



Hancock County Catholic Church St. Columba & Immaculate Conception



Immaculate Conception

P.O. Box 219 • Hawesville, KY 42348
Phone 270-927-8419
Pastoral Council Chairperson,
Gary Elder 270-222-0215

St. Columba

P.O. Box 358 • Lewisport, KY 42351
Phone 270-295-3682
Pastoral Council Chairperson,
Jim Fallin 270-295-6460

Parish Center

240 Court Square, Hawesville, KY 42348
Office Hours M-F 8:00-3:00 pm
Fax 270-927-6783

Pastoral Team

Fr. Terry Devine, Pastor 927-9908
terry.devine@pastoral.org
Denise Long, CRE 295-3661
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Church Web Page: icschurch.org
Diocesan Web Page: owensborodiocese.org

St. Vincent de Paul Thrift Store

Phone 295-3494
Meetings are 3rd Wednesday at 4:30 pm
Store hours: M-F 10-4 pm, Sat. 10-2 pm
P.O. Box 391 • 8185 Hwy 60 W • Lewisport, KY 42351
For all of Hancock County

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.

Cycles of Faith

4th SUNDAY OF LENT

"Neither he nor his parents sinned; it is so that the works of God might be made visible through him." The prevailing theology of Jesus' time led people to believe that any kind of disability was a punishment from God. So Jesus' disciples assumed that the man born blind suffered that affliction because of someone's sin: either his parents' or his own. But Jesus sets the record straight. Not only did he reject the idea that the blindness was a punishment for sin; he also went so far as to suggest that this very trial was an opportunity for God's glory to be revealed.

And sure enough, it was. Jesus worked a miracle of healing for the man who followed his directions and "came back able to see." So it was that the "works of God" became "visible" through a man who was blind! But, ironically, not everyone had the eyes to see the miracle. The Gospel tells us that "there was a division among them" as they debated whether this remarkable healing was really an act of God.

Jesus stated that he came "so that those who do not see might see." And so, who are we? Are we blinded by our own expectations of how God is supposed to work? Are we so caught up in our own vision of what we wish would happen that we fail to appreciate what is actually unfolding before our very eyes? It is so easy to perceive trials, disabilities, sickness, and misfortune as a curse or the result of being abandoned by God. But today's Gospel suggests another reality. In the midst of these very difficulties, God wants to reveal himself, to show his love and mercy. It may not always be in the exact way we expect, but without a doubt, even in these challenging realms, God is always at work.



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

Lord - We want to See:

This Fourth Sunday of Lent centers around the theme of vision and blindness. No one chooses blindness and darkness and protection of our eyes is so crucial if one wants to enjoy the gift of good vision. But what about protecting ourselves from the disease of spiritual blindness which blocks our vision of God in our lives? Sin is a build-up of many things which covers and eliminates our ability to see Christ in our world and His presence in others. Lent is a time of purification and reconciliation when we are invited by the Church to remove those items which hinder us from good spiritual vision. The Sacrament of Reconciliation would be an example of "cleaning the slate" and getting ready for an Easter in which we want to see the Risen Christ within ourselves! God bless you, Fr. Terry



LIVE THE LITURGY

Today is Laetare Sunday, or Rejoicing Sunday, a time of rejoicing at the midpoint of our Lenten observances. In the midst of our season of penance, today provides an opportunity to express our joy as we journey along to Easter.

Easter Ham

St. Columba is taking orders for smoked Easter Hams! Cost is \$35 and payment must be made at time of the order. All orders must be turned in by April 4th. Hams will be ready for pickup on Palm Sunday, April 9th. Contact Mike Fallin or the church office if you wish to place an order.

Family Information:

If you have a new address or phone number, please call the office at 270-927-8419 to update your information. Thank you.

Candy Donations

We are asking for donations of individually wrapped candy to stuff our eggs for the Easter Egg Hunt. Candy donations may be placed in the baskets at church or may be dropped off at the parish office.

