



Immaculate Conception Catholic Church

Founded 1892

419 Jones Street PO Box 802 Menville, IA 51039-0802 Fax (712) 873-3931 Office/Kitchen (712) 873-3644
icmenville@netins.net http://icmenville.CatholicWeb.com

Fr. Mark J. Stoll, Pastor
712-873-3745 [home evenings]
Joyce Kizzier, Director of Faith Formation
712-873-5158 [home evenings]
Lindsay Steinhoff, Administrative Assistant
Karen Walker, Custodian

St. Michael Catholic Church
208 Brandon Street
PO Box 99
Kingsley, Iowa 51028-0099
Marie Washburn, Director of Religious Education
712-378-2021 mlwash@frontiernet.net

Monthly Newsletter
Volume X, Number 11
November 2009

PARISH MISSION STATEMENT:

Immaculate Conception Parish strives to make the Catholic Christian life available to the people of God within the parish by opening up the rich heritage of the teachings of Jesus Christ, thus enabling them to experience more fully the presence of God in their lives and the peace, love and the joy of following him.

CLUSTER MISSION STATEMENT:

WE, the members of **Immaculate Conception Parish of Menville** and **St. Michael Parish of Kingsley**, being clustered in the Diocese of Sioux City, Iowa, **ARE** a Catholic Christian people, living the Paschal Mystery, united in creed, worship, and love for each other.

Our Mission is:

...to worship and praise our God. ...to educate and promote spiritual growth of our people of all ages. ...to serve each other within the Church, helping all members grow in their relationship with God and with one another. ...to live the Gospel through a ministry of hospitality with all our sisters and brothers in the global community.



Nearly two years after Bishop R. Walker Nickless formed a Strategic Planning Task Force in the Diocese of Sioux City, he officially promulgated a five-year plan for our Diocese in September 2009. As of this date Immaculate Conception Church-Menville has become a Parish Center and St. Michael Church-Kingsley a Liturgical Site.

As was explained at meetings on 15 February 2009 and 25 August 2009 held at Immaculate Conception with members of both parishes a **PARISH CENTER** is a parish community that has the presence of the Blessed Sacrament, is a Sunday Liturgical site, is a Sacramental site [where all sacraments are celebrated], is a Catechetical [Faith Formation] site, is a Weekday Mass site, is the location of the Rectory and the parish offices including the pastoral and finance councils. A **LITURGICAL SITE** is a parish community that has the presence of the Blessed Sacrament, is a Sunday Liturgical Site, is a Sacramental Site, is an optional Catechetical Site, and is a optional Weekday Mass with office at the **PARISH CENTER**.

In the case of our two parishes, as announced earlier this year, the Sacramental and Catechetical events (including daily Mass) will remain the same. What will need to be done now is to begin work on consolidating the administration of the two parishes, into Menville.

Several steps in this have already been completed: baptismal and marital preparation and RCIA efforts have been combined, the work of both parishes' Finance Councils have been combined, and the hiring of an Administrative Assistant for both parishes.

The next steps will include work to have the ICC Pastoral Council and St. Michael Parish Council to work more in cooperation with each other, moving parish records from Kingsley to Menville, forming a Coordinating Committee, and consolidating the duplicated administrative efforts of both parishes to provide for more effective and efficient administration of both parishes.

For more information, visit our website and click on **DIOCESE OF SIOUX CITY PASTORAL PLAN-**

FAITH FORMATION NEWS



BAPTISM CLASS for all parents wishing to baptize their children will be held **Thursday 3 December 2009, 7:00 p.m.** in the Immaculate Conception Church library. Please call the office to register.

This class should be completed before the child is born and a baptism date is selected.

ADULT FAITH FORMATION

SUNDAY SCRIPTURE STUDY is held every Thursday evening from 6:30 –7:30 p.m. Everyone is invited to join us.



RCIA—is the process by which the Catholic Church prepares and welcomes new members who are over the age of seven and who have either not been baptized or have been baptized in other faith communities and who wish to join the Catholic Church. This process includes learning sessions and prayer with the catechumens (those who have not been baptized) and with the candidates (those who have been baptized). If you know someone who is interested in joining the Catholic Church, please ask them to contact the parish office or notify the parish office so they may be invited.



