

Love of the Law

Years ago, I saw a chart in a catechism that identified the faith of the Old Testament as a religion of law and that of the New Testament as a religion of love. This is not only seriously wrong, it is also dangerously biased. The two commandments to love as recorded in today's Gospel originate in Deuteronomy 6:5 and Leviticus 19:18, respectively. Several of the prophets describe God's love of Israel in tender, even passionate, terms (Isaiah 43:1, Jeremiah 31:3). To think otherwise is to tread alarmingly close to a form of anti-Judaism. We must remember that the religion Jesus loved deeply, and which he sought to bring to fulfillment, was the religion of ancient Israel.

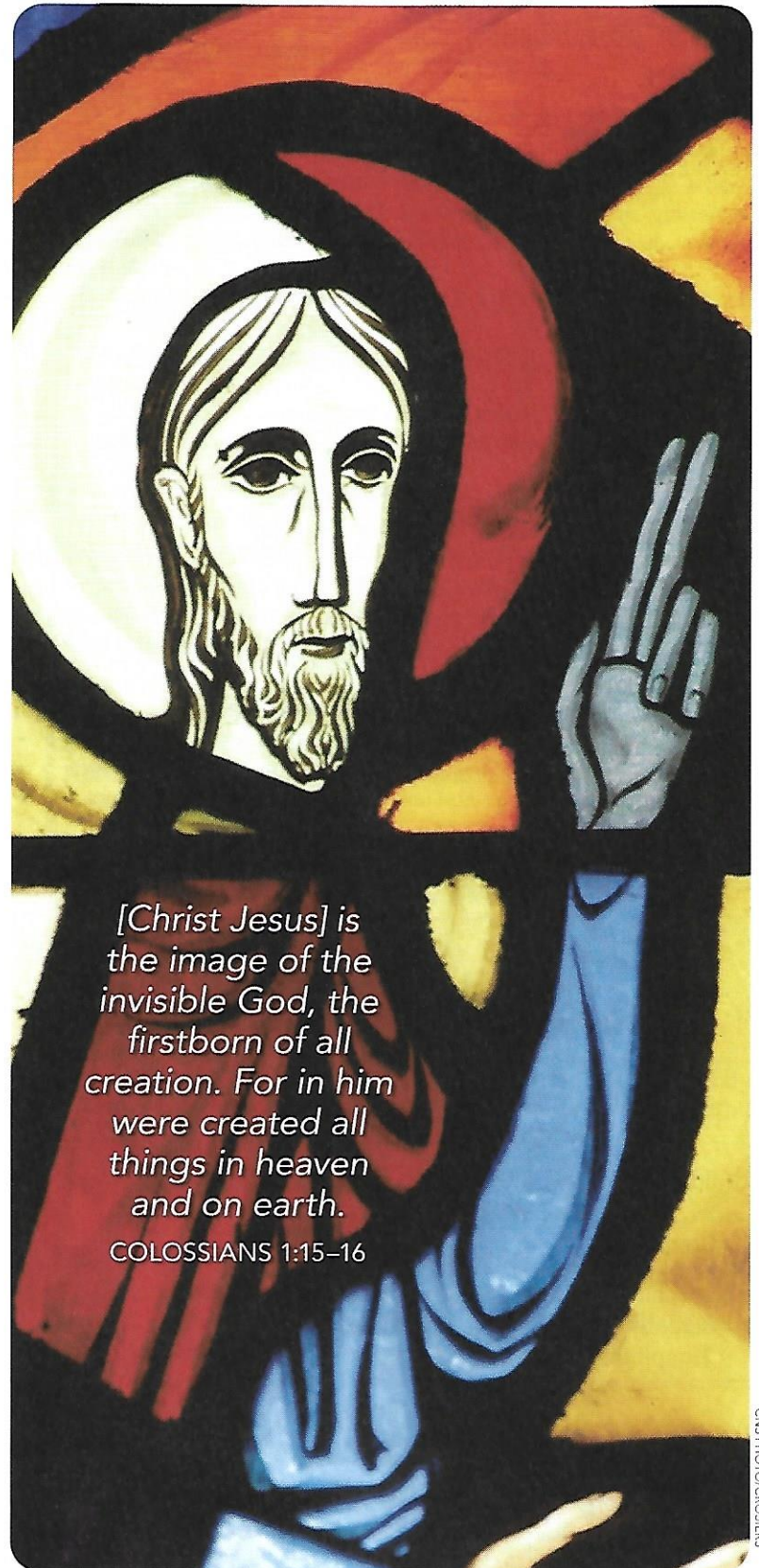
Part of the error of that chart might have been a misunderstanding of the meaning of law. We might think of *law* as "proscription" or "restriction" (you must...or you must not...). The Hebrew meaning is more flexible. Some translate the Hebrew word *torah* as "instruction" or "directive." The psalmist delights in the law because it refreshes the soul and rejoices the heart. Today's first reading tells us that the law is already in our hearts. The law of love was certainly in the heart of the Samaritan who cared for the stranger on the side of the road.

