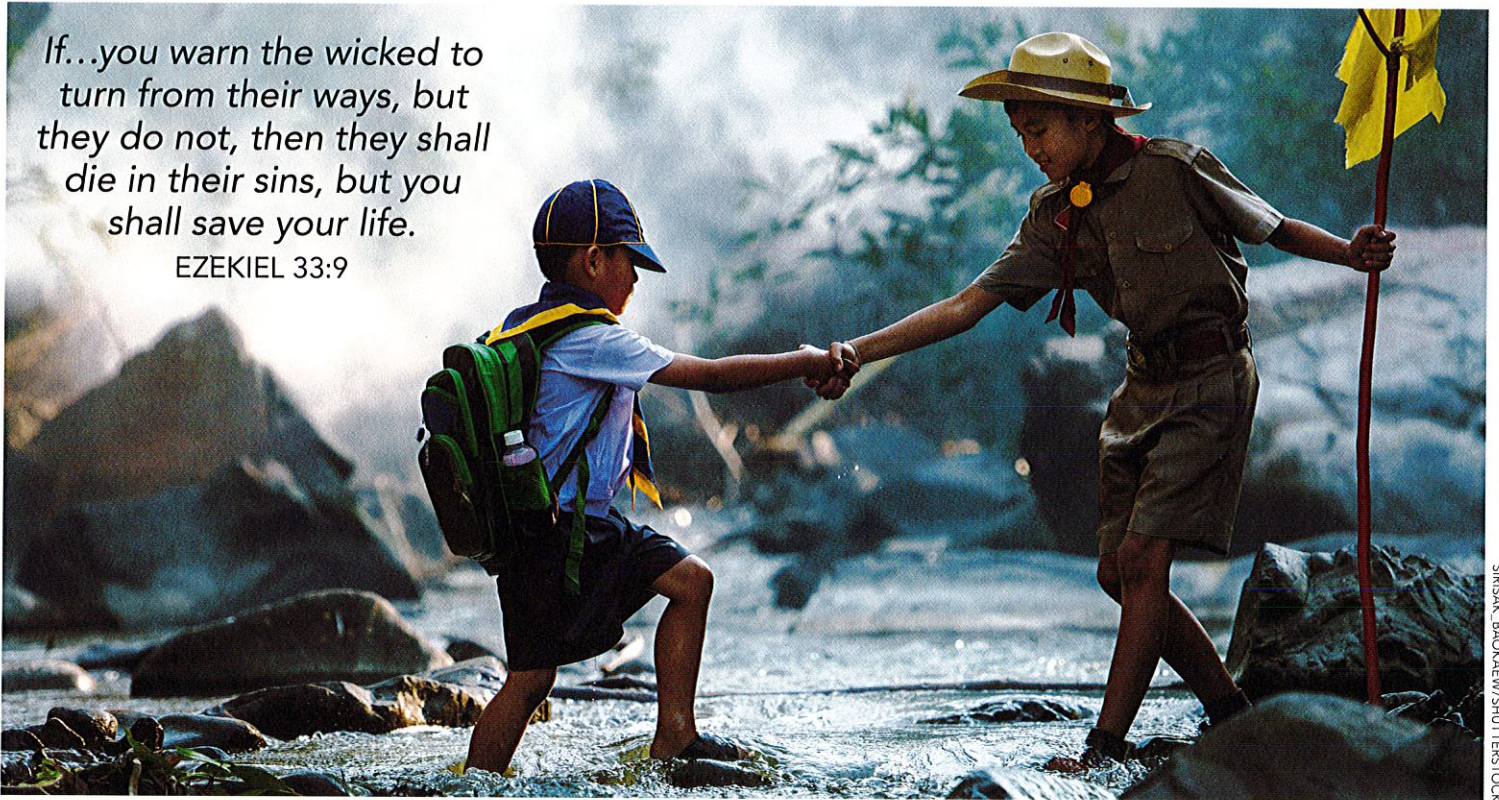


*If...you warn the wicked to turn from their ways, but they do not, then they shall die in their sins, but you shall save your life.*

EZEKIEL 33:9



SIRISAK BAOKEW/SHUTTERSTOCK

## It's None of My Business

**T**his statement might sound like we are respecting the independence of others. It is none of our business how they live their lives, how they behave in society, how they worship God. We mind our own business; they mind theirs. After all, are we our brother's or sister's keepers?

