

2025 STEWARDSHIP RENEWAL

PILGRIMS *of* *Hope*



*Immaculate
Conception*

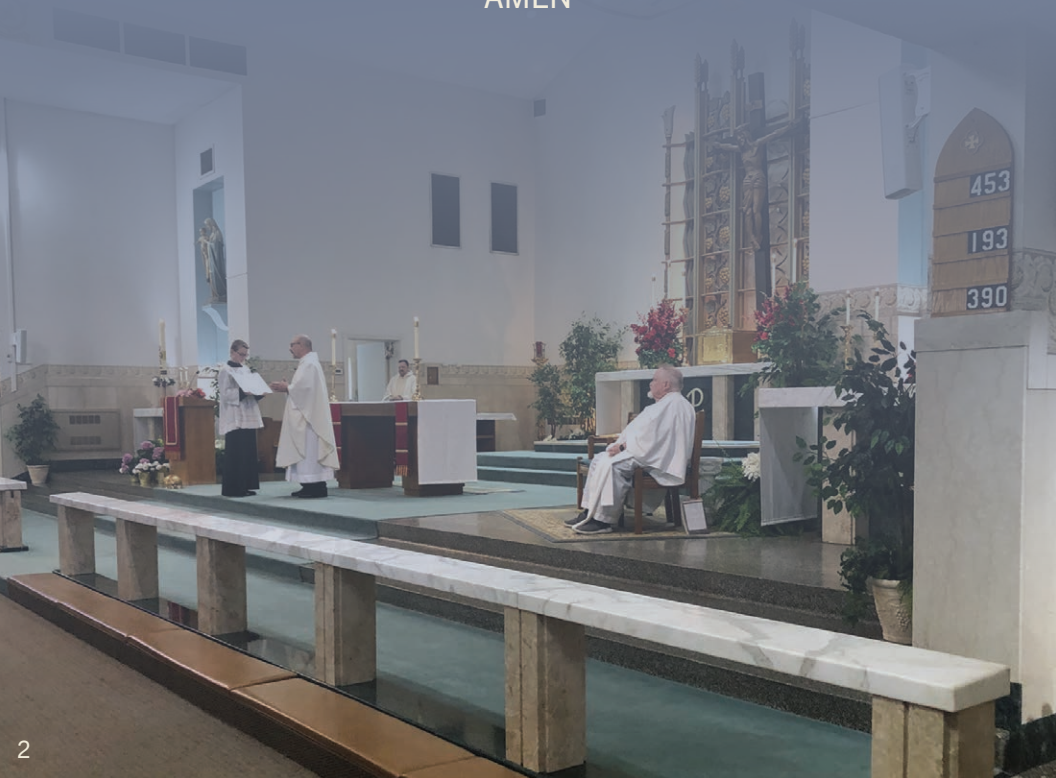
Stewardship Prayer

Father in heaven, transform our hearts
and reawaken in us the blessed hope that
your Son secured for us on the cross.

Jesus, direct our path and help us to steward our
time, talent, and treasure so that our lives may be
beacons of your redeeming light to the world.

Holy Spirit, help us to recognize the gifts you
entrust to us. Inspire us with generous hearts
to cooperate with your grace as we pursue the
pilgrim path toward your glorious kingdom.

AMEN



PILGRIMS *of* Hope

“And hope does not disappoint, because the love of God has been poured out into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us.” — *Romans 5:5*

“Hope is the theological virtue by which we desire the kingdom of heaven and eternal life as our happiness, placing our trust in Christ's promises and relying not on our own strength, but on the help of the grace of the Holy Spirit” (*Catechism of the Catholic Church*, 1817).

Hope summarizes the deepest longing and disposition of a disciple's heart. It is not something we naturally possess or acquire on our own — rather, it is gifted to us by the grace of God. Through our pursuit of God, we begin to cultivate this virtue. Ultimately, through the practice of stewardship — recognizing everything as a gift from God and using those gifts for His Kingdom — we become more open to hope. As stewards striving for eternal life, we surrender all that we have to God, trusting that the grace of the Holy Spirit surpasses even our noblest efforts. With the virtue of hope, we do not grow weary, for we recognize that God hears even our smallest prayers. This is why we, as faithful stewards, are called to be beacons of hope to the world.





STEWARDSHIP OF *Time*

“Pray, hope, and don’t worry. Worry is useless. God is merciful and will hear your prayer.” — St. Padre Pio

God has gifted us with time. How we spend our time reflects our love and gratitude to our Heavenly Father. Do we use it to cultivate our relationship with Him and our loved ones? Prayer is a primary way to deepen our relationship with God. It strengthens and nourishes the life of a disciple.

