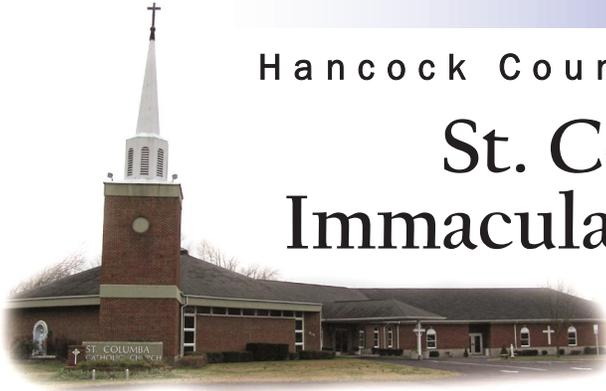


Hancock County Catholic Church St. Columba & Immaculate Conception



Immaculate Conception

P.O. Box 219 • Hawesville, KY 42348
Phone 270-927-8419
Pastoral Council Chairperson,
Rachael Gily..... 270-922-6579

St. Columba

P.O. Box 358 • Lewisport, KY 42351
Phone 270-295-3682
Pastoral Council Chairperson,
Shelby Basham 270-570-5695

Parish Office

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 270-860-0924
terry.devine@pastoral.org
Denise Long, Adult Ministry 270-295-3661
icscyouth@aol.com
Jill Frakes, Youth Ministry 270-302-8459
jfrakes@gmail.com
Becky Monetathchi, Secretary . 270-922-0656
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 270-295-3494
Store hours: M-F 10-4 pm, Sat. 10-2 pm
P.O. Box 391 • 8185 Hwy 60 W • Lewisport, KY 42351

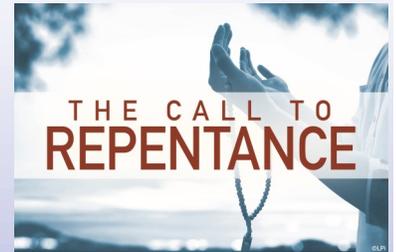
Cycles of Faith

3rd Sunday of Advent

In Christianity, we hear often about the "Good News." We might often associate it with Jesus' compassion to the poor, his healings and miracles, and the salvation he won for us. In today's Gospel, we read of John the Baptist. "Exhorting them in many other ways, he preached good news to the people." Yet as we examine the rest of the reading, we see examples of John's preaching. If you have two cloaks, give one away. Don't cheat others out of their money, extort, or lie. And, of course, the warning that the Messiah is on the move and "his winnowing fan is in his hand to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his barn, but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire." Merry Christmas?

Not only do John's listeners enjoy his message, but they seem to think he might be the awaited Messiah! To understand today's Gospel, it's important to understand the Jewish people. For most of their history, God's chosen people had been under someone else's heel. They were slaves in Egypt. Their kingdoms were ravaged first by the Assyrians, then the Babylonians. Now they were under the yoke of the Roman Empire. Familiar with being strangers in a strange land, welcoming the stranger, caring for the vulnerable, and enacting justice was incredibly important to them as a people. While John's words may seem odd or strong to our modern ears, this call to justice was welcome, even if it was directed at the hearer.

The truth is, no one is exempt from John's call to repentance. We all have further to go in the Christian life. We can all grow in virtue and love our neighbors more generously. The Church gives us the Advent season to examine our own hearts. Did any of John's warnings resonate with you? That could be a great thing to bring to Jesus this week!



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.



From Father's Desk

The Works of Jesus

On this 3rd Sunday of Advent we hear Jesus telling the followers of John the Baptist that the works He has done in healing the sick and raising the dead gives testimony that His mission is real and that He was sent by His Father. As our Advent Season continues and Christmas approaches, may we allow Jesus our Savior to heal us of our sins and transgressions. May He open our eyes to see - our ears to hear

His message and to raise us up to new life as we approach His birthday. God bless you, Fr. Terry.

