



## Immaculate Conception Parish Council April Minutes

Meeting Date: Tuesday, April 7, 2015  
Meeting Time: 7:15 PM  
Meeting Location: Parish Hall

Member Name	Present	Absent	Position
Fr. Joe Esper <a href="mailto:parish@iccatholic.org">parish@iccatholic.org</a>	X		Pastor
Deacon Ken Nowicki <a href="mailto:deaconken@iccatholic.org">deaconken@iccatholic.org</a>		X	Evangelization Representative
Nicole Tomaszewski <a href="mailto:nicolembeutler@hotmail.com">nicolembeutler@hotmail.com</a>	X		Council Member, Chairperson (Term 1, Year 3)
Pat McGrath (no E-Mail)		X	Council Member (Term 2, Year 3)
Kathleen Grimm <a href="mailto:kagrimm@comcast.net">kagrimm@comcast.net</a>	X		Council Member, VPC Rep., Evangelization Rep. (Term 1, Year 2)
Lori Stefani <a href="mailto:Loril725@gmail.com">Loril725@gmail.com</a>		X	Council Member (Term 1, Year 2)
Bob Tharrett <a href="mailto:bobfarming@yahoo.com">bobfarming@yahoo.com</a>	X		Council Member, Vice-Chair (Term 1, Year 3)
Ted Stawiasz <a href="mailto:tstawiasz@aol.com">tstawiasz@aol.com</a>	X		Council Member (Term 1, Year 3)
Anni Adkins <a href="mailto:Polock145@msn.com">Polock145@msn.com</a>	X		Council Member (Term 1, Year 2)
Steve Boutorwick <a href="mailto:scboutorwick@yahoo.com">scboutorwick@yahoo.com</a>	X		Council Member (Term 1, Year 1)
Laura Somogy <a href="mailto:Gardianangelspray4us@gmail.com">Gardianangelspray4us@gmail.com</a>	X		Council Member, Education Rep. (Term 1, Year 1)
Dawn Sikowski <a href="mailto:dmsikowski@hotmail.com">dmsikowski@hotmail.com</a>		X	Council Member (Term 1, Year 1)
Mary Kot <a href="mailto:skippykot@comcast.net">skippykot@comcast.net</a>	X		Worship Representative
JoAnn Augustine <a href="mailto:jaugustine30@comcast.net">jaugustine30@comcast.net</a>		X	Christian Service Rep.
		X	Long Term Planning Rep.

### Meeting opened with a prayer at 7:25 PM

**Minutes of the February 3, 2015 meeting were approved with one change:** In the attendance section of the minutes, Kathleen Grimm changed from year 3 of 1<sup>st</sup> term to year 2 of 1<sup>st</sup> term.

### PASTOR'S REPORT:

- All departments have been busy working on the budget for next year (which is due at the Archdiocese on May 15); the Finance Council will be closely involved in this process.
- The Finance Council, and our business manager, have been helping Mr. Ricard prepare the documentation needed for the upcoming school accreditation process (which will take place near the end of April). The faculty has been working very hard on this; a huge amount of paperwork is involved, along with many meetings.
- As you heard at Mass the weekend before this past one, our school students did exceptionally well at this year's Blue Water Academic Olympics. For instance, all four grades (5-8) won a ribbon in the problem solving competition (two first place finishes, and two third place), and I.C. utterly dominated the forensics category, winning an incredible twelve out of sixteen first place ribbons. We are extremely proud of our students and their teachers and coaches.
- The following day, Sunday February 22, the school held its Open House, along with the 8<sup>th</sup> grade-sponsored pancake breakfast. Both events were well-attended, and a number of prospective new families expressed interest in coming here next fall.
- This current school year we've had school closed a total of six days so far: none in December, once in January, and five times in February – more of the days due to extremely cold weather than to snow. (Yesterday was the first time the students had outdoor recess in quite a while.)

