

2024 DIRECTORY & MINISTRY CATALOGUE

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

CATHOLIC CHURCH



411 Palmer Rd. | Columbia, IL 62236
618.281.5105 | ICC-Columbia-IL.US

Sister Parish: St. Raymond's of Penafort, San Carlos Alzatate, Guatemala

Immaculate Conception Church

411 Palmer Rd., Columbia, Illinois 62236
618-281-5105

Parish Mission Statement

Rooted in the Gospel of Christ and in the tradition of Catholicism and under the patronage of Mary Immaculate, we commit ourselves to be a welcoming community of faith, worshipping with generations of believers and serving God in all people.

Dear Parishioners

Enclosed in this annual parish directory and ministry catalogue, please find your annual stewardship of time, talent and treasure renewal form. Just as we put out a new parish guide book and directory every year to keep up with changes in our parish, so too every year we invite you to renew your stewardship commitment to keep up with the changes in your life. After reviewing the wide variety of opportunities listed in the beginning of this ministry catalogue, please complete the stewardship renewal form and return it to the parish office between November 26, 2023 and January 7, 2024 (or earlier), in the confidential envelope provided, either in person, online, by mail or in the collection basket. When you sign up for a particular area of service, we'll make every effort to contact you as soon as possible, so that you can put your time and talent into action. Feel free, however, to jump in anytime!

As we begin our eleventh year as a Full Stewardship parish, I want to remind you that stewardship is all about living our Baptismal call to discipleship. Stewardship is about putting our faith into action, ever mindful that our Christianity is not a "spectator sport," but rather a call to full, conscious and active participation in the mission and work of Christ through the Church. This is the "Joy of the Gospel," which Pope Francis speaks of so frequently, for there is always more joy in giving than in receiving.

Thank you for your cooperation in returning the stewardship renewal form no later than January 7.

Yours in Christ

Fr. Steven R. Thoma, C.R.

Fr. Steve Thoma, C. R. Pastor

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Keller Williams Pinnacle Realty, Mandy McGuire Group,
Mandy McGuire 618-558-1350 B.C.

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Parish Addresses And Phone Numbers

Immaculate Conception Church

411 Palmer Rd.
Columbia, IL 62236
281-5105 (Fax: 281-6848)
www.icc-columbia-il.us

Immaculate Conception School

409 Palmer Rd.
Columbia, IL 62236
281-5353 (Fax: 281-6044)
www.icscolumbia.org

Gibault Catholic High School

501 Columbia Ave., Waterloo, IL 62298
939-3883
www.gibaultonline.com
Principal Sarah Lanham

Parish Office Hours: Monday-Friday, 8:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. Summer Hours (end of school until start of school) 8:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. M-Th and 8:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. on Friday. Holiday office closures will be announced in the bulletin.

Parish Staff

Pastor	Fr. Steve Thoma, C.R.
Parochial Vicar	Fr. Eric Wagner, C.R.
Parish Business Administrator	Kara Dell-Hunt
Director of Music	Karen Lundy
Director of Faith Formation	Lizanne Young
PSR Coordinator	Rebecca Husman
Spiritual and Mental Health Advocate	Shea Christensen
Parish Bookkeeper.....	Sheryl Oglesby
Parish Secretary	Michelle Muckensturm
School Principal	Dave Gregson
School Secretary	Bev Epplin
Maintenance & Cleaning.....	Dave Straub

Schedule of Services

Mass Schedule

Monday-Friday	8:05 a.m.
Saturday	5:00 p.m.
Sunday	7:00 a.m., 9:00 a.m., & 11:00 a.m.
Holy Day.....	8:05 a.m. & 7:00 p.m.
.....	(Check bulletin to confirm Holy Day Mass times.)

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Reconciliation

Communal celebrations during Lent and Advent (with individual confession) Saturday afternoons 4:00-4:30 p.m. (prior to evening Mass)

Reconciliation can be celebrated anytime by appointment. Call Fr. Steve to schedule.

Devotions

Eucharistic Adoration Tuesdays, 5:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m.

Rosary..... (20 minutes before each Sunday Mass in May & October)

Novena of the Sacred Heart.....Fridays, after Mass

Stations of the Cross.....Fridays, during Lent at 2:15 p.m. & 7:00 p.m.

Diocesan-Wide Services and Organizations

Diocesan Hotline to Report Child Sex Abuse.....	1-800-640-3044
Diocesan Hotline to Report Financial Fraud or Theft	1-866-712-5177
Camp Ondessonk	618-695-2489
Catholic Charities.....	618-398-5616
Catholic Committee on Scouting.....	618-235-9601
Catholic Social Services.....	618-394-5616
Catholic Urban Programs	618-398-5616
Chancery Office.....	618-277-8181
Cursillo in Christianity	618-234-0456
Diocesan Pastoral Center.....	618-235-9601
Engaged Encounter	618-235-7141
King's House Retreat Center.....	618-397-0584
Life Network of Southern Illinois	618-939-4224
Marriage Encounter	618-939-7564
Marriage Tribunal	618-212-0050
The Messenger	618-233-8670
Natural Family Planning	618-939-9005
Office of Youth Ministry	618-235-9601
Pro-Life Office.....	618-235-9601 ext. 133
Project Rachel (Post-Abortion Counseling and Healing)	800-618-4325
Quest (9th & 10th graders).....	618-632-2783
Shrine of Our Lady of the Snows	618-397-6700
TEC (Teens Encounter Christ).....	618-234-4725
Vocations Office	618-235-9601 ext. 1452

For more Diocesan organizations please check the Diocesan website at diobelle.org.

