



The Parish Community of
IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

P O Box 296, Ottoville, OH 45876
 Office Phone: 419-453-3513 FAX: 419-453-2513 Email: immac@bright.net

**The Epiphany of the Lord
 January 4, 2009**

Pastor: Father John Stites
 Phone: 419-345-5999
 Home: 419-453-2510
Deacon: Deacon Jose' Flores
Coordinator of Religious Education:
 Mrs. Jean Byrne – 419-453-3702
Youth Minister:
 Mrs. Renee Kelch – 419-453-2159
Sacristan/Banners/Bows:
 Mrs. Anne Landwehr – 419-453-3391
Liturgy Committee:
 Mr. Jerry Hohlbein – 419-453-3685
Director of Music/Flowers:
 Mrs. Irene Miller – 419-453-3275
Maintenance:
 Mr. Dave Koester – 419-453-3513
Parish Center Manager:
 Mr. Hubie Byrne – 419-615-8891
Secretary/Bookkeeper:
 Mrs. Patty Koester – 419-453-3513
 Parish Office: Located in the Parish Center
 Office hours Monday through Friday, 8 AM – 3 PM
 Phone: 419-453-3513 Email: immac@bright.net
Home Bound Support Group:
 Mrs. Mary Lou Miller – 419-453-3480
 Mrs. Mary Ann Beining – 419-453-3680

Parish Council:
 Mr. Kevin Horstman -Pres.
 Mrs. Mary Ann Beining Mrs. Virginia Beining
 Mr. Ron Hemker Mrs. Barb Hoersten
 Mr. Jim Hoersten Mrs. Janice Schlagbaum
 Mr. Adam Schnipke Mr. Gary Turnwald
 Mr. Brad Turnwald Mr. Eddie Luersman
Finance Committee: Mike Ruen, Chairman
Cemetery Sexton: Marty Gerdeman – 419-453-3288
Cemetery Board President:
 Mrs. Lenora Ball – 419-453-3861

PARISH SCHEDULE:
Weekend Masses:
 Saturday: 4 PM
 Sunday: 8 AM & 10:30 AM
Daily Masses:
 Monday: NO MASS
 Tuesday: 7 PM
 Wednesday, Thursday, Friday: 8:10 AM
Sacrament of Reconciliation:
 Saturday: 3:15 PM

Baptism Instruction:
 Second Saturday at 10 AM in the basement at Fort Jennings rectory. Upcoming dates: February 14 and April 11, 2009. Instructions are for parents who celebrate the birth of their first child. It is highly recommended that you attend instructions before the birth of the child. Please call the office to register.

Baptisms:
 Baptisms are celebrated anytime agreeable with Deacon Jose' or Father John. To arrange for a Baptism, please call the office.

Engaged Couples Conference: First Sunday of March and November.

New parishioners are cordially invited to register as members of our parish family. Please call the office.

Please note: Deadline for bulletin items is Thursday at 9 AM in writing, email, or fax.

Parish Website:
www.immaculateconceptionottoville.parishesonline.com

MANGER – Once again, though not directly, I have heard 'complaints' with regards to where the Nativity Scene is located. I explained this when it was first placed in its present location; but evidently, the official explanation either was not read or accepted. This is not my direction but that of the Church's position on liturgical decorations. I quote the document's statement with this regard: "The manger scene can be a reminder of Bethlehem, but also, with a touch of glorious decoration, a signal paradise promised and brought on that holy night." The Book of Blessing (#1544) sensibly notes that the manger MUST not be placed in the sanctuary (The sanctuary includes the areas in front of the north (St. Joseph) and south (St. Mary) altars). It can be outdoors or in an easily accessible part of the interior that is conducive to 'visits'. (At its present location it is very accessible, especially the children, who need not climb steps).
 With this I consider discussion closed. Perhaps other parishes may not follow these Church directives. I will not judge their reasoning; but only state that I recall at my ordination promising Obedience to my Bishop, his successors and the Catholic Church.