First Sunday Donuts and Potluck

Join us next Sunday after Mass at St Columba for donuts and coffee and at Immaculate Conception for our monthly potluck!

Family Camp April 28-30, 2017

Join us this spring at Gasper River Catholic Youth Camp & Retreat Center for Family Camp. This will be a time to unwind and get away with your family. Join other families for a weekend of daily mass, quiet time for prayer and reflection surrounded by God's creation, and fun activities. You will have the opportunity to listen to talks and reflections on how to raise a Catholic family in this world where it is often times hostile to our faith. All lodging and meals will be provided in your registration fee. Space will be limited to 8 families. For a family of four or less, the cost is \$200. For families of five or more, the cost is \$250. Go to our website www.icschurch.org and clicking the link in the Family Camp article on our Home page.

Cemetery Policy Reminder:

It is almost time to begin mowing the cemetery. Just a reminder that the policy is: All flowers and ornaments must be attached to the headstone. Shepherd's hooks with single hooks will be allowed for the purpose of hanging baskets only. If items or mementoes are left on the grass they will be gathered up and discarded. No item may be left in the way of the mower. Please pass this word along to your family and friends. Thank you for your cooperation.

Mass Intentions

Tuesday, March 28

8:00 am † Billie Jean Bunch SC
By Jimmy & Bonnie Jones

Wednesday, March 29

5:30 pm † Etta Myrl Bickett IC
By Clayton & Gloria Gray

Thursday, March 30

8:00 am † Ora Myrl Roby SC
By Dot Pooser

Friday, March 31

8:00 am † Robert Gray IC
By Harold Gray Family

Saturday, April 1

5:00 pm † Anna Payne IC
By Denis & Martha Wheatley

Sunday, April 2

8:30 am † George Allard SC
By Betty Allard
10:30 am People of the Parish IC

Saturday Night Mass moves to Immaculate Conception

Readings for the Week

March 26, 2017

Sunday: 1 Sm 16:1b, 6-7, 10-13a/Ps 23:1-6/Eph 5:8-14/Jn 9:1-41 or 9:1, 6-9, 13-17, 34-38

Monday: Is 65:17-21/Ps 30:2, 4-6, 11-12a, 13b/Jn 4:43-54

Tuesday: Ez 47:1-9, 12/Ps 46:2-3, 5-6, 8-9/Jn 5:1-16

Wednesday: Is 49:8-15/Ps 145:8-9, 13cd-15, 17-18/Jn 5:17-30

Thursday: Ex 32:7-14/Ps 106:19-23/Jn 5:31-47

Friday: Wis 2:1a, 12-22/Ps 34:17-21, 23/Jn 7:1-2, 10, 25-30

Saturday: Jer 11:18-20/Ps 7:2-3, 9bc-12/Jn 7:40-53

Next Sunday: Ez 37:12-14/Ps 130:1-8/Rom 8:8-11/Jn 11:1-45 or 11:3-7, 17, 20-27, 33b-45

Faith Sharing Question

John 9:1-41

In his healing of the man born blind, Jesus teaches the Pharisees about their own spiritual blindness. How do you discern your areas of blindness?

1 Samuel 16:1b, 6-7, 10-13a

The Lord anointed young David as Israel's next king because of what was in David's "heart" and not by his external appearance. How would God assess the state of your heart?

Ephesians 5:8-14

Paul urges the Ephesian Christians to "expose" the "fruitless works of darkness." What challenge do you see in this spiritual exercise?

