



# 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

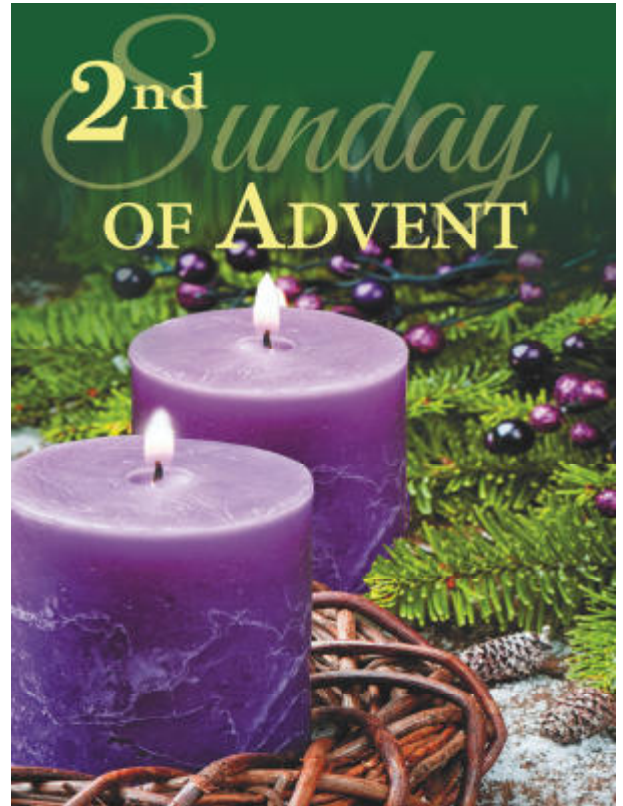
Marriage: Contact the parish office  
at least six months prior to the wedding

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 6, 2020



## Deeper Understanding of Scripture

People knew over a year in advance that the Pope was coming for a visit to America and the preparations began. Security, space limitations and requirements, protocols, crowd management, itineraries, invitations, regulations, and so much more was necessary to pull this event off effectively. It's not every day that we get a visit from such a prominent dignitary. Thought, effort, meticulous attention to detail and vision all are necessary to make this thing work. After all, he can't just show up in the ordinary and normal daily routines of life and catch people unprepared! Tickets have to be purchased, buses rented, hotel rooms reserved, and travel arrangements made early because it will be impossible to see him if we wait too long!

We do this kind of preparing not only for prominent religious figures but for political dignitaries, notable sports figures, people

of fame, and even actors. If an individual intrigues us, we are going to want to do all we have to do to get a "good seat" in the house. Does Jesus Christ captivate this much of our attention? We are asked to prepare the way of the Lord and to do so not with frantic frenzy but patient enthusiasm. We do not have to stand on a street corner making profound announcements about God's coming or become overly zealous in our embrace of the Good News. Our task is quieter, more interior, captivating, and consuming. We are asked to change. We have to conduct our lives with holy devotion.

Is the cost of that ticket too much for you? Don't you want the "best seat" in the house? You don't want to miss Our Lord's arrival when he comes, do you? After all, if he comes while you are going about your daily routines without you even knowing,

he may catch you off guard. Or, he may come in disguise looking like a beggar, a prisoner, migrant, refugee, or someone who is lost. Would you be ready to recognize him then? Preparing for the coming of Christ requires a change of mind, heart, and behavior. It is not adequate to simply do the things we always do. We want our lives to speak of the exciting news of Christ's coming and the joy that the Gospel brings. It has to do with our demeanor, values, priorities, choices, and how we structure daily routines. Of course, it involves sacrifice. All anticipations do! Are you excited, captivated, enthusiastic, and sitting on the edge of your seat eager to celebrate his coming among us at Christmas, and waiting for him to come again? If not, why not?

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

## Parish Staff

Parish Office: 636-398-5270

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

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

## Religious Education

Shawn Mueller, Director

636-398-5270, [smueller@ihm-newmelle.org](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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

## Advent—A Season of Hopeful Waiting

Dear parishioners,

As we enter into the Advent Season there are two great themes that the Church invites us to ponder. The first two weeks of Advent invite us to ponder the coming of Jesus at the end of time. When He comes in glory this current creation will come to an end. We will face final judgment and pass on to our Heavenly home or the Hellish exile. Jesus came to save sinners, but He cannot and will not act against our will. Each one of us must seek the Lord and His mercy so that His grace can both cleanse us and make us whole.



