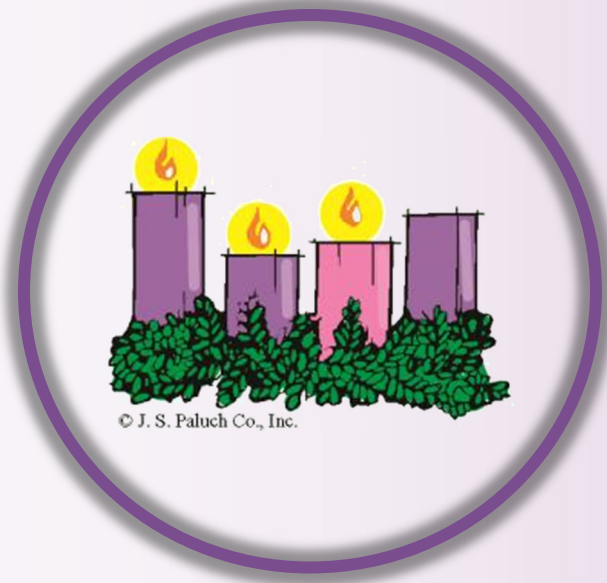


Immaculate Heart of Mary Church

New Melle, Missouri



December 13, 2015

Third Sunday of Advent

*"I am baptizing you with water,
but one mightier than I is coming...
He will baptize you with
the Holy Spirit and fire."*

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

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

Permanent Deacon **Deacon Chris Ast**
chrisast@archstl.org

Permanent Deacon **Deacon Tony Falbo**
tony.2011@centurylink.net

Director of Religious Education/ PSR
Shawn Mueller
smueller@ihm-newmelle.org

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julie.r.lassiter@gmail.com

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m.oneill@ihm-newmelle.org

Safe Environment Coordinator
Karen Wappelhorst
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

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

Sunday, December 13

8:00 am

Knights of Columbus breakfast, Founders Hall

9:00 am

Breakfast with Santa, Founders Hall

9:30 am

Children's Liturgy of the Word

7:00 pm

Reconciliation, church

Monday, December 14

6:00 pm

St. Vincent dePaul Society meeting in the pantry

6:30 pm

Scouts, Founders Hall

6:30 pm

Scouts, trailer

7:00 pm

Pro-Life Committee, Weber Hall

7:00 pm

Bell choir rehearsal, church

7:00 pm

Reconciliation, church

Tuesday, December 15

9:00 am

Exercise Classes, Grand Hall Foyer

6:00 pm

Crossroads for Young Adults;

contact Julie Lassiter for information, julie.r.lassiter@gmail.com

6:30 pm

Legion of Mary, St. Gianna

No confessions this evening

Wednesday, December 16

8:45 am

Sunday scripture Bible study, Weber Hall

6:00 pm

PSR, Founders Hall, Weber Hall

6:10 pm

Adult Bible Study, Grand Hall

7:00 pm

The Sacrament of Reconciliation, church

First Reconciliation for Grade 2

Thursday, December 17

9:00 am

Exercise Classes, Grand Hall Foyer

6:30 pm

RCIA classes, Weber Hall

7:00 pm

Choir Rehearsal, church

Friday, December 18

8:30 am

Quilters, Weber Hall

Saturday, December 19

8:00 am

Mass followed by confessions, Church

Sunday, December 20

11:15 am

Contemporary Group at Mass

12:15 pm

Christmas Decorations, Church

Mass Intentions for the Week

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 +

Monday, December 14

8:00 am Living and Deceased Members
of the Schneider family

Tuesday, December 15

Please note the time change:

7:30 am Edward Reifsteck +
George Dudenhoeffer +

Wednesday, December 16

8:00 am Sallie Ferguson +

Thursday, December 17

8:00 am All Souls Intentions

Friday, December 18

8:00 am Norman G. Hannig +
Bob Rapp +

Saturday, December 19

8:00 am Antonio Dragone
4:00 pm Shirley McDonald

Sunday, December 20

7:30 am People of the Parish
9:30 am Erma Guinn +
Gail A. Willman +
11:15 am Walt Ketts +

