



## Immaculate Heart of Mary Catholic Church

Mailing Address: P. O. Box 100 \* New Melle, MO 63365

Website: [www.ihm-newmelle.org](http://www.ihm-newmelle.org)

Office Phone: 636-398-5270

Deliveries only address: 8 West Highway D, New Melle, MO 63365

### Schedule of Holy Mass

Saturday: 8:00am, 4:00pm Vigil Mass for Sunday  
Sunday: 7:30am, 9:30am  
Weekdays: 8:00am, in church

### Weekly Devotions and Prayers

#### Eucharistic Adoration:

Monday 8:30am until Friday, 11:00am

#### Rosary:

Prior to Saturday evening 4pm Mass

#### Perpetual Help Devotions:

Tuesdays following 8am Mass

#### Respect Life Prayers:

Thursday following 8am Mass

#### First Saturday of the Month Devotions

8am Mass, Rosary, 15 minutes of meditation

### Sacraments

#### Reconciliation:

Wednesday in church, 7pm  
Saturday following 8am Mass

#### Marriage:

Contact the parish office  
at least six months prior to the wedding

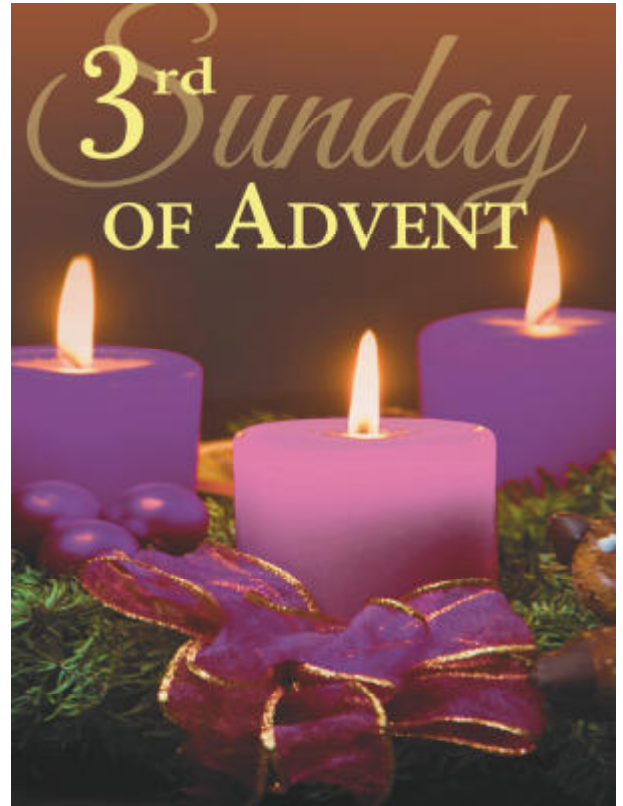
#### Baptism:

Contact the parish office  
to register for class and to arrange date

#### Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults:

Contact Shawn Mueller in the parish office

*December 13, 2020*



## *Deeper Understanding of Scripture*

Did you ever stop and realize that there is no earthly gain that can ever really satisfy us? Think of winning the Lotto. On this side of the winning ticket, it's all about the money, the new car, house, vacations, bank accounts, and infinite pleasures. The possibility of acquiring all of these earthly securities brings us back again and again to the purchase of a ticket. Then, one day we win! Our dreams are fulfilled, and happiness is on the horizon. Then one day, we wake up and realize that nothing has really changed, and I am not as satisfied as I thought I was or would be. I find myself living in my incompleteness and with my profound sorrow and grief. I did not find joy.

Glimpses of joy are possible but not by material means. They are brought to us

through incredible experiences of connection that bring us face to face with real and authentic faith, hope, and love. And, they are glimpses and do not last. The moment we find ourselves looking back at them, they are gone, and we find ourselves remembering the moment in memory. To carry joy within us is to realize that it is not something I create, manufacture or even acquire. It is not able to be purchased. It is a gift. My need for joy mirrors my need for eternity, for a Creator who has a claim on the very essence of who I am and desires a home within me. As C. S. Lewis discovered, joy is a surprise that speaks to my very soul and is given as gift by the God who loves me.

The beauty of Advent is found in discovering the beauty of the gift of joy. God

has visited his people for no other reason than to show them where and how to find joy! All of our human and earthly joy experiences are always only glimpses. They never satisfy us, sustain us or fulfill us. It is only God who is the joy of my soul. Real, Divine experiences of joy catch us off guard, make us stop and become aware, bring a feeling of awe and rightness and have an eternal Otherness about them. Nothing created by humans can ever come close to this. We probably will not fully realize the truth of all of this until we actually meet God face to face in heaven one day. Then, in that sacred moment when our hearts leap for joy we will understand what we have been tirelessly searching for all along. Intense gratitude will most surely follow.

