



163rd YEAR OF SERVICE

# Immaculate Conception

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



573.564.2375 Parish Office | Office Hours M -Th 9am-3pm  
Janet Cobb, Bookkeeper/Secretary | imm-con@sbcglobal.net | www.mcicparish.org  
Parish Council Members: Dennis Benney-President, Jack Wells-Vice-President  
Mary Pottebaum, Vicki Parker, Dennis Cobb, and Michael Smith

155th YEAR OF SERVICE

# St. Patrick Parish

505 First St. | Jonesburg | Missouri | 63351



636.488.5623 Parish Office | Office Hours T—Th 9am-1pm  
Debbie Enger, Secretary | stpats@centurytel.net | ww.stpatricksjonesburg.org  
Parish Council Members: Dan Schwartz-President, Barb Turpin-Vice-President  
Katherine Stroot-Secretary, Michael Van Beek & Jocelyn Schluss

Society of St. Vincent DePaul - 573.835.3631

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

Bulletin Deadline is 9:00 AM on Wednes-

## December 15, 2024 - Third Sunday of Advent

### 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.

### St. Patrick Parish Mission

As a church community here at St. Patrick, we want to know, love and serve Jesus in our efforts in: Christian formation/faith development; worship; social services; and stewardship of resources.

### MONDAY

December 16  
*Advent Weekday*  
Nm 24:2-7,  
15-17a  
Mt 21:23-27

### TUESDAY

December 17  
*Advent Weekday*  
Gn 49:2, 8-10  
Mt 1:1-17

### WEDNESDAY

December 18  
*Advent Weekday*  
Jer 23:5-8  
Mt 1:18-25

### THURSDAY

December 19  
*Advent Weekday*  
Jgs 13:2-7,  
24-25a  
Lk 1:5-25

### FRIDAY

December 20  
*Advent Weekday*  
Is 7:10-14  
Lk 1:26-38

### SATURDAY

December 21  
*Advent Weekday*  
Sg 2:8-14 or Zep  
3:14-18a  
Lk 1:39-45

### SUNDAY

December 22  
*Fourth Sunday  
of Advent*  
Mi 5:1-4a  
Heb 10:5-10  
Lk 1:39-45

## The Light Side of the Dark

FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

**T**here's something to be said for kindness. Often when we say to ourselves that something is an act of godliness, it's when someone is kind, especially when it seems to come out of the blue. It's what John the Baptist seemed to be thinking when he said we would be baptized with the Holy Spirit and with the sort of passionate fire that warms and gives off light. Henry James, the British novelist, once said that three things were important in life—the first, be kind; the second, be kind; the third, be kind. Long before Henry James said it, St. Paul wrote to the Christian community in Philippi: "Your kindness should be known to all. The Lord is near" (Philippians 4:5). God's presence seems to be nearer when someone is kind.

It is curious how in the darkest moments of life, the light of kindness shines more brightly. Natural calamities seem to bring out kindness toward those who suffer. So too, at times of personal tragedies or disasters, when others are grieving the death of someone they love, as well as countless other times when people find themselves lost in the dark. Little wonder then how during this time of year when the days are shortest, and the nighttime dark is longest, that the days of Advent and Christmas seem to be laced with kindness for one another. Then the veil that hides God from our eyes grows thinner, and we catch glimpses of "God with us." ●

### Reflect

*Have you made kindness  
a regular practice?*



The peace of God that surpasses all understanding  
will guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.

PHILIPPIANS 4:7

**Mass Schedule & Intentions for Immaculate Conception and St. Patrick**

**Sacraments & Information**

Mon	December 16th	NO MASS	Montgomery City	
Tue	December 17th	5:30 PM	Montgomery City	+Darlene Sachs
Wed	December 18th	8:30 AM	Jonesburg	- Kenny Schwartz
Thur	December 19th	8:00 AM	Montgomery City	+Carol Grieshaber
Fri	December 20th	8:00 AM	Montgomery City	- Joseph Landolt Family
Sat	December 21st	5:00 PM	Montgomery City	- Our Parish Family
Sun	December 22nd	8:00 AM	Jonesburg	- Shirley Fahrig
		10:00 AM	Montgomery City	+Lorraine (Punkey) Boes

*A reminder: If there is a funeral at any of the two parishes or a school cancellation due to weather, there will be no scheduled Mass*

**Parish Membership:** Please call the parish office to register.

**Sacrament of Reconciliation:** IC Sat 4:15PM-4:45PM, SP Sun 7:15AM or by appointment.

**Sacrament of Baptism/Confirmation:** 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:** Order of Christian Initiation of Adults begins in the Fall and sacramental initiation normally occurs at the Easter Vigil. Please call for details.

