



Immaculate Heart of Mary Catholic Church

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

Website: 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, St. Joseph Chapel

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

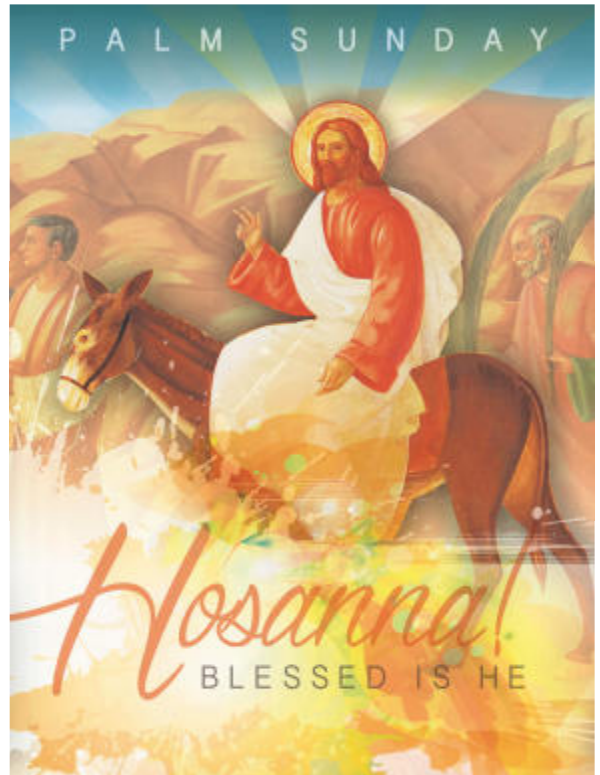
Marriage: Contact the parish office
 at least six months prior to the wedding

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

March 28, 2021



Deeper Understanding of Scripture

Many struggle with Jesus. Some who consider themselves faithful hail him in their churches but still struggle to figure out what to do with him on our streets. The message is somehow more palatable when it echoes pious renderings and sentiments and involves singing hosannas during worship. It becomes a bit trickier when it gets to the part about changing the way we conduct the business of our lives, becoming more sensitive to the disadvantaged, poor, and marginalized, and living as servants of our Loving Creator. Ultimately, it is a struggle between wanting to be God ourselves and letting God be God as God is. That's why it's so easy to become hypocritical. We, like those who hailed Christ as he arrived in Jerusalem and sent Christ to the cross to die, also talk out of both sides of our mouths. We entertain what suits us at the time and walk away from the rest.

Many neglect God's beautiful creation because they prefer what humans have made instead.

Progress isn't seen in preserving and enhancing what God has made but replacing it with something we believe is better and more useful. The earth, flowers, and animals are all expendable if they stand in the way of the "more" we want to achieve. We seek to remove as many obstacles and hurdles as possible in search of the easiest, quickest, and most efficient path we can find. We have created drugs and laws that preserve our free choice, even though it may mean setting aside God's vision and example. Why suffer when we can easily be put to rest? Why endure insult or injury when we can retaliate, eliminate or subdue? Why accept life when it is acceptable to choose otherwise? We want to be God and resist accepting the fact that our real Creator has already given us the blueprints for the life we need to live in the Beatitudes and in the example of his Passion. We don't like being stewards and managers and really want the power to do as we wish and desire. We want to create our own way.

Where has the true, effective Christian voice been through all of the wars and violence, prejudice and unjust conquests, abuse of human beings and attempted extinctions of nationalities, the establishments of procedures and protocols that serve only a few and not the many and all of the injustices and exploitations that are a part of our human history? A few courageous prophets have stood up and out throughout all of the comings and goings of our human journey with many receiving the same fate as the Crucified One we hail this week. Some still walk among us as shining stars showing us how it really can be. How would Jesus' journey have ended if he lived life as we do? Unless we encounter the good with the bad, the just with the unjust, the grace with the sin, the glory with the cross, the death with the life we most certainly risk rendering God obsolete. After all, haven't we already convinced ourselves that we can do better?

