

May 9, 2021

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

Today is **Mother's Day!** We honor and bless all Mothers, Step-Mothers, Adoptive Mothers, Grandmothers, God-Mothers, as well as all who nurture, and care for us, who by their very nature, bring forth new life!

Remember in Prayer: Dennis DiGiusto, Benji Ortman, Rylie Bennett, and all of those for whom we have promised to pray. Remember especially the family friends and classmates of Fr. Jey, who reside in India, where the COVID virus is taking the country by storm. India is second only to the United States in Covid cases, however, they are ill prepared to medically serve this growing population. They don't have the hospitals, oxygen, medications, personnel, nor financial resources to meet the need. All travel to and from India has been halted. We are asked to support them with our prayers.

Mass Intentions:

May 9 - Mother's Day – Martha Fry.

May 16 – The Ascension – Carolyn Schoettmer

May 23 – Pentecost Sunday – Barbara Sandhage

May 30 – Trinity Sunday – Cheryl Johannigman

Stewardship of Treasure: Our Sunday Collections: May 2, 2021

*Needed **each** weekend to meet budget: \$2,800.00

Sunday Envelopes (and loose): \$1,324.00

Catholic Home Missions \$40.00

Total Collections: \$1,364.00

The grand total from our **Lenten Sacrifice Jars** to assist with the local **"Baby Box"** came to **\$997.76!!** What a tremendous gift to help save a life in a desperate situation!! Thank you to all for your generosity!

The Special Collection, today is for **Clarity** to assist young Mothers choosing to support new life. There is no envelope in your box for Clarity, any loose contributions this week in our drop-box will go to Clarity. So please use church envelopes for parish contributions.

Next weekend our special collection supports the **Catholic Communication Campaign**. This campaign connects people with Christ and builds Catholic communities in the United States and in developing countries using the internet, television, radio, and print media. Half of the money collected remains here in the Archdiocese of Indianapolis to fund local communications efforts. Your support helps spread the Gospel message!

Dates to Remember:

May 9 – Mother's Day, May Crowning

May 10 – Auction Meeting, 6:00 pm, school basement

May 16 – honor our graduates during Mass

May 30 – Please join us for the honor guard – salute to our Veterans, Cemetery around 10:00 am.

June 6 – Memorial for all parishioners who were buried during COVID without a formal funeral, after Mass.

Liturgical Ministries

May 9

Ushers: Mark Stier, Aaron Gault, Tim Hoeing

Lector: Jerry Fry

Musicians: the Schwerings with Abby

May 16

Jerry Fry, Don Fry, Tim Scheidler

Ben Stier

Men's Choir

Decatur County Board of Health: Our numbers went up a little this week, but only a little, so we remain in the blue zone on the matrix. We are doing well as a county compared to many others. We will continue to monitor, while taking our lead from the Archdiocese.

The spring **Archdiocesan Business Meeting** took place on Tuesday of last week, and while some expected the dispensation to be lifted, it was not. The report indicated that this topic is receiving much discussion and consideration, and while not recommending that anyone, at any age, refrain from attending liturgy, some still consider it too soon to mandate church attendance. While vaccines have helped tremendously to ease the anxiety and offer a much safer option for all, many counties are still in a yellow zone rather than blue. We anticipate frequent updates to the precautionary recommendations, and will perhaps lift the dispensation in a few weeks. In the meantime, the message to be circulated is that **Mass attendance is a Privilege and a Joy**, rather than looking upon it as an obligation. All are invited, regardless of age, and all are to be protected and kept safe. The continued expectation of Archbishop Thompson is that a face covering be worn at all liturgies, and at all times within our parish buildings. If our activities are outside, we can ease up a bit. The greater danger is within the confined space. He still encourages safe distancing, and sanitizing of hands, every time we pass in and out of the buildings.

One precaution that has been lifted is the empty holy water font. As long as everyone is hand sanitizing, we are able to begin filling the font again. Use of the holy water, of course, is optional, but it will be available at the main entrance very soon. In addition, if our numbers stay low, we will discontinue the signing in process. The ushers will (probably forever) need to get an accurate count. That process was initiated long before COVID hit the stage. Attendance records guide lots of decisions, especially allocation of scarce resources, our priests.

