



# 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)

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

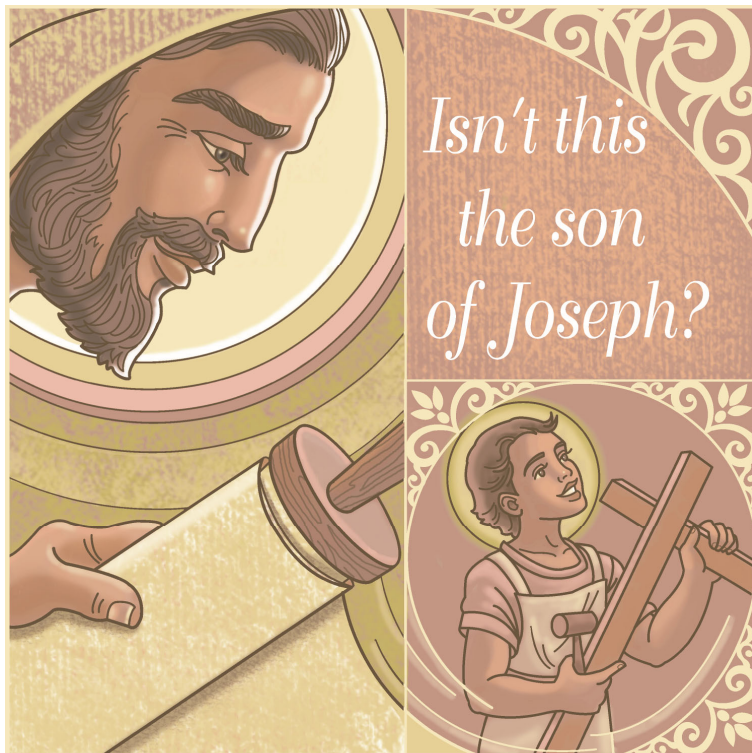
### Baptism:

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

## 4th Sunday in Ordinary Time February 3, 2019



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## Love Never Fails

Of all the lines in the second reading, Paul's famous description of love, I think the one that says it all is "Love never fails" (1 Corinthians 13:8). Out of context it sounds like the name of a hokey soap opera. Instead, Paul compares love to other gifts of the Spirit. He shows that love is the greatest gift and the reason for all gifts.

First, he speaks of gifts without love. If someone was a great speaker, but without love, it would be self-serving. We've all heard politicians who make stirring speeches, not to move us to become better citizens, but to convince us that they are the best choice in an election. The same goes for other gifts, such as prophecy, knowledge, or

faith. Without love, they become spectacles that draw attention to the one with the gift. They accomplish nothing more than to boost his or her ego, just more spiritual bling. Even self-sacrifice, without love, becomes an attention grabber. Suicide-bombers are an extreme example of this, but more a common one the person who says something like, "I gave up everything to be with you and what thanks do I get?"

Next, Paul tells us everything that love is not (1 Corinthians 13:4-6). If the first part was gifts without love, this section could be called feelings without love. The feelings Paul mentions, such as jealousy, pride, brooding, and anger, usually come from thinking that every-

thing should go my way. You can read the list yourself, but if you find anything that sounds familiar, it's a part of your personality that makes it difficult to love.

The last section is about the permanence of love. We're not talking about romantic love here. Human love at best is "till death do us part." But God's love is only partially experienced in this life. Even the gifts of the Spirit are meant to carry us forward and lead others to eternal life. When we are finally united completely with God, faith will be unnecessary and hope will be realized. What remains is perfect love.

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 314-662-2281  
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 Biddy 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  
Barb Pope 773-383-8602  
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  
Chuck Hinkle 636-544-6639  
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

## “Take 48”

Dear Parishioners,

Take 48 is not a confession of age, a secret code or a new diet plan. 48 has become a sort of symbol for me of the needed patience that is in short supply these days. As I mentioned in a recent homily, the greatest aggravation many people face on a regular basis is the experience of inconvenience. Not that our lives are plagued with inconvenience, but rather that we come to expect things to be convenient, fast and efficient. We are so blessed in our daily lives, we can forget that life is actually difficult and demanding.

