

*[Jesus said,]
"And I tell you,
ask and you will
receive; seek
and you will
find; knock and
the door will be
opened to you."*

LUKE 11:9

DAZLE JAM/FEXELS

The Power of Prayer

"I'll pray for you." What a simple promise. When we make this promise, what do we expect it will accomplish? The sentence is really a statement of faith. It assumes a caring relationship between us and those for whom we pray. It presumes the other person trusts that we do care. Most importantly, it acknowledges there is so much we humans cannot achieve by ourselves, and so we turn in confidence to God that our needs are the concern of God as well.

Today's first reading is the startling account of Abraham's prayer for two sinful cities. He pleads with God to spare them for the sake of any righteous citizens found there. God is willing to do that if righteous citizens can be found. Abraham prays for people who do not deserve God's mercy. But there it was. God's mercy outstrips the most horrendous crimes. Abraham kept pleading, and God kept saying, "All right."

The same persistence in prayer is found in the Gospel passage. The message there? Keep at it. We don't know whether the praying will end as Abraham's did or like that of the determined friend in the Gospel. That's not our concern, because the way prayer is answered belongs to God, not to us. So then why pray if we can't be confident about the answer? Because we believe we are connected to each other, and together we stand in need before a loving God who wants the best for us.

Sr. Dianne Bergant, CSA

FOR *Reflection*

- * **How often do you promise: "I'll pray for you"? How often do you keep that promise?**
- * **What do you hope prayer will accomplish?**

Dear Padre,

My good friend is converting to Catholicism and learning things that I, a cradle Catholic, never knew. Why wasn't I taught these things? I'm embarrassed that a convert knows more than me.

Catholics receive most of their religious education as children. Even at the high school level, teachers are not able to explore religious topics with the same breadth and depth that occurs during the Order of Christian Initiation of Adults (OCIA) formerly known as RCIA. The Bible, for instance, is taught to children as stories, but adult faith requires us to read and understand Scripture as more than a story.

Adults learn differently from children; adults ask different questions. The facts and contents remain the same, but it's not

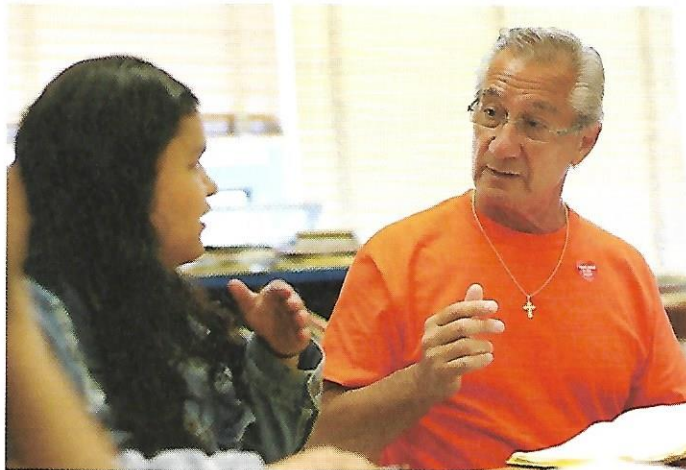
possible for your early religious education to have the same content and depth as that of an adult who is converting to Catholicism.

Most Catholic parishes need a faith-formation program for adults who want to take their faith to a deeper level. If yours doesn't offer adult-education programs, many publishers offer programs that can be used for individual study. Let your own interest and curiosity be your guide.

Fr. Rick Potts, CSsR
Sundaybulletin@Liguori.org

Do you have a question for the Padre?

Go to DearPadre.org to send your question and to learn more about Dear Padre.



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A WORD FROM *Pope Francis*

Is your faith, is my faith tired? Do you want to reinvigorate it? Look for God's gaze: sit in adoration, allow yourself to be forgiven in confession, stand before the Crucified One. In short, let yourself be loved by him. This is the starting point of faith: letting oneself be loved...by he who is Father.

ANGELUS, OCTOBER 10, 2021

Calendar

Monday

JULY 25

St. James, Apostle

2 Cor 4:7-15

Mt 20:20-28

Tuesday

JULY 26

Sts. Joachim and Anne,

Parents of the

Blessed Virgin Mary

Jer 14:17-22

Mt 13:36-43

Wednesday

JULY 27

Weekday

Jer 15:10, 16-21

Mt 13:44-46

Thursday

JULY 28

Weekday

Jer 18:1-6

Mt 13:47-53

Friday

JULY 29

Sts. Martha, Mary,

and Lazarus

Jer 26:1-9

Jn 11:19-27

or Lk 10:38-42

Saturday

JULY 30

Weekday

Jer 26:11-16, 24

Mt 14:1-12

Sunday

JULY 31

Eighteenth Sunday

in Ordinary Time

Eccl 1:2; 2:21-23

Col 3:1-5, 9-11

Lk 12:13-21



Immaculate Conception Parish Family

161st YEAR OF SERVICE

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

Fr. Ernest Dike, Parochial Administrator, edike@diojeffcity.org

Janet Cobb, Bookkeeper/Secretary | 573.564.2375 Parish Office | imm-con@sbcglobal.net | www.mcioparish.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; Mary Pottebaum, Vicki Parker, Bill Huston, and Dennis Cobb

