

Immaculate Heart of Mary Church

New Melle, Missouri



December 20, 2015

Fourth Sunday of Advent

*“Blessed are you among
women, and blessed
is the fruit of your womb.”*

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
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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

Welcome!



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

Sunday, December 20

9:30 am

11:15 am

12:30 pm

7:00 pm

Children's Liturgy of the Word

Contemporary Group at Mass

Christmas decorations, church

Reconciliation, church

Monday, December 21

6:30 pm

6:30 pm

7:00 pm

7:00 pm

Scouts, Founders Hall

Scouts, trailer

Bell choir rehearsal, church

Reconciliation, church

Tuesday, December 22

6:30 pm

6:45 pm

7:30 pm

Legion of Mary, St. Gianna

Children's Choir, church

Choir Rehearsal, church

Wednesday, December 23

7:00 pm

Reconciliation, church

Thursday, December 24

Masses at 4:00 pm and Midnight with music starting at 11:30 pm.

Friday, December 25

Mass at 10:00 am

Merry Christmas!

Saturday, December 26

8:00 am

Mass followed by confessions, Church

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.



Mass Intentions for the Week

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 +
Cy and Catherine Bamert

Monday, December 21

8:00 am For the intentions of Frank Kardasz

Tuesday, December 22

8:00 am Wittmann Family
Bernadine Kempker +

Wednesday, December 23

8:00 am Roger and Vicky Brink

Thursday, December 24

Christmas Eve
4:00 pm John Bax +
Midnight People of Immaculate Heart Parish

Friday, December 25

Christmas Day
10:00 am People of Immaculate Heart Parish

Saturday, December 26

8:00 am All Souls Intentions
4:00 pm Jim Wolf +
Frances Randolph +

Sunday, December 27

7:30 am Mary Fine +
Sonny Molitor +
9:30 am Gerrie Bader +
11:15 am People of the Parish

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Sg 2:8-14 or Zep 3:14-18a; Ps 33:2-3, 11-12, 20-21; Lk 1:39-45

Tuesday: 1 Sm 1:24-28; 1 Sm 2:1, 4-8abcd; Lk 1:46-56

Wednesday: Mal 3:1-4, 23-34; Ps 25:4-5ab, 8-10, 14;
Lk 1:57-66

Thursday: 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16; Ps 89:2-5, 27, 29;
Lk 1:67-79

Friday: Vigil: Is 62:1-5; Ps 89:4-5, 16-17, 27, 29;
Acts 13:16-17, 22-25; Mt 1:1-25 [18-25]
Night: Is 9:1-6; Ps 96:1-3, 11-13; Ti 2:11-14;
Lk 2:1-14
Dawn: Is 62:11-12; Ps 97:1, 6, 11-12; Ti 3:4-7;
Lk 2:15-20

Day: Is 52:7-10; Ps 98:1-6; Heb 1:1-6;
Jn 1:1-18 [1-5, 9-14]

Saturday: Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59; Ps 31:3cd-4, 6, 8ab,
16bc, 17; Mt 10:17-22

Sunday: Sir 3:2-6, 12-14 or 1 Sm 1:20-22, 24-28;
Ps 128:1-5 or Ps 84:2-3, 5-6, 9-10;
Col 3:12-21 [12-17] or 1 Jn 3:1-2, 21-24;
Lk 2:41-52

SAINTS Monday: St. Peter Canisius;

Wednesday: St. John of Kanty

Saturday: St. Stephen

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

God sent the angel Gabriel to a town in Galilee named Nazareth. LUKE 1:26

In your imagination, picture the human race before the coming of Jesus. It is under Satan's power and control. Sin and hopelessness are everywhere. Into this world God sent the angel Gabriel to a virgin, named Mary. Gabriel said to her: "You will become pregnant and give birth to a son, and you will name him Jesus. He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High God. The Lord God will make him a king, as his ancestor David was, and... his kingdom will never end!" And the angel left her.

What might have gone through Mary's mind after the angel left her?

Let those love now, who never loved before; let those who always loved, now love the more. ANONYMOUS

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

Fourth Sunday of Advent and Merry Christmas!

Dear Parishioners and Guests,

If you are reading this on the Fourth Sunday of Advent our time for Christmas is nigh! With less than a week to go before the Solemn Feast of the Incarnation, we prepare our hearts and homes for such a mighty Guest. May these remaining days be filled with ever-growing anticipation. The Gospel of this Sunday presents us with the beautiful and familiar scene of the Visitation. The Blessed Mother bears the recently incarnated Jesus in her own womb as she hastens to meet St. Elizabeth to share her joy in preparing for the birth of John the Baptist.