**Hospitalization:** If you are hospitalized or have a family member who is home-bound, please call the parish office.

**Immaculate Conception Parish & School**

	Income	Expenses	Difference
Fiscal Jul 24-Nov 24, YTD	\$279,800.22	\$311,091.06	-\$31,291.04
November 2024	\$45,007.29	\$54,677.19	-\$9,669.90
	Church	ICS/Daycare	Total
December 1st	\$4,131.00	\$5,243.00	\$9,374.00
December 8th	\$4,217.25	\$5,344.50	\$9,561.75
December 15th			
December 22nd			
December 29th			
Weekly Goal	\$13,233.00	Wkly Avg	\$9,467.88

**Your Gifts to God! Thank You!**



**St. Patrick Parish**

	Income	Expenses	Difference
Budget Goal FY 25	\$76,000.00		
Total Collected YTD	\$21,501.00		
	Church		Total
December 1st	\$1,633.00		
December 8th	\$1,242.00		
December 15th			
December 22nd			
December 29th			
Weekly Goal	\$1,365.39	Wkly Avg	\$1,437.50

**Additional Financial Information**

- Capital Improvements - \$25.00
- Feast of Immaculate Conception & Other Holy Days- \$447.00
- Christmas Flowers - \$230.00
- Seminary Formation & Infirm Priests - \$50.00
- DEEF - \$6,300.00

**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.

Mass Ministries	December 14th & 15th	December 21st & 22nd	December 28th & 29th	January 4th & 5th
<b>IC SAT 5PM</b>				
Lector	Dennis Benney	Beth Roesner	Gary Hoette	Landon Pottebaum
Children's Liturgy				
Eucharistic Minister	Beth Cobb	Megan Hans	Dennis Cobb	Ruth Ann O'Keefe
Ministers of Hospitality	Daryl & Nancy Cobb Bob Dryden	Cothren Family	Bill & Liz Huston Steve & Beth Cobb	Don & Lila Broz Daryl & Nancy Cobb
Servers	Mercer Cothren & Emelia Hans	Ella Hans & Reed Pottebaum	Liz Broz & Jacob Roesner	Mercer Cothren & Emelia Hans
Money Counters	Don /Sandy Oakes & Megan Hans	Dottie Brueggen & Debbie Heidelberger	Dennis Cobb & Daryl Rhoads	John/Aggie Baldetti & Judy Cobb
<b>IC SUN 10AM</b>				
Lector	Michael Readey	Amanda Arens	Michael Smith	Jerry Witthaus
Children's Liturgy	Anna Harrell	Dianne Talley	Geri Park	Geri Park
Eucharistic Minister	Dennis Cobb	Jacob Lotton	Eileen Lotton	Tudie Simpson
Ministers of Hospitality	Pat & Janet Stumbaugh Dave & Janet Cobb	Charlie & Pat Korman Ron & Dianne Talley	Jerry Neale & Tony Wessel Melissa & Justin Beabout	Dana Schneider & Brady Craven Steve Williams & Julie Worsham
Servers	Alena & Natalie Beabout	Elizabeth Schierhoff & Kendra Rakers	Keagan Rakers & Carl Smith	Josie Harrell & Paisley Anderson
Money Counters	Vickie Parker & Dave Teeter	Mark Brower & Steve Williams	Dottie Brueggen & Carla Parker	Cathy McCormack & Pam Schwartz
<b>SP SUN 8AM</b>				
Hospitality/Usher	Farrar Family	Lenzenhuber/Dothage	John & Nancy Cobb	Youth
Altar Clean Up Only	Laurie Dothage	Laurie Dothage	Laurie Dothage	Laurie Dothage
Lector	Donna Cobb	Bridget Cobb	Sarah Johnson	Gracie Cobb
Servers	Emma Cobb & Carl Johnson	Jordan Finke & McCullie Schluss	Emma Cobb & Carl Johnson	Jordan Finke & McCullie Schluss
Eucharistic Minister	Nancy Cobb	John Cobb, Sr.	Bridget Cobb	Vicki Duenke
Money Counters	Brad Ellis & Derrick Cobb	Katherine Stroot & Laurie Dothage	Brad Ellis & Derrick Cobb	Gracie Cobb & Karen Stenger

Remember, if you are unable to complete your assigned time, you are responsible for finding a replacement! Thank you for your service!

## Upcoming Events and Announcements

Monday	Dec. 16th		
Tuesday	Dec. 17th	IC IC SP	6:00 AM - 5:00 PM - Adoration 5:00 PM - Benediction & Devotion to Divine Mercy 6:30 PM - Small Group Study @ Parish House
Wednesday	Dec. 18th	SP SP IC	Following 8:30 AM Mass - Breakfast @ The Warehouse - all are welcome! 9:00 AM - Small Group Study @ Parish Hall 6:00 PM - ICS Christmas Program @ Church 7:00 PM - Knights of Columbus Meeting
Thursday	Dec. 19th	IC	6:00 PM - Penance Service
Friday	Dec. 20th		
Saturday	Dec. 21st	SP	10:00-11:30 AM - Grief Class at St. Paul Lutheran Church in Jonesburg
Sunday	Dec. 22nd	SP	After 8:00 AM Mass - Coffee & Donuts in Parish Hall - all are welcome



See!

I will not forget you, I have carved you on the palm of my hand.

Isaiah 49:15

Welcome everyone.  
On Tuesdays starting at 6:00 AM we have Eucharistic Adoration: a special time to worship and praise our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ and to deepen your intimate friendship and be nourished and strengthened by His presence and love. At 5:00 PM Adoration will close with Devotion to the Divine Mercy and Benediction. Mass will start at 5:30 PM.

*Then you will call on me and come and pray to me, and I will listen to you.*

Jeremiah 29:12

### 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

Susie Ryan, Bill & Lucille Muenz, and Mike Busken

#### Resident of Victorian Manor

1800 Wein St, Hermann, MO 65041

Peggy Gardner

#### Residents of Stonebridge in Hermann

2120 Village Lane, Hermann, MO 65041

Tony & Laverne Wessel, Sr.

#### Residents of

#### Aspire Nursing Home

308 Cedar Avenue, Jonesburg, MO 63351



### PLEASE PRAY FOR THE STRUGGLING, SICK AND INFIRMED:

Al & Christine Barger, Beau Boschenreither, Geoff Brueggen, Elizabeth Brueggen, Molly Brueggen, Larry Brueggemann, Marion Bullerdick, Parker Calbreath, Robert Carillo, Becky Cothren, Clint Cunningham, Marla Daniels, Tom Eggering, Jean Fishback, Sheryl Gibbs, Lucille Griesbauer, Anna Gross, Ed Grillo, Henry Hamill, Michael & Grace Hanneken, Ken Hocke, Antoinette Hoing, Ingrid Keller, Genevieve Kelly, Pat Kline, Pat Merz, Jan Milzark, Kathleen Mohrmann, Lyndsey O'Bryan, Alice O'Donnell, Margaret O'Donnell, Terry Parker, Peatross Family, Avery Penn, Rae Jean Rhoads, Shirley Rose, Susie Ryan, John Rybacki, Nick Schneider, Ruth Schneider, Evelyn Strauss, Katherine Stroot, Londa Swoboda, Ed Torbeck, Barb Turpin, Margaret Van Beek, Tony Wessel, Sr., Jim Wortmann, Don Zerr

### PLEASE PRAY FOR ALL OUR MEN AND WOMEN IN THE ARMED SERVICES.

Brandon Wells, Noah Richard, Dylan Willis, Daniel Lohmann, Donnie Wisdom, and Alex Brueggen



Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ loved the church  
And gave himself up for her. ~Ephesians 5:25



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

Tom & Pat Westhoff - 46 years of Marriage on December 16th

Happy Birthday to those who are celebrating in December

3rd - Mike Claussen  
8th - Karen Stenger  
9th - Alice O'Donnell  
10th - Pauline Horstdaniel  
12th - Elizabeth Barclay  
12th - Terri Lenzenhuber  
20th - John Woods

29th - Christina Poggas  
29th - Alan Schluss  
30th - Makenzie Woods



### Holiday Mass & Penance Service Schedule

#### Penance Service:

December 19th - 6:00 PM at Immaculate Conception

#### Christmas Eve/Christmas Day:

Dec. 24th - 5:00 PM Vigil Mass at Immaculate Con.

Dec. 24th - 10:30 PM Midnight Mass at St. Patrick

Dec. 25th - 10:00 AM Mass at Immaculate Conception

#### New Year's Day (January 1, 2025)

8:00 AM Mass at St. Patrick

10:00 AM Mass at Immaculate Conception

### St. Patrick Parish Christmas Party

Parish Christmas party will be Sunday December  
15<sup>th</sup> at 11:30 AM. Lunch will be served at Noon.



