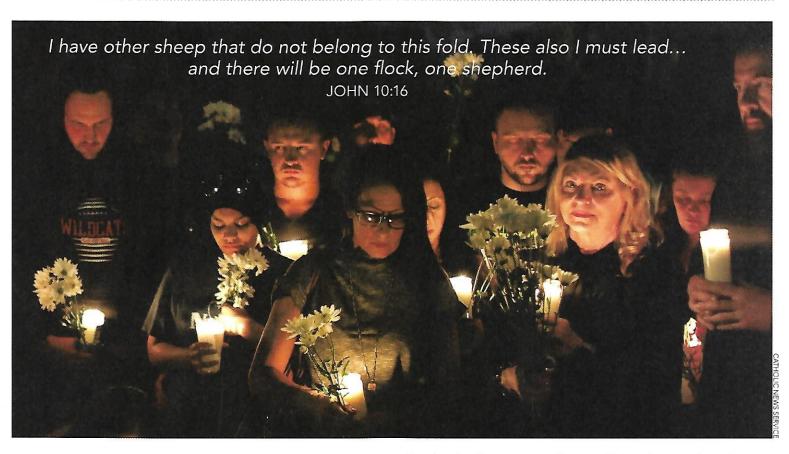


April 25, 2021

Fourth Sunday of Easter (B) Acts 4:8–12 1 Jn 3:1–2 Jn 10:11–18



The Good Shepherd

or many of us, our only connection with sheep is with the cuddly white creatures found on holy cards. However, that image strays from the facts. Sheep are not household animals. They live outdoors; they lie down in grass, dirt, and mud. Furthermore, unlike many other animals, sheep cannot clean themselves. I'm not denigrating sheep, just putting aside any fanciful view of their nature.

Raising sheep was an important occupation in the ancient world. In fact, the royalty's governance of people was often described as shepherding. David was told: "You shall shepherd my people Israel" (2 Samuel 5:2). Later, when the royalty were not faithful to this charge, God declared: "I myself will pasture my sheep" (Ezekiel 34:15). This startling characterization of God became a characterization of Jesus.

Grime and animal smells, the blood of births and

deaths, inclement weather, and the threat of predators mark the life of a committed shepherd. Human comfort was secondary to the needs of the sheep. Sheep actually learn to recognize the voice of the one who feeds them, cares for them, protects them. The shepherd's voice seems to say: I am here for you, because you are mine. As "the good shepherd," Jesus is totally committed to us, his sheep. He attends to our needs, willing to risk his own security in order to save us. His care for us seems to say: I am here for you, because you are mine.

Sr. Dianne Bergant, CSA

For Reflection

- * Is Christ really your shepherd? Do you listen to his voice?
- * Do you rely on Christ's protection, even when you don't seem to feel it?

Dear Padre,

Am I sinning when I work or shop on Sunday?

Biblical tradition states that the Sabbath is the day that God rested from the labors of creation. Sunday is also the day we commemorate Christ's resurrection from the dead and the inauguration of the new creation.

We rightly refer to Sunday, then, as the Lord's day. This being so, it's important that we do everything possible to keep the Lord's day holy and ensure that we reserve adequate time on Sunday for worship, rest, and recreation.

Today, many activities, social services, and family needs require some people to work on Sundays. In fact, many people have only the weekends to do the errands and activities that sustain their families.

Our participation in such activities and services is not a sin, nor does it mean that those who do need to work cannot find an appropriate way to sanctify the Lord's day and allow time for the worship, rest, and renewal that are proper to the day.



Even so, we must guard against treating the Lord's day as just another workday, or a continuation of our Saturday shopping spree. Remember that the primary focus on Sunday should be participating in the Mass and growing our relationship with the Lord.

For more information on this topic, see paragraphs 2184 through 2195 of the *Catechism* of the Catholic Church.

Fr. Scott Katzenberger, CSsR Sundaybulletin@Liguori.org

Calendar

Monday

APRIL 26 Easter Weekday Acts 11:1–18 Jn 10:1–10

Tuesday

APRIL 27 Easter Weekday Acts 11:19–26 Jn 10:22–30

Wednesday

APRIL 28 Easter Weekday Acts 12:24—13:5a Jn 12:44–50

Thursday

APRIL 29 St. Catherine of Siena, Virgin and Doctor of the Church Acts 13:13–25 Jn 13:16–20

Friday

APRIL 30 Easter Weekday Acts 13:26–33 Jn 14:1–6

Saturday

MAY 1 Easter Weekday Acts 13:44–52 Jn 14:7–14

Sunday

MAY 2 Fifth Sunday of Easter Acts 9:26–31 1 Jn 3:18–24 Jn 15:1–8

A WORD FROM Pope Francis



True rest is not simple, because there is false rest and true rest....Man has never rested as much as today, yet man has never experienced as much emptiness as today! Opportunities to amuse oneself, to go out, cruises, travels; but many things do not give you fullness of heart. Indeed, they do not give you rest.

