

**March 24, 2019**

**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](mailto:sisterdonna@millhousenchurch.com)*

**Mass Intentions:**

March 24 – Third Sunday of Lent – Gary Schwering  
March 31 – Fourth Sunday in Lent – Urban Johannigman  
April 7 – Fifth Sunday of Lent – Darlene Huff  
April 14 – Palm Sunday – Margie Herbert

**Dates to Remember**

March 24 – Cohort Penance Service 1:30 pm at St. Maurice, Napoleon  
March 29 – Stations of the Cross, 7:00 pm  
April 5 – Stations of the Cross, 7:00 pm  
April 6 – Spring Work Day – Buildings & Grounds, 8:00 am to finish  
April 12 – Stations of the Cross, 7:00 pm  
April 16 – Chrism Mass, Cathedral

**Also remember in Prayer:** Bailey Streiker, Dale Helms, Chris Mennel, Chris Owens, Jim Cobb, Theresa Cobb, Craig Simon, Jim Koors, & Carl Moorman.

**Update from Mollie:** The following list includes items needed by the **Bread of Life** at this time: We are encouraging all students attending our Religious Ed program to contribute items during the season of Lent to assist those in need. Remember that we are in competition: Wed. evening group vs. the Sunday morning group. Who can contribute the most in the next five weeks? Collection boxes are available in the school building.

**The list includes:** Sugar, Vegetable Oil, Ketchup, Velveeta Cheese, and Salt and Pepper. The race is on!  
How are you doing with the “**Sacrifice Jars**?”

**Liturgical Ministries**

March 24

**Sacristan:** Ann Stier  
**Ushers/Greeters:** Joe & Donna,  
Bill & Niki Johannigman  
**Lectors:** Claire Schoettmer, Donna Johannigman  
**Eucharistic Ministers:** Tim Hoeing, Kathy  
Kohrman, Jeanne Fry, Cindy Johannigman  
**Servers:** Tony & Mary Schwering, Kenny Stier  
**Musicians:** Sarah & Donna Schwering with Abby  
**Gift Bearers:** Eric & Melonie Stone Family  
**Counters:** Cindy Johannigman, Emery Mapes,  
Aaron Gault

March 31

Dana Fledderman  
Craig & Paula Wullenweber,  
Tom & Lois Johannigman  
Ben Stier, Niki Johannigman  
Brian Huff, Norbert Hoeing & LaDonna  
Hoeing  
Anna Johannigman, Colton Johannigman,  
Evan Wullenweber  
Kenny Stier with Abby  
Aaron & Melea Gault family  
Steve AmRhein, Margie Georgi, Sara  
Hermesch

## Remittance 3/17/2019

|  | Envelopes         |            |
|--|-------------------|------------|
| * \$3,028 needed weekly to meet budget.                              | <b>Loose:</b>     | \$ 259.00  |
| Home Missions \$80.00, Criterion \$20.00, Central East Eur. \$215.00 | <b>Envelopes:</b> | \$ 1790.00 |
|  | <b>Total:</b>     | \$ 2049.00 |

### Upcoming Events:

The Knights of St. John are sponsoring their **Lenten Fish Fry** events again this year and have posted their information on the bulletin board. Save the dates: March 29, April 12 & 19, 5:00 -7:30pm. All you can eat for \$10! And orders to go as well. Join your friends for a little social time on Friday evenings, and then bring them along to church at 7:00 for Stations of the Cross.

**Bible Study:** Wednesday evenings, during Lent, at 7:00 pm, the group will discuss “**The Gospel of Mark.**” All are welcome. Cost is \$6.00 for the book. If interested call Kate Bedel at 812-614-0987.

**Chrism Mass** – Tuesday afternoon, 2:00 pm, **April 16<sup>th</sup>** - This annual event is a most sacred time when all priests of the Archdiocese re-commit themselves to the priesthood, to the leadership of the Bishop, and all concelebrate a most beautiful liturgy at the Cathedral. The Holy Oils, which we use for the sacraments the following year, are consecrated and distributed to all of the parishes during this ritual. Each parish sends a representative to receive the oils, and then they are initiated during our Holy Thursday solemn Mass. If anyone is interested in representing Immaculate Conception this year, please call the office sometime this week so arrangements can be made. While attendance is open to all, our official representative receives special seating.

**Holy Week** – Besides the Chrism Mass on Tuesday evening, Holy Week has other special celebrations, culminating with the **Easter Sunday** celebration, which is the most important, and solemn celebration of the entire liturgical year! Yes, bigger than Christmas! Easter is the Foundation of our faith. The resurrection celebrates Christ’s triumph over evil, and death, and celebrates our redemption! Without Eater there would be no eternal life! The promise of Easter, and new life, and salvation, is the same celebration that begins for us at baptism, and is celebrated again and again, each Sunday, and continues as the central theme for each Catholic funeral. It is our VICTORY Party! It is not just a day to dress up in our newest spring fashions, but is indeed a day to dress up! As for a wedding! Or to receive the Olympic Medal! Easter is the only celebration in the Church year that has a 40 day preparation period, and another 40 day celebration period! Similar to Christmas, but bigger!!