### Parishioner Christmas Gift

Merry Christmas from your parish! Please find books in both  
church vestibules for each family written by Matthew Kelly.

We hope the parishioners at St. Patrick enjoy "Thirty Three  
Days to Eucharistic Glory" and Immaculate Conception parish-  
ioners enjoy "The Three Ordinary Voices of God"!

We want to thank Michael Auchly for purchasing the Christmas  
Books for the parishioners at Immaculate Conception.

### IC School Christmas Program

Do you want to hear the melodious voices  
of children who love to lift up their voices  
in joyous songs? Do you want to see  
beautiful smiles on faces of happy chil-  
dren? Or, just feel the gentleness of this  
glorious season? Fantastic!! Come experience the wonderment  
as the IC students perform their Christmas Program on Wednes-  
day, *December 18th* at 6:00 PM at the church. If you are un-  
able to attend the evening performance, you may attend the dress  
rehearsal /matinee at 1:00 PM. All are invited. See you there!



### Decorating for Christmas at IC

We will be decorating the church after Mass on Sunday, the  
22nd. If you are available to join us and would like to, we  
would love that.

### Christmas Second Collection

There will be a second collection taken up at the Christmas  
Eve and Christmas Day Masses in both parishes. This is one  
of the three yearly diocesan collections and is for Seminary  
Formation and Infirm Priests. Each diocesan parish is assessed  
a specific amount; Immaculate Conception-\$2,424.00 and St.  
Patrick-\$1,257.00. There were envelopes for this collection in  
the December 6th *Catholic Missourian*, and in your regular  
giving envelopes. Thank you for your generosity!

### Envelopes & Calendars at St. Patrick's

Your box of Sunday Contribution Envelopes are available to  
pick up in the Church Lobby, they are in numerical order not  
alphabetically.

2025 Calendars are also available in the Church Lobby.

### Envelopes & Calendars at IC

The 2025 calendars are in the church vestibule. We want to  
thank Korman Auction Service and Bainbridge Insurance for  
purchasing the calendars for us!

If you need an envelope for Christmas Flower donations, they  
are also in the vestibule. If you would like to make a donation,  
please leave it in the locked box in the vestibule or drop it in  
the collection basket.

### IC Liturgical Ministries for Christmas Season

Sign-up sheets are on the bulletin board for the Christmas sea-  
son. If you can help out at any of the Masses, please sign up!

### Christmas Masses - Music at IC

Music will begin on Christmas Eve at 4:30 PM and Christmas  
Day at 9:30 PM prior to both Masses.

### Change in Adoration Schedule at IC

There will be NO Tuesday Adoration at Immaculate Concep-  
tion on December 24th. We will still have Adoration on Tues-  
day, December 31st.

# Immaculate Conception School News

Ms. Dana Schroeder, School Principal | Judy Cobb, School Secretary | 573.564.2679 - School Office | [immaculateconception@icschool-mc.org](mailto:immaculateconception@icschool-mc.org)



## Immaculate Conception School News

### What's Happening

#### Christmas Program:

The public is welcome to join Immaculate Conception School for their Christmas Program on December 18, 2024 at 6:00pm. The Christmas program will take place in the Immaculate Conception Church free to all who attend. After the music program the students are presenting an art show at the school. Refreshments (snacks and drinks) are being served.

PLEASE PLAN ON ATTENDING. MARK YOUR CALENDARS NOW.

During Art class the 6th & 8th grades have been learning about Digital Art with their art teacher, Mrs. Weekley. Each student designed an announcement for their upcoming Christmas Program and Art show. Please go to the School Facebook Page and view their designs. The winning student's announcement will be used to advertise.

We want to thank the IC Quilters for the wonderful Halloween Treats, the Ladies Auxiliary for the yummy spaghetti lunch for all ICS kiddos, and the Knights of Columbus for providing fruit for all ICS students for Christmas!

