar

Sunday, April 8, *Divine Mercy Sunday*

Chocolate Bar Sale _____ 7:30 am - 11:30 am
Mass, Intention, IC Parishioners _____ 8:00 am
Fellowship _____ 8:30 am - 12:30 pm
Mass, Intention, +Pat Gerads _____ 10:00 am
Celebration of the Chaplet of Divine Mercy _____ 3:00 pm
Followed by refreshments in Fellowship Hall

Monday, April 9

No School (Teacher In-Service Day)

RCIC I _____ 4:30 pm - 5:30 pm
4th Degree KC Mass and Dinner _____ 6:00 pm - 9:00 pm

Tuesday, April 10

Mass, Intention, +Tom Sichak _____ 7:30 am
Pastoral Ministry Visitors _____ 2:00 pm - 3:30 pm
School Advisory Council _____ 6:00 pm - 8:00 pm
Floats with a Cop _____ 6:00 pm - 7:00 pm
Charismatic Prayer Group _____ 7:00 pm - 8:30 pm

Wednesday, April 11

Mass, Intention, +Raul Eugenio _____ 7:30 am
Trustee Meeting _____ 1:00 pm - 2:30 pm
Girl Scouts _____ 3:00 pm - 4:15 pm
Discipleship Committee _____ 6:00 pm - 7:00 pm
1st Eucharist Bread Making _____ 6:30 pm - 8:00 pm
Intramurals _____ 6:30 pm - 8:00 pm
Parish Choir Rehearsal _____ 7:00 pm - 8:30 pm

Thursday, April 12

Mass (School), Intention, Misik Family _____ 8:30 am
Funeral Schola Rehearsal _____ 10:00 am - 11:00 am
Girl Scouts _____ 3:00 pm - 4:15 pm
Communion Service, Crest View on 42nd _____ 3:15 pm
Bell Choir Rehearsal _____ 7:00 pm - 8:30 pm

Friday, April 13

Mass, Intention, +Bonnie Crema _____ 7:30 am
Our Brothers Keeper _____ 9:00 am - 12:00 pm
RCIC II _____ 4:30 pm - 5:30 pm
Intercessory Prayer Ministry _____ 7:00 pm - 8:30 pm
Our Lady of Guadalupe Formation _____ 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm

Saturday, April 14

RCIA _____ 8:00 am - 12:00 pm
Preschool and Kindergarten Playdate _____ 9:30 am - 11:00 am
ICS Open House _____ 9:30 am - 12:00 pm
Reconciliation _____ 3:30 pm - 4:30 pm
Chocolate Bar Sale _____ 4:30 pm - 6:30 pm
Mass, Intention, IC Parishioners _____ 5:00 pm
Heggies Pizza/Bake Sale _____ 5:00 pm - 6:30 pm
Our Lady of Guadalupe Prayer Group _____ 6:30 pm - 9:00 pm

Sunday, April 15

Chocolate Bar Sale _____ 7:30 am - 11:30 am
Mass, Intention, +Maryann Kocon _____ 8:00 am
Heggies Pizza/Bake Sale _____ 8:00 am - 11:30 am
Parish Pancake Breakfast _____ 8:30 am - 11:45 am
Mass, Intention, +Randal Wilcox _____ 10:00 am

+Deceased

Gospel Meditation

Second Sunday of Easter, Divine Mercy Sunday



Should we be a little easier on Thomas? The last few days have been a whirlwind. On Thursday, a Passover celebration went horribly awry as Jesus was betrayed and taken into custody for unstated crimes. Less than 24 hours later, the simple

arrest has turned into a death sentence to be carried out that very afternoon. Most of the disciples fled, including Thomas. He would have heard of the events of Good Friday secondhand, in shock over the death of his Lord and Master. Then Sunday morning arrives with joy from a few disciples—Jesus is risen! But there is no persistent sight of him, only Mary Magdalene’s quick moment in the garden and an empty tomb. Another day passes. The Apostles are gathered that Monday night, but Thomas is absent. He returns to a jubilant report of the risen Lord. Again, Thomas has seen nothing.

The experience must have been surreal. Did Jesus really appear raised from the dead? Did he really suffer and die? Has all of this been some strange hoax? Desperate for an answer, Thomas insists, “Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands and put my finger into the nail marks and put my hand into his side, I will not believe.”

After his resurrection, Jesus’ body—mangled and bloody from the crucifixion—is restored. Did it need the scars? A perfected body would have taught us one lesson: everything is renewed as it once was, the past erased. Jesus chooses another lesson, however. He retains his scars that we might know him. In the whirlwind of our lives, we make our own mistakes, our own betrayals and compromises. In the resurrected Jesus, we see a God who does not forget his own sorrow. We are invited to meet him—wound for wound—and place our hand on his own nail-scarred palm, the eternal sign of his everlasting mercy.

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Collections

Week 39—March 24/25, 2018

Week 40—March 31/April 1, 2018

Our weekly financial contributions will not publically available on our website. If you would like this information, please call Alan Savage, Parish Business Administrator. He can be reached at x 207. Thank you.

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, Julie Mack x 204

Director of Advancement and Discipleship,

Mary Beth Pfeifer x 203

Deacon, Larry Palkert

Business Administrator, Alan Savage 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, Doug Olson 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

Alan Savage (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.



Immaculate Conception Church and School

THRIFT SALE

JUNE 14-16, 2018

THURSDAY & FRIDAY, JUNE 14 & 15: 8 AM - 7 PM
SATURDAY, JUNE 16: BAG SALE - \$5.00 8 AM - NOON

Toys, clothing, furniture, tools, dishes, glasses, household goods, antiques, knick-knacks, sporting equipment, books, DVDs and more!



DO YOU HAVE ITEMS YOU'D LIKE TO DONATE?

Donations will be gratefully accepted:

Saturday, June 9: 9:00 am - Noon
Sunday, June 10: 11:00 am - 2:00 pm
Monday & Tuesday, June 11 & 12: 4:00 - 7:00 pm

Drive into the church parking lot and follow the signs, someone will meet you to take your donations. Please note - for insurance reasons we are unable to accept any used electrical equipment.

For more information contact Jami at 763-788-9065 x221



Immaculate Conception Church and School
4030 Jackson Street NE, Columbia Heights 55421
ICCSonline.org • 763-788-9062



ICChurchandSchool



ic.church.school

