



Immaculate Conception Catholic Church

419 Jones Street PO Box 802 Menville, IA 51039-0802
West Fork Catholic Office/Kitchen (712) 873-3644 and Fax (712) 873-3931
Email icmenville@wiatel.net

St. Michael Catholic Church

208 Brandon Street PO Box 99 Kingsley, IA 51028-0099
Church Hall (712) 378-2722 Education Center (712) 378-2021
Email stmichael@frontiernet.net

ACTIVITIES CALENDAR

MONDAY—DECEMBER 14

Saint John of the Cross, Priest and Doctor of the Church

7:30 a.m. Eucharist [Thomas D. Cooper+] - Menville
8:00 a.m. Morning Prayer (III) - Kingsley

TUESDAY—DECEMBER 15

Third Tuesday of Advent

8:00 a.m. Morning Prayer - Menville
8:00 a.m. Eucharist [Robert/Patricia Stratton+] - Kingsley
7:00 p.m. SMC Parish Council Meeting - Kingsley

WEDNESDAY—DECEMBER 16

Third Wednesday of Advent

7:30 a.m. Eucharist [Bernice O'Tool+] - Menville
8:00 a.m. Morning Prayer - Kingsley
4:00 p.m. Faith Formation [PS-4] - Kingsley
4:00 p.m. Faith Formation [PS-5] - Menville
4:30 p.m. ICC Advent Program - Menville
7:00 p.m. Faith Formation [5-12] - Kingsley
7:00 p.m. Faith Formation [6-9] - Menville

THURSDAY—DECEMBER 17

Third Thursday of Advent

8:00 a.m. Morning Prayer - Menville
8:00 a.m. Eucharist [Robert/Patricia Stratton+] - Kingsley
12:30 p.m. PieceMakers - Menville
7:00 p.m. PieceMakers - Menville

FRIDAY—DECEMBER 18

Third Friday of Advent

8:00 a.m. Morning Prayer - Menville
8:00 a.m. Morning Prayer - Kingsley

SATURDAY—DECEMBER 19

Third Saturday of Advent

10:00 a.m. Community Basket Distribution - Menville
4:00 p.m. Reconciliation - Menville
5:00 p.m. Eucharist [Farrell W. Wright+] - Menville

SUNDAY—DECEMBER 20

Fourth Sunday of Advent

8:00 a.m. Reconciliation - Kingsley
9:00 a.m. Eucharist [Rev. Msgr. Nicholas Ruba+] - Kingsley

**WHAT'S HAPPENING
IN OUR PARISH**

Please visit the WFCC website to find more information about both parishes, to read and/or download this weekly bulletin, to read the latest news, and to learn more about our faith.
<http://www.westforkcatholiccommunity.org>
LIKE US ON FACEBOOK! Search for West Fork Catholic Community.

13 December 2015

Third Sunday of Advent

"I am not worthy to loosen the thongs of his sandals." Most Americans can't relate to this. The phrase, *I'm not worthy*, flies in the face of positive self-esteem and our emphasis on everyone being equal.

I am not worthy? What's that mean for us here today? I'm not sure, but the phrase appears throughout the Gospels. It echoes in the words of Elizabeth when she greets the pregnant Mary: *"Who am I, that the mother of my Lord should come to me?"* Elizabeth's incredulity resonates with the words of Peter when his knees buckled at the sight of the miraculous catch of fish the day he encountered the Lord, crying out: *"Leave me, Lord, for I am a sinful man."* John's words in this week's gospel also mirror the words of the Roman centurion, *"Lord, I am not worthy that you should come under the roof of my house..."*

Lord, I am not worthy.

