

THE CATHOLIC COMMUNITIES OF ST. MAURICE, ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST, AND IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

PARISH ADMINISTRATOR: FR. BINU MATHEW
SACRAMENTAL MINISTER: FR. WILLIAM TURNER



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Elementary Religious Education Coordinator:
Patty Simon (812-689-4100)

Jr./Sr. High Religious Education Coordinator:
Joyce Muckerheide (812-363-5929)



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IMMACULATE CONCEPTION CHURCH
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Secretary: LaDonna Hoeing (812-614-9224)
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Office Closed on Mondays

Bulletin Information due Thursday 6:00 PM

Religious Education Coordinator:
Jeanne Fry (812-614-7086)
jeanne@millhousenchurch.com

MASS SCHEDULE

MON: 8:00 AM at St. John
(ADVENT ONLY - Dec. 4, 11 & 18)

TUE: 6:00 PM at St. Maurice

WED: 8:00 AM at St. John

THUR: 6:00 PM at IC

FRI: 8:00 AM at St. John

SAT: 8:00 AM at St. John

(Holy Hour One Hour Prior
to All Masses Listed Above.)

SATURDAY VIGIL

4:00 PM at St. Maurice

5:00 PM at St. John

SUNDAY OBLIGATION

7:30 AM at St. John

9:00 AM at IC

10:00 AM at St. Maurice

ADORATION EVERY FRIDAY

9:00 AM-12:00 PM at St. Maurice

12:00 PM-3:00 PM at IC

3:00 PM-6:00 PM at St. John

ROSARY

Mondays 10:30 AM
at Immaculate Conception

CONFESSION TIMES

ST. JOHN: Friday 3:00-4:00 PM

Saturday 4:45 PM

IC: Thursday 5:10 PM-5:25 PM

After Sunday Mass

ST. MAURICE: 15 minutes before
weekend Masses

December 31, 2023

(Regular Weekend Schedule)

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph

January 1, 2024 (Mass at 9 AM)

Solemnity of Mary, The Holy Mother of God

January 7, 2024

(Regular Weekend Schedule)

The Epiphany of the Lord

Research Initiative

The Archdiocese of Indianapolis is conducting an archdiocesan-wide research initiative to help shape communication strategies. Hiron, an Indianapolis-based communications firm will be reaching out to parishioners in the coming weeks. For questions or participation information, contact research@archindy.org

+ **Baptism** is scheduled by appointment. Call your parish office for information about sacramental preparation.

+ The Sacrament of **Marriage** requires at least six months of preparation. Call your parish office before setting your wedding date.

+ The Sacrament of **Anointing** is available upon request. Please call your parish office to schedule a visit.

December 31, 2023 – The Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph



Today, the Church celebrates the Holy Family. Never was there such an extraordinary family. In our families, we and should imitate the virtues of Jesus, Mary and Joseph.

First, in leading his family, Joseph always sought to be directed by God. He was a true father and husband who served Jesus and Mary. Later, when Jesus taught the Apostles about the need to serve rather than to be served, he did so, having found no contradiction in the life of Joseph.

The Blessed Virgin was loving and gentle. She also lived a life of meditation, often pondering the ways God was working. It might even be said that her pondering was a precursor to the Most Holy Rosary.

The Child Jesus allowed Himself to be subject to Mary and Joseph. Though He was God – the Second Person of the Most Blessed Trinity – He was obedient to them (see Luke 2:51) and shared tenderly in family life.

Finally, we can all learn from their love for each other. Within our own families, we can practice patience, courage, obedience and love. When we are needed, we can serve. When a loved one is acting badly, we can respond with charity.

Fr Joseph Mary Wolfe, MFVA EWTN Chaplain

Prayer is important in the first reading; fear of the Lord is rewarded in the psalm; Paul calls the people “God’s chosen ones” (Colossians 3:12). This feast is not meant to be only a look into the past at the Holy Family. It is an opportunity for us to look into the present and do our part to make our own families holy. †

These are family values: compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience, bearing with one another and forgiving one another.

Jesus, Mary and Joseph, help my family to be more like yours!

A Word From Pope Francis

All parents are guardians of their children’s lives, not the owners, and they must help them to grow, to mature.... This is the mission to which the family is directed: to create conditions favorable to the harmonious and full growth of its children, so they may live a good life, worthy of God and constructive for the world.

ANGELUS, ROME, DECEMBER 27, 2020

Prayer

Lord Jesus, so that all families, and the family of humankind, may grow in the ways of holiness, we pray – Be born in us, be born in our world.

