

IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY PARISH MISSION STATEMENT

The parish of Immaculate Heart of Mary Catholic Church, located in South Saint Louis City, comprised of small neighborhoods filled with multi-generational families, strives to answer God's call to.....

- + COMMIT to live the Gospel;**
- +CELEBRATE Eucharist as a community;**
- +SERVE the needs of others;**
- + PARTICIPATE in parish life and ministries;**
- +STRIVE to be a sign of God's love!**

Contact Information

Rectory - 4092 Blow Street, St. Louis, MO 63116-2796
Website: www.ihm-stl.org

314-481-7543
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Parochial Administrator
 Deacon
 Pastoral Associate
 St. Louis LifeTeen
 St. Vincent de Paul

Rev. Aaron Nord
 Rev. Mr. Jim Murphey
 Mrs. Debbie Gartner
 Lauren Scharmer

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 314-288-8873 lauren@saintlouislifeteen.org
 314-289-6101 ext. 1187

Celebration of the Holy Mass

Saturday 4:30 p.m. (Sunday Vigil)
 Sunday 7:30 a.m. and 10:00 a.m.
 Weekdays Monday-Friday 8am Mass (Daily Chapel)
 1st Saturday of the Month 8:00 a.m. (Daily Chapel)
 Holydays As announced inside bulletin

Eucharistic Adoration

1st Saturday of the month following 8:00 a.m. Mass until 11:30 a.m.

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturday 3:45 p.m. - 4:15 p.m.

Sacrament of Baptism

Please call the Rectory. First time parents will need to attend one meeting prior to the baptism.

Sacrament of Confirmation

The sacrament of Confirmation is normally organized by the parish school or PSR program attended by the candidate. Others are invited to contact the parish priest for preparation to receive this sacrament.

Sacrament of Matrimony

Please schedule an initial meeting with the priest or deacon at least 6 months prior to the tentatively planned date for the ceremony.

Holy Orders and Consecrated (Religious) Life

Those discerning a call to the priesthood or religious life may contact the parish priest or the Archdiocese Vocations office at 314-792-6460.

Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick

Please call the Rectory to make an appointment with the parish priest.

Care for those who are homebound, hospitalized, or in nursing home. Please call the Rectory to arrange for Communion to be brought to any parishioner who is unable to come to Mass. Please inform the Rectory as soon as any parishioner is admitted to any hospital or nursing home.

Devotions

Perpetual Help Following Tuesday 8:00 a.m. Mass

Rosary Following weekday Masses

Becoming a Catholic

Rites of Christian Initiation of Adults/Youth or Catechumen Meetings are weekly from September thru May to discuss your questions and the Catholic Faith. Call the Rectory for information.

South City Deanery PSR

Catholic Religious Education for children attending public or private non-religious schools. Call 314-773-3070.


New Parishioners

Please register as soon as possible by calling the Rectory.

Bulletin items are due no later than 10 a.m. Monday for the following week's bulletin. (Holiday deadlines can change without notice.)

Mass for the Intentions Week

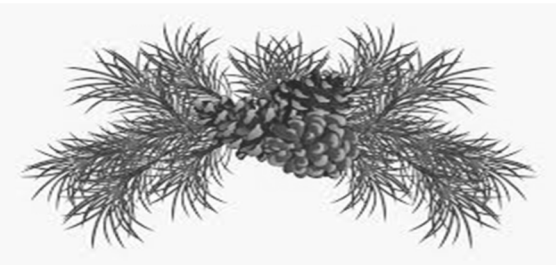
Mon.	11/30	8:00 a.m.	Dorothy Buttice
Tues.	12/1	8:00 a.m.	Mary Fruedenthal
Wed.	12/2	8:00 a.m.	Rose Mary Chill
Thurs.	12/3	8:00 a.m.	Marie Gartner
Fri.	12/4	8:00 a.m.	Tom Rogalski
Sat.	12/5	8:00 a.m.	Mary Rose Klages
		4:30 p.m.	Kevin & Ed Magee
Sun.	12/6	7:30 a.m.	Our Parish Family
		10:00 a.m.	Andres Nartates, Sr.




