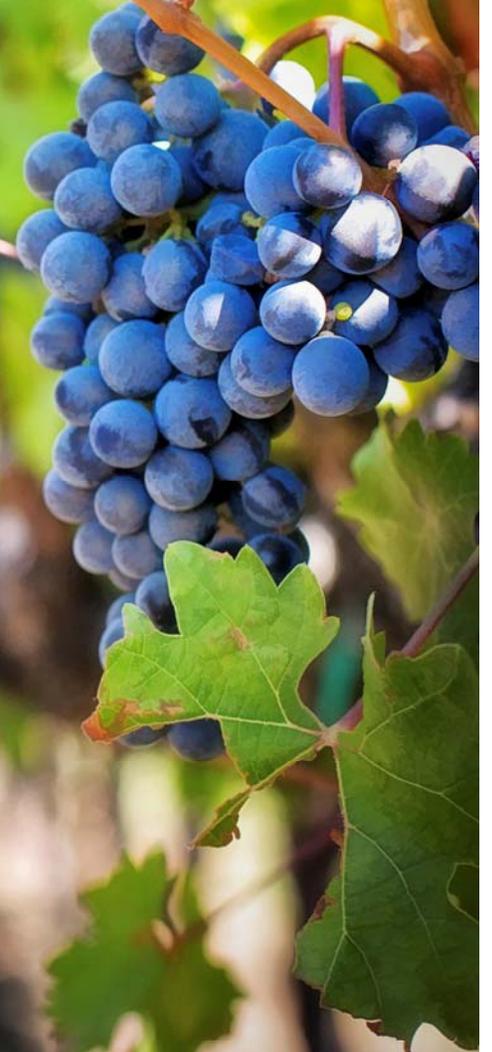




THE CHURCH OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

"I am the
True Vine,
and my Father is
the vine grower."

John 15:1A



APRIL 29, 2018 | FIFTH 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
<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



Join us in praying the *Rosary* in May

Sundays after the 10:00 am Mass, in the church,
led by the Council of Catholic Women
and

Weeknights at 6:00 pm (Monday-Friday),
led by Father John Mitchell or a volunteer at the outdoor Shrine of Mary
(located near door #1 of the parish office/school entrance just to the right of the flagpole).

Close the Gap

The months of May and June will bring us to the end of the 2017-18 fiscal year, and I need to inform you that our parish is facing a projected deficit of \$ 25,000 in our Sunday collection income for July 1, 2017 – June 30, 2018. The impact of this \$ 25,000 deficit limits our ability to pay our monthly bills. This year we reduced our budgeted Sunday collection income by \$14,000 to help us stay on budget, and we were on budget with Sunday income as of January 2018. But the months of February, March and April have seen us slip behind. So I would like us to close the gap by June 30 if possible. I ask you to donate to our Church, if possible, an extra \$10, \$25, \$50, \$100 or more beyond your current giving level to help us “Close the Gap Before June 30” and eliminate our projected deficit of \$ 25,000.

God Bless You,

Father John Mitchell
Pastor



“Close the Gap Before June 30” Immaculate Conception Church, Columbia Heights

I am enclosing the amount of \$ _____ to help eliminate the anticipated \$ 25,000 deficit in our parish’s Sunday collection income for fiscal year 2017-18.

Name (optional) _____ Member ID # _____

Please return this form and your gift to our Church using your Sunday donation envelope or an envelope labeled “Close the Gap” and place it in the collection basket at Mass or send it to the Parish Office. **THANK YOU!**



Easter Flower Memorials

Thank you to all who generously donated towards the cost of our beautiful Easter flowers and candles in memory of those whose names are listed below:

Larry Garner
Mr. & Mrs. Frank Urchota
(donated by Veronica Garner)

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Parish News



WE NEED YOU
to make our new family directory complete

Parish Photo Directory

We are partnering with Lifetouch to produce a new photo directory. We need YOU to make our directory complete! To celebrate our church family and strengthen the bond within our parish, we invite you to be a part

of our upcoming new directory. Lifetouch is providing the directory at no cost to our church. Every family photographed receives a complimentary directory and an 8 x 10 portrait.

