

# IMMACULATE CONCEPTION PARISH

2019 GUIDE BOOK & DIRECTORY

2934 Marshall Ave. | Maplewood, Missouri 63143 | (314) 645-3307

# Immaculate Conception Parish

2934 Marshall Avenue, Maplewood, Missouri 63143

314-645-3307

icmaplewood@gmail.com

www.icmaplewood.com

Dear Parishioners,

This is my first Guidebook since I arrived. There have been changes in the Parish Life Coordinator (me), Sacramental Minister (Fr. Peter Blake), and Pastor (Fr. Mike Esswein). We remain a friendly, welcoming parish. Visiting priests and others tell me the parish has a reputation for its vibrant liturgies to the point where several priests tell me that when they do not have other obligations they enjoy coming to Immaculate Conception “incognito” just to be here for spirit-filled and prayerful masses. I give credit to the many people involved in Liturgy and Music, to our beautiful church and its acoustics which encourage singing and participation, and to the many priests, led by Fr. Peter Blake, who say mass for us.

I am happy to be sharing a journey with you to build the kingdom here on earth. We have a wonderful parish to give glory and praise to God. Jesus said “Where two or more are gathered together in his name that he would be with us”. I feel like I am journeying with Jesus when I am with you, the people of Immaculate Conception. May we continue to grow closer to Jesus and to each other.

Please use this Directory to keep in touch with each other. Use the Guidebook to find information about various groups and ministries in the parish. We have a staff dedicated to this parish and to you. Let us know if you have any questions.

May God bless you in a special way,

Deacon John

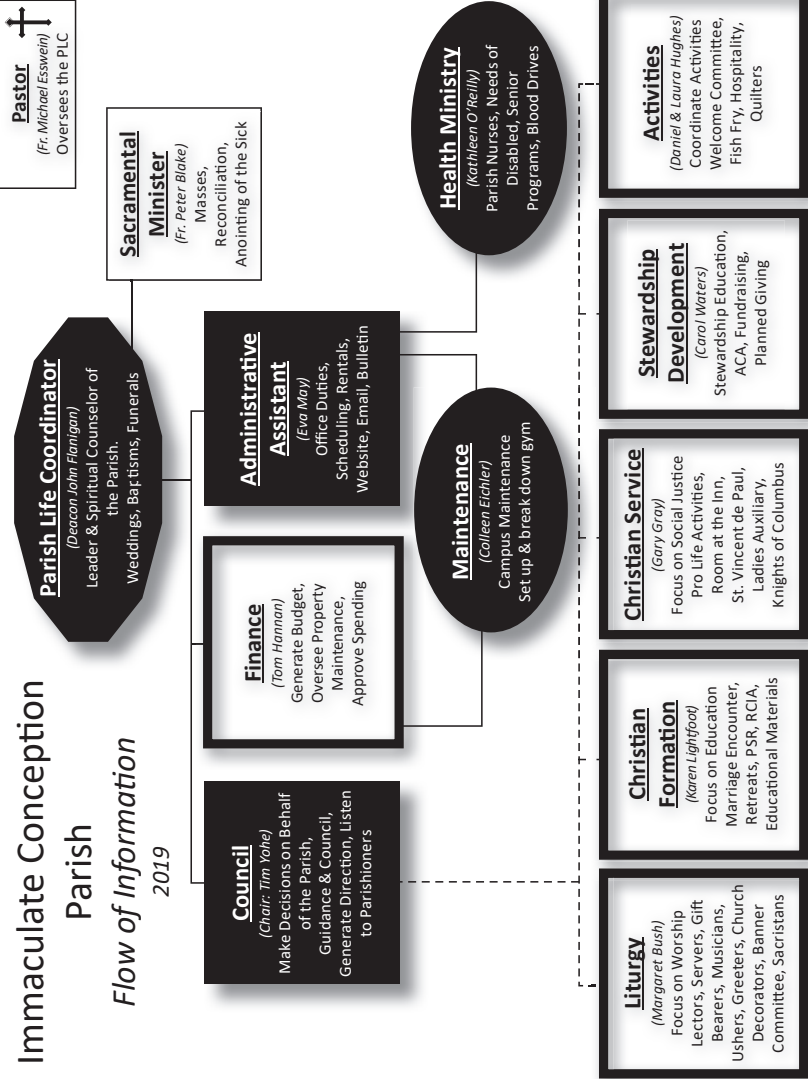
Parish Life Coordinator

## Parish Mission Statement

Called to be disciples of Jesus Christ, we strive to live His Gospel by answering daily, “Yes, here I am Lord”. Strengthened by the sacraments and trusting in God’s saving grace, we joyfully commit ourselves to sharing our gifts for the continual renewal of our parish and the Maplewood community.

