



Immaculate Heart of Mary Catholic Church

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

Website: www.ihm-newmelle.org

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

Parish Office: 636-398-5270 Fax: 636-398-5577

Schedule of Holy Mass

Saturday: 8:00am
4:00pm Vigil Mass for Sunday
Sunday: 7:30am, 9:30am
Weekdays: 8:00am, St. Joseph Chapel

Weekly Devotions and Prayers

Eucharistic Adoration:

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

Rosary:

Following 8am Mass weekdays & before Sat. 4pm.

Perpetual Help Devotions:

Tuesdays following 8am Mass

Respect Life Prayers:

Thursday following 8am Mass

Chaplet of Divine Mercy and Benediction:

Friday at 11:30am

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

1st Sunday of Advent

December 2, 2018



© J. S. Paluch Co., Inc.

Strengthen Your Hearts

How good is good enough? Do you have to be perfect to get to heaven? In the second reading this Sunday, Paul seems to think so when he tells us to be "blameless in holiness" (1 Thess 3:13.) In fact, he tells the Thessalonians who are pleasing God, to do even more. (4:1) Now Paul never considered himself as perfect: "I will rather boast most gladly of my weaknesses, in order that the power of Christ may dwell with me." (2 Cor 12:7-9) But even with his weakness, Paul always did the best he could. So what should we strive for? Maybe we can take a hint from his phrase "strengthen your hearts."

Think of athletes who try to do their best. A great ball player takes bat-

ting practice every day to improve his average. A tennis player will practice her serve to get more aces. A hockey player will keep skating during the summer to get faster. Good athletes are always looking for ways to improve themselves. They keep in shape so they can be stronger, faster, smarter. So what about good Christians? That same attitude is what Paul means by "strengthen your hearts." And Advent is a good time to start.

As we prepare to celebrate the coming of the Lord, we can get ourselves in spiritual shape. Spiritual reading can give us a stronger prayer life. But like the athlete who can read about the rules or strategies of the sport, we

get a stronger prayer life by actually praying. If our spiritual reading just makes us feel good, we may be wasting our time. Hopefully, it will lead us to try praying more often and more seriously. Likewise, we can read about volunteering to feed the poor, but making the commitment and doing it is what strengthens the heart. And how can we be "blameless in holiness... at the coming of Our Lord?" Not by bragging about our goodness, but confessing what we have done wrong. Only God's forgiveness can make us blameless. Then as the Gospel says, we may have "the strength...to stand before the Son of Man." (Lk 21:36)

Tom Schmidt, © J. S. Paluch Co.

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*
Marilyn O'Neill, Music Director *m.oneill@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/Wedding Coordinator 636-398-5270
Kelly Meyer, Wedding Coordinator 636-828-4994
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
Rita Langford 636-399-6083
Prayer Intercession/Jonah Team
Debbie Gillespie 636-398-4971
Prayer Shawl Ministry
Julia Kettler 636-616-0096

Liturgical Ministries

Extraordinary Ministers
Irene Caldwell 636-398-4311
Gift Bearers
Peggy Dupree 636-398-5270
Lectors
Ed Taylor 636-561-7099
Ushers
Gary Struckhoff 636-828-6067
Altar Servers
Deacon Tony Falbo *tony.2011@centurylink.net*
Altar Society
Pam DeBold 636-482-4765
Music Ministry
Marilyn O'Neill 314-341-2622
Contemporary Music Group
Debbie Gillespie 636-398-4971

Youth and Young Adults

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

Parish Organizations

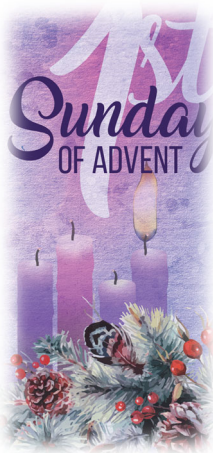
Art & Environment
Mary Karll 636-433-5049
Budget & Finance
Larry Graves 314-799-9804
Cemetery Committee
Mark Keune 314-220-7075
Dinner Committee
Jeff Comotto 314-570-6972
Funeral Lunches
Carol Grady 636-828-4768
Ruth Neske 636-398-5699
Vicki Grunz 636-497-5230
Golden Hearts
Dave London 636-398-8665
Helping Hearts
IHM Parish 636-398-5270
Ralph Bidy 636-262-7530
Mary Fischer 636-561-7747
Gary Potter 636-448-4037
Maria Romine-Kantor 314-614-0857
Knights of Columbus
Gary Potter 636-228-4755
Marian Council
Mary Jean Hartenbach 636-398-4677
Meals on Wheels
Jean Bammann 636-798-2718
Outreach
Steve Farber *sfarber@farbermarketing.com*
Pro Life
Bill Winters 636-828-4133
Quilters
Mary Ann Brakensiek 636-828-5776
Ruth Willis 636-398-4597
Scouting
Jerry Hespen 636-236-1955
Cub Scouts: Adam McCarthy 636-634-7622
Boy Scouts: Chad Peters 314-807-7177
St. Vincent de Paul
Teresa Waddington 314-440-7475
Welcoming Committee
Teresa Berfanger 636-398-5565

Finding the Time

Dear Parishioners,

A few years ago I started a tradition of offering more hours for the celebration of the Sacrament of Reconciliation. During the Advent Season I will be in the Confessional from 7:00pm until 8:30pm Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday. I will gladly stay longer any evening when there are people waiting to celebrate Reconciliation. While my primary reason for being in the Confessional is for the Sacrament, please know that if you would like to talk to me about anything I am there for you.

