

# *Immaculate Heart of Mary Church*

*New Melle, Missouri*



*December 6, 2015*

## *Second Sunday of Advent*

*Prepare the way of the Lord,  
make straight his paths.*

*Every valley shall be filled  
and every mountain and hill  
shall be made low.*

## *Sacraments and Devotions*

### **Celebration of the Mass**

#### **Weekend Masses in the Church**

Vigil                    4:00 pm  
Sunday                7:30 am  
                             9:30 am  
                             11:15 am

#### **Daily Mass**

Monday through Friday 8:00 am, Chapel  
Saturday 8:00 am, Church

### **Devotions and Prayers, St. Joseph Chapel**

Rosary following 8:00 Mass  
Rosary at noon on Wednesday  
Tuesday after Mass-  
                             Perpetual Help devotions  
Thursday after Mass-  
                             Respect Life prayers  
Friday at 11:30 am- Chaplet of  
                             Divine Mercy and Benediction

### **Reconciliation**

Wednesday in church, 7:00 pm  
Saturday after the 8:00 am Mass

### **Marriage**

Contact the parish office at least six  
months prior to the wedding.

### **Baptism**

Contact the parish office to register for  
Baptism class and to arrange for the  
Baptism.

### **Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults**

Contact Shawn Mueller in the  
parish office

### **Eucharistic Adoration**

St. Joseph Chapel is open for adoration  
24 hours daily from Monday after Mass  
to Friday benediction. **Code: 145**

# Immaculate Heart of Mary

Mailing address :  
PO Box 100  
New Melle, MO 63365

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

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

Website: [www.ihm-newmelle.org](http://www.ihm-newmelle.org)

## Parish Staff

### Contact Information

**Parish Office**                      **636-398-5270**

**Pastor**                                      **Fr. Tom Miller**  
Fr. Tom's cell phone; for emergency only  
314-303-2428

[askpadre@aol.com](mailto:askpadre@aol.com)

**Permanent Deacon**            **Deacon Chris Ast**  
[chrisast@archstl.org](mailto:chrisast@archstl.org)

**Permanent Deacon**            **Deacon Tony Falbo**  
[tony.2011@centurylink.net](mailto:tony.2011@centurylink.net)

**Director of Religious Education/ PSR**  
**Shawn Mueller**  
[smueller@ihm-newmelle.org](mailto:smueller@ihm-newmelle.org)

**Business Manager**                      **Laura Orf**  
[lorf@ihm-newmelle.org](mailto:lorf@ihm-newmelle.org)

**Secretary**                                      **Sarah Aulbach**  
[secretary@ihm-newmelle.org](mailto:secretary@ihm-newmelle.org)

**Bulletin Editor**                              **Marilyn O'Neill**  
[bulletin@ihm-newmelle.org](mailto:bulletin@ihm-newmelle.org)

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[julie.r.lassiter@gmail.com](mailto:julie.r.lassiter@gmail.com)

**Music Director**                              **Marilyn O'Neill**  
[m.oneill@ihm-newmelle.org](mailto:m.oneill@ihm-newmelle.org)

**Safe Environment Coordinator**  
**Karen Wappelhorst**  
[childsafety@ihm-newmelle.org](mailto: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

*Prepare the way of the Lord*



## Religious Education

Parish School of Religion (Grades 1 through 8)

September through May on Wednesdays from 6:00 to 7:30 pm

Confirmation Preparation (8th grade)

September through May on Wednesdays from 6:00 to 7:30 pm

Children's Liturgy of the Word

September through May on Sundays during the 9:30 am Mass

Adult Education

Wednesdays at 8:45 am and 6:10 pm.

## This Week's Events

*Birthright Christmas greeting cards will be available  
after all the weekend Masses in the narthex.*

**Christmas quilt raffle tickets will be available  
after all the weekend Masses in the narthex.**

### Sunday, December 6

9:30 am

Children's Liturgy of the Word

### Monday, December 7

4:00 pm

Girl Scouts, Weber Hall

6:30 pm

Scouts, Founders Hall

6:30 pm

Scouts, trailer

7:00 pm

Bell choir rehearsal, church

### Tuesday, December 8

**Feast of the Immaculate Conception;  
the parish office will be closed today**

9:00 am

Exercise Classes, Grand Hall Foyer

6:30 pm

Legion of Mary, St. Gianna

7:45 pm

Stations of the Nativity, Church  
(after the 7:00 pm Mass)