Step back from the words for a moment, and look at the circumstances in which they occur. When you do this, the issue of unworthiness takes on a different tone. It's not about equality or self-esteem. Rather, it's about God. It's not about you...it's about God coming into your life! *"Who am I... to experience this privilege? This Presence?"* *"Lord, I am not worthy."* Is this not another way of saying: *Am I dreaming? Is this actually happening? This is too good to be true!*

Are we worthy? No. We are not worthy. But we are *worthwhile*. Worthwhile enough for God in His mercy to send his Son to set us free. This week kicked off the extraordinary Holy Year of Mercy. There are many ways we can participate and grow through the Holy Year of Mercy. I would particularly recommend that you visit the www.Formed.org website and investigate a couple of programs and videos. One of the programs that I would particularly recommend would be: *"The 'One Thing' is Three"* and the *"You Did it to Me"*, but the video *"Ocean of Mercy"* is also excellent. But why take my recommendations? Please check out the resources we have available here and use them to grow in your relationship with God and improve your relationship with all those whom you live and work with.

Fr. Brad Pelzel

WFCC CHOIR will be having "Christmas Choir" practice after 9:00 a.m. Mass this Sunday, December 13, and after 9:00 a.m. Mass on December 20. Please plan to join us for these practices. We are also looking for people who are interested in doing solos, duets, small groups, etc. before Mass on Christmas Eve. If you be willing to share your time with us we'd greatly appreciate it! We are hoping to sing some songs in choir parts, not just all in unison. Thank you in advance for your time! If you have any questions, please feel free to call or text Amanda Seuntjens at 712-490-6350.

WWW.FORMED.ORG is available. The best Catholic content all in one place. Your parish has gifted you with unlimited access to the eBooks, talks and videos in the Church today. Register at www.formed.org, parish code enter f8d652.

PROJECT ANDREW EVENT Sunday, January 17, TBD at St. Mary-Storm Lake. Hosted by Bishop Nickless and the Vocations Office. Promising young men interested in going please contact Fr. Brad before January 13.

CHRISTMAS ACRES 2015 the largest country Christmas display. Lights, displays, inflatables and music starting November 21-December 31, 5:00-10:00 p.m. All donations go to the Christian Needs Center. 18481 Impala Ave, LeMars. Weather permitting if raining/heavy snow display will not be on.



MINISTERS' ASSIGNMENTS

SUNDAY DECEMBER 20 9:00 A.M.

- Altar Servers:** Jonathan Grubb, Abbie Martensen, Shelby Schweitzberger
- Reader(s):** Austin Grubb, Millie Hamman
- Cantor:** Amanda Seuntjens
- Organist:** April Schroeder
- Gifts:** Betty Murray Family
- Communion:** Doris Seuntjens, Bart Boustead, Valerie Sitzmann
- KNH:** Janice Meister
- Greeters:** Denise Schmid, Cale Schweitzberger
- Ushers:** Jerome Gollhofer, Jim Schroeder
- Collection**
- Counters:** Becky Sitzmann, Coleen Bainbridge

INCOME/EXPENSES LAST WEEK

- Adult Envelopes \$2,545.00 (37 Envelopes)
- Youth Envelopes* \$31.25 (13 Envelopes)
- Loose \$839.00
- Flower Fund \$240.00 (12 Envelopes)
- Total Income \$3,655.25**
- Needed Each Week \$2,877.89
- Total Expenses \$2,014.98**
- *Time/Talent quotes from youth envelopes:** "helped babysit", "helped shovel"

BUDGET REPORT 2015-2016

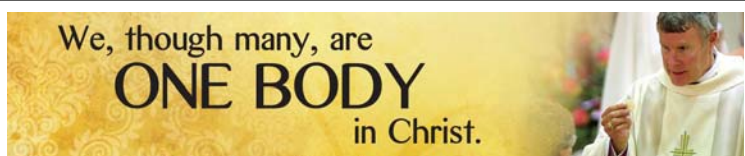
| | |
|---|--------------|
| Income needed by 30 June 2016: | \$143,090.78 |
| Income needed each week: | \$2,751.75 |
| Income received since 1 July 2015: | \$59,172.38 |
| | 12/11/2015 |

SMC SANCTUARY LIGHT [DECEMBER 13-19] burns for People of WFCC.
Weeks available until December 31.

