



God or Mammon?

Jesus tells a story that might sound confusing to us because it reflects economic practices of his time, not ours. His original audience likely recognized the situation as one that was familiar to them. In the story, an employee fails to oversee and enhance the material holdings of his employer. However, when it came to getting what he could for himself from the employer's assets, he shows remarkable ability. One might say: Good for him! Even the employer thought the employee's actions showed resourcefulness.

Jesus does not applaud the specifics of the man's behavior, acceptable or not, as the case may have been. Rather, he notes that the man used whatever was available to him to ensure his own comfort in the future. Jesus then states that the ingenuity of such a man is more noteworthy than that of children of light. What a condemnation!

Jesus goes on to condemn mammon. Just what is that? It is too easy to say that mammon is money, though money is part of it. A good definition is "the greedy pursuit of gain." This could be any kind of gain over others when we make that gain the primary value in our lives. The story shows that the employee was amazingly industrious in his pursuit. In comparison, the children of light (you and me?) too often fail to demonstrate comparable industry in pursuing the true wealth of which Jesus spoke. Once again, a choice is placed before us: God or mammon?

Sr. Dianne Bergant, CSA

FOR Reflection

- ✱ *What is the driving pursuit in your life? Is it worthy of you?*
- ✱ *How committed are you to religious pursuits?*

[Jesus said,] "No servant can serve two masters. He will either hate one and love the other....You cannot serve God and mammon."

LUKE 16:13

Dear Padre,

A friend sent me a copy of *The Catholic Worker* newspaper. It was founded by one of his heroes, Dorothy Day. What can you tell me about her?

Dorothy Day was born in Brooklyn, New York, in 1897. She finished high school at age sixteen and joined the Socialist Party in 1914 as a college student. She converted to Catholicism in 1927.

During the Great Depression, Dorothy's commitment to the poor deepened. In 1932 she met Peter Maurin, with whom she founded the Catholic Worker Movement. In 1933 she created *The Catholic Worker* newspaper, through which

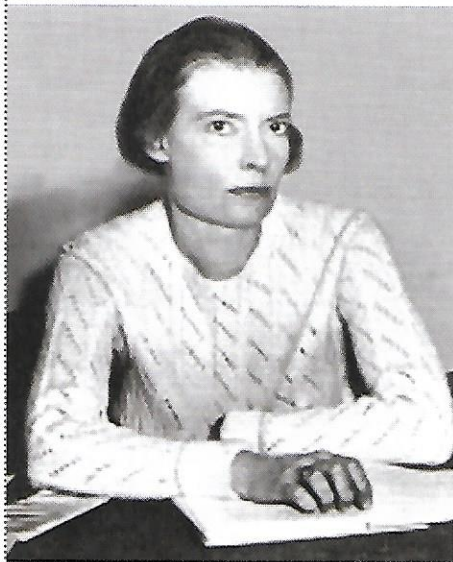
she proclaimed the rights of workers to dignity and to fair and honest treatment by industry and government, landlords, and neighbors. Her pro-labor and anti-war beliefs caused her to be labeled a Communist, but she was never a member of the Communist Party.

Dorothy's concern for social justice grew—among other things, she worked with Cesar Chavez and the United Farm Workers. She was orthodox, pious, and had a deep sense of Catholic morality.

She died in 1980. In 2000, St. John Paul II granted the Archdiocese of New York permission to open a cause for Dorothy

Day's sainthood. That cause was endorsed in 2012 by the US Conference of Catholic Bishops, who called her "a saint for our time." In December 2021, Servant of God Dorothy Day's cause advanced from the Archdiocese of New York to the Vatican's Congregation for the Causes of the Saints.

Fr. Rick Potts, CSSR
Sundaybulletin@Liguori.org



A WORD FROM *Pope Francis*

In these times when social concerns are so important, I cannot fail to mention the Servant of God Dorothy Day, who founded the Catholic Worker Movement. Her social activism, her passion for justice and for the cause of the oppressed, were inspired by the Gospel, her faith, and the example of the saints.

ADDRESS TO JOINT SESSION OF US CONGRESS,
SEPTEMBER 24, 2015



Calendar

Monday

SEPTEMBER 19

Weekday

Prv 3:27–34

Lk 8:16–18

Tuesday

SEPTEMBER 20

Sts. Andrew Kim Tae-gŏn,
Priest, and Paul Chŏng
Ha-sang, and Companions,
Martyrs

Prv 21:1–6, 10–13

Lk 8:19–21

Wednesday

SEPTEMBER 21

St. Matthew,
Apostle and Evangelist
Eph 4:1–7, 11–13
Mt 9:9–13

Thursday

SEPTEMBER 22

Weekday

Eccl 1:2–11

Lk 9:7–9

Friday

SEPTEMBER 23

St. Pius of Pietrelcina,
Priest

Eccl 3:1–11

Lk 9:18–22

Saturday

SEPTEMBER 24

Weekday

Eccl 11:9–12:8

Lk 9:43b–45

Sunday

SEPTEMBER 25

Twenty-sixth Sunday
in Ordinary Time

Am 6:1a, 4–7

1 Tm 6:11–16

Lk 16:19–31

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Immaculate Conception Parish Family