JULY 24, 2022 - SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Mass Intentions

Monday, July 25th	5:00 PM Mass - Seedbearers @ MC
Tuesday, July 26th	5:00 PM Mass - Seedbearers @ MC
Wednesday, July 27th	5:00 PM Mass - Seedbearers @ MC
Thursday, July 28th	5:00 PM Mass - Seedbearers @ MC
Friday, July 29th	5:00 PM Mass - Seedbearers @ MC
Saturday, July 30th	5:00 PM Mass - Montgomery City - Our Parish Family
Sunday, July 31st	8:00 AM Mass - Jonesburg 10:00 AM Mass - Montgomery City +Vincent & Delores Schimweg



July 1, 2022 - June 30, 2023

Church & School Financial Report:	Income	Expenses	Difference
June 2022	\$ 77,917.97	\$ 63,509.91	\$ 14,408.06
Fiscal Year July-March 2021-22	\$ 712,620.06	\$ 643,822.45	\$ 68,797.61
Needed Weekly - \$ 13,232.95			
July 3rd - \$ 14,538.00			
July 10th - \$ 6,929.00			
July 17th - \$ 8,499.39			
July 24th - \$			
July 31st - \$			

Last Week's Envelopes: 41 of 189

(No Mass if there is a funeral)

Thank you!! With God all things are possible!

Parish Membership: Call the parish office to register.

Sacrament of Reconciliation: Saturdays 4:00 PM - 4:45 PM, or by appointment.

Sacrament of Baptism: Call the parish office to set up an appointment.

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 July 30th & 31st

Ministries	Saturday, 5:00 PM	Sunday, 10:00 AM
Lector	Beth Roesner	Michael Smith
Children's Liturgy	None at this time	None at this time
Communion Minister	Mary Pottebaum	Dennis Cobb
Ministers of Hospitality	Bob Dryden Kasey & Mary Pottebaum	Jeff & Amanda Arens Randy & Nancy Hinkel
Servers	Reed Pottebaum Jacob Roesner	Kendra & Keegan Rakers
Gift Bearers	Hospitality Ministers	Hospitality Ministers
Money Counters	Judy Cobb Don & Sandy Oakes	Cathy McCormack Pam Schwartz

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

For our nation, for the integrity of our judicial system, and that all branches of government be dedicated to seeking the common good and protecting the dignity and rights of the human person, from conception to natural death.

Weekly Mass Schedule

Upcoming Events & Announcements

Monday, July 25th	5:00 PM - Seedbearers' Mass & MC	Monday, July 25th	7:00 PM St. Vincent dePaul Mtg.
Tuesday, July 26th	5:00 PM - Seedbearers' Mass & MC	Tuesday, July 26th	6:00 AM - 5:00 PM - Adoration
Wednesday, July 27th	5:00 PM - Seedbearers' Mass & MC	Wednesday, July 27th	
Thursday, July 28th	5:00 PM - Seedbearers' Mass & MC	Thursday, July 28th	
Friday, July 29th	5:00 PM - Seedbearers' Mass & MC	Friday, July 29th	
Saturday, July 30th	5:00 PM Mass - Montgomery City	Saturday, July 30th	
Sunday, July 31st	8:00 AM Mass - Jonesburg 10:00 AM Mass - Montgomery City (Rosary @ 9:30 AM)	Sunday, July 31st	



Wedding Anniversary

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

*Tony & Laverne Wessel - 62 years of marriage on July 30th
Dennis & Peggy Kleine - 46 years of marriage on July 31st*

Additional Financial Information

Memorial - Ignatius Busken	\$	150.00
Bulletin Advertisements	\$	300.00
Mass Intention	\$	10.00
Special Collections:		
Catholic Missourian	\$	14.00
Diocesan Missions	\$	618.00



Seedbearers' Mass

The Seedbearers will be celebrating Mass here at Immaculate Conception this coming week (July 26th - 30th) every day at 5:00 PM. (See above daily Mass schedule). They invite everyone to join them! If you have not been to one of their Masses, it is a very uplifting celebration!!!



Our Condolences and Prayers

Douglas Zerr, son of Don Zerr of our parish family, passed away on Monday, July 18th. A Mass of Christian burial was held here at Immaculate Conception on Thursday, July 21st with Internment in St. George Cemetery in Hermann. We offer our prayers and condolences to Don and his family during this difficult time.