In this Jubilee Year of Hope, the Church invites us to be pilgrims of hope who renew our faith in the promises of God and live joyfully in anticipation of their fulfillment. Do we trust in God’s plan for us? Do we reflect on the good things He has promised? Through prayer, we open our lives to the voice of God and discover His unending love for us.

Consider these ideas to deepen your prayer life:

- Reflect on your current prayer habits. How can you increase the time you spend with God? How can you incorporate prayer into your family life?
- Meditate on God’s promises of grace in your life. Ask for the ability to recognize His mercy and live joyfully in accordance with His promises.
- Pray for the virtue of hope and the grace to share this hope with others.

STEWARDSHIP OF *Talent*

As pilgrims of hope, we are called to spread the Good News and inspire hope in others, especially those experiencing hardship. Stewardship reminds us that God has given each of us unique talents to be used for His glory and the good of others. Out of gratitude to God, we are invited to share our talents to build His Kingdom. Are you using your gifts to serve the Lord? How is God calling you to serve Him today?

Consider taking these steps to share the gifts and talents God has given you:

- Reflect on how your talents can be used to build up God's Kingdom.
- Review our parish's Ministry Catalog and consider joining a new ministry.
- If you are already involved in a ministry, think about ways to grow in your role and strengthen your ministry's impact.



“Let us make the very best use of the precious moments and do all in our power for His dear sake and for His greater honor and glory.”

— St. Marianne Cope



STEWARDSHIP OF *Treasure*

Just as time and talent are gifts from God, so too are material possessions — our treasure. Stewardship invites us to surrender all that we have to God's plan, including our financial resources. When we trustingly offer our treasure to God, we experience the freedom, joy, and hope that come from relying on Him.

Reflect on the following steps to express gratitude for the treasure God has gifted you:

- Our parish invites families to give 10% of their gross income to God: a portion to the offertory, another to the diocese, and the rest to other worthy causes, following the biblical tithe.
- To meet this goal, we must also manage the remaining 90% wisely. By setting goals, creating a budget, and understanding how generosity deepens our faith, we can exercise good stewardship of our treasure.
- Pray for wisdom and discernment in managing your finances and offering your treasure to God.

"Let us hold unwaveringly to our confession that gives us hope, for he who made the promise is trustworthy." — *Hebrews 10:23*

2025 Ministry Listings

Liturgical Ministries

ADULT CHOIR

The choir enhances the Liturgical Services of our parish. Choir Masses are sung on a rotating schedule, and rehearsals are held on Wednesday evenings from 7:30-9 pm. Anyone high school age or older is welcome.

Michael Kelley, 216-374-8961

ADULT SERVERS

Adult men of the parish serve at funerals. We welcome men whose mornings are free to serve funerals.

Fr. Michael Troha, 440-942-4500

ALTAR SERVERS

Altar servers begin to serve at Immaculate Conception during the fourth grade. Girls and boys are needed for serving Mass on Sundays as well as weddings, Eucharistic Devotions and other solemn occasions.

Lee Jarocki, 440-728-6640

CANTORS/SONG LEADERS

Cantors and Song Leaders assist in leading the singing at the Masses.

Michael Kelley, 216-374-8961

CHURCH CLEANING ANGELS

The “angels” help in the weekly clean-up of the church on Monday mornings. They maintain all areas of the church to include vestibules, pews, sanctuary and sacristies.

Marietta Simone, 440-479-7992

CHURCH DECORATING COMMITTEE

Decorating the Church for various liturgical seasons and celebrations.

Elayne Kramer, 440-942-4500

EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION

Ministers distribute Holy Communion at weekday and weekend liturgies, as well as take Holy Communion to parishioners who are homebound, in nursing homes, and in hospitals.

Michael Kelley, 216-374-8961

LECTORS

Lectors proclaim Scripture Readings at Mass and other liturgies.

Charlotte Vogler, 440-521-0868

MASS GREETERS

Greeters welcome those who come to Immaculate Conception’s liturgies. Their purpose is to make parishioners and visitors feel welcome with a smile and greeting. Children are welcome to join their parents to act as a family group of greeters.

Elayne Kramer, 440-942-4500

SACRISTANS

Adults who have a desire to serve the Lord are needed to serve as sacristans to prepare the church for Sunday and weekly Mass, weddings, funerals, and other liturgical celebrations.

