

## The Fish That Didn't Get Away

**W**e have all heard stories about the extraordinary fish that got away. We might even have such a story of our own. Two of today's readings are fish stories, but with a slight twist. They are also "call narratives." Last week we reflected on the call to listen and to follow; this week it is a call to go out to bring God's mercy to others. This is a call to "catch" others, as one might catch fish—a metaphor that would have delighted fisher people.

In the beginning of the Jonah story, the prophet did not catch fish; one caught him. Later, the word he preached was very successful, his own spitefulness notwithstanding. The Ninevites were the sworn enemies of the Israelites, and Jonah did not want them to repent, but to be punished by God. Nevertheless, God's mercy was stronger than Jonah's spite. In the Gospel, Jesus calls his followers to set down their fishing nets and to launch into a life of catching people

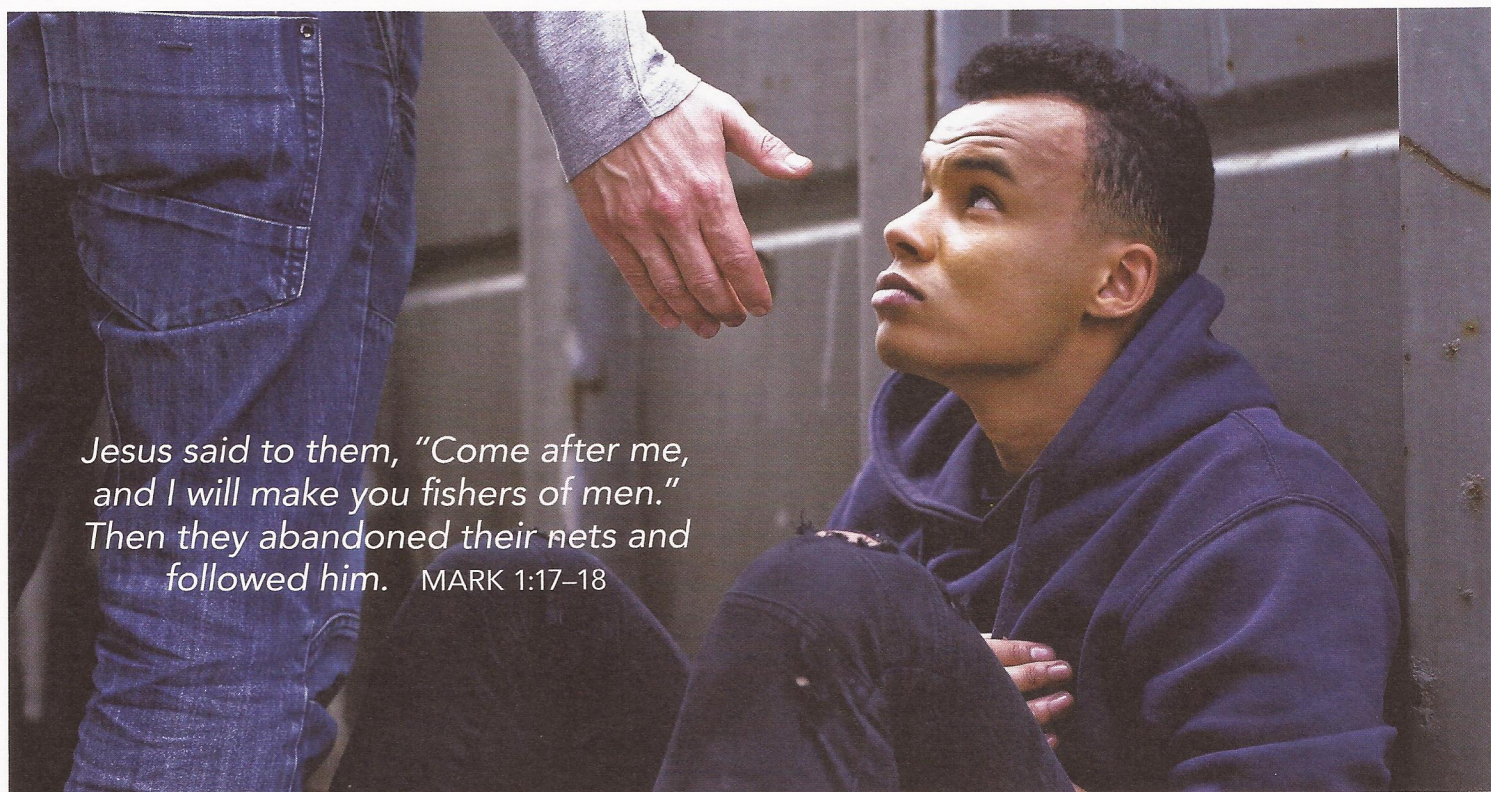
with the word of God. There is an eagerness here that is absent in the Jonah story. Furthermore, the disciples left their primary commitment—their patriarchal family—to accept Jesus' invitation.