LIVE THE LITURGY

This Gaudete Sunday calls us to rejoice because the Lord is near. Does your heart rejoice and sing, or are the pressures and burdens of life weighing you down? We can easily become overwhelmed. The weaknesses and sins of life, indeed our own weakness and sin, eat away at the joy and hope God wants us to know. Those who are grounded in their faith and possess deep spiritual lives know that God is near. Realizing this puts life into perspective. We really want to be free from our burdens but do not always know how to achieve this. We keep stumbling and falling. Advent is a time when we can learn to "do life differently," just like John the Baptist instructed the crowds. Joy and hope are the gifts God offers, not anxiety and despair.



Anointing of the Sick

Next weekend we will celebrate the Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick during Mass. Reach out and invite all who are sick in body or spirit to come to Mass next weekend for this healing sacrament.

ANOINTING of the SICK...

Christmas Mass Schedule

Everyone is invited to come to our **Christmas Eve Mass** at St. Columba on December 24th. Come early at 4:30 pm and sing along with our choir the traditional Christmas music to enjoy as a family. Mass will begin at 5:00 pm. For those who enjoy ringing in the Christmas Season please come to our **Christmas Eve Mass** at Immaculate Conception. The choir will greet you with the beautiful sounds of Christmas beginning at 9:30 pm and Mass beginning at 10:00 pm. For those who were not able to be with us on Christmas Eve or for those who wish to continue to celebrate the season are welcome to attend our **Christmas Day Mass** at Immaculate Conception at 10:30 am.

Host a First Sunday Lunch at Immaculate Conception

First Sunday Lunch was well attended, and host have signed up for January and February. We are still in need of host for March, April and May! Consider being a host. Host will decide the lunch menu and request volunteer assistance where needed. Host names and numbers will be posted in the bulletin and parishioners are invited to contact the host and volunteer, donate or contribute to the meal. Families, friends or groups can volunteer to host. Please consider being a host and sign up as you enter church or contact the church office.

Advent Parish Penance Service

Advent is a time to prepare. A time to prepare for Christmas; a time to prepare for the Lord. Let confession be a part of your preparation. Join us for an Advent Penance Service on Monday December 17th at 6:00pm at Immaculate Conception Catholic Church. All are welcome.

Mass Intentions

Tuesday, December 18

10:00 am † Ora Roby HV
By Rearden Family

Wednesday, December 19

5:30 pm † June Fowler IC
By Kay Adkins

Thursday, December 20

8:00 am † Joseph Lee Nally SC
By Betty Nally

Friday, December 21

8:00 am † Patsy Frey IC
By Leo & Florence Howard

Saturday, December 22

5:00 pm People of the Parish SC

Sunday, December 23

8:30 am † Dot Bratcher SC
By Rob Spalding

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

Readings for the Week

December 16, 2018

Sunday: Zep 3:14-18a/Is 12:2-3, 4, 5-6 [6]/
Phil 4:4-7/Lk 3:10-18

Monday: Gn 49:2, 8-10/Ps 72:1-2, 3-4ab, 7-8,
17 [cf. 7]/Mt 1:1-17

Tuesday: Jer 23:5-8/Ps 72:1-2, 12-13, 18-19
[cf. 7]/Mt 1:18-25

Wednesday: Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a/Ps 71:3-4a, 5
-6ab, 16-17 [cf. 8]/Lk 1:5-25

Thursday: Is 7:10-14/Ps 24:1-2, 3-4ab, 5-6 [cf.
7c and 10b]/Lk 1:26-38

Friday: Sg 2:8-14 or Zep 3:14-18a/Ps 33:2-3,
11-12, 20-21 [1a; 3a]/Lk
1:39-45

Saturday: 1 Sm 1:24-28/1 Sm 2:1, 4-5, 6-7,
8abcd [cf. 1a]/Lk 1:46-56

Next Sunday: Mi 5:1-4a/Ps 80:2-3, 15-16, 18-
19 [4]/Heb 10:5-10/Lk 1:39-45

Faith Sharing Question

First Reading

The prophet Zephaniah was active during the reign of King Josiah (640-609 B.C.), just prior to fall of Jerusalem to the Babylonians. He was in many ways a prophet of doom, yet today's prophesies are filled with hope for a new beginning. As a person of faith, how do you find hope in difficult situations?