### Wednesday, December 9

8:45 am

Sunday scripture Bible study, Weber Hall

3:00 pm

Marian Council Bus Trip, for those with paid reservations

6:00 pm

PSR, Founders Hall, Weber Hall

6:10 pm

Adult Bible Study, Grand Hall

7:00 pm

The Sacrament of Reconciliation, church

7:00 pm

Youth Group Rosary, church

7:30 pm

Youth Group Informational Meeting, Weber Hall

### Thursday, December 10

9:00 am and 5:30 pm

Exercise Classes, Grand Hall Foyer

6:30 pm

RCIA classes, Weber Hall

7:00 pm

Choir Rehearsal, church

### Friday, December 11

8:30 am

Quilters, Weber Hall

### Saturday, December 12

8:00 am

Mass followed by confessions, Church

9:00 am

Wreath Preparation in Sausage Sales Area

## Mass Intentions for the Week

### Saturday, December 5

8:00 am Joe Sinopole +  
Leo and Anna Tevlin +  
4:00 pm Walt Ketts +

### Sunday, December 6

7:30 am Louise Seper +  
9:30 am Helen Orf +  
11:15 am People of the Parish

### Monday, December 7

8:00 am Bettegene King +  
Dollie Littlejohn +

### Tuesday, December 8

#### Feast of the Immaculate Conception

8:00 am All Souls Intentions  
7:00 pm People of the Parish

### Wednesday, December 9

8:00 am David Lozano +  
Freda Swatnam +

### Thursday, December 10

9:00 am Bader and Wolff Families  
George Dudenhoeffer +

### Friday, December 11

8:00 am Moira Ryan +  
Gerrie Bader +

### Saturday, December 12

8:00 am Sinopole Family  
4:00 pm People of the Parish

### Sunday, December 13

7:30 am Joe Sinopole +  
9:30 am Mary Berfanger +  
11:15 am Mary Jill Warner +

## READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Is 35:1-10; Ps 85:9-14; Lk 5:17-26  
Tuesday: Gn 3:9-15, 20; Ps 98:1-4; Eph 1:3-6, 11-12;  
Lk 1:26-38  
Wednesday: Is 40:25-31; Ps 103:1-4, 8, 10; Mt 11:28-30  
Thursday: Is 41:13-20; Ps 145:1, 9-13ab; Mt 11:11-15  
Friday: Is 48:17-19; Ps 1:1-4, 6; Mt 11:16-19  
Saturday: Zec 2:14-17; Jdt 13:18bcde, 19; Lk 1:26-38  
Sunday: Zep 3:14-18a; Is 12:2-3, 4, 5-6;  
Phil 4:4-7; Lk 3:10-18

## SAINTS

Monday: St. Ambrose;  
Tuesday: The Immaculate Conception of the  
Blessed Virgin Mary  
Wednesday: St. Juan Diego  
Friday: St. Damasus I  
Saturday: Our Lady of Guadalupe

### JOIN THE HOLY FATHER'S PRAYER INTENTIONS FOR DECEMBER, 2015

**Universal:** That all may experience the mercy of God, who never tires of forgiving.

**Evangelization:** That families, especially those who suffer, may find in the birth of Jesus a sign of certain hope.

## Scouting Units

**Parish Rep (All Units)** Jerry Hespen; 636-236-1955  
Cub Pack Wesley Brandhorst; 636-327-0531  
Scout Troop Chad Peters; 314-807-7177  
Venture Crew Dana Hoffman; 636-734-8423

**Budget and Finance** John Wappelhorst  
636-398-5786

**Cemetery Committee** Mark Keune  
314-220-7075

**Dinner Committee** Richard Lalonde  
636-798-2511

**Knights of Columbus** Mike Reel, Grand Knight  
314-581-6797

**Legion of Mary** Nancy Hollenstein  
636-798-2105

**Marian Council** Michelle Brothers, President  
314-614-1114

**Meals on Wheels** Call the parish office  
636-398-5270

**Prayer Shawl Ministry** Julia Kettler  
314-616-0096

**Pro-Life Committee** Bill Winters  
636-828-4133

**Quilters** Eleanor Sadlo  
636-398-5595

Mary Ann Brakensiek  
636-828-5776

**St. Vincent DePaul** For information or assistance,  
call 636-398-5270, ex. 225

## MEDITATION ON TODAY'S GOSPEL

*[John the Baptist began preaching,] "Turn away from your sins and be baptized, and God will forgive your sins."*  
LUKE 3:3

Legend says that while painting The Last Supper, Leonardo da Vinci had a terrible fight with someone. Afterward, he went to his studio, picked up his brush, and prepared to paint the face of Jesus. To his dismay he couldn't make a single decent stroke. He put down his brush, went to the man he had fought with, and asked his forgiveness. Leonardo returned to his studio and resumed painting the face of Jesus. Have I ever had an experience similar to Leonardo's? What motivates me to repent my sins?

*It is one thing to mourn sin because it exposes us to hell...and another thing to mourn it because it is wrong and offensive to God. it is one thing to be terrified, another, to be humbled.*

Gardiner Spring

Fr. Mark Link S.J. Vision 2000

## Passing the basket and not the buck

Dear Parishioners,

Last week as we began the Advent season we made a change in the procedure of one of the aspects of our worship. Under the recommendation of the Stewardship Committee of the Archdiocese and in discussion with our Finance Committee there was a decision made to try baskets that can be passed within the assembly rather than continuing with the baskets on a pole handled by the ushers. Passing the basket within the assembly is being done on a trial basis. I'd like to give this an honest try for two months. If the general feedback is not favorable I am more than happy to return to our basket on a pole. I do have a number of post change comments to share with you.

First of all I would like to offer you my apologies for not communicating this change before it took place. Overall I think that I do an adequate job communicating such changes; however I think this is one where I dropped the ball. A simple announcement in the bulletin or after Mass that a change was being tried would have better prepared all of you for it. Our ushers received an e-mail about the coming change and a few have offered feedback and raised some valid questions about the procedure.

Feedback and comments are essential in our life as a community. I welcome your comments and thoughts on just about anything in our parish life. The most common concern expressed by a few of our ushers is that the procedure will be difficult because we possess such a large church. There are many gaps in the seating at most of our Masses so it will require individuals to take the basket to someone at the other end of the pew or pass it behind them. Since I don't have to participate in this process it is not easy for me to assess what type of impact it is having on your worship. Over the next month or two I hope you let me know what you think about it.

Not all feedback is offered equally. Some feedback like what I mentioned above is actually helpful and appreciated. It identifies a potential problem and offers a solution. How big of a problem (if one at all) will be assessed over the next two months. I pray you can be patient and give the change an honest try. Some have expressed that they simply don't like it. They are opposed and that is all that matters. Of course one can maintain that type of posture, but all it really communicates to me is personal displeasure. While I have no desire to increase personal displeasure for any of us, I am inclined to wonder how much personal displeasure passing the basket causes? None of us are excited about changes in life unless we are in pain or unhappy. Only under those two circumstances is change desired and welcomed. Otherwise many of us are fans of the status quo. I can appreciate and respect that. I also appreciate and respect the ability to be patient and adaptable.

Any-whose-it, Advent is all about the biggest change in creation —its end. With that end in mind, I realize that my life is incredibly blessed as I await His return. We have the luxury of being concerned about collection procedures when so many others in our world face much more serious issues of life and death.



Blessed Advent,

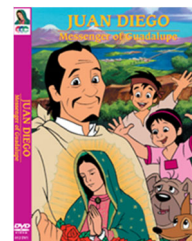
Fr. Tom



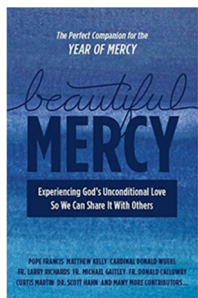
**NEWS  
FROM THE  
RELIGIOUS  
EDUCATION  
DEPARTMENT**

**PSR Corner**

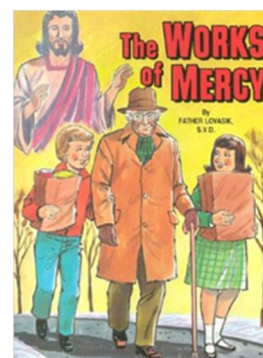
We have two classes remaining for the calendar year, December 9<sup>th</sup> (Feast Day of St. Juan Diego—recipient of the apparitions of Our Lady of Guadalupe) and December 16<sup>th</sup> (which will be the date of our 2<sup>nd</sup> graders first reconciliation). No PSR on Wednesday, December 23<sup>rd</sup> or 30<sup>th</sup> for Christmas Break. See note below about the works of mercy.



## A “New Year’s Plan” beginning in Advent and extending through the “Year of Mercy” The Corporal and Spiritual Works of Mercy



Pope Francis has decreed a special year of mercy (beginning December 8, 2015 – November 20, 2016) in which he is directing the faithful to reflect and act on the corporal and spiritual works of mercy. He writes, “It is my burning desire that, during this Jubilee, the Christian people may reflect on the corporal and spiritual works of mercy. It will be a way to reawaken our conscience, too often grown dull in the face of poverty. And let us enter more deeply into the heart of the Gospel where the poor have a special experience of God’s mercy. Jesus introduces us to these works of mercy in his preaching so that we can know whether or not we are living as his disciples. Let us rediscover these corporal works of mercy: to feed the hungry, give drink to the thirsty, clothe the naked, welcome the stranger, heal the sick, visit the imprisoned, and bury the dead. And let us not forget the spiritual works of mercy: to counsel the doubtful, instruct the ignorant, admonish sinners, comfort the afflicted, forgive offences, bear patiently those who do us ill, and pray for the living and the dead.”



Throughout this year of mercy, we will be offering reflections and concrete action suggestions to help stir us on in thought and deed to respond to this call. Here are three resources you or your family might consider to start. The first is a great video called “Little Boy” – a heartwarming story in which a priest directs a young boy to follow “the ancient list” of the corporal works of mercy to increase his faith. The second is a Matthew Kelly book called “Beautiful Mercy” in which various noted authors comment on the works of mercy. The third is a simple booklet found in the pamphlet rack of the narthex called “Works of Mercy.” A practical idea for individuals or families to consider would be to (like in the movie Little Boy) to write out a check-list of the works of mercy and seek to cover all of them in a variety of ways throughout this year. The above guides will help get the works rolling.

