

November 25, 2018

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION CHURCH, MILLHOUSEN, IN

Immaculate Conception Parish Community strives to live the Gospel by worshipping God, learning and sharing the Catholic Faith and serving the needs of others.

Bulletin information is due by Wednesday at 10:00 a.m. sisterdonna@millhousenchurch.com

Mass Intentions:

November 25th – Feast of Christ the King – Darlene Huff

December 2 – First Sunday of Advent- Tony Scheidler

December 7 – Immaculate Conception, Holy Day Anticipation, 6 pm - For our Parish

December 9 – Second Sunday of Advent – Ben Lamping Family, Living & Deceased

December 16 – Third Sunday of Advent – Herman Schoettmer & Family, Living & Deceased

December 23 – Fourth Sunday of Advent - Albert Schoettmer

Holy Days of Obligation – Though we have addressed this topic each of the past two years, the question has come up once again: What is our obligation relative to Holy Days? And what are Holy Days? The precepts of the Catholic Church are rules set to guide our moral lives. These precepts, or rules are decreed by pastoral authority and are meant to encourage the faithful, to maintain the foundations for their lives. The decrees include rules on fasting and abstinence, contributing time, talent, and financial resources to the Church, and stipulate the minimal standards for worship and reception of the sacraments. In the United States, the Holy Days of Obligation are identified as follows: Christmas and Easter are always Holy Days. We know this, and attendance is always high on these days. In addition, the Church tells us that we must attend Mass on all Sundays and the following Holy Days: January 1, Mary, Mother of God; Ascension, 40 days after Easter; August 15, Assumption of Mary; November 1, All Saints Day; December 8, Immaculate Conception of Mary. Our obligation is always to follow the precepts of the Catholic Church, and so our obligation for Holy Days is the same as it is for all Sundays, to attend Mass, and to refrain from servile work as much as possible. Servile has to do with public employment, work that we are paid to do. Some work responsibilities are required, as are the work of first responders, doctors, nurse, fireman, police man, etc. But the fact that we are scheduled to work, does not relieve us of the responsibility to attend Mass. This is why the Church developed anticipatory Masses (Saturday evening, or the evening before a Holy Day.) And this is why area churches offer Mass times at different times throughout the day and evening, so that there are many options being offered to the Church Faithful. The next question that always follows in this discussion is “Is missing Mass a mortal sin or a venial sin? Sins are evaluated according to their gravity. A mortal sin is a grave violation of God’s law and turns us away from God. A venial sin is lessor, though it offends and wounds. The intention behind our action will dictate the type of sin. Sickness, and declining health always exempt one from obligation. Convenience or inconvenience do not exempt us.

Liturgical Ministries

November 25

Sacristan: Dana Fledderman

Ushers/Greeters: Joe & Donna Johannigman,
Dave & Cindy Stone

Lectors: Jerry Fry, Donna Johannigman

Eucharistic Ministers: Dan & Jo Fledderman,
Joe & Julie Diekhoff

Servers: Rhett & Kenlee Martin,
Anna Johannigman

Musicians: the Schwerings with Abby

Counters: June Johannigman, Pauline Schoettmer,
Gretchen Stone

December 2

LaDonna Hoeing

Mitch & Lori Nobbe, John & Cindy Johannigman

Niki Johannigman, Mary jo Wenning

Kathy Kohrman, Cindy Hermes, Jeanne Fry,
Cindy Johannigman

Kenny & Ben Stier, Luke Diekhoff

Men’s Choir

Cindy Johannigman, Emery Mapes, Aaron Gault

Remittance 11/18/2018

	Envelopes
ENERGY: \$560.00	Loose: \$ 212.00
\$3,028 needed weekly to meet budget.	Envelopes: \$ 1733.00
Campaign for Human Development: \$254.00	Total: \$ 1945.00

Remember in Prayer: Bailey Streiker, Dale Helms, Chris Mennel, Chris Owens, Stephen Koors, Jim Cobb, Theresa Cobb, Joan Nobbe, Craig Simon.

Dates to Remember

- December 2 – Breakfast with Santa, Sponsored by Knights, 8:00 -11:00
- December 2 - New Liturgical Year begins, 1st Sunday of Advent, Lighting Advent Wreath
- December 5 – Cohort Advent Penance Service, First Penance, 7:00 pm Immaculate Conception
- December 7 – Holy Day Mass 6:00 pm, Feast of the Immaculate Conception
- December 9 - Fruit Basket Project, Following Mass
- December 9 – Giving Tree sorting and packing following Mass
- December 16 – Decorate Church immediately following Mass, EVERYONE is welcome.
- December 23 – Christmas Choir practice with Abby, following Mass

Carrie Stier has graciously committed to coordinating choir practices for the Children's **Christmas Choir** this year. Rehearsals have begun. All children, no matter the age, are invited to join this group. Practice times are planned for three Wednesday evenings before Religious Ed., and one Sunday morning just before Christmas, with Abby. Please join Carrie to prepare for the coming of the Christ Child! Dates are Nov. 28, Dec. 12, at 6:15 pm in school, and Sunday Dec. 23, right after Mass in Church. (For the 4:00 pm Christmas Eve. Mass).

