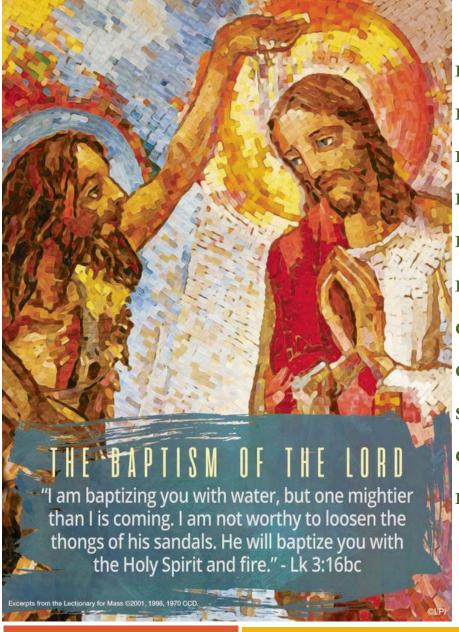


# IMMACULATE CATHOLIC CHURCH CONCEPTION



# PARISH & SCHOOL OFFICE STAFF

Pastor.....Fr. Tom Heathershaw DBQ035@dbqarch.org Deacon.....Deacon Mike Ward DBQ035D@dbqarch.org Pastoral Assoc..Sr. Diana Blong, PBVM DBQ035S@dbqarch.org Principal.....Laurie Field laurie.field@iccharlescity.org Faith Formation......Wendy Wandro wendy.wandro@iccharlescity.org Liturgy & Music......Chris Cleveland christine.cleveland@iccharlescity.org Office Administrator..Brenda Nordman DBQ035sec@dbqarch.org Coord. of Volunteers.....Sara Hrdlicka DBQ035S1@dbqarch.org School Secretary.....Ann Crook ann.crook@iccharlescity.org Gift Shop Manager.....Pat Palmersheim giftshop@iccharlescity.org Parish & School Custodian.... Joseph Jimenez

Jeremiah 29:11 For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope.

### **RECONCILIATION**

Saturday 3:30-4:15 PM Please call to schedule an appointment. (641) 228-1071

BAPTISM

Please contact the parish office.

MARRIAGE

Please contact the parish office.

ANOINTING OF THE SICK Please contact the parish office.

**WORSHIP LOCATION** 

106 Chapel Lane, Charles City, IA 50616 (641) 228-1071

www.iccharlescity.com

WEEKEND MASSES

are Broadcast on Facebook

www.facebook.com/iccharlescity

TIMES: Please see calendar inside.

### MISSION STATEMENT

Immaculate Conception is a Catholic Eucharistic Community called by God to be faithful, welcoming, and serving all with love and compassion under the guidance of the Holy Spirit.

PARISH MEMBERSHIP Please contact the parish office. (641) 228-1071

### IMMACULATE CONCEPTION CATHOLIC CHURCH



### Scripture Readings

MONDAY, JANUARY 10TH Weekday
1 Sm 1:1-8/Ps 116:12-13, 14-17, 18-19/Mk 1:14-20
5:15 PMParish Life Comm. Meeting (SH)
TUESDAY, JANUARY 11TH Weekday
1 Sm 1:9-20/1 Sm 2:1, 4-5, 6-7, 8abcd/Mk 1:21-28
5:15 PMRochford & Baltes Families
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 12TH Weekday
1 Sm 3:1-10, 19-20/Ps 40:2 and 5, 7-8a, 8b-9, 10/Mk 1:29-39 9:15 AM
6:45 PMFaith Form. Classes (1-6) (CH/SH/PCR)(7-9) Family Faith Night
THURSDAY, JANUARY 13TH
St. Hilary, Bishop and Doctor of the Church 1 Sm 4:1-11/Ps 44:10-11, 14-15, 24-25/Mk 1:40-45
5:15 PMMarcus & Marcella Blong
FRIDAY, JANUARY 14TH Weekday
1 Sm 8:4-7, 10-22a/Ps 89:16-17, 18-19/Mk 2:1-12 8:00 AMSue Gebe

# SATURDAY, JANUARY 15TH,

Weekday

1 Sm 9:1-4, 17-19; 10:1a/Ps 21:2-3, 4-5, 6-7/Mk 2:13-17

4:30 PM......John Kraus and Paul & Fran Shannon 6:30 PM......Mass at St. Michael in Nashua

### SUNDAY, JANUARY 16TH

2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Is 62:1-5/Ps 96:1-2, 2-3, 7-8, 9-10 [3]/1 Cor 12:4-11/Jn 2:1-11

8:00 AM......Deceased Members

of the Robinson Family

10:30 AM.....People of the Parish

(SH) Social Hall (PCR) Parish Conference Room (CC) Columbus Club (CH) Church



### THE SANCTUARY CANDLE

this week is in loving memory of Jerome Schmitt.

