



Immaculate Heart of Mary Catholic Church

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

Website: www.ihm-newmelle.org

Deliveries only address: 8 West Highway D, New Melle, MO 63365

Parish Office: 636-398-5270 Fax: 636-398-5577

Schedule of Holy Mass

Saturday:	8:00am 4:00pm Vigil Mass for Sunday
Sunday:	7:30am, 9:30am
Weekdays:	8:00am, St. Joseph Chapel

Weekly Devotions and Prayers

Eucharistic Adoration:

Monday 8:30am until Friday, 11:30am

Rosary:

Following 8am Mass Monday thru Friday

Perpetual Help Devotions:

Tuesdays following 8am Mass

Respect Life Prayers:

Thursday following 8am Mass

Chaplet of Divine Mercy and Benediction:

Friday at 11:30am

First Saturday of the Month Devotions

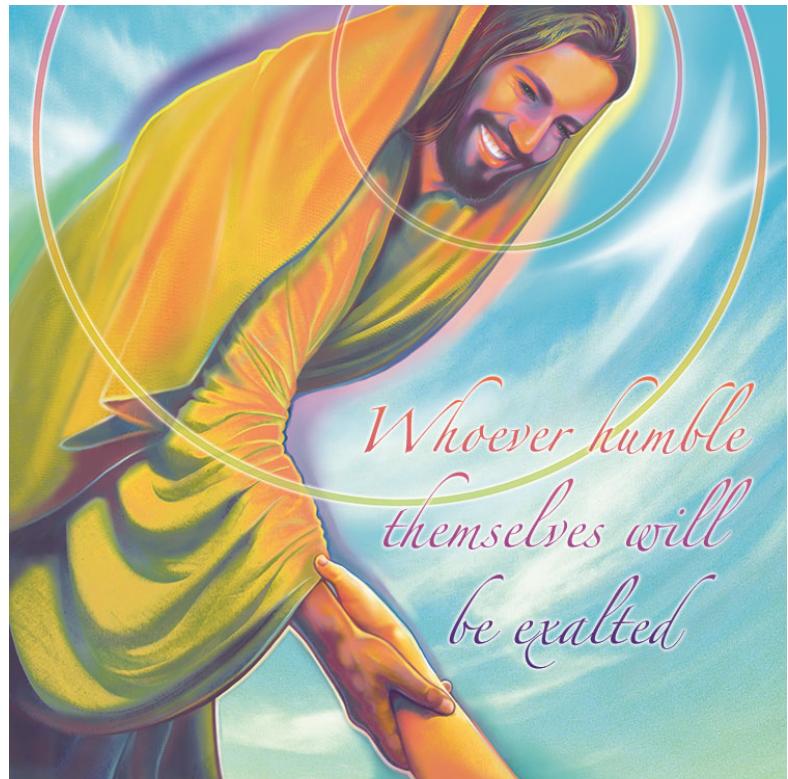
8am Mass, Rosary, 15 minutes of meditation

Sacraments

Reconciliation:	Wednesday in church, 7pm Saturday following 8am Mass
Marriage:	Contact the parish office at least six months prior to the wedding
Baptism:	Contact the parish office to register for class and to arrange date
Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults:	Contact Shawn Mueller in the parish office

31st Sunday in Ordinary Time

November 5, 2017



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Not My Problem

Paul was not bragging when he talked about the toil and drudgery he endured while proclaiming the gospel. He makes a point of his working so as not to burden anyone. He worked to support himself, rather than asking the new Christians to support him—just the opposite of what the scribes and Pharisees were doing, according to the gospel. Jesus accused them of laying heavy burdens on people, without helping them to bear those burdens. So what kind of burdens did the Pharisees impose?

The Pharisees and scribes were very familiar with the laws of their Jewish religion. Almost every detail of daily life was covered by some law. And they

could be very persuasive about strictly keeping those laws. Originally those laws and regulations were meant to set the Hebrews apart from other peoples, to be a sign of holiness. For example, the Ten Commandments are based on loving God above all else (first three commandments) and loving your neighbor (last seven.) But over the years, rabbis added more and more details to the laws, until it was almost impossible to keep them all straight.

