

The Price of Goodness

We all know genuinely good people. Somehow they are able to live the virtues of their religious tradition. It might even appear that it is easy for them to do so. One would think that such good people would be valued. Well, yes and no. While we might truly value the goodness of others, that goodness can also shame us. And there is the rub. People are uncomfortable with the realization that they are not as good as they think—or not as good as others might view them. Today's readings underscore the price we might have to pay for such goodness.

The first reading describes a plot being devised to get rid of a righteous person whose goodness has become "annoying" (Wisdom 2:12). This is not someone who flaunts goodness; it is a genuinely good person, one who is referred to as "the righteous one" (2:18). (Here "son of God" simply means someone belonging to the people of God.) The plotters insist

that God will come to the rescue if the righteous one is truly good. The petitions in the psalm response are placed on the lips of that righteous one. Like many good Bible stories, this story is open-ended. We do not know what happens. The price paid for righteousness is found in the Gospel passage as well. Here the righteous one is Jesus. Though we know how his story ends, here the disciples did not.

Today we are faced with the starkness of these stories. Are we willing to pay the price of goodness?

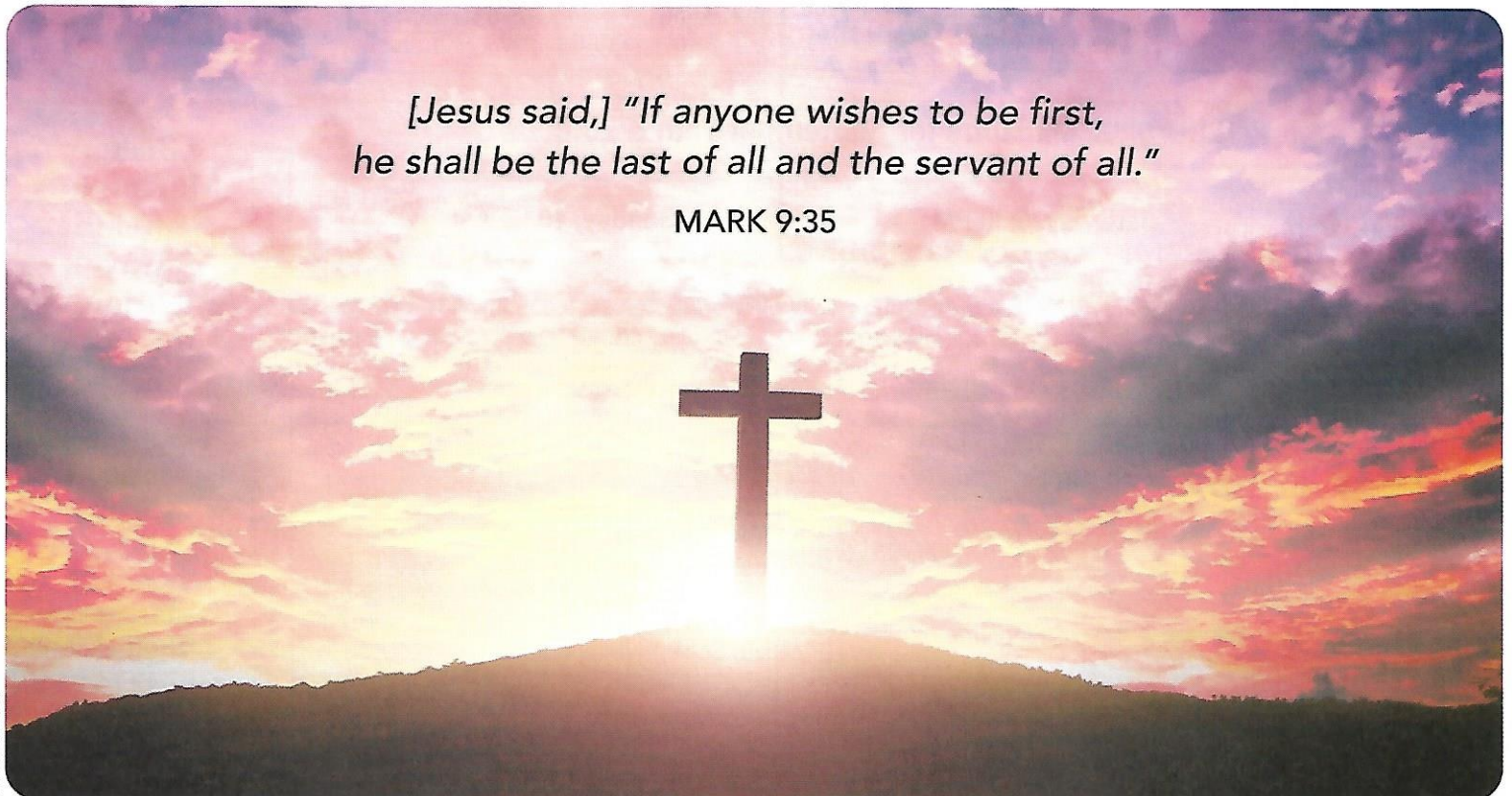
Sr. Dianne Bergant, CSA

FOR *Reflection*

- ★ *Where in your life do your religious values conflict with social norms?*
- ★ *Do you ever resent the goodness of others? If so, what might you do about it?*

*[Jesus said,] "If anyone wishes to be first,
he shall be the last of all and the servant of all."*

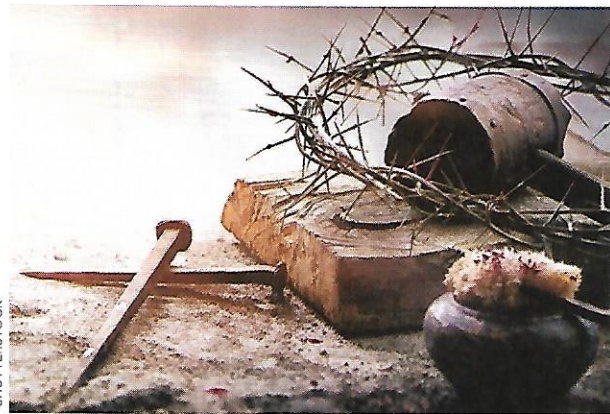
MARK 9:35