At the heart of discipleship is prayer. During this brief season I will try to share a few prayers or poems I have discovered that might help us in this season of hope.

Peace,

*Fr. Tom*

### ADVENT PRAYER

Lord Jesus,  
Master of both the light and the darkness,  
send your Holy Spirit  
upon our preparations for Christmas.

We who have so much to do  
seek quiet spaces to hear your voice each day.

We who are anxious over many things  
look forward to your coming among us.

We who are blessed in so many ways  
long for the complete joy of your kingdom.

We whose hearts are heavy  
seek the joy of your presence.  
We are your people, walking in darkness,  
yet seeking the light.

To you we say, "Come Lord Jesus!"

Amen.

—Mark Neilsen

The second "theme" is the one we are already embracing as we prepare to celebrate His birth. The second theme is so invasive that many can miss the first theme and its sobering reminder of the passing nature of this life. Both aspects of the season provide us with a more complete picture of our own lives. We are passing, and this broken world of ours is a fading reality. Into this frail and dying creation came the Lord of Life to open for us the way to eternal life. Not only did He do that, He has also given us a way of life to make our time here the best possible. Nothing will bring greater satisfaction to our life than discipleship. Learning and growing as a disciple is our most fundamental calling.

## Second Sunday of Advent—Year B

[John preached to the people,] "Turn away from your sins and be baptized...and God will forgive your sins."

Mark 1:4

Charlie Rumbaugh grew up in reform schools, jails, and mental hospitals. At the age of 17, he escaped from a manic-depressive ward, found a gun, and killed someone in a scuffle during a robbery attempt. A Texas jury sentenced him to death. Awaiting execution, he asked a friend to pray that God would give him the grace to forgive the people he had grown to hate. Seconds before his execution, he said to the people present, "You may not forgive me for what I did, but I forgive everyone who has ever done anything against me."

How fully do I forgive—or pray to be able to forgive—those who have hurt me in some way?

Mark Link, S.J. "Mission"



## Ministry Schedule

December 5—4:00pm

EM: Wally & Jan Karase, Ann Zaleuke, Becky Wilson  
Lec: Jackie Dunn, Larry Graves  
Serv: Izzy Scheer  
Music: Bryan & cantor  
Ush: Mike Rieker, Ed Etzkorn, Tom Zaleuke

December 6—7:30am

EM: Josh Deters, Aaron Waldeck, John Fiacco, Mary Hardesty  
Lec: Chuck Kettler, Bob Leeker  
Serv: Natalie Jaeckle  
Music: Verdi & Elizabeth  
Ush: Gary Potter, Mike Hardesty, Dave London

December 6—9:30am

EM: Josh Deters, Aaron Waldeck, Sharon Smith, Mary Busby-Simpson  
Lec: Bill Wintersk, Grant Smith  
Serv: Mary Grace Becker  
Music: Bryan & cantor  
Ush: Ron Simpson, Alan Raymond, Gary Struckhoff

*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),  
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)  
Marlene Hegemeier (sister of Pat Roche)

**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](mailto:brhutchcraft@centurytel.net)

## 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

## Heavenly Duster Schedule

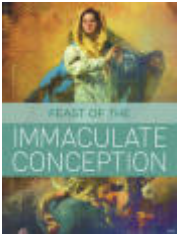
Week of December 6: Carol Ostermeyer  
Week of December 13: Elizabeth Jaeckle  
Christmas Break the next two weeks

## Purificators

Month of December: June Spiess

## ✠ Rest in Peace ✠

Carolyn Whitmore  
sister of Donna & Larry Hecht  
Vickie Brink  
wife of Roger Brink  
Jim Cherry  
brother of Ray & Kay Cherry  
William "Bud" Kalist and  
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  
Audrey Kalist  
mother of Mitch & Susan Kalist  
May they and all the faithful departed  
rest in the eternal peace of Christ.



## Dec. 8 Holy Day Masses 8am & 7pm *Not obligatory this year – dispensation*

O Mary conceived without sin,  
pray for us who have recourse to thee.