Finding the time to celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation is an integral part of living a more complete life in Christ. Jesus waits for us in the Sacrament of Reconciliation to heal us of our sins and to strengthen us in our struggle to grow in holiness. It is very easy for us to delay celebrating the Sacrament because the experience of acknowledging our sins and then confessing them is uncomfortable. The very fact that we sinned means we knew better and acted otherwise. While there is potential shame associated with sin, the good news is how much the Lord wants to free us. We will not find a greater advocate for our growth in holiness than Jesus Christ. He desires to help each of us recognize the great gift of the Father's love. Reconciliation and Eu-



charist are the two lungs with which we breathe in the life of God, the Holy Spirit.

My hope is that the additional hours will provide you with a convenient time to celebrate the Sacrament. I also hope that if you have situations in your life that are more complicated the additional times will provide you with the freedom to come in and not feel rushed. If you need 5 minutes or 50 to celebrate the Sacrament I am willing to make the time to be with you. More than anything is my desire to help you be more completely reconciled with God and confident in His love for you.

If it's been a while since you came to Confession, please know that I will do my best to walk you through the Sacrament. I pray and strive to remove any barriers and all excuses that prevent us from coming to God in this great gift of His healing grace. Eucharist is our most intimate experience of coming to Jesus. What can compare to receiving the Living God into our very bodies? Confession is our most personal response to His grace. What can compare to coming to God in our sorrow and leaving filled with joy?

Blessed Advent,

Fr. Tom

Reconciliation Times at Neighboring Parishes

St. Patrick	ICD	St. Gianna	St. Theodore	St. Joseph/Josephville
Thu: 5-6pm	Sat: 4-4:45p (church)	Sat: 5:40-4:55p	Sat: 4-4:45p	Tue: 6:30-6:50p
Sat: 4-4:45pm	Wed: 6:30-7:30p (church)	Sun: 7:30-7:55a	Sun: 7-7:15a	Fri: 7:30-7:50a
	1st Sat: 8:30-9a (chapel)	Sun: 10:30-10:55a	Sun: 20:30-10:45a	Sat: 3:45-4:20p
	Mon-Fri: 6-6:20a (chapel)			Sun: 7-7:20a



Next Week Ministry Schedule

Saturday, December 8, 4:00pm

EM: Ann Zaleuke, Jim & Chris Warren, Joan Falbo,
Jan Jokisch-Messig, Judy Cova, Ed Etzkorn,
Bernadine Pollihan

Lec: Larry Graves, Karen Wilson

GB: Andy & Barb Pope

Serv: Colten, Camden, Cienna Genta

Ush: Chris Cuddihee, Bill Pollihan, Tom Zaleuke,
Dave Hendrix

Sunday, December 9, 7:30am

EM: Julia Kettler, Jan Kardasz, Carol Rabbitt,
John Fiacco, Kris Jenkins, Betty Tuepker

Lec: Theresa Gross, Bob Leeker

GB: Tim & Kathy Feldewerth

Serv: Alex McCarthy, Connor & Sydney Jaeckle

Ush: Mark Gross, Mike Stassi, Rich Molitor, Larry Koch

Sunday, December 9, 9:30am

EM: Bob Brossette, Chris Richter, Bob Caldwell,
Janet Hespen, Joe Faron Sr., Maureen Blondin,
Terry & Marcia Schneider

Lec: Ron Kutsko, Nancy Meyers

GB: Menne Family

Serv: Genny Greiwe, Brody & Ashlyn Stafford

Ush: Michelle Greiwe, Brian Corrigan, Alan Raymond,
Joe Weber, Curt Eccardt, Walt Hollenstein

IHM Information Station

December 8, 4:00	Andy & Barb Pope
December 9, 7:30	Bob & Teresa Berfanger
December 9, 9:30	Lois Cobleigh

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

December 10: Youth Group Christmas Gathering

We will go to Fort Zumwalt Park in O'Fallon to do the walk through and see the Celebration of Lights, then to Pantera's for Pizza. Leaving IHM at 5:45 and returning at 8:30pm.

Contemporary Music Masses:

Sign up for a ministry. Get involved with the Mass as Lector, Offertory, Altar Server or Usher. Also you are invited at any time to join our musicians, if you want to sing or play an instrument with them. They would love to have all the teens to get involved.

