

June 27, 2021

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION CHURCH, MILLHOUSEN, IN

*“We, the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Indianapolis,
joyfully proclaim the Gospel of Jesus Christ to all people
by living his mission of mercy, hope and salvation.”*

Bulletin information is due by Wednesday at 10:00 a.m. sisterdonna@millhousenchurch.com

Mass Intentions:

June 27 – 13th Sunday in Ordinary Time – Cheryl Johannigman
July 4 – 14th Sunday in Ordinary Time – Charlotte Redelman
July 11 – 15th Sunday in Ordinary Time – Harold Klosterkemper
July 18 – 16th Sunday in Ordinary Time – Arthur Duerstock
July 25 – 17th Sunday in Ordinary Time – Cheryl Johannigman

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| Stewardship of Treasure: Our Sunday Collections: June 20, 2021 | |
| *Needed each weekend to meet budget: | \$2,800.00 |
| Sunday Envelopes (and loose): | \$1,485.00 |
| Education of Future Priests: | \$15.00 |
| Cemetery: | \$245.00 |
| Pop for Auction: | \$226.00 |
| Total Collections: | \$1,971.00 |

Today, June 27, we continue the “Pop Collection” for the soft drinks for Auction Day. In addition, there is a special collection scheduled, 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 has been 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.

Liturgical Ministries

June 27

Ushers: Jerry Fry, Don Fry, Tim Scheidler, Brian Wittkamper
Sacristan: Ladonna Hoeing
Lector: Jerry Fry
Musicians: Women’s Choir
Counters: Steve AmRhein, Kate Bedel

July 4

Mark Hermesch, Mitch & Lori Nobbe
Sister Donna
Ben Stier
Men’s Choir
Josh Hornberger, Ann Stier

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

*A group of parishioners has been **praying the rosary** together on Monday mornings at 10:30 in the church, for the intention of the parish. If you are home on Mondays and have a little time, please come join in.

Liturgy Notes: The dispensation from the obligation to participate at Mass on Sundays and Holy Days of Obligation has now ended. All parishioners, of any age, are encouraged to resume liturgy attendance each Sunday. The “coming together” is our way to support one another, to build up our community. The celebration of the Eucharist at Mass is the center of our life and mission as Catholics. It is our nourishment, food for our spirits, and our source of joy.

To assist us in encouraging parishioners to return to the Eucharist with joy, the Archdiocese has prepared a number of very **brief videos**, each addressing a specific facet of what a gift and privilege it is for us to attend Sunday Mass. These video clips may be shared far and wide, using every digital communication means at our disposal. We can use them as a tool for evangelization. They may also be useful for individual and small group prayer and reflection, or for discussion.

We have a great opportunity, at this time, to highlight the centrality of Mass, the Eucharist and all of the sacraments, in ways that engage the minds and hearts of the faithful – **encouraging them to make Mass a top priority each and every weekend.** We pray these resources will be helpful to you as you continue to invite each other, and all parishioners, to return to the Eucharist with joy.

***** All resources are available at www.archindy.org/UnitedInTheEucharist .*****

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 be less concerned. 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.

Exchange of Peace: As we are resuming many actions and behaviors of our pre-COVID lives, Fr. Jey introduced back into our liturgy, the exchange of PEACE. A good move on his part! He has reminded us that this action is to be “touchless” as long as we are social distancing. He took that for granted. Some of us did not. We may nod or wave or smile, or verbally greet, but we are encouraged to NOT shake hands, hug, or in anyway touch another. This is understood throughout the diocese and encourages respect for the other. It is easy to fall back into old patterns, but hard not to. Be at PEACE.

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.”

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.

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.

Today, another way to **support life:** we are asked to **open our hearts and homes to host exchange students** from Europe and Asia. The students speak English, are covered by medical insurance, and hope to arrive in August to begin their new high school. For more information about this noble cause, please see the insert today. The parish would be rewarded with a donation of \$400.00 for each student we can assist in placing.

Church Painting Project: While this project was introduced to our committees last already last August, it is moving along very slowly, but it IS developing. This is the update:

In January and early **February**, the Buildings and Grounds Committee, led by Dave Stone, initiated the contract bidding process with local painters (5 in all) and with two local sound system companies. All bids were in by late February, and in early **March** we met as a combined group, Parish Council, Finance Committee, Buildings and Grounds Committee, and PLC, to review those bids as presented by Dave, and to discuss and propose our choices. It was agreed that the sound system had the highest priority, and that replacing it, prior to painting, was the wisest decision. As the discussion proceeded, it was also proposed that we include replacing the spotlights, converting to LED bulbs in the spotlight cases, and in the overhead lights, and adding a control switch to the ceiling fans, all while we have the lift on site.

Following the meeting the proposals were sent off to the Archdiocese and within 24 hours we received notice that the proposals needed to be accompanied by an artist's rendition, with color strips, and approvals with signatures from the PLC and Finance Council.

Finance Committee met and approved our proposal in writing, and by mid-**March** we also forwarded the artist rendition with color strips and resubmitted our proposal. We now learned that the proposal needed to clear the Archdiocesan Worship Committee, the Liturgical Art Committee, and the Buildings and Architectural Committee prior to being submitted to the Archbishop for signing. By **April 12** we received word that the project was officially approved, but individual bids were still being reviewed. It took until **May 14** to learn that Paragon Painting, Inc. from Columbus, would be our official painting contractor, and on **June 14** we finally received word that we could proceed with the Sound System plans, contracting with Designed Sound and Video (*Melody Mart*) from Greensburg.

In the meantime, we gathered and submitted insurance documentation and references for the two contractors, while continuing to wait on the paint specs from the Archdiocese. We also needed new bids from both contractors as the old bids were outdated. By the time the paint specs arrived last week I had called all of the references, and as of yesterday, all references returned glowing information concerning our choice of vendors.

On Tuesday of this week we finally signed the contract with Designed Sound, and they hope to begin work in a few weeks. However, due to the current state of our economy, workers are scarce, and shipments are backed up on the sound components. Everyone is doing their best to move this along.

Communications from Paragon Painting this week also backed up the process a bit, as the owner, Ginger, was called out of town suddenly, due to her sister receiving a terminal cancer diagnosis. Contract negotiations are on a temporary hold, and we promised our prayers of support. We know for sure that painting will not begin until the middle of August, after the Auction, but exact timing is not yet certain. Due to the reduced labor force, and the increased cost of materials and shipping, all of our projected expenses are going up a bit, and the time frame has gone from four weeks to eight weeks at a minimum.

We received approval from the Office of Worship to move our liturgical services to the parish hall (school basement) for the duration of the time we are displaced from the Church. So, following the Auction, we will reform our new worship space. There will be no AC, no sound system, and a much lessor space, but we do have a ramp for handicap access, and easy access to restrooms. It will also be much cooler than the gym space.

Stay tuned as the plans evolve, ever so slowly. We can begin praying already now, for everyone's safety, for the sister of our paint contractor, and in thanksgiving for our donors!