But what if someone needed help on a Sabbath? If you broke a Sabbath rule, even for a good reason, you could not go to the Pharisees to get an exemption. They would say, "Not my problem." Remember the times Jesus cured

the sick on the Sabbath, and how they condemned him for working on the day of rest.

Jesus, however, came to remind us that holiness is more important than scrupulosity. If we truly live the ideal of loving God with our whole being and loving our neighbor, we will find that love is much easier to bear than the fear of doing something wrong. Jesus also gave us his Holy Spirit to help guide us in the path of holiness. And through his death on the cross, Jesus gave us forgiveness if we do commit a sin. All we have to do is confess the sin to experience that forgiveness. So keeping the law of love is no problem.

Tom Schmidt, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

Welcome to Immaculate Heart of Mary: *Informed—Hospitable—Motivated*

Parish Staff

Fr. Tom Miller, Pastor: askpadre@aol.com
Cell phone for emergencies only: 314-303-2428

Deacon Chris Ast: chrisast@archstl.org

Deacon Tony Falbo: tony.2011@centurylink.net

Shawn Mueller, Director of Religious Education: smueller@ihm-newmelle.org

Laura Orf, Business Manager: lorf@ihm-newmelle.org

Peggy Dupree, Secretary: secretary@ihm-newmelle.org

Submit bulletin articles by Monday 9am to bulletin@ihm-newmelle.org

Marilyn O'Neill, Music Director: m.oneill@ihm-newmelle.org

Janet Hespen, Youth Ministry: janethspn@outlook.com

Karen Wappelhorst, Child Safety Coordinator: childsafety@ihm-newmelle.org

Weddings, Receptions, Events

Hall Rental Information:	Pat Gentry	636-398-5270
Wedding Coordinators:	Pat Gentry	636-398-4358
	Kelly Meyer	636-828-4994
Event Coordinators:	Joan Marren-Slaughter	636-398-5270
	Mary Keune	636-398-5270

Religious Education

(Please contact Shawn Mueller,
Director of Religious Education
for more information)

Parish School of Religion

(Grades 1 through 8)
September through May
Wednesdays from 6:00—7:30pm

Confirmation Preparation

(8th Grade)
September through May
Wednesdays from 6:00—7:30pm

Children's Liturgy of the Word

September through May
During the 9:30am Sunday Mass

Adult Education

Wednesdays at 8:45 and 6:10pm

Quick Contacts Directory

Prayer and Devotion

Eucharistic Adoration	
Shawn Mueller	636-398-5270
Legion of Mary	
Maria Romine-Kantor	314-614-0857
Prayer Chain	
Mary Jean Hartenbach	636-398-4677
Prayer Intercession/Jonah Team	
Debbie Gillespie	636-398-4971
Prayer Shawl Ministry	
Julia Kettler	636-616-0096

Liturgical Ministries

Extraordinary Ministers	
Irene Caldwell	636-398-4311
Gift Bearers	
Peggy Dupree	636-398-5270
Lectors	
Suzanne Michaelree	636-443-3817
Ushers	
Ed Rabbitt	636-332-5344
Altar Society	
Pam DeBold	636-482-4765
Music Ministry	
Marilyn O'Neill	314-341-2622
Contemporary Music Group	
Debbie Gillespie	636-398-4971

Education

High School Youth Leader	
Janet Hespen	314-369-6521
RCIA, PSR, Children's Liturgy of the Word	
Shawn Mueller	636-398-5270
Young Adults	
Julie Lassiter	636-357-0121

