

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION CATHOLIC CHURCH

BUILDING UPON OUR PAST



CHARTING OUR FUTURE

THE OLD & NEW: A THEME ROOTED IN SCRIPTURE



“ Jesus said to them, ‘Therefore every teacher of the law who has been instructed about the kingdom of heaven is like the owner of a house who brings treasures out of his storeroom, both new and old. ’”

Matthew 13:52

This passage ends a long section of parables in Matthew’s gospel. Jesus makes an urgent appeal to the apostles to understand both new teachings (the words of Jesus) and old teachings (the law and the prophets). Today we may also interpret Jesus’ words as a reminder to value the treasures of the Church while always striving for renewal. At Immaculate Conception, we remember the history and traditions of our parish, and at the same time seek new ways to serve Jesus. We are...

Building Upon Our Past, Charting Our Future.

BUILDING UPON OUR PAST, CHARTING OUR FUTURE

The first Catholics of Willoughby relied on Jesuit missionaries to celebrate Mass until 1850, when Fr. Peter Peudeprat, pastor of St. Mary Parish in Painesville, was charged with the care of the mission. In 1864, Fr. Anthony M. Martin, pastor of St. Paul Parish in Euclid, took responsibility for the mission. He oversaw the purchase of two lots on Vine Street and construction of a small church. On January 1, 1870, the community celebrated its first Mass in the original Immaculate Conception Church. With that, we became a parish community.

Over 125 years later, there are over 2,000 registered families and hundreds worship each weekend. The parish is teeming with activity, and parishioners serve in about 50 ministries. As we look back on our past—a history of remarkable progress—we note that while the word Stewardship is relatively new to us, the concept of it has always been present. This was evident from the very beginning when the founding parishioners shared their time, talent and treasure to help make this parish a reality.

During our 2011 Stewardship Renewal, we look back gratefully and look forward hopefully. For just as Christ calls each person to a deeper relationship with himself, our parish is called to do even greater things for God. Our plans chart an ambitious vision for the future and includes many new initiatives.

As we began, so we go forward: trusting in the guidance of the Holy Spirit, and in the generosity of our parishioners to share their time, talent, and treasure.

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STEWARDSHIP OF TIME FOCUSED ON PRAYER

“ Rejoice in the Lord always. I shall say it again: rejoice! Your kindness should be known to all. The Lord is near. Have no anxiety at all, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, make your requests known to God. ”

Philippians 4:4-6

In the category “Stewardship of Time,” we primarily focus on the time we spend in personal prayer, listening to God, and prayer with loved ones. The saints teach us that prayer is the primary way we build our relationship with God. As Christian stewards, we see prayer as a way to prepare spiritually to share our gifts with others. Your commitment card lists several suggestions for regular prayer.



Building Upon Our Past:

- Telephone and mail only
- “And also with you.”
- Court of Mary Prayer Group

Charting Our Future:

- Website, Twitter & Facebook
- “And with your spirit.”
- Elizabeth Ministry Prayer Chain

STEWARDSHIP OF TALENT SERVICE IN MINISTRIES

Throughout the week Immaculate Conception is busy with activity. There are groups that pray together, groups that minister to other parishioners, and groups that reach out to the community. Part of being an active member of our parish is to find your niche—the ministry where your personal talents can best be put to use. This is what St. Peter meant when he wrote...

“ As each one has received a gift, use it to serve one another as good stewards of God’s varied grace. ”

1 Peter 4:10



Building Upon Our Past:

- All ministries at Immaculate Conception
- Homeschool text book catechesis
- Meetings held in School Gym

Charting Our Future:

- Your new ideas yet to be shared
- Online catechesis
- Meetings in the new St. Joseph Hall

STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE FINANCIAL GENEROSITY

“ Amen, I say to you, this poor widow put in more than all the other contributors to the treasury. For they have all contributed from their surplus wealth, but she, from her poverty, has contributed all she had, her whole livelihood. ”

Mark 12:43-44

Financially supporting the Church is an obligation for Catholics. It is a way of expressing our love for God by offering back a portion of what he has given to us. Immaculate Conception honors the biblical tithe as a benchmark for giving. We ask each parish family to give 5% of their gross income to our parish, 1% to the diocese, and 4% to other charities. These goals can be difficult to reach unless Church support is a priority in your family budget. This often necessitates lifestyle changes. God calls us to be contributing members of the faith community and other charitable organizations. We are called to Stewardship, part of which is sharing our treasure.