CATHOLIC SCRIPTURE STUDY is held on Wednesdays beginning at 9:15 a.m. We will be studying the Gospel of John. You will find a registration form later in the newsletter.

Fr. Mark

YOUTH FAITH FORMATION

IT'S NEVER TOO LATE TO VOLUNTEER! Catechists/Aides/Office help needed—We are in need of help for this fall. We need **5th grade, 8th grade, and 9th grade** Catechists. We also need aides for the afternoon and evening classes as well as someone to help in the office. Please prayerfully consider taking on one of these positions.

CICC, CONFIRMATION CLASS, will present on Saturday November 7, 8:00 p.m. the skit, "A Day in School" to the public to help raise money for the grocery store. You are invited to the soup supper that will be held starting at 6:00 p.m. There will be a free will offering taken with the proceeds going to the new Merville grocery store. Candidates who are not present November 7, will need to attend class Sunday November 8, 6:30-8:30 p.m.

CONFIRMATION for our parishes will be Wednesday 21 April 2010, 6:30 p.m. at St. Michael-Kingsley. Candidates, parents, and sponsors please mark your calendars today and plan on arriving at the church by 6:00 p.m.

LITURGICAL NOTES

ADORATION/BENEDICTION will be held November 6 at 7:00 p.m. with prayers for vocations.

MORE NEWS AND INFORMATION

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL met September 15 to review the work of the Liturgy Team, Faith Formation Team, Parish Life Team, Buildings/Grounds Team, and the Guild. Their next meeting is November 17.

THE PARISH LIFE TEAM met October 6 to review projects including Pumpkin Carving/Hot Dog Roast, Trivia Night, Project Moses, and the Parish Fair Stand. Their next meeting will be December 1. New members are always welcome!

CLUSTER FINANCE met on October 27 to review the current fiscal status and DAA 2009. Thank you for your continued financial support to your parish.

GUILD NEWS: Thank you to the September/October Circle for all your hard work.

PieceMakers meet Thursdays 12:30-3:30 p.m. and 7:00-9:00 p.m. to make quilts and other projects for those in need. All are welcome to attend—sewing skills not required. Help is always needed to tie quilts, thread needles, etc.

CLUSTER COORDINATING COMMITTEE is being formed to prepare to implement Bishop Nickless' Diocesan Pastoral Plan for our parishes when he gives final approval. Members from each parish will meet regularly to work to apply the plan to our parishes. This committee will work in conjunction with the Immaculate Conception Parish Pas-

toral Council and the St. Michael Parish Council and with the Finance Councils of both parishes. Please contact the parish/cluster office in Merville to be a part of this planning committee.

DIOCESAN ANNUAL APPEAL [DAA]

For more than 30 years, the Diocese of Sioux City has worked with our church family to share our gifts and our talents through the Diocesan Annual Appeal. This is when we make our appeal on His behalf to provide needed funding for the diocesan ministries, programs, services, and many other efforts no one parish could provide. Thousands of individuals throughout the Diocese of Sioux City rely on the generosity and kindness of Catholics throughout Iowa. Appreciation for the sharing of our gifts and resources truly makes us one flock in the Lord.

The Catholic Diocese of Sioux City serves families and individuals in the state of Iowa through ministries, programs and services. The DAA invites all to share in the fruits and labor of our local Church.

Each of the 115 parishes of the Diocese of Sioux City is expected to raise \$51.13 per household to assist Bishop Nickless in the operation of the Central Catholic Offices in Sioux City. All monies collected helps to cover the general operating cost of the Central Catholic Offices including salaries and programs sponsored by the Diocese including the cost of events such as Youth Rally, Totus Tuus, and Camp CAYOCA for expenses not covered by participant registration fees. None of the money collected goes to any of the Catholic Schools in our Diocese. The reference to the support of Catholic Schools in DAA literature refers to the support of the staff of the Superintendent of Catholic Schools whose office is in the Central Catholic Office in Sioux City. Once our parishes reach our Diocesan goal, the Diocese begins to return 5% of our goal to us and 100% of all monies collected above the goal. Any amount we fail to collect below the goal, the parish will be billed and expected to pay in order to help raise the Diocesan goal of \$1.5 million.