### THE ST. VINCENT DEPAUL GIVING TREE

This year’s Advent Giving Tree was put up very quickly last Saturday (thank you, Bryan Potter!) The angel gift tags were completely gone in record time! Since the gifts will be given out on December 19, you have a very short time to return them to church. So here’s the timeline- **Now until December 13:** If you have purchased an item for the Giving Tree, wrap it and attach the angel tag to the OUTSIDE of the package. All gifts should be returned to the narthex, ready to be given to the person specified on the angel gift tag.

**Please note: since the gifts will be handed out on Dec 19, anything brought in after that date will be too late to distribute. Please don’t miss the deadline!**

### ADVENT REFLECTION TIME

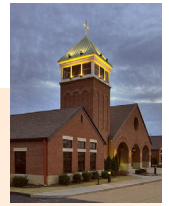
Treat yourself to something special for the Advent Season. Come join Deacon Chris for a quiet evening of reflection as we walk with the Holy Family on a journey to explore the Stations of the Nativity (the Annunciation to the visit of the Magi). This will take place immediately after the 7:00 pm Mass on December 8, the Feast of the Immaculate Conception. A signup sheet is in the narthex.

### Dynamic Catholic, Alive! – Looking Ahead to 2016

Building on a foundation of prayer, there will be a special emphasis on study in 2016. Saints such as Augustine, Thomas Aquinas, and Edith Stein point to the intellectual riches of Catholicism. Since there is a Genius to Catholicism, Dynamic Catholics are continuous learners. How well do you know the faith? Visit the Study section of the Dynamic Catholic, Alive! website for a list of recommended books and other resources. [archstl.org/dynamic](http://archstl.org/dynamic)



## NEWS FROM HOME



### Stewardship

Dec. 6, 2015

St. Joseph Chapel "Heavenly Dusters"

### Judy Jacob

The collection figures for Sunday, Nov. 22

General Offertory: \$8,790.50

Online-General Offering: \$2,542.00

Total: \$11,332.50

The collection figures for Sunday, Nov. 29

General Offertory: \$8,991.36

Online-General Offering: \$2,627.00

Total: \$11,618.36

*Thank you for your generosity!*

*Try Electronic Offertory*

*Those who are pledging for the "Many Gifts. One Heart" new debt reduction campaign title. Pink debt reduction envelopes are included in the monthly envelope mailing.*

*There are options for giving. Use weekly envelopes or check out On-Line giving at [www.ihm-newmelle.org](http://www.ihm-newmelle.org)*

**St. Vincent DePaul Society**

**Items needed for the pantry:** cooking oil, Paper products, cleaning supplies, detergent, bleach, personal products such as razors, shaving cream, toothpaste

### Christmas Quilt Raffle

The IHM quilters have done it again. They've completed another gorgeous quilt, just in time for a Christmas raffle. The quilt in all its glory is pictured here.



Tickets will be offered after all the weekend Masses on Nov. 28-29, Dec. 5-6, and Dec. 12-13.

The drawing will take place on Friday, Dec. 18 at 9:00 am.

Tickets are \$2 each or 3 for \$5.

### From the St. Vincent dePaul Society Food Pantry--

A sincere **thank you** goes to the generous people in this area for the wonderful response to the Scouting for Food Drive on Nov. 21.

**7,188 items** were brought to the St. Vincent de Paul food pantry for which we are truly grateful. Cub Scout Pack 856, Boy Scout Troop 856, and Boy Scout Troop 984 from Dardenne Prairie did a fantastic job of collecting and sorting the cans and boxes of food along with many parishioners who helped with the receiving, moving, and stacking of shelves. We thank everyone for their hard work and dedication to make this event a great success every year!



**For everything there is a season,  
and a time for every matter under heaven.**

*Recent Baptisms include these little ones:*

Anna Irene,

daughter of Nick and Alana Klemme;

and Oliver Patrick, son of Joseph and Christine Hitt  
and grandson of Jean Hitt.

*...a time to love...*

The marriage of Jenni Orf and Jake Emge  
was celebrated here last week.

Jenni is the daughter of Steve and Laura Orf.

*May they always keep Christ at the center of their marriage.*

*...a time to die...*

Please pray for the recently deceased

Frances Randolph, daughter of Virginia Randolph;

Chuck Shinabargar, brother of Lori Freeman

*May they rest in the peace of Christ.*

### PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK:

Marion Mueller  
Patricia Prongue  
Patricia Rudolf  
Shirley McDonald  
Ann Fitzgerald  
Susan Van Booven  
Terri Guernsey  
Melissa Van Hoy  
Dave Hendrix  
Al Bamert  
Ted Feldewerth  
Jo-nell Falcon  
Nancy Hollenstein  
Alexander Wilmes  
Charlie Grady  
Frank Modder  
Denny Steinmeyer  
Tom Miller  
Mildred Riley  
Darryl and Clara  
Bockting  
Angel Owens  
Ted Pivin  
Rita Elfrink  
Bob Cova  
Judy Jacobs' mom  
Rick Cobleigh  
Tricia Woods  
Joan Allen  
Joan Martin  
Chris Hanna  
Rita Bendel's brother  
Tom