# Immaculate Conception Parish

## Flow of Information 2019



## Parish Staff

Parish Life Coordinator ..... Deacon John Flanigan... 314-645-3307 ext. 201  
johnflanigan@hotmail.com ..... cell..... 314-922-2420  
Sacramental Minister ..... Fr. Peter Blake..... 314-644-2144  
Pastor ..... Fr. Michael Esswein..... 314-962-5955  
Administrative Assistant..... Eva May... 314-645-3307 ext. 202  
icmaplewood@gmail.com  
Campus Manager ..... Colleen Eichler..... 314-604-2273  
stl63143@live.com  
Maintenance Assistant ..... Daniel Jenkins..... 314-956-8247  
Music Director..... Tim Cleary..... 314-238-6807  
Timcleary79@gmail.com  
Parish Nurse..... Kathleen O'Reilly..... 314-644-6805  
kathleenirish@yahoo.com

## Masses, Sacraments, Devotions

### Mass Times

Saturday ..... 4:00 p.m.  
Sunday ..... 8:30 a.m.

**Weekdays** ..... 8:00 a.m.

**Holy Days** ..... Please consult the bulletin

### Sacrament Of Reconciliation

Saturdays.....3:15-3:45 p.m., or by appointment

### Devotions

Perpetual Help Devotions ..... Tuesdays after Mass  
Adoration ..... Fridays, 8:30 a.m.-2:00 p.m.

### Baptisms

Baptisms are normally celebrated after the Sunday Mass. Please call the rectory office to make arrangements. A baptismal preparation class is required for your first child.

### Marriages

Please contact Deacon John at least six months prior to the planned wedding date.

### Holy Orders and Consecrated Religious Life

If you are interested, please call Deacon John or the Archdiocesan office of vocation at 314-792-6460.

### **Funeral Liturgies**

We want to assist you in any way we can when you have experienced a death in your family. The funeral home will usually first consult with you to work out the schedule for visitation. Please call Deacon John as we would like to meet with the family to assist in planning the funeral liturgy (readings, music, ministers).

### **Communion to the Sick and Homebound**

Please keep us informed so that we might minister to those who are ill at home, in the hospital, or in a nursing care facility. Hospitals no longer contact us when a parishioner is hospitalized.

## **Office Information**

Bulletin Deadline ..... Monday morning

Change of Address ..... Please notify the rectory if you are moving or have a new phone number or email.

Mass Intentions..... Available through the rectory office for a \$10 fee/Mass. There is no better way to remember a deceased relative or friend.

## **Phone Numbers/Emails**

Office ..... 314-645-3307  
FAX ..... 314-645-0672  
E-mail ..... icmaplewood@gmail.com  
Website ..... www.icmaplewood.com  
Twitter ..... icmaplewood  
Health Ministry ..... 314-644-6805  
Irish Arts ..... 314-849-1662  
Parish Hall..... 314-644-6787  
Society of St. Vincent De Paul Assistance ..... 314-289-6101 ext. 2226  
Parish School of Religion Sunday morning(Sept-May) ..... 314-644-6787

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## Parish History

**Beginnings:** Before the turn of the 20th century, families had begun to settle beyond the limits of St. Louis city. Around 1890, the Maplewood Realty Company purchased several hundred acres of land from the heirs of James C. Sutton. This new housing development was named Maplewood and attracted approximately 75 families.

Responding to the needs of these people, on February 8, 1904, Archbishop Glennon authorized Rev. Daniel Clarke to organize a parish. Mass was first celebrated in March 1904, in a transformed abandoned feed store at Bellevue and Manchester. Later, property was purchased on Anna Avenue and work began almost immediately on a two-story brick building to serve as both church and school for the 324 families of the parish. On November 26, 1905, Archbishop Glennon dedicated this building to Our Lady, under the title of the Immaculate Conception. In 1906, the parish school, staffed by three Sisters of Loretto, opened with 115 students. The sisters commuted from Webster College until 1921 when a house next to the present church was rented for their use.