2024 Calendar of Events

January 25-28..... Women's ACTS Retreat
February 14..... Ash Wednesday Masses, 8:05 a.m. & 7:00 p.m.
February 24..... ICS Dinner Auction
March 24..... Palm Sunday
March 28..... Holy Thursday, Mass of the Lord's Supper, 7:00 p.m.
March 29..... Good Friday Service, 7:00 p.m.
March 30..... Holy Saturday, Easter Vigil, 7:30 p.m.
March 31..... Easter Sunday Masses, 7:00 a.m., 9:00 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.
April 25-28..... Men's ACTS Retreat
September 4..... Parish Labor Day Picnic
October 17-20..... Women's ACTS Retreat
October 27..... Trunk or Treat
November 24..... Thanksgiving Day Mass, 9:00 a.m.
December 24..... Christmas Eve Mass, 5:00 p.m. & 10:00 p.m.
December 25..... Christmas Mass, 9:00 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.
For current listing of each month's events, please refer to our parish calendar, on the parish website.

Parish Leadership



Pastoral Council

The Parish Pastoral Council advises and cooperates with the pastor and pastoral staff in planning and coordinating the parish's ministry efforts. The Council meets on the fourth Tuesday of each month (except July and December) at 7:00 p.m. in K of C Room.

Current Members: Bill Simmons (**Chair**), Todd Burns (**Vice-Chair**), Tammy Hoeflinger (**Secretary**), Molly Spitz, Susie Funk, Jessica Meyer, John Adams, Mark Verticchio, Sharon Nealon, Ray Farley. **Pastor:** Fr. Steve Thoma, C.R. **Ex-officio members:** Kara Dell-Hunt (**Parish Business Manager**), Lizanne Young (**Director of Faith Formation**), Shea Christensen (**Mental & Spiritual Health Advocate**), Dave Gregson (**ICS Principal**); **Trustees:** Marty Colley and John Whitworth.

Finance Council

Members are appointed by the pastor to serve a three-year term on this consultative body to assist him in overseeing the temporal goods of the parish. The council meets on the third Thursday of every other month at 7:00 p.m. in the Conference Room.

School Board

Members serve in an advisory capacity to help determine school policies and procedures. Members are discerned by the parish to serve three-year terms. Meetings are held the third Tuesday of each month at 7:00 p.m. at ICS.



Members of the Board for 2023-2024: President: Kyle Doerr, Vice-President: Katie Hrdlicka, Secretary: Lee Rinella, Jessica Wachtel, Bill Gregozeski, Chris Thomas, Andrea Bodinet, Matt Vail, Jolene Sasser, Marie Grasle, Jim Schuette, Brandy Dohle, Ex-Officio members: Kara Dell-Hunt, Fr. Steve Thoma, C.R., Dave Gregson, Bev Epplin

Sacraments

Baptism

Baptism of infants and children under the age of seven is generally celebrated on the first Sunday of the month during any Mass, and the third Sunday of the month after the 11:00 a.m. Mass. (No Baptisms are scheduled during Lent). Please call the office to schedule at 281-5105.



The parents must provide assurance that they will bring the child up in the Catholic faith. The parents' active practice of the faith is generally the evidence of this commitment. **Parents must attend a baptismal preparation session before the baptism of their first child. This session is also recommended for godparents. Baptismal preparation sessions are held on the second Sunday of each month (except when Palm Sunday or Easter fall on a second Sunday) at 10:10 a.m. in the Garden Level.** There are no reservations required for the class. At the class you will be given the paperwork to fill out for your child's baptismal certificate. Please call the parish office (281-5105) to schedule your child's baptism when you are ready.

First Eucharist and First Reconciliation

These sacraments are generally received for the first time by 2nd graders in ICS and ICPSR. At least two years of faith formation and sacramental preparation is required prior to the reception of this sacrament. Those who are beyond the 2nd grade can make arrangements with Lizanne Young, Director of Faith Formation, to receive these sacraments for the first time.



Confirmation

The Sacrament is generally received by 8th graders who attend Immaculate Conception School (ICS) and the Parish School of Religion (ICPSR). **At least two years of faith formation and sacramental preparation are required prior to the reception of this sacrament.**

Marriage

Celebrating the Sacrament of Marriage with our parishioners is an especially joyous and significant part of our ministry that requires careful preparation. Please contact the parish at least six months prior to the desired wedding date. Our parish has a wedding policy as a resource for planning the celebration.