Second Reading

St. Paul's letter to the Philippians is often called a "letter of joy." Today's reading offers a prime example of Paul's spiritual happiness. Who are the people in your faith community that model spiritual joy?

Gospel Reading

John the Baptist challenges the crowds, tax collectors, and soldiers to live a righteous and honorable life as a way to prepare for the coming of the Lord. In what ways is this message a challenging spiritual exercise even today?

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

Wednesday, December 19

No Religious Ed. Class

Thursday, December 20

No RCIA

3:00 pm Christmas Caroling

Religious Education

No class December 19. See you back January 9th! Enjoy your Christmas break!

Liturgical Roles

Sunday, December 23

St. Columba, 8:30 am

Eucharistic Min: Mary Masterson

Todd Payne, Rosemary Emmick

Lector: Bailey Poole

Server: Denny Long

Cross Bearer: David Emmick

Gift Bearer: Joe & Donna Hagman

Hospitality: David & Shelly Poole Family

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: John Ogle

Gift Bearer: Mark & Amanda Walz

Hospitality: Mike & Sheila Ogle

Heath & Loretta Stokes

Vocation Statue: Joyce Hare

Christmas Caroling

Join Fr. Terry and Santa for Christmas Caroling on Thursday December 20th. Everyone will gather at Immaculate Conception parish office at 3:00pm. Carolers will visit our shut-ins and proceed to Heartland Villa and The Oaks. The group will end the evening at St. Columba for a light dinner, hot chocolate and Christmas goodies!

Flower Donations

Give a donation for Christmas flowers in memory of a loved one. Use your Christmas flower envelope and write the name of your loved one on the envelope. All names will be listed in a special bulletin insert in our December 23rd Christmas bulletin.

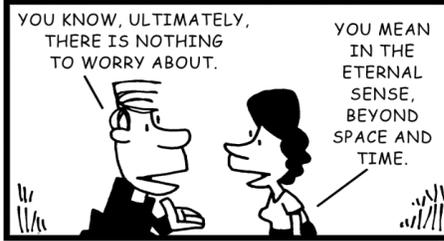
Help Needed Santa Sacks

Help with the set up or distribution of Santa Sacks. Set up will begin 9am on Wednesday December 19th at Immaculate Conception Parish Hall. The give-away will begin at noon on Thursday December 20th.

Eucharistic Adoration

We are excited to offer a new ministry in our parishes scheduled to begin January 8, 2019! Eucharistic Adoration at Immaculate Conception and St Columba. We are asking for participants willing to commit to a weekly hour of prayer and adoration with Jesus in front of the Blessed Sacrament. Adoration will be at IC on Tuesdays from 7:00am-7:00pm and at SC on Thursdays from 7:00am-7:00pm. A sign up as you enter church is available for participants to choose an hour for their commitment. A meeting in the church is scheduled on Sunday January 6th following the 8:30am and 10:30am Mass times for all who have signed up for Eucharistic Adoration. This is a wonderful ministry that brings spiritual growth and miracles to our community. For questions or more information please contact Denise or Jill at the church office.

3RD SUNDAY OF ADVENT



Sunday Collections

Immaculate Conception	
Weekly Goal	\$3,208.00
Collection 12-09-18	<u>\$2,077.00</u>
Difference under	\$1,131.00
Mass Attendance	123

Week # 11 of 53	
Fiscal YTD Goal	\$76,992
Fiscal YTD Actual	\$74,569



St. Columba	
Weekly Goal	\$2,264.00
Collection 12-09-18	<u>\$3,946.00</u>
Difference over	\$1,682.00
Mass Attendance	79/165

Week # 11 of 53	
Fiscal YTD Goal	\$54,336
Fiscal YTD Actual	\$55,895

SC Building Repair Fund	
Total Families Pledged	58
Total Amount Pledged	\$51,518
Total Paid 12-09-18	\$43,541

In Need of Special Prayer

Phyllis Emmick, Kevin Gearlds,
Gloria Gray

Homebound or Nursing Homes

Betty Brickey, Frances Storm, Mary Hinton,
Lillie Lanham, Dorothy Beauchamp,
Thomas Flood, Shirley Mobley,
Carl Pendley, Gene Toler

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

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.