

## The Lord Is My Shepherd

**T**he prominent image for God in today's readings is the shepherd. This might be an unfamiliar image for city dwellers, but it is a very rich religious image. The Bible tells us that early Israelites were herders, so they know a lot about shepherds. They knew that shepherds follow the wandering of their sheep and attended to their needs—not the other way around. They knew that shepherds lived with their sheep in the hills for long periods, away from family, friends, and the comforts of life. They knew that shepherds helped birthing and dying. They knew that all of this is a messy, smelly business, and no job for the fastidious.

Many nations of the ancient world, Israel included, thought of their kings as shepherds of the people—leaders who should be willing to do for their people what the shepherd does for the sheep. This explains why, on the feast of Christ the King, we represent our king as a shepherd rather than a victorious military commander, as many kings are. But more than this, throughout his life—at his passion and death, and now in his risen glory—Christ cares for us and leads us as a shepherd does. He embraces the messy, smelly reality of life. He is a shepherd-king, intent on our needs, searching for us when we seem to be lost. How comforting it is to know he carries us on his shoulders.

—Sr. Dianne Bergant, CSA

### FOR *Reflection*

- ★ Recite today's responsorial psalm slowly and thoughtfully.
- ★ Which images of Psalm 23 touch you the most? Why?



*The lost I will search out,  
the strays I will bring back,  
the injured I will bind up,  
and the sick I will heal.*

EZEKIEL 34:16



# Dear Padre,

**Today we celebrate Christ the King.  
Why isn't this changed to "Christ the Lord"?  
The notion of "king" seems outdated.**

**C**hrist the King is not the easiest concept to get close to and celebrate. Kings, queens, and monarchies aren't part of our cultural heritage. With the current penchant for cutting celebrities and politicians down to size, a king or queen wouldn't fare well. With the turmoil of England's royal family, we frequently witness the demythologizing of the world's monarchies.

Christ's kingship obviously cannot fall into any of these woeful categories. Christ came to establish a different kind of kingdom, the kingdom of God, and that in itself puts Jesus on a different plane than all other concepts of earthly monarchies. Jesus came to proclaim God's reign, God's rule, in the manner in which God the Creator and Maker of all wants things to be.

We, however, are fiercely independent and freedom-conscious people. We don't want anyone telling us what to do. We want to participate in all decisions. We resent being pushed around by anyone. And that's fine. But in

this case of God's kingdom, we have nothing to fear. God's power is to serve and give life, not to exploit or corrupt.

God's kingdom is the redemptive presence of God. Whenever people love one another, forgive one another, bear one another's burdens, and work to build a just and peaceful community, God's redemptive and liberating presence is being manifested. That is the kingdom and kinship we celebrate.

—Fr. Joseph Morin, CSSR  
[Sundaybulletin@Liguori.org](mailto:Sundaybulletin@Liguori.org)



DMYTRO ZINKEVYCH/SHUTTERSTOCK



## A WORD FROM *Pope Francis*

*The kingdoms of this world at times are sustained by arrogance, rivalries, and oppression; the reign of Christ is a "kingdom of justice, love and peace." For a Christian, speaking of power and strength means referring to the power of the cross, and the strength of Jesus' love: a love which remains steadfast and complete.*

—ANGELUS, SOLEMNITY OF CHRIST THE KING,  
NOVEMBER 22, 2015

## Calendar

### Monday

NOVEMBER 23

Weekday

Rv 14:1–3, 4b–5

Lk 21:1–4

### Tuesday

NOVEMBER 24

St. Andrew Dũng-Lạc,  
Priest, and Companion,  
Martyrs

Rv 14:14–19

Lk 21:5–11

### Wednesday

NOVEMBER 25

Weekday

Rv 15:1–4

Lk 21:12–19

### Thursday

NOVEMBER 26

Weekday

Rv 18:1–2, 21–23;

19:1–3, 9a

Lk 21:20–28

### Friday

NOVEMBER 27

Weekday

Rv 20:1–4, 11–21:2

Lk 21:29–33

### Saturday

NOVEMBER 28

Weekday

Rv 22:1–7

Lk 21:34–36

### Sunday

NOVEMBER 29

First Sunday  
of Advent

Is 63:16b–17, 19b;

64:2–7

1 Cor 1:3–9

Mk 13:33–37





# 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; Dennis Benney-Vice-President; Secretary-Open, Laura Yelton, Vicki Parker, & Mary Pottebaum

