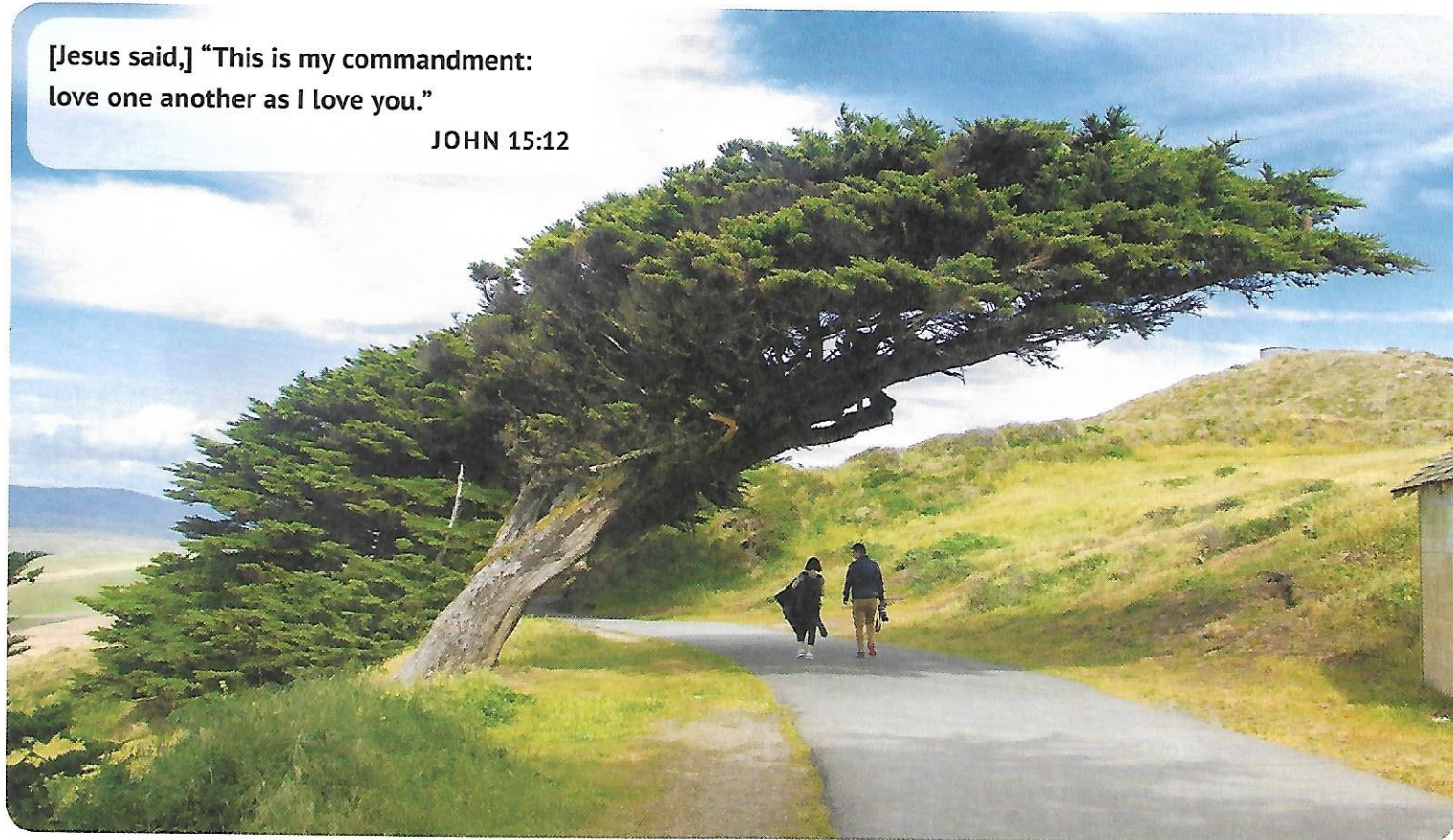




[Jesus said,] “This is my commandment:
love one another as I love you.”