Dear Padre,

In Bible times why did people sacrifice animals, children, and other living beings for their own sins?

The practice of human and animal sacrifice is at least as old as written history, including in our own Scripture. Few stories are more chilling than when God asks Abraham to sacrifice his son, or when Jephthah sacrifices his daughter (Genesis 22; Judges 11). In scriptural theology, one's sins merited punishment and even death, but an animal or other person could be chosen to take one's place. God, in his mercy, instituted this animal sacrificial system as a symbol, foreshadowing Jesus' sacrifice for our sins (Genesis 8:20; Hebrews 10:1-18). In the New Testament, Jesus understood his mission as sacrificing his own life as a ransom for many (Matthew 20:28). His fidelity to that mission was at the cost of death. However, to say that Jesus' death was payment for



our sins is not to say that a vengeful God was appeased by the sacrifice of his own innocent Son. Rather, Christ was willing to liberate us when he "bore our sins in his body upon the cross, so that... by his wounds you have been healed" (1 Peter 2:24).

Thus, "it is love 'to the end (John 13:1)' that confers on

Christ's sacrifice its value as redemption and reparation, as atonement and satisfaction" (*Catechism of the Catholic Church*, 616). It is in this sense that Jesus' death was a payment—not one to be exacted—but a unique sacrifice that "completes and surpasses all other sacrifices" (CCC 614).

Fr. Byron Miller, 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*.



A WORD FROM *Pope Francis*

The Catechism firmly states that human power has limits and that "it is contrary to human dignity to cause animals to suffer or die needlessly." All such use and experimentation "requires a religious respect for the integrity of creation."