## Welcome to Immaculate Heart of Mary: *Informed—Hospitable—Missionary*

### Parish Staff

Parish Office: 636-398-5270

Fr. Tom Miller, Pastor *askpadre@aol.com*  
(for emergencies only: 314-303-2428)

Deacon Chris Ast *chrisast@archstl.org*  
Deacon Tony Falbo *tony.2011@centurylink.net*  
Laura Orf, Business Manager *lorf@ihm-newmelle.org*  
Peggy Dupree, Secretary *secretary@ihm-newmelle.org*  
Bryan Beams, Director of Music and Liturgy  
*bryanbeams@ihm-newmelle.org*  
Janet Hespen, Youth Leader *janethspn@outlook.com*  
Karen Wappelhorst, Child Safety Coordinator  
*childsafety@ihm-newmelle.org*

### Religious Education

Shawn Mueller, Director

636-398-5270, *smueller@ihm-newmelle.org*

Parish School of Religion  
Grades 1 thru 8, September thru May, 6-7:30pm, Wednesdays  
Confirmation Preparation  
8th Grade—September thru May, 6-7:30pm, Wednesdays  
Children's Liturgy of the Word  
September thru May, during the 9:30am Sunday Mass  
Adult Education  
Wednesdays at 8:45am and 6:10pm, September thru May  
Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults—contact Shawn for schedule

### Quick Contacts Directory

#### Weddings, Receptions, Events

Pat Gentry, Hall Rental 636-398-5270  
Kelly Meyer, Wedding Coordinator 636-828-4994  
Jean Hitt, Wedding Coordinator 636-987-2131  
Joan Marren-Slaughter, Event Coordinator 636-398-5270  
Mary Keune, Event Coordinator 636-398-5270

#### Prayer and Devotion

Eucharistic Adoration  
Shawn Mueller 636-398-5270  
Legion of Mary  
Maria Romine-Kantor 314-614-0857  
Prayer Chain  
Brenda Hutchcraft 636-248-8493  
Prayer Intercession/Jonah Team  
Debbie Gillespie 636-398-4971  
Prayer Shawl Ministry  
Julia Kettler 314-616-0096

#### Liturgical Ministries

Extraordinary Ministers  
Irene Caldwell 636-398-4311  
Lectors  
Joe Willis 636-398-2106  
Gift Bearers  
Peggy Dupree 636-398-5270  
Ushers  
Gary Struckhoff 636-828-6067  
Altar Servers  
Deacon Tony Falbo *tony.2011@centurylink.net*  
Altar Society  
Pam DeBold 636-482-4765  
Art & Environment  
Mary Karll 636-433-5049  
Music Ministry  
Bryan Beams 636-398-5270  
Adult Choir  
Mary Sweeten 314-324-3249  
Children's Choir  
Elizabeth Jaeckle 636-828-4811  
Contemporary Music Group  
Debbie Gillespie 636-398-4971  
Praise & Worship Band  
Steve Farber 636-751-3567

#### Parish Organizations

Budget & Finance  
Larry Graves 314-799-9804  
Cemetery Committee  
Mark Keune 314-220-7075  
Dinner Committee  
Jeff Comotto 314-570-6972  
Funeral Lunches  
Carol Grady 314-662-2281  
Ruth Neske 636-398-5699  
Vicki Grunz 636-497-5230  
Helping Hearts  
John Grady 314-662-2138  
Mary Fischer 636-561-7747  
Bob Hutchcraft 636-346-3471  
Maria Romine-Kantor 314-614-0857  
Knights of Columbus  
Bob Hutchcraft 636-346-3471  
Marian Council  
Barb Pope 773-383-8602  
Meal Train  
Kelly Meyer *meyer5853@qmcinc.org*, 636-828-4994  
Meals on Wheels  
Jean Bammann 636-798-2718  
Pro Life  
Bill Winters 636-828-4133  
Quilters  
Vanita Joerling 636-544-0416  
Ruth Willis 636-398-4597  
Scouting  
Chuck Hinkle 636-544-6639  
Cub Scouts: Adam McCarthy 636-634-7622  
Boy Scouts: Chad Peters 314-807-7177  
St. Vincent de Paul  
Joe Willis 636-398-2106  
Welcoming Committee  
Teresa Berfanger 636-398-5565

#### Youth and Young Adults

High School Youth Leader  
Janet Hespen 314-369-6521  
Young Adults  
Julie Lassiter 636-357-0121

## *An Advent Prayer*

Daniel Burke, [Spiritualdirection.com](http://Spiritualdirection.com)

Redeemer, Messiah, Savior — Your people always long for you,  
yet we often fail to give into that longing or seek to satisfy it with worldly things.

