

October 18, 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@millhousenchurch.com

Mass Intentions:

October 18 - 29th Sunday in Ordinary time - Barbara Sandhage
October 25 - 30th Sunday in Ordinary Time - Albert Naderman
November 1 – All Saints Day – Carolyn Schoettmer
November 8 – 32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time - Cathy Wittkamper
November 15 – 33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time - Barbara Sandhage
November 22 – Feast of Christ the King - Albert Naderman
November 25 – Anticipation for Thanksgiving – Omer Fry
November 29 – First Sunday of Advent - Wanda Barnes

Remember in Prayer: Nell Ann Pfeifer, Judy Zapfe, Jim Price, Ruth Atchley (sister of Jeanie Harrison), George Martin, and Fr. Frank Eckstein.

We are most grateful for your continued financial support. The new **drop box** has replaced the ushers collecting our envelopes at Mass and provides a safe and private way to donate as you enter or leave the church. For those who wish to give on-line, the site is: www.archindy.org/Giving.

Stewardship of Treasure: Our Sunday Collections: October 11, 2020

*Needed each weekend to meet budget:	\$2,800.00	
Sunday Envelopes (and loose):	\$2,087.00	
Fuel	\$745.00	
Total Collections:	\$2,832.00	Well done!

Today we celebrate **World Mission Sunday**. Pope Francis invites the entire Church to support mission dioceses in Africa, Asia, the Pacific Islands, and parts of Latin America and Europe, where priests, religious and lay leaders serve the world's most vulnerable communities. Please keep the Pope's missions in your prayers and be generous in next week's collection for the Society for the Propagation of the Faith.

On Sunday, October 25, **Carl and Eileen Moorman** will celebrate their 60th Wedding anniversary. You may want to drop them a card to wish them congratulations! They will be having an open house at the Knights Hall in Millhousen, that afternoon from 2:00 to 5:00 pm. Stop by and help them to celebrate this special occasion! They request "no gifts" but just stories and laughter!

Dates to Remember:

- October is when we usually celebrate our **Parish Harvest Party**. There is no safe way to do that this year, but we will resume this celebration next Fall.
- October 26, Monday, we are scheduled for our Archdiocesan Audit, which happens every three years. Our financial records, meeting minutes and parish processes will be reviewed and assessed. Pray that we have everything in order and clearly recorded.
- November 1, All Saints Day, with a simple memorial service to honor all those we have lost this past year. This will be part of the Sunday morning celebration.

Confessions: Some had been asking about confessions and when the sacrament might become available. But, when we had the first opportunity on October 4th, Fr. Santhosh had no takers. He sometimes has a later Mass at Batesville, but if our numbers continue to be small, he is willing to be available every Sunday, immediately following Mass, beginning today.

Ten of our young parishioners will celebrate their **First reconciliation**, (or Penance, or Confession) on Sunday morning **December 6th**. We will publish names as we get nearer to the event. But all **Religious Ed. students** will need to add this date to their class schedule. Classes will meet as usual immediately after Mass, in the school building, and then reassemble in Church as ALL are provided with the opportunity for individual Reconciliation.

For the season of Advent, the Deanery has decided to cancel all **Penance Services** usually scheduled throughout the Deanery. However, a flyer will be posted noting when individual Confessions are available throughout the Deanery so that all may avail themselves of those times and places.

Liturgical Ministries

October 18

Ushers: Jerry Fry, Don Fry, Tim Scheidler,
Mark Hermesch

Lector: Jeanne Fry

Eucharistic Minister: LaDonna Hoeing

Musicians: The Schwerings with Abby

October 25th

Mark Stier, Mitch & Lori Nobbe

LaDonna Hoeing

Jeanne Fry

October Church Cleaning – Amy Scudder (Chairperson), Helen Schutte, Aimee Cunningham, Elizabeth Cunningham, Jane Scheidler, Emilee Baltus.