©LPi

Welcome! 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

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
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
Ruth Neske 636-398-5699
Vicki Grunz 636-497-5230
Helping Hearts
John Grady 314-662-2138
Mary Hardesty 636-398-5663
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: John Lyons 217-778-3760
Boy Scouts: Chad Peters 314-807-7177
St. Vincent de Paul
Joe Willis 636-398-2106
Welcoming Committee
Teresa Berfanger 636-398-5565

Youth and Young Adults

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

Come Celebrate the Three Great Days

On the evening of Holy Thursday, Lent comes to an end, and we enter into the "Three Days" at the center of our year: The Easter Triduum.

On these Three Days, our Church is at its best!

In scripture, ritual, and song we proclaim the heart of what we believe and celebrate throughout the year. We gather often—at church, at home—during the Triduum to reflect on the central reality of our faith: the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. During these Three Days, we renew our baptism and new Catholics are initiated. These are the "highest holy days" of Christianity.

You are invited to make these Three Days different from all the other days of the year.

All members of our community are invited to plan ahead so that the entire time from Holy Thursday evening until the Easter Vigil is a time of prayer and reflection upon what really matters in life.

It is ironic that these aren't days of obligation, but rather days of intense and sincere desire. Either you get what they are about, or sadly—you don't.

Please consider joining us on this Holy Thursday, Good Friday and Holy Saturday for the three liturgies that are one continuous celebration of the Paschal Mystery of Our Savior.

These liturgies contain the most powerful rituals and symbols of the entire year.

On **Holy Thursday** we celebrate the institution of the Eucharist and the attitude with which we must approach the altar: that of a servant who washes the feet of others.

On **Good Friday** we hear the story of Jesus' Passion, venerate the Holy Cross and celebrate our common priesthood in Christ through the Great Intercessions.

At the **Easter Vigil** we celebrate the victory of light over darkness, of life over death, of love over sin.

We hear the salvation history of our people, renew our baptism, implore the Holy Spirit and celebrate the Most Holy Eucharist with renewed gratitude.

Plan now to celebrate with your parish family the Three most important Days in our year.

Sixth Sunday in Lent—Palm Sunday: Year B

[The soldiers] spat on him, fell on their knees, and bowed down to him.

When they had finished making fun of him, they took off the purple robe and put his own clothes back on him.

Then they led him out to crucify him. —MARK 19: 19-20

In his book Who Is Christ? Anthony Padovano writes: "The suffering of the cross is not meant for itself but for something else. Christ does not suffer because suffering is in itself a value, but because love without restraint requires suffering. We are saved not by the physical death of Jesus but by the absoluteness of a love which did not count death too high a price."

What is one thing I have done for Christ? What is one thing I am doing for Christ? What is one thing I could do for Christ?

Unhappy is death without the love of the Savior; unhappy is love without the death of the Savior.

—St Francis De Sales

(Mark Link S.J. *Mission*)

Final LENTEN CONFESSIONS before Easter Monday/Tuesday/Wednesday 7-8:30pm

Ministry Schedule—PALM SUNDAY

March 27—4pm

EM: Deacon Chris, Josh Deters, Jim & Chris Warren
Lec: Joe Willis, Karen Wilson, Josh Deters (“Voice”)
Serv: Zoey Panus
Music: Bryan & Mary Ann
Ush: Tim Wilson, Chris Cuddihee, Mike Rieker
Proj: Lucy Smith

March 28—7:30am

EM: Deacon Chris, Jan Kardasz, Bob Brossette, Betty Tuepker
Lec: Yvonne Brossette, Kris Jenkins (also “Voice”)
Serv: Sydney Jaeckle
Music: Verdi & Elizabeth
Ush: Gary Potter, Tom Meczowski, Ron Jacob
Proj: Dawn Strohbach

March 28—9:30am

EM: Deacon Chris, Josh Deters, Chris Richter, Chris Menne
Lec: Kat Menne, Nancy Ast, Josh Deters (“Voice”)
Serv: Mary Becker
Music: Bryan, Debbie, Betsy, Mary
Ush: Chris Molitor, Bill Riley, Chuck Hinkle
Proj: Sophia Simon

