

Do nothing out of
selfishness or out of
vainglory; rather, humbly
regard others as more
important than yourselves.

PHILIPPIANS 2:3



SHUTTERSTOCK

He Emptied Himself

In the Gospels, Jesus seldom teaches doctrine. Rather, the stories themselves provide examples of how we are to model our lives after him. He was a man for others, a compassionate healer, an understanding friend. As clear as such stories might be, because we can be selfish people, the example they offer us is difficult to follow. If it is hard to follow a man who lived a human life with others, how are we to follow the example sketched by Paul in today's second reading?

Paul declares in Philippians: "Have among yourselves the same attitude that is also yours in Christ Jesus" (2:5). What attitude is he talking about? Jesus emptied himself of the preeminence that was rightly his as possessing "equality with God" (2:6). He did not demand that they treat him with the reverence and veneration that was due him. Rather, "he emptied himself...he humbled himself" (2:7, 8).

Why does Paul insist on this? It seems the Philippians were having internal problems that were threatening their unity. Various forms of arrogance were tearing them apart: *Don't you know who I am? I am a celebrity. I have more money. I know the right people. And who are you? Who do you know? What can you do?* These attitudes of arrogance infect our communities even today. To this Paul proclaims: If Jesus, who "though he was in the form of God" (2:6) could empty himself of such dignity for the sake of others, you certainly should be able to put aside your trivial vainglory and be "united in heart" (2:2).

Can we?

—Sr. Dianne Bergant, CSA

FOR *Reflection*

- ★ *In what circumstances does your arrogance raise its ugly head? What do you do about that?*
- ★ *What might you do to strengthen the bonds of unity in your family? Your workplace? Your parish?*

Dear Padre,

Where does the tradition of praying with your hands together originate? I pray with my fingers intertwined. Is that acceptable?

According to the *Caeremoniale Episcoporum* (The Ceremonial of Bishops, 1985), “palms extended and joined together in the front of the breast, with the right thumb over the left in the form of a cross” (CE 107, n. 80) is the correct Catholic hand posture at Mass and prayer.

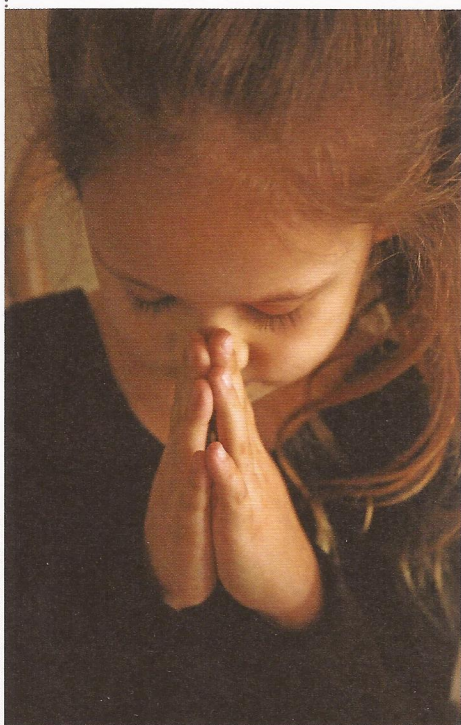
The origin of praying with hands folded is not known, but there’s mention of it in the Jewish Talmud. Historians have also asserted that it’s modeled on the practice of citizens in ancient Rome who joined their hands in the presence of rulers to communicate loyalty and submission to that higher authority.

Gestures and postures should allow our whole body to pray, as well as our heart and mind. Moreover, they are expressions of our faith. For example,

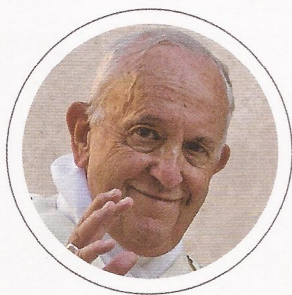
like the early Christians, we stand during prayer and worship to express our readiness for Christ’s return, and as a sign of reverence to hear the gospels. Kneeling and striking the breast are expressions of penitence, humility, and our lowliness before God.