Collection Counters: Beginning at the time of our closure in March, and continuing until this time, counting of our Sunday Collection each week, has been done solely by Sister Donna. Many of our former counters are among the elders that we are protecting during this time of COVID 19. Some of the former counters are no longer consistently attending Immaculate Conception, and two are now permanently in Nursing homes. While this new process has been “working” it will need to be amended. While preparing for the upcoming audit, it has been noted that counting needs to be a task of parishioner volunteers, and I am sure this “breach in policy” will be noted. The task is very “regulated by policy” but is not hard. It takes about 30 min. or less each Sunday, and any dedicated volunteer could be trained and would succeed. The most ideal situation would be for two dedicated (and unrelated) individuals to work together each Sunday to find their rhythm. In addition, we would need a couple of substitutes, who would be able to fill in whenever the assigned individuals are away, ill, or need a break. Most (or at least many) parishes have the same individuals count routinely each week. We could do the same. We don’t really need four teams of three members each as we have used in the past. But we do need a couple of dedicated individuals. The ideal counting time is immediately after Mass on Sunday so folks don’t need to be making additional trips. But that could be negotiated depending upon who is willing to take this on. Obviously, that eliminates those involved in Religious Ed. and those taking Communion to the homebound. Deposits are done on Mondays so that the deposit slips are here for the bookkeeper on Tuesdays. If you are interested, and have a little time each week, or frequently, on Sunday morning, please consider this role. We would like to have a “plan” by the time of the audit.

Veterans Day – Who are our Veterans? We are still hoping for more names. There are six on our list. But there must be more. With Veterans Day approaching we are reaching out to all of you to tell us who in our parish has served their country? We will try to honor, respect, and acknowledge each one. If you are a veteran or know someone who is, please share your secret!

In past bulletins you may have read a note concerning the new “**Gospel Weeklies**” the pamphlets that we have chosen to replace the classroom textbooks. They are working out very well! We ordered these products before we had come to final decisions concerning classes and registrations. Not knowing if there would be a Kindergarten class, we ordered four subscriptions and have them available for any family who might want to introduce the Gospel concept to their young ones. Four copies each, of the past month of Gospel Weeklies are available for pick up in the entryway. As you pick up the bulletin each week, your Kindergarten age child may want to pick up the colorful “**Promise**” pamphlet. Help yourself!

Anointings: It has become our custom, in the past few years, to have a special healing Mass with individual anointings, in the fall each year, to get a jump start before the weather gets bad. It has been a welcomed occasion, gathering 30 – 40 of our older parishioners, and those of the Cohort, in social support, shared prayer and anointing, and a shared meal. The very people who need this spiritual gift, are not yet able to return to church, much less gather together. Perhaps a year from now we can resume this practice. But for now, Fr. Santhosh and I are willing to come to you for anointing. Last week we got an early start, and anointed five in their homes, before it became an emergency visit. One does not need to wait until the 11th hour to be anointed, but may seek the sacrament for strength on the journey. If you are advanced in age, or chronically ill, or for any reason would appreciate this sacrament of healing and strength, please call the office and let us know. We will come to you. On some Sundays Fr. Santhosh has time immediately following Mass. If you are open to it, we could visit your home at that time to bring the sacrament to you. Once one is hospitalized or in a nursing home, visiting becomes much more limited. Please don’t hesitate to welcome us if you are ill or homebound, or if you know of a family member who is. Just call the office to make your need known.

COVID RELATED PRECAUTIONS:

The Dispensation from attending Sunday Liturgy was extended to November 1, and while that date is quickly approaching, we have not yet had a message from the Archdiocese concerning that dispensation. It may be continued, given the current rise in numbers in our state. But if it is not, then we will be welcoming back a few more of our members who have patiently been waiting. Many of our elders are longing to rejoin us on Sundays. We at Immaculate Conception will welcome all, and encourage each person to make individual and appropriate decisions, based on their condition and personal judgement. We will continue to create and maintain a safe environment for all who choose to attend. Putting all judgements aside, we will support the individual’s freedom of choice. All who attend, however, will need to continue safe practices, by **masking, hand sanitizing, and safe distancing**. We are grateful to our ushers for all of their faithful leadership during these past few months, and will continue to follow their direction. However, we have begun to relax our social distancing precautions a bit to allow for additional seating. We have added chairs to the aisles, and a few in the back of the church as space allows. Because our cloth covered chairs are not suitable for sanitizing, we will be using only metal folding chairs. However, each family may seat themselves, giving due respect to each other and maintaining the safe distance as prescribed. The tape barriers have been removed from the pews, allowing greater flexibility. Please be attentive to each other and continue to allow at least three feet of space or more as able. The ushers will assist as needed, but we are shifting responsibility to the individual. If assistance is needed please ask an usher. If this causes undue chaos we will return to our former practice of having the ushers to seat everyone. Please be safe.

Please see the Bulletin Board for details concerning the **Bob Rust Memorial Dinner** at the Knights of St. John Hall, in Greensburg on Thursday, November 12, 2020 from 4-7 pm. Meals are drive through only.

Yard Signs for “Respect Life Month, October, are available for a \$5 donation if yours has been stolen or damaged. If you would like to order one please call Patricia Louagie at 812-614-2528. Decatur County Right to Life.