As Pope Francis declared, we are all missionary disciples. Are we eager to respond, as were Jesus' disciples? Or do we think we should attend only to those whom we judge to be deserving? If so, have we forgotten that no one deserves God's mercy? It is a free gift to all.

*Sr. Dianne Bergant, CSA*

### FOR *Reflection*

- ✦ *In what ways does your manner of living proclaim the mercy of God?*
- ✦ *Pray that you might realize these ways if you do not already.*



*Jesus said to them, "Come after me, and I will make you fishers of men." Then they abandoned their nets and followed him. MARK 1:17–18*



# Dear Padre,

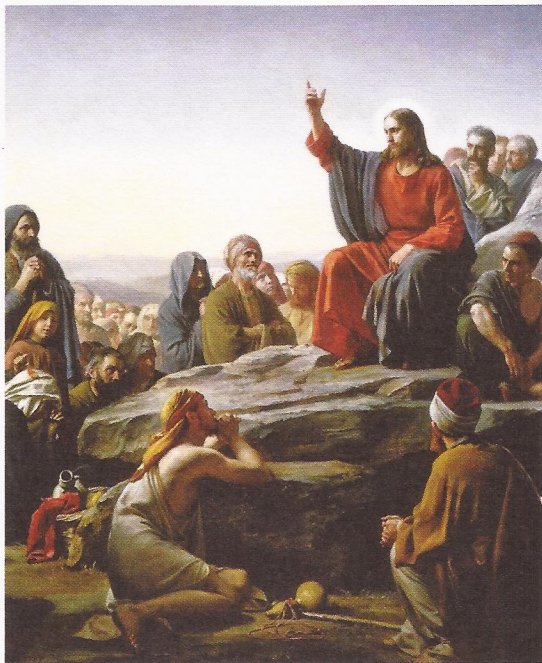
**Mark 1:15 quotes Jesus as saying, “Repent, and believe in the gospel.” Since the Gospels hadn’t been written yet, what was he referring to?**

**T**hese days when we say the word *gospel*, we tend to be talking about one of the four written Gospels of the New Testament: Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John. But the word *gospel* wasn’t originally tied to any particular written form of communication. In fact, the Greek word we translate to *gospel*—*evangelion*—simply means “good news.”

When Jesus says, “Repent and believe in the gospel,” he is basically saying, “Repent and believe in the good news.” For Jesus, the nature of that good news is clear: Jesus is announcing the coming of God’s kingdom, the initiation of the fullness of God’s reign on earth. Jesus preaches this good news in word and action and makes it real through his life, death, and resurrection.

After Jesus’ resurrection and ascension, many of his followers were inspired by the Holy Spirit to go into the world and continue Christ’s gospel proclamation. The apostles and disciples did this by word of mouth at first, but within a few decades they decided to commit the message of Christ’s good news to writing, giving us the Gospel books we know today.