If everyone in our parish made a pledge of \$51.13, payable over a year's time, in September, we would easily hit our goal!

I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in Me, and I in them, bear much fruit, for apart from Me you can do nothing. [John 15:5]

Thank you for your support!

FOODBANK OF SIOUXLAND BACKPACK PROGRAM needs a minimum of 10 volunteers from our parishes the first Monday of every month at 5:30 p.m. Sign-up sheets are located in the entrance of both church buildings for Nov. 2, Dec. 7, Jan. 4, Feb. 1, Mar. 1, Apr. 5, and May 3. This is a great service opportunity for confirmation candidates. This project is sponsored by the Immaculate Conception Parish Life Team.

40 DAYS FOR LIFE: Thank you to everyone who participated.

MARRIAGE SPONSOR COUPLES are husband/wife teams who assist the pastor in preparing couples for marriage in cooperation with the preparation the pastor provides. Training for new Sponsor Couples is offered by the Diocese at various times during the year. If you would like to help with this important sacramental ministry please contact Fr. Mark for information.

NATURAL FAMILY PLANNING (NFP), Myths and Reality
Myth #1: NFP is just another name for Rhythm.

REALITY: *Natural Family Planning (NFP) is an umbrella term for modern, healthy, scientifically accurate, and reliable methods of family planning.* It differs from “Rhythm” (or the Calendar Method). Rhythm tried to estimate the time of next ovulation by calculating previous menstrual cycles. Although this approach had sound scientific underpinnings, in practice it often proved inaccurate because of the unique nature of each woman's menstrual cycle. NFP, by contrast, has been proven scientifically sound in both theory and practice.

NFP is based on scientific research about women's cycles of fertility. Since the 19th century, doctors have known about the changes in cervical mucus and its relation to fertility. In the 1920s, temperature rules were developed. However, it wasn't until the 1950s that an educational process was developed to teach the observation and interpretation of these fertility signs.

The NFP methods are: the *Basal Body Temperature (BBT)* method, which monitors changes in a woman's temperature when she wakes up each morning; the *Ovulation Method (OM)*, which monitors changes in a woman's cervical mucus; and the *Sympto-Thermal Method (STM)*, which combines observations of temperature and cervical mucus with other indicators such as changes in the cervix and secondary fertility signs.

Classes are offered at Mercy Medical Center in Sioux City. For more information about NFP and NFP classes, contact the parish office or visit <http://www.usccb.org/prolife/issues/nfp/>

NATIONAL/SPECIAL COLLECTIONS for 2009 collections will take place:

November 21-22 Catholic Campaign for Human Development (CCHD)

December 12-13 Retired and Infirm Priests of the Diocese of Sioux City

December 25 Catholic Charities

NEW PARISHIONERS: None

PARISH MOVIE: Sunday November 8, 2:00 p.m.— Faith Like Potatoes

is based on the inspiring true story of Angus Buchan, a Zambian farmer, who, faced with ever-mounting challenges, quickly spirals down into a life consumed by anger, fear and destruction. Angus and his family leaves his farm in Zambia in the midst of political unrest and racially charged land reclaims and travels south with his family, which struggles to start a better life. After suffering a series of seemingly insurmountable losses, Angus forges an unlikely friendship with his Zulu farmhand and discovers



that the key to healing himself and learning to accept others lies in his unwavering belief in the power of faith. Angus discovers that the key to healing himself lies in his unwavering belief in the power of faith. Based on the inspiring true story by Angus Buchan the book was adapted for the big screen by award winning actor and director Regardt van den Bergh and weaves together the moving journey of a man who, like his potatoes, grows his faith, unseen until the harvest. “The seed for a great miracle lies not in difficulty, but impossibility.” Rated PG from some thematic material, a farm accident scene, mild language, and brief smoking. Unrated by the USCCB. 2008

PARISHIONERS WHO HAVE MOVED AND/OR TRANSFERRED TO ANOTHER PARISH: none.

