



# 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, 10:00am  
Weekdays: 8:00am, in church, Wednesdays at 6:30pm

## Weekly Devotions and Prayers

### Eucharistic Adoration:

Monday 8:30am until Friday 11:00am, St. Joseph Chapel

Rosary: Prior to Saturday evening 4pm Mass

### Weekday devotions after morning Mass:

Tuesday: Mother of Perpetual Help  
Wednesday: Litany to St. Joseph  
Thursday: Celebrating the Sanctity of Life  
First Friday: Litany of the Sacred Heart

### First Saturday of the Month Devotions

8am Mass, Rosary, 15 minutes of meditation

## Sacraments

Reconciliation: Wednesday in church, 7pm  
Saturday following 8am Mass

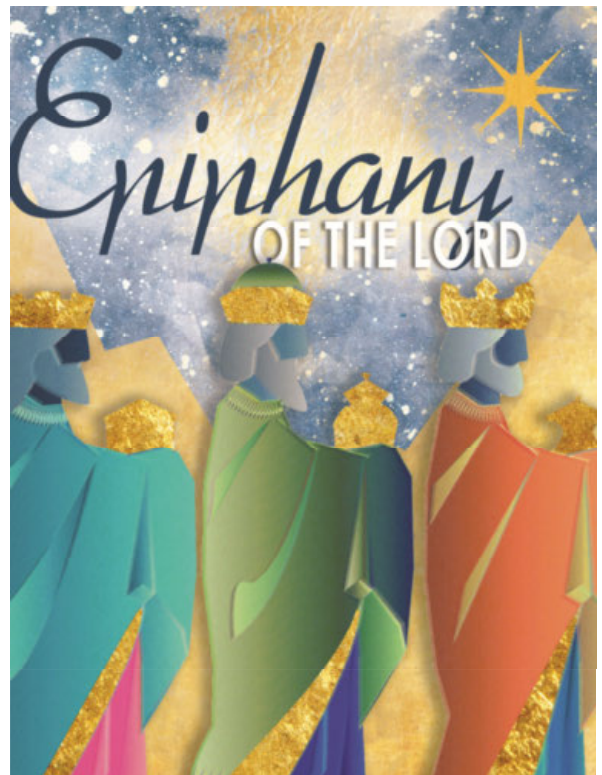
Marriage: Contact the parish office  
at least six months prior to the wedding

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

*January 2, 2022*



## Deeper Understanding of Scripture

In his Apostolic Exhortation, “The Joy of the Gospel,” Pope Francis references a thought from Pope Benedict XVI: “Being a Christian is not the result of an ethical choice or a lofty idea, but the encounter with an event, a person, which gives life a new horizon and a decisive direction.” Today we celebrate an encounter with the Person of Jesus Christ! This simple but holy event in time dramatically changes human life, pointing it toward a new horizon and giving it a decisive direction. This is a message and truth that is not meant to be shared with only a select few who qualify but with the entire world. Pope Francis continues saying, “Thanks solely to this encounter or renewed encounter with God’s love, which blossoms into an enriching friendship, we are liberated from our narrow-

ness and self-absorption. We become fully human when we become more than human, when we let God bring us beyond ourselves in order to attain the fullest truth of our being.”

Look around at people. Where is life heading for them? What gives them direction? Even we who are people of faith can get distracted and lose our focus. God, in all of His fullness, is revealed in Jesus Christ and we can encounter Him! God is tangible, real, vulnerable, poor, and full of wonders, surprises, and opportunities. For those who are struggling and lost, today is a day of great joy. All they have to do is reach out and touch the truth of Christ. This presence is revealed in the poor, exploited, and vulnerable ones who cry out for

compassion and love. But it is also found in the faithful ones who see in the Epiphany of God a liberation from structures and systems that hurt us, a narrowness of mind and heart that constricts us, and an absorption in our self-agenda that prevents us from seeing anything other than ourselves as important.

We have been given the charge of preaching this Good News. If only we could find a way to be more effective, it might stand a chance of doing what God intended it to do. There is always tomorrow and our memory of that bright new light that shone so brilliantly that Bethlehem night pointing us to truth and reminding us that we are loved.