*Fr. Matthew Allman, CSSR*  
[Sundaybulletin@Liguori.org](mailto:Sundaybulletin@Liguori.org)

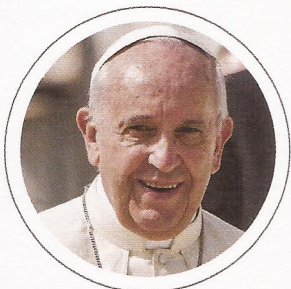


SERMON ON THE MOUNT, BY CARL BLOCH/WIKIPEDIA

## A WORD FROM *Pope Francis*

*In these, our troubled times, rent by the tragedies of war and menaced by the baneful tendency to accentuate differences and to incite conflict, may the Good News that in Jesus forgiveness triumphs over sin, life defeats death, and love conquers fear, be proclaimed to the world with renewed fervor.*

LETTER RECOGNIZING MISSIONARY WORK, OCTOBER 22, 2017



## Calendar

### Monday

JANUARY 25  
Conversion of  
St. Paul the Apostle  
Acts 22:3–16 or  
Acts 9:1–22  
Mk 16:15–18

### Tuesday

JANUARY 26  
Sts. Timothy and Titus,  
Bishops  
2 Tm 1:1–8 or Ti 1:1–5  
Mk 3:31–35

### Wednesday

JANUARY 27  
Weekday  
Heb 10:11–18  
Mk 4:1–20

### Thursday

JANUARY 28  
St. Thomas Aquinas,  
Priest and Doctor  
of the Church  
Heb 10:19–25  
Mk 4:21–25

### Friday

JANUARY 29  
Weekday  
Heb 10:32–39  
Mk 4:26–34

### Saturday

JANUARY 30  
Weekday  
Heb 11:1–2, 8–19  
Mk 4:35–41

### Sunday

JANUARY 31  
Fourth Sunday  
in Ordinary Time  
Dt 18:15–20  
1 Cor 7:32–35  
Mk 1:21–28





# Immaculate Conception Parish Family



**160th YEAR OF SERVICE**

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

**Fr. Paul Hartley, Pastor** | 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

## JANUARY 24, 2021 - THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

| Mass Intentions         |  |  | July 1, 2020 - June 30, 2021           |               |                 |                   |
|-------------------------|--|---|--|---------------|-----------------|-------------------|
| NO MASS                 |  |   | Church/School Financial Report:        |               |                 |                   |
| Monday, January 25th    |  |   | <b>December 2020</b>                   | <b>Income</b> | <b>Expenses</b> | <b>Difference</b> |
| Tuesday, January 26th   | <b>5:30 PM Mass</b> - Montgomery City +Margie Wessell      |   |  | \$53,698.42   | \$41,521.65     | \$12,176.77       |
| Wednesday, January 27th | 8:30 AM Mass - Jonesburg                                   |   | <b>Fiscal Year July - Dec. 2020-21</b> | \$291,481.66  | \$270,011.03    | \$21,470.63       |
| Thursday, January 28th  | <b>8:00 AM Mass</b> - Montgomery City +Roger Richard       |   | <b>Needed Weekly</b> - \$ 11,835.50    |               |                 |                   |
| Friday, January 29th    | <b>8:00 AM Mass</b> - Montgomery City +Marian Busken       |   | January 3rd - \$ 10,691.50             |               |                 |                   |
| Saturday, January 30th  | <b>5:00 PM Mass</b> - Montgomery City +Mary Dryden         |   | January 10th - \$ 9,640.42             |               |                 |                   |
| Sunday, January 31st    | 8:00 AM Mass - Jonesburg                                   |   | January 17th - \$ 4,100.40             |               |                 |                   |
|                         | <b>10:00 AM Mass</b> - Montgomery City - Our Parish Family |   | January 24th - \$                      |               |                 |                   |
|                         |  |   | January 31st - \$                      |               |                 |                   |
|                         |  |   | Last Week's Envelopes: 39 of 179       |               |                 |                   |

Last Week's Envelopes: 39 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:** 3:30 to 4:10 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. Hartley.

