



*MASS Intentions*

**SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 19**

4:00 p.m. For the People of the Parish

**SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 20 ~Catechetical Sunday~**

~25<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time ~

9:00 a.m. Lucy Negro (Birthday) -  
Pat & Joe

11:00 a.m. Gena Farragh -  
Joyel & Gary

**MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 21**

NO MASS SCHEDULED

**TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 22**

5:15 p.m. For the Intentions of Robert & Jean Groeneveld  
(35<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary)

**WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 23**

12:10 p.m. Thomas Duley (Birthday) -  
Daughter, Cathy Carobine & Family

**THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 24**

NO MASS SCHEDULED

**FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 25**

11:00 a.m. No Mass - VA Medical Center Chapel

**SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 26**

4:00 p.m. Gunhild Steinbrecher -  
The Fuse Family

**SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 27 ~Priesthood Sunday~**

~26<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time ~

9:00 a.m. George Marciulionis & Janet Yacevelli -  
Family

11:00 a.m. For the People of the Parish

*The Sanctuary Candle has been offered in loving memory  
of Gena Farragh by Joyel & Gary.*

**REST IN PEACE**

Immaculate Conception Parish Family extends their sympathy to the family of our parishioner, **Nancy Schuls**.

May God give her family consolation during this time of sorrow. May her soul, and all the souls of the faithful departed, rest in peace.

**Msgr. Kaz .....Submit Your Resignation**

A young man went through college dreaming of landing an executive position in his father's big manufacturing plant. On graduation day, the father took him aside and said, "Son, now you're ready to come into the family business." Immediately, the young man had visions of a big, plush office, a large staff of assistants, and a hefty executive salary. "I'll start work tomorrow, Dad," he said enthusiastically. After which, the father said, "Of course, to learn the business, you'll have to start at the bottom."

"To begin with, your job will be to water the hundreds of plants located in our buildings." The son protested. "I've changed my mind. I'm not coming to work tomorrow." Later, he thought better of his decision and decided to go along with his father. And so, he accepted the job and reported for work the next day. The father hoped for the best but was concerned that despite his son's good intentions, he wouldn't stay on the job for long. But he stopped worrying when the young man showed him his new business card, which read, "PLANT MANAGER."

In today's Gospel, Jesus is speaking to the disciples in parables. He tells the story of an employer who needs workers for his vineyard. He goes into the marketplace of the city to look for unemployed men waiting to be hired. He finds some day laborers, and they agree on a price for a day's work. As the day goes on, more laborers are needed, and more are hired at the same wage. When the time comes at sunset for the workers to be paid, the employer tells his foreman to pay all the workmen the same wage, beginning with those who were hired last. Each worker is to receive a full day's pay. The workers who were hired first and worked the longest begin to complain, and even challenge the employer. They try to tell him how to manage his business. "The last worked only one hour," they grumble, "and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day" (Mt. 20:12). To which the owner and master of the vineyard replies, "I am doing you no wrong ... take what belongs to you and go; I choose to give to this last as I give to you." As a true capitalist of the ancient world, the master asserts his right to control and manage his affairs his way, saying, "Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or do you begrudge my generosity?" Jesus ends the parable with his famous maxim: "So the last will be first, and the first last" (Mt. 20:12-16).

The Kingdom of God is like that, Jesus is telling us. God is in control of His vineyard. God is in charge of His universe. God does what He chooses with what belongs to Him. God gives us the gift of life and the means to bring it to fulfillment according to His plan. And isn't it the case very often that we grumble and complain, and we begrudge His generosity by trying to challenge Him and usurp His authority and run things our way?

This central teaching of Jesus is not just a popular maxim we can repeat frivolously, on a superficial level, like "Look before you leap!" or "He who hesitates is lost." (Notice how they contradict each other.) "The last shall be first, and the first, last," is an irrefutable Gospel Truth.





**FAITH FORMATION UPCOMING  
SPECIAL DATES AND EVENTS**

- September 30** - Parent meeting (brief) at 6:00 p.m.  
Faith Formation Building
- October 4** - Little Parishioners begins - Sunday  
9:00 a.m. Mass only
- October 7** - Faith Formation on-line classes begin

*Behold, children are a heritage from the LORD,  
the fruit of the womb a reward.*  
~ Psalm 127:3



**A PRAYER FOR CATECHISTS**

Loving Father, we pray today for our catechists. We thank you for their gift of ministry in your Church. Grant them your wisdom that they may grow in the understanding and teaching of your Word. Grant them also your love that they may be fruitful heralds of your Word and lead others to love you. Pour forth your Holy Spirit upon them to grant them wisdom about what is important; knowledge of the truths of faith; understanding of their meaning; right judgement about how to apply them in life; courage to persevere even in the face of adversity; reverence before all that is sacred and holy; and that loving zeal which leads others to a transforming encounter with your Son. We pray this through Christ, our Lord. Amen.

*Thank you, Karen Powers, for leading our Faith Formation program for 20 years and counting. You are a blessing to our parish and its youth!*

**PARISH OFFICE HOURS TO RETURN TO  
NORMAL OCTOBER 5**

As of Monday, October 5, the parish office hours will return to the following:

- Monday - Thursday**  
8:30 a.m. - Noon & 1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.
- Friday**  
8:30 a.m. - Noon

**PRAYER FOR A STEWARDSHIP PARISH**



My parish is composed of people like me. I help make it what it is.

It will be friendly, if I am.

It will be holy, if I am.

Its pews will be filled, if I help fill them.