## Holiday Blessings! 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, Office Manager *secretary@ihm-newmelle.org*  
Bryan Beams, Director of Music and Liturgy  
*bryanbeams@ihm-newmelle.org*  
Michael McDonald, Plant Manager *macmcd1123@gmail.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, 8:45-9:45am, Sundays  
Confirmation Preparation  
8th Grade—September thru May, 8:45-9:45am, Sundays  
Children's Liturgy of the Word  
September thru May, during the 10am Sunday Mass  
Adult Education  
Sundays 8:45—9:45am Grand Hall, Wednesdays 7:10pm Weber Hall  
Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults—contact Shawn for schedule

### Quick Contacts Directory

#### Liturgical Videographer

Stan Kostecki 314-397-5965

#### 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  
Kathy Lalonde 636-439-9131  
Lectors  
Joe Willis 618-806-6684  
Gift Bearers  
Peggy Dupree 636-398-5270  
Ushers  
Gary Struckhoff 636-828-6067  
Altar Servers  
Deacon Chris Ast *chrisast@archstl.org*  
Altar Society  
Pam DeBold 636-482-4765  
Art & Environment  
Ashley Czuchna 636-578-8774  
Music Ministry  
Bryan Beams 636-398-5270  
Adult Choir  
Mary Sweeten 314-324-3249  
Children's Choir  
Elizabeth Jaeckle 636-828-4811

#### 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  
Ruth Neske 636-398-5699  
Vicki Grunz 636-497-5230  
Helping Hearts  
John Grady 314-662-2138  
Mary Hardesty 636-398-5663  
Tim Lebb 314-775-7717  
Maria Romine-Kantor 314-614-0857  
Knights of Columbus  
Tim Lebb 314-775-7717  
Marian Council  
Barb Pope 773-383-8602  
Meal Train  
Kelly Meyer *meyer5853@qmcinc.org*, 636-828-4994  
Meals on Wheels  
Jean Bammann 636-798-2718  
Pro Life  
Bill Winters 636-828-4133  
Quilters  
Vanita Joerling 636-544-0416  
Ruth Willis 636-398-4597  
Scouting  
Chuck Hinkle 636-544-6639  
Cub Scouts: John Lyons 217-778-3760  
Boy Scouts: Chad Peters 314-807-7177  
St. Vincent de Paul  
Joe Willis 618-806-6684  
Welcoming Committee  
Teresa Berfanger 636-398-5565  
  
Parish Youth  
High School Youth Leader  
Janet Hespen 314-369-6521

## *O Come, Let us Adore Him*

Dear Parishioners,

Blessed and joyous Feast of the Epiphany!!! As our Christmas season continues we can think back over these days and reflect upon the many gifts that have blessed our lives. As we begin the new year we can reflect upon the many gifts we shall receive and offer in the course of the year. When all is said and done, the gifts that matter most to us are the ones that are the least tangible. Our gifts of love and time cannot be put in a box or given a price tag. The very act of gift giving is a sign of our love and attentiveness to others. It is an act of friendship and appreciation that often goes beyond the item itself. Gifts celebrate the reality of our lives as expressions of communion. Our God is a living communion of love, and our lives most closely reflect His when we strive to make our communion a deeper reality.

While God's communion is perfect and complete, ours tend to be a bit more messy and disjointed. Isn't it amazing that Jesus so joyfully entered into the uncertainty of our lives? Isn't it humbling that He shows us how to patiently accept our imperfections, but gently challenges us to grow beyond them?



Jesus' whole life is caught up in the mystery of communion, and He invites us to join Him in His passionate endeavor to make divine communion a human reality.

May the communion we profess when gathered before God's altar touch and transform our lives. Let us join the Magi in bringing our gifts to the Christ, let us glorify the living Christ in our worship and serve Him in our neighbor. May the celebration of this feast day inspire us to give freely of ourselves in loving service to God and one another.

Peace.

Your Spiritual Father,

*Fr. Tom*

P.S. Many thanks for the countless expressions of kindness and your generous expressions of love throughout the Christmas season and in 2021. I am truly blessed by your prayers, friendship and support. I am so often humbled by simple words of encouragement and gratitude that you so freely offer. Thank you for being a family of faith that I feel so privileged to serve and shepherd.

## *Epiphany of the Lord — Year C*

Some men who studied the stars came from the East to Jerusalem and asked, "Where is the baby born to be king of the Jews? We saw his star... and we have come to worship him." MATTHEW 2:1-2

A Michigan newspaper carried a story about a light bulb that had been burning day and night on a porch for 35 years. An electrical engineer speculated that early light bulbs had strong filaments, which may account for the bulb's longevity. Today's reading recalls another light that has been burning day and night for 2,000 years- the light of the star of Bethlehem that points to Jesus, the Light of the World. Does the light from the star of Bethlehem burn as brightly in my heart as it did five years ago? Ten years ago?

