

December 8, 2019

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION CHURCH, MILLHOUSEN, IN

Immaculate Conception Parish Community strives to live the Gospel by worshipping God, deepening our understanding of 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 8 – Second Sunday of Advent – The Living & Deceased Members of the St. Mary’s Ladies Auxiliary

December 15 – Third Sunday of Advent – Urban Johannigman

December 22 – Fourth Sunday of Advent – Paul Scheller

December 24 – Christmas Eve – Jerry Jacobs

December 29 - The Holy Family, Jesus, Mary & Joseph - Anthony Scheidler

December 31 – (Anticipation) Solemnity of Mary, the Mother of God – Albert Schoettmer

Dates to Remember

December 8 – Fruit Basket assembly and delivery (youth group)

December 15 – “Bambinelli Sunday” Bring your Baby Jesus (figurines from our family Nativity sets) for blessing. See note below.

December 15 – Decorate Church; Giving Tree preparation in school hall, (Coffee & Doughnuts for volunteers.)

December 17 – Tuesday, Giving Tree gifts delivered to families.

December 22 – Youth Choir practice, following Mass, in Church

December 24 – Parish Christmas Eve. Mass at 4:00 pm; come early for hymns by youth choir.

December 29 – Lights of Christmas Open Door Tour – Deanery Churches, 1:00 – 5:00 pm

December 31 – New Year’s Eve; 6:00 pm Holy Day Mass, Solemnity of Mary, the Mother of God

Liturgical Ministries

December 8 (2nd Advent)

Sacristan: Ann Stier

Ushers/Greeters: Mike & Kathy Kohrman,
Don & Jeanne Fry

Lectors: Mary Jo Wenning, Donna Johannigman

Eucharistic Ministers: Kathy Korhman, Cindy
Hermesch, Jeanne Fry, Cindy Johannigman

Servers: Tony, Mary & Sam Schwering

Musicians: Kenny Stier, cantor; Sister Noella, keyboard

Gift Bearers: Tim & Stephanie Hoeing family

Counters: Steve AmRhein, Margie Georgi, Sara Hermesch

December 15 (3rd Advent)

Dana Fledderman

Mitch & Lori Nobbe, Joe & Donna Johannigman

Niki Johannigman, Jerry Fry

Ann Stier, Norbert Hoeing, Mark Stier, Steve
AmRhein

Colton & Campbell Johannigman, Allison Nobbe

Sarah & Donna Schwering with Abby

Eric & Melanie Stone family

Kate Bedel, Cindy Hermesch, Jeannie Fry

Stewardship of Treasure: Our Sunday Collections: December 1, 2019

Needed each weekend to meet budget:	\$2800.00	Steeple Fund Goal:	\$95,000.00
Sunday Envelopes (and loose):	\$2770.00	Collected this week:	\$9,850.00
Maintenance Fund:	\$1170.00	Additional Pledges:	\$2,500.00
Religious Retirement:	\$50.00		
For Military Services:	\$10.00	Total Collected:	\$9,850.00
Campaign for Human Development:	\$15.00	Additional Pledged:	\$2,500.00
Christmas Memorials (Flowers):	\$120.00	Total:	\$12,350.00
Cemetery Fund:	\$250.00		
Total Sunday Collections:	\$4385.00	Difference:	\$82,650.00

Special Collection today: “Share in the Care” Retirement Fund for Religious. Sister Amy Kistner, a Sister of St. Francis, is with us to say a few words about this need. Thank you for your generosity!

United Catholic Appeal: Our Goal for this Annual Appeal to support the Ministries of the Archdiocese is set at \$15, 057, based on the number of active households, 144, and on our total income of the past three years. We have done well thus far with our pledges reaching 72% or \$10,835. Great start! We’ve had 33% participation thus far, so if you have not yet sent in your Intention Card, please do so to help us meet our goal.

Steeple Repair Fund: All parishioners for whom we have information, (currently active or not), should have received letters of explanation concerning this fund and our current needs. The mailing included 195 households. Three have been returned to us with incorrect addresses. We will make every attempt to follow up with those three. If you, or someone you know, has not received this mailing, please contact the parish office with updated information. Nine pledge cards have been returned. Additional pledge cards are available in the entryway to church. One does not need to be a parishioner to pledge or donate. Please assist us in spreading the word and/or seeking the assistance we need to complete this important repair. We are most grateful for your generosity and support!

