

# IMMACULATE CONCEPTION PARISH

3555 South Fremont Avenue – Springfield, Missouri 65804-4237

*The Mission of Immaculate Conception Parish is to be a family-centered sacramental community comprised of compassionate witnesses to God's word, love, and presence.*



## THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

"... make straight the way of the Lord."

December 17, 2017

## Christmas Novena

December 17th—23rd

7:00 PM Nightly

### PARISH OFFICE STAFF

**Rev. Thomas P. Kiefer, Pastor**

Voicemail 107 frtom@ic-parish.org

**Rev. Charles "Chaz" Dunn, Associate Pastor**

Voicemail 114 frchaz@ic-parish.org

**Rev. Mr. Kevin Carroll, Permanent Deacon**

kevin.carroll@htetech.com

**Sharon Weidelman**

Director of Family Life Ministries  
& Religious Education

Voicemail 111 sharonweidelman@yahoo.com

**Steve Jannetti**

Director of Sacred Music

Voicemail 103 sjannetti@ic-parish.org

**Dan Pfaff**

Director of Confirmation & Youth Activities

Voicemail 115 lifeteen@ic-parish.org

**Doris Trotter, PSR Coordinator**

Voicemail 116 dtrotter@ic-parish.org

**Tina Miller**

Finance Manager, RCIA Coordinator

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**Mary Ann Davis**

Parish Bulletin & Data Coordinator

Voicemail 113 madavis@ic-parish.org

**Becky Wieberg, Parish Secretary**

Voicemail 101 bwieberg@ic-parish.org

### CATHOLIC CEMETERIES OF SPRINGFIELD

**Paul Wunderlich** 417-866-6720

lohmeyerfuneralhome@gmail.com

### IMMACULATE CONCEPTION SCHOOL

3555A S. Fremont - Springfield, MO 65804

Phone: 417-881-7000 Fax: 417-881-7087

Website: scspk12.org

**Theresa Coleman, Principal**

Voicemail 201 tcoleman@scspk12.org

**Jenny Pendleton, Assistant Principal**

Voicemail 204 jpendleton@scspk12.org

### Christmas Eve & Midnight Masses:

4:00PM, 7:00PM & Midnight (12:00AM)

### Christmas Day Masses

7:00AM, 9:00AM & 11:00AM



### IMMACULATE CONCEPTION PARISH

Parish Office: 417-887-0600

Fax: 417-887-0027

Webpage: [www.ic-parish.org](http://www.ic-parish.org)

E-mail: [staff@ic-parish.org](mailto:staff@ic-parish.org)

### SCHEDULE OF SUNDAY MASSES

**Sunday: 7:00AM, 9:00AM & 11:00AM**

**Saturday (Vigil): 4:00PM**

### SCHEDULE OF WEEKDAY MASSES

Monday – Wednesday & Friday: 6:20AM

Thursday: Communion Service at 6:20AM

Monday – Saturday: 8:30AM

**Wednesday: 6:30PM**

### SACRAMENTAL MINISTRY

#### SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Saturday on the Hour: 3:00PM & 7:00PM

By appointment – call the Parish Office.

#### SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM & ANOINTING OF THE SICK

Please call the Parish Office.

#### SACRAMENT OF MATRIMONY

Call the Parish Office at least six months  
prior to intended wedding date.

#### EMERGENCY CALLS FOR THE ANOINTING THE SICK

For an emergency requesting the  
Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick or  
if you have experienced the death of a family member –  
call the Parish Office at 417-887-0600.  
Prompt #2 will connect you with Fr. Tom or Fr. Chaz.

#### PRAYER CHAIN: 417-887-0600

Prompt #3 will connect you to the mailbox  
where you may leave a prayer request.  
Please leave contact information with the request.

#### PERPETUAL ADORATION—HOLY TRINITY'S CHAPEL

2818 East Bennett Street, Springfield, MO

Please call Joyce Blades at 417-881-4367 or  
Diane Hoy at 417-860-7134 to schedule a time  
before the Blessed Sacrament.

Divine Mercy Chaplet & Rosary—3:00 PM on Sundays.