Today's readings challenge this attitude. Ezekiel is told that he must proclaim God's will to the Israelites. If he reneges in his calling and someone dies in guilt, Ezekiel will be held responsible for that death. However, if the wicked refuse to hear this message, their death in guilt will be their own doing, for one must freely accept God's word. In the Gospel, Jesus outlines a way for his disciples to lead sinners back to the community. Both Ezekiel and the disciples have responsibilities to those who are not living faithfully. They both take steps to call them back. In this sense, they act as their brother's or sister's keeper. However,

they do not meddle in the other's business. The sinner must freely decide to return. God does not force repentance.

This might be a hard message. Who wants to step up and point out another's error in leaving the Church? However, if we are really concerned, we will do what we can to bring them back. We might not proclaim like the prophet or the disciples did. But the way we live our lives should show them the true value in being a faithful follower of Jesus.

—Sr. Dianne Bergant, CSA

### FOR *Reflection*

- ✧ *Is your life an example of the values of your faith?*
- ✧ *Pray for those whom you love, who have left the practice of the faith.*

# Dear Padre,

**In the story of Noah, God destroyed most of the world. Did that really happen? How should we think about the world's end?**

**M**ost biblical scholars generally consider the Noah story to be a tale of God's new covenant with the people. Life here is temporary, but life with God is eternal. The story of the Flood was probably based on some historical event that was recounted in oral traditions for centuries before the story of Noah was written.

The National Geographic Society, in researching that region, discovered that the Mediterranean Sea broke through a natural dam more than 7,500 years ago, filling a freshwater lake with seawater and creating the Black Sea. This natural catastrophe could be the basis for the story of Noah and the Ark. Catastrophic world events such as war, floods, hurricanes, earthquakes, or tornadoes remind us repeatedly how fragile and temporary our lives are.

The biblical truth of the Noah story and of Jesus' account of the end of the world tell us that God is our beginning and our end. The world will end, but

God will not end. God's love for us will also never end. There is a spiritual transformation that will happen both at the end of lives on earth and at the end of time. We can be certain that, in the end, sin and death will be no more and God's love will reign forever.

—Fr. Paul J. Coury, CSsR  
[Sundaybulletin@Liguori.org](mailto:Sundaybulletin@Liguori.org)



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## A WORD FROM *Pope Francis*

*It is vital that the Church today go out to proclaim the Gospel to all, in all places, on all occasions, without delay, reluctance, or fear. We do so in obedience to the Lord's missionary mandate, certain of his presence among us until the end of the world.*

—ADDRESS TO UNITED BIBLE SOCIETIES, OCTOBER 5, 2017

## Calendar

### Monday

SEPTEMBER 7

Weekday

1 Cor 5:1–8

Lk 6:6–11

### Tuesday

SEPTEMBER 8

*Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary*

Mi 5:1–4a or

Rom 8:28–30

Mt 1:1–16, 18–23

or 1:18–23

### Wednesday

SEPTEMBER 9

*St. Peter Claver, Priest*

1 Cor 7:25–31

Lk 6:20–26

### Thursday

SEPTEMBER 10

Weekday

1 Cor 8:1b–7, 11–13

Lk 6:27–38

### Friday

SEPTEMBER 11

Weekday

1 Cor 9:16–19, 22b–27

Lk 6:39–42

### Saturday

SEPTEMBER 12

Weekday

1 Cor 10:14–22

Lk 6:43–49

### Sunday

SEPTEMBER 13

*Twenty-fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time*

Sir 27:30–28:7

Rom 14:7–9

Mt 18:21–35



# 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 6, 2020 - TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME

### Mass Intentions

Monday, Sept. 7th	<b>No Mass</b>
Tuesday, Sept. 8th	5:30 PM Mass - Wellsville
Wednesday, Sept. 9th	8:30 AM Mass - Jonesburg
Thursday, Sept. 10th	<b>8:00 AM Mass</b> - Montgomery City +Mary C. Fink
Friday, Sept. 11th	7:45 AM Mass - Martinsburg
Saturday, Sept. 12th	<b>5:00 PM Mass</b> - Montgomery City - Our Parish Family
Sunday, Sept. 13th	7:00 AM Mass - Jonesburg 9:00 AM Mass - Martinsburg <b>11:00 AM Mass</b> - Montgomery City +Pat & Sherrie Killday

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

### July 1, 2020 - June 30, 2021

Church/School Financial Report:	Income	Expenses	Difference
<b>July 2020</b>	\$57,475.90	\$ 53,264.98	\$4,210.36
<b>Fiscal Year July - June 2019-20</b>	\$620,379.80	\$619,757.70	\$ 622.10
<b>Needed Weekly</b>	\$ 11,835.50		
August 2 -	\$ 19,670.96		
August 9 -	\$ 10,044.00		
August 16 -	\$ 13,344.50		
August 23 -	\$ 5,707.00		
August 30 -	\$ 10,502.37		

Last Week's Envelopes: 47 of 179

*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 September 12th and September 13th

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.