- This past Saturday the Little Way Ladies' group sponsored a scrapbooking event in the parish hall; it seemed to be very well-received. \$1200 was raised, half of which will go to the St. Vincent de Paul Society.
- Last month I mentioned that because of a winter storm, only about 70 people attended the special Shroud of Turin presentation which we hosted on Monday February 2. The good news is that this group will be returning to our general area this September, with a presentation at Sts. Cyril & Methodius in Sterling Heights, one at St. Edward in Lakeport, and possibly several others; this means those who missed out last month will have another opportunity to see this very powerful and inspirational event.
- Last week, as part of the Lenten speaker series at St. Mary Queen of Creation in New Baltimore, I have a talk on "Forgiveness: The Key to Freedom and Happiness." I will repeat that talk here at I.C. in three weeks, on Tuesday March 24 in church after the 6:30 pm Mass.
- As you may have read in the bulletin, we are attempting to reestablish a Stewardship Commission (which died out for lack of interest back in 2012, prior to implementing the Changing Lives Together capital campaign). An information meeting will be held next Monday, March 9 at 7pm; if there is sufficient interest, the Commission will be reconstituted.
- Fr. Alex Kratz spoke at the Masses this past Sunday (as he has been at other vicariate parishes) to promote the Blue Water Vicariate pilgrimage to the Holy Land this coming October. Apparently several people expressed a possible interest in taking part.
- Our parishioner David Tomaszewski, a seminarian studying in Rome, will be ordained a deacon in Rome this October 1. With the help of a travel agency, he is arranging for a parish pilgrimage to Rome, which will last from Saturday September 26 to Saturday October 3. I am tentatively scheduled to take part as the group's spiritual director. Some information was given in the bulletin this past weekend; more details will be provided as they become known.

**FINANCE COUNCIL: - Fr. Joe reported – no minutes provided.**

- The last meeting focused on cash based vs. accrual based accounting. The AOD is having us switch to accrual based accounting July 1<sup>st</sup> of this year.

**COMMISSION REPORTS:**

**Worship Commission – Fr. Joe and Mary Kot reported – minutes attached.**

- Confirmation interviews are underway; I am meeting individually with all 50+ candidates for 10 minutes each. Most of the students so far seem to be fairly well-prepared.
- The Lenten penance service for our Faith Formation students was held yesterday; a similar service for the school students will be held next week.
- The vicariate Lenten penance services will be held in several weeks (Wed. March 18 at St. Mary in Port Huron, Thurs. March 19 at St. Mary Queen of Creation in New Baltimore, and Sat. March 21 at St. Mary in St. Clair).
- Our next Mass of Reparation will be on Monday March 16 at 7pm.
- The Scrutinies for our Elect (part of the catechumenate process) begin this weekend (with one such ceremony at each of the remaining weekends of Lent).
- There will be a special "behind-the-scenes" tour of church after the 4:30pm and 12 noon Masses this weekend; also, a flyer giving an outline of the Mass and a description of items and places in church will be inserted in this weekend's bulletin.
- A parishioner asked if it would be possible to celebrate the Feast of the Annunciation of the Lord – Wednesday March 25 – in a special way this year, such as with a catered breakfast after the morning

Mass. He gave a donation which would more than cover this expense, so we're tentatively scheduling such a celebration for that day – to which everyone who attends Mass that morning will be invited.

**Christian Service Commission – No report – no minutes provided.**

**Education Commission – Laura Somogy reported – minutes attached.**

Additional Notes:

- The scrapbooking event was a big success. All in attendance seemed to have a wonderful time and \$1,200 was raised. The money was split between St. Vincent de Paul and the St. Mary's Food Pantry.

**Long Term Planning – No report – No minutes provided.**

**Vicariate Pastoral Council (VPC) – No report – minutes attached.**

**Evangelization – No representative – minutes attached.**

**NEW BUSINESS:** Information was presented about Camp Ozanam. They are looking for 600 campers for this summer. They would also like additional counselors.

**OLD BUSINESS:** None

**OPEN FORUM:** There was a question about the paint on the floor of the church coming up when wiped with baby wipes. The issue will be referred to Bob DeBusschere for review.