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Anointing of the Sick

The Sacrament of Anointing is given on request to any Catholic who is seriously ill, hospitalized or has deteriorating health because of advanced years. It is most appropriate to celebrate the sacrament while the sick person is alert and able to participate in the Church's prayer.

****Please contact the parish office if you are aware of a parishioner who is hospitalized. The hospitals' increasing concern about privacy and security, as well as the large number of hospitals where our parishioners are patients, make it difficult for the staff to discover all of our hospitalized brothers and sisters.**

Information on Rental of the Garden Level

Parishioners may rent the Garden Level and Warming Kitchen for 150 people or less for \$175. Full Stewardship members do not pay rent, but pay a \$75 cleaning fee. Everyone using the facility must fill out the rental agreement and initial the proof of insurance on form before booking is complete. You will also be asked for a copy of your policy that indicates that you have insurance that will cover the rental. To schedule an event or check availability, please call Michelle at the parish office (281-5105). If you rent the space, you are responsible for the event. **We do not allow sub-rental of space for third parties.**

Cemetery Information As of September 1, 2023

1-Grave Lot For Parishioners:	\$750.00
1-Grave Lot For Non-Parishioners:	\$850.00
Double Lot For Parishioners:	\$1,500.00
Double Lot For Non-Parishioners:	\$1,700.00
Burial Fee-Open/Close Grave:	\$900.00
	\$950 <i>on weekends & holidays</i>
Cremation:	\$400
	\$450 <i>on weekends & holidays</i>
Infant Burial Costs:	\$200

****We require vault for all burials on our cemetery.**

****We will not bury double deep under any circumstances.**

For more information or to purchase lots in Immaculate Conception

Contact: Sheryl Oglesby at 281-5105 (ext. 351)

Ministries

ACTS Retreat: An ACTS (Adoration, Community, Theology, Service) Retreat is a parish-based event which offers parishioners an opportunity to experience the love of Jesus Christ. This in turn fosters a desire for intentional discipleship. ACTS Retreats are given by parishioners for parishioners, and in this way, serve to build Christian community at a parish.

***Number of volunteers needed for this ministry: Unlimited**

Contact ACTS Core Team: acts@iccmail.org

Bereavement: Offers comfort and healing presence to those experiencing the death of a loved one. This may extend from the time of death, through the wake service and Mass of Christian burial, and on through the first anniversary of the death. A Bereavement Ministry member(s) may attend the wake service or funeral Mass to provide prayers and assistance to family and guests. The Ministry has offered such programs as a “Remembering” service gathering in memory of deceased Mothers, Fathers and Veterans; an event “Love Lives On” for grieving children; and a prayer “Walk to Remember” in memory of the babies lost to stillbirth, miscarriage, lost adoptions, and abortion. Family members and friends of the deceased are encouraged to attend a special ceremony at the annual All Soul’s Day Mass. A Remembrance/Sharing Gathering takes place in the late fall. Family members are provided grief support through the “Journeying through Grief” book series during the first year. A Remembrance Table is available in church to place loved ones’ pictures, prayer cards, etc.

Meetings are held on the second Thursday of the month as necessary.

***Number of volunteers needed for this ministry: Unlimited**

Current volunteers: 9

Contact: Kathy Fern/kaammifern@gmail.com/618-719-1632

Book Club: This ever-evolving set of small groups schedules meetings as convenient to go more in-depth on various topics of faith, including Scripture, social justice, theology and more. The schedule loosely follows the seasons of the liturgical year and is often guided by current events and/or the writings of our church leaders. For more information, contact Lizanne.



Participants: Unlimited

Contact: Lizanne Young/lyoung@iccmail.org/618-281-5105 (ext. 354)

Cemetery Committee: A working committee to coordinate maintenance and operation of the parish cemetery. The committee meets the fourth Thursday of the month at 6:30 p.m. (except November, December, and January) in the KC room on the Garden Level of church.

***Number of volunteers needed for this ministry: Unlimited**

Current volunteers: 19

Contact: Steve Krebel/sjkrebel@htc.net/281-5724

Council of Catholic Women (Altar Society): The Council of Catholic Women, established in 1859, serves the parish through its mission to provide for the temporal and spiritual needs of the parishioners. Some of the activities of the group include: two fundraisers a year to raise funds to purchase the items related to the Altar and any other items used to celebrate Holy Mass; coordination of funeral meals for parishioners (cooking and serving), financial support that provides Catholic education to high school and college students, the praying of the Holy Rosary for all deceased women of the parish and two public Holy Rosary events, maintaining a Catholic connection with our college students, visiting retired priests at Christmas, providing copies of “The Messenger” for our Catholic Parishioners in area nursing homes, donating to the Newman Center, participating in Give St. Louis as it benefits our Parish, and providing information on Catholic diocesan and national events. All women of the Parish are considered members, but are not required to attend the meetings. If you like to plan and make decisions, you will be a great help and will want to come to the meetings. Meetings are collaborative and held on the 1st Thursday of each month (Aug-May) at 6:30 p.m. in the Garden Level of the church. Our business meetings include activities to inform, inspire, and educate members about their faith.