Under the direction of Rev. John P. Ryan, the cornerstone for the present church building was laid on August 23, 1925. The present convent on the corner of Marshall and Anna was built in 1937. By 1944 new altars and windows were installed in the church and the last of the debt was paid. In 1951, the annex to the rectory was purchased; and in 1952, Rev. William McCarthy directed construction of the gym/parish hall addition to the school building.

**LaSalette Period 1975-2006:** The 1970's were a time of great change for the parish. In 1971 the school closed because of declining enrollment. The interior of the church was renovated; the altar was moved closer to the people and the communion rail was removed. On June 12, 1975, the Missionaries of Our Lady of La Salette assumed pastoral responsibility for the parish. The La Salette Priests and Brothers brought an attitude of renewal and collaborative leadership to the parish, and they played an important role in the faith life of the community.

**Pastors 2006-2016:** In February of 2006, the La Salette Community found it necessary to return the parish to the Archdiocese and Fr. James Gray assumed pastoral leadership of the parish. In September, 2015, Fr. James Gray was transferred to St. Jude Parish and Fr. John Paul Hopping became Parochial Administrator of Immaculate Conception.

**P.L.C: 2016-:** On March 28, 2016, Deacon Ken Clemens became Parish Life Coordinator, with Fr. John Paul Hopping serving as Sacramental Minister, and Very Rev. Msgr. John Leykam being named Pastor. Under Deacon Ken Clemens the parish adjusted to being led by a deacon, the second parish in the archdiocese to do so. Major repairs were done to the roof, west wall and sanctuary of the church. Mary's garden was established between the church and rectory.

October 1, 2016 Fr. Ken Brown became our (Canonical) Pastor.

April 1, 2017 Deacon Ken retired and Deacon John Flanigan became Parish Life Coordinator.

July 1, 2017 Fr. Peter Blake became our Sacramental Minister.

August 1, 2017 Fr. John Seper became our Pastor.

August 15, 2018 Fr. Mike Esswein became our Pastor.

The parish is slowly beginning to grow based on its deep roots in the Maplewood community and rejuvenation in Maplewood. Our Lenten fish fry is increasingly popular. Our outreach through the food pantry is well-known. Our liturgy and music is strong and vibrant continuing a strong tradition established years ago by Sister Georgeanne Hanson, SL. On July 1, 2018 Sr. Mildred Glosemeyer SSND retired; our new Music Director is Mr. Tim Cleary. Our Pastoral Council adopted a new mission statement in 2017 which is guiding us into the future.

The parish has seen many changes in leadership in the last few years. But the character of the parish persists because of the deep faith and strong personal relationships within the parish. Our small size enables us to be welcoming and very friendly; it is easy to get to know people and become involved. Yet we are large enough and have enough talent to offer many programs. It continues to be influenced by the LaSalette missionary priests and the lay LaSalette Associates in the parish. Their spirituality focuses on the importance of reconciliation and accepting the goodness in other people and cultures.

## Protecting God's Children/Safe Environment Program

In order to be in compliance with the directives from the Archdiocese, all employees, volunteers, religious, deacons, and priests who work with our children in any capacity MUST:

- Attend one "Protecting God's Children" workshop.

- Complete a form for a background check.

- Sign a commitment to follow the rules and guidelines set forth in the "Code of Ethical Conduct" issued by the Archdiocese.

- If you are strictly a volunteer, you must sign a volunteer form.

If someone has not fulfilled these requirements then his/her participation in activities involving children here at Immaculate Conception will be denied until completion of requirements. These activities include any functions where children will be present.

For the dates and locations of "Protecting God's Children" workshops in the Archdiocese of St. Louis, please visit [www.archstl.org](http://www.archstl.org) or call Eva May at 314-645-3307.



## Ministries, Commissions, and Parish Organizations

### **Hospitality Committee**

Lynn Gustafson ..... Saturday ..... 636-451-3435  
lynngustafson@yahoo.com

Carole Haislip ..... Sunday ..... 314-644-1664  
jhcarole43@yahoo.com

This committee is in charge of contacting and enlisting individuals and families to volunteer for our hospitality weekend, which is the fourth weekend of the month. This involves setting up, hosting, and then cleaning up afterwards. Contact Lynn or Carole if you would be interested in helping with this.