People who experience profound illness know that life is demanding. Those struggling with mental or emotional illness know the struggle. Any who have had periods of unemployment or financial trials don't take the convenience of life as a given. Those who have vocations of service and sacrifice know that life is demanding. But I suspect if we are not in the midst of our own trial, we become very accustomed to things go smoothly. Because of technology, we expect that things not only go smoothly, but quickly.

While technology can move at an incredibly fast pace, our thoughts and feelings are not designed to move at such a pace if one wants to exercise patience. Our 24 hours news cycle creates further demands for immediate information and snap

decisions. It is difficult to keep things fresh when they are repeated endlessly. All of this contributes to an atmosphere of impatience that effects our daily lives and adds more stress to our relationships. There are no short cuts for growing in patience, it is something that only increases by its use.

Take 48 is a short aid for trying to interject more patience into daily life. I can't say that I practice it well, but I try to become more conscious of it.

- \* Take 48 seconds to wait to respond while in a conversation
- \* Take 48 minutes to return to a difficult conversation or situation
- \* Take 48 hours to process news—be it TV, internet or face to face
- \* Take 48 days to discern major changes in life.

Obviously I could have picked a different number, but 48 hours is where it all began for me and what I decided to use. The key is practicing patience in that time, be it seconds, minutes, hours or days. We will be happier with more patience in our lives and those around us will be happier as well.

Peace,

*Fr. Tom*

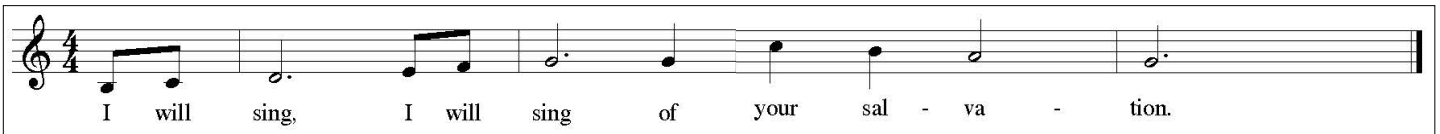
## 4th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Jesus claimed that Isaiah's prophecy about the Messiah applied to him. When the People in the synagogue [at Nazareth] heard this, they were filled with anger [and rejected Jesus violently]. LUKE 4:28

Jesus' rejection by the people of his hometown previews what will take place often in the days ahead: people will reject Jesus—even violently. Today, people still reject Jesus and his teaching. When asked why he didn't follow Jesus, a high school boy said bluntly, "Because if I did, many of my friends would reject me—just as many of Jesus' friends rejected him. And I couldn't take that kind of rejection right now." How much has peer pressure influenced my following of Jesus in the past? How much is it influencing it right now?

“We forfeit three-fourths of ourselves to be like other people.” ARTHUR SCHOPENHAUER

Mark Link S.J. *Action 2000*





## Next Week Ministry Schedule

February 9—4:00pm

EM: Bryan Potter, Ed Etzkorn, Wally & Jan Karase,  
Ed Taylor, Jackie Barclay, Jennifer Fredrick,  
Jan Jokisch-Messig  
Lec: Nancy Ast, Sharon Hagan  
GB: Flo Joerling, Joyce Brakensiek  
Serv: Lindsey & Madelyn Bouquet  
Ush: Jerry Braden, Tim Wilson, Joe Spiess, Larry Graves

February 10—7:30am

EM: John & Karen Wappelhorst, Bob Brossette,  
Julia Kettler, John Fiacco, Jan Kardasz  
Lec: Chuck Kettler, Theresa Gross  
GB: Tom & Carol Ostermeyer  
Serv: Connor & Sydney Jaekle  
Ush: Larry Smith, Jim Elfrink, Terry Schneider,  
Mark Gross