***Number of volunteers needed for this ministry: Unlimited**
Current active volunteers: 129

**Contact: Glenda Sexauer/glenda.sexauer@gmail.com/
618-520-9369 or 618-281-8452**

Ministry For the Deaf: Saturday night 5:00 p.m. We are currently in need of interpreters, contact Jan Fields if interested by text message or email. It is always best to contact Ms. Fields to determine which Mass will be interpreted at Fields’ email: sewinghobby90@yahoo.com or text message 618-709-2801 or call 618-767-6993/618-281-8859. For Holy day/evening Masses, please check the parish bulletin, or again you can contact Ms. Fields. For anyone interested in attending an ASL Sign Language class please send an email to Ms. Fields and she will contact you with information. We currently are in need of 8 volunteer interpreters for this ministry and at the present time do not have any available. If you know of anyone that would be interested, please let Ms. Fields know.



**Contact: Janette Fields/sewinghobby90@yahoo.com/
text message 618-709-2801 or call 618-767-6993/
618-281-8859**



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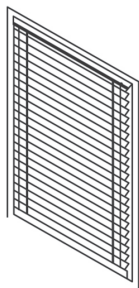


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Discipleship Committee: The Discipleship Committee serves the parish through its efforts to build a spirit of gratitude and stewardship in the parish. This ministry inspires members to learn how to be better disciples of Christ, and searches for ways to teach that forward to our parishioners through the work of the committee. The committee assists the parish with the organization of the annual time, talent, and treasure stewardship commitment renewal; and conveys the contact information of interested parishioners seeking to share their talents to each ministry leader. In addition, the committee helps the ministry leaders by offering opportunities to share their ministry information and mission in order to increase awareness of services for parishioners and opportunities their ministry offers for parishioners to share their talents in service. Other responsibilities include ministry leader appreciation events, management of the Lenten Prayer activity, and the selection or creation of bulletin inserts on discipleship. The committee meets monthly, August – May, at 7:00 p.m. on an agreed upon evening in the Garden Level of church.

***Number of volunteers needed for this ministry: Unlimited**

Current volunteers: 4

Contact: Maggie Burns/jmburns@htc.net/618-792-4644 or 618-281-6069

Eucharistic Adoration: Every Tuesday from. 4:00-8:00 p.m., the Blessed Sacrament is exposed for private prayer and adoration in the Church. We invite everyone to consider making a commitment to spending an hour or 1/2 hour a month in prayer before the Blessed Sacrament. Anyone wanting to make a visit to spend some time in prayer at any other time can do so by entering the church through the Parish Office.

Contact: Fran Kellet/fekjpk@yahoo.com/314-249-0940

Eucharistic Ministers: Adult and high school age parishioners who are confirmed and practicing Catholics are needed to assist the priest in the distribution of the Body and Blood of Christ to the assembly at all Masses. Training sessions are scheduled throughout the year. Assignments are published in the liturgical ministry schedule.

Number of volunteers needed for this ministry: Unlimited

Contact: Lizanne Young/lyoung@iccmil.org/618-281-5105 (ext. 354)

Father's Club: The ICS Fathers' Club helps enhance the lives of all children at ICS by organizing fundraisers and occasionally helping on projects around school and church. The results of our efforts go towards science and sports at ICS. Each dad brings forth a specialty of knowledge and energy, which helps us grow collectively as a group. We invite all fathers of children at ICS to join the Fathers' Club. Help out when and if you can, there's no obligation, with meetings once per month. Our fundraisers consist of golf tournaments, chicken wing fry, meat raffle, poker tournaments, etc. Meetings are always causal and usually the third Thursday each month year round, sometimes in the church lower level, or various supporting businesses. We work collectively as a group and appreciate input and efforts from all dads.

Contact: Joel Sommer – President/618-979-0100

Joel@WinePress.US/ICSFathers@gmail.com

Funeral Meals: Members of this Council of Catholic Women (CCW) subgroup provide a meal following a funeral Mass and/or cemetery service. Members prepare dishes for the meal and/or serve the meal to family and friends of deceased parishioners. Meals consist of the family's choice of fried chicken or lunch meat, and side dishes donated by parishioners. Volunteers are needed to provide a side dish, set up, serve the meal and clean up afterwards. Time commitment varies. Volunteers must be available to serve on a 2-3 day notice.

***Number of volunteers needed for this ministry: 200+**

Current volunteers: 175

Contact: Judy Kinane/jkinane@charter.net/281-4314

Gift Bearers: Those who serve as gift bearers represent our entire worshipping community by bringing forth and presenting the gifts of bread and wine as well as our stewardship of treasure offering. Three gift bearers are needed at each Mass. Any parishioner is invited to sign up to be a gift bearer. They are scheduled with the other liturgical ministries and are published with the liturgical ministry schedule.