Congratulations & Welcome!

We want welcome the newest member to our parish family, Taliana Brooke Lynea Ferguson, who was baptized on July 10th. She is the daughter of Jeffrey and Latricia Ferguson of our parish. Congratulations to Taliana and her family on this momentous occasion!

Harvest Picnic Update



We are starting to send out some letters for **Picnic Sponsors**. If you know an individual or business that would like to be a sponsor, please let Beth Cobb or Mary Pottebaum know. We are also looking for vendors for the **Vendor Fair**. At the Harvest Picnic, besides having delicious food, there will also be fun games and activities for kids and adults, a cake walk, a country store, raffles, and a **Live and Silent Auction**. We will need many hands to work at the picnic. Please be thinking about what kinds of items you will donate as well as where your talents will best serve the parish for this event. Packets will be handed out soon with more information and quilt raffle tickets. We need everyone's help to make this 6th Annual Harvest Picnic a success!

For donations or questions contact Beth Cobb, Judy Cobb, Megan Hans, Pat Korman, Mary Pottebaum, Gina Smith, Dottie Brueggen or Dianne Talley.

Help Needed!



Inserted in last weekend's bulletin was the list of items which need to be addressed from the Parish Council/Administration & Finance Committee "Walk Thru" of the parish's buildings and grounds. If you can help with any of these projects, please let the parish office (573-564-2375) or Dennis Cobb (573-253-9257) know. Thank you!

**Immaculate Conception School
News**



School is out for the summer! See everyone in August!

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.RaiseRight.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.**

Parishioners Attend Camp Lolek

We had a great time at Camp Lolek. Lolek was Pope John Paul II's nickname. We attended daily Mass and prayer service, sang camp songs, performed skits, played archery dodgeball, went swimming in the pool and the river, received the sacrament of Reconciliation, played putt-putt golf, and had a water war. We made new friends and had good reflection time. We definitely recommend this camp! Thank you for your prayers.

-Jacob Roesner and Carl Smith

Love and Life Retreat For Couples

Love and Life is a one day retreat where couples explore the truth and beauty of marriage and God's plan for it. It will be held Sept. 3rd, 8:30 am to 5 pm, at the Chancery in Jefferson City, 2207 W. Main St. Based on *Marriage: Love and Life in the Divine Plan* by the US bishops, this retreat will help couples renew their bonds through presentations and periods of prayer. It has helped hundreds of couples reconnect and appreciate each other, their relationship, and their marriage. **This retreat is open to all couples (married, engaged & unmarried).** Registration for this event is required at <https://diojeffcity.org/23951-2/couples-retreat-love-life/>.

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

There are no events to post this weekend.

Mass Attendance Log

In order for the diocese to obtain a more accurate "snapshot" for future pastoral planning, parishes are asked to record attendance at every individual weekend Mass/Sunday Celebration in the Absence of a Priest and Holy Day Mass, from Aug. 1, 2022 through July 31, 2023. The Hospitality Ministers will begin taking this count on August 6th.

Diocese Mission Collection



How exciting it is to see our community come together and support such an exceptional project like the World Mission. We are pleased that so many of you have contributed to the Annual Diocese Mission collection. If you haven't had a chance to contribute to the mission, you may place your envelope in the collection basket during Mass. If you prefer, you may also drop your donation off at the parish office. To date we have collected \$713.00.

God bless you and keep you in his loving arms.

World Day for Grandparents and Elderly

Pope Francis has established throughout the church the celebration of the World Day for Grandparents and Elderly on the **fourth Sunday of July**, near the liturgical memorial of Saints Joachim and Anne, the grandparents of Jesus. The theme for this year's celebration is "In Old Age They Will Still Bear Fruit" (Ps. 92:15), emphasizing how grandparents are a gift both to society and the church.

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: Pat Klein, Nick Schneider, Lucille & Marvin Griesbauer, Pat Merz, Parker Calbreath (son of Chris & Stacy Calbreath), Al & Christine Barger, Barb Kliethermes, Marla Daniels, Lindsey (Dryden) O'Bryan, Valerie Readey Neudecker, John Rybacki (father of Sue Beck), Jane Dorlac, and Baby Maverick O'Bryan.

Contact the parish office to have someone added!



Please pray for all our men and women serving in the armed forces. Corey Stulce, Tanner Cobb, Steve (Hip) Hill, and Noah Richard.

Contact the parish office to have someone added!



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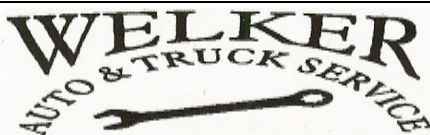


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