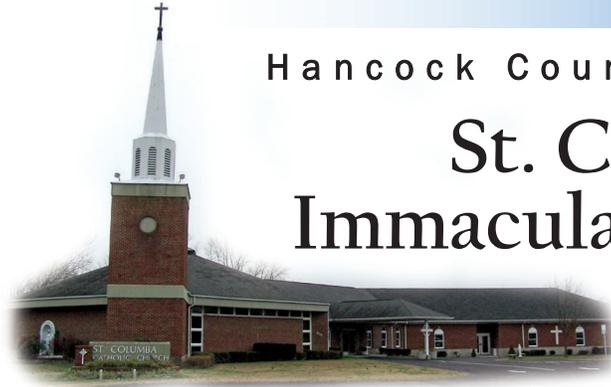


Hancock County Catholic Church St. Columba & Immaculate Conception



Immaculate Conception

P.O. Box 219 • Hawesville, KY 42348
Phone 270-927-8419
Pastoral Council Chairperson,
Gary Elder 270-222-0215

St. Columba

P.O. Box 358 • Lewisport, KY 42351
Phone 270-295-3682
Pastoral Council Chairperson,
Mary Beth Emmick 270-302-6634

Parish Center

240 Court Square, Hawesville, KY 42348
Office Hours M-Th 8:30-3:00 pm
Fax 270-927-6783

Pastoral Team

Fr. Terry Devine, Pastor 927-9908
terry.devine@pastoral.org
Denise Long, CRE 295-3661
icscyouth@aol.com
Becky Monetathchi, Secretary 922-0656
bmonetathchi@aol.com
Church Web Page: icschurch.org
Diocesan Web Page: owensborodiocese.org

Nationwide Mass Times

Call 1-734-794-2100 or www.masstimes.org

Opportunities for Life Hotline

Call (800) 822-5824 for help for those experiencing an untimely pregnancy.

Does Your Marriage Need Help?

Call 800-470-2230 or www.retrouvaille.org

Membership in the Parish

We give a hearty welcome to all new families moving into our Parish. Please register in the Parish Office as soon as possible. Families who plan to move from our parish community are requested to inform us.

Bulletin Articles

Deadline for submission of bulletin articles is on Monday.

St. Vincent de Paul Thrift Store

Phone 295-3494
Meetings are 3rd Wednesday at 4:30 pm
Store hours: M-F 10-4 pm, Sat. 10-2 pm
P.O. Box 391 • 8185 Hwy 60 W • Lewisport, KY 42351
For all of Hancock County

Cycles of Faith

December 3, 2017 1st Sunday of Advent

"Be watchful! Be alert! You do not know when the time will come." On this First Sunday of Advent, Jesus gives us a wakeup call. This is no time for slumber. Now is the time to be on our toes, alert, attentive, ready. But for what? For the coming of "the Lord of the house."

During Advent, the Church does her best to help us get ready for the second coming of Christ. We don't know precisely WHEN he will return, but we know that he will. And the fact is, even if it doesn't happen in our lifetime, each and every one of us will still have to face the Lord at an unknown hour—namely, the hour of our death.

So let us be prepared! Let us be on the watch for anything that would threaten this most important of all encounters. We want to recognize the Lord as a friend and master, so that on seeing him we don't cower in fear at his awesome power and strength. Instead, we hope to rejoice in finally being able to behold him face-to-face. This of course is the result of a healthy and holy relationship with Christ.

To nurture such a relationship this Advent season the Church urges us to recommit to a life of prayer, worthy reception of the sacraments, and a commitment to following God's loving laws through a life of virtue. With these priorities in order, we can wait for the second coming with joyful anticipation, just as we joyfully await the celebration of Christmas.

During these weeks as we prepare our homes for the festive holiday season, may we also set aside some time and effort to prepare our hearts. Then, not only will we appreciate the yuletide wonders around us, but we can also look forward to the eternal wonders that lie in store.



Celebration of the Sacraments

Anointing of the Sick • Celebrated twice a year at the weekend Masses. Anyone who is ill, infirmed or going to surgery may request the anointing by contacting Fr. Terry.

Baptism • Baptism takes place on Sundays during Mass or following Mass. Contact Fr. Terry to set a meeting to prepare for the sacrament and set a date. Baptism for older youths and adults occurs at the Easter Vigil or before marriage.

Reconciliation • Before Mass on Saturday at 4:30 pm, after any Mass, or by appointment with Fr. Terry. Communal services during Advent and Lent. First Reconciliation is celebrated during Advent.

Confirmation • Is celebrated in the seventh and eighth grades or at the Easter Vigil. The Bishop visits every two years and we alternate between the two parishes.

Eucharist • First Eucharist is celebrated during May each year with children in the second grade.

Holy Orders • Contact Fr. Terry if you are interested in the vocations of Priesthood or religious life.

Marriage • Contact Fr. Terry at least 6 months before setting a date for marriage. Couples are to attend Engaged Encounter or the Sponsor Couple Program.

Mass attendance is mandatory for those requesting Sacraments, Fr. Terry.



