



I Want Proof

Who doesn't? It's not simply that we are children of the scientific age in which proof is essential. Concrete evidence gives us a sense of security; it helps us understand how things work. Even in ordinary human relationships, we want proof. A tune from *My Fair Lady* demands: "Don't talk of love...show me." It's very difficult to live without a certain degree of surety. Consequently, we should not be surprised at Thomas' insistence: "I want proof."

Thomas is often described as lacking faith. This isn't the full story. The reason the other disciples believed was because they had an experience of the risen Lord. Before that experience they were hiding behind locked doors. Thomas was absent; we are not told why. Whatever the reason, he also wanted an experience of the risen Lord. He was not content to base his believing on their word alone. In a sense, more was being asked of Thomas than the others.

Thomas is the patron of all of us whose faith in the risen Lord is based on the word of others rather than on our own unique revelatory experience. Who of us wouldn't want some mystical experience? We are called to believe without seeing. Yet, this isn't strictly true—we *can* see evidence of the resurrection. The best proof is evident in the lives of millions of people who commit themselves to God and who strive to live with integrity.

Sr. Dianne Bergant, CSA

Jesus said to [Thomas],
"Have you come to believe
because you have seen me?
Blessed are those who have
not seen and have believed."

JOHN 20:29



For Reflection

- * Who are the people who taught you your faith and who live it themselves? Thank God for them.
- * Who looks to you as an example of one who believes that Christ is alive today?

Dear Padre,

I get a lot of questions from Protestant friends about the Catholic “obsession” (as they put it) with Mary. What should I say to them?

A convert to Catholicism tells the story of a dinner he had with a friend who had a very evangelical outlook. As they talked about the new Catholic’s decision to convert, the friend asked hesitantly, “What do you think about Mary?” The new Catholic smiled and said, “I think she’s wonderful, don’t you?” The friend responded with an embarrassed “Yes, but....”

If Catholics and Protestants can begin with this premise—that Mary is wonderful—it might be possible to step back and consider why. Mary is an extraordinary human being who holds a special place in the Christian faith for two reasons: first, it was through her that God became flesh in the person of Jesus Christ; and second, she was the first to believe in Jesus’ mission and ministry.

All Catholic doctrine about Mary refers to two special relationships. She has a special relationship with God because she bore the “God-man” in her womb. She also has a special relationship with us because she was the first Christian.

Fr. Scott Katzenberger, CSSR
Sundaybulletin@Liguori.org



MADONNA WITH CHILD BY PADRE ANGELICO DA VILLAROTTA (1939), RENATA SEDMAKOVA/SHUTTERSTOCK



A WORD FROM *Pope Francis*

[The disciples] had abandoned the Lord at his passion and felt guilty. But meeting them, Jesus did not give a long sermon. To them, who were wounded within, he shows his own wounds. Thomas can now touch them and know of Jesus’ love and how much Jesus had suffered for him, even though he had abandoned him.

DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY, APRIL 19, 2020

Calendar

Monday

APRIL 12

Easter Weekday

Acts 4:23–31

Jn 3:1–8

Tuesday

APRIL 13

Easter Weekday

Acts 4:32–37

Jn 3:7b–15

Wednesday

APRIL 14

Easter Weekday

Acts 5:17–26

Jn 3:16–21

Thursday

APRIL 15

Easter Weekday

Acts 5:27–33

Jn 3:31–36

Friday

APRIL 16

Easter Weekday

Acts 5:34–42

Jn 6:1–15

Saturday

APRIL 17

Easter Weekday

Acts 6:1–7

Jn 6:16–21

Sunday

APRIL 18

Third Sunday of Easter

Acts 3:13–15, 17–19

1 Jn 2:1–5a

Lk 24:35–48



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-Mary Pottebaum, Laura Yelton, & Vicki Parker

APRIL 11, 2021 - SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER (DIVINE MERCY)