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Nm 24:2-7, 15-17a; Ps 25:4-5ab, 6, 7bc-9;
Mt 21:23-27
Tuesday: Zep 3:1-2, 9-13; Ps 34:2-3, 6-7, 17-19, 23;
Mt 21:28-32
Wednesday: Is 45:6b-8, 18, 21b-25; Ps 85:9-14; Lk 7:18b-23
Thursday: Gn 49:2, 8-10; Ps 72:1-4ab, 7-8, 17; Mt 1:1-17
Friday: Jer 23:5-8; Ps 72:1-2, 12-13, 18-19; Mt 1:18-25
Saturday: Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a;
Ps 71:3-4a, 5-6ab, 16-17; Lk 1:5-25
Sunday: Mi 5:1-4a; Ps 80:2-3, 15-16, 18-19;
Heb 10:5-10; Lk 1:39-45

SAINTS

Monday: St. John of the Cross



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

*[A man named John began preaching at the Jordan River.]
People's hopes began to rise, and they began to wonder
whether John perhaps might be the Messiah. LUKE 3:15*

Viktor Frankl was a Jewish psychiatrist when the Nazis arrested him and sent him to a concentration camp. In his book *Man's Search for Meaning*, he describes some of the sufferings that Jews endured in those camps. One was the pain of waiting- waiting to learn the fate of loved ones, waiting to learn one's own fate, waiting to be rescued. The pain of waiting also plagued Jews in Jesus' time- waiting to be delivered from the Romans, waiting for the Messiah to come. This pain affected Jews in different ways. Some lost hope; some lost faith. Others simply watched and prayed. What is one thing I am waiting for in my life? How is this affecting me?

"Be strong and don't be afraid! God is coming to your rescue."
ISAIAH 35:4

Fr. Mark Link S.J. *Vision 2000*



Christmas Season Mass Schedule

Weekend Masses: the schedule will be the same as usual
4:00 pm on Saturday afternoon;
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:
8:00 am Mass only
(there will be no evening vigil Mass, different 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.**



THE ST. VINCENT DEPAUL GIVING TREE

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-
TODAY, Dec. 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!



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 Dec. 12-13. The drawing will take place on

Friday, Dec. 18 at 9:00 am. **Tickets are \$2 each or 3 for \$5.**



Advent Reconciliation Schedule

Fr. Tom is available for confession
Sunday through Wednesday,
from 7:00 pm to 8:30 pm.
He is happy to celebrate the sacrament of
reconciliation with you
or just talk if that's what you would like.

Christmas Decorations for the Church

*Do you have some time to
help decorate the church
for Christmas?*

**If so, we could always use
more hands!**

There are sign-up sheets
in the narthex or call Nancy at
636-357-3456.

The main body of the church
and narthex will be decorated

**Sunday, December 20
at 12:30 pm.**

**We need a few sturdy people
to climb ladders in addition
to the other decorating
chores.**

Thanks in advance
for volunteering your time
for the benefit of the parish!

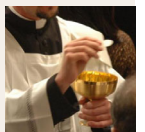
Communion Calls

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

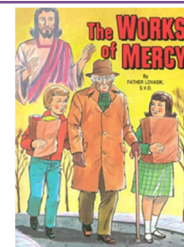
If you are hospitalized, we would like to know. Please call the office or ask a friend to call for you if necessary.

Parish office: 636-398-5270



PSR Corner

We have one class remaining for the calendar year, December 16th (which will be the date of our 2nd graders first reconciliation). No PSR on Wednesday, December 23 or 30 for Christmas Break. See note below about the works 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."

