



2015

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION'S **Festival of Ministries**

What gifts have I been given? • How can I use them? • How can I share them?



IMMACULATE CONCEPTION CATHOLIC PARISH & SCHOOL

Growing in Spirit, Anchored in Faith • 1853





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What Gifts Have I Been Given? How Can I Use Them? How Can I Share Them?

You have received God's blessings -
now discover the power of sharing your blessings.

Parish Mission Statement

As a faith community in the Roman Catholic tradition and as part of the Archdiocese of Detroit, we, the people of Immaculate Conception Parish, seek to live as followers of Jesus Christ by being formed through the grace of the Holy Spirit as servants and heralds of the Gospel.

Through our commitment to authentic lifelong formation, outreach to the needy among us, and our invitation to active participation by all our parishioners, we strive to be a place of refuge and growth for all those seeking to know Jesus Christ.

By our efforts to be a warm and welcoming community, we are committed to praising and glorifying God in all our words and deeds.

School Mission Statement

Immaculate Conception Catholic School Promotes a/an

Caring Community

Home for the active mind

Respectful, responsible citizens for a global society

Individual love for life-long learning

Strong value-based academic curriculum

Trust in the Word of God

PARISH 9764 Dixie Highway Ira, Michigan 48023 586.725.3051 fx: 586.725.2474

SCHOOL 7043 Church Road Ira, Michigan 48023 586.725.0078 fx: 586.725.8240

www.iccatholic.org

A Brief History of Our Parish

The area where Immaculate Conception Parish is located had its Christian beginnings as early as 1679. Fr. Louis Hennepin, the great missionary who accompanied LaSalle on his search for the Mississippi, came ashore from the ship called The Griffon and planted a cross in what is now the Ira, Fair Haven area.

The first Catholic settlers, mostly of French descent from the Province of Quebec, arrived in the eighteenth century. A few tribes of the Chippewa Indians lived in the area that is now Fair Haven and New Baltimore. The residents, new and old, lived by hunting and fishing.

By 1850 the fame of the area, originally called Au Lac (near the lake), had become so widespread that immigration from France, Belgium, Holland, Germany and Switzerland was common.

The residents of the area were visited by Missionary Fathers from Canada, and French priests from Detroit. Later, clergy from parishes in Mt. Clemens, Marine City and Grosse Pointe would visit the area.

One of the first settlers, Etienne Rose, deeded a portion of his land to the church and the first log cabin church was built. Rose also deeded land for a cemetery. This log cabin church was built on the site where the current church now stands.

In 1853 Rt. Rev. Peter P. Lefevere, then Bishop of the Detroit Diocese, determined that it was time to send a permanent priest to the area. Rev. Charles A. Chambille arrived and stayed with private families until he was able to build a rectory. Being one of the first in the United States, the church was dedicated to the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary on October 15th of that year. Fr. Chambille did many good works at Immaculate Conception until he was transferred to the parish of Greenfield, now St. Alphonsus of Dearborn, in 1859. Fr. Chambille died June 2, 1883.

On December 4, 1885, Au Lac was renamed Anchorville when a post office was established.

Immaculate Conception parish thrived and grew under the leadership of various pastors until August 26, 1917 when the entire complex of church, rectory, sisters home and school were destroyed by fire during the tenure of Rev. Fr. James Downey. Being a very courageous leader and with the loyal support of the people of the parish, within a year the church and school were rebuilt. Fr. Downey was with Immaculate Conception for 22 years. Even when his own health was failing, he took care of the sick. Fr. Downey died suddenly of a heart attack on the morning of September 19, 1935. More than 1,000 attended the Requiem High Mass including 4 Monsignors, 110 priests and 50 nuns.

In May of 1959 ground was broken for a new school and in the fall it was ready for students. It replaced the small four-room school. In 1966 the new school building was enlarged to add a wing of 8 new classrooms. In 1971 the parish school was closed due to reduced state funding. With a lot of hard work and dedication on the part of the parishioners, the school was reopened in the fall of 1976.

To celebrate the reopening of the school, Fr. Harry Paul held a special Mass of Thanksgiving on Sunday, August 22, 1976. Today over 150 preschool thru 8th grade students are enrolled in the school.

On December 8, 1991 at Immaculate Conception Parish the Au Lac (at the Lake) Council #10724 of the Knights of Columbus was chartered. The council has grown steadily ever since. The council continues to do many good works for the parish and the surrounding community.

On May 15, 2004 we broke ground on a modern parish hall built behind the church and a gymnasium was constructed as part of the school; both were opened for use in 2005. The former Citizens State Bank building along M-29 was purchased, with the parish offices being relocated there.





