



*Immaculate
Conception*

Welcoming All as Christ

2026 STEWARDSHIP RENEWAL



Welcoming All as Christ

At the heart of stewardship is the call to recognize every person as a gift. Jesus' words — "I was a stranger and you welcomed me" (Mt 25:35) — are not simply a reminder to be kind; they are an invitation to see Christ in others and to respond with love. Hospitality is the first step in building a parish where people stay, grow, and thrive. It creates an environment where strangers become friends, and everyone knows they have a place.

This year's Stewardship Renewal theme, ***Welcoming All as Christ***, invites us to move beyond surface-level friendliness to genuine spiritual welcome. True hospitality is not reserved for a small group of volunteers — it is the responsibility of the whole community. It is how we create a parish that is not only friendly, but deeply Christlike.

In the following pages, you are invited to reflect on how you can live stewardship through your time, talent, and treasure, allowing each to flow from a heart that welcomes others as Christ.



Stewardship of Time

To welcome others well, we must first make room for Christ in our own lives. Time spent with the Lord in prayer helps shape our hearts and sharpens our awareness of those around us. When prayer and presence guide our days, hospitality becomes less about effort and more about instinct.

Ways to offer your time in hospitality include:

- Spending a few extra minutes after Sunday Mass introducing yourself to someone you do not know.
- Inviting a new parishioner or family to coffee after Mass or a meal during the week.
- Attending a parish event you have never participated in, simply to be present and meet others.

Time given to building relationships is never wasted. It lays the foundation for a parish where people feel known, valued, and welcomed.



Stewardship of Talent

Each of us brings unique gifts, personalities, and life experiences to the parish community. Whether outgoing or reserved, hands-on or behind the scenes, every person has something to offer that helps others feel they belong. Hospitality flourishes when we offer who we are in service to others.



Ways to share your talents include:

- Serving as a greeter, usher, or member of a welcome team at weekend Masses.
- Assisting with newcomer outreach, hospitality spaces, or parish communications.
- Participating in ministries that connect with individuals one-on-one, such as bereavement, mentoring, outreach, or meal ministries.

When we use our talents to create connection, we extend the welcoming heart of Christ to those around us.



Stewardship of Treasure

Our financial gifts help create the spaces and opportunities where hospitality can take root — from maintaining welcoming worship spaces, to supporting parish gatherings, to funding outreach efforts that extend beyond our walls. Hospitality has practical needs, and generosity makes them possible.

A helpful guide is the biblical tithe — giving 10% of one's income in gratitude to God. A common approach is:

- 5% to your parish
- 1% to the diocese
- 4% to other charitable causes

Giving generously helps ensure that our parish is not only open, but warm, inviting, and ready to receive all who come seeking Christ.



Ministry

Liturgical Ministries

ADULT SERVERS

An adult altar server is a layperson who assists the priest at funerals and other solemn liturgies.

*Ministry Leader: Lee Jarocki,
440-728-6640, LeeJarocki@Yahoo.com*

ALTAR SERVERS

Altar servers begin to serve at Immaculate Conception during the third grade. Girls and boys are needed for serving Mass on Sundays as well as weddings, Eucharistic Devotions and other solemn occasions.

*Ministry Leader: Lee Jarocki,
440-728-6640, LeeJarocki@Yahoo.com*

CHURCH CLEANING ANGELS

The “angels” assist in the weekly clean-up of the church. They maintain all areas of the church, including the sanctuary, sacristies, pews and vestibules. They meet on Monday morning at 8:00 a.m.

*Ministry Leader: Marietta Simone,
440-479-7992,
Marietta.Simone@Gmail.com*

CHURCH DECORATING COMMITTEE

Volunteers responsible for enhancing the visual beauty of the worship space to reflect the liturgical calendar, major holidays and parish celebrations.

*Ministry Leader: Maureen Hogan,
440-479-8255*

EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION

Extraordinary Ministers distribute Holy Communion at weekend and weekday Masses, as well as taking Holy Communion to parishioners who are homebound, in nursing homes, and in hospitals.