To DO the works of Mercy, it is helpful to first KNOW the works of mercy. Here are the Corporal Works with Scriptures, as well as a memory aid. (Next week we'll cover the Spiritual Works)

1. **Feed the hungry:** "For I was hungry and you gave me to eat." Mt. 25:35
2. **Give drink to the thirsty:** "...I was thirsty and you gave me to drink..." Mt. 25:35
3. **Clothe the naked:** "I was...naked and you clothed me..." Mt. 25:36
4. **Visit the imprisoned:** "I was in prison and you came to me." Mt. 25:36
5. **Shelter the homeless:** "...I was a stranger and you took me in..." Mt. 25:35
6. **Visit the sick:** "...I was sick and you cared for me..." Mt. 25:36
7. **Bury the dead:** "Amen, I say to you, insofar as you did it for one of these least of my brothers, you did it for me." Mt. 25:40



MEMORY AID: DH-THINS

Symbol: Designated Hitter stands in for the pitcher.....

THINS = symbol for the impoverished.

We stand in for Christ....

Christ has no body now but ours.

D=Dead (Dead, Bury the)

H=Homeless (Homeless, Shelter)

T=Thirsty (Thirsty, Give Drink to)

H=Hungry (Hungry, Feed the)

I=Imprisoned (Imprisoned, Visit)

N=Naked (Naked, Clothe the)

S=Sick (Sick, Visit the)



Dynamic Catholic, Alive! – According to Matthew Kelly, Dynamic Catholics spend, on average, fourteen minutes a day learning more about the faith. In the year of study, we challenge you to make significant strides in your knowledge of the faith. Matthew Kelly asks, "How would your life be different one year from now, five years from now, ten years from now if you read five pages of a great Catholic book each day?" (*The Four Signs*, 106). Strive to create a great cathedral of the mind!
archstl.org/dynamic

"IT IS REALLY GOD HIMSELF, the 'LORD of the harvest', who chooses his laborers. His call is always undeserved and unexpected. We are called to cooperate with his providence, and to use the powerful tool which he has placed in our hands: prayer. Jesus said 'Pray the LORD of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest!'"

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!**



NEWS FROM HOME



Stewardship

Dec. 13, 2015

St. Joseph Chapel "Heavenly Dusters"

Judy Hendrix

The collection figures for Sunday, Dec. 6

General Offertory: \$16,644.24

Online-General Offering: \$3,328.00

Total: \$19,972.24

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

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

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.

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.

Please note: It is getting much more difficult to find a priest to cover Masses when Father Tom is away. **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**

YOU Can Help Your Marriage – 25% of surveyed couples say they are "Happily Married". For everyone else there is **Retrouvaille**. Are you frustrated or angry with each other? Does talking only make it worse? For information on the Retrouvaille Program, visit the website at www.HelpOurMarriage.com or call 1-800-470-2230. The next program begins the weekend of **January 29-31, 2016.**

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

...a time to die...

Please pray for the recently deceased

Chuck Shinabargar, brother of Lori Freeman;

Ted Splitt, brother of Dot Welge;

Emily Brakensiek,

mother of David and Mary Ann Brakensiek

May they rest in the peace of Christ.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK:

Marion Mueller	Michael Candrl and	Charles and Kathy
Patricia Prongue	his family	Duckworth
Patricia Rudolf	Linda Candrl and her	Ed Hoeckelmann
Shirley McDonald	family	Gerald Hailey
Ann Fitzgerald	Jackie Hackett	Virginia Randolph
Susan Van Booven	Virgil Gildehaus	Barb Pope
Terri Guernsey	Alice Molitor	Bill Ulery
Melissa Van Hoy	Maxine Drinen	Sally Buck
Dave Hendrix	Tom Holstein	Gerald Hailey
Al Bamert	Mary Meyer and her	Pat Ryan
Ted Feldewerth	family	Monsignor Mank
Jo-nell Falcon	JoAnn Cwiklowski	Kim F.
Nancy Hollenstein	Nancy	Sylvia
Alexander Wilmes	Jewel Kostecki	Antonette
Charlie Grady	Shirley Sims	Steven Albright
Frank Modder	Cy and Catherine	Jennifer
Denny Steinmeyer	Bamert	Frances Bussen
Tom Miller	Lisa Clark	Tim
Mildred Riley	Tammy Boyd	Bonnie
Darryl and Clara	Larry Hanna	Yvonne Scott
Bockting	Terry Hagan	Bob Berfanger
Angel Owens	Dave Gentry	John Pellerito
Ted Pivin	Elaine Klein	Gerald Bussen
Rita Elfrink	Mary Alice Dickherber	Bernie Lears
Bob Cova	Sue Orlet	Kathy
Judy Jacobs' mom	Bob Blackford	Walt Reel
Rick Cobleigh	Louise Fisher	Mary Edington
Tricia Woods	David and Mary Karll	Debbie
Joan Allen	Ken Donaghue	Norma Jean
Joan Martin	Denny and Joan	Maschmann
Chris Hanna	Duvall	George Meyer
Rita Bendel's brother	Jerry Schmitz	
Tom	Bobbi Beeson	

