

**Third Quarter Commission Reports – Stewardship of God’s Household
January 1, 2010–March 31, 2010 of the Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2010**

Immaculate Conception parishioners are — vibrant expressions of the presence of the Risen Christ” by being people who are grateful for their God-given gifts, and by expressing their gratitude in prayer and service to others. Our Parish has seven staff members, two councils and six commissions to help support and meet the needs of our community. We ask you to read the successes below and prayerfully consider giving of your Time, Talent and Treasure.

Parish Pastoral Council – Chair: Larry Cuba

- ❖ Established a committee to review discernment process for new pastoral council nominees.
- ❖ Interviewed prospective 2010-2011 Parish Pastoral Council members.
- ❖ Charles Haskins, a UNCW Senior Business Major, assisting Council in interviewing and completing the Ministry Position Descriptions.

Stewardship Commission – Chair: George Mullen

Bishop’s Annual Appeal

- ❖ Tabulated pledges from 451 registered and 36 non-registered households, totaling \$110,611 (101% of goal).

Welcome/Orientation/Registration Committee

- ❖ Held 2 Welcome/Orientation/Registration Events (Registered 18 new parishioners).

Safe Environment Team

- ❖ Attended Safe Environment Deanery Meeting on March 10 (Joe Gaughan).
- ❖ Scheduled Training Dates for Remainder of Calendar Year and 1st two quarters of next calendar year.

Treasury Counters

- ❖ Recruited a new Treasury Team Leader.

Office Receptionists

- ❖ Using Ministry Scheduler Pro to schedule work assignments.

Stewardship Committee

- ❖ Prepared article for Weekly Bulletin featuring the Art Environment Ministry.

Liturgical Commission – Chair: Ginny Bovelsky

- ❖ Recruited 4 new Liturgical Ministers:
 - EMHC/Liturgies: 1
 - Greeters: 1
 - Ushers: 2
- ❖ Trained 53 of the 83 Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion/Liturgies at annual training sessions in March; new guidelines and EMHC guide books were distributed.
- ❖ Served 38 sick/homebound people through the EMHC/Sick and Homebound Ministry during the 3rd quarter of the year. 23 individuals are currently being served. Homebound parishioners received Easter gifts from the parish.
- ❖ Decorated the Lenten environment with new additions: Decorative background hanging was made by a parishioner for behind our large crucifix, emphasizing the suffering of the Lord; palm pots were purchased to beautify both the indoor and outdoor environment for Passion/Palm Sunday.
- ❖ Implemented plans and rehearsals for the March 19th performance of "*Godspell: In Concert*", an intergenerational project by parishioners, under the leadership and collaboration of our Youth Ministry and Music Ministry. 22 Youth/Adult singers and 11 of our Children's Choir participated. As part of our parish Lenten journey, "*Godspell*" brought us together as a community to experience Jesus' parables, suffering, death and resurrection in a different way. There were approximately 350 in attendance and the evening ended with refreshments.
- ❖ Implemented 10 different rehearsals for liturgical ministers serving at specific Holy Week liturgies (Passion/Palm Sunday, Holy Thursday, Good Friday and Easter Vigil) in order for those liturgies to run smoothly and be celebrated with meaning and beauty.

Faith Formation Commission – Co-Chairs: Carol Cholette, Marie Marshall

Whole Community Catechesis (WCC)

- ❖ Hosted February’s gathering, *Anointing of the Sick: Healing Body, Soul and Spirit* with guest speaker Andrew Casad. (Approximately 300 adults, children and youth participated)
- ❖ Sent cards to the sick of the parish and home kits to the homebound.
- ❖ Concluded the gathering with the rite of anointing and blessing of the throats.

Facilitating Open Couple Communication, Understanding and Study for Engaged Couples (FOCCUS)

- ❖ Facilitated 4 couples as they discussed the results of their FOCCUS Survey Instruments.
- ❖ Thank you to Pat and Lois Moran, former FOCCUS team members, for their years of dedicated service and devotion to ministry.

Faith Formation Commission – Co-Chairs: Carol Cholette, Marie Marshall (cont’d)

Marriage Preparation

- ❖ Hosted 23 couples for a Diocesan Workshop (7 volunteers from ICC and 4 from nearby parishes presented).

Small Faith Communities

- ❖ Signed-up more than 125 individuals for the Lenten study of The Passion of the Christ.
- ❖ Facilitated 12 Lenten groups.
- ❖ Reviewed evaluations from group participants: while many found the film difficult to watch, those who persisted overwhelmingly reported having a deeper appreciation of Jesus’ sacrifice and love for them.

De Sales Spirituality Group (morning)

- ❖ Attended Salesian Mission on *Beatitudes* presented by Fr. Mike Murray.
- ❖ Reviewed materials for next year—Thibert, Wright, and Power; *St. Francis de Sales and St. Jane de Chantal: Letters of Spiritual Direction*; Paulist Press, New York, 1988.
- ❖ Continued to discuss *Salesian* Perspectives in monthly meetings.