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS: Jerry Barthole, Florence Becker, Sylvia Beelner, Judy Montang Carr, Donna Clark, Denis & Virginia Connelly, Mary Feeney, Bernice Guthridge, Catherine Hamman, Beth Harder, Doug Henrich, Frank Juarez, Walt Kabisch, Vi Kasner, Wes Keller, Millie Kisting, Lisa Langel, George McGarry, Lyle Morgan, Dale Murray, Theresa Myres, Brad Navrkal, Dorothy O'Keefe, Joe Parks, Bill Pigott, Jason Pigott, June Pigott, Secret Plendl, Ruth Schleis, Phyllis Schmidt, Bernice Timmins, Mary Trout, Katie Verschoor, Jaycie and Kennedy Vondrak, Geraldine Weinreich, and Lucile Warner, and the men and women serving in the military especially in Afghanistan and Iraq.

PRAY ESPECIALLY FOR: Vera Flathers, aunt of Roger (Leah) Klingensmith who died October 23; and Helen Fick, aunt of Michelle (John) Pucelik, who died October 24.

Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace. Amen.

WEDDINGS: Congratulations to Tyler & Jade (Guthridge) Manker, who were married September 26 and Aaron & Kristi (Nelson) Ploen, who were married October 17.

+++

YEAR FOR PRIESTS

June 19, 2009—June 19, 2010

Ways to Support Our Pastor: Pray for our pastor

Encourage others to do the same. You might consider designating a daily chore or activity as a sacrificial offering for our pastor. Or you might say a particular prayer every day for him. Let our pastor know that you are praying for him. He will appreciate your spiritual support. During difficult moments, he will know that your prayers are helping to sustain him.

+++

ADVENT BEGINS ON SUNDAY NOVEMBER 29, 2009

HOW CHRISTIANS SHOULD CELEBRATE ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS *by John Feister*

Did you ever notice that dessert is the first dish in line at many buffet restaurants? Yes, you could eat dinner backwards—starting with dessert, then moving on to the appetizer and main course. In the end you eat all the food, but it's nowhere near as fulfilling as enjoying each part of the meal in its proper place. Or worse, dessert could fill you up before you eat a balanced meal.

Sometimes we suffer the same temptation with Christmas. Our culture tends to skip Advent and start celebrating Christmas after Thanksgiving—if we're lucky to make it that far! Then it's all packed up and stored away by New Year's. This year, consider returning to the ancient practice of seeing the whole Christmas "cycle"—the period that embraces both the Advent and Christmas seasons—as one unit of joyous celebration. Preparation comes first, then comes celebration extending a few weeks after Christmas Day.

The focal point of the Christmas cycle is obvious: God becoming one of us in Jesus, the Incarnation. All three phases of the cycle—Advent, Christmas and Epiphany—hinge on and celebrate that point. These celebrations help us to name the ways our lives are caught up in the "big story" of Christ. And these feasts tie our lives to Christians throughout history. The tradition of the Church, the living gospel, is the real-life experience of Christians like you and like me, and those who have gone before us.

During Advent, which begins in 2008 on November 30, we emphasize the joy that some would compare to the months before a child is born: excitement, wonder, joy, expectation, even exhilaration at the life that is in our midst right now, yet also a hope and longing, and a carefulness to get things into order.

During the Christmas season we celebrate the wonder of the Incarnation. How wondrously we are made that the Word of God would become one of us! God shows us how to live fully: by pouring out our lives for others. That is what the days of Christmas are all about.

Epiphany and the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord celebrate Christ becoming manifest—that is, present—to all peoples. On Epiphany we focus on the three Wise Men symbolizing the many races for whom Christ was born. The baptism of Jesus marks the beginning of his public ministry. God's "Christmas gift" of the Incarnation is a gift for everyone!

John Bookser Feister is the editor of AmericanCatholic.org. This article is excerpted from Catholic Update, "Advent to Epiphany: Celebrating the Christmas Cycle."

