



**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](mailto: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@wiatel.net](mailto:stmichael@wiatel.net)

**ACTIVITIES CALENDAR**

**MONDAY—DECEMBER 5**

**Second Monday of Advent**

7:30 a.m. Eucharist [Mary Drevs+] - Menville  
7:00 p.m. WFCC Baptism Class - Menville

**TUESDAY—DECEMBER 6**

**Second Tuesday of Advent**

7:30 a.m. Rosary - Menville  
8:00 a.m. Eucharist [Lorraine McDermott+] - Kingsley  
6:30 p.m. SMC Parish Council Meeting - Kingsley  
7:00 p.m. ICC Guild Meeting - Menville  
8:00 p.m. SMC Finance Council Meeting - Kingsley

**WEDNESDAY—DECEMBER 7**

**Saint Ambrose, Bishop and Doctor of the Church**

7:30 a.m. Eucharist [Millie Wycoff+] - Menville  
10:00 a.m. Eucharist [Owen Spooner+] - KNH  
4:00 p.m. Reconciliation - Kingsley  
4:00 p.m. Faith Formation [PS-4] - Kingsley  
4:00 p.m. Faith Formation [PS-4] - Menville  
5:00-7:00 p.m. SMC Catechist Appreciation Dinner - Kingsley  
7:00 p.m. Reconciliation - Kingsley  
7:00 p.m. Faith Formation [5-12] - Kingsley  
7:00 p.m. Faith Formation [5-8] - Menville

**THURSDAY—DECEMBER 8**

**The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary**

**OFFICES CLOSED**

8:00 a.m. Eucharist [Marvin McDermott+] - Kingsley  
7:00 p.m. Eucharist [Ella Bahmer+] - Menville

**FRIDAY—DECEMBER 9**

**Second Friday of Advent**

7:30 a.m. Rosary - Menville

**SATURDAY—DECEMBER 10**

**Second Saturday of Advent**

4:00 p.m. Reconciliation - Kingsley  
5:00 p.m. Eucharist [Lorraine McDermott+] - Kingsley  
6:00 p.m. SMC Nativity Pageant - Kingsley  
6:30 p.m. Fellowship Dinner (Guild) - Kingsley

**SUNDAY—DECEMBER 11**

**Third Sunday of Advent**

8:00 a.m. Reconciliation - Menville  
9:00 a.m. Eucharist [Geraldine Ann Niewohner+] - Menville  
10:00 a.m. Coffee/Juice/Rolls (KC8232) - Menville  
6:00 p.m. The Bible Timeline (Conquest and Judges - Part 2) - Menville

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.

**4 December 2016**

**Second Sunday of Advent**

In this week's gospel we hear that "Jerusalem, all Judea and the region around the Jordan" were going out to John. Where was he? He was in the wilderness, the desert, the place of beginnings where God first brought Israel into the Promised Land. What was so attractive about John? He made a promise that had a mesmerizing effect, telling the people, "you can begin again, you can change; it's not hopeless; you can start anew." While the past can't be erased or undone, it can be refashioned; it can be healed and made whole again.

To respond to John's call is not to take a trip down memory lane; it demands something from all who embark on it. Going out, reforming your life and starting anew is not easy. All of the people who came to John were turning their backs on something. Friends and family, Jerusalem and the Temple, all that they had built their lives around. In coming out to John they were recommitting themselves to God once more. By starting anew they'll become strangers in their own land, aliens in the midst of their own people. Their response to John's call effectively would be for them both an Exodus and an Exile. Making them internal exiles in the society in which they lived.

Exodus and Exile are the two greatest experiences of the people of Israel. As the Exodus was the manner in which God made them into a nation as he brought them to the Promised Land, so the Exile was their national expulsion from it. As they languished in exile the Israelites struggled to understand what had happened to them. Where was God in all of this? In fact, the Babylonian exile was one of the most productive theological, liturgical and spiritual experiences of the Jewish people. What it gave them was a humble, contrite and purified heart.