De Sales Spirituality Group (evening)

- ❖ Completed the first round of study and discussion of the *Six Fundamental Themes of Salesian Spirituality*, written by Lewis S. Fiorelli, OSFS on the 100th anniversary of the Oblate's Austria-South German Province. Fr. John was involved with the publication and one of his parishioners from Holy Infant in Durham proofread the English version.
- ❖ Planning to review Fr. Murray's presentation from January 1999 entitled *Confidence in God; Facing Life's Difficulties*.

Scripture Discussion Group (Wednesday morning)

- ❖ Studied an overview of the Gospels of Mark and John.
- ❖ Discussed a comparison of the various Passion Narratives.

Scripture Reflection Group (Thursday morning)

- ❖ Studied weekly Sunday readings and Gospels from the text *Celebrating the Word* (from Canada).
- ❖ Concluded meetings with petitionary prayers, including prayer requests from outside groups.

Youth Ministry (TYM and JYM)

- ❖ Attended a Lenten Prayer Service.
- ❖ Created prayer bracelets for distribution to the sick and homebound of the parish.
- ❖ Created a Stations of the Cross for the Youth to pray as a group.
- ❖ Hosted special presenter, Vince Mescall, for promotion of the Home Works summer mission program.
- ❖ Registered 4 Youth for participation in the Home Works summer mission program.
- ❖ Attended Deanery Confirmation Retreat with 17 Youth.
- ❖ Hosted a social for the families of our Confirmation Youth.
- ❖ Participated in Godspell: In-Concert (2 TYM Youth, 2 JYM Youth).
- ❖ 48 parishioners (33 Musicians, 7 Tech Crew, and 8 performers) under the collaborative efforts of the Music and Youth Ministries came together to perform a multi-generational In-Concert version of Godspell to celebrate the Lenten journey sponsored by the Faith Formation Commission.

Children & Youth Faith Formation (CFF)

- ❖ Continued to provide childcare during the 9:30 & 11:30 Liturgies. There is an average of 10-15 children per weekend.
- ❖ Conducted many spring projects such as Valentine cards, St. Patrick bookmarks, discussion on new life and planting seeds, stained glass cross, Jesus’ love for us through the reading of the Easter story. This was the primary children.
- ❖ Hosted a ceremony where four of our Boy Scouts received their Catholic emblems for Scouting.
- ❖ Burned palms for use on Ash Wednesday.
- ❖ Traveled to St. Mary Shrine for a field trip and tour.
- ❖ Collected canned goods during Lent to give to the Help Center.
- ❖ Performed good deeds during Lent and watched caterpillars turn into butterflies and released them before spring break.
- ❖ Visited the Blessed Sacrament Chapel and reviewed the Stations of the Cross.
- ❖ Held a Parent Meeting for First Eucharist Candidates.

Children & Youth Faith Formation (CFF) (cont’d)

- ❖ Completed various craft projects in conjunction with lesson plans.
- ❖ Attended a Lenten Day of Reflection with guest speaker Sister Rose Adams from the Diocese, thirteen of our Catechists in attendance.
- ❖ Held an early registration for Faith Formation for 2010-2011 with 58 households signing up.

Baptism Preparation

- ❖ Held 2 Baptism Preparation Workshops for 4 families.
- ❖ Baptized 1 child.

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Outreach Commission – Co-Chairs: Stephanie Balnaitis, Rich Wright

Good Samaritan Ministry

- ❖ Provided \$1,217 for 28 requests for assistance.
- ❖ Referred to other community agencies - 16 (Non-Parishioners).
- ❖ Assisted directly by Immaculate Conception and/or the Federal Point Help Center - 12 (5 Parishioners, 7 Non-Parishioners):
 - Rent/Mortgage Assistance: 2 (1 Parishioner, 1 Non-Parishioners)
 - Utility Assistance: 1 (Parishioner)
 - Food and Clothing Assistance: 6 (2 Parishioners, 4 Non-Parishioners)
 - Medical Assistance: 1 (Parishioner)
 - Gas/Miscellaneous: 2 (2 Non-Parishioners)

Federal Point Help Center

- ❖ Assisted 334 households (713 individuals).
- ❖ Trained 18 more of our volunteers on procedures, bringing us near our goal of 100% participation in training sessions.

Bread of Life Ministry

- ❖ Served 390 individuals on Saturdays at Grace Methodist Church in downtown Wilmington
- ❖ Distributed food and clothing to 222 households (480 individuals) on Wednesdays

Island Cottage (From Island Cottage to the following:)

- ❖ Donated \$1,000 to Federal Point Help Center.
- ❖ Assisted 11 individuals from the Help Center with clothes and/or household items.
- ❖ Donated items for play to Coastal Christian High School.
- ❖ Donated over 400 items to Relay for Life for their yard sale.
- ❖ Donated to other ministries: Good Sheppard and Commons at Brightmore.
- ❖ Using \$1,000 financial support from Immaculate Conception to repair a hole in the floor and to shore up the floor in the main room.