Michael Candrl and  
his family  
Linda Candrl and her  
family  
Jackie Hackett  
Virgil Gildehaus  
Alice Molitor  
Maxine Drinen  
Tom Holstein  
Mary Meyer and her  
family  
JoAnn Cwiklowski  
Nancy  
Jewel Kostecki  
Shirley Sims  
Cy and Catherine  
Bamert  
Lisa Clark  
Tammy Boyd  
Larry Hanna  
Terry Hagan  
Dave Gentry  
Elaine Klein  
Mary Alice Dickherber  
Sue Orlet  
Bob Blackford  
Louise Fisher  
David and Mary Karll  
Ken Donaghue  
Denny and Joan  
Duvall  
Jerry Schmitz  
Bobbi Beeson

Charles and Kathy  
Duckworth  
Ed Hoeckelmann  
Gerald Hailey  
Virginia Randolph  
Barb Pope  
Bill Ulery  
Sally Buck  
Gerald Hailey  
Pat Ryan  
Monsignor Mank  
Kim F.  
Sylvia  
Antonette  
Steven Albright  
Jennifer  
Frances Bussen  
Tim  
Bonnie  
Yvonne Scott  
Bob Berfanger  
John Pellerito  
Gerald Bussen  
Bernie Lears  
Kathy  
Walt Reel  
Mary Edington  
Debbie  
Norma Jean  
Maschmann

## What's Your Catholic IQ?

1. During the dark and cold winters of Northern Europe, Germanic tribes placed \_\_\_\_ in their homes for light and heat.

- a) a yule log
- b) an evergreen wreath with candles
- c) a lava lamp
- d) smoldering ashes from Ash Wednesday

2. The Year of Our Lord, the Church's calendar year, begins on

- a) payday
- b) New Year's Day
- c) Easter Sunday
- d) the First Sunday of Advent

3. Saint \_\_\_\_ was the first to create a Christmas crèche (manger) to celebrate the birth of Christ.

- a) Nicholas
- b) Mary
- c) Joseph
- d) Francis of Assisi

4. How did the magi find the baby Jesus?

- a) followed the GPS on their camels
- b) found Bethlehem on Google Maps
- c) followed the star
- d) asked the locals for directions to the Church of the Nativity

5. There are \_\_\_\_ candles in the Advent wreath; all except one are the color \_\_\_\_.

- a) seven; white
- b) four; purple/violet
- c) twelve; pink
- d) three; Christmas tree green

6. The Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph occurs during the season of

- a) Christmas
- b) Advent
- c) Ordinary Time
- d) Lent

7. Matthew 2:11 tells of the magi bringing gifts of gold, \_\_\_\_, and myrrh to the Christ child.

- a) silver
- b) diamonds
- c) frankincense
- d) frankfurters

8. The angels and the heavenly hosts proclaimed: "Glory to God in the highest and on earth \_\_\_\_ to those on whom his favor rests" (Luke 2:14).

- a) peace
- b) blessings
- c) happiness
- d) prosperity

9. The angel \_\_\_\_ told Mary that she would be the mother of Jesus.

- a) from the TV show "Touched by an Angel"
- b) Gabriel
- c) Michael
- d) Raphael

10. Which figurine in the family crèche might not appear until Christmas morning?

- a) the angel
- b) the donkey
- c) the magi
- d) the Christ Child

Answers on the next page →

## BIRTHRIGHT CHRISTMAS CARDS

The Pro-Life Committee will be selling Birthright Christmas cards after all Masses this weekend. Please consider supporting Birthright when planning your Christmas card purchases.

### Please note:

December 27 is the cut-off date for making a contribution to be counted for 2015 so that statements can be printed in a timely fashion. Solemnity of Mary contributions (Jan. 1) are counted as a 2016 contribution. Year-end statements will be printed in early January so that you can pick up them up in Weber Hall.

## LITURGICAL MINISTERS FOR NEXT WEEK

### December 12

4:00 pm

- EM: Joan Falbo, Donna Cuddihee, Carol Baker, Dave & Judy Hendrix, Vanita Joerling
- L: Gerard Knott, Nancy Ast
- GB: Judy Cova, Loretta Bruns
- S: Brody Stafford, William Frederick
- U: Bill Pollihan, Chris Cuddihee, Bryan Potter

**One more please**

### December 13

7:30 am

- EM: Kris Jenkins, Walt & Jean Reel, John & Karen Wappelhorst, John Fiocco
- L: Derek Arnzen, Mary Hardesty
- GB: Tim & Kathy Feldewerth
- S: Eleanor & Max Hahn
- U: Rich Molitor, Ed Rabbitt, Gary Potter, Mike Hardesty