***Number of members needed for this ministry: Unlimited!**

Contact: Lizanne Young/lyoung@iccmil.org/618-281-5105 (ext. 354)

Homebound Communion Ministry: Provides weekly communion to our homebound parishioners. If you choose to be part of this ministry you will be bring communion to the homes of individuals on Sunday mornings after 9:00 a.m. Mass. This is a great opportunity to visit with and form a tie to our elder parishioners who were once the driving force of our parish! We also have ministers who go to the nursing homes and have a short communion service with the residents on Sundays after the 9:00 a.m. Mass. We will provide you with training. This is a very rewarding ministry and open to unlimited volunteers.

**Please call Michelle at the church office if interested
618-281-5105.**

ICS Parents & Friends: This organization works for the benefit of the parish school, the faculty and the parish. We hold monthly meetings, coordinate fundraising events, build community, and assist Immaculate Conception School & Parish with any needs that may arise. Meetings are usually held on the second Monday of the month (September-May) at 7:00 p.m.

***Number of volunteers needed for this ministry: All 200+ ICS parents are automatically members! The more active hands we have the more we can do!**

Contact: Kim Siegel/618-977-8018

Immaculate Conception Youth (ICY): Parish high school students gather for social activities, opportunities for personal and spiritual growth, and service projects. Frequent activities are advertised in the parish bulletin. We have events on the ODD Sundays of the month, look for the QR code in the bulletin for more information and the code. You can find this group on Facebook too!

Number of members needed for this ministry: Unlimited!

Contacts: Laura Whelan/whelan11@aol.com/618-698-2462

Sandra Whitworth/s1whit@htc.net/281-5131

Just Faith: Just Faith is a national initiative that Russ Peterson introduced to our parish for people interested in working together to learn about the Catholic Church's Social Teachings and to implement them. Our parish group meets irregularly but would like to pursue more of the topics discussed in the Just Faith Program: Life and Dignity of the Human Person, Call to Family, Community and Participation, Rights and Responsibilities, Options for and with the Poor and Vulnerable, The Dignity of Work and Rights of Workers, Solidarity, and Care for God's Creation. **If interested in learning more about the Just Faith Program contact Carol Waide (618-281-4186), Faith Clark (618-420-3164).**

Participants: Unlimited!

Knights of Columbus: Our local Geo. R. Kutterer Council #6165 is open to any practical Catholic man at least 18 years old. The Order supports the principles of Charity, Unity, Fraternity, and Patriotism. Council meetings are held in the Knights of Columbus room at Immaculate Conception Church on the second Thursday of each month at 7:00 p.m.

Contact: Jim VonDerHaar/GK@kofc6165.org

Lectors: Adults and high school age parishioners, who are confirmed and practicing Catholics, are invited to proclaim the Word of God at all Masses. Volunteers should have the ability to speak in public and a willingness to prepare and practice the readings. A workbook is provided to help with preparation. Training sessions are scheduled throughout the year. Assignments are published in the liturgical ministry schedule.

***Number of volunteers needed for this ministry: Unlimited**

Contact: Lizanne Young/lyoung@iccmil.org

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Marriage Encounter: World-wide marriage encounter is the largest pro-marriage movement in the world. It promotes a weekend experience for couples who want to enhance their marital relationship and ignite the fire of love again. It is also to proclaim the value of Marriage and Holy Orders in the Church and in the world. "Love One Another As I Have Loved You."

If you & your spouse would like to take the lead in this ministry, contact Lizanne Young/lyoung@iccmail.org. If you would like to participate in a weekend, visit World Wide Marriage Encounter to find the next weekend near you: <http://www.wwme.org/find-a-weekend-apply-today>.

Meals from the Heart: Volunteers provide a homemade dinner to a parish family who might be experiencing a temporary disruption in the family routine. Examples would be a birth, a death, illness or surgery. Meals are delivered to the family by volunteers for the duration of the situation, from one to seven days per week. Volunteers prepare one meal, at their convenience, depending on needs.



***Number of volunteers needed for this ministry: Unlimited**
To volunteer, contact Robin Billmeyer/314-604-4495
Families in need – Please Contact: Rebecca Husman/
icmealsfromtheheart@gmail.com/314-566-0690

Ministers of Hospitality: Ushers are needed at liturgies to greet worshipers, assist with seating parishioners and visitors, collect monetary offerings, assist with the offertory procession, distribute bulletins and provide a clean environment in church for the next Mass. There are training sessions throughout the year. Assignments are published in the liturgical ministry schedule.



***Number of volunteers needed for this ministry: Unlimited**
Contact: Lizanne Young/lyoung@iccmail.org/618/281/5105 (ext. 354)

Music Ministries

Adult Choir: We welcome you to join us in praying while singing. The adult choir welcomes anyone in High school or beyond. The choir typically sings at 9:00 a.m. Mass and on special occasions such as holy days, Confirmation, Christmas Eve 10:00 p.m. Mass, Easter vigil, and funerals. It is helpful, but not necessary, if you can read music. No prior experience necessary. The choir rehearses on most **Mondays at 7 p.m. September-May.**



Funeral Choir: We welcome anyone wants to join us for funeral Masses. There may be some rehearsal 30 minutes prior to Mass.
No experience necessary.

