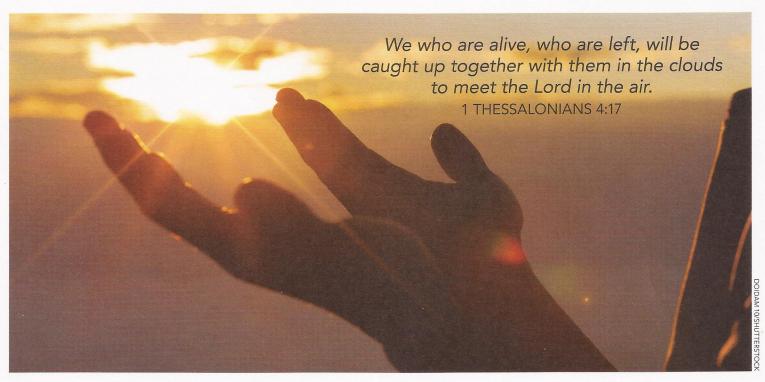


November 8, 2020

Thirty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time (A) Wis 6:12–16

1 Thes 4:13-18 or 4:13-14 | Mt 25:1-13



Everybody Wants to Go to Heaven, but Nobody Wants to Die

his is the title of a bluegrass song as well as a book on bioethics. It's a clever title, and there is some profound truth in it. Death, which is so natural for living things, seems so unnatural to human beings, who cling tenaciously to life. One would think that believers who hold that Christ conquered death would be comforted by that faith. However, that isn't always the case. It's not that they don't believe; it's that they don't understand what they believe. But that is the difference between understanding and believing.

This is the problem described in Paul's letter today. The Thessalonians believed that, through his resurrection, Christ conquered death. Then why did some among them begin to die? Did those dying lack faith? No, Paul insists. Jesus, who died and rose, embraces those who have died and who will rise with him. Did the people fully understand this? Do we? Isn't this a question of faith—and trust?

Paul thought that he and other believers could still be alive when the rising would happen, and they were not. Or were they? Doesn't our faith give us hope that we—both the living and the dead—will be embraced by God's mercy? Doesn't something wondrous occur when those who have "fallen asleep" wake up in the glory of God? Still, we might not understand all of this, but we are called to believe, and in believing we are told to "console one another with these words" (1 Thessalonians 4:18).

-Sr. Dianne Bergant, CSA

FOR Reflection

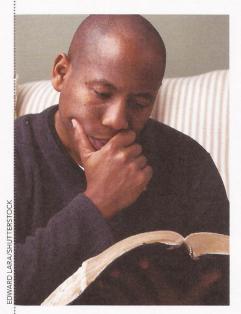
- * What about death frightens you?
- * At such moments, remind yourself that God loves you and that the risen Christ will embrace you.

Dear Padre,

A non-Christian friend asked if Catholics read the Bible. What can I say about Catholics and the Bible?

Yes. Catholics consider the Bible to be the inspired word of God by which he revealed to the Jewish and early Christian people who he is and how they can attain salvation. The Bible comprises many shorter works collected together. The books of the Bible were written at different times by different people. There are two parts to the Bible: the Old Testament and the New Testament.

The Old Testament talks about God's relations with the Jewish people before the coming of Jesus. The Old Testament consists of the first five books, which



are sometimes called the Pentateuch; the histories, which tell about the conquest of the Holy Land; the prophets, which record the words of those sent to Israel to call it back to the true belief in God; the writings, containing sacred songs (the Psalms), advice on everyday living, and other explorations of religious issues. In the Greek tradition, which Catholics follow, the Old Testament contains forty-six books.

The New Testament, a collection of twenty-seven shorter books, talks about Jesus and his followers. It consists of the four Gospels, which are about Jesus' life on earth, his death, and resurrection; letters, which are written to newly established Christian

communities to guide them in their faith; the Acts of the Apostles, which is a history of the activities of the early Church; and a book of prophesy, called Revelation.