LORD HEAR OUR PRAYER

Pray for those who are sick and their caregivers. Pray for Andrew Freeman (Grandson of Jim and Roxanne Wolfslau), Edna Walters, Pat Carson, Jerry Brendel (husband of JoAnn, father of Jason), Edna Walters, Stacey Long, Sandy Ceriotti, Alene May (mother of Annette DeGreef), Evelyn Vetz, Steve Baum (nephew of Jean Provaznik), Bob Simmons, Frank Sandrowski, Dorothy Seper, Rosemary Young, Don Smith, Therese Shurig, Kathleen Moody (daughter of Charlie & Julie), Deacon Jack Burke (brother of Joan Mowery), Stephanie Hagan (wife of Barry), Anna Corson, Nick Corson Lammert and those parishioners who are homebound, living in Assisted Living or Nursing Homes, and all in our Prayer Book. May our Lord Jesus bring them comfort and healing.

If someone has been left off the prayer list or if you would like to add someone, please contact the rectory office.



Feast of the Immaculate Conception Mass Schedule



Vigil Mass at 4:30 pm on December 7
 Feast day Mass at 8 am on December 8

THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH

TUES	Dec. 1	7 pm	Boy Scouts	Café
TUES	Dec. 1	7 pm	SVDP	RMR

IMPORTANT!


Meetings in the FKC are limited to 50 people and meetings in the RMR are limited to 15.

MASKS AND SOCIAL DISTANCING REQUIRED.



WE PRAY FOR THOSE SERVING OUR COUNTRY IN THE ARMED FORCES. WE HOLD THEM IN OUR HEARTS AND AWAIT THEIR SAFE RETURN.....

Lance Cpl. Andrew Ceriotti, U.S. Marines
 Pvt. David Walters, U.S. Army
 LT. Benjamin D. Stolarski, U.S. Navy
 Spec 4 Ian R. Larson, U.S. Army
 P2 Derek Ryan, U.S. Army
 Sgt. Lou Bollasina, U.S. Army
 A1C John Pipes USAF
 Staff Sgt. Jeffrey Clark U.S. Force
 Todd Bruemer, U.S. Navy
 M.K. 2 Brett Winkelmann, Coast Guard
 Cpl. Matthew T. Straub, U.S. Marines
 Sgt. Victor A. Will, U.S. Army
 Sgt. James A. Will, U.S. Army
 Tech Sgt. James Dobrynski, U.S. Air Force
 SSgt. Steve Appelbaum, U.S. Air Force
 Prvt First Class Troy Smith, U.S. Marines



COLLECTION FOR THE WEEKEND OF:

November 22, 2020

Due to early bulletin submission, the collection details for Nov. 22nd are not available. The details will be printed in the Dec. 6th bulletin.

- Thank you to all who make our IHM Parish Family strong & caring!
- Thank you to all who give of their time and talent, helping out in so many ways!
- Thank you to all who give back to God so generously with your **hard-earned** donations

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Monday through Thursday
9:00 A.M. - 4:00 P.M.

PARISH NEWS

Renew has been Postponed.

Dear Parishioners,
 Once again Ladies Sodality will be partnering up with Carondelet Community Betterment Federation this holiday season, because of Covid 19 the donations will be different. We are asking for gift cards for food and clothing. You may still purchase winter hats, gloves, hygiene and toiletry items. The Christmas tree will go up the week of Thanksgiving, and we will have boxes placed by the tree for your donations. If you donate gift cards, please put them in an envelope, marked The Giving Tree, and place them in the collection baskets in church. The dates to make your donations are as follows:



- 11/28-11/29
- 12/5-12/6
- 12/12-12/13

The deadline date is Sunday, December, 13th. If you have any questions, please call Lina Silistria at 353-7581. Thank you for always being very kind, and generous! We appreciate it very much!

Lina Silistria & Carol Sandrowski
 The Giving Tree Committee

Email Please!

We would love if you would share your email with us! Your email would be used for parish communication only. If you would like to share your email address with us, please send an email to dgartner@ihm-stl.org.



Everyone must wear a mask entering and exiting the church. Parents with children nine and under may determine when the child is old enough to attend Mass and can abide by the safety guidelines.

We ask you to please sit in the open pews away from the aisles.

Please use your own best judgement concerning when you will return to Mass. Do not jeopardize your health.

