

Ithaca Council 277 Movie Knight at Immaculate Conception Church

The Knights of Columbus Council will show a series of movies over the next 12 months featuring the lives of the saints at Immaculate Conception Church every third Friday of the month. Showings will start at 5 PM. Light refreshments will be served.

Friday, September 15: 2023 at 6 PM. Immaculate Conception Church Parish Hall

Thérèse (1986). This austere work is a rare example of a story about the contemplative life that finds meaningful expression on screen. Alain Cavalier, a French director, deploys a series of vignettes that leads the viewer through the life of Thérèse Martin, from her cossetted childhood until her painful death. It doesn't quail from showing how difficult life was for Thérèse in the convent at Lisieux, nor the physical pain that attended her last years. But it also shows the quiet joy that attends the contemplative life. A masterpiece of understatement, "Thérèse," in French with subtitles, reminds us that real holiness is not showy, and the Carmelite nun's "Little Way" of loving God by doing small things, is made clear to us through this gem of a movie.

Friday, October 20, 2023 at 5 PM. Immaculate Conception Hall

St. Philip Neri: I Prefer Heaven (2010). Directed by Giacomo Campiotti and starring Gigi Proietti. Philip Neri was a priest in the 16th century known for his humor, charity, and prayer life. Hoping to go to India, Philip was guided instead to re-evangelize a corrupt and decadent Rome. He is remembered as the "Apostle of Rome". This movie is in Italian with English subtitles. It runs 3 hours and 20 minutes.

Friday, November 17, 2023 at 5 PM. Immaculate Conception Hall

Mary Magdalene (2018). Directed by Garth Davis. Starring Rooney Mara as Mary and Joaquin Phoenix as Jesus. Twelve men heard and spread the message of Jesus. Only one woman understood it. Movie runs 120 minutes.

Friday, December 15, 2023 at 5 PM. Immaculate Conception Hall

A Man for All Seasons (1966). It is hard to go wrong with a screenplay by Robert Bolt (who also penned "Lawrence of Arabia" and, later, "The Mission"); Paul Scofield as Sir Thomas, Orson Welles as Cardinal Wolsey; Wendy Hiller as his wife, Alice; and Robert Shaw as an increasingly petulant and finally enraged Henry VIII. Here is a portrait of the discerning saint, able both to find nuance in his faith and see when nuance needs to give way to an unambiguous response to injustice. The movie may make viewers wonders whether St. Thomas More was as articulate as his portrayal in Bolt's screenplay. He was, and more, as able to toss off an epigram to a group of lords as he was to banter with his executioner before his martyrdom. Read Thomas More, by Richard Marius or The Life of Thomas More, by Peter Ackroyd, for further proof. The movie runs 2 hours.

Friday, January 19, 2024 at 5 PM. Immaculate Conception Hall

A Double Header. *The Road to Rome: Tracing the Steps of Paul the Apostle.* Skip Heitzig traces the footsteps of Paul the Apostle from Israel on the road to Rome. Joining Skip are biblical consultants Dr. Steven Collins and Steve Jahss. You'll hear and see the importance of each historical site from Paul's missionary voyages. From Jerusalem through Turkey to Greece and, finally, to Rome itself, this documentary makes Paul's extraordinary journey come alive. Followed by: *Paul: Apostle of Christ* directed by and starring Jim Caviesel as Luke and Faulkner as Paul. Luke travels Roma looking for apostle Paul, turned in Nero's prisoner, to tell his story before his execution. Total run time is 2hours and 48 minutes.



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Friday, February 16, 2024 at 5 PM. Immaculate Conception Hall

The Song of Bernadette (1943). Busloads of Catholic schoolchildren were taken by enthusiastic priests, sisters and brothers to see this movie upon its release. Since then, the story of the Virgin Mary appearing to a poor girl in a backwater town in Southern France in 1858 has lost little appeal. Based on the novel by Franz Werfel, the movie is unabashedly romantic, with a luminous Jennifer Jones as St. Bernadette Soubirous and the handsome Charles Bickford as her initially doubtful but ultimately supportive pastor, Abbé Peyramale. Some find the score overripe, the dialogue saccharine and the acting hammy (Vincent Price all but devours the French scenery), but the stalwart character of Bernadette comes through. So does the shock that greeted what initially appeared to be a little girl's lie. (In reality, Bernadette's parents beat her after hearing their daughter's tale.) "The Song of Bernadette" effectively conveys Bernadette's courage in the face of detractors and her refusal to deny her experiences, despite everyone else's doubts. Run time is 2 hours and 36 minutes.

Friday, March 15, 2024 at 5 PM. Immaculate Conception Hall

Faustina: The Apostle of Divine Mercy (1994) Director Jerzy Lukaszewicz starring Dorota Segda. Throughout her life, Faustina Kowalska reported having visions of Jesus and conversations with him, which she noted in her diary, later published as *The Diary of Saint Maria Faustina Kowalska: Divine Mercy in My Soul*. Her biography, submitted to the Congregation for the Causes of Saints, quoted some of the conversations with Jesus regarding the Divine Mercy devotion. Run time is 1 hour and 13 minutes.

Friday, April 19, 2024 at 5 PM. Immaculate Conception Hall

Peter and Paul (1981) Directed by Robert Day and starring Anthony Hopkins as Paul and Robert Foxworth as Peter. Peter the Fisherman and Paul of Tarsus assume leadership of the Church as they struggle against violent opposition to the teachings of Jesus Christ and their own personal conflicts. Total run time is 3 hours and 18 minutes.

Friday, May 17, 2024 at 5 PM. Immaculate Conception Hall

Rita de Cascia (2004) Directed by Giorgio Capitani and starring Vittoria Belvedere. Famous as the patron of hopeless situations, St. Rita of Cascia is immortalized in this wonderful, deeply moving film about this beautiful woman who lived in Italy in the 14th century. Starring Vittoria Belvedere and Martin Crewes, this powerful story combines high drama, great love, deep betrayal, senseless tragedy, profound forgiveness and strong faith as it tells the story of this brave and loyal woman who married her knight, helped him overcome his dark past and convert to faith, happily bore him two children, and later endures immense pain as she loses everything in her life. She finds peace and new hope through generosity of a nearby convent of sisters, and with their help she develops a deep union with Christ that greatly inspires all who near her. Total run time is 3 hours. Movie is in English and Italian.



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Friday, June 21, 2024 at 5 PM. Immaculate Conception Hall

Brother Sun, Sister Moon (1972). Directed by Franco Zeffirelli and starring Graham Faulkner as St. Francis and Judi Bowker as Clare. Dramatization of events in the life of St. Francis of Assisi from before his conversion experience through his audience with the pope, including his friendship with St. Clare. Run time is 2 Hours. In English and Italian.

Friday, July 19, 2024 at 5 PM. Immaculate Conception Hall

St. Anthony: Miracle Worker of Padua (2003). In Italian with subtitles, this is the first feature-length film about the twelfth-century saint best known for helping you find your keys. Hoping to become a knight in his native Lisbon, Anthony is a headstrong youth who almost murders his best friend in a duel. As penance, Anthony makes a vow to become a monk. He enters the Augustinian canons but is soon caught up with the lure of Francis of Assisi, who accepts him into his Order of Friars Minor. The movie successfully conveys the saint's conversion, the appeal of the simple life and the miraculous deeds reported in his lifetime. The only drawback is that, if medieval portraiture is to be believed, the film's Anthony looks more like Francis of Assisi than the fellow who plays Francis of Assisi. Run time is 95 minutes.