IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

Catholic Church

A Stewardship Community served by the Oblates of St. Francis de Sales

A People Not a Place

Learning to Live Jesus

OUR VISION

Our parish is the vibrant expression of the presence of the Risen Christ through sacred worship and loving service.

OUR MISSION

We live Jesus Christ by proclaiming the Gospel, by celebrating the Eucharist, by nourishing our Faith and by loving and serving all God's people.

6650 Carolina Beach Road, Wilmington, NC 28412

De Sales Faith Formation Center
910-791-9857

Church Office
910-791-1003
Fax: 910-791-0081
www.iccwilm.org

Office Hours
Monday – Friday
9:00am – 4:00pm

Parish Staff, Councils & Commission Chairs

Title	Staff Member	Phone Number & Ext.	Email Address
Director of Music	Position Open	910-791-1003, Ext. 114	
Business Manager	Michele Bean	910-791-1003, Ext. 105	mbean@iccwilm.org
Director of Faith Formation	Gina Drost	910-791-1003, Ext. 112	gdrost@iccwilm.org
Secretary & Bulletin Editor	Tracey Kruger	910-791-1003, Ext. 102	tkruger@iccwilm.org
Youth Minister	Marie Marshall	910-791-1003, Ext. 110	mmarshall@iccwilm.org
Pastor & Dean, Cape Fear Deanery	Rev. John McGee, OSFS, VF	910-791-1003, Ext. 106	jmcgee@iccwilm.org
Office Manager	Claudia Sing	910-791-1003, Ext. 100	csing@iccwilm.org
Treasury Assistants	Johanna Hug & Chris Puritis	910-791-1003, Ext. 107	

Commission Chairs

Fr. John McGee. OSFS (Liturgy)
Michele Bean (Facilities)
Gina Drost (Faith Formation)
Bob Smith (Inreach)
Janice Jordan (Outreach - Temp)

Parish Pastoral Council

Aaron Bean Julie Bowling Judy Chmielenski
Dennis Hobbs Matthew Simms
Angela Zombek

Parish Finance Council

Mike Bollinger

Liturgies and Devotions

Weekend - Saturday: 5:00 pm
Sunday: 8:30 & 10:30 am

Weekday - See "This Week at Immaculate Conception" - Page 3

Devotions - Rosary for World Peace/ Novena to Our Lady, Monday - 9:30 am

Rosary, Devotion to the Sacred Heart, First Friday
Fatima Rosary Devotion, First Saturday - 3:30 pm

Eucharistic Adoration -
First Friday, 9:45 am - 11:00 am ***and***
Tuesdays, 9:30 am - 10:30 am

Bulletin Deadline
Bulletin requests must be emailed to the Bulletin Editor: tkruger@iccwilm.org, by 12:00 noon on Wednesdays, ten days in advance of the weekend of publication. All articles should run for three weeks, be written three different ways, and must have name, phone # of contact person and dates requested to be in the bulletin. Articles must be limited to 100-150 words and include the *who, what, why, where and when*. A summary/result article with facts and figures should be submitted within a week of the event's completion.

New Parishioners
If you are new to Wilmington or to Immaculate Conception, we would like to take this opportunity to welcome you. We are an active and vibrant parish and ask, if you have decided to join us, that you will seriously consider giving of your time, talent, and treasure for the Lord's work. Completion of an Interest Card, Parish Registration Form and attendance to a Welcome/Orientation/ Registration Event is part of active membership and provides you with parish mailings. Please find an Interest Card located in the pamphlet rack in the Gathering Area of the church.

Sacramental Life

Infant Baptism: Celebrated monthly. Registered (minimum 3 months) and participating parishioners may schedule infant baptism after completion of a baptism preparation workshop and reception of godparent documents. Contact Gina Drost, Director of Faith Formation, at 910-791-1003, ext 112, preferably prior to the child's arrival. *Children over 7 are not baptized as "infants." Instead they are prepared to receive all 3 sacraments of initiation at a later date.

To Be a Godparent/Sponsor: for Baptism or Confirmation; you must be a registered, participating member for at least 6 months prior to requesting letter.

1st Reconciliation & 1st Eucharist: Second grade is our Sacramental year for First Reconciliation and First Eucharist. First grade faith formation is a pre-requisite for the second grade Sacramental year. We require four meetings for the parents/guardians of youth receiving these Sacraments.