If you have any questions or concerns, please call the rectory.



\$10 Donation CHRISTMAS GIFTS FOR THE GENTLEMEN OF PETER AND PAUL

In the past you have generously donated Dollar Tree gift cards. With the uncertainty of this year we feel a \$10 cash donation would be most beneficial.

You may put your donation in an envelope – Attn: Debbie, and place in the collection basket, drop off at the Rectory or mail to the Rectory. I will be collecting until **Monday, December 14th**. In advance, Thank you for your generosity and Christmas spirit.

ON-LINE DONATIONS



to Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish available through our website!

Please click on the **Give to IHM** button on our homepage (www.ihm-stl.org) to set up your donation. One-time and recurring (weekly, monthly and yearly) options are available.

All donations are tax deductible as allowed by law, and your on-line donation will be confirmed by a receipt from the Archdiocese of St. Louis.

Thank you for your generosity to our parish!

I though you should know-November 29, 2020

I hope you had a Happy Thanksgiving! I am thankful most of all to Jesus for creating me, forgiving me, loving me. I'm also grateful for so much else, like the gift of being here with all of you at Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish, and the wonderful parish staff we have. They make my life so much better and make our parish so much more effective in proclaiming the good news of Jesus Christ. Below is last's message about service from Week Four of "Practical", our last homily series. God bless you!

A 6th grade girl—let's call her Mary--told me that her philosophy was, "If someone hits you, you hit them back twice as hard." In 7th and 8th grade Mary had plenty of struggles, including struggles with faith. In 9th grade, Mary was talking to her mom about how some girls at her school of them could be so petty to her and her friends. Here's what Mary said about those girls. She said, "Mom, I think some people just need a little more Jesus in their life!" Isn't that incredible? What a remarkable change in perspective! She had grown so much as a disciple in those few years. How had that happened?

While Mary was preparing for Confirmation, she went with her mother to serve some of our neighbors in need by with the free meals offered by St. Vincent de Paul Parish on Tenth Street. Since they both liked it so much, they came back to help again and again in the months that followed. Mary excelled in this service; she worked hard and she had the strength inside accept and be friendly and enjoy talking with people different than her. And something about that experience of service opened Mary's heart to receive the grace and love and hope and faith that God had always been trying to pour into her. As far as I could tell, service was the secret sauce that let Mary grow as a disciple.

This is the last week of a short four week series of messages we've called "Practical". We've been talking about practical choices you and I can make to grow as disciples, choices like sharing our faith, committed prayer, tithing at worship, and serving others. The reason these ideas are practical, the reason I can praise them so highly, is that each of them is something you can really do, and something that really makes a difference.

I told you Mary's story to show how service can really make a difference, not only in the life of the people you service, but in your own growth as a disciple, too. Maybe you have already had one of those powerful moments where you served someone, saw the difference it made in their life, and in your life, too. For me, I've had moments like that when I gave some free time to teaching children about the faith. Children have an ability to ask really good questions that knock me out of ruts and routines in my thinking, and I have learned a lot about the faith as I've thought about their questions and tried to find good answers for them. Regular, committed service makes a difference in the life of a disciple.

In the Gospel, Jesus told us that when we serve other, we serve him hidden in our neighbors in need. Indeed, Jesus said that service to others shapes our eternal destiny, whether I go to heaven or whether I go to hell. At the Last Judgment, some people will say to Jesus, " 'Lord, when did we see you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or ill or in prison? And some will here Jesus say, "Amen, I say to you, whatever you did for one of these least ones, you did for me," and some will hear Jesus say, 'Amen, I say to you, what you did not do for one of these least ones, you did not do for me.' And these will go off to eternal punishment, but the righteous to eternal life." Service is definitely practical, because service definitely makes a difference.

But for service be practical, it can't just make a difference, it also has to be something you really can do. Look, if you decide to seek out ways to service other, you'll find you have gifts that surprise you and you'll have some days when you get disappointed, and you'll have somedays when faith is what keeping you going. But, but, but, you will also find that the service God wants you to do is service that you really can do, that is practical. It will be service that somehow fits with your gifts, and it will be service where often you can see the difference you make, and it will be service that fits the time you can give it and is worth the time you can give it. Buys people with full days and plenty to do —people like you—really can serve others. But you don't have to take my word for it. I'd like to invite to the pulpit one of our very own parishioners, Barbara Vineyard, to tell us about what it has been like for her to serve our neighbors in need right here in our own neighborhood through the St. Vincent de Paul Society here at Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish. Barbara, welcome.

