

Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time - February 7, 2021

Gifts for God – January 31, 2021

Immaculate Conception

General Collections - \$ 1,175.00
Weekly Budget Needs: 1,700.00

Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton

General Collection - \$ 223.00
Weekly Budget Need: 475.00

Saint Joseph

General Collection - \$ 810.00
Weekly Budget Needs: 375.00
Building Fund: 50.00



Stewardship Reflections

"Rising very early before dawn, he left and went off to a deserted place, where he prayed...He told them, 'Let us go on to the nearby villages that I may preach there also. For this purpose have I come.'" - Mark 1:35, 38

In today's Gospel reading we see a perfect example of stewardship. Jesus gives His time to do all that God wishes - healing the sick and preaching. But before He begins, Jesus makes time to be alone with God in prayer. It is through prayer, spending time with God, that we find the strength to do what He wishes us to do. Be sure to find time every day to be with God.



Mass Intentions:

Immaculate Conception

February 13

For the spiritual benefit of the People of God of Immaculate Conception, Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton and Saint Joseph parishes.

February 14

For the spiritual benefit of the Marinelle Morrow family.

Lent 2021 begins on Ash Wednesday

Stations of the Cross at 6:30 on all Fridays

Lent – that season of the church year where we spiritually walk with Jesus in His 40-day trek in the wilderness – is nearly upon us again. Last year's Lent was made even more penitential with the arrival of the Pandemic lockdowns and the in-person loss of Holy Week and Easter. This year's observance will be better. We are not locked down, and those who have returned have learned to cherish physical access to the Eucharist.

At Immaculate Conception there is already a Lenten feel with worship in the Parish Hall as the church undergoes renovation. But attendance is good (for pandemic standards). We continue to miss those who cannot return yet, as well as those who could return but so far have chosen not to.

The timetable for reopening before Easter is on schedule. With vaccinations increasing and fewer people susceptible to the coronavirus, our prayer is that the reopening will be a major step on the way back to normalcy.

Meanwhile, preparation for Lent is set. **Ash Wednesday** is February 17. There will be Masses at IC at 8 a.m., 12 Noon and 6 p.m. with the distribution of ashes at each Mass. At Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton, Mass and ashes will be offered at 7:45 p.m.

Each Friday of Lent, starting with Feb. 19, features Stations of the Cross at 6:00 p.m. at IC. There will be no Lenten meals following stations this year. The time for Stations at the other two parishes will be announced soon.

Pledge Drive reaches \$41,335

The Renew the House of the Lord Pledge Drive hit \$41,335 this week. If you would like to participate – every dollar is helpful – pledge/gift cards are available in the Parish Hall, or online at occok.weshareonline.org. Father Jim is extremely grateful for the response to the fundraising campaign.

The total cost of the project is estimated at \$75,000, including floors, pews, sanctuary renovation, sound control and a permanent camera system for live-streaming Masses and other liturgical events.

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Heavy-duty wood tables for sale

We have a selection of the long, brown tables from the old parish hall in storage, and these are for sale. Very heavy duty and perfect for extended use or when family gatherings are taken out-of-doors. The money from the sales will go to the "Renew the House of the Lord" project. We'd like \$50 apiece or your best offer. See David at the office.

Prayers for Our Sick & Shut-ins

"And the prayer offered in faith will make the sick person well." (James 5:15)

Let us pray for: Anastacio Solis, Edith & Lazarus Girton, Whitney Lagaly, Matt Simonds, George Mansour, Josefina Estrada, Katie Malone, John Harris, Stan Floyd, Liz Lopez, Roger O'Hara, Beverly Mazikowski, Johnny & Josephine McMahan, Brandy Beane, John Worton, Chet & Paula Gorgas, Bill Burwell, Donald Hargrove, Dorothea Willis, Barbara Morris, Marianne Young, Howard Bryant, Susie Hawkins, Nanette Johnson, Mary Smith, Rita Thompson, Susan King, Hilda Culver, Violet Ray, and all our hospitalized and shut-ins.

Daily Mass Readings

8 Monday of the Fifth Week in Ordinary Time (G) / Genesis 1:1-19 / Psalm 104:1-2a, 5-6, 10 and 12, 24 and 35c / Mark 6:53-56

9 Tuesday of the Fifth Week in Ordinary Time (G) / Genesis 1:20 – 2:4a / Psalm 8:4-5, 6-7, 8-9 / Luke 7:1-13

10 Memorial of Saint Scholastica, Virgin (W) / Genesis 2:4b-9, 15-17 / Psalm 104:1-2a, 27-28, 29bc-30 / Mark 7:14-23

11 Thursday of the Fifth Week in Ordinary Time (G) / Genesis 2:18-25 / Psalm 128:1-2, 3, 4-5 / Mark 7:24-30

12 Friday of the Fifth Week in Ordinary Time (G) / Genesis 3:1-8 / Psalm 32:1-2, 5, 6-7 / Mark 7:31-37

13 Saturday of the Fifth Week in Ordinary Time (G) / Genesis 3:9-24 / Psalm 90:2, 3-4abc, 5-6, 12-13 / Mark 8:1-10

14 The Sixth Sunday of Ordinary Time (G) / Leviticus 13:1-2, 44-46 / Psalm 32:1-2, 5, 11 / 1 Corinthians 10:31 – 11:1 / Mark 1:40-45

Our Catholic Community Calendar

Monday, February 8

– No events scheduled today.

Tuesday, February 9

– **8 a.m. Daily Mass today in the IC Chapel.**

– 9 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Food Pantry open. Masks are required.

– 7 p.m. Spanish RCIA Class

Wednesday, February 10

– **8 a.m. Daily Mass today in the IC Chapel.**

– 9 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Food Pantry open. Masks are required.

Thursday – February 11

– **8 a.m. Daily Mass today in the IC Chapel.**

– **8 a.m.** Scripture Study of the Book of Revelation resumes at IC

Friday, February 12

– **8 a.m. Daily Mass today in the IC Chapel.**

Saturday, February 13

– 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. Confessions are heard in Father Jim's office.

– 11:15 a.m. English RCIA class today.

– 3:30 to 4:30. Confessions before the vigil Mass.

– **5 p.m. Vigil Mass for the Fifth Sunday of Ordinary Time.**

Sunday, February 14 – The Sixth Sunday of Ordinary Time

– 9 a.m. **Sunday Mass at I.C. in English**

– 10:30 a.m. Religious Education classes at IC

– 11 a.m. **Sunday Spanish Mass at IC.**

– 1 p.m. **Sunday Mass at Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton, Spiro**

– 5 p.m. **Sunday Mass at Saint Joseph, Stigler.**

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Upcoming Things to Remember

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* No Religious Education classes on Sunday, February 14.

* A work-day for all Confirmation students will be held on Saturday, February 20, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. It will involve painting, so dress accordingly.

* Pope Francis has decreed 2021 a year of devotion to Saint Joseph. Father Jim will soon announce special prayers of consecration.