**Meeting closed with a prayer at 8:05 PM.**

**Next Meeting:** May 5, 2015 following the 6:30 PM Mass

**Minutes Respectfully Submitted:** Amy O'Gara, Recording Secretary

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION PARISH COUNCIL

CHRISTIAN SERVICE MEETINGS – FEBRUARY, MARCH 2015

OPENED WITH OUR PRAYER

ATTENDANCE: FOUR MEMBERS IN FEB., EIGHT MEMBERS IN MARCH

APPROVAL OF JANUARY 6, 2015 MINUTES

ROSARY MAKERS HAVE BEEN MEETING AFTER 10 AM MASS ON COFFEE/DONUT SUNDAYS

FUNERAL LUNCHESES – NO LUNCHESES IN FEB., ONE LUNCH IN MARCH

HANDCRAFTER'S MEET 1<sup>ST</sup> AND 3<sup>RD</sup> WEDNESDAYS IN THE PARISH HALL AT NOON

COFFEE/DONUT SUNDAY WAS HELD FEB. 1<sup>ST</sup> AND MARCH 8<sup>TH</sup>

ST. JOSEPH LAYETTE – ARTICLES WENT IN THE PAPER – FINISHED COLLECTING ITEMS MARCH 15<sup>TH</sup>, SORTED ITEMS ON MONDAY, MARCH 16<sup>TH</sup> – WHEN ADDITIONAL ITEMS ARE PURCHASED WE WILL HAVE 18 LAYETTES TO TAKE TO CATHOLIC SOCIAL SERVICES

BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION FOR FATHER JOE'S 60<sup>TH</sup> BIRTHDAY WILL BE HELD AFTER THE 4:30 MASS ON APRIL 25<sup>TH</sup> IN THE PARISH HALL. WE WILL PROVIDE TWO MEATS AND BEVERAGES. PEOPLE ARE TO BRING A DISH TO PASS

BLOOD DRIVE WILL BE HELD SUNDAY, MAY 3<sup>RD</sup> FROM 8 AM TO 2 PM IN THE PARISH HALL. KARILYN FEHLMAN WILL BE MAKING PHONE CALLS SO PEOPLE CAN MAKE AN APPOINTMENT.

CHARITY POKER HAS RETURNED. THERE WILL BE ONE HELD JUNE 1<sup>ST</sup>-4<sup>TH</sup> AT CICCARELLI'S. ANYONE INTERESTED IN HELPING IS WELCOME TO VOLUNTEER.

NEW BUSINESS:

LITTLE BLESSINGS PLAYGROUP AND LITTLE WAY LADIES WILL BE REPORTING TO CHRISTIAN SERVICE IN THE FUTURE.

NEXT MEETING WILL BE TUESDAY, APRIL 14<sup>TH</sup>

NEXT COFFEE/DONUT SUNDAY IS APRIL 19<sup>TH</sup>

CLOSED WITH A PRAYER

Education Commission Unapproved Minutes  
March 9th, 2015 at 6:30pm

Attendance: Margo Chilcott, Tina Kovalcik, Diane Polcyn, Ashley Sebastian, Laura Somogy  
Excused: Anna, Beth, Pat

Opened with Prayer led by Diane at 5:39pm.

Middle School Youth Group Report:

- Exploring new dates for meetings for summer and fall. Current Members along with Parent input is being sought for analysis.
- Venerable Solanus Casey Center Field Trip was postponed.
- In April EDGE will meet at I.C. On the 19th. NET Retreat is also that day and all EDGE 7th and 8th Graders have been invited to attend.

Faith Formation:

- April 20th, Penny Drive Reward for the Faith Formation Boys
- May 4th, Fun Faith Day Closing Program, featuring awards, presentations, hot dogs and cupcakes.
- March 23rd, 1st-8th grade will attend Stations of the Cross-invited parents to come.
- 45 7th graders will be attending the Retreat set for Saturday, March 14th.
- The 8th Graders in the school will be starting Theology of the body for Middle Schoolers. The parent meeting has been set for March 11th at 6:30pm. From March 12th through 20th they will be receiving all 8 chapters.
- On March 12th, the school children 2nd through 8th grade will have their Lenten Penance Service.
- March 14th is 1st Communion Picture Day. Make up is March 30th at 3:15pm.
- March 21st is the 1st Communion Workshop.
- April 3rd is the Good Friday Journey. Open to all children ages 5-12. It takes place for no charge in the school from 1pm-4pm.
- R.C.I.A. They have their Retreat on Saturday March 28th. They will be fully initiated on April 4th at Easter Vigil.
- The School will be going through the Accreditation process and is scheduled for a site visit on April 28th, 29th, and 30th.
- Reviewed what committees fall under Parish Council and the importance of reporting through those Committees to Council. Lil' Blessings Play Group and The Little Way Ladies Society will report through Christian Service.
- Textbook Review of Faith Formation books are upcoming.