Sometimes, as Catholic Christians, our experience is not so different from the Israelites who flocked into the wilderness in response to John's call. If we wish to reform, if we want to "make straight our paths", we too must become resident aliens, internal exiles. That experience can hit us hard. We are not used to it. We have enjoyed belonging. The trouble is that in the process of being members of our society, instead of being the "yeast that leavened and enlightened our culture", it is us who have been assimilated. The problem with being assimilated is that in the end you only really belong if you stop being yourself. Those who went into the wilderness, believing in John's promise of new beginnings, took up the cross of exile, of not belonging. They went in search of truth, even admitting the truth about themselves and their need to repent.

Repentance and the exile that accompanies it is not easy, beginning again is not easy, the Italians have a saying: *e 'il primo passo che costa* - it is the first step of a journey which is most important. There is another saying, "take one step towards God and he will take ten steps towards you." Let us, this Advent, take the first step. Let us respond to the call, let us step out and embrace the exile and walk in the truth. If we do, we shall find what the people of Israel found: that God is always willing to meet them wherever they are at, and bring them to where they need to be.

*Fr. Brad Pelzel*

**BIBLE STUDY WITH FR. BRAD** is at St. Michael, Sunday, December 4 at 6:00 p.m. We will be covering Conquest and Judges—Part 1. If you are still interested in joining it isn't to late!

**BAPTISM CLASS** for all parents wishing to baptize their children will be held **Monday December 5, 7:00 p.m.** in the **parish library at Immaculate Conception**. Please call the office to register. If you miss this class, the next class will be Thursday, March 2, 7:00 p.m.

**WW.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](http://www.formed.org), parish code enter f8d652.



**MINISTERS' ASSIGNMENTS**

**SATURDAY DECEMBER 10 5:00 P.M.**

- Altar Servers:** Kaylinn Seuntjens, Allie Schweitzberger, Shelby Schweitzberger
- Reader(s):** Madison Wurth, Tom Spooner
- Cantor:** Amanda Seuntjens
- Organist:** Jolene Spooner
- Gifts:** Ryan Haggin Family
- Communion:** Janice Meister, Jeanine Haggin, Monica Eldridge
- KNH:** Janice Meister
- Greeters:** Denise Schmid, Shelly Bohlke
- Ushers:** Neal Rolling, Randy Plendl
- Collection**
- Counters:** Shelly Krieg, Amber Schweitzberger

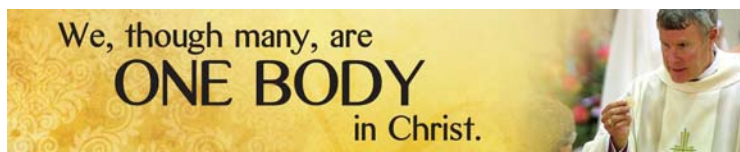
**INCOME/EXPENSES LAST WEEK**

Adult Envelopes .....	\$2,355.00 (68 Envelopes)
Youth Envelopes* .....	\$75.60 ( 7 Envelopes)
Loose .....	\$639.00
Altar Flowers .....	\$20.00 ( 1 Envelope)
Archdiocese for Military Services ..	\$69.00 ( 5 Envelopes)
Campaign for Human Dev.....	\$173.00 ( 7 Envelopes)
Cemetery Income.....	\$250.00
Grain Donation .....	\$6,128.09
Rent .....	\$665.00
St. Joseph Education .....	\$25.00 ( 3 Envelopes)
<b>Total Income .....</b>	<b>\$10,399.69</b>
Needed Each Week.....	\$2,877.89
<b>Total Expenses .....</b>	<b>\$420.00</b>

\*Time/Talent quotes from youth envelopes: "Babysitting"

**SMC SANCTUARY LIGHT [DECEMBER 4-10] burns for the People of WFCC.**

**Weeks available until December 25.**



	<b>2015</b>	<b>2016</b>
<b>\$ Goal:</b>	\$12,000.00	\$13,000.00
<b>\$ Pledged:</b>	\$9,542.50	\$7,685.00
<b>\$ Given:</b>	\$9,542.50	\$7,097.50
<b>Pledges Goal:</b>	168	171
<b>Participants:</b>	102	74
<b>Participant Rate:</b>	61%	43%

**LADIES GUILD:**

- is updating the Guild List and Prayer Chain list. If you have a cell phone number that you use, please contact Lois Galles, 378-2045, or [gallmlj@wiatel.net](mailto:gallmlj@wiatel.net) so that we can update our information.
- If you need the prayer chain, please call Mary Lou Mockler 378-2283 or Lois Galles, 378-2045.