JOHN 15:12



We're Like Trees

FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

A while back I decided to plant two saplings that were about ten feet tall along the property line of the parish home where I lived. Some time after I planted them, I noticed that one was leaning in one direction and the other a bit in the opposite direction. *Strange*, I thought, *for it seemed that when I planted them they were staked with rope and stood straight*. So I bought some six-foot fence posts and tied the trees to them, thinking that as they grew they would straighten themselves. Not so. After three years the trees seemed to insist on growing their own way, one leaning into the wind and the other a bit twisted. It seemed the only solution was to love them the way they were.

It is so with the people in our lives as well. Sooner or later we find ourselves needing to love them with their idiosyncrasies and foibles and perhaps even their sinfulness. We may try to reshape them, but ultimately it is usually to little avail. They have been created by God, after all, and if God has chosen us—as the Gospel suggests—then God also has chosen us to love them as they are, and perhaps to love them into all that they can be. Ultimately though, God does the pruning, the reshaping, not us. We participate in that process by caring for them and bringing good to them, always in the image of Jesus. ●

Reflect

Think of everyone with whom you have some difficulty and name a good quality of each one.

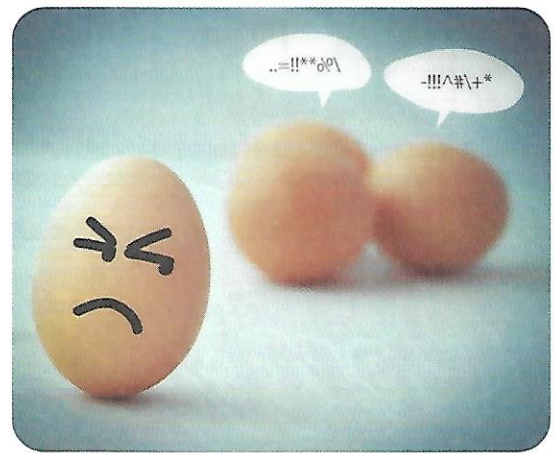
Dear Padre,

**Please clarify for me what the Church considers as “gossip.”
Is it that bad?**

Human beings have the great gift of speech. We continually talk to one another and we talk about one another. Gossip, at its most basic level, is just idle talk. It is neither good nor bad. But it is a tool we can use to build up another human being or tear a person down.

Gossip is sinful when we use our words to unjustly hurt the reputation of another or to judge another person rashly. The two words that the Church uses to describe this evil side of gossip are “detraction” and “calumny.” The *Catechism of the Catholic Church* tells us that detraction is “without objectively valid reason, disclosing another’s faults and failings to persons who did not know them.” Calumny occurs when a person, “by remarks contrary to the truth, harms the reputation of others and gives occasion for false judgments concerning them” (CCC 2477).

To judge whether your own gossip is good or evil, simply ask yourself: Do the words I am saying help others or hurt others? Am I building them up or tearing them down? Hopefully, as a Christian, you are committed to the commandment of Jesus we hear in today’s Gospel: “This is my commandment: love one another as I love you” (John 15:12). ●

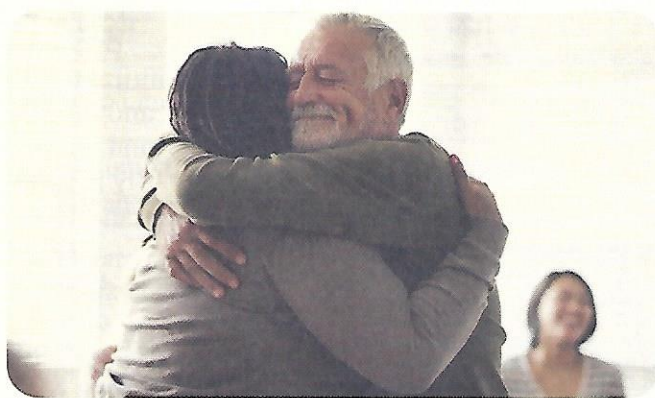


The Redemptorists / DearPadre.org

Do you have a question for the Padre?

