



# 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

January 3, 2021



## Deeper Understanding of Scripture

"Where is that thing?" mumbled Bob as he searched frantically on his dimly lit desk for the current electric bill. "I know I put it right on top of these papers this morning!" Growing in frustration and bordering on anger, he flies stuff around, moves books and opines why simple tasks need to be so hard. Enter his wife, who calmly says, "Maybe it would help if you put the light on, dear." The desk light goes on and lo and behold, there is the electric bill right where Bob left it earlier. All it took was a little light!

We stubbornly refuse to turn on the lights! Either we are distracted, determined, disinterested, preoccupied, stubborn, apprehensive, or all of the above. Or perhaps, we fail to do the obvious. We would rather live our lives with the dimmest of lights or even in total darkness. Why are we afraid to do something so that we can actually see? It might help us

to find quicker and better answers to problems, the meaning of life, relationships, happiness, and what is ultimate truth. Yet, we stumble along, moving things from one side to the other, getting angry, feeling cheated, being unsettled, resigning ourselves to the agony of defeat once again.

"And behold, the star that they had seen at its rising preceded them, until it came and stopped over the place where the child was." The light has come into the world in the person of Jesus Christ! We no longer have to fumble in the darkness. We have been gifted with the illumination we need to see our way through things and find what we really are looking for. All these years later, however, so many are still reluctant to accept him. Perhaps they are unconvinced, disinterested, preoccupied, stubborn, apprehensive, or all of the above. Everyone has their own reason for

not wanting to turn on the switch.

But there are so many answers to so many of our problems in this humble Child of Nazareth. A simple birth teaches us about God's tender wedded relationship with humanity. It speaks to the expanse of God's salvation across the globe, and the incarnate Divine wonders and blessings that are a part of our life moment to moment. It calls us to understand the design of world order God intended as found in the Beatitudes, the sacredness of every human life and all of creation and the meaning of things we struggle with most, like suffering and death. We have a lot of Good News to share, not just with a privileged few but with all the world. All races and creeds can receive God's healing word. God continues to manifest himself even now! Use the light to find what you are really looking for!

# Blessed Christmas Season! 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*  
Karen Wappelhorst, Child Safety Coordinator *childsafety@ihm-newmelle.org*  
Michael McDonald, Plant Manager *macmcd1123@gmail.com*

## 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

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

### Parish Organizations

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

### Youth and Young Adults

High School Youth Leader  
Janet Hespen 314-369-6521  
Young Adults

## 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 2020. 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.

## The Epiphany of the Lord—Year B

There lived in Jerusalem at the time a certain man named Simeon.  
He was just and pious, and awaited the consolation of Israel. —Luke 2:25

Union with Christ means that sin no longer can hold us hostage and that we long to be free of its grip of our lives. It does not mean, necessarily, however, that sin vanishes totally from our lives. Emilie Griffin says of the Christian: "While he is a new man in Christ, he has brought over a good deal of the old man with him. His little sins and temptations begin to creep back into his life and catch him unawares. The new man and the old man... coexist throughout our lives in constant tension, so life becomes a spiritual battle. The mature Christian accepts this duality as part of the daily journey, always invoking the strength and consolation of the Lord who calls us to place our hope in him.

*I confess I am not what I ought to be, but I thank you, Lord, that I'm not what I used to be.* Maxie Dunnam

Mark Link S.J. "Mission"



## Ministry Schedule

January 2—4pm

EM: Josh Deters, Ed Etzkorn, Ann Zaleuke, Pat Roche  
Lec: Richard & Kathy Lalonde  
Music: Bryan & Mary Ann  
Serv: Aiden Panus  
Ush: Tom Zaleuke, Bill Pollihan, Chris Cuddihee

January 3—7:30am

EM: Deacon Chris, Josh Deters, Dianne Dickherber, Maureen Blondin  
Lec: Nancy Ast, Dave London  
Music: Verdi & Brooke  
Serv: Mary Grace Becker  
Ush: Bob & Teresa Berfanger, Ron Jacob

January 3—9:30am

EM: Deacon Chris, Chris & Kat Menne, Pat Gentry  
Lec: Chuck Hinkle, Donna Hecht  
Music: Bryan & Betsy  
Serv: Mary Becker  
Ush: Bill Riley, Larry Smith, Ron Simpson

