

**December 29, 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](mailto:sisterdonna@millhousechurch.com)*

**Mass Intentions:**

December 29 - The Holy Family, Jesus, Mary & Joseph - Anthony Scheidler  
December 31 – (Anticipation) Solemnity of Mary, the Mother of God – Albert Schoettmer  
January 5 – The Epiphany of the Lord – Urban Johannigman  
January 12 – The Baptism of the Lord –the Living & Deceased of the Herman Schoettmer Family  
January 19 – Second Sunday in Ordinary Time – Alex Veerkamp  
January 26 – Third Sunday in Ordinary Time – Cathy Wittkamper

**Dates to Remember**

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  
January 12 – Take down Christmas decorations following Mass  
January 13 – Buildings & Grounds Committee, 7:00 pm  
January 19 – Finance Committee following Mass  
January 26 – Parish Council following Mass

**Liturgical Ministries**

December 29 (Holy Family)	January 5 (Epiphany)
<b>Sacristan:</b> Jo Fledderman	Dana Fledderman
<b>Ushers/Greeters:</b> Mark & Cindy Hermesch, Tom & Lois Johannigman	Mitch & Lori Nobbe, Mike & Mollie Johannigman
<b>Lectors:</b> Ben Stier, Mary Schwering	Niki Johannigman, Mary jo Wenning
<b>Eucharistic Ministers:</b> Kathy Kohrman, Cindy Hermesch, Emery Mapes, Timothy Hoeing	Daniel & Jo Fledderman, Joe & Julie Diekhoff
<b>Servers:</b> Hunter Collins, Oliver Hamilton, Grady Scudder	Evan Wullenweber, Mary Stier, Allison Nobbe
<b>Musicians:</b> Men’s Choir	Men’s Choir
<b>Gift Bearers:</b> Nick & Abby Asher Family	Steve AmRhein, Margie Georgi, Sara Hermesch
<b>Counters:</b> Cindy Johannigman, Emery Mapes, Aaron Gault	Brandon & Amy Scudder family

**New Year’s Eve Mass 6:00 pm**

**Sacristan:** Ann Stier

**Ushers:** Mike & Kathy Kohrman, Craig & Paula Wullenweber

**Lectors:** Claire Schoettmer, LaDonna Hoeing

**Eucharistic Ministers:** Jeanne Fry, Steve AmRhein, Brian Huff, LaDonna Hoeing

**Servers:** Tony Schwering, Mary Schwering, Brooklyn Ortman

**Musicians:** Sarah & Donna Schwering with Abby

**Gift Bearers:** Scott & Nicole Schoettmenr family

**Thank You** – The family of **Vera Wenning**, Paul & Sandy, & Thurman & Rose Marie, want to thank all those who donated, prepared and served the meal for their family and friends following Vera’s sudden death. They are most grateful for your support during this difficult time!

**Stewardship of Treasure: Our Sunday Collections: December 27, 2019**

Needed each weekend to meet budget:	\$2,800.00	Steeple Fund Goal:	\$95,000.00
Sunday Envelopes (and loose):	\$1,921.25		
		Collected this week:	\$38,073.11
Christmas	\$2,512.00	Pledges (not collected) this week:	\$32,650.00
Total Collections:	\$4,433.25	Total Collected:	\$141,885.32
		Total Pledges Not Collected:	\$51,150.00
		Grand Total:	\$193,035.32

**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 74% or \$11,085. Great start! We've had 36% 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:** 87 pledge cards have been returned thus far. And we have far surpassed our initial goal! We are indeed blessed! What a wonderful Christmas gift to our parish! Our expenses for this project will be far greater than the goal of \$95,000. that we put forth. If you recall, the bid from the contractor was \$175,000. Our plan was to subtract the difference from our savings account. **Every** amount in addition that we are able to collect will help us to maintain some savings to use for other maintenance projects, emergencies, or even other expenses that will undoubtedly arise from this project. We are most grateful for your generosity and support! A more detailed report will be coming from our Parish Council/Finance Committee, as promised, right after the first of the year. We owe a lot to the generosity of our parishioners! But in addition, we have received considerable assistance from friends and non-parishioners! Join in thanking God for his bounty!

**Remember in Prayer:** Pat Schwering, Benji Ortman, Barb Hoeing, John Kuzman, a special intention.

**Lights of Christmas! Open Door Tour:** Today, 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. Please come welcome guests to our lovely church. 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 the entryway if you can help. If you have a family gathering or other plans that preclude your presence, please drop off a few cookies to share with our guests. This is not a competition, and there will be no voting for the best decorated church. But if this was a competition, I'm sure we would win. Our church is very beautifully decorated for the coming of Christ! Take the opportunity to visit a few churches of our Deanery.

**Giving Envelopes** - On the table in the entryway, please find your new boxes of **Giving Envelopes** for the year 2020. If you are not able to find your name on a box, please let Sister know and a box will be provided for you. Our computer system is still not without flaws, but we hope to have captured all who routinely give. Use of the Sunday envelopes helps us track giving and meet compliance issues as a non-profit organization, yet protect your confidentiality. There is never a need to write your name or contribution amount on the envelope, as all is tracked by number. Thank you for making use of this system when able, and thank you for your generous giving!

The new **pictorial directories** have been shipped and will be appearing soon, one free copy for each family who sat for a portrait. When they appear, please take your copy and check your name off the list.

**St. Mary's School** will be hosting an “**Open House**” for prospective Preschool and Kindergarten students and parents, on Monday, January 27, 2020. Please see the flyer on the bulletin board for more details.

**Holy Family Church** is sponsoring a **turtle soup sale** to benefit their Religious Ed. Program, January 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup>. Soup available at The Village Store in Oldenburg. Flyer on Board.

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.



### SHARE THE LIGHT & HOPE OF CHRISTMAS

The Holy Family reminds us of the importance of nurturing God's presence in our lives and family. We celebrate Jesus' birth by taking time to be present with our friends and family, church community, and strangers alike. This central call to community and discipleship grounds who we are as Catholics.

Happy New Year to all! Blessings as we begin a new chapter of life at Immaculate Conception!