February 10—9:30am

EM: Bob Caldwell, Pat Gentry, Kris Preuss, Laura Orf,  
Judeen Kutsko, Lisa Murphy, Kat Menne,  
Walt Hollenstein  
Lec: Joe Willis, Nancy Ast  
GB: Bob & Cheryl Gray  
Serv: Alex & Maria McCarthy, Genny Greiwe  
Ush: Michelle Greiwe, Chris & Adam Molitor,  
George Stark, Joe Weber, Brian Corrigan

## IHMformation Station

February 9, 4:00	Wally & Jan Karase
February 10, 7:30	John & Karen Wappelhorst
February 10, 9:30	Joe & Debbie Willis

## Vocation Prayer Bag:

February 10, 7:30 Tim & Kim Lebb



Thank you to the donors of Immaculate Heart of Mary for the blood drive you recently held with Mississippi Valley Regional Blood Center. Donation rates may fluctuate depending on the season, but the demand for blood products at the hospitals we serve is constant.

Staff members in our component production are able to produce as many as four different blood components from every whole blood donation. We collected 26 units on the day of the blood drive, which will serve up to 105 patients at local hospitals. With the help of partnering organizations like yours, blood is on the shelves when patients need it.

Our appreciation to all who participated for their commitment to our Mission.

MSVRBC

## This Week at Home

Heavenly Duster: Sarah Aulbach  
Purificators: Mary Stassi



### Sunday, February 3—Scout Sunday

Children's Choir will sing at 9:30 Mass  
Scouts will celebrate at 9:30 Mass  
Jonah Team will pray with you after 9:30 Mass  
7 Steps to Becoming Financially Free, Weber Hall, 11a

### Monday, February 4

Event in Grand Hall at 6pm  
Scouts, Founders Hall/Trailer, 6:30pm  
Bell practice, church, 7pm

### Tuesday, February 5

Fitness class, Grand Hall foyer, 9am  
Legion of Mary, Weber Hall, 9am  
Children's Choir, church, 7pm  
KC officers, Founders Hall, 7pm

### Wednesday, February 6

Bible Study, Weber Hall, 8:45am  
PSR, Weber Hall/Founders Hall/Trailer, 6pm  
Bible Study, Grand Hall, 6pm  
Reconciliation, 7pm

### Thursday, February 7

Fitness class, Grand Hall foyer, 9am  
Youth Ministry, Grand Hall, 6pm  
RCIA, Weber Hall, 6:30pm  
Choir practice, church, 7pm

### Friday, February 8

Early Birds Bible Study, Weber Hall, 6:30am  
Quilting, Weber Hall, 8:30am

### Saturday, February 9

Reconciliation, 8:45am  
Event in Grand Hall this evening

### Sunday, February 10

KC Breakfast, Founders Hall, 8-11am  
Event in Grand Hall this afternoon  
7 Steps to Becoming Financially Free, Weber Hall, 11a

**Women's Prayer Group 2019:** This year's Women's Prayer Group will go for 6 sessions at Mary Jo Dazey's house at 11 Country Life, Defiance, 63341. The group meets once a week for 6 weeks on Thursday nights from 7-8:30pm. This year's group will meet on February 7, 21, 28, March 7, 14, 21. This Women's Prayer Group will follow Matthew Kelley's book "The Biggest Lie in the History of Christianity." If you are interested in joining please call Lisa Murphy at 314-609-5491. This is a fun, faith-filled group whose mission is women empowering women to be the best-version-of-themselves and to achieve a deeper relationship with God. Hope you can join us!

## Mass Intentions

### Monday, February 4

8:00am Dennis Fitch +  
Anne Hakenwerth +

### Tuesday, February 5

8:00am Shirley McDonald +  
All Souls

### Wednesday, February 6

8:00am Randy & Lukas Schneider +

### Thursday, February 7

8:00am Bob Keune +

### Friday, February 8

8:00am Cy & Al Bamert +  
John B. Long +

### Saturday, February 9

8:00am Ed Langford +

4:00pm Edward Anth +

### Sunday, February 10

7:30am Larry Hanna +

9:30am People of the Parish  
Carla B. Schumacher +



Marriage in Christ  
has been promised between:  
**Sherri Sellini and Zachary Meyer**

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

Ed Haas, Mark Hanna, Dee Schipper, Phyllis Zerr,  
Vickie Brink, Sandy Knott, Mike & Pat Ryan,  
Mary Conover, Audrey Hueffmeier, Jolene Molitor,  
Karla Sitzes, Stan Nikonowicz  
Christine Potter (Gary & Cassie's Potter's daughter-in-law),  
Zina Riley (mom of Andrew Riley),  
David & Lisa Debold (Dave & Pam DeBold's children),  
Betty Enderle (mom of Kay Cherry),  
Avery Presker (granddaughter of Bob & Yvonne Brossette),  
Dave Asinger (brother-in-law of Larry & Rita Bendel),  
Bob Holland (friend of Shirley Augustine),  
Sherri Callahan (daughter of Vickie & Paul Grunz)

**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.

## Contributions, Jan. 26/27

General Offertory:	\$8,034.40
Online – General Offertory:	\$2,367.22
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$10,401.62</b>

*"Love is patient, love is kind. It is not jealous,  
it is not pompous." (1 CORINTHIANS 13:4)*

Do you get jealous? Do you focus more on the things that other people have than on the gifts that God has given to you? Are you pompous? Do you acquire more possessions to impress others? At times we are all guilty of these things. Pray for more humility. Pray to become less "self-centered" and become more "God-centered."

*We pray ... that we may live more "God-centered"  
lives and live less "self-centered" lives*

## Needed at the Pantry:

*Paper towels, toilet paper and  
all purpose cleaning supplies*

In the Gospel today, Jesus shows us that we are called to place gospel values before any other values and to be willing to put our lives on the line for them. Taking care of God's poor is indeed living gospel values.

**Is God calling you to join the Society of St. Vincent de Paul?**

### Pope's Intentions for February: Human Trafficking

For a generous welcome of the victims of human trafficking, of enforced prostitution, and of violence.



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

Youth Group Meetings in the Grand Hall from 6-8pm:  
**February 7, 14, 28**  
**March 14, 28**

**February 16/17:** Luke 18 retreat, 9am Saturday until  
9:30am Sunday in the Grand Hall

**March 6:** Ash Wednesday Mass at 7pm. 8th graders  
and Youth Group will help with ministries. Sign up  
at PSR or Youth Group meetings.

**March 13:** Sacrament of Reconciliation, 6-7:30pm



## Men's Annual White House Retreat

This is an invitation to the men of IHM to attend the annual White House Retreat starting Thursday, March 14 and ending on Sunday, March 17. There is a sign up in the back of church, or contact Ken Birk at 636-398-5301. Reservations due by February 15. I hope you can join us!

**Women's Retreats also available.** Call the church office if you are interested or want more information.

## 2018 Contribution Statements

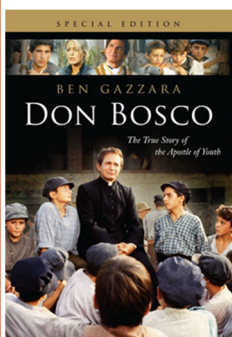
Contribution statements were mailed out last week to those families for whom we have no email address. If you haven't received a paper statement in the mail, then we have an email address on file for you, and you have the ability to go online to view and print your statement, or we can email your statement directly to your inbox. Please call the church office if you need help obtaining your statement.



