

Immaculate Conception Catholic Church

Millhousen, Indiana

2081 E. County Road 820 S.

Greensburg, IN 47240-9636

Dec. 18, 2022

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

jeanne@millhousenchurch.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 & Thursday 5:10 pm to 5:24 pm

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 Thursday before 6:00PM
Office is closed on Mondays

Weekday Mass

Holy Hour- 5:00 pm

Thursday – 6:00 pm

Confession 5:15 pm

Sunday Obligation

Sunday 9:00 AM

Monday – Rosary 10:30 AM

Wednesday – Rosary 6:30 PM

Mass Intentions:

December 18th – 4th Sunday of Advent- Cletus Wessler

December 22nd – Thursday – Bill Stone

December 24th – Christmas – Jerry & Elaine Jacobs

December 29th -Thursday- Feast of Holy Family_- Craig Simon

Liturgical Ministries

December 24: Christmas

Cross Bearer: Grady Scudder

Servers: Michael Stier, Brooklyn Ortman

Ushers: Jerry Fry, Don Fry, Tim Scheidler,

John Johannigman

Lector: Emily Baltus

Offertory: Lois Johannigman /Mollie

Johannigman

Musicians: Ryan Stone

Eucharistic Minister: Mark Stier

Counters: Steve AmRhein, Kate Bedel

January 1: Solemnity of Mary

Cross Bearer: Mary Jo Wenning

Servers: Oliver Hamilton, Andrew Stier

Ushers: Bill & Nikki Johannigman,

Norb & Kate Bedel

Lector: Jeanne Fry

Offertory: Kristen Stier/ Jessica Diekhoff

Musicians: Mens Choir

Eucharistic Minister: Norb Hoeing

Counters: Josh Hornberger, Steve AmRhein

Stewardship of Treasure: Our Sunday Collection:

Needed each weekend to meet Budget: \$2000

Sunday Envelopes : \$ 2490.00

Cash / Misc \$ 190.00

Maintenance \$ 250.00

Total \$ 2930.00

Remember in Prayer: Jennie (Schutte) Patrick, Stephanie Harrison, Alvin Pfeifer, Benji Ortman, Dennis DiGiusto, Rylie Bennet, Amy Hermes, and Jane (Johannigman) Faulconer.

Thank you: The family of Ruth Hamilton would like to thank everyone who celebrated her life this past week. If you attended visitation, or the funeral Mass, donated food for the meal, or organized and served, or said a simple prayer, Thank you! A special thanks to Father Binu, Father John Meyer and Father Bill Ehalt for celebrating the Mass.

Open House: Once again this year the Churches in the Deanery will be hosting an open house on Sunday, Jan. 1st, 1-4 PM. You are welcome to visit area Churches to view their Nativity scenes and Christmas decorations.

Christmas Giving Tree: On Wednesday, the items were delivered to South Decatur Elementary to be given to 9 families. Through your generosity in purchasing the gifts and donating money, twenty-two children will experience a special Christmas! We were also able to give each family a gas gift card and a grocery gift card, along with wrapping paper, bows, and tape, and a tree ornament. Thank you to all who donated in any way. It was truly a parish-wide effort! Also, thank you to Melissa Stier and Stephanie Hoing for helping with the sorting and bagging the items. Thank you to Laura Meyer for getting the family gifts and for helping with the delivery on Wednesday.

Christmas Eve Mass Practice: The choir will practice today after Mass. The day and time of the final practice before Christmas Eve will be discussed today. The students in the procession will also practice at that final session. A message will be sent out through the REMIND app concerning that day and time.

Holiday Schedules:

Christmas Eve –December 24th - Mass 4:00 PM – Hymns preceding Mass 3:30

Thursday – December 29th – Mass 6:00 PM- Feast of the Holy Family (Holy Hour 5:00 PM)

January 1st- Sunday- Soleminity of Mary – **Mass will be at 8:30 am instead of 9:00 am for this Sunday Only.**

Parish Council Members Contact information:

Cindy Johannigman	Cindyjo472@aol.com	812-614-0802
Ruth Gilly	rgilly303@gmail.com	812-614-5626
Kenny Stier	kenny@kstr.us	812-591-7454
Mark Stier	mark@stierheating.com	812-614-1176
Tim Hoing	tim@hm-tool.com	812-498-0187
Mollie Johannigman	mjohannigman@stmarysgreensburg.com	812-662-4512
Father Binu	binum@millhousenchurch.com	

It is the Christmas season. There are preparations everywhere. In the supermarkets, one section is set apart only for Christmas cakes, toys and decorative items, even from the month of October. Young and old waiting to celebrate Christmas. Advance Christmas gatherings, and partys are already scheduled. There will be new dresses, cards, delicious cakes and cookies all these and more.

Once a little child was asked what is this Christmas all about? The prompt reply was the birthday of Santa Claus. No wonder, the child sees only the Santa Claus everywhere and tends to think it is his birthday. The effect of commercialization of Christmas! Christmas cards are designed without the picture of Jesus Christ and instead of wishing the receiver a "happy Christmas" they use the words "season's greetings". Could it be that they are scared of the Holy Name of Jesus or they are deep in the culture of commercialization ?

If Christmas keeps Christ out, it will not be bringing us the full joy it ought to bring. "Jesus came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. (Jn 1.11). It will not cause in us any increase of grace, love, goodness and generosity. It won't transform our lives. The purpose of Christ coming into the world will not be fulfilled in our life. Can you imagine your birthday party in which you are not allowed to be present? Christmas is the celebration of the birth of Christ. Can we keep Christ out of our celebration?

A Christless Christmas is such a sad thing. That is why we have the advent season where we make due preparation for Christmas and welcome Christ into our life and into our communities. Listen to the great apostle Paul who tells us how to prepare ourselves for welcoming Christ. "It is now the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; the night is far gone, the day is near. Let us then lay aside the works of darkness and put on the armor of light; let us live honorably as in the day, not in reveling and drunkenness, not in debauchery and licentiousness, not in quarreling and jealousy. Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ" (Rom. 13/11-14). What an interesting metaphor that Paul likens Jesus to clothing that we can wear. We are to clothe ourselves with Jesus.

Yes, Advent is the time of expectation, longing, waiting and preparations for the coming of the Redeemer, so let our expectations and preparations be filled with deeds of light, deeds of charity, justice, and peace. Let us make our hearts blameless to be ready to receive Jesus, so that we will have a Christ-filled Christmas leading us to the peace and joy of the new born king. Have a wonderful Christ-filled Christmas.