Remember in Prayer: Pat Schwering, Benji Ortman, John Kuzman, Mary Fry and baby, a special intention.

Church Cleaners: December: Mollie Johannigman (chairperson), Sarah Hermesch, Lori Nobbe, Cindy Johannigman, Jessica Hamilton, Nicole Schoettmer.

December 8th, the feast of the **Immaculate Conception**, celebrated on Monday this year, is our parish feast day! There will be no Mass at Immaculate Conception on Monday. Because this year marks the **185th** anniversary of our parish founding in 1834, we want to take a bit of a “detour” and honor our Lady, our patroness, our Mother. While the Season of Advent takes precedence this morning, we’ll take a few minutes right after Communion to rededicate ourselves to Mary’s care.

2019 Christmas Outreach, Giving Tree – Almost all ornaments for this year’s Christmas Outreach, have been taken from the Giving Tree! Thank you so much for your commitment to this special project! We are helping eight SDES families this year with their Christmas needs by providing shoes, shirt, pants, underwear, and an item from their wish list! This is sure to be a blessing to all the families again this year. Please return ALL gifts UNWRAPPED, and with the giving tree ornament ATTACHED. This will help us to know which child the gift was intended for. All gifts will need to be turned in by Mass time next Sunday, December 15. If you would prefer not to shop, feel free to place money in an envelope marked “Giving Tree” in the Sunday collection. Our elves will do the shopping for you! If you have any questions please reach out to Dana Fledderman, Jeanie Fry, Melea Gault or Laura Meyer. Thank you in advance for all you do for these families!

Also, underway today is the **Fruit basket** assembly and delivery, this year sponsored by the confirmation candidates. A huge thank you to the youth and their parents, for executing this Christmas outreach! If you have completed your “Safe & Sacred” Training, and would like to assist our youth in serving the elders of our community, please see Mollie immediately after Mass.

A great tradition to start during the Advent season, is preparing your home Nativity Set, with the exception of Baby Jesus. A nativity set that is (temporarily) missing the Baby Jesus is a good reminder that it’s not quite Christmas yet! It is great to be getting these reminders out. St. (Pope) John Paul II started the tradition of **“Bambinelli Sunday”** (the 3rd Sunday of Advent), where he encouraged children to bring their Baby Jesus from their family’s home nativity set to St. Peter’s square for a special papal blessing. The children then place the Baby Jesus figurine under the Christmas tree until Christmas morning, when he officially joins the nativity set. Pope Francis continues this tradition today. It is a beautiful Advent tradition, which is expanding to the church outside of Rome, a tradition that sanctifies the home with the Baby Jesus and makes his arrival in the

manger scene an even more joyous event. Let's begin our own "Bambinelli Sunday" next week. Please bring your Baby Jesus to Mass with you for a special blessing. We will call the children forward (children of all ages, 3-103) to have the infants blessed, and then placed under the Christmas Tree at home, as a reminder of the great gift to come.

Christmas Eve Mass, 4:00 pm. Please come join with the entire community of Immaculate Conception, as the children offer their homemade ornaments to the new born king, and sing hymns, accompanied by our very own Ryan Stone. **All** children and youth of the parish, are invited to join in the **Christmas choir!** Practices remaining are Wednesday evening, before Religious Education, in the school building, beginning at 6:15 pm., on Dec. 11th led by Carrie Stier; and again, on Sunday morning, December 22nd, in church, immediately following Mass, with Abby Wagner. All of our youth are encouraged to join in this special occasion!

Christmas Memorials: A box and sign-up sheets are available this morning in the entryway, for those who would like to honor their deceased loved ones this Christmas by contributing to the Christmas Flower fund. A \$10 donation would provide a lovely large poinsettia for our Christmas manger and altars. Drop your donation in the box provided and write the name of a loved one on the sheet. The names of your loved ones will be written in the bulletin on Christmas Eve., and their memory will live on in the beautiful Christmas flowers adorning our worship space.

Church Decorating: Dec. 15, right after Mass, Gregg Mattox coordinating. We have a great crew committed. Thank you for volunteering! Parish Council is sponsoring Coffee & Doughnuts for all the workers, in the Parish Office Building.

Lights of Christmas! Open Door Tour: Sunday, December 29, 2019 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. The 19 locations will have doors open for four hours. See insert today. Or, volunteer to host an hour! Welcome our guests to our lovely church. Since it is our 185th anniversary of founding, it would be nice to offer a cookie and drink. Any volunteers? We need cookie bakers as well as hospitality volunteers. If the weather is favorable we can expect a slow but steady group of folks who want to share our beauty, to pray a bit and then move on. Please sign up in entryway.