FROM THE DESK OF BARB SITZMANN, DRE:

- The Nativity Pageant presented by Alice Seuntjens will be held Saturday, Dec. 19th at 7pm at the church. There will be cake served in the church hall afterwards. All parishioners are invited to attend.
- January 6th starting at 6:30 pm with a family potluck in the church hall, Phil Hamman, a Siouxland author will be speaking to the middle school, high school students and interested parents. There will be more information to follow.
- Thursday, January 7th, 2nd grade students and their parents will have Reconciliation Stations at the FF Center from 4-7 pm. Please plan to attend.
- Steubenville style Adoration has been rescheduled to Wednesday, January 13th at 7 pm in the church.
- January 20th will be the 1st Basic Catechist Certification class from 5:30-6:30 pm at the FF Center. If you are a catechist and need this class yet, please plan to attend. A light meal will be provided.
- Sunday, January 24th will be First Reconciliation for 2nd graders and their parents at 4 pm at the church. Please plan to attend.
- Wednesday, January 27th will be the First Communion meeting for 2nd grade parents at 7 pm at IC in Merville. Please plan to attend.
- Contact info: St. Michael FF Center 378-2021, Barb's cell 712-251-8567, home phone 378-2052, work phone 378-2861. Emails- FF stmikedre@gmail.com, home barbsitzmann@yahoo.com, work bsitzmann@k-pcsd.org.

AMAZONSMILE - Support St. Michael Roman Catholic Church when you shop at <http://smile.amazon.com>. Amazon donates to the church. Go to <https://smile.amazon.com/ch/42-0703258>. Visit the parish website under About\Support our Mission page for an easy link.



| | 2014 | 2015 |
|--------------------------|-------------|-------------|
| \$ Goal: | \$11,000.00 | \$12,000.00 |
| \$ Pledged: | \$9,009.00 | \$6,525.00 |
| \$ Given: | \$9,009.00 | \$5,738.75 |
| Pledges Goal: | 168 | 166 |
| Participants: | 103 | 74 |
| Participant Rate: | 63% | 45% |



MINISTERS' ASSIGNMENTS

SATURDAY DECEMBER 19 5:00 P.M.

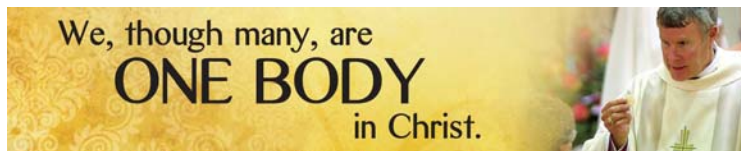
- Altar Servers:** Derek Hytrek, Madeline Schultz, Volunteer
- Reader(s):** Allison Bailey, Jenny Crew
- Cantor:** Sally Schultz
- Organist:** Laura Krajcicek
- Gifts:** Jim Hesse Family
- Communion:** Kay Sands, Richard Sands, Marie McClure
- CharMac:** Elaine Ketelsen
- Ushers:** Helen Coulter, Alicia Jenness
- Collection**
- Counters:** Pam Cooper, JoAnne Jenness

INCOME/EXPENSES LAST WEEK

| | |
|--|---------------------------|
| Adult Envelopes | \$1,642.00 (35 Envelopes) |
| Youth Envelopes* | \$28.00 (11 Envelopes) |
| Loose | \$152.00 |
| Flower Fund..... | \$165.00 (9 Envelopes) |
| Sanctuary Light..... | \$20.00 |
| Total Income | \$2,007.00 |
| Needed Each Week..... | \$2,859.23 |
| Total Parish Expenses..... | \$2,988.46 |
| *Time/Talent quotes from youth envelopes: "Set the table" | |

BUDGET REPORT 2015-2016

| | |
|---|--------------|
| Income needed by 30 June 2016: | \$148,679.57 |
| Income needed each week: | \$2,859.23 |
| Income received since 1 July 2015: | \$62,539.07 |
| 12/4/2015 | |



| | 2014 | 2015 |
|--------------------------|-------------|-------------|
| \$ Goal: | \$10,000.00 | \$11,000.00 |
| \$ Pledged: | \$10,770.50 | \$7,167.00 |
| \$ Given: | \$10,465.50 | \$6,687.00 |
| Pledges Goal: | 154 | 151 |
| Participants: | 119 | 69 |
| Participant Rate: | 79% | 46% |

ATTENTION COMMUNITY MEMBERS! Are you looking for help with errands, outdoor work, etc? ICC Confirmation candidates are looking to help out. If you are in need of help, please contact the Parish Office and make a request.

