

May15, 2022

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION CHURCH, MILLHOUSEN, IN

Parish Life Coordinator (Administrator) – Sister Donna Prickel, OSF

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Coordinator of Liturgical Ministries – LaDonna Hoeing

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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.

Office is closed on Mondays.

Today we welcome a priest from the Franciscans of the Immaculate as our presider. I do not know his name nor where he travels from to serve us. Please thank him for his service to us!

Next Sunday we will welcome a Dominican.

Mass Intentions:

May 15 – Fifth Sunday of Easter – Nell Ann Pfeifer

May 22 – Sixth Sunday of Easter – Sy Kohrman

May 29 – Solemnity of the Ascension – Tony & Rosemary Scheidler family

June 5 – Pentecost Sunday - Alex Veerkamp

June 12 – The Most Holy Trinity - Tony Scheidler

June 19 – The Most Holy Body & Blood of Christ (Corpus Christi) Nell Ann Pfeifer

June 26 – 13th Sunday in Ordinary Time - Tony & Rosemary Scheidler family

July 3 – 14th Sunday in Ordinary Time - Knights of St. John Ladies Auxiliary

July 10 – 15th Sunday in Ordinary Time - Rita Scheidler Bohman

Liturgical Ministers: May 15

Cross Bearer: Mary Stier

Servers: Caaden Gault, Andrew Stier

Ushers: Jerry Fry, Don Fry, Tim Scheidler

Lector: Jeanne Fry

Offertory Bread: Lois Johannigman

Musicians: Men's Choir

Counters: Josh Hornberger, Randy Huff

May 22

Evan Wullenweber

Campbell Johannigman, Will Meyer

Mark Hermes, Mitch & Lori Nobbe

Emily Baltus

Jessica Deiekhoff, Alli Nobbe

Steve AmRhein, Kate Bedel

Church Cleaners for May: Paula Wullenweber (Chairperson), Alice Chandler, Ann Stier, Abby Asher, Pat Klene. A reminder that church cleaning for each volunteer comes around only once a year. Please take this important work seriously, to support your parish, and to support your team.

Stewardship of Treasure: Our Sunday Collection:

May 8

*Needed each weekend to meet budget:	\$2,000 .00
Sunday Envelopes (and loose):	\$1,820.00
Maintenance:	\$140.00
Clarity Pregnancy Services:	\$333.27

Total Collections: \$2,293.27

Special Collection next Sunday, May 22: The Catholic Communications Campaign, “How the Good News gets around.”

Remember in Prayer: Teresa Bruns, Ruth Atchley, Stephanie Harrison, Alvin Pfeifer; Benji Ortman, Dennis DiGiusto, Rylie Bennett, Amy Hermes, Drew Holzbauer, and Jane (Johannigman) Faulconer. In addition, please remember all those who grieve, especially the family of Timothy Schwering.

Dates to Remember:

May 22 – Mass to honor our 2022 graduates.

May 24 – Finance Committee Meeting at 5:00 pm

May 29 – Cemetery Service to honor our Veterans, more information as we learn it.

June 4 – **Ordination** of two priests (the first in three years) in our Archdiocese. Remember in prayer!

In this new moment, (today), as we come out of a global pandemic, we must recognize and respond to our Church’s needs and responsibilities as disciples, to Proclaim the Good News and build God’s Kingdom.

At the local level, we too are called to move forward, to reorganize, to recommit, to restructure, to set new goals, to form new teams, to initiate new strategies, to evangelize, to proclaim the Good News. We have a role to play, and it is more than maintaining our precious space. We must do what is ours to do.

As is customary, in May each year, we present and invite, opportunities to serve our parish in many capacities. We currently have just **three** standing committees in this parish. For these three we need to identify new membership, set new goals, define the purpose for, budget and plan for, and perhaps appoint new leadership for. Unlike our local, state, and national committees, church structure and committees are **not about** governance, decision making, power, or control. The roles of all church committees are roles of **service, planning, listening**, discussing, reflecting, **discerning**, and **advising**, so to serve that larger goal of proclaiming the Gospel, and evangelizing, to the ends of the earth. Our purpose is **not** to preserve the church of Immaculate Conception, in Millhousen, **not** to promote our own identity or position, or draw a circle of inclusion around our own identified space. That is worldly! That is what our society promotes! But we are called to be counter-cultural. We are called to spiritual goals! To live the Gospel, to spread the good news of salvation, to love and support one another, to evangelize, to win souls! That is the only purpose for a parish, for a church.

There was a question in the old catechism of the Catholic Church, and perhaps you remember it. Why did God make me? The given answer: **God made me to know him, to love him, to serve him in this world, and to be happy with him in the next.** That is why we are here! To get to heaven! Let’s begin by serving our parish. Those interested in serving on the Parish Council, The Finance Committee, or

the Buildings and Grounds committee for the next three years are invited to submit their names for a ballot. No one will ring your doorbell or call you on the phone. This is your official invite.

The Catholic Community of St. Mary's Greensburg, invites all of us to join in honoring **Fr. John Meyer** in a celebration following the 10:00 am Mass next Sunday morning, in honor of his 40th Anniversary of Ordination. He has served us well in covering for all kinds of emergencies over the years. Thank him by attending this celebration, or drop him a card. Congratulations, Fr. John!

On Thursday May 12th we marked a tragic milestone: one million American lives have now been lost to COVID-19. One million empty chairs around the dinner table. Each an irreplaceable loss. Each leaving behind a family, a community, and a nation forever changed by this pandemic. We pray for each one. In remembrance, we are asked to **fly the flag at half-mast** through sunset on Monday evening.

Spring is the season when Nature renews itself. The world is at the height of its beauty. Flowers and trees are in their glory! So too, our institutions set new goals, new budgets, and a new cycle of planning begins to take shape. This transitioning is actually a never-ending cyclic process, but in spring the new life becomes more evident as nature puts on its finest. God however is present in all seasons of life, calling us and whispering his directions. He calls us for a specific time, a season, to a specific place, for a specific purpose, to accomplish some specific goal or plan, to fulfill his will. We don't always understand the reason, and often his timing is not our own. But we have a specific job to be done, and then he calls again, and the transitioning continues. It is not ours to understand, but it is ours to listen to his voice, to respond, and to follow.

Change and transition: Six years ago, through the invitation of Archbishop Joseph Tobin, I was asked to begin a new ministry here at Immaculate Conception, to fill a vacancy, to bring a new world order to a struggling community. Together we have transformed the face of the campus, buried a long list of our elders, and baptized a few. Beginning at noon on July 6, 2022, that six-year commitment and contract comes to an end, and a new chapter will begin. What was mine to do has been accomplished. God's plan continues to unfold. It would behoove all of us to listen, to respond, and to open ourselves to his new plan. On July 6, 2022 at 12:00 noon, the role of Sacramental Minister will cease in our parish as well as the role of the PLC. The **Parish Administrator** role, will combine these two roles into one position, and will be assumed by Father Binu Mathew, along with his current role as Administrator of St. John Osgood. What that role will look like will be determined by Fr. Binu, as he balances responsibilities and time between the two parishes. Please welcome him and support him, with willingness to make the necessary changes, so that all needs can be met. He is a true pastor with great experience, and he will lead the way. A list of all Archdiocesan changes and assignments are expected to be published in the Criterion on Thursday May 19th. Transition is difficult for all involved. Please keep the whole Archdiocesan family in prayer as the next few weeks unfold.

A graveside service for **Tim Schwering**, at Immaculate Conception on Tuesday May 17, at 10:00 am. All family and friends are invited to attend.