Mass Intentions

Monday, April 12th	NO MASS - Montgomery City
Tuesday, April 13th	5:30 PM MASS - Montgomery City +Don Benney
Wednesday, April 14th	8:30 AM MASS - Jonesburg
Thursday, April 15th	NO Mass - Montgomery City
Friday, April 16th	8:00 AM Mass - Montgomery City +Ruth Huenefeld
Saturday, April 17th	5:00 PM Mass - Montgomery City - Confirmation Candidates
Sunday, April 18th	8:00 AM Mass - Jonesburg 10:00 AM Mass - Montgomery City - Our Parish Family



July 1, 2020 - June 30, 2021

Church/School Financial Report:	Income	Expenses	Difference
March 2021	\$24,640.45	\$49,890.29	-\$25,249.84
Fiscal Year July-March 2020-21	\$426,449.29	\$443,150.75	-\$16,701.46
Needed Weekly	- \$ 11,835.50		
March 28th - \$13,072.00 (2 weeks)			
April 4th - \$11,076.67			
April 11th - \$			
April 18th - \$			
April 25th - \$			

Last Week's Envelopes: 65 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 4:50 PM Saturday or call for an appointment.

Sacrament of Baptism: 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 April 17th & 18th

Ministries	Saturday, 5:00 PM	Sunday, 10:00 AM
Lector	Beth Cobb	Amanda Arens
Children's Liturgy	Not assigned at this time	Not assigned at this time
Communion Minister	None assigned	Jacob Lotton
Ministers of Hospitality	Daryl & Nancy Cobb	Ron & Dianne Talley
Servers	Jacob Roesner Reed Pottebaum	Owen Merz Carl Smith
Gift Bearers	Not assigned at this time	Not assigned at this time
Money Counters	Rae Jean & Darryl Rhoads	Gayle Adams Ruth Schneider

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

Let us pray for a renewed understanding of our baptismal dignity as sons and daughters of God the Father, and a commitment to living in peace with our sisters and brothers in Christ.

Weekly Mass Schedule

Monday, April 12th	NO MASS
Tuesday, April 13th	5:30 PM Mass - Montgomery City
Wednesday, April 14th	8:30 AM Mass - Jonesburg
Thursday, April 15th	NO MASS
Friday, April 16th	8:00 AM Mass - Montgomery City
Saturday, April 17th	5:00 PM Mass - Montgomery City (Rosary @ 4:30 PM)
Sunday, April 18th	8:00 AM Mass - Jonesburg 10:00 AM Mass - Montgomery City (Rosary @ 9:30 AM)

Upcoming Events & Announcements

Monday, April 12th	
Tuesday, April 13th	
Wednesday, April 14th	
Thursday, April 15th	1:00 PM - KOC Ladies Aux. Mtg. At KC Hall
Friday, April 16th	
Saturday, April 17th	5:00 PM Mass - Confirmation
Sunday, April 18th	8:30 AM - 3rd/4th Grades PSR

Wedding Anniversary



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

Jake & Julie Beck - 17 years of marriage on April 17th.

Additional Financial Information

Capital Improvements	\$ 45.00
Capital Campaign (Cornerstone)	\$ 320.00
Special Collections:	
Catholic Home Missions	\$ 40.00
Infirm Priest Fund	\$ 511.00

Liturgical Minister Assignments

In last week's bulletin, we began assigning Liturgical Ministers. If you do not feel comfortable serving yet, or would like to be put on the list, please let Janet Cobb know. The office phone is (573) 564-2375 or by email: imm-con@sbcglobal.net.

If you cannot serve when assigned, please contact either the Parish Office or Dennis Cobb (573) 253-9257 so we can find a substitute.

Thank you for your "time and talent" serving in these ministries.

Confirmation Mass



We are anticipating a large crowd at Mass this Saturday evening, May 17th, when Rev. Msgr. Kurwicky, Vicar General of the Jefferson City Diocese, will be here to Confirm 22 candidates. If you are a "regular Saturday night" attendee and feel uncomfortable being in large crowds, you may want to attend Mass on Sunday either here or in Jonesburg.

Volunteer Mowers Needed

We are looking for volunteers to help mow grass at the school. The Knights of Columbus usually takes care of it, but they could use some help! Please contact Dennis Cobb (573) 253-9257 if you are willing to "give us a hand".



Thank You!



