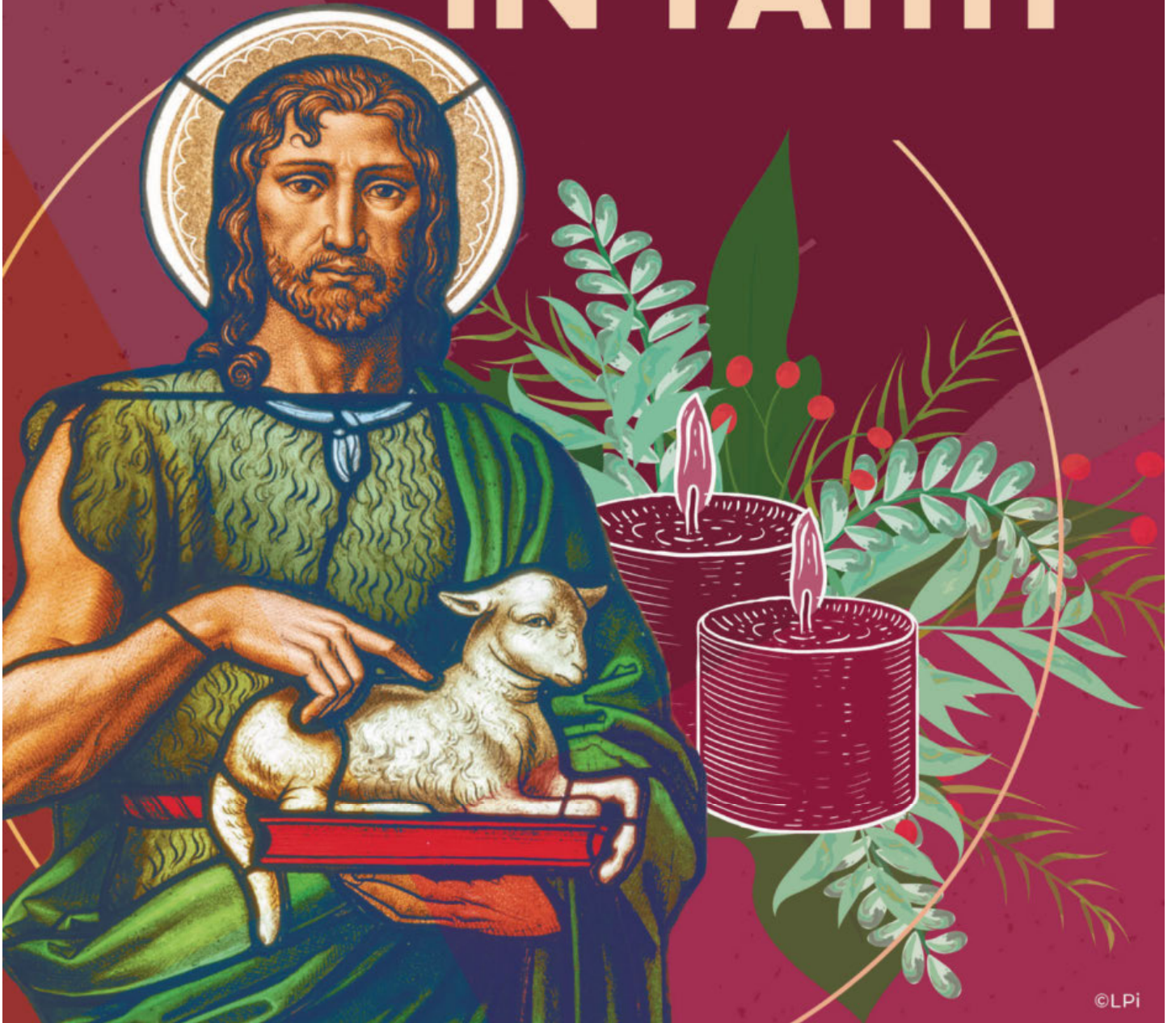


The Immacolata Catholic Church

December 8, 2024

2ND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

# HOLD ON IN FAITH





### Parish Mass Times

**Sunday Masses:** Saturday 5:00 p.m.  
Sunday 7:30, 9:30,  
11:30 a.m., & 5:00 p.m.

**Weekday Masses:** 6:30 a.m. Mon.-Fri.  
8:00 a.m. Mon.-Sat.  
(School in session) **8:30** a.m. Wed.

**Holy Days:** Consult the current Sunday bulletin.

**Perpetual Help:** Tuesdays following the 8:00 a.m. Mass.

**Pastoral Care of the Sick:** Contact the rectory to request visitation of the sick, either at home or in the hospital.

### Sacraments

**Sacrament of Reconciliation:** Weekly: Thursday, following 8 a.m. Mass, Saturday 4-4:45 p.m. and anytime by appointment.

**Baptism Class:** A class is held each month in the Rectory at 6:30 p.m. All first time parents with a child to be baptized should be prepared to attend this class. **Please call the rectory to register for the class (date TBD) (991.5700 x311).**

**Baptism:** First Sunday of the month at 12:30 p.m.

**Marriage:** Engaged couples must contact a priest at least six months prior to the anticipated date of Marriage in order to allow sufficient time for preparation.

**Masses at Immacolata on the Holy Day 12/9/24:**  
6:30, 8:00, 10:00 am; 5:30 pm

8900 Clayton Road, Richmond Heights, MO 63117  
314.991.5700

[www.immacolata.org](http://www.immacolata.org)

To download the 'Parish MyApp' on your phone:  
Text APP to 88202