## Upcoming Events & Announcements

## Father Austin's Weekly Calendar

Monday, September 7th	<b>No Mass</b> Labor Day - Parish Office Closed	Monday, September 7th	<b>Father's Day off</b>
Tuesday, September 8th	5:30 PM Mass - Wellsville 7:00 PM - Worship & Spiritual Dev.	Tuesday, September 8th	5:30 PM Mass - Wellsville
Wednesday, September 9th	8:30 AM Mass - Jonesburg	Wednesday, September 9th	8:30 AM Mass - Jonesburg
Thursday, September 10th	<b>8:00 AM Mass</b> - Montgomery City 9:30 AM - Ministerial Alliance 5:00 PM - Parish Council	Thursday, September 10th	<b>8:00 AM Mass</b> - Montgomery City
Friday, September 11th	7:45 AM Mass - Martinsburg	Friday, September 11th	7:45 AM Mass - Martinsburg
Saturday, September 12th	<b>5:00 PM - Mass</b> - Montgomery City - Baptism after Mass	Saturday, September 12th	
Sunday, September 13th	7:00 AM - Mass - Jonesburg 9:00 AM - Mass - Martinsburg <b>11:00 AM - Mass</b> - Montgomery City 6:00 PM - Confirmation Class-KC Bldg.	Sunday, September 13th	

### *Wedding Anniversary*



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

*Jim & Bonnie Walker - 44 years of marriage on Sept. 11th*

### **Additional Financial Information**

Capital Improvement	\$ 20.00
Capital Campaign (Cornerstone)	\$ 125.00
Special Collections:	
Religious Retirement Fund	\$ 100.00
CARES Act for Schools (COVID 19)	\$ 12,629.00

### **Bulletin Items**

The parish bulletin is a wonderful way of communicating and keeping everyone informed of so many exciting things. Our Parish bulletin is for our parish as well as all the parishes in our surrounding communities. We invite you to submit items and events that are happening in your community, parish and/or school to the Parish Office by Wednesday 9:00 a.m. of the week you would like it published. Items submitted after that time will appear in the following week's bulletin.

### **MS Bike-A-Thon**

Bob and Kim Dryden will be outside collecting MS Bike-A-Thon 2020 donations after Mass on Saturday, September 5th and Sunday, September 6th.

### **Harvest BBQ**



Watch the bulletin for news on the upcoming Harvest BBQ on September 25th. Pork steak, or porkburger lunches and dinner will be offered. Carry outs and outdoor seating will be available. Parishioners will be receiving a letter in the mail.

### **Knights of Columbus Ladies' Auxiliary Meeting**

The Knights of Columbus Ladies' Auxiliary meeting is scheduled for September 8, 2020, at 1:00 p.m. at Kim Dryden's house. Please plan to attend!

### **RCIA Inquiry Night**

There will be a RCIA Inquiry night on Monday, September 14, 2020 at 7 p.m. at the church. This meeting is for anyone who is interested in learning more about the Catholic Faith. Please invite anyone you know who has expressed an interest in learning more about the Catholic Faith to join us.

### **Education Commission Meeting Overview**

A meeting was held on August 18, 2020 - keys issues discussed were:

- New Parish Council Representative - Vicki Parker.
- RCIA - Inquiry Meeting on September 14, 2020 - 2 to 3 people showed interest in participating.
- Adult Religious Education - Nothing scheduled at this time.
- Confirmation Open Meeting - August 30, 2020.
- Catholic Youth Organization - Julie Worsham to head up re-establishing CYO after Confirmation.
- Parish School of Religion (PSR) - Grades 1-2 homeschooled; Grades 3-6 classes start Sept. 13th, 9:15 a.m. at the church.
- Catholic School - Classes start August 26th
- Children's Liturgy - No starting date as this time.
- Catholic School Building - Closed to people/parents/parishioners and meetings.

### **Capital Campaign Committee Update**



The Capital Campaign is pleased to say the roof of the church will be replaced in September. The work should begin mid-September and we are excited to see it! The tuck pointing is complete and we are ready to move on to other projects. Our total in collections and pledges is \$194,316. We appreciate your prayerful consideration in our process.

### **NO PARKING**



Please do 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.

***Happy Labor Day!***

## Immaculate Conception School News

It was fun to get back to school and see all our friends and teachers!