Parish Organizations

Art & Environment	
Mary Karl	636-433-5049
Budget & Finance	
Larry Graves	314-799-9804
Cemetery Committee	
Mark Keune	314-220-7075
Dinner Committee	
Jeff Comotto	636-798-2369
Evangelization	
Steve Farber	sfarber@farbermarketing.com
Golden Hearts	
Jackie Hackett	636-398-5605
Knights of Columbus	
Gary Potter	636-228-4755
Marian Council	
Michelle Brothers	314-614-1114
Meals on Wheels	
Jean Bammann	636-798-2718
Pro Life	
Bill Winters	636-828-4133
Quilters	
Mary Ann Brakensiek	636-828-5776
Ruth Willis	636-398-4597
Scouting	
Jerry Hespen	636-236-1955
Cub Scouts: Wesley Brandhorst	636-327-0531
Boy Scouts: Chad Peters	314-807-7177
Venture Crew: Steve Williams	314-486-4023
St. Vincent de Paul	
Teresa Waddington	314-440-7475
Welcoming Committee	
Teresa Berfanger	636-398-5565

Tempus Fugit, Memento Mori

Dear parishioners and friends,

Time flies, remember death. That simple Latin motto from the medieval Church reminds us of the shortness of life and the inescapable reality of death. As moderns we spend a lot of time doing the opposite: we waste untold hours of time, and practice a very unhealthy ignorance of death. We mistakenly think death is something destined for us only after a long life. As many of us know, death does not have a schedule or time frame that it obeys. It is something that can happen at any time and to anyone. The mysterious nature of death is terrifying. Only the mystery of God and His love for us is greater.

Often times when we lose someone to death, we try to wrap our minds around the mystery with a misguided understanding. Here are some common statements that mean well but often complicate our understanding of death and God.

- “It was his/her time to go.” That statement acknowledges that God knows all our days and is very aware of every moment of our lives. However, it often makes God an arbitrary dealer of death. A God that randomly plucks people from our lives is not a God we would want to love. It is instead a God that we fear or resent. God does not take people from our lives, death does. Death is an affront to God’s creation.
- “God wanted him/her.” Another partially true statement. God does indeed desire us and our loved ones. But this statement makes it sound

like we can only share a loved one with God after death. Right now as you are reading this, God is as present to you as He will be in heaven. Your awareness and mine is the great difference between this very moment and when we are before God at our judgment. Here we struggle under the veil of sin, there we will be freed by grace. The saints receive a glimpse of the beauty of redemption; we will too if we grow in faith.

- “God never gives you more than you can handle.” Yes and no. God never allows life to so overwhelm us that we lose hope if we keep our eyes focused on Him. At the same time, God never wants us to remain self-reliant and fail to call out to Him and our neighbors for strength. Self-reliance in the spiritual life is empty. We need God and others in order to fulfill our pilgrimage of life. God is not micro-managing our lives, He is very aware of every moment and even every decision we will make, but never imposes on our free-will. What does God always seek? Trust that leads to love.

The repeated challenges and tests of life in our faith revolve around how much we trust God in all circumstances. We have no greater advocate for life than our God. The Holy Trinity wants us to share in the fullness of life and communion.

Peace,



Thirty First Sunday in Ordinary Time

(Jesus rebuked the Pharisees and the scribes, saying,] "They don't practice what they preach...They do everything so that people will see them." MATTHEW 23:3,5

An army major was in his new office when a private appeared at the door. To impress the private, the major said, "Come in, soldier! Be right with you after I answer this phone call." Then speaking into the phone, he said, "Well, General, good to hear your voice. How can I help you?" A pause followed. Then the major said, "Fine, General, I'll call the President within the hour!" Then he said to the private, who was staring at the floor nervously, "Now soldier, what can I do for you?" Without looking up, the private said in a low voice, "The sergeant told me to come in and hook up your telephone for you."

When was the last time I tried to impress another in some way? How prevalent is this in my life?

Character is much easier kept than recovered. Thomas Paine

Welcome to Immaculate Heart of Mary: *Informed—Hospitable—Motivated*

Next Week Ministry Schedule

November 11
4:00pm

- EM: Joan Falbo, Mary Hannig, Ed Etzkorn,
Tom & Mary Jean Hartenbach, Pat Roche,
Jan Jokisch-Messig, Bryan Potter
Lec: Sharon Hagan, Pat Barnard
GB: Vanita Joerling, Carol Harvell
Serv: Isabelle Scheer, Brody & Ashlyn Stafford
Ush: Joe Spiess, Tom Zaleuke, Bill Pollihan, Larry Graves