Confirmation: Confirmation in our Diocese is celebrated in the high school years, and is a two year process. Candidates may enroll in Level I as a freshman with immediate preparation and celebration of the sacrament in Level II the sophomore year. Stewardship opportunities and attendance to a Confirmation retreat are mandatory.

Reconciliation: We celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation/confession, normally, Saturdays from 3:30-4:30 pm in the Church's Reconciliation Room. In addition, the sacrament is available by appointment. Please call the Parish Office to speak to the pastor.

RCIA: Adults seeking Initiation into the Full Communion of the Catholic Church are invited to contact Gina Drost, gdrost@iccwilm.org or 791-1003, ext.112

Matrimony: Only parishioners registered at ICC for at least 6 months may request to be married here. The couple must meet with a priest before setting a date and at least 6 months in advance of an anticipated wedding in order to complete the preparation process. All aspects of marriage planning requires the participation and approval of trained personnel. Contact: Claudia Sing, csing@iccwilm.org., 791-1003, ext. 100.

Anointing of the Sick: Anyone who is seriously ill or who is anticipating surgery or an extended hospital stay or who is weakened because of a prolonged illness or advanced age is encouraged to call the Parish Office to receive the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick.

Funerals: After a funeral director has been contacted but before any arrange-ments have been made public, the funeral director will contact the Parish Office in order to arrange for funeral time and/or vigil service. All aspects of parish funeral liturgy planning requires the participation and approval of trained parish personnel.

Vocations to Priesthood or Religious Life: Religious vocation as a priest, brother or sister, Fr. Michael Newman, OSFS, mnewman@oblates.us or 419-531-1421, x231. Vocation to diocesan priesthood, please visit the Diocese of Raleigh's Vocations website at dioceseofraleighvocations.org.

This Week at Immaculate Conception

There Are No Altar Flowers During the Summer Months

Sunday, July 31 - 18th Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:30 am Liturgy, Edward Stephen Raliski
8:30 am Knights of Columbus Corporate Communion and Membership Drive
10:30 am Liturgy, Living & Deceased Members of Immaculate Conception
10:30 am Knights of Columbus Membership Drive

Monday, August 1, 2022

9:30 am Rosary/Novena for World Peace

Tuesday, August 2, 2022

9:30 am Eucharistic Adoration

Wednesday, August 3, 2022

9:00 am Liturgy, Artemio & Florencia Montenegro

Thursday, August 4, 2022

9:00 am Liturgy, Maurice Fenton
9:30 am Chaplet of Divine Mercy, Adoration Chapel

Friday, August 5 - First Friday and Adoration

9:00 am Liturgy, Edward Stephen Raliski
9:45-11:00 Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

Saturday, August 6, 2022

3:30 pm Reconciliation, Church
5:00 pm Liturgy, Marcella Alder

Sunday, August 7 - 19th Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:30 am Liturgy, Living & Deceased Members of Immaculate Conception
10:30 am Liturgy, Carol DeTora

Liturgical Color for August 6 & 7 is Green

Sanctuary Candle

A 14-day Sanctuary Candle will burn in memory of **Teri Weber** and was donated by **Patti Maggi**.

Stewardship - A Way of Life
Following "God's Plan for Giving"

Stewardship of Treasure Report

July 23 & 24, 2022

Envelopes	153 (Envelopes)	$ 6,089.00
e-Giving	75	$ 4,347.00
Loose Check	37 (Checks)	$ 3,325.00
Identifiable Contributions		$ 13,761.00
Loose Cash		$ 645.00
Total Contributions		$ 14,406.00

Offertory/1st Collection:
Annual Budget: July 1, 2022 - June 30, 2023 $982,000.00

Total Collected YTD: July 1– July 24, 2022 $ 63,387.67

Hearing Devices Available for the Hearing Impaired Please see an Usher for Assistance

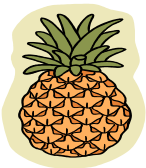
Stewardship Reflection

"Take care to guard against all greed, for though one may be rich, one's life does not consist of possessions." (Luke 12:15)

The gospel message is contrary to modern culture that continually tries to convince us that our joy comes from the material things we possess. That the more we acquire, the happier we will be. Jesus shows us that our true joy comes from our "invisible" gifts like love, mercy, and forgiveness. True joy comes from "emptying" ourselves, giving of ourselves rather than always taking. We are called not to hoard, but to share. True joy comes from living a grateful and generous lifestyle; become more "God-centered," and less "self-centered."