For those reading this on Christmas:

On behalf of all of the staff I wish you and your families a very Blessed and Merry Christmas! As we gather to celebrate Christmas let us reflect upon the uniqueness of our faith as Christians. We celebrate the mystery of God made flesh. While we joyfully reflect upon that first Christmas when the Blessed Mother and St. Joseph received the newborn Christ, we are reminded by the Gospel of St. John that Jesus is God's eternal Word. The Word was with God in the beginning and all that is came to be through God's Word and the working of the Holy Spirit.

Alone among the religions of the world we Christians celebrate the profound intimacy of our God who became like us in all things but sin. We celebrate our faith in one God who is a community of Persons, overflowing with abundant creative life and love. Our creation is the fruit of that abundant creative love. No necessity, no hidden desire or motive, no need "caused" creation other than the overflowing mystery of Trinitarian love. God creates us to share in His life, and gives us revelation and faith to form that life. It's hard to grasp or even begin to appreciate a love like that because all of our "loves" bear some weight of need and necessity. In God's love there is no need or necessity but only desire for the beloved. Ever so slowly we pray that such love will transform us humbly and subtly into the likeness of the One who loves us.

As Catholics we not only share in the profound intimacy of our God with our brothers and sisters of other Christian faiths, we also acknowledge that God comes to us in the Eucharist. Few experiences are meant to be more intimate than holding the Lord in our hands, being fed by His Body and Blood and experiencing the mystery of communion upon our reception of Him. May we accept the invitation to come to the altar, to open our ears to God's loving truth in Scripture, to praise the Father for the gift of His Son, to offer ourselves in union with Jesus, and to implore the Holy Spirit to give us the Body and Blood of Jesus while forming us into active members of the Body of Christ. Like the Blessed Mother and St. Joseph we are privileged to welcome, behold and receive the Son of God. We receive Him in humility and cradle Him in gratitude. O Come let us adore Him!

Merry Christmas!

Fr. Tom and the Staff of IHM

"Luke's Gospel account of the Christmas event is full of activity... And yet, in the middle of the frenetic action, here is this woman wrapped in mystical silence... She demonstrates the necessity of a quiet place within ourselves at Christmastime – that place where we are most ourselves in relation to God.

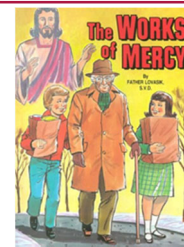
"It is a place of silence, not because it is untouched by all the activity of our lives, but because it is capable of wonder. Every prayer begins with silent wonder before it turns to words. Our first response to God is dumbstruck awe at who He is and what He has done for us."

From The Christmas Woman by William Freburger



PSR Corner

Parents should have received report cards given to students at class on December 16. If you still need to pick up, please contact the parish office. There will be no PSR on Wednesday, December 23 or 30 for Christmas Break. Consider making a family plan for the works of mercy. See below.



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 Spiritual Works with some relevant Scriptures, as well as a memory aid.

1. **Admonish the sinner:** Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, as in all wisdom you teach and admonish one another, (Colossians 3:16)
2. **Instruct the ignorant:** "Philip.. asked, "Do you understand what you are reading?" And he said, "How can I, unless some one guides me?" (Acts 8:30)
3. **Counsel the doubtful:** "Peace I leave with you, my peace I give to you...Let not your hearts be troubled..." Jn. 14:27
4. **Comfort the sorrowful:** "Come to me, all you grown weary and burdened, and I will refresh you." Mt. 11:28 Bear one another's burdens, (Gal 6:2)
5. **Bear wrongs patiently:** "...Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you." Lk. 6:27-28.
6. **Forgive all injuries:** If you do not forgive men their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses. (Mat 6:12 ff).
7. **Pray for the living and the dead:** Pray at all times in the Spirit, with all prayer and supplication. (Eph 6:18)



Memory Aid for the Spiritual Works of Mercy

(P)rayer F.A.B.R.I.C

(Symbol: Clothing others in the prayer fabric / shawl of spiritual works). Think of clothing others in a garment with the letter P (for Prayer) on it.

Pray for the living and the dead

F=Forgive all injuries

A=Admonish sinners

B=Bear Wrongs patiently

R=Relieve the Sorrowful

I= Instruct the Ignorant

C=Counsel the Doubtful



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.

