

June 6, 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@millhousenchurch.com

Fr. Jey is away this week, and we **welcome Fr. Dennis Woerter, a Dominican**, who is the Associate Pastor at the University Campus parish in Bloomington. He had to rise early and drive a long distance to be with us. We are grateful for his presence with us, and for being flexible to meet our needs! While some may want to meet and greet following Mass, unfortunately, Fr. Dennis will be on a tight schedule, as he needs to repeat that long drive, back to Bloomington, arriving in time for the noon Mass. So, we thank him now.

At the end of Mass this morning we will remember, and name those parishioners, who have been buried from this parish during the COVID pandemic. It is not possible to have individual funeral Masses for all of them, but we do want to acknowledge the loss and ongoing grief those deaths have caused. Most did not die of COVID, but because of the COVID precautions, families and friends were denied the parish support that usually comes with our funeral rituals. Some were denied hospital visits, some were denied funeral home services, all had abbreviated burials and little to no social support from friends and neighbors and fellow parishioners. We offer them our support today. Fr. Dennis will lead us in prayer, and then will lead a procession out to the cemetery where we will bless the graves. The graves have been marked, some are decorated. Families may gather for individual prayer at the grave sites. Parishioners may mingle and socialize as long as you like. Fr. will have to rush off for his next line of duty.

Fr. Jey asked me to let all of you know that he celebrates his **birthday** this week, on June 9th. He asks for your prayers.

Sr Christine is celebrating her **60th Jubilee** this year, and we offer her our congratulations! So, what is a jubilee? It is a year of celebration, a special anniversary! A year of special blessings! In this case, celebrating 60 years as a Franciscan Sister. You may want to send her a note or a card thanking her for many years of service! Her mailing address is: Sister Christine Ernstes, P.O. Box 100, Oldenburg, Indiana 47036-0100.,

Remember in Prayer: Jean Johannigman, Dennis DiGiusto, Benji Ortman, Rylie Bennett, and all of those for whom we have promised to pray.

Mass Intentions:

June 6 – Corpus Christi – Nick & Rose Ann Schwering

June 13 – 11th Sunday in Ordinary Time – Barbara Sandhage

June 20 – 12th Sunday in Ordinary Time – Jim Meyer

June 27 – 13th Sunday in Ordinary Time – Cheryl Johannigman

Stewardship of Treasure: Our Sunday Collections: May 30, 2021

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

Sunday Envelopes (and loose): \$1,335.00

Education of Future Priests: \$344.00

Total Collections: \$1,679.00

A note too concerning the **United Catholic Appeal**, which is winding down. Your generous pledges in Fall, and since, have helped us to promise 94% of our annual set goal. Thank you! Considering the challenges of the past year, we have done a tremendous job! However, not all pledges have been received. At last check, we were only at the **75%** mark in funds received. If you pledged and still intend to make good on your promise, there are just two weeks left to make a final payment. Again, thank you for your generosity!

Two weeks from today, June 20, we celebrate Father's Day, and, as is our tradition, we have the "Pop Collection" on Pop's Day, for the soft drinks needed for the Auction Day sales. We are planning on moving forward with the Auction, so the collection is scheduled. However, in addition, there is a special collection scheduled that same day this year, the national Peter's Pence Collection to support the works of the Holy Father. The envelope for that collection is in your box. So as not to confuse the funding, a special collection container will be placed in the entryway for the "Pop Collection" and donations may be collected for that fund over several weeks. Look for the special jar marked "Pop Collection" in the entryway.

Dates to Remember:

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

June 20 – Our annual Father's Day "Pop Collection" to secure funding for soda pop for Auction Day.

Liturgical Ministries

June 6, Corpus Christi

Ushers: Jerry Fry, Don Fry, Tim Scheidler

Sacristan: Ladonna Hoeing

Lector: Jeannie Fry

Musicians: Men's Choir

Counters: Josh Hornberger, Ann Stier

June Church Cleaning: Lois Johannigman, Chairperson, Jeannie Harrison, Carrie Stier, Nancy Vanderpohl, and Kate Bedel.