IMMACULATE CONCEPTION
CATHOLIC PARISH

IRA, MICHIGAN

Rev. Joseph M. Esper

November 2015

Dear Parishioners of Immaculate Conception,

A pastor once combined the question “What in the world are you doing?” with the flippant expression “For heaven’s sake!,” and created five questions for the members of his congregation to ponder:

What in the world are you doing for heaven’s sake?

What **in the world** are you doing for heaven’s sake?

What in the world are **you** doing for heaven’s sake?

What in the world are you **doing** for heaven’s sake?

What in the world are you doing **for heaven’s sake?**

These questions challenge all of us who call ourselves disciples of Jesus Christ: how are we personally involved in ministering to others in His Name?

This *Festival of Ministries* booklet contains many possible answers; our numerous apostolates, activities, and services here at Immaculate Conception Parish are listed within, offering a wide range of possible service and involvement. There’s truly something for everyone—and so our parish staff, Parish Pastoral Council, and Stewardship Commission hope this list will assist you in pondering and discovering how the Lord may be calling you to become even more active here at I.C.

It’s easy to be surprised, impressed, and even overwhelmed at how many different ministries and activities are going on in our faith community; however, the purpose of this booklet isn’t to pat ourselves on the back, but to extend to you an invitation to get involved. None of these forms of outreach and service would be possible without the efforts and dedication of many fellow parishioners just like you—and I’m sure all of them would join me in assuring you that the primary qualification for ministry is simply a spirit of trust in the Lord, a sense of genuine gratitude for His gifts, and a willingness to share whatever talents and abilities He has entrusted to you.

Thank you for taking the time to consider some of the possibilities listed here; please feel free to request any additional information or assistance needed as you discern the Lord’s call. May God bless you and your loved ones, and may He guide and reward you in your efforts to come closer to Him.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Rev. Joseph M. Esper
Pastor

Stewardship “Blessings” Prayer

Generous and loving God, You call us to be disciples
of your son Jesus and good stewards of all your many gifts.

Open our minds and hearts to a greater awareness
and deeper appreciation of your countless blessings.

Transform us through the power of your Spirit to nurture
a stewardship way of life marked by faith-filled prayer,
service to our neighbor and generous sharing.
Teach us to be faithful servants of your gifts. With Mary’s help,
may we return ten-fold the gifts entrusted to us.

Bless our Parish with a deepening
devotion to prayer, a growing commitment for service,
and increasing levels of generosity as we work to
advance the mission of both our parish and diocese.
We pray through Christ, our Lord. Amen.



Commission and Group Descriptions For Festival of Ministries Resource Book

CHRISTIAN SERVICE COMMISSION - ☎ (586) 725-3051

This commission is dedicated to the outreach of the parish and the community it serves through its many programs. It is made up of representatives from each group listed under Christian Service.

Ambassador Program

This program is developed to help new parishioners feel welcome in the IC Community. You will contact new parishioners about upcoming events, invitations to ministries and other activities.

- 2-3 hours a month

Blood Drive

The Blood Drive is held twice a year (April & Sept). Volunteers are needed to welcome donors and to direct parishioners as to where they need to go.

- 2-3 hours the week of the blood drive

Coffee/Donut Sundays

Once a month Sept. - June, coffee and donuts are offered in the parish hall after all Sunday Masses. Enjoy fellowship with parishioners by helping with refilling coffee urns, putting out the donuts on the table, cleaning up after each group that comes in.

- 1 hour, once a month

Dinner and Movie Night

The "Dinner and a Movie" Committee is open to anyone who feels called to share their love for the Lord, by helping with the planning of our fellowship events, which include a religious based movie and dinner.

- Meetings are once a year to set a calendar and the rest is done through email or other forms of communication.

Funeral Lunch Team

One of four teams is called, on a rotating basis, to serve a luncheon if requested by the family.

- 2-3 hours per funeral lunch. On call once every 4 months

Grief & Loss Ministry

This program was developed to help parishioners who have recently lost a loved one deal with the upcoming days/months of grief and loss. This ministry consists of helping with several mailings during the first year of loss as well as occasional gatherings of support and remembrance.

- 2-3 hours a month

Handcrafters Ministry

This group meets twice a month to make items (quilts, blankets, hats, etc.) for donation to children's hospitals, and various other worthy causes. So bring your knitting needles and sewing machine and join this great group for a great cause!

- 2 hours twice a month, September through May

I.C. Bakery and Refreshment Ministry

Bake homemade goodies and/or Make or donate refreshments for various parish activities.

- 1-2 hours every month, on a rotating basis

Immaculate Conception Men's Softball Team

The I.C. slow pitch men's softball team plays in the East China Church League. Parishioners, age 18 years old to seniors, are welcome. Games begin and end with a prayer. Practice begins in the spring, with games beginning in early June through the beginning of August.

Little Blessings Play Group

Moms provides inspiration and support for each other, while providing a fun playgroup for their young children.

- Meet for 1-2 hours per week, Sept. thru June.

Little Ways Ladies' Society

The Little Ways Ladies' Society chose its name to honor St. Therese, as a commitment to the tasks and to the people we meet in our everyday lives. Her "Little Way" teaches us to do the ordinary things of life with extraordinary love. Throughout the year, this ministry plans social and spiritual events such as the Epiphany celebration, scrapbook event, and children's events, in order to find 'little ways' to provide fellowship and to raise money for worthwhile causes.

- Meet once a month, Sept thru June

Mary's Garden Angels

This rewarding and spiritual ministry is a garden of love that continues to grow with limitless tribute to our Mother Mary. Volunteers who have a passion for Mary and a fondness for the beauty of flowers, maintain the established garden outside in the grotto area of our parish. This is a great way to spend some time with God's beauty and nature, as well as sharing fellowship

- Donate as much time as can be offered. No experience necessary.



MCREST (Macomb County Rotating Emergency Shelter Team)

Participate in helping our community by preparing and providing meals for the homeless.

- 3-4 hours, once a year

Receptions and Social Parish Activities

Help with Pastor requested receptions, as well as planning and organizing various social activities for the parish. This includes set-up, clean-up and preparation of food to be served, and/or working some of the events.

- 2 hours a month; more hours at time of event

Rosary Makers

Our Lady of Fatima Rosary Makers Club promotes devotion to the Blessed Mother through the making, and distribution of the Rosary. The Rosaries that we make are sent to veterans, nursing homes, hospitals, prisons and foreign missions. They are also used for sidewalk evangelization. Rosaries are made in the comfort of your own home, with materials and instructions provided.

- Meetings are once a month. Time spent making Rosaries is up to you.

St. Joseph Layette

Gather layette donation items for newborns and assist in donating them to Catholic Social Services.

- 2-3 hours, once a year

Stars of Christmas

This ministry provides clothing, toys and much needed items to needy families in our parish community at Christmas time.

- 3-4 hours, once a year

St. Vincent DePaul Society - ☎ (586) 725-3051 ext. 118

Its mission is to lead men and women to join together to grow spiritually by offering person to person service to the needy and suffering. Tangible aid being offered may include intervention, consultation or often direct dollar or in-kind service. All while maintaining confidentiality and dignity to those being served.

- 1-2 hour meetings held at IC once a month. Times vary according to need.

EDUCATION COMMISSION

This commission assists, promotes and supports parishioners in understanding that the entire parish community has responsibility for participating in the evangelization and teaching mission of Jesus Christ. The responsibilities include developing, promoting and evaluating programs that address all aspects of religious education and evangelization.

- 1.5 Hour Meetings once a month, September - May

FAITH FORMATION - ☎ (586) 725-1762

Adult Bible Study

Throughout the year, our parish offers opportunities for our members to study God's Holy Word. Groups meet weekly to study scripture, share faith experiences and grow in the image and likeness of Christ.

- 1 ½ -2 hours per week

Adult Formation Class

The adults in our parish are invited to grow in faith as we join together to study church documents and teachings.

- 1-2 hours per week

Children's Liturgy of the Word Catechist

As a Children's Liturgy of the Word Catechist, you share God's Holy Word with the young people of our parish during the Liturgy of the Word portion of Mass. Children's Liturgy of the Word is offered at the 10:00 a.m. and 12:00 p.m. Mass September through May, and at the 10:00 A.M. Mass June through August.

Children's Liturgy of the Word formation sessions required.

Protecting God's Children Workshop and Background Check Required

- 2-3 times a month

Children's Liturgy of the Word Cantor

As a Children's Liturgy of the Word Cantor, you sing the season psalm and Gospel acclamation with the children participating in the Children's Liturgy of the Word during the reading and homily portion of the weekend Masses. Singing and music abilities and Children's Liturgy of the Word formation required.

Protecting God's Children and Background Check Required

- 2-3 times a month

Early Childhood Formation Catechist and Helpers

Sunday mornings our parish offers formation for children ages 3-5 during the 10:00 a.m. Mass. Classes are held in the pre-school room of our parish school.