Michael Kelley, 216-374-8961

USHERS

The ushers are men and women who welcome parishioners and visitors at liturgies, assist in seating them, take up the collection and facilitate in the orderly reception of Holy Communion.
Rick Totedo, 440-488-3958

Spiritual Enrichment

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

The Blessed Sacrament Chapel is open from 6 am to 11 pm seven days a week. Our Chapel has been open since 1986, and it takes many dedicated people each week to spend an hour with the Lord.

Pam Lann, 440-269-8057

AVILAS PRAYER GROUP

AVILAS is a group of parishioners who meet to pray for an increase of vocations and for those who are priests and religious. AVILAS meets the third Tuesday of the month, beginning with Mass and ending one half hour after Mass.

Mary Ann Takacs, 440-946-5330

EVANGELIZATION COMMITTEE

Striving to bring back into active participation in the Catholic faith, the Evangelization Committee reaches out to in-active Catholics to re-engage them with Christ and his Church. Through the Catholics Returning Home program and distribution of Catholic literature, they strive to welcome all baptized Catholics home to the Catholic Church.

Lee Jarocki, 440-728-6640

FATIMA HOLY HOUR/BLUE ARMY PRAYER GROUP

This group meets Wednesday evenings at 7 pm via phone for prayer and the Rosary.

Kathy Kasovic, 440-942-0574

LEGION OF MARY

The Legion of Mary is an apostolate of men and women seeking to grow in holiness through prayer, good works and evangelization. Active members meet weekly for prayer, study and engage in works that build the Church, such as visiting the sick. Auxillary members pray the Rosary daily. The Legion of Mary meets every Monday evening from 6:30 to 7:30 pm in the St. Anne Room.

Lawrence Gradwell, 440-942-6196

MEN'S PRAYER GROUP

Men of the parish gathering together where scripture is read and discussed, and time is spent in prayer, growing their relationships with God and each other. The Men's Prayer Group meets on the second Tuesday of the month at 7 pm in the St. Anne Room.

Larry Schnieders, 440-463-2121

RELIGIOUS LIBERTY & COUNTRY PRAYER GROUP

This Prayer Group prays for our country, religious freedom and government leaders. Time is spent in song, prayer and recitation of the Patriotic Rosary. This prayer group meets the second and fourth Thursday of the month from 2:30 to 3:30 pm in the St. Anne Room.

Estelle Balazs, 440-946-8386



WOMEN'S PRAYER GROUP

This group of women meets monthly, joining together to strengthen their relationships with God through prayer, scripture reading, and discussion. The Women's Prayer Group meets the second and fourth Tuesday of the month from 6:30 to 8:00 pm in the SMR Room.

Pam Consolo, 216-337-8278

Faith Formation

ORDER OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS (OCIA)

OCIA is the means by which unbaptized persons enter the Church. Additionally, non-Catholic Christians enter into full communion with the Church, and Catholic adults prepare for the Sacraments of Eucharist or Confirmation through this program.

Deacon Paul Hlabse, 440-259-4067

PARISH SCHOOL OF RELIGION

Youth are formed in the Catholic Faith through instruction that encourages growth in knowledge and the spiritual life. Classes meet on Monday from 6 to 7:30 pm mid-September to the end of May. Catechists and classroom aides are needed.

Sr. Josephine Rosoamampionona, 440-942-4500

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL (VBS)

VBS is a week-long summer event for pre-K and elementary school-aged children. A theme is presented through Bible stories, songs, skits, crafts, and other activities. Junior high, high school students, and adults are needed prior to and during VBS week for planning, registration, decorating, and for other activities.

Sr. Josephine Rosoamampionona, 440-942-4500

Parish Life Ministries

FAMILY MINISTRY

Families are invited to gather in the parish gym on the second Saturday night of the month for prayer, fellowship and games, and to enjoy food and beverages. The evening begins with a group Rosary and a half hour presentation from the Catechism of the Catholic Church, followed by games for the kids and conversation for the adults.

Dennis Lann, 216-990-2121

FUNERAL LUNCHEONS

This ministry prepares luncheons for families after the funeral services of their loved ones. Members assist with setting up, serving the meals and baking for the dessert tables.

Anna Ranallo, 440-942-9285

GARDEN CLUB

Parishioners "take ownership" of the parish flower gardens by utilizing their gardening and landscaping talents.

