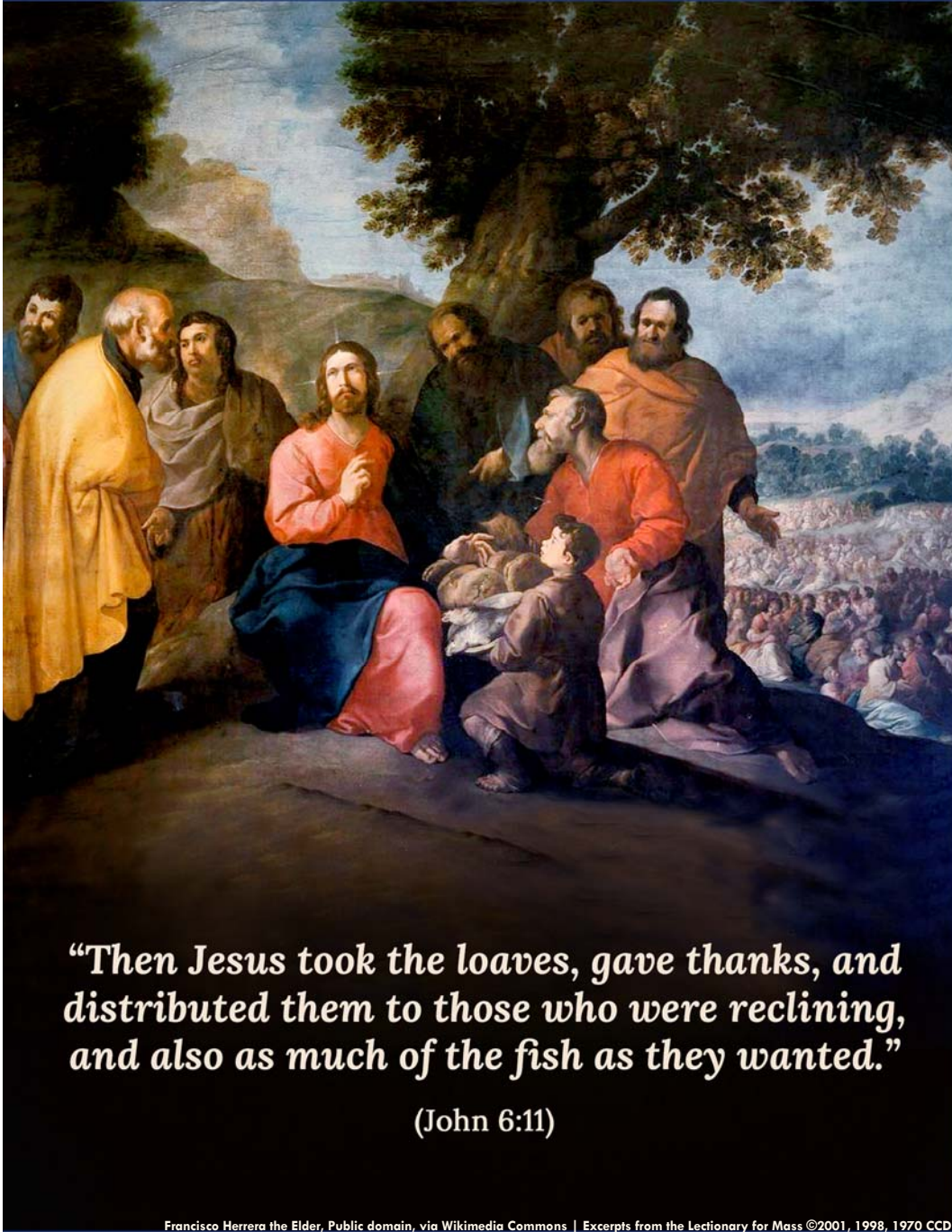


IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

– Catholic Church –

4030 Jackson Street NE | Columbia Heights, MN 55421 | 763-788-9062 | ICCSonline.org



“Then Jesus took the loaves, gave thanks, and distributed them to those who were reclining, and also as much of the fish as they wanted.”