*Thank you, Lord Jesus Christ, for all the benefits and blessings which You have given me, for all the pains and insults which You have borne for me. Merciful Friend, Brother and Redeemer, may I know you more clearly, love you more dearly, and follow you more nearly, day by day.* St. Richard of Chichester



## Ministry Schedule

January 1—4pm

EM: Donna Hecht, Ed Etzkorn, Becky Wilson  
Lec: Theresa & Jim Risch  
Serv: Izzy Scheer  
Music: Bryan & cantor  
Ush: Chris Cuddihee, Tim Wilson, Bill Pollihan, Andy Pope

January 2—7:30am

EM: Peggy Dupree, Dianne Dickherber, Emily Cooksey  
Lec: Kris Jenkins, Karen Wappelhorst  
Serv: Mary Grace & Janie Becker  
Music: Verdi & Brooke  
Ush: Chris Molitor, Terry Schneider, Rick Scharf, Gary Potter

January 2—10am

EM: Bob Brossette, Laura Orf, Mary Busby-Simpson  
Lec: Pat Gentry, Yvonne Brossette  
Serv: **volunteer please**  
Music: Adult Choir  
Ush: Bill Riley, Alan Raymond, Bob Hutchcraft, Ron Simpson

## IHMformation Station

4pm Brian & Becky Wilson  
7:30am Peggy Dupree  
10am Robert & Yvonne Brossette

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

Phyllis Zerr, Fran Bussen, Betty Boyd, Deacon Tony,  
Amy Robbins, Don Schmidt, Carl Wolff, George Stark,  
Loretta Bruns, Betty Heppermann, Joyce Brakensiek,  
Pat Foster, Tom & Mary Jean Hartenbach, Terry Hagan,  
Richard & Doris Berhorst, Larry Gassei, Pat Ryan,  
Pete Schepis, Justin Wehmeier, Jeff Bollman, Frank Kardasz,  
Tom Baker, Jim Hall, Patricia Clayton

Steve Wengerski and Kathy Schuckman (friends of Mandy Daub),  
Keith Langford (son of Rita & brother of Valerie Langford),  
Red Brockmeyer (cousin of Kay & Ray Cherry),  
Karla Sitzes (daughter of Sophia Bax),  
Jennifer Fitzsimmons (cousin of Karen Fitzsimmons),  
Pat Finan (daughter of Fran Bussen),  
Kelly Taylor (friend of Kat Brittingham),  
Rodney Marquart (son of Frank & Rosemary Marquart),  
Michael Speir (son-in-law of Jackie & Steve Dunn),  
Carol Fague (sister of Bob Woodford),  
Mary Ann Blaske (mother of Jeff Blaske),  
Peyton Newman (grandson of Mike & Mary Hardesty),  
Charlie Grady (grandson of John & Carol Grady),  
Marlene Hagemeier (sister of Pat Roche),  
Michael Molitor (brother of Richard Molitor),  
Rosemary Bell (sister of Janet & Jerry Hespen),  
Sal Polisi (brother of Nancy and Walter Hollenstein),  
Janet Piel and Jordan Keene (sister & friend of Joni Marren-Slaughter),  
Malachi (newborn nephew of Kim and Tim Lebb),  
Sheila Birk (daughter-in-law of Ken & Mary Birk),  
David Gentry (grandson of Pat Gentry)

**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

## Ministry Schedule

January 8—4pm

EM: Deacon Chris, Wilma Zurvelloer, Bryan Potter  
Lec: Karen Wilson, Sharon Hagan  
Serv: **volunteer please**  
Music: Bryan & cantor  
Ush: Ed Etzkorn, Larry Graves, Chris Cuddihee, vol. please

January 9—7:30am

EM: Deacon Chris, Michelle Greiwe, Mary Keune  
Lec: Chuck Kettler, Bob Leeker  
Serv: Sydney Jaeckle, David Vehige  
Music: Verdi & Elizabeth  
Ush: Tom Meczkowski, Mark Thome, Ron Jacob, Joe Weber

