

**July 12, 2020**

**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:**

July 12 - 15<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time - Living and Deceased Members of the John Joseph Koors family

July 19 - 16<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time - Cathy Wittkamper

July 26 - 17<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time - Barbara Sandhage

August 2 - 18<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time - Carolyn Schoettmer

August 9 - 19<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time - Cathy Wittkamper

August 14 - (Vigil) The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary - Albert Naderman Friday evening, 7:00 pm

August 16 - 20<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time - Barbara Sandhage

August 23 - 21<sup>st</sup> Sunday In Ordinary Time - Kathryn Schoettmer

August 30 - 22<sup>nd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time - Albert Naderman (First Communion Sunday)

**NEWS:** A letter arrived a few days ago from the office of The Archbishop, naming **Fr. Santhosh Yohannan** the new Sacramental Minister at Immaculate Conception, effective September 9<sup>th</sup>, 2020. Yes, after ten years of being with us every Sunday, Fr. Bill will no longer be our priest minister. He is not completely retiring however! He will continue to serve at St. Maurice, Napoleon and at St. John, Osgood. Fr. John Geis will be retiring officially from active ministry, and hoping to regain his strength and energy. We may see him from time to time, but neither one will have responsibilities in our parish. We are grateful for the lives and ministries of both of these men, and for all that they each have done to serve the needs of our community! This all came about through the ongoing effort of our Archdiocese to lift some of the pressure from the shoulders of our elder priests, especially those in our Batesville Deanery. I am told today that this is the first step of a probable series of steps planned over the next few years to shuffle the cards a bit and redistribute the work load, with the goal of keeping our parishes open, but sharing the responsibility in creative ways.

Fr. Santhosh is a bit younger, though ordained for 24 years. He is originally from the Diocese of Quinlon, in India, and has been serving in this Deanery for the past year, part time at St. Louis, Batesville, and part time at St. Charles Borromeo, Milan. He will continue his work at Batesville where he resides, but give up the Milan parish to take on Millhousen. We welcome him, and ask God's blessing upon his time with us!

**Reminder:** our Church property remains closed for all but essential meetings or activities. We know it is hard to come to Mass and not socialize, but that is exactly what is being asked of us at this time. We are not to gather and chat outside of church, before or after Mass, nor at any time. We are not to promote any activity that calls us together. All gatherings, inside or outside of our buildings, all coming together on church property, is subject to health and safety protocols, which include face coverings, sanitation procedures, essential and frequent hand washing, in addition to continued social distancing. The Social Distancing is the hardest regulation for most of us to follow. The numbers are climbing again, and calling for us to intensify our efforts. Please remember to go directly to your car after receiving communion each Sunday morning. And be advised that masks are to stay on until you reach your car. On church grounds these are not optional guidelines, but remain stricter than in most other arenas. Please help us to keep everyone safe. If our older parishioners are to rejoin us on Sundays, we need to have our safety habits in place to provide a safe environment for them and all.

Please remember that the dispensation from attending Sunday liturgy is extended for **all** of us until **August 15th**. And, a gentle reminder that everyone over 65 years of age is strongly encouraged to stay home until that time. Those of us attending need to develop new habits and create the safest environment possible, so that re-entry is possible for others. If this date changes all will be notified by the **Remind** text message system.

Father Bill is resuming confession time prior to each Mass, in the confessional room in church. Please be aware that the room has no ventilation, no exhaust fan as is required for use. Each individual will need to sanitize hands, wear a face mask, and use the disinfectant spray provided before exiting the room. Chairs are placed six feet apart. Please observe all precautions to protect one another.

We need to be able to track an outbreak, so we ask each person who enters the church to **sign in**, checking off your name and phone number from an alphabetized list. If you don't find your name on the list, please sign the paper and write in your phone number so you can be contacted if needed.

Each person is also asked to wear a **mask** at all times within the building, and each person, young and old is asked to **sanitize hands** as they enter the church (or any of our buildings.) Those are givens. Once we have entered the church with those three steps, the newly trained ushers assigned, will assist you to your seat, observing **safe distancing** for all. Please make their job as easy as possible and follow their directions. As our crowd increases, this becomes all the more important.

A reminder: we are **not using or touching the kneelers** in church. For the present time, we will only stand, genuflect and sit. The purpose for omitting the kneeling posture is one of sanitation. Not all churches will be omitting this gesture. But those with cloth kneelers are strongly encouraged to do so. The cloth coverings are hard to sanitize. We will do our best to keep everyone safe, but this is one area where we need your help. Please refrain from touching or using the kneelers at all times.