Open Forum: "Dinner and a Movie" *Bernadette*, the official drama shown in Lourdes, will be played. The License to show has been purchased and will be good at Immaculate Conception for 6 months. The Movie will be shown on April 18th. Reservations are recommended and a donation will be accepted at the door. Donations will go toward the purchase of new Chimes for the Bell Choir.

Next Meeting: April 20th at 6:30pm  
Closing Prayer

## EVANGELIZATION COMMITTEE MINUTES

**MARCH 24, 2015**

The meeting opened with the "Prayer for Evangelization in a Parish" at 5:15pm.

### ATTENDANCE:

Title	Name	Present	Absent
Committee Chair:	Randy Proctor	X	
Committee Vice-Chair:	Ray Somogy		X
Secretary:	Mike Nagrant	X	
Evangelization Coordinator:	Deacon Ken Nowicki		X
Evangelization Coordinator:	Jane Mount		X
Members (8):	Carol Gawel		X
	Kathleen Grimm	X	
	Barbara Nagrant		X
	Amy O'Gara		X
	John O'Gara		X
	Jim Polcyn		X
	Laura Somogy	X	
	Theresa Whitenight		X

**MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETING:** We reviewed and accepted the minutes from the previous meeting. As the group attending this meeting was very small, it was difficult to address some of the line items with any detail. It is hoped that next month's meeting will be attended by more members so we can make some significant progress with the plans we have begun to plan.

**VICARIATE REPORT:** Kathleen attended the Vicariate meeting and found out that our proposal to host a vicariate wide SPSE training session here at IC in May was tabled and may now occur in September instead. Budget issues were cited as the reason, and if they wait until September, this can be allocated for the next fiscal year. The funds needed are approximately \$2500.

### OLD BUSINESS:

- **St. Paul Street Evangelization:** The sessions that were held so far at the fish fry have been successful, and there have been some good conversations that occurred at these encounters. We hope to establish some firm teams with more membership participation so that we can be

ready to have a meaningful presence at the Perch Festival this year on July 17,18, & 19. All are encouraged to take the online training in preparation for this. The link for this training is: <http://members.streetevangelization.com/>. Select "Log in" as shown in the snippet below, enter the user ID and password, then select "Basic Evangelization Training". You will then be ready to take the training. The User ID is **iraparish** and the password is **jesus123**.

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- Randy also shared some tips with us for effective evangelization:
  1. You should have a Bible and the "Scriptural Reference" pamphlet handy to refer to if necessary.
  2. The conversation should be all about your story of how you came to discover your true relationship with Jesus, not about your background or your life. Stay focused on the story. That is what they want to hear.
  3. Try not to use "Catholicese" words during your conversations. Just stick to plain English to more effectively communicate with others who may not be familiar with our jargon.
  4. Do not negatively talk about any other faith or religion.
- **ChristLife Reunion:** The plans for the ChristLife Potluck Reunion of all the 2014 and 2015 ChristLife participants has been tabled until we can discuss this in detail at our next meeting when more members are present. Carol

and Jane were investigating dates that would not be in conflict with other church events.

- **Parish Council Handbook-** Summary of our top recommended actions:
  1. To discern and propose evangelization strategies and programs for the parish, in conjunction with the parish commissions/committees. (Fish Fry, Perch Festival, etc.)
  2. To assist the Christian Service Commission in helping their ministers to discover best practices sharing the faith while meeting the physical needs of those whom they serve. (Laura may attend this commission meeting to get started with this.)
  3. To assist the Worship Commission in establishing and training a hospitality team for Sunday liturgies.
  
- Kathleen asked that we consider adding another committee member to attend the VPC meetings as a back-up when she is unable to do so. (Tabled until next meeting)
  
- The committee expressed the need to have parish funds available to continue our work of evangelization. Jane will discuss this at the staff meeting and request that the Evangelization committee be added to the parish budget. (Tabled until next meeting)
  
- We have obtained a printout of our Parish Boundaries so the evangelization committee are all aware of where we can provide evangelization activities. This file will be attached to the email that accompanies these minutes.
  