FROM THE DESK OF ANGIE DUFFY, DFF:

- Confirmation candidates, are you looking for **community service hours**? Sign up to assist community members with errands, outdoor work, etc. How will this work? Community members will call the parish asking for help. I will then contact Confirmation candidates and their parents, who are on the list to see if they can help out. How do you and your child get on the list? Call the parish office and request your name be added. Your service to those in need will be greatly appreciated.
- December 16 **Advent Program** for PS-5 grades beginning at 4:30 p.m. followed by cookie decorating sponsored by Youth Ministry team. All families are invited to both the Advent program and cookie decorating.
- Tuesday, January 5th, 2nd grade students and their parents will have **Reconciliation Stations** at IC Parish Hall from 6:30-8:00pm. Please plan to attend.
- The next **CICC classes** are scheduled for January 6 and January 20.
- Sunday, January 17 is **First Reconciliation** for 2nd graders and their parents at 4:00 pm at IC church. Please plan to attend.
- January 20th will be the 1st Basic Catechist Certification class from 5:30-6:30 pm at the FF Center in Kingsley. If you are a catechist and need this class yet, please plan to attend. A light meal will be provided.
- Wednesday, January 27th is the **First Communion Parent meeting** for 2nd grade parents at 7:00 pm at IC Church. Please plan to attend.

THANK YOU to those who helped me at the Thanksgiving Mass. Your help and kindness is much appreciated. God Bless You – Julia Brockhaus

AMAZONSMILE - Support Immaculate Conception Roman Catholic Church when you shop at <http://smile.amazon.com>. Amazon donates to the church. Go to <https://smile.amazon.com/ch/42-0796761>. Visit the parish website under About\Support our Mission page for an easy link.

ICC SANCTUARY LIGHT [DECEMBER 13-19] burns for Penny Thomas+ the request of Arthur/Sally Seidel.

Weeks available after January 24.



PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS: Ella Bahmer, Leonard Beaver, Juanita Beaubien, Jim Berens, Rose Brown, Tom/Donna Clark, Virginia Connelly, Hulda Dragoo, Mary Drevs, Pauline Dugan, Kara Funk, Charlotte Honkomp, Virginia & Walt Kabisch, Millie Kisting, Harold Kloewer, Joan McCain, Max/Jo McConnell, Patricia McConnell, Kay Miller, Beverly Petekavich, Bob/Patricia Rogers, Judy Schroeder, Sylvesta Slota, Dan Strachan, Bernice Timmins, Marcella Thomas, Jeune Vondrak, Gerry Weinriech, Emmet Woltman, Chuck Wilcox, Millie Wycoff, and the men and women serving in the military and police.

PRAY ESPECIALLY FOR:

Lillian Nairn, grandmother to Holly Guthridge, great-grandmother to Ella, Isaac & Lila Guthridge, who passed away December 1; **Shirley Mae Neustrom**, parishioner, mother to Kelly Neustrom, sister-in-law to Marcella Thomas, aunt to Tami (Chuck) Hayes and Barry Thomas, who passed away December 8; **Alice K. Kluger**, aunt to Lawrence Sandford, who passed away December 9.

Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May their souls and all the souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen

IMPORTANT DATES

- December 22, 7:00 p.m.: WFCC Parish Life Team Meeting [M]
- December 23: No Faith Formation Classes
- December 24: CHRISTMAS EVE
- December 24: OFFICES CLOSED
- December 24, 4:30 p.m.: Eucharist [K]
- December 24, 10:00 p.m.: Eucharist [M]
- December 25: CHRISTMAS DAY
- December 25: OFFICES CLOSED
- December 25, 9:00 a.m.: Eucharist [K]
- December 30: No Faith Formation Classes
- December 31: OFFICES CLOSED
- December 31, 5:00 p.m.: Eucharist [M]
- January 1: SOLEMNITY OF MARY
- January 1: OFFICES CLOSED
- January 1, 9:00 a.m.: Eucharist [K]
- January 5, 6:30-8:00 p.m.: ICC First Reconciliation Learning Center [M]
- January 5, 7:00 p.m.: ICC Guild Meeting [M]
- January 7, 4:00-7:00 p.m.: SMC First Reconciliation Stations [K]
- January 9, 6:00 p.m.: Fellowship Dinner (Guild) [M]
- January 11, TBA: Southwest Deanery Gathering [M]
- January 12, 7:00 p.m.: Eucharist [M]
- January 12, 7:30 p.m.: KC8232 Meeting [M]
- January 13, 7:00 p.m.: SMC Guild Meeting [K]
- January 16, 9:00 a.m.-9:00 p.m.: Call to the Wedding Fest [K]
- January 17, 4:00 p.m.: ICC First Reconciliation [M]
- January 19, 7:00 p.m.: ICC Pastoral Council Meeting [M]
- January 23, 6:00 p.m.: Fellowship Dinner (KC8232) [M]
- January 24, 4:00 p.m.: SMC First Reconciliation [K]
- January 26, 7:00 p.m.: WFCC Finance Council Meeting [M]
- January 27, 7:00 p.m.: CICC [M]
- January 27, 7:00 p.m.: WFCC First Eucharist Parent Meeting [M]
- February 10: ASH WEDNESDAY
- February 10, 4:00 p.m.: Eucharist [M]
- February 10, 7:00 p.m.: Prayer Service [M]
- March 9, 4:00 p.m.: Reconciliation [M]
- March 9, 7:00 p.m.: Reconciliation [M]
- March 22, 6:30-8:00 p.m.: ICC First Eucharist Learning Centers [M]

WEST FORK CATHOLIC COMMUNITY INFORMATION

ADMINISTRATOR/PASTOR: Fr. Brad Pelzel 712-873-3644

Email: Fr.BradP@scdiocese.org

Administrative Assistant/Bookkeeper: Alicia Jenness

Email: icmville@wiatel.net or stmichael@frontiernet.net

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION CHURCH: 712-873-3644

Director of Faith Formation: Angie Duffy

Custodian-Church: Connie Brockhaus / **Custodian-Rectory:** Judy Gruis

ST. MICHAEL CHURCH HALL: 712-378-2722

FAITH FORMATION CENTER: 712-378-2021

Director of Faith Formation: Barbara Sitzmann

Email: stmikedre@gmail.com

Custodian-Church: Jan Meister / **Assistant Custodian-Church:**

Jolene Spooner / **Custodian-FF Center:** Sonya Hamman

Groundskeeper: Jerome Gollhofer

WFCC [MOVILLE] OFFICE HOURS:

Mon., Tues., Thurs., Fri. 8:15 a.m.-noon, 1:00-4:15 p.m.

Wed. 8:15 a.m.-noon, 1:00-5:30 p.m., 6:30-8:45 p.m.

Other times by appointment

EUCHARIST:

Saturday: 5:00 p.m.-Menville

Sunday: 9:00 a.m.-Kingsley

Monday, Wednesday: 7:30 a.m.-Menville

Tuesday, Thursday: 8:00 a.m.-Kingsley

RECONCILIATION:

Saturday: 4:00-4:45 p.m.-Menville

Sunday: 8:00-8:45 a.m.-Kingsley

Other times by appointment

MORNING PRAYER:

Tuesday, Thursday, Friday: 8:00 a.m.—Menville

Monday, Wednesday, Friday: 8:00 a.m.—Kingsley

BAPTISM is to be arranged with the pastor in order to prepare for the child's baptism after completion of Baptism Class held quarterly (March, June, September, December).

MARRIAGE preparation is 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!

ANOINTING OF THE SICK: By appointment; last Sunday of October during Sunday Masses.

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.

Christmas Gift Wish List

St. Michael

Chasuble and Funeral Pall Set - \$250

White Lined Chasuble - \$100

White Marian Chasuble - \$100

Red Lined Chasuble - \$100

Violet Lined Chasuble - \$100

Green Lined Chasuble - \$100

(all from India)

Immaculate Conception

White Chasuble - \$110

Red Chasuble - \$110

Violet Chasuble - \$110

Green Chasuble - \$110

(all from Poland)