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

Tuesday, March 28

5:00 pm Rosary SC
 5:30 pm Stations of the Cross SC

Wednesday, March 29

6:00 pm Relig Ed K-Adult IC
 6:00 pm Lenten Confessions IC

Thursday, March 30

5:30 pm Stations of the Cross IC
 6:00 pm RCIA IC

Friday, March 31

4:30 pm Lenten Fish Fry SC
 6:00 pm Lenten Confessions SC



Liturgical Roles

Sunday, April 2

St. Columba, 8:30 am

Eucharistic Min: Mary Masterson
 Mary Beth Emmick, Rosemary Emmick
Lector: Pam Potter
Server: Denny Long
Cross Bearer: Amy Allard
Gift Bearer: Tina & Shelby Nelson
Hospitality: Tina & Shelby Nelson
 Dwayne & Joyce Duncan
Vocation Statue: Rosemary Neff

Immaculate Conception, 10:30 am

Eucharistic Min: Martha Wheatley
 Cheryl Gammon, Shirley Hagman
Lector: Connie Wheatley
Server: Abby Walz, Laura Wheatley
Cross Bearer: Ty Durbin
Gift Bearer: Mark & Amanda Walz
Hospitality: Jody & Alisha Wheatley
 Dakota Wheatley, Heath Stokes
Vocation Statue: Joyce Hare
Children's Liturgy: Trina Ogle

EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP

Talking about discipleship and truly being a disciple are two very different things. It is easier to know what we should do than to carry out. Many saints from our tradition have had much to say about this struggle to do what they know they must do, and not do that which they know they shouldn't. It is part of being human.

Without God, we have no chance to overcome this predicament. Without God, our actions can ring hollow, or often we are too immobilized to act at all. Without God, we suffer with blindness to the truth of what is important and eternal.

The story in John 9 of Jesus healing the blind man is about more than a physical healing and just one man. It is about how each of us can find healing of our blindness by turning to Jesus Christ. Are you someone that has been saying, "I don't understand all this talk of discipleship and stewardship; what's the big deal?" We all have a blindness that needs to be healed, and the body of Christ needs you so that God's presence in our world can be seen in a more profound manner. The reality is that God heals the blindness of those who seek him so that, in turn, they may be vehicles by which others may see as well.

This Lent, you are invited to bring your blindness to Jesus. All the written reflections in the world will not give you new eyes. Those eyes can only be found in Jesus. --Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS



Disciples Response Fund Appeal

Thank you for your generosity. Following are the totals for the Disciples Response Fund Appeal for our parishes as of March 13th:

| | <u>Immaculate Conception</u> | <u>St. Columba</u> |
|-----------------------|------------------------------|--------------------|
| Parish Target Amount: | \$3,967.43 | \$2,595.63 |
| Pledged: | \$6,952.50 | \$1,330.00 |
| Paid: | \$6,852.50 | \$1,230.00 |
| Remaining Balance: | \$ 100.00 | \$ 100.00 |
| Amount of Rebate: | \$1,442.54 | |

The Parish will receive a rebate of 50% for all dollars paid over Parish Target Amount.

Sunday Collections

| Immaculate Conception | | St. Columba | |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------|--------------------------|-------------------|
| Weekly Goal | \$3,269.00 | Weekly Goal | \$2,308.00 |
| Collection 3-19-17 | <u>\$2,325.00</u> | Collection 3-19-17 | <u>\$2,397.00</u> |
| Difference under | \$944.00 | Difference over | \$89.00 |
| Mass Attendance | 145 | Mass Attendance | 58/90 |
| Week # 38 of 52 | | Week # 38 of 52 | |
| Fiscal YTD Goal | \$124,222 | Fiscal YTD Goal | \$87,704 |
| Fiscal YTD Actual | \$117,962 | Fiscal YTD Actual | \$93,274 |
| IC Building Acquisition Fund | | | |
| Total Families Pledged | 60 | | |
| Total Amount Pledged | \$190,163 | | |
| Total Paid 3-19-17 | \$177,773 | | |

In Need of Special Prayer
 Phyllis Emmick, Joan Peak, Donald Tharp
 Stephen Emmick, Robert Bulleit, April Bolin,
 Georgene Poole

Homebound and Heartland Villa
 Mary Hinton, Dorothy Beauchamp,
 Christina Hagan, Olivia Murphy, Frances
 Payne, Shirley Mobley, Florence Roby,
 Lillie Lanham, Clyde Toler, Mary Coyle
 Regina Walz, Frances Storm

**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.

Lenten Project Continues with Water Women How Can You Help



- Take home a bottle of water and before drinking the water Pray for the families in Kenya
- Pray for what you will sacrifice during Lent so you may contribute to our Lenten project
- Then drink your water and when empty use it as a bank to collect money during Lent.
- Bring your water bottle full of money back to church during Holy Week



For more information, you may check out the website www.waterwithblessings.org or contact our parish office.