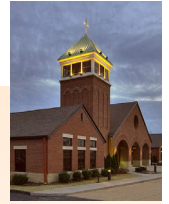
Parish office: 636-398-5270

Dynamic Catholic, Alive! – Christmas

Christmas is almost upon us. During this time, it is easy to get caught up in the hustle and bustle of the season. But we can never lose sight of the transcendent reality that stands before us. "For when God was born to be man the purpose was not that the Godhead should be lost, but that, the Godhead remaining, man should be born to God" (Hilary of Poitiers). Merry Christmas! archstl.org/dynamic



NEWS FROM HOME



Stewardship

Dec. 20, 2015

St. Joseph Chapel "Heavenly Dusters"

Carol Ostermeyer

The collection figures for Sunday, Dec. 13

General Offertory: \$11,743.83

Online-General Offering: \$2,013.00

Total: \$13,756.83

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: 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

Ted Splitt, brother of Dot Welge;

Emily Brakensiek,

mother of David and Mary Ann Brakensiek;

and Joseph Menne, son of Chris and Kat Menne.

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

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?

1. Joseph was originally from... (Luke 2:3)

- A. Bethlehem B. Nazareth
C. Hebron D. Jerusalem E. None of the above

2. What does the Bible say that the innkeeper said to Mary and Joseph? (Luke 2:7)

- A. "There is no room in the inn."
B. "I have a stable you can use."
C. "Come back later and I should have some vacancies."
D. Both A and B
E. None of the above

3. A manger is a...

- A. Stable for domestic animals B. Wooden hay storage bin
C. Feeding trough D. Barn

4. Which animals does the Bible say were present at Jesus' birth?

- A. Cows, sheep, goats
B. Cows, donkeys, goats
C. Sheep and goats only
D. Miscellaneous barnyard animals
E. None of the above

5. According to the Bible, how did Mary and Joseph get to Bethlehem?

- A. Camel B. Donkey C. Walked
D. Joseph walked, Mary rode a donkey E. Horse-drawn chariot
F. Who knows?

6. What did the angels say/sing? (Luke 2:14)

- A. "Glory to God in the highest, etc."
B. "Alleluia"
C. "Unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given"
D. "Joy the world, the Lord is come"
E. "Glory to the newborn King"

7. What is a heavenly host?

- A. The angel at the gate of heaven
B. The angel who serves refreshments in heaven
C. An angel choir D. An angel army E. None of the above

8. There was snow that first Christmas...

- A. Only in Bethlehem B. All over Israel
C. Nowhere in Israel D. Somewhere in Israel

Answers on the next page →

Epiphany Concert

The Cavalcade of Choirs

Featuring the church choirs of the New Melle area
Sunday, January 3, 2015 at 2:00 pm
Immaculate Heart of Mary Catholic Church
Free of charge; All are invited



Reception following
in the Grand Hall

*They were overjoyed at
seeing the star, and on
entering the house they
saw the child with Mary
his mother.*

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.

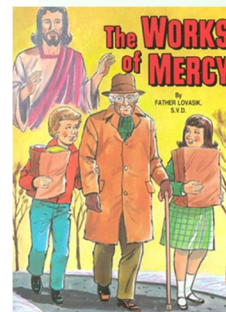
From the Parish Library: Grand Hall (lower level Church)



"The Bells of St. Mary's" is funny, poignant and will tug at your heartstrings. Father O'Malley (Bing Crosby) has now been assigned to a parochial school that is in dire need of repairs. The school has no money and O'Malley's job is to assess the possibilities, of perhaps sending the children to another school. He meets with some tough

opposition though, in the form of one Sister Benedict (Ingrid Bergman). She is the no nonsense type, and right away the two have some very different ideas on what's good for the kids. There is also the problem of a businessman (Henry Travers) who wants the building condemned so he can put up a parking lot for his own employees. Sister Benedict prays for miracle, will she get it?

The story and Ingrid Bergman are charming and delightful and will have you praying with her for that miracle. Bing's beautiful voice graces the film with song and Henry Travers (It's A Wonderful Life) is wonderful as always. It's not too often a sequel equals the original, but with the addition of Bergman, (along with some really adorable kids) and under the direction of Leo McCarey once again, this heartwarming story has accomplished that.



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.

VOCATIONS

THE CHURCH INVITES all of us to make a generous gift of our life through married life, intentional single life, priesthood or religious life. In what state can we flourish?