*Ministry Leader: Sue Penicka,
440-942-4500, Sue.Penicka@Gmail.com*



Catalog

LECTORS

A layperson trained to proclaim Scripture readings at Mass and other liturgical services.

*Ministry Leader: Charlotte Vogler,
440-521-0868,
Vogler.Charlotte@Gmail.com*

MASS GREETERS

Greeters welcome those who come to Immaculate Conception's liturgies. Their purpose is to make parishioners and visitors feel welcome with a smile and greeting. Children are welcome to join their parents to act as a family group of greeters.

*Ministry Leader: Rick Totedo,
440-488-3958, RickTotedo@Gmail.com*

MUSIC MINISTRY

*Ministry Leader: Claudia Woolard,
440-942-4500,
CWoolard@Immaculate.net*

ADULT CHOIR

The choir performs sacred music to enhance the spiritual atmosphere of the Mass and liturgical services. Choir Masses are sung on a rotating schedule and rehearsals are held on Wednesday evenings from 7:30-9:00 p.m.

CANTORS

A Cantor is a vocal leader who guides congregational singing and chants prayers during Mass and other religious liturgies.



FUNERAL CHOIR

Offers the gift of music at the time of one's sorrow. The Funeral Choir helps surround grieving families with prayer, comfort and song as we celebrate the lives of their loved ones.

INSTRUMENTALISTS

Accompany the choir using their musical talents adding beauty, color, and expression to our worship.

KINDERCHOIR

Kinderchoir, comprised of children ages 4 to 10, offers our youngest parishioners an opportunity to share their voices, experience the joy of making music together, and take an active part in the liturgical life of the parish.

Ministry

SACRISTANS

Adults who have a desire to serve the Lord are needed to serve as sacristans to prepare the church for Sunday and weekly Mass, weddings, funerals, and other liturgical celebrations.

*Ministry Leader: Parish Office,
440-942-4500, Parish@Immaculate.net*

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.

*Ministry Leader: Rick Totedo,
440-488-3958, RickTotedo@Gmail.com*

Spiritual Enrichment

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

The Blessed Sacrament Chapel is open from 6 a.m. to 11 p.m. seven days a week. Our Chapel has been open since 1986, and it takes many dedicated people each week to spend an hour with the Lord.

*Ministry Leader: Pam Lann,
440-269-8057, PamLann2@Gmail.com*



EVANGELIZATION COMMITTEE

Striving to bring back into active participation in the Catholic faith, the Evangelization Committee reaches out to inactive Catholics to reengage them with Christ and his Church. Through the Catholics Returning Home program and distribution of Catholic literature, they strive to welcome all baptized Catholics home to the Catholic Church.

*Ministry Leader: Lee Jarocki,
440-728-6640, LeeJarocki@Yahoo.com*

FATIMA HOLY HOUR

The Fatima Holy Hour is a devotional hour of prayer, inspired by the message of Our Lady at Fatima, focusing on prayer, reparation for sins, conversion of sinners and peace in the world. This group meets Wednesday evenings at 7 p.m. via phone.

*Ministry Leader: Kathy Kasovic,
440-942-0574,
KmKasovic@Hotmail.com*



Catalog

LEGION OF MARY

The Legion of Mary is an apostolate of men and women seeking to grow in holiness through prayer, good works and evangelization. Active members meet weekly for prayer, study and engage in works that build the Church, such as visiting the sick. Auxiliary members pray the Rosary daily. The Legion of Mary meets every Monday evening from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. in the Carlo Acutis Room.

*Ministry Leader: Lawrence Gradwell,
440-942-6196,
LGradwell5321@Gmail.com*



MEN'S PRAYER GROUP

Men of the parish gather together where scripture is read and discussed, and time is spent in prayer, growing their relationships with God and each other. The Men's Prayer Group meets on the second Tuesday of the month at 7 p.m. in the Carlo Acutis Room.