Holy Week at IHM

social distancing recommended at all events

Sunday, March 28—Holy Week begins
Monday, March 29

Youth Group, Weber Hall, 6:30pm
Scouts, Founders Hall, 6:30pm
Reconciliation, 7-8:30pm

Tuesday, March 30

Fitness, Grand Hall, 9am
Reconciliation, 7-8:30pm

Wednesday, March 31

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

Holy Thursday, April 1

Morning Prayer, church, 8am
Mass of the Lord’s Supper, 7pm

Good Friday, April 2

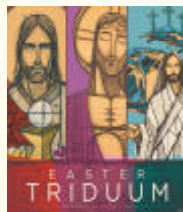
Morning Prayer, church, 8am
Stations of the Cross, church, 1pm
Liturgy of the Lord’s Passion, 3pm

Holy Saturday, April 3

Morning Prayer, church, 8am
SVP Food Pantry open 9-10:30am
Easter Vigil, church, 8pm

Easter Sunday, April 4

Masses at 7:30 and 9:30am



Triduum and Easter Ministry Schedule

Holy Thursday—April 1—7pm

EM: Deacon Chris, Josh Deters, Kathy Lalonde, Maureen Blondin
Lec: Sharon Hagan, Joe Willis
Serv: Sydney Jaeckle
Ush: **need 3 volunteers**
Proj: Laura Orf

Good Friday—April 2—3pm

EM: Deacon Chris, Josh Deters
Lec: Dave London, Chuck Hinkle, Josh Deters (“Voice”)
Serv: Sydney Jaeckle
Ush: **need 3 volunteers**
Proj: Laura Orf

Easter Vigil—April 3—8pm

EM: Deacon Chris, Josh Deters, Pat Roche, Kathy Lalonde
Lec: Rdg. 1: Chuck Hinkle
Rdg. 2: Chuck Kettler
Rdg. 3: Patrice Riley
Rdg. 4: Dave London
Rdg. 5: Pat Gentry
Rdg. 6: Richard Lalonde
Rdg. 7: Kathy Lalonde
Epistle: Peggy Dupree
Serv: Sydney Jaeckle
Ush: Bill Riley, Andy Pope, **need 1 more volunteer**
Proj: Laura Orf



Easter Sunday—April 4—7:30

EM: Maureen Blondin, Kris Jenkins, Bob Brossette, Jan Kardasz
Lec: Bob Leeker, Dave London
Serv: **need a volunteer**
Ush: Frank Kardasz, Bill Pollihan, Mike Rieker
Proj: Paul Dupont

Easter Sunday—April 4—9:30

EM: Janet Hespen, Mary Busby, Sharon Smith, Kevin Loos
Lec: Joe Willis, Mary Busby
Serv: Izzy Scheer, Izzy Czuchna
Ush: Chuck Hinkle, Alan Raymond, **need 1 more volunteer**
Proj: Sophia Simon

Heavenly Duster Schedule

Week of March 28:	Alice Faron
Week of April 4:	<i>Easter Week break</i>
Week of April 11:	Bernie Pollihan
Week of April 18:	Theresa McDaniel
Week of April 25:	Irene Caldwell

Purificators

Month of March:	Pam DeBold
Month of April:	Pat Roche

Reservations will be taken for Easter Masses.
Please contact the church office or sign up
to reserve your seat for the following:

Easter Vigil—8pm
Easter Sunday—7:30am
Easter Sunday—9:30am

Mass Intentions

Monday, March 29

8:00am Jerry Holifield (1st ann.) +

Tuesday, March 30

8:00am Charles Jokisch Jr. +

Wednesday, March 31

8:00am All Souls
Pauline Chabak +

Holy Thursday, April 1

7:00pm Priests who have served IHM

Good Friday, April 2

3:00pm Friday of the Passion of the Lord

Holy Saturday, April 3

8:00pm People of the Parish

Easter Sunday, April 4

7:30am Bob Cova +

9:30am Milton Barta +
Martha Almeling +

Please pray for all the sick and suffering:

Phyllis Zerr, Mike & Pat Ryan, Fran Bussen, Betty Boyd,
Deacon Tony, Amy Robbins, Don Schmidt,
Betty Heppermann, Joyce Brakensiek, Carl Wolff,
Terry Hagan, Richard & Doris Berhorst

Steve Wengerski (family friend 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),
Karen Windler (sister of John Wappelhorst),
Michael Speir (son-in-law of Jackie & Steve Dunn),
Peyton Newman (grandson of Mike & Mary Hardesty)

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

Contributions, March 20/21

General Offertory:	\$9,894.58
Online — General Offertory:	<u>\$5,914.26</u>
TOTAL:	\$15,808.84

*"Pilate again said to them, 'Then what shall I do with the man whom you call the King of the Jews?'
And they cried out again, 'Crucify him.'"
~~ Mark 15: 12-13 ~~*

Jesus told us "whatever you do for the least of my brothers, you do for me." Every day we are presented opportunities to help someone. Every day we have the opportunity to see the face of Jesus in others and be the face of Jesus to others. Every day we pass by someone in need. Pray for the strength and courage to be the answer to someone's prayer.

We pray: that we have the strength and courage
to stand up for those in need of our help.

Needed at the Pantry

UPDATED LIST:

Coffee, tea, paper products (Toilet paper, Kleenex, paper towels), brownie mixes, cake icings, deodorant, shampoo & conditioner, canned fruit, sauerkraut & spinach. We have plenty of pasta sauces & salad dressing (thank you) .

Please hold your plastic bags—we have plenty!!

Today is Palm Sunday and the beginning of the holiest of Christian weeks. Let us pray for the grace to take up our own cross and to follow Jesus through death to new life.

During Lent, through your gifts, the Society of St. Vincent de Paul was able to bring the mercy of Jesus into the hearts of the poor by assisting families, giving food through our food pantry, and providing funds for utility and rent bills.



SVDP 24-hour Helpline

St. Vincent dePaul has a 24 hour helpline for anyone in crisis, including the homeless, by dialing 2-1-1. Our coordinated entry team will respond to their needs.

God bless you all for your continued support. Please join us in prayer for the homeless and all who are in crisis!

Authentic Catholic Radio: AM 1460

Please check our bulletin board for various dinners and other activities in the area.

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)

- Genuine _____ art draws man to adoration, to prayer, and to the love of God, Creator and Savior, the Holy One and Sanctifier.
 - sacred
 - cryptic
 - works of
 - three
- 1 John 2:16 distinguishes three kinds of covetousness or concupiscence: lust of the flesh, lust of the _____, and pride of life.
 - eyes
 - body
 - heart
 - mind
- In the Catholic catechetical tradition, the ninth commandment forbids carnal concupiscence; the tenth forbids _____ another's goods.
 - looking at
 - shopping
 - storing
 - coveting
- Christian theology understands concupiscence as the movement of the sensitive appetite contrary to the operation of the human _____.
 - reason
 - choice
 - action
 - will
- Concupiscence stems from the disobedience of the first sin. St. Paul identifies it with the rebellion of the _____ against the _____.
 - flesh/spirit
 - angels/mankind
 - angels/true God.
 - heart/mind
- The tension between spirit and flesh is part of the daily experience of the spiritual _____.
 - books
 - writings
 - game
 - battle
- The _____ is the seat of moral personality: out of it come evil thoughts, murder, adultery, fornication (Mt. 15:19).
 - chair
 - cathedra
 - flesh
 - heart
- The sixth beatitude proclaims, Blessed are the _____ in heart, for they shall see God.
 - wise
 - smart
 - pure
 - happy
- Pure in heart refers to those who have attuned their intellects and wills chiefly in the areas of charity, _____ or sexual rectitude and love of truth and orthodoxy of faith.
 - concupiscence
 - mercy
 - chastity
 - temperance
- There is a _____ between purity of heart, of body, and of faith.
 - disconnect
 - channel
 - connection
 - divergence

ANSWER KEY

1. a (2502) 2. a (2514) 3. d (2514) 4. a (2515) 5. a (2515)
6. d (2516) 7. d (2517) 8. c (2518) 9. c (2518) 10. c (2518)