### Staff

- Rev. Msgr. Vernon E. Gardin, Pastor ..... ext. 315  
[vgardin@immacolata.org](mailto:vgardin@immacolata.org)
- Rev. Mr. Tyler McClay, Permanent Deacon .....[tmccclay@ccstl.org](mailto:tmccclay@ccstl.org)
- Mr. Tom Havrilka, School Principal ..... ext. 332
- Ms. Christine Hoffmeyer, Parish Office Manager ..... ext. 311
- Mrs. Lynnette Modder, Accountant ..... ext. 312
- Mr. Nick Moramarco, Music Director .....402.0493

### Parish Buildings & Offices

- Parish Office & Rectory 991.5700 ext. 301
- Parish Fax " "
- School " ext. 302

#### Registration

New parishioners, please stop by or call the rectory to register. We look forward to meeting you.

**Bulletin Deadline** - Tuesday, 9 am  
**Website** - [www.immacolata.org](http://www.immacolata.org)

[choffmeyer@immacolata.org](mailto:choffmeyer@immacolata.org)  
**Twitter** - [ImmacolataStl](https://twitter.com/ImmacolataStl)



Dear Friends,

The **Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary** is December 8, unless it falls on a Sunday of Advent, which is the case this year. Therefore, this year, it is celebrated on the following day, **Monday, December 9**. It is a *holyday of obligation*, because Mary, under the title of the Immaculate Conception, is the patron saint of our country. **Masses on Monday will be 6:30 a.m., 8:00 a.m., 10:00 a.m., and 5:30 p.m.** The doctrine of the Immaculate Conception means that Mary was conceived without original sin; and through God’s grace she never sinned inasmuch as she perfectly reflected the holiness of her Son.