*Ministry Leader: Larry Schnieders,
440-463-2121, OhioSchn@Gmail.com*

RELIGIOUS LIBERTY & COUNTRY PRAYER GROUP

This Prayer Group prays for our country, religious freedom and government leaders. Time is spent in song, prayer and recitation of the Patriotic Rosary. This prayer group meets the second and fourth Thursday of the month from 2:30 to 3:30 p.m. in the St. Anne Room.

*Ministry Leader: Estelle Balazs,
440-946-8386*

WOMEN'S PRAYER GROUP

This group of women joins together to strengthen their relationships with God through prayer, scripture reading, and discussion. The Women's Prayer Group meets the second and fourth Tuesday of the month from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m. in the SMR Room.

*Ministry Leader: Pam Consolo,
216-337-8278,
Pam.Consolo@Sbcglobal.net*

Ministry

Faith Formation

ORDER OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS (OCIA)

OCIA is the means by which unbaptized people 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.

Ministry Leader: Deacon Paul Hlabse,
440-417-3310,

PHlabeser@Immaculate.net;

Joan Agresta, 440-942-4500,
JAgresta@Immaculate.net



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 to 7:30 p.m. mid-September to the end of May. Catechists and classroom aides are needed.

Ministry Leader: Sr. Josephine
Rosoamampionona, 440-942-4500,
JvRasoamampionona@Immaculate.net

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL (VBS)

VBS is a week-long summer event for pre-K and elementary school-aged children. A theme is presented through Bible stories, songs, skits, crafts, and other activities. Junior high, high school students, and adults are needed prior to and during VBS week for planning, registration, decorating, and for other activities.

Ministry Leader: Sr. Josephine
Rosoamampionona, 440-942-4500,
JvRasoamampionona@Immaculate.net

Catalog

Parish Life Ministries

FACILITIES COMMITTEE

The Facilities Committee is a consultative body to the pastor regarding the care, maintenance and safety of parish facilities and suggests improvements. Members will be appointed by the pastor, and should have skills in construction, building and grounds knowledge, landscaping and safety.

*Ministry Leader: Fr. Alex Clark,
440-942-4500, AClark@Immaculate.net*



FAMILY MINISTRY

Families are invited to gather for fellowship, prayer and games. The evening begins with a group Rosary and a half hour presentation from the *Catechism of the Catholic Church*, followed by games for the kids, snacks and conversation for the adults. They gather on the second Saturday night of the month from 6:30-9:00 p.m. in the Gym.

*Ministry Leader: Dennis Lann,
216-990-2121,
LannInsurance1@Sbcglobal.net*

FUNERAL LUNCHEONS

Immaculate Conception supports our parishioner families during their time of loss by offering a funeral luncheon following the services. We provide a welcoming space where family and friends can gather, share memories and find comfort. Volunteers cook and prep the meal, set up and clean up.

*Ministry Leader: Marcia Hayek,
440-478-4502, Gf3piz@Att.net*

GARDEN CLUB

The Garden Club brings together parishioners who “take ownership” of the various flower gardens by utilizing their gardening and landscaping talents to maintain a beautiful outdoor space.

*Ministry Leader: Lawrence Gradwell,
440-942-6196,
LGradwell5321@Gmail.com*

Ministry

GREETING CARD MINISTRY

The mission of the Greeting Card Ministry is to lift one another up, to provide encouragement and to celebrate, as they share God's love through handmade greeting cards. They create hand-stamped greeting cards that are provided to the residents in the area nursing homes, homebound parishioners, and others upon request. They meet on the 4th Tuesday of the month from 6 to 8 p.m. in the St. Anne Room.

*Ministry Leader: Margaret Wissman,
440-479-4008,
MWissman@Ameritech.net*

GRIEF GROUP

Our Grief Support Group provides a safe, compassionate environment for those who are coping with the loss of a loved one. Through prayer, shared experiences and encouragement, participants find comfort and hope as they journey through loss.