*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 Hagan

Lisa Debold (daughter of Dave & Pam DeBold),  
Leon Burkemper (son of Carol Rabbitt),  
Doris Eisenbath (mother of Judy Molitor),  
Janet Piel (sister of Joni Marren-Slaughter),  
John Stringer (friend of Larry & Rita Bendel),  
Loren & Evelyn Brandon (parents of Marty & Peggy Dupree),  
Audrey Molitor (sister of Flo Joerling),  
Pat Finan (daughter of Fran Bussen),  
Marlene Hegemeier (sister of Pat Roche),  
Steve Wengerski (family friend of Mandy Daub),  
Sophia Hartsfield (granddaughter of Ed & Marcia Etzkorn),  
Keith Langford (son of Rita & brother of Valerie Langford),  
Red Brockmeyer (cousin of Kay & Ray Cherry),  
Karla Sitzes (daughter of Sophia Bax),  
Karen Windler (sister of John Wappelhorst),  
Michael Speir (son-in-law of Jackie & Steve Dunn),  
Charlie Grady (grandson of John & Carol Grady)

**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

January 9—4pm

EM: Deacon Chris, Josh Deters, Wally & Jan Karase  
Lec: Mike Greene, Karen Wilson  
Music: Bryan & cantor  
Serv: Izzy Scheer  
Ush: Tim Wilson, Mike Rieker, Andy Pope

January 10—7:30am

EM: Dcn Chris, Josh Deters, Jan Kardasz, Kris Jenkins  
Lec: Chuck Kettler, Bob Leeker  
Music: Verdi & cantor  
Serv: Natalie Jaeckle  
Ush: Chris Molitor, Frank Kardasz, Tom Meczowski

January 10—9:30am

EM: Dcn Chris, Sharon Smith, Patrice Riley, Chris Richter  
Lec: Grant Smith, Michelle Greiwe  
Music: Bryan & cantor  
Serv: William Lassiter  
Ush: Bob Hutchcraft, Joe Weber, Alan Raymond

## Heavenly Duster Schedule

Week of January 3:	Ruth Neske
Week of January 10:	Pat Gentry
Week of January 17:	Rita Langford
Week of January 24:	Betsy Struckhoff
Week of January 31:	Carolyn Schellert

## Purificators

Month of January:	Carol Ostermeyer
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## This Week at Home

*social distancing recommended at all events*

### Monday, January 4

Eucharistic Adoration resumes  
SVDP, 6pm  
Scouts, Founders Hall, 6:30pm

### Tuesday, January 5

Fitness, Grand Hall, 9am  
KC Officers, Founders Hall, 7pm

### Wednesday, January 6

Sunday readings study, Weber Hall, 8:45am  
Bible Study, Grand Hall, 6:15pm  
Reconciliation, 7pm

### Thursday, January 7

Youth Ministry, Founders Hall, 6:30pm

### Friday, January 8

Quilting, Weber Hall, 8:30am—noon

### Saturday, January 9

Reconciliation, 8:45am

### Sunday, January 10

Event in Grand Hall early afternoon



## 2020 Contribution Statements

For those of our parishioners who do not have email, contribution statements are available for mailing. If you need your statement in paper form, please let the office know.

For our parishioners who have online access, you will receive an email invitation from “no-reply” with the subject “Immaculate Heart of Mary Member Portal Access”. From there, it will give you instructions to access your personal contribution statement which you can print from home. If you have difficulties there, please just call the church office and we will mail your statement or hold it for you in the church office.

## Mass Intentions

Monday, January 4	
8:00am	Tom Miller +
Tuesday, January 5	
8:00am	Shelly Forbes +
Wednesday, January 6	
8:00am	Ed Langford +
Thursday, January 7	
8:00am	All Souls
Friday, January 8	
10:00am	Erma Guinn +
Saturday, January 9	
8:00am	Agnes Benne +
4:00pm	Cy & Al Bamert +
Sunday, January 10	
7:30am	Joseph Michael Orf +
9:30am	People of IHM Louise Seper +

## Scheduling Mass Intentions

Having a Mass said for the needs of a special person, for a special request, remembering the deceased (especially on the anniversary of their death), or in thanksgiving has a long history in the Catholic Church. The Church considers the Mass as the greatest possible prayer of intercession insofar as it is the perfect offering of Christ to the Father by making present the paschal mystery of His death and resurrection.

Because of the particular role of the priest as mediator between God and man, acting “in persona Christi” when offering the holy sacrifice of the Mass, it is usually considered that special graces may be obtained when he applies the Mass to a particular intention.