Inreach Commission – Chair: Terry Acome

Lazarus Ministry

- ❖ Held 3 receptions in January, 1 reception in February and 1 reception in March.
- ❖ Recruited 2 new members after they attended one of the receptions.

Meals for Moms Ministry

- ❖ Recruited Karen Acome as the Co-coordinator of this ministry.
- ❖ Made contact with the Baptism Director and advertising will be taking place in the gathering area (business cards that have contact information).
- ❖ Holding a meeting in April of all committee members to better coordinate their services.

Social Committee

- ❖ Recruited Christine Feeney as the new Coordinator of this ministry.
- ❖ Actively revitalizing the Ministry.
- ❖ Held a meeting in March with all active members of the committee invited. New ideas were discussed for all age levels. It was agreed that the Social Committee will start to hold a monthly coffee social after each mass once we are into the new fiscal year.

Facilities Commission – Chair: Charlie DaVolio

- ❖ Managed necessary facility maintenance, repair and landscaping projects.

**Parish Report – Stewardship of God’s Household
July 1, 2009–March 31, 2010 of the Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2010**

We are grateful for your continued support of our Parish and of your trust in our stewardship of your offerings. The willingness of the parish staff, the ministry leadership and you to contribute your Time, Talent and Treasure has helped us to work diligently to manage costs and to stay within our parish budget and plan. We ask that you please continue to consistently contribute to Immaculate Conception to enable us to meet our budgeted expenses.

Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT):

As mentioned at the *Annual Stewardship Presentation: Time, Talent, Treasure* on September 26/27, the Parish has set a goal of 200 households on Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT) by June 2010. Please prayerfully consider joining the 70 households (6% of 1,045 Total Parish Registered Households) now using EFT.

The EFT program was implemented to benefit both the parish and the parishioners. For parishioners, EFT is a service which allows for your stewardship commitment to be planned and fulfilled on a consistent basis. For the parish, it assists in planning and offers a more efficient administration of resources. EFT is secure, simple and flexible.

We urge you to sign up! Forms are available in the Gathering Area.

TREASURE...Year to Date ACTUAL July 1, 2009 – March 31, 2010

Offertory Income: money received from 1st collection

Actual: Year to Date July 1, 2009 – March 31, 2010.....	\$635,165
Projected amount still needed from April 1, 2010 – June 30, 2010	\$235,585

Other Sources of Income:

Priest Welfare & Retirement collection, Grants, Donations, Bulletin Rebate & Interest.....	\$30,614
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Operating Spending/Expenses: (Includes Debt Principal and Interest; Excludes Non-Operating Expenditures)

Actual: Year to Date July 1, 2009 – March 31, 2009.....	\$664,198
Projected remaining expenses from April 1, 2010 – June 30, 2010	\$253,152

Contributions donated from the parish to charities through the Diocese and National Collections:

Priest Welfare & Retirement:

Actual: Year to Date July 1, 2009 – March 31, 2010.....	\$13,259
Balance of Assessment: April 1, 2010 – June 30, 2010	\$30,441

Diocesan Bishops provide financial and housing support for retired diocesan and religious order priests in accord with the gospel. Many of our priests retire after 40 or 50 years of active ministry, far exceeding the typical years worked in most professions. Because our priests are paid a modest stipend during their active ministry, their corresponding Social Security benefit upon retirement is extremely small compared to workers with similar years of service. This fund provides additional resources for these priests. Our parish is staffed by the Oblates of St. Francis de Sales, who receive a portion of these funds for their retirement. The cost of this financial support is allocated amongst all parishes of the diocese. Parishes meet this required goal through 2nd collections, paying any remaining balance from its operating budget.

Church in Latin American..... \$2,273

Support for various pastoral projects throughout Latin America and the Caribbean is made possible through the collection for The Church in Latin America. Projects are at the continental, regional, diocesan and local levels, and include the work of evangelization, formation of laity, religious and seminarians, as well as youth ministry and catechesis. Funding is limited to programmatic expenses and excludes building construction.

Haiti Earthquake Relief..... \$16,781

Provided financial assistance following the January 2010 earthquake in Haiti.

OSFS Haiti Earthquake Relief..... \$3,470

Provided financial assistance to the Oblates of St. Francis de Sales following the January 2010 earthquake in Haiti.

Aid to the Church in Central and Eastern Europe..... \$1,463

This special collection channels aid through the bishops’ conferences of Central and Eastern Europe to meet the needs of rebuilding the Church – training seminarians and lay leaders, reaching out to young people, reviving Catholic charities, and renewing programs of catechesis and evangelization.

Operation Rice Bowl..... \$1,290

Provides funding for many third world food security projects promoting agricultural, nutritional, educational growth and self-sufficiency. 75% is remitted to CRS for overseas projects and 25% may be retained in the diocese for local antipoverty programs.

Catholic Overseas Relief Services..... \$3,191

Provides funding for Catholic Relief Services, USCCB Department of Social Development and World Peace, relief work of the Holy Father, and USCCB’s Migration and Refugee Services.

Thank you for your continued stewardship and support of our parish. Please do not hesitate to contact me should you have any questions or comments regarding this information.

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