### Mass Intentions

Monday, December 7	
8:00am	intention of Jessica & Jillian Mayhew
Tuesday, December 8	
8:00am	Bob Keune +
7:00pm	Richard Winters +
Wednesday, December 9	
8:00am	Ed Rabbitt +
Thursday, December 10	
8:00am	Ben & Iris Bader +
Friday, December 11	
8:00am	All Souls Moiria Ryan +
Saturday, December 12	
8:00am	The Schneider Family
4:00pm	Kathleen Zvanut +
Sunday, December 13	
7:30am	Kathy Reininger + People of the Parish
9:30am	Steve Kettler + living/deceased Ernst Family

### Needed at the Pantry

Chili beans, vegetable soup, spaghetti sauce in a can, tuna, sugar, fruit juice, brownie mixes, cake mixes and icing, cold cereal, sugar, canned corn, canned chicken, canned chili, saltines, canned ravioli or spaghetti, hot chocolate, mac and cheese, snacks for kids' lunch's, men's/ladies deodorant, shaving lotion, shampoo, body wash, toothpaste and brushes, canned fruit (peaches, pears, fruit cocktail), tea bags, oil,



In today's Gospel John the Baptist urges us to "Prepare the way of the Lord." We are called to help prepare the way of the Lord by making the real meaning of Christmas come alive in our own hearts, in our family and to reach out to those in need.

Is there a family you know who needs assistance? lease call the Society of St. Vincent de Paul (636-398-5270) so that together we can help the suffering and poor to celebrate Christmas.

### Contributions, Nov. 21/22

General Offertory:	\$11,221.58
Online – General Offertory:	\$6,431.47
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>\$17,653.05</b>

### Contributions, Nov. 28/29

General Offertory:	\$6,784.00
Online – General Offertory:	\$4,049.46
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>\$10,833.46</b>

*"Prepare the way of the Lord..."* —Mark 1:3

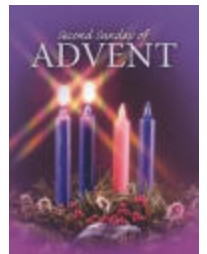
We are all called to live a holy life. We are all called to invite others to live holy lives. Living a stewardship life-style, being grateful and generous with our gifts, puts us on the path to holiness and is an example for others to be holy, too. We are responsible not only for our own lives, but for the lives of others as well.

That we are called to live holy lives and invite others to do the same, we pray to the Lord.

### This Week at Home

*social distancing recommended at all events*

- Monday, December 7**  
Scouts, Founders Hall, 6:30pm  
SVDP, Grand Hall, 7pm  
Reconciliation, 7pm
- Tuesday, December 8**  
Holy Day Masses at 8am and 7pm (not obligatory)  
Church office closed  
(no Reconciliation tonight)
- Wednesday, December 9**  
Sunday Mass readings study, Weber Hall, 8:30am  
Bible Study, Grand Hall, 6pm  
Reconciliation, 7pm
- Thursday, December 10**  
Fitness, Grand Hall, 9am  
RCIA, Weber Hall, 6:30pm
- Friday, December 11**  
Quilting, Weber Hall, 8:30am  
**Advent Concert, church, 7pm**
- Saturday, December 12**  
**Prayer Breakfast after 8am Mass, Grand Hall (FREE!)**  
Reconciliation, 8:45am
- Sunday, December 13**  
SVDP, Grand Hall, 4-6pm
- Monday, December 14**  
**Rorate Caeli Candlelight Mass, church, 6:45am**





We welcome to our parish family  
through the Sacrament of Baptism  
**Charlie Rose Skinner**  
daughter of Dylan & Sarah (Schildroth) Skinner



Gift Angels will be on the tree thru December 13, which is the date all gifts need to be returned to church (some will be marked for return before that date). Thanks to everyone who will participate in this yearly effort —your generosity helps give to others the joy of the Christmas season. God bless all of you!

*P.S. The church is open during the week if you care to pick up a gift angel then.*

## Birthright Christmas Cards



*Inside Verse:*

Wishing you joy, peace, and God's Many blessings

The Pro-Life Committee will be selling Birthright Christmas cards after all Masses **December 5/6 in Weber Hall**. Please consider supporting Birthright when planning your Christmas card purchases. Cost is \$7 for a box of 10 cards.

Recycling bins are located on the gravel lot behind Fr. Tom's house.