- A Parish Mission is very likely to occur next year for our parish to energize evangelization. Jane is working on this, and it is quite possible it will include the participation of Fr. Ben Luedtke.

### **New Business:**

- Randy introduced the possibility of forming a prayer group for the purposes of praying for our leaders in government, persecuted Christians in America, and the success of our evangelization efforts.



Our meeting ended at 6:15pm with prayer.

**Our next meeting is planned for Tuesday, April 21, 2015**, assuming there are no parish event conflicts with this date.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael Nagrant



**IMMACULATE CONCEPTION**  
**LONG TERM PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES**  
**Tuesday March 10, 2015 –Un-Approved**

Attendees:      Father Joe Esper      ☒ Gordon Birgbauer      ☒ Jim Haase      ☒ Ron Vigneron  
                         ☒ Jim Mattina      ☒ Bob DeBusschere      Jeff Wooten      ☒ Dennis Cyr  
                         ☒ Robert Clancy

**Call to Order / Opening Prayer**

Father Joe addressed the Committee excusing himself from the evenings meeting due to his sick condition.  
Meeting was called to order at 7:10 pm  
Ron V. led the group in an opening prayer  
Meeting minutes from the January 13 meeting was reviewed & approved

**Church Repair Update:**

- Boiler Access doors will be rebuilt & reinforced by Bob D. Bob D. will gather up the material needed. Schedule proposal at May meeting.
- Man Door to Basement; Completed
- Church Front Door Refinishing; Proposed Schedule to be presented at the May meeting.

**Changing Lives Together Update:** No Change

- Goal      \$ 559,385.00
- Pledges/Gifts:      413 / 29% of the registered families
- Pledge Total:      \$ 527,864.50
- Short of Goal      \$ 31,520.50

**Gymnasium Update:**

- Wall replace, rework or repair.
  - On Hold until after school is out & walls can be evaluated with a few more months of draining / drying out.
  - Upper steel walls are dirty & in need of cleaning. Bob D. to contact Jarvis get a quote to clean them. Gordon B. to give Bob a second company to quote also.

**Handicap Parking:**

- Two spots will be added by the garage in the spring. Location to be discussed at the May Meeting.

**School Update:**

- Multipurpose Room Storage Area: Bob D. is complete including painting.

**M-29 Road Work:**

- No updates

## **LONG TERM PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES**

**Tuesday Marc 10, 2015 –Un-Approved page 2**

### Garage Electrical:

- Smerek Electric will separate all outlets in Fathers car bay to a dedicated 20amp min service.
- Festival should look at the current refrigerators used & power draw.

### Open discussion:

- Parish office back door needs repair. The footing has raised the threshold which has forced the bottom of the door to be cut. Bob D. to get with Holsbeke to see what can be done to insulate the footing area.
- The gym entrance has an area where the slab is raise enough to cause a trip hazard. Bob D. said he will fix the problem immediately.
- A parishioner had brought up a concern about the resealing of the church floor. Bob D. address the process of sealing the floor with Detroit Spectrum as well as inspected the floor for the area of concern. No evidence of the sealer coming off was found. Bob D. will periodically inspect the floor & LTPC to get more information from the parishioner on the location of the concern.
- LTPC to look a partitioning Fathers garage from the rest of the storage area. Further discussing to follow at the next meeting with material cost with parish labor for this project.
- The new fans in the gym to be address to improve the installation to add more security & stability of the units.
- LTPC should look into replacing the oven in the school kitchen with a commercial grade unit.
- Gordon B. addressed the schools process of accreditation. The guidelines are as follows:
  - Any committee meeting with the subject matter to do with “SCHOOL”.
  - Must start off the meeting with the School Mission Statement be read out loud and School Mission Statement must be included in the Committee meeting minutes.
  - Any emails regarding the “SCHOOL” must include the School Mission Statement.
    - Immaculate Conception 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
    - In Christ,
  - This in accordance with our Immaculate Conception School Accreditation Best Practices Policy
- Gordon also passed out a document which has “Guidelines for Interpreting and Scoring Benchmarks”