I want thank Ruth Ann O'Keefe and her crew for cleaning the church and grounds, Jeff and Amanda Arens for their beautiful decorations, Dottie Brueggen, Richard Schierhoff, Debbie Heidelberger, Diane Witthaus, and the chime players for their inspirational music, those who signed up for the Liturgical Ministries, and all who took part in the services. It truly made the Holy Week Liturgies special!

God Bless,
Fr. Hartley

Confirmation Practice



PLEASE NOTE: There is a change in practice for Confirmation! It will be this **SUNDAY, April 11th at 5:00 p.m.** in the church. Candidates and sponsors should be present.

Divine Mercy Novena



The Novena for the Divine Mercy closes on Sunday April 11th. Everyone is invited to attend a service at St. Patrick's Church in Jonesburg on Sunday, April 11th at 3:00 p.m.

Midwest March for Life

In last week's bulletin there was a flyer for this event. If you did not get a bulletin, but are interested, it is scheduled for April 14th at the Missouri State Capital South Lawn in Jefferson City. More information may be obtained at: www.midwestmarchforlife.com

PLEASE NOTE: There is a change in the April Calendar...NO Mass on April 15th. Thank you!

Immaculate Conception School News



April 11th - First Communion at 10:00 AM Mass
April 11th - Confirmation practice at 5:00 PM
April 17th - Confirmation at 5:00 PM Mass
April 19th - Dr. Vader visiting ICS
May 5th - Vocations Day

Thank you Consolidated Electric for your amazing presentation for our middle school students on Energy Efficiency and Conservation.

Registration is open for Preschool-8th Grade.

ECLC Happenings

ECLC kids are enjoying the spring weather and being outside!



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 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.**



Dear parishioners,

We are so grateful for every penny of every contribution toward our goal. In the summer of 2019, our committee was formed and given the task of evaluating what needed to be done and what we would like to see done. Then we developed a budget for making that happen. Our committee is made up of five members: Amanda Arens, Courtney Cothren, Jacob Lotton, Pat Stumbaugh, and Laura Yelton. We are very committed to the list we identified and committed to raising the money to make that happen.

Looking back to one of our very first actions, on recommendation, we polled the congregation to see if there was interest in re-installing the wooden altars that were part of our church sanctuary over 60 years ago. There was overwhelming support to make that happen. That became the impetus behind much of the work we have done. As I said, we first decided what HAD to be done and then moved on to what we wanted to see done. In order to get the altars back in the church, several interior changes will have to be made. However, prior to any of that, we had needs to make sure our church building would still be here for years to come.

We are currently at \$209,600 in pledges and contributions. Our goal is \$850,000. We are doing the work on the outside first - mainly because we were in great NEED of a new roof. With our current balance of donations, we can pay for the concrete work (which includes new sidewalks all the way around and a new truly accessible front entrance) and we believe we will be able to pay for the new entrance to the church and new front doors. Without more contributions, we will not be able to move to the interior of the church. The altars going back in will be one of the very last steps

Prior to that we have stained glass windows to repair and enhance, moisture in the walls to remove, construction to allow for the configuration of the altars, remodel of the bathroom, cry room, and confessional areas, painting of the interior, and new flooring.

If you have followed our updates and information about the work we hope to do, you know we also hope to create a fellowship area out of the current rectory and build a new rectory. However, we have always

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

April 9, 2021 - 5-8:00 PM - Martinsburg's Famous Fried Chicken Dinner - American Legion Hall, Martinsburg
April 16, 2021 - 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM - KOC Ladies Auxiliary Spaghetti Luncheon, Knights of Columbus Hall

said we will only do what we have the money to do. As we get enough money for the next project, we get it scheduled and move forward.

We need your help. If you have not yet donated, we hope you will consider helping us with this campaign. If you have already donated and feel moved to give more, we are grateful. Our church is more than this building; it is the people who gather here. But we want to have a place to gather for generations to come. It is time we take care of our physical church. We truly hope you will help us in that endeavor.

If you are interested in filling out a pledge card, there are more in the vestibule. You will also find some colored envelopes back there if you would like to make a donation. Make sure you write capital campaign in the memo of your check. If you place the check in the brightly colored envelopes, we know that is for the Capital Campaign.

