

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	<i>Guillermo Jaime</i> J Brothers Trans Inc 715-670-1023 	 RIPP DISTRIBUTING COMPANY, INC. "Your Water Source" Black River Falls, WI 54615 PH: 715-284-9866 email: info@rippdistco.com www.rippdistco.com Home & Office Bottled Water Service Water filtration dispensers
 Health Mart PHARMACY BLACK RIVER FALLS CLINIC PHARMACY 610 W ADAMS STREET BLACK RIVER FALLS, WI, 54615 PHONE : 715-284-4089  MONDAY – FRIDAY 8:30 – 5:30 SATURDAYS 8:30 – 12:00 	ASAP Septic Pumping LLC 715-963-ASAP (2727) <i>"your local septic pumper"</i>	<i>Jensen-Modjeski Funeral Home</i> <i>Torgerson's Funeral Service</i> <i>Buswell Funeral Home</i> CELEBRATING LIFE and HONORING MEMORIES 715-284-4321 ----- funeralhome4321@gmail.com
 VFW Post 8494 Bob Danke Post Cmdr 715-984-2478 Hall rental available (Ad donated in memory of Bernard & Dorothy Laufenberg)	In Memory of John Selz Selz-Pralle Dairy Family	
ESSER INSURANCE <i>APEX Insurance Group</i> <i>Alma Center, WI</i> 715-964-6311	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	

Sponsors:	James Forsting Families	Dennis and Jan Elfering	The Esser Family
	Janke's Never Rest Farms	†Martin & Dorothy Kalina	In Loving Memory of the †Ray & Lorraine Laufenberg Family

Remember Your Loved Ones at the Evergreen Memorial Service

Community members are invited to the Evergreen Memorial Service hosted by the Hospice department at Black River Memorial Hospital to remember loved ones who have passed away recently. Historically, this event has been held in person; however, due to social distancing restrictions and to ensure the safety of the community, the event this year will be presented in a virtual format. An event video can be viewed from the convenience of your home. Special readings, remembrances, lighting of candles, and special music will be part of the program. The video can be shared with family and friends and viewed multiple times. "The safety of our community takes precedence over everything," said Dena Graff, BRMH Homecare and Hospice director. "Although we won't be gathering in person, the program we are preparing will be unique and will honor the loved ones we have lost in a very special way." To take part in the event, visit www.brmh.net/evergreen. For more information on hospital events or homecare, palliative and hospice care, go to brmh.net.

DIOCESE OF LA CROSSE GUIDELINES FOR REPORTING INSTANCES OF CHILD ABUSE

The Diocese of La Crosse, through its policies and procedures, seeks to provide a prompt, appropriate and compassionate response to reporters of sexual abuse of a child by any diocesan agent (bishop, priest, deacon, employee, religious, vendor or volunteer). Anyone wishing to make a report of an allegation of sexual abuse should send that report to Mrs. Karen Becker, Complaint Intake Agent, at the Diocese of La Crosse, P.O. Box 4004, La Crosse, WI 54602-4004. Alternatively, you can contact Mrs. Becker at 608.791.0179 or intakeagent@diolc.org. The reporting form is available through the Diocese of La Crosse Office of Safe Environment or on the diocesan website at: diolc.org/safe-environment/reporting. **Individuals are also encouraged to take their reports directly to civil authorities.** Copies of the diocesan policy are available through your local parish and on the diocesan website. If you have any questions about the Diocese of La Crosse and the implementation of the *Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People*, please contact Teresa Brown, Diocese of La Crosse, at 608.791.2679; or tbrown@diolc.org.



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

PARISH BULLETIN Dec. 6, 2020
Second Sunday of Advent

Dear Parishioners of Immaculate Conception and St Joseph!

The prophet Isaiah provides us with one of the most profound insights into the moral life. Some of the greatest minds in the church, from the Fathers of antiquity to the scholastics of the Middle Ages have contemplated the meaning of Isaiah 11:2. It is in this verse that we are given the Gifts of the Holy Spirit. These gifts, revealed in the Old Testament, are applied prophetically to Christ. Christ was seen to have all seven gifts. We are called to be Christ-like. Therefore, we too should daily ask for these seven gifts of the Holy Spirit, to live a life of moral virtue. In the Middle Ages St Thomas Aquinas provided an extensive commentary on the close connection between the seven gifts of the Holy Spirit and the cardinal and theological virtues. His reflections remain just as profound to this day.

The seven gifts of the Holy Spirit are, according to Catholic Tradition, heroic character traits that Jesus Christ alone possesses in their fullness but that Christ freely shares with the members of his mystical body (i.e., his Church). We are first endowed with these gifts at our baptism, they are nurtured by our prayer and the practice of moral virtue, and then are sealed in the sacrament of Confirmation. They are also known as the sanctifying gifts of the Spirit, because they serve the purpose of preparing us to be docile to the promptings of the Holy Spirit, helping us to grow in holiness and making us fit for heaven.