**Labor Day** - September 7th - NO SCHOOL

**MUMS for Sale!!** It is that time of year to decorate your home with an abundance of colorful mums. Mums are for sale from September 1st - 30th. The cost is \$9.50 per plant. They are in one gallon containers and you may choose from an assortment of colors. You may purchase tickets at the school.



## ECLC Happenings

There are currently openings in the ECLC. 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 - 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. There are a few ways to obtain the cards. **You may go on line to [www.ShopWithScrip.com](http://www.ShopWithScrip.com) Enrollment code: 676419AC74L7, purchase them at the school office or after Masses on the first full weekend of the month. If you have any questions, you may call Gina Smith, coordinator, 573-289-8635.**



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## 8th Annual National Day of Remembrance for Aborted Children

The eighth annual National Day of Remembrance for Aborted Children will be recognized on Sept. 12, at a 10 a.m. Mass celebrated by Father Anthony Viviano, diocesan pro-life moderator, at St. Andrew Parish in Holts Summit. After Mass, a brief prayer service will be held at the St. Andrew Memorial Stone for a short prayer service. Please wear a mask and observe social distance during the Mass and prayer service. For more information, contact Kathy Forck, St. Andrew pro-life coordinator, 573-821-5130.

## Covid-19 Update

**Whereas** the Department of Health and Senior Services of the State of Missouri and the Center for Disease Control and Prevention of the United States federal government continue to recommend the observance of social distancing and the use of face masks when in gatherings; that persons 65 years of age and older, as well as those with certain medical conditions, avoid public gatherings as much as possible; and the practice of frequent handwashing or use of hand sanitizers; and

**Whereas** the common good demands that the public health requirements and recommendations of the state are to be observed whenever possible; and

**Whereas** having received the recommendation of the Presbyteral Council to extend the current norms with regard to the pandemic;

I therefore declare, as the diocesan bishop, the following:

1. All the faithful of the Diocese of Jefferson City, and those who are present in the territory of the diocese, are dispensed from the obligation to attend Mass on Sundays and holy days of obligation until 27 November 2020, provided that for days of precept they do one of the following:

- Prayerfully participate in the Sunday or holy day of obligation Mass livestreamed from their parish church or chapel, the Cathedral, the Vatican, or of any Mass of the day celebrated in communion with the Roman Catholic Church. Parishes are highly encouraged to livestream Masses for Sundays and holy days of obligation indefinitely.
- Prayerfully read and meditate on the readings of the Mass for the Sunday or holy days of obligation, and recite the Rosary or Divine Mercy Chaplet.



## 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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## NAPM Conference Sessions

The Jefferson City Diocese Chapter of the National Association of Pastoral Musicians (NPM) is hosting video conference calls via Zoom on four Wednesdays at 7 p.m. to share video sessions from the national convention. This is open to all music ministers, DREs, priests, and anyone else interested from our diocese. To receive the Zoom invitation, please email: [npmjeffcitydio@gmail.com](mailto:npmjeffcitydio@gmail.com)

Wednesday, Sept. 9, 7 p.m.: Choosing Liturgical Music of Theological Savvy, by Emily Strand.

## The RETURN

Saturday, September 26, 2020, at Reach Church in Montgomery City. While the event will be from 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., people are welcome to drop in during that time.

The RETURN is a movement, an appointed time, and a specific day set apart for one purpose – the return to God, that there be a coming before His presence in humility, in sincerity in prayer and repentance, that there be intercession for America, for each other, and for oneself, for God's mercy, for salvation, for healing, for revival, for restoration, and for the fulfillment of God's purposes for America and all who dwell within it.

## Totus Tuus at Home

A fun, prayerful, and catechetical resource for your parish kids and families. Taking inspiration from the 2020 curriculum, Totus Tuus at Home offers an array of child-friendly videos exploring the 10 Commandments and the Glorious Mysteries of the Rosary. The videos were created, filmed, edited, and produced by our 2020 missionary team. We hope these videos might be a resource in parish families seeking some solid faith-formation for their kids at home. And for those kids that may have missed out on Totus Tuus this year, we pray this will bring a little bit of the Totus Tuus spirit into their lives in a fun and socially-distanced way! Totus Tuus Maria!

## Mailing Address for Diocesan Offices

The Chancery offices in the Alphonse J. Schwartze Memorial Catholic Center have a new mailing address. We are no longer using any Post Office boxes, including P.O. Box 104900. Please address all correspondence to the street address 2207 W. Main St., Jefferson City, MO 65109-0914. Please begin using the street address immediately. The post office has ceased forwarding mail from the old addresses.

**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:** 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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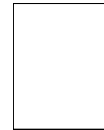
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