(Barbara Vineyard's story]

Good Morning:

I am a volunteer with the Society of St. Vincent DePaul, a Catholic lay organization dedicated to helping people in need. The Society is celebrating its 175th anniversary in the United States with the first conference established in St. Louis at the Old Cathedral.

I began serving with SVDP many years ago. I was working full time and raising my family. Taking on an extra activity took some thought but I wanted to help because as a child SVDP society helped my family. I wanted to give back and found the visits rewarding and humbling at the same time.

One visit in particular comes to mind during Christmas. A family with 7 children had fallen on lean times due to no work and health issues. They needed assistance with bills and just wanted to have Christmas for their children. We visited them and brought food, vouchers to our thrift store and a grocery store. We also provided a nice gift card to Target so the family could purchase presents for their children. The mom was very grateful as we gave everything to her. When she looked at the Target gift card she was speechless to the verge of tears and so were we. We were glad to provide this family a bit of relief around Christmas.

I find it extremely rewarding to help our Neighbors in Need. The majority of people we help are ok day to day but they hit a blip in the road (a car repair, a medical bill) and it throws their finances out of whack. We assist getting the Neighbor in Need back on the road to recovery.

If you are interested in helping us serve or would like to learn more please talk to me when you see me at mass; OR call the SVDP phone number on the front of the bulletin and leave a message; OR come to our meeting the first Tuesday of each month in the rectory at 7:00.

Bless you and your family and have a happy thanksgiving!

[Fr. Aaron concludes.]

Thank you, Barbara—and everyone helping our St. Vincent de Paul Society serve our neighbors in need. Brothers and sisters, this week we'll each have time to remember our reasons to be grateful. I invite you: take time also pray about how you can serve. For if you find that service God wants to entrust to you, next thanksgiving, you'll be thanking God for your growth as a disciple, and someone will be thanking God for you.

-Fr. Aaron Nord



St. Vincent De Paul will meet on Tuesday, December 1st at 7:00 p.m. in the Rectory Meeting Room.



Saint Vincent DePaul Blue Collection Bins

Please continue making donations to the bins. Your donations generate revenue for our parish, assist SVDP Thrift Stores and repurposing items are opportunities to care for our planet!



Table of Plenty

We are in desperate need of volunteers for our Table of Plenty program.

If you are able to help by taking food to those who are unable to leave their home, please contact the rectory office at 314-481-7543.

How is your prayer Life?

2020 has been a year for the record books, to say the least. I've heard some people are praying more than ever, some are journaling and some feel down and can not find the words to pray. How is your prayer life going?

Whenever you find yourself on the spectrum, know that God is right there with you. He is loving you through the struggles, successes and the joys. You are not alone. Remember God loves you for who you are. Striving to be a good Christian, a committed disciple is a wonderful goal. When our human tendency throws us off course, there is the assurance of His love and forgiveness.

As we continue to maneuver through Covid, allow yourself to slow down and find time in your day to talk with Jesus. May we continue to strive for more time spent in prayer.

What does that look like? It could be as simple as exclaiming, "Lord, I need your help!" It could be; A walk and talk with Jesus, meditation on scriptures or the rosary, knelling beside your bed, sitting quietly in your favorite spot and waiting for the words to come or not. Sometimes we find Jesus in the quiet...there are a million ways to pray. Pray as you can, not as you can't. Discover what works and doesn't work for you.

How can I talk with Jesus? Years ago, Fr. John Reiker, walked on to the altar during a school Mass, carrying a pink princess telephone. He said, "How do you pray?" After a few answers were shared he put the phone to his ear and offered this amazingly simple, yet incredible way to pray; he said, "When you pray to Jesus, pretend you are talking on the phone to your very favorite person. Talk about your day, What is going well, what made you happy, where you are struggling, what you wish you would have done differently....You know this person cares. They are happy for you, supportive, sad if you are sad...they truly care, they want you to be joyful. And there you have it, that is one way to pray."