**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 exist 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 January 30th & 31st

| Ministries               | Saturday, 5:00 PM                                   | Sunday, 10:00 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 January prayer intention for our Local Church is:**

For those seeking employment; that through the intercession of St. Joseph the Worker, they may find dignified work in supporting themselves and their family.

## Weekly Mass Schedule

|                         |   |
|-------------------------|---|
| Monday, January 25th    | <b>NO MASS</b>  |
| Tuesday, January 26th   | 5:30 PM Mass - Montgomery City                                  |
| Wednesday, January 27th | 8:30 AM Mass - Jonesburg  |
| Thursday, January 28th  | 8:00 AM Mass - Montgomery City                                  |
| Friday, January 29th    | 8:00 AM Mass - Montgomery City                                  |
| Saturday, January 30th  | 5:00 PM - Mass - Montgomery City                                |
| Sunday, January 31st    | 8:00 AM - Mass - Jonesburg<br>10:00 AM - Mass - Montgomery City |

## Upcoming Events & Announcements

|                         |                                   |
|-------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Monday, January 25th    | 7:00 PM - RCIA                    |
| Tuesday, January 26th   |                                   |
| Wednesday, January 27th |                                   |
| Thursday, January 28th  |                                   |
| Friday, January 29th    |                                   |
| Saturday, January 30th  |                                   |
| Sunday, January 31st    | 9:30 AM - 3rd/4th Grade PSR Class |

### *Wedding Anniversary*



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

*Dennis & Michelle Allen - 30 years of marriage on January 26th  
Tom & Margo Nichols - 52 years of marriage on January 27th  
Keith & Wendy Schmidt - 3 years of marriage on January 28th*

### **Additional Financial Information**

|                                |           |
|--------------------------------|-----------|
| Capital Improvement            | \$ 800.00 |
| Capital Campaign (Cornerstone) | \$ 250.00 |
| Special Collections:           |           |
| Holydays                       | \$ 00.00  |
| Seminary                       | \$ 50.00  |

### **Knights of Columbus News**

The Knights of Columbus Annual Sausage Dinner will be held this Sunday, January 24, 2021, from 10:30 AM - 2:00 PM. It will be drive-thru ONLY! Bulk sausage sales on Sunday will utilize the drive-thru line. Only Knights will be allowed in the building!



Bulk sausage sales will be on the Friday, January 22, 2021, from 8:00 AM to 4:00 PM and on Saturday, January 23, 2021, from 8:00 AM until Noon at the KOC hall. People wanting to buy bulk sausage on these two days may enter the hall.

February 19, 2021 is the first fish fry. Information on it will be forthcoming.

We appreciate the support received from our fellow parishioners on our fundraising events!

### **Tax Statement**



Some parishioners are inquiring about receiving a tithing tax statement. If you **WANT** a tax statement, please call the parish office at (573) 564-2375 and let Janet know. She will prepare one for you. You may pick it up at the Parish Office or have your statement mailed to you.

### **Holy Water Clarification**



The holy water in back of the church is for personal use only! For everyone's safety, the bowls of holy water in the holy water fountains which mysteriously showed up have been removed. If you need a bottle to take holy water home, one can be purchased from the St. Vincent DePaul gift shop.

### **Poinsettia Plants**

If you donated a poinsettia plant to the church for Christmas in memory of a loved one (or just donated one) please feel free to take one after Mass.

### **Missalettes**

As you may have noticed, the Missalettes have been placed in the pews. If you feel comfortable, feel free to use them.



### **Rosary Before Masses**

The Rosary will be prayed a half hour before the Saturday evening and Sunday morning Masses. If you would like to volunteer to lead the Rosary, please contact Dennis Cobb at (573) 253-9257.