November 12
7:30am

- EM: Lisa Murphy, Walt & Jean Reel, Maureen Blondin,
Ed & Carol Rabbitt
Lec: Chuck Kettler, Karen Wappelhorst
GB: Frank & Jan Kardasz
Serv: Mary Grace & Janie Becker
Ush: Larry Gassei, Philip Thoman, Frank Marquart,
Rich Molitor

9:30am

- EM: Michelle Greiwe, Walter & Nancy Hollenstein,
Terry & Marcia Schneider, Judeen Kutsko,
Kris Jenkins, Laura Orf
Lec: Ron Kutsko, Patrice Riley
GB: Menne Family
Serv: Liam Grady, Lindsey & Madelyn Bouquet
Ush: Terry Schneider, Gary Struckhoff, Charles Hinkle,
Alan Raymond, Chris & Adam Molitor



Please consider sharing the gift of **Thanksgiving Pie** with the people of Our Lady of Perpetual Help Food Pantry in the city of St. Louis. The pantry volunteers provide Thanksgiving dinner for many

people and need some help. Last year they served 1500 Thanksgiving meals! Please bring your pies (nothing that needs to be refrigerated) to the narthex on **Monday, November 20**. The pantry also accepts monetary donations. The pies will be picked up early Tuesday, November 21. Thank you for your generosity!



Our parish family joyfully welcomes
Brielle Isabella Cox
daughter of Dennis and Tiffany (Blackorby) Cox

This Week at Home

Sunday, November 5

Jonah Team will pray with you
after both Masses



Monday, November 6

Boy Scouts, Trailer, 6pm
Event in Weber Hall 6pm
St. Vincent de Paul, 6pm
Cub Scouts, Founders Hall, 6:30pm
Bell Choir, Church, 7pm

Tuesday, November 7

Legion of Mary, Weber Hall, 9am
Exercise, Grand Hall foyer, 9am

Wednesday, November 8

Catholicism, Weber Hall, 6:30am
Sunday readings study, Weber Hall, 8:45am
PSR, Weber Hall/Founders Hall/trailer, 6pm
Reconciliation, 7pm

Thursday, November 9

Exercise Class, Grand Hall foyer, 9am
RCIA, Weber Hall, 6:30pm
Youth Group, Grand Hall, 6:30pm
Choir, church, 7pm

Friday, November 10

Quilting, Weber Hall, 8:30am—noon

Saturday, November 11

Reconciliation following 8am Mass

Sunday, November 12

Return filled Box of Joy
KofC Breakfast, Founders Hall, 8-11am

Warm Clothing Collection

IHM will collect winter coats, sweaters, sweatshirts, hats, gloves, scarves or any warm clothing between now and November 26. Please put your new or gently used clothing donations in the container by Weber Hall. Thanks in advance for your care and consideration.



Rest in Peace

We offer our prayerful sympathy
—to Terri Keymer on the death of her husband
Bob Keymer
—to Sophia Bax on the death of her sister-in-law
Eleanor Bax
—to Peggy Coleman and family on the death of
Glennon Coleman
May they rest in the eternal peace of Christ.



Monday, November 6

8:00am

All Souls

Jack Roderick +

Tuesday, November 7

8:00am

Gene Gehrin +

Wednesday, November 8

8:00am

Jack Hitt +

Thursday, November 9

8:00am

Randy & Lukas Schneider +

Erna Cherry +

Friday, November 10

8:00am

Larry Randolph +

Saturday, November 11

8:00am

Bernie Kulawiec +

4:00pm

Moira Ryan +

Gerald Bussen +

Sunday, November 12

7:30am

Peter A. Schepis +

Josephine Seper +

9:30am

People of the Parish

Mary Barr +

You are invited to write
your deceased loved ones' names in our
Book of Remembrance in the narthex.

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

In the hospital:

Ann Fitzgerald, Amy Robbins, Ed Etzkorn

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 are unable to get to Mass because of illness or disability but would like to receive Communion, please contact the parish office: 636-398-5270.

