

July 11, 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@millhouseschurch.com

Mass Intentions:

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

Stewardship of Treasure: Our Sunday Collections: July 4, 2021

*Needed each weekend to meet budget:	\$2,800.00
Sunday Envelopes (and loose):	\$1,232.00
Cemetery:	\$5.00
Peter’s Pence:	\$15.00
Total Collections:	\$1,252.00

Today, we continue the “Pop Collection” for the soft drinks for Auction Day. Look for the special jar marked “Pop Collection” in the entryway.

Liturgical Ministries

July 11

July 18

Ushers: Mark Stier, Aaron Gault, Tim Hoeing

Jerry Fry, Don Fy, Tim Scheidler, Brian Wittkamper

Sacristan: LaDonna Hoeing

Sister Donna

Lector: Niki Johannigman

Melea Gault

Musicians: Men’s Choir

Women’s Choir

Counters: Steve AmRhein, June Johannigman

Josh Hornberger, Steve AmRhein

July Church Cleaning: Cindy Hermes - Chair, Paula Fry, Melea & Aaron Gault, Stephanie & Tim Hoeing.

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.

***Rosary** for the parish, Monday mornings at 10:30 in the church. All are welcome.

Liturgy Notes: 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, and we are vaccinated, 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 we continue to social distance. 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.”

A couple of **trees** on our property have come down during the recent storm. If anyone is interested in the **wood**, please call the office.

It has recently been announced that the first ever **World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly** will be celebrated this year on July 25th. Pope Francis has chosen to designate this special occasion to give a joyous message of pride and support to each and every grandparent and elderly person, even the most isolated.

With this in mind, it would be especially meaningful if, as the Day approaches, the scripture message that was announced today – **“I am with you always” (Mt. 28:20)** – could be delivered by every grandchild to their own grandparents, and by young people everywhere, to the lonely elderly members of their communities.

We will dedicate our Sunday Mass on that day to Grandparents and the elderly. And, in anticipation of the feast of Sts. Joachim and Ann, grandparents of Jesus, usually celebrated on July 26, we will explore a bit of what we know about these individuals.

According to tradition, Mary spent her young life as a child, at the temple. Her parents Joachim and Anne, presented their young daughter to the temple for service and study, in thanksgiving for the great gift God had given them through her. The memorial helps us to think about the ways we prepare ourselves for Jesus Christ to be born into our lives. We don’t know that much about St. Anne, but we know this: she was the only woman who gave birth to the Immaculate Conception.

Confused? Oh, don’t be. In case you don’t know just what the Immaculate Conception is, here’s what it isn’t. It isn’t Christ being born without the benefit of sex. No, that’s what we call the Virgin Birth.

The Immaculate Conception is the conception of Mary, in the womb of her mother, Anne, in the regular way, but without the stain of Original Sin. So, she was born pure.

How amazing. But that isn't all. Anne is the grandmother of Jesus, and that means God in also her grandson. He still had to listen to her! She's also the mother-in-law of St. Joseph, the foster father of Jesus, and Mary's husband.

Anne was born in Bethlehem and married Joachim from Nazareth in Galilee. We don't know this from the Bible, because Anne's name is never mentioned. But she is talked about in the Gospel of St. James, which was written about 150 years after she was around. We know the name Anne comes from the Hebrew name Hannah, which means Grace. We imagine Joachim was a shepherd, a common profession in those days.

They were an older couple, and then an angel appeared to Anne and said she was chosen to have this very special little girl. She must have been thrilled, and a little nervous.

Since we know Mary knew how to sew, we imagine Anne was the one who taught her. And Anne likely took care of Jesus when he was a child, so Mary and Joseph could have a night out. She might have even witnessed his first miracles. And she probably scolded him when he didn't pay attention, or finish his dinner. And she passed down stories. Like all grandmas. As the Grandmother of Jesus, she has the ear of God. So, pray to her.

Update on the PAINTING project: Ginger, of Ginger & Wayne Hiatt – Paragon Painting, Inc. returned from her emergency trip to Houston to spend time with her very ill sister, and sent thanks to us for praying for her sister during this difficult time. The couple spent time in the Church taking in the detail and envisioning their approach to the project. They requested the use of the company they are accustomed to using for lift rental, expecting a reduced rate. This week, the rental company wanted to inspect the project site to measure distance and validate structural stability before sending in their 900 lb. lift. They didn't want to take responsibility for the lift landing in the church basement due to its extreme weight, even though measurements assured them it would fit through the doorway. Today we received their proposal: they recommend we call a scaffolding company for a bid rather than risk the safety of our building. I forwarded all of this information to the Archdiocese, as use of scaffolding could put us well over our approved budget. The Archdiocese may also want to come in to assess the structural stability before moving forward. We'll keep you informed.

The **ORGAN** tuner is coming this week for his annual organ maintenance, and he too is tuned into safety. He will explore how to disconnect and cover the precious instrument for the project and still give it air to breathe.

And several reminders have come in this week, to protect our paint and plaster in the future, (and our organ), we must keep the internal temperature in our church at a steady temp, no colder than 60 degrees, and no warmer than 80 degrees, year around.

*This week the priests and PLC's of the Archdiocese played "musical chairs" as they moved and assumed new responsibilities and new assignments. While all are at different stages of their current assignments, the norm was for a six-year period, from July 6 to July 5. But more recently some have opted for shorter assignments, three years or even one year, depending on the circumstances, health and age of the individual. We welcome Fr. Binu Matthew, as pastor for six years, of St. John, Osgood. Fr Binu is a native of India, and comes to the US to serve after traveling to several other countries. In addition to his assignment in Osgood, he has been assigned to be our "backup" when Fr Jey is away, or sick or otherwise occupied. This is his first weekend in our neighborhood and already he is needed here today. Fr. Jey is covering all Masses for Batesville and Morris while Fr. Stan is away visiting his sick sister. Welcome to Fr. Binu!