The Redemptorists

Reflection Questions:

- What already makes your family holy?
- What might make it holier?

Sunday Readings

First Reading: Those who honor their father will have joy in their own children/and when they pray they are heard.

Gospel: The child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom

A New Year’s Resolution

Fr. Ron Rolheiser, OMI

I am a two-time cancer survivor. After the second diagnosis, I was stunned and went home, sat down in prayer, and then wrote my own creed.

I am going to strive to be productive for as long as I can.

I am going to make every day and every activity as precious and enjoyable as possible.

I am going to strive to be as gracious, warm, and charitable as possible.

I am going to strive to be healthy as long as I can.

I am going to strive to accept others’ love in a deeper way than I have up to now.

I am going to strive to live a more fully “reconciled” life. No room for past hurts anymore.

I am going to strive to keep my sense of humor intact.

I am going to strive to be as courageous and brave as I can.

I am going to strive, always, to never look on what I am losing but rather to look at how wonderful and full my life has been and is.

And I am going to, daily, lay all of this at God’s feet through prayer. Amen.

Life has never been more precious, nor more enjoyable. Happy New Year. †

From *Daybreaks: Daily Reflections for Advent and Christmas*, 2019

January 1, 2024 – The Solemnity of the Blessed Virgin Mary, The Mother of God



Today, on the first day of 2024, we remember the Blessed Virgin Mary.

When we proclaim with joy and gratitude that Mary is the Mother of God, we, with the Church, are simply proclaiming the One she gave birth to IS GOD!

God did not choose a queen of a kingdom. He did not choose anyone who was famous or influential. He chose a teenager from Nazareth to be His Mother. And He loved – and still loves – her dearly. St Maximilian Kolbe once said, “Never be afraid of loving the Blessed Virgin too much. You can never love her more than Jesus did.”

However, Mary isn’t only Jesus’ mother. She is our mother, too (see Revelation 12:17). She loves us individually, and we can ask for her intercession for all of our needs.

Most importantly, the Blessed Mother wants us to seek her Son. Her last recorded words in Sacred Scripture are “Do whatever He tells you” (John 2:5). These words sum up her messages at Guadalupe, Lourdes and Fatima. She wants us to follow her

Son and to do whatever He tells us.

As we celebrate the Mother of God, Let us ask for her intercession. Is there a problem in your life? A loved one who has left the Faith? A health problem? A death you are mourning.

Just as she helped the young couple who ran out of wine in Cana, Mary will help you too. And, along with Mary, let us worship the Divine Infant in the Manger.

Fr Joseph Mary Wolfe, MFVA EWTN Chaplain

January 7, 2024 – The Solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord



Throughout our Advent and Christmas reflection, we have been seeking the Baby in the Manger. For the Magi, this was their goal as well. They traveled many miles seeking the newborn King.

When they found Him, they gave Him gifts and prostrated themselves before Him. What was going on interiorly that impelled them to humble themselves before this Child?

The creature recognized the Creator in the humble vesure of a newborn Child and they could not help but worship and acknowledge Him – and in doing so delighted in having found the fulfillment of their great search and longing.

The journey of the Magi was difficult – and your journey may be difficult too. But seeking Jesus is the most important expedition there is. And when we

encounter Him anew, even daily, our hearts rejoice and are satisfied. We feel, then, we are at home, for wherever Jesus is, there is our true home.

During the Christmas season we have an opportunity to discover the presence of the newborn Jesus with new eyes. Mother Angelica said, “You need not join a monastery to hear the message of Christmas. The message is already in your heart, for that is where Love lives.”

I hope you have discovered or rediscovered this message of Christmas and Christ’s Love over the past few weeks. But more than that, I hope that every day of your life you recognize God’s love for you manifested in the Divine Child lying in a Manger. May God bless you always.

Fr Joseph Mary Wolfe, MFVA EWTN Chaplain

A Word from Pope Francis



The Magi humbled themselves before the unheard-of logic of God. They welcomed the Lord not the way they had imagined him to be, but as he was, small

and poor. Their prostration is the sign of those who place their own ideas aside and make room for God. It takes humility to do this.