Lawrence Gradwell, 440-942-6196

GREETING CARD MINISTRY

The mission of the Greeting Card Ministry is to lift one another up, to provide encouragement and to celebrate, as they share God's love through handmade greeting cards. They create hand-stamped greeting cards that are provided to the residents in the area nursing homes, homebound parishioners, and others upon request. They meet on the 4th Tuesday of the month from 6 to 8 pm in the St. Anne Room.

Margaret Wissman, 440-479-4008

GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP

This support group meets one Sunday per month at 12 pm to assist those grieving by being a source of love, care and support. Through prayer, reflection and conversation, we work towards the comfort of God.

Kathy Kenst, 440-953-1035

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

The K of C is a Catholic men's fraternal organization. Fellowship is promoted through educational, charitable, religious and social service. Meetings are held at IC on the first and third Tuesday of every month at 7:00 pm

Lawrence Gradwell, 440-942-6196

OKTOBERFEST COMMITTEE

The entire parish comes together the third weekend in July to sponsor the annual "Oktoberfest in July." The core committee for Oktoberfest meets on the third Wednesday of the month from January until August each year at 6:30 pm in SJH Hall. New members are most welcome.

Paul Featsent, 440-487-9365

OKTOBERFEST VOLUNTEERS

The entire parish comes together the third weekend in July to sponsor the annual "Oktoberfest in July." The preparations involved are numerous, and we rely on the hands of many to successfully put on this event. Around 500 volunteers are needed for this event each year.

Lauren Smith, 440-479-2574

PARISH NURSING MINISTRY

Our Parish Nursing Ministry has been newly created to help members in our community through nursing practices, according to the teachings of Jesus the Healer. Through this ministry, wellness checks will be available to our Parish community, which will include monthly blood pressure checks, hearing tests and temperature checks. These are conducted on Donut Sunday each month.

Kathy Brazytis, 440-749-6109

PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY

Prayer shawls are lovingly made by volunteers and blessed by the priest for anyone who needs God's love and prayers. Monthly meetings are every 2nd Monday of the month at 3 pm in the Carlo Acutis Room. Yarn is provided for members to knit or crochet the shawls at home.

Rose Hanslik, 440-951-8402

ST. JAMES PAINESVILLE & MCKINLEY MEAL MINISTRY

Volunteers from our parish go monthly to St. James Episcopal Church in Painesville and McKinley Center to prepare and serve a Sunday and weeknight meal to those in need.

Pam & Richard Lann, 440-269-8057

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY

The Society is a spiritual organization that carries out its mission by helping anyone in need of food, clothing or shelter, from our parish or living in our parish territory. Meetings are held at 6 pm on the second Wednesday of each month in the Carlo Acutis Room.

Deacon Chuck Cairnie, 330-466-9113

SENIOR MINISTRY (50+)

Members of this new ministry gather to make friends and maintain social contact. Meetings normally consist of activities such as cards, bingo, occasional speakers, entertainers, and includes refreshments or lunch. The Senior Ministry meets on the second Wednesday of the month at noon in SJH Hall.

Elayne Kramer, 440-942-4500

SOCIAL EVENTS COMMITTEE

The committee plans and presents various social events throughout the year, including Breakfast with Santa, Breakfast with the Easter Bunny, the Parish Picnic, Clambakes, Anniversary events, and much more.

Marietta Hrach, 440-382-6980

SOCIETY OF MOTHER TERESA

Members of the Society of Mother Teresa cook and deliver meals to the residents of Western Lake County who are unable to provide meals for themselves due to disability, ambulatory issues, or no family/relative support. Members brighten their day by spending a few minutes visiting with them.

Marietta Hrach, 440-382-6980

YOUNG MOMS GROUP

The Young Moms group is a newly formed ministry for mothers of children ages new-born to 6 years old. This ministry meets monthly with the goal of connecting young moms within the parish and creating opportunities for our littlest members of our parish community to play.

Brittany Cirino, 440-488-4281

Administrative Committees

FINANCE COUNCIL

This council is mandated by Church Law and is a consultative body that makes recommendations to the pastor. The members of the Finance Council are appointed by the pastor and include persons with skills in finance, administration, and law. There are six voting members whose three-year terms expire in a rotating manner.

Fr. Michael Troha, 440-942-4500

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

The council is a consultative body to the pastor to ensure that the mission and ministries of the parish are carried out. The six members serve rotating three-year terms.

Joseph Hozian, 440-391-8684

STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE

The Stewardship Committee implements stewardship as a way of life in the parish. Members act as models of stewardship for other parishioners by engaging in a life that is committed to the Eucharist, prayer, service and ongoing formation.

