We appreciate the businesses below for advertising in our bulletin, please patronize these businesses. And when you do, mention that you saw their ad in our bulletin!



Thank you St Jude



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In Memory of

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NEIGHBORS IN NEED

Since 1993 more than 1000 helped. If you know of anyone with a special need, call Jeff Smith @ 715-334-3983 or Marcel Kujak @ 715-964-5301







SACRAMENTS OF INITIATION

Please pray for Danielle LaCost and Haley Woof who will be preparing for the Sacraments of Initiation at the Easter Vigil. They have been studying the faith during the last number of months and throughout the season of Lent will participate in several rites of preparation during Sunday Mass. On March 1st they will also join Bishop Callahan in La Crosse for the Rite of Election. It is a wonderful grace to have individuals preparing for the sacraments. Please keep them in your prayers.

Does your home need a new furnace or roof? Does your home need accessibility accommodations? Are you tired of renting? Do you want to own your home?

If you answered yes to any of these questions, USDA Rural Development may be able to help. Rural Development has funding available to purchase and repair homes in eligible rural communities. Interest rates range between 1-3%.

Grants for repairs may be available to income eligible households over the age of 62. For more information, contact USDA Rural Development

at 715-232-2614, ext. 4. Additional information is also available at www.rd.usda.gov/wi USDA Rural Development is an equal opportunity provider, lender and employer.

Safe Haven Sunday - Year II

In the digital age, it's not a matter of if your child will see something inappropriate online. It's only a matter of when. To help you combat the pervasiveness of pornography, we will be recognizing Safe Haven Sunday on (February 23 or March 1). We all must respond by defending the dignity of each and every person and if needed, to heal ourselves from exposure to its snares. A thorough collection of resources for parents, pastors and parishes is available at: diolc.org/marriage/addressing-pornography/





Immaculate Conception Parish 341 W Main St PO Box 188 Alma Center WI 54611-0188 715-964-5201



St. Joseph Parish-Fairview N13740 Fairview Rd Fairchild WI 54741-8514 715-964-5201



St. John Cantius Parish 306 2nd St. Fairchild WI 54741-8514 715-964-5201

Dear Parishioners of Immaculate Conception, St Joseph, and St John Cantius!

Last Sunday's snowstorm prevented many from receiving the bulletin. So some of my words will be repeated this week. We are soon approaching Lent. Ash Wednesday is just ten days away! During Lent we are asked to practice a penance for 40 days. This is a difficult task. We are giving up a degree of 'choice' for a greater spiritual blessing. The penance we undertake is very important. Therefore, I encourage you to begin praying about your choice for your Lenten penance.

Last year my penance was to set my alarm at 3am every morning, get up, pray the Divine Mercy Chaplet, then return to bed. It was a very trying penance. It was challenging to break my sleep each morning, to leave the comfort of my bed, and to spend ten minutes in prayer on my knees. In this practice I was giving up the 'good of sleep' for a greater good. What was this 'greater good'? I can make some guesses, but in essence this 'greater good' was something only God knew.

For us Americans, freedom means opportunity and choice. Moral teachings, sacrifice, regular Sunday worship: these all seem to oppose our opportunity to choose. We feel that freedom is taken away by religion, because religion limits choice. The opposite, however, is the case. The sacrifices that lead to habits of virtue bring peace, balance, happiness, even elation. We begin to enter into communion with God. The mystery of His grace then acts upon us and provides insights and joys hitherto unimagined.

I encourage you to take your penance this coming Lent seriously. Be formed by God. Let him work on you. He can only do good in you. The opposite will occur when we ignore the call to penance. The avoidance of sacrifice always leads to lesser things. When we are humble enough to embrace the plan of God for our lives, a horizon of beauty and grace opens before us, filled with love beyond expression, breathtaking and immense in its goodness.

I look forward to seeing you at Mass on Sunday! Please encourage your family and friends to attend also. Untold graces are present at each and every Holy Mass. Thank you for the beautiful blessing of shepherding your parishes! I am definitely keeping you all in prayer!