## 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 Library: Grand Hall



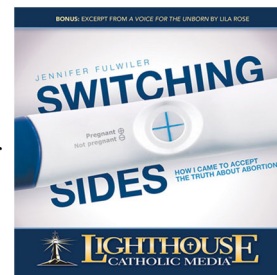
Ben Gazzara stars in this classic film about St. John Bosco, the beloved 19th century Italian priest who sought out the homeless youth of Turin to help them have a better life. He overcame incredible challenges, including the government who wanted him out of the way, an archbishop who tried to silence him, and the revolution that put a price on his head. But nothing could stop Don Bosco from rescuing the poor and outcast children to give them a home, teach them work skills, and catechize them in the Catholic faith. Don Bosco is the inspiring true story of a brave and holy priest whose single-handed battle to save the children of the streets inspired the formation of the Salesians, which is now a worldwide religious order that carries on his work with youth everywhere. Blessed with tremendous gifts, a creative imagination and a great sense of humor, Bosco had a winning way with youth and was a brilliant educator. His deep devotion to and trust in Our Lady was a great source of blessings and strength for his work with youth that continues to this day.

### From the Lighthouse Catholic CD Rack: Narthex

Jennifer Fulwiler is a popular writer and speaker from Austin, Texas, and frequently appears on Catholic radio and EWTN. In this eye-opening presentation, she explains how her original support for abortion was based on love (and lies). Through sound logic and scientific proof, Jennifer chronicles how she came to accept the truth about abortion..

*Jennifer speaks genuine truth straight from her heart...*

*an eye-opening reminder that the Church really is the right way to go! Julie - Sterling, VA*



## Protecting God's Children class:

Tuesday, February 19, 6:30pm in Weber Hall.

To register: logon to

[www.ihm-newmelle.org](http://www.ihm-newmelle.org) and click on

"Virtus—Protecting God's Children"

Call the office if you need help.



We welcome to our parish family through the waters of Baptism:

**Nina Louise Schaub**

daughter of

Nicholas and Rebecca (Orf) Schaub



## What's Your Catholic IQ?

- Readings from the Church \_\_\_\_\_ and spiritual masters are also read at certain hours.
  - sages
  - fathers
  - bells
  - prophets
- The \_\_\_\_\_ in the center of church is the Lord's cross, in which the sacrifice of the cross is made present under sacramental signs.
  - crucifix
  - altar
  - tabernacle
  - window
- This vessel, associated with the Blessed Sacrament, is to be situated in churches in a most worthy place with the greatest honor.
  - tabernacle
  - votive lamp
  - flower vase
  - altar
- The \_\_\_\_\_ or cathedra of the bishop or the priest should express his office of presiding over the assembly and of directing prayer.
  - chair
  - crozier
  - cassock
  - miter
- This is constructed so that the dignity of the Word of God will have a suitable place for announcing His message.
  - lectern
  - ambo
  - presider's chair
  - microphone altar
- This item is for fostering remembrance of the baptismal promises.
  - an icon
  - baptismal/holy water font
  - the Tabernacle
  - a stained glass window
- Faithful to the apostolic faith, the mystery celebrated in the liturgy is one, but the forms of its celebration are \_\_\_\_\_.
  - up for grabs
  - rare
  - without foundation
  - diverse
- The diverse liturgical traditions have arisen by very reason of the Church's \_\_\_\_\_.
  - desire
  - mission
  - wanting to change things
  - command
- Churches came to celebrate the mystery of Christ through particular expressions characterized by the \_\_\_\_\_.
  - liturgists
  - musicians
  - culture
  - cantors
- Of these, the one that is not a liturgical Rite:
  - Latin Byzantine, Alexandrian/Coptic, Syriac, Kurdish, Armenian, Maronite, Chaldean
  - Byzantine
  - Copticmaronite
  - Kurdish
- Holy Mother Church holds all lawfully recognized rites to be of equal right and \_\_\_\_\_.
  - justice
  - goodness
  - dignity
  - freedom



## PSR Corner

In the Traditional-Devotional Dedication of the Months of the Year, February is traditionally dedicated to The Holy Family. Simply put, a Holy Family is a praying family. Let us ask the question, "What can our family do to increase our prayer-together at home?"



## Prayer Warriors for Priests



Prayer Warriors for Priests is a group of women that meets monthly to pray for priests, deacons, and seminarians of the St. Charles Deanery and surrounding areas.

Women get together on the second Saturday of each month at area churches. As they pray the Rosary, the name of a priest, deacon or seminarian is announced at the beginning of each Hail Mary. (History: This group is a spin-off of the Apostolate of the Spiritual Motherhood for the Sanctification of Priests.)

All women are invited to join us for the Rosary. Any questions, please contact Mary Stassi: 636-357-1387 or [pinegrovefarm76@yahoo.com](mailto:pinegrovefarm76@yahoo.com)  
Here is the prayer schedule for the next few months, all beginning at 10am:

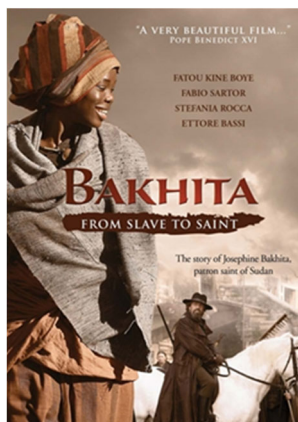
<b>February 9:</b>	<b>St. Gianna Church</b>
March 9:	IHM—St. Joseph Chapel
April 13:	ICD—Adoration Chapel
May 11:	St. Patrick Adoration Chapel
June 8:	St. Gianna Church

## Readings for the Week

Mon:	Heb 11:32-40; Ps 31:20-24; Mk 5:1-20
Tue:	Heb 12:1-4; Ps 22:26b-28, 30-32; Mk 5:21-43
Wed:	Heb 12:4-7, 11-15; Ps 103:1-2, 13-14, 17-18a; Mk 6:1-6
Thu:	Heb 12:18-19, 21-24; Ps 48:2-4, 9-11; Mk 6:7-13
Fri:	Heb 13:1-8; Ps 27:1, 3, 5, 8b-9; Mk 6:14-29
Sat:	Heb 13:15-17, 20-21; Ps 23:1-6; Mk 6:30-34
Sun:	Is 6:1-2a, 3-8; Ps 138:1-5, 7-8; 1 Cor 15:1-11 [3-8, 11]; Lk 5:1-11

**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

## Mysteries, Marvels and Miracles in the Life of Christ and the Church. St. Josephine Bakhita - Feast Day February 8th



Canonized in the year 2000, St. Josephine Bakhita had many well-documented miracles attributed to her since her death in 1947. Though other miracles of mercy, joy and forgiveness aren't noted in the categories of "signs and wonders," Bakhita's exercise of these point to the heroic virtue and marvel that the Lord worked in her.

*From <http://ctscatholiccompass.org/st-josephine-bakhita/>*

They treated her as a thing. That was what she was to them: an object, a possession to be made use of as they saw fit. They ignored her gasps of pain as they carved patterns into her skin.

It was fashionable to have the bodies of your slaves decorated like that. We don't know for sure how old she was then – maybe 12 or 13? Afterwards they rubbed salt into the wounds to ensure permanent scarring.

That kind of treatment doesn't just leave scars on your body: it leaves even more painful wounds deep inside you, in your spirit. And although time can sometimes heal those wounds, all too often it does not.

After Bakhita had been sold to a master who behaved decently to her, and eventually took her to Italy – where he casually gave her away as a present to someone he hardly knew – she thought she'd found happiness at last. In a way she had, at least on the surface.

No more beatings! No more cruel punishments just for happening to be there when a slave-owner was in a temper about something! Nevertheless she carried around a sadness inside her, a sadness that never really lifted. She seems naturally to have been a kind, co-operative and helpful person, someone who was very good with children because they trusted and were attracted to her.

They didn't understand what was the matter: she never talked – not in those days – about what had happened to her. But they could see the sadness inside.