Welcome Events

Welcome/Orientation/Registration Events



New to the area? Want to join ICC? Pick up an Interest Card in the pamphlet rack in the Gathering Area, fill it out and return to the church office, then attend one of the listed Welcome / Orientation / Registration Events. The events are on Saturday mornings, 9:00 am - 10:45 am (refreshments available at 9:00 am).

The Next Welcome Events

August 6, 2022	**September 10, 2022**
November 5, 2022	**January 14, 2023**
March 11, 2023	**June 3, 2023**

The Help Center Needs

The Help Center Food Donations

The following items are needed in **August 2022**:

August 7	**Soup**
August 14	**Cold cereal**
August 21	**Peanut butter**
August 28	**Canned fruit**

Any other packaged or canned food items or toiletries are gratefully accepted. **Thank you so much for your continued generosity.**

E-Giving Program

Did you know that...

Immaculate Conception Church offers an electronic option for making regular offerings by debiting automatically from your checking account, savings account, or credit card. Our *e*-Giving program offers convenience for you and much-needed donation consistency for our parish. Contact Michele Bean, mbean@iccwilm.org, or by calling 910-791-1003, ext. 105.

Wedding Anniversary Liturgy

Wedding Anniversary Liturgy

The Wedding Anniversary Mass, typically celebrated each year in October, honors those celebrating wedding anniversaries, with special recognition to couples with 25, 50, or 60 years of marriage The Mass will take place on Saturday, October 15, at 10:00 am at Holy Name of Jesus Cathedral in Raleigh.

Those interested should register to attend the Mass and/or to receive a Commemorative Certificate at https:// raldioc.configio.com/go/wam2022. For questions, please call 984-900-3184.

All are reminded to dress with reverence and respect as they come to the liturgy all year long.

Fatima Rosary Devotion

Fatima Rosary Devotion

Please join us in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel on Saturday, August 6, 2022, at 3:30 p.m. for the devotion requested by our Lady of Fatima for the first Saturday of the month:

"I promise to assist at the hour of death with the graces necessary for salvation all those who, in order to make reparation to me, on the First Saturday of five successive months, go to confession, receive Holy Communion, say five decades of the Rosary, and keep me company for a quarter of an hour, meditating on the fifteen mysteries of the Rosary."

We will pray the Holy Rosary led by a member of the ICC Chapter-By-Chapter Book Club. To complete the devotion you should allow time for meditation on the mysteries of the Rosary, attend Reconciliation, and receive Holy Communion.

Calendar

Monday
AUGUST 1
St. Alphonsus Liguori, Bishop and Doctor of the Church
Jer 28:1–17
Mt 14:13–21

Tuesday
AUGUST 2
Weekday
Jer 30:1–2, 12–15, 18–22
Mt 14:22–36
or Mt 15:1–2, 10–14

Wednesday
AUGUST 3
Weekday
Jer 31:1–7
Mt 15:21–28

Thursday
AUGUST 4
St. John Vianney, Priest
Jer 31:31–34
Mt 16:13–23

Friday
AUGUST 5
Weekday
Na 2:1, 3; 3:1–3, 6–7
Mt 16:24–28

Saturday
AUGUST 6
The Transfiguration of the Lord
Dn 7:9–10, 13–14
2 Pt 1:16–19
Lk 9:28b–36

Sunday
AUGUST 7
Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time
Wis 18:6–9
Heb 11:1–2, 8–19
or 11:1–2, 8–12
Lk 12:32–48
or 12:35–40

Our Parish COMMUNITY

July 31, 2022
Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time (C)
Eccl 1:2; 2:21–23
Col 3:1–5, 9–11
Lk 12:13–21

Was It Worth It?

We hear many stories about women and men who value things or status over the people in their lives or over genuine fulfillment. Then something happens that throws them back on their heels and they are forced to face the question: Was it worth it? No, say the writers of today's readings. It is not worth losing yourself or the people you love. In fact, it is not worth risking your own integrity.