- Sundaybulletin@Liguori.org



A WORD FROM Pope Francis

The study of the sacred Scriptures must be a door opened to every believer....Evangelization demands familiarity with God's word, which calls for dioceses, parishes, and Catholic associations to provide for a serious, ongoing study of the Bible, while encouraging its prayerful individual and communal reading.

-EVANGELII GAUDIUM, NOVEMBER 24, 2013

Calendar

Monday NOVEMBER 9

Dedication of the Lateran Basilica (Rome) Ez 47:1–2, 8–9, 12 1 Cor 3:9c–11, 16–17

Jn 2:13-22

Tuesday

NOVEMBER 10 St. Leo the Great, Pope and Doctor of the Church Ti 2:1–8, 11–14

Lk 17:7-10

Wednesday

NOVEMBER 11 St. Martin of Tours, Bishop Ti 3:1–7

Lk 17:11–19

Thursday

NOVEMBER 12 St. Josaphat, Bishop and Martyr Phmn 7–20 Lk 17:20–25

Friday

NOVEMBER 13 St. Frances Xavier Cabrini, Virgin 2 Jn 4–9

2 JN 4-9 V 17·26_37

Lk 17:26-37

Saturday

NOVEMBER 14 Weekday

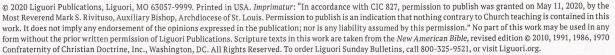
3 Jn 5-8

Lk 18:1-8

Sunday

NOVEMBER 15 Thirty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time Prv 31:10–13, 19–20, 30–31 1 Thes 5:1–6

Mt 25:14-30







Immaculate Conception Parish Family

159th YEAR OF SERVICE

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

Fr. Austin(Augustine) Okoli, Pastor I e-mail kesisi2@yahoo.com I Deacon Wayne Korte I Janet Cobb, Bookkeeper/Secretary I 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-Open, Laura Yelton, Vicki Parker, & Mary Pottebaum

NOVEMBER 8, 2020 - THIRTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Mass Intentions

Monday, November 9th NO MASS Tuesday, November 10th NO MASS

Wednesday, November 11th 8:30 AM Mass - Jonesburg 8:00 AM Mass - Montgomery City-

Thursday, November 12th

Friday, November 13th Saturday, November 14th

Sunday, November 15th

7:00 AM Mass - Jonesburg 9:00 AM Mass - Martinsburg

7:45 AM Mass - Martinsburg

11:00 AM Mass - Montgomery City + Ruth Huenefeld

+Jim Cobb

5:00 PM Mass - Montgomery City - Our Parish

July 1, 2020 - June 30, 2021 Church/School Financial Report: Income October 2020

Fiscal Year July - Sept. 2020-21 \$198,274.62 \$192,271.25 **Needed Weekly** - \$ 11,835.50

November 1st - \$11,338.59 November 8th - \$ November 15th - \$

November 22nd - \$ November 29th - \$

Last Week's Envelopes: 44 of 179

\$36.633.04

Expenses

Difference

\$6,003.37

\$61,673.54 -\$25,040.50

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: 4:30 to 4:50 PM Saturday or call for an appointment.

Sacrament of Baptism: Celebrated during Mass or at another arranged time. Call the parish office to set up an appointment to meet with Fr. Austin. 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 november 14th & 15th				
Ministries	Saturday, 5:00 PM	Sunday, 11:00 AM		
Lector	No ministries will be assigned at this time.			
Children's Liturgy				
Communion Ministers				
Ministers of Hospitality				
Servers				
Gift Bearers				
Money Counters				

Liturgical Ministers for November 14th & 15th

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

For a greater sense of gratitude to God for all blessings received, and a greater sense of our responsibility for the mission of the Church in our parishes.