When it came about, at last, that Bakhita found healing for the wound in her spirit, it wasn't thanks to the passage of time, or to her own natural resilience. Even the awakening of faith, through the religious instruction and loving care she received from the Canossian Sisters in Venice, did not in itself bring about that healing.

It happened as a kind of miracle at the moment of her baptism, a miracle performed by Jesus Christ through the power of the sacrament. From that moment on she radiated joy – a joy not of this world.

The healing she received was so complete that she was able to forgive the slave-owners who'd tortured her, excusing them – even feeling sorry for them – because they didn't know God. She prayed for them always, asking God to be good to them as he'd been to her, and bring them to salvation.



### Is your child or a student your know staying in St. Louis to attend college?

The University of Missouri St. Louis-Catholic Newman Center (CNC) offers a warm and welcoming place to study, relax, pray, play, and hang out. We have student-centered evening Masses, socials, faith sharing groups, service and leadership opportunities **open to all college students and young adults**. We have everything from barbeques, service trips, retreats, a stocked kitchen, a student computer lab, spiritual direction, and free WiFi.

If you can't make it to Sunday Morning Mass the **Catholic Newman Center at UMSL has a Mass Sunday evenings at 6pm on the south campus** of UMSL during the school year. Visitors welcome! For more information see: [cncumsl.org](http://cncumsl.org). If you know an UMSL or local community college student, send a note to [frnick@cncumsl.org](mailto:frnick@cncumsl.org) so we can personally invite them to Mass.



## St. Vincent de Paul Highlights - 2018



The Conference at Immaculate Heart of Mary in New Melle, MO, enjoyed a great year. We have added five (5) new active and at least three (3) associate members to our conference. We help an average of 18 families on the first and third Saturdays with an avg. 210 bags of groceries each Saturday. We helped these families with nearly \$33,000 in car repairs, rent assistance, utility assistance, and a large furnace repair which Rich Bowler, HVAC was called as a recommendation by Dan Asahl, our NW District President, and a \$700 twinning check was received from the NW District to offset the expense. We also participate in a backpack program with Daniel Boone Elementary School.

After meeting and discussing the distribution with Boy Scouts of America a month prior to the delivery of the Boy Scout delivery, we received about one-third of what was projected for our pantry—about 3900 items. Since that time, however, as an answer from God, in true spirit of the community, we have been blessed with numerous food drives and large donations of food from various likely and unlikely groups and companies within our community. We are truly blessed by the Holy Spirit to give and receive.

Our Team has gotten very much involved and requested t-shirts and St. Vincent de Paul apparel and nearly everyone put in an order for a shirt, sweatshirt, or hat to wear either on their own time or on pantry days. And happy to say, “they all made these purchases at their own expense.” As always, we participated in the Walk for the Poor and collected contributions and donations and had a great time at the walk. In 22 years, we had our very first Christmas party and nearly 30 in attendance and had a great time. We look forward to our party, next year. Our Advent tree had about 550 gifts for 16 families as well as the Missionaries of Charity and we are very blessed to have such a caring and generous congregation.

Our conference applied for aggregation and the application is in France and is now approved. Yeah! National Council tells us they handwrite the scroll and it will be shipped and delivered to us sometime in April or May. The Downtown Council and our District are very pleased and would like to have a ceremony and celebration. You are all invited!

### Monthly Ladies Evening of Recollection

Recollections offer a respite from daily distractions and activities to reflect on your everyday life in the light of basic Christian principles. These quiet evenings aim to help you refresh your spirit, strengthen your personal relationship with God and transform your ordinary work and life into a path to holiness.

The evening consists of a practical talk about living our faith, two guided meditations given by priests of Opus Dei in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament, ending in Benediction. Quiet times between meditations offer a chance for spiritual reading/rosary and confessions, etc.

Join us for the next recollections, **Wednesday, February 6 at St. Cletus Church** from 7:30—9:30pm. For more information, please contact Mary Schlueter 314-517-1277 or Maureen Branson 314-322-9711.