Go to **DearPadre.org** to send your question and to learn more about **Dear Padre**.

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
May 6	May 7	May 8	May 9	May 10	May 11	May 12
Easter Weekday	Easter Weekday	Easter Weekday	Easter Weekday	Easter Weekday	Easter Weekday	Ascension of the Lord
Acts 16:11–15	Acts 16:22–34	Acts 17:15,	Acts 18:1–8	Acts 18:9–18	Acts 18:23–28	Acts 1:1–11
Jn 15:26–16:4a	Jn 16:5–11	22–18:1	Jn 16:16–20	Jn 16:20–23	Jn 16:23b–28	Eph 1:17–23 or Eph 4:1–13 or 4:1–7, 11–13 Mk 16:15–20
		Jn 16:12–15				



A WORD FROM POPE FRANCIS

To love as the Lord loves us means to appreciate the people beside us, to respect their freedom, to love them as they are, not as we want them to be; as they are, gratuitously....Not controlling, serving them. Opening our heart to others, this is love, to be trusting, giving ourselves to others.

REGINA CAELI, ROME, MAY 9, 2021



Immaculate Conception Parish Family

163rd 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.mcioparish.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, Dennis Cobb, & Jack Wells



MAY 5, 2024 - SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

Mass Intentions

Monday, May 6th
Tuesday, May 7th

NO Mass - Montgomery City
5:30 PM Mass - Montgomery City - Irv
Landolt Family

Wednesday, May 8th
Thursday, May 9th
Friday, May 10th

8:30 AM Mass - Jonesburg
8:00 AM Mass - Mont. City +August & Anna Wessel
8:00 AM Mass - Mont. City +Vincent & Delores
Schimweg

Saturday, May 11th
Sunday, May 12th

5:00 PM Mass - Mont. City +Don Benney
8:00 AM Mass - Jonesburg
10:00 AM Mass - Mont. City - All Mothers, Living &
Deceased



Your Gifts to God!

July 1, 2023 - June 30, 2024

Church & School Financial Report:	Income	Expenses	Difference
March 2024	\$48,481.60	\$66,937.56	-\$18,455.96
Fiscal Year July-March, 2023-24	\$583,594.72	\$592,233.81	-\$8,639.09
Needed Weekly - \$13,397.08			

April 7th - \$3,713.00-Church; \$6,711.75-ICS/Daycare; \$10,424.75 -Total
April 14th - \$3,590.65-Church; \$9,180.00-ICS/Daycare; \$12,770.65 -Total
April 21st - \$3,377.00-Church; \$3,841.00-ICS/Daycare; \$7,218.00 -Total
April 28th - \$4,255.00-Church; \$8,678.00-ICS/Daycare; \$12,933.00 -Total

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

Thank you for your support!

Parish Membership: Call the parish office to register.

Sacrament of Reconciliation: Saturdays 4:15 PM - 4:45 PM, 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: Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults begins in the Fall and sacramental initiation normally occurs at the Easter Vigil. Call for details.

If you are hospitalized or if you have a family member who is homebound, please call the office/rectory at 573-564-2375.

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 May 11th & 12th

Ministries	Saturday, 5:00 PM	Sunday, 10:00 AM
Lector	8th Grade Students	Pat Stumbaugh
Children's Liturgy	Not During Saturday Evening Mass	Bonnie Walker
Communion Minister	Beth Cobb	Tudie Simpson
Ministers of Hospitality	Kasey & Mary Pottebaum Family	Dave & Janet Cobb Charlie & Pat Korman
Servers	Lila Broz Malorie Schulte	Ella Hans Kendra Rakers
Gift Bearers	8th Grade Students	Hospitality Ministers
Money Counters	Don & Sandy Oaks Darryl Rhoads	Cathy McCormack Vicki Parker Dave Teeter


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

For those who are preparing for marriage and those who are living the sacrament of holy Matrimony: May the mutual self-giving of spouses and engaged couples bring new life into our community of faith.