Building Upon Our Past:

- Supporting Immaculate Conception Grade School
- Writing a check weekly to put into the collection

Charting Our Future:

- Supporting Mater Dei Grade School
- Auto-draft and electronic giving

Guide for Giving 5%:

Annual Income	5% Weekly Gift
\$10,000	\$10
20,000	19
30,000	29
50,000	48
75,000	72
100,000	96
125,000	120
150,000	144
200,000	192

MINISTRY CATALOGUE

LITURGICAL MINISTRIES

Altar Servers

Altar servers begin to serve at Immaculate Conception during the fifth grade. Girls and boys are needed for serving Mass on Sundays as well as weddings, Eucharistic Devotions and other solemn occasions.
Deacon Paul Hlabse, 440-942-4500

Adult Servers

Adult men of the parish serve at funerals. We welcome men whose mornings are free to serve funerals.
Fr. Troha, 440-942-4500

Adult Choir

This choir enhances the Liturgical Services of our parish. Many members have never sung in a choir before, but through commitment and rehearsals they are able to develop their musical talents. Choir Masses are sung on a rotating schedule, and rehearsals are held on Wednesday evenings from 7:30 to 9 p.m. Anyone high school age or older is welcome.
Michael Kelley, 440-494-7221

Cantor/Song Leaders

Song leaders assist in leading the singing at the Masses.
Michael Kelley, 440-494-7221

Church Cleaning "Angels"

The "angels" help in the weekly clean-up of the church on Monday mornings. They maintain all areas of the church to include vestibules, pews, sanctuary and sacristies.
Corky Mangino, 440-942-4500

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion

Ministers distribute Holy Communion at weekend liturgies as well as take Holy Communion to parishioners unable to attend Mass, to nursing homes, and hospitals.
Deacon Paul Hlabse, 440-942-4500

Lectors

Lectors proclaim Scripture Readings at Mass and other liturgies.
Deacon Paul Hlabse, 440-942-4500

Worship Commission

Members assist the pastor in promoting a proper understanding of the liturgy as well as preparing for liturgical celebrations.
Fr. Troha, 440-942-4500

Mass Greeters

Greeters welcome worshippers to Immaculate Conception's liturgies. Our purpose is to make parishioners and visitors welcome with a smile and greeting. Children are welcome to join their parents to act as a family group of greeters.
Meg Radtke, 440-942-2744

Ushers

The ushers are men and women who welcome parishioners and visitors at liturgies, assist in seating them, take up the collection and facilitate in the orderly reception of Holy Communion.
George Malec, 440-266-0441

Bereavement Ministry

This ministry helps families cope with grief. The sadness felt after the death of a loved one can bring life to a grinding halt.
Diana Lipfird, 440-942-4500

Book Center

The John Paul II Book Center is open during coffee and donuts on Sunday. Volunteers are welcome to assist in staffing the Book Center.
Chris Hoag, 440-942-2189

Building Church/ Welcoming All (BCWA)

This ministry is dedicated to reaching out to those with a variety of disabilities and ensure, as much as is possible, that they feel welcome in all ways at Immaculate Conception.
Jeff Mackey, 440-951-5481

Career Directions Ministry

Career advice from a Catholic perspective is offered on an appointment basis by parishioner and executive Jerry Cirino. Appointments are made through the Rectory Office.
Jerry Cirino, 440-942-4500

Catholic Youth Organization (CYO) Coaches

Our parish CYO and Mater Dei Academy CYO, have many teams in various sports for the youth and teens of the parish. Women and men are needed to coach the various teams.
Jeanine Hozian, 440-256-4933

Mater Dei Academy Booster Club

The Booster Club supports the athletic program through its fund-raising.
*Jeanine Hozian,
440-256-4933*