Children's Choir: The choir is for children grades 3-8 from any school. This choir will sing for Christmas Eve service, Easter morning service, First Communion and possibly some Sunday morning Masses to be determined. Rehearsals are held in church on **Mondays from 6-6:45.**

Contemporary Ensemble and ministering in song at all

other Masses: Parishioners of any age are welcome to join. Some rehearsal may occur 30 minutes prior to Mass. Listening and learning music at home is helpful with those involved with these liturgies.

Cantors: Anyone interested in being a cantor or musician for Mass, please inquire.

**Contact for all Music Ministries: Karen Lundy/
karenslundy@gmail.com/618-719-1815**

Divorce Ministry: A ministry designed for people who have experienced and/or are going through a divorce and seek support.

**Contact: Teresa Dorshorst/314-303-5352/
tjdbusinessservices@yahoo.com**

Parish Work Days: Volunteers perform repairs, maintenance and cleaning of the parish facilities on the second Saturday of the month, from 8:30 a.m. -11:30 a.m. There is work for all and the more volunteers the better our parish looks and works. It is a great way to meet other members of the parish.

***Number of volunteers needed for this ministry: Unlimited**

**Contact: Kara Dell-Hunt/281-5105 ext. 350
kdell-hunt@iccmil.org**

Picnic Committee: CELEBRATION IS OUR GOAL!! We are volunteers who work together to plan, organize and successfully accomplish a Labor Day full of family fun for our Parish Community. ALL are welcome!! Volunteers are needed to plan the day, run the events and welcome the community. Ideas and strong backs and muscles are needed – EVERYONE has a purpose! It's a big project and we invite you to join us in the process by sharing your time and talent!

Contact: Kate Kienzle/iccpicnicchairs@gmail.com

Prayer Shawl Ministry: We take the love of knitting and crocheting and combine it with a blessing of shawls at Mass as a physical representation of the prayers of the parish for those in need. Shawls are made and distributed as a way to bring God's love, comfort and peace to those who are suffering. Anyone can be a part of this ministry. Those who are unable to create a shawl can assist by delivering shawls to the recipients, by attaching a decade of the Rosary and patches to the shawls, helping with the blessing of shawls at Mass, or offering prayers for the makers and recipient.

Contact: Helen Csik/314-651-5033

Pre-Cana: Married couples assist in preparing engaged couples for the Sacrament of Marriage. Our parish Pre-Cana day is held in the spring.

***Number of volunteers needed for this ministry: 5-7 couples**

Current volunteers: 4 couples

Contact: Sarah & Eric Piel/618-979-7354/smuss12@gmail.com

Quilters: The group creates quilts that are coveted prizes at the parish's annual picnic. Anyone who can quilt, or would like to learn, is welcome to quilt in the quilting room, 9 a.m.-11:30 a.m. on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Can't quilt? Much help is also needed hemming, piecing, and marking the quilts.



***Number of volunteers needed: Unlimited**

Current volunteers: 12

Contact: Carlene Kisro/ckisro64@gmail.com/618-281-5877

Sacristan: Sacristans set up for weekday and weekend Masses and clean the sacred vessels following Mass. Sacristans turn the lights on and off and set out host, wine and linens for Mass. In addition, they take care of the votive and altar candles.

Number of volunteers needed for this ministry: 18

Current volunteers: 10

Contact: Virginia Spier/281-7842

Sanctity of Life: This ministry is committed to the preservation of God's gift of human life from conception to natural death in accordance with the teachings of the Catholic Church. This is achieved through education, participating in community pro-life events, religious study, service to others, and prayer. Some of our events include participating in the national Life Chain, and 40 days for Life; collecting baby items for Life Network, Birthright and St. Anne Cradle of Hope; supporting special retreats, such as Project Rachel and Gabriel's Retreat Ministries; and special Holy Hours – praying for greater respect for human life.



Number of volunteers needed for this ministry: Unlimited

Current volunteers: 25

Contact: Laura Feltz/laurasusanrn@yahoo.com

Servers: Assist the priest during Mass and be part of the liturgical procession as cross bearer and candle bearer. Anyone grade five through eight is encouraged to be a server. **Training sessions are scheduled throughout the year. Assignments are published in the liturgical ministry schedule.**

Number of volunteers needed for this ministry: Unlimited

Contact: Lizanne Young/lyoung@iccmil.org

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St. Vincent de Paul Society: The Society of St. Vincent de Paul is a Catholic lay organization of women and men who join together to grow spiritually by offering person-to-person service to those who are needy and suffering. Vincentians witness God's love by embracing all works of charity and justice. The Society makes no distinction in those served because in them, especially the children, Vincentians see the face of the Christ Child. Our parish organization meets the first Monday of the month from September through May. Meetings are held in the church Garden level at 6:30p.m. Membership is open to all parishioners. **Requirement: Complete a one-time Ozanam Class (presented by organization at no cost) & attend meetings as often as possible and participate in various activities.**

Number of volunteers needed: Unlimited

Current volunteers: 70

Contact: Bob Dillman/dillman@htc.net/618-476-3631

Cell- 618-304-1698

Snow Shovelers: Clear snow and ice from:

~ Sidewalks in front of church and on the Garden Level before all weekday and weekend Masses.