The feast of the Immaculate Conception can also be called the **birthday of Immacolata Parish** since the parish’s first Mass was celebrated on this day, December 8, 1945. Mary, the “Immacolata,” is our parish patron saint. The founding pastor, Msgr. John Cody, chose the name “Immacolata,” which is Italian for the “immaculate woman.” Msgr. Cody’s ordination to the priesthood was in Rome on December 8, 1931, the feast day of the Immaculate Conception. The church where he had celebrated his first Mass in Rome was called The Immacolata. Right after the end of World War II, **Immacolata Parish** was officially founded on October 3, 1945 when the boundaries were carved out of the four adjoining parishes: Annunziata, Little Flower, St. Mary Magdalene, and St. Joseph. Our parish history book written in 1995 stated that the first church building was a *“hay/barn on the site which had once stabled horses, beautifully remodeled as a temporary church for the fledgling parish of 200 families.”*

The Solemnity of Christmas is just a few weeks away. *Have you been to Confession recently?* Receiving the **Sacrament of Reconciliation** is one of the best ways to prepare to celebrate Christ’s birth into our world. The main theme of Jesus’ preaching was *“The kingdom of God is at hand. Repent, and believe in the Gospel!”* (Mark 1:15) Confession is available at Immacolata every Saturday, 4:00 – 4:45 p.m., and also right after the 8:00 a.m. Mass on Thursdays. Our neighboring parishes, St. Mary Magdalen (Brentwood) and St. Joseph (Clayton) have Confessions Monday through Friday as well.

The schedule of Masses for **Christmas** is as follows:

- |                                    |            |
|------------------------------------|------------|
| <b>Christmas Eve, December 24:</b> | 4:00 p.m.  |
|                                    | 10:00 p.m. |
| <b>Christmas Day, December 25:</b> | 8:00 a.m.  |
|                                    | 10:00 a.m. |

Msgr. Vernon Gardin



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**Mass Intentions for  
Monday-Saturday, December 9-14, 2024**

**The Immaculate Conception**

<b>MONDAY</b>	6:30 AM	Jim Huber
	8:00	Nicomedes Reyes
	10:00	Joseph LaMartina
	5:30 PM	Virginia Fister
<b>TUESDAY</b>	6:30 AM	Gloria Thompson
	8:00	Lois A. Milford
<b>WEDNESDAY</b>	6:30 AM	William Wingerter
	<b>8:30</b>	Joseph LaMartina
<b>THURSDAY</b>	6:30 AM	David Stolwyk
	8:00	Margaret Doisy
<b>FRIDAY</b>	6:30 AM	W. Eric Bergmann, Jr.
	8:00	Louise McNeive
<b>SATURDAY</b>	8:00 AM	R. Douglas Milford (Anniv.)
	5:00 PM	Frank Adam, III

**Mass Intentions for Sunday, December 15, 2024**

7:30 AM	William R. Casserly, Jr.
9:30	Patricia Martin
11:30	For the People of the Parish
5:00 PM	Sally Ann Peebles

*In your charity*, please pray for those in our Parish Family who are sick and for those who have died, but in particular for all those dear to us, especially MARGARET KRUSE, former Immacolata Art Teacher (1984-2000).



**Please join us to congratulate the 2nd Graders who made their First Reconciliation on November 19th. Please continue to keep them, their families and teachers in your prayers as they continue their preparation for First Holy Communion in the Spring.**

- |                            |                           |
|----------------------------|---------------------------|
| <i>Patrick Arman</i>       | <i>Tierney Bridges</i>    |
| <i>Kennedy Coggin</i>      | <i>Johnny Clohisy</i>     |
| <i>Hannah Favazza</i>      | <i>Brooke Dore</i>        |
| <i>Gus Hill</i>            | <i>William Fisher</i>     |
| <i>Cooper Krummenacher</i> | <i>Elliot Fleming</i>     |
| <i>Ford Lawlor</i>         | <i>Asher Fraley</i>       |
| <i>Alice Leininger</i>     | <i>Paulie Fusz</i>        |
| <i>Millie Martin</i>       | <i>William Gorlewicz</i>  |
| <i>Clare McDonald</i>      | <i>Jenna Jones</i>        |
| <i>Frankie Novelty</i>     | <i>Margo Kleinschmidt</i> |
| <i>Ford Petty</i>          | <i>Francesca Libbra</i>   |
| <i>Charlie Pohrer</i>      | <i>Madison Luzecky</i>    |
| <i>Evie Reed</i>           | <i>Frank Marischen</i>    |
| <i>Margaret Roth</i>       | <i>Meredith Mawhiney</i>  |
| <i>Jack Shelton</i>        | <i>Lauren McLaird</i>     |
| <i>Eloise Singleton</i>    | <i>Jack Moritz</i>        |
| <i>Quinn Smith</i>         | <i>Parks Thompson</i>     |
|                            | <i>Joseph Watson</i>      |