December 8, 4pm Mass

This Week at Home

Sunday, December 2—1st Sunday of Advent

Children's Choir singing at 9:30am Mass

Jonah Team available after 9:30 Mass

Monday, December 3

St. Vincent de Paul, 6pm

Scouts, Founders Hall/Trailer, 6:30pm

Bell practice, church, 7pm

Reconciliation, church, 7pm-8:30pm

Tuesday, December 4

Legion of Mary, Weber Hall, 9am

Fitness class, Grand Hall foyer, 9am

Knights of Columbus officers, Founders Hall, 7pm

Children's Choir, church, 7pm

Reconciliation, church, 7pm-8:30pm

Wednesday, December 5

Bible Study, Weber Hall, 8:45am

PSR, Founders Hall/Weber Hall/Trailer, 6pm

Bible Study, Grand Hall, 6p

Contemporary group, Church, 5:30pm

Reconciliation, church, 7pm-8:30pm

Rejoice! Advent Meditations, Grand Hall, 7:30pm

Thursday, December 6

Rejoice! Advent Meditations, Grand Hall, 8:45am

Fitness class, Grand Hall foyer, 9am

RCIA, Weber Hall, 6:30pm

Choir practice, Church, 7p

Friday, December 7

Early bird Bible Study, Weber Hall, 6:30am

Quilters, Weber Hall, 8:30am

Holy Day Vigil Mass, church, 7pm

Saturday, December 8

Holy Day Mass, church, 8am

Reconciliation, 8:45am

Contemporary Music at 4pm Mass

Sunday, December 9—2nd Sunday of Advent

Breakfast with Santa, Founders Hall, 8-11am



December 9, 8-11am in Founders Hall!
Breakfast with Santa!



Mass Intentions

Monday, December 3

8:00am Jack Roderick +
Caesar Rashid +

Tuesday, December 4

8:00am Randy & Lukas Schneider +

Wednesday, December 5

8:00am All Souls
Elizabeth Meier +

Thursday, December 6

8:00am Bob Keune +

Friday, December 7

8:00am Holy Vocations
7:00pm Constance Appel +

Saturday, December 8

8:00am Ernie Yates +
4:00pm People of the Parish
Connie Burbes +

Sunday, December 9

7:30am Mary Fine +
David Lozano +

9:30am Erma Guinn +
Norman Ramponi +

EWTN CATHOLIC RADIO: AM 1460

1st Sunday of Advent

[Jesus said,] "Be careful. . . . Be on watch and pray." LUKE 21:34-36

Farmers hope for lots of rain right after they plant their corn. Once it sprouts and gets a good start, they hope for a "dry period." The reason is to force the corn's roots to grow downward in search of water, rather than stay on the surface. Unless the tap root of the corn grows downward to the "water level," the corn will wither and dry when the heat of summer sets in-it will have no way to draw up water. Our prayer life is like that. God usually gives us a good start. Then God lets a "dry period" set in to force our prayer roots to grow downward to the faith level, rather than stay on the surface at the feeling level. Why must prayer be primarily an exercise of faith rather than feeling?

Pure love and prayer are learned in the hour when prayer has become impossible and your heart has turned to stone. THOMAS MERTON

Fr. Mark Link S.J. Vision 2000

Contributions—November 17-18

General Offertory: \$7,415.50
Online—General Offertory: \$4,807.01
Total Offertory: \$12,222.51

Contributions—November 24-25

General Offertory: \$11,576.90
Online—General Offertory: \$1,941.92
Total Offertory: \$13,518.82

*"But when these signs begin to happen,
stand erect and raise your heads
because your redemption is at hand."
LUKE 21:28*

We celebrate Advent each year in preparation of the birth of Jesus, His first coming, as we await His second coming. In this Advent season, use the sacrament of Reconciliation to strengthen your relationship with Jesus. It's never too late.

*We pray ... that we strengthen our relationship with
Jesus through the sacrament of Reconciliation.*

Heavenly Duster

Judy Hendrix

Purificators

June Spiess

Needed at the Pantry.

corn and green beans; pork and beans; peanut butter;
canned fruit: mandarin oranges, peaches, fruit cocktail,
apple sauce; tuna helper, hamburger helper; canned chicken;
ketchup; sugar; vegetable oil; BBQ sauce; Bisquick; jello;
all-purpose cleaning supplies, toilet paper

As we begin Advent we are called to "wait" in joyful anticipation for the grace of Christmas to once again bless our lives. Wherever you live in our parish, there are poor families within walking distance of your home. When in need, they ring the rectory bell. They are, in effect, ringing your doorbell.

Your gift in the St. Vincent de Paul collection will help the poor celebrate the grace of God's love this Christmas.

Marian Council is selling See's Candy as a fundraiser: \$20/lb for Milk or Dark Chocolate, Assorted Chocolate, Nuts and Chews, Toffee-ettes and 1½ pound box of peanut brittle. It's great for holiday hostess gifts, Christmas gifts, corporate gifts. Contact Jackie at 314-761-6127 to place your order, or after weekend Masses. Proceeds benefit local families' charities and the Parish.