~ Entrance to Parish office.

~ Entrances to and sidewalks around the Catholic Education and Activity Center on both upper and lower levels.

~ Driveway and sidewalks at rectory.

Please bring your shovel and help any time you are able, especially on weekends. We have snow blowers to make the job easier.

NO SPECIAL TRAINING REQUIRED.

Contact: Rich Toenjes/281-7355

Spiritual & Mental Health Advocate: Introduced in Fall 2022, the Spiritual and Mental Health Advocate works in tandem with Immaculate Conception School and Parish to provide mental health resources and counseling to both parishioners and students alike. Advocate also will collaborate with other parish ministries to provide counseling, workshops, support groups, and more to enrich the spiritual and mental health of youth and adults.

If an ICS student, parent/guardian, or teacher is in need of someone to talk to during school hours regarding any variety of struggles (social, emotional, educational, etc.), anyone including the student may initiate a session with the Advocate to assist with these challenges. Likewise, if any parishioner is in need of counseling, information regarding local community and diocesan resources, or just someone to talk to regarding mental or spiritual struggles, **individuals may call 618-281-5105, ext. 352, or email schristensen@icsmail.org to schedule an appointment.**

Contact: Shea Christensen, MSW, MAPS

CRISIS SITUATIONS: If you or someone you know is in a mental health crisis, please call 618-877-0316 for 24/7 local assistance, or text & "MHFA"; to 741-741 to speak with a crisis counselor. For crisis situations related to suicide: dial 988 for emergency response or call the 24/7 National Suicide Prevention Hotline at 1-800-273-8255.

Sunday Offering Counters: Count the weekly collections, prepare the bank deposit slip, and take the deposit to the bank. This is done by a 3-5 person team immediately following the 9:00 a.m. Mass. Each team is assigned one Sunday per month, and one fifth Sunday per quarter. Volunteers must be extremely accurate and have a high regard for confidentiality. Substitute counters are also needed. Time commitment is 2-3 hours per month.

Contact: Kara Dell-Hunt/kdell-hunt@iccmail.org/281-5105 (ext. 350)

Tinkers: The Tinkers meet on Wednesday at ICS and do maintenance and repairs for the school. In June and July they expand to 3 days per week to do more extensive repairs and painting to ready the school for the new school year.

Number of volunteers needed for this ministry: Unlimited

Current volunteers: 7

Contact: Mike Whelan/281-8419

Vocations Committee: The goal of this ministry is to create an awareness and a culture in our parish where religious vocations are nurtured, and young people are invited to consider a life of service to the Church as a priest, religious sister or brother, or deacon.

***Number of volunteers needed for this ministry: Unlimited**

Current Members: 5

Contact: John D. Haubrich/ohaubrich@yahoo.com/314-808-5171

Welcoming Committee: Every few months, we invite new Parishioners to attend a specially selected 9:00 a.m. Mass for introduction to the parish. After Mass we hold a reception in the garden level for all parishioners. All new families receive a welcome packet of information regarding the church and parish school. The main purpose of this committee is to encourage the fellowship of ALL parishioners and to make ALL parishioners feel welcome in our church family.



***Number of volunteers needed for this ministry: Unlimited**

Contact: Kevin Glasscock/soccerkevin@att.net/314-565-4418

Worship, Art and Environment: This committee aids in enhancing the worship and prayer life of the parish community. They are responsible for planning the liturgical life of the parish, and promoting ecumenism. Volunteers are asked to assist in setting up displays and decorations in church, particularly at Advent, Christmas, Lent and Easter. Meetings are held as needed depending on the liturgical season, most often during the day.

Contact: Lizanne Young/lyoung@iccmail.org

618-281-5105 (ext. 354)

Youth Ministry Planning Team: A group of adults and young people who are implementing the diocesan youth ministry initiative. They are working to establish a comprehensive youth ministry program that will involve young people in every aspect of parish life.

Contact: Laura Whelan/whelan11@aol.com/618-698-2462



Sister Parish

St. Raymond of Penafort, located in San Carlos Alzatate, Guatemala, is Immaculate Conception's sister parish. This relationship dates back more than 36 years (to 1986) and was established through the efforts of Fr. Vince Haselhorst and Missions International. Fr. Vince, a former pastor at Immaculate Conception, had previously served as a pastor in El Progreso, Guastetoya, Guatemala.