Elizabeth Ministry

Elizabeth Ministry is an international movement designed to support women and their families during the joys, trials and sorrows of the childbearing years and beyond. Elizabeth Ministry's mission is to cherish children, encourage families and build community. We offer peer support, mentoring and spiritual nourishment.
Diana Lipfird, 440-942-4500

Funeral Luncheon

This ministry prepares luncheons for families after the funeral service of their loved one. Members assist with setting up and serving the meal as well.
Diana Lipfird, 440-942-4500

Hospitality Committee

The Hospitality Committee promotes a welcoming atmosphere in the parish. They host welcoming events like dinners for new parishioners as well as social events for all parishioners and friends.
Ron Felter, 440-942-4500

Immaculate Seniors Ministry

This ministry is for any senior citizen to gather together with other seniors every other Wednesday afternoon



for prayer, learning, and socializing. All seniors from anywhere are welcome.
Diana Lipfird, 440-942-4500

Knights of Columbus

The K of C is a Catholic men's fraternal organization. Fellowship is promoted through educational, charitable, religious and social service. While the Knights of Columbus is not an Immaculate Conception Group/Organization, it meets at our parish on the first and third Tuesday of every month.

Dan George, 440-946-9389

Life Teen Core Team

Our parish joins with Our Lady of Mount Carmel Parish in youth ministry through the Life Teen program. All high school youth are welcome. Adults 20 years and older are needed to plan and carry out the Life Nights, which begin with Mass at 5:30 p.m. each Sunday.

Greg Schmidt, 440-942-4500

Life Teen Support Team

Although parents of high school youth are not part of the Core Team, they are encouraged to be part of the Support Team, which helps to support the activities of the Life Teen program.

Greg Schmidt, 440-942-4500

Oktoberfest in July Volunteers

The entire parish comes together the third weekend in July to sponsor the annual "Oktoberfest in July." The preparations involved are numerous, and we rely on the hands of many to successfully put on this event.

Elayne Kramer, 440-951-7728

Oktoberfest in July Committee

The core committee for Oktoberfest meets once a month from January until August each year. New members are most welcome.

Mike Coyne, 440-942-0700



Parish Beautification Team

Parishioners "take ownership" of the parish grounds by utilizing their labor along with any gardening and landscaping skills.

Mary Jo Timbers-Mrozek, 440-255-5961

Pro-Life Committee

The Pro-Life Committee seeks to educate parishioners about right-to-life issues, as well as promote events that celebrate the right-to-life. Meetings are held on the second Wednesday of each month.

Julie Sbrocco, 440-943-5861

St. Vincent de Paul Society

The Society is a spiritual organization that carries out its mission by helping anyone in need of food, clothing or shelter from our parish or who lives in our parish territory. Meetings are held at 7:30 p.m. on the fourth Thursday of each month.

Kathy Hughes, 440-942-4500

Society of Mother Teresa

Cooked meals are delivered to the home of those who qualify; meals are also available for those who meet Cleveland Food Bank guidelines.

Diana Lipfird, 440-942-4500

Transportation Ministry

Our handicapped-accessible bus assists parishioners in getting to Church on Saturday evening and Sunday morning. Drivers are needed as well as transportation assistants. No special driver's license is necessary. Training is provided to drivers and assistants.

Ron Felter, 440-942-4500

Wellness Ministry

Health care professionals from the parish assist parishioners and their families with health care needs. Members are available for educational events too. This ministry

needs health care professionals willing to share their gifts with others. The Prayer Shawl ministry also forms part of this ministry.

Diana Lipfird, 440-942-4500

Youth Ministry

Youth Ministry provides the opportunity for junior high school students to grow in their love for God and be involved as a vital part of the parish through spiritual, service, and social activities. Adults are needed to be a part of this ministry. Responsibilities include planning, guiding, and encouraging the students in the various activities.

Deacon Paul Hlabse, 440-942-4500

ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEES

Finance Council

This council is mandated by Church Law and is a consultative body that makes recommendations to the pastor. The members of the Finance Council are appointed by the pastor and include persons with skills in finance, administration, and law. There are six voting members whose two-year terms expire in a rotating manner.

Fr. Troha, 440-942-4500

Parish Pastoral Council

The council is a consultative body to the pastor to ensure

that the mission and ministries of the parish are carried out. The six members serve rotating three-year terms. Meetings are held the second Tuesday of each month.