Prayer Chain: We have a very active group of parishioners who pray for all those who have requested prayers, so your intentions are being remembered to God thru the **Prayer Chain**. If you have a prayer intention, or would like to join them in praying for others' intentions, please call Mary Jean Hartenbach at 636-398-4677 or email mjhartenbach@gmail.com.

Contributions: October 28/29

General Offertory:	\$9,569.00
Online—General Offertory:	\$2,250.00
Total Offertory	\$11,819.00

*"Whoever exalts himself will be humbled;
But whoever humbles himself will be exalted."
MATTHEW 23:12*

Jesus gave His life to serve, not to be served. Putting other's needs before our own needs is a sign of becoming a mature disciple, of following Jesus' example. Humility is really a sign of a strength. By putting other's needs first we declare to the world that we are putting our complete trust in God. When we align our thoughts and actions with God's plan for us, the result is Joy and Peace.

*We pray to realize that putting other's needs
before our own is a sign of maturing as a disciple*



Heavenly Duster

Carol Harvell

Purifiers

Clara Haas

Needed at the Pantry:

*sugar, vegetable oil, brownie mix, jello, coffee,
pudding mix, canned fruit, tuna, canned chicken,
paper goods, personal items, cleaning items*

In the Gospel today, we hear the good news that when we keep our focus on God and serve one another, God exalts us!

As you place your gift in the Society of St. Vincent de Paul collection, please say a special prayer for the poor who have no one to pray for them.



The New Melle Community Christmas Choir will feature singers from all over our little town and the surrounding area.

Anyone and everyone is welcome—adults, teens, grade-school age kiddos (ages 10 and older). The choir will sing traditional carols as well as holiday tunes. Plan to attend 2 short rehearsals at IHM:

Sunday, November 19 at 2pm

Tuesday, November 21 at 7:30pm

Contact Marilyn at 314-341-2622 for more information.

**New Melle Country Christmas
Saturday, November 25,
5:00-7:00pm
New Melle Community Center**

Welcome to Immaculate Heart of Mary: *Informed—Hospitable—Motivated*



The Concert and Dinner were awesome! The Society of St. Vincent de Paul in New Melle is completely overjoyed with the outpouring of generosity, love, and kindness from our parish and others in our area in the way of putting it all together and attending our event. Circle of Friends was amazing...Thank you very much!

Many thanks to – Marilyn O'Neill, Laura Orf, Immaculate Heart of Mary, Mike Reel and his crew, Rosciglione Bakery, Knights of Columbus, Bill Pollihan, Janet Hespen, Michelle Greiwe, the young ladies, Chris Richter, and our St. Vincent de Paul conference. The Holy Spirit answered many prayers...We thank you for all your kindness, love, support, and generosity!

What's your Catholic IQ?



It is the 25th anniversary of the publication of the Catechism of the Catholic Church, under (now saint) Pope John Paul II, who wrote, "The Catechism is offered to every individual who asks us to give an account of the hope that is in us (cf. 1 Pet 3:15) and who wants to know what the Catholic Church believes." Every adult Catholic is asked to prayerfully "digest" the Catechism. These questions (which will cover the whole CCC during this year) can help break it down in small bites.

The Knowledge of God—How Can We Speak About God

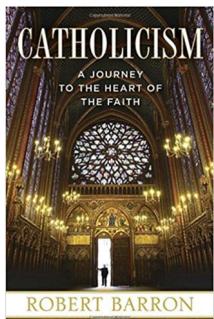
1. Man has the capacity to welcome God's revelation because he is created in the _____ of God.
2. Man experiences many difficulties in coming to know God by the light of _____ alone.
3. The human mind has been disordered by the consequences of _____ sin.
4. Man can know God with certainty on the basis of His works by natural _____.
5. Another order of knowledge, which man cannot possibly arrive at by his own powers, is the order of divine _____.

The Stages of Revelation

6. After the unity of the human race was shattered by sin, God sought to save humanity part by part, beginning with _____.
7. In order to gather together scattered humanity, God called this man from his country, his kindred, and his father's house.
8. Freed from the slavery of Egypt, this is the name used of God's people, taken from the name change of Isaac's son Jacob.
9. God established with the Israelites the covenant at Mt. Sinai, and through this man, gave them His law.
10. At various moments in Israel's history, these individuals (i.e. Jeremiah) proclaimed a challenge of conversion to the people of God.