ON CARE FOR OUR COMMON HOME (LAUDATO SI'), MAY 24, 2015

Calendar

Monday

SEPTEMBER 20

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

Ezr 1:1-6

Lk 8:16-18

Tuesday

SEPTEMBER 21

St. Matthew, Apostle and Evangelist

Eph 4:1-7, 11-13

Mt 9:9-13

Wednesday

SEPTEMBER 22

Weekday

Ezr 9:5-9

Lk 9:1-6

Thursday

SEPTEMBER 23

St. Pius of Pietrelcina, Priest

Hg 1:1-8

Lk 9:7-9

Friday

SEPTEMBER 24

Weekday

Hg 2:1-9

Lk 9:18-22

Saturday

SEPTEMBER 25

Weekday

Zec 2:5-9, 14-15a

Lk 9:43b-45

Sunday

SEPTEMBER 26

Twenty-sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Nm 11:25-29

Jas 5:1-6

Mk 9:38-43, 45, 47-48



Immaculate Conception Parish Family



160th YEAR OF SERVICE

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

Fr. Paul Hartley, Pastor | Janet Cobb, Bookkeeper/Secretary | 573.564.2375 Parish Office

imm-con@sbccglobal.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

SEPTEMBER 19, 2021 - TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Mass Intentions

Monday, September 20th	NO MASS - Montgomery City
Tuesday, September 21st	NO MASS - Montgomery City
Wednesday, September 22nd	No Mass - Jonesburg
Thursday, September 23rd	NO Mass - Montgomery City
Friday, September 24th	NO Mass - Montgomery City
Saturday, September 25th	5:30 PM Mass -Montgomery City +Ismael (Mio) Coto-Molina
Sunday, September 26th	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
August 2021	\$44,031.69	\$71,601.87	-\$27,570.18
Fiscal Year July-Aug. 2021-22	\$83,983.17	\$120,195.60	-\$36,212.43
Needed Weekly - \$ 11,835.50			
September 5th - \$ 11,954.75			
September 12th - \$ 9,759.75			
September 19th - \$			
September 26th - \$			

Last Week's Envelopes: 56 of 182

(No Mass if there is a funeral or school has been cancelled.)

Thank you!! With God all things are possible!

Parish Membership: Call the parish office to register.

Sacrament of Reconciliation: Before Mass

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 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 September 25th & 26th

Ministries	Saturday, 5:30 PM	Sunday, 10:00 AM
Lector	5th/6th/7th Gr. PSR Students	Amanda Arens
Children's Liturgy	Not assigned at this time	Not assigned at this time
Communion Minister	Vicki Oden	Orlana Gardner
Ministers of Hospitality	Kasey & Mary Pottebaum Sharon Pottebaum	Jeff & Amanda Arens Pat & Janet Stumbaugh
Servers	Landon & Reed Pottebaum	Kendra Rakers Elizabeth Schierhoff
Gift Bearers	Hospitality Ministers	Hospitality Ministers
Money Counters	Dottie Brueggen Debbie Heidelberger	Mike & Jenidean Readey

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

For a greater appreciation for the gift of friendship; that bonds of friendship may strengthen our resolve to be a people of communion in divisive times.

Weekly Mass Schedule

Monday, September 20th	NO MASS
Tuesday, September 21st	NO MASS
Wednesday, September 22nd	NO MASS
Thursday, September 23rd	NO MASS
Friday, September 24th	NO MASS
Saturday, September 25th	4:00 PM Mass - Wellsville 5:30 PM Mass - Montgomery City (Rosary @ 5:00 PM)
Sunday, September 26th	8:00 AM Mass - Jonesburg 10:00 AM Mass - Montgomery City (Rosary @ 9:30 AM)

Upcoming Events & Announcements

Monday, September 20th	
Tuesday, September 21st	6:00 PM - Catholic Education Mtg.
Wednesday, September 22nd	
Thursday, September 23rd	6:00 PM - Parish Council/Finance Committee Mtg
Friday, September 24th	
Saturday, September 25th	
Sunday, September 26th	11:00 AM-4:00 PM -Harvest Picnic

Wedding Anniversary



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

*Ty & Courtney Cothren - 18 years of marriage on Sept. 20th
Mike & Jenidean Readey - 40 years of marriage on Sept. 25th
Ritchie & Gayla See - 17 years of marriage on September 25th*

Additional Financial Information

Capital Improvements	\$ 180.00
Capital Campaign (Cornerstone)	\$ 0.00
Special Collections:	
Harvest Picnic Donations	\$ 0.00
Retirement for Religious	\$ 25.00

Annual October Count



The time is fast approaching when we start the Annual October Count. The Diocese along with parishes across the United States are involved with what is known as the "October Count". The reason October was selected for the count is because studies indicated the month is the best month for counting individuals who attend weekend Masses. The count enables the pastoral planning for parishes.