The Hebrew word for *vanity* can be translated as "worthless" or "foolish." The characters in the first reading and the Gospel passage were considered foolish because the labors and possessions that wore them down were ultimately worthless.

This idea of vanity or foolishness is a prominent theme in the Wisdom tradition. We all know that actions have consequences. It's these consequences that reveal what is good for us and what is not, what is worth pursuing and what we should avoid. Those who learn from life experiences in this way are considered wise; those who don't are deemed foolish. We all know this; we have learned the truth of it from our own experience.

There is one more aspect that must be considered in making wise decisions. Which consequences are worth the effort we put into achieving them? Are we looking for short-term enjoyment or do we seek long-term satisfaction? The profit attained by the people in these readings did not last. They couldn't take it with them, so one might ask: Was it worth it?

Sr. Dianne Bergant, CSA

FOR *Reflection*

- ***Think about the effort you put into achieving something. Was it worth it?***
- ***If not, what can you do to change this?***

FREEDOM STUDIO/SHUTTERSTOCK

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Faith Formation Opportunities

We would love to have you involved as:

- Front Desk Volunteer for Primary or Elementary
- Catechist for 3rd, and 4th grade
- Catechist aides
- Small Group Leader for Junior Youth Ministry
- A substitute for ANY of our grades!
- Help with traffic control before and after sessions

Now, we know what you're thinking: *I don't know anything about working with children or youth. I don't know enough about my faith to teach them. I don't really have the time to prepare a lesson plan every week.*

Worry no longer, for we have the solution to your problem! We would like to introduce to you the Faith Formation Survival Kit, issued to anyone who is lucky enough to work with our children and youth. Each kit includes:

- Special training designed to prepare you to work with your specific age group
- A copy of the Catechism of the Catholic Church and a Catholic Youth or Children's Bible which provides reference and information on the teachings of the Church that pertain to your lessons and more
- Lesson outlines as well as supplemental activities
- An every-other-week schedule for Elementary and Youth Ministry
-

Contact Gina Drost at gdrost@iccwilm.org or 791-1003 for Primary and Elementary interests.

Contact Marie Marshall at mmarshall@iccwilm.org or 791-1003 for Youth Ministry interests.

creation STATIONS

Intergenerational creative & educational workshops led by parishioners for parishioners.

We are all called to be faithful stewards of our God-given gifts. Using our talents for God can help us to find purposeful work and share God's love. Depending on what our gifts are, we are using those talents in so many different ways - ways that others would love to learn or experience!

Creation Stations is an on-going series of intergenerational creative and educational workshops led by parishioners, for parishioners. We are a church full of God-given talent, and we want to facilitate opportunities to share them with each other while building our faith community.

If you are interested in participating by leading a workshop on a talent, skill, or sharing knowledge that you have we would love to hear from you! Please contact our Director of Faith Formation, Gina Drost, at gdrost@iccwilm.org or at 910.791.1003 ext. 112

tech SUPPORT

Sunday, August 14
12:00—2:00 pm
DeSales Faith Formation Center

Bring your phone or tablet and get some personal assistance with basic functions, settings, and app use from a more advanced user!

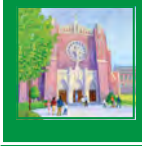
Register online at www.iccwilm.org by August 10.

Prayer Matters

Please remember the following people in your prayers:

Susan Alford & Family
AC Everett
Gabrielle Baldwin
Marsha Barnes
Marley Basurto
Alfred Beck
Dee Bogard
Jan Boland
Edith Brady
Edward Brennan
Barry & Teresa Brighten
Christopher Brooks
Bill & Maureen Brown
Carol Burchill
John Campbell
Micki Campbell
Joan Carilli
Jason Carnicelli
Carmela Carrano
Susan Craig
Joanne Davis
Marion DeCoursey
Grace Deich
Jim Demetres
Leslie Dixon
Arthur Doody
Judy Faulk
John Finn
Robert Flavin
Barbara Fleming
Corrie Formica
Walt & Mary Gable
Maureen Gillan
Sandy Greggs
Lorraine Grimsley
Frank Grissler
Dale Guy
Louise Hebert
The Hinko Family
Russell Jackson
J.J. & Margie Jones
Denise Kassem
Lauren Kelly
Charles Koff
Helen Kramer
Delores Leary
Margaret Lupton
Gregg Lysaght
Joanne McAteer
Keith McAteer
Tommy McAteer
Joan McCall
Barbara McCann
Carol McCann
Denise McGee
Denise McGlynn
Josephine McGovern
Drew McIntyre
Beulah McKee
Joan McKillop
Frankie Marcinkiewicz
Teri Massey
Connie Mercier
Owen James Monroe
Bill Moore
Pat Moran
Kyle Muccia
Ann Noack
Edward O'Neill
Joanne Owens
Roberta & Robert Painter
Donna Piner
Susan Reynolds
Dorothy Rickard
Janice Rotundo
John & Beatrice Schultz
Rita & Ralph Seidl
Debbie Selig
Glen Severage
Robert Spiegel
Jeff Stewart
David Stiver
Larry Strauss
Cynthia Streb
Holly Swan
Michael Talaska
Kaye Torrens
Chase Turano
Rob Verderosa
Ashton Villers
Richard Wadzinski
Jack Walsh
Jack Ward
John Webb
Rose Marie Weisenhorn
Kay Weninger
Margaret Wenz
T. Michael Werner
Richard White
Arlyn Wyatt
Pete Zoeller

Names will remain on the list for one month from time of request. Please call the office if you wish to renew.



Liturgy Corner

By Paul Turner

Fr. Paul Turner is pastor of the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Kansas City, Missouri, and director of the Office of Divine Worship for the Diocese of Kansas City-St.

Communion Blessing

In some Catholic parishes, parents in the Communion line present young children for a blessing from the one distributing Communion. The minister may place a hand on the child's head, trace a cross on the forehead, or say, "God bless you." The custom has gained popularity, but it has no foundation in the liturgy.

Many Catholics find the blessing a happy alternative. They argue that it helps those excluded from Communion to feel welcome. Otherwise, children sit conspicuously at their place or are pushed aside as they reach the head of the procession.

The problem is that Communion is not a time for blessing. There is a blessing at the end of Mass. Communion is when the sacrifice of the Mass reaches its climax, as the faithful become one with Christ and with one another. A blessing implies that the purpose of Communion is something else: a time when individuals coming to Mass have a personal moment with the minister. If they are ineligible for Communion, they get whatever they can.

A better solution is to offer the child Communion. Many children may be given Communion younger than the popular age seven. If children are aware that others are getting something they are not, the time may have arrived to begin their catechesis for First Communion. If children "understand the mystery of Christ according to their capacity and are able to receive the body of Christ with faith and devotion" (*Code of Canon Law*, 913 §1) they are eligible to receive Holy Communion.

It would be far better to give a child Communion than to give the child a blessing.

Bulletin Inserts for the Liturgical Life of the Parish: Gestures, Postures, and Customs of the Liturgy © 2020 Archdiocese of Chicago: Liturgy Training Publications. All rights reserved. Written by Paul Turner. CIC © 1998, Canon Law Society of America.

2022 - 2023 Faith Formation

Registration for the 2022-2023 Faith Formation year has begun, and our process is paperless! All Faith Formation registrations will be made online with secure payment options.

To register your children and/or youth, please click on the banner located on the homepage of our website at www.iccwilm.org

So that we have time to order and receive supplies, the deadline for registration is **August 1**. Late registrations will incur a $25 late registration fee.

Sessions begin September 11.

For more information please contact our Director of Faith Formation, Gina Drost, at gdrost@iccwilm.org or by calling 791-1003 ext. 112. Our Youth Minister, Marie Marshall, can be reached at mmarshall@iccwilm.org or by calling 791-1003 ext.110

Born to Eternal Life

Please remember in your prayers the following people:

Mary Jean Weis, mother of parishioner Mary Archer. Condolences may be sent to Mary and her husband, George, at 703 Broomsedge Ter, Wilmington, NC 28412-1048.

Catholic Daughters of the Americas

CDA Cookbook Pre-Order Discount Price

Thank you to our ICC family for the enthusiasm you have shown in the number of excellent recipes you have shared for the cookbook. The Cookbook Committee is very grateful for every contribution. At this point, no additional recipes can be accepted due to publisher deadline.