### PADRE'S POST

-I want to thank everyone for all the Christmas cards, goodies, and other gifts I received during the Christmas season. I am most grateful to everyone for their generosity and prayers. I also want to thank everyone that made our Christmas celebrations so special: those that decorated the Church for Christmas and took down the decorations, those that helped with the liturgies, and everyone who came to mass to celebrate the birth of our Savior.

-I will be on a much needed retreat following mass on Sunday, January 16th through Friday, January 21st. I will keep you all in my prayers during my absence. Daily masses will be cancelled. Deacon Mike will lead a Word/Communion Service on Wednesday, January 19th, at 9:15 AM.



Our thanks to all who shared so generously their greetings and blessings with each and all of us on our I.C. Staff. May we continue to serve and be light for one another in this New Year! Peace in Christ.

## **Spanish Mass**

This Sunday, January 9th, 2022, at 2:00 p.m. at I.C. Church.

Our Deepest Sympathy and Prayers are extended to the friends & family of Marguerite "Jean" Groesbeck, mother of Jayne Stowe, who passed away recently God, grant her eternal peace.

# GOSPEL MEDITATION - ENCOURAGE DEEPER UNDERSTANDING OF SCRIPTURE

January 9th, 2022

### The Baptism of the Lord

"We are called to live our baptism every day, as new creatures, clothed in Christ." — Pope Francis

What reference point do you use when making decisions? Many times, impulse takes control and decisions are made based solely on emotion and desire. We all know that these types of decisions can often get us into trouble. When a person has a confident sense of who they are and a real understanding of what is important and of value, the likelihood of kneejerk impulsive choices diminishes. Baptism gives us what we need to make well informed and purposeful decisions. By this simple gesture, God claims us as His own and provides us with the identity and purpose we need to properly live life.

It is tremendously reassuring, when we truly embrace this revelation and realize that we no longer have to wonder about the purpose of our lives or struggle to find our way. The answer of who we are in God has been given to us. We no longer have to fumble around, trip over ourselves or walk aimlessly about. Issues surrounding the sacredness of life, the meaning of death, the protection of those most vulnerable, care for the weak and the poor, offering hospitality to those in search of a home, the purpose and proper place of work, how to create a just social order, caring for creation, and understanding our roles as heralds and stewards are just a few of the wonderful gifts baptism brings. When we make decisions based on things such as these core Gospel truths we really act as Christ himself, revealing to others the new creations that we are. This is how we live our baptism. It is difficult to walk against the tide. Yet, that is precisely what baptism calls us to do. Although we are sinners, in need of mercy and far from perfection we are called to order our life and make decisions based upon the wisdom and guidance of

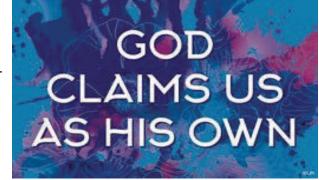
Almighty God. He alone is the one who can claim us as His sons and daughters. Standing up for our principles will not make us popular. But who ever said Christianity is a popularity contest? Baptism calls us to stand up for that which goes against the grain of secularism. Standing in line with other sinners, we have our anchor to steady us in the tempests of life and God is very pleased. Forge ahead. There is nothing to fear.

### Tuesday, January 11th, is National Human Trafficking Awareness Day

Throughout the world many children, women and men are being trafficked. Learn more about the Catholic teachings and social service programs developed to protect and serve human trafficking survivors.

### DID YOU KNOW:

- There are an estimated 40.3 million victims of modernday slavery worldwide. Of these, 25 million are victims of labor or sex trafficking and 15 million are people trapped in forced marriages.
- Unfortunately, stakeholders have increasingly found that individuals in situations of forced migration, such as refugees and unaccompanied children, are particularly vulnerable to labor and sex traffickers.
- Victim identification remains a significant challenge to U.S. efforts to prevent trafficking, prosecute perpetrators and protect victims.



# January is **Poverty Awareness Month!**

"I want a church which is poor and for the poor." Pope Francis, Evangelii Gaudium

During Poverty Awareness Month, join the U.S. Bishops, the <u>Catholic Campaign for Human Development</u>, and the Catholic community in the United States in taking up Pope Francis' challenge to live in solidarity with the poor! A <u>calendar</u> and <u>longer daily reflections</u> are available. Resources are also <u>en Espanol</u>. Explore these resources during Poverty Awareness Month by googling:

povertyawarenessmonthUSCCB

### IMMACULATE CONCEPTION CATHOLIC CHURCH

# EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS

### I Hope I Am Like Him

"Who is this Christ? Is he like you?"