Blessings this week as you find opportunities for time with Jesus.



First Sunday of Advent

Do you shop on Amazon? Did you know that just by making Amazon purchases, you can help Immaculate Heart of Mary? All you have to do is order through Amazon Smile rather than Amazon and choose Immaculate Heart of Mary as your charitable organization. Then, every time you make an


You shop. Amazon gives.

November 29, 2020

Dynamic Catholic, Alive! –The Gift of the Present

Our Lord once again reminds us of the necessity of being alert and watchful and serving Him even when

He seems to be absent. We all experience those times of dryness and desolation in life. We experience the ups and downs, the joys and sorrows, the victories and defeats. Blessed Mother Teresa of Calcutta wisely taught us that God does not ask us to be successful but just to be faithful to God. When we are grateful for the present moment and the gift here and now that the Lord has given us, our whole outlook on life can change. We can encounter the Lord anew in different places and in different ways. It is not always easy, but we must live in the present moment and cherish the gift of life that is before us. “Would that you might meet us doing right, that we might be mindful of you in our ways!” (Isaiah

64:4).

archstl.org/dynamic



Need a little help with home schooling? Looking for a tutor?

Now that schools are underway in their various forms, IHM parishioner, Sister Martha is available for tutoring. She can help with a variety of subjects and grade levels. If you would like more information, please contact her at 314-351-5901.



December 4-6th, 2020

“Behold, I am sending my messenger ahead of you; he will prepare your way before you.” Strengthen, rekindle and renew your marriage sacrament by attending the next Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend virtually in your own home! <https://stl-wwme.org> or for more information call 314-649-7317.

7-Session Virtual Enrichment Experience

Mon/ Thur Evenings: January 18-February 8, 2021

Starting at 7:00 p.m.

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More Info Call: 314-649-7317

WANTED

Willing individuals to serve as “GREETERS” for select Immaculate Heart of Mary parish events and Masses

QUALIFICATIONS:

1. A Friendly Disposition
2. A Welcoming Smile
3. A Willingness to take the risk to greet folks who you may not know, or who may not greet you back
4. No previous experience necessary

BENEFITS:

1. The knowledge that you are making our parish community welcoming to everyone.
2. Numerous ‘halos’ in heaven.

FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TO APPLY:

Contact Elizabeth Cassmeyer at 832-0541 (Home), 488-9450 (Cell – texts welcomed), ramflor@sbcglobal.net (E-mail)

ACT NOW !

POSITIONS ARE FILLING FAST!

Saint of the Week



Saint Sabas

Saint of the Day for December 5

Saint Sabas' Story

Born in Cappadocia, Sabas is one of the most highly regarded patriarchs among the monks of Palestine, and is considered one of the founders of Eastern monasticism.

After an unhappy childhood in which he was abused and ran away several times, Sabas finally sought refuge in a monastery. While family members tried to persuade him to return home, the young boy felt drawn to monastic life. Although the youngest monk in the house, he excelled in virtue.

At age 18 he traveled to Jerusalem, seeking to learn more about living in solitude. Soon he asked to be accepted as a disciple of a well-known local solitary, though initially he was regarded as too young to live completely as a hermit. Initially, Sabas lived in a monastery, where he worked during the day and spent much of the night in prayer. At the age of 30 he was given permission to spend five days each week in a nearby remote cave, engaging in prayer and manual labor in the form of weaving baskets. Following the death of his mentor, Saint Euthymius, Sabas moved farther into the desert near Jericho. There he lived for several years in a cave near the brook Cedron. A rope was his means of access. Wild herbs among the rocks were his food. Occasionally men brought him other food and items, while he had to go a distance for his water.

Some of these men came to him desiring to join him in his solitude. At first he refused. But not long after relenting, his followers swelled to more

than 150, all of them living in individual huts grouped around a church, called a *laura*.

The bishop persuaded a reluctant Sabas, then in his early 50s, to prepare for the priesthood so that he could better serve his monastic community in leadership. While functioning as abbot among a large community of monks, he felt ever called to live the life of a hermit. Throughout each year—consistently in Lent—he left his monks for long periods of time, often to their distress. A group of 60 men left the monastery, settling at a nearby ruined facility. When Sabas learned of the difficulties they were facing, he generously gave them supplies and assisted in the repair of their church.