Likewise, at Mass the priest assumes the ancient posture of outstretched arms and hands, slightly elevated, to symbolize surrender in a gesture that reverences Christ’s outstretched arms on the cross. When we join hands together in prayer, it’s a gesture of supplication and a symbol of total submission to God, our supreme authority.

—Fr. Byron Miller, CSSR
Sundaybulletin@Liguori.org



AFRICA STUDIO/SHUTTERSTOCK



A WORD FROM *Pope Francis*

Today let us look at our hands, so often empty of love, and let us try to think of some free gift that we can give without expecting anything in return. That will please the Lord. And let us ask him: “Lord, let me rediscover the joy of giving.”

—EPIPHANY SUNDAY, JANUARY 6, 2018

Calendar

Monday

SEPTEMBER 28

Weekday

Jb 1:6–22

Lk 9:46–50

Tuesday

SEPTEMBER 29

*Sts. Michael, Gabriel,
and Raphael,
Archangels*

Dn 7:9–10, 13–14

or Rv 12:7–12a

Jn 1:47–51

Wednesday

SEPTEMBER 30

*St. Jerome,
Priest and
Doctor of the Church*

Jb 9:1–12, 14–16

Lk 9:57–62

Thursday

OCTOBER 1

*St. Thérèse of the
Child Jesus, Virgin and
Doctor of the Church*

Jb 19:21–27

Lk 10:1–12

Friday

OCTOBER 2

Holy Guardian Angels
Jb 38:1, 12–21; 40:3–5
Mt 18:1–5, 10

Saturday

OCTOBER 3

Weekday
Jb 42:1–3, 5–6, 12–17
Lk 10:17–24

Sunday

OCTOBER 4

*Twenty-seventh Sunday
in Ordinary Time*

Is 5:1–7

Phil 4:6–9

Mt 21:33–43



Immaculate Conception Parish Family



159th YEAR OF SERVICE

307 N. Walker St. | Montgomery City | Missouri | 63361

Fr. Austin(Augustine) Okoli, Pastor | e-mail kesisi2@yahoo.com | Deacon Wayne Korte | Janet Cobb, Bookkeeper/Secretary | 573.564.2375 Parish Office

imm-con@sbcglobal.net | www.mcicparish.org | Office Hours M-Th 9:00am-3pm **Bulletin Deadline: Wed. 9:00 AM**

Ms. Dana Schroeder, School Principal | Judy Cobb, School Secretary | immaculateconception@icschool-mc.org | 573.564.2679 - School Office

Society of St. Vincent DePaul - 573.835.3631

Parish Council Members: Beth Cobb- President; Open-Vice-President; Secretary-Open, Dennis Benney, Laura Yelton, Vicik Parker, & Mary Pottebaum

September 27, 2020 - TWENTY-SIXTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME

	Mass Intentions
Monday, Sept. 28th	No Mass
Tuesday, Sept. 29th	5:30 PM Mass - Wellsville
Wednesday, Sept. 30th	8:30 AM Mass - Jonesburg
Thursday, October 1st	10:00 AM Mass - Montgomery City +John & Zita Welter
Friday, October 2nd	7:45 AM Mass - Martinsburg
Saturday, October 3rd	5:00 PM Mass - Montgomery City —Our Parish Family
Sunday, October 4th	7:00 AM Mass - Jonesburg 9:00 AM Mass - Martinsburg 11:00 AM Mass - Montgomery City +Robert Merz



July 1, 2020 - June 30, 2021			
Church/School Financial Report:	Income	Expenses	Difference
August 2020	\$56,148.11	\$ 37,784.70	\$18,363.41
Fiscal Year July - Aug. 2020-21	\$113,624.01	\$ 91,049.68	\$22,574.33
Needed Weekly	\$ 11,835.50		
September 6 -	\$ 11,957.77		
September 13 -	\$ 6,864.74		
September 20 -	\$ 8,379.00		
September 27 -	\$		

Last Week's Envelopes: 60 of 179

(No Mass if there is a funeral or school has been cancelled.)