Advent Schedule



Reconciliation:

Mondays/Tuesdays/Wednesdays, 7-8:30pm
Saturdays after morning Mass, 8:45am

Immaculate Conception Holy Day:

Vigil Mass Friday, December 7, 7pm
Holy Day Mass, December 8, 8am

Rejoice! Advent Meditations with Mary

Wednesdays, 7:30pm, Grand Hall, Dec. 6, 13, 20
Thursdays, 8:45am, Grand Hall, Dec. 7, 14, 21

Christmas Parties:

Marian Council, Dec. 11, 6:00pm, Grand Hall
Knights of Columbus, Dec. 19, 6:00pm, Grand Hall

Anointing of the Sick

After Masses on December 15/16

Rorate Coeli Mass

Monday, December 17, 6:45am
(see more information below right)



Christmas Masses

Monday, December 24 at 4pm
Midnight Mass
(carols begin at 11:30pm)
Tuesday, December 25 at 10am

Please pray for all the sick and suffering, including:

Ed Haas, Mark Hanna, John Fiacco, Audrey Hueffmeier,
Dee Schipper, Andy Pope, Phyllis Zerr, Vickie Brink,
Cindy Biddy, Tim Feldewerth
Christine Potter (Gary & Cassie's Potter's daughter-in-law)
Zina Riley (mom of Andrew Riley),
David & Lisa Debold (Dave & Pam DeBold's children),
Patricia Micale (dear friend of Jerry Knott),
Betty Enderle (mom of Kay Cherry),
Audrey Miclow (Marcy Pivin's mom),

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: Rita Langford at 636-398-4654 or email ritalangford4@gmail.com.



Rejoice! Advent Meditations with Mary

Each hour-long session will include a short video followed by discussion and prayer. Participants will receive a journal to use daily, recording their thoughts on Mary's Advent, and making it the center of Advent here and now. There are two session times available: Wednesday evenings at 7:30pm in the Grand Hall beginning on November 28, or Thursday mornings at 8:45am in the Grand Hall beginning on November 29.

All adults are welcome. Bring your friends from other parishes as well. The \$5 charge includes the journal and all videos. This series is presented by Ascension Press and features Fr. Mark Touns, who was the author of the *Oremus* series from last year. Come join us!

RSVP to Kelly Meyer at 636-634-1577 or Marilyn O'Neill at 314-341-2622. Beginning dates are Wednesday, November 28 at 7:30pm or Thursday, November 29 at 8:45am.

Are you preparing for a day,
or are you preparing for a Person?



Candlelight Rorate Caeli Mass

6:45am Monday, December 17, St. Joseph Chapel

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.

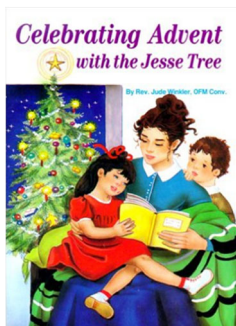
The Mass takes its title, *Rorate Caeli* ("Drop down dew, ye heavens") from the initial Latin words of Isaiah 45:8. In the dimly lit setting, priest and faithful prepare to honor the Light of the world, Who is soon to be born, and offer praise to God for the gift of Our Lady. As the Mass proceeds and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

St. Paul Library & Lighthouse CD's

(Note: With close to 3000 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 Parish Lighthouse CD Rack (narthex)



This book helps children prepare for celebrating the birth of Jesus by remembering the promises God made to His people in the Old Testament.

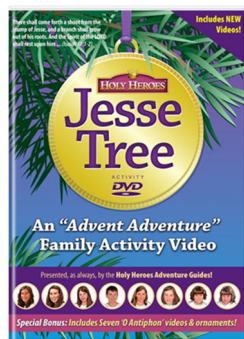
The book includes a page on preparing for Christmas, and what the Jesse Tree is about. The rest of the book retells the stories of the Jesse tree. Beautifully illustrated. 32 pages. Part of a larger series of children's books. Great set for the family.

From the Parish Library (Grand Hall)

Holy Heroes Jesse Tree DVD: An Advent Adventure - Family Activity

Includes a Jesse Tree video and Jesse Tree ornament for every day of Advent. The videos explain the Bible stories of the Jesse Tree and the PDF document contains the ornaments to cut out, color, and hang from the tree. Bonus!--seven extra videos and ornaments for the "O Antiphons" which are sung and prayed the last 7 days of Advent. Flexible to be used every year, regardless of the length of Advent (which varies between 23 - 28 days).

Bring the truth of God's love home to your children by tracing the family tree of Jesus from Creation to the Nativity.



Birthright Christmas Cards 10 for \$5

inside verse

*May the joy and peace of the season
be with you now and into the New Year*

The Pro-Life Committee will be selling Birthright Christmas cards after all Masses this weekend, December 1/2. The cards come 10 in a package for \$5. Please consider supporting Birthright when planning your Christmas card purchases.

Marian Council Christmas Celebration

Tuesday, December 11
Grand Hall, doors open at 6pm
Festivities commence 6:30pm
\$5 pay in advance, reservation deadline Dec. 9



Featuring:

2 wine tickets per person
(additional tickets \$2 each)

50/50 raffle

Snacks, Salad & Dessert

Dinner: Cuisine by the Knights of Columbus



*In the spirit of the season, please donate a personal
or paper product for St. Vincent de Paul*

PSR Corner

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. For an online Advent Calendar: www.usccb.org/advent



Christmas Quilt
chances sold
after all Masses
\$2 each or
3 for \$10



What's Your Catholic IQ?