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.



Catholicism: A Journey to the Heart of the Faith complements the DVD series and study program of the same name. The book is based on the scripts for the series, but delves more deeply into the content, including more than 100 photos of the art used in the documentary.

Bishop Robert Barron seeks to capture the body, heart and mind of the Catholic faith. Starting from the essential foundation of Jesus Christ's incarnation, life, and teaching, Bishop Barron moves through the defining elements of Catholicism – from sacraments, worship, and prayer, to Mary, the Apostles, and Saints, to grace, salvation, heaven, and hell – using his distinct and dynamic grasp of art, literature, architecture, personal stories, Scripture, theology, philosophy, and history to present the Church to the world.

Walking in Mary's Shoes

Photo credit: Archpriest Igor Pchelintsev

A Prayer Breakfast for Women

Saturday, December 2, 2017

Immaculate Heart of Mary Catholic Church in New Melle, Missouri

IHM will host an Advent Prayer Breakfast for women on Saturday, December 2 starting after the 8:00 am Mass. Denise Bossert, an IHM parishioner who is also a syndicated columnist, author and expert on Sacred sites in the Holy Land, will be the guest speaker. Join us for an interesting and inspirational beginning to the Advent season. There is no charge for this event but please make a reservation by calling the parish office, 636-398-5270, or sign-up in the narthex.

Join us for a morning of listening, sharing, prayer and reflection.
The breakfast will take place in the Grand Hall, following Mass at 8:00 am



NO STRINGS ATTACHED!

If you have wondered what it would be like to play the handbells, this is your big chance. The bell choir practices on Monday nights from 7pm to 8:30. If you want to drop in, we'd be delighted to see you. This is open to anyone high school age or older. Give me a call so I know to expect you. Marilyn at 314-341-2622. This is not a commitment by any means. Just give it a try!



Marriage in Christ
has been promised between
Elaine Schoenberger and Timothy Brauss

- | | | |
|-------------------|------------------|---------------------|
| 1. Image (#36) | 6. Noah (#56) | 10. Prophets (#64) |
| 2. Reason (#37) | 7. Abraham (#59) | 4. Reason (#50) |
| 3. Original (#37) | 8. Israel (#62) | 9. Moses (#62) |
| | | 5. Revelation (#50) |



Catholic IQ Answers

Join the Holy Father's prayer intentions for November: for Christians in Asia

That Christians in Asia, bearing witness to the Gospel in word and deed, may promote dialogue, peace, and mutual understanding, especially with those of other religions.





A young girl with braided hair, wearing a pink shirt, is smiling broadly at the camera. She is holding a white 'Box of Joy' with a red ribbon. In the background, other children are also holding similar boxes. Below the photo is a stylized illustration of a globe with a red ribbon tied around it, and two small stick figures running towards it. The text 'Box of Joy' is written in a green and red script font next to the globe.

Christmas blessings are on their way!

FOR CHILDREN WHO WISH
FOR JUST ONE GIFT

Box of Joy is a ministry of Cross Catholic Outreach

Hi there TEENS !!

It was good to see you at the bitter cold Pumpkin Glow and looking forward to Thankful Night at our regular scheduled meeting on NOV 16th at 6:30pm in the Grand Hall.

Just a glimpse :

Are you thankful for the Big things in your life (like acing a test) & what about the Little things ? Even if we go through tough times the Lord is good & endures forever. Shouldn't we be overflowing in Thankfulness ? Let's overflow in water balloons at this meeting, it'll be fun !! Let me know if you & your friends will be there so I have plenty of balloons and snacks.

 Youth Ministry



Pack A BOX OF JOY!

Every year, thousands of poor children experience a Christmas without hope. Burdened by poverty, their parents are simply too poor to provide anything but the most basic necessities.

Our Goal: This year, we have set a goal to send Christmas blessings to _____ needy children and they need YOU!