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. For those who can get to church, the TV or online liturgy does not fulfill the Sunday or Christmas Mass obligation.

What's Your Catholic IQ?

During this third week of Advent, we rejoice, looking ahead to the Feast of Christmas. Since people often rejoice by singing, here are a few verses from religious hymns. Can you identify them?

1. He rules the world with truth and grace, and Makes the nations prove, the glories of his righteousness and wonders of his love
2. Glorious now behold him rise, King and God and Sacrifice, Heaven sings Alleluia. Alleluia the earth replies.
3. Be near me, Lord Jesus, I ask you to stay, Close by me forever, and love me I pray.
4. Good Christian, fear, for sinners here, The silent word is pleading. Nails, spear, shall pierce him through, the cross be borne, for me, for you.
5. Fear not, then said the angel, Let nothing you affright, This day is born a Savior of a pure virgin bright, To free all those who trust in him, From Satan's power and might.
6. O Holy Child of Bethlehem, Descend to us, we pray. Cast out our sin and enter in, Be born in us today.

For numbers 7 through 10 find the correct name for the hymn from its description.

7. 5 p.m. to 6 a.m. without noise
8. Listen, aerial spirits harmonizing
9. Assemble, everyone who believes
10. Hallowed post meridian

Answers on the next page →

St. Paul Library / Lighthouse CD Resources

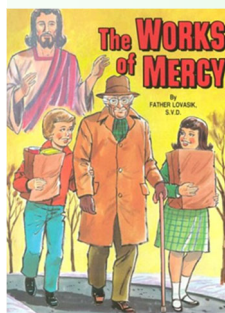
(Note: With close to 3000 items, the Parish Library is located in the Grand Hall past the restrooms. It is open during the week-normal business hours-and works on an honor system. Items from the Lighthouse CD rack are located and available in the Narthex.

From the Parish Lighthouse CD Rack: Church Narthex

Celebrating Advent with the Jesse Tree



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.



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.



Come and support our Scouts!



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

Catholic IQ Answers:

1. Joy to the World
2. We Three Kings
3. Away in a Manger
4. What Child is This
5. God Rest you Merry Gentlemen
6. O Little town of Bethlehem
7. Silent Night
8. Hark, the Herald Angels Sing
9. O Come All Ye Faithful
10. O Holy Night



LITURGICAL MINISTERS FOR NEXT WEEK

December 19

4:00 pm

- EM: Ed Etzkorn, Jennifer Frederick, Ann Zaleuke,
Jan Messig, Walt & Jan Karase
L: Larry Graves, Kathleen Ditch
GB: Rick & Jackie Barclay
S: Colton, Camden, Celina Genta
U: Tom Zaleuke, Stan Nikonowicz, Joe Spiess

December 20

7:30 am

- EM: Janice Kardasz, Ed & Carol Rabbitt, Denise Pool,
Peggy Dupree, Bill Key
L: Erin & Emily Jaeckle
GB: Mike & Mary Hardesty
S: Andy & Daniel Vehige, Mary Grace Becker
U: Walt Reel, Larry Gassei, Frank Marquart, Rich
Molitor

December 20

9:30 am

- EM: Chris Aulbach, Joe Faron Sr., Bob Leeker, Clara Haas,
Walter & Nancy Hollenstein, Terry & Marcia
Schneider
L: Pat Gentry, Roger Collins
GB: Charles & Laurie Hinkle
S: Madison Skambraks, Hannah Montgomery, Karly
Raymond
U: Curt Eccardt, Stan Kostecki, Gary Struckhoff, Jim
Blondin