- Advent is the liturgical season that prepares us for
 - Christmas
 - Easter
 - shopping
 - Christ's baptism
 - a new year's diet
- Incarnation means
 - all nations will bow to Jesus
 - carnations will be used to celebrate Christmas
 - God took on human flesh
 - the Virgin Mary is among us
- Matthew 1:23 quotes the prophet Isaiah (7:14) saying: "...the virgin shall be with child and bear a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel." Emmanuel means
 - Thank you, Jesus
 - God is with us
 - God is coming
 - Jesus Christ is Lord
- This solemnity celebrates the Magi from the east giving homage to the infant Jesus.
 - Holy Trinity
 - Tres Leches
 - Immaculate Conception
 - Epiphany
- The Christmas Season ends with the feast of
 - the Lord's Supper
 - Thanksgiving
 - the Archangels
 - the Baptism of the Lord
- The Solemnity of the Blessed Virgin Mary, the Mother of God, is a holy day of obligation celebrated on
 - May 1
 - July 4
 - January 1
 - December 25
- The pope is the _____ of Rome.
 - Presbyter
 - Bishop
 - Director
 - Conductor
- During the Advent and Christmas Seasons, Catholics may pray the _____ Mysteries of the Rosary on Sundays.
 - Luminous
 - Glorious
 - Joyful
 - Sorrowful
- When the Holy Family fled to Egypt, they were
 - chased by Herod's soldiers
 - sent back to Nazareth for being illegal immigrants
 - welcomed and taken in by the Jewish community in Egypt
 - sent to a detention center until their refugee status was processed
- Jesus' first visitors were
 - the shepherds
 - the little drummer boy and his guitarist
 - the innkeeper
 - Herod's soldiers



The IHM Adult and Children's Choirs will sing in the Peace Chapel at the **Daniel Boone Home** on Saturday, December 15 from 8-9pm. Advance tickets are \$10 (under 4 free); at the door \$15.

Give the Gift of Family



Adoptive families go through so much--before, during and after the adoption. Financial challenges are par for the course, but **you** have the chance to help. The Archbishop Robert J. Carlson Adoption Fund was started in 2009 with the intent of helping couples making the loving choice of adoption by defraying some of the financial costs.

Throughout the year, the Archdiocesan Office of Natural Family Planning raises money for this worthy cause.

Won't you consider making a donation, buying a raffle ticket for a Cardinals suite chance, or even host your own fundraiser?

The families that have been helped by this important grant, are so grateful for the support. Becki G, 2018 Grant Recipient says, *"I believe that receiving this grant was God's way of nudging us in the right direction."*

*Your contribution can help unite
a child and family forever.*



Raffle Tickets

Cardinals Suite Raffle

The winner will receive ten (10) seats in Suite 33 (along first-base line) at Busch Stadium for one 2019 Cardinals home game, as well as \$150 of food and drinks, plus one VIP parking pass for a negotiated date.

Tickets are \$20 or 6 for \$100.

The raffle will close **March 12, 2019** and the drawing will be held **March 19, 2019**, at the Cardinal Rigali Center. Need not be present to win.

Raffle tickets make great gifts for clergy, teachers and the person who has everything!

Tickets made available through the generous donation of Mercy. For more information contact the Office of Natural Family Planning at 314-997-7576 or stlnfp@archstl.org or purchase at bit.ly/adoptiongrantraffle.

We Will Gift Wrap It For You, Too!

Tell us you would like to give the raffle ticket as a gift and we will wrap it for you in this gift envelope! (Just tell us in the donor notes on the purchase page!)



NAR-ANON SUPPORT GROUP: Weekly meetings on Saturdays, 10:00 am in the Trailer at IHM. This group is for Family and Friends of Addicts. For questions, please call Ann at 314-578-4737

Christmas Dinner for the Men of the Parish

Tuesday, December 18: Grand Hall
Doors open at 6:30pm,
Dinner served at 7:30pm
Open to all men of the parish.
RSVP by signing up in the Narthex

Giving Tree

Gift Angels will be on the tree again next weekend, December 8/9. All gifts need to be returned to church no later than December 19 (some are marked for return by the 12th). Thanks everyone!



Join the Holy Father's prayer intentions for December: In the Service of the Transmission of Faith



That people, who are involved in the service and transmission of faith, may find, in their dialogue with culture, a language suited to the conditions of the present time.

FORMED[®]

Parish access code:
04c2dc

What is Advent?

Preparation for Christmas

Advent is the season of preparing for Christ's coming, but what do we mean by Christ's coming? We mean, first of all, His birth of the Blessed Virgin Mary at Bethlehem. If we do not prepare well for the annual commemoration of our Lord's birth, then surely we will not understand the meaning of our Christmas celebration. No matter how many times, over a lifetime, we prepare for the celebration of Christmas, it always seems new to us. The mystery of the birth of God the Son in our human flesh can never be fully comprehended by us. We never cease to wonder at the great mystery of God's love for us.

Preparation for Christ's coming in the Church

We also mean Christ's coming to us in the Church or, better, His dwelling with us always in the Church. The Advent Season reminds us of the many ways, most of all, the Holy Eucharist, in which Christ, Who first came into the world at Bethlehem, now remains with us in the Church, until He returns in glory on the last day. Through our observance of Advent, we overcome the tendency to reduce the life of Christ within us to an idea or sentiment, and we come face to face with the truth that, through the outpouring of the Holy Spirit, we are alive in the same Christ Who was born at Bethlehem and Who died for us on Calvary. As Advent brings us more fully into the company of Christ, it also strengthens us for the pilgrimage of this life.



