

October 3, 2021

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION CHURCH, MILLHOUSEN, IN

Parish Life Coordinator (Administrator) – Sister Donna Prickel, OSF	sisterdonna@millhousenchurch.com	513-410-2600
Coordinator of Liturgical Ministries – LaDonna Hoeing	ladonna@millhousenchurch.com	812-614-9224
Coordinator of Religious Education - Melea Gault	melea@millhousenchurch.com	812-414-8874
Sacramental Ministers – Fr. Jeyaseelan Sengolraj, and Fr. Binu Mathew		

Sacrament of **Anointing** is available upon request. Please call the parish office to schedule.
Sacrament of **Reconciliation** is available every third Sunday of the month, at 8:10 AM
Sacrament of **Baptism** is scheduled by appointment. Please call the parish office for sacramental preparation.
Sacrament of **Marriage** requires at least six months of preparation. Please call the parish office prior to setting your wedding date.

Bulletin information is due by Wednesday at 10:00 a.m.

Mass Intentions:

October 3 – 27th Sunday in Ordinary Time – Charlotte Redelman
October 10 – 28th Sunday in Ordinary Time – Harold Klosterkemper
October 17 – 29th Sunday in Ordinary Time – Alex Veerkamp
October 24 – 30th Sunday in Ordinary Time – Martha Fry
October 31 – 31st Sunday in Ordinary Time – Velma Ortman

Liturgical Ministers: Oct. 3

Cross Bearer: Mary Jo Wenning

Ushers: Mark Stier, Aaron Gault, Tim Hoeing

Sacristan: Sister Donna

Lector: Melea Gault

Musicians: Men's Choir

Counters: Josh Hornberger, Ann Stier

October 10

Tim Scheidler

Jerry Fry, Don Fry, Tim Scheidler

LaDonna Hoeing

Jerry Fry

Women's Chor

Steve AmRhein, June Johannigman

Stewardship of Treasure: Our Sunday Collections: September 19, 2021

*Needed each weekend to meet budget:	\$2,000.00
Sunday Envelopes (and loose):	\$1,519.00
Religious Education:	\$80.00
Total Collections:	\$1,599.00

Special collection, today, for our **ENERGY NEEDS**, fuel. Envelope is in your box.

Remember in Prayer: Benji Ortman, Kalen Wolfe, (off ventilator), Joseph Diekhoff, Rosemary Albright, Dan Knoche, Dennis DiGiusto, Rylie Bennett, a special intention, and all those for whom we have promised to pray. In addition, please pray for a safe vaccine for our children, and for all those in our community who are suffering again from COVID.

A reminder again, to please stay home if you are sick or have any symptoms of COVID. All are encouraged to mask, hand sanitize and safe distance out of respect for one another.

Dates to Remember:

Rosary for our Parish – in the School Hall, each Monday morning at 10:30 a.m., and each Wednesday evening at 6:30 p.m.

- The Millhousen Knights of St. John Ladies Auxiliary meeting for October has been changed to Monday, October 4 at 7:00 pm. (to avoid fall break complications). Please come if you can!
- October 10 – No Religious Ed. due to fall break.

Painting Project: The scaffolding is in place all across the front of the church, and scraping continues, along with patching, mudding, and sanding. It does not “look good” at this point. There is nothing pretty to see. In fact, it is quite a grand mess! But the project is progressing as expected. Each worker goes about their tasks with purpose and skill. And for the most part they work in silence respecting the quiet of our sanctuary. A reminder to pray for the safety of our crew, and for a satisfactory completion to the project.

Note: Please support our neighbors at Holy Family, Oldenburg (Oct. 3) who have been forced to reduce their parish festival to **drive through meals only**. They would appreciate our support.

The **Care of Creation Task Force** offers for the “**Season of Creation**” **Sept. 1- Oct. 4**, weekly prayer sheets. Week 5 (the last one) is attached.

Today is the annual Decatur County, Right to Life, **34th National Life Chain**, 2:00 – 3:00 pm. Life Chain is a peaceful, prayerful public witness of pro-life Americans standing in remembrance of 60 million lives lost to abortion, praying for our nation, for people in crisis situations and for an end to abortion. It is a visual statement of solidarity by the Christian community that abortion kills children, hurts women and men, and that the Church supports the sanctity of human life from the moment of conception to natural death. Bring God’s love to our hurting world.

Please meet at Arby’s. We will line up down Lincoln Street towards the hospital.

Baby Box Blessing – You may remember our spring collection to assist in securing a “Safe Haven Baby Box” in Decatur County. The box located at the Greensburg Fire Department was unveiled and blessed on May 23rd, 2021. It was made possible through many generous donations. The Box is fully operational and ready to use now. Safe Haven Baby Boxes allow a mother to surrender her newborn with 100 percent anonymity. The box has heating and cooling components, an alarm system to notify firefighters when a baby is placed, and a soft light. Twelve infants have been safely surrendered since the first box was installed in 2016. Those surrendered in Indiana under the Safe Haven Law are taken into custody by the Department of Child Services and often placed with adoptive parents within 30 days. Thank you for helping to offer positive alternatives to abortion!