### **Worship & Spiritual Development Committee Meeting Summary**

The following was discussed at the January 21, 2021 meeting:

- Lent, Holy Week and Easter season,
- Blessing of throats, First Communion, Confirmation, etc. dates
- RCIA plans
- First Saturday of Month & Perpetual Help devotions
- Resuming the rosary one half hour before Mass
- Decorations for church—use some spring flowers for Easter
- Singing and/or instrumentals during Mass and reciting parts of the Mass.
- Holy water available for personal use only in container of back of church
- Tuning the piano

## Immaculate Conception School News



January 24th - KC Drive-thru Sausage Dinner  
January 31st-February 6th - Catholic Schools Week  
February 3rd - Home & School Meeting 6:00 PM @ KC Hall

### ECLC Happenings

The ECLC kids were so excited to receive Christmas gifts from 1954 ICS Alumnus Kenny Devin. Thank you, Mr. Devlin, for continuing to spread great joy in our classroom!

### 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.**

### Catholic Stewardship Appeal Update

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



| <u>Committed</u> | <u>\$ Received</u> | <u>% of Goal</u> | <u>Over(Under)</u> |
|------------------|--------------------|------------------|--------------------|
| \$8,765.00       | \$5,230.00         | 43.58            | (\$6,770.00)       |

### Parish Marriage Preparation Facilitators Needed



The Bishop has asked that each Parish have Marriage Preparation Facilitators who will collaborate with the parish's priest or deacon responsible for preparing engaged couples according to the diocesan policy on marriage preparation. "It is highly recommended that married couples, especially those married for at least five years, be invited to be Marriage Preparation Facilitators, since their personal experience in marriage will be helpful as they walk with engaged couples in their marriage preparation journey. However, some individuals may be good Marriage Preparation Facilitators due to their education, experience, and/or gifts in working with couples."

All potential Marriage Preparation Facilitators should exhibit the following characteristics:

- Active Catholics and faithful to Catholic doctrine.
- Have good communication skills with their spouse (if married) and be open to sharing their marital experiences.
- Have effective interpersonal and social skills. The relationship formed with the engaged couple is a key element of the impact and success of the marriage preparation process.
- Be able to inspire trust and maintain confidentiality.
- Have knowledge, experience and/or gifts that will empower, help, or inspire engaged couples. Be open to work with and collaborate with the priest(s) and/or deacon(s) of their parish.
- Open to time commitment necessary for training and working with couples. • Feel called to serve through this ministry.

If you would be interested in serving as a Marriage Preparation Facilitator, please let Fr. Hartley know.

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

January 24, 2021 - Knight of Columbus Sausage Dinner  
February 12, 2021 - St. Clements Drive-thru Fried Chicken Dinner

### Martinsburg KC Auction Postponed

The annual Martinsburg Knights of Columbus Auction in February is going to be rescheduled for a later date, yet to be determined. We consider community health and well-being a priority and hope that you can join us when we are able to safely come together.

# Thank you!

We want to thank parishioners who donated Christmas flowers in memory of: Ken, Mickey, & Duaine Hauskins, John & Mary Dryden, Raymond & Margaret Brueggen, Norbert Brueggen, Doug McRae, David James Morrow, Roger Richard, Edward & Dorothy Conner, Charles & Polly Richard, Ryond Richard, Ethel Topel, John Topel, James H. Cobb, Tom & Mary All Cobb, Wilbert Schmidt, Scott Schulte, Bill Readey, Walter Boyd, Pearl Boyd, Judy Cunningham, Galen & Rose Bethel, Tom & Babe Cunningham, Sheryll Schierhoff, Elliot Richard Smith, Harlan Horton, Elizabeth Koprivica, Rosemary Horton, Al & Rosalie Jenisch, Barb Miller, Margie Wessel, Grant Gardner, Earl & Margaret Gardner, Bill & Helen Myers, Leroy & Virginia Wright, Bill Peveler, Elroy & Virginia Salfen, Alan Salfen, Patricia Devlin, Jack & Julia Robertson, Charlie & Ruby Nelson, Frank & Anna Belle Broz, Vincent & Delores Schimweg, Jim Longstreet, Bill & Dione Auchly, Joseph & Mildred Payne, Dale Hagedorn, Harold & Anna Marie Cobb, Larry & Jeff Myhren, Ralph & Ruby Schroeder, Ed & Cora Torbeck, and all the Souls in Purgatory.