Advent: How will we prepare?

Every year at about this time we begin to develop a list of names in regards to gift-giving and lists of other things as well. As things begin to pick up in our world of commercialism, so the Church asks us to look into our spiritual lives and make some serious preparations as well. Speaking of a shopping list, what about making a spiritual list, in which we can discern our needs in our relationship with the Lord and others. Maybe we

From Father's Desk

are in need of a few spiritual blue-light specials, which include patience, charity, humility, forgiveness, hope and better and healthier attitudes. As Santa asks small children what they want this coming Christmas, so our Lord is asking the same question: What would you like this coming Christmas? Let us spend this Advent Season pondering this all-important question and may our season of waiting and preparation be spiritually fruitful in our lives. Fr. Terry

LIVE THE LITURGY

On this First Sunday of Advent, we are asked to be watchful and alert. Because of our baptism we are called to be gatekeepers of God's house and God's servants. We have been put in charge of caring for what God has made—the earth around us and our brothers and sisters. Being responsible means being attentive to what is within our care. Are we responsible and attentive stewards or does our attention and focus often wander to things that are not important to the kingdom of God?

NCYC – National Catholic Youth Conference

Thank you to everyone who supported our youth attending NCYC. They had a wonderful spirit filled experience!

Young Adults – Theology on Tap Guest Speaker Wade Gaynor

Join other young adults for Theology on Tap at Los Cabos Mexican Restaurant (2845 W. Parrish Ave.) on Monday, December 11th at 6:00pm to hear Wade Gaynor, a former professional baseball player, speak on our eternal identity found in Christ and how his faith led him to the Catholic Church! Theology on Tap welcomes all faith traditions and is open to young adults ages 18-39. Please contact Charlie Hardesty at charlie.hardesty@pastoral.org or (270) 683-1545 for more information.

Santa Sacks

This year Immaculate Conception and St Columba are collecting Macaroni and Cheese, Green Beans and Stuffing to help with Santa Sacks. Baskets will be placed as you enter church for anyone who wishes to donate the above items to help those in Hancock County have a Merry Christmas. We will be collecting until Sunday December 10th. The give-away is scheduled for Thursday December 14th. Please contact Noel Quinn if you are interested in helping with the give-away.

First Reconciliation

First Reconciliation will be celebrated on Wednesday December 6th at 6:00pm at Immaculate Conception Church. Please keep in prayer the children and their families as they continue in their preparation. This will also be an opportunity for our high school and confirmation youth to go to confession at 6:30pm during Religious Ed. class.

Christmas Caroling December 20th

Join Fr Terry and Santa on their Christmas Caroling journey Wednesday December 20th. They will meet at Immaculate Conception Parish Office at 3:00pm. They will be visiting many of our elderly shut-ins and Heartland Villa. The evening will end at St Columba Parish Hall with refreshments. Bring the family and enjoy an afternoon of jolly singing!

Mass Intentions

Tuesday, December 5

8:00 am † Mike Pate SC
By Catherine Demarest

Wednesday, December 6

5:30 pm † Bob Gray IC
By Denis & Martha Wheatley

Thursday, December 7

No Mass

Friday, December 8

Solemnity of Immaculate Conception

Holy Day of Obligation

8:00 am Past/Present Priests of IC IC
By Noel Quinn

6:00 pm People of the Parish SC

Saturday, December 9

5:00 pm People of the Parish SC

Sunday, December 10

8:30 am † Bob Payne SC
By Knights of Columbus

10:30 am † Delma McManaway IC
By Larry & Judy White

Readings for the Week

December 3, 2017

Sunday: Is 63:16b-17, 19b; 64:2-7/Ps 80:2-3, 15-16, 18-19 [4]/1 Cor 1:3-9/Mk 13:33-37

Monday: Is 2:1-5/Ps 122:1-2, 3-4b, 4cd-5, 6-7, 8-9/Mt 8:5-11

Tuesday: Is 11:1-10/Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17 [cf. 7]/Lk 10:21-24

Wednesday: Is 25:6-10a/Ps 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6 [6cd]/Mt 15:29-37

Thursday: Is 26:1-6/Ps 118:1 and 8-9, 19-21, 25-27a [26a]/Mt 7:21, 24-27

Friday: Gn 3:9-15, 20/Ps 98:1, 2-3, 3-4 [1a]/Eph 1:3-6, 11-12/Lk 1:26-38

Saturday: Is 30:19-21, 23-26/Ps 147:1-2, 3-4, 5-6 [cf. Is 30:18d]/Mt 9:35-10:1, 5a, 6-8

Next Sunday: Is 40:1-5, 9-11/Ps 85:9-10, 11-12, 13-14 [8]/2 Pt 3:8-14/Mk 1:1-8

Faith Sharing Question

Mark 13:33-37

Jesus warns his disciples to be alert for the end-time. How will you practice this spiritual exercise during the season of Advent?

Isaiah 63:16b-17, 19b; 64:2-7

The prophet Isaiah struggles to understand the purpose of God's plans and actions in light of our human sin. Why do you think God remains "hidden" from us?

1 Corinthians 1:3-9

In his opening prayer of thanksgiving to God, Paul speaks to the Corinthians of God's fidelity to believers in the context of the return of Christ. How do you think the season of Advent helps affirm Paul's assertion that "God is faithful"?

Immaculate Conception Mission Statement

As people chosen by God through our baptism, the parish of Immaculate Conception Catholic Church is called to make Christ visible in our family, community and the world. We proclaim God's word in worship, through the sacraments, in hospitality, teaching, repentance, forgiveness and service.

Our goal is that all people may come to know and share in the salvation of Jesus Christ.

Bulletin Board

Sunday, December 3 IC
 2:00 pm Holy Hour
Wednesday, December 6 IC
 6:00 pm Rel. Ed. K-Adult

Advent Penance Service

Our IC/SC Parish Advent Penance Service will be Thursday December 14th at 6:00pm at Immaculate Conception Church. All are invited.

Liturgical Roles

Sunday, December 10

St. Columba, 8:30 am

Eucharistic Min: Mary Masterson
 Mary Beth Emmick, Rosemary Emmick
Lector: Maria Reine
Server: Denny Long
Cross Bearer: Amy Allard
Gift Bearer: Joe & Donna Hagman
Hospitality: David & Shelly Poole
 Dan & Amy Allard
Vocation Statue: Rosemary Neff

Immaculate Conception, 10:30 am

Eucharistic Min: Cheryl Gammon
 Eva Bulleit, Dakota Wheatley
Lector: Angie Curry
Server: Abby Walz, Laura Wheatley
Cross Bearer: Ty Durbin
Gift Bearer: Mark & Amanda Walz
Hospitality: Mike & Sheila Ogle
 Heath & Loretta Stokes
Vocation Statue: Joyce Hare
Children's Liturgy: Aimee Lyday

In Need of Special Prayer

Dexter Marsch, Phyllis Emmick, Joan Peak, Betty Brickey, April Bolin, Frances Storm. Bill McBrayer

Homebound and Heartland Villa

Mary Hinton, Dorothy Beauchamp, Christina Hagan, Frances Payne, Shirley Mobley, Lillie Lanham, Clyde Toler, Mary Coyle

Please call the Parish Office to add or remove names from this bulletin prayer list.

Everyday Stewardship

"What could happen next?" How many times have you asked yourself that question? Unfortunately, we most often use that expression when things don't seem to be going our way. Then sometimes when the stars seem to align just right we might use the same expression to explain our feelings of being overwhelmed by blessings and good things.

Whether it will be a pleasant or dreadful experience, we can say with certainty tomorrow will not go exactly as we envisioned. Our lives are influenced by so many factors and the world is complex. Rather than be surprised by the unexpected, maybe we should expect the unexpected.

Living in this manner causes us to cherish more deeply the gifts we have been given. It helps us to live in the present and become mindful of those around us. Our relationships deepen. Our sense of responsibility builds. Our stewardship way of life finds new meaning and purpose.

This Advent will not be the same experience as last Advent. It remains to be seen what the coming days and weeks have in store for each of us. However, no matter what happens, Jesus Christ is there to welcome us to the unexpected. He will celebrate with us in joy and he will even feel our pain. You can count on the unexpected, but you can also count on him to be there with you. He is, now and forever, Emmanuel, "God with us." He is the expected in all things unexpected.
 -Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

Christmas/New Year's Camp at Gasper

Gasper River Catholic Youth Camp is now taking registrations for this very popular camp date December 29-January 1st. Cost is \$125 and is for ages 8th grade-12th grade. See their website or contact Denise for more information. What a great way to end one year and start the next!

1ST SUNDAY OF ADVENT



Sunday Collections

Immaculate Conception

Weekly Goal\$3,269.00
 Collection 11-19-17\$2,494.00
 Difference under \$775.00
 Mass Attendance 87
 Weekly Goal\$3,269.00
 Collection 11-26-17\$2,551.25
 Difference under \$717.75
 Mass Attendance 143

Week # 22 of 52

Fiscal YTD Goal.....\$71,918
 Fiscal YTD Actual.....\$63,929

IC Building Acquisition Fund

Total Families Pledged 60
 Total Amount Pledged \$190,163
 Total Paid 11-26-17 \$182,783

St. Columba

Weekly Goal.....\$2,308.00
 Collection 11-19-17\$2,838.71
 Difference over..... \$530.71
 Mass Attendance 68/91
 Weekly Goal.....\$2,308.00
 Collection 11-26-17\$1,604.00
 Difference under \$704.00
 Mass Attendance 72/105

Week # 22 of 52

Fiscal YTD Goal \$50,776
 Fiscal YTD Actual..... \$52,051

SC Building Repair Fund

Total Families Pledged 58
 Total Amount Pledged \$50,848
 Total Paid 11-26-17 \$36,043

St. Columba Mission Statement

We, St. Columba Parish, are a living family of God committed to deepening and sharing our faith. We immerse ourselves deeper in our baptism to reach out to those in need, call people to recognize their talents and pray for guidance to lead all people to experience the light of Christ.