**Your Weekly Stewardship - Stewardship Generosity, Sharing the Gifts We Have Been Given**

Through prayer we recognize that all we have is a gift from God: our time, our talents and our treasure. Our generosity is giving a portion of what we have been given.

**Your Gifts to God & Immacolata Parish ~ November 23-24, 2024**

<b>Offertory Envelopes</b>	<b>\$ 8,355</b>	<i>(includes online giving)</i>	<b>Year to Date</b>
<b>Offertory Loose</b>	<b>\$ 1,450</b>		
<b>Total Received</b>	<b>\$ 9,805</b>		<b>\$ 240,029</b>
<b>Budget Required</b>	<b>\$ 14,370</b>		<b>\$ 301,770</b>
	<b>\$ - 4,565</b>		<b>\$ - 61,741</b>

*Stewardship - The Path of Faith...Prayer, Participation, Generosity*

## Assignment of Liturgical Roles ~ December 9-15, 2024

### Monday-Friday, December 9-13, 2024

6:30 am

LECTOR: Pat Cantwell

SERVER: Jim Rhodes

### Monday-Saturday, December 9-14, 2024

8:00 am

LECTOR: Cathy Day

SERVERS: Nola Hugge-Megan Harrison

### Saturday, December 14, 2024

5:00 pm

LECTORS: Candy Caciolo

SERVERS: Ryan & PJ Dolan

EXTRAORD: Marie Mathes-Mike Forster

### Sunday, December 15, 2024

7:30 am

LECTOR: Jon Niemira

SERVER: Steve Roy

EXTRAORD: Mary Niemira-Cathy Day

### WE BELIEVE SUNDAY

9:30 am

LECTOR: Immacolata Student

SERVERS: Cooper & Sophie St. Eve-Eve Unger

EXTRAORD: George Diehr-Patty Erker

11:30 am

LECTOR: Holly Gulick

SERVERS: Liam McGinn-TBD

EXTRAORD: Mary Clohisy-Pat Leahy

5:00 pm

LECTOR: Susan Weber

SERVERS: Lottie Kretchmar-Maeve McDonald

EXTRAORD: Sanja Ord-Kate Raybuck





**Confirmation at Immacolata: Tuesday, May 6, 2025**

To Parents of **8<sup>th</sup> graders in a Catholic middle school (other than Immacolata),**

We will be offering classes for preparation to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation at Immacolata on **Monday evenings, beginning January 6, 2025.** Mrs. Andrea Allman has graciously offered to direct this program; she was an Immacolata PSR teacher for many years. Please contact Andrea as soon as possible to sign-up your 8th grader.

**Classes** in preparation for the Sacrament of Confirmation, May 6, 2025:

- **8<sup>th</sup> graders in a Catholic Middle School** (other than Immacolata):  
Classes are on Monday evenings at Immacolata School, 6:30 – 7:45 p.m. beginning **January 6, 2025.**

**Contact information:** Mrs. Andrea Allman  
[aallman@live.com](mailto:aallman@live.com); cell: 314-704-9596

- **Public Schools:** Sacramental preparation is offered at St. Joseph’s Regional Parish School of Religion (PSR)

**Contact information:** St. Joseph Parish Office (314) 726-1221  
Director: Gary Lang [glang@stjosephclayton.org](mailto:glang@stjosephclayton.org)

- **Immacolata 8<sup>th</sup> grade:** Sacramental preparation takes place in school

**POLYHYMNIA**  
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*Lessons and Carols*  
Worship and Hymns for the Advent Season

**Carmel of St. Joseph**  
9150 Clayton Rd.  
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**Sunday, Dec. 8th, 3 PM**  
Deacon Stephen  
Fahrig Presiding



**Pre-School Aide Needed**

Immacolata School is currently seeking applicants for a Pre-K teaching assistant position beginning on January 2, 2025.