Weekly Mass Schedule

Monday, May 6th	NO Mass - Montgomery City
Tuesday, May 7th	5:30 PM Mass - Montgomery City
Wednesday, May 8th	8:30 AM Mass - Jonesburg
Thursday, May 9th	8:00 AM Mass - Montgomery City
Friday, May 10th	8:00 AM Mass - Montgomery City
Saturday, May 11th	5:00 PM Mass - Montgomery City (Rosary at 4:30 PM)
Sunday, May 12th	8:00 AM Mass - Jonesburg 10:00 AM Mass - Montgomery City (Rosary at 9:30 AM)

Upcoming Events & Announcements

Monday, May 6th	
Tuesday, May 7th	6:00 AM-5:00 PM - Adoration 5:00 PM - Benediction and Devotion to Divine Mercy
Wednesday, May 8th	5:30 PM - ICS Recruitment Committee Meeting
Thursday, May 9th	8:00 AM - Prayer Partner Mass followed by Brunch at ICS 8:00 AM - May Crowning 10:00 AM - Ministerial Alliance Mtg.
Friday, May 10th	
Saturday, May 11th	5:00 PM - 8th Grade, High & Post High School Graduation Recognition Mass
Sunday, May 12th	



Wedding Anniversary

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

*Michael & Lori Scott - 33 years of marriage on May 11th
Aaron & Brenda Knapp - 22 years of marriage on May 11th*

Additional Financial Information

Capital Improvements/Maintenance \$ 100.00

Welcome back, Fr. Ernest! We have missed you!

Pick-A-Prize Winners!



George Boes was the winner of the April 7th drawing for Pick-A-Prize and chose the \$500.00 gift card to Sams/Walmart. **Angela Keller** was the winner of the April 21st drawing and chose the \$500.00 Amazon Gift Card. Who will be the winner of the May 5th drawing? Stay tuned!

Mother's Day Flowers

In celebration of Mother's Day, Birthright will be selling silk roses and small rose bouquets (\$2.00 each) after Mass on May 11th and 12th. What a special way of telling your mother how special she is and how much you appreciate her love and commitment to you.



May Crowning

Please join us on May 9th at the 8:00 AM Mass when the students from Immaculate Conception School will be honoring our Blessed Virgin Mother in a May Crowning.



Sixth Sunday of Easter

We continue to celebrate the Easter season today, glorying in the resurrection of our Lord, who has promised to remain with us always. Jesus is with us in our waking and our sleeping, in our joys and our sufferings, in our homes and our communities. In a special way the risen Lord is with us here today as we gather in faith, in the ministers and in each other, in God's word proclaimed, and in his Body and Blood we receive. Once more, let us pledge to bring the risen Lord with us wherever we go and whatever we do, striving always to give witness to his love.



Question of the Week

What sacrifice have I made this past week for someone I love? What sacrifice can I make this coming week? What sacrifice am I willing to make for someone I hardly know?

Rosary Rally

There will be a Rosary Rally on Saturday, May 18th at noon on the church lawn. It is in honor of Our Lady of Fatima for the protection of unborn lives. Please bring a lawn chair. We hope you will be able to join us!



Our Prayers and Condolences

We want to offer our prayers and condolences to our Parish Family member Eileen Lotton upon the death of her father-in-law, Jerry Lotton. He was the grandfather of Jacob and Shane Lotton also of our parish.

Congratulations First Communicants!



Congratulations to Addlyn Hogue, Levi Schroeder, and Madelyn Schroeder who are receiving their First Holy Communion today during Mass. What an exciting day for these children and their families!



Immaculate Conception School News



May 2nd - 8th Grade Mass @ St. Joseph Cathedral
May 9th - Prayer Partner Mass
May 11th - ICC Recognition of ICS 8th Grade Graduates @ 5pm Mass
May 17th - 8th Grade Promotion
May 20th - School In Session (PE Day)
May 23rd - Last Day of School-Noon Dismissal

Thank you for coming out and supporting the ICS Dinner and Dance last Saturday evening. It was a fun and successful evening!