Meeting with Director of Religious Education Required

Called To Serve Workshop Required for Teens Grades 9-12

Protecting God's Children Workshop and Background Check Required

- 2 hours Sunday mornings (September - May)

Faith Formation Adult Helpers

Adult helpers are needed to assist the catechists in the classroom, monitor the hallways during class time, light office assistance, bulletin board creator, snack coordinator, dinner coordinator, prayer monitor, librarian, book sales person, and craft coordinator.

Protecting God's Children Workshop and Background Check Required

- Time varies (October-May)



Faith Formation Catechists

Our Faith Formation Catechists are leaders who share, exemplify, evangelize and uphold the Catholic teachings and doctrine of the Church to the young members of our faith community. Kindergarten through Grade 8.

Protecting God's Children Workshop and Background Check Required

- 2 hours per week (October - May)

Faith Formation Prayer Monitor

As a Prayer Monitor you listen to and help the young people in Faith Formation to memorize basic Catholic Prayers.

Protecting God's Children Workshop and Background Check Required

- 1 hour, twice a month (October - May)

Faith Formation Teen Helpers

We invite teens 7th -12th Grade to assist in Faith Formation, grades K-5, as a classroom helper. We invite teens 9th – 12th Grade to assist in Faith Formation, grades 6-8. Teen choir members are needed to assist the Music Director during our Liturgy of the Word time together.

Called To Serve Workshop Required for Teens Grades 9-12

- 1 ½ hours per week (October - May)

Faith Formation Special Activities Helpers

Help is needed to allow us to provide special activity days for our young people at Faith Formation. This would include assisting with activities for such celebrations as All Saints' Day, Good Friday Journey, Mardi Gras Party, Christmas Activities Day, etc.

Protecting God's Children's Workshop and Background Check Required

- A few hours per activity

Good Friday Journey

On Good Friday, our parish offers the young people in our community an opportunity for a hands-on journey through the last hours of Jesus' life. Volunteers in all areas of planning and assisting with this very special activity are welcome!

Protecting God's Children's Workshop and Background Check Required

Called To Serve Workshop Required for Teens Grades 9-12

- Time allotment varies with position

Lenten Soup Suppers

Lenten Soup Suppers are offered weekly during Lent as an opportunity for us to share a meal and grow in faith together.

- 1 ½ -2 hours per week during Lent

RCIA Catechist (Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults and Teens)

RCIA is the process designed to welcome the unbaptized and baptized who want to complete the Sacraments of Initiation.

Meeting with Director of Religious Education and Protecting God's Children Workshop and Background Check Required

- 2 hours a week, usually on Sunday mornings (Sept. - May)

Vacation Bible School

Adult and Teen volunteers are greatly needed. Every June, Immaculate Conception invites young people of all ages to participate in Vacation Bible School. Many volunteers are needed to assist in planning, presentation, set-up, games, music, snacks, arts and crafts.

Protecting God's Children Workshop and Background Check Required

Called To Serve Workshop Required for Teens Grades 9-12

- Volunteer times vary with position. Set-up the week prior

Youth Ministry

Youth Ministry "SHINE" (9th - 12th grade students) and "The Edge" (6th – 8th grade students) will find fun and fellowship while deepening their faith in God.

Called To Serve Workshop Required for Teens Grades 9-12

- "SHINE" meets Sunday evenings - twice a month
- "The EDGE" meets Sunday afternoon – twice a month

FINANCE COUNCIL - ☎ (586) 725-3051

Parish Finance Council assists the pastor in the administration of parish temporal matters. Finance Council members advise and support the pastor in his stewardship of parish resources, while being accountable to the parish and the diocesan bishop. An active, well-formed Parish Finance Council is a key element for promoting the financial health of a parish, assuring accountability and assisting the pastor with his temporal responsibilities.

- 1.5 hour meetings held once a month

CSA (Catholic Services Appeal)

Members coordinate the annual distribution and mailing of CSA pledge cards to our parishioners.

- 20-30 hours over a 4 month period (February - June) every year

Cemetery Committee

Our mission is to help maintain the appearance of the cemetery, cleaning the outside of the chapel, pulling weeds and edging around headstones. The members are appointed by the pastor.

- Meet 2 times a year for about an hour/ Fall and Spring clean-up all day.



ICIT Committee (Immaculate Conception Information Technology)

This group is responsible for all Information Technology (IT) campus wide. The ICIT group aides IC Parish by enriching the student learning and enabling the school and faculty to better execute their responsibilities. Knowledge and experience is necessary. See our Pastor if you are interested in this committee.

Protecting God's Children and Background Check Required

- 5-10 hours a month, dependent upon needs of the Parish

Long Term Planning

The Long Term Planning Committee, along with the Director of Maintenance, work together to provide the best possible facilities to enhance our Catholic faith. This includes working to keep our Parish campus well-maintained and functional as well as shaping the vision of the future needs of our faith community.

