

Immaculate Conception Catholic Church

A parish served by the Paulist Fathers

more than 150 years of service to God and God's People

Christmas - The Nativity of the Lord

December 25, 2011

414 West Vine Avenue Knoxville, Tennessee 37902-1327

Tel: (865) 522-1508 Fax: (865) 524-8514 E-mail: icoffice@bellsouth.net Website: icknoxville.org



PASTORAL STAFF

Fr. Ronald Franco, CSP [rfrancosp@aol.com].....Pastor
Fr. Jerry Tully, CSP [icassocpastor@gmail.com]....Associate Pastor
Deacon Hieu Vinh [jhvinh@yahoo.com].....Permanent Deacon
Deacon Joe Stackhouse [jrstackhse@aol.com]....Permanent Deacon
Marian Howard [icaff@bellsouth.net].....Dir. Of Adult Formation
Kathleen Kramer [kmrk@mac.com]....Dir. Of Religious Education
Karl Jacob [KarlJake@aol.com].....Dir. Of Music Ministry

ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

Jenifer Dills [icbulletin@bellsouth.net].....Business Manager
Nancy Brennan Strange [icoffice@bellsouth.net].....Receptionist
Ed Stokes [cell:243-6903]..Facilities and Systems Maintenance Dir.

OFFICE HOURS

Monday-Friday, 9 a.m.-12:45 p.m.; 1:45 - 5 p.m.

BULLETIN

Deadline is noon on Monday. Announcements may be mailed, faxed, or e-mailed to Jenifer Dills.

**Visit our parish facebook page at
*Immaculate Conception Church***

MASS SCHEDULE

Weekend

Saturday: 6 p.m. Sunday: 8:30, 10, 11:30 a.m.
Children's Liturgy: 11:30 a.m.
Vietnamese Mass: Contact Deacon Vinh, 640-5308.

Weekdays

Monday - Friday: 12:10 p.m. Saturday: 8:30 a.m.

DEVOTIONS

Rosary: First Sat. of the month, after 8:30 a.m. Mass

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Saturday, 5-5:30 p.m. or by appointment

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Baptisms are normally administered in the church on the second Sunday of the month in February, April, June, August, October, and December. Parents must attend a preparation meeting. Preparation meetings are held at the parish office on the first Sunday of the month in February, April, June, August, October, and December. Please call the parish office to register in advance.

SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE

6 months preparation time required. Contact one of the priests to schedule an appointment. Deposit required to secure date. Request a copy of the Wedding Guidelines from the parish office.

FAITH FORMATION

Pre-K (age 4) - High School: 9:45-11 a.m.

Sundays (Sept.- May) at St. Joseph School

Formation for Adults: as announced

SCHOOL

St. Joseph School (K-8th grade) www.sjsknox.com
1810 Howard Road Knoxville, TN 37918
(865) 689-3424

TWIN PARISH

St. Francis Xavier in Fond des Blancs, Haiti

PARKING

Free weekend parking is available in the lot across the street from the front doors of the church, as well as in the Eagles' lot across Cafego Place and the Crowne Plaza parking garage.

From the Pastor:

Merry Christmas!

The Paulist Fathers and the Parish Staff wish you all a very Happy and Blessed Christmas and a Healthy and Prosperous New Year! In a special way we welcome to our church today all those who are visiting or who are here for the first time.

“After the annual celebration of the Paschal Mystery, the Church has no more ancient custom than celebrating the memorial of the Nativity of the Lord and of his first manifestations, and this takes place in Christmas Time” (*Universal Norms on the Liturgical Year and the Calendar*, 32). With those simple words the Church introduces us to the Christmas Season. Christmas commemorates the historic event of the birth of Jesus during the reign of Augustus Caesar as Emperor in Rome and Herod the Great as King in Jerusalem. So important, however, was his birth as an historical event that we now date the years of our current calendar from it. Christmas is so much more than the commemoration of an important historical event. Christmas celebrates Christ’s coming into the world as our Savior – his coming as Savior to each one of us individually and to all of us together. This, therefore, is a day of overwhelming joy. In the words of the 5th-century Pope St. Leo the Great’s 1st Christmas Sermon: “Sadness should have no place on the birthday of life. The fear of death has been swallowed up; life brings us joy with the promise of eternal happiness. ... In the fullness of time, chosen in the unfathomable depths of God’s wisdom, the Son of God took for himself our common humanity in order to reconcile it with its creator. He came to overthrow the devil, the origin of death, in that very nature by which he [the devil] had overthrown mankind.”