Elayne Kramer, 440-942-4500

Please Keep Until Fall 2026

TIME TO *Commit*

God's plan for each of us is eternal life with Him. Stewardship helps guide us on this journey. When we surrender all that we have in gratitude for God's blessings, we are transformed. During this Jubilee Year of Hope, the Church calls us to embrace this journey of surrender and trust in God's promises.

Take time to prayerfully complete your Commitment Card, making steps as a pilgrim of hope closer to God. Ask for the grace of the Holy Spirit to guide your commitments.

Time
Spending Time with God in Prayer

Our pilgrim journey of hope begins with prayer. We must spend time in prayer to grow in knowledge and love of God. Prayer cultivates a deep and lasting relationship with Him and strengthens our hope for eternal life. Consider a few of the following prayer suggestions as an expression of that love.

Please check the circle next to your commitments to prayer:

- ☐ Attend Mass every Sunday and on Holy Days
- ☐ Attend weekday Mass at least once a week
- ☐ Attend Adoration at least once a month
- ☐ Spend 15 minutes a day in personal prayer
- ☐ Pray together with my loved ones
- ☐ Read the Bible at least once a week
- ☐ Pray the Rosary weekly
- ☐ Pray the Divine Mercy Chaplet
- ☐ Go to Reconciliation every other month
- ☐ Pray for the sick of our parish
- ☐ Pray for my country
- ☐ Write a friend or acquaintance to Mass
- ☐ Pray for an increase in vocations
- ☐ Create a dedicated "prayer space" in my home
- ☐ Pray for our clergy and religious
- ☐ Pray for persecuted Christians
- ☐ Schedule time for a spiritual retreat
- ☐ Pray for greater respect for human life
- ☐ Pray for those serving in the military
- ☐ Pray for inactive Catholics

Talent
Using My Talents in Parish Ministries

Reflect on the talents God has given you. No matter how big or small, how are you sharing them in a way that brings hope to others? As an expression of gratitude for God's blessings, consider sharing your gifts and talents in our ministries below.

Write the first name of the family member who wishes to join or is active in each ministry on the lines. You may write multiple names for the same ministry.

☐ Currently Involved ☐ Interested in Joining

LITURGICAL MINISTRIES

- ☐ Adult Choir
- ☐ Adult Servers
- ☐ Altar Servers - Children & Teens
- ☐ Cantors/Song Leaders
- ☐ Church Cleaning Angels
- ☐ Church Decorating Committee
- ☐ Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion
- ☐ Lectors
- ☐ Mass Greeters
- ☐ Sacristans
- ☐ Ushers

SPIRITUAL ENRICHMENT

- ☐ Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
- ☐ AVILAS Prayer Group
- ☐ Evangelization Committee
- ☐ Fatima Holy Hour/Blue Army Prayer Group

Treasure
Making a Gift to the Church

The act of generous and hope, which recognizes Everything we have is a treasure. Out of hope as the first fruits of these will multiply the effects of

At Immaculate Conception household is asked to contribute income based on the same

5% to Immaculate Catholic

plus 4% to other church

My Offer

Immaculate Conception Please contribute weekly or monthly

Weekly gift \$ _____

OR

Monthly gift \$ _____

Percentage of household income _____

At Immaculate Conception household is asked their income to have difficulty reaching increasing your we reach an amount _____

2025 Commitment Card
Immaculate Conception Catholic Church

First & Last Name _____

Phone _____

Email _____

Spouse: First & Last Name _____

Spouse: Phone _____

Spouse: Email _____

Mailing Address _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

After completion, please bring this card to Mass on October 11/12, or mail using the envelope provided. Thank you and God bless you!

% of Household Income	\$20,000	\$25,000	\$30,000	\$35,000	\$40,000	\$45,000	\$50,000	\$55,000	\$60,000	\$65,000	\$70,000	\$75,000	\$80,000	\$85,000	\$90,000	\$95,000	\$100,000
5%	\$1,000	\$1,250	\$1,500	\$1,750	\$2,000	\$2,250	\$2,500	\$2,750	\$3,000	\$3,250	\$3,500	\$3,750	\$4,000	\$4,250	\$4,500	\$4,750	\$5,000

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Please bring your completed Commitment Card to Mass on **October 11/12**, mail it to the parish in the envelope provided, or complete it online at www.immaculate.net.

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION CATHOLIC CHURCH

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(440) 942-4500 | www.immaculate.net