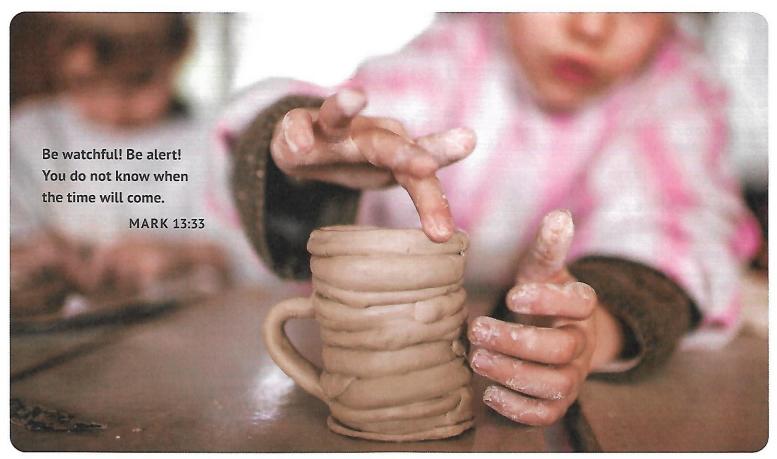
Our Parish community

December 3, 2023 **First Sunday of Advent (B)** Isaiah 63:16b–17, 19b; 64:2–7 / 1 Corinthians 1:3–9 / Mark 13:33–37





How Has God Shaped You?

FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

ometimes it seems as if life is a laboratory of designed experiments on how to become human, all of them allotted ten-year blocks.

Have you noticed how nine- and ten-year-olds can be easy to be around? Then about the time we've gotten being a kid down to a science, life begins to move us into adolescence. We want to be independent and responsible, but we don't yet have all the skills. We have sexual feelings, but we're expected not to act on them. About the time we reach adulthood and move into our twenties, it seems we can finally do what we want, but then we might drink too much, spend too much, drive too fast, and party too long. Once we begin to settle down around year thirty, we have to learn how to live with another person. One likes it warm, the other cool. One seeks to save, the other spends. One is a homebody, the other enjoys going out on the town. By the time we've gotten to our sixties and seventies, we may have figured out life, but by then we've used up most of our energy.

What's going on?

Faith suggests it's the hand of God shaping us into the sort of persons we're meