

**Solemnity of  
the Birth of  
St. John  
the Baptist  
June 24**

Obedient to his Mission  
Prepared the people for  
the coming of the  
Messiah  
Baptism of Jesus Christ  
at Jordan River



**Nativity of St. John The Baptist  
Jun 24th, 2018**

**Knights of Columbus  
IC Parish Pancake Breakfast**



*In Honour of the 2018 IC Altar Servers*  
Breakfast will be served at the Parish Center **on  
Sunday, Jun 24 from 10:30am to 12:30pm  
in the gym. All Are Welcome!**

**Taize Prayer – Wednesday, June 27  
from 7-8:30pm** You are welcome to join us for  
our second evening of Taize Prayer in front of the  
Blessed Sacrament on Jun 27. Taize is a unique form of  
Christian prayer that involves song, silence, and  
contemplation. We are planning on hosting an evening  
of Taize Prayer on the last Wednesday of every month.

**Immaculate Conception Parish Post  
Secondary Bursaries**

Bursaries are available for Immaculate Conception  
Parish students attending any year at a post-secondary  
educational institution. These bursaries are made  
available due to the generous contributions from the  
C.W.L., Knights of Columbus and the Walton family.  
The application criteria and application form can be  
found on our parish web site. **Completed  
applications must be received at the parish  
office by June 30.**

❖ **Change of Weekday Mass Times**

**All Weekday Morning Masses**

**(Tue to Fri): 11:00am \*no mass on Mon**

❖ **Please note: Parish Center Gym is  
closed throughout the summer months  
due to the school seismic upgrade**

❖ **Please note: The Parish Office will be  
closed from July 2 to July 6**

**Stewardship Reflection**

Stewardship is a lifestyle, it's not a program or a process. It's how we are called to live our lives 24 hours a day, seven days a week! It challenges us to live "God-centred" lives, not "self-centred" lives. Reflect on your daily activities, do you do them for the glory of God or for the glory of your own name?  
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**A Visit to the Gardens of Gethsemani in Surrey**

The Pastoral Care Team is planning a visit to the Gardens of Gethsemani in August. The date to be decided. The tentative plan is to leave the Parish Center by bus, if numbers warrant, around 10:00 am and return by approximately 1:30pm for lunch. Please let Dell Whelan know if you wish to reserve a seat (604)224-5594

**Parish Work Crew:** Any high school students, university students, dads, moms want to spend a morning doing some odds and ends work about our Parish campus? Perhaps a few high school our university friends might like to get together? Or perhaps you'd like to spend a morning to be with your spouse, grown children or even a morning away from spouse and family? If so come to be part of a cleanup crew at Immaculate.

We have garbage galore about the Church and Parish Center to throw out, water drains in the sidewalks to clean, pathways to sweep, spider webs to clear away and even a few thing to paint.

**When: Wednesday, July 4, 9:30am to Noon**

Please phone the parish office for more info.

\*If someone would like to come earlier give the parish office a call before Jun 28 and we can set you or your group up with a few things that need to be done!

**Summer Camps at Immaculate** Until the end of June a few of our school teachers are running a summer camp for Immaculate students in our Parish gym. Kitsilano House (Provider for our After School Program) are also offering an all day summer program under the Church in Marian Hall until end of June. Both of these 2 week programs are a huge help to our school families. Normally the children would have been in school until the end of June and these 'summer camps' are meeting real needs of our families and delighting our children.

**The statue of Mary** at the back of the Church is usually located at the end of the corridor in our school. During the Seismic Upgrade work at the school we will keep the statue of Mary here in the Church. May this particular statue of Mary remind us to pray for our school children and families over the summer holidays. Mother of God – keep all of our children safe under your mantle and close to Jesus. Amen.



## ❖ Project Advance 2018:

Thank you to all at Immaculate who practice 'Stewardship' of Time, Talent and Treasure in regards to Family, Faith and Parish. Did you know that between our parish and school we have over 600 registered families all of whom claim Immaculate as their home? Imagine if each registered family embraced the spiritual practice of 'Stewardship' in the affairs of Family, Faith and Parish?

An example of being a good steward of 'Time' in regards to family and faith is if we set aside intentional time to be with our family and to go to Mass together. If we don't specifically commit the time we undermine our family life and the deepening of our souls.

An example of being a good steward of 'Talents' is how we share our talents to deepen our community bonds through active participation in ministries and outreach to others. If we genuinely participate through the sharing of our talents then Church and Faith becomes an occasion of growth, bonding and transformation.

An example of being a good steward of 'Treasure' is in honoring our responsibility to Tithe – financially supporting the faith and community that we profess and call 'home'.

As you pray and ponder what you might 'gift' to Project Advance this year examine the 3 aspects of 'Stewardship' – Time, Talent and Treasure. If we practice stewardship of Time, Talent and Treasure we deepen the depth and breadth of who we are in Christ. Usually, once we get that right the joy of God fills our heart, mind and soul.



## Seismic Upgrade at Immaculate Conception School

As everyone can tell by the construction fence wrapping our 'little blue school', the Seismic renewal work is underway. It is a huge project for us as a Parish. Next week you will see steel beams fill up the greater part of the school's parking lot area. The seismic project will put a lot of steel into the school. These steel beams along with footings, reinforced classroom walls and the like will ensure the integrity of the school in the event of a severe earthquake. Once this work is done we know that our children at Immaculate will be safe within our school even if a high magnitude earthquake were to strike Vancouver.

The seismic upgrade option was chosen over building a new school because our current school has a 'proven footprint' that more than meets the needs of our elementary school community. In fact, most educators and families tell us that the 'school footprint' is far superior to modern schools. Seismic upgrade was also the most cost effective means to be proactive about potential seismic issues.

Our school's seismic renewal project is a 'green project'. We acted as good stewards of the earth's integrity in choosing to seismically renew our school rather than turning it into landfill. This is a moral choice, the affordable choice and a most Catholic choice. The beauty of the project is that our seismic upgrade enables us to preserve the history within a wonderful building that holds generations of grace and holy memories.

Our school is a Parish Ministry. How blessed we are as a Parish in and through this Ministry. Immaculate is a unique school that prepares children to walk with confidence and faith into the future – a future that is not yet but promised by God to them and to all of us.

Our beloved 'grandpa priest' – Father Ken – has already claimed his responsibility to support the well being of our children through a generous commitment to our Seismic Mortgage. He made a \$1000 gift to this year's mortgage of \$120,000. Imagine, our beloved grandpa priest (who lives simply on an old age pension) has made such a wonderful gift. I pray to God that every parishioner and school family will be generous in support of this project. After the seismic work is completed all of us will know and have the inner peace that our school children will be safe at Immaculate if an earthquake hits Vancouver.



May all of us commit to the funding of this good work to keep our children safe. Cheques can be made out to 'Immaculate Seismic Project'. Cash donations can be put into the Sunday collection using the 'yellow' offering envelopes, and 'seismic gifts' on your credit card can be made through the parish office.

Thank you for being a good 'steward' toward this seismic project to protect our school's children, your children, God's children!