The parishioners of Immaculate Conception parish are invited each month to use the special offering envelope to support the work of St. Raymond's. The children of our school and parish school of religion also contribute throughout the year for the sake of their brothers and sisters in Guatemala. Our annual offering is ten times what the parish in Guatemala would be able to achieve on their own and has allowed for the development of many necessary ministries. Since 1998, there have been five different Journeys of Friendship and Faith to St. Raymond's by members of our parish. The most recent trip occurred in June 2018, with eleven ICC parishioners participating. If you'd like to learn more about the Sister Parish ministry, are interested in making a future trip, or if you want to learn more about what ICC financial support means to the parishioners of St. Raymond's, please contact a member of the committee.

As a reminder, you don't need to speak Spanish to be part of the Sister Parish ministry. You only need to speak from the heart to those who might otherwise be marginalized because of their economic or social status.

Everybody loves St. Raymond's!

Contact: Karen Waide/618-281-4715/cooperwaide@aol.com

Sister School

Sister Thea Bowman School in East St. Louis.

Our parish and school have formed a partnership with this K-8 Catholic School in East St. Louis, a ministry of the Diocese of Belleville, opened in 1989 when all the other Catholic Schools in East St. Louis were consolidated into one. Sister Thea Bowman Catholic School is located in one of the poorest communities in our State, and nearly 95% of the students need tuition assistance. It seeks to provide a holistic learning approach to faith development and education through music and the arts, and has a philosophy not to just educate the whole child, but also to educate the whole family, in their efforts to break the cycle of intergenerational poverty. Students from our parish school attend their annual Advent Prayer Service, and the students from Sister Thea Bowman occasionally make visits to our school. Every August we have a special envelope in our monthly packet to accept donations to support this unique ministry in our Diocese. If you would like to volunteer at Sister Thea Bowman School, contact the school at 618-397-0316.

Parish contact: Karen Waide/618-281-4715

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Religious Education

Catholic education is an expression of the mission entrusted by Jesus Christ to the Church he founded. Through education, the Church seeks to prepare its members to proclaim the Good News and to translate this proclamation into action. Since the Christian vocation is a call to transform oneself and society with God's help, the educational efforts of the church must encompass the twin purposes of personal sanctification and social reform in light of Christian values.

Immaculate Conception School (ICS): Operating as part of the mission of Immaculate Conception Parish, the Diocese of Belleville, and the universal Church. As a school in a full stewardship Parish, active parishioners commit to time, talent and treasure.

"The mission of Immaculate Conception School is to provide experiences to inspire, challenge, and nurture the mind, body, and spirit of our students within the framework of the Gospel of Jesus Christ and the tradition of the Catholic Church."

We also offer a Latchkey program for before and after school care. Contact the school office for more information.

Contact: Dave Gregson, Principal/dgregson@icsmail.org/281-5353
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Immaculate Conception Parish School of Religion (ICPSR): A program of religious education and sacramental preparation for students in grades K through 8 who attend public or other private schools. Classes meet on Wednesday evenings from late August into May. Students receive education from a devoted group of catechists, using texts, prayer services, Bible study, songs, videos, role playing and a variety of other activities. Parents are encouraged to support the religious education of their children by their personal practice of faith, by their encouragement of their children to participate actively in classes, and to assist the catechists upon request. NOTE: At least two years of catechesis (participation in religious classes) are required before Sacraments of First Eucharist & Confirmation may be received.

***Number of volunteers needed for this ministry: 30-40 New volunteers are added annually.**

Contact: Rebecca Husman/rhusman@iccmil.org/281-5105
(ext. 353)

Little Church (Children's Liturgy of the Word): While parents attend 11:00 a.m. Mass, Little Church provides a safe, fun environment for children age 3 (by September 1) through Kindergarten to learn more about our faith through stories, songs and crafts. Sessions are held during the 11:00 a.m. Mass, from September into May. Volunteers are needed for hands-on participation with the children during Little Church (3 volunteers). Volunteers for the Little Church program must have completed Diocesan Child Protection training.

***Number of volunteers needed for this ministry: 3- Volunteers can be of high school age in need of service hours. (If 18 or older you will need to be in compliance with the Diocesan Policy on Child Protection.)**

Current volunteers: 2

**Contact: Lauren Bernhard/314-461-3530/
lbernhard104@gmail.com**

Order of Christian Initiation of Adults (OCIA, formerly known as RCIA): Supports individuals wishing to learn more about or join the Catholic Church. OCIA assists inquirers with faith formation and instruction. Parishioners who are open, welcoming and willing to share their personal faith with others are always needed to serve as sponsors or be part of the OCIA formation team. The program runs year-round for adults and children, with formal group sessions on Sundays from a selected date in the Fall to Palm Sunday.

Contact: Lizanne Young/lyoung@iccmil.org/281-5105 (ext. 354)

Vacation Bible School: Four evenings of fun and learning about faith through songs, stories, Bible verses, games, and STREAM activities during the summer. VBS is held late July/early August (Monday-Thursday) for ages pre-school (potty-trained) through 4th grade. Volunteer leaders (adults, high schoolers, and 8th graders) are needed, as well. This is a great way to earn service hours for high school students or confirmation candidates needing parish service hours.

Contact: Lizanne Young/lyoung@iccmil.org/281-5105 (ext. 354)