Fr Dan Thelen

PARISH SECRETARY, **BOOKKEEPER**

Dawn Kaufman 715-533-8344

DIR. OF SACRED MUSIC Jolene Janke 715-964-6334

TRI-PARISH FACEBOOK Immaculate Joseph John

PASTOR

Fr. Daniel Thelen 715-964-5201 or 715-218-8391

> **OFFICE PHONE** 715-964-5201

TRI-PARISH EMAIL ID icjosephjohn@hotmail.com TRI-PARISH WEBSITE

www.catholic-parishes-of-almacenter-fairchild.org

REGULAR MASS SCHEDULE

Sun 8:30 am SSJJ 10:15 am IC Tue 5:30 pm IC Spanish Wed 9:00 am IC Thu 9:00 am IC Fri 9:00 am IC

Sat 4:30 pm IC Spanish CONFESSION

Sat 4:00-4:30 pm at IC Sun 8:00-8:30 am at SSJJ

Saturday February 15 Saturday

4:30 PM Mass Immaculate Conception - Hispanic For All Members of Our 3 Parishes

†Members of All Three Parishes

Sunday February 16 Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:30 AM Mass St Joseph †Betty Kohn (L Kohn)

10:15 AM Mass Immaculate Conception

†The Esser Family (J Esser)

Monday February 17

No Mass

Tuesday February 18

5:30 PM Mass Immaculate Conception †Mary Simonis

Wednesday February 19

3:00 PM Mass St Joseph's, Black River Falls

6:30 PM CCD and Parent Sacramental Prep Meeting at IC

Thursday February 20

9:00 AM Mass Immaculate Conception †Martha Mohan-a return to the Sacraments

6:00 PM Bible Study Immaculate Conception

7:15-8:30 PM Adoration Immaculate Conception

Friday February 21

9:00 AM Mass Immaculate Conception For a Grandson

Saturday February 22

2:00 -4:00 PM Adoration & Confession Immaculate Concept Day of Penance and Healing

4:30 PM Mass Immaculate Conception - Hispanic †Members of All Three Parishes

Sunday February 23 Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:30 AM Mass St Joseph

†All Deceased Members of the Kutchera Family Mardi Gras Breakfast immediately after Mass

11:00 AM Mass Immaculate Conception †Gilbert Laufenberg (M Casper)

PARISH SOCIAL MEDIA

Please visit our Facebook page—Immaculate Joseph John https://www.facebook.com/immaculate.conception.7796420 Like our page, request to be a friend. You will get notices from oth-

er friends in the parishes, get news about local church events,

things happening in the Diocese, etc.

We also have a website:

www.catholic-parishes-of-almacenter-fairchild.org

PRAYER CHAIN REQUESTS

Contact Jolene Janke at 715-964-6334 or stevenmj@centurytel.net to ask for prayers. If you would like to be a part of the prayer chain and pray for others, contact Jolene. The Power of Prayer is Amazing!

Please pray for all on the Prayer Chain, as well as our Active Military: Geralyn Csizmar, Joseph Janke, Katie Kotschi-Nelson, Frank Üeker, Derek Laufenberg, Logan Meacham, Madeleine Searles, Michelle Thompson, Luke Hansen, Brandon Ripp, Alex Ripp, Andrew Elfering, Holden Mitchell, Cameron Lane and Seth Johnson. (Please let us know when your soldier is no longer deployed.)

IF YOU CANNOT SERVE—PLEASE FIND A SUBSTITUTE

Occasionally there are changes to the schedule—watch the bulletin for the latest and correct schedule

bulletin for the latest and correct schedule				
Sun. Feb. 16, 8:30 am, St Jos R: C Eisberner S: S Mayer, E Theiler U: John Kutchera, Jeff Smith EM: P Connelly, J Scheffer G: John & Sheila Kutchera MC: Cna, Greg, Sheila	Sun. Feb. 16, 10:15 am, IC R: Leanna Cernohous S: Ariana & Annika C, J Clarke U: B Leis, L Boehnen, M Esser, C Trautlein EM: John Esser, K Laudon, M Seichter G: Clarke Family MC: J Hayden, M&J Esser			
Sun. Feb. 23, 8:30 am, St Jos R: Jan Elfering S: V Firkus, R Dimmitt U: N Kutchera, C Kutchera EM: C&G Eisberner G: Peg & Bill Connelly MC: Jeanie, Joan, Peg	Sun. Feb. 23, 11:00 am, IC R: Kathy Esser S: J&J Rowekamp, E Esser U: J Hayden, C Cray, M Schroeder, C Shramek EM: J Kujek, B Meacham, K Laudon G: Matt & Stephanie Esser MC: J Esser, C Hagedorn, D LaCost			
Ash Wednesday Feb. 26, 6:00 pm, St Jos R: Bonnie Firkus S: D Scheffer, G Eisberner U: Dave Kaufman, Tim Mayer EM: B Firkus, C Eisberner G: Tim & Bethany Mayer MC: J&D Elfering, J Smith	Ash Wednesday Feb. 26, 7:30 pm, IC R: Kathy Laudon S: volunteers U: volunteers EM: K Esser, P Gower, B Meacham G: Chris & Carrie Trautlein MC: J Esser, C Hagedorn, D LaCost			
Sun. Mar. 1, 8:30 am, St Jos R: Bonnie Firkus S: D Scheffer, V Firkus U: B Connelly, Luke Kutchera EM: B Firkus, P Connelly G: Rick & Pam Dimmitt MC: C&G Eisberner, S Kutchera	Sun. Mar. 1, 10:15 am, IC R: Joan Esser S: C Pineda, E Esser, Andin C U: B Leis, L Boehnen, M Esser, C Trautlein EM: M&J Esser, J Kujak G: Chris & Stacy Shramek MC: E&J Olson, P Gower			



Our thoughts and prayers are with the family of **Shirley Petznick**

May God grant her eternal rest. Amen.