**FROM THE DESK OF BARB SITZMANN, DRE:**

- PLEASE TAKE A HEART OR TWO OFF THE LOVE TREE LOCATED IN THE BACK OF THE CHURCH. THESE GIFTS WILL GO TO THE NURSING HOME RESIDENTS AND ALSO FAMILIES IN NEED IN OUR COMMUNITY. PLEASE SIGN OUT YOUR HEART ON THE SHEETS LOCATED NEXT TO THE TREE. ALL GIFTS ARE DUE BACK BY SATURDAY, DECEMBER 10<sup>TH</sup>.
- December 7<sup>th</sup>- Sacrament of Reconciliation at 4pm and 7pm. Evening students are to report to the church at 7pm rather than the FF Center. Parishioners are welcome.
- December 7<sup>th</sup>- 5-7 pm Catechist appreciation at Dooskies. They will be serving the chicken and pizza buffet with full salad bar. Catechists, please RSVP to Barb ASAP.
- Saturday December 10<sup>th</sup> after 5 pm Mass we will have the annual Nativity Pageant. All PS-4<sup>th</sup> grade students will be participating. Please plan to attend. LOVE TREE GIFTS ARE DUE BACK UNDER THE CHRISTMAS TREE!
- December 14<sup>th</sup>- 8-12<sup>th</sup> grade students will be caroling to parish elderly and shut-ins around Kingsley. Any adults are encouraged to join us. Please let me know if you are interested.
- December 21<sup>st</sup>- 10<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> grade students will be delivering Love Tree gifts to the nursing home.
- December 28<sup>th</sup>- NO CLASSES- CHRISTMAS BREAK.
- January 4<sup>th</sup>- FF classes resume.
- Thursday, January 12<sup>th</sup>- 4-7 pm- come and go- Reconciliation Learning Stations @ FF Center for all 2<sup>nd</sup> graders and their parents.
- Sunday, January 15<sup>th</sup>- 4 pm- First Reconciliation for 2<sup>nd</sup> graders.
- January 25<sup>th</sup>- 7 pm- First Eucharist meeting in Merville for parents of all 2<sup>nd</sup> graders
- February 1<sup>st</sup>- 7 pm in the church- Blessing of Throats
- 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](mailto:stmikedre@gmail.com), home [barbsitzmann@yahoo.com](mailto:barbsitzmann@yahoo.com), work [bsitzmann@k-pcsd.org](mailto:bsitzmann@k-pcsd.org).

**ACH GIVING NOW AVAILABLE!** For all of our Parishioners of St. Michael Parish is now offering an alternative to writing a weekly or monthly check. Join our Automated Giving Program and have your financial stewardship offering transferred directly to the parish account. Call the parish office for more information.

**BUDGET REPORT 2016-2017**

<b>Income needed by 30 June 2017:</b>	\$150,234.37
<b>Income needed each week:</b>	\$2,889.12
<b>Income received since 1 July 2016:</b>	\$64,055.14



**MINISTERS' ASSIGNMENTS**

**THURSDAY DECEMBER 8 7:00 P.M.**

- Altar Servers:** Carly Meister, Madelyn Schultz, Jack Crew
- Reader(s):** Jack Meister, Gina Meister
- Cantor:** Gene Handke
- Organist:** Laura Krajicek
- Gifts:** Jim Gries Family
- Communion:** Mary Schultz, Shelly Byers, Chuck Hoelker
- Ushers:** Doug Glackin, Tony Glackin

**SUNDAY DECEMBER 11 9:00 A.M.**

- Altar Servers:** Jacob Kuntz, Brynn Kuntz, Sarah Nelson
- Reader(s):** Erika Kuntz, Pam Kuntz
- Cantor:** Angie Williams
- Organist:** Laura Krajicek
- Gifts:** Wally Kuntz Family
- Communion:** Chris Hoelker, Eric Nelson, Carol Nelson
- CharMac:** Elaine Ketelsen
- Ushers:** Jim Gries, Volunteer
- Collection**
- Counters:** Marcia Sailer, Matthew Putze