*Ministry Leader: Kathy Kenst,
440-953-1035, Kenst@Att.net*

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

The K of C is a Catholic men's fraternal organization. Fellowship is promoted through educational, charitable, religious and social service. Meetings are held at IC on the first and third Tuesday of every month at 7:00 p.m.

*Ministry Leader: Larry Schnieders,
440-463-2121, OhioSchn@gmail.com*

OKTOBERFEST COMMITTEE

The Oktoberfest is Immaculate Conception's major fundraiser of the year. The entire parish comes together the third weekend in July to sponsor the annual "Oktoberfest in July." The core committee plans all aspects of the festival, including grounds, setup, purchasing of all the equipment, food, scheduling of entertainment and much more. The Oktoberfest committee meets on the second Wednesday of the month from February through August at 6:30 p.m. in SJH Hall. New members are most welcome.

*Ministry Leader: Paul Featsent,
440-487-9365, Paul.Featsent@gmail.com*



Catalog



OKTOBERFEST 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. Around 500 volunteers are needed for this event each year.

Ministry Leader: Lauren Smith,
440-479-2574,
OktoberfestVolunteering@gmail.com

PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY

Prayer shawls are lovingly made by volunteers and blessed by the priest for anyone experiencing illness, grief or other life challenges. Meetings are held on the second Monday of the month at 3 p.m. in the Carlo Acutis Room. Yarn is provided for members to knit or crochet the shawls at home.

Ministry Leader: Rose Hanslik,
440-951-8402

ST. JAMES PAINESVILLE MEAL MINISTRY

Volunteers from our parish go monthly to St. James Episcopal Church in Painesville to prepare and serve a Sunday and weeknight meal to those in need.

Ministry Leader: Pam & Richard Lann,
440-269-8057,
PamLann2@gmail.com

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 living in our parish territory. Meetings are held at 6 p.m. on the second Wednesday of each month in the Carlo Acutis Room.

Ministry Leader: Dianna Makar,
330-990-6584,
Di.Makar720@gmail.com

SENIOR MINISTRY (50+)

Members of this Senior Ministry gather together and share a potluck lunch and the opportunity to build meaningful friendships with fellow parishioners and stay connected to the parish community. They meet on the second Wednesday of the month at noon in SJH Hall.

Ministry Leader: Elayne Kramer,
440-942-4500,
EKramer@Immaculate.net

Ministry

SOCIAL EVENTS COMMITTEE

The committee plans and presents various social events throughout the year, including the Parish Picnic, Anniversary Breakfast, Breakfast with Santa, Breakfast with the Easter Bunny, Clambakes, and many annual and seasonal events.

Ministry Leader: Elayne Kramer,
440-942-4500,
EKramer@Immaculate.net

SOCIETY OF MOTHER TERESA

Members of the Society of Mother Teresa cook and deliver meals to the residents of Western Lake County who are unable to provide meals for themselves due to disability,

ambulatory issues, or no family/relative support. Members brighten their day by spending a few minutes visiting with them.

Ministry Leader: Marietta Hrach,
440-382-6980,
Hrach9505@Oh.rr.com

YOUNG MOMS GROUP

The Young Moms Group is a ministry for mothers of children ages newborn to 6 years old. This ministry meets monthly with the goal of connecting young moms within the parish and creating opportunities for the littlest members of our parish community to play.

Ministry Leader: Brittany Cirino,
440-488-4281,
BrittanyCirinoPhotography@Gmail.com

YOUNG DADS MINISTRY

The Young Dads Group consists of parishioner fathers of children ages newborn to 6 years old. They come together to grow in their faith, strengthen their families and support one another through the joys and challenges of fatherhood. They meet on the first and third Wednesdays of the month from 7-8:30 p.m. in the St. Anne Room.

Ministry Leader: Joe McKenna,
216-296-5355,
JosephHMcKenna@Gmail.com



Catalog

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 three-year terms expire in a rotating manner.

*Ministry Leader: Fr. Alex Clark,
440-942-4500,
AClark@Immaculate.net*

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.

*Ministry Leader: Joseph Hozian,
440-391-8684, JHozian14@Gmail.com*

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.

*Ministry Leader: Fr. Alex Clark,
440-942-4500,
AClark@Immaculate.net*



Call to Action

Welcoming others is not optional for Christians — it is part of our identity. Through this Stewardship Renewal, ask God to help you see others as He does and to respond with love, generosity, and presence. In every encounter, we are given the opportunity to welcome Christ Himself.

Time

Spending Time with God in Prayer

Welcoming others as Christ begins with opening our hearts to Him in daily prayer. Prayer forms us to love as Jesus loves — with gentleness, mercy, and attentiveness. By making time to speak and listen to the Lord, we become people of peace who radiate welcome to all.

Please check the ways you commit to pray in the coming year.

- ☐ Attend Mass every Sunday and on Holy Days
- ☐ Attend weekday Mass at least once a week
- ☐ Attend Adoration at least once a month
- ☐ Spend 15 minutes a day in personal prayer
- ☐ Pray together with my loved ones
- ☐ Read the Bible at least once a week
- ☐ Pray the Rosary weekly
- ☐ Pray the Divine Mercy Chaplet
- ☐ Go to Reconciliation every other month
- ☐ Pray for the sick of our parish
- ☐ Pray for my country
- ☐ Invite a friend or acquaintance to Mass
- ☐ Pray for an increase in vocations
- ☐ Create a dedicated "prayer space" in my home
- ☐ Pray for our clergy and religious
- ☐ Pray for persecuted Christians
- ☐ Schedule time for a spiritual retreat
- ☐ Pray for greater respect for human life
- ☐ Pray for those serving in the military
- ☐ Pray for inactive Catholics

Talent

Using My Talents in Parish Ministries

Hospitality doesn't happen by accident — it's the result of people using their God-given talents to serve others with joy. Whether you greet others at the door, serve at parish events, or simply offer a warm smile and helping hand, your presence matters.

☐ Currently Involved ☐ Interested in Joining

↓ Please clearly write the last name(s) of the interested or currently involved family member(s) on the line.

Liturgical Ministries

- ☐ Adult Servers
- ☐ Altar Servers
- ☐ Church Cleaning Angels
- ☐ Church Decorating Committee
- ☐ Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion
- ☐ Lectors
- ☐ Mass Greeters

Music Ministry

- ☐ Adult Choir
- ☐ Cantors
- ☐ Funeral Choir
- ☐ Instrumentalists
- ☐ Kinderchor
- ☐ Sacristans
- ☐ Ushers

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Treasure

Making a Consistent Offering to the Church

One of the most effective ways to welcome a parish is through contributing. Your gifts provide the resources for our church to open its doors to everyone in the community well. At Immaculate Conception Church, each household is asked to contribute a percentage of income based on the following:

- 5% to the Offering
- Immaculate Conception Church: 1% to the diocese, 4% to other charities

My Offertory pledge

Immaculate Conception Church

Please complete weekly or monthly

Weekly gift: \$ x52

OR

Monthly gift: \$ x12

☐ Please contact me on Will & Estate Plan

% of Household Income	Household Income
10%	\$200,000
9%	\$180,000
8%	\$160,000
7%	\$140,000
6%	\$120,000
5%	\$100,000
4%	\$80,000
3%	\$60,000
2%	\$40,000
1%	\$20,000

2026 COMMITMENT CARD

My Offering of Time, Talent & Treasure

First & Last Name

Phone

Email

Spouse: First & Last Name

Spouse: Phone

Spouse: Email

Mailing Address

City State ZIP

After completion, please bring this card to Mass on **October 10/11** or mail using the envelope provided. Thank you and God bless you!

Please bring your completed Commitment Card to Mass on **October 10/11**, mail it to the parish in the envelope provided, or fill out the card online at our parish website: www.immaculate.net. In doing so, you help build a parish where Christ is known, loved, and welcomed in every person.



Immaculate Conception Catholic Church
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(440) 942-4500 | www.immaculate.net

Please keep until Fall 2027