ANGELUS, JANUARY 6, 2022

Parish Support

December 17 Weekly	2,600.00
December 24 Weekly	2,823.00
December 25	1,172.00
Immaculate Conception	25.00
Votive	236.06

MASS Intentions

Mass Intentions Available. Please stop in the parish office, mail, call or drop in the collection basket to have a Mass said for your loved ones. Mass stipends are \$10

Sat	Dec 30	8:00 AM	✠ Fr Binu & All Priests
Sat	Dec 30	5:00 PM	✠ Emily Mathes
Sun	Dec 31	7:30 AM	✠ Paul Miller
January 1, 2024			
Mon	Jan 1	9:00 AM	✠ Marlene Jones
Sat	Jan 6	5:00 PM	✠ Emily Huntington
Sun	Jan 7	7:30 AM	✠ Special Intention
Sat	Jan 13	5:00 PM	✠ Gary Patton & Sherri Wanstrath
Sun	Jan 14	7:30 AM	✠ Frank Wenning
Sat	Jan 20	5:00 PM	✠ Ogle Family
Sun	Jan 21	7:30 AM	✠ Emily Mathes
Fri	Jan 26	8:00 AM	✠ Bernard Pfeifer
Sat	Jan 27	8:00 AM	✠ Fr Binu & All Priests
Sat	Jan 27	5:00 PM	✠ Paul & Nic Meister
Sun	Jan 28	7:30 AM	✠ Randy Simon
Wed	Jan 31	8:00 AM	✠ Alfred Diekhoff
Fri	Feb 2	8:00 AM	✠ Cletus Weseler

Eucharistic Adoration

Every Friday 3:00 PM to 6:00 PM

CHURCH CLEANING SCHEDULE

Rosemary & Idona Newhart	Week of Dec 31
Ted Wissel & MJ Hunter	Week of Jan 7
Sue Gridley & Margaret Jarvis	Week of Dec 14
Mary Ann W & Susan Banta	Week of Dec 24

Thank you all for your time and hard work!

MINISTRY SCHEDULE

	<u>Jan 6- 5PM</u>	<u>Jan 7- 7:30 AM</u>
Coordinator	Ron Miller	Ted Wissel
Greeter	Jill Jansing	Steve Mathes
Lector	Jill Jansing	Gary Payne
Eucharist	Bob Green	Jessica Gorman
Wine	Ron E/Kris T	Bill Mc/Melissa G
	<u>Jan 13 -5PM</u>	<u>Jan 14 -7:30AM</u>
Coordinator	Sharon Voegeli	Mary Ann W
Greeter	Bob Voegeli	Ron Miller
Lector	Jennifer Tunny	John Holzer
Eucharist	Ron Ebinger	Jessica Gorman
Wine	Kris T/Doug W	Bob G/Roger M

2024 United Catholic Appeal United in the Eucharist- St John's Goal \$11,919

Total pledged: \$10,075 Total donors: 24

Goal amount: \$11,929 Percentage of- goal: 84%

FOOD PANTRY MINISTRY

Any food and household cleaning items.



Stewardship - Weekly Bible Reflection

December 31st – Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph.

This upcoming year, let us open our hearts and mind to the Lord and let Him guide us.

"...as the Lord has forgiven you, so you must forgive.."
(colossians 3:13)

Forgiving is one of the hardest things for people to do. We need to receive God's mercy and forgiveness first before we can give it to others. Go to the sacrament of Reconciliation and receive God's mercy and forgiveness. Then, share the gift of forgiveness with someone-a family member, a friend or co-worker.

January 7, 2024 - The Epiphany of the Lord

In today's Gospel, we hear about the Magi offering gifts to the newborn King.

"They fell down and worshipped him. Then they opened their treasures and offered him gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh."

This week, be sure to see Jesus is everyone you come across. As the Magi gave gifts to Jesus, may we give love and compassion to our neighbors.

Want to feel old?

Bonanza premiered over 60 years ago.

The Beatles split over 50 years ago.

Laugh-In premiered over 50 years ago.

The Wizard of Oz is over 80 years old.

Elvis has been dead 46 years. He'd be 88 today.

The Thriller video is 40 years old.

Jimi Hendrix and Janis Joplin dead over 50 years.

John Lennon dead over 40 years.

Mickey Mantle retired 55 years ago.

Back to the Future is 39 years old.

The Corvette turned 70 this year.

Please Remember in Prayer:

Mary K Chambers	Elliott Elkins	Peggy Fear
Paul Graf	Amy Graham	Lily Handt
Todd Holzer	Keith Jarvis	Larry Kendall
Mark Meister	Teresita Noah	Tom Noah
Eileen Ogden	Pavi Pathak Fam.	Louise Rohrig
Dolores Simon	Darin Toops	Sharon Voegeli

🇺🇸 Active Service Deployment

🇺🇸 Ben Zigan & Aaron Greiwe