### Director of Music Ministry Needed

St. Sabina in Florissant is looking for someone who could play the 5:00 Mass every Saturday night at St. Sabina. There is a cantor available, but if the person can sing, that is a plus. This person will eventually take over the whole music ministry program in July 2019. That will include playing for all holiday Masses and the 10:00 Mass on Sundays. Currently there is no choir. In the future, a choir may be formed to sing on Sundays and Holy Days. There is an organ and a piano at the church. This person must be able to play the organ as well as the piano. Salary will be discussed based on experience. If interested please contact the rectory at St. Sabina and ask for Deacon Jack Hofmann at 314-837-1365.

### Married Couples:

**Start a new love affair with your spouse that is beyond your best wishes.** We did! It happened on our Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend. You too can renew your love for one another. The next weekend is April 12-14 in St. Peters, MO. You can find out more by clicking on <https://stl-wwwme.org/schedule.php> or call 314-649-7317.



- |    |                      |     |              |
|----|----------------------|-----|--------------|
| 1. | fathers 1177         | 7.  | diverse 1200 |
| 2. | altar 1182           | 8.  | mission 1202 |
| 3. | tabernacle 1183      | 9.  | culture 1202 |
| 4. | chair 1184           | 10. | Kurdish 1203 |
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| 6. | baptismal/holy water |     |              |
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### In honor of Catholic Schools Week

St. Francis Borgia Regional High School would like to recognize students from Immaculate Heart of Mary parish who have chosen SFBRHS to continue their educational faith development in grades 9-12.

We continue to focus on the value Catholic education provides to our students, and their contributions to our Church and communities. During this week, we want you to know how grateful we are to Immaculate Heart of Mary for the religious guidance, prayers, and support you provide to the following students:

Daniel Maurice Mallinckrodt	2020
Adam James Molitor	2019
Lindsey Ann Molitor	2020
Julia Rae Schmidt	2020
Samuel Thomas Schmidt	2021
Andrew Harlan Smith	2019

### Crossroads Clinic Volunteers of Medicine Annual Valentine Dinner/ Dance and Silent Auction

**February 8 from 6:30—10:30** at the Christy's Banquet Hall, 9000 Veterans Memorial Drive. Cost is \$50/person which includes dinner and open bar. For tickets, please contact Leslie Held at 636-399-6635.

**World Day for Consecrated Life:** is celebrated in parishes on the weekend of **February 2-3**. This celebration is attached to the Feast of the Presentation of the Lord on February 2, Jesus Christ Who is the Light of the world. So too, those in consecrated life are called to reflect the light of Jesus Christ to all peoples. Please pray for all those who have made commitments in the consecrated life, and be sure to thank them on their special day. May they continue to be inspired by Jesus Christ and respond generously to God's gift of their vocation.

**Knights of Columbus Breakfast:** **Sunday, February 3 from 8am-noon** at St. Joseph/Josephville, 1410 Josephville Road, Wentzville. Cost is \$8 for adults and \$4 for children ages 11 and younger. Menu includes eggs, sausage, biscuits, gravy, donuts and beverages. For more info call 636-332-6676.

**Concert Tribute to Broadway at Marianist Retreat & Conference Center:** This concert is brimming with sensational love songs and hilarious comedic numbers from such Broadway classics as Guys and Dolls, Les Miserables, Godspell, She Loves Me!, Carousel and more! Performed by seasoned talented professionals and sweetened up with a few songs from terrific young performers as well. The concert will be **Sunday, February 3 at 2pm**, tickets are \$20 each and can be reserved by contacting Julie at Julie@mretreat.org.

**Euchre Tournament:** Sponsored by St. Joseph/Josephville Knights of Columbus on **Saturday, February 9 at 7pm** at 1410 Josephville Road, Wentzville. This tournament is open to the public. Cost is \$10. Keep your partner. For more information call Ralph Orf at 636-485-5306.



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