We beg of You this Advent  
to come to our aid and to draw our hearts to the only love that satisfies -  
the only love worthy of our longing.

As Advent prepares us and then reveals the celebration of Your coming,  
may we, by an infusion of Your Holy Spirit,  
rejoice that as the star of Bethlehem pierced the darkness of the heavens  
it also pierces and heals the darkness of our hearts.

May this infusion of Your heavenly light more fully reveal  
Your presence, Your Love, Your redemption  
as we live in and through Your light  
and reveal Your love to those you have placed in our care.

May we also remember that You will come again  
and that every year You draw us to contemplate our last end  
so that we may reflect on our “yes” to you,  
and thereby ensure, by Your revelation and grace,  
that it grows every day in preparation for that final embrace of eternity.

Jesus, our hearts long for You far less than they should.  
Please renew us now and in this season of Your coming  
that we might be prepared for our final judgement  
and thus hear, “Well done, good and faithful servant.”

**Come Lord Jesus, come. Amen.**

## *Third Sunday of Advent—Pearl*

God sent...a man named John, who came to tell the people about the light,  
so that all should hear the message and believe. *John 1:6-7*

W. C. Fields was a great film comedian. A story, probably apocryphal, says that near the end of his life he spent a lot of time reading the Bible. Someone asked him about this, and Fields replied, "I'm looking for any loopholes I can find." The implication was that Fields knew that he had not lived his life in full accord with Jesus' teaching. Now he was looking for a way to excuse himself for this failure when he appeared before God. If I died and appeared before God tonight, what excuse would I give for not having lived in fuller accord with Jesus' teaching?

*If Christ were standing before me now, what would I feel, not about him, but about myself?*  
SAINT AUGUSTINE (slightly adapted)

### Ministry Schedule

December 12—4:00pm

EM: Josh Deters, Deacon Chris, Pat Roche, Ed Etzkorn  
Lec: Joe Willis, Mike Greene  
Serv: Aiden Panus  
Music: Bryan & cantor  
Ush: Chris Cuddihee, Bill Pollihan, Bryan Potter

December 13—7:30am

EM: Aaron Waldeck, Deacon Chris, Betty Tuepker, Dianne Dickherber  
Lec: Kris Jenkins, Dave London  
Serv: Mary Grace Becker  
Music: Verdi & Brooke  
Ush: Bob & Teresa Berfanger, Ron Jacob

December 13—9:30am

EM: Josh Deters, Deacon Chris, Aaron Waldeck, Maureen Blondin  
Lec: Patrice Riley, Nancy Ast  
Serv: William Lassiter  
Music: Bryan & cantor  
Ush: Bill Riley, Joe Weber, Michelle Greiwe



Thanks to all who chose an angel from the tree, purchased the gift, and returned it to the narthex, all in quiet humility and generosity.

There is still time to return gifts—Monday morning at the very latest. Please just bring them to church by 10am.

God bless all of you for your participation,  
and have a blessed Advent and Christmas season!

### Ministry Schedule

December 19—4:00pm

EM: Josh Deters, Karen Wilson, Bob Brossette, Chris Warren  
Lec: Pat Barnard, Yvonne Brossette  
Serv: Zara Panus  
Music: Bryan & cantor  
Ush: Tim Wilson, Mike Rieker, Andy Pope

December 20—7:30am

EM: Josh Deters, Deacon Chris, Jan Kardasz, John Fiacco  
Lec: Bob Leeker, Chuck Kettler  
Serv: Sydney Jaeckle  
Music: Verdi & Elizabeth  
Ush: Tom Meczowski, Brenda Hutchcraft, Frank Kardasz

December 20—9:30am

EM: Deacon Chris, Laura Orf, Don & Susan Hladky  
Lec: Mary Busby-Simpson, Pat Gentry  
Serv: Janie Becker  
Music: Bryan & cantor  
Ush: Ron Simpson, Bill Winters, Gary Struckhoff

### Heavenly Duster Schedule

Week of December 13: Elizabeth Jaeckle  
Christmas Break the next two weeks

### Purificators

Month of December: June Spiess

To all who requested a wreath to place on the grave of your loved one, the wreaths are scheduled to be delivered to IHM on **December 18**. Thanks to all who participate!



### *Please pray for all the sick and suffering:*

Phyllis Zerr, Sandy Knott, Mike & Pat Ryan, Fran Bussen, Nancy Hollenstein, Deacon Tony, Walt Reel, Amy Robbins, Betty Boyd, Don Schmidt, Janie Roth, Betty Heppermann, Joyce Brakensiek, Carl Wolff, Gary Potter, Pete Schepis, Terry Hagen

Lisa Debold (daughter of Dave & Pam DeBold), Leon Burkemper (son of Carol Rabbitt),  
Doris Eisenbath (mother of Judy Molitor), Janet Piel (sister of Joni Marren-Slaughter),

John Stringer (friend of Larry & Rita Bendel) Loren & Evelyn Brandon (parents of Marty & Peggy Dupree),  
Audrey Molitor (sister of Flo Joerling), Pat Finan (daughter of Fran Bussen), Marlene Hegemeier (sister of Pat Roche)  
Steve Wengerski (family friend of Mandy Daub), Sophia Hartsfield (granddaughter of Ed & Marcia Etzkorn),  
Keith Langford (son of Rita & brother of Valerie Langford),

Red Brockmeyer (cousin of Kay & Ray Cherry), Karla Sitzes (daughter of Sophia Bax),  
Karen Windler (sister of John Wappelhorst), Michael Speir (son-in-law of Jackie & Steve Dunn)

**Hospitalization:** If you are hospitalized, please let us know. Please call the office or ask a friend to call for you if necessary.

**Communion Calls:** If you would like to receive Communion but are unable to get to Mass because of illness or disability, please contact the parish office: 636-398-5270.

**Prayer Requests:** Brenda Hutchcraft at 636-248-8493 or email brhutchcraft@centurytel.net



## Mass Intentions

Monday, December 14	
6:45am	The Schneider Family
8:00am	All Souls
Tuesday, December 15	
8:00am	Audrey Hueffmeier +
Wednesday, December 16	
8:00am	Carolyn Whitmore +
Thursday, December 17	
8:00am	Tom Holstein (3rd ann.) +
Friday, December 18	
8:00am	Dave Gentry + intention of Olivia Clark
Saturday, December 19	
8:00am	Tommy Locke +
4:00pm	Frank Modder +
Sunday, December 20	
7:30am	Roy Miller + People of the Parish
9:30am	All Souls Ed Orf +

## Contributions, Dec. 5/6

General Offertory:	\$15,500.00
Online – General Offertory:	<u>\$5,294.90</u>
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>\$20,794.90</b>

*“PrRejoice always, pray constantly, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.”—1 Thessalonians 5: 16-18*

This scripture reading sums up Stewardship. “Rejoice always” means place your trust in God. He will provide all that you need. “Pray constantly” means prayer should be a running conversation with God throughout the whole day, every day. “Give thanks in all circumstances” means even in bad situations, thank God. Suffering a little bit helps build empathy for others in similar situations and shows our dependence on God.

We pray ... that we realize suffering is a gift and helps us build empathy for others and build our dependence on God.

## Needed at the Pantry



Vegetable soup, fruit juices, sugar, hot chocolate, men's deodorant, razors, toothbrushes, tea bags, coffee, canned fruit, gravy packets, oil, jelly, bisquick, dish soap, laundry detergent, all purpose cleaner, snacks for kids lunches.

**Please hold your plastic bags—we have plenty!!**

In today's Gospel John the Baptist says, “I am the voice of one crying in the desert; make straight the way of the Lord.” Let us ask for the grace to help others to know the love of the Lord.

Christmas is a time of love and gift giving...please give to the Society of St. Vincent de Paul so that those who do not have clothes and food can share in the blessings of Christmas.

## Christmas Ministry Schedule

### December 24—4:00pm

EM: Deacon Chris, Josh Deters, Pat Roche, Janet Hespen, Kathy Lalonde, Maureen Blondin  
Lec: Karen Wilson, Emily Jaeckle  
Serv: Sydney and Natalie Jaeckle  
Music: Bryan and Elizabeth  
Ush: Tim Wilson, Andy Pope, Mike Rieker, volunteer pls.