#### SECURITY TEAM CONTACT INFORMATION

You may leave a message for the Security Team at the  
following email address: [security@ic-parish.org](mailto:security@ic-parish.org)

# IMMACULATE CONCEPTION PARISH

December 17, 2017—Third Sunday of Advent

## THIS WEEK IN THE PARISH

### SUNDAY, DECEMBER 17TH—THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

7:00AM, 9:00AM, & 11:00AM SUNDAY MASSES  
8:30AM Rosary in the Chapel  
9:00AM & 11:00AM Children's Dismissal CRB  
2:00PM All Choir Christmas Concert—CHURCH  
4:30PM SCHS Choir Christmas Concert—CHURCH  
7:00PM CHRISTMAS NOVENA—CHURCH

### MONDAY, DECEMBER 18TH

6:20AM MASS—CHAPEL  
8:30AM MASS—(4TH, 5TH, & 6TH GRADES)—CHURCH  
Noon–1:00PM Prayer Intercessor—CHAPEL  
7:00PM Knights of Columbus Meeting CR  
7:00PM CHRISTMAS NOVENA—CHURCH

### TUESDAY, DECEMBER 19TH

6:20AM MASS—CHAPEL  
8:30AM MASS—(1ST, 2ND, & 3RD GRADES)—CHURCH  
Noon–1:00PM Prayer Intercessor—CHAPEL  
7:00PM CHRISTMAS NOVENA—CHURCH  
7:30PM Adult Religious Education PMR

### WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 20TH

6:20AM MASS—Perpetual Help Devotions—CHAPEL  
8:30AM MASS—(7TH & 8TH GRADES)—CHURCH  
10:00AM Adult Religious Education PMR  
Noon–1:00PM Prayer Intercessor—CHAPEL  
3:15PM Children's Choir CR  
6:30PM MASS—CHAPEL  
7:00PM CHRISTMAS NOVENA—CHURCH  
7:00PM Adult Choir CR

### THURSDAY, DECEMBER 21ST

6:20AM Communion Service—CHAPEL  
8:30AM Mass—CHAPEL  
Noon–1:00PM Prayer Intercessor—CHAPEL  
7:00PM CHRISTMAS NOVENA—CHURCH

### FRIDAY, DECEMBER 22ND

6:20AM MASS—CHAPEL  
8:30AM MASS—(ALL SCHOOL)—CHURCH  
*Rosary for Vocations following in the Chapel*

Noon–1:00PM Prayer Intercessor—CHAPEL

7:00PM CHRISTMAS NOVENA—CHURCH

### SATURDAY, DECEMBER 23RD

8:30AM Mass—CHAPEL  
3:00PM Sacrament of Reconciliation—CHURCH  
4:00PM SUNDAY VIGIL Mass  
7:00PM CHRISTMAS NOVENA—CHURCH  
7:00PM Sacrament of Reconciliation—CHURCH

### SUNDAY, DECEMBER 24TH—FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

7:00AM, 9:00AM, & 11:00AM SUNDAY MASSES  
8:30AM Rosary in the Chapel  
4:00PM & 7:00PM—CHRISTMAS EVE MASSES  
11:30PM Christmas Carols  
12:00AM MIDNIGHT MASS  
7:00AM, 9:00AM, & 11:00AM—CHRISTMAS DAY MASSES

## MASS INTENTIONS

### MONDAY, DECEMBER 18TH—

6:20AM Analita Coulter (Int.)  
8:30AM + Alfred Westrich

### TUESDAY, DECEMBER 19TH—

6:20AM + Lil Blattel  
8:30AM + Evelyn Peterson

### WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 20TH—

6:20AM + Faithful Departed  
8:30AM + Helen Trachsel  
6:30PM + Mary Lou Zimmerman

### THURSDAY, DECEMBER 21ST—ST. PETR CANISIUS, PRIEST AND DOCTOR OF THE CHURCH

6:20AM Communion Service  
8:30AM + Deacon James Burton

### FRIDAY, DECEMBER 22ND—

6:20AM Safety of Travelers  
8:30AM + William Spore

### SATURDAY, DECEMBER 23RD—

#### ST. JOHN OF KANTY, PRIEST

8:30AM Those Alone on Chrstmas

### Saturday Vigil Mass for Sunday

4:00PM + Charles H'Doubler

### SUNDAY, DECEMBER 24TH—

#### FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

7:00AM + La Verne Rose Reinecker  
9:00AM The Parish Family  
11:00AM + Noel Joseph Williams

### CHRISTMAS EVE, DECEMBER 24TH—

#### THE VIGIL OF THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD

4:00PM + Daniel & Elsie Majewski  
7:00PM The Parish Family

### CHRISTMAS, DECEMBER 25TH—

#### THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD

12:00AM Special Intention  
7:00AM Homeless  
9:00AM Special Intention  
11:00AM Vocations to Religious Life



## Christmas Novena

7:00PM Nightly  
December 17th—December 23rd



The Christmas Novena offers a half-hour haven of peace during a season which moves at such a frantic pace. You will benefit spiritually from this prayer, whether you are able to attend only one evening, several, or all the evenings. Your attendance at the Novena will be one of the best gifts you give yourself for Christmas.