Weekend Mass Celebrants

We welcome Fr. Rich Frank from Jefferson City, who will be here to celebrate Mass for us this weekend. Next weekend, September 25th & 26th, Fr. Chris Cordes from Our Lady of Lourdes Parish in Columbia will be here. **Thank you** Fr. Frank and Fr. Chris for making the trip over here. We appreciate you!!!

Parish Council Members Needed

We will have two vacancies on the Parish Council soon. If you are interested or would like to nominate a parishioner, please call or email the parish office at (573) 564-2375 or imm-con@sbcglobal.net.

Pastor's Pen



My Dear Parishioners,

I am settling in nicely in my temporary home, and am enjoying the fresh country air! We are trying to run things as smoothly as possible while I am here.

I wanted to share with you that I have written to Bishop McKnight requesting a 30-day extension to my current medical leave. With the shortage of priests, especially during the upcoming Christmas season, we may have to make some changes in the Mass schedule. If need be, I will say Mass, one on Saturday, and one on Sunday here at Immaculate Conception Church.

Thank you for all your well wishes and cards. Please continue to pray for me as I do you.

*God bless you all,
Fr. Hartley*

Harvest Picnic Update



The Harvest Picnic is next Sunday! Thank you for all of the responses we have received. If you are willing to work at the picnic, please sign up before or after Mass. We will also be selling Gun Raffle tickets before and after Mass this weekend. If you have Live Auction items, Country Store items, or Bingo prizes, please drop them off at the school or contact Dianne Talley (573-590-3158). For cakes & pies, please bring them to Mass on Saturday or drop them off on Sunday morning at the fairgrounds. Please pray for the success of our picnic!

We are in need of an electric golf cart to be used for the Backseat Drivers Contest

Thanking you in advance, The Harvest Picnic Committee

Our Condolences

We want to offer our condolences and prayers to the family of Evelyn Pool who passed away on September 14th. A Memorial Mass will be celebrated at 10:00 AM on Monday, September 20th with a Rosary recited at 5:00 PM on Sunday, September 19th, both here at Immaculate Conception Church.

Immaculate Conception School News



Sept. 20- School is IN session

Sept. 22- See You At The Pole at 7:15am

Sept. 23- Grandparents Day- 11:30am Prayer Service with grandparents followed by recess. Lunch will be provided by Home and School. After lunch, grandparents and students will be going to their classrooms to do activities, crafts and games.

Sept. 24- No School-Diocesan PD

Sept. 28- Dr. Vader will be visiting our school

Reminder ICS has a student lead Prayer Service at 8am every Thursday at church. We also have a student lead Rosary at 8am in the Prayer Garden every Friday. Everyone is welcome! On Sept 23, Prayer Service will be at 11:30 am due to Grandparents Day.

MUMS for Sale

It is that time of year to decorate your home with an abundance of colorful mums. Mums are for sale from September 1st - 30th. The cost is \$9.50 per plant. They are in one gallon containers and you may choose from an assortment of colors. You may purchase tickets 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.**

Prayer Partner Communion Service

On the Immaculate Conception School Prayer Partner dates of October 7th, November 4th, and December 2nd, Deacon Ron Deimeke will lead a Communion Service here in the Parish. The Communion Service will be at 8:00 AM and is open to ALL the Parish. Music and Readings will be done by the Immaculate Conception School students.

Back Seat Drivers' Contest

An anonymous donor has offered to pay the \$10.00 entry fee for any adult (21 yrs. or older)/child (3rd grade on up) team to compete in the Back Seat Driver Contest at the Harvest Picnic on September 26th. The student has to be able to easily distinguish between "right" and "left". Just arrive at the fairgrounds and register at the table telling them, "an anonymous donor is paying the entry fee". The winning team receives 10% of the money collected for the competition. Further instructions will be given that day.



Fall Cursillo Weekends

The fall men and women's Cursillo Weekends are quickly approaching. The men's weekend will be Sept 30-Oct 3 and the women's will be Nov 4-7. Both to be held in Moberly. Please get those applications in asap! For more information please see your parish contact, or visit diojeffcity.org/cursillo or call Marcia Doll at 573-999-5066.