### December 24—Midnight

EM: Deacon Chris, Josh Deters, Michelle Greiwe, Chris or Kat Menne  
Lec: Kris Jenkins, Pat Gentry  
Serv: Thomas Kokker  
Music: Bryan, Betsy & Mary  
Ush: Gary Struckhoff, 2 more volunteers please

### December 25—10:00am

EM: Josh Deters, Patrice Riley, Mary Hardesty, vol. pls.  
Lec: Dave London, Joe Willis  
Serv: Izzy Scheer  
Music: Bryan & Maya  
Ush: Bill Riley, Bill Winters, Larry Smith

## \*\* Update on Deacon Tony \*\*

He left the hospital recently to go home. During the days in the upcoming months he will be picked up for therapy sessions at the same campus in Lake St. Louis. He hopes to be back with us when he is fully recovered.



**KNIGHTS  
OF COLUMBUS**  
IN SERVICE TO ONE. IN SERVICE TO ALL.

There is much evil in the world. It divides and scatters the members of the Body of Christ. Uniting in prayer and in good works informed by our Catholic Faith is an excellent way to combat evil. I strongly urge the men of our parish to unite themselves and their families with the men and families of the Knights of Columbus. Simply go to [www.kofc.org/joinus](http://www.kofc.org/joinus) and follow the prompts. Use promo code MCGIVNEY2020 and your first year's dues are free! When asked for our IHM council number, enter 11656. Don't delay! Do it today! You will be glad you did.

## *This Week at Home*

*social distancing recommended at all events*

**Sunday, December 13**  
SVDP, Grand Hall, 4-6pm

**Monday, December 14**  
**Rorate Caeli Candlelight Mass, church, 6:45am**  
Scouts, Founders Hall, 6:30pm  
Reconciliation, 7pm

**Tuesday, December 15**  
Fitness, Grand Hall, 9am  
Reconciliation, 7pm

**Wednesday, December 16**  
Sunday Mass readings study, Weber Hall, 8:30am  
Bible Study, Grand Hall, 6pm  
Reconciliation, 7pm

**Thursday, December 17**  
Fitness, Grand Hall, 9am  
RCIA, Weber Hall, 6:30pm  
Youth Ministry, Founders Hall, 6:30pm

**Friday, December 18**  
Quilting, Weber Hall, 8:30am

**Saturday, December 19**  
Reconciliation, 8:45am  
SVDP Food Pantry open 9-10:30am  
**Anointings** after 4pm Mass

**Sunday, December 20**  
**Anointings** after both Masses.



**Janet Hespen, Youth Minister,**  
**314-369-6521**

Dec. 17: YM Christmas Party, 6:30pm, Founders Hall  
Dinner provided, bring your favorite cookies for cookie contest

Dec. 25: Have a blessed Christmas

Jan. 1: Mary, Mother of God, Holy Day Mass 10am

Jan. 7: **New Beginnings:** Begin Luke 18 planning

Jan 21: Building Discipleship

Jan. 28: Luke 18 planning and practice skit. Practice stocks 1 through 4.

Feb. 4: Luke 18 discussions and practice talks 5 thru 8

Feb. 11: Luke 18 final preparations

## ✠ *Rest in Peace* ✠

**Vickie Brink**  
wife of Roger Brink  
**Jim Cherry**  
brother of Ray & Kay Cherry  
**William "Bud" and Audrey Kalist**  
parents of Mitch & Susan Kalist  
**Flora Postal**  
mother of Richard & Kathleen Postal  
**Martha Almeling**  
mother of Tim & Dianne Almeling  
**Richard Zaleuke**  
father of Tom & Ann Zaleuke  
**Jennifer Ristich**  
former parishioner, wife of Bruce Ristich

May they and all the faithful departed  
rest in the eternal peace of Christ.



**Registration Now  
Open**

**MISSOURI LIFE CARAVAN** is now accepting registrations for our bus trip to the annual March for Life in Washington D.C. **Thursday thru Saturday, January 28-30, 2021.** Until all life is protected, we will travel to D.C. to meet with our representatives and peacefully protest against the Supreme Court's decision to legalize abortion. This trip is open to anyone ages 7 and up (chaperones not provided). We depart from several locations in the St. Louis area and we do not stay in hotels as we sleep on the buses. Seats are limited because of COVID-19. The cost is \$230. For more information, to register or to sponsor a rider go to [www.missourilifecaravan.org](http://www.missourilifecaravan.org). Contact us at [mrl.eastern@yahoo.com](mailto:mrl.eastern@yahoo.com) or 314-434-4900.



A great way to organize emergency meals for the people of our parish!

Arrival of a new baby	Injuries/Surgeries
Military deployment	Extended illnesses
Condolences	Group events

Please contact Kelly Meyer at [meyer5853@qmcinc.org](mailto:meyer5853@qmcinc.org) if you have any questions or would like to become a part of this ministry.