**INCOME/EXPENSES LAST WEEK**

Adult Envelopes .....	\$1,425.00 (37 Envelopes)
Youth Envelopes* .....	\$32.80 ( 8 Envelopes)
Loose .....	\$809.00
Flower Fund.....	\$25.00 ( 1 Envelope)
Memorial .....	\$150.00
Sanctuary Light .....	\$20.00
<b>Total Income .....</b>	<b>\$2,461.80</b>
Needed Each Week.....	\$2,859.23
<b>Total Parish Expenses.....</b>	<b>\$1,624.30</b>
*Time/Talent quotes from youth envelopes: none	

**BUDGET REPORT 2016-2017**

<b>Income needed by 30 June 2017:</b>	\$150,548.91
<b>Income needed each week:</b>	\$2,895.17
<b>Income received since 1 July 2016:</b>	\$83,212.74

12/1/2016

**ICC SANCTUARY LIGHT [DECEMBER 4-10] burns for Clifford & Helen Warren Parents at the request of Becky Moodie.**

Weeks available after January 22.

**FROM THE DESK OF ANGIE DUFFY, DFF:**

- **December 14-** Penance Service at 4:00 & 7:00 p.m. Faith Formation classes. Parish members are welcome to join the services.
- **December 14-** Faith Formation Family Pot at 6:00 p.m. followed by Penance service.
- **December 21-** Maranatha program for the 4:00 p.m. session. The program will begin at 4:30 p.m. with cookie decorating to follow.
- **January 4-** Faith Formation classes resume.
- **January 9-** Reconciliation Stations at IC Parish Hall from 6:30-8:00 p.m. 2<sup>nd</sup> grade parents and child are required to attend.
- **January 11 & 25** CICC classes
- **January 12-** Faith Formation and Youth Ministry meeting at 7:30 p.m. IC Library.
- **January 22-** First Reconciliation at 4:00 p.m. with refreshments to follow.
- **January 25-** First Eucharist parent meeting at 7:00 p.m. at IC Parish Hall. The meeting is mandatory for all 2<sup>nd</sup> grade Faith Formation parents.
- **January 29-** Youth Mass and breakfast. Any youth willing to help with the Youth Mass or breakfast, please contact Angie at IC office.
- St. Andrew Sibley is hosting a **mission trip** and inviting all diocesan youth. Please contact Christy Funk (712-577-9635 or 712-754-2739) at St. Andrew Sibley with questions and if you are interested in participating.
- **Camp Cayoca** at Twin Lakes, IA returns with a wonderful renewed experience, 3<sup>rd</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> grades June 11-13 and 7<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grades June 14-16.
- **Contact info:** Immaculate Conception Office 712-873-3644; Angie's cell 712-560-2593; email [icmenvilledff@wiatel.net](mailto:icmenvilledff@wiatel.net)

**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.

We, though many, are  
**ONE BODY**  
in Christ.

	<b>2015</b>	<b>2016</b>
<b>\$ Goal:</b>	\$11,000.00	\$12,000.00
<b>\$ Pledged:</b>	\$8,847.50	\$8,170.00
<b>\$ Given:</b>	\$8,542.00	\$7,245.00
<b>Pledges Goal:</b>	151	171
<b>Participants:</b>	92	74
<b>Participant Rate:</b>	61%	43%



**PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS:** Clarice Bainbridge, Leonard Beaver, Juanita Beaubien, Jim Berens, Rose Brown, Tom/Donna Clark, Virginia Connelly, Hilda Dragoo, Pauline Dugan, Kara Funk, Charlotte Honkomp, Virginia & Walt Kabisch, Mike Ketelsen, Millie Kisting, Harold Kloewer, Veronica Koebel, Patricia McConnell, Stanley Nilles, Beverly Pektavich, Rita Plendl, Bob/Patricia Rogers, Jim Roger, Kay Sands, Judy Schroeder, Sylvesta Slota, Harlan/Fairy Steffe, Bernice Timmins, Marcella Thomas, Jeune Vondrak, Gerry Weinriech, Emmet Woltman, and the men and women serving in the military and police.

