

Immaculate Conception Catholic Church

A parish served by the Paulist Fathers since 1973

Celebrating over 160 years of service to God and God's People

The Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time February 23, 2020

414 West Vine Avenue Knoxville, Tennessee 37902-1327

Tel: (865) 522-1508

E-mail: icoffice@bellsouth.net

Website: icknoxville.org



MASS SCHEDULE

Weekend

Saturday: 6 p.m.

Sunday: 8:30, 10, 11:30 a.m.

Weekdays

Monday - Friday: 12:10 p.m.*

Saturday: 8:30 a.m.

*The church is open from 11 a.m. until the end of Mass.

DEVOTIONS

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament: First Friday after 12:10 p.m. Mass

Rosary: First Saturday after 8:30 a.m. Mass

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Monday - Friday: 11:45 a.m. - 12 noon

Saturday: 5 - 5:30 p.m. or by appointment

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Parents must attend a preparation meeting. Please call the parish office to register in advance.

SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE

6 months preparation time required. Contact one of the priests to schedule an appointment. Deposit required to secure date. Request a copy of the Wedding Guidelines from the parish office.

FAITH FORMATION FOR CHILDREN

(September - May)

Pre-K (age 4) - 5th grade: 10 - 11:15 a.m. Sundays

6th - 12th grade: 7 - 8:30 p.m. Wednesdays

CALVARY CEMETERY

1916 Martin Luther King Jr Ave Knoxville, TN 37915

Volunteer Work Day: Second Saturday, 10 a.m. - noon

For information, please call the parish office.

SCHOOL

St. Joseph School (PK - 8th grade) www.sjsknox.org
1810 Howard Drive Knoxville, TN 37918 (865) 689-3424

TWIN PARISH

St. Francis Xavier in Fond des Blancs, Haiti

PARKING

Free Sunday morning Mass parking is available in the Eagles' lot across Cafego Place, the LMU lots on Locust Street and Cafego Place, and the Crowne Plaza parking garage. On weekdays, the **only** free parking available is our own parking lot.

Free parking for evening (after 5 p.m.) and weekend events is available in the LMU lots on Locust Street and Cafego Place.

PASTORAL STAFF

Fr. Ronald Franco, CSP, VF.....Pastor

Email: rfrancosp@aol.com

Phone Extension: 23

Fr. Tim Sullivan, CSP.....Associate Pastor

Email: tsullivancsp@gmail.com

Phone Extension: 24

Deacon Joe Stackhouse.....Permanent Deacon

Email: jrstackhse@aol.com

Deacon Doug BitzerPermanent Deacon

Email: wmbitzer63@gmail.com

Brigid Johnson.....Dir. of Rel. Ed. & Faith Formation

Email: brigidjohnson50@gmail.com

Phone Extension: 28

Karl Jacob.....Dir. of Music Ministry

Email: KarlJake@gmail.com

Phone Extension: 30

Amanda Peavyhouse.....Cantor

ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

Jenifer DillsBusiness Manager

Email: icbulletin@bellsouth.net

Phone Extension: 29

Nancy Brennan StrangeReceptionist

Email: icoffice@bellsouth.net

Phone Extension: 21

Ed Stokes.....Facilities and Systems Maintenance Dir.

Cell: (865) 243-6903

OFFICE HOURS

Monday-Friday: 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

BULLETIN

Deadline is noon on Monday unless otherwise specified. Announcements may be mailed or e-mailed to Jenifer Dills.

Find us on Facebook: *Immaculate Conception Church*



From the Pastor:

Lent begins this week with **Ash Wednesday**. *The use of ashes is a survival from an ancient rite according to which converted sinners submitted themselves to canonical penance. The act of putting on penance symbolizes fragility and mortality, and the need to be redeemed by the mercy of God* (Congregation for Divine Worship and the Discipline of the Sacraments, *Directory on Popular Piety and the Liturgy*, 125). Although not obligatory, the reception of ashes is a powerful external sign of the Lenten season's serious challenge to each of us to re-examine our own familiar patterns of life in light of Christ's call to repentance and a new life of holiness.

Ash Wednesday is just the beginning of Lent. I encourage everyone to take maximum advantage of the many Lenten devotions and other parish activities that enrich our observance of this season. In particular, I invite everyone to join in praying the **Stations of the Cross** together on Friday evenings at 7:00 p.m. (and to enjoy wonderful food and fellowship at the **Friday Fish Dinner** hosted by the Knights of Columbus, Council 645, immediately before the Stations at 6:00 p.m.). *Throughout Lent, every Friday is observed, since very ancient times, as a commemoration of the Lord's Passion and the faithful easily direct their devotions towards the mystery of the Cross* (Congregation for Divine Worship and the Discipline of the Sacraments, *Directory on Popular Piety and the Liturgy*, 127).

Lent is such a special time in the Church's year and in each of our lives. It is especially experienced that way in the rituals surrounding the preparation of adult catechumens for Baptism and of candidates for Reception into the Full Communion of the Catholic Church. On the 1st Sunday of Lent, Bishop Stika will celebrate the Rite of Election of Catechumens and the Call to Continuing Conversion of those preparing for Reception into Full Communion at the Cathedral of the Sacred Heart. In preparation for that, our **Parish Celebration of Sending our Catechumens and Candidates to the Cathedral** will take place next Sunday at the 10:00 a.m. Mass. While these rites are especially focused on those preparing for the sacraments of initiation at Easter, our celebration of Lent enables all of us to identify with them on their journey of conversion, repentance, and renewal, joining with them in listening more intently than ever to God's word and practicing the works of mercy.

A Knoxville Lenten tradition is the brief mid-week ecumenical service each Wednesday at 12:00 noon, followed by a simple lunch, sponsored by one of the five downtown churches. **Immaculate Conception will host the service and lunch on March 25.**

The season of Lent is also an especially appropriate time for celebrating the **Sacrament of Penance**. Confessions are heard at Immaculate Conception Monday through Friday before Mass from 11:45 a.m. to 12:00 noon, and on Saturdays from 5:00 to 5:30 p.m. Also, as in past years, we will offer an evening Penitential Service with confessions. **This Lenten Penance Service will be offered jointly with Holy Ghost parish and will take place at Holy Ghost Church on Monday, March 30, at 7:00 p.m.**

Ronald A. Lauer, CSP



Welcome to our Visitors. We extend a warm welcome to all the visitors who are celebrating Mass with us this weekend.



Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults:

Interested in becoming a Catholic or exploring the Catholic Faith? Our Inquiry group meets on **Monday evenings at 7 p.m. in the parish hall.** For info, call Brigid Johnson at (865) 522-1508 ext. 28. Our next meeting is **Feb. 24.**

On **Mar. 1**, our Catechumens and Candidates will go to the Cathedral at 4 p.m. for the **Rite of Election.** They will then become the “Elect” in the final step before Baptism and Reception into the Church at the Easter Vigil.



The Parish Pastoral Council will meet on **Tues., Feb. 25, at 7 p.m.** in the parish office.



Ash Wednesday: Lent begins this week with Ash Wednesday on **Feb. 26.** Ashes will be blessed and distributed at each of the Masses that day – **12:10 p.m. and 7 p.m.** Ash Wednesday is also a day of Fast and complete Abstinence from meat.

Lenten Fast and Abstinence: For members of the Catholic Church, the norms on fasting on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are obligatory from age 18 until age 59. When fasting, a person is permitted to eat one full meal, as well as two smaller meals that together are not equal to a full meal. The norms concerning abstinence from meat, which apply to Ash Wednesday, the Fridays of Lent, and Good Friday, are binding upon members of the Catholic Church from age 14 onwards. Besides those outside the age limits, the sick, the frail, the pregnant and nursing women are excused from fasting and abstinence.

Lenten Friday Fish Dinner and Stations of the Cross: We will make the Stations of the Cross as a parish community every Friday in Lent at **7 p.m.**, concluding with Exposition and Benediction of the Most Blessed Sacrament. The Stations will be preceded each week at **6 p.m.** by a traditional Lenten Friday Fish Dinner sponsored by the Knights of Columbus, Council 645.