2018 Christmas Outreach – The Giving Tree is glowing with excitement! Our 2018 Christmas Outreach with South Decatur Elementary School is underway. Thank you for your generosity and thoughtfulness in past years in supporting our community through giving to struggling families at South Decatur Elementary. You may pick your ornament(s) from the “Giving Tree” today, in the back of church. All gifts are to be returned and placed under the tree UNWRAPPED and with the Giving Tree ornament ATTACHED. This will help us to know for which child the gift was intended. Money placed in an envelope and marked “Giving Tree” would also be graciously accepted and used to shop for any “missing” item! All gifts will need to be turned in by Sunday December 9th for sorting and delivery. If you are interested in helping sort, shop, or deliver, please contact Anita Fry, Laura Meyer, Melea Gault, or Dana Fledderman.

Also, on December 9th, the Senior Class is sponsoring the **Fruit Basket** project. More directions will be forthcoming. But the first thing they need is some commitment to help deliver the fruit baskets. Drivers are needed to assist the Youth project. If you have completed your “Safe and Sacred” Training, and have a little time for Sunday outreach, please contact Anna Johannigman.

Faith Formation Commission: On Tuesday, February 26th from 7:00 – 9:00 pm at Immaculate Conception (Millhousen), Ken Ogorek, Archdiocesan Catechetical Director, will offer a workshop on Faith Formation Commissions. The workshop is suitable as a refresher for long-time commission members, an orientation for new members, or an info session for prospective members. Please email kogorek@archindy.org to register and/or ask any questions you might have about this opportunity. While Immaculate Conception is sponsoring,

hosting this event, it is being presented by the Office of Catechesis, and being offered multiple times throughout the Archdiocese. This February event will be offered to all members of the Batesville Deanery. Please register in advance so that accommodations can be made.

Safety Committee: We would all like to think that school violence will never happen here, but history has shown that it does happen, usually in small communities, to people who would never have guessed or expected it. No one (and no place) is immune. We want to be proactive. We are in the process of creating a “**Safety Committee**” for our parish, with the guidance of the Archdiocese, to look at ways we can continue to create a safe environment for all. If you think you would like to serve in this capacity, please call the office to extend your service.

Cohort Advent Penance Service – and “First Penance” for our second graders, will be combined as it was last year, taking place on Wednesday evening, December 5th from 7:00-8:00 pm in the Church, here at Immaculate Conception. We have four priests committed to us that evening, Frs: John Geis, Bill Turner, Frank Eckstein and Joe Nelson. All four will be hearing private confessions, behind closed doors. As in years past, we will host the priests for supper prior to the service, and all Religious Ed. students will attend this service in place of their usual class. We are hoping many parents will also attend to support their children in this spiritual exercise and sacrament. The Cohort offers two Penance Services each year, one during Advent hosted by Immaculate Conception, and one during Lent hosted by St. Maurice. This is a very special evening for our second graders who will be making their First Confession. Please join us for this evening of preparation for the Coming of Christ!

Second graders are: Laykin Baltus, Brynklie Ortman, Andrew Stier, and Luke Stier.

Santa is coming to town! Knights of St. John, Millhousen, annual Breakfast with Santa, is happening right here at our school, Sunday December 2, 2018, 8:00 am to 11:00 am. Santa arrives at 9:00! Sausage, eggs, pancakes, biscuits & gravy, coffee cakes, milk OJ, and coffee. Free will offering benefits Immaculate Conception Church!

Lights of Christmas! Open Door Tour. Sunday, December 30, 2018 from 1:00 – 5:00 pm the Batesville Deanery welcomes you and your loved ones to tour the 19 beautifully decorated churches of our Deanery. Bask in the sacred spaces of our adored Savior dressed in their finest during this Christmas season. Take a family photo or offer a family prayer. These locations will have doors open for four hours. See list on bulletin board.

32nd **Annual Live Nativity** – Friday, Dec. 7 & Saturday, Dec. 8 from 5-9 pm at St. Anthony Church, 4773 Church Rd., Morris, IN., Celebrate the birth of Christ, as we present: Live manger scene, live animals, local church and school choirs performing both indoor/outdoor throughout the evenings, sweet treats, hot beverages. All are welcome to this free event!

Our first Christmas gift has arrived! The **new 2019 Catholic Calendars** are on the table in the entryway, courtesy of Bass & Gasper Funeral Home! Please help yourself! And if you have an opportunity, thank Mike Gasper for remembering us with such a thoughtful gift!

Another gift – Sister Donna has purchased an **outdoor nativity**, (her personal gift to the parish), to replace the plastic models which continue to blow away. The piece is of one statue, the holy family, a little smaller, not stone, but definitely heavier than plastic. We will continue using the same wooden stable. And thank you to Steve Stone for the spotlight!

It is almost time for our new **Missalettes**. We begin with new books on the first Sunday in Advent. In an effort to save on shipping costs, and save trees, we decided to go with an annual book rather than changing out several times throughout the year. The copywrite for our music books expires at the end of the year, so all of them need to be removed and replaced annually, like it or not. But the book of Sunday readings will now be part of that book. Everything will be in one book, and everything replaced once a year. Because we will be using the same book all throughout the year, we ask that you handle them carefully so to preserve them for an entire year.