ADVENT CUSTOMS

Catholics observe special customs during the season of Advent, which include lighting an Advent wreath and making a Jesse tree. Learn more about these customs and the history of the Advent wreath and Jesse tree.

How do I make an Advent wreath?

The Advent wreath is one of our most popular Advent traditions. Its origin is in pre-Christian Germany and Scandinavia where the people gathered to celebrate the return of the sun after the winter solstice. The circular wreath made of evergreens with four candles interspersed represented the circle of the year and the life that endures through the winter. As the days grew longer, people lit candles to offer thanks to the "sun god" for the light. For us, the lighting of the Advent candles represents the promise of the coming of Jesus, the light of the world.

To make an Advent wreath, begin with a Styrofoam circle, available at craft shops, and cut four evenly spaced holes into which you will place the four candles. Traditionally there are three purple candles and one rose candle (for the third Sunday), but blue candles can also be used. Purple reminds us to turn our hearts toward God; rose is a color of joy. Place fresh evergreen branches over the Styrofoam. Replace them when they dry out in order to preserve the symbolism of the vitality of God's love. Encourage children to participate as they are able, by gathering branches, placing the candles and so on.

How do I make a Jesse tree?

This Advent activity is like a family tree, a way to remember Jesus' ancestors. The tree is named after a man called Jesse, who lived a thousand years before Jesus. He was Jesus' many-greats-grandfather. This is what the prophet Isaiah had to say about Jesse: 'A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse, and a branch shall grow out of his roots' [Isaiah 11:1]. Later Isaiah tells us that the Holy One will come from Jesse and his family. He will be a person of peace and justice. He will be wise and understanding and strong—strong enough to defeat all that is evil.

A Jesse tree includes ornaments that represent Jesus' ancestors: Adam and Eve, Abraham and Sarah, Noah, Jacob, Joseph, Moses, Ruth, Jesse, David, Solomon, Isaiah and Micah, Jonah, Joseph, Mary. Assign everyone a name and, after reading about the person, try to decide on a symbol that could represent them. If possible, try to make the ornament three-dimensional, and include a string on it so that it can be hung. (Adapted from *God Is Calling—Leader's Guide*.)

What are "posadas"?

The word *posada* means "shelter" or "lodging." This Advent custom, popular throughout the Spanish-speaking world, reenacts Mary and Joseph's journey from Nazareth

to Bethlehem and their search for lodging along the way. The ritual lasts for nine days (December 16-24), representing the months of Mary's pregnancy. A group of people travel from house to house on their route, taking the role of pilgrims seeking lodging. Those inside the homes are innkeepers who refuse them. At the last home all are invited in for prayer and refreshments.

+++

CATHOLIC SAINTS OF ADVENT

The feasts of many Roman Catholic saints are celebrated during Advent. Here are the biographies and feast days of some well-known Advent saints.

Mary

Most of us readily think of St. Mary, Mother of God, during Advent. After all, Mary is the one closest to Jesus. Two Marian feasts fall during Advent: the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception (Dec. 8) and the Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe (Dec. 12). From Mary we learn the greatest traits of the Christian: love, humility, justice, openness to God's grace and willingness to act.

St. Francis Xavier

He tirelessly evangelized in the Far East. Busy as he was, he took time to set religious truths to verse and fit them to popular tunes in the countries he served. This was such a successful way of spreading the Good News that his songs were sung in the streets. Xavier invested his missionary zeal in a way that yielded a harvest long after he left. This didn't happen without hours spent in silence and prayer, asking for guidance and inspiration. Ask for his intercession if you want your time spent in Advent to bear fruit long after you've left the season behind.

St. John Damascene

"The one who seeks God continually will find him, for God is in everything," says St. John Damascene. It's to this little-known Advent saint that we owe the pleasure of looking at religious art. In a period of Church history when others wanted to forbid the use of images, John Damascene insisted they could be used to inspire us. He suffered for his convictions, but now we need to thank him. Where would we be at Christmastime without our treasure of religious art? Take time looking at your Madonna and Child Christmas cards, and thank God for clear thinkers like John Damascene.