Photography Dates:

Tuesday, May 29 through Saturday, June 2
Monday, June 4 through Saturday, June 9

Hours:

Weekdays 2:00 pm—9:00 pm
Saturdays 9:30 am—4:00 pm

Ways to sign up for your session:

- Sign-up on our website at www.ICCSonline.org
- See our sign-up boards before or after upcoming Masses
- Call Terri Glaeser at 763-788-9062 x227

For your convenience, all photography and portrait viewing will take place at our church with no sitting fee. You will have a variety of poses taken. One pose will be selected for the directory. In addition to your complimentary 8 x 10, you will have the opportunity to purchase additional portraits on the day of your portrait session. Lifetouch's portrait price lists will be available in the parish office.

Readings and Observances

Sunday, April 29, 5th Sunday of Easter

Acts 9:26-31/Ps 22:26-27, 28, 30, 31-32 [26a]/1 Jn 3:18-24/
Jn 15:1-8

Monday, April 30

St. Pius V, Pope

Acts 14:5-18/Ps 115:1-2, 3-4, 15-16 [1ab]/Jn 14:21-26

Tuesday, May 1

St. Joseph the Worker

Acts 14:19-28/Ps 145:10-11, 12-13ab, 21 [cf. 12]/Jn 14:27-31a

*St. Joseph the Worker: Gn 1:26-2:3 or Col 3:14-15, 17, 23-24/
Ps 90:2, 3-4, 12-13, 14 and 16 [cf. 17b]/Mt 13:54-58*

Wednesday, May 2

St. Athanasius, Bishop & Doctor of the Church

Acts 15:1-6/Ps 122:1-2, 3-4ab, 4cd-5 [cf. 1]/Jn 15:1-8

Thursday, May 3

Sts. Philip and James, Apostles

1 Cor 15:1-8/Ps 19:2-3, 4-5 [5]/Jn 14:6-14

Friday, May 4

Acts 15:22-31/Ps 57:8-9, 10 and 12 [10a]/Jn 15:12-17

Saturday, May 5

Acts 16:1-10/Ps 100:1b-2, 3, 5/Jn 15:18-21

Sunday, May 6, 6th Sunday of Easter

Acts 10:25-26, 34-35, 44-48/Ps 98:1, 2-3, 3-4 [cf. 2b]/
1 Jn 4:7-10/Jn 15:9-17

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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

f ICChurchandSchool ic.church.school

The Road to Discipleship

Recognize God in Your Ordinary Moments

When I was a teenager, I had an experience that truly changed my life and helped me to give Jesus all of myself. I had been baptized Catholic and always had faith, but it took a specific event to really shake me out of the comfort of my life and set me on a path devoted to God. I didn't get knocked off a horse or find an open tomb, but for me it was powerful enough to make a huge impact.

Testimonies of how people came to live as intentional disciples have great power. Often the stories do not include singular events or people; instead they speak of a gradual unfolding of faith. It is often the culmination of several events and the work of more than one person that brings a person to the point of real decision.

Living as good stewards, we can help move people forward in their journey with God. Giving of ourselves freely can move human hearts like few other forces. God working through us can bring others to see that simply saying that Jesus is the Savior of the world does not mean we live our lives differently. It takes more thought and reflection on our part to move past words to intentional acts with intentional results. I don't know if all those involved in that event when I was a teenager knew what an effect

their good stewardship would have on me, but I am so thankful they provided a way for God to touch me. I have spent my entire life trying to pay them back by allowing God to touch others through me. Just what person might God touch through you today?



—Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

Council of Catholic Women

Do You Have Unwanted Costume Jewelry?

Do you know what to do with that jewelry you no longer use? Donate it! Our Brother's Keeper is again collecting jewelry to supply our booth at Fun Fest. Please leave your donations in the designated box (on top of the coat rack, across from the elevator at the front entrance of church) before the end of June. Your donations will be very much appreciated!

CCW News

CCW ladies, please mark your calendars and join us, as we enter into church in body at the May 5, 5:00 pm Mass. We will gather in the back of church prior to the start of Mass. The first few rows of pews on the left side of the aisle will be reserved for us. We hope you can join us.

May CCW Meeting Reminder

Thursday, May 10, 2018

- 6:00 pm—Rosary with Father John outdoors at the Shrine
- 6:30 pm—Mass and Installation; light supper to follow
- 7:30 pm—Membership meeting (last one until September)

School News

Open House and Playdate

Saturday, May 12, 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!