### December 13

9:30 am

- EM: Kris Jenkins, Doug Norton, Laura Orf, Chris Richter, Mary Keune, Craig Hoel, Bob & Irene Caldwell
- L: Nancy Hollenstein, **One more please**
- GB: Adam & Lindsay Molitor
- S: Brianna, Morgan, Jordan Dale
- U: Chris & Justin Molitor, Shawn Sweetin, Dave DeBold

### December 13

11:15 am

- EM: Donna Wolff, Sharon Smith, Joan Marren-Slaughter, Katie Wibbenmeyer, Mary Keune, Patrice Riley
- L: Theresa & Jim Risch
- GB: Dianne & Alicia Dickherber
- S: Maggie Molitor, Emma Wibbenmeyer
- U: Glen Taylor, Todd Neihouse, **One more please**

The liturgical ministry sign-up sheets for Christmas and New Year's may be found in the narthex.

Do you have some time to help decorate the church for Christmas? If so, keep these dates and times open:

- ⇒ On Saturday, December 12 at 9:00 am, the wreaths will be prepped in the Sausage Sales area.
- ⇒ On Sunday, December 20 at 12:30 pm, the main body of the church and narthex will be decorated.
- ⇒ We can always use more hands! There are sign up sheets in the narthex or call Nancy at 636- 357- 3456.



**New information on Legion of Mary:** Meetings will now take place every Tuesday at St. Gianna Church. Meetings will begin at 6:45 on Tuesday evenings. For more information call Nancy at 636-699-6920.



### Catholic IQ Answers:

1. **b)** European Catholics in the Middle Ages “Christianized” candled wreaths and incorporated them into their Advent preparation for the coming of Christ, the light of the world (John 8:12).
2. **d)** Unlike the civil calendar year, the Church begins her liturgical calendar at the beginning of Advent.
3. **d)** On Christmas Eve in 1223, Francis recreated the birth of Christ in a cave with live animals and people. He hoped to inspire Christians to recognize Christ in their midst.
4. **c)** Matthew 2:1-2 describes how the magi came to Jerusalem after seeing a star in the east that indicated the birth of a great king.
5. **b)** Churches decorate for Advent with purple altar cloths, vestments, and candles. On Gaudete (Rejoice) Sunday, the Third Sunday of Advent, the candle is rose, signifying the joy of Christians awaiting the Messiah.
6. **a)** The Feast of the Holy Family celebrates Jesus’ family and every family. The Church calls the family a “domestic church,” the first place of prayer, catechesis, and moral teaching. The family is where the gospel is brought to life. The Feast of the Holy Family is celebrated between Christmas and New Year’s Day.
7. **c)** Gold represented Christ’s role as King. Frankincense represented his divine nature, since incense was used to worship God. Myrrh represented his sacrificial death for the sins of humanity, since it is a perfume for embalming the dead.
8. **a)** This angelic song anchors the Gloria we pray every Sunday Mass except during Advent and Lent, the seasons of penance in the Church.
9. **b)** Gabriel appears in Luke 1 to announce the births of John the Baptist and Jesus. Tradition suggests that Gabriel also was the one who spoke to Joseph in his dreams (Matthew 1:20; 2:13, 19) and to the shepherds in the field (Luke 2:9-10).
10. **d)** Some families do not place the figurine of the baby Jesus in their crèche until Christmas morning to build anticipation for the coming of Christ into their home.

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

### Enkindle - Infertility Support

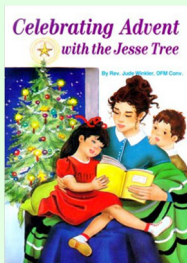
The journey of infertility and miscarriage is a difficult one and sometimes it becomes too challenging for you and your spouse to travel alone. The Archdiocesan Office of Natural Family is offering a free half hour appointment to speak with a registered nurse and a licensed professional counselor in person or over the phone. To find out more about this program or to set up a complimentary phone or face to face half hour appointment, please contact the Archdiocesan Office of Natural Family Planning at 314-997-7675. The next date these are available is December 10.

We want to offer you a safe place to talk about this journey. As you work toward acceptance of this challenge, our ministry is to offer hope while seeking peace.

### St. Paul Library / Lighthouse CD Resources

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

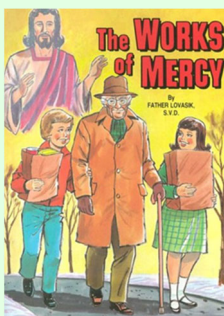
#### From the Parish Lighthouse CD Rack: Church Narthex



This book helps children prepare for celebrating the birth of Jesus by remembering the promises God made to His people in the Old Testament.

The book includes a page on preparing for Christmas, and what the Jesse Tree is about. The rest of the book retells the stories of the Jesse tree.

Beautifully illustrated. 32 pages. Part of a larger series of children’s books – great set for the family.



#### From the Parish Lighthouse CD Rack: Church Narthex

Rev. Lawrence G. Lovasik, S.V.D. This full-color illustrated children's book from the collection of St. Joseph Picture Books explains both the Corporal Works of Mercy and the Spiritual Works of Mercy, in terms young children can understand. See other note in bulletin.