Call the office anytime to add or remove names, to this prayer list, or to give any information you may want posted to the parish. Also, please call to have your name added to the list of those wishing to receive communion in your own home. Our Eucharistic Ministers will gladly serve that need.

**Remember in Prayer:** Nell Ann Pfeifer, Judy Zapfe. & Jim Cobb.

We are most grateful for your continued financial support. Thanks to those who mail or drop off checks. Because there is no Collection being taken up by the ushers, we ask that you place your envelopes in the drop-box as you enter or leave. **On-line Giving:** For those who wish to give on-line, the site is: [www.archindy.org/Giving](http://www.archindy.org/Giving). Choose Immaculate Conception, Millhousen, from the drop-down menu. You have the option for one time giving, or may set up a weekly, monthly or quarterly option for automatic deductions. We are slowly beginning to make up for the time we were apart, and have managed to end the fiscal year on a positive note, due to recent contributions and careful planning. We may not feel the pinch now until we move into fall and find the usual Auction contribution absent. A fiscal year end summary will be coming in a few weeks. Thank you to all who have "rescued" us in the past few weeks.

**Stewardship of Treasure: Our Sunday Collections: July 5, 2020**

Needed each weekend to meet budget:	<b>\$2,800.00</b>
Sunday Envelopes (and loose):	\$2,676.00
Education of Future Priests	\$20.00
Steeple Fund	\$120.00

Peter's Pence	\$20.00
Holy Places	\$25.00
<b>Total Collections:</b>	<b>\$2,861.00</b>

**Dates to Remember:** Meetings continue in an effort to get everyone updated to the new responsibilities of ministry in this time of change. Thanks to all of you who have come forward to learn and to volunteer! Many opportunities have been provided for learning, but if you are interested in beginning or continuing in a church ministry, and have missed the opportunities presented, please call the parish office. Only those folks who have been updated will be placed on the new ministry list.

Upcoming meetings include:

July 14 - **Church Cleaning** Chair persons - Tuesday evening, 7:00 pm in the school. Please call LaDonna to let her know of your willingness to continue in this capacity or your need to decline. But in the meantime, please reserve the date. Even if you are unable to continue due to age or health reasons, we need your insight.

July 19 - **Finance Committee** - immediately following Mass, Office Meeting Room

July 26 - **Parish Council** - immediately following Mass, in the school

July 29 - **Confirmation Candidates**, 7:00 pm, in the school

**First Communion - August 30** at the Sunday morning Mass. These children are prepared and waiting!

**Confirmation:** Confirmation for our youth will take place at St. Mary's Greensburg on Saturday morning **August 8<sup>th</sup>**. Seating will be limited due to social distancing. Only the candidate, the sponsor, and the parents of each candidate may attend this year. But please remember to support these young adults with your prayer, and by notes and texts and social media.

Yes, you may have noticed that the **crane is gone!** But the project is not complete. I am told that some ordered supplies have not yet arrived, and the crane is being put to good use this week in another location. There have been no promises concerning the end date, but a lot of progress has happened this week. After the heat which they have endured this past week, they all deserve a week of vacation!

Thank you to the **July Church cleaning committee:** Cindy Hermes (chair), Paula Fry, Melea Gault, Aaron Gault, Stephanie Hoeng, Timothy Hoeng. They did an awesome job!

**Ballots:** All ballots for Parish Council members are due today. Please place them in the box provided in the entryway.

Many have been asking about the **"Baby Bottles"** which were given to you on Ash Wednesday to serve as a collection instrument during Lent. Very soon after that the order came to close our doors. As Lent continued, sacrifices were made and change collected. Our Almsgiving this year was to support our local Clarity Organization, serving Moms who are choosing life, and deciding **against abortion**. Boxes have been provided in the entryway for these baby bottles to be returned. All bottles due today July 12. Thank you so much for your generosity to this project.

We continue to be vigilant about activity at any time on our church property. Please call the parish office number before gathering, parking, or using the parish property for anything but essential meetings. Any and all unexplained activity will be carefully monitored for the safety of all. Thank you for assisting to keep everyone safe.

Seems lots of folks are **"breaking out,"** with fireworks, parties, cookouts, graduations, showers, camping and short trips, and upcoming Confirmation and First Communion parties. Please be aware that the numbers are climbing. Please be careful, and safe. Please maintain the safest distances possible. Please mask and wash hands frequently. Please help to protect each other.