Preparation for Christ's coming on the last day

Lastly, the coming of Christ, for which we prepare during Advent, is His final coming at the end of time. Christ, born at Bethlehem and alive for us in the Church, will bring to fullness His saving work, when He returns in glory to restore us and our world to God the Father. As Advent brings us more fully into the company of Christ, it also strengthens us for the pilgrimage of this life, which will reach its fullness, on the last day, when we, body and soul, will be with the Lord in the heavenly kingdom.



The classic video based on Charles Dickens' A Christmas Carol is a fitting movie to watch during the season of Advent. It highlights similar themes that the Church presents to the believer about the comings of Christ mentioned above. In the case of the movie, the focus is on

You might be interested . . .

Magnificat Women's Breakfast

Magnificat, a ministry to Catholic Women, is inviting you to a breakfast on Saturday, December 8. Kim Stanley will be sharing her faith and how her eyes have been opened to the spiritual world of the Catholic Church. Please join us in this opportunity to praise, pray, and share with other women in the community as we journey together in faith. The breakfast will be held at the Cardinal Rigali Center, 20 Archbishop May Drive. Registration 8:30, breakfast and program 9am-noon. Reconciliation and prayer ministry available after breakfast. Register online at www.archstl.org/renewal, email catholicrenewal@archstl.org, or call the Catholic Renewal Center at 314-731-6100.

Day of Recollection

Retreats provide the soul with renewed graces, certainly needed in today's world, to keep us faithful and striving for sanctity. This year, treat yourself to a day away from the hustle and bustle and prepare for the God who waits for you. Join Archbishop Robert Carlson and the clergy and parishioners of the Cathedral Basilica of St. Louis for an Advent Day of Recollection on Saturday, December 8.

The day begins at 9:30am with a special Mass for the Feast of the Immaculate Conception. The first of two spiritual conferences led by Archbishop Carlson will begin at 10:30am. Each conference will be followed by exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and an opportunity for the Sacrament of Reconciliation. The day will end with evening vespers at 4:30pm and the celebration of Mass at 5:00pm. All conferences and prayer will be held in the Cathedral Basilica, with a hot lunch provided for all in Boland Hall.

This special gathering is FREE to all (good will offerings to help offset the cost of lunch will be gratefully accepted). Though a free event, organizers request advance registration to properly prepare worship materials and set up for lunch. To register or for additional information, please contact Mary Ann Fox at 314-373-8208.

Readings for the Week

Mon:	Is 2:1-5; Ps 122:1-9; Mt 8:5-11
Tue:	Is 11:1-10; Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17; Lk 10:21-24
Wed:	Is 25:6-10a; Ps 23:1-6; Mt 15:29-37
Thu:	Is 26:1-6; Ps 118:1, 8-9, 19-21, 25-27a; Mt 7:21, 24-27
Fri:	Is 29:17-24; Ps 27:1, 4, 13-14; Mt 9:27-31
Sat:	Gn 3:9-15, 20; Ps 98:1-4; Eph 1:3-6, 11-12; Lk 1:26-38
Sun:	Bar 5:1-9; Ps 126:1-6; Phil 1:4-6, 8-11; Lk 3:1-6

Answers to Catholic IQ



- a. Advent, the season before the Christmas Season, helps us prepare for the birth of Jesus. Advent begins on the fourth Sunday before Christmas.
- c. Christmas celebrates the mystery of the Incarnation—when God took on human flesh. “The Word became flesh to be our model of holiness” and “[T]he Son of God became man so that we might become God.” (Catechism of the Catholic Church, nos. 459 and 460, emphasis in original.)
- b. Before the Incarnation, God spoke through signs and prophets. In Christ, however, God spoke to us face to face and lived among us.
- d. The visit by the three kings (the wise men or the magi), traditionally celebrated on January 6, revealed even more deeply that the child born to Mary was the Son of God.
- d. The Christmas Season lasts until the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord, when we celebrate Jesus being baptized by his cousin, John, in the Jordan River.
- c. “[T]he Church confesses that Mary is truly ‘Mother of God’” (Catechism of the Catholic Church, n. 495).
- b. As Bishop of Rome, the pope is the successor of St. Peter, the apostle Jesus selected to be the rock upon which the Church would be built (Matthew 16:18).
- c. The Joyful Mysteries of the Rosary invite meditation on the birth and early childhood of Jesus. Traditionally, they are prayed on Mondays and Saturdays.
- c. Biblical scholars contend that the Holy Family probably settled within the Jewish community in Egypt during their years as refugees.
- a. In terms of their social status, shepherds at that time were similar to the homeless population today.