- 1.5 hour meetings held once a month, 8 times a year, with additional time as needed

FUNDRAISING - ☎ (586) 725-3051

Lenten Fish Fry

The Lenten Fish Fries are held on all Fridays during the Lenten season (except Good Friday) in the school cafeteria. Volunteers can help with food preparation on Thursdays, and/or the Friday shifts between the hours of 1:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

School families can earn Service Credit towards their I.C. Volunteer Service Program requirement through hours worked.

- 2-3 ½ hours, twice a week during Lent

Perch Festival - ☎ (586) 725-3051

The Perch Festival at Immaculate Conception is our largest annual fundraiser. This festival is held the 3rd weekend in July each summer and offers many opportunities to donate your time and talents. The Perch Festival helps to provide the funds to support the growth and outreach programs of our parish. Volunteers begin coordinating this event in January. School families can earn Service Credit towards their I.C. Volunteer Service Program requirement through hours worked.

- Donate as much time as can be offered.

SCRIP - ☎ (586) 725-0078

Scrip is a fundraising program coordinated by our parish, as a method of generating charitable rebates through common purchases from your favorite stores, restaurants and service providers. These rebates can be applied to tuition or other parish programs. Volunteers are asked to sell Scrip, sign-up new members, inventory and balance the accounts. School families can earn Service Credit towards their I.C. Volunteer Service Program requirement through hours worked.

- Approximately 5 hours per month

Tastefest

The Tastefest at Immaculate Conception is an annual fundraiser held in the Fall. This popular and fun event offers many opportunities for you to donate your time and talent. The Tastefest helps to provide the necessary funds to support the growth and outreach programs of our parish. Volunteers begin coordinating this event in April. School families can earn Service Credit towards their I.C. Volunteer Service Program requirement through hours worked.

- Donate as much time as can be offered.

MUSIC MINISTRY - ☎ (586) 725-3051 ext. 119

Adult Choir and Cantors

The Adult Choir at Immaculate Conception normally sings at the 10:00 a.m. Mass on Sundays and at the major feasts, Holy days and special occasions. This choir is for adults and for high school students that belong to a choral program at their high school. Cantors are normally from this same group that possess a higher level of vocal proficiency to lead the singing of the psalms and other parts of the Mass.

- 2 hours once a week (Sept. - June / Wed PM)

Youth Choir

The Youth Choir at Immaculate Conception usually sings on a rotation of Mass times on the 2nd and 4th Sundays of the month (Sept. - June), and on special occasions. This choir is offered to youth 3rd Grade to High School age.

- 1 ½ hours once a week (Sept. - June / Wed afternoon)

Hand Bell / Hand Chime Choir

The Hand Bell Choir at Immaculate Conception consists of 11 people to ring the bells. The ability to read music is a plus but not necessary to be a part of this group. The Bell Choir rings on a rotation of Mass times on the 1st, 3rd, and 5th Sundays and on special occasions.

- 1 ½ hours once a week (Sept. - June / Mon PM)

Instrumentalists

If you play an instrument, violin, flute, trumpet, etc., and would like to assist the music at Mass, please contact the parish music director to see how you can be part of the music program.

At various times, a variety of musical instruments are needed throughout the church year.

Example: Brass quartet/quintet for Easter.

- As needed

Resurrection Choir

The Resurrection Choir of Immaculate Conception sings at all funerals and memorial Masses held at Immaculate Conception Church. No practices.

- Needed for morning/early afternoons to assist in singing



Celtic Cross

Immaculate Conception's own Irish/Scottish House Band. This band plays weekly at the 12:00 mass, Holy days and for special occasions. Singers are Welcome!

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL - ☎ (586) 725-3051

The Parish Pastoral Council is an advisory body to the pastor. A parishioner may be nominated to become a member of the Parish Pastoral Council by any fellow parishioner and is selected on a designated Mass by the Pastor. Application must be completed and can be obtained in Parish Office or online at www.iccatholic.org (candidates can nominate themselves).

- 3 year commitment, 1.5 hour meetings held once a month, 8 times per year

Evangelization Committee

The Evangelization Committee serves as a resource for the work of the Parish Pastoral Council, and tries to energize all groups within the parish for the work of evangelization. This Committee serves as a catalyst for the total evangelizing effort in the parish. The committee works directly with the pastor, pastoral staff, Parish Pastoral Council, and the parish commission to ensure that evangelization is the parish priority and is integrated into all areas of parish life.