The ideal candidate will have a passion for working with children between the ages of 3 and 5. The role of this person is to assist the lead teacher with classroom instruction, monitoring stations during center time, planning activities and various other duties. Applicants should also have good communication skills and an understanding of how to be a productive member on a pre-K.

Applicants should contact Tom Havrilka at [thavrilka@immacolata.org](mailto:thavrilka@immacolata.org) and apply through the Archdiocese ArchHR system.



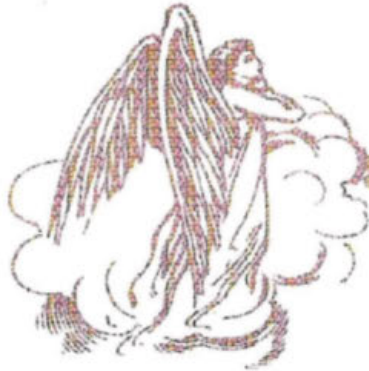
The 2024 Immacolata Turkey Trot was our most successful to date! We collected over 100 turkeys for two local food pantries and had an amazing turn out. There is nothing this community can't do when we work together. On behalf of the Home and School Board Wellness committee, THANK YOU!



I enjoy learning about the history of the United States and how it became today. I like learning about the subject because I'm patriotic. I also think it is interesting to compare the United States two hundred years ago from now. I also enjoy learning about the economy and how it started. For example, we are learning about how some cities in the U.S. are so big, like New York.

*David Dolan ~ 8th grade*

# It is that time of Year



## **GIVING to Others in Need** **Immacolata ANGEL TREE**

**They are always so grateful.** You **do not have** to wrap the gifts

**Please put the gifts under the tree or use the QR code for super easy shopping: see code below** – please arrange to have your gifts sent to arrive the week of Dec 2 – Dec 5 or Dec 9-10. They will be delivered to the Rectory and we have limited space, if you can bring them on Sundays and put them under the tree that is also ideal. Thank you

**Nov 30 - Dec 9th**



Newborn diapers, 3 and 6 mo. Sleepers, sheet sets (queen) towels  
Gloves- these items can be dropped off at the Tree in the back of church **We appreciate all you do for those less fortunate. If you have any questions regarding the tree please Contact Beth Schenk 314-406-1502 or [Bschenkbusiness@gmail.com](mailto:Bschenkbusiness@gmail.com).** Happy Holidays !! If you need help with the QR code usage please contact Beth

*Immacolata Ladies Society Presents*

# ADVENT BY CANDLELIGHT

*All ladies of the parish and school are invited to join us for an evening of spiritual reflection, seasonal celebration and fellowship.*

**SUN, DECEMBER 8**

**6:30 - 8:30 PM**

Immacolata Gym

**GUEST SPEAKER:**

**PATTY SCHNEIER**

Author, Podcaster &  
Catholic Speaker

**Register to host a table  
by November 30**

email: [ladiessociety@immacolata.org](mailto:ladiessociety@immacolata.org)

Table hosts are responsible for inviting eight ladies to attend. Table hosts provide festive decorations, tableware, hard drinks and desserts for their table.

Coffee provided by the Ladies Society.

Register early, limited number of tables available.

**CO-CHAIRS: ANNE BROWN, NATALIE COX, & PEGGY WARD**

Please join us for Christmas activities, crafts, and fun!