Our First Christmas gift has arrived! The new **2020 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 providing this wonderful resource.

Coming soon, also on the table in the entryway, will be your new boxes of **Giving Envelopes** for the year 2020.

Special **Advent Concert** with Mike Davis, Christian Singer and Religious Educator will be held at Holy Guardian Angels Oratory, 405 US Hwy 52, Cedar Grove, In. 47016. The concert begins at 7:00pm on Friday, December 13, 2019. An incredible evening of prayer and music to prepare us for the coming of Jesus Christ on Christmas. There is no charge (freewill donations are appreciated.) A social gathering will be held afterward in the school hall. Please bring an appetizer to share. Hope to see you there!

33rd Annual Live Nativity: St. Anthony Church in Morris will host on Friday & Saturday, December 13 & 14, 5-9 pm. There will be a live manger scene, live animals, local church and school choirs performing both indoor and outdoor throughout the evenings. Sweet treats and hot beverages will be served. Crafts and activities for kids. All are welcome to this free event. 4773 Church Rd. Morris IN.

5th Annual **E6 Catholic Men's Conference** February 22, 2020; 8-4pm, Registration now open at <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/2020-e6-catholic-mens-conference-tickets-74532549863>. See Board for prices and more details. Location: East Central High School, Performing Arts Center, St. Leon.

The Batesville Deanery

invites you and your loved ones

to the

2019

Lights of Christmas Open Door Tour

Sunday, December 29, 2019 1:00-5:00pm

This is a one day tour of the 19 parish churches in our Deanery. All of the Churches will be beautifully decorated for the Christmas Season. Enjoy these sacred spaces that are uniquely adorned once a year in celebration of the birth of our Savior.



Feel free to take a family photo or spend time in prayer.

- All Saints Parish – St. John Campus, 25743 St. Rt. 1, Guilford, IN
- All Saints Parish – St. Paul, 9788 N. Dearborn Rd, Guilford, IN
- All Saints Parish – St. Martin, 8044 Yorkridge Rd, Guilford, IN
- All Saints Parish – St. Joseph, 7536 Church Ln, West Harrison, IN
- Holy Family Parish – 22154 Main Street, Oldenburg, IN
- Immaculate Conception Parish – 2081 E. County Rd 820 S., Greensburg, IN
- St. Anthony of Padua Parish – 4773 E. Morris Church St., Morris, IN
- St. Catherine of Siena Parish – 9995 E. Base Road, Greensburg, IN
- St. Charles Borromeo Parish – 213 Ripley St., Milan, IN
- St. John the Baptist Parish – 331 S. Buckeye St., Osgood, IN
- St. Joseph Parish – 125 E. Broadway, Shelbyville, IN
- St. Lawrence Parish – 542 Walnut St., Lawrenceburg, IN
- St. Louis Parish – 13 St. Louis Place, Batesville, IN
- St. Mary Immaculate Conception – 203 Fourth St., Aurora, IN
- St. Mary Parish – 1331 E. Hunters Robbins Way, Greensburg, IN
- St. Maurice Parish – 8874 Harrison St., Napoleon, IN
- St. Michael Parish – 145 St. Michael Blvd, Brookville, IN
- St. Nicholas Parish – 6461 E. St. Nicholas Dr., Sunman, IN
- St. Peter Parish – 1207 East Rd., Brookville, IN
- St. Teresa Benedicta of the Cross Parish – 23455 Gavin Lane, Lawrenceburg, IN
- St. Vincent de Paul Parish – 4218 E. Michigan Road, Shelbyville, IN
- The Oratory of Saints Philomena & Cecilia – 16194 St. Mary's Rd, Brookville, IN

It's Bring Your Baby Jesus to Church Day!

Philip Kosloski | Dec 16, 2017

The Third Sunday of Advent marks John Paul II's beloved tradition of 'Bambinelli Sunday.'

St. John Paul II began a tradition early on in his papacy where he invited the children of Rome to assemble in St. Peter's Square on the Third Sunday of Advent during his Angelus address. He asked them to bring their little statue of the baby Jesus that would be placed in their Nativity set at home.

John Paul II blessed the figurines of those present and told them to assemble before the manger scene with their family in a spirit of prayer.