The Little Black Book for Lent is available on the table in the vestibule.



A Catholic Family Benefits Presentation, sponsored by the Knights of Columbus, will be held **today, following each of the Sunday Masses, downstairs in the parish hall.** We

invite all men, wives, and their families to attend. Come and see how the Knights of Columbus can help protect your family, help you grow your faith, become a better Catholic man, husband, and father, and why your Church, Community, and Country need you to be a Knight of Columbus now more than ever.

K of C Monthly Breakfast: Please join us downstairs in the parish hall **this morning** for the monthly breakfast prepared by the Knights of Columbus, Council 645.

Save the Date! **Sun., Mar. 1, at 4 p.m.**

God So Loved the World

Lenten meditations in scripture and song

Featuring Knoxtet vocal ensemble and the combined choirs of Immaculate Conception and Our Lady of Fatima, Alcoa



Special National Collection for Aid to the Church in Central and Eastern Europe:

Please be generous on **Ash Wednesday** with your donation to help with the rebuilding of the Church in Central and Eastern Europe that suffered so much under decades of communist rule.

National Collection for Black and Indian Missions:

A second collection will be taken up next weekend in support of Black and Indian Missions that assists with evangelization efforts in various areas of the U.S. Thank you for your generosity in helping mission dioceses in their work of evangelization and with helping to make Catholic education possible for minority communities.



Adult Confirmation: Bishop Stika will celebrate a **Diocesan-wide Confirmation Mass on Pentecost Sunday, May 31, at 4 p.m. at the Cathedral of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus.** Any adult (18 and over) who has had the sacraments of Baptism, Penance, and First Communion, but has not been confirmed, can receive the sacrament on this date. Anyone who wishes to be confirmed in this celebration should contact the parish office as soon as possible.



IC Women's Group News:

Annual Wrap It Up Project: The ICWG will collect **handmade or purchased lap quilts and afghans** to be distributed to "Meals on Wheels" participants the week before Easter. A collection basket will be available in the back of the church during Lent.

Upcoming Bulletin Deadlines: Announcements for the **Mar. 15 & 22 bulletins** are due on **Mon., Mar. 9.**



Celebrating 100 Years
*Mary's Fiat
Our Yes!*
A Vision for the Future

Mary said "Behold I am the handmaid of the Lord. May it be done to me according to Your word."
Lk 1:38

KNOXVILLE DIOCESAN COUNCIL OF CATHOLIC WOMEN
2020 CONVENTION // APRIL 23-25, 2020

The convention will take place at the Morristown Conference Center Hotel and St. Patrick Church, Morristown, TN. All are welcome!
For more information and registration materials, visit us at www.kdcccw.org

2020 KDCCW CONVENTION SPEAKERS

Patricia Livingston, MA	Sonja Corbitt, Evangelista	Sr. Anna Marie McGuan, RSM
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Calling All Women! *Mary's Fiat, Our Yes: A Vision for the Future:* The Knoxville Diocesan Council of Catholic Women is having its **31st annual convention Apr. 23 - 25 at St. Patrick Church and Best Western Plus Morristown Convention Center in Morristown.** Early Bird Registration only \$115 by Mar. 25. Sonja Corbitt, Evangelista, who has her own programs on Catholic TV, Focus TV, and Christian Associates TV, on various radio stations and wrote *Unleashed* and *How to Pray Like Mary*, plus writes regularly for the *Great Adventure Bible Study Blog* and the *Magnificat* magazine, will conduct two sessions. Contact Susan Collins, (423) 470-2560, scollins51@hotmail.com, or Kathy DeAngelis, (423) 277-6296, krdeangelis@yahoo.com, for information about hotel arrangements and convention. Convention registration forms are available online at <http://www.kdcccw.org>.



Religious Education News

Religious Education classes for PK - 5th grade meet in the parish office building on **Sunday mornings at 10 a.m.** For Registration forms and information, call Brigid Johnson at (865) 522-1508 ext. 28.