## NOVEMBER 22, 2020 - OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, KING OF THE UNIVERSE

### Mass Intentions

Monday, November 23rd	<b>NO MASS</b>
Tuesday, November 24th	7:45 AM Mass - Martinsburg
Wednesday, November 25th	8:30 AM Mass - Jonesburg
Thursday, November 26th	<b>8:00 AM Mass - Montgomery City</b> <b>+James Longstreet, Str.</b>
Friday, November 27th	<b>NO MASS</b>
Saturday, November 28th	<b>5:00 PM Mass</b> - Montgomery City - Our Parish Family
Sunday, November 29th	7:00 AM Mass - Jonesburg 9:00 AM Mass - Martinsburg <b>11:00 AM Mass</b> -Montgomery City+Marian Busken



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

Church/School Financial Report:	Income	Expenses	Difference
<b>October 2020</b>	\$36,633.04	\$61,673.54	-\$25,040.50
<b>Fiscal Year July - Oct. 2020-21</b>	\$198,274.62	\$192,271.25	\$6,003.37
<b>Needed Weekly</b>	- \$ 11,835.50		
November 1st -	\$11,338.59		
November 8th -	\$ 6,132.54		
November 15th -	\$ 7,568.05		
November 22nd -	\$		
November 29th -	\$		

Last Week's Envelopes: 50 of 179

*With God all things are possible*

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

**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 November 28th & 29th

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 November prayer intention for our Local Church is:**

For a greater sense of gratitude to God for all blessings received, and a greater sense of our responsibility for the mission of the Church in our parishes.

## Weekly Mass Schedule

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Saturday, November 28th	<b>5:00 PM - Mass - Montgomery City</b>
Sunday, November 29th	7:00 AM - Mass - Jonesburg 9:00 AM - Mass - Martinsburg <b>11:00 AM - Mass - Montgomery City</b>

## Upcoming Events & Announcements

Monday, November 23rd	7:00 PM - St. Vincent DePaul Mtg. 7:00 PM - RCIA
Tuesday, November 24th	
Wednesday, November 25th	
Thursday, November 26th	Happy Thanksgiving Day!
Friday, November 27th	
Saturday, November 28th	
Sunday, November 29th	No PSR or Confirmation Class

### *Wedding Anniversary*



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

*Mike & Vicki Oden - 29 years of marriage on November 23rd  
Walter & Debbie Heidelberger-41 yrs of marriage on Nov.24th*

### **Additional Financial Information**

Capital Improvement	\$ 60.00
Capital Campaign (Cornerstone)	\$ 100.00
Special Collections:	
Catholic Campaign for Human Development	\$ 15.00
Donations	\$ 120.00
Donations (Christmas Flowers)	\$ 10.00
Holydays	\$ 15.00

### **All Souls**



In the month of November, we remember those who have passed away in the past year: Lorraine Brower, Ignatius Busken, Marian Busken, Dorothy Conner, Doris Grillion, Ruth Reagan Huenefeld, Shery'll Schierhoff, Scott Schulte, and John (Jack) Scott.

### **Bulletin News Deadline for Thanksgiving Week**

The Parish Office will be closed on Thursday, November 26th and Friday, November 27th. If you have news you would like published in the bulletin that weekend, please send it to the office NO LATER than Tuesday, November 24th. Thank you!



May you and your family be blessed with a safe and happy Thanksgiving Day.

### **Capital Campaign Committee Update**



The roof is nearing completion and we will be looking for our next projects to happen in the spring. Thank you for any pledges or donations and your prayerful consideration. Our current total in donation and pledges is \$198,666.

### **Christmas Giving Tree**



The Social Concerns Commission will have the Christmas Giving Tree up from November 14 thru December 6. Youth in Need (YIN) will take delivery of the gifts, the gifts need to be YIN no later than **Dec 7**. YIN is located next to Dominos Pizza and they are open from 8am to 4pm Monday thru Friday. The Montgomery County Christmas Club recommends each gift be in the range of \$15 - \$20. Keep in mind that each child that we are helping has 3 ornaments on the tree, so you only need to buy one item per gift tag. If you would rather give a cash donation instead of shopping, please send Beth Roesner or Debbie Heidelberger the money by no later than December 1. When you return the gifts to YIN, please have the gifts wrapped and the ornament attached. The Social Concerns Commission and the Montgomery County Christmas Club thank all of you that participate in this program.