### **Knights of Columbus**

This is a non-profit fraternal organization of Catholic men who perform charitable work in support of our Church, our community and our country. Their charitable projects can include help in pro-life activities, help for the mentally and physically disabled, Catholic religious information, and Catholic education. Membership is by application and initiation ceremony. All Catholic men age 18 and older are encouraged to join.

Contact: David Barks ..... 314-781-7197  
hyde3126@hotmail.com

### **Knights of Columbus Ladies Auxiliary**

The Ladies Auxiliary support the Knights in their fundraisers, promote charitable activities and promote social activities among its members. Membership is open to wives, widows, mothers, and daughters (18 years and older) of Knights in good standing.

Contact: Kathy Lubbers ..... 314-645-1204

### **Life Faith Groups**

This group consists of individuals and families within our parish who make a commitment to develop connections with other people in our faith community. The goals are to connect faith with everyday life, improve spiritual health, and create a vibrant community. Such groups make their own decisions about the best way and how often they want to meet.

These groups are designed to be focused enough to provide direction, yet sufficiently broad to allow each person to approach them in his or her own way. Want to know more?

Contact: Teresa Lunte ..... 314-645-4622  
designtoday@msn.com

## PARISH BENEFACTORS

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### **Music Ministry**

“The treasure of sacred music is to be preserved and fostered with great care. Choirs must be diligently developed.” Sacrosanctum Concilium

Our choir, cantors, and musicians provide musical leadership for our parish community. They meet every Tuesday at 7:00 p.m. in the church. If you are interested in being part of this ministry,

Contact: Tim Cleary ..... 314-238-6807  
timcleary79@gmail.com

## **Parish Pastoral Council**

### **2018-2019**

#### **Tim Yohe-Chair**

Laura Miller-Co-Chair

Mary Bankston-Secretary

Deacon John Flanigan, Nikki & Todd Bircher, RJ & Suzee Irwin,

Becky Konersmann, Ken Amend

In the name of Jesus Christ and His Church, the Parish Pastoral Council come together to serve as counsel to the Parish Life Coordinator as well as our faith community. They assume these responsibilities as a fulfillment of their baptismal calling and with a spirit of leadership and service. The council's responsibilities include:

- To assist the Parish Life Coordinator by serving as a consultative body;
- Be a representative voice of the parishioners to the Parish Life Coordinator;
- Serve as leaders in our parish community by working for unity among all people; and
- To implement the decisions and directives established by the council in direct collaboration with the Parish Life Coordinator.

There are many commissions under the guidance of the Parish Pastoral Council. Below is a listing of those commissions, the person who is leading the commission and the work they do. Feel free to contact them if you have any questions or if you would like to help them. We need many people to be involved if we are going to grow spiritually as a faith community.

#### Activities

Contact .....Daniel & Laura Hughes.....203-209-2941  
Under their guidance are The Welcoming Committee, Fish Fry, Hospitality, and Quilters.

#### Christian Formation

Contact .....Karen Lightfoot.....314-647-3107  
kjmlightfoot@gmail.com

Their focus is on education, PSR, Bible Study, RCIA, Marriage Encounter, Retreats, Educational Materials.

### Christian Service

Contact ..... Gary Gray..... 314-781-7207  
They focus on Social Justice, Pro-Life Activities, Room at the Inn, St. Vincent de Paul, Knights of Columbus, Ladies Auxiliary.

### Finance

Contact ..... Tom Hannan..... 314-956-4525  
tjhannan7@gmail.com  
They help to generate the budget, oversee property maintenance and with the Parish Life Coordinator, approve spending.

### Health Ministry

Contact ..... Kathleen O'Reilly..... 314-644-6805  
kathleenirish@yahoo.com  
Kathleen is our parish nurse and takes care of the needs of the homebound, senior programs, and blood drives.

### Liturgy

Contact ..... Margaret Bush..... 314-481-7739  
margaret.bush.mb@gmail.com  
Their focus is on worship, lectors, servers, gift bearers, musicians, ushers, greeters, church decorations, and sacristans.

### Maintenance & Repair

Contact ..... Colleen Eichler..... 314-604-2237  
stl63143@live.com  
Colleen Eichler is assisted by Daniel Jenkins.  
They are responsible for addressing the immediate and future infrastructure needs for Immaculate Conception's buildings and complex.

### Stewardship Development

Contact ..... Carol Waters..... 636-938-4132  
cmw21051@yahoo.com  
They are involved in Stewardship Education, Annual Catholic Appeal, Fundraising, and Planned Giving.