The year 2011 has been an extremely eventful year at Immaculate Conception, culminating in the joyful, genuinely Spirit-filled celebration of our church’s anniversary. For over 125 years now, our “Church on Summit Hill” has gathered our parish community together within its beautiful, historic walls, while witnessing - to all who live or work or visit within sight of its tower - to the continuing reality and permanent power of the Christmas story as it is experienced day-by-day in the life of Christ’s Holy Catholic Church. That remains the heart of our parish’s mission as we move forward into a new Year of Our Lord 2012. May Christ our Savior continue to bless our parish in this new year, whatever its challenges!

Ronald A. Lauer, CSP



125th Anniversary Photo—Sun., Oct. 23, 2011

The photo is also available at our website, www.icknoxville.org. Click on 125th Anniversary Celebration.



Thank you to everyone who gave a donation/memorial for our Christmas Poinsettias, Flowers, and other decorations. Donors and memorials will be acknowledged in the January 8 bulletin.



The Parish Office will be closed until **Tues., Jan. 3.**



New Year's Eve: It is traditional on the last day of the year to recite the hymn *Te Deum* before the Blessed Sacrament exposed as an act of thanksgiving. Accordingly, the 6 p.m. Mass on Sat., Dec. 31, will conclude with Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and the recitation of the *Te Deum*. A plenary indulgence is granted (under the usual conditions) to all who recite the *Te Deum* publicly on the last day of the year.

Paulist Fathers' Necrology

Throughout the year, the Paulist Fathers remember in their prayers their deceased brother missionaries on the anniversaries of their death. Please join this week in remembering: **Douglas R. Haggin** (12/25/1962), **Bernard W. Lohmann** (12/25/1993), **THOMAS J. CONNELLAN**, 1st Paulist Pastor of Immaculate Conception Parish 1973-1976 (12/26/2008), **Warren H. Seedorf** (12/27/2005), **James A. McVann** (12/28/1978), **Robert A. Skinner** (12/29/1935), **GEORGE DESHON**, one of the 4 original Paulists (12/30/1903), **John J. Bradley** (12/30/1994), and **John P. Donahue** (12/31/1997).



40 Days of Prayer: Believe in being a good steward of the environment? Immaculate Conception will be one of the congregations participating in 40 Days of Prayer to stop mountaintop removal mining in Tennessee. Please join us at the church on **Thurs., Jan. 5, at 7 p.m.** The rosary will be recited. For more information, call Kathy Manning at 688-7869.



Can you help? A parishioner at Broadway Towers needs a ride to the Saturday 6 p.m. Mass each week. If you can help, please call Colby at 219-0126.

Congregational Pew Cards: Cards with the complete texts of the people's parts are in all the pews. Please use them to learn the new translation and leave them in the pew at the end of Mass, so that they will be available to help everyone participate fully and actively in every Mass!

Please Help Us Update Our Records!

If your contact information or family status (new baby, marriage, etc..) has changed, please notify the parish office (522-1508 or icbulletin@bellsouth.net) with your updated information. You can also submit your information online at www.icknoxville.org. Click on the **Registration Form** link.

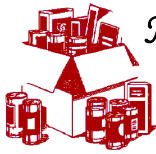


Magazines and Books for Adult Faith Formation

(located in the church vestibule)

Check out the December issues of *U.S. Catholic, St. Anthony Messenger, Liguorian, America, and Catholic Digest*, which contain a wealth of information. Reading Catholic magazines will provide enjoyment, intellectual challenge, and spiritual nourishment! Select your magazines, put your money in the envelope clipped to each magazine, and place the envelope in the collection. Remember that the parish must pay for all magazines removed from the rack.

Take a Look at the Book Nook in the vestibule. We offer a small selection of spiritual books for sale at our cost. Each book has an envelope labeled with the name and the price of the book. To purchase a book, put your money (cash or check made out to IC) in the envelope and place in the collection.



Needed for our FISH Pantry: Canned Tuna (6oz.) – Soup, peanut butter, vegetables, meat, green beans, canned fruit, and dry cereals are always welcome.

There are special red and white envelopes in the vestibule racks for donations. **On Dec. 12, the FISH Team distributed food to 122 families, with a total of 256 people served. During 2011, food was distributed to 1,550 families, with a total of 3,301 people served.** The next distribution will be held on **Mon., Jan. 9.**



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Volunteers are needed to take communion to the homebound. Visits do not have to be very long, but they mean so much to those who cannot get out any longer. The frequency is up to you, but once a month is good, more often if you can. The timing of your visit depends on you and the one you visit, and it does not have to be on Sunday. Please contact Deacon Joe Stackhouse (jrstackhse@aol.com or 539-0451) for more information.