**Breakfast with Santa**  
**Sunday, December 15th**  
**10:30-11:30am**  
**Immacolata School Gym**

Donuts, bagels, and drinks will be served.  
Have your picture taken with the man in red!

Pre-registration is appreciated, but not required.

Family name: \_\_\_\_\_

#of Children \_\_\_\_\_

# of Adults \_\_\_\_\_

Total # attending x \$6.00 \_\_\_\_\_

Please return this form and payment to the school office  
via Wednesday envelope. Checks can be made out to  
Immacolata School.

Immacolata School  
Attn: Claire Boevingloh  
8910 Clayton Road  
St. Louis, MO 63117

This event is sponsored by the 6th grade class. Proceeds  
go to support the St.Vincent De Paul sandwich program.

## Liturgical Life

### (PRACTICING) CATHOLIC

#### The Straight Path

Ten to fifteen years ago the Department of Transportation decided that it would be fun to give everyone in my zip code something to complain about and replaced most of our major intersections with roundabouts.

This wouldn't be so irksome, I suppose, if I understood how to navigate a roundabout. In theory I do, I've read all the rules and I've watched those cute little YouTube videos where they show you which car is supposed to go at what time. But theory and practice are rather different. And the bottom line is, I never approach a roundabout without taking a deep, anxious breath and tightening my grip on the steering wheel, not entirely sure what my next move should be.

I think of roundabouts every time I hear today's Gospel reading, where John the Baptist echoes Isaiah in beseeching us to make straight the paths of the Lord. See, I always think I've made a straight path between me and God. I go to Mass. I go to Confession. I say my prayers.

*He can get to me if He wants, I tell myself.*

But without realizing it, I put up roundabouts. I make rules. *You go here, God, and then I go here. I'll do this, God, but first You do this. You stay in your lane, and I stay in mine.* Eventually I find myself taking a different route altogether; the road that stretches between me and Him is too daunting. I start avoiding it.

Sometimes I think God wants the path to be straight not for Himself but for us. He can handle a roundabout. But He knows that when we must run to Him, we have to do it without thinking. In the dark. In fear, in anxiety.

So, this Advent, beware the roundabouts. Make straight the path.

— Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

#### Why do we do that?

##### Catholic Life Explained

##### Question:

What is the Hispanic Advent custom of "Las Posadas"?

##### Answer:

"Posada" is the Spanish word for inn or lodging. "Las Posadas" refers to a traditional Advent custom in preparation for the birth of Jesus, beginning on December 16. For nine successive evenings, groups reenact the search of Mary and Joseph for shelter in Bethlehem.

Two children dress as Mary and Joseph, sometimes with Mary riding on an actual donkey. They are usually accompanied by children dressed as angels and shepherds along with the Wise Men. Adults accompany them as they process to designated homes where they sing Christmas songs and request lodging. Part of the group enters the home and becomes the chorus that responds to the request for lodging. In the beginning the request is rebuffed. They move to several more homes where the ritual is repeated. Eventually, at the last home, their need is recognized, and they all enter the home where a party ensues. This is repeated in different neighborhoods and homes each of the nine days.

While this custom teaches children an important aspect of the Christmas story, it also emphasizes the need for hospitality to strangers and the continual need we all have to make room for Jesus in our "posada." As we struggle to arrive at a fair and just immigration policy, it would be good to recall the fact that Mary, Joseph, and Jesus were also immigrants looking for a hospitable place to dwell.

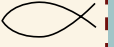


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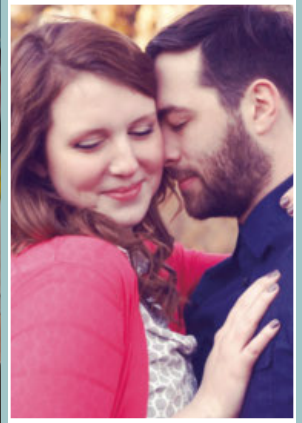
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