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 29 – Rev. Matthew Bonk
- April 30 – Archbishop Bernard Hebda
- May 1 – Pope Francis
- May 2 – Rev. John Mitchell
- May 3 – Rev. Steven Borello
- May 4 – Rev. Ronald Bowers
- May 5 – Rev. Charles Brambilla

Social Justice

“Coins for Social Justice” This Weekend

Small Change Can Do a World of Good!

Thank you for your generous donation to *Coins for Social Justice*. We collected \$174.35 in April.



Pastoral Ministry

Anointing Mass

All are welcome to attend an Anointing Mass (presided by Father John Mitchell) at the following location:

Crest View on 42nd

42nd and Central Avenue • Columbia Heights

Thursday, May 10 at 3:15 pm

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

“Growing Through Loss”

Join us Thursday, May 3 from 6:45 - 9:00 pm at St. Philip's Lutheran Church, 6180 Highway 65 NE, Fridley. The topic, *Out of the Desert* will be presented by speaker Bob Bartlett, Marriage and Family Therapist. Each session of the series is complete in itself. Brochures are available at all entrances of the church. For more information contact Vicki, 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 *Valeria Lee* 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:

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

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

“If we are filled with the love of God, a culture of encounter and solidarity will begin to bloom.”

—USCCB Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities, “Serene Attentiveness to God’s Creation” www.bit.ly/serene-attentiveness

Why Do We Do That?

Catholic Traditions Explained

Question: *My best friend is Lutheran and is a good Christian. I would like her to be my child’s sponsor, but I’m wondering, does she have to be a practicing Catholic?*

Answer: The practice of two godparents for an infant’s baptism goes back to the time when church law and civil law were one and the same in Europe. If anything did happen to the parents, the custody and well-being of the child became the responsibility of the godparents. Adult baptism required that one have a sponsor from the church who would act as a guide or mentor, in bringing the person to faith.

Today, being a godparent has no legal implications. It is a spiritual matter. But at least one of the godparents must be a practicing Catholic. The other is called a Christian witness. This distinction recognizes the difference between faith and religion. A Christian can be a witness because of their relationship to God (faith), but the Catholic is a mentor in the practice of the religion.

In any event, it is vital that parents give serious consideration to the people they choose to be a child’s godparents. That choice should be based on practice of faith, solid moral character, and ability to give good example. Too often the choice is left to whose turn it is in the family, or to friends that parents wish to honor or acknowledge in some way. Your choice of godparents is the first lesson of faith you teach your child. Make it count!

Live the Liturgy—Inspiration for the Week

“Let us love not in word or speech but in deed and truth.” Real love, especially unconditional love, cannot exist apart from action. We are called to bear much fruit and become Jesus’ disciples. We live in a world that is suffering so badly. By our actions and the way we organize our lives, we can model the Gospel values that many no longer see as important. We can be healers who put mercy into action. We can choose to unconditionally respect human life and challenge those who do not. We can live nonviolent lives, resist the lust for power, and avoid greed in all its forms. It is difficult to live the Gospel message of love. We will often be met with rejection. We need to allow God to prune away everything that makes it difficult to love. Then we have to take the risk and call others to a higher standard, no matter the price.

Catholic Quotes—Words to Inspire the Faithful

I think that if any good thing shall go forward, something must be adventured.

—St. Thomas More

Children, let us love not in word or speech but in deed and truth.

(1 Jn 3:18)

Weekly Calendar

Sunday, April 29

ICS Chocolate Bar Sale _____ 7:30 am - 11:30 am
Mass, Intention, +George Rozek _____ 8:00 am
Nun’s Appreciation Breakfast _____ 8:45 am - 12:00 pm
Mass, Intention, +JoAnn Molan _____ 10:00 am

Monday, April 30

RCIC I _____ 4:30 pm - 5:30 pm
CCW Board Meeting _____ 6:30 pm - 8:30 pm

Tuesday, May 1

Mass, Intention, +Cliff Shedlov _____ 7:30 am
Charismatic Prayer Group _____ 7:00 pm - 8:30 pm

Wednesday, May 2

Mass _____ 7:30 am
Communion Service, Crest View _____ 3:15 pm
Faith Formation Dinner _____ 6:00 pm - 6:30 pm
Faith Formation, Preschool - Grade 6 _____ 6:30 pm - 8:00 pm
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, May 3

Mass (School), Crowning of Mary _____ 8:30 am
Intention, +Dorothy Tomczak
Communion Service, 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, May 4

