

July 31, 2022

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION CHURCH, MILLHOUSEN, IN

Parish Administrator – Fr. Binu Mathew	binum@millhousenchurch.com	812-591-2362
Coordinator of Liturgical Ministries – LaDonna Hoeing	ladonna@millhousenchurch.com	812-614-9224
Coordinator of Religious Education – Jeanne Fry	dickfry@gmail.com	812-614-7086

Sacrament of **Anointing** is available upon request. Please call the parish office to schedule.

Sacrament of **Reconciliation** is available on Sundays, after Mass.

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 – Monday 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

Sunday Mass – 9:00 am

Mass Intentions:

July 31 - 18th Sunday in Ordinary Time - Marilyn Horan

August 7 - 19th Sunday in ordinary Time - Betty R.

August 14 - 20th Sunday in ordinary Time - Dennis S.

Liturgical Ministers: July 31

Cross Bearer: Oliver Hamilton

Servers: Andrew Stier, Michael Stier

Ushers: Mark Stier, Tim Hoeing, Dave Stone

Lector: Mary Jo Wenning

Offertory Bread: Jessica Diekhoff

Musicians:

Eucharistic Minister: Norbert Hoeing

Counters: Josh Hornberger, Steve AmRhein

August 7

Mary Jo Wenning

Campbell Johannigman, Oliver Hamilton

Jerry Fry, Don Fry, Tim Scheidler

Ben Stier

Laura & Maria Meyer

Men's Choir

Mark Stier

Josh Hornberger, Ann Stier

Stewardship of Treasure: Our Sunday Collection

Needed each weekend to meet budget: \$2000

Sunday Envelopes \$1280

Spiritual Missionary \$ 573

Fuel \$ 100

Remember in Prayer: Jennie (Schutte) Patrick, Becky Ogle, Ruth Atchley, Stephanie Harrison, Alvin Pfeifer, Benji Ortman, Dennis DiGiusto, Rylie Bennet, Amy Hermes, Drew Holzbauer, and Jane (Johannigman) Falconer.

In Addition, please remember all those who grieve.

Dates to Remember:

August 11 (Thursday) - Set up tents for Auction

August 12 (Friday) - Receive Consigner Goods

August 13 (Saturday) - Auction 2022 !!!!

Say an extra prayer for good weather for the weekend of the Auction.

Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time.



We all love our life. We do everything possible to make our life happy and enjoyable. No one wants to die young. We love to live long. No one wants to be poor. We all want to be well-off. In the process of trying to live long and wealthy, we can miss the true purpose of our life. So, it is good to question ourselves that the life we live is meaningful, or is it worth living? What is the ultimate aim or destiny of our life? We may arrive at different answers. Some may find it is really meaningful and worth-living whereas some others might find meaningless and purposeless.

The reading of today give answer to these questions. Of course, life is worth living. But what makes it worth living? It is not the accumulation of things that makes our life enjoyable and happy. It is not living a long life that matter. Whether we live long or short, what makes our life worthwhile is our very being, what we are, how we relate with the almighty God and others fellow human being. The Scriptures often reflect a society of haves and have-nots. We read, for example, in Isaiah 58:5-8: "Is this the manner of fasting I wish, of keeping a day of penance: that a man bows his head like a reed, and lie in sackcloth and ashes? Do you call this a fast, a day acceptable to the Lord? This, rather, is the fasting that I wish: releasing those bound unjustly, untying the thongs of the yoke; setting free the oppressed, breaking every yoke; sharing your bread with the hungry, sheltering the oppressed and the homeless; clothing the naked when

you see them, and not turning your back on your own. Then your light shall break forth like the dawn...."

Rabbis were often asked to arbitrate conflicts within families and communities. In today's **Gospel**, Jesus has been approached to settle such an argument over an inheritance. Jesus responds not by taking sides but by addressing the *greed* that has brought both sides to near blows. He tells the parable of the rich man whose lands have yielded more crops than expected. His response is not to consider how he might share all the extra food with others but to wonder how he can possibly store it all. He has what he thinks is a brilliant idea: to tear down his present barns and build larger ones. Then he will have many things stored up for years of eating, drinking, and making merry. "You fool" is God's response to this man because that very night his life will be taken away. To whom will everything belong then, God asks. The rich man's world is small, just him and his possessions, and now he learns that he is to lose his life. What good are his possessions now? Jesus states the moral of the story. This is how it will be for everyone who stores up treasure for himself or herself but is not rich in what matters to God.

Vanity of vanities! All things are Vanity! Says the book **Ecclesiastes**. The Ecclesiastes reminds us that the greedy acquisition and hoarding of material wealth is useless because when the hoarder dies, he goes to eternity empty-handed.

We tend to live our lives believing that there will always be enough time to right our wrongs and to atone for our negligence and insensitivities to others – but, in fact, our days are numbered, death is an inevitability for all of us.

In the second reading, **Paul** directs our attention to lasting, Heavenly treasures and advises, "Put to death, your parts that are earthly: immorality, impurity, passion, evil desire, and the greed that is idolatry. Centuries later **St. Gregory** the Great taught that when we care for the needs of the poor, we are giving them what is theirs, not ours. We are not just performing works of mercy; we are paying a debt of justice. Life does not consist in possessions but in sharing what we possess with others.

Material goods are necessary — they are goods! —, but they are a means to live honestly and in sharing with the neediest. Saint Paul also reminds us of this in today's second reading. It says "seek the things that are above.... Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth". It is understood that this does not mean estranging oneself from reality, but rather seeking the things that have true value: justice, solidarity, welcome, fraternity, peace, all things that make up the true dignity of mankind. It is a case of leading a life that is fulfilled not according to a worldly manner, but rather according to the style of the Gospel: to love God with all one's being, and love one's neighbor as Jesus loved him, that is, in service and in giving oneself.

Religious Education Reminder:

Registration forms are available on the stand in the main entrance of church. There are also forms in the bulletin mailbox. Please return the form with the fee payment by August 7th. We are looking forward to a great year. Thank you! **Jeanne Fry**