With God all things are possible

Parish Membership: Call the parish office to register.

Sacrament of Reconciliation: 4:30 to 4:50 PM Saturday or call for an appointment.

Sacrament of Baptism: Celebrated during Mass or at another arranged time. Call the parish office to set up an appointment to meet with Fr. Austin.

Sacrament of Marriage: Call the office at least six months prior to the date you would like to get married to make arrangements and set a date.

To Become a Catholic: Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults begins in the Fall and sacramental initiation normally occurs at the Easter Vigil. Call for details.

Immaculate Conception Parish Mission

To proclaim the good news of the Gospel; to build community among the parishioners that we may journey in our faith together, giving witness to love and unity; to serve the needs of others in whatever form they may exit in our midst and to celebrate the realities of our faith together.

Who is an Active Parishioner?

- Registered in the parish
- Regularly participates in Mass and the sacraments
- Supports the parish financially
- Annually completes a stewardship of Time, Talent, and Treasure form and fulfills that commitment

Liturgical Ministers for October 3rd & October 4th

Ministries	Saturday, 5:00 PM	Sunday, 11:00 AM
Lector	<u>No ministries will be assigned at this time.</u>	
Children's Liturgy		
Communion Ministers		
Ministers of Hospitality		
Servers		
Gift Bearers		
Money Counters		

Bishop McKnight's September prayer intention for our Local Church is:

For children deprived of a safe and healthy home, that they experience the love of God through the care and concern shown by Catholics.

Weekly Mass Schedule

Monday, September 28th	No Mass
Tuesday, September 29th	5:30 PM Mass - Wellsville
Wednesday, September 30th	8:30 AM Mass - Jonesburg
Thursday, October 1st	10:00 AM Mass - Montgomery City Prayer Partner Mass
Friday, October 2nd	7:45 AM Mass - Martinsburg
Saturday, October 3rd	5:00 PM - Mass - Montgomery City
Sunday, October 4th	7:00 AM - Mass - Jonesburg 9:00 AM - Mass - Martinsburg 11:00 AM - Mass - Montgomery City

Upcoming Events & Announcements

Monday, September 28th	7:00 PM - St. Vincent DePaul Mtg.
Tuesday, September 29th	
Wednesday, September 30th	
Thursday, October 1st	10:00 AM - Prayer Partner Mass
Friday, October 2nd	4:30 PM-7:30 PM - KC Drive-Thru Fish Fry
Saturday, October 3rd	After 5:00 PM Mass-Town Hall Mtg. Finance Report
Sunday, October 4th	After 11:00 AM Mass -Town Hall Mtg-Finance Report



Wedding Anniversary

Congratulations to the following couple(s) as they celebrate their special day!

*George & Lorraine Boes - 51years of marriage on Sept. 27th
Andy & Julie Worsham - 27 years of marriage on Oct. 2nd*

Additional Financial Information

Capital Improvement	\$ 266.00
Capital Campaign (Cornerstone)	\$ 150.00
Harvest BBQ	\$ 2,900.00
Special Collections:	
World Mission Sunday	\$ 30.00
Retirement for Religious	\$ 20.00
Donations	\$ 200.00

Town Hall Meeting

Please plan to attend the Town Hall Meeting after both Masses next weekend (Oct. 3rd & 4th) here in the church. The 2019/20 financial statement & 2020/21 Budget will be presented.

Rosary Rally

A Rosary Rally in honor of Our Lady of Fatima will be held at 12:00 noon on Saturday, October 10th at Immaculate Conception School Outdoor Garden. Please bring a lawn chair if you wish to sit during the prayers (which will take approximately 45 minutes) and arrive 10 to 15 minutes early. Social distancing will be practiced.