Adapted from Catechist Magazine

Semo
PEST CONTROL

FAMILY OWNED SINCE 1949
General Pest Services • Termite Treatment
Basic, Homecare Maintenance
& Guardian Residential Pest Plans
We accept all credit cards
Serving the counties of St. Charles,
Warren, Lincoln & St. Louis
www.semopest.com
(636) 398-5776

Need Health Insurance?
Call Dan or Stella Wolf
parishioners

 Groups 2+,
Individual
MEDICARE
PLANS

All Major Companies Represented
314-721-0358 636-887-2441



From the WLP Vault
comes the Bible Story of Christmas
featuring 8 Classic Christmas Carols
and a reading of the Gospel of
Luke 2: 4-20 by Bing Crosby!
Also available on vinyl.



Photo Courtesy of
Bing Crosby Enterprises

800-566-6150

Visit **WLPmusic.com** to purchase your copy - CD \$10.00

Walt Smith's
Flooring Company

Carpet • Vinyl • Wood
Laminates • Ceramic
"Serving the Area Over 40 Years!"

Assumption Parishioner Walt Smith
636-272-2313
Cell 636-866-4588



Get this weekly bulletin delivered by email - for FREE!

Sign up here:

<https://www.jspaluch.com/BulletinSubscribe.aspx>

Courtesy of J.S. Paluch Company, Inc.



blondin

Professional Real Estate
New Melle Town Square Ste 106
636.398.5770
www.BlondinGroup.com

Standing on the Rock CD by James Wahl

FUN AND FAITH-FILLED MUSIC
for little ones, with 10 songs based on Bible
stories and the teachings of Jesus.
This is a new music collection for
preschool children and those who are
in early grade school.
\$17.00 + S&H

 **WORLD LIBRARY PUBLICATIONS**
the music and liturgy division of J.S. Paluch Company, Inc.

800-566-6150 • www.wlp.jspaluch.com/14028.htm

If You Live Alone You Need MDMedAlert!

24 Hour Protection at HOME and AWAY!

✓ Ambulance ✓ Police ✓ Fire
✓ Friends/Family **FREE Shipping**
FREE Activation
NO Long Term Contracts

CALL NOW! 800.809.3352

MDMedAlert
Safe-Guarding America's Seniors Nationwide!

GPS Tracking w/Fall Detection
Nationwide, No Land Line Needed
EASY Set-up, NO Contract
24/7 365 Monitoring in the USA

This Button SAVES Lives!
As Shown GPS
Lowest Price Guaranteed!

 **Consider**
Remembering
Your Parish in
Your Will.

For further information,
please call the Parish Office.

Life
Matters

For more information go to
www.usccb.org/respectlife



Short
top's

30 West Highway D, New Melle • 398-4945



 **beldon**
ENLIGHT LeafGuard
ST. LOUIS

NEED NEW GUTTERS?

CLOG-FREE GUTTERS
Guaranteed!

Receive a
\$100
DISCOUNT
on top of our current
advertised offer!
We Offer Military Discounts!



Your
ad
could be in
this
space!

Please Cut Out This "Thank You Ad"
and Present It The Next Time You
Patronize One of Our Advertisers

Thank You

Thank you for advertising in
our church bulletin.
I am patronizing your business
because of it!

CALL NOW! (314) 227-0298

*New Orders Only. Original coupon required. Call for details. Expires 12/31/18.

Beseda Flooring & More

Your One Stop Floor Shop
Since 1985

5773 Westwood Dr. • Weldon Springs

636.926.9989

www.BesedaFlooring.com



NEW MELLE AUTOMOTIVE
ERIC & JAN

ASE CERTIFIED  636-828-5426

23 HWY D
NEW MELLE, MO 63365

 **AutoCare Center**

IF YOU CARE ENOUGH,
YOU WILL BOARD WITH US

 **Sorenson Kennels**

1073 HWY DD
DEFIANCE, MO 63341
(636) 828-5149

TOM SORENSON

Saint Margaret
Sunday Missal

An ideal companion for
personal prayer.

In Stock & Ready to Order Today.
CALL OR ORDER ONLINE. \$39.95

 **WORLD LIBRARY PUBLICATIONS**


800-566-6150 • www.wlpmusic.com

catholicmatch
Missouri



CatholicMatch.com/myMO

KRILOGY Financial Advisor **Hanh D. Nguyen**
 Financial Management • Retirement Planning
 Education Funding
KRILOGY.COM 636-489-2829
Investment Advisory Services offered through Kriology Financial, an SEC Registered Investment Advisor. Please review all prospectuses and Kriology Financial's Form ADV 2A carefully prior to investing. Services and products offered through Kriology Financial are not insured and may lose value.

Blue Flame Gas Company
 Bulk or Bottle Gas
 Appliances: Sales & Service
 15956 State Highway 47 • 433-2248
 Dennis Glosemeyer

New Melle Dental
 ALWAYS ACCEPTING NEW PATIENTS
 E.P. MOORE III, D.D.S.
636-828-4511
WWW.NEWMELLEDDENTAL.COM

H/OFF HEATING & A/C
 SALES & SERVICE
 FREE ESTIMATES
240-4633
www.hoffheating.com

Accounting & Income Tax
 1000 Lake St. Louis Blvd
 Suite 111
Parr Jones CPAs LLC 636.625.8555

State Farm
Kathy Kilo Peterson, Agent
 w 636.561.6460 • c 636.734.5557
www.kkilo.com



STRAATMANN FEED
Farm, Lawn & Pet
Labadie, MO — New Melle, MO
www.straatmannfeed.com