## Christmas Masses



### Christmas Eve

**Sunday, December 24, 2017**

**4:00PM and 7:00PM**

**Midnight Mass: 12:00AM**  
**(Christmas Carols: 11:30PM)**

### Christmas Day

**Monday, December 25, 2017**

**7:00AM, 9:00AM & 11:00AM**



#### AREA COMMUNAL PENANCE SERVICES

December 17th: 7:00PM St. Joseph, Springfield

December 18th: 7:00PM St. Elizabeth Ann Seton

#### SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR ...

*Scripture Readings for*  
**THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT**  
**DECEMBER 24, 2017**

2 Samuel 71:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16;

Psalm: 89:2-3, 4-5, 27 and 29;

Romans 16:25-27; & Gospel: Luke 1:26-38

#### HOLYDAY MASSES—FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY



**Sunday, December 31, 2017: 4:00 PM**

**Monday, January 1, 2018: 10:00 AM**

#### PARISHIONERS WHO NEED SPECIAL PRAYERS

Carlos Contreras, Lorraine D'Alessandro, Robert Gerhardy, Judy Gibson, Gail LaRoche, Mamie Lawless, Michael Menne, Becky Meyer, Mary Miller, Loretta Polk, Flor Rivera, Jan Royster, Mary Shanahan, Douglas Strickland, Elizabeth Tomelleri, Jake Wilson, and all who need prayers.

*People are listed for 4 weeks, then transferred to the Prayer Intention book, unless family notifies us otherwise.*

#### STEWARDSHIP REFLECTION

All of the people in today's readings – the prophet Isaiah, the Virgin Mary, St. Paul, St. John the Baptist – seemed to understand clearly and rejoice in what God was calling them to be and to do...Do I?

#### SUNDAY ROSARY IN THE CHAPEL

The Rosary will be prayed in the Chapel at 8:30AM on Sunday mornings. Please take time to join us and pray for each other and for special needs.

#### THE PARISH OFFICE—HOLYDAY SCHEDULE

Closed: Monday, December 25th, Tuesday, December 26th, and Monday, January, 1st. Have a Safe and Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

## From Father Tom's Desk



### The Inner Peace Virus

There is an email going round that warns of a very powerful virus spreading in epidemic proportions. The virus is called "Inner Peace." Be on the alert, it says, for symptoms of inner peace that could pose a serious threat to what has, up to now, been a fairly stable condition of conflict in the world. Some signs and symptoms of inner peace:

- ☐ A tendency to think and act spontaneously rather than on fears based on past experiences.
- ☐ An unmistakable ability to enjoy each moment.
- ☐ A loss of interest in judging other people.
- ☐ A loss of interest in interpreting the actions of others.
- ☐ A loss of interest in conflict.
- ☐ A loss of the ability to worry. (This is a very serious symptom.)
- ☐ Frequent, overwhelming episodes of appreciation.
- ☐ Contented feelings of connectedness with others and nature.
- ☐ Frequent attacks of smiling.
- ☐ An increasing tendency to let things happen rather than make them happen.
- ☐ An increased susceptibility to the love extended by others as well as the uncontrollable urge to extend it.

The person sending that warning might have read our story of John the Baptist which also threatens an outbreak of joy and hope and light in a world that had long forgotten how to experience these things.

*Sharon Moon, Rejoice and Proclaim Jubilee*

### The 10th Lamp

On July 23, 2002, nine miners in Western Pennsylvania became trapped in a flooded mine. The injured and desperate men tied themselves together so that the stronger ones could sustain the weaker ones as they waited to be rescued. Journalists from across the nation reported the rescue effort, which took five long days. No one could believe it when all nine miners emerged safely from the mine.

On July 30, the people of the small mining community gathered for a worship service to thank God for saving the miners' lives. At the ceremony, there were ten miners' lamps set up on the altar, even though there were only nine miners. According to the pastor who presided over the worship celebration, the tenth lamp represented God's presence, which the miners claimed they could feel as they waited to be rescued. It was this "10th Man" they honored as they read Psalm 103: "Praise the Lord . . . Who redeems your life from the pit." Welcome to this celebration of our "tenth man"-- the One who has rescued us from the pit.

*King Duncan, [www.Sermons.com](http://www.Sermons.com)*

*Father Tom*

**6:30 PM MASS WEDNESDAY—CHAPEL**

## PARISH FEAST DAY DINNER THANK YOU

Thank you to all the hands who set up, prepared, served, and cleaned up for our Feast Day dinner. Most of all, thank you to ALL the parishioners who came and enjoyed the delicious food and fellowship.