No Parking



Please remember to not park in the street facing the MFA gravel lot anytime during harvest season. Trucks hauling grain need room to maneuver on and off the scales.

Drive-Up Fish Fry

The Knights of Columbus will be holding a drive-up Fish Fry October 2, 2020 from 4:30-7:00 p.m. between the Knights of Columbus Hall and the City Shed. Limited dine-in will be available. The menu will be a choice of Cod or Catfish, slaw, hush puppies, and baked beans. Cost will be \$10.00.

Choir/Chime Practice

There will be choir/chimes practice Monday, September 28th, 6:30 p.m. at the church.

Ringling of the Chimes

You've probably heard the chimes being played at the Saturday evening and Sunday morning Masses. If you are interested in helping us with this addition to our Music Ministry, we practice on Mondays at 7:00 p.m. at church. The chimes are easy to play and there is no obligation to play every weekend. If you are interested, please call Dottie at 564-2183 or simply come to practice.

Respect For Life

October is the Month of the Rosary and October 4th is Respect Life Sunday. Join us for an hour of silent prayer and a "peaceful protest" against the attacks on the unborn. We will meet at 10:00 a.m. in the church. There will be a short prayer service at the beginning of the hour followed by quiet time for private prayer. The hour will end with the recitation of the Rosary. In the September 20, 2020 bulletin, there was information concerning 40 Days for Life, a national and international "prayer and fasting" effort to end abortion. This Parish event is an opportunity to add our prayers to those around our country and the world.

St. Mary's Cemetery Parish Event

Many parishioners may not be aware there is a beautiful new shelter and stone altar at St. Mary's Cemetery. On Monday, November 2, 2020 Fr. Austin will say Mass and bless the new shelter and stone altar at St. Mary's Cemetery. Mass will be at 9:00 a.m.

Capital Campaign Committee Update



NEW UPDATE: The Capital Campaign Committee has been advised that the new roof installation will be started this week! We appreciate your patience in this process. Our total in collections and pledges remains at \$196,316.

Immaculate Conception School News



MUMS for Sale!! The last day to purchase mums is September 30th. The cost is \$9.50 per plant and \$5.00 per mum will be donated back to IC School. They are in one gallon containers and you may choose from an assortment of colors. You may purchase tickets at the school.

Thursday, October 1, 2020 - Prayer Partner Mass at 10:00 a.m.

October 5, 2020 thru October 13, 2020 - Iowa Testing

ECLC Happenings

There are currently openings in the ECLC and Pre-school. If you are interested or know of anyone who may want to enroll their child, please contact Mrs. Peggy Brower at (573) 564-2679.



IC Scrip Program - Whenever you purchase a gift card from the IC School Scrip Program, the school receives a percentage of the purchase price. The percentage will vary from one company to another but there is no extra charge to you. A \$25 card costs you \$25. Why not let some of your money that you would spend anyway go to a good cause? There are a few ways to obtain the cards. You may purchase physical cards at the school or after Masses on the first full weekend of the month. **You may also go online to www.ShopWithScrip.com to create an account to purchase e-cards, reload select cards, or place a large order for physical cards. If you have any questions, call Gina Smith, coordinator, 573-289-8635.**



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40 Days for Life begins Sept. 23

From Sept. 23 – Nov. 1, you're invited to join other Christians for 40 Days for Life – 40 days of prayer and fasting for an end to abortion. You're also invited to stand and peacefully pray during a 40-day vigil in the public right-of-way outside Columbia Planned Parenthood, 711 N Providence Rd, and also to help spread the word about this important community outreach. If you'd like more information – and especially if you'd like to volunteer to help with your on site time, talent or treasure, please contact Kathy Forck 573-821-5130 or visit www.40daysforlife.com/columbiamo.