Over the years Sabas traveled throughout Palestine, preaching the true faith and successfully bringing back many to the Church. At the age of 91, in response to a plea from the Patriarch of Jerusalem, Sabas undertook a journey to Constantinople in conjunction with the Samaritan revolt and its violent repression. He fell ill and soon after his return, died at the monastery at Mar Saba. Today the monastery is still inhabited by monks of the Eastern Orthodox Church, and Saint Sabas is regarded as one of the most noteworthy figures of early monasticism.

Reflection

Few of us share Sabas' yearning for a cave in the desert, but most of us sometimes resent the demands others place on our time. Sabas understands that. When at last he gained the solitude for which he yearned, a community immediately began to gather around him, and he was forced into a leadership role. He stands as a model of patient generosity for anyone whose time and energy are required by others—that is, for all of us.





ROSES FOR EXPECTANT MOMS!!!

If you are expecting a child, we as a Parish would like to pray for you throughout your pregnancy. There are red roses on the table in front of the Blessed Mother's statue in the back of Church. Please write the parents-to-be names and due date on the card attached to one of the roses asking for prayers until the delivery. After baby(ies) arrive, please call Kathy at 314-832-6553. We will then share your blessing in our bulletin.

Keep the following couples in your prayers:

Jesse & Ken	December
Jessica & Patrick	December
Shannon & Andrew	March

Congratulations to Stephen & Leslie on the birth of their daughter, Elsie Faustina.

We will not be selling BIRTHRIGHT Christmas cards here at IHM this year.

You can order cards through the Birthright website (www.birthrightstl.org), by calling their office (314-962-5300) or you can pick them up at their office (2525 South Brentwood Suite 102, 63144).

God Bless,
Immaculate Heart of Mary Pro-Life

MINISTRY SCHEDULE

LECTORS

November 28/29th

4:30 p.m. Rita Springer
7:30 a.m. Glenn Mertens
10:00 a.m. Kevin O'Sullivan

December 5/6th

4:30 p.m. John Ruzicka
7:30 a.m. Cindy Wright
10:00 a.m. Rita Springer

Feast of the Immaculate Conception

December 7th (Vigil)

4:30 p.m. Cindy Wright

December 8th

8:00 a.m. Howie Herschfield

December 12/13th

4:30 p.m. Howie Hirschfield
7:30 a.m. Barb Vineyard
10:00 a.m. Becky Will

JOKE OF THE WEEK



WEIGHT LOSS FOR SNOWMEN.

March for Life 2021 – Registration Now Open

MISSOURI LIFE CARAVAN is now accepting registrations for our bus trip to the annual March for Life in Washington, D.C. **Thursday- Saturday, Jan. 28- 30, 2021.** Until all life is protected, we will travel to D.C. to meet with our representatives and peacefully protest against the Supreme Court's decision to legalize abortion. This trip is open to anyone ages 7 and up (chaperones not provided). We depart from several locations in the St. Louis area and we do not stay in hotels as we sleep on the buses. Seats are limited because of COVID-19. The cost is \$230.

For more information, to register or to sponsor a rider go to www.missourilifecaravan.org. Contact us at: 314-434-4900 or mrl.eastern@yahoo.com.

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All participants who attend an estimated 60-90 minute in-home product consultation will receive a \$25 gift card. Retail value is \$25. Offer sponsored by LeafGuard Holdings Inc. Limit one per household. Company procedures, skills, and materials seamless gutter protection. This offer is valid for homeowners over 18 years of age. If married or involved with a life partner, both collaborating persons must attend and complete presentation together. Participants must have a photo ID, be able to understand English, and be legally able to enter into a contract. The following persons are not eligible for this offer: employees of Company or affiliated companies or entities, their immediate family members, previous participants in a Company in-home consultation within the past 12 months and all current and former Company customers. Gift may not be extended, transferred, or substituted except that Company may substitute a gift of equal or greater value if it deems it necessary. Gift card will be mailed to the participant via first class United States Mail within 21 days of receipt of the promotion form. Not valid in conjunction with any other promotion or discount of any kind. Offer not sponsored or provided by Lowe's and is subject to change without notice. prior to expiration. Expires 9/30/20



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