Haiti Committee News: Please continue to remember our sisters and brothers in our twin parish in St. Francis Xavier parish in Fond des Blancs, Haiti, in your prayers and with your generous donations, over the Christmas holidays.



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We are planning to send 8 people on a **Medical Mission Trip to Haiti Feb. 10-18.** More information to come. We will ask the parish to again help collect over-the-counter

medications that we can transport, as well as additional items. We will publish a list of needed items in upcoming parish bulletins. These collections will begin in mid-January.



We will have a **Supper & Fundraiser on Sat., Jan. 21, in the parish hall after the 6 pm Mass.** All are invited. We will have delicious food and share information about the upcoming trip and how things are in Haiti now. Please plan to attend. There

will be no charge for the meal, but donations will be gladly accepted!

We Pray for the Repose of the Souls of



†**Jeanne Merritt**

†**Jack DeVault,**

father of Sabrina DeVault.



This Lenten season, you and your family will have a unique opportunity to grow in faith and love of the Eucharist.

Immaculate Conception will present a new program, *Living the Eucharist*. We are asking the entire parish, each one of us, to participate in this program in some way. *Living the Eucharist* is developed for those who attend Mass regularly and those who are still seeking a deeper relationship with the Catholic faith. There will be opportunities for everyone – adults, teens and families – to participate on some level. You may choose to do individual devotional readings, or you may want to meet weekly with other adults or teens. Some will chose to engage in family activities at home. Others may want to join in the prayer campaign. And once you see how the program is structured, you may decide to participate in more than one way. Whatever you chose, you will find *Living the Eucharist* provides you with resources and opportunities to learn about the meaning of the Eucharist, to celebrate this Sacrament more fully, and to live as disciples of Christ every day of the week. More information will be included in next week's bulletin.

RCIA



Do you have questions? Are you thinking about becoming Catholic? Come and join us on **Monday evenings at 7 p.m.** If you have been wondering about becoming Catholic

or if you are an adult Catholic who has never received the sacrament of confirmation, the RCIA process will help you make that decision. Adults who participate in RCIA learn about the Catholic faith as they continue to grow in their own spiritual life. Contact Marian Howard, 522-1508 or icaff@bellsouth.net, for information.



Middle school and high school students are invited to meet at church on the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of the month, 6:30 - 8 p.m., for prayer, fun, and

faith! For info, please contact Moira Connelly at connellyfam6@bellsouth.net.

We won't meet at church again until **Wed., Jan. 18** -- our first meeting of the new year!



The Knoxville Ulster Project needs your help. We are looking for people willing to serve on our Board of Directors. You would be expected to attend a meeting once a month and volunteer to

help on a committee. In order for our project to continue to serve the Knoxville and Northern Ireland communities, we need to increase our number of volunteers. Please consider helping this worthwhile cause. For more information, contact Barbara O'Brien at HoopsOB@chartertn.net or call 300-9090.



Therapeutic Counseling Services are available by

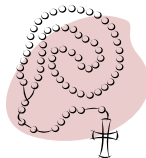
Catholic Charities of East Tennessee, Inc. licensed therapists through Catholic Charities. Services are provided on an income-based sliding fee scale and are available to anyone in the community. For info, please call 524-9896.



The Ladies of Charity is seeking a manager for the Emergency Assistance Pantry, Monday-Friday, 25-30 hours per week. A degree in social work is preferred, but not required. Good interviewing and people skills a necessity. Some physical labor involved. Please send resume to 691-8779.



Lector Workbooks are now available in the sacristy. Donations to help offset the cost are always appreciated.



Pray the Rosary at IC: A Rosary for the Blessed Mother is prayed **after the 8:30am Mass** on the first Saturday of each month. We meet after Mass in front of the Blessed Mother statue. Please join us on **Sat., Jan. 7.**



Celebrate the Sacrament and Commitment of Marriage! Bishop Stika will celebrate a bilingual Mass on **Sat., Jan. 7, at 11 a.m., at Sacred Heart Cathedral.** Couples will have the opportunity to renew their vows during Mass and celebrate with family and friends at a luncheon following the Mass. Register in advance and receive a certificate and photo with Bishop Stika. Give your names as you want them to appear on the certificate, how many years you have been married, and how many people you plan to bring to the luncheon, to Rubianna Gonzalez (588-0249 or rgonzalez@shcknox.org) by Fri., Jan. 3.