It’s easy to schedule a Mass intention for a relative, friend or loved one—simply call the church office, send a note, put a request in the collection basket, or send us an email. Fr. Tom mentions the intention for the day during the Prayers of the Faithful at every Mass.

Mass intentions are now \$10, and we have many open dates in 2021. Contact us with your request!

## Contributions, Dec. 19/20

General Offertory:	\$14,382.08
Online—General Offertory:	\$6,239.50
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>\$20,621.58</b>

### December 26/27 will be reported next week

*“...they fell down and worshipped him. Then they opened their treasures and offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh...”* Matthew 2:11

Notice the order of events in the Magi’s visit. First, they knelt before Jesus and prayed to Him. Then they presented Him with their gifts. We, too, must take time to pray before we present our gifts to the Lord. We never know what God may be asking us to share!

We pray ... that , like the Magi, we generously  
share our gifts with the Lord,  
trusting He will provide all that we need.

## Needed at the Pantry

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



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

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

## READINGS FOR THE WEEK

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

## 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 engaged should reserve for marriage the expressions of \_\_\_\_\_ that belong to married love. They will help each other grow in chastity,
  - affection
  - argumentation
  - prayer
  - language
- \_\_\_\_\_ is disordered desire for or inordinate enjoyment of sexual pleasure.
  - seduction
  - passion
  - attraction
  - lust
- Sexual pleasure is morally disordered when sought for itself, isolated from its \_\_\_\_\_ and unitive purposes.
  - religious
  - familial
  - communal
  - procreative
- \_\_\_\_\_ is the deliberate stimulation of the genital organs in order to derive sexual pleasure.
  - pornography
  - isolation
  - masturbation
  - perversion
- Fornication is gravely contrary to the dignity of persons and of human sexuality which is naturally ordered to the good of spouses and the generation and education of \_\_\_\_\_.
  - mind
  - heart
  - children
  - schooling
- \_\_\_\_\_ does grave injury to the dignity of its participants (actors, vendors, the public), since each one becomes an object of base pleasure and illicit profit for others.
  - trafficking
  - prostitution
  - pornography
  - a restricted movie
- \_\_\_\_\_ does injury to the dignity of the person who engages in it, reducing the person to an instrument of sexual pleasure. The one who pays sins gravely against himself.
  - fornication
  - prostitution
  - restitution
  - simulation
- \_\_\_\_\_ is the forcible violation of the sexual intimacy of another person. It does injury to justice and charity.
  - identity theft
  - rape
  - torture
  - domestic abuse
- \_\_\_\_\_ acts are intrinsically disordered; they are contrary to the natural law. They close the sexual act to the gift of life.
  - bisexual
  - homosexual
  - homogenic
  - isolated
- Those with deep-seated homosexual tendencies have an inclination, which is objectively disordered and constitutes for most of them a \_\_\_\_\_.
  - joy
  - trial
  - patient outlook
  - pure heart

1. a (2350) 2. d (2351) 3. d (2351) 4. c (2352) 5. c (2353) 6. c (2354) 7. b (2355) 8. b (2356) 9. b (2357) 10. b (2358)  
Answer Key:

## ✠ Rest in Peace ✠

Lawrence Stahlschmidt

John Sprock

brothers-in-law of Pat Noack

Greg Gross

father of Mark & Theresa Gross

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

## PSR Corner

## Some Epiphany Humor

A little boy excited about his part in the Christmas play came home and said: "I got a part in the Christmas play!" "What part?" asked his mother. "I'm one of the three wise guys!" was the reply.

### THE FAMILY CIRCUS



### What If It Had Been 3 Wise WOMEN?

Do you know what would have happened if it had been three Wise Women instead of three Wise Men? Women would say:

- They would have asked directions, arrived on time, helped deliver the baby, cleaned the stable, made a casserole, and brought practical gifts.

Here's Men's rebuttal... Yeah, and do you know what they would have said when they left?

- Did you see the sandals Mary was wearing with that gown?
- That baby doesn't look anything like Joseph.
- Can you believe they let all of those disgusting animals in the house?
- I heard that Joseph isn't even working right now!

### Pope's Intentions for January: Human Fraternity

May the Lord give us the grace  
to live in full fellowship with our  
brothers and sisters of other religions,  
praying for one another, open to all.