## TUESDAY EVENING ADULT CONTINUING EDUCATION



*The Pivotal Players*

Please mark your calendars, the next evening class will meet Tuesday, December 19th, after the Novena.

## NEEDS FOR THOSE IN NEED

Hot or Dry cereals, Rice, Pasta, Mac & Cheese, Dried Beans, Sugar, Flour, Oil, Tea Bags, Coffee, Fruit Juices, Soups, Tuna, Canned Meats & Fruits, Laundry Detergent, Dish Soap, Cleaning Supplies, Bar Soap, Shampoo & Conditioner, Deodorant, Tomato Sauce, Pancake Mix, Syrup, Peanut Butter, Jelly, Toothpaste/Toothbrushes, Diapers & Wet Wipes, Toilet Paper & Paper Towels. Bring unopened & recently dated items, and place in the deck box at the South entry to Church.

## KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS MEETING RESCHEDULED

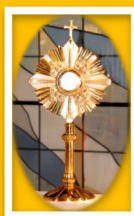
Immaculate Conception Council 13681 Knights of Columbus monthly meeting is Monday, December 18th, 6:30PM, in the Choir Room. All members are asked to attend. Contact Jerry Pfankuch, 882.5558.

## IMMACULATE CONCEPTION QUILT CLUB

Join the Quilt Club and make quilts and fleece blankets for LifeHouse, wounded soldier's, sheriff and police officers, and firefighters. Contact, Katie Mlnarik, 417.731.2311 (during the morning and early evening hours) if interested. **NEEDED:** new flat sheets (any size), fabric, yarn, fleece cut to 2 yard lengths (2 cuts for front & back) for each blanket. We will start in January on the 1st & 3rd Wednesdays of the month.

## Request Cards for Mass Intentions and for Memorial Remembrances are available in the Gathering Area

If you would like to request a **Mass Intention** or a **Loving Memorial Remembrance** for someone, cards are available in the Gathering Area.



**JANUARY 5, 2018**  
**FIRST FRIDAY**  
**ADORATION OF THE**  
**BLESSED SACRAMENT**  
9:00AM—1:00PM 1:00PM BENEDICTION

PRAYER CHAIN: (417) 887-0600, Ext. 130  
email: [staff@ic-parish.org](mailto:staff@ic-parish.org)

## WELCOME TO SPRINGFIELD CATHOLIC SCHOOLS

The Springfield Catholic School System is accepting registration for the 2017-2018 school year. Our system is made up of three (3) elementary schools (preschool-8th grade) and one (1) high school. For a tour, enrollment information, or to check availability at various grade levels, please contact the schools in which you are interested.

Immaculate Conception: 417-881-7000

St. Agnes: 417-866-5038

St. Elizabeth Ann Seton: 417-887-6056

Springfield Catholic High School: 417-887-8817

*Tradition of Faith, Service, and Academic Excellence!*

• **Employment Opportunities**—ALL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES AND APPLICATIONS are available on the Springfield Catholic Schools website at [www.scsapk12.org](http://www.scsapk12.org).

• **DISCOVERY NIGHT AT SPRINGFIELD CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL**—Join us on Wednesday, January 10, 2018 for Junior High/New Student Discovery Night at Springfield Catholic High School. Presentation and discussion will begin at 6:30 p.m. in the auditorium followed by Open House. Parents and students are welcome to see the campus, meet our student leadership, experience the community, and learn about the many academic achievements we are celebrating! No RSVP is required. For questions, please contact our Academic Office at 417.887.8817.

## IMMACULATE CONCEPTION SNOW/ICE CANCELLATION PROCEDURE

INCLEMENT  
WEATHER  
INFORMATION



If the Catholic School System is closed because of bad weather, all activities scheduled for that day, such as RCIA, PSR, Scripture Study, Choir, Women's Council, or any other meeting scheduled for that day will be canceled. If, during the morning or afternoon, conditions get bad, we will put information about cancellations on KTTS (94.7fm) radio station. The parish office will be closed the first day that schools are out, the second day we will open at noon (unless it is extremely bad and dangerous to be out). Please use your best judgment; your safety is most important!!!

## WOMEN'S MORNING OF REFLECTION

Would you like to begin the New Year with a renewed spirit? Please join us Saturday morning, January 6, 2018, at St. Agnes Church. We will begin with Mass at 8:30AM in the Chapel. Our speaker, Pastor Melissa Bailey-Kirk from Grace United Methodist Church, will begin the reflection in the Chapel following Mass. Lunch will be served at 11:30AM, in the school cafeteria. Please call the parish office, 831.3565, to register by January 2nd so that we have enough food prepared. Babysitting will be provided, but we need to know how many children to expect & also their ages. We sincerely hope you will consider participating in this opportunity.