The Notre Dame Club of Knoxville will host the University of Notre Dame Choir on **Mon., Jan. 9, at 7 p.m., at Sacred Heart Cathedral, 711 S. Northshore Drive.** The program of sacred music will include traditional Christmas carols, music from the Renaissance, and will feature the great a capella motet, "Lobet den Herrn," by Johann Sebastian Bach. All are welcome. There is no charge but donations gratefully accepted.



"Rosary for Life" with Bishop Stika: Please join Bishop Stika in praying a "Rosary for Life" on **Sat., Jan. 14, at 10 a.m.,** across the street from the abortion clinic located on 313 South Concord St. It is his hope that this third annual event will far exceed last year's in size and parish participation and be an impressive witness of hope and solidarity against the culture of death. For more information, call the parish office at 522-1508.



A Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend is scheduled for Feb. 10 — 12 in Gatlinburg. Early registration is highly recommended. For more information, call (423) 581-1815, e-mail ACW193@bellsouth.net, or visit www.loveinthesmokies.org.

Parish Financial News

Parish Offertory Report*

Dec. 11 Collection	\$	9,794.55
Needed for Budget each week:	\$	12,794.23
Total Collection YTD:	\$	250,519.06
Total Budgeted YTD:	\$	307,061.52
Gain/(Loss) this fiscal year:	\$	(56,542.46)

*Regular offertory giving only. Does not include additional income from donations and other parish collections.

Together....Our Future Fulfilled St. Joseph School Capital Campaign

Total Pledged:	\$	319,672.00
Total Remitted:	\$	214,508.02
Balance Remaining:	\$	105,163.98

Mass Intentions

Saturday, December 24

6 p.m. The People of Immaculate Conception

9 p.m. The People of Immaculate Conception

Sunday, December 25

12 a.m. The People of Immaculate Conception

8:30 a.m. The Vest family by Barbara Vest

10 a.m. Christmas Novena

11:30 a.m. †Sonny Trollinger & family
by Patsy Trollinger

Monday, December 26

12:10 p.m. Christmas Novena

Tuesday, December 27

12:10 p.m. Christmas Novena

Wednesday, December 28

12:10 p.m. Christmas Novena

Thursday, December 29

12:10 p.m. Christmas Novena

Friday, December 30

12:10 p.m. Christmas Novena

Saturday, December 31

8:30 a.m. Christmas Novena

Readings for the Week

Paulist Prayer Book- Christmas Season Propers: page 244 ff

Monday: SAINT STEPHEN, THE FIRST MARTYR
Acts 6:8-10;7:54-59 Ps 31:3cd-4,6,8ab,16bc-17
Mt 10:17-22

Tuesday: SAINT JOHN, APOSTLE, EVANGELIST
1 Jn 1:1-4 Ps 97:1-2,5-6,11-12
Jn 20:1a,2-8

Wednesday: THE HOLY INNOCENTS, MARTYRS
1 Jn 1:5-2:2 Ps 124:2-5,7b-8
Mt 2:13-18

Thursday: THE FIFTH DAY IN THE OCTAVE OF
CHRISTMAS
1 Jn 2:3-11 Ps 96:1-3,5b-6
Lk 2:22-35

Friday: THE HOLY FAMILY
Sir 3:2-6 or Col 3:12-21 Ps 128:1-5
Lk 2:22-40

Saturday: THE SEVENTH DAY IN THE OCTAVE
OF CHRISTMAS
1 Jn 2:18-21 Ps 96:1-2,11-13
Jn 1:1-18

Sunday: OCTAVE DAY OF CHRISTMAS: THE
BLESSED VIRGIN MARY, THE MOTHER OF
GOD
Nm 6:22-27 Ps 67:2-3,5-6,8
Gal 4:4-7 Lk 2:16-21

A Word from Servant of God Isaac Thomas Hecker

“Christ has come. Christ is here, now upon earth. Christ ever abides with men, according to His word. What the age promises men is the rending asunder the clouds of error which hinder them from seeing that Christ is here. What the age promises and men most need is the light to enable their eyes to see that the Incarnation involves Christ’s indwelling presence in His Church acting upon man and society through her agency until the consummation of the world.” (*The Church and The Age*, 1887)

Saint for the Week

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. The same was in the beginning with God. All things were made by him.
- Saint John (c. 6 - c. 100), Feast Day December 27

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