### Important Dates to Remember

**December 16th**  
School IN Session

**December 17th**  
Picture Retakes

**December 18th - 6:00 PM**  
Advent/Christmas Program

**December 19th**  
Christmas Parties-9-11:00 AM  
Early Dismissal 12:00 pm

**End of 2nd Quarter**

**December 20th - January 3rd**  
Christmas Break

### 9 Powerful and Practical Ways to Celebrate Advent Adapted from Ascension Articles

*By: Julia Morgensai*

- Visit the lonely.** Throughout Advent, there are plenty of opportunities for volunteering in our parish and community. But service doesn't have to be organized. Saint Mother Teresa said, "Loneliness and the feeling of being unwanted is the most terrible poverty." Reach out to someone who is lonely in your neighborhood, your church, or your extended family. Ask them to coffee, invite them for dinner, drop off some cookies, or have a phone conversation. Ask them questions about their lives. This type of simple connection is a tremendously powerful way to see Jesus in another person and help them realize the dignity within themselves.
  - Grow closer to the saints.** The liturgical calendar dedicates saints to each day of the week, and this is a beautiful way to connect with our community in heaven. Each day throughout Advent, read about the saint of the day and ask for their intercession for someone or something close to your heart. By Christmas time, you will have a whole group of saints cheering you on.
  - Pray with an Advent devotional.** It is easy for the Christmas story to feel far away from our lives—like a fairy tale that starts with "Once upon a time in a faraway land." By using a guided Advent journal or program, you can be guided with meditations and prayers that will provide a manageable portion to pray through each day.
  - Use Christmas cards as prayer reminders.** As Christmas cards arrive during December, place them in a basket in a noticeable area. Once a day, pull out one card and pray for that person. You can write the person a note signed by your family or send them a text that says, "We prayed for you today."
  - Begin an evening practice of expectant prayer.** If you feel rushed and out of control, this is a profound step towards a prayer rhythm. At the beginning of Advent, set a daily reminder on your phone, your watch, or a note on your bathroom mirror—however it works in your daily rhythm. Sit in a quiet place and don't feel pressure to come up with words to pray or to read Scripture. Allow yourself to wait for God's presence to break through in the middle of the crazy.
  - Write notes of encouragement.** The world is waiting for the promises of God to be fulfilled. Buy a stack of beautiful holiday cards and take a little time each evening to write a note of encouragement and gratitude to the people in your life. Include in this list both the people you know are struggling and those who seem to be doing just fine. We all need reminders that we're seen, loved, and known.
  - Visit a live Nativity.** In a live Nativity, real people dress up as the characters from the Christmas story. By seeing the characters as live people, it reminds us that Mary, Joseph, and the animals were real, too. When we see the tangible nature of the Christmas story, the beautiful truths it reveals become tangible, too. Many churches put these live presentations on—find one in your community.
  - Fast.** In our society, it is very difficult to fast from all treats during Advent, since anticipatory Christmas goodies are served everywhere you go. The most effective fasting during this season would be to fast from noise, franticness, and media. Try to cut back on news, sports, entertainment, politics, frantic errands, and other avoidable distractions, opening up more space for prayer in your day.
  - Be patient with yourself.** St. Francis de Sales said, "Be patient with all things, but first of all with yourself." As we approach various Advent practices, remember that God wants your heart more than anything. He wants your imperfect efforts. He wants more for us and not more from us.
- May the peace of Christ dwell richly in your heart this season.**



**Christmas  
Craft & Gift Show**

At Hometown Christmas  
 Friday, December 13, 2024 6pm-8pm  
 Saturday, December 14, 2024 9am-2pm

Knights of Columbus Hall  
 Highway 19  
 Montgomery City, MO

*Sponsored by*  
 Immaculate Conception  
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 For more information call 573-590-3158  
[rtalley@alsatwireless.com](mailto:rtalley@alsatwireless.com)

Wide variety of crafters  
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food stand serving chili,  
 hot dogs, chili dogs,  
 vegetable soup & desserts

Support our seminarians and infirm priests!

# SAVE THE ENVELOPE

inserted in the December 6 issue of  
*The Catholic Missourian*



Bring your envelope to Mass or give  
 it to your parish office

Or, give online at  
[diojeffcity.org/Donate-Christmas](http://diojeffcity.org/Donate-Christmas)



DIOCESE OF  
 Jefferson City



The Diocese of Jefferson City  
 is preparing for the 2025  
 Jubilee. This holy year will  
 invite the faithful to embrace  
 the spirit of hope.

The Jubilee Year will provide  
 opportunities to experience grace, including  
 by participating in special Jubilee Masses or  
 joining a pilgrimage.

The diocese has launched a new webpage  
 with information about how we will be cele-  
 brating the Jubilee. More information may  
 be found at: <https://diojeffcity.org/jubilee-year/>.