**Prayer Shawls:** If you or someone you know needs to be wrapped in prayer, please pick a prayer shawl! We have a good supply in church of shawls that have been hand-crafted by parish members who offer a prayer with each stitch, and each one has been blessed by Fr. Tom.

## Prepare Ye the Way of the Lord

Mass Monday-Saturday, 8:00am, Church  
Saturday 4:00pm Vigil Mass  
Sunday, 7:30, 9:30am

### Reconciliation

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, 7-8:30pm  
Saturday after morning Mass, 8:45am

### Bible Study

Sunday readings study with Shawn Mueller  
Wednesdays after daily Mass (8:45am), Weber Hall

### Rorate Caeli Candlelight Mass

Monday, December 14, 6:45am, Church

### Anointing of the Sick:

After Masses on December 19/20

### Christmas Masses (*signups required this year*)

Thursday, December 24, 4pm  
Midnight Mass (doors open at 11:30)  
Friday, December 25, 10am



## Candlelight Rorate Caeli Mass

6:45am Monday, December 14, Church

The Rorate Caeli Mass is a traditional Advent devotion in which a Mass in honor of the Blessed Virgin Mary for Advent is offered just before dawn, with no lighting other than candles on the altar, windowsills, and handheld. Those who attend can expect to be rewarded with a uniquely beautiful Mass.

The Mass takes its title, *Rorate Caeli* ("Drop down dew, ye heavens") from the initial Latin words of Isaiah 45:8. In the dimly lit setting, priest and faithful prepare to honor the Light of the world, Who is soon to be born, and offer praise to God for the gift of Our Lady. As the Mass proceeds and sunrise approaches, the church becomes progressively brighter, illumined by the sun as our Faith is illumined by Christ.

*We will have weekday Mass at 8am as usual.*

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in your faith, so that in the power of the Holy Spirit you may be rich in hope." – Romans 15:13

### Pope's Intentions for December: For a Life of Prayer

We pray that our personal relationship with Jesus Christ be nourished by the Word of God and a life of prayer.



## St. Paul Library / Lighthouse CD Resources

(Note: With close to 4000 items, the Parish Library is located in the Grand Hall past the restrooms. It is open during the week-normal business hours-and works on an honor system. Items from the Lighthouse CD rack are located and available in the Narthex

### From the Lighthouse CD/Pamphlet Rack—Narthex



Archbishop Fulton J. Sheen's books, tapes, homilies, retreats, and television series have inspired countless souls all over the world. This digitally-mastered presentation combines classic recordings of his timeless reflections on the meaning of the Incarnation of Jesus, mixed with Gregorian Chant and seasonal music. It is sure to become a family favorite!

*I did thoroughly enjoy the relevancy of the presentation. Archbishop Fulton Sheen had a unique way of discussing spiritual matters in a way that entertains and educates at the same time.* Will - Montgomery, OH

In this inspiring talk, renowned preacher and retreat master Fr. Larry Richards illuminates how the true joy of Christmas is found in the greatest gift ever given – the gift of Jesus Christ to the whole world. With humor, compassion, and clarity, Fr. Larry gets to the heart of the true meaning of Christmas and helps us to better appreciate the immensity of God's love for us as His children.

*"Fr. Richards challenged me to enter into the Christmas story with my eyes opened ... not just be celebrating Jesus' birth, but by participating in his life."* Maureen - Spencer, NY





## What's Your Catholic Catechism IQ?

"The Catechism of the Catholic Church is a statement of the Church's faith and of Catholic doctrine, attested to or illumined by Sacred Scripture, the Apostolic Tradition and the Church's Magisterium. I declare it to be a sure norm for teaching the faith." (Pope St. John Paul II)