DAVEY
 TREE & LAWN CARE EXPERTS SINCE 1880
\$20 OFF
 Tree Pruning/Removal
 (314) 961-5440 **www.davey.com**

Karrenbrock Construction & Excavating
 Family Owned & Operated
 Call Us For All Your Concrete, Excavating & Site Utility Needs!
636.828.5420 New Melle
office@karrenbrockconst.com

BERKSHIRE HATHAWAY | Select Properties
 HomeServices

CINDY DETERS
REALTOR®
 Marketing Specialist
636.219.5693
www.cindydeters.com
cdeters@bhhselectstl.com

Gerard Nieters, Attorney at Law
 ICD Parishioner
 Wills • Trusts • Estates • Probate
 Real Estate • Civil Litigation
314-368-8460

State Farm
Sandy L Kessler Ins Agcy Inc
 Sandy Kessler, Agent
 1293 Bryan Road
 O'Fallon, MO 63366
 Bus: 636-474-0700
 sandykessler.com

 State Farm, Bloomington, IL
 1211999

The Greenwood Group
Complete Landscape Management
636-398-8800
www.thegreenwoodgroup.net

ULTIMATE Realty
Becca Gasperoni
 REAL ESTATE AGENT
 Ultimate Realty, LLC
 1724 Scherer Parkway
 St. Charles, MO 63303
 Office: 314-675-0470
 Direct: 314-565-4598
 becca@ultimate-realty.com

Abbey Senior Health
 A new leader in Senior Health.
 AbbeySeniorHealth.com

Jacobs Floors, Inc.
 Free In-home Estimates
 We bring the Samples to you
 • Commercial • Residential
 Sales and Installation
 • Carpet • Vinyl • Wood
 • Pergot/Laminates
 • Ceramic • Marble
 • All Types of Flooring Repairs and
 Carpet Restretching
 • Custom Area Rugs
 Jim Jacobs - President
 636-398-4741
 Cell: 314-550-1462 • Fax 636-398-4841
 jacobsfloors@aol.com
 www.jacobsfloors.com
 4112 Hwy. Z., Wentzville, MO 63385
 Showroom By Appointment Only • Closed Sundays

ALL ABOUT Blinds
 Drapery • Blinds • Interior Shutters
 Call for a Design Consultation!
636-939-6700
 Visit Our Beautiful HunterDouglas Gallery
 1120 Technology Drive, Suite 106

ULTIMATE Realty
Becca Gasperoni
 REAL ESTATE AGENT
 Ultimate Realty, LLC
 1724 Scherer Parkway
 St. Charles, MO 63303
 Office: 314-675-0470
 Direct: 314-565-4598
 becca@ultimate-realty.com

Please Patronize
 The Sponsors Who Appear On This Bulletin. It Is Through
 Their Support That This Bulletin Is Made Possible.
 Business Owners Interested In Advertising Please Call
J.S. Paluch
1-855-685-5703

TERMINIX
 Termite & Pest Control
 Free Inspection
 947-1452 281-4020
 Todd and Tim Pickering
 Rick Wilkins

ONE PARISH
 Download Our Free App or Visit
MY.ONEPARISH.COM

Indoor Comfort Specialists
Elite
 Heating and Air Conditioning
636-887-0971
http://elitecomfortexperts.com

DOUBLE D MARKET
 Your Neighborhood Market
 At the Crossroads
 Drop in for all your convenience needs.
 1300 Highway DD
 Defiance, MO 63341
 636-828-5165

FINDaPARISH.com
 Check It Out Today!

The Most Complete Online National Directory of Catholic Parishes

Protecting Seniors Nationwide
24SEVEN
 Medical Alert System
\$29.95/Mo. billed quarterly
 • One Free Month
 • No Long-Term Contract
 • Price Guarantee
 • Easy Self Installation
Call Today! Toll Free 1.877.801.8608

Catholic Cruises and Tours
 Brian or Sally, coordinators
 an Official Travel Agency of Apostleship of the Sea-USA
860.399.1785
 CST 2117990-70
www.CatholicCruisesAndTours.com

CATHOLIC SUPPLY®
 OF ST. LOUIS, INC.
 You're ONE STOP Advent & Christmas Shop!
 Area's Largest Selection of Indoor & Outdoor
 Nativity Sets & Stables!
 Seasonal Gifts & Home Decor | Ornaments | Group Gifts | Boxed Cards
 Advent Candles | Wreaths | Calendars | Children's Gifts & Toys | Apparel
 Boutique Items | Books | Bibles | Family Bibles Wall Art | Crosses
 Crucifixes | Jewelry | Rosaries | Memorial Gifts, Windchimes & Books
 Meaningful Gifts for Everyone on Your List! **catholicsupply.com®**

UnitedHealthcare
 MEDICARE & RETIREMENT
Teresa Waddington
 Sales Representative
314.440.7475
 tcwaddington@centurytel.net

On The Go HAULING
Roll-Off Dumpsters
 10 yd • 15 yd • 20 yd • 30 yd • 40 yd
 Family Owned and Operated
Terry Schneider
 (636) 828-5929
www.OnTheGoTrashHauling.com