The gifts of the Holy Spirit help us to grow in virtue. So what is virtue? A virtue is the habit of doing the good. Just like an athlete trains their body to excel at scoring a goal, a virtue is the habit of doing the good. This habit allows the person not only to perform good acts, but to give the best of themselves. The virtuous person pursues the good and chooses it in concrete actions. The ultimate goal of a virtuous life is to become like God, according to St Gregory of Nyssa.

The seven gifts of the Holy Spirit are wisdom, understanding, counsel, fortitude, knowledge, piety, and fear of the Lord. They belong in their fullness to Christ. According to the catechism, they complete and perfect the virtues of those who receive them. They make the faithful docile in readily obeying divine inspirations.

May this Advent Season prepare you for the joy of Christ's presence in your life. I am here if you are in need. Please do not hesitate to call. You are in my prayers. Trust greatly in Jesus as we continue through this difficult time. St Joseph, Patron Saint of the Universal Church – Pray for Us

Fr Daniel L Thelen

PARISH SECRETARY, BOOKKEEPER Dawn Kaufman 715-334-3931 715-533-8344 DIR. OF SACRED MUSIC Jolene Janke 715-964-6334 PARISH FACEBOOK Immaculate Joseph John ADORATION Tue 6:00—6:45 pm at IC Thu 9:30 am at St Joseph Thu 5:30—7:30 pm at IC	PASTOR Fr. Daniel Thelen 715-964-5201 or 715-218-8391 OFFICE PHONE 715-964-5201 PARISH EMAIL ID icjosephjohn@hotmail.com PARISH WEBSITE www.catholic-parishes-of-almacenter-fairchild.org	MASS SCHEDULE Sun 8:30 am St Joseph 10:15 am Immaculate Con. Facebook live at 10:15AM Tue 5:30 pm Spanish Wed, Fri 9:00 am Immac Conc. Thu 9:00 am St Joseph Sat 4:30 pm IC Spanish CONFESSION Tue 6:00-6:30 pm at IC Thu 9:30-10:00 am at SJ Sat 4:00-4:30 pm at IC Sun 8:00-8:25 am at SJ
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Saturday December 5
4:30 PM Mass Immaculate Conception-Hispanic
†Members of Both Parishes

Sunday December 6 Second Sunday of Advent
8:30 AM Mass St Joseph
†Dan Connelly (B&P Connelly)

10:15AM Mass Immaculate Conception
Mass live-streamed through Facebook at 10:15
†Esser Family (J Esser)

Monday December 7 St Ambrose
Private Mass

Tuesday December 8 Immaculate Conception of the BVM
9:00 AM Mass St Joseph
Health and Welfare of Elias Penry and Family (M&C Kaufman)

5:30 PM Mass Immaculate Conception-Bilingual
For All Those on the Prayer Chain
Confession 6:00—6:30 PM

Wednesday December 9 St Juan Diego Cuauhtlatotzin
9:00 AM Mass Immaculate Conception
†Rose Michels (B&K Leis)

Thursday December 10
9:00 AM Mass St Joseph
†Craig Gorkowski (R Traczek)
Confession 9:30 AM

5:30 PM-7:30 PM Adoration Immaculate Conception

6:00 PM Bible Study at Immaculate Conception in person and through ZOOM app

Friday December 11 St Damasus
9:00 AM Mass Immaculate Conception
†Lillian & Norman George (M&J Kujak)

Saturday December 12 Our Lady of Guadalupe
4:30 PM Mass Immaculate Conception-Hispanic
†Members of Both Parishes

Sunday December 13 Third Sunday of Advent
8:30 AM Mass St Joseph
†Shirley Petznick (D Bedell)


Remember your parish when you write your will!

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 other friends in the parishes, get news about local church events, things happening in the Diocese, etc.
Website: www.catholic-parishes-of-almacenter-fairchild.org

PRAYER CHAIN REQUESTS
Contact Jolene Janke if you have a request for the Prayer Chain at 715-964-6334 or stevenmj@canturytel.net. If you would like to be a part of the Prayer Chain, praying for others needs, let Jolene know. 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 Ueker, Derek Laufenberg, Logan Meacham, Madeleine Searles, Michelle Thompson, Luke Hansen, Brandon Ripp, Alex Ripp, Andrew Elfering, Holden Mitchell, Cameron Lane and Seth Johnson.

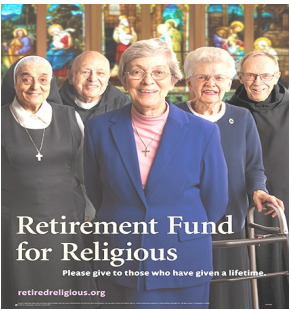
**IMMACULATE CONCEPTION
50:50 RAFFLE**
We have 400 tickets left to sell! Get yours now! Every ticket sold raises the prize!
We have raised almost \$3000 so far. This means a payout of almost \$1500!
Please contact Joan Esser or the parish office if you would like to purchase tickets.
Tickets are \$5 each.