It will do great work, if I work.

It will be prayerful, if I pray.

It will make generous gifts to many causes, if I am a generous giver.

It will bring others into worship, if I invite and bring them.

It will be a parish of loyalty and love, of fearlessness and faith, of compassion, charity and mercy, if I, who make it what it is, am filled with these same things.

Therefore, with the help of God, I now dedicate myself to the task of being all things that I want my parish to be.

Amen.

**RESTORED**

Have there been times in your life when you have felt spiritually dry and parched? Did it seem like God was far away and perhaps even uninterested or unavailable? There have been times in my life when I felt empty and alone. But it was not because God took up and left; rather, it was because I had strayed from His path and was now aimlessly wandering in my own discomfort.

God continually called Israel to stop, pay attention, listen up, and be restored by t'shuvah – repentance and returning to God. Just as an earthly father holds out his arms to comfort his hurting child, so, too, our God extends His loving arms to us through grace and mercy.

God's Holy Spirit calls us to be restored, and moves us to seek the Lord's mercy. But we can resist the Spirit. If you find yourself now doing that, repent! If you are feeling apart from God today, turn to the Lord. Tell Him your story, seek His forgiveness, and receive His loving grace.

**Oh Jerusalem !**

How often would I have gathered your children together  
as a hen gathers her brood under her wings



And you would not  
Luke 13:34

*Restore us again, O Lord, as in days of old. Amen.*

**GIVE GOD WHAT'S RIGHT...NOT WHAT'S LEFT!**

**OUR LADY OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT  
CHAPEL PERPETUAL ADORATION**

*Measure thy life by loss instead of gain; not by the  
wine drunk but by the wine poured forth...*

*~Ugo Bassi*

Visit Him at the Chapel.  
Sit in silence and listen.  
Drop in or stay.  
He is there for us.  
**COME!**



Vacant Hours Needing Volunteers:

Saturday: 3:00 p.m.

Answer His call!

Prayer partners needed for all hours.

For more information or to volunteer, call Lu Menghini at 282-6909 or Barb Broullire at 221-9707.

Visit [www.theadorationchapel.com](http://www.theadorationchapel.com).

**PRAYER OF SPIRITUAL COMMUNION**



My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament. I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul. Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself

wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.

**ASK BISHOP JOHN DOERFLER  
TO PRAY FOR YOU**

Many people of the diocese have been impacted by the pandemic which has led to parishioners feeling disconnected, stressed or experiencing feelings of despair. Bishop John Doerfler invites you to send your personal prayer requests. Returned prayer cards are kept in his private chapel, where he will pray for your intentions for the next year. Printable and electronic prayer intentions cards may be found on his web page at: <https://www.dioceseofmarquette.org/bishop>.

**CATHOLICS CARE. CATHOLICS VOTE.**

We vote because we are citizens. But we vote conscientiously because we are people of faith. Our consciences are formed through studying Scripture and teachings of the Church, examination of the facts, and prayerful reflection.

To learn more about Forming Consciences for Faithful Citizenship, please visit [faithfulcitizenship.org](http://faithfulcitizenship.org). We care. Therefore, we vote.

**We don't change God's message...  
...His message changes us.**

**LITURGICAL MINISTRIES ~ September 26-27  
LECTORS**

4:00 p.m. John Gaudette  
9:00 a.m. Rick Popp  
11:00 a.m. Bev Gaudette

**ALTAR SERVERS**

4:00 p.m. Sally Mattord  
9:00 a.m. Bob Paul  
11:00 a.m. Bob Paul

**USHERS**

4:00 p.m. Rob Barkle, Fran Formolo  
9:00 a.m. Scott McClure, Albert Santoni  
11:00 a.m. Rick Gingras, Stan Kaczmarek

**COUNTERS ~ MONDAY, September 21**

Grace Lintner, Counter C

**PARISH SUPPORT ~ September 14**

Parish Weekly Budgeted Operating Expenses . \$4,051.00  
Weekly Budgeted Assessed School Subsidy ... \$ 962.00  
(School Subsidy-52 weeks for total of \$50,000 per year)  
Total Weekly Budgeted Expenses ..... \$5,013.00  
This Week's Support ..... \$3,958.00  
(Includes Assessable receipts: Ordinary Income, Holy Day, Monthly Sacrifice, Children, Utilities, ACH, and the above offerings that come in during the week)  
Visitors/Loose..... \$272.15  
Total..... \$4,230.15  
Expenses over Income .....(\$782.85)

**ESTATE PLANNING**

Remembering Immaculate Conception Church in your Will is one of the most meaningful legacies you can provide. Your gift may be expressed in these words: I give and bequeath the sum of \$\_\_\_\_\_ (or \_\_\_\_\_% of my estate) to Immaculate Conception Church of Iron Mountain, Michigan for its most important priorities.

**YOUR PRAYERS ARE NEEDED**

If you would like to join the prayer line or if you have a prayer request, please contact **Yvonne at 774-5730.**



When making purchases,  
please patronize our bulletin advertisers.  
*This week's featured advertiser:*  
**NAPA Auto Parts**

**For those who continue to pray at home, our parish  
bulletin is available online at:**

[www.dioceseofmarquette.org/icparishironmountain](http://www.dioceseofmarquette.org/icparishironmountain)

**PARISH SUPPORT**

We wish to thank all who have continued to support our parish financially, either at offertory during Mass, dropping your envelope off at the office, mailing in your envelope or enrolling in automatic withdrawal. It is truly appreciated.