PROJECT LEADER NAME: Shawn Mueller PHONE: 636-398-5270 EMAIL: smueller@ihm-newmelle.org

If you need any help in including your family and friends in this great outreach, just let me know!

1 Get a Box

As Project Leader, I will provide a gift box or you can use any standard shoebox or plastic box (approximately 12" x 5").

2 Choose & Shop

Choose gender and age range between 2 to 14, then label your Box of Joy. Go shopping and personally select gifts to bring joy to a child — small toys, hygiene items, school supplies, hard candy, etc. (Please no liquids, food or combat items.) See Suggested Gift Ideas on website.

3 Donate

In preparing each Box of Joy, please include \$9 in an envelope or make that gift online. This donation covers shipping from the Drop-off Center to destination country. A portion of this contribution supports the Catholic ministries serving in the child's community, enabling them to have a greater impact on the lives of the poor!

4 Drop Off & Pray

Drop off your Box of Joy at the designated location during the dates listed below. Pray for the mission and children who will receive the Boxes of Joy.

Our Kick-Off Event

Date: Oct. 25 Time: 6pm Location: Church

Gift boxes and brochures available

From: Oct. 25 To: Nov. 12 Location: Church

We will be collecting Boxes of Joy

From: Oct. 25 To: Nov. 12 Location: Church

Box of Joy is a registered trademark of Cross Catholic Outreach.

Imagine the scene as a little boy or girl gleefully opens your **Box of Joy**!

Thanks to you, they will experience the excitement of Christmas and a feeling of being loved.

Your compassionate prayers and packing a **Box of Joy** will do more than meet a child's practical needs. Through the spiritual outreach of our Catholic mission partners, these gifts will help the child understand and celebrate Jesus Christ's miraculous gift of salvation and magnify our Lord's compassion for the poor.



2700 N. Military Trail • Suite 240 • PO Box 273908 • Boca Raton, FL 33427-3908
800-814-2420 ext. 142 • BoxOfJoy@CrossCatholic.org
www.CrossCatholic.org/BoxOfJoy

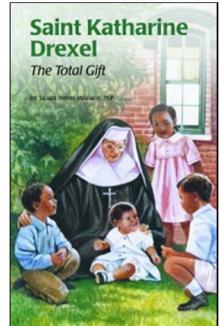
THE GIFT OF LOVE, TWICE GIVEN...

On Sunday, November 19 at the 10:00 a.m. Mass at the Cathedral Basilica, Good Shepherd Children and Family Services, and the Archdiocesan Respect Life Apostolate will celebrate adoptive and birth parents and families of the Archdiocese of Saint Louis. This annual Mass is a celebration of all whose lives have been affected by adoption, whether directly or indirectly. All who have made an adoption plan for a child, adopted a child or children, those who await adoption of a child, and those who were adopted are invited to participate in this celebration of a "gift of love twice given". Following Mass, there will be a reception in Boland Hall. For more information, contact the Respect Life Apostolate at [314-792-7555](tel:314-792-7555).

Welcome to Immaculate Heart of Mary: *Informed—Hospitable—Motivated*

PSR Corner

Every PSR class has a chosen patron saint which catechists help students learn about. After 8 years, students will have learned more about 8 folks in God's Holy Hall of Fame. Meet the 4th grade patron: St. Katharine Drexel. Katharine Drexel was born in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, on November 26, 1858. When Katharine grew up, she was a very active Catholic. She directed her energies and her fortune to helping the poor and forgotten. Her work for Jesus would be among the African American and Native American people. In 1891, Katharine began a new religious community of missionaries. They were called the Sisters of the Blessed Sacrament. Katharine became known as Mother Katharine. Mother Katharine inherited her family's great fortune. She used the money for wonderful works of charity. She and her sisters built schools, convents, and churches. In 1915, they established Xavier University in New Orleans. Mother Katharine died on March 3, 1955, at the age of ninety-seven. She was declared "blessed" by Pope John Paul II on November 20, 1988, and canonized on October 1, 2000. She is the second native-born United States citizen to be declared a saint. The story of Saint Katharine will help children rethink the value of money and how it is best used, and value treating people with compassion.