December 20

11:15 am

- EM: Jim & Theresa Risch, Elaine Sudbrock, Jane Holstein,
Jo Hailey, Pat Roche
L: Tim & Suzanne Michaelree
GB: Mary & Lisa Keune
S: Lindsay & Madelyn Bouquet
U: Todd Neihouse, Glen Taylor

THE SIGN-UP SHEETS FOR THE CHRISTMAS SEASON
LITURGICAL MINISTERS ARE ON A TABLE IN THE NARTHEX.
IF YOU ARE ABLE, PLEASE VOLUNTEER FOR A SPOT.
THANK YOU IN ADVANCE FOR YOUR CONSIDERATION.

LITURGICAL MINISTERS FOR CHRISTMAS EVE,

4:00 PM

- EM: Bryan Potter, Michelle, Greiwe, Donna
Cuddihee, Jo Gailey, Pat Roche, Vanita
Joerling, Ruth Willis, Jackie Barclay, Dave
Hendrix, Judy Hendrix
L: Elizabeth Vehige, Emily Jaeckle
GB: Carol Harvell, Rita Langford
S: Jessica Sivey, Jorja Spivey, Connor Jaeckle
U: Joe Spiess, Jerry Braden, Stan Nikonowicz,
Chris Cuddihee

LITURGICAL MINISTERS FOR CHRISTMAS EVE, MIDNIGHT

- EM: Kris Jenkins, Laura Orf, Donna Wolff, **three
more please**
L: Suzanne Michaelree, Pat Gentry
GB: Bill and Jean Bammann
S: Dan Vehige, Liam Grady, Andy Vehige, **one
more please**
U: Stan Kostecki, Gary Struckhoff, Larry Graves,
one more please

LITURGICAL MINISTERS FOR CHRISTMAS DAY, 10:00 AM

- EM: Walter Hollenstein, Nancy Hollenstein,
6 more please
L: Theresa Risch, Jim Risch
GB: Flo Joerling, Michell Jungerman
S: Daniel Mallinckrodt, **2 more please**
U: Curt Eccardt, Larry Gassei, George Stark,
Chris Molitor

LITURGICAL MINISTERS FOR JANUARY 1- 10:00 AM THE SOLEMNITY OF MARY, THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD

- EM: Ruth Willis, Janet Hespen, **4 more please**
L: Jan Messig, **one more please**
GB: **2 needed please**
S: Liam Grady, **one more please**
U: George Stark, **2 more please**

LITURGICAL MINISTERS FOR JANUARY 1- 10:00 AM THE SOLEMNITY OF MARY, THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD

- EM: Mary Jean Hartenbach, **3 more please**
L: **2 needed please**
GB: **2 needed please**
S: **2 needed please**
U: **3 needed please**

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I say, rejoice. Indeed, the Lord is near.

Philippians 4:4-5

A Thank-you Note
from the Our Lady of Perpetual Help Food Pantry

*To the fine people of IHM—
You helped many of our neighbors have a
sweeter Thanksgiving with your generous pie
donation.*

*Blessed Advent,
The Perpetual Help Family*



The Amazon Smile Program

If you purchase gifts or other items online through Amazon, there is a way to send a kickback to Immaculate Heart of Mary Church. Please check out the website for more information, ihm-newmelle.org.

Venturing Crew Calendar Sales

Venturing is a BSA youth-led program where teens come together to have fun and gain long lasting life experiences. The program is open to all teens ages 14 - 21.

IHM Venturing Crew 2856 will be selling St. Louis Cardinals 2016 calendars after the Masses on Dec. 12-13 & Dec. 19-20 to raise funds for our trip in February to Gatlinburg, TN. The calendars are \$15 and make great Christmas gifts for any Cardinals fan. Please help support our crew.

St. Louis Marian Conference

The 17th St. Louis Marian Conference will be held on Jan. 15, 16, 17, 2016 at the Renaissance Hotel, 9801 Natural Bridge, St. Louis, MO 63134. This spiritual weekend includes inspiring speakers, Holy Mass, Adoration Chapel and Confession. Scott Kennebeck, Executive Director of the St. Louis Cathedral Concerts will sing and lead the Liturgy.