### **Catholic Stewardship Appeal**



**Catholic**  
STEWARDSHIP APPEAL

We are near the end of this year's Catholic Stewardship Appeal. For each one of you who chose to give back gratefully to God through a contribution to the CSA, we are deeply appreciative. Each gift, when combined with the gifts of thousands of other parishioners throughout the diocese, makes a very real difference. For those who have not yet joined your fellow Catholics in support of the CSA, we urge you to pray about it. You can also make a pledge by going online to [diojeffcity.org](http://diojeffcity.org) and clicking the "Donate Now" button.

### **2021 - \$12,000.00 Parish Goal**

<u>\$ Received</u>	<u>% of Goal</u>	<u>Over(Under)</u>
\$4,700.00	39.167%	(\$7,300.00)

## Immaculate Conception School News



I am so happy to inform Immaculate Conception Parish that Immaculate Conception School has been awarded \$80,803.50 from the 2020 Bridge the Gap Technology Grant. The purpose of this grant is to ensure the Catholic Schools of the Diocese of Jefferson City are on par with local public schools. We are all very excited about our new technology possibilities and what this can do to ensure the best education for our ICS students. God is Good!

November 24- ICS Thanksgiving Feast  
November 25-November 30- Thanksgiving Break



**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](http://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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BETTER  
TOGETHER

### Decree Extended After November 27th

Whereas the case numbers of COVID-19 infections remain at their highest levels for many counties of Mid-Missouri; and

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

Whereas the Presbyteral Council has provided their advice with regard to the ongoing reality of the pandemic; and

Whereas the current DECREE governing pastoral activities during the pandemic expires on the 27<sup>th</sup> day of November 2020;

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

All dispensations, obligations and guidance of the previous DECREE of 21 August 2020, originally effective until 27 November 2020, shall now be extended until further notice.

(The entire decree may be viewed at:  
<https://diojeffcity.org/blog/2020/11/13/decree-extended-after-27-november>)

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

Friday, November 20, 2020 - Birthright BBQ  
Saturday, December 12, 2020 - Saint Nick 5K Run/Walk

### BBQ for Birthright



The Knights of Columbus will hold a BBQ for Birthright on Friday, November 20, 2020 from 10:00 AM to 1:30 PM at the KC Hall in Montgomery City. Dine in or carry out! Pork steak lunch plates will include potato salad, coleslaw, homemade rolls, and cookie. To pre-order call Suzie (573) 239-0179 or Birthright cell (573) 742-8044. Please make checks payable to Knights of Columbus.

### 2020 No Hunger Holiday Knights of Columbus



The Montgomery Community currently has 45 boxes, which is down 15 boxes in the last three years. We could really use your help in fundraising! If you can help with the donation of turkeys or cash donations (\$40.00 donation provides dinner for a family of four), they may be dropped off at Bainbridge Insurance in Montgomery City from Thursday, November 12, 2020 thru Monday, November 23, 2020 or call Richard Bainbridge at (636) 751-4030. Thank you for your support!

### Catholic Campaign for Human Development



Please be generous in this week's special collection for the Catholic Campaign for Human Development. In the United States, one in six people lives in poverty. With this collection, you support programs that address the causes of poverty and provide a sustain-able future for those struggling across the country. In addition, 25% of the funds we collect will remain in our diocese to fund antipoverty projects. Please prayerfully consider how you can support this collection and work on the margins. More information about the Catholic Campaign for Human Development can be found at [www.usccb.org/cchd/collection](http://www.usccb.org/cchd/collection).

**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 Vedder, Michel James, Michael Adams, and John Martin.





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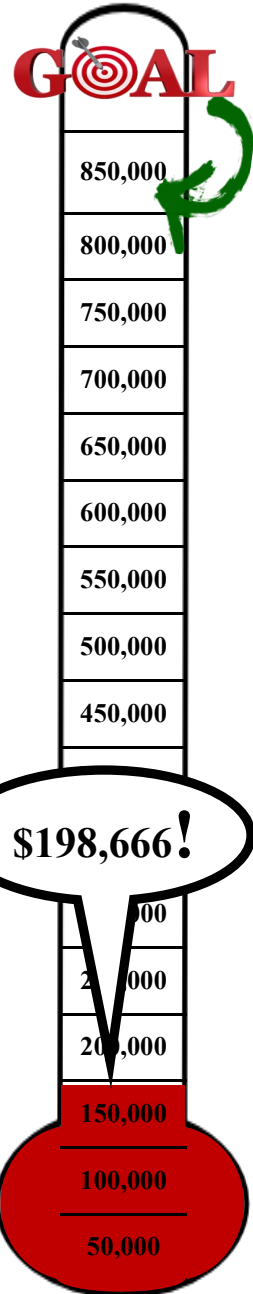
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