

December 26, 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	812-614-8874
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.
Rosary – Mon. 10:30 am; Wed. 6:30 pm in the church.

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

Mass Intentions:

December 26 – The Holy Family, Jesus Mary and Joseph - Charlotte Redelman
December 31 – New Year’s Eve, The Solemnity of Mary – Marie & Ed Stier (6:00 pm)
January 2 – The Epiphany of the Lord – Arnold “Ink” Bokelman
January 9 – The Baptism of the Lord – **The end of the Christmas Season** – Kathryn Schoettmer
January 16 – Second Sunday in Ordinary Time – Carolyn Schoettmer
January 23 – Third Sunday in Ordinary Time – Charlotte Redelman
January 30 – Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time – Cathy Wittkemper

Liturgical Ministers: December 26, Holy Family

Cross Bearer: Mark Hermesch

Servers: Michael and Andrew Stier

Ushers: Mark Stier, Aaron Gault, Tim Hoeing

Sacristan: Sister Donna

Lector: Ben Stier

Offertory Bread: LaDonna Hoeing

Musicians: Women’s Choir with Abby

Counters: Steve AmRhein, Kate Bedel

December 31: New Year’s Eve (6pm)

Tim Scheidler

Jerry Fry, Don Fry, Tim Scheidler

LaDonna Hoeing

Alvin Hoeing

Men’s Choir

January 2, The Epiphany

Cross Bearer: Mary Jo Wenning

Servers:

Ushers: Mark Hermesch, Mitch & Lori Nobbe

Sacristan: Sister Donna

Lector: Emily Baltus

Offertory Bread: Jessica Diekhoff

Musicians: Men’s Choir

Counters: Josh Hornberger, Ann Stier

January 9, The Baptism of the Lord

Oliver Hamilton

Mark Stier, Aaron Gault, Tim Hoeing

LaDonna Hoeing

Jerry Fry

Stephany Hoeing

Ryan Stone

Steve AmRhein, Alvin Hoeing

Stewardship of Treasure: Our Sunday Collections:

	December 19	December 24
*Needed each weekend to meet budget:	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00
Sunday Envelopes (and loose):	\$1,827.00	\$385.00
Christmas Day -and loose:	\$2,000.00	\$1,851.00
Holy Day – Immaculate Conception:	\$10.00	
Maintenance:	\$200.00	\$100.00
Energy:	\$150.00	
Retirement Fund for Religious: (Share in the Care)	\$720.00	
Memorials/Poinsettia Money:	\$100.00	\$20.00
Total Collections:	\$5,007.00	\$2,356.00

Remember in Prayer: Evelyn Keifer, who was placed on Hospice care, and is losing ground; Ted Harmeyer, (son of Joyce) battling cancer; Craig Simon, who continues to struggle with Leukemia, and for his wife Emily and family. Alfred Diekhoff who was diagnosed with lung cancer, and has started radiation, Norbert Hoeing who is recovering from shoulder surgery, and engaging in physical therapy, Benji Ortman, Dan Knoche, Dennis DiGiusto, Rylie Bennett, Fr. Bill Turner, Laykin & Joey Silva, for the families and loved ones grieving losses this holiday season, and for all those for whom we have promised to pray. In addition, please pray for all those in our community who continue to suffer from COVID or related issues.

A reminder again, to please stay at home if you are sick or have any symptoms of COVID, or of the flu virus. Both are ramping up! All are strongly encouraged to mask, hand sanitize, safe distance, and refrain from large gatherings, to help protect one another, especially indoors and in close quarters. Indiana has a marked increase in cases, and all hospitals are struggling again. Please be cautious, especially when shopping or in groups where some are unvaccinated.

Dates to Remember:

- Dec. 26 – Blessing of the family
- Dec. 31 – Blessing of all clocks and watches
- January 4 – Finance Committee Meeting, 5:00 pm in the office
- January 9 – Take down Christmas decorations, right after Mass

Please also see the bulletin board for information concerning **“Year End Giving.”** I can think of no better cause to support than our own parish finances. We have lots of projects going, and our weekly giving has been low. Gas, water, and electricity are all climbing. Sometimes charity begins at home.

Our “Flower Money” fund, collected over the past two weeks, through memorials, “in honor of”, or “in memory of” loved ones, has netted \$120.00. Those honored or remembered include the following: Mary & Irvin Vanderpohl, Martha Fry, Barbara Hoeing, Leo & Barbara Schwering, Mary Ann & Everett Wenning, Joe Naderman, & Harald Huff. In addition, some of our poinsettias were donated by parishioners. All of them together, have helped to create a beautiful worship space.

Once again, we are grateful for all those who contributed to our very inspiring **Christmas Eve** celebration. From the children bearing gifts to the Christ Child, the cantor leading us in a Gloria of praise, a server serving for the very first time, to the warm and soothing voices of our choir leading us in familiar Christmas carols, we were truly reminded that we are a people called to the light of Christ! And called to BE the light of Christ in our world!

Today, Feast of the Holy Family, we reflect on our roots, our extended family, and those we find to be our current family. We are blessed by, and supported by many, some related, and some not. A Blessing of families is part of our service today. And our challenge is to widen the circle of those we consider to be family, extending family love and support to all!

A Christmas Prayer

Christmas Day / Feast of the Holy Family 2021

On this morning, we pray to Joseph, an anxious father who, just the evening before, had to tell his beloved wife, Mary, that the best he could do was to bed her down in an animal shed, and hope that it would be warm enough and comfortable enough as she labored to give birth to their child.

St. Joseph, help us to appreciate that our plans will not always work, and we must adjust to make do, trusting that God will be with us.

On this morning we pray to Mary, Mother of Jesus, a woman exhausted from the pain of childbirth, but joyous that her newborn son was resting peacefully even if it was a simple bed of straw, wrapped in whatever material was available. You endured a long night but somehow knew that this tiny miracle, composed of the essence of the universe, would change the course of history.

Blessed Virgin, be with us as we endure our own trials. Help us to realize that the dawn will come, all will be well, trusting that God will be with us.

On this morning, we pray to an infant Jesus just hours old, born of the earth and on the earth, waiting for the first light to illuminate the face of his mother and father, blissfully unaware of what has just happened, and what his future holds: love and laughter, friends and family, power and humility trust and betrayal, life, death and, yes, resurrection.

Dear Jesus, enlighten us creatures of the universe, so we may hear the cry of the earth and the cry of the poor, that we may love deeply, laugh heartily, and be moved by suffering. Teach us to exercise power wisely, face life fully and death with dignity trusting that you, our beginning and our end, are always with us.

Amen!