(John 6:11)

Francisco Herrera the Elder, Public domain, via Wikimedia Commons | Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD

July 25, 2021

17th SUNDAY
IN ORDINARY TIME

Mass Schedule

Tuesday	7:30 am
Wednesday	7:30 am
Thursday	7:30 am
Friday	7:30 am
Saturday	5:00 pm
Sunday	8:00 am
	10:00 am
	(Spanish) 11:30 am

Reconciliation

Saturday	3:00 - 4:45 pm
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San Damiano Chapel

Weekdays beginning at 7:00 am



Our Mission

The Mission of The Church of the Immaculate Conception is to proclaim and celebrate our Lord Jesus Christ. We fulfill our mission as Christian disciples by intentionally responding to God's call to grow in holiness.

From the Pastor's Desk

Hunger No More

Within the Gospel for this Sunday we hear about Jesus feeding over five thousand people with only five barley loaves and two fish (John 6:1-15). Not long after that passage we read that Jesus said, “I am the bread of life; whoever comes to me will never hunger, and whoever believes in me will never thirst” (John 6:35). At the material level as human beings here on Earth our bodies need physical sustenance to keep us going. At the spiritual level our souls are hungering and thirsting for the Living God and nothing less than Him will completely satisfy us. Recognizing our material and spiritual needs — because of His unfathomable Mercy for you and me — Jesus Christ offers us His Body and Blood, Soul and Divinity through the Eucharist to nourish us. Here is a wonderful prayer written by St. Thomas Aquinas to prepare our hearts to fruitfully receive Jesus in the Most Blessed Sacrament of the altar:



Almighty and Eternal God, behold I come to the sacrament of Your only-begotten Son, our Lord Jesus Christ. As one sick I come to the Physician of life; unclean, to the Fountain of mercy; blind, to the Light of eternal splendor; poor and needy to the Lord of heaven and earth. Therefore, I beg of You, through Your infinite mercy and generosity, heal my weakness, wash my uncleanness, give light to my blindness, enrich my poverty, and clothe my nakedness. May I thus receive the Bread of Angels, the King of Kings, the Lord of Lords, with such reverence and humility, contrition and devotion, purity and faith, purpose and intention, as shall aid my soul's salvation.

Grant, I beg of You, that I may receive not only the Sacrament of the Body and Blood of our Lord, but also its full grace and power. Give me the grace, most merciful God, to receive the Body of your only Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, born of the Virgin Mary, in such a manner that I may deserve to be intimately united with His mystical Body and to be numbered among His members. Most loving Father, grant that I may behold for all eternity face to face Your beloved Son, whom now, on my pilgrimage, I am about to receive under the sacramental veil, who lives and reigns with You, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, world without end. Amen.

(Source: <https://www.ourcatholicprayers.com/aquinas-before-communion.html>)

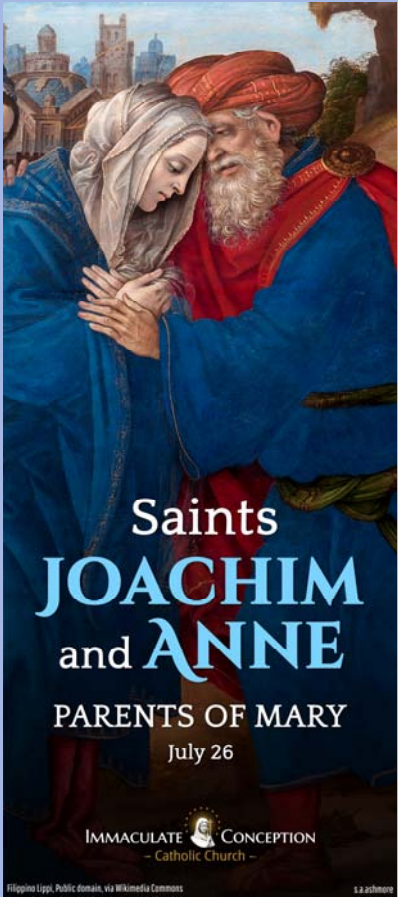
Mercy with Christ,
Fr. James



This Week's Readings and Observances

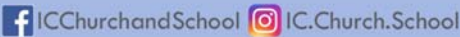
- Sunday, July 25, 17th Sunday in Ordinary Time
2 Kgs 4:42-44/Ps 145:10-11, 15-16, 17-18 [cf. 16]/Eph 4:1-6/Jn 6:1-15
- Monday, July 26, Sts. Joachim and Anne, Parents of the Blessed Virgin Mary
Ex 32:15-24, 30-34/Ps 106:19-20, 21-22, 23 [1a]/Mt 13:31-35
- Tuesday, July 27
Ex 33:7-11; 34:5b-9, 28/Ps 103:6-7, 8-9, 10-11, 12-13 [8a]/Mt 13:36-43
- Wednesday, July 28
Ex 34:29-35/Ps 99:5, 6, 7, 9 [cf. 9c]/Mt 13:44-46
- Thursday, July 29, St. Martha
Ex 40:16-21, 34-38/Ps 84:3, 4, 5-6a and 8a, 11 [2]/Jn 11:19-27 or Lk 10:38-42
- Friday, July 30, St. Peter Chrysologus, Bishop and Doctor of the Church
Lv 23:1, 4-11, 15-16, 27, 34b-37/Ps 81:3-4, 5-6, 10-11ab [2a]/Mt 13:54-58
- Saturday, July 31, St. Ignatius of Loyola, Priest
Lv 25:1, 8-17/Ps 67:2-3, 5, 7-8 [4]/Mt 14:1-12
- Sunday, August 1, 18th Sunday in Ordinary Time
Ex 16:2-4, 12-15/Ps 78:3-4, 23-24, 25, 54 [24b]/Eph 4:17, 20-24/Jn 6:24-35

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Eucharistic Adoration

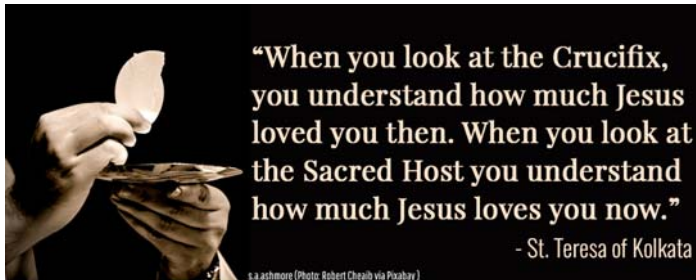
*"God who unites those who dwell in his house;
he himself gives might and strength to his people".*

(from Psalm 68)

Adorers faithfully come to their adoration hour each week. United in prayer, they offer prayers of thanksgiving as well as prayers for help and guidance. They leave the chapel with peace and strength to carry on.

Our chapel is open Monday through Friday beginning at 7:00 am. We are looking for volunteers to cover Wednesdays at 10:00 am, Thursdays at 6:00 pm and Fridays at 10:00 am. Visitors are also welcome; however, they will need the door code to enter the chapel.

If you would like to schedule an adoration hour, are unable to attend your scheduled adoration hour or if you would like to visit our chapel, please call Sandy at 763-789-3246.



Discipleship

It's All in the Basket

St. Therese of Lisieux made a point of going the extra mile in kindness towards those people who really got under her skin. It was part of her own brand of Everyday Stewardship — thanking God for all His creation, even the parts with which, in her own humanness, she struggled to cope.

I think about this a lot when I challenge myself to give thanks for things that bother me and people who challenge me. When I do this, I envision Christ giving thanks over those insufficient loaves. How many of us would see that paltry little basket and kick a rock in frustration because we can't feed all our people? "You didn't give me enough, Lord! You didn't give me enough patience, enough money, enough creativity, enough stamina to be a good steward. If you had given me more, I could also give more!"

In those moments of despair, we need to take a good look at the life God has given us. We need to look at the trials and the challenges and the shortcomings. The hopes that didn't pan out, the disappointments that keep cropping up. Somewhere therein lies what we need to be the steward God asks us to be, just as St. Therese's own stewardship was defined by the people she simply couldn't stand.