## FINAL WEEKEND TO ORDER!!

**REMEMBER the Fallen - HONOR those who Serve  
TEACH our children the value of freedom**

The New Melle VFW and VFW Auxiliary is a proud sponsor of Wreaths Across America at Jefferson Barracks National Cemetery and other National Cemeteries across the country. We are also involved in placing wreaths at local cemeteries, **including veterans buried at Immaculate Heart of Mary cemetery.**

New Melle VFW and VFW Auxiliary has made it our mission to honor and remember as many heroes as possible with a remembrance wreath. You can help by sponsoring a wreath, getting your employer involved to sponsor wreaths or raising money in our community or circle of peers to help place a wreath on a loved one's resting place.

Our parishioners are invited to place a wreath on the grave of their loved one who is a veteran. Wreaths cost \$15, a portion of which goes towards care packages for active military members serving overseas. Please complete and return the information below by December 6. Orders will then be forwarded to VFW. ***Wreaths will be delivered to IHM on December 18.***

If you would like to sponsor and place a wreath for a loved one buried in another cemetery, please use the form below.

### WREATHS ACROSS AMERICA—December 6 deadline to order

*I wish to place a wreath on the grave of the veteran(s) listed below*

Veteran(s) buried in IHM cemetery: \_\_\_\_\_

Veteran(s) buried in another cemetery: \_\_\_\_\_

Your name and contact info: \_\_\_\_\_

# Wreaths \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$15 each = \$ \_\_\_\_\_ enclosed *(please make checks payable to New Melle VFW)*





## 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.*

**LIVE IN CONCERT**  
FRIDAY, DECEMBER 11, 2020 - 7pm

# Seasons of HOPE

GOD GAVE US THE GIFT OF HOPE

CHURCH OF THE  
IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY  
— IN NEW MELLE —

A collaboration of local Catholic artists:  
Pianist Bryan Beams  
Vocalists Cathy Pescarino, Maya Bryant, & Connor Steinhart  
Violinist Mary Sweetin

ALSO FEATURING  
Glen Smith, bass  
Matthew Hinkle, drums  
Winnie Goffredo, keyboards

JOIN US AS WE TELL THE  
CHRISTMAS STORY  
music • reflection • art • prayer

WITH SPECIAL GUEST  
**SOLE BLUE STEEL**

FREE general admission.  
Concert limited to 200 in-person attendees. Masks required for entry.

RESERVATION REQUIRED FOR IN-PERSON ATTENDANCE  
Call to reserve your seats: 636-398-5270

Find a link to this event live-streamed at [ihm-newmelle.org](http://ihm-newmelle.org)

# Prepare Ye the Way of the Lord

Faith Formation  
Opportunities at IHM



## ADVENT EVENTS AT IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY CHURCH

- 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
- Feast of the Immaculate Conception, December 8**  
Holy Day Masses at 8:00am and 7:00pm
- Advent Concert:** Friday, December 11, 7:00pm, Church
- Advent Prayer Breakfast:**  
Saturday, December 12, 8:45am, Grand Hall
- Rorate Caeli Candlelight Mass**  
Monday, December 14, 6:45am, Church
- Anointing of the Sick:**  
After Masses on December 19/20



## 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 use of drugs inflicts very grave damage on human health and life. Their use, except on strictly \_\_\_\_\_ grounds, is a grave offense.
  - therapeutic
  - church
  - legalized
  - pleasurable
- Basic scientific research, as well as applied research, is a significant expression of man's dominion over \_\_\_\_\_.
  - man
  - creation
  - land
  - animals
- It is an illusion to claim \_\_\_\_\_ neutrality in scientific research and its applications.
  - equal
  - moral
  - objective
  - subjective
- Science and technology must be at the \_\_\_\_\_ of the human person, of his inalienable rights, of his true and integral good, in conformity with the plan and the will of God.
  - expense
  - neglect
  - service
  - abuse
- Research or \_\_\_\_\_ on the human being cannot legitimate acts that are in themselves contrary to the dignity of persons and to the moral law.
  - exploitation
  - exaggeration
  - experimentation
  - extension
- Donation of \_\_\_\_\_ after death is a noble and meritorious act and is to be encouraged as a manifestation of generous solidarity.
  - blood
  - land
  - hair
  - organs
- Torture which uses physical or moral \_\_\_\_\_ to extract confessions, punish the guilty, frighten opponents, or satisfy hatred is contrary to respect for human dignity.
  - encouragement
  - persuasion
  - charity
  - violence
- Except for strictly \_\_\_\_\_ medical reasons, directly intended amputations, mutilations, and sterilizations performed on innocent persons are against the moral law.
  - forced
  - doctor mandated
  - therapeutic
  - court ordered
- The dying are to be helped by the prayer of their relatives, who must see to it that the sick receive at the proper time the \_\_\_\_\_ that prepare them to meet the living God.
  - foods
  - medicines
  - sacraments
  - drugs
- The bodies of the dead must be treated with respect and charity. \_\_\_\_\_ can be morally permitted for legal inquests or scientific research.
  - autopsies
  - harvesting body parts
  - nothing
  - selling organs