WEEKLY TITHING					
2/8-9	IC SAT	IC Sun	St. Jos	Ѕт. Јони	
Adult	255.00	535.00	2071.00	50.00	
PLATE	123.00	98.00	20.00		
FUEL	100.00				
TOTAL	1111.00		2091.00	50.00	
Budget	1531.00		998.00	362.00	
DIFFERENCE	(420.00)		1093.00	(312.00)	
Budg Diff YTD	7589.40		5154.92	(76.00)	
CCHD				10.00	

Sunday Fund Day Winner!!

Sunday, Feb. 9, 2020 \$50 winner is Walt Neverman

Vote in the Judicial Primary Tuesday, February 18

Three candidates are running in the February 18 primary for Wisconsin Supreme Court. You can learn their judicial philosophy at a number of sites, including www.ballotpedia.org and www.wifamilycouncil.org. For general information on voting, visit www.wisconsinvote.org. The courts have a vitally important role in our government. Be sure to exercise your right and responsibility to vote.

OUR NEW CHURCH DIRECTORIES ARE HERE!

If you had your picture taken or submitted a picture for the new church directory, you are entitled to a free directory. If you have not gotten yours yet, please see Fr Dan or Dawn. Please check your directory if you have already received it. We had a few with pages in the wrong place. If you have one of these, please return it for a replacement.

After everyone has received their free directory, we will offer extra copies for sale.



REMINDER—Thursday evenings we have Bible study at Immaculate Conception from 6-7 PM. It is followed by Adoration from 7:15 -8:30 PM. Come for one, or come for both!

CONTRIBUTION ENVELOPES

We ask that you please put the amount of money you are contributing on the front of the envelope! And if you write a check, please put your check number on there as well. It will make counting and recording your envelopes much easier and faster for the money counters after Mass. Thank you!

PRIZES NEEDED FOR MARDI GRAS BREAKFAST AND 150TH CELEBRATION AT ST JOSEPH

The Mardi Gras Breakfast at St Joseph's is next Sunday, Feb. 23rd! We need some prize donations for our raffle at the breakfast.

Our 150th celebration is also right on the horizon. We need to get the raffle tickets made, so we need a list of the top prizes! Please let Dawn know what you are willing to donate ASAP!

Jensen-Modjeski Funeral Home Torgerson's Funeral Service Buswell Funeral Home

CELEBRATING LIFE HONORING MEMORIES

715-284-4321

funeralhome4321@gmail.com

Advertiser Of The Week

We thank this week's Advertiser of the Week, Jensen-Modjeski, Torgerson's and **Buswell Funeral Homes**

for their continuing support of our church bulletin. Contact them when you are in need. They are helpful and knowledgeable, and can help get you through the toughest of times. Let them know we appreciate their continued support.

ADULT FAITH FORMATION OPPORTUNITIES

Parish—Bible Study

Every Thursday Evening - 6pm-7pm

- *Check bulletin for cancellations
- *Currently studying St Matthew in the New Testament
- Meet at the Alma Center Rectory Followed by:

Adoration—7:15-8:30 PM

WINTER 2019-20

Saturday, Feb. 22 Immaculate Conception 2:00-4:00 PM Holy Hour for Penance and **Healing with Confessions**

Sunday, Feb. 23 Safe Haven Sunday Mardi Gras Breakfast after St Joseph Mass

Lent—Wednesdays at St Joseph

1:00-3:00 PM Adoration, Stations of the Cross at 2:00 PM

SSJJ Parish Council Mtg

Tues., Feb 25th at 6:30 PM at St Joseph

St Joseph 150th Anniversary **Committee Meeting**

Tues., Mar. 3 at 6:30 PM at St Joseph

50th Jubilee Anniversary Couples Names Needed

We want to invite couples from our parishes who are celebrating 50 years of sacramental marriage to one of three events being held this summer. Please let Dawn Kaufman know ASAP if you are celebrating 50 years of marriage this year.



There are still parishioners who have not pledged! Contact Dawn if you need help.



Imm. Con. Goal - \$7495 Pledged -\$8730 St. Joseph Goal- \$6640

Pledged -\$7135

St. John Goal -\$1840

Pledged -

\$2300