- Fr. John

From the Alan & Elaine Calvelage family:

Words cannot express how thankful we are for everyone's prayers and generosity during Ethan's accident. It is comforting to know we are surrounded by such a wonderful family, friends, and community.
 The Calvelage Family

On behalf of the American Red Cross, I wish to thank everyone who made our Ottoville Bloodmobile beyond a great success. Our goal was 121 units and 168 were collected. The Toledo staff was pleasantly surprised and very grateful. Our donors and volunteers were so generous in giving their blood, time and cookies! I could never do it without all of you. Thank you again.
 - Sue Luersman

Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend. January 16-18 at Sauder's Heritage Inn, Archbold. For more information call: 419-538-7210 or email bcschroeder@bright.net or www.wwme.org Brochures on the pamphlet rack in the back vestibule.

Confidential help is available to anyone who is suffering from the grief of abortion. There are people with whom you can talk in confidence about your experience. **PROJECT RACHEL** offers lay counselors and trained clergy ready to help to talk with someone; we invite you to call the confidential help line, 419-260-5811.

You Can Help Your Marriage – Do you feel alone? Are you frustrated or angry with each other? Do you argue... or have you just stopped talking to each other? Does talking about it only make it worse? **Retrouaille** (pronounced retro-vi with a long i) helps couples through difficult times in their marriages. This program has helped 10's of 1000's of couples experiencing difficulties in their marriage. For confidential information about or to register for the January program beginning with a weekend on January 23-25, call 419-690-0083 or visit the website www.HelpOurMarriage.com

PUTNAM COUNTY RIGHT TO LIFE monthly meeting is January 6 at 7:30 PM in the Kalida Medical Arts Building. The public is always welcome.

The Epiphany of the Lord

LITURGIES

S(4th) 8:00 a.m. Norbert & Marcella Bendele
 10:30 a.m. Armella Turnwald
 T(6th) 7:00 p.m. John & Victor Miller
 W(7th) 8:10 a.m. Helen Miller
 Th(8th) 8:10 a.m. Living & Deceased of
 Jim & Ruth Wannemacher family
 F(9th) 8:10 a.m. Schnipke & Wehri families
 S(10th) 4:00 p.m. Hubert Hemker
 S(11th) 8:00 a.m. Elmer Martz, Jr.
 10:30 a.m. Bob Brinkman

NEXT WEEKEND'S MINISTERS OF MASS:**SERVERS: WEEKDAYS: 7:00 p.m. & 8:10 a.m.**

Morgan Beining, Brandt Landin, Tyler Roby

SAT: 4:00 PM: Bryan Hohlbein, Dylan Klima,
 Jacob Turnwald

SUN: 8:00 AM: Rachelle Bendele, Austin Markward,
 Melissa Schnipke

10:30 AM: Kurt Beining, Ashley Hoehn,
 Derek Miller

LECTORS: Michael Ruen, Carla Landin,
 Rhonda Hilvers

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS:

4:00 PM: Host: Beth Eickholt, Ted Herman,
 Christine Herman, Jill Wenzlick

Cup: Judith Eickholt, Judy Eickholt**Choir:** Kathy Beining (Total 7)

8:00 AM: Host: Marie Grote, Ron Niemeyer,
 Bernice Schnipke

Cup: Carol Hoersten, Sharon Meyer**Choir:** Mike Ricker (Total 6)

10:30 AM: Host: Ginny Beining, Rose Brickner,
 Doris Brinkman, Michelle Giesige

Cup: Ann Beining, Jim Hoersten**Choir:** Sheila Miller (Total 7)**USHERS:**

4:00 PM: Rodney Beining, Tim Eickholt,
 Kevin Lindeman, Darrell Von Sossan

8:00 AM: John Grote, Steve Hoersten,
 Steve Koester, Kyle Niemeyer

10:30 AM: Carl Beining, Brian Beining,
 Walt Brickner, Gene Miller

GIFTS:

4:00 PM: Dick & Janet Hemker family

8:00 AM: Nancy & Virgil Hohlbein

10:30 AM: Tony & Mary Kay Schroeder family

PRAY THE ROSARY

Elaine Miller, Lorna Miller, Marilyn Miller, June Miller,
 Jane Minning, Lisa Modica, Kelly Moreno