Providing a Safe Environment

The Diocese of Owensboro seeks to help all people who have been sexually abused, especially those abused by a person working, either paid or unpaid, for the Church. If you need to make a report of abuse, from either the past or present, please contact the Pastoral Assistance Coordinator at this confidential phone line (270-852-8380). A copy of the revised diocesan sexual abuse policy can be found in the back of church or in the parish office and also on the diocesan web site (www.rcdok.org/safe).

WHY DO CATHOLICS DO THAT?

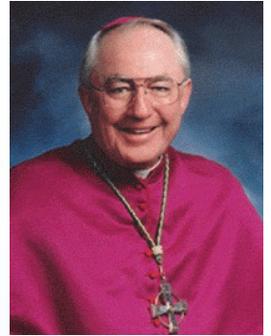
Question: Does God make people suffer because of their sins?

Answer: Let's use the analogy of parents. If your children did something wrong, would you make them suffer? In other words, would you make them feel pain just because they did something wrong? You might chastise them, and the punishment or correction might not be pleasant, but out of love for your children, you will not hurt them just to hurt them. Sometimes, they suffer the consequences of their actions and that is punishment enough. You hope they learn and grow from their choices, good and bad.

God is a loving Father. He allows us to suffer the consequences of our sins, so that we will turn to him for his love and forgiveness. God wants us to grow in holiness, in virtue, in grace. He gives us free will so that we can choose, and the choices we make either bring us joy or bring us suffering. From that, we learn and grow. God does not hurt us or make us suffer to get even with us. He loves us and wants the best for us. When we suffer, he suffers with us so that we know how much we need him and how much he loves us.

Bishop Emeritus John McRaith

We are very saddened by the death of Bishop John Jeremiah McRaith. We extend our sympathy to his dear family and the people of the Diocese of Owensboro. He served the Diocese for over 20 years. He was a gentle and kind shepherd.



"It's the foundation of our faith that we're brought into this world to love and serve God in this world and be happy with Him in the next. Even though there's a sense of sorrow

that a good man has died, in our faith we believe that he has gone on to be with God forever, so that's our reassurance." - Bishop William Francis Medley



Lenten Project Continues with Water Women

This year our Lenten Project continues to establish Water Women in Kenya with the help of Fr Joe Mungai and the Sisters of Hope. Every 8 seconds a child dies from an illness related to drinking contaminated water. For \$60 you can save the lives of many children. For \$60 a mother will become a Water Woman and will receive a life-saving water filter. She will receive special education on disease, health, sanitation, how to filter and upkeep their system. She will meet monthly for further education, prayer, support and accountability. In return she will filter water for her family and 3 other families. We invite you to take a bottle of water home with you and collect your change or place a donation in it and return it during Holy Week. Your donation will save the lives of many children in Kenya! Learn more about our project on our website www.icscchurch.org or visit Water with Blessings at www.waterwithblessings.org

Parish Website – www.icscchurch.org

Take a look at our parish website for news and resources. On our website, you will find current events happening in our parishes along with upcoming events planned. You will find pictures, Mass times and the Catholic News Service. Need information about our religious education program, just click the Faith Formation tab. Perhaps you need some Lenten resources then consider the Spiritual growth section. Thinking about getting married or wanting your baby baptized then see the Sacrament page. On our website, you will find many resources to help you. Take a look around and let us know if there is anything we can add to help meet your needs.