We would also like to thank parishioners who made a donation towards the Christmas flowers: Mr. & Mrs. Richard (Dick) Arens, Mr. & Mrs. Jim Cochran, Sr., Dottie Brueggen, Jerry & Diane Witthaus, Ron & Dianne Talley, Jesse & Anna Harrell, Hilda Schreiner, James Cochran, Jr., John & Tudie Simpson, Charles Casaday, and David & Mary (Sis) Falloon.

Because of your generosity, we were able to purchase and "deck the church out" many beautiful poinsettias.

### 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:** Karen Clark & Nick Schneider.

If you would like to have someone put on the prayer list, please contact the parish office (573) 564-2375 or [imm-con@sbcglobal.net](mailto:imm-con@sbcglobal.net).



**Please pray for all our men and women serving in the armed forces.** Corey Stulce, Tanner Cobb, and Michel James.

If you would like to have someone put on the military list, please contact the parish office (573) 564-2375 or [imm-con@sbcglobal.net](mailto:imm-con@sbcglobal.net).





Pat Stumbaugh - 573.220.9441  
Broker Associate  
prstumbaugh@gmail.com

## MillenniumFIVE REAL ESTATE LLC

Phone: 573-564-1150 Fax: 573-564-1149  
Website: m5realestate.com



Bart Korman - 636.359.0000  
Sales Associate  
bartkorman@hotmail.com



FOR FAST SERVICE CALL  
**573-564-3020**

**Central**  
HEATING & COOLING  
ELECTRIC & PLUMBING  
Bryan Schmidt - Owners - Rick Boschert

central@mycentralheat.com • www.centralheatcool.com  
1230 Aguilar Drive • Montgomery City • Missouri • 63361

573.489.2778

**MILNER**  
AGENCY  
REAL ESTATE

www.MilnerAgency.com www.listingbook.com  
worshamj@sbcglobal.net 1040 C South Sturgeon  
Office: 573.564.3433 Fax: 573.564.3030 Montgomery City, Missouri 63361

Julie Worsham  
Real Estate Agent  
Keeping Real Estate Simple!



## BUELL ACRES INC.

Custom Dirt & Terrace

**573.220.2606**  
marvin@buellacres.com

780 White Road  
Montgomery City, MO 63361

*Papa B's*  
  
*Wing Shack*  
Montgomery City, MO 573-574-3099  
Good Food! Good People! Good Times!

**HAIR I AM**  
106 West 2nd  
Montgomery City, MO 63361  
**573-564-3973**  
Family Hair, Nail, Skin Care, & Tanning  
Sharon Pottebaum-Owner/Operator  
Amanda Heitgerd-Operator/Esthetician

Professional - Solutions - Complete  
**My Office plus**

573.564.8117

888.878.8589 Fax  
jeff@myofficeplus.net  
www.myofficeplus.net



Jeff Arens, Owner  
PO Box 156  
517 N. Sturgeon  
Montgomery City, MO 63361

♦ Custom Design Work ♦ UPS® Shipping ♦ Full Color Wide Format Printing ♦ Business Cards ♦  
♦ Faxing ♦ Outdoor Banners ♦ Yard Signs ♦ No Print Job Too Small or Large ♦  
♦ Internet Solutions - Domains, Email, Website & Shopping Cart Hosting & More ♦

### As your family grows...is your life insurance keeping up?

A growing family needs protection that grows with them, I can determine just the right amount of coverage for you....and keep it affordable! The future starts tomorrow...contact me today!

