

## The ACTS Retreat

The ACTS (Adoration, Community, Theology, Service) Retreat movement began in San Antonio, Texas, in 1997 and came to St. Louis in the early 2000's. It is now thriving in over 25 parishes and starting in many others. Popularity and traction keeps increasing with the ACTS Retreats because they are parish-based, uplifting and faith-enriching weekends.

The next Immaculate Conception Men's ACTS Retreat will be held on **October 19th-22nd, 2023.**

Every once in a while, we need to consider  
Where is my path in life going?  
What do I want for my life?  
What is truly important to me?

What are **you** looking for in your life?  
-a closer **relationship** with **God**?  
-more **meaning** for your **life**?  
-**closer** relationships with your **family**?  
-to make **new** and **closer** relationships with people in your parish

The **ACTS** weekend **inspires, encourages, challenges, and so much more.** It is put on *by* lay men, *for* lay men and with support from our parish priests. Through this weekend, you will get to know men in the parish who are searching for the same things you are. **Won't you join them on the journey?**

Take a **leap of faith**, put yourself in the **hands of others**, enjoy some quality **time away** from your busy life and with Jesus, and **embrace the journey.**

*You'll be glad you did!*



"They devoted themselves to the teaching of the apostles and to the communal life, to the breaking of the bread and to the prayers. Awe came upon everyone, and many wonders and signs were done through the apostles. All who believed were together and had all things in common; they would sell their property and possessions and divide them among all according to each one's need. Every day they devoted themselves to meeting together in the temple area and to breaking bread in their homes. They ate their meals with exultation and sincerity of heart, praising God and enjoying favor with all the people. And every day the Lord added to their number those who were being saved."

**Acts 2:42-47**

If you need further information on the retreat weekend, please contact one of the following:

Director: Bill Ott - 314-882-7217  
Co-Director: Bob Wachtel - 618-531-9169



**Men's Retreat  
October 19 -22, 2023**



## **Doors to the Kingdom**

**"I have called you by name"**  
*Isaiah 45:4*

**Immaculate Conception  
Catholic Church  
Columbia, IL**

**ADORATION • COMMUNITY • THEOLOGY • SERVICE**



“ACTS family and friends allowed me to spiritually open my mind, heart and soul to understand that what God wants me to do daily is different than the everyday routine”

“I had been searching for ways to get closer to God on my own. The ACTS Retreat helped me to strengthen that relationship in so many ways.”

“The ACTS Retreat Weekend for me was a spiritual awakening and much needed conversion. Now I am directing my focus and energy on following Him and striving to stay on this long-life path.”

“My ACTS Retreat showed me how to listen to Gods whispers even in the most noisy day-to-day experiences.”

Find out more about ACTS Retreats at the national organization web site:  
<http://actsmissions.org>

## Please Join Us

Immaculate Conception men over the age of 18 are invited to the October 19 - 22, 2023 ACTS retreat weekend. This parish-based retreat offers the opportunity to renew your spirituality, to strengthen your faith and its application in your daily life, and to build and deepen lasting friendships throughout your parish community.

The retreat begins on Thursday evening, October 19th, with check-in at 6:30 p.m. at Immaculate Conception Church. Transportation will be provided for you to and from the retreat center. The retreat concludes at the 11:00 a.m. Sunday (October 22nd) Mass at Immaculate Conception Church. A lunch reception will follow.

Approximately 7-10 days prior to the retreat, you will receive a letter describing what to bring with you (clothing, pillows, etc.) for the weekend. Come experience discovery, renewal and peace with the men of Immaculate Conception and other area parishes.

A **deposit of \$50** is requested to reserve your place with the remaining \$280 registration fee due at check-in (the full amount is **\$330**). We understand these are challenging times, so everyone will be **accommodated regardless of ability to pay**.

To register, please return your application and deposit to the parish office or contact us if you need financial assistance.

Return your registration form and deposit to:  
**Immaculate Conception Parish Office**  
411 Palmer Rd, Columbia, Illinois 62236

Name (as you want it to appear on your name tag)	
Address (Street, City, State, Zip)	
E-mail Address	
Work Phone	Home Phone
Cell Phone	Parish
Emergency Contact Person	Relationship
Emergency Contact Person's Full Address	
Emergency Contact Phone (Home or Cell?)	
Any special physical, dietary, medical, allergy or other needs:	

Make checks payable to “Immaculate Conception”, and please write “ACTS” in the memo section.

\$50 Deposit    \$330 pd in full    request aid

You can also signup on the parish website (towards bottom of home page):

[icc-columbia-il.us](http://icc-columbia-il.us)