Gospel Reflection

In today's Gospel, Jesus is telling us that those who are called to the Kingdom of Heaven are to go beyond the way the world usually works and serve God's kingdom here on earth. Matthew emphasizes that love of God and love of neighbor are the fundamental commands on which all else depend. Because God's love is unconditional, we are to strive to love as God does, though, of course, it is challenging. Is it even possible? The key is in the final verse. We are to be perfect as our heavenly father is perfect. Matthew uses the Greek word *telos*, which is probably better translated here as "complete." We are not to be perfect as in doing everything correctly, that is, as in being absolutely morally correct. We are to be perfect as in striving to reach the completeness we are called to in the Kingdom of Heaven. Attempting to love our enemies is part of striving for that completeness.

Remind your children that Jesus does not expect us to be perfect. Jesus knows that we are human and will not always do everything correctly. Explain that what Jesus wants us to do is to love others as if they were Jesus himself. If we reach out in love to others, we are doing exactly what Jesus did. That is what perfection looks like.



Youth Ministry is open to all middle and high school students in the parish. Confirmation preparation for students in 6th grade or older will take place either in the Catholic schools or in the Youth Ministry program. Thank you to all who helped make our Pancake supper a success. **On Ash Wednesday, we will meet in the youth room before 7 p.m. and go over to the 7 p.m. Mass together.** For more information, please contact Brigid Johnson at (865) 522-1508 ext. 28 or brigidjohnson50@gmail.com.



The annual **Bishop's Gathering for Scouting** will be held **Sat., Mar. 7 at Sacred Heart Cathedral. Mass at 8:05 a.m.,** followed by **Breakfast with Bishop Stika at 9 a.m.,** in the Sacred Heart Cathedral School Artroom (711 Northshore Drive). Purchase tickets online at www.kdcccw.org. For info, call (865) 607-5064.



Thank you to all who contributed to our **Annual Paulist Appeal**. We have received **\$13,501.46** in donations & pledges to date. The Paulist Fathers are so thankful for your continued support and generosity.



Paulist Vocations: Please keep Paulist novice **Ben Chisholm** in your prayers. Ben hails from Northern California. He earned his undergraduate degree from Fordham University and his J.D. from Notre Dame Law School. He most recently worked at Fordham Law School. Ben met our community by attending daily Mass at our mother church, Church of Saint Paul The Apostle, NYC. Please keep Ben and all the Paulist seminarians in your prayers.



Paulist Fathers' Necrology

Throughout the year, the Paulist Fathers remember in their prayers their deceased brother missionaries on the anniversaries of their death. This week, we remember:

William J. Dougherty (2/24/2016)

Richard A. Malloy (2/25/1992)

Albert A. Murray (2/26/1964)



2019 Statements of Giving

To request your copy, please contact Jenifer Dills at icbulletin@bellsouth.net or (865) 522-1508 ext. 29. **Statements are sent upon request only.**



You Can Help Your Marriage: 25% of surveyed couples say they are *Happily Married*. For everyone else, there is *Retrouvaille*. Are you frustrated or angry with each other? Do you argue ... or have you just stopped talking to each other?

Does talking about it only make it worse? *Retrouvaille* helps couples rebuild their marriages. For confidential information or to register for the next program beginning with a weekend on **Mar. 6 – 8**, call (800) 470-2230 or (615) 523-0631, email nrv3043@gmail.com, or visit our web site at www.HelpOurMarriage.com.



2nd Annual Call to Love Marriage Conference

Saturday, March 21, 2020

Sister Anna Marie McGuan, RSM, SSL Director of the Office of Christian Formation will offer three talks on Pope St. John Paul II's "Theology of the Body" and how better understanding his teaching can enrich your marriage.

Cathedral of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus

Begins at noon in the Shea Room

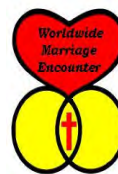
Concludes with Mass at 5:00 p.m.