Concerning COVID-19 vaccinations: ALL are strongly encouraged to receive the vaccine “to promote the common good and protect the health of the most vulnerable among us.” But, note there is **no policy requiring** parishioners, or volunteers, to get vaccinated. They go on to quote from a recent USCCB document which states: “Being vaccinated safely against COVID-19 should be considered an act of love of our neighbor and part of our moral responsibility for the common good.”

The dispensation from the obligation to participate at Mass on Sundays and Holy Days of Obligation is extended in the Archdiocese and throughout the whole State of Indiana until further notice.

SOMETHING AMAZING IS HERE for our youth!!!!!!!

A year ago, we started talking at our Deanery meeting about developing a **Youth Retreat** experience here in the Batesville Deanery. Some of the priests and youth leaders have been involved in planning, and are happy to announce the first ever **Intense Youth Conference**, will take place this summer June 18-20. It will be

held at St. Leon, and cost will be only \$100.00 per youth to cover the speakers, and fees. The event will all be outside including two overnights, (in tents). It will also include opportunities for adoration, confession, and fireworks! It will end on Sunday with a closing Mass at 11:00 am. The retreat is open to all kids 8th grade through senior in high School. The team is actively recruiting youth team leaders to be trained in advance to assist with group activities. If interested in leadership, application must receive validation from pastor or PLC. The Deanery is so proud to be offering this opportunity! Learn more and register at

WWW.INTENSECONFERENCE.NET. Invite your friends! Expecting 250 to 300 Registrations. First come first serve. Registration will close when maximum safe number is reached.

MEMORIAL MASS -You may be aware that many people were **not able** to have a formal funeral during our year of COVID. Those hospitalized were not even able to have company or family attendance during their last hours. All were given a **proper burial**, but some families would like a bit more closure. We have attempted to schedule a group Memorial Mass several times, and each time it has been cancelled due to more COVID diagnosis. We are trying once again, on June 6th. following our usual Sunday Mass (men have volunteered to sing), we will **remember** each person buried at Immaculate Conception during this past year. Please join us and invite extended family or friends. Following Mass, we hope to go to the cemetery to bless any graves that have not yet been blessed.

The Decatur County Right to Life will be hosting a **Bob Rust Memorial Dinner**.

May 21st 2021, 4:00pm -7:00pm, Knights of St Johns Hall Greensburg, 312 S Wilder St, Greensburg, IN 47240

DRIVE THRU ONLY. Your Choice of Grilled pork chop or chicken breast, green beans, macaroni and cheese & roll. \$10 per meal. Tickets are required. Please contact any member of our group to get yours!

Patricia 812-614-2528, Carol 812-614-0680, Kate 812-614-0987, Monica 812-614-4873, Pat 812-614-0595.

Beginnings and Endings:

- On Tuesday of this week we buried former parishioner Grace Frances Barhorst beside her husband who preceded her in death almost 35 years ago. May she rest in peace.
- Also, on Tuesday of this week, we received a new music ministry volunteer, Allison Ortman. She is settled into her new career and ready to begin a new endeavor. Welcome Allison!
- After many long years of baking, cooking, calling and coordinating, Eileen Moorman has turned over the parish records and keys for funeral meals. The records reflect all volunteers over the past 40 plus years, and Eileen has been part of the process for most of that time. We don't want to miss this opportunity to thank her for this wonderful ministry! At the time of a death, families are so grateful for this service and kindness. Due to the COVID precautions, this loving ministry has been suspended for the past year or more. When it might resume we still don't know, but new regulations around food service will greatly impact its future.
- Graduation is an ending, as well as a new beginning. Next weekend we celebrate those in our parish who are marking this milestone! We especially focus on those who finish High school, ending a special time of growth and development, and signaling a new step into an unknown future. It is an exciting time as they accept scholarships, take on new roles of responsibility, move away from home, assume more independence, and really dive into the dreams for their future! Please join us as we celebrate and honor them!