If we can see that laws are meant to help us care for ourselves, others, and the world, we will soon realize that living as the laws direct us might bring us to a deep love for the law.

Sr. Dianne Bergant, CSA

FOR Reflection

- ✱ *What is the relationship between the rules or customs in your family and the love you have for its members?*
- ✱ *Reflect on today's responsorial Psalm 19:8–11.*



[Christ Jesus] is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation. For in him were created all things in heaven and on earth.

COLOSSIANS 1:15–16

Dear Padre,

Why must I choose practicing Catholics as my baby's godparents?

The Church is clear about the qualifications of godparents: at least sixteen years old; one woman and one man leading lives of faith; confirmed and having already received Communion (see Canons 872–874). *Godparent* isn't simply an honorary title we bestow on someone. It's an important role of trust in the child's faith life.

We grow in trust for someone via a gradual process of getting to know that person: being introduced, spending time together, talking to one another, learning about each other, and being generous with one another.

That's how trust in Jesus develops. Parents and godparents introduce us to him, teach us to pray. We talk to Jesus on our own and learn more about him through Scripture. Our parents take us to church. We watch their example and that of our godparents. We learn from the parish, the Catholic school, and our *Catechism*. It's a gradual process of getting to know Jesus that leads us to trust him and have faith in him.

At baptism, the priest or deacon lights a candle from the large Easter candle. In many parishes, the candle is passed first to the godfather. "Receive the light of Christ," says the priest. The godfather passes it to the godmother, who passes it to the mother, who hands it to the father to hold for the child. That is how faith comes to us: a gift from God, but through other people. Parents and godparents must have the bright flame of faith in their own hearts if they hope to pass it to their child.

Fr. Gary Lauenstein, CSSR / Sundaybulletin@Liguori.org



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A WORD FROM *Pope Francis*

It is the duty of the parents, together with the godfathers and godmothers, to take care to nurture the flame of baptismal grace in their little ones, helping them persevere in the faith. Children have the right to Christian formation, which "seeks to lead them gradually to learn God's plan in Christ."

GENERAL AUDIENCE, MAY 16, 2018

Calendar

Monday

JULY 11

St. Benedict, Abbot

Is 1:10–17

Mt 10:34–11:1

Tuesday

JULY 12

Weekday

Is 7:1–9

Mt 11:20–24

Wednesday

JULY 13

Weekday

Is 10:5–7, 13b–16

Mt 11:25–27

Thursday

JULY 14

St. Kateri Tekakwitha,
Virgin

Is 26:7–9, 12, 16–19

Mt 11:28–30

Friday

JULY 15

St. Bonaventure,
Bishop and Doctor
of the Church

Is 38:1–6, 21–22, 7–8

Mt 12:1–8

Saturday

JULY 16

Weekday

Mi 2:1–5

Mt 12:14–21

Sunday

JULY 17

Sixteenth Sunday
in Ordinary Time

Gn 18:1–10a

Col 1:24–28

Lk 10:38–42



Liguori Publications
is celebrating 75
years of ministry
throughout 2022.

Follow progress toward our
October 23 anniversary date
in *Liguorian* magazine and
at Liguori.org.