January 9—10am

EM: Deacon Chris, Sharon Smith, Donna Wolff  
Lec: Kat & Chris Menne  
Serv: Izzy Czuchna, Thomas Kokker  
Music: Adult Choir  
Ush: Chuck Hinkle, Gary Struckhoff, Larry Smith, Bill Winters

## IHMformation Station

4:00pm Karen Wilson  
7:30am Mark & Terri Thome  
10am Randy & Angie Gust

## Heavenly Dusters

Week of January 2: Ruth Neske  
Week of January 9: Pat Gentry  
Week of January 16: Rita Langford  
Week of January 23: Betsy Struckhoff  
Week of January 30: Carolyn Schellert

## Purificators

Month of January: Carol Ostermeyer

## Marriage Banns

Marriage in Christ has been promised between:  
**Alexandra Gammon and Anthony Schulteheinrich**



## *Rest in Peace*

We offer our prayerful sympathy  
to the families of



**Francis Meyer**, father of Steve Meyer  
**Johnnie Johnson**, mother of Brenda and Bob Hutchcraft  
May they and all the faithful departed  
rest in the eternal peace of Christ.

## Mass Intentions

Monday, January 3	
8:00am	All Souls
Tuesday, January 4	
8:00am	Wes Forrester + deceased of the Spiess family
Wednesday, January 5	
8:00am	intention of Shawn Mueller Jameo Klemme (1st ann.) +
6:30pm	intention of Jackie Barclay
Thursday, January 6	
8:00am	James A. Hofman + intention of Molly H
Friday, January 7	
8:00am	Holy Vocations Bob Willis +
Saturday, January 8	
8:00am	Dave London +
4:00pm	intention of Erin Reheis
Sunday, January 9	
7:30am	Walt Reel (1st ann.) +
10:00am	People of IHM Al Bamert (5th ann.) +

## Activities this Week

Sunday, January 2—Epiphany of the Lord	
Blessed chalk and prayers for home blessing near the baptismal font	
Jonah Team will pray with you after 9am Mass	
Monday, January 3 (church office closed)	
St. Vincent de Paul, Grand Hall, 6pm	
Scouts, Founders Hall/Trailer, 6:30pm	
Tuesday, January 4	
Legion of Mary, Weber Hall, following 8am Mass	
Fitness, Grand Hall, 9am	
Den 2—Founders Hall basement, 6-7pm	
BLOOD DRIVE, Founders Hall, 2:30—6:30pm	
KC officers, Founders Hall, 6:30pm	
Choir practice: children 6pm, adults 7pm	
Wednesday, January 5	
Sunday readings study, Weber Hall, 8:45am	
Den 4, Founders Hall, 6pm	
6:30pm Mass followed by Reconciliation	
Thursday, January 6	
Fitness, Grand Hall, 9am	
Friday, January 7	
Quilting, Weber Hall, 8:30—noon	
Saturday, January 8	
Reconciliation following 8am Mass	
Food Pantry open 9—10:30am	
Sunday, January 8	
PSR, Founders Hall/Weber Hall/Trailer 8:45—9:45	
Faith Formation, Grand Hall, 8:45am	

## 2021 Contribution Statements

All contributions to the parish for 2021 must be received no later than January 2 to be included in your annual giving statements. The statements will be available for you to print during the second half of January. Please watch for an email from our office with a link to your own personal giving account.

## Contributions December 18/19

General contributions:	\$24,428.11
Online gifts:	\$6,544.92
Total offering:	\$30,973.03

## Contributions December 24/25/26

Will be reported next week

*"They prostrated themselves and did him homage. Then they opened their treasures and offered him gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh." (Matthew 2:11)*

What gifts do you give to the Lord? Pope St. Gregory said that these three gifts represent what we should give God every day. Gold—we should reflect Christ's wisdom in all our relationships. Frankincense—represents our daily prayer and adoration to God. Myrrh—is a symbol of our daily sacrifices that we unite with Jesus for the sake of others.

We pray: that we reflect God's wisdom, pray to God and unite our sufferings with Jesus' every day.

## Needed at the Pantry

sugar, oil, coffee, reg and sugar free jello  
and pudding, laundry detergent, Kleenex,  
paper towels and toilet paper exp



Today we celebrate the feast of the Epiphany, where the Magi find the newborn king and offer him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh.

In the spirit of the Magi, please put your gift in the St. Vincent de Paul collection so that comfort and peace can once again be given to a newborn child.