The Most Reverend Charles C. Thompson
Archdiocese of Indianapolis
1400 N. Meridian Street
Indianapolis, IN 46202-2367
317-236-1403

27 April 2021

Dear Brothers & Sisters in Christ,

Our Archdiocese will take up the collection for the Catholic Communications Campaign on the weekend of May 15-16. Please prayerfully consider supporting the collection this year. Half of the collected funds stay right here in the Archdiocese of Indianapolis and the other half supports communications projects in the United States and around the world.

These funds help fund our archdiocesan Communications Office and defray the cost of making our award-winning newspaper, *The Criterion*, available to every household throughout the Archdiocese.

Nationally, CCC funds were used last year to pay for media training for seminarians to production of a movie about Catholic Worker Movement founder, Dorothy Day. Dorothy Day lived her Catholic faith in an intentional way that still inspires the work of those who speak out on behalf of the poor and marginalized. Her life of Christian virtue has led to her being declared “Venerable” by the Church, putting her on the path to beatification.

The documentary film, *Revolution of the Heart: The Dorothy Day Story* looks into her life as a journalist, peace activist, and Catholic whose Catholic Worker Houses show hospitality to the poorest and most vulnerable in our midst. With assistance from the Catholic Communications Campaign, this production became a reality, with broadcasts on public television and screenings in venues around the country. When you support the Catholic Communications Campaign, you bring stories of the Catholic faith in action, like Dorothy Day’s story, to light for others.

For more information about the collection and the projects it supports, visit www.usccb.org/cc. Support the collection and build community. Thank you for your generosity.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

+ *Charles C. Thompson*

Most Reverend Charles C. Thompson
Archbishop of Indianapolis



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6 May 2021

Dear Priests & PLCs:

Your voice could help save millions of lives. The Hyde Amendment has protected Americans from funding abortion for 45 years. It's credited with saving the lives of over **2.4 million children** to date.

Now, powerful members of Congress want to take away this law that both Democrats and Republicans have supported for nearly half a century. Without it, *billions* of taxpayer dollars could go to abortion. That means abortions would be *cheaper, easier, and funded* with our taxpayer dollars.

As Pope Francis has said, "The future of humanity ... is fundamentally in the hands of peoples and in their ability to organize." It is **critically important** for Catholics to send a *strong* message before Congress moves forward to impose taxpayer-funded abortion. Because of the *incredibly high stakes* Congress needs to hear from a *massive* number of people.

I invite the people of your parish to join our diocesan response to this nationwide effort by the USCCB, set for the **first week of June**. The primary goal is for *millions of Catholics to sign the petition* on NoTaxpayerAbortion.com.

The USCCB has created **easy, ready-to-use tools** that can be found at respectlife.org/no-taxpayer-abortion. These include a sample announcement, graphics, flyer, and infographic. More tools continue to be added as they become available, so be sure to check back.

Additionally, the USCCB is hosting a webinar **Wednesday, May 12 at 2:00 PM (EDT)** that will give more information on the push for tax dollars to pay for abortion and what Catholics can do to stop it. Anyone interested can register at respectlife.org/no-taxpayer-abortion.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Most Reverend Charles C. Thompson
Archbishop of Indianapolis

PS: Please consider including this announcement in your parish bulletin and other communications: ***Stop your tax dollars from going to abortion.*** NoTaxpayerAbortion.com

My Mother

*You know I've never wrote a poem
one written just for you
and with that realization
I feel a little blue*

*For all the years you raised me
you really sacrificed
I've never even thanked you mom
for giving me my life*

*And if I had to choose just one
that I'm most thankful for
I'd have to pick you mother
for you have given more*

*I don't mean just the diapers
or how I'd wake you late at night
I don't mean for forgiving me
for all the trouble, and the fights*

*But for all the love and patience
as my teacher, nurse, and friend
I couldn't measure what you've given
nor my love, it has no end*

*I know we've had our differences
and yes I've brought you grief
to know that you still love me
is much to my relief*

*So please accept all my love
for the joy you give away
I hope it comes and fills your heart
when you read my poem today*

*Because the person that you are
for all you say and do
you are so very special
and I'm so very proud of you*

*So now the time and words have come
I've written them with love
for when I think of you, my mother
I thank my God above*

My Mother

*You know I've never wrote a poem
one written just for you
and with that realization
I feel a little blue*

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