- 1.5 hour meetings held once a month, 8-10 times per year

SERVICE GROUPS - ☎ (586) 725-3051

Knights of Columbus (K of C)

The Knights of Columbus is the largest Catholic fraternity in the World. The Au Lac Council currently has over 140 Knights. The Council has grown steadily since being chartered on December 8, 1991. Our principles of Charity, Unity, Fraternity and Patriotism are our foundations. We work together to serve our parish and community as well as protect the well being of our families, and support each other in many ways along life's journey. We offer the opportunity for Catholic men to grow in faith through living the example of charity that evangelizes and personifying what it means to be a Catholic gentleman through the practice of good works. Through various fundraisers (pancake breakfasts, millionaire parties, & Mentally Impaired drive) held throughout the year, the Knights are able to provide funds to help support the Parish, Seminarians, Scholarships to Catholic Schools and many local causes. The Knights give of their time by supporting the parish and cemetery projects and helping the community by adopting a highway section on M-29.

- Meet 1 ½ hours the first Thursday of the month at 7:30 P.M. Fellowship following the meeting

Loving Hands

A ministry that takes pride in our church by cleaning and doing little things to make it sparkle.

- 1-1 ½ hours, 2 times a month

Office Angels

The Office Angels at Immaculate Conception are the fine folks that stuff our weekly Spotlight bulletins with additional information needed to reach parishioners and community members.

- As needed

Wedding Coordinators

These helpful volunteers assist engaged couples through their rehearsal and wedding ceremonies.

- 1 ½ hours per rehearsal - 2 hours per ceremony

STEWARDSHIP COMMISSION - ☎ (586) 725-3051

The Stewardship Commission is concerned with the promotion of Christian stewardship as a way of life, and exists to create awareness in the parish community that everything we have comes from God. The Stewardship Commission works with the Pastor to develop and encourage the use of our parishioners' time, talents and treasure for the betterment of our parish.

- 1.5 hour meetings, 4-5 times per year with additional times as needed

IC Marketing Team

The Marketing Committee is responsible for the Parish and School's overall image to the community through advertising, print materials and wearables showcasing the IC logo. This group is by appointment only.

Protecting God's Children Workshop and Background Check Required

- Group meets on an as needed basis

WORSHIP COMMISSION - ☎ (586) 725-3051

This Ministry promotes and strengthens the program of continuing liturgical renewal. Serving the parish in the areas of liturgy and ecumenism, this includes administrative, worship and educational responsibilities. This commission is made up of representatives of the groups that are listed under Worship.

- Meetings held once 4 times a year

Altar Servers

This is open to anyone who has received First Eucharist. Servers assist at Mass and other liturgies, especially at the altar, wearing a white robe and cincture (robe belt). Youth are invited to join in third grade (9 years of age). Training is provided throughout the year.

- 1 hour Mass as needed or scheduled



Altar Server Coordinator

Coordinators schedule and coordinate our Altar Servers for weekly Mass, weddings, funerals or any other Mass that is needed.

Protecting God's Children Workshop and Background Check Required

- 2 hours a month

Altar Service

This team assumes responsibility for making sure all the cloths used on the altar and other areas of the Sanctuary are clean and pressed as needed. This includes the altar server robes and cinctures (rope belts).

- 2-3 hours a week

Arts and Environment

A visual beautification of the Sanctuary. This entails planning and decorating our worship area in ways that reflect the liturgical season and various celebrations during the year.

- 3-4 hours a week, 7-10 hours a week Christmas and Easter

Communion to the Homebound

This group of parishioners distribute the consecrated Bread and Wine (Body and Blood of Christ) to the sick and homebound.

Protecting God's Children Workshop and Background Check Required

- 1 hour once a week

Eucharistic Adoration Member

Schedule yourself in on the first Tuesday and Friday of every month, to sit in peace and quiet and spend time with our Lord in the Sanctuary. There is no limit to the graces you will receive while keeping company with God.

- One half to one hour once a week

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion

These parishioners distribute the consecrated Bread and Wine (Body and Blood of Christ) to those gathered at Mass. The prerequisite to this ministry is having received the First Eucharist, and attended a training session and commissioning ceremony. Youth must be 16 years of age and have made their sacraments.

- 2-3 times a month

Lectors

As a minister of the Word, Lectors proclaim the Word of God at Mass and sometimes at other liturgical gatherings. Youth must have made Confirmation. Attending a training session and commissioning ceremony is required.

- 1 Mass per month

Liturgical Ministries Scheduler

The Liturgical Ministries Scheduler coordinates the schedules of Lectors, Eucharistic Ministers and Children's Liturgy of the Word.

- 2 hours, 4 times a year

Loving Hands

A ministry that takes pride in our church by cleaning and doing little things to make it sparkle.