## 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 Parish Library—Grand Hall



**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.

Marriage in Christ has been promised between  
Erin Jaeckle and Christopher Moore



**BEHOLD** ... is a ministry for separated and divorced members of the body of Christ. Through the use of the image of the Ecce Homo during this 12 week program, each person may be met through the Church in

Encountering Christ's Compassionate Embrace.

The next 12 week program at Immaculate Conception—Dardenne Prairie starts January 5, 2021 from 7pm to 9pm. Contact Debi Jones-Orf at [debijo@att.net](mailto:debijo@att.net) for more information and to register.



Janet Hespen, Youth Minister,  
314-369-6521

- Jan. 7: New Beginnings: Begin Luke 18 planning
- Jan 21: Building Discipleship
- Jan. 28: Luke 18 planning and practice skit. Practice stocks 1 through 4.
- Feb. 4: Luke 18 discussions and practice talks 5 thru 8
- Feb. 11: Luke 18 final preparations
- Feb. 12: Luke 18 setup
- Feb. 13: Luke 18 lock-in Retreat for all IHM 8th graders. Check in at 9am. Ends after Mass on Feb. 14

## Annual Memorial Mass

Join the Respect Life Apostolate for the archdiocesan Roe v. Wade Memorial Mass celebrated by Archbishop Mitchell T. Rozanski on Saturday, January 16 at 10am at the Cathedral Basilica. Mass will include the Pro-Life Memorial and the LifeLine Coalition collection, which benefits over 10,000 local women and families annually.

The Rosary and Benediction will follow the Mass, marking the 48th anniversary of the Roe v. Wade Supreme Court decision which legalized abortion on January 22, 1973.

The St. Louis Catholic and pro-life community will unite in prayer for the millions of unborn children lost and countless parents and families harmed by abortion, healing and forgiveness for those involved in abortion, and an increased respect for all human life.

For more information, contact the Respect Life Apostolate at 314-792-7555, [prolife@archstl.org](mailto:prolife@archstl.org) or [STLRespectLife.org](http://STLRespectLife.org).

**"Through the Incarnation and birth of Christ, God reveals to us the dignity of all human life. Human life, as a gift of God, is sacred and inviolable. The Son of God has united himself with every human being and desires for us to share eternal life with him.... Each of us is made in the image and likeness of God, and we reflect his glory in the world."**

USCCB Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities *"The Gospel of Life: A Brief Summary"*



RESPECT LIFE  
APOSTOLATE

## Blessing of Homes on the Feast of Epiphany

Be sure to get the “ritual” and piece of blessed chalk and holy water to bless your house on or around the Feast of Epiphany. Here is an introduction to the devotion-ritual below. There are various “blessings” that can be found on the web.




Reader: John's Gospel states: "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God! He was in the beginning with God. All things came to be through him, and without him, nothing came to be. And the Word was made flesh and made his dwelling among us, and we saw his glory, glory as of the only-begotten Son of the Father." When the translation says that he "made his dwelling among us," the literal translation is that "he pitched his tent among us." It teaches the very down-to-earth and personal presence of Christ with us. He is here in this home. May he always be in our hearts. Today in signs and symbols, we renew our realization of the presence of the Lord in our home.

*The family gathers at the front door. The leader marks over the door the following (ideally with blessed chalk):  
 $20 + C + M + B + 21$  (year)*

We have written the number of this new year together with the initials of the Magi, Caspar Melchior, and Balthazar. They are also the first letters of the Latin expression *Christus, Mansionem, Benedicat* which means, "May Christ bless this house". May God always send his angels to dwell in this home. May He keep us always in his peace and love. May we provide welcome to strangers and to those in need. May he bless our coming and our going so that everything that comes to this home or goes forth from this home may always be guided by the light of faith, hope, and love. We ask all these things through Christ our Lord. R. AMEN.

*The family then goes from room to room sprinkling each room with holy water. If the room is more significant to one member of the family, that member of the family may sprinkle that room, and lead the petition. As the family goes from room to room, the following - or other petitions (more suited to the family) may be used. (Adapt as necessary). Petitions below which are not relevant should be omitted. After sprinkling all the rooms (or representative rooms) the family gathers back in the living room or family room .*


# BLOOD DRIVE




## TOGETHER WE CHANGE THE WORLD

### Immaculate Heart of Mary

**Masks and appointments required!**  
**Tuesday January 5**  
**2:30 pm - 6:30 pm**  
**Founders Hall**  
**#8 West Highway D**  
To schedule an appointment,  
call The Blood Center at 866.448.3253  
or go to [www.bloodcenter.org](http://www.bloodcenter.org)  
Use sponsor code 9118 to schedule online  
[WWW.BLOODCENTER.ORG](http://WWW.BLOODCENTER.ORG)




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## A well-formed Catholic is a well-informed Catholic.