God does not give us all we want. He does not give us all we ask for. He does us one better: He gives us all we need. It's all in the basket.

—Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS / ©LPi

School

School News

Our 8th grade students are given an assignment near the end of the year to share their own ICS Story and offer advice to the upcoming 8th graders. The students' essays are inspirational. I often use many quotes from their written word to put together a talk delivered at the graduation Mass. Please enjoy these thoughtful quotes from our graduates who are now beginning high school! Thank you to their fine teacher, Megan Toninato, for instructing them in language arts and religion. Continued blessings to our graduates of 2021!

"This school has helped me grow as a friend, a sister, a daughter, as a person. Immaculate Conception was not what I thought it would be, it was way better, they make things really fun and prepare fun events for the kids in the school. I attended all of the events I could, and I can say that they were really fun and something that I would probably never forget because I had a lot of fun with my friends and because I learned some things. In those events you can really feel the good energy and love that they provide for students. . . My future depends on me and to be honest I still don't know what I'm going to be or do but for sure I want something that makes me happy and something that I can enjoy fully like music or photography. My future is something that I control and either I make it happy and joyful or I make it sad and boring, that is another thing I learned not only in this school but in my family too." —Amy

"One of the most important life lessons that I've learned is that you should never give up on something or someone, because when you give up you would end up losing. This will help me in the future by working hard. I wouldn't give up on something just because people would say it's too hard for me. If I listen to that person and give up, then I would end up losing confidence in myself." —Hilary

Classroom Substitute Training

The Catholic Schools Center of Excellence (CSCOE) is hosting Catholic Schools classroom substitute training on August 16-17 from 8:30 am to 2:30 pm at Nativity of Our Lord Catholic School in St. Paul. There are a limited number of seats, and the registration deadline is August 9. A college degree is required.

Please contact Principal Jane Bona if you are interested and she can give you information about the training at jbona@immac-church.org or 763-788-9065.



IMMACULATE CONCEPTION
— Catholic School —
**Preschool and
Kindergarten Aides**

Our preschool and Kindergarten classrooms offer a dynamic and fun program serving children ages 3-5. We are seeking individual as aides for preschool and Kindergarten. The hours are flexible and working with the youngest of learners is incredibly rewarding.

Mary Beth Pfeifer
763-788-9062 x203 | mbpfeifer@immac-church.org

*Know someone who might be interested?
Please pass the information along to them. Thank you!*



Anointing of the Sick

Individual Anointing of the Sick is available by request — call the parish office at 763-788-9062.

In Need of Prayer? Please Call Us.

To add a name to the Mass petitions or the bulletin, please call 763-788-9062. For private prayer (eight individuals offer confidential prayer for requested needs) call Larene at 763-789-4246.

Pray for Our Loved Ones Who Have Died

Especially *Thomas Duffy, Art Harris, Samuel Liane, Edward Gable*, all who have died from Covid-19 and all who have died as a result of violence. May God grant them everlasting peace and joy in the kingdom of heaven.

Pray for All the Sick—Especially:

Bea Alain, Paul Bona, Robin Crisp, Mary Fredenburg, Stacey Drews Kochmann, Linda Kosloski, Gerald Krawiecki, Jeff LaFontaine, Steven Lauinger, Tom Leight Sr., Dennis Lind, Janet Mihalik, Teddy Miller, Gina McMartin, Shawn Moulzolf, Katie Oftedahl, Diane Redmann, Greg Sery, Martha Stwora, Elaine Thunstrom, Sandra Tabor, Lois Weyers, Germaine Wolsfeld, *and all those on our prayer chain*

If your name was removed and you would like to continue to be on the prayer list please call 763-788-9062 x 212.

Dear Visitor

Welcome, we are glad to see you today! Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any questions. Know that we are here for you and that we welcome new members! For more information about ICC or to become a member contact Vicki 763-788-9062 x 212.

Social Justice

Coins for Social Justice

Small Change Can Do a World of Good!

This weekend, July 24-25 we will be collecting during the offertory. Donations made using bills or checks should be placed in an envelope marked Social Justice — small envelopes can be found on tables at all entrances of the church. Only the loose change and marked envelopes from this collection are designated for Social Justice.