### Welcoming Committee

Contact ..... Anne Arias ..... 314-307-6680  
..... Teresa Lunte..... 314-645-4622  
They make "Busy Bags" for young children at mass, sponsor get togethers for parishioners, and welcome new parishioners.

## Parish School of Religion

Our Parish School of Religion is a vibrant faith-filled program designed to meet the needs of students. The program aims to achieve the goals of preparing children attending public school for sacrament reception and deepening and reinforcing knowledge of their faith and values for living.

The success of our program depends on the combined efforts of parents, catechists, students, and the parish community. Our dedicated staff lead by example, demonstrating what caring people of Christ do to serve others. Catechists share their faith with your children, but even their best efforts need your support. With the commitment of the parish community to foster a nurturing environment for children, Immaculate Conception's P.S.R. is committed to providing a solid foundation in faith. We want all of our children to know that God loves them unconditionally, to come closer to Him through the sacraments, and to know Him personally through prayer.

Our P.S.R. program serves students in grades one through eight and meet on Sunday mornings, September through May from 9:45 a.m.-11:15 a.m.

For more information contact: Karen Lightfoot.....314-647-3107  
psricmaplewood@gmail.com

### **Pro-Life Activities**

Contact .....Karen Lightfoot.....314-647-3107  
psricmaplewood@gmail.com

### **Retreat Opportunities**

An annual retreat is a traditional and proven means of spiritual renewal and fulfillment. Opportunities are provided to make a retreat with others from Immaculate Conception, either on a weekend or as a weekday retreat.

#### Men's Retreat

The White House is a Jesuit retreat house offering retreats based on the Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius. There are conferences and the celebration of daily Mass. The Sacraments of Reconciliation and Anointing of the Sick are offered. Also, Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament takes place each evening. The men's retreat for Immaculate Conception is in April. It begins on a Thursday evening at 7:00 p.m. with dinner and ends with lunch on Sunday at 2:00 p.m.

Contact .....Paul Lohkamp.....314-644-1292  
paullohkampcws@sbcglobal.net

#### Women's Retreat

King's House in Illinois offers retreats for women. It is staffed by the Missionary Oblates of Mary Immaculate. If you are interested

Contact .....Carole Haislip.....314-645-3307  
jhcarole43@yahoo.com

### **Room At The Inn**

Contact ..... Anne Arias..... 314-307-6680  
jfaeba@yahoo.com

Room at the Inn is a temporary emergency shelter for homeless women and families. Volunteers from Immaculate Conception host RATI on the 5th Tuesday of the month throughout the year in the LaSalette Room.

Senior Exercise ..... 314-645-3307

They meet on Mondays at 10:30 a.m. in the Parish Hall under the guidance of our Parish Nurse, sponsors occasional guest speakers and luncheons.

## **Society of St. Vincent de Paul**

Our mission is to join together in a bond of friendship by offering person-to-person service to those who are needy and suffering in the tradition of our founder, Blessed Fredric Ozanam, and our patron, St. Vincent de Paul. Our ministry is the bridge that connects the gospel to the needs of God's people. Through our ministry we share with others a glimpse of Jesus.

Our ministry is to bring concrete aid and comfort to those who are poor and suffering. This ministry witnesses to the world that Jesus and His gospel message are alive today and being preached through action at the lowest level.

If you would like to help us in this ministry by joining us in making home visits, please contact Dominic Imgrund at daimgrund@yahoo.com

## **Society of Vincent de Paul Food Pantry**

Our food pantry serves the needs of our neighbors in the 63143 zip code. The pantry is open every Saturday from 9:30-11:00 a.m. for food pickup. The pantry is also open Tuesday through Friday from 9:00-11:00 a.m. so volunteers can sort donations and stock the pantry for the coming weekend. The pantry is staffed by volunteers, ages 10 and up, from I.C., the Maplewood and Richmond Heights neighborhoods, the Notre Dame Club, the Maplewood Lions, and St. Genevieve du Bois parish in Warson Woods. The pantry receives regular food donations from Operation Food Search, St. Louis Food Bank, Aldi's, Schnuck's, Breadsmith, and Pizza Hut. The pantry also receives food and monetary donations from local businesses, local organizations, and churches, neighborhood families and parishioners. If you are interested in volunteering or donating to the pantry, please contact Sandra Marks at 314-267-8483.