Immaculate Conception Parish Family



161st YEAR OF SERVICE

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

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

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; Mary Pottebaum, Vicki Parker, Bill Huston, and Dennis Cobb

JULY 10, 2022 - FIFTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Mass Intentions

Monday, July 11th	NO Mass - Montgomery City
Tuesday, July 12th	6:30 PM Mass - Wellsville
Wednesday, July 13th	8:30 AM Mass - Jonesburg
Thursday, July 14th	8:00 AM Mass - Montgomery City +Bill & Dione Auchly
Friday, July 15th	8:00 AM Mass - Montgomery City +Lorraine Brower
Saturday, July 16th	5:00 PM Mass - Montgomery City - Our Parish Family
Sunday, July 17th	8:00 AM Mass - Jonesburg 10:00 AM Mass - Mont. City +Mary Ann Landolt



July 1, 2021 - June 30, 2022

Church & School Financial Report:

	Income	Expenses	Difference
May 2022	\$ 44,677.00	\$ 45,991.85	\$-1,314.85
Fiscal Year July-March 2021-22	\$634,702.09	\$580,312.54	\$54,389.55
Needed Weekly - \$ 13,232.95			
July 3rd - \$14,538.00			
July 10th - \$			
July 17th - \$			
July 24th - \$			
July 31st - \$			

Last Week's Envelopes: 66 of 189

Thank you!! With God all things are possible!

(No Mass if there is a funeral)

Parish Membership: Call the parish office to register.

Sacrament of Reconciliation: Saturdays 4:00 PM - 4:45 PM, or by appointment.

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 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 July 16th & 17th

Ministries	Saturday, 5:00 PM	Sunday, 10:00 AM
Lector	Beth Cobb	Michael Readey
Children's Liturgy	None at this time.	None at this time
Communion Minister	Vicki Oden	Tudie Simpson
Ministers of Hospitality	Steve & Beth Cobb Kasey & Mary Pottebaum	Jacob & Megan Hans Family
Servers	Jacob Roesner Malory Schulte	Natalie Beabout Elizabeth Schierhoff
Gift Bearers	Hospitality Ministers	Hospitality Ministers
Money Counters	Judy Cobb Don & Sandy Oakes	Megan Hans Steve Williams

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

For our nation, for the integrity of our judicial system, and that all branches of government be dedicated to seeking the common good and protecting the dignity and rights of the human person, from conception to natural death.

Weekly Mass Schedule

Monday, July 11th	NO MASS - Montgomery City
Tuesday, July 12th	6:30 PM Mass - Wellsville
Wednesday, July 13th	8:30 AM Mass - Jonesburg
Thursday, July 14th	8:00 AM Mass - Montgomery City
Friday, July 15th	8:00 AM Mass - Montgomery City
Saturday, July 16th	5:00 PM Mass - Montgomery City
Sunday, July 17th	8:00 AM Mass - Jonesburg 10:00 AM Mass - Montgomery City (Rosary @ 9:30 AM)

Upcoming Events & Announcements

Monday, July 11th	7:00 PM - St. Vincent dePaul Mtg.
Tuesday, July 12th	6:00 AM-5:00 PM - Adoration
Wednesday, July 13th	
Thursday, July 14th	10:00 AM - Ministerial Alliance
Friday, July 15th	4:30 PM-6:30 PM - Knights of Columbus Drive-thru Fish Fry @ KC Hall in Mont. City
Saturday, July 16th	
Sunday, July 17th	



Wedding Anniversary

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

Donald & Sandra Oakes - 49 years of marriage on July 14th

Additional Financial Information

Capital Improvements	\$	120.00
Harvest Picnic Donations	\$	600.00
Special Collections:		
Catholic Missourian	\$	56.00
Communication & Educ.	\$	70.00
Diocesan Missions	\$	50.00

The Parish Office will be closed on Monday, July 11th!

Come Pray With the Seedbearers!



The Seedbearers will be in the area again for the 5th year. Seedbearers is a program that brings teens and adults from the Archdiocese of St. Louis to work on homes in our community.

Everyone is invited to pray with them daily at 5:00 PM Mass here at Immaculate Conception Church Monday July 25th thru Friday July 29th.

This year, the Seedbearers will be working on 2 homes in Montgomery City, redoing a bathroom in the rectory, and another home in Jonesburg.

If you know of anyone who might benefit from their program for next year, please contact them at sb@impactym.org, or call them at 314.398.0861.

Thank You For Your Service

We want to thank Richard Bainbridge and Gary Hoette for serving on the Administration and Finance Committee. Their time and talent while serving on the committee has been invaluable and will always be very much appreciated!

New Statues in Church

Have you noticed the beautiful new statues of St. Joseph and the Blessed Virgin Mary in church? We want to thank Jeff & Amanda Arens and Pat & Janet Stumbaugh for this donation.

IC Youth to Attend Diocesan Camp

Carl Smith and Jacob Roesner will be attend Camp Lolek July 10th-13th at the Osage Branch Retreat Center located south of Lebanon, MO.

Camp Lolek (a childhood nickname of Saint John Paul II) is new this year. It is a Summer Camp for Junior High students that is focused on the Joy of Christ, faith and community. Have a wonderful time Carl and Jacob!



Our Condolences and Prayers

Ignatius Busken, brother of Joe Busken, passed away last Sunday. A private family service and burial was held this week. We offer our prayers in condolences to Joe and his family during this difficult time.

There is still time to donate school supplies for the "Back to School Bash". The box is in the church vestibule. If you would like to make a cash donation, please contact Beth Roesner at 314-974-1087.

Immaculate Conception School News



Thank You! Thank You! Thank You!

The sewer line leading away from the east side of the school was repaired last week. We want to thank all those involved in making this happen: Marvin Miller - Buell Acres, Dustin Benney, Peter O'Fallon - Central Heating & Cooling, Tony Wessel, Jr., and Dennis Cobb.

Without your generous donations of time, talent, and treasure it would not have been possible.

ECLC & Summer Care News



We want to thank Daryl and Nancy Cobb for their donation of hamburger for the ECLC and Summer Care lunches. Your generosity is greatly appreciated.

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.RaiseRight.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.**

HARVEST PICNIC SEPTEMBER 18, 2022 (update)

The Harvest Picnic will be held at the fairgrounds again. All food will be served out of the kitchen this year. We will be asking all parishioners to **provide desserts** for the meal and cake walk. We are asking for **monetary donations** to sponsor purchasing meat, the tent, and raffles. **Live and silent auction items** will be appreciated. We will not be having Bingo at the Picnic this year as we are going to have a fall Bingo event. Packets with more information will be handed out at a later date. We are excited about this year's event and we need everyone's helping hands to make it GREAT!

For donations contact Beth Cobb, Judy Cobb, Megan Hans, Pat Korman, Mary Pottebaum, Gina Smith, Dottie Brueggen or Diane Talley.



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

July 12th - Second Tuesday Mass at the Shrine of Our Lady of Sorrows in Starkenburg at 12:00 noon. Confessions and rosary before Mass. Luncheon following Mass in Valentine Hall.

Parish Council/Administration & Finance Committee Report

The Parish Council/Administration and Finance Committee met on June 29, 2022. Before the meeting started, council members had a "walk-thru" of the parish's buildings and grounds.

The following was discussed and/or approved during the meeting:

- Financial Report discussed
- Approval of bid for parish van from Richard Bainbridge in the amount of \$1,500.00.
- Bylaws and term limits for Parish Council and Administration/Finance Committee members.
- Letter of Resignation from the Administration/Finance Committee submitted by Richard Bainbridge accepted.
- Gary Hoette acknowledged he has "termed out" and will no longer be serving on the Administration/Finance Committee.
- Summer Care is going well.
- ECLC received \$29,000.00 from PPP for reimbursement of ECLC salaries.
- ECLC received a \$5,000.00 Enhancement Grant which will be used to replace flooring in daycare room.
- School Enrollment looks to be about the same for the upcoming school year.
- Fr. Ernest expressed appreciation for welcoming lunch.
- Fr. Ernest reported the Catholic Stewardship Council (CSC) will need to be formed in our parish soon.
- Fr. Ernest thanked Richard Bainbridge and Gary Hoette for serving on the Administration/Finance Council.

The next meeting will be Wednesday, August 24, 2022 at 6:00 PM. The meeting closed with prayer led by Gary Hoette.

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: Pat Klein, Nick Schneider, Lucille & Marvin Griesbauer, Pat Merz, Parker Calbreath (son of Chris & Stacy Calbreath), Al & Christine Barger, Barb Kliethermes, Marla Daniels, Lindsey (Dryden) O'Bryan, Valerie Readey Neudecker, John Rybacki (father of Sue Beck), and Jane Dorlac.

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, Steve (Hip) Hill, and Noah Richard.

Contact the parish office to have someone added!



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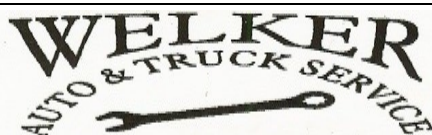
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