Jeffrey A Fennewald, FICF  
34075 Audrain Road 708  
Martinsburg, MO 65264 **573.492.6612**



## QUEATHEN INSURANCE, LLC

Serving the area for over 20 years

Crop & Hail  
Home Farm Auto Life Business Health

Competitive Rates Discounts Available

**573.564.3896**

131 N. Walker | Montgomery City | MO | 63361

**WELKER**  
AUTO & TRUCK SERVICE

2 Mitchell Road, Montgomery City  
**(573) 564-2245**

\*Inspections \*Diagnostic scan  
\*Complete auto service & repair  
Raymond & Chris Welker, Owners

**HERMANN  
FORD**

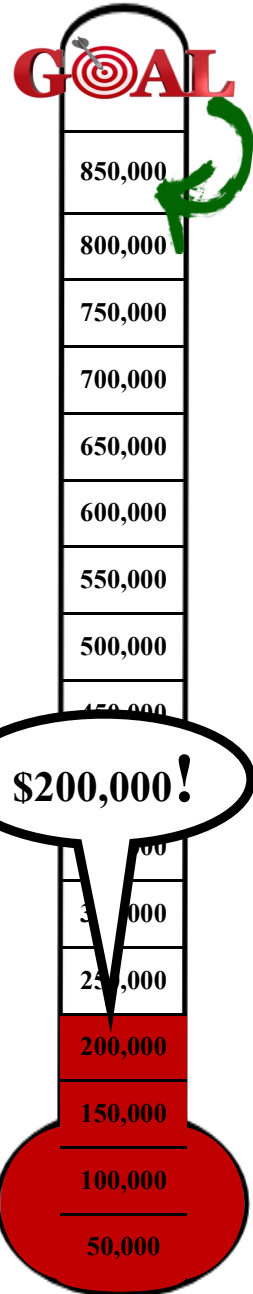
614 Market St. • PO Box 196  
Hermann, MO 65041

**Randy Hinkel**  
Sales Consultant

Phone: 573-486-3113  
Cell: 573-220-0731



rhinkel@hotmail.com  
www.hermannford.com



Any business wanting to advertise in our weekly parish bulletin is asked to contact the parish office. The twelve month cost is \$150/spot. Ad size depends on the number of advertisers.



Hello ALL! Catholic Schools Week will be celebrated in school the week of February 1-5. The committee has worked really hard to plan a special week for the students and their educators. Here is a list of the daily themes- including the dress down option and the activities we have planned.

### **Monday 2/1/21**

**“All Missions Are Possible With GOD” ☐ Dress as a Superhero**

*There will be painting activity donated by The Blank Canvas out of Hermann and an Ice Cream Treat*

We will be walking to the KC Hall for this activity. Tables will be more than six feet apart and students will be within their class. All students and volunteers will be wearing a face covering.

### **Tuesday 2/2/21**

**We are all a “PIZZA” God’s Kingdom ☐ Dress in your ICS Spirit Clothes**

*School Field Trip to Wentzville Ice Rink from 9:30-11:30;*

*followed by Casey’s Pizza back in their classrooms at school*

We will need many parents to volunteer to drive for this to work. We will be transporting the children within their classes. If you do not feel comfortable with your child(ren) riding with others, please consider volunteering to drive your child(ren). To properly social distance while at the arena, we will have different sessions, if needed. We will be asking participants to wear a face covering.

### **Wednesday 2/3/21**

**“I always thank God for you.” 1 Cor 1:4**

**Teacher Appreciation Luncheon ☐ Student Lunch Provided**

**Wacky Wednesday (mismatch, bright colors, crazy socks, etc.)**

*Teachers will be provided lunch by Dos Primos*

*Taco/nacho lunch for the students*

### **Thursday 2/4/21**

**“His mercies are new every morning.” Lamentations 3:22-23 ☐ Pajama Day**

*Donut breakfast treat*

*Making Valentines to be delivered to the local nursing home residents*

### **Friday 2/5/21**

**“Let’s fix our eyes upon Jesus” Heb 12:2 ☐ Dress Down Day**

*Watch a movie and have popcorn with their class*

If you have any questions or concerns regarding any of the treats or activities planned for the week please feel free to contact Molly Taylor with the Catholic Schools Week Committee.

[MollyTaylorLLC@gmail.com](mailto:MollyTaylorLLC@gmail.com) or 314-276-5821