Perhaps you've heard this story, often attributed to the life of St. Teresa of Calcutta. A sick man asked her this question, as he marveled at her tireless service to himself and others in the name of someone named Jesus Christ.

"He is nothing like me," the saint is said to have answered. "But I hope I am like him." Though the authenticity of this exchange cannot be verified, its message rings perfectly true: all the value of our stewardship lies in its relativity to the one in whose name we perform it.

Consider the figure of John the Baptist — a magnificent, towering character even purely from a literary or historical perspective. A martyr who fed on wild locusts and boldly spoke truth to power — a man so great some mistook him for the Messiah. But why is he great? Because he prepared the way. All his accomplishments and escapades mean nothing if they are taken out of the context of salvation history. He only makes sense relative to Christ — and this is exactly as he wanted it. "One worthier than I is coming," he insists. And because of that humility and that total embrace of God's will, he is given one of the greatest honors in the New Testament — he baptizes the Son of God. Let's examine our lives in the light of their relativity to Christ. How do we prepare the way? When Christ comes to us, what do we do? How do we leave ourselves open to be actors in God's plan?

### — Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

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Dec. 24th thru Dec. 26th, 2021				
<u>Total for Christmas Masses - 848 in</u>	attendance			
Total for Weekend Masses - 344 in	<u>attendance</u>			
Budget Envelopes115\$	13,185.00			
Electronic Giving3012-20-21\$	4,555.00			
Offertory\$	3,664.43			
Christmas\$	13,068.00			
Immaculate Conception\$	90.00			
Religious Retirement\$	485.00			
Bldg., Grds. & Maint\$	300.00			

<u>Jan. 1st &amp; 2nd, 2022</u> <u>420 in attendance</u>				
Budget Envelopes '2112\$	11,240.57			
Christmas '21\$	5,550.00			
Budget Envelopes '2291\$	4,891.00			
Offertory\$	284.51			
Mary Mother of God\$	662.00			
Religious Retirement\$	575.00			
Initial Offering\$	215.00			
ACCW\$	180.00			

Jesus, whom God called "my beloved Son," is also the "servant" of whom Isaiah speaks in the first reading. We who are baptized in Christ must follow His example and use our time and resources in the service of God and neighbor.

### A Note of Thanks from Sister Diana,

Our family is deeply grateful for all the prayers, expressions of sympathy and support, and the presence of many at the visitation and Mass in Mason City for our mother, Marcella Blong. Her 99+ years were blessed as her life brought blessings to us and to so many! Remembering you in our prayers,

~Sr. Diana Blong & family

### Grateful & Blessed,

is how I feel this holiday season after receiving many cards and phone calls from I.C. Parish. Thank you so very much for remembering me.

Miss you all! God bless!

~Florence Gerk

### Christmas Flower & Decoration Donations

In Memory of ...

Ben & Virginia Burney and Sandy Burney

Our Deceased Relatives

Gebel Family

Aaron Guenther, Nick & Christina Brunner, Linda Schmitt & Virgil Schmitt

John Heinz

Sam & Gertie Houser

John Kraus

Bill & Sharon Lohse

Georgianna Lutz

Olejniczak and Hagarty Families

Riley and Beecher Families

Lyle and Kristin Schlader

Scott and Rindels Families

Don & Elayne Stewart, Sara Hemann and

Clarence & Anna Marvin

Margaret Tolliver and Glenn & Margaret Stangl

From . . .

Bill, Connie & Girls and Families Robert & Geraldine Freese

Pat & Shira Gebel and Scott & Beth Hoppel Anonymous

Anonymous

Karen & Dennis Shearman

Virgil & Karen Burns

Dave & Michelle Lohse

David Lutz and Theresa & Doug Deetz

Don & Judy Olejniczak

Ronnie Rilev

Myrna Schlader

Ken & Mary Rindels

Sally Marvin

Randy & Janet Stangl

### **CANCELLATION POLICIES:**

- When School is cancelled due to weather,
   Mass & all Parish events are cancelled.
  - When there is a <u>delay</u> due to weather, morning Mass & events are cancelled.
    - When there is an <u>early dismissal</u>, <u>evening</u> Mass & events are cancelled.

We remember and honor those whose anniversaries were in late December 2020 and January of 2021:

 Ardis DeMar
 12-29-2020

 Lyle Schlader
 12-29-2020

 Nancy Johnson
 12-30-2020

Dennis Schmitt 1-3-2021
Sara Hemann 1-11-2021
Melanie Hibner 1-12-2021
Edward Kielsmeier 1-14-2021
Margaret Schwickerath 1-22-2021



**NEEDED:** Girls 2T clothing (pj's & winter items welcome).

<u>Take Directly to:</u> HOPE for Life Pregnancy Center,
705 N. Main Street, Ste. 3. Monday-Thursday 12 p.m. till 5 p.m.