All are invited to The National Shrine of Mary, Mother of the Church to celebrate the

FEAST OF MARY MOTHER OF THE CHURCH

May 20, 2024 | 6:30 pm

Bishop W. Shawn McKnight Presiding

Mass will be held in our beautiful outdoor Shrine located in Laurie near the Lake of the Ozarks.

DETAILS AT [MOTHERSSHINE.COM](https://mothersshrine.com)



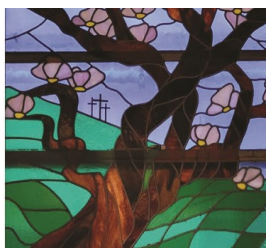
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NATIONAL
SHRINE OF **Mary**
MOTHER OF THE CHURCH

176 MARIAN DRIVE | LAURIE, MO
573-374-MARY (6279)
[MOTHERSSHINE.COM](https://mothersshrine.com)

In this way the love of God was revealed to us: God sent his only Son into the world so that we might have life through him. In this is love: not that we have loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as expiation for our sins.

1 John 4:9-10

This is agape love – a sacrificial love, selfless and pure. It is a love of choice which Jesus Christ displayed on the cross, dying for our sins.



Stewardship
GROWING OUR FAITH



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Jefferson City

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

May 14th - Starkenburg Mo - Second Tuesday Mass - Reconciliation at 11:15 AM; Rosary at 11:40 AM, Mass at Noon followed by lunch (\$10.00)

Head Count for April

April 6th - 74	April 7th - 99
April 13th - 80	April 14th - 101
April 20th - 107	April 21st - 98
April 27th - 82	April 28th - 92

Grand Total for April - 733

Spring Pilgrimage at Starkenburg

The spring Pilgrimage at our Lady of Sorrows Shrine will be on Sunday, May 19, 2024 with Fr. Philip Niekamp presiding. The day begins with exposition of the Blessed Sacrament followed by a Rosary procession through the Shrine grounds. A traditional German lunch will be available from 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM. Following lunch, the sacrament of Reconciliation will be available with several priests. Benediction is at 1:30 PM and an Outdoor Mass will be celebrated at 2:00 PM. Cost for lunch is \$15.00 for adults, \$5.00 for children 6-12 and those under 6 are free.



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, Dorothy Bowman, Mary Pettig, Bill & Lucille Muenz, and Judy Topel.

Residents of Stonebridge in Hermann, 1800 Wein St, Hermann, MO 65041 - Tony & LaVerne Wessel, Sr.

Contact the parish office to have someone added!



Please pray for: Avery Penn, Jim Wortmann, Lindsey O'Bryan, Michael & Grace Hanneken, Evelyn Strauss, Larry Brueggemann, Rosemary Brower, Beau Boschenreither (son of Cameron & Carolyn Bethel Boschenreither), Sheryl Gibbs (daughter of Sue Fox), Ed Grillo, Tony Wessel, Sr., Ed Torbeck, Donald Oakes, Bill Dryden, Pat Klein, Nick Schneider, Rae Jean Rhoads, Lucille & Marvin Griesbauer, Pat Merz, Parker Calbreath, Al & Christine Barger, Don Zerr, Marla Daniels, Matt Brumagin, Ingrid Keller, Margaret Van Beek, and Terry Parker

Mary Ann Prior thanks everyone for their prayers for her son, Darrel Prior. He is doing well and back at work!

Contact the parish office to have someone added!



Please pray for all our men and women serving in the armed forces. Brandon Wells, Noah Richard, Dylan Willis, Daniel Lohmann, and Donnie Wisdom.

Contact the parish office to have someone added!



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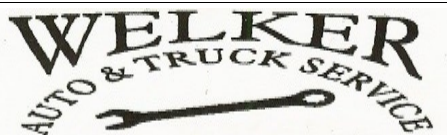
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See!
I will not forget
you, I have carved
you on the palm of
my hand.
Isaiah 49:15

Welcome
everyone, anytime
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.