FERTILITY CARE - Instruction continues to be offered by Zoom. The Introductory Session is always complimentary. This class is of interest for marriage preparation, infertility, medical applications from adolescence to menopause, regular or irregular cycles, breastfeeding and fertility appreciation for all ages. Contact Fertility Care Services of Columbia, Phyllis A. White, CFCE 816-550-8789 or FertilityCare.CoMo@gmail.com

Events Around the Community (See Flyers if available in the church vestibule.)

Octoberfest - Sunday, October 4, 2020, 10:00 a.m. at St. Joseph Parish Grounds in Martinsburg, MO. For more information see the flyer posted on the bulletin board in the vestibule.



DIocese OF
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New Procedures for Visiting the Chancery Office

If you intend to come to the Chancery office in person, you must have an appointment in advance with the person you intend to meet. Please note the Chancery will be screening all guests with a health questionnaire and temperature check. This is for the safety of all.

Employment Opportunity

St. Joseph in Fayette is hiring a part time **DRE (Director of Religious Education) and community/campus outreach person**. This person will be responsible to run our PSR, confirmation, and adult education programs. You will also need to have the skills to develop our electronic footprint (web page and social media), with a special focus on Central Methodist University students. All applicants must be Catholic and in good standing with the church. This position is 20 hours a week with starting pay \$13.50 to \$15.00 an hour, depending on qualifications. Contact Fr. Bill Peckman 573-338-0061.

The **Moderator of the Curia** and **Vicar General** are seeking an accomplished **Administrative Assistant** to support their clerical needs within the **Chancery Office**. This individual must have excellent skills with Microsoft Office and the ability to prioritize and switch tasks as needed. This position is also responsible for training others and holds the key position for coordinating maintenance on office equipment and will serve as a back-up administrative assistant to the Bishop as necessary. Professionalism and confidentiality are essential. Qualified candidates should email resume to HRDir@diojeffcity.org.

Taize Prayer Sept. 30 in Lake Ozark

Taize Prayer will take place at Our Lady of the Lake Catholic Church, 2411 Bagnell Dam Blvd, Lake Ozark, on **Wednesday, Sept. 30, 5-6 p.m.** You may enter through the front doors of the church. We kindly ask that you wear a mask. For more information, please contact the Music Office at Our Lady of the Lake Catholic Church at **573-365-2241**.

Please keep in your prayers the following people:

Residents of St. Andrews New Florence Nursing & Care Center, Hwy 19 & Picnic Road, New Florence, MO 63363 - Susan Ryan.

Contact the parish office to have someone added!



Please pray for: Nick Schneider, John Goodwin, Marlene Cunningham, Mackenzie Hagemeyer, Julie Thielmeier, Don Benney, Susan Schipper, Valerie Readey Neudecker, Angela Witthaus Keller, Karen Clark, Gina Smith, Virginia Cochran, Jo Scott, Bobby Cochran, Mary Hertel, Joshua Cochran, Anita Jones, Jim Cochran, Jr., Jim Cochran, Sr., and Lynn Cunningham Duncan.



Please pray for all our men and women serving in the armed forces. Corey Stulce, Tanner Cobb, Travis Thebeau, Jacob Merz, Daniel Lohmann, Jared Korman, Tom Kraust, Tim O'Fallon, Brandon Benney, Gary Frey, John Burce, Chris Burce, Jacob Jones, Matt Veder, Michel James, Michael Adams, and John Martin.



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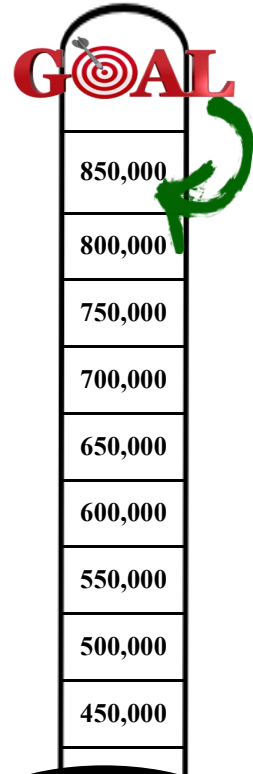
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