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

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; Mary Pottebaum, Vicki Parker, and Dennis Cobb

SEPTEMBER 18, 2022 - TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Mass Intentions

Monday, Sept. 19th	No Mass - Montgomery City
Tuesday, Sept. 20th	6:30 PM Mass - Wellsville
Wednesday, Sept. 21st	8:30 AM Mass - Jonesburg
Thursday, Sept. 22nd	8:00 AM Mass - Mont. City +Mary Ann Landolt
Friday, Sept. 23rd	10:00 AM Mass - Mont. City + Claire Benney
Saturday, Sept. 24th	5:00 PM Mass - Mont. City +Vincent & Delores Schimweg
Sunday, Sept. 25th	8:00 AM Mass - Jonesburg
	10:00 AM Mass - Mont. City - Our Parish Family



July 1, 2022 - June 30, 2023

Church & School Financial Report:	Income	Expenses	Difference
August 2022	\$84,834.64	\$63,512.05	\$21,322.59
Fiscal Year July-June 2022-23	\$126,898.28	\$112,592.90	\$14,305.38
Needed Weekly - \$ 13,232.95			
September 4th - \$11,163.50			
September 11th - \$17,217.00			
September 18th -			
September 25th -			

Last Week's Envelopes: 61 of 189

(No Mass if there is a funeral at any of the three parishes)

Thank you!! With God all things are possible!

Parish Membership: Call the parish office to register.

Sacrament of Reconciliation: Saturdays 4:15 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 September 24th & 25th

Ministries	Saturday, 5:00 PM	Sunday, 10:00 AM
Lector	Gary Hoette	Mike Readey
Children's Liturgy	Not during Saturday Evening Mass	Starting on September 25th
Communion Minister	Beth Cobb	Megan Hans
Ministers of Hospitality	Daryl & Nancy Cobb Sharon Pottebaum	Jacob & Megan Hans Family
Servers	Jacob Roesner Malorie Schulte	Natalie Beabout Elizabeth Schierhoff
Gift Bearers	Hospitality Ministers	Hospitality Ministers
Money Counters	Judy Cobb Don & Sandy Oakes	Cath McCormack Pam Schwartz

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

For all who serve in our community as first responders: that God may protect them from all harm, and that we be grateful for the sacrifices they make for the common good.

Weekly Mass Schedule

Monday, September 19th	No MASS - Montgomery City
Tuesday, September 20th	6:30 PM Mass - Wellsville
Wednesday, September 21st	8:30 AM Mass - Jonesburg
Thursday, September 22nd	8:00 AM Mass - Montgomery City
Friday, September 23rd	10:00 AM Mass - Montgomery City
Saturday, September 24th	5:00 PM Mass - Montgomery City
Sunday, September 25th	8:00 AM Mass - Jonesburg 10:00 AM Mass - Montgomery City (Rosary @ 9:30 AM)

Upcoming Events & Announcements

Monday, September 19th	7:00 PM - St. Vincent dePaul Mtg.
Tuesday, September 20th	6:00 AM to 5:00 PM - Adoration
Wednesday, September 21st	7:30 PM-Knights of Columbus Mtg
Thursday, September 22nd	
Friday, September 23rd	10:00 AM - Grandparent's Day Mass
Saturday, September 24th	
Sunday, September 25th	6:00 PM - Confirmation Class 6:00 PM - 5th/6th Grade PSR Class

Wedding Anniversary



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

Bob & Kim Dryden - 35 years of marriage on Sept. 19th
Lowell & Katherine Owen - 7 years of marriage on Sept. 19th
Ty & Courtney Cothren - 19 years of marriage on Sept. 20th
Mike & Jenidean Readey - 41 years of marriage on Sept. 25th
Richie & Gayla See - 18 years of marriage on Sept. 25th

Additional Financial Information

Harvest Picnic Donations	\$ 737.00
Harvest Picnic Gun Raffle	\$ 240.00
Harvest Picnic Quilt Raffle	\$ 1,755.00
Capital Improvements/Maintenance	\$ 61.00
Mass Intentions	\$ 80.00

Harvest Picnic September 18, 2022



The Picnic is **THIS WEEKEND!** Thank you for all of the cakes, pies, Country Story items, Silent Auction items, Live Auction items, and volunteers. If you have items for the Silent or Live Auction, please drop them off at the school, the Fairgrounds, or to a committee member by Saturday. We will be at the Fairgrounds for a good portion of the day on Saturday, so if you are donating cakes or pies, they can be dropped off on **Saturday, Sept. 17 in the morning, after Saturday Mass, or before Mass on Sunday, Sept. 18.** We will have some Gun Raffle and Quilt Raffle tickets available at the picnic. We have fun games and activities planned for the Harvest Picnic for ALL ages. It will be a warm day, so plan on playing water games! (Bring a change of clothes/shoes as you might need them!) Our "6th Annual Harvest Picnic" is listed as an event on our church Facebook page (Immaculate Conception Church - Montgomery City, MO). Please check it out and invite and share with your friends. We are excited for a great day of food, fun and fellowship!