The St. Vincent de Paul Thrift Store located at 1069 Regency Parkway in St. Charles is in need of men's clothing, especially jeans—even with holes. If you have men's clothing to spare, please bring them bagged directly to the store. During store hours bring to the back of the store, ring the doorbell, and let the volunteer know you have men's clothing. That way it will be processed and sold at this store where the need is. If outside of store hours, please put a tag on the bag or write directly on the bag indicating that it is men's clothing. Thanks everyone.

## *What's Your Catholic IQ?*

1. The "star in the east" that the wise men followed... (Matthew 2:9)
  - a. stayed in the same place their entire journey
  - b. was another name for Haley's comet
  - c. moved ahead of them and stopped over the place where Jesus was
  - d. was just a mirage
2. The wise men stopped in Jerusalem... (Matthew 2:2)
  - a. to inform Herod about Jesus
  - b. to find out where Jesus was
  - c. to ask about the star
  - d. to buy presents
  - e. none of the above
3. Where do we find the Christmas story?
  - a. Matthew
  - b. Mark
  - c. Luke
  - d. John
  - e. a and c
4. What is the origin and meaning of the word "Epiphany?"
  - a. from the Greek, meaning "to show forth"
  - b. from the Latin, meaning "astrologers or magicians"
  - c. from the Greek, meaning "before Lent"
  - d. from the German, meaning "after Christmas"
5. What are/were the three traditional names assigned to the Wise Men (Magi)?
  - a. Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego
  - b. Huey, Dewey and Louie
  - c. Caspar, Melchior and Balthasar
  - d. Peter, Paul and James
6. Who wrote the text of the Epiphany carol "We Three Kings of Orient Are?"
  - a. Phillips Brooks
  - b. Father Josef Mohr
  - c. Charles Wesley
  - d. John Henry Hopkins Jr.
7. What is myrrh?
  - a. The Arabic word for silver
  - b. The dried sap of an African tree used anciently in embalming ointments and burned at funerals
  - c. Nutmeg
  - d. A mercurial compound used to treat flesh wounds
8. Which King of Israel wanted to kill the baby who would grow to become the Messiah?
  - a. Flavius Josephus
  - b. Caesar Augustus
  - c. Herod
  - d. Quirinius



### Advertising Opportunity

We are in the process of updating our annual Guide Book & Directory for the parish. This book will contain everything pertinent to our church: the various ministries, organizations, committees, activities, functions and events plus a complete directory of all members. The book is being provided and direct-mailed to each family at no cost to our church, and it is again being subsidized by local businesses that advertise. If you own or manage a business and would like to find out about advertising in our book, please call the church office.

Recent survey results by Guide Book Publishing show that 92.1% of families would rather patronize a Guide Book & Directory advertiser over a non-advertiser. It "will pay" to advertise in our new Guide Book & Directory.

### Update Membership Info

Does our church database have YOUR family membership record correct?

Here is your chance to update YOUR record for our annual Guide Book & Directory (if you haven't already done so).

It is time for us to update our database with any changes, additions, or deletions that may have occurred in YOUR family over the past year.

Have you changed your phone number? Have you moved? Are you preparing to move soon? Are all of your children still at home and are they all included in your membership record? Do you want your record published?

If you have not already informed the church office about changes to your record, please let us know now so that the information in the Guide Book & Directory is correct. The church office phone: 636-398-5270.



### **Pope's Intentions for January: For True Human Fraternity**

We pray for all those suffering from religious discrimination and persecution; may their own rights and dignity be recognized, which originate from being brothers and sisters in the human family.



The next Baptismal preparation classes are scheduled for **January 16 and February 20**. Please call the parish office to reserve your spot! 636-398-5270





## St. Paul Library / Lighthouse CD Resources

(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 (lower level Church)

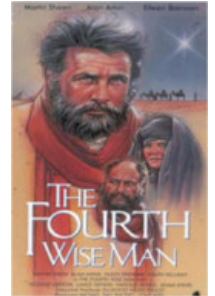
#### The Story of the Nativity



The story of the birth of Jesus is often misunderstood. But this fast-paced, thought-provoking look at the true story of the Nativity clears away widespread misunderstandings of Jesus' origin. Join top scholars, inspirational speakers, and popular authors as they explain the story behind the story of the birth of Jesus. The Story of the Nativity also includes stunning works of art depicting the biblical story, from Fra Angelico to Rembrandt, and footage from the Holy Land showing the places where the Christmas story actually took place. Explore the true story of Mary and Joseph, Jesus' miraculous conception, the birth of John the Baptist, the journey of Mary and Joseph to Bethlehem, the Star of Bethlehem, and the birth of Jesus. This is an invaluable tool for believer and unbeliever alike to learn more about Jesus of Nazareth and about the truth of Christmas. Includes bonus interview with Cardinal Christoph Schoenborn, editor of the Catechism!