July 25, 2021

Saint Ignatius of Loyola: A Soldier for Christ

At the end of this week, we celebrate the feast of St. Ignatius of Loyola, the “Soldier for Christ.” While Martin Luther’s interior troubles plunged Europe into a maelstrom of controversy, Ignatius of Loyola set out on an extraordinary interior pilgrimage of grace. Taught directly by God, Ignatius offered the Church a new spirituality of devoted service to Christ and founded a religious order dedicated to evangelization, the Jesuits.

To set up your free account visit formed.org/signup and select our parish.

WATCH

World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly



This Sunday, July 25 is the first World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly!

“It is important for grandparents to meet their grandchildren and for grandchildren to meet their grandparents, because — as the prophet Joel says — grandparents, before their grandchildren, will dream, and have illusions [great desires], and young people, taking strength from their grandparents, will go forward and prophesy.”

— Pope Francis, January 31, 2021

Reflections

Why Do We Do That?—Catholic Life Explained

Question: *We are considering homeschooling our children. Does this present a problem when it is time for them to receive the sacraments? What must we do?*

Answer: Homeschooling is legal in all fifty states and like other types of education, has its advantages and its drawbacks. There are many factors to consider, and each family has to decide what the best way to educate its children is. With religious education, many dioceses have a formal policy that outlines procedures and expectations, some of which include more than just academic information. Call the religious education office to find out what they are for your area.

In general, though, an appointment with your parish priest to discuss your situation is the best first step. An opportunity to discuss what is available, what the expectations are for each sacrament, and how you can best prepare your child helps make your time of preparation more effective. The priest can direct you to good catechetical materials, parent information classes, and other choices and possibilities for your child. All parents need to be part of their child's religious education, taking a lead in instilling the values and beliefs of their faith.

Communication and information helps us all to teach and preach the Gospel as Jesus did.

Live the Liturgy—Inspiration for the Week

God shows up in unexpected ways! Just when we think we have God's agenda figured out, another surprise comes. Expecting to find God only in some places hinders us from finding Him everywhere. Who would have thought that a young boy's few loaves and fishes would feed thousands of people? The disciples were probably just as amazed as everyone else when this feast appeared before them. Sometimes, we find it difficult to believe that God can do amazing things with something small and simple. Yet, grasping this truth is really at the heart of understanding the power of the Eucharist. Having the Body and Blood of Christ made present for us is one amazing wonder. Actually being fed and nourished by that gift is another. Now being able to become what we have eaten, God can do tremendous things with the simple, humble gifts of our lives. All we have to do is realize that God dwells within us. When we do, then everyone we encounter and everything we do has the power to become a sacramental moment. When done with great love even the smallest gesture can be multiplied exponentially. Now, that's amazing!

Word of Life

"Married love differs from any other love in the world. By its nature, the love of husband and wife is so complete, so ordered to a lifetime of communion with God and each other, that it is open to creating a new human being they will love and care for together. ... That power to create a new life with God is at the heart of what spouses share with each other."

—United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, "Married Love and the Gift of Life"

“

One body and one Spirit, as you were also called to the one hope of your call; one Lord, one faith, one baptism; one God and Father of all. —Ephesians 4:4-6

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To have, To hold, To honor

Natural Family Planning

Supporting God's gifts of love and life in marriage
USCCB.org/nfp

Mass Intentions

Sunday, July 25

8:00 am +Mickey Misik
10:00 am +David E. Fisher
11:30 pm IC Parish

Tuesday, July 27

7:30 am +Patti Heideman

Wednesday, July 28

7:30 am The Little Sisters of the Poor

Friday, July 30

7:30 am Stephanie Pommier & Family

Sunday, August 1

8:00 am +Jerome Ocel
10:00 am +Sheila Prokott
11:30 pm IC Parish

+Deceased

Church Directory

Emergency (Death or Anointing) 763-788-9062 (#9)