Mass, Intention, +Joe Goodman _____ 7:30 am
RCIC I _____ 4:30 pm - 5:30 pm
Queen of May Dinner and Auction _____ 5:00 pm - 10:00 pm
Our Lady of Guadalupe Formation _____ 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm

Saturday, May 5

Reconciliation _____ 3:30 pm - 4:30 pm
Mass, Crowning of Mary _____ 5:00 pm
Intention, +Slovak Ladies
Our Lady of Guadalupe Prayer Group _____ 6:30 pm - 9:00 pm

Sunday, May 6

Mass, Intention, IC Parishioners _____ 8:00 am
Mass, Crowning of Mary _____ 10:00 am
Intention, +Marcella Bialke

+Deceased

Thank Our Advertiser of the Week... Insty-Prints

Business Printing Services

4931 Central Avenue NE • Columbia Heights
763-571-3511 • instyprints@comcast.net

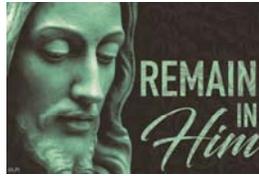
This advertiser, and the others on the back of the bulletin, make this bulletin possible, please support them when you can.



Gospel Meditation

Fifth Sunday of Easter

Are you ready for a trim? In today's Gospel, we hear the familiar teaching of the vine and the branches. Jesus reminds us that if we remain close to him—living in humility, following God's law, loving our neighbor—we will notice a positive change in our life and the lives of those around us. "Whoever remains in me and I in him will bear much fruit." The Holy Spirit is life-giving. He is fruitful. The Spirit of God won't refuse grace to a heart that is open.



As we progress through life, learning how to live and love, we grow. Our personalities flower. We discover what it is to be a blessing to others. We also experience lack, loss, and the results of our failures. We know what it is like to "wither" at times, particularly the times when we willingly separate ourselves from Jesus. "Just as a branch cannot bear fruit on its own unless it remains on the vine, so neither can you unless you remain in me." For most of us, this experience of being disconnected and off track generates a desire to return to what is right and good, to return to the vine.

But this Gospel is more than "Are you in or are you out?" Even when we remain in God, when we follow Jesus, we are not exempt from the challenge, the pruning. "Everyone that [bears fruit] he prunes." A prudent trim is necessary in the natural world of trees and vines. Dead wood, broken shoots, and diseased branches need to be cut back in order for the plant to bear fruit. Jesus wants us to be healthy! He says as much himself: "By this is my Father glorified, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples." Take a look at your life today. Where are you bearing fruit? Where do you need to be pruned?

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Eucharistic Adoration

"Remain in me, as I remain in you."
(John 15:4)

In the gospel reading today, we heard Jesus speak these words to his disciples to remind and encourage them to believe in Him. In Eucharistic adoration, adorers also have the opportunity to pray and listen for the same encouragement to continue to believe in Jesus. Come and spend some time in adoration before Jesus, present in the Blessed Sacrament. All are welcome!

Adorers are urgently needed for the following hours:

- Wednesdays at 2:00 pm
- Thursdays at 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

For more information, please call Sandy at 763-789-3246 or Fran at 763-788-0924.

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,	
<i>Mary Beth Pfeifer</i>	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

<i>Dave Kellner</i>	<i>Kathy Johnson</i>
<i>Charles Karanja</i>	<i>Stacy McVary</i>
<i>Marcus Paulson</i>	<i>Sandy Sichak</i>

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.

Collections

Week 43—April 21-22, 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.



Totus Tuus



Make sure you register early for this exciting week long summer faith experience for grade school and high school youth. A team of seminarians and college students will spend the week with our children to inspire, teach and lead them in a rich experience of what it is to be Catholic.

Faith, Fun and Friends...how can you miss?

Totus Tuus is back at Immaculate Conception Church!

June 10-15, 2018

Children entering grades K-6 • June 11-15
Monday through Friday, 9:00 am - 2:30 pm

Youth entering grades 7-12 • June 10-14
Sunday through Thursday, 7:30 - 9:45 pm

Cost: \$25 per participant / \$75 maximum per family

Contact the Faith Formation Office,
763-788-9062 x 210 or mnawrocki@immac-church.org



ARCHDIOCESE
OF
SAINT PAUL &
MINNEAPOLIS

United in Faith, Hope and Love

Office of Marriage, Family and Life

Registration forms are available in the church
or register at: parish.iccsonline.org