GENERAL AUDIENCE, SEPTEMBER 5, 2018



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 25, 2021 - FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

Mass Intentions

NO MASS - Montgomery City Monday, April 26th Tuesday, April 27th NO MASS - Montgomery City

Wednesday, April 28th NO MASS - Jonesburg Thursday, April 29th NO MASS - Montgomery City Friday, April 30th NO MASS - Montgomery City

5:00 PM Mass - Montgomery City - Our Parish Family Saturday, May 1st

Sunday, May 2nd 8:00 AM Mass - Jonesburg

10:00 AM Mass - Montgomery City + Charles & Peggy

Stumbaugh

July 1, 2020 - June 30, 2021

Church/School Financial Report: Income Expenses Difference March 2021 \$24,640.45 -\$25,249.84 \$49,890.29

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 - \$ 9,462.00 April 18th - \$10,894.49

April 25th - \$

Last Week's Envelopes: 57 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: 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 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 May 1st & 2nd				
Ministries	Saturday, 5:00 PM	Sunday, 10:00 AM			
Lector	Vicki Oden	Richard Schierhoff			
hildren's Liturgy	Not assigned at this time	Not assigned at this time			
Communion Minister	Ruth Ann O'Keefe	Jerry Witthaus			
Ministers of Hospitality	Kasey & Mary Pottebaum Sharon Pottebaum	Charlie & Pat Korman			
Servers	Landon Pottebaum Reed Pottebaum	Chase Queathem Madison Queathem			
Gift Bearers	Not assigned at this time	Not assigned at this time			
Money Counters	Donald & Sandra Oaks Judy Cobb	Pam Schwartz Cathy McCormack			

Liturgical Ministors for May 1st & 2nd

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

Upcoming Events & Announcements

Monday, April 26th	NO MASS	Monday, April 26th
Tuesday, April 27th	NO MASS	Tuesday, April 27th
Wednesday, April 28th	NO MASS	Wednesday, April 28th
Thursday, April 29th	NO MASS	Thursday, April 29th
Friday, April 30th	NO MASS	Friday, April 30th
Saturday, May 1st	5:00 PM Mass - Montgomery City (Rosary @ 4:30 PM)	Saturday, May 1st
Sunday, May 2nd	8:00 AM Mass - Jonesburg 10:00 AM Mass - Montgomery City (Rosary @ 9:30 AM)	Sunday, May 2nd

Wedding Anniversary



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

There are no anniversaries this weekend.

Additional Financial Information

Capital Improvements Capital Campaign (Cornerstone)	\$ \$2	75.00 2,350.00
Special Collections: Catholic Home Missions	\$	25.00
Infirm Priest Fund	\$	100.00
Communication & Education Fund	\$	45.00
Ascension of the Lord	\$	45.00

Congratulations



Congratulations to Wesley Cobb, Beckham Cothren, Kara Hemeyer, Roy Kueny, Landon Pottebaum, Chase Queathem, Madison Queathem, Miley Rieke, Hudson Schroeder, Malorie Schulte, Weston See, and Tatum Wessel, who were confirmed last Satur-

day evening during Mass. We also want to extend our congratulations to Beth Bextermiller, Derrick Cobb, Gracie Cobb, Colby Ellis, Jace Ellis, Brett "Mac" Farrar, Conner Finke, Addison Schluss, and Presley Schluss from St. Patrick Church. May God continue to shine his light upon them!

May Crowning

Please join us on May 7th at the 8:00 AM Mass when the students from Immaculate Conception School will be honoring our Blessed Virgin Mother in a May Crowning.



The Office will be closed next Tuesday, April 27th.

Capital Campaign Update



Our new total in donations and pledges is \$230,820. Thank you to everyone for your generosity and prayerful consideration. We are grateful for every donation. We want to see that total continue to climb

to allow us to move forward with the plans to make our parish home a beautiful place to worship for generations to come. Below is our current status.

Total in pledges and donations: \$230,820

Expenses: \$26,500.00 Tuck pointing

\$39,000.00 Roof \$220.00 Postage \$19.95 Printing \$90.00 Max Care

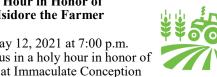
Received in insurance claims: \$29.146.19

Current bank balance: \$135,222.24

For those wishing to make a pledge, there are pledge cards in the vestibule that can dropped off or mailed to the parish office. There are also colored envelopes in the vestibule if you would like to drop a donation in the collection. Please, be sure to mark any checks with Capital Campaign in the Memo. Thank you again for your support.

God Bless!

Holy Hour in Honor of St. Isidore the Farmer



Mark your calendars for May 12, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. when Fr. Hartley will lead us in a holy hour in honor of St. Isidore the Farmer here at Immaculate Conception Church. It will include a blessing of everything agriculturally related.

Fr. Hartley will be on retreat next week, so there will be no week day Masses here or at Jonesburg.

Immaculate Conception School News



Apr. 28 - Federal Spring Evaluation and Planning Meeting at KC Hall 6:00 PM

Apr. 29 - Dine In/Out Day at Dos Primos

May 5 - Vocations Day

May 6 - Spring Concert at Church 6:00 PM

May 7 - May Crowning at 8:00 AM Mass

Congratulations to Roy Kueny, Miley Rieke, Hudson Schroeder, Malorie Schulte, and Weston See who received the sacrament of Confirmation last Saturday evening.

ECLC Happenings

ECLC is in desperate need of daycare substitutes. If you would be willing to help out occasionally please contact Peggy at the school.

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.

Part/Time Teaching Position Available

Immaculate Conception School is seeking a Part-Time Art/Music Teacher for the 2021-2022 school year. This past year, our students have been learning instrumental music with keyboards, guitars, recorders, etc. ICS is a kindergarten through 8th grade Catholic School located in Montgomery City, with approximately 50 students. ICS runs on a 4-day school week (Tuesday-Friday). A successful candidate is a practicing Catholic in good standing who can minister to students regardless of subject area or a teacher who, consistent with the Mission of Immaculate Conception School, promotes and teaches the Catholic faith as reasonably determined by the principal. Applicants should hold the appropriate Missouri teaching certification, or its equivalent.

Hanging Basket Fundraiser

Immaculate Conception Home and School is sponsoring a Hanging Basket Fundraiser through May 31, 2021. Tickets for these baskets are \$19.00 can be purchased at IC School and A'la mode Salon and Boutique here in Montgomery City. These would make really nice Mother's Day gifts! If you have questions, please call (573) 564-2679.

Employment Opportunity

St. Peter Parish in Fulton is seeking a Director for our Early Childhood Learning Center. The successful candidate is a practicing Catholic in good standing who can minister to students regardless of subject area or a teacher who, consistent with the Mission of St. Peter Catholic School, promotes and teaches the Catholic faith as reasonably determined by the principal. Applicants should hold the appropriate Missouri teaching certification, or its equivalent. All interested persons should complete the application on the Jefferson City Diocesan website at: https://diojeffcity.org/blog/2019/06/17/employment-in-our-catholic-schools/ and contact the Principal, Mrs. Erin Polson, at 573-642-2839 or via email at epolson@stpeterfultonmo.org.

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

April 25, 2021 - 7:30 AM - 11:30 AM - All-You-Can-Eat Breakfast at KC Hall in Martinsburg

April 29, 2021 - 11:00 AM - 9:00 PM - Dine In or Carry Out at Dos Primos Proceeds go to ICS

Catholic Home Missions Appeal

Support the Catholic Home Missions Appeal today! Right now, over 40% of dioceses in the United States and its territories are considered mission territory, because they are unable to fund essential pastoral activities needed in their communities. Your support funds religious education, seminary formation, lay ministry training, and other programs that build vibrant faith communities right here in the United States. Please be generous. More information can be found at www.usccb.org/home-missions.

Thank you!

Thank you to everyone who supported the Knights of Columbus Ladies Auxiliary spaghetti luncheon. It was a great success! God bless you all!

Prayer to Our Holy Mother, Undoer of Knots

Dearest Holy Mother, Most Holy Mary, you undo the knots that suffocate your children. Extend your merciful hands to me. I entrust to You today this knot [mention your request here] and all the negative consequences that it provokes in my life. Mary, Undoer of Knots, pray for me. Virgin Mary, Mother of fair love, Mother who never refuses to come to the aid of a child in need, Mother whose hands never cease to serve your beloved children because they are moved by the divine love and immense mercy that exist in your heart, cast your compassionate eyes upon me and see the snarl of knots that exists in my life. You know very well how desperate I am, my pain, and how I am bound by these knots. Mary, Mother to whom God entrusted the undoing of the knots in the lives of his children, I entrust into your hands the ribbon of my life. No one, not even the evil one himself, can take it away from your precious care. In your hands there is no knot that cannot be undone. Powerful Mother, by your grace and intercessory power with Your Son and My Liberator, Jesus, take into your hands today this knot. [Mention your request here] I beg you to undo it for the glory of God, once for all. You are my hope. O my Lady, you are the only consolation God gives me, the fortification of my feeble strength, the enrichment of my destitution, and, with Christ, the freedom from my chains. Hear my plea. Keep me, guide me, protect me, o safe refuge! Mary, Undoer of Knots, pray for me. Amen.

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, Charlee Kate (niece of Sue Beck), and Diane Happe.

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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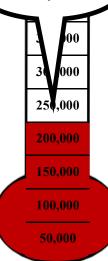
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JOS PAMO Dos Primos is donating a percentage of the proceeds to

Immaculate Conception School.

Dine in or carry out, lunch and dinner! 11 a.m. - 9 p.m.