- 1-1 ½ hours, 2 times a month

Our Lady of Fatima Rosary Prayer Group

The Our Lady of Fatima Rosary Prayer Group prays the Holy Rosary everyday in the church to obtain peace in an ever changing world. Praying the Holy Rosary is an act of loving remembrance which brings peace, increases trust, fortifies our hope and renews our love for God and our neighbor.

- 7:30 p.m. every Thursday in the church

Sacristans

Parishioners who arrive before Mass on weekends and holy days to prepare the church and all vessels and supplies. The Sacristan also cleans and puts away all vessels, sacred books and items used during the Mass as well as securing the church before leaving. Training is provided.

- 2 hours, once a month

Ushers

These parishioners serve as a Minister of Hospitality at Masses and other liturgies. They welcome the community, take up collections and assist the Sacristan in any unforeseen circumstances that may arise during Mass.

- 2 hours, once a month

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION SCHOOL - ☎ (586) 725-0078

Immaculate Conception Catholic School is an award winning Pre K-8th Grade with many volunteer opportunities. Parents, grandparents, and parishioners are warmly welcomed to assist with many aspects of school life. Often these activities are one-time events while others are meant to be longer term.

Ambassador Program (School)

The Immaculate Conception School Ambassador Program is a welcoming committee for newer school families. On the first day of school, this committee matches new school families with a mentor school family in order to help them navigate through the first year.

- 1 hour yearly meet and greet the 1st day of school

Box Tops

Collect and submit Box Tops for added income to the school. Market program within parish & school.



Catholic School Education Week

Celebrate Catholic Education Week. Generally held the last week of January/first week of February, this committee plans the Sunday Open House and other special student events during the week long celebration.

Grant Research and Writing

As we strive to keep expenses affordable, school parents and parishioners with grant research and writing experience are welcome to work with the principal and faculty to keep them informed on existing and new grants made available for parochial schools.

- Grants are applied for on an occasional basis.

Ladies Night Out

Coordinate/contact vendors for the event. Help needed with set-up, dessert coordinator, etc.

- Event is held once a year

Parent Teacher Committee (PTC)

Members of the Parent Teacher Committee (PTC) consist of parents, guardians and faculty of Immaculate Conception Catholic School. Our mission is to work together to raise funds for enriched activities and materials that promote a positive environment – both academically, spiritually and socially for the students attending IC. Officers of the PTC Board are nominated and voted upon every 2 years.

- Meetings are 2 hours once a month on the 1st Wednesday of each month at 8 a.m.

School Advisory Committee (SAC)

Members on the School Advisory Committee (SAC) have an opportunity to have input on all areas of interest involving Immaculate Conception Catholic School. The Committee consists of 6 members from either current school parents or parish members with no direct affiliation to the school. Applications are reviewed by the Pastor and Principal with the SAC appointment to be held for a 3 year term.

- Meetings are held (Sept-May) on the 3rd Thursday of the month at 7 p.m.

Staff Appreciation Monthly (S.A.M.)

Volunteers bring and serve food for luncheons, or do other small acts of kindness to celebrate our outstanding teachers and staff.

- Once a month September-May

Boy Scouts

Troop 211 is our "Home" Troop and although they meet off campus, many Scouting functions and ceremonies are held at our parish. Scouting programs are designed to help develop many of the core morals, ethics and values of our young men.

Girl Scouts

The Girl Scout experience offers young girls an opportunity to have fun, make new friends, and to learn about themselves and their world. Girl Scouting allows the girls the opportunity to make a difference in their neighborhood, community and their country.

- Meetings held in the school

Must Read !

PROTECTING GOD'S CHILDREN Safe Environment

In order to provide a safe environment for our children, all adult volunteers (18 and older) who will have contact with children, seniors or persons with disabilities must participate in a Protecting God's Children Workshop (PGC), have a required Background Check, and be provided with the volunteer Code of Conduct (opposite page). For a listing of the PGC Workshops in our area, please contact the Parish Office at (586) 725-3051 for assistance or for a schedule, visit www.aod.org.

It is mandated by the Archdiocese of Detroit that all teen volunteers (grades 9-12), whose volunteer service involves contact with children, must participate in a Call to Serve Workshop.

For information on the Call to Serve Workshops in our area, please contact the Parish Office at (586) 725-3051 for assistance or for a schedule, visit www.aod.org.