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!**

Answers to Catholic IQ

1. **A.** He worked and lived in Nazareth, but he was returning to Bethlehem – “his own city” (See Luke 2:3).
 2. **E.** The innkeeper didn’t “say” anything (See Luke 2:7). The Bible doesn’t even mention an “innkeeper” because the “inn” was probably more like a guest room in a house.
 3. **C.** Feeding trough – Interestingly enough, most mangers in New Testament times were made of stone. If you visit Israel today, you can see stone mangers used by Solomon to feed his horses at Megiddo.
 4. **E.** The Bible doesn’t say.
 5. **F.** Although the modern “pictures” in my Children’s Bible show Mary on a donkey with Joseph beside her, the Bible doesn’t say!
 6. **A.** Luke 2:14.
 7. **D.** The word means “army” – literally thousands. Now, since there was a “multitude” of the heavenly army” (hosts), there could easily have been from 10,000 – 100,000 angels there that night! No wonder the shepherds were “sore afraid”! I missed this one when I took the quiz because I thought the word “host” referred only to a large multitude, but D is correct. It refers to a heavenly army of angels.
 8. **D.** There is always snow on Mt. Hermon.
- <http://www.keepbelieving.com/2008/12/22/answers-to-christmas-iq-quiz/>

LITURGICAL MINISTERS FOR NEXT WEEK

December 26 4:00 pm

EM: Tom & Christine Haun, Bernadine Pollihan, Bob & Judy Cova, Pat Noack
L: Karen Wilson, Jean Bamert
GB: Jim & Louise Wood
S: Maggie Molitor, Janna Joerling
U: Larry Graves, Bryan Potter, Jerry Braden, Bill Pollihan

December 27 7:30 am

EM: Kathy Lalonde, Mary Hardesty, John Fiacco, Rich Molitor, Kris Jenkins, Janice Kardasz
L: Chuck Kettler, Karen Wappelhorst
GB: Charlene & Kelsey Twiehaus
S: Anna & Connor Jaeckle
U: Mike Hardesty, Ed Rabbitt, Gary Potter, Walt Reel

December 27 9:30 am

EM: Pat Gentry, Don & Susan Hladky, Judeen Kutsko, Darlene Smith, Janet Hespen, Sharon Smith, Donna Cuddihee
L: Judy Podhorn, Michelle Greiwe
GB: Mary & Lisa Keune
S: Paige & Genny Greiwe
U: Charles Hinkle, Shawn Sweetin, Terry Schneider, Chris & Justin Molitor, Dave DeBold

December 27 11:15 am

EM: Tim & Suzanne Michaelree, Kat Menne, Joan Falbo, Joan Marren-Slaughter, Donna Wolff
L: Patrice Riley, Linda Ginther
GB: Brice Family
S: Thomas Menne, Madison Skambraks
U: Todd Neihouse, Glen Taylor, **One more please**

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 Hailey, Pat Roche, Vanita Joerling, Ruth Willis, Jackie Barclay, Dave Hendrix, Judy Hendrix
L: Elizabeth Vehige, Emily Jaeckle
GB: Carol Harvell, Rita Langford
S: Jessica Spivey, 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, Jan Kardasz, **two 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, Mary Jean Hartenbach, Patrice Riley, **4 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, Chris Aulbach, Laura Orf, Carole Baker, Jackie Barclay
L: Jan Messig, Carolyn Schellert
GB: Rita Langford, Jessica Spivey
S: Liam Grady, Jorja Spivey
U: George Stark, Larry Gassei, Curt Eccardt

LITURGICAL MINISTERS FOR JANUARY 1- 7:00 PM NB- the time for this Mass was incorrect in the last bulletin. 7:00 pm is the correct time. THE SOLEMNITY OF MARY, THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD

EM: **4 needed please**
L: **2 needed please**
GB: **2 needed please**
S: **2 needed please**
U: **3 needed please**



Dear Parish Family, with words, I cannot adequately thank all of you who offered prayers and sacrifices for my recovery.

Please know, my heart and soul holds a special love for each of you, like the affection you would have for a favorite brother or sister. And certainly we are brothers and sisters in our parish family and especially in the Body of Christ. I look forward to when I can return to greeting all you before Sunday Mass. Until then, may God bless all of you and your families during this special time of Advent.