### Parish Council Representative:

Next Parish Council Meeting 4/7/15

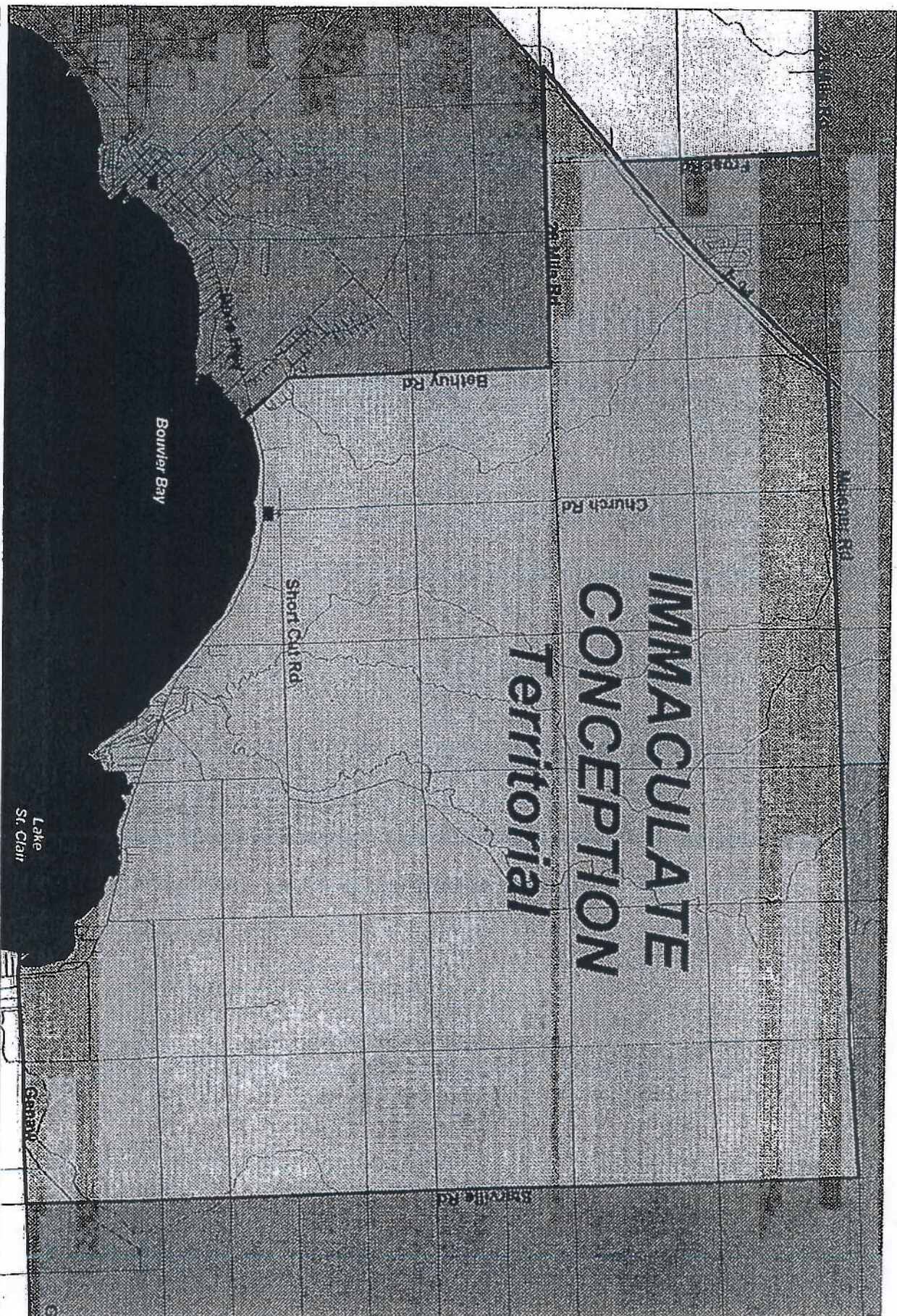
LTPC Representative: Jim Mattina

Next Meeting: May 12, 2015 @ 7:15 pm

**Meeting Adjourn and Closing Prayer at 8:30 pm**



# IMMACULATE CONCEPTION - IRA TOWNSHIP (formerly Anchorville)



The Department of Parish Life (313) 237-5934  
June, 1996

Revised 9/96