- The Church permits cremation, provided that it does not demonstrate a denial of faith in the \_\_\_\_ of the body.
  - resurrection
  - formation
  - purpose
  - decay
- By recalling the commandment, you shall not kill, our Lord asked for peace of heart and denounced murderous anger and \_\_\_\_ as immoral.
  - hatred
  - sadness
  - tears
  - negative feelings
- To desire vengeance in order to do evil to someone who should be punished is illicit, but it is praiseworthy to impose restitution to correct vices and maintain \_\_\_\_.
  - equality
  - satisfaction for victims
  - justice
  - revenge
- Hatred of the neighbor is a sin when one \_\_\_\_ wishes him evil. Hatred of the neighbor is a grave sin when one deliberately desires him grave harm.
  - emotionally
  - psychologically
  - deliberately
  - casually
- Jesus said, "Love your \_\_\_\_ and pray for those who persecute you, so that you may be sons of your Father who is in heaven."
  - self
  - enemies
  - family
  - country
- Peace is not merely the absence of \_\_\_\_, and it is not limited to maintaining a balance of powers between adversaries. Peace is the tranquility of order.
  - pain
  - war
  - suffering
  - happiness
- All citizens and all governments are obliged to work for the \_\_\_\_ of war.
  - declaration
  - pursuit
  - cause
  - avoidance
- The strict conditions for legitimate \_\_\_\_ by military force (the Just War doctrine) require rigorous consideration.
  - torture
  - abuse
  - destruction
  - defense
- The evaluation of these conditions for moral legitimacy of a just war belongs to the prudential judgment of those who have \_\_\_\_ for the common good.
  - revenge
  - responsibility
  - hope
  - anger
- Public authorities can impose on citizens the obligations for national defense; they should make provision for those who for reasons of \_\_\_\_ refuse to bear arms.
  - cowardice
  - conscience
  - conspiracy
  - concupiscence

## PSR Corner

### What is an Advent Calendar

An Advent calendar is a special calendar which is used to count or celebrate the days of Advent in anticipation of Christmas. Some calendars are strictly religious, whereas others are secular in content. Today, most advent calendars are made for children. Many take the form of a large rectangular card with many "windows," one of which is opened every day during Advent. In less elaborate calendars, each window opens to reveal an image, a poem, or part of a story such as the Nativity story itself. More elaborate Advent calendars have a small gift concealed in each window, such as a toy or a chocolate item.



## READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Sun: Is 61:1-2a, 10-11/Lk 1/1 Thes 5:16-24/Jn 1:6-8, 19-28  
Mon: Nm 24:2-7, 15-17a/Ps 25/Mt 21:23-27  
Tue: Zep 3:1-2, 9-13/Ps 34/Mt 21:28-32  
Wed: Is 45:6b-8, 18, 21c-25/Ps 85/Lk 7:18b-23  
Thu: Gn 49:2, 8-10/Ps 72/Mt 1:1-17  
Fri: Jer 23:5-8/Ps 72/Mt 1:18-25  
Satu: Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a/Ps 71/Lk 1:5-25

COVID-19 has had a devastating effect on the economy in Bethlehem and has destroyed the tourism sector across the Holy Land. The Christian communities in the Holy Land, also exposed to the risk of the virus and living in the environment already full of serious sufferings, need your help.



It is predicted that tourism will not recover before Easter 2022. Bethlehem has had little or no economy since March 2020. We need to help support the Christian Families and workshops who solely rely on tourism in the Holy Land to remain intact, since their main source of income has completely vanished.

We might be able to help! Along with a vast assortment of carved olive wood nativities, figures and rosaries, [www.bethlehemnativitysouvenirs.com](http://www.bethlehemnativitysouvenirs.com) also offer jewelry in gold, silver and mother of pearl, ceramic plates, bowls and vases, Dead Sea soaps, scrubs, lotions and hair products, and much more. Please visit their website and take a virtual tour of the many products they offer. Monthly payments are available. Thank you, and *barak allah fik* ("God bless you" in Arabic.)

1. a (2301) 2. a (2302) 3. c (2302) 4. c (2303) 5. b (2303)  
6. b (2304) 7. d (2308) 8. d (2309) 9. b (2309) 10. b (2311)

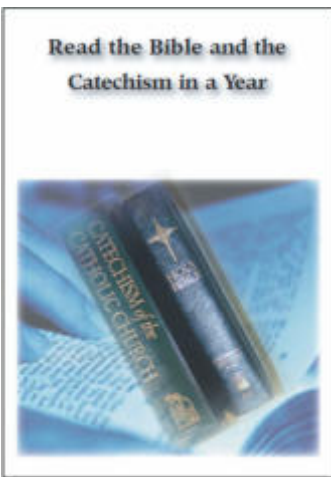
Answer Key:



## *The Season of Advent*

Make a plan to read the Bible more. Recently we sent out a mailing, both physical and digital to (amongst other things) encourage people to read the Bible. To put it simply, if as St. Jerome said that ignorance of the Bible is ignorance of Christ, and since Christ is the fullest revelation of God, then it follows that if we don't know the Bible we don't know God. One can know something about God, of course, from the natural revelation of the universe, the creation, ourselves made in His image, but this has been superseded by the revelation in word and deed and in the very person of Emmanuel—God with us in the flesh in Jesus in history. How can one remain content with our current understanding of God if it is not rooted, grounded in a solid understanding of the Christ of the Gospels first?