**IF YOU ARE MARRIED** or soon to be married, you need to realize that your marriage is your vocation! Your marriage must come before all things except God!

**Have you signed up to pray for vocations?** The sign-up sheet is in the narthex. When it is your turn, Fr. Tom will give you the icon, a candle, and a load of information to ponder. When you return it the next week, another family will take it home and continue praying. **Let’s keep it going!**

### Christmas Season Mass Schedule

The Mass schedule will be the same as always for all weekend Masses: 4:00 pm on Saturday afternoon; and 7:30, 9:30 and 11:15 on Sunday morning.

**Christmas Eve**, December 24: 4:00 pm (a change from other years); Midnight Mass with music starting at 11:30 pm

**Christmas Day**, December 25: 10:00 am

**New Year’s Eve**, December 31: there will be no Mass other than the usual 8:00 am Mass (a change from other years)

**New Year’s Day**, January 1: 10:00 am and 7:00 pm

**Please mark your calendars so you have this information handy.**





### Photographs

Parishioners who had their free 8x10's mailed to the church will find them in a basket in the narthex. Please find yours and take it home.

**Please note:** It is getting much more difficult to find a priest to cover Masses when Father Tom is away. Recently we had made arrangements only to be notified on Sunday that the Monsignor had a conflict and would not be able to be here. **With that in mind, we have decided to adjust the time for the remaining Parish Missionary Disciples class dates. ONLY on the following dates we will have Mass at 7:30 instead of 8:00: Tuesday, December 15; Thursday, January 14; Thursday, February 11; Wednesday, March 9**



### IHM Scouts Christmas Tree Lot

Located in the pavilion next to the chapel

The tree lot hours are as follows:

Saturdays from 9:00 AM to 8:00 PM

Sundays from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM

Weekdays (Mon. through Fri.) from 5:00 to 8:00 PM



The lot will close Sunday, December 20, unless we sell all the trees before then.

Here's what we have for sale:

Wreaths		
	20"	\$20
	26"	\$25
Trees		
Balsam (Premium)		
	7-8'	\$55
	8-10'	\$65
	10-12'	\$90
Balsam (Field Run)		
	7-9'	\$50
Fraser		
	7-8'	\$65
	8-10'	\$85
	10-12'	\$95



**Come and support  
our Scouts!**



**Parish Office: 636-398-5270**

### Future Events



**December 8 is The Immaculate Conception, a holy day of obligation.** Mass will take place at 8:00 am and 7:00 pm in the church.



**Breakfast with Santa**, sponsored by the Knights of Columbus; Sunday, December 13 in Founders Hall. Breakfast will be served from 8:00 to 11:00 am with Santa arriving at about 9:00.



**The St. Vincent dePaul Society** will meet in the pantry on Monday, December 14 at 6:00 pm.



**Pro-Life Meeting** will take place on Monday, December 14 at 7:00 pm in Weber Hall.



**Crossroads** for young adults will meet on Tuesday, Dec. 15. Contact Julie Lassiter for more information, [julie.r.lassiter@gmail.com](mailto:julie.r.lassiter@gmail.com)



**Men's Christmas Dinner**, sponsored by the Knights of Columbus, will take place at 6:00 pm on Tuesday, Dec. 15 in the Grand Hall.



**First reconciliation** for PSR Grade 2 will take place on Wednesday, Dec. 16.



**Please make a note of the Mass schedule for the Christmas season on another page in this bulletin.**



**The Ecumenical Epiphany Concert, The Cavalcade of Choirs**, will take place at IHM on Sunday, Jan. 3 at 2:00 pm. A reception will follow in the Grand Hall. All are invited to attend this gathering of the New Melle area choirs, friends and families!

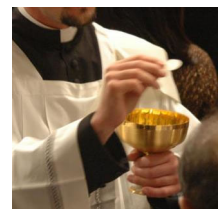
### Communion Calls

If you are unable to get to Mass because of illness or disability but would like to receive communion, please contact the parish office.

### Hospitalization

If you are hospitalized, we would like to know. Please call the office or ask a friend to call for you if necessary.