NEXT WEEKEND'S READINGS:

Isaiah 42:1-4, 6-7; Acts 10:34-38; Mark 1:7-11

ALTAR/SANCTURY CLEANING:

Betty Beining, Manager

Past Week's help: Eileen Kemper

COLLECTION REPORT: Budget: \$5,000.00

Sunday Collection: 5,350.27

Above Budget: +350.27

Parish Center: \$28 Church Repair: \$320

Christmas Collection: \$24,600.60

THANK YOU!!!**CONTRIBUTIONS FOR STEEPLE REPAIR:**

Total as of December 30 - \$18,998.37

THANK YOU!

To request a copy of your 2008 Contribution Statement, please contact the parish office 419-453-3513 or immac@bright.net

A Day of Renewal sponsored by the Delphos St. John's Holy Spirit Prayer Group on January 17 from 9 AM – 5 PM including closing Liturgy at 4 PM at the St. John's Annex, 722 S. Jefferson St., Delphos. Guest speaker is Bob Valiante, Director of the Charismatic Renewal of the Diocese of Scranton, PA. Lunch is provided and the day is FREE OF CHARGE. Contact Bernie Schnipke for more information at bernieschnipke@hotmail.com or 419-695-6825 or 419-303-0555.

Cana II "Pilot Program – Eastern Region is being implemented by Catholic Charities in 2009. The sessions will consist of three, 2 ¼ hour evening sessions on the Mondays of March 2, 9 & 16. Sessions held at St. Paul Parish Center, Norwalk from 6:30-8:45 PM. Cost is \$15 per couple. Registration and payment required at least 2 weeks before start date of the program. To register contact Marian Bermudez, 419-668-6044 or marianb@stpaulchurch.org

CYO GAMES: Today, December 28**Boys "Hoffman" League:**

2:15 PM Schulte team at Lima St. Charles

3:15 PM Schnipke team at Miller City St. Nicholas

Boys "Donovan" League:

1 PM at Ottoville vs. Glandorf St. John

Girls: 2:15 PM at Ottoville vs. Findlay St. Michael**OTTOVILLE KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION:**

Registration for prospective kindergarten students for the 2009-2010 school year at Ottoville Local Schools is scheduled for January 5-16. To be eligible for kindergarten a child must be 5 years of age before October 1, 2009. You may either call the school at 419-453-3357 between 9 AM and 3 PM or send a note to register your child. In either case, the information needs to consist of the child's name, child's social security number, child's birth date, parents' names, address & phone number.

Alzheimer's Support Group meeting held at Delphos Public Library January 5 from 6:30-7:30 PM. Guest speaker is Linda Pollitz, LSW, speaking on Communicating with the memory impaired older adult. Sponsored by Sarah Jane Living Center.

Healthy Food Choices Can Work For You! Join us at the Ottoville-Monterey Twp. Library location on January 14 at 5:30 PM when Mona Lisa Hoffman from the OSU Extension Office prepares healthy food recipes for you to sample. Lots of recipes to make 2009 a healthier year. Please register by January 12 by calling 419-453-2111.

FAMILY PERSPECTIVE: The Magi in today's gospel were led to Jesus by a star. Who are the stars your children follow? Don't let it be the tabloid stars. Resolve in 2009 to be the guiding star in the life of your children.

Who Should Make the Coffee?

A man and his wife were having an argument about who should brew the coffee each morning.

The wife said, "You should do it, because you get up first, and then we don't have to wait as long to get our coffee."

The husband said, "You are in charge of the cooking around here so you should do it, because that is your job, and I can just wait for my coffee." To which the wife replies, "No, you should do it, and besides it says in the Bible that the man should do the coffee."

The husband says, "I can't believe that! Show me!"

So she fetched the Bible, and opened the New Testament and showed him at the top of several pages, that it indeed says "HEBREWS".

Can't find your 2009 Collection envelopes??? We have them in the Parish Office. Just stop in and ask☺