\$25.00 per couple (lunch included) Each couple will receive discount coupon for Paraclete Catholic Books and Gifts

Registration/payment due by Friday, March 13, 2020

Online registration/payment option <https://tinyurl.com/DoK-Call-to-Love-20> or mail check to the Chancery, Attn. Karen Byrne

Contact: Karen Byrne at kbyrne@dioknox.org or (865) 584-3307



Worldwide Marriage Encounter:

Married Couples and Priests: "Just so, your light must shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your heavenly Father." Let the light of your marriage sacrament shine for all. Make your light bright by attending the next Worldwide Marriage Encounter weekend on **April 17-19** or **June 26-28**. You can get more information or apply online at GATN-wwme.org or by calling (678) 242-WWME.

SISTER JOLITA Supper & Sing-along!

Irish Food	For info, call:
Silent Auction	Mrs. Therese Hurley
Family Entertainment	(865) 247-6119 home
\$5 per child	(865) 441-6774 cell
\$7.50 per adult	(865) 689-3424 SJS office
\$20 for the whole family!	



Saturday,
March 14th

5-8 pm
SJS Gym

Proceeds benefit the Sister Jolita fund for students in need.

Sister Jolita Supper & Sing-Along: Sat., Mar. 14.

Interested in Sponsoring the event? Please call Saint Joseph School at (865) 689-3424 to be a Table Sponsor (\$100, \$250) or an Event Sponsor (\$500, \$1,000, \$2,500) for this worthy cause - helping SJS students in financial need in memory of Sister Mary Jolita Hughes, RSM.



Knoxville Catholic High School is currently seeking an **assistant girls lacrosse coach** for this spring season. Playing or coaching experience is preferred. If interested, please contact Jason Surlas, Athletic Director, at jason.surlas@knoxvillecatholic.com or (865) 560-0506.



We Pray for the Repose of the Soul of
†Denise Howard,
In Memoriam former secretary at St. Joseph School.

Helping our Neighbors: Your help is needed to assist our neighbors at the **Summit Towers Apartments**. Personal hygiene items and household cleaning supplies are needed by the residents. Please purchase any or all of the items listed below, and bring them to church on the weekend when you come to Mass. Thank you!

- toilet paper • bars of soap • toothpaste • tooth brushes
- shampoo • sponges • paper towels • liquid dish detergent
- kitchen size garbage bags • liquid laundry detergent

PILGRIMAGE to SPAIN
 FOOTSTEPS of ST. TERESA of ÁVILA
 Diocese of KNOXVILLE

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 AND HIGHLIGHTS OF CENTRAL EUROPE
 with His Eminence
Cardinal Justin Rigali
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with your host —
Sister Anna Marie
 —McGuan, RSM—

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Heart of the Nation
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Is someone you love unable to join us at church? For the faithful at home or in healthcare settings, the Heart of the Nation Sunday TV Mass brings spiritual comfort. **Please invite anyone you know who cannot get out to church to tune in to Catholic Mass on TV, WKNX channel 7 (The Knox) at 8:30 a.m., or watch online anytime on Sundays at www.HeartoftheNation.org.**

Upcoming Pilgrimages: The Diocese of Knoxville would like to make you aware of two very special pilgrimages. *Sister Anna Marie McGuan, director of Christian Formation for the diocese, is leading a journey to Spain June 1 - 9. Cardinal Justin Rigali will lead a journey to Central Europe and the International Eucharistic Congress Sept. 17 - 27.* Learn more about these spiritual pilgrimages and sign-up at dioknox.org.

Struggling to pass the faith on to the **next generation?**

RECLAIM FATHERHOOD

An event for Catholic men who are tired of living in a world of perpetual adolescence.