The flyer we sent out was a plan to read both the Bible and the Catechism in a year. While the Bible is God's Word, the Catechism is an authoritative guide for interpreting it. After all, what is the point of an infallible Book if it does not have an infallible interpreter? This interpretation has been entrusted to the magisterium of the Church that the Lord promised to lead and guide it by the Spirit into all truth. An online version of this flyer can be found at <https://chnetwork.org/free-resource-updated-version-of-our-read-the-bible-and-the-catechism-in-a-year-guide/>



The Catholic Church has always venerated the divine Scriptures, and teaches that "Sacred Scripture is the speech of God as it is put down in writing under the breath of the Holy Spirit." She also, "forcefully and specifically exhorts all the Christian faithful to learn 'the surpassing knowledge of Jesus Christ' (Phil. 3.8) by frequent reading of the divine Scriptures. 'Ignorance of the Scriptures is ignorance of Christ.'" (From the Dogmatic Constitution on Divine Revelation, nos. 9, 21, and 25).

## *Online Seasonal Gifts from Pauline Books*

Give the gift of hope this Christmas! Visit the Daughters of St. Paul/Pauline Books & Media's online Advent and Christmas Gift Guide at their webstore: <https://paulinestore.com/christmasgifts>. Here you will find that gift and also support the Sisters in their important mission of evangelization. Or visit the Sisters locally at Pauline Books and Media, 9804 Watson Road in Crestwood or call 314-965-3512.

## **4th Annual Hunt for Hunger**

Bring your field dressed deer to Josephville Meat Market, 1363 Josephville Road, Wentzville, for FREE processing as you donate it to Share the Harvest/Hunt for Hunger. Or, ask your local processor if they are participating in the program. Non-hunters can also contribute by donating some ground beef to the program. Contact David or Cathy at 636-299-3291 or [cathyneier@aol.com](mailto:cathyneier@aol.com).



## RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS

### A Constant Companion

As Christians, we are called to a life of prayer. This is not just during seasons like Advent, but all year long. When we talk about being prayerful everyday stewards, we are speaking about cultivating an awareness of God being with us at all times. Each day we begin by offering God the entirety of our day. Each night we rest in Him and hope that the hours that passed gave Him glory.

During this busy time of Advent, it is hard to cultivate this life of prayer, but without it we can too easily lose sight of the reason for the season. It is during this time of year we need to heed the words of St. Paul more than ever when he wrote to the Thessalonians, "Rejoice always. Pray without ceasing." This is how we will be able to avoid the pitfalls of consumerism and secularism and keep our eyes fixed on Jesus.

Bring Jesus with you into the office Christmas party. Take him with you shopping for gifts in the department store. Be aware of him when you sit down to watch television specials you have seen every year of your life. Give him all your time and let his presence fill your every moment. By striving to be connecting with Jesus at all times, you will bear greater fruit and the joy you experience will be much greater than you could imagine. You might even spend a few less dollars and spend more time with those you love, particularly the one who loves you the most, the Incarnation himself.

— Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS  
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## Helping Hearts Community Service Ministry

We are a group of IHM volunteers who wish to provide physical assistance to our neighbors who are unable to help themselves because of physical limitations. We can help with:

- ♥ Transportation to/from medical appointments, grocery stores and churches
- ♥ Install support bars for showers and tubs
- ♥ Install ramps for people having trouble with mobility
- ♥ Simple tasks: replacing lightbulbs and other simple household jobs
- ♥ Remove obstacles or debris: fallen tree limbs, etc.

Please pick up a brochure from our IHMformation Station for phone contacts and further information about what we can (and cannot) do. We want to help our parishioners and other community members within our parish boundaries in need of minor services that they are unable to do because of age or infirmity.

## Attention Employees & Volunteers

The Archdiocese of St. Louis has developed a new system for safe environment compliance called Prevent and Protect STL. Everyone ministering to minors and vulnerable adults (clergy, employees and volunteers) in the Archdiocese are required and asked to register in the new system before December 31, 2020. This includes those new to service and those who are currently in service. For those who have already attended a Protecting God's Children workshop, your previous training date will transfer to this new system. In addition to attending a live Protecting God's Children workshop, all clergy, volunteers and employees will register for an updated background screening, view two new online training modules on abuse reporting and the Code of Ethical Conduct, and agree to the updated Code of Ethical Conduct. Please go to:

[www.preventandprotectstl.org](http://www.preventandprotectstl.org)

to register, and contact our parish Child Safety Coordinator Karen Wappelhorst with any questions or for further assistance.



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