Meg Radtke, 440-942-2744

Stewardship Committee

The Stewardship Committee implements stewardship as a way of life in the parish. Members act as models of stewardship for other parishioners by engaging in a life that is committed to the Eucharist, prayer, service and ongoing formation.

Frank Barry, 440-357-6765



MATER DEI ACADEMY

Parent Teachers Unit (PTU)

Membership is open to any parent or guardian of a Mater Dei Academy student or member of the parish. The purpose of the organization is to be a voice in support of Catholic education, to provide financial support to the school and to encourage participation. All parents are encouraged to join.

Beth Mitchell, 440-944-0431

Sponsor-A-Student

Sponsor-A-Student is a parish effort enabling deserving students to attend our inter-parochial school, Mater Dei Academy. The funds raised are used for financial aid to parishioners' children at Mater Dei Academy.

*Rectory Office,
440-942-4500*

SPIRITUAL ENRICHMENT

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

The BLESSED SACRAMENT CHAPEL is open 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Our Chapel has been open since 1986, and it takes 270+ dedicated people each week to spend an hour with our Lord.

Dennis Lann, 440-975-1740

AVILAS Prayer Group

AVILAS is a group of parishioners who meet to pray for an increase of vocations and for those who are priests and religious. AVILAS meets the third Tuesday of the month, beginning with the 7:45 a.m. Mass and one half-hour after Mass.

Mary Ingraham, 440-946-4879

Fatima Holy Hour— Blue Army

This group meets Wednesday evenings in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel for prayer and the Rosary.

Eileen Morgan, 440-942-4131

Holy Name Society

The Society promotes the spiritual welfare of the men of the parish. The Society provides spiritual and social activities, as well as fundraisers for worthy

causes. Meetings are held the Monday after the second Sunday at 7:30 p.m. in the school library. All men of the parish 18 years and older are welcome.

Jack Petersen, 440-951-2045

Legion of Mary

The Legion ministers to those who are living in nursing homes, hospitals, and shut-ins in their own homes. We enrich our own lives by serving the spiritual needs of the people. Active members meet every Monday at 7:30 p.m. Auxiliary members volunteer to pray the Rosary daily.

*Charlotte Began,
440-975-1845*

Pre-Cana Day

Married couples from the parish help engaged couples prepare for the Sacrament of Matrimony. Once a year, a Pre-Cana Day is held on a Saturday at which married couples from the team give presentations on various subjects of married life for the benefit of the engaged couples.

*Deacon Paul Hlabse,
440-942-4500*

FAITH FORMATION OFFICE

Pre-School Religious Program

Children ages three to five are introduced to God and His Church. Classes meet on Sundays in the school during the 10 a.m. Mass. Volunteer teachers and classroom aides are needed.

*Heather Kinney,
440-749-0907*

Parish School of Religion

Youth are formed in the Catholic Faith through instruction that encourages growth in knowledge and the spiritual life. Classes meet on Monday from 6:00 PM to 7:30 PM. Volunteers needed: catechists and classroom aides.

Chris Hoag, 440-942-2189

Adult Faith Formation

Weekly Scripture study and faith enrichment sessions are held periodically throughout the year on various themes. Volunteers are needed for hospitality assistance and facility set-up.

Chris Hoag, 440-942-4500

Catechumenate (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults)

The RCIA is the means by which unbaptized persons enter the Church. Additionally, non-Catholic Christians enter into full communion with the Church and Catholic adults prepare for the Sacraments of Eucharist or Confirmation through this program. Volunteers needed: catechists, hospitality assistance, sacramental sponsors.

Diana Lipfird, 440-942-4500

Vacation Bible School (VBS)

VBS is a one week long summer event for pre-K and elementary school-aged children. A theme is presented through interactive activities, such as Bible stories, songs, skits, arts and crafts, and team-building game activities. Junior high and high school students, and adults are needed prior to VBS week in the areas of planning, registration, decorating, and for all activities during VBS week.

*Deacon Paul Hlabse,
440-942-4500*



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Photos taken by parishioner Howard Hedderman