Free mini-retreat hosted by international speaker Jimmy Mitchell
 Open to ages 15+ | Scan QR code with your phone's camera to RSVP:

ST. JOHN NEUMANN

SATURDAY, MARCH 28 | 9AM-12PM
 Begins with breakfast and concludes with Mass
 633 St. John Ct
 Knoxville, TN 37934

f **LOVE GOOD**

Join us for
KNOXVILLE'S ANNUAL
Catholic Charities Dinner

MARCH 5, 2020
5:30 PM
at
ROTHCHILD CATERING
+ CONFERENCE CENTER

For tickets or sponsorships, visit www.cctn.org/events or call 865-963-4727



Parish Financial News

Parish Offertory Report*

February 16 Collection	\$	7,593.35
Online Donations:	\$	3,079.62
Needed for Budget each week:	\$	11,779.30
Total Collection YTD:	\$	360,603.68
Total Budgeted YTD:	\$	388,716.90
Gain/(Loss) this fiscal year:	\$	(28,113.22)

*Regular offertory giving only. Does not include income from donations and other collections.

Home Capital Campaign

Total Pledges/Donations:	\$	384,520.51
Total Received/Dec. 2019:	\$	311,970.22
Balance Remaining:	\$	72,550.29
Parish Share/Dec. 2019:	\$	157,236.20

Together....Our Future Fulfilled

St. Joseph School Capital Campaign

Total Pledged:	\$	319,672.00
Total Remitted:	\$	247,043.02
Balance Remaining:	\$	72,628.98

2019 Bishop's Appeal

November 2019

Parish Goal:	\$	52,200.00
Total Committed:	\$	50,363.50
Collections to Date:	\$	45,651.50
Collections Needed:	\$	6,548.50



Online Giving is available with WeShare. You can set up a one-time donation or a recurring transaction using your checking, savings, or credit card account. For more information, visit <https://icknoxville.weshareonline.org>.



The Holy Father's Prayer Intention for

February: *Listen to the Migrants' Cries.* That the cries of our migrant brothers and sisters, victims of criminal trafficking, may be heard and considered.

Diocesan policy states that **all minors must be accompanied by an adult when they use church restrooms.** Please do not send your children downstairs alone to the restroom.



Download Our Parish App to keep up with the latest events and activities at IC. Download today at myparishapp.com or search your phone's app store for **myparish**.

Readings for the Week

Monday: Weekday

Jas 3:13-18 Ps 19:8-10,15 Mk 9:14-29

Tuesday: Weekday

Jas 4:1-10 Ps 55:7-11,23 Mk 9:30-37

Wednesday: ASH WEDNESDAY

Jl 2:12-18 Ps 51:3-6b,12-14,17
2 Cor 5:20-6:2 Mt 6:1-6,16-18

Thursday: Thursday after Ash Wednesday

Dt 30:15-20 Ps 1:1-4,6 Lk 9:22-25

Friday: Friday after Ash Wednesday

Is 58:1-9a Ps 51:3-6b,18-19 Mt 9:14-15

Saturday: Saturday after Ash Wednesday

Is 58:9b-14 Ps 86:1-6 Lk 5:27-32

Sunday: FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

Gn 2:7-9;3:1-7 Ps 51:3-6,12-13,17
Rom 5:12-19 Mt 4:1-11

Mass Intentions

Saturday, February 22

6 p.m. Sean Barnette by the family

Sunday, February 23

8:30 a.m. †Pat Patronik by Trish Long
10 a.m. †Richard J. Archer by Tom & Patty Miller
11:30 a.m. The People of Immaculate Conception

Monday, February 24

12:10 p.m. †Claude Morelli by Dina Morelli

Tuesday, February 25

12:10 p.m. †Alberto Hernandez by Alex & Emma Tenerife

Wednesday, February 26

12:10 p.m. The People of Immaculate Conception
7 p.m. The People of Immaculate Conception

Thursday, February 27

12:10 p.m. Reza Sadjadi by Gerry & Carol O'Farrell

Friday, February 28

12:10 p.m. †Denise Howard by Clete & Brenda Walles

Saturday, February 29

8:30 a.m. Archbishop Joseph E. Kurtz by the People of IC
6 p.m. †Robert Curtis by Clete & Brenda Walles

Sunday, March 1

8:30 a.m. †Jim & †Catherine Matlock by Judy Grillo
10 a.m. †Miller & †Cullinan family members
by Tom & Patty Miller
11:30 a.m. The People of Immaculate Conception



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