PARISH

Parish Office.....	763-788-9062
(Open Monday - Thursday, 8 am - 4 pm, Friday, 8 am - 12 pm)	
Parish Fax	763-788-0202
Pastor, Fr. James Peterson	x 215
Accounting Specialist, Julie Mack	x 204
Communications Coordinator, Sue Ashmore.....	x 205
Director of Music and Liturgy, Ray Bannon.....	x 214
Maintenance Supervisor, Doug Olson.....	x 218
Parish Office Coordinator, Ximena Bunay.....	x 201
Pastoral Minister, Vicki Bazille.....	x 212
Records Coordinator, Terri Glaeser.....	x 227
Special Event Coordinator, Jami Bridgeman.....	x 221
Wedding Coordinator, Barb Hartwick	x 204

FAITH FORMATION

Director of Faith Formation, Mary Nawrocki.....	x 210
Administrative Assistant, Mary Scott.....	x 208

SCHOOL

School Office	763-788-9065
School Fax	763-788-9066
Principal, Jane Bona (jbona@immac-church.org)	x 220
Director of Admissions	
Meghan Sackmaster.....	x 207
Director of Advancement/School Business Manager,	
Mary Beth Pfeifer.....	x 203
Administrative Assistant, Sherri Macko.....	x 219

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL MEMBERS

Norma Coto Tom Herschbach Charles Karanja
Marcus Paulson Stacy McVary

Fr. James Peterson (Pastor)
Jane Bona (School Principal)
Steve Smith (Parish Trustee)

Copies of the Parish Council meeting minutes are available
in the pamphlet racks at the entrance to the church.

LOW GLUTEN HOSTS

Low gluten hosts (.002 gluten) are available.
Come to the Sacristy before Mass to request one.

Parish Support

Received Through July 18

Sunday Envelopes.....	\$ 4,554.00
Plate	2,240.00
WeShare Online Giving.....	1,432.50
Automatic Withdrawal.....	4,398.00
Total Collection	\$ 12,624.50

Thank you!

Gospel Meditation



Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

St. Oscar Romero said, "We cannot do everything, and there is a sense of liberation in realizing that. This enables us to do something and to do it very well. It may be incomplete, but it is the beginning, a step along the way, an opportunity for the Lord's grace to enter and do the rest."

There were a group of ladies many years ago who made quilts. They were beautiful creations reflecting inspirational designs artfully composed from the simple scraps of fabric each woman would bring to their individual pieces. There was no plan for the finished project as each finished work became the combined creation of what each woman contributed. They abounded in vibrant colors and dazzled the beholder with intricate patterns and their myriad textures. They were so beautiful that they became coveted family treasures passed from generation to generation. Those women never realized the power of their work. Countless babies rested in the comfort of those quilts warmly nestled in the legacy of tradition they were fortunate to inherit. They adorned countless homes with their beauty and brought joy and solace to many faces.

We cannot do everything. We are not meant to. Our work in life is to contribute our individual piece, a piece that reflects the unique thumbprint I claim as my own. We only have to do small things well. Then, as St. Oscar Romero reminds us, the Lord's grace will enter and do the rest. We have to trust that this is true just as those women trusted in the eventual beauty of their final work.

Eucharistic blessings are blessings that start small and multiply. We all come to life with only a few loaves of bread and a few fish. Not any single one of us has all that it takes to transform our world. Who knows what God will do with the little we have and how many will benefit from our kindness, compassion, wisdom, courage, conviction, love, warmth, zeal, faith, and hope? That young lad never dreamed that his few leftovers would do all that they did. God shows up in unexpected ways! Where would life's adventure and fun be if it were any other way? Being able to be part of bringing God's creative, transforming, healing to the world opens us up to wonder, awe, and excitement! We can all bring our little piece to the bigger work of God that can result in being a coveted jewel passed generation to generation. This is good news indeed!

Bread and wine transform into Christ's Body and Blood and we become what we eat. Trust that.

©LPI



Daily Admission Pricing
Purchase tickets online at ICSummerJam.org
Thursday, Friday, Saturday
Only 500 tickets sold for each day.

- \$15.00 Advance Sale Ticket
(Limit 4 tickets for each day)
- \$20.00 Ticket at the Door (if available)
- Sunday—Free.** No ticket required.
See website for ticket and entry policies.