Pre-ordering for the cookbooks is now open, and would greatly assist the Cookbook Committee in ordering an adequate number of cookbooks. Pre-ordered cookbooks will be discounted at $15 each, versus the $18 post-publication price. Payment is requited at the time of pre-order, and envelopes for pre-ordering and payment via personal check are available on the credenza in the Gathering Area. When pre-ordering, please print your name and phone number on the back of the envelope in the event that we need to contact you, along with the number of cookbooks that you are ordering. Envelopes can be deposited in the marked box in the Gathering Area. For further information, please contact Char Papagikos, chair of the cookbook committee, at cpapagikos@gmail.com. The cut-off date for pre-ordering is **Sunday, August 14th**.

Through your generosity in sharing your favorite family recipes, CDA will be able to once again support our local charities: The Carousel Center for abused children, the Ashley Center for veterans, and the Good Shepherd Center for our homeless population in Wilmington.

Once again, our appreciation to those who have assisted in any way towards making this project a success. We will keep you apprised of publication date and availability, currently projected for early October.

Creation STATIONS CANVAS PAINTING

Creating community & sharing talents!

Be A Welcomer

Welcome Connect

If you're looking for a way to support those that have been forced to leave their homes in Ukraine, consider exploring what Welcome Connect is doing to help those seeking refuge as they settle in the US.

Welcome Connect matches Americans interested in sponsorship with individuals fleeing the war in Ukraine who are urgently in need of sponsors.

This easy-to-use platform initiates the sponsorship process in an accessible, efficient, and secure way, and was designed to both reduce barriers for vulnerable Ukrainians and provide a positive experience for sponsors.

Interested? Visit ***https://ukraine.welcome.us/connect*** to register, or for more information.

Marriage Encounter

Don't store up earthly riches, put God first in your marriage by attending an upcoming **Worldwide Marriage Encounter Experiences** on Sep 23-25, 2022, in HERNDON, VA, and Nov 4-6, 2022, in ATLANTIC BEACH, NC. Early sign up is recommended.

For more information visit our website at: https://NCMarriageDiscovery.org or contact us at applications@NCMarriageDiscovery.org or 704-315-2144.

Save the Date

K of C Golf Outing

The Knights of Columbus Council 1074 will be holding their annual Charity Golf Tournament on Monday, August 22, at Pine Valley Country Club. All are invited to play. The cost is $90.00 per person, and there will be many prizes and awards.

Interested? Please seeKofC1074.org for more information.

ALTAR FLOWERS
September to December 2022

Our weekly Altar Flowers depend solely on donations from you, our parishioners. We need your help to ensure that we have flowers at all the weekend liturgies.

Fill out this form with the date (s) you would like to donate the Altar Flowers in memory of a loved one or in celebration of a special event.

The size of the flower arrangement is determined by the number of households that contribute on a given weekend. We accept up to 4 households per weekend. Memorial contributions are $65.00. Make your check payable to **Immaculate Conception Church** with *"Altar Flowers"* written on the memo line.

Place your form and check in an envelope marked *"Flowers - Tracey Krüger"* and put in the collection basket or drop off during office hours, Mon-Fri, 9:00 am to 4:00 pm.

"The flowers appear on the earth, the time of pruning the vines has come, and the song of the turtledove is heard in our land."
Song of Songs 2:12

Choose from the following weekends:

No Flowers during Advent

___August 15, 2022—Assumption of Mary

___September 3 & 4, 2022—Labor Day
___September 10 & 11, 2022
___September 17 & 18, 2022
___September 24 & 25, 2022

___October 1 & 2, 2022 - Respect Life Sunday
___October 8 & 9, 2022
___October 15 & 16, 2022
___October 22 & 23, 2022
___October 29 & 30, 2022

___November 1, 2022—All Saints' Day
___November 5 & 6, 2022
___November 12 & 13, 2022
___November 19 & 20, 2022 - Christ the King
___November 24, 2022 - Thanksgiving Day

___December 8, 2022 - Feast of Immaculate Conception

Name:_____

Address: _____

_____

Phone #:_____

Intention: _____

_____

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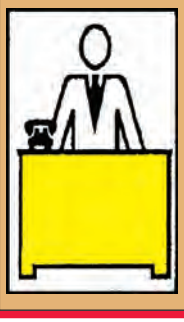
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