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

Twenty-Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Jesus teaches his disciples an important lesson about wealth in today's Gospel. In the parable he tells them, the clever steward is applauded for finding a way to maintain his wealth despite losing his job. But this kind of wealth is not what is truly important, for true wealth is found in God. We cannot allow money (mammon) to be our master. Today, on Catechetical Sunday, let us be reminded that Jesus, our Teacher, continually teaches us the way to eternal dwellings.

Faith-Sharing Groups

Our new opportunity in the diocese, Grateful Living: The Joy of Stewardship will help us all, as individuals and as a parish community, to further discover and deepen who we are, all we're called to be. Grateful Living: The Joy of Stewardship is a twelve-session, faith-sharing resource to communicate the Church's mission and vision of stewardship using the small group faith-sharing model.

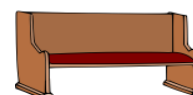
Have you ever wondered about your purpose in life? We know that God has called each of us to be the best, the most holy, the most giving person we can be. God has created us with unique gifts and qualities to support us in the call.

I will be asking six (6) individuals to help with this mission by serving on our committee. There will be more information in the coming weeks in the bulletin and I will share more information. Watch for these announcements and when I say "Come Follow me:", I hope you say yes, I would be glad to!

Janet Stumbaugh

Thank You!

We want to thank Dick and Shirley Arens for donating the lovely, very comfortable new cushions for our pews! Not only do they enhance the beauty of our church, but what a difference they make!!!



**Immaculate Conception School
News**



September 18th - IC Harvest Picnic
September 23rd - Grandparents' Day - Mass @ 10:00 AM
September 28th - See You At The Pole™ @ 7:15 AM
October 4th -7th - Iowa and CogAT Testing
October 5th - Home & School Meeting @ 6:00 PM

******Home and School Meetings will be changed to the FIRST Wednesday of the month.******

Mum sales are running the month of September. \$9.50 for one gallon mums at Yardbirds. Must be picked up by 10-1-22. If you need tickets, contact the school office.

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.**

Religious Education Update

Students, 7th graders and older, in the Confirmation Program had their first class on Sunday, September 11th. The candidates will be introduced to the Parish at the weekend Masses on October 8th & 9th. Classes are being taught by Steve Williams and Sue Kyle.

Those in the 5th & 6th grades will have their first class on Sunday, September 25th, at 6:00 PM at the Catholic School. Calendar for all the classes will be passed out at the first class. One parent of each of the students must attend the opening class. Dottie Brueggen will be teaching these classes.

Parents who have children in the 4th grade and younger will be home-schooling their children. Bonnie Walker and Michelle Schroer will facilitate the homeschooling efforts and will keep in touch with the parents to help them cover all necessary information. Students in this program will be learning their prayers, reading about saints, preparing for First Reconciliation and First Communion, etc.

Children's Liturgy will resume on Sunday, September 25th, during the 10:00 AM Mass. We could use some additional adult help with this program.

Those students in the Junior and Senior High Youth Ministry Program will be leading the "Teen/Adult Games of Chance" at the Parish Picnic on September 18th.

If any parents have not yet registered their children for the PSR or Confirmation programs, or have not turned in their registration forms, please do so ASAP as the classes have started. Any questions, please contact Dottie at (573) 220-5992.

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

October 2nd - St. Joseph in Martinsburg annual Octoberfest and Car Show. Festivities begins at 10:00 AM. Registration for the Car Show from 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM. For more information about the Car Show contact Paul Bertels at (573) 473-4187. Fun and food for everyone!

**Knights of Columbus
Family Fun Poker Run**



Come join the fun on Sunday, September 18th before the Harvest Picnic. Bring your golf cart or side-by-side vehicle to the Montgomery County Fairgrounds where registration will begin at 9:00 AM. The 5-card draw game will be \$10.00 per hand and you can play (buy) as many hands as your want. High hand wins 20% of the \$10.00 registration fee "pot". The 5-mile route through town will end at the fairgrounds in time to enjoy the Harvest Picnic! If you have any questions, please contact Randy Hinkel at (573) 220-0731.

Question of the Week

How can I be a prudent steward of the wealth God has blessed me with? Where do I regard my "true wealth" (Luke 16:11)?

Volunteers Needed

We are looking for some volunteers to organize the BBQ/food part of the Bingo Night on October 15th. If you can help us out, please contact Pat Korman at (573) 359-0001 or (573) 564-2312. Thank you!

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, Valerie Readey Neudecker, John Rybacki (father of Sue Beck), Kim Dryden, Christine Welter (niece of Kathy Holtz), and Matt Brumagin.

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, Noah Richard, Dylan Willis, and Daniel Lohmann.

Contact the parish office to have someone added!



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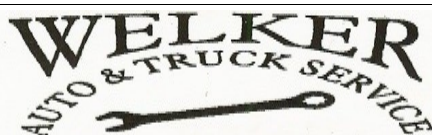
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