St. Nicholas

This fourth-century Greek bishop is known for his faithfulness to Christ, his devotion to justice and to charity. Santa Claus is a character that started with Nicholas and took on a life of its own. We would do well to remember the real Nicholas. Ask for his intercession as you pray for a charitable heart.

St. Ambrose

Ambrose of Milan spent much of his time listening. He listened to St. Monica as she wept about her sinful son—the future St. Augustine—and Ambrose was able to comfort her. He listened to opposing factions in the Church and was able to make peace. This Doctor of the Church saw himself as a lifelong learner: "In the endeavor to teach, I desire that I may be able to learn," he said. We only learn if we keep listening—especially when we're the teachers! Pray with Ambrose to improve your listening skills.

St. Lucy

This fourth-century martyr chose to be a Christian when being Christian was illegal. She wanted to give up all her wealth and devote her life to the poor, but she herself became a victim of oppression. After resisting the advances of a Roman soldier, she was denounced as a Christian and tortuously executed. She teaches us that life in Christ's light is worth devoting your life to—even dying for.

St. John of the Cross

He is the great mystic of Advent, who says that we are "face-to-face with Love's own grace." What wonderful words to ponder! Yet in contrast to John's lofty poetry, he took for himself the most menial jobs wherever he was. Before he entered religious life he worked in a hospital for people with disgusting diseases. Besides bathing them, he sang songs to cheer them up. Even when he held high administrative posts he took the lowliest tasks. His life reminds us that no matter how soaring our spirituality, it must be grounded in humble day-to-day duties or we miss the whole meaning of the Incarnation.

Adapted from *The God-Shaped Hole: Advent Daily Reflections*

GOD IS CALLING YOU TO BECOME A LITURGICAL MINISTER

Name: _____

I would like to serve:

Altar Server	6:30 pm Sat.	8:00 am Sun.
Communion Minister	6:30 pm Sat.	8:00 am Sun.
Usher	6:30 pm Sat.	8:00 am Sun.
Gift Bearer	6:30 pm Sat.	8:00 am Sun.
Cantor	6:30 pm Sat.	8:00 am Sun.
Reader	6:30 pm Sat.	8:00 am Sun.
Organist	6:30 pm Sat.	8:00 am Sun.
Musician	6:30 pm Sat.	8:00 am Sun.

Instrument _____

(Please Circle the time(s) you would be available to serve)

SOME IMPORTANT DATES:

November 4, 4:00 and 7:00 p.m.: Reader Training [M]
November 6, 7:00 p.m.: Adoration/Benediction [M]
November 6-8: Search (11th & 12th Grade) [Algonal]
November 8, 10:00 a.m.: "Youth" Mass [K]
November 8, 2:00 p.m.: Parish Movie [M]
November 9, 8:00-5:00: Life Line Screening [M]
November 10, noon: Menville Chamber Dinner [M]
November 14/15: PROJECT MOSES [M]
November 17, 7:00 pm: ICC Pastoral Council meeting [M]
November 19-22: National Catholic Youth Conference [Kansas City]
November 21-22: Catholic Campaign for Human Development (CCHD) collection
December 1, 7:00 p.m.: ICC Parish Life Team meeting [M]
December 1, 7:00 p.m.: St. Michael Guild [K]
December 2: Reconciliation [K]

PARISH INFORMATION

Eucharist: Saturday: 4:30 p.m.—K; 6:30 P.M.—M
Sunday: 8:00 a.m.—M; 10:00 a.m.—K;
Tuesday & Thursday: 8:00 a.m.—K
Wednesday & Friday: 7:30 a.m.—M
Reconciliation: Saturday: 4:00-4:15 p.m.—K, Sunday: 7:30-7:45 a.m.—M.; other times by appointment
Morning Prayer: Mon., Tues. & Thurs. 8:00 a.m.—M
Wed., Fri. 8:00 a.m.—K
Baptism: scheduled after completion of Baptism Class held quarterly (March, June, September, December)
Confirmation: high school sophomores/juniors every other year. Next Confirmation: Spring 2010
First Reconciliation/Eucharist: second grade students-Winter/Spring.
Marriage: scheduled after six month preparation period with the pastor.
Anointing of the Sick: by appointment; last Sunday of October during Sunday Masses