**Protecting God's Children (Adults) and Called to Serve (Teens)
A schedule can be found on www.aod.org**





Archdiocese of Detroit

Safe Environments

The following is a reprint from the **Code of Pastoral Conduct For Priests, Deacons, Pastoral Ministers, Administrators, Staff and Volunteers**. The **Code of Conduct for Volunteers** can be found on the Archdiocese of Detroit website at www.AOD.org. Click on **Protecting God's Children** and then on **Code of Conduct**.

IV. CODE OF CONDUCT FOR VOLUNTEERS

Our children are the most important gifts God has entrusted to us. A volunteer must strictly follow the rules and guidelines in this **Code of Conduct for Volunteers** as a condition of providing services to the children and youth of our archdiocese.

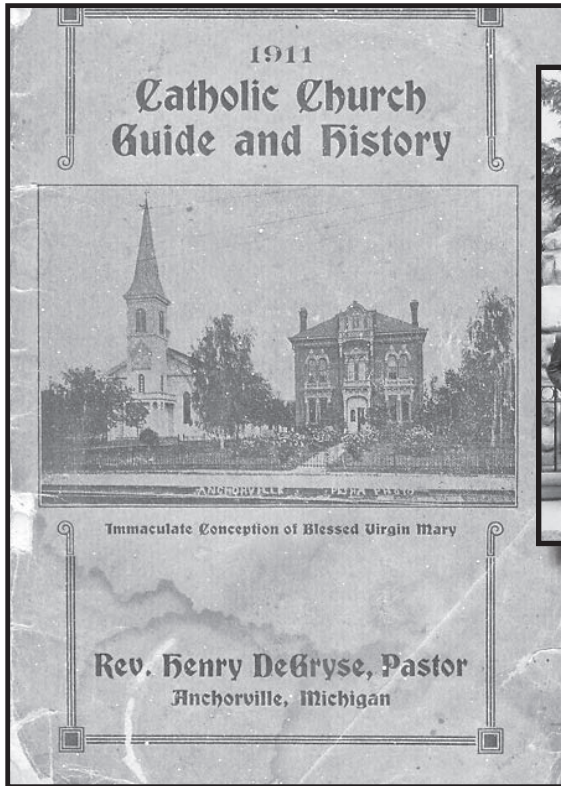
A volunteer must:

- Treat everyone with respect, loyalty, patience, integrity, courtesy, dignity and consideration.
- Avoid situations where he or she is alone with children and/or youth at Church activities.
- Use positive reinforcement rather than criticism, competition or comparison when working with children and/or youth.
- Refuse to accept expensive gifts from children, youth or their parents without prior written approval from the pastor or administrator.
- Refrain from giving expensive gifts to children and/or youth without prior written approval from the parents or guardian and the pastor or administrator.
- Report suspected abuse to the pastor, administrator or appropriate supervisor and the local Child Protection Services agency. Failure to report suspected abuse to civil authorities (by required reporters) is, according to the law, a misdemeanor.
- Cooperate fully in any investigation of abuse of children and/or youth.

A volunteer must not:

- Smoke or use tobacco products in the presence of children and/or youth.
- Use, possess or be under the influence of alcohol at any time while volunteering.
- Use, possess or be under the influence of illegal drugs at any time.
- Pose any health risk to children and/or youth through fevers or other contagious situations.
- Strike, spank, shake or slap children and/or youth.
- Humiliate, ridicule, threaten or degrade children and/or youth.
- Touch a child and/or youth in a sexual or other inappropriate manner.
- Use any discipline that frightens or humiliates children and/or youth.
- Use profanity in the presence of children and/or youth.

A volunteer working with children and/or youth is subject to a thorough background check, including criminal history. Any action inconsistent with this **Code of Pastoral Conduct** or failure to take action mandated by this **Code of Pastoral Conduct** may result in removal as a volunteer with children and/or youth.



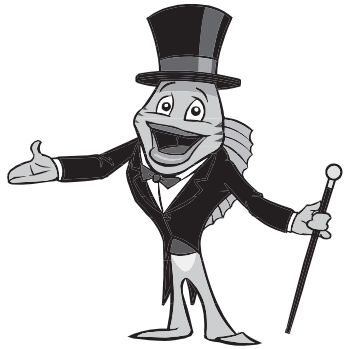


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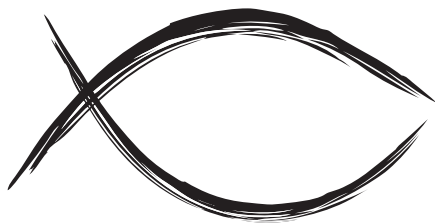


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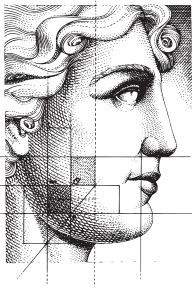


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