

**Sep 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2019**  
**25<sup>th</sup> Sunday in ordinary Time**

**Stewardship Reflection**

“No servant can serve two masters. He will hate one and love the other or be devoted to one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and mammon(wealth).”(Luke16:13)

Is money a “god” that you put before God? Giving money to support the Church and other charity is a pillar of our faith, just like attending Mass every Sunday and participating in parish ministry. Giving money frees us from being a slave to money. It increases our dependence on God and our trust that God will provide all that we need.

**Immaculate Conception School**  
**Walkathon: Friday, September 27**



The Annual Walkathon of our school will take place on this Friday, Sep 27. The money raised will go toward the needs of our school children and help giving them a Catholic faith formation and education. As a parish family we truly care about the needs of our children and our parish school. By sponsoring the children in their walk, we are helping to prepare these children to be another generation of disciples and saints.

Our families truly have a deep desire to pass on the faith. Yet some families are not too sure how to go about it? Saturday’s Retreat revealed that our younger families both need and want catechists and us as a Parish to accompany them as they accompany their child. Beautiful exchanges took place among the parents and catechists throughout the Retreat morning.

Many of our younger families know well that it takes the village to raise a child – to read, write and the like but they are also discovering afresh that they need the Body of Christ (a vital Parish community) if they are to hand on the gift of a living faith to their child. A living faith which flows from an evangelized and an evangelizing community.

Let us pray that evangelization and accompaniment become a movement of the Holy Spirit here at Immaculate that they will vitalize the soul of our Parish and School.

**Parish Religious Education Program**  
**(P.R.E.P) at Immaculate is starting this week!**



PREP is offered for children who are not in catholic Schools. We gather every Tuesday at 4-5pm at the Parish Center. **Our first class for this new school year will begin on**

**Tuesday, Sep 24 at 4:00pm.** If you wish to have your child prepare and receive the Sacraments of First Reconciliation & First Holy Communion, or to receive Confirmation this year, please contact the Parish office 604-224-5678 to register.

**‘Catechism’ Classes for Adults (RCIA)**  
**Friday, September 27 at 7:30pm**

These sessions are for Adults who want to learn about the Catholic Faith. If you are a non-Catholic parent and are hoping to have your child ‘Baptized’, celebrate ‘First Communion’ or be ‘Confirmed’ in grade 7, you would also benefit greatly from these sessions. We will meet every other Friday at 7:30pm for an hour. For more information please contact Father Paul – peace and all good.

**First Reconciliation and First Communion**  
**Retreat for Parents:**

Last Saturday we held a Retreat morning for parents whose children are being prepared to celebrate the Sacraments of Reconciliation and First Communion in the spring. It was the first time that we did this retreat at Immaculate. It was very well received. I wonder if we are aware of the daunting task facing moms and dads when it comes to handing on the Faith to their child.



***Immaculate Conception Gift Cards Program is back!***  
***An ongoing Fundraiser that will not cost you one penny!***



***Can you help us to pay off our School’s Seismic Upgrade Loan?***

Purchasing pre-paid gift cards through the Parish is an easy way to support our community. These cards are an excellent Fundraiser because a generous percentage of gift card purchases are rebated to the Parish. These cards have no expiry date! It is a perfect gift option for birthdays, graduations, weddings etc. The funds go directly towards our school’s Seismic Upgrade. This year we have added some new merchants for you to choose from. Placing an order is so easy – simply drop off the form or by fax. You may also email or phone Kathy at the Parish office to place your order if you are paying by credit card. (Please see the bulletin insert for our gift cards order)

**As a Parish family we thank you for supporting our ‘Little Blue School’.**



## All Souls Mass – Friday, November 1<sup>st</sup> at 7:00pm

Over the years this All Souls Mass has become a special Mass for those in grief. The Mass gathers us together in prayer to remember our loved one whose funeral would have been at Immaculate. At the Mass the name of your loved one will be prayed aloud. As their name is prayed a family member brings a Prayer Candle up to the Altar in their memory. (The Parish provides the candle).

As Catholics we believe in Faith that during the Mass we do indeed meet and pray with our beloved ones who now dwell within the communion of saints. Together we trust in faith that in Christ we shall all meet again. Please share with your family about this upcoming Mass so that you may plan to attend together as a family.

All parishioners are welcome to remember in prayer your loved ones who have died over the years at this Mass. Prayer cards will be available for you at the entrance of the Church. Prayerfully remember and write down the names of your loved ones who have died on these cards. The prayer cards will be placed in a Prayer Jar in front of the Altar. The names of your loved ones will remain in the presence of Jesus throughout the month of November and remembered at Mass.

Since this is a special Mass and occasion a Reception will follow in the Jesuit Room.

### ❖ *Ministry Renewal & Domestic Church Circles at Immaculate* ❖

**Sacred Heart Circle:** (Currently, St. George's School next to IC) Memories of Sacred Heart Convent School loom large in the hearts and souls of so many women from Immaculate and beyond. The real 'archives' of the school are held in our hearts – memories of classmates and those who made our convent experience a blessed time. The Sacred Heart nuns also bequeathed to us a beautiful spirituality. If you want to know more about the Sacred Heart Circle being formed contact the Parish Office.



**'Ricci' Circle** – a gathering of Chinese Catholics: As Chinese Catholics we have a wonderful history to share and have much to celebrate. Our family and faith are foundational to who we are. May our Circle become a place for us to ponder and treasure all that we share in common and become a well of deep blessing. For more information contact Lucy: [lucy\\_n@shaw.ca](mailto:lucy_n@shaw.ca)

#### **St. Joseph the Worker Circle:**

As a Parish we are in the midst of creating a maintenance plan and maintenance strategy for the upkeep and renewal of our Parish campus. Father Paul needs a few good men and women to step up and be on this committee.

**Duns Scotus University Student Circle:** As a Parish we want to welcome the international and other university students who are new to our parish. Please contact the Parish office or leave your name and number in the sacristy so that we can welcome you. We want to host a 'Greet & Meet' evening for you!

**Simeon and Anna 'Seniors' Circle:** Just like Simeon and Anna our senior parishioners are ever so faithful to holding our Parish family in the blessing of God. You are a holy treasure and a blessing to us. As a Parish we want to host a 'Special Tea' just for you. The Tea will be on Friday, Oct 11 immediately following the 11am Mass. This is a professional day for the teachers at the School – so parking will be available on the school grounds. School parents and their children will host the Tea.

**Little Flower Academy** welcomes all prospective 2020-2021 candidates and their families to an OPEN HOUSE on Wed, Oct 9<sup>th</sup> from 6-8pm. Welcome address starts at 6pm in the auditorium (1625 Nanton Avenue, Van) and is followed by guided tours. For more info visit [www.lfabc.org](http://www.lfabc.org) or contact Kathi Wilson at [wilsonk@lfabc.org](mailto:wilsonk@lfabc.org). / or call 604-738-9016 ext. 114



You can now **E-Transfer** or use your **Credit Card** to make donations to the Parish! You can E-Transfer your donations to the Parish to our Parish Accounting email: **[IC\\_Accounting@shaw.ca](mailto:IC_Accounting@shaw.ca)** (Answer to the security question is **ICParish**)

For those who would like to make Monthly Donations with their credit cards, please contact Kathy at the Parish office (604)224-5678 and she will take your credit card info from you at the office or by phone. As a Parish family we gratefully thank you for your faith-filled support. May God bless you for your generosity!