Let’s go back to the beginning of Holy Week – **Palm Sunday, April 14<sup>th</sup>**, 8:00 am. On this day the church celebrates Christ’s entrance into Jerusalem to begin the Paschal Mystery, of his death and resurrection. We wave palm branches to honor his arrival! The crowd cheers and screams, and is jubilant! We could liken it to the entrance of a basketball team before the game starts, or an inaugural parade. All chant hosanna to the King! If Christ rode in today it would probably be in a motorcade, or on a float, and there would be rice, or balloons, or banners and streamers! Then, as the week progresses, all is changed. Reality sets in.

**Holy Thursday** – is the commemoration of the last supper, the day we celebrate the institution of the Eucharist. We celebrate this Eucharist each and every Sunday. This day gives it honor, as we end in a procession with the Eucharist, and exposition for an extended period. The Holy Oils, received from the Cathedral on Tuesday, are received by the parish, celebrating our unity as one people in the diocese. **Mass at 6:00 pm.**

**Good Friday** - Mass is not celebrated on this day. Instead we have a celebration of the Passion and death of the Lord, which includes the Word (readings), adoration of the Cross, and Holy Communion. Traditionally, this celebration was scheduled mid-afternoon, when it is believed Christ actually died. But in order to open this service to more people, we have scheduled it, this year, at **6:00 pm** hoping to draw a bigger crowd to commemorate the death of Christ. Please join us for this solemn memorial. (About one hour)

**Holy Saturday – the Easter Vigil** - is a lengthier, and very celebratory feast, beginning with the outdoor Easter fire, lighting the new Easter candle, blessing the new water of baptism. Then the church reflects on all of the wonderful things God has done for his people, through a series of readings. Following this history, new members are baptized and confirmed (we have no candidates this year), and music and light return with the big Eucharistic celebration that follows! Please consider joining us for this very special evening. Because of the nature of this celebration a priest cannot celebrate it more than once. So, we join together as a Cohort, gathering at Napoleon on Saturday evening at 7:30 pm. (just before dusk).

**Easter Sunday** - is Sunday April 21, Mass at 8:00 am. Followed by Coffee and doughnuts, and a special Easter Egg Hunt. Please gather in the parish hall following this Mass, rain or shine! We have alternate plans for bad weather. Celebrate with us New Life! The first day of 40 days of celebration! Our unity as a parish! And our redemption in Christ! Mark your calendars for all of these special celebrations coming soon!!

**Spring Smorgasbord** – St Maurice Catholic Church, Napoleon – This buffet-style dinner will be held in the Parish Hall on Saturday, April 6<sup>th</sup> from 4:00 until 7:30. The menu includes turkey, roast beef, meatloaf, spaghetti, sauerkraut & sausage, German potato salad, variety of side dishes, salads, and homemade desserts. Cost for adults is \$10, children 6-12 is \$5, and less than 5 is free. Carry-outs available.

**Marriage Encounter** - We would never expect a car, or our house heating/air conditioning system to run for years without any servicing, so why do we expect our marriage relationships to keep running smoothly without a little maintenance? The Worldwide Marriage Encounter weekend gives married couples the tools to keep their relationship in top running condition. Please visit [www.wwme.org](http://www.wwme.org) for more information or see bulletin board.

**“Unplanned”** – based on a book, this new film on abortion shares a faith-filled story of hope, forgiveness and love. This national box office film officially opens in theaters on the weekend of March 29, but is available sooner in some locations due to theater buyouts by groups. It is the true-life story of Abby Johnson, a former pro-choice Planned Parenthood facility director turned national **pro-life advocate** due to what she saw during an ultrasound while she assisted with an abortion. Please check out your nearest cinema, or see information in the Criterion this weekend. This story may change your perspective. This is a conversion story worth your time! Get equipped with the truth.

**Stations of the Cross** – Christians know the life of a disciple will not be easy. Christ did not mince words about this, telling his disciples they must take on life’s sufferings. “If anyone wishes to come after me, he must deny himself and take up his cross daily and follow me” (Lk 9:23). The question of why suffering exists finds its answer in Christ’s transformation of suffering through love. Christ’s cross makes sense of our own.

The Stations of the Cross finds its roots with the Franciscans who helped rebuild the Christian sites of the Holy Land following the medieval Crusades. The order encouraged pilgrims to journey along Christ’s way to Calvary. Beginning as a pious devotion, it soon spread and was endorsed by popes who encouraged the erection of “stations” of the cross in parishes the world over. The universal reality of suffering makes devotions inspiring meditation on the passion and death of Jesus particularly relevant in Christian life. Especially popular during the season of Lent, they should not necessarily be restricted to this season. The Stations are a primary opportunity for the faithful to learn the purpose of their crosses. The Stations of the Cross teach us to see the fruit of suffering, as we “put on Christ.” Stations of the Cross can be either a private devotion or a communal celebration.