† Rest in Peace †

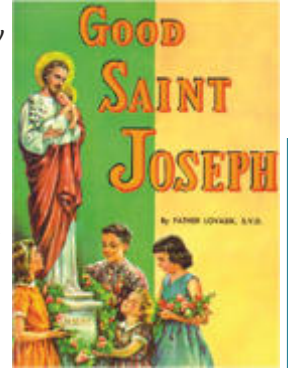
Marilyn Farber

mother of Steve and Rebecca Farber

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

PSR Corner

Did you know that the months of the year have been given a devotional "focus" in Church tradition? March is dedicated to St. Joseph, whose Feast Day is March 19th. Be sure to pick up a copy of the booklet we've put together with Prayers and Devotions to St. Joseph.



Pope's Intentions for March: Sacrament of Reconciliation

Let us pray that we may experience the sacrament of reconciliation with renewed depth, to taste the infinite mercy of God.



"There is an everyday heroism, made up of gestures of sharing, big or small, which build up an authentic culture of life... Part of this daily heroism is also the silent but effective and eloquent witness of all those 'brave mothers who devote themselves to their own family without reserve, who suffer in giving birth to their children and who are ready to make any effort, to face any sacrifice, in order to pass on to them the best of themselves' ... We thank you, heroic mothers, for your invincible love! We thank you for your intrepid trust in God and in His love. We thank you for the sacrifice of your life."

(*The Gospel of Life* 86)

Though Moses was not permitted to enter the land of promise, he was vouchsafed a sight of it from a distance. We too, though as yet we are not admitted to heavenly glory, yet are given to see much, in preparation for seeing more.

—St. John Henry Newman



Janet Hespen,
Youth Minister,
314-369-6521

Youth Group meets Mondays in Weber Hall, 6:30—8pm

March 27: Teen pizza & game night with lots of cool prizes at 6pm

April 3: Assembling a float for New Melle Easter parade at 12 noon

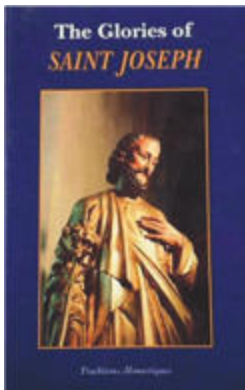
April 10/11: organize the Luke 18 retreat for 8th grade Confirmation Class

July ??: Summer trip to Springfield for Steubenville conference. Lots to do and see on this exciting weekend away, but early registration is required as it sells out fast.

St. Paul Library / Lighthouse CD Resources

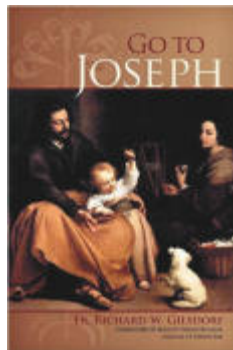
(Note: With close to 3000 items, the Parish Library is located in the Grand Hall past the restrooms. It is open during the week-normal business hours-and works on an honor system. Items from the Lighthouse CD rack are located and available in the Narthex.

Located in St. Joseph Chapel: Year of St. Joseph



This collection of the most beautiful texts composed by saints and other holy authors about St. Joseph, Guardian and head of the Holy Family, will help you to learn more about the powerful intercession and the glories of this heavenly patron whom the Holy Catholic Church delights in calling her Universal Protector.

A Retreat in a Book – Go To Joseph. Every Christian knows the name. We know who he was, but what do we really know about him? For most of us, the answer is, Not much. Now, in these highly intimate, insightful, easy-to-read meditations, the late, noted Scripture scholar Fr. Richard Gilsdorf investigates the New Testament's most mysterious figure. In doing so, he opens up for us the Church's greatest male saint in new and exciting ways, drawing believers ever deeper into the Gospels and thus the person of Jesus Christ. Reading this warm, contemplative book is like going on retreat, making it perfect for personal devotions, study groups, or adoration before the Blessed Sacrament.



HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

Reconciliation

Mon/Tue/Wed 7-8:30pm

Saturdays, 8:30am

Last opportunity before Easter: March 31

Holy Thursday—April 1

Morning Prayer, 8am

Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper **7pm**

Good Friday—April 2

Morning Prayer, 8am

Stations of the Cross 1pm

Liturgy of the Lord's Passion **3pm**

Holy Saturday—April 3

Morning Prayer, 8am

Easter Vigil at **8pm**

Easter Sunday April 4—Masses at 7:30 & 9:30

Reservations will be taken for Easter Masses.

Please contact the church office or sign up to reserve your seat for the following:

Easter Vigil—8pm

Easter Sunday—7:30am

Easter Sunday—9:30am

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Sun: Mk 11:1-10 or Jn 12:12-16/Is 50:4-7/Ps 22/Phil 2:6-11/
Mk 14:1—15:47 or 15:1-39

Mon: Is 42:1-7/Ps 27/Jn 12:1-11

Tue: Is 49:1-6/Ps 71/Jn 13:21-33, 36-38

Wed: Is 50:4-9a/Ps 69/Mt 26:1-25

Thu: *Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper:*

Ex 12:1-8, 11-14/Ps 116;Cor 10:16/1 Cor 11:23-26/Jn 13:1-15

Fri: Is 52:13—53:12/Ps 31;Lk 23:46/Heb 4:14-16; 5:7-9/
Jn 18:1—19:42

Sat: *Vigil:*

Gn 1:1—2:2 or 1:1, 26-31a/Ps 104/

Gn 22:1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18/Ps 16/

Ex 14:15—15:1/Ex 15:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 17-18 [1b]/

Is 54:5-14/Ps 30:2, 4, 5-6, 11-12, 13 [2a]/

Is 55:1-11/Is 12:2-3, 4, 5-6 [3]/

Bar 3:9-15, 32—4:4/Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 11 [Jn 6:68c]/

Ez 36:16-17a, 18-28/Ps 42:/

Rom 6:3-11/Ps 118/

Mk 16:1-7

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

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

Please pick up a brochure from our IHMformation 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.



Please pray for our troops:

Ian Bagby—U.S. Army
Randy Brittingham—U.S. Air Force
Gregory Conners—U.S. Army
Luke Cwiklowski—U.S. Navy
Joseph Gardner—U.S. Navy
Austin Gilliam—U.S. Marines
Nicholas Hitt—U.S. Army
Jacob Holstein—U.S. Marines
Nicholas Hussey—U.S. Air Force
Connor Jaeckle—U.S. Navy
Emily Jaeckle—U.S. Marines
Courtney Kelley (Swoboda) - U.S. Air Force
Angela Kettler—U.S. Navy
Alexandra McIntosh—U.S. Navy
Danielle McIntosh—U.S. Marines
Richard Ostermeyer—U.S. Marines
Matthew Rison—U.S. Navy
Molly Rison—U.S. Navy
Eric Roethler—U.S. Marines
Andrew Salmo—U.S. Army
Matthew Stovall—U.S. Marines
Blake Varady—U.S. Army
Alexander Vesel—U.S. Navy

and all U.S. military men and women who have dedicated their lives to preserve and protect our country

*(if you would like your loved one listed,
please contact the church office)*

Area School News:

St. Patrick School in Wentzville welcomes you! Open enrollment for the 2021-22 school year is going on now. Visit www.stpatrickwentzville.org/school or call 636-332-9913 for more information about our preschool-8th grade programs, including our 3-year-old 2 day program and pre-kindergarten 4-year-old 3 or 5 day program. Hurry, class sizes are limited and spaces are filling up fast.

St. Francis Regional High School invites you to join us virtually for our annual event on April 10, 2021 at 7pm! Guests can register now for our event at 1cau.se/aRK or go to www.borgia.com and click on the Gala logo. Registration and bidding are free! Check out the site to register, purchase a raffle ticket, donate to our gala, sponsor our event, bid on items, and see our special guests the night of the event. You can also check out event information on the St. Francis Regional High School Facebook page. Please be sure to click on "Interested" or "Going" on the Facebook event to stay in the loop on all our Gala updates.