Join  
 Musicians and Composers

Kathleen Basi  
 and  
 Katie Wills

For a Time of  
 Music & Reflection

Women of God:  
 Uniquely Gifted, Uniquely Called



SCAN TO SIGN UP

**Dates**

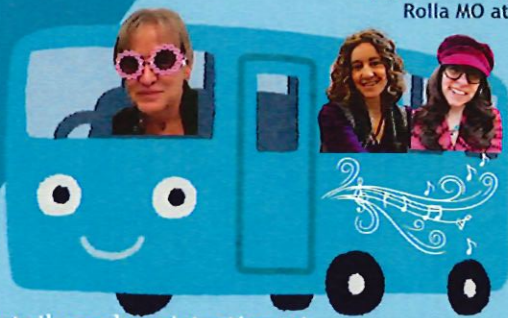
Jan 31 - Immaculate Conception  
 Loose Creek MO, at 5:45 PM

Feb 1 - Holy Family Parish  
 Hannibal, MO at 9:00 AM

Feb 2 - Our Lady of Lourdes  
 Columbia MO at 1:30 PM

Feb 3 - St Patrick Parish  
 Rolla MO at 5:30 PM

# Ministry on the Move!



full details and registration at:  
[diojeffcity.org/womens-ministry-upcoming-events](http://diojeffcity.org/womens-ministry-upcoming-events)

*Have no anxiety at all, but in  
 everything, by prayer and  
 petition, with thanksgiving, make  
 your requests known to God. Then  
 the peace of God that surpasses all  
 understanding will guard your  
 hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.*

Philippians 4:6-7

St. Paul never fails to give the best  
 advice for growing in spirituality.  
 Today he teaches us that through  
 prayer and petition we will find  
 peace and joy as we make our  
 gracious requests known to God.



Stewardship  
 GROWING OUR FAITH

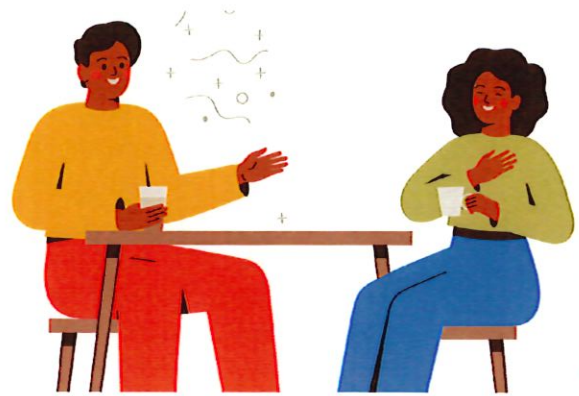
DIOCESE OF  
 Jefferson City

# Dear Padre,

*My family, friends, and coworkers seem to be uncomfortable when I tell them that I've been praying for them. Should I just keep it to myself?*

There is nothing fundamentally wrong with telling people you have been praying for them. Most people are probably grateful for such care and support. But it can be a little tricky. If the person believes the praying is actually a judgment and not a blessing, it may provoke a less-than-grateful response. This is where honest discernment on your part is invited. Are you coming across as prayerfully concerned, or is there some criticism or judgment in what seems to be an innocent blessing? People are able to perceive the difference.

Another consideration—and this is not at all unusual as a response in the culture of today—is that some people are very defensive about any religious expressions and do not react favorably. Think, for example, about the different reactions to “Merry Christmas” or “Happy Holidays,” which can often provoke the familiar idiom “them’s fightin’ words.” My best advice is to keep praying for everyone, as no one truly understands or fully appreciates the power of prayer. That being said, temper your announcement when you suspect it will not be well received. This demonstrates a grateful and blessed heart, which is what you intend and hope for, after all. ●



MARY LONG / SHUTTERSTOCK

*Fr. Thomas M. Santa, CSsR / DearPadre.org*

## **Do you have a question for the Padre?**

Go to [DearPadre.org](http://DearPadre.org) to send your question and to learn more about *Dear Padre*.

## **Bishop McKnight's December prayer intention for our Local Church**

For hope to find a home in our hearts as we embrace the joy of Christ's birth. Amid the jubilation, may we also find time in prayer to experience the calm and peace of God's presence in our lives.



### **A WORD FROM POPE FRANCIS**

*[The crowd asked John the Baptist,] "What shall we do?"*  
*By suggesting this question, the Gospel reminds us of something important: life has a task for us.... Each of us—let us not forget this—has a mission to accomplish. So, let us not be afraid to ask the Lord: what shall I do?*

ANGELUS, ROME, DECEMBER 12, 2021



Pat Stumbaugh - 573.220.9441  
 Broker Associate  
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