The St. Louis Review is committed to providing coverage of local and international events from a faith perspective and helping relay the messages of Pope Francis and Archbishop Rozanski to their flocks.

 [www.stlouisreview.com](http://www.stlouisreview.com)



## Calendar of Activities at Immaculate Heart of Mary

As we prepare our calendar for the year, the following activities are used as a starting point. Many of our parishioners are involved in several of these events, so you can mark your calendars, too! If any of these dates are incorrect, or if something else needs to be noted, please let us know. Thanks to all for your gifts of time and talent to our parish!

*The events highlighted in green are on hold for now, due to the current precautions*

### Sundays

- 1st* *Jonah Team after 4pm and 9:30am Masses*
- 2nd* *Knights of Columbus (KC) Breakfast*
- 2nd Baptismal Prep (reservations needed)
- 2nd Sausage Dinner in October
- 3rd Anointings after Masses in Mar/Jun/Sept/Dec
- 4th KC Car Show in September
- Last Sausage Dinner in April (we hope!)

### Mondays

- All Cub Scouts meet in Founders Hall, 6:30pm
- All Boy Scouts meet in Trailer, 6:30pm
- All* *Choir practice (during school year), 7pm*
- 1st Staff Meetings (skip July/August), 11am
- 1st St. Vincent de Paul meeting, 6pm
- 3rd St. Vincent de Paul meeting, 6pm
- 4th Men For Christ, 7pm, Grand Hall
- 5th POP (Pulse of the Parish), 7pm, Grand Hall

### Tuesdays

- All* *Legion of Mary, 9am, Weber Hall*
- All Fitness Class, 9am, Grand Hall foyer
- All* *Children's Choir, 7pm (during school year)*
- 1st KC officers, 7pm, Founders Hall
- 2nd Marian Council meets (odd months), 6:30pm
- 2nd Marian Council Christmas Party in December
- 3rd KC meetings (Christmas Party in December)
- 4th Finance Council, 7pm, Weber Hall

### Wednesdays

- All Reconciliation, 7pm
- All* *PSR, 6-7:30 (during the school year)*
- All Bible Study, AM session in Weber Hall, 8:45am  
PM session in Grand Hall (school year), 6:15pm
- 3rd ADORE, prayer, praise, worship, Reconciliation

### Thursdays

- Some RCIA classes (during school year)
- All Fitness Class, 9am, Grand Hall foyer
- 1st Youth Ministry, 6:30, Grand Hall
- 3rd Youth Ministry, 6:30, Grand Hall

### Fridays

- All Quilters arrive at 8:30 in Weber Hall
- 1st* *New parishioner Wine & Cheese party*  
*(February/June/November)*

### Saturdays

- All Reconciliation, 8:45am
- 1st St. Vincent de Paul Pantry open 9-10:30am
- 3rd St. Vincent de Paul Pantry open 9-10:30am

Extra opportunities for the Sacrament of Reconciliation during Advent and Lent



**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.

## Some thoughts as we say goodbye to 2020:

- ☛ The world has turned upside down. Old people are sneaking out of the house and their kids are yelling at them to stay indoors.
- ☛ This morning I saw my neighbor talking to her dog. It was obvious she thought her dog understood her. I came into the house and told my cat. We just laughed.
- ☛ Never in a million years could I have imagined that I would go to the bank-teller wearing a mask and asking for money.
- ☛ When this is all over (really over) I say we throw a huge party! Decorate for Christmas and eat Thanksgiving dinner, hunt for Easter eggs in Halloween costumes, exchange belated birthday gifts and set off 4th of July fireworks.

# Kids Corner

READ THE  
GOSPEL &  
COLOR



Jigsaw puzzles are fun. Solve a puzzle with your whole family, and it comes together even faster. God helped the wise men solve a puzzle. They wanted to find the newborn king. Together the wise men read God's promises, did their homework, and followed the star. When all of their answers fit, they found baby Jesus.

## PRAYER

God, thank you for all the people who helped me find Jesus.

## MISSION FOR THE WEEK

Solve a puzzle together with your family. Work together like the wise men did.



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