Marriage Support:

A great idea for couples to do together during Lent—from your home, at your pace. MarriageinChrist.com is an easy to use online program with video presentations, a downloadable workbook, discussion starters, etc. It is simple, practical and fun! Just 5 sessions. Free for couples who register by March 31 (\$40 value).

Does springtime give you a sense of wonder and fulfillment? On your wedding day, you and your spouse lovingly planted the seed of a lifelong relationship. A Worldwide Marriage Encounter Experience will give you the tools you need to help your marriage grow and blossom more beautifully. The next Encounter in the St. Louis area will be virtual (April 23-25). For more information or to apply, go to wwwme.org, or call Terry & Eric Engholm at 314-649-7317.

Year of St. Joseph

Pope Francis declared a Year of St. Joseph through December 8th 2021 on the occasion of the 150th anniversary of St. Joseph being proclaimed as Patron of the Universal Church by Pope Pius IX in 1870. Throughout this special year we will include various insights, past and present about St. Joseph.

In light of this weekend being Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord, we refer to a chapter in the booklet, “St. Joseph Our Father in Faith.” Fr. Fredrick Miller, the author, makes mention of a unique icon that depicts Joseph as a man of sorrows. One can read this online at <https://www.kofc.org/en/resources/cis/cis328.pdf>. Here are some excerpts:



Kiko Arguello, the founder of the Neo-Catechumenal Way, wrote the icon as he prayed and fasted. He then presented it as a gift to Pope John Paul II. In the icon, the artist, exercising a speculative and intuitive way of interpreting Scripture, makes a striking point about Joseph’s special way of sharing in the Paschal Mystery of Christ. The scriptural foundation of the icon is Luke 2: 41-52, the account of the finding of the child Jesus in the Temple: In the icon, Joseph carries the 12-year-old Jesus back to their home in Nazareth. He carries the boy on his shoulders, holding him firmly by the ankles. The artist seems to indicate that Joseph’s mission is, in large part, to prepare Jesus for his adult life. Mary looks on in profound reverence, contemplating the words, “*The Spirit of the Lord is upon me and he has anointed me.*” The most striking detail of the icon is that Joseph’s face is the face of Jesus on the Shroud of Turin.

In his icon, Arguello points out that Jesus’ use of the word *father* is the very *sword of sorrow* that pierces Joseph’s heart. Joseph knows that the God of Israel is Jesus’ Father. He had fully accepted the mysterious fact twelve years before, when he took Mary and her unborn child into his home. Now the Lord points both Mary and Joseph to the reality of His being and mission. He has come forth



from the Father in heaven. He is sent into the world to do the Father’s work and to live in intimate personal communion with Him. It was revealed to Joseph and Mary that the child would be a *sign of contradiction*.

Penetrating into this truth in the light of the Holy Spirit, Joseph may have suddenly discovered his particular way of sharing beforehand in the Lord’s Paschal Mystery. Might he have been asked, that day in the Temple, to consciously offer Jesus, whom he loved as his own son, back to the Father and to His mission of redemption, a mission that would, in time, pierce the heart of his wife, Mary? May the Father in heaven have asked Saint Joseph to surrender

Jesus, as Mary would do later, standing in the shadow of the cross? Did Joseph in some sense know that Jesus would offer this sacrifice for his people, for all people? Had not Joseph intuited this from the day he received his vocation? The angel had told him, “...*you shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins*” (Matthew 1:21). In this awareness, Saint Joseph entered into a paternal relationship with all who would ever believe in Christ and benefit from His sacrifice.

The iconographer seems to be saying that Joseph, in surrendering Jesus to His mission, died to himself for the sake of Christ. Joseph bears the visage of the Shroud of Turin precisely because he shared that day, in a uniquely paternal way, in Jesus’ passion and death for the sake of the Church. Joseph expresses at a new level of self-donation, what Saint Paul would articulate later, “...it is no longer *I who live, but Christ who lives in me...*” (Galatians 2:20).