June 13

Mark Stier, Aaron Gault, Tim Hoeing

Sister Donna

LaDonna Hoeing

Men's Choir

Steve AmRhein, June Johannigman

Liturgy Notes: While Church attendance is **not** mandated yet, **all** parishioners, of any age, are encouraged to resume liturgy attendance, because **Mass attendance is a Privilege and a Joy**. The "coming together" is our way to support one another, to build up our community. The Eucharist is our source of nourishment, the food for our spirits. Archbishop Thompson strongly encourages us to continue the use of face coverings 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 our buildings. The ushers will guide you if there is a change, and will continue assisting to seat anyone who needs to find a safer spot.

Because the COVID numbers in our area continue to stay fairly low, we have begun to schedule **sacristans** and counters. Again, we are not encouraged, nor discouraged any longer from singing, you can join in if you like. A reminder, concerning our **internal** doors: all are required to remain open, to allow for the greatest air flow possible, regardless of heat, or cooled air lost. Like the masking, this will probably remain in place for a considerable time.

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. A segment from a recent USCCB document 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 June 11, 2021.

Parish Council – three members of our current parish council are completing their three-year terms. If you are interested in serving your parish on this very important advisory board, please call the office to add your name to our ballot. The term of service would be from July 2021 to June 2024. Parish Council generally meets 4-5 times per year, not more than every two months.

Planning for our annual fundraiser has officially begun! Please mark August 14th on your calendars for the **Immaculate Conception Community Auction**. While some people haven’t begun to circulate yet, others are filled with anxious anticipation! We may have to make some modifications. Our end goal is making money for our parish, but **safety for all** needs to be our biggest concern. We are calling for all of you! We need everyone to help fill all of the volunteer posts that are needed. Chairperson **Tim Hoeing** is leading the way. There are just 11 weeks left before the big day, with a lot of work to be done. Everyone working together will accomplish the goal!

Today is the Feast of **Corpus Christi**, the day we celebrate the **Body and Blood of Christ!** The Eucharist is central to our faith, it is Christ with us, it is our food and nourishment, it is the reason we come together. Remembering that **we** are the **body of Christ**, gives us reason to respect, and honor and celebrate one another.

In days gone by, the Church celebrated this great feast by joining in solemn processions, carrying the Eucharist in a monstrance, and offering adoration, with songs of praise and benediction. A few parishes continue that tradition, some ending with a special parish meal and celebration.

Because of their care and service to the Eucharist, the church has designated this day to celebrate the rite of installation of new Eucharistic Ministers. In many parishes that rite will be happening today. Ours will be delayed a week or two until Fr. Jey returns. But we did receive our Eucharistic Minister appointments this week from the Archbishop, with a note encouraging at least an annual meeting to review the sacred privilege and functions of this role. Appointments for the role of Eucharistic Ministers are made for a three-year term. All prior terms, here at Immaculate Conception, have expired. Those newly appointed, for the next three years, have terms that run from today June 6, 2021 to June 6, 2024. Only those newly appointed, may serve in taking the Holy Eucharist to the homes of shut-ins, hospitals, nursing homes, and may assist to distribute the Eucharist at Mass as needed.

Only the pastor/PLC or the designee, may access the tabernacle, and only in special need. The Eucharist is generally to be taken from the table of celebration on Sunday morning directly to the appointed homebound parishioner. It is carried in a special box (a pyx), and that special box is blessed and carried in the special care of the Eucharistic Minister, not passed off to others, not laid to wait in a car, in a purse, in a home or any other resting place.

Those appointed for this special ministry, are chosen from a list compiled by the pastor, of people who consistently attend Mass, who model great respect for the Eucharist, who live Christian lives, following all Church guidelines and meeting all qualifications of active Catholics as outlined for reception of the sacraments, and for sponsors. In addition, they must be responsible and willing. We thank them for this dedicated service.