The **Indiana Department of Health** continues to work diligently to curb the pandemic among us. Communications received this week are to support the immunity of those over 65 years of age, and those with underlying medical conditions. Guidelines are summarized here.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC's) Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices reviewed the U.S. FDA's amended Emergency Use Authorization of Pfizer's COVID-19 vaccine for booster doses. A "booster dose" refers to another dose of a vaccine that is given to people who have built enough protection after vaccination, but then that protection decreased over time (this is called waning immunity). It is similar to what happens within us after a Flu vaccine.

The CDC has issued Pfizer booster eligibility guidance. Based on these recommendations, the Indiana Department of Health supports the administration of **Pfizer vaccine booster** doses to

- People at least 18 years and older,
- Who have previously received the Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine as their primary series,
- And are at a minimum of six months after the second dose,
- And can attest to meeting the CDC guidelines as listed above.

People who sign up for a booster dose are attesting that they meet these criteria, (that is, they are over 65, or have underlying medical conditions, or have jobs or responsibilities that put them at high risk), and it is **NOT** necessary for people to confirm or prove their eligibility.

The guidelines include all those over 65, and all long-term care facility residents. Vaccines are available immediately. To find a location ready to serve you, go to **www.ourshot.in.gov** or call your family physician for further assistance.

The Pfizer booster is **not recommended** at this time for those who received Moderna or Johnson and Johnson vaccines initially. That research is not yet complete.

Thank you's – Thanks to LaDonna for helping to vacuum and thoroughly clean the stations of the cross. Thank you to Tim S. and Jerry F. for filling in the low spots, including the two sink holes, and planting grass seed, and to Tim for mowing off the extended cemetery lot and the pond and north side areas. As we move into harvest season, the property is looking good!

Tomorrow, October 4th, we celebrate the **Feast of St. Francis of Assisi**, one of the most venerated saints in the Catholic Church. His vision of living and preaching the Crucified Christ to others, has inspired countless followers throughout the centuries. His life and teachings help us strive for holiness. In order to strive for holiness, one needs a personal relationship with Christ. It is not enough to simply go through the motions. There needs to be a daily commitment to conversation (prayer) with Him. Not just when it is convenient, but always, every day, and at all hours of the day, during all aspects of our life. We must be willing to offer ourselves to Him, our successes and our failures alike. Francis understood this. He desired to become an imitation of Christ. There are times when this seems too hard to accomplish. But with God, anything is possible. We need only to trust Him. He patiently leads the way.

“Season of Creation” prayers provided by the Care of Creation Task Force

Week Five: ECOLOGICAL RESTORATION

Ecological sign of the cross:

In the name of our Creator God Who gave birth to all Earth’s living things, providing them a home in Earth’s nurturing, supportive lands and seas, the Word of God speaking into the world visions of true human greatness in service, And of the Wisdom of God guiding every creature in keeping Earth alive and whole. Amen.

Reading:

“. . . We all share the status of creature hood; we are all kin in the evolving community of life now under siege; our vision must be one of flourishing for all. The immediate aim is to establish and protect healthy ecosystems where all creatures, including poor human beings and plants and animals being driven to extinction, can thrive. The longer-term goal is a socially just and environmentally sustainable society in which the needs of all people are met and diverse species can prosper, onward to an evolutionary future that will still surprise and guide us at this critical time of Earth’s distress, to practical and critical effect. A flourishing humanity on a thriving planet rich in species in an evolving universe, all together filled with the glory of God.”

(Elizabeth Johnson, *Ask the Beasts: Darwin and the God of Love*, Bloomsbury: London, 2014)



We give thanks that rivers, polluted for decades, have been cleaned up; native woodlands have been restored; landscapes have been beautified thanks to environmental renewal projects; beautiful buildings have been erected; advances have been made in the production of non-polluting energy and in the improvement of public transportation. These achievements do not solve global problems, but they do show that men and women are still capable of intervening positively. For all our limitations, gestures of generosity, solidarity and care cannot but well up within us, since we were made for love. (Laudato Si’, 58)



We pray for our global, national and local leaders and corporations to address our climate emergency with visionary commitments to restore and regenerate our home.

We pray for the Global Leaders of the COP 26 conference meeting Nov.1- Nov.12 in Glasgow, Scotland that they may work together to address the urgency of this moment.

Giver and sustainer of life

Grant courage to decision makers at this critical hour.

Instill an urgency for effective action
to forge a clean energy future

to put people before profit and
nature before perpetual growth

to ensure justice for the most affected,
yet least responsible

And help us to do everything we can
to participate in restoring Creation.

In your glorious name we pray.

We pray: That the Renewing Spirit of God bring to fulfillment the integral ecological conversion beginning among us. May God's Spirit of Wisdom provide us all the wisdom and courage we need to restore the household (oikos) of God on Earth, making it once again a true Home for All. May the prophetic Spirit of God bring about true global solidarity in the human community so that together in that Spirit we may give birth to a great symphony of beauty in the New Creation. Amen.