Weekly Mass Schedule

Upcoming Events & Announcements

Monday, November 9th	NO MASS	Monday, November 9th	7:00 PM - St. Vincent DePaul 7:00 PM - RCIA		
Tuesday, November 10th	NO MASS	Tuesday, November 10th	1:00 PM - KOC Auxiliary Mtg. 7:00 PM - Worship & Spiritual Mtg.		
Wednesday, November 11th	8:30 AM Mass - Jonesburg	Wednesday, November 11th			
Thursday, November 12th	8:00 AM Mass - Montgomery City	Thursday, November 12th	9:30 AM - Ministerial Alliance Mtg. 5:00 PM - Parish Council Mtg.		
Friday, November 13th	7:45 AM Mass - Martinsburg	Friday, November 13th			
Saturday, November 14th	5:00 PM - Mass - Montgomery City	Saturday, November 14th			
Sunday, November 15th	7:00 AM - Mass - Jonesburg 9:00 AM - Mass - Martinsburg 11:00 AM - Mass - Montgomery City	Sunday, November 15th	9:30 AM - PSR 3rd/4th Grades		

Additional Financial Information

Capital Improvement Capital Campaign (Cornerstone)	\$ \$ 1	0.00
Special Collections:		
World Mission Sunday	\$	35.00
Catholic Campaign for Human Development		00.00
Donations (Christmas Flowers)		00.00
Holydays	\$	470.00

All Souls

In the month of November, we remember those who have passed away in the past year: Lorraine Brower, Ignatius Busken, Marian Busken, Dorothy Conner, Doris Grillion, Ruth Reagan Huenefeld, Shery'll Schierhoff, Scott Schulte, and John (Jack) Scott.

Tambourine Ringing

Montgomery County Cares is sponsoring "tambourine ringing" for fundraising between Thanksgiving and Christmas. Montgomery County Cares help people in need across the county. This event is replacing the Salvation Army Bell Ringing that we have helped with in the past. Immaculate Conception Parish will be in charge of ringing the tambourine on Saturday, Nov 21 at Bratcher's Market from 9-4. We would appreciate it if you could sign up for 1 hour. The sign- up list is in the back of church. Any help would be appreciated. If you have any questions, please call Beth Roesner at 314-974-1087.

Catholic Stewardship Appeal

The Catholic Stewardship Appeal depends on the contributions of faithful Catholics across the diocese to support many programs and services vital to our parishes, schools, and those in need in our communities. Please consider the many blessings God has bestowed upon you and show your gratitude by making a pledge to this year's campaign.

2021 - \$12,000.00 Parish Goal

 \$ Received
 % of Goal
 Over(Under)

 \$2,755
 22.9583%
 (\$9,245.00)

Capital Campaign Committee Update



We hope you have been by to see the beautiful new roof going on the church. We are happy to say that is a project we accomplished with our capital campaign funds. New gutters and downspouts will also be part of the roofing project and we are looking forward to seeing that completed as well.

As the workers got on top of the roof and viewed the steeple more closely, we realized there is a great deal of damage. Because of that we have had two different insurance companies come out to look and see if we would be eligible for a claim. The slate shingles on that part of the roof are quite expensive and we want to replace them. We are awaiting news on that now.

In addition, the tuck pointing on the outside of the church has been done and it has been waterproofed. It may not be as noticeable as the roof but it is certainly important to the structural integrity of the building. The other project that has been completed, of course, was the tree removal that was done in February.

Mostly we want to touch base to let you know the capital campaign is not over. In fact, the conditions with the pandemic hitting will extend our time and efforts. We are not giving up and we have not stopped in our efforts to do all of the things on our list, but we did decide to hold off for awhile on talking about fundraising and try to get some projects done where you could see your money being put to use.

Times are uncertain for many of us and we want to respect that as we move forward.

Our goal was to get most of the outside work accomplished during this calendar year, but that is not going to happen. We been trying to gather bids for concrete work for more than 6 months now and don't have all of the bids in yet. We had hoped the concrete would be done before the year's end, but it looks like it will be a spring project instead. In addition to that, the entrance to the church was another project we hoped to finish and that will have to wait until spring.

So as of right now, in pledges and donations, we are at \$198,415. Our goal remains \$850,000. We appreciate every penny that has been donated. We appreciated your prayers as we move forward with our projects and for those of you that have not yet made a donation or a pledge, we hope that you will consider giving to our parish home. It is our goal and our mission to make our parish home a beautiful place to worship for years to come. Thank you!