**IMPORTANT DATES**

- December 13, 7:00 p.m.: Eucharist [M]
- December 13, 7:30 p.m.: KC8232 Meeting [M]
- December 14, 11:00 a.m.: Eucharist [CharMac]
- December 14, 4:00 p.m.: Reconciliation [M]
- December 14, 5:30-7:00 p.m.: ICC Family Potluck [M]
- December 14, 7:00 p.m.: Reconciliation [M]
- December 14, 7:00 p.m.: SMC Guild Meeting [K]
- December 18, 10:00 a.m.: Coffee/Juice/Rolls (Guild) [M]
- December 18, 6:00 p.m.: The Bible Timeline (Session 11: Royal Kingdom - Part 1) [K]
- December 20, 6:30 p.m.: ICC Pastoral Council Meeting [M]
- December 20, 8:00 p.m.: ICC Finance Council Meeting [M]
- December 21, 4:00 p.m.: ICC Maranatha/Cookie Decoration [M]
- December 23: OFFICES CLOSED
- December 24, 5:00 p.m.: Eucharist [K]
- December 24, 10:00 p.m.: Eucharist [M]
- December 25: The Nativity of the Lord
- December 25, 9:00 a.m.: Eucharist [M]
- December 26: OFFICES CLOSED
- December 28: No Faith Formation
- December 30: OFFICES CLOSED
- December 31, 5:00 p.m.: Eucharist [K]
- January 1: Solemnity of Mary, The Holy Mother of God
- January 1, 9:00 a.m.: Eucharist [M]
- January 2: OFFICES CLOSED
- January 3, 7:00 p.m.: ICC Guild Meeting [M]
- January 4, 10:00 a.m.: Eucharist [KNH]
- January 8, 10:00 a.m.: Coffee/Juice/Rolls (KC8232) [M]
- January 8, 6:00 p.m.: The Bible Timeline (Session 12: Royal Kingdom - Part 2) [M]
- January 9, 6:30-8:00 p.m.: ICC Reconciliation Learning Stations [M]
- January 10, 7:00 p.m.: Eucharist [M]
- January 10, 7:30 p.m.: KC8232 Meeting [M]
- January 11, 11:00 a.m.: Eucharist [CharMac]
- January 11, 7:00 p.m.: SMC Guild Meeting [K]
- January 12, 7:30 p.m.: ICC Faith Formation/Youth Ministry Team Meeting [M]
- January 12, 4:00-7:00 p.m.: SMC Reconciliation Learning Stations [K]
- January 14, 6:00 p.m.: Fellowship Dinner (Guild) [K]
- January 15, 4:00 p.m.: SMC First Reconciliation [K]
- January 15, 6:0 p.m.: The Bible Timeline (Session 13: Divided Kingdom - Part 1) [K]
- January 22, 10:00 a.m.: Full Breakfast (KC8232) [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:** icmerville@wiatel.net or stmichael@wiatel.net

**IMMACULATE CONCEPTION CHURCH:** 712-873-3644

**Director of Faith Formation:** Angie Duffy

**Custodian-Church:** Consetia Carley / **Custodian-Rectory:** Judy Gruis

**Maintenance:** Bob Weatherly

**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.** 8:30 a.m.-noon, 1:00-5:30 p.m.

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

Other times by appointment

**EUCCHARIST:**

**Saturday:** 5:00 p.m.-Kingsley

**Sunday:** 9:00 a.m.-Menville

**Monday, Wednesday:** 8:00 a.m.-Menville

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

**RECONCILIATION:**

**Saturday:** 4:00-4:45 p.m.-Kingsley

**Sunday:** 8:00-8:45 a.m.-Menville

Other times by appointment

**ROSARY:**

Tuesday, Thursday, Friday: 7:30 a.m.—Menville

**Fr. Brad's  
Christmas Gift Wish List**

**St. Michael**

18 Vestment Hangers - \$170.00

5 Server Vestment Cords - \$50.00

Cincture for Priest Set of 4 - \$80.00

**Immaculate Conception**

Digital Bulletin Board - \$2,065.00

3" Advent Candles

Battery powered leaf blower

5 Server Vestment Cords - \$50.00

White Funeral Pall - \$240.00