

April 19, 2020

St. John the Baptist Church, Osgood

& the Catholic Cohort of Immaculate Conception, St. Maurice, St. John

Three unique parishes joined in mutual support to live and spread the gospel, provide enhanced worship opportunities, further faith formation, welcome and reach out in love to those in need. (Cohort Mission Statement)

St. Maurice Napoleon

Sister Shirley Gerth, OSF
Parish Life Coordinator

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Web: www.stmauricechurch.org
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For **Religious Education** classes
call Patty Simon: 812-689-4100

For **Youth Ministry** events call
Joyce Muckerheide: 812-363-5929

Immaculate Conception Millhousen

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St. John the Baptist Osgood

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For **Religious Education** classes
call Patty Simon: 812-689-4100

For **Youth Ministry** events call
Jill Jansing: 812-689-4830

Sacramental Ministers: Father John Geis and Father William Turner.

Saturday **Mass:** 4:00 PM
Sunday **Mass:** 10:00 AM

Sacrament of **Reconciliation**
Saturday: 3:30-3:45 PM
Sunday: 9:30-9:45 AM

Sunday **Mass:** 8:00 AM

Sacrament of **Reconciliation**
Sunday: 7:30-7:45

Saturday **Mass:** 6:00 PM
Sunday **Mass:** 12:00 noon

Sacrament of **Reconciliation**
Saturday: 5:30-5:45PM
Sunday: 11:30-11:45 AM

Sacrament of Baptism is scheduled by appointment.
Please call the parish office about sacramental preparation and to schedule your celebration.

Preparation for the Sacrament of **Marriage** requires at least six months.
Call the parish office before setting the date for your wedding.

Sacrament of **Anointing** is available upon request.

April

19,

2020

2nd Sunday of
Easter



"As the Father Sent Me, So I Send You."

Christ, Come right through our fear of locked pandemic doors; breathe your Holy Spirit into us.
Give us please your peace that comes from perfect love.

Not to hoard such treasure, we want to give it out to everyone who would believe.

Make us instruments of the power of your resurrection.

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THE EMPTY TOMB

Dear Parishioners,

The sign of Jesus' Resurrection is the stone rolled back from the tomb. As I continue to reflect upon the Easter story as well as these weeks of the Covid19, my thoughts turn to my memories of April 7, 2007 when St. Anne Church in New Castle was totally destroyed by fire in the early hours of Holy Saturday. Less than 24 hours later we assembled in the high school auditorium to celebrate the feast of Easter. No one *felt* like celebrating. No one *felt* like singing Alleluias. Yet lacking feelings, we knew it was our faith in the Risen Lord to which we had to cling. We saw the stone rolled back, saw the empty tomb and knew that resurrection had occurred.

Nothing would keep us from the love of God. Nothing would keep us from singing our Alleluias, nor would anything separate us from the love of God; not a burned church, not a pile of ashes and smoke, and not the loss of so much that was precious to us.

Did we have to remind one another of the empty tomb, of the stone rolled back as we waited two long years for the decision from the insurance company before we could even clean up the debris? Or the day we learned the name of the arsonist and had to struggle with forgiveness? Or the days and months we worked with the construction company in the rebuilding effort? Yes to all of these questions.

Through this tragedy we were forced to look for "resurrection moments", times when we saw and or felt the presence of God. We saw it in the kindness of people, in the strength we drew from one another, and in words of encouragement and hope and trust. I heard God say that all would be well as we saw a beautiful rainbow appear above the charred church and another one that arched over the partly constructed church. We saw the empty tomb and believed more deeply than ever before that nothing would separate us from the love of God.

I am sure these past weeks and months have been difficult times for you and your family. I am sure you have had your moments of worry and concern and still do. I hope you, too, yearned to assemble in church with your faith parish for the celebration of Easter. Maybe you didn't *feel* like singing Alleluia or it just didn't *feel* like Easter.

Remember the stone was rolled back. Remember that nothing can separate you/us from the love of God. And remember to search, to notice, to be aware of those "resurrection moments" God will send into your life these seven weeks of Easter. Let them feed your soul with greater faith, hope and love. Let them set your faith on fire until we sing together ALLELUIA!

Easter Blessings,
Sister Shirley Gerth



**FORGIVE: FOR
HEAVEN'S SAKE**

As human beings we will sin, fail and even at times run away from God and the work He calls us to do. And yet, with divine mercy, the Lord never ceases to call us back, offering peace to counteract our fear and

forgiveness to wipe away our sins. We are then sent into the world to share these gifts of peace and mercy.

On this Divine Mercy Sunday, let us ponder the image of Jesus with water and blood pouring from his wounded side and know in our souls that his suffering washes us clean and offers salvation. Yes, Jesus, we trust in you.

PRAYER IN UNION WITH CREATION

Father, we praise you with all your creation. They came forth from your all-powerful hand; they are yours, filled with your presence and your tender love. Praise be to you.