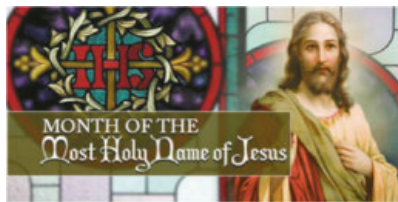
#### The Fourth Wise Man

Based on Henry van Dyke's classic, *The Story of the Other Wise Man*, this fictional story set in Biblical times is told in gently comic terms. A Magi named Artaban (Martin Sheen) sees a sign in the heavens that he hopes will lead him and his faithful servant to the Messiah. Artaban takes with him three precious gifts to present to the Messiah. For 33 years Artaban pursues Jesus, only to miss Him at every turn. Along the way, Artaban uses his gifts to help people in dire need. He now has nothing to present to the Messiah when he finds Him. The story culminates on Easter Sunday as Artaban, old and dying, finally encounters the new King, bringing peace to his life. A deeply moving experience examining what true faith really means. Starring Martin Sheen and Alan Arkin.



### PSR Corner

PSR resumes on Wednesday, January 9<sup>th</sup>. In the Traditional-Devotional Dedication of the Months of the Year, January is typically dedicated to The Holy Name and Childhood of Jesus



### READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Sun:	Is 60:1-6/Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-11, 12-13 [cf.11]/Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6/Mt 2:1-12
Mon:	1 Jn 3:22—4:6/Ps 2:7bc-8, 10-12a/Mt 4:12-17, 23-25
Tue:	1 Jn 4:7-10/Ps 72:1-2, 3-4, 7-8/Mk 6:34-44
Wed:	1 Jn 4:11-18/Ps 72:1-2, 10, 12-13/Mk 6:45-52
Thu:	1 Jn 4:19—5:4/Ps 72:1-2, 14 and 15bc, 17/Lk 4:14-22a
Fri:	1 Jn 5:5-13/Ps 147:12-13, 14-15, 19-20/Lk 5:12-16
Sat:	1 Jn 5:14-21/Ps 149:1-2, 3-4, 5 and 6a and 9b/Jn 3:22-30

### Answers to Catholic IQ

1. c Read Matthew 2:9. The star did not stay stationary over the manger or the house. This verse makes it clear that the star moved "in front" of the Magi and guided them till it "stood over where the young child was."
2. b Read Matthew 2:2. They assumed Herod would know. I find it fascinating that although the scribes knew exactly where the Messiah was to be born (according to Micah 5:2), they were not interested enough to travel the four or five miles to Bethlehem to see for themselves.
3. e Isn't it amazing How God divinely inspired these two Gospel writers to write His exact words, but He used their interests and professions to recall different aspects of Jesus' birth. Matthew, a tax collector, records the genealogy of Jesus (used for taxation) and the "magi" - men of means from a foreign country. Luke, a physician, records the pregnancy and birth.
4. a "to show forth." The Greek components are epi- (meaning "on" or "to") and -phainein (meaning "to show").
5. c Caspar, Melchior and Balthasar.
6. d John Henry Hopkins Jr., an Episcopal priest, wrote the text of this hymn in 1857 for a Christmas pageant at the General Theological Seminary in New York City.
7. b The dried sap of an African tree used anciently in embalming ointments and burned at funerals.
8. c Herod. Caesar Augustus was the chief of the Roman state. Quirinius was the Roman governor of Syria. Flavius Josephus was the Jewish historian who chronicled Herod's reign.

## *Roses for Life*

The Knights of Columbus will be holding the annual Roses for Life campaign at all Masses the weekend of January 8/9. The Knights ask for your support by signing the roses you will find in the pews. These roses will then be collected and sent to our elected representatives in Washington D.C. to remind them that we support the right to life of the unborn, and that we expect them to vote in support of pro-life legislation.