A Healing Miracle Through the Intercession of Katharine Drexel

The healing of little Amy Wall's deafness opened the way for Katharine Drexel's canonization by Pope John Paul II on October 1, 2000. Article excerpts from David O'Reilly at <https://www.deseretnews.com/article/740879/Pope-declares-miracle-clears-way-for-sainthood.html>

PHILADELPHIA -- When doctors first diagnosed 1-year-old Amy Wall with incurable nerve deafness several years ago, her parents prayed that their baby might someday learn sign language. But Amy's 7-year-old brother, Jack, believed in miracles. He wanted Amy to hear. And he demanded they pray for a cure. So the Bucks County, PA family prayed to the late Mother Katharine Drexel, a Roman Catholic nun from Philadelphia who devoted her life to the poor. Months later, Amy was not only hearing -- but speaking.

Two officially recognized miracles are among the requirements for Catholic sainthood. The Vatican concluded in 1988 that a Bensalem boy, Robert Guthermer, was miraculously cured of deafness in 1974 after his family prayed to Mother Drexel for intercession. Mother Drexel, heiress to an enormous banking fortune, entered religious life as a young woman and in 1891 founded the Sisters of the Blessed Sacrament, an order with special ministry to poor blacks and Native Americans. She lived in poverty the rest of her life, spending her millions to build schools, missions and orphanages across the South and Southwest, until her death at 97 in 1955.

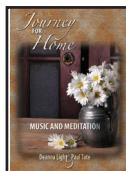
Constance Wall began to suspect deafness soon after Amy's birth in 1992, but her husband, John, a real estate developer, refused at first to acknowledge it. Then, one day, "without Amy looking at me, I came up behind her high chair and clapped my hands," John Wall recalled. "She did not startle. That's what made me believe." Hospital examinations in September 1993 concluded she suffered from congenital and permanent failure of the auditory nerves.

"The doctors said, 'Get used to it,'" Constance Wall recalled tearfully. "So we just prayed for communication -- that she got sign language. If she could sign for her bottle, we thought we would have everything." That's when Jack -- who had learned about miracles and prayer in parochial school -- announced, "That's not enough. I'm going to pray for a cure," his mother said. After seeing a PBS television special about young Robert Guthermer, who was born deaf but spontaneously grew a missing bone in his ear after his family prayed to Mother Drexel, the Walls asked the Sisters of the Blessed Sacrament for a relic of Katharine's, which they laid on Amy's ear. John Wall, then a Baptist, admitted he was skeptical of the Catholic veneration of relics and saints, "but I was watching."

Then, in March 1994, Amy's preschool teacher noticed Amy was being startled by loud sounds. Hospital tests that month showed her hearing was inexplicably normal -- "perfect," her mother said. "When it happened, I wasn't even sure I knew what I was seeing happen," her mother recalled. John Wall was so convinced he converted to Catholicism in 1998. (See article link above for the rest of the story)

Readings for the Week

Mon:	Rom 11:29-36; Ps 69:30-31, 33-34, 36; Lk 14:12-14
Tue:	Rom 12:5-16b; Ps 131:1bcd-e-3; Lk 14:15-24
Wed:	Rom 13:8-10; Ps 112:1b-2, 4-5, 9; Lk 14:25-33
Thu:	Ez 47:1-2, 8-9, 12; Ps 46:2-3, 5-6, 8-9; 1 Cor 3:9c-11, 16-17; Jn 2:13-22
Fri:	Rom 15:14-21; Ps 98:1-4; Lk 16:1-8
Sat:	Rom 16:3-9, 16, 22-27; Ps 145:2-5, 10-11; Lk 16:9-15
Sun:	Wis 6:12-16; Ps 63:2-8; 1 Thes 4:13-18 [13-14]; Mt 25:1-13



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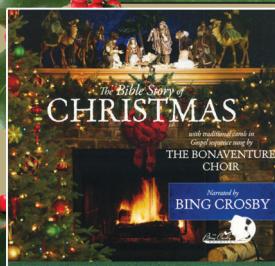
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