Son of God, Jesus, through you all things were made. You were formed in the womb of Mary our Mother, you became part of this earth, and you gazed upon this world with human eyes. Today you are alive in every creature in your risen glory. Praise be to you!

Holy Spirit, by your light you guide this world towards the Father's love and accompany creation as it groans in travail. You also dwell in our hearts and you inspire us to do what is good.

Praise be to you!

Triune God, wondrous community of infinite love, teach us to contemplate you in the beauty of the universe, for all things speak of you. Awaken our praise and thankfulness for every being that you have made. Give us the grace to feel profoundly joined to everything that is.

Praise be to you!

God of love, show us our place in this world as channels of your love for all the creatures of this earth, for not one of them is forgotten in your sight. Enlighten those who possess power and money that they avoid the sin of indifference, that they may love the common good, advance the weak and care for this world in which we



live. The poor and the earth are crying out. O Lord, seize us with your power and light, help us to protect all life, to prepare for a better future, for the coming of your Kingdom, of justice, peace, love and beauty.

Praise be to you! Amen.

FATHER JOHN Sister Shirley called Father John on Easter Sunday and he said he was having a "*resurrection*" day. He had no fever and he ate a delicious meal that his niece delivered to him. His voice sounded stronger and joyful. She asked him if he had a message for you in this bulletin and he responded, "Oh, just tell them thank you, thank you for all their prayers for me and for the correspondence I received.

COLLECTION Thank you to all who continue to send your collection to the parish through the mail. It is greatly appreciated.

PARISH PROJECTS The new Church steps as well as the sides of the steps have been completed by Jeff Werner. Hopefully you will be pleased with this project. Patrick Construction Company is now working on the shed of the rectory which was damaged some time ago by inclement weather.

ON-LINE Here are a couple site you may want to look at for mass, readings, prayers and news from the Vatican. *Daily Mass & Reading – EWTN.com. Vatican News – vaticannews.va*

KNIGHTS 2020 ANNUAL GOLF OUTING New Date in Response to Coronavirus COVID-19 Day of Golf on **Monday, July 20** to support the Pregnancy Care Center of Southeast Indiana and the Knights of Columbus Ultrasound for Life Initiative. Event is held at Hidden Valley Golf Course. ***For Information or to Sign Up – 812-221-1193 or kofc golfouting@yahoo.com.***

A Look Ahead

Children were lined up in the cafeteria of a Catholic elementary school for lunch. At the head of the table was a large pile of apples. A nun wrote a note and posted it on the apple tray. It said, "Take only ONE. God is watching."

Further along the lunch line at the other end of the table was a large pile of chocolate-chip cookies. A child had posted a note that read. "Take all you want. God is watching the apples!"

HARD TIME AND HALOS

(Farm Journal Editor)

As I write this the world is in a hurry to slow a spreading pandemic. Grocery store shelves are empty, schools and events are canceled, workers have been sent home.

I lost my 98 year old grandmother to heaven in March. She survived the depression, Dust Bowl, WWII, and the '80's farm crisis. Her father had to take

MASS INTENTIONS These are the intentions that were scheduled for the Month of April.

April

- 4 - Lucy Simon**
- 5 - Ruth Wenning**
- 11 - All Parishioners of St John**
- 12 - John and Lou Miller**
- 18 - Janet Ward**
- 19 - Ruth Cord Purdum**
- 25 - Tom and Linda McCain**
- 26 - Diane Earls**

a Works Progress job in the 1930's and she was left to handle most of the farming for two years. She learned to lay brick, fix boots, work cows, build fence, run grain trucks. I reflect on the lessons they taught us. As spoken by my cousin during her service, "Whenever I think life is hard, I think about my grandmother and the things she had to endure. Life today isn't that tough."

How did she and so many others in the agricultural industry do it all? They worked one day at a time; the rest I'll never know.

While the world spins, crops will be planted, cows will be milked, livestock will be fed and the work will go on. Even while my grandmother survived a lifetime of trials, that angel still found time to help kids with 4-H projects, teach Sunday school and bake pies for her community. She focused on loving others rather than the difficulties she faced.

In rural America, the hands may be few, but the resolve is big enough to carry this country forward.

IN OUR THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS

Joe Kelly	Linda Bear	Drew Willa	Amy Kinker	Pat Grieshop	Molly Ronaldson
Natalie Brown	Amy Castner	Todd Castner	Brooke Teer	Dennis Sanders	Madeline Ronaldson
Mike Raney	John Newhart	Gary Payne	Jennifer Hayness	Marsha Meister	Gerald Hermes
Jeff Hafft	Mary Bruns	Katie Smith	Joe Pesek	Mary Jane Jansing	Evelyn Nimeskern
Kelly Spiller	Tammy Meister	Henry Peters	Eileen Ogden	Stanley Greene	Ron Hensley