Big Buck Raffle!
Grand Prize \$10,000.00 • 2nd Prize \$5,000.00
Raffle tickets \$10 each

Pre-assigned IC Summer Jam general raffle tickets are available for pick up in the back of church or in the parish office during the week. If we missed your name or you would like to buy/sell additional tickets, please call the parish office at 763-788-9062.

State regulations require that all tickets be accounted for, so please return all purchased ticket stubs with payment and un-purchased tickets to the Mass collection baskets or the parish office.

Silent Auction Online
Begins August 1 through August 8 at 2:00 pm.

Wine Toss
Bottles of wine are needed for the “Wine Toss” booth. If you would like to donate a bottle or two, please bring your donation to the parish office or give to an usher before weekend Masses.

Volunteer—We Need You!
We need your help at IC Summer Jam, August 5-8! There are many volunteer opportunities available. Sign-up sheets are available in the narthex of the church, so please check them out or sign-up online at ICSummerJam.org and contribute some of your time and talent to IC Summer Jam 2021. Thank you!

ICSummerJam.org

Th: 4:00-10:00 pm | Fri: 4:00 - 10:30 pm | Sat: 4:00 - 10:30 pm | Sun: 1:00 pm - 4:00 pm

Free City Ramp & Lot Parking—see website for details
Chairs not provided, please bring your own.

No coolers, outside food or beverages, skateboards bicycles or pets allowed. Service animals welcome.

TRIBUTE FEST!

Food • Schell's Beer Tent • Pull Tabs

THURSDAY Hosted by Lisa Miller **92 KQRS**



5:00 pm

Starlette's Web
Tribute to Women in Pop Rock,
Country & Groove



7:30 pm

Free Fallin
A Tribute to Tom Petty

FRIDAY Hosted by Lisa Miller **92 KQRS**



5:00 pm

Transit Authority
Tribute to the music of Chicago



7:30 pm

Xpedition
Tribute to Journey • Foreigner • Kansas • Styx

SATURDAY Hosted by Candace Wheeler **92 KQRS**
From the KQ Morning Show



5:00 pm

Beatles Tribute Band
Rubber Soul



8:30 pm

The Crown Jewels
Tribute to Queen

SUNDAY Family Day - **Free Admission!**

Bingo • Car Show • Kid's Games & More!

The Week Ahead

Tuesday, July 27

Summer School 8:00 am - 3:00 pm
Charismatic Prayer Group 7:00 pm - 8:30 pm

Wednesday, July 28

Summer School 8:00 am - 3:00 pm

Thursday, July 29

Summer School 8:00 am - 3:00 pm
Art Harris Funeral 11:00 am - 12:00 pm
Visitation 10:00 am

Saturday, July 31

Spanish Bible Study 6:30 pm - 8:00 pm



Catholic Trivia — Just for Fun!

Which was Jesus' first public miracle?

- Feeding the 5,000
- Healing of the lepers
- Walking on water
- Turning water into wine

©LP1

Answer: d



Natural Family Planning Awareness Week

July 25–31, 2021



“To have ... To hold ... To honor, Natural Family Planning, Supporting God’s gifts of love and life in marriage” is the theme of this year’s National Natural Family Planning Awareness Week, an educational campaign of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) to celebrate God’s vision for marriage and promote the methods of Natural Family Planning.

Natural Family Planning (NFP) is a general title for ethical, natural, safe and effective methods for both achieving and avoiding pregnancy in marriage. NFP methods teach couples how to observe and interpret the wife’s signs of fertility and infertility. In the words of the *Catechism of the Catholic Church*, NFP methods “respect the bodies of the spouses, encourage tenderness between them and favor the education of an authentic freedom.” (CCC, no. 2370)

The Catholic Church invites all the faithful to embrace God’s plan for married love. Learn more about these beautiful teachings which support the use of NFP in marriage at usccb.org/topics/natural-family-planning/church-teaching.

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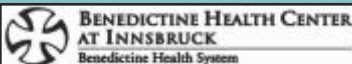


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