Immaculate Conception School News



Parent/Teacher Conferences for the first quarter were held last week. They went very well! Title1tutoring starts on Monday!

November 13th - No school - Diocesan PD Day

ECLC Happenings

The students in the ECLC class are excited to start working on their Thanksgiving crafts!

We are still in need of good, sturdy rocking chairs. If you have one you want to donate, please call the school office at (573) 564-2679. Thank you!



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.



BETTER TOGETHER

Time extended to obtain indulgences

Plenary or full indulgences traditionally obtained during the first week of November for the souls of the faithful in purgatory can now be gained throughout the entire month of November, due to the impact of the pandemic. You can read more about the changes made by the Vatican in The Catholic Missourian or online at bit.ly/CathMo.

Anointing of the Sick

Due to hospitals' strict protocols, it is important to seek the sacraments of the Anointing of the Sick and Reconciliation prior to going to the hospital. Most hospitals only allow a priest to provide the sacraments of Reconciliation and Anointing of the Sick if the patient has been placed on comfort care (hospice) or is nearing death.

Jefferson City Marriage Encouter

Jefferson City Marriage Encounter will be hosting a COVID friendly Marriage Encounter weekend November 7th & 8th. Fall in love with your spouse all over again and rejuvenate your marriage with a weekend away to grow closer together and with God. Register for the event at www.jeffcityme.com.

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

Friday, November 13, 2020 - Friday Chicken Dinner - Martinsburg Saturday, December 12, 2020 - Saint Nick 5K Run/Walk



BETTER TOGETHER

Religious Liberty in the Age of COVID-19

Vatican II proclaimed that religious liberty lays its foundation in the dignity of the human person, and that no one should be compelled to act in a manner that violates his or her conscience. But are their limits to this liberty that people of faith must accept for the common good? Bishop Mark Rivituso, auxiliary bishop of the Archdiocese of St. Louis, and Tom Buckley, general counsel for the archdiocese, discuss the church's response to the recent government shutdowns due to the COVID pandemic.

2020 No Hunger Holiday Montgomery City Knights of Columbus



Tuesday, November 24, 2020, the 30th Annual No Hunger Holiday event will take place. This is an all-volunteer effort with many Montgomery area charitable organizations involved. Please help someone less fortunate be thankful this year.

Year #30 will certainly be the most challenging of all. We anticipate serving in excess of 4,000 families, which translates into over 12,000 meals. These families live in St. Charles, St. Louis, Lincoln, Montgomery, Warren, and Pike counties and St. Louis City.

Some of our key sources of monetary and frozen turkey donations come from High Schools and Church Turkey Drives. We believe COVID-19 restrictions may significantly reduce these contributions and are asking for your help!

Turkeys can be dropped off at Bainbridge Insurance Office in Montgomery City from Thursday, November 12, 2020 thru Monday, November 23, 2020. A \$40.00 cash donation provides dinner for a family of four.

For more information call Richard Bainbridge at (636) 751-4030, see the flyer posted in the vestibule of the church, or visit these websites: www.nohungerholidays.com. or www.Facebook.com/NoHungerHoliday.

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: Nick Schneider, John Goodwin, Marlene Cunningham, Mackenzie Hagemeier, Julie Thielmeier, Don Benney, Susan Schipper, Valerie Readey Neudecker, Angela Witthaus Keller, Karen Clark, Gina Smith, Virginia Cochran, Jo Scott, Bobby Cochran, Mary Hertel, Joshua Cochran, Anita Jones, Jim Cochran, Jr., Jim Cochran, Sr., and Lynn Cunningham Duncan.



Please pray for all our men and women serving in the armed forces. Corey Stulce, Tanner Cobb, Travis Thebeau, Jacob Merz, Daniel Lohmann, Jared Korman, Tom Kraust, Tim O'Fallon, Brandon Benney, Gary Frey, John Burce, Chris Burce, Jacob Jones, Matt Vedder, Michel James, Michael Adams, and John Martin.



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