# A Prayer for Grace and Favor in the New Year

We ask that you would provide for our needs, we ask for your grace and favor.

We pray for your blessings to cover us, we pray that you would help us to prosper and make every plan that you have birthed in our heart to succeed.

We pray that others would take notice of your goodness and could not help but to say, "These are the ones that the Lord has blessed."

Shine your light in us, through us, over us.

May we make a difference in this world,
for your glory and purposes.

Set your way before us. May all your plans succeed. May we reflect your peace and hope to a world that so desperately needs your presence and healing. In Jesus Name,

[What is your prayer for the New Year?]

Amen.

### IC Did You Know.....

We offer a Catholic Education to 156 Kindergarten through sixth graders. Our preschool offers a three year old program three mornings a week and a three year old program two mornings a week; an every afternoon four year old program, and an all day four year old program. We are accredited by the State of Iowa with all of our teachers holding an Iowa Teaching License.

# A Night for Courage

Courage is the attitude of facing and dealing with anything recognized as dangerous, difficult, or painful, instead of withdrawing from it.

Immaculate Conception Faith Formation is hosting an evening for students and families, and parishioners, to learn about God's will for the gift of sexuality in our lives; and the Church's teaching about the issues

of same sex attraction and transgender identification.

Featuring: Carrie Jones, catechist and mom, will talk about the call to chastity, and share her story of having a child out of wedlock and making the brave and difficult decision to give her up for adoption.

Also Featuring: Fr. Jerry Kopacek, pastor of Holy Rosary Cluster in Elma and archdiocesan chaplain for Courage and EnCourage ministries, will speak about Catholic Church teaching on the issues of same-sex attraction and transgender or gender dysphoria. The Courage ministry provides support for those experiencing same-sex attraction and/or gender dysphoria and who want to live in accord with Church teaching. EnCourage provides support for parents or other family members or loved ones of these individuals.

# Please join us on Wednesday, January 19th, 2022, at 6:45 PM at Immaculate Conception Church

"... before all else comes the individual person, in his wholeness and dignity. And people should not be defined only by their sexual tendencies:

let us not forget that God loves all his creatures and we are destined to receive his infinite love."

Pope Francis, The Name of God is Mercy



### **IC PRIDE PUMP!**

Hy-Vee Gas will donate 2 cents for every gallon of gas you purchase at the IC PRIDE PUMP

(#6). This money will be used for a new Preschool through 6th grade playground! The design of our playground will be released at a later date; stay tuned for more details!

Be sure to purchase your Hy-Vee Scrip Card and then fill up your vehicle at Hy-Vee Gas, pump #6!

### KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS UPCOMING EVENTS



### Ribeye Dinner

Thursday, January 13th, 2022, at the Columbus Club 5 p.m. Social Time 5:45 p.m. Dinner

### **RESERVATIONS NEEDED!**

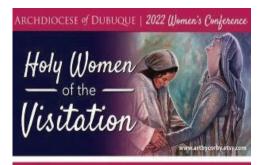
Limited to 150 tickets!

<u>Tickets will be on sale after mass</u>

<u>this weekend!</u>

### Pancake & Sausage Breakfast

Sunday, January 16th, 2022, at the Columbus Club Serving 8:30 a.m. till Noon Dine In or Carry Out Free Will Donation



Beauty In Christ

January 29, 2022 8:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Invite your friends to the 2022 Virtual Archdiocesan Women's Conference, *Beauty in Christ: Holy Women of the Visitation*,

Saturday, January 29th, from 8 a.m. till 1 p.m. National speakers and writers *Emily Jaminet* and *Liz Kelly* will lead the day! You'll experience all the great features of our annual women's conference including Archbishop Jackels, music, prayer, worship and good conversations, and prizes! To read more about our speakers and to register, go to:

www.archwomensconference.org/

### **OFFICE HOURS**

### **PARISH OFFICE**



Monday—Thursday

8:30 AM—12:00 PM 1:00 PM-3:00 PM

**CLOSED** on Friday

106 Chapel Lane Charles City, IA 50616

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	GIFT S
PEN Before & After: end Masses & School Mass	Doriel
or by appointment.	Parish

#### **SCHOOL OFFICE**



Monday-Friday

7:30 AM-4:30 PM

1203 Clark Street Charles City, IA 50616

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Fax	641.228.7692
Webwww	.iccharlescity.org

#### HOP

 $\mathbf{O}$ Weeke Call Pat at 641-257-9545 or Marilyn at 641-220-3257.



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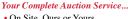
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