Parish office: 636-398-5270



## Out and About

### Breakfasts and Dinners

### Just for fun

- **Annual Holiday Bake Sale at Friedens Peace United Church of Christ** in New Melle. Our **Annual Holiday Cookie, Candy and Cinnamon Roll Sale Sunday** will take place on **December 6 from 11:00 to 2:00 p.m.** As always, we will have an amazing assortment of homemade cookies to be sold by the pound, including our decorated sugar cookies, just in time for your Christmas entertaining. We will also be taking pre-orders for homemade cinnamon rolls!! Call the church office at [636-828-5980](tel:636-828-5980), leaving your name, phone number and how many dozen you would like, frozen and \$10 per dozen. DEADLINE To Order: Tuesday, December 1 before noon.
- **Fundraiser for the Marty Kothe family:** The Flint Hill Knights of Columbus, 2061 Grothe Rd., is sponsoring a chicken fry on Friday, December 11 from 5:00 – 7:00 to benefit Marty Kothe who has been challenged with serious recurring health issues. If you are unable to attend, donations are greatly appreciated. For additional information call 636-327-7386.
- **Christkindl Abend**, Evening of the Christ Child at ALL SAINTS PARISH, 7 McMenamy Road, St. Peters, MO, 636-397-1440; ALL ACTIVITIES ~ FREE; **Wednesday & Thursday, Dec. 16 & 17 between 5 pm and 8 pm, all are invited;** See a live nativity including animals, Walk under an arbor of a 1,000 lights, Eat a light dinner of hearty soup, rolls, cocoa and drinks, Christmas cookies; Hear a story, Take a photo (your phone or camera) wearing a shepherd costume at one of two photo booths, Sing or listen to a carol or two with the All Saints Carolers ; Wheelchair Accessible

### Opportunities

- **A Morning with Mary, Mother of Priests** (for women) presented by **Fr. Mark Chrismer, Saturday December 12, 2015** at St. Joseph Parish in Cottleville. **Free . SCHEDULE:** 8:00 am- parish Mass for the Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe; 8:45 am - Women's conference on Spiritual motherhood for priests, Eucharistic Adoration with Benediction, Rosary and other prayers for priests. 10:30 am- Light reception, ending at 11:00 am. Please Register by **December 9-** -- by email to: [smfpstl@gmail.com](mailto:smfpstl@gmail.com) ;-- by phone: call [314-275-0890](tel:314-275-0890)
- **Invitation to Divorced and Separated Catholics:** "I'm furious. What can I do with this anger?" "If God is good, why did He allow this divorce?" "Why does it hurt so much?" Find the answers to these questions and more in a new ministry to Catholics who have suffered from divorce: **The Catholic's Divorce Survival Guide.** The 12-week DVD program features Catholic experts and lay men and women who share their challenges on the way to true healing. Immaculate Conception – Dardenne parish is hosting the program beginning January 7, 2016. Contact Debi at [debijo@att.net](mailto:debijo@att.net) or 314.276.3859 for more information.
- **Advent Retreats:** IL Ritiro Franciscan Retreat Center Dittmer, MO is offering a retreat during Advent. Pre-Christmas Franciscan Hermitage Retreat scheduled for December 21 Beginning at 5:30 pm - December 23 Noon. These Retreats provides quality time during the Advent season to be spent in prayer communally and in quiet reflection. Call: 636-274-0554; Email: [il.ritiro@gmail.com](mailto:il.ritiro@gmail.com); website: [www.il-ritiro.com](http://www.il-ritiro.com)
- **Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe**, 1115 S. Florissant Rd., St. Louis, MO 63121 on December 12, 2015. Schedule: from 4:30 – 6:00 a.m. Las Mananitas (morning prayers); 6:00 a.m. Eucharist; 7:00 a.m. Breakfast; 5:00 p.m. Eucharist (English); Children's Mass December 14 at 9:00 a.m. Welcome to all who join us in celebrating!!! 314-522-9264

### TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

By now, trees are beginning to appear in living rooms throughout the parish. To a complete outsider to our culture, it must seem an odd thing indeed. The "roots" of this custom are in liturgical drama: religious plays performed in the churches and town squares of medieval Europe. The favorite theme for this time of year was the "Paradise Play," a dramatic history of the human race from the Garden of Eden to the birth of Jesus in Bethlehem. The language and music varied from place to place, but one feature was always in place: a great tree decorated with apples. As a prop, it provided lots of material for the actors: the temptation, shelter for the manger, and a reminder of the wood of the cross. Soon people began to bring "paradise trees" into their homes, decorating them with gifts and lighted candles.

Many Germans give credit to Martin Luther for transforming the "Paradise Tree" into the evergreen Christmas tree. Walking home on a starry Advent night, he was so awed by the beauty of the night that he hauled a pine tree inside and decorated it with lighted candles. Americans were holdouts. It took until 1856 for the Commonwealth of Massachusetts to decriminalize Christmas decorations, the old Puritan dislikes falling before the waves of Irish and German immigrants with traditions firmly in hand!—Rev. James Field, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

### Sunday and Christmas TV Mass For the Homebound

Is someone you love unable to join us at church during this holy time of Advent and Christmas? For the faithful at home or in healthcare settings, the Heart of the Nation TV Mass brings spiritual comfort and the blessings of joyful hope in the coming of our newborn Savior. **Sunday and Christmas TV Mass, KTVI channel 2.2 at 9:00 a.m.**

Mass is also online at [www.HeartoftheNation.org](http://www.HeartoftheNation.org). For those who can get to church, the TV or online liturgy does not fulfill the Sunday or Christmas Mass obligation.

CHURCH NAME AND ADDRESS

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**SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS**

**PLEASE ALWAYS PERFORATE PAGE 9**