

December 16, 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@millhousechurch.com

Mass Intentions:

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

December 23 – Fourth Sunday of Advent - Albert Schoettmer

December 24 – Christmas Eve 4:00 PM – The Horan Family (Children & Youth Choir)

December 24 – Christmas Eve 6:00 PM – Jerry Jacobs (Ryan Stone - guest musician)

December 30 – Feast of the Holy Family – Ben Huff

December 31 – Holy Day Anticipation Mass 4 pm, Solemnity of Mary – Darlene Huff

Have the “**Best Advent Ever!**” ‘TIS (almost) THE SEASON

We prepare for everything we consider important in life. And that includes Christmas. We visit family and friends, bake cookies, decorate our trees, and shop for gifts until we’re ready to drop. This year, prepare for Christmas in a different way. Sign up for **BEST ADVENT EVER**, a free email program that will help you to slow down and focus on what matters most during the busy holiday season. Each day of Advent you’ll receive an email with short inspirational videos, practical tips for your everyday life, real life stories to encourage you in your faith journey. To sign up, visit **BestAdventEver.com/Christmas**

Carrie Stier has graciously coordinated choir practices for the Children’s Christmas Choir this year. Thank you, Carrie, for helping the children prepare for the coming of the Christ Child! One last rehearsal next Sunday Dec. 23, right after Mass in Church.

Remittance 12/9/2018

	Envelopes
ENERGY: \$200.00 MAINTENANCE: \$185.00	
HOLY DAY: IMMACULATE CONCEPTION \$417.00	Loose: \$ 140.00
\$3,028 needed weekly to meet budget.	Envelopes: \$ 2239.00
Christmas Giving Tree: \$300.00	Total: \$ 2379.00
Special Collection: Religious Retirement Fund: \$596.00	

United Catholic Appeal: I promised updates: Our weekly report from the Archdiocese reflected an increase. We are at 67 % of our goal! Great progress! While only 62 of our registered families have pledged or donated so far, we are doing very well! Let’s keep the momentum going! If you haven’t sent in your check or pledge yet, now is a great time!

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 16 - Decorate Church, **2:00 pm**, EVERYONE is welcome.

December 23 - Christmas Choir practice with Abby, following Mass

December 30 – All Deanery Churches open 1-5 to share their Christmas Decorations

January 1 – Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God, Holy Day of Obligation, Anticipatory Mass December 31, 4:00 pm.

Giving Tree - This past Tuesday was delivery day for the Giving Tree items. What a success it was! Thanks to all of you, your help and generosity, we were able to more than fulfill the lists from seven hand-picked, very deserving South Decatur families and eleven students from the special needs class for a total of 41 kids. Every child received one or more of each of the following: shirt, pair of pants, shoes, socks or underwear, and a special toy on their list. In addition to these items, each family also received wrapping paper, bows, tape, a Christmas ornament and a \$40 gas card! This year, although we had an additional nine children more than last year (45 extra items), we not only matched our giving, we surpassed it! Thanks to some very generous cash donations, one from the Knights of St. John, and others anonymous, we were also able to add Wolf Theatre and Pizzalicious gift cards so that families could enjoy a night out together! What a wonderful way to share our many gifts and blessings with others in need! Thank you for all that you do!

Fruit Basket Outreach: Thanks to the youth and their families, 29 parishioners in need of our support received not only fruit baskets last weekend, but warm greetings and caring visits! This is a very meaningful activity for all involved, the givers and the receivers!

Christmas Memorials: A box and sign-up sheets are available in the entry way, for those who would like to honor their deceased loved ones by contributing to the Christmas Flower fund. Drop your donation into the box and write your family members' name on the sheet. During the Celebrations on Christmas Eve, the names will be carried in with the offertory gifts, and we will remember each one in prayer. Their memory will live on in the beautiful Christmas flowers adorning our worship space!

Note, a change from the usual decorating ritual: due to a scheduling conflict, **Church Decorating** will not happen immediately following Mass, but will take place at 2:00 pm today. We are grateful to Gregg Mattox for coordinating this event. We are in need of a couple of strong men able to bring boxes and the stable down from above. Fear not if you are not "a decorator" for Gregg knows exactly how to bring it all together. Please just follow his direction. We appreciate an hour of your time and strength to adorn our church for this special season!

Liturgical Ministries

December 16

Sacristan: Ann Stier
Ushers/Greeters: Dave & Cindy Stone,
Craig & Paula Wullenweber
Lectors: LaDonna Hoeing, Donna Johannigman
Eucharistic Ministers: Norbert, Hoeing, Tim
Hoeing, Aaron & Melea Gault
Servers: Rhett & Kenlee Martin, Mary Schwering
Musicians: Men's Choir
Counters: Marilyn Horan, Kate Bedel,
Cindy Hermesch

December 23

Dana Fledderman
Joe & Donna Johannigman, Mike &
Mollie Johannigman
Kenny Stier, Niki Johannigman
Jeanne Fry, Steve AmRhein, Ann
Stier, LaDonna Hoeing
Anna, Colton, Campbell Johannigman
Donna & Sarah Schwering with Abby
June Johannigman, Pauline
Schoettmer, Gretchen Stone

Please see the bulletin insert today for more ministry listings for
Christmas and New Year's weekends.

If you are unable to serve as scheduled, please find a sub, or call the office for assistance.

*****Safety Committee:** While we have posted this notice for six weeks already, no parishioner has stepped forward to work on Safety for our community. The middle school student entering a school in Richmond, IN this week, and initiating a shooting exchange with police, ultimately ending in his own death, brings the issue pretty close to home. It can happen in Indiana, and it could happen here. Because that community was prepared, because someone acted and called the police before something happened, many other deaths were avoided.

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, it is not too late to call the office and join in the planning. We will invite a representative from the Sheriff's Dept. and will need a volunteer from the Fire Department. We will need at least two parents, and someone from our Catechesis staff. All committee members will need to take "Safe and Sacred." The first meeting is planned for early January.

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.

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. We will need volunteers to bake cookies, to offer hospitality and be greeters.