If you would like to know more, there is a video on the church Facebook page that explains our process and shows some pictures of where we are headed. Or, feel free to reach out to the people on our committee -again - Amanda Arens, Courtney Cothren, Jacob Lotton, Pat Stumbaugh or Laura Yelton.

This year is the 160th anniversary of Immaculate Conception Parish. Investing in our church would be a great way to celebrate that milestone.

Stay safe. Happy Easter and God bless you and yours.

Title I, II, & IV Annual Evaluation Meeting

The Montgomery Co. R-II School District receives federal funds each year through Title I, II, and IV. These funds are used in a variety of ways to support students and instructional programs. As a nonpublic school in the district's attendance area, Immaculate Conception School receives a portion of the federal funds. Each spring a committee of staff members, parents, and community members evaluate those Title services based on survey responses, student achievement information, and other data sources. It is time for that annual spring evaluation meeting. Parents and community members are invited to join this meeting at the KC Hall on April 28 at 6:00 p.m.

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, Alex Clark (granddaughter of Karen Clark), Nick Schneider, Lucille Griesbauer, Marvin Griesbauer, Pat (Cobb) Hunn, Susan Schipper, and Charlee Kate (niece of Sue Beck).

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, Michel James, and Daniel Lohmann.

Contact the parish office to have someone added!



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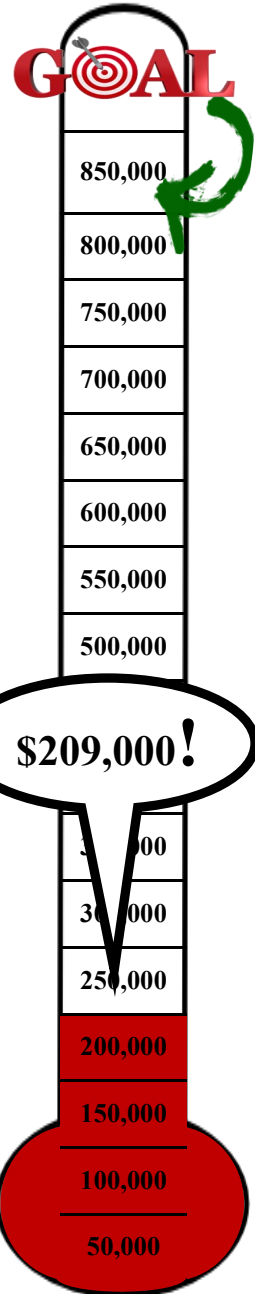
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Any business wanting to advertise in our weekly parish bulletin is asked to contact the parish office. The twelve month cost is \$150/spot. Ad size depends on the number of advertisers.



Easter Flower Donations

Thank you to parishioners who donated Easter Flowers in memory of:

Mary & John Dryden
Ken, Mickey & Duaine Hauskins
Margaret & Raymond Brueggen
Doug McRae
Charles & Polly Richard
Ryond Richard
Helen Reagan
Shery'll Schierhoff
Delores Miller
Schroeder Family
Falloon Family
Harlan Horton
Rosemary Horton
Beth Hildebrand
Richard Smith
Bainbridge Family
Robert & Cecelia Brueggemann
Ruby Nelson
Charlie Nelson
Bill Peveler
Cunningham Family

Blessings Received
Judy Cunningham
Tom & Babe Cunningham
Galen & Rose Bethel
Dorothy Stumbaugh
Margie Wessel
Deceased of the Oaks Family
Deceased of the Grelle Family
William (Bill) Readey
Pearl Boyd
Walter Boyd
Al & Rosalie Jenisch
Barb Miller
Patricia Devlin
Amanda Sue Clark
Harold Clark
Julia Robertson
Jack Robertson
Elroy & Virginia Salfen
Alan Salfen

We also want to thank the following parishioners to made a donation towards the Easter flowers:

Dottie Brueggen
Jerry & Diane Witthaus
Charles Cassaday
Tony & Betty Wessel
Steve & Kathy Holtz

Hilda Schreiner
Ruth Ann O'Keefe
John & Tudi Simpson
Bill & Marge Cobb
James Cochran, Jr.