## DAILY MASS SCHEDULE

MONDAY—WEDNESDAY, & FRIDAY: 6:20AM

MONDAY—SATURDAY: 8:30AM

WEDNESDAY EVENING: 6:30PM



## BLESSING OF A NATIVITY SCENE



*In its present form the custom of displaying figures depicting the birth of Jesus Christ owes its origin to St. Francis of Assisi, who made the Christmas crèche or manger for Christmas Eve of 1223.*

*The blessing of the Christmas manger or nativity scene may take place on the Vigil of Christmas or at another suitable time.*

*When the manger is set up in the home, it is appropriate that it be blessed by a parent or another family member.*

*All make the sign of the cross as the leader says:*

**Leader:** *Our help is in the name of the Lord.*

**R/. Who made heaven and earth.**

*One of those present or the leader reads a text of sacred Scripture, for example, Luke 2:1 (lines 1-8) or Isaiah 7:10 (lines 10-15, the birth of Emmanuel).*

**Reader:** *The Gospel of the Lord.*

**R/. Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

*The leader prays with hands joined:*

**God of every nation and people,**  
*from the very beginning of creation  
 you have made manifest your love:  
 when our need for a Savior was great  
 you sent your Son to be born of the Virgin Mary.  
 To our lives he brings joy and peace,  
 justice, mercy, and love.*

**Lord,**

*bless all who look upon this manger;  
 may it remind us of the humble birth of Jesus,  
 and raise our thoughts to him,  
 who is God-with-us and Savior of all,  
 and who lives and reigns forever and ever.*

**R/. Amen.**

—From "Catholic Household Blessings & Prayers"

## YEAR END GIVING & CURRENT REQUESTS

Please consider making a prayerful financial response to help provide for our ministries.

### IMMACULATE CONCEPTION PARISH

#### • Year End Donations:

- ♦ **Ministry to the Poor**—support to those in need
- ♦ **Youth Activities**—Parish School of Religion, Religious Education Supplies, Retreat Scholarships for Youth
- ♦ **Parish Activities**—Scholarships for Parish Bible Study participants, supplies for Funeral & Parish Dinners
- ♦ **Catholic School Tuition Assistance**—funding for Catholic Education of a student in our school system
- ♦ **Parish Repair & Maintenance**—reducing major repairs by upkeep of facilities
- ♦ **Debt Reduction**—reducing our current debt
- ♦ **Pastor's Discretion**—Used for unexpected & special needs that arise that are not budgeted items

### IMMACULATE CONCEPTION ST. VINCENT de PAUL

- Immaculate Conception's St. Vincent de Paul
  - ♦ Christmas Dinners for those in need.

*All gifts made on or before December 31st are tax deductible for this tax year.*

*Gifts of securities (stocks, bonds, mutual funds) are some of the best gifts to make whether they have appreciated or depreciated in value. Call Tina at the parish office, 417.887.0600, for details.*


## COLLECTION FOR SEMINARIANS AND RETIRED PRIESTS



How have priests impacted your life or the lives of your family members? How have priests helped you through difficult or stressful times? How have priests helped you grow closer to our Lord and to each

other? How can you help prepare the men who will serve your parish in the years to come? What can we do to show our gratitude for the priests who have ministered to us? The Christmas collection will give us the opportunity to assist the diocese in funding the formation of our future priests – our seminarians – and meeting the needs of our retired diocesan priests. We ask you to generously support **Those Who Have Served and Those Who Will Serve**. Even though we have recently completed a diocesan endowment campaign for these needs, many of those pledges will not be completed for some years, making this collection still necessary at this time.

## YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS RECEIVED FOR THE WEEKEND OF DECEMBER 9–10, 2017

Envelopes:	\$ 13,966.00	Home Missions:	\$ 20.00
Plate:	\$ 1,066.75	Sponsor-A-Child:	\$ 100.00
Weekly Total:	\$ 15,032.75	Feast of the Immaculate Conception	\$ 3,055.00
<b>Weekly Need to Meet Budget:</b>	<b>\$ 20,400.00</b>		
			
Yearly Budget:	\$ 1,083,000.00	Parish Repair & Maintenance:	\$ 758.00
Year-to-date Collection:	\$ 457,901.38	Building Fund:	\$ 00.00
<i>(2.1 % below yearly budget)</i>		Remaining on Debt Collection:	\$ 187,810.50