Confirmed speakers are:

Fr. Christopher Collins, SJ;

Fr. David Gunter, MIC,

Judy Klein;

Fr. Mark Mary, Fr. Mitch Pacwa, SJ;

Fr. Tom Sullivan, CPM; Fr. Charles Becker;

Msgr. John J. Hickel; Fr. Mark Whelan, SOLT;
Community of Cenacolo America.

Enclose a copy of this bulletin notice for \$5.00 discount. Call [314 423-1075](tel:3144231075). Complete details may be found on our website: www.stlmarianconference.net With hotel reservation waive youth age 12-25 conference registration fee. Hotel [314 429-1100](tel:3144291100) for reservation at \$79.00.

Parish Office: 636-398-5270

Future Events

-  **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
-  **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. There is a sign-up list in the narthex.
-  **First reconciliation** for PSR Grade 2 will take place on Wednesday, Dec. 16.
-  **The Contemporary Group** will provide music for the 11:15 Mass on Sunday, December 20.
-  **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!

AN ADVENT PRAYER

May the God of peace make us completely holy.
May God keep us blameless in spirit, soul and body
for the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.
Forever faithful is the One who calls us—
God our Father!
Expectant, let us live in joyful hope
for the revelation of the glory
of our God and Savior, Christ Jesus!
To him be glory forever!
Come, Lord Jesus! Your grace be with us all.

—From *Come, Lord Jesus* by Lucien Deiss, CSSp,
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World Library Publications. p. 127

Out and About

Just for fun

- **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
- **Trivia night (Super Hero theme) to benefit Our Lady's Inn**, held at Chaminade College Prep School Atrium, 425 South Lindbergh, STL, MO 63131. **Saturday, January 16, 2016** - Doors open at 6:30 p.m., trivia starts at 7:00 p.m. Cost is \$25 per person /\$200 per table of 8. Price includes 2 free drinks per person! Light snacks will be provided. Mulligans, raffle items and silent auction. For more information or to register visit: www.ourlady'sinn.org or call Amy Rager @ 314-736-1544. All proceeds from the event will benefit Our Lady's Inn, an emergency shelter for homeless pregnant women and their children.

Opportunities

- **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 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; website: www.il-ritiro.com
- **Breaking the Chains of Human Trafficking Symposium**, free and open to the public, on Tues., Jan. 12th, 2016, from 8:15 to 1 pm, at the Spencer Branch Library, 427 Spencer Rd., St. Peters. Key note, 3 breakout sessions, free food, information and handouts. SAVE THE DATE! Sponsored by the St. Charles Coalition Against Human Trafficking (SCCAT) and paid for by a grant from AAUW. For more information, contact: ehogan@cpps-ofallon.org, [636-248-1117](tel:636-248-1117) or apatriciashores@att.net, [636-938-3958](tel:636-938-3958).

TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

This week, our celebration of Advent makes a transition in ritual and texts. Beginning December 18, the countdown of nine days (a novena) to Christmas sees a heightened sense of expectation, and also a turning from the call of the Baptist in the wilderness to the events leading up to Jesus' birth. In ancient Spain, December 18 was once celebrated as the "Feast of the Expectancy," and customs grew up to heighten readiness in the homes.

Some customs arise from monastic life and practice and spill over into our parish life. Beginning tonight, those who pray Vespers will sing in the opening phrase a beautiful title of Christ. These titles belong to a collection of opening phrases called the "O Antiphons" after the awe-inspired "O" sung on the first note. There's a playful code in the titles: O Wisdom, O Lord, O Flower of Jesse, O Key of David, O Dawn, O Ruler, O Emmanuel. When you take their Latin names—*Sapientia, Adonai, Radix*, and so on—the titles form an acrostic when you read them backwards: "ERO CRAS." In Latin, that is translated as "I will be there tomorrow!" It's as if Christ were answering the prayers of the waiting people in the words of the prayers themselves.

—Rev. James Field, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