Answer Key:

1. a (2291) 2. b (2293) 3. b (2294) 4. c (2294) 5. c (2295)  
6. d (2296) 7. d (2297) 8. c (2297) 9. c (2299) 10. a (2301)

## PSR corner

## What is an Advent Wreath

The Advent wreath is a Christian tradition that symbolizes the passage of the four weeks of Advent in the liturgical calendar of the Western church. It is usually an evergreen wreath with four candles, sometimes with a fifth, white candle in the center. The candles symbolize the centuries of time during which the people of God awaited the Messiah. Beginning with the First Sunday of Advent, the lighting of a candle can be accompanied by a Bible reading, devotional time and prayers. An additional candle is lit during each subsequent week until, by the last Sunday before Christmas, all four candles are lit. Many Advent wreaths include a fifth, Christ candle which is lit at Christmas Eve or Christmas Day. On Christmas day, some traditions change all the candles to white and light them each evening of the twelve days of Christmas. The custom is observed both in family settings and at public church services.



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.

## 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.





Janet Hespen, Youth Minister,  
314-369-6521

- Dec. 8: Immaculate Conception (Holy Day)  
7pm Mass, refreshments after
- 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.

Boy Scout 856 will be selling Christmas Trees from the pavilion again this year. They will have balsam, canaan and Fraser firs from 7 to 12 feet, a very similar selection to past years. They will also have 20 and 26 inch balsam wreaths available. The tree lot is open for business, hours are posted on the sign at the pavilion. The Troop is also collecting canned food items for the SVDP Food Pantry. Donations can be left in the container in the pavilion.



**TREE LOT HOURS thru December 12**  
Saturday 9am-8pm Sunday 8am-5pm  
Monday through Friday 5-8pm  
(hours subject to change without notice)

### READINGS FOR THE WEEK

- Sun: Is 40:1-5, 9-11/Ps 85/2 Pt 3:8-14/Mk 1:1-8
- Mon: Is 35:1-10/Ps 85/Lk 5:17-26
- Tue: Gn 3:9-15, 20/Ps 98/Eph 1:3-6, 11-12/Lk 1:26-38
- Wed: Is 40:25-31/Ps 103/Mt 11:28-30
- Thu: Is 41:13-20/Ps 145/Mt 11:11-15
- Fri: Is 48:17-19/Ps 1/Mt 11:16-19
- Sat: Zec 2:14-17 or Rv 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab/Jdt 13:18bcde, 19 [15:9d]/Lk 1:26-38 or Lk 1:39-47

### 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.



### Encountering our Incarnate Lord in Advent and Christmas

Please join us Next Saturday, December 12,  
beginning with 8am Mass followed by FREE  
breakfast and presentation in the Grand Hall  
ALL are welcome! Please sign up!

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.

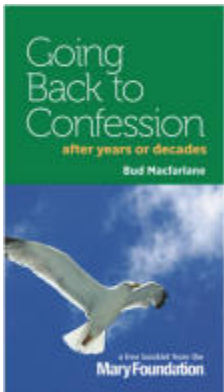
We might be able to help! Along with a vast assortment of carved olive wood nativities, figures and rosaries, [www.bethlehemnativitysouvenirs.com](http://www.bethlehemnativitysouvenirs.com) also offer jewelry in gold, silver and mother of pearl, ceramic plates, bowls and vases, Dead Sea soaps, scrubs, 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.)

### 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).



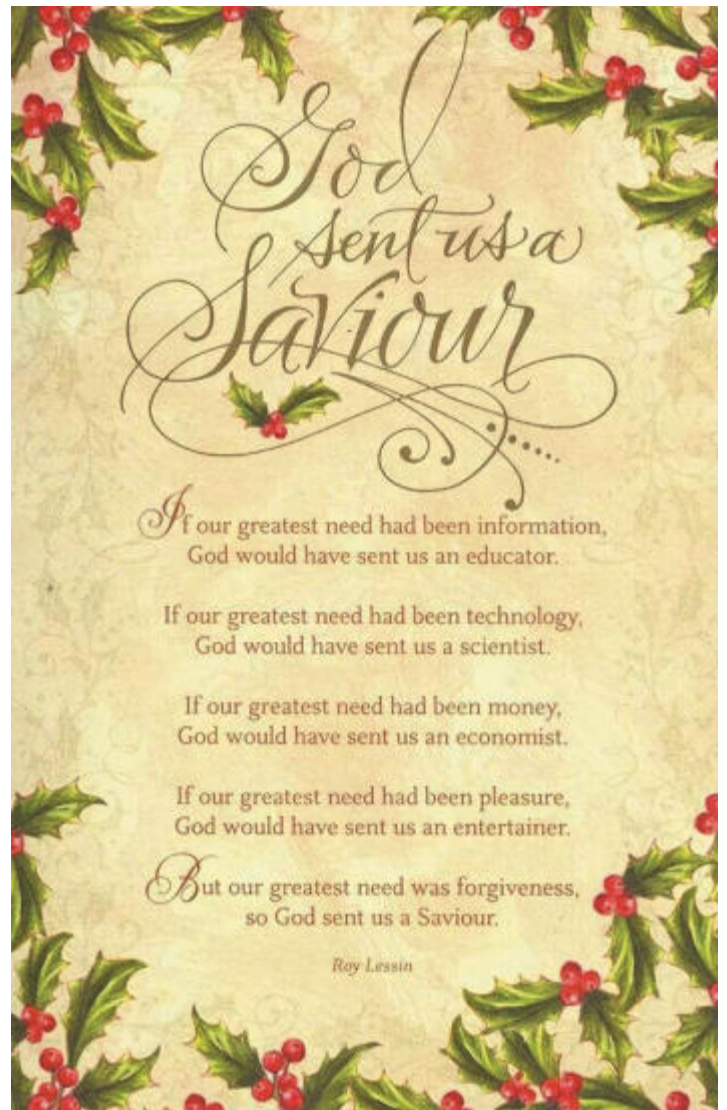
## The Season of Advent



Make a plan to get yourself and your family to Confession. The grace of this Sacrament is the medicinal remedy that we need to deal with the virus of sin and its effects. Recently we sent out a mailing, both physical and digital to (amongst other things) encourage people to go to the Sacrament of Confession during the season of Advent. We all wonder why we ourselves and so many of our families are broken, divided and dysfunctional, yet do we ever ponder the reality that, at root of these

dilemmas, it is sin that divides. Sin is a disorder that disorders our life and our relationships. And it is grace and reconciliation that bridges the gap, grace that has been written as “God’s Riches At Christ’s Expense”. It is surprising to ponder how Catholics who believe in the Real Presence of Christ will accept the reality of Jesus the High Priest working through the human priest to transform bread and wine into the Body and Blood of Christ. Yet, when it comes to Christ the High Priest working through the human priest to absolve sins in His name, there is often a spiritual reluctance. The pamphlet at the left is online for free at <https://catholicity.com/booklets/>

It speaks of the greatest reality of Confession that should overcome all our hesitations and fears about confessing our sins, the miracle of absolution, of Jesus wiping away our sins. This is why he came as Savior. This is one of the best things we can do during Advent to let “every heart prepare him room.”



## 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



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 is the one of the best ways to have your children know and understand the Old Testament? The Season of Advent and the use of the Jesse Tree. See how biblical places, persons and events prepared the way for the most incredible event in world history, God becoming man in the person of Jesus Christ. If God were to enter the stage of world history, it makes sense that he would prepare the way and announce His coming. This is what the Old Covenant-Testament-Scriptures did and do. One cannot know the value of an “ending” of a great story unless they know its beginnings. This is the value of the Jesse Tree. This small children’s book can get you underway to greater reading and discovery.





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