Bob Berfanger

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



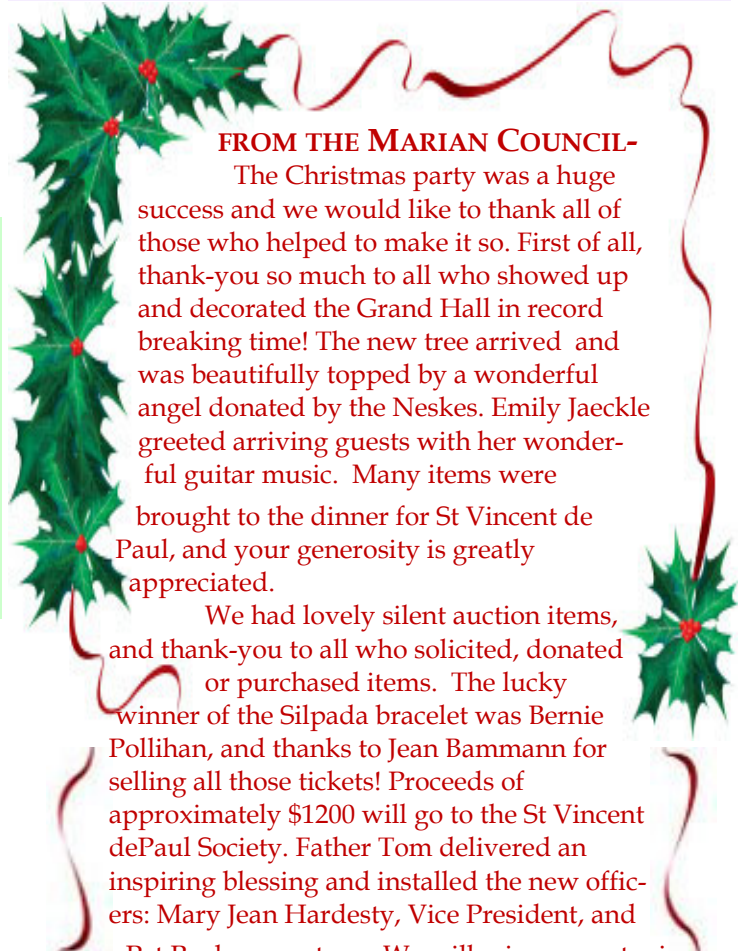
The Contemporary Group will provide music for the 11:15 Mass on Sunday, December 20.



The parish office will be closed on Christmas Day, Dec. 25 and New Year's Day, January 1 and Monday, January 18 for Martin Luther King day.



The Ecumenical Epiphany Concert, The Cavalcade of Choirs, will take place at IHM on Sunday, Jan. 3 at 2:00 pm.



FROM THE MARIAN COUNCIL-

The Christmas party was a huge success and we would like to thank all of those who helped to make it so. First of all, thank-you so much to all who showed up and decorated the Grand Hall in record breaking time! The new tree arrived and was beautifully topped by a wonderful angel donated by the Neskes. Emily Jaeckle greeted arriving guests with her wonderful guitar music. Many items were brought to the dinner for St Vincent de Paul, and your generosity is greatly appreciated.

We had lovely silent auction items, and thank-you to all who solicited, donated or purchased items. The lucky winner of the Silpada bracelet was Bernie Pollihan, and thanks to Jean Bammann for selling all those tickets! Proceeds of approximately \$1200 will go to the St Vincent dePaul Society. Father Tom delivered an inspiring blessing and installed the new officers: Mary Jean Hardesty, Vice President, and Pat Roche, secretary. We will miss our outgoing officers, Mary Fisher and Barb Apted. The entertainment was a lot of fun, and our musicians seemed to enjoy doing it as well-Verdi Morley on the keyboard and Betsy Struckhoff and Mary Ann Boenker (sisters) sang for us. John Fiacco, Mike Reel and the Knights prepared and served a scrumptious meal along with a salad by Judy Cova and Mary Fisher. The Knights worked long and hard to prepare, serve and clean up, and we greatly appreciate it!

It was a GRAND evening in the Grand Hall, and thanks so much to all who helped make it so!

Merry Christmas to all,

Michelle Brothers, President, Marian Council

Out and About

Just for fun

- **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.ourladysinn.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).

- **There will be a recollection for ladies** on Wednesday, January 6, at St Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish. A priest of Opus Dei will give The activity begins at 7:15-9:30pm. For more information, call Mary Schlueter [314-517-1277](tel:314-517-1277)

The main body of the church and narthex will be decorated TODAY—Sunday, Dec. 20 at 12:30 pm.

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

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 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.