Christ Our Cornerstone Campaign
Next weekend we will have a special presentation for you regarding our Cathedral steeple renovation project and the Christ Our Cornerstone campaign. Since its dedication in 1962, St. Joseph the Workman Cathedral has been an icon of faith and a magnificent place of worship. As the Mother Church of the Diocese, she has welcomed all within her walls, whether it be generations of faithful parish families or visitors from near and far. As Christ is the cornerstone of our faith, our Cathedral is the cornerstone of our diocese. More than simply a building, Father Billy Dodge, Pastor of the Roncalli Newman Parish in La Crosse, reminds us that our Cathedral is “a book, but in structure. It is our faith in stone and as Catholics, wherever we are in the Diocese of La Crosse, we have a building to be proud of. This is a statement of our faith.” Now, it is our time to make a difference in the life and future of our Mother Church. Next weekend, we will be unveiling an unprecedented opportunity for us to join together as one body united in Christ and take part in this momentous effort!




WEEKLY TITHING		
WEEK OF 11/29	IMMAC. CONC	ST. JOSEPH
ADULT	714.00	625.00
PLATE	97.00	569.00
TOTAL	811.00	1194.00
BUDGET	1668.00	1083.00
DIFFERENCE	(857.00)	111.00
BUDG DIFF YTD	(10094.20)	3239.51

Sunday Fund Day Winner!!
Sunday, Nov. 29, 2020 \$50 winner is John Hayden



RETIRED RELIGIOUS COLLECTION
Help our elders. In good times and bad, senior Catholic sisters, brothers, and religious order priests have dedicated themselves to service and acts of mercy. Today, they pray for an aching world. Yet years of serving for little or no pay have left their religious communities without enough retirement savings. Your gift to the Retirement Fund for Religious helps provide medications, nursing care, and other necessities. Please be generous.




ADORATION is a sign of devotion to and worship of Jesus Christ, who is present Body, Blood, Soul, and Divinity, under the appearance of the consecrated host.
We are beginning a greater emphasis on adoration and we encourage everyone to participate. Between Sister Petra, myself and Val we will be trying to initiate adoration for much of the day at St Joseph, with people taking 30 minute or 60 minute blocks each Thursday to adore Jesus in silence. If you are hesitant to come to Mass due to Covid, Adoration would be a perfect way for you to continue your devotion to your religion without a lot of contact with other people, and therefore a safe activity. Please join us for some meaningful personal time with God.

ONLINE ADVENT RETREAT
The Diocese of La Crosse is preparing an online Advent Mission entitled “*Preparing for the Birth of the Christ Child through the Eyes of St. Joseph.*” There will be four presentations, one for each week of Advent. The length of the talks will be roughly 30-40 minutes with discussion questions available at the end of each presentation and available to print from the website.
The purpose of this mission is to bring people together to prepare for Christmas and strengthen the community in light of so much isolation. Each presentation will be available at diolc.org/advent. The link to each presentation will be available on the Friday before the corresponding Sunday of Advent, and will be available throughout the rest of Advent.

The Presenters and Titles of the Presentations for each of the Four Weeks of Advent:

- Week 1) St. Joseph: The Man Selected by God to be Closest to Mary and to Jesus. – Msgr. Joseph Diermeier
- Week 2) Joseph and Mary: A Holy Love Story – Msgr. Joseph Hirsch
- Week 3) That Holy Night, through Joseph’s Eyes– Father Woodrow Pace
- Week 4) “Joseph, Son of David... You are to Give Him the Name Jesus” – Bishop William Patrick Callahan



Advertiser Of The Week
We thank this week’s Advertiser of the Week, **Ripp Distributing**, for their continuing support. Contact them with all your home and bottled water needs, and water filtration. Let them know we appreciate their continued support.

ADULT FAITH FORMATION OPPORTUNITIES

Parish—Bible Study
We will hold Bible Study on Thursday evenings at 6 PM in person and through the internet. If you are interested, let us know and we will send you an email to join in through the ZOOM app on your laptop, phone or tablet. You can download the app anytime from your playstore: ZOOM Cloud Meetings

Confessions We will hold Confessions at these times, or call Fr Dan at his cell number (715-218-8391) and set up a time.

6:00 pm—6:30 pm—Tuesday at IC
9:30—10:00 am—Thursday at St Joseph
4:00 pm—4:30 pm—Saturday at IC
8:00 am-8:30 am—Sunday at St Joseph

Adoration
6:00 pm—6:45 pm—Tuesday at IC
9:30 am Thursday at St Joseph
5:30 pm—7:30 pm—Thursday at IC

Rosary Join Fr Dan on Wednesday, Friday and Sunday evenings at 8pm for an online Rosary. If you are interested in joining contact Fr Dan and he will send you the link for the ZOOM app.

Money Counters-meet at IC 9:30am
Wed. Dec. 9: Connelly, Laudon
Wed. Dec. 16: Sanchez, Statz
Wed. Dec. 23: Elfering, Jaime, Laudon
We need more counters!!



Imm. Con.
Goal - \$8240
Pledged - \$7280

St. Joseph
Goal - \$7300
Pledged - \$9705

MASS SCHEDULE FOR CHRISTMAS
Dec 24 - 2pm St Joseph
Dec 24 - 4pm Immaculate Conception
Dec 24 - 8pm St Joseph
Dec 25 - 9am Immaculate Conception