The Knights also ask you to pray the Rosary to end abortion and to pray for safe travel for those going to Washington D.C. to participate in the annual March for Life, which will take place on January 21. January 22 is the 49th anniversary of the Supreme Court decision legalizing abortion in demand in the U.S.



## *March for Life 2022— Registration Open*

**MISSOURI LIFE CARAVAN** is accepting registrations for our bus trip to the annual March for Life in Washington, D.C., **Thursday—Saturday, January 20-22**. 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 \$235.

For more information, to register or to sponsor a rider go to [www.missourilifecaravan.org](http://www.missourilifecaravan.org). Contact us at 314-434-4900 or [mrl.eastern@yahoo.com](mailto:mrl.eastern@yahoo.com).

## *Annual Roe v. Wade Memorial Mass & Prayer Vigil*

**Saturday, January 15, 10am at the Cathedral Basilica of St. Louis**

January 22, 2022 marks 40 years since the Supreme Court decisions *Roe v. Wade* and *Doe v. Bolton* legalized abortion in our country. Since then, over 61 million unborn children have lost their lives and countless women, men and families have been harmed by legalized abortion in the U.S.

Please join the archdiocesan **Respect Life Apostolate** and **Generation Life St. Louis** and the Catholic and Pro-life community in praying for an end to abortion, healing and forgiveness for those involved in abortion, and an increased respect for all human life.

The Mass collection will benefit **LifeLine Coalition**, a local network of social service and pro-life agencies whose financial and emotional support help thousands of area women, men, children, and families annually.

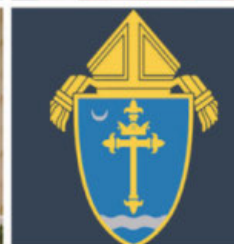
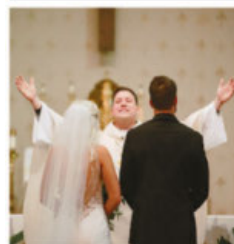
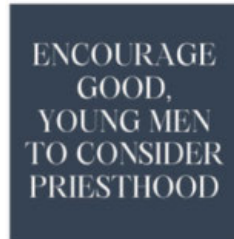
Mass, celebrated by Archbishop Mitchell Rozanski, will be followed by a peaceful and prayerful Rosary Procession to/from Planned Parenthood and fellowship at a reception in Boland Hall. For more information contact the Respect Life Apostolate at 314-792-7555, [prolife@archstl.org](mailto:prolife@archstl.org) or online at [STLRespectLife.org](http://STLRespectLife.org).

## **FDA Allows Women to Receive Abortion Pills by Mail**

The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) on Thursday lifted restrictions on the abortion drug, mifepristone, allowing the drugs to be prescribed online and sent by mail. The FDA announced that it was removing the "in-person dispensing requirement" that had required mifepristone to be dispensed only in certain health care facilities.

Archbishop William Lori, chairman of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops' Committee on Pro-Life Activities, criticized the move, stating that the decision would continue the taking of unborn lives while doing little for the well-being of women in need. "Far from the accompaniment that women in crisis pregnancies deserve, this decision would leave women alone in the midst of trauma, often without any medical attention or follow up care", stated Archbishop Lori. He further called on government leaders to "stand with women in need by promoting policies that recognize the value and human dignity of both mother and child, rather than further promoting the devastating tragedy of abortion."

from the Missouri Catholic Conference Weekly Update





# BLOOD DRIVE

## Immaculate Heart of Mary/New Melle

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**Tuesday, January 4      2:30 pm - 6:30 pm**

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### Helping Hearts Community Service Ministry

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

Transportation to/from medical appointments, grocery stores and churches

- ♥ Install support bars for showers and tubs
- ♥ Install ramps for people having trouble with mobility
- ♥ Simple tasks: replacing lightbulbs and other simple household jobs
- ♥ Remove obstacles or debris: fallen tree limbs, etc.

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



### Naming & Commendation Rite

Find Comfort, Healing and Hope...

Saturday, Jan. 8, Christ Prince of Peace Parish

*"I am the Resurrection and the life." - John 11:25*

All are welcome to attend Naming & Commendation, a prayer service developed by the Archdiocese of St. Louis to meet the needs of families whose child died before birth for any reason (including miscarriage, accident, abortion or still birth). Parents and families of any religious background are invited to attend, whether the loss was recent or long ago.