K = Kingsley/M = Menville

PARISH LEADERSHIP

Immaculate Conception Parish Corporate Board of Directors:

President Most Rev. R. Walker Nickless,
Bishop of Sioux City
Vice-President Rev. Msgr. R. Mark Duchaine, Vicar General
Treasurer Rev. Mark J. Stoll, pastor
Lay Directors Terry Masching, Matthew Putze

Parish Pastoral Council: Fr. Mark J. Stoll (pastor), Joyce Kizzier (Director of Faith Formation/Faith Formation Team), Terry Masching (Lay Director), Matt Putze (Lay Director/Buildings/Grounds Team), Amanda Eiler (Liturgy Team), Eric Ricke (Finance Council), Eve Sanford (Guild), Chuck Hoelker (Knights of Columbus), Kathy Myres (Parish Life Team)

Guild: Eve Sanford (Pres.), Vacant (Vice-Pres.), Vacant (Sec.), Beth Harder (Treas.)

Thank you for remembering the Parish in your Estate Planning!

PARISH RENTAL POLICY: Persons wishing to rent out the parish hall for non-parish functions (i.e. meetings, showers, dinners, etc.), including gatherings by the family before and/or after a Baptism, Confirmation, First Reconciliation, First Eucharist, wedding, wedding anniversary, or other events when a sacramental celebration is also held at the parish need to call the parish office to check on availability and make arrangements. Signing a Hall Rental Agreement and fees are due before using the hall.

NEW PARISHIONERS should contact the parish office to register in the parish. We are happy to have you as a member of the parish!

ALL PARISHIONERS are asked to contact the parish office if you have a change in address, school, parish, marital status, etc. Thank you!

OFFICE HOURS:

Mon., Tues., Thurs., Fri. 8:00 a.m.-noon, 12:30-4:00 p.m.
Wed. 8:00 a.m.—noon, 1:00 –5:30 p.m., 6:30—8:30 p.m.
Other times by appointment

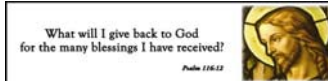
PERSONS WISHING TO JOIN THE CATHOLIC CHURCH, whether baptized in another faith or unbaptized and over the age of seven [7], should contact the pastor to begin the process known as RCIA at anytime of the year.

MARRIAGE PREPARATIONS are to begin 6-12 months before the wedding day. Please contact the pastor so that all preparations can be completed in time for the wedding and marriage.

**Remember, a wedding is just a day,
a marriage is a LIFETIME!**

Those discerning God’s call to be a priest, deacon, sister, or brother, may speak with the pastor or call the Diocesan Vocation office at 712-255-7933.

IF YOU ARE HOSPITALIZED: Because of privacy laws, when you or a family member is hospitalized, hospitals are not permitted to contact your pastor unless you inform the admitting personnel you wish to have your pastor notified. Otherwise, you or a member of your family should contact the parish office if you wish a visit. **Please keep the parish office informed of your pastoral needs so your needs can be addressed in a timely fashion and you can be remembered in prayer.**



DIOCESAN ANNUAL APPEAL (DAA)
GOAL: \$16,000.00
PLEGGED: \$8,775.39
GOAL: 311 Participants
PARTICIPANTS: 99

THANK YOU TO EVERYONE WHO HAS RETURNED YOUR PLEDGE CARD!

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION CHURCH
419 JONES STREET
PO BOX 802
MOVILLE IA 51039-0802

NON-PROFIT ORG.
US POSTAGE PAID
PERMIT NO 19
MOVILLE IA 51039

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

November 2009 Newsletter

IF YOU HAVE A CHANGE IN ADDRESS,
please notify the parish office so we can update our
membership records.



INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Mission Statements	1
From the Pastor	1
Faith Formation	1
Liturgical Notes	2
More Parish News	2
Marriage Sponsor Couples	3
Natural Family Planning	3
Parish Movie	3
Year for Priests	3
Advent Begins	4
Catholic Saints of Advent	5
Calendar	6
Parish Information	7