Joseph offered sacrifice neither on Mount Moriah like Abraham, nor on Calvary with Jesus, but rather in the Temple of Jerusalem in the *sanctuary* of his paternal heart. Surrendering Jesus to His natural Father, and to the work of redemption, Joseph participated paternally in the offering that would later be consummated on Calvary.



~~A great idea for couples to do together during Lent—from your home, at your pace.~~
MarriageinChrist.com is an easy to use online program with video presentations, a downloadable workbook, discussion starters etc. It is simple, practical and fun! Just 5 sessions. The *Marriage in Christ* program has been changing lives for 11 years by helping couples make the Lord the center of their married life, making their marriages stronger and happier. Free for couples who register by March 31 (\$40 value).

SUNDAY'S READINGS

FIRST READING:

The Lord GOD is my help,
therefore I am not disgraced;
I have set my face like flint,
knowing that I shall not be put to shame. (Is 50:7)

PSALM:

My God, my God, why have you abandoned me? (Ps 22)

SECOND READING:

Rather, he emptied himself,
taking the form of a slave,
coming in human likeness; (Phil 2:7)

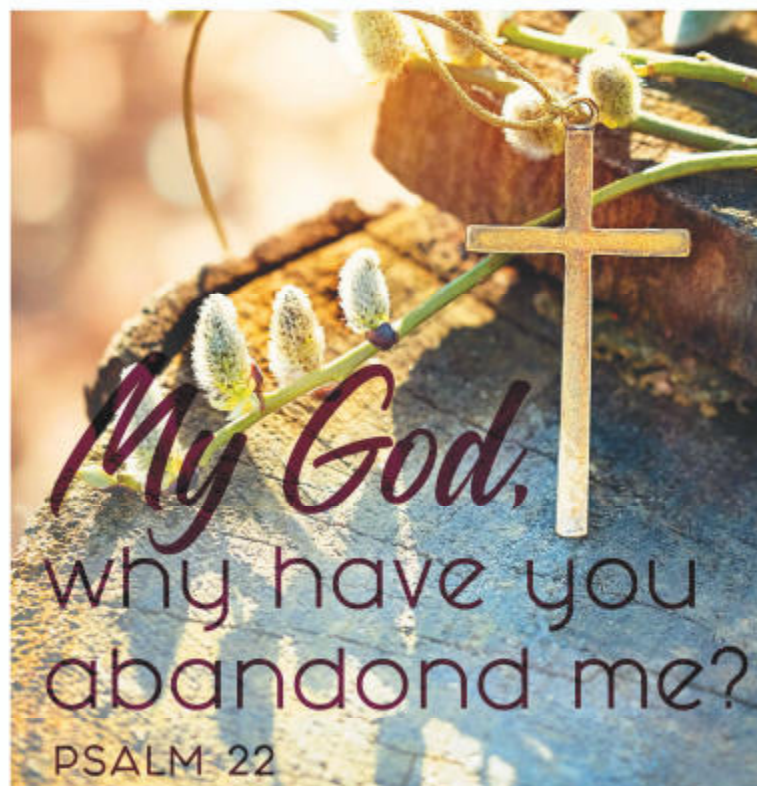
GOSPEL:

They clothed him in purple and,
weaving a crown of thorns, placed it on him.
They began to salute him with, "Hail, King of the Jews!"
and kept striking his head with a reed and spitting
upon him. (Mk 15:17-19)

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OBSERVANCES FOR THE WEEK OF MARCH 28, 2021

Sunday: Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord;
Holy Week begins
Thursday: Holy Thursday; April Fools' Day
Friday: Good Friday; Day of fasting and abstinence
Saturday: Holy Saturday
Next Sunday: Easter Sunday



REFLECT

FIRST READING

The prophet Isaiah reflects on his obedience to God's call regardless of personal suffering that he endured. Isaiah found strength in his faith and fidelity to God. How does your faith help frame your suffering?

SECOND READING

Paul speaks of Jesus' humility as central to his divine identity. What does this teach us about God's nature?

GOSPEL READING

We hear today Mark's account of the Passion of our Lord. What parts of the passion narrative are you drawn to?

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