Naming & Commendation will start right after the 8am Mass at Christ, Prince of Peace Parish (415 Weidman Rd., Manchester) on Saturday, January 8 around 8:35am. The rite, celebrated by Fr. Chris Dunlap, will offer parents and families an opportunity to name the child, bring peaceful closure to great loss, and unite with our merciful God.

- To RSVP or for more information, please contact Susan Nowak at [susananowak@sbcglobal.net](mailto:susananowak@sbcglobal.net)
- Help spread the word about the January 8 event on social media: [www.facebook.com/events/3117146611945303](https://www.facebook.com/events/3117146611945303).

*Respect Life Apostolate, Archdiocese of St. Louis*

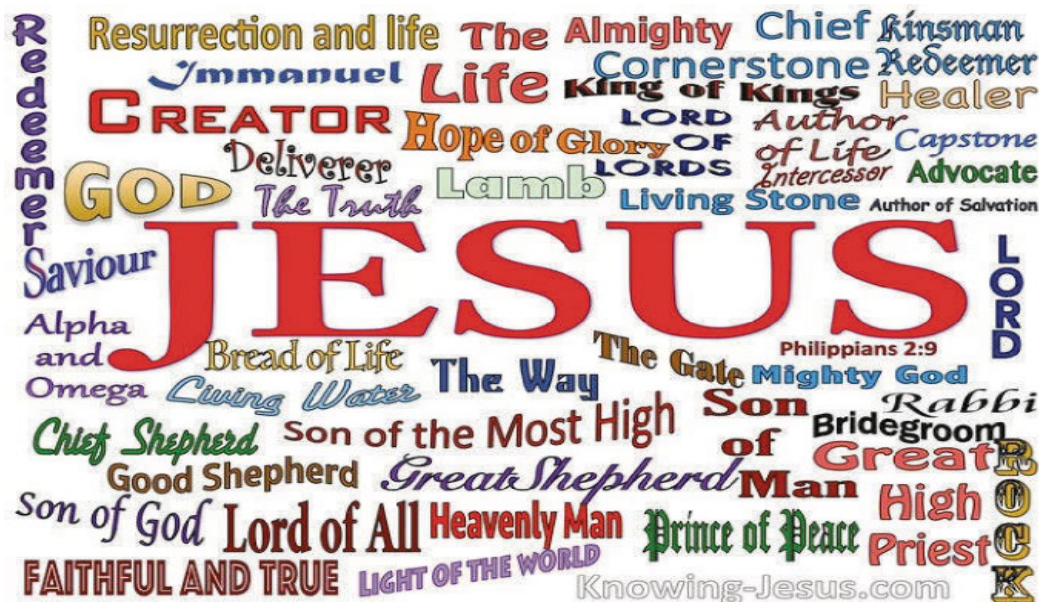
## *The Holy Name of Jesus and the Struggle with “Foul Language”*

In Colossians 3 St. Paul asks the believers to “put to death what is earthly in them” giving a list of sins. He adds in verse 8 “But now put them all away: anger, wrath, malice, slander, and foul talk from your mouth.”

It seems we’ve lost not only a level of civility and discourse in our society, but also the ability to articulate our words without resorting to language that is often peppered with profanity. Pure speech is a difficult virtue to attain. Some have greater struggles than others to be sure, especially if they were raised in a household without such filters of self-control.

Regardless of where one is at, it is fitting in this month which focuses on the holy name of Jesus to try and grow in the virtue of language that is less toxic. One such way is to pray the Litany to the Holy Name of Jesus. The other is to pray the Divine Praises. While people recognize these as part of a traditional benediction ceremony it is interesting to note that the Divine Praises were composed in a slightly shorter form by Luigi Felici, a Jesuit priest, in 1797, as a prayer to make reparation for blasphemy and profane language.

*Blessed be God. Blessed be His Holy Name.  
Blessed be Jesus Christ, true God and true man.  
Blessed be the Name of Jesus.  
Blessed be His Most Sacred Heart.  
Blessed be His Most Precious Blood.  
Blessed be Jesus in the Most Holy Sacrament of the Altar.  
Blessed be the Holy Spirit, the Paraclete.  
Blessed be the great Mother of God, Mary most holy.  
Blessed be her holy and Immaculate Conception.  
Blessed be her glorious Assumption.  
Blessed be the name of Mary, Virgin and Mother.  
Blessed be St. Joseph, her most chaste spouse.  
Blessed be God in His angels and in His Saints.*





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