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

Sept. 26th - Harvest Picnic at the Montgomery Co. Fairgrounds

October 3rd - Octoberfest at St. Joseph Parish in Martinsburg. For more information, see the flyers posted in the church vestibule.

Capital Campaign Update



Dear parishioners,

Our current total in pledges and donations is \$248,412.16. Our current bank balance is \$112,817.12 and we have paid for all of the projects that have been completed.

Next we hope to see the work on the steeple and the entrance begin and we will be ordering a new front door. Those projects will really change the entrance to our church and we are very excited to see that work get underway. Once all of the outside projects are addressed, we will begin to work on the landscaping and the yard that has been disturbed during construction.

We are in need of your help to make it to our goal of raising \$850,000 and completing the projects on our list for the Capital Campaign. We appreciate your prayerful consideration towards giving to this drive to make our parish home a beautiful place to worship for years to come.

Thank You

To Our Parishioners,

Thank you for your prayers, words of condolence, and donations in memory of our son, Thomas (Tommy) Walker who died on August 2 by drowning while visiting his sister and her family. We had five children and Tom was our 4th child. He was 38 years old.

Sincerely,
Jim & Bonnie Walker

See you at the Harvest Picnic!

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, Charlee Kate (niece of Sue Beck), Jim Walker, Fr. Hartley, Tim Stumbaugh, Carolyn Steinmetz, Jim Wisdom, Mark Gerke (friend of Fr. Hartley), Baby Corinth (Corie) Farrell, Tracy Ravencraft (Amanda Aren's sister), 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, Daniel Lohmann, and Donnie Wisdom.

Contact the parish office to have someone added!



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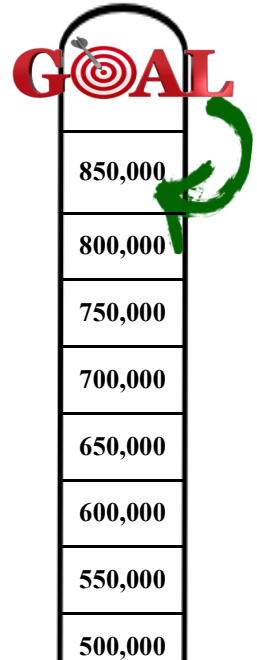
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Cornerstone Campaign
OUR COMMUNITY. OUR CHURCH.
OUR LEGACY.

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

5TH ANNUAL

HARVEST PICNIC

Sunday, September 26, 2021
11 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Sponsored by:

Immaculate Conception Parish

Montgomery County Fairgrounds

Montgomery City, MO

*All Are
Welcome*

*Rain or
Shine*

*Pavilion
Seating*

FUN activities
for all ages

Live Music

Pluck Your Luck

Country Store

Quilt Raffle

Gun Raffle

Kids' Games
Face Painting
Barrel Train Ride
Bounce House
Cake Walk
Vendors

Bingo – 12 pm & 2 pm
Backseat Drivers
Contest – 1 pm

Pedal Power Pull – 1:30 pm
Live Auction – 3 pm

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Kettle Beef Dinner: Kettle Beef, mashed potatoes, green beans, applesauce, roll, dessert, drink (carry-outs available)

Sandwiches: Pork Steak ~ Porkburger ~ Fish ~ Hot Dog
French Fries ~ Nachos ~ Pie ~ Ice Cream ~ Cotton Candy ~ Kettle Corn

Help/Volunteer/Questions contact Dianne Talley 573-564-2359 or 573-590-3158

5TH ANNUAL

H A R V E S T P I C N I C

Vendors
Needed

Sunday, September 26, 2021
11 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Sponsored by:

Immaculate Conception Parish
At the Montgomery County Fairgrounds
Montgomery City, MO

This is an outside show. Vendors need to bring their own tables, chairs, and tents. The space will be 12' x 12' on gravel.

Immaculate Conception is not responsible for any personal injury or accident nor loss or damage of property.

Complete and return bottom application: **\$25 space fee**

Name _____

Address _____

City, State, ZIP _____

Phone _____ Email _____

What do you sell? _____

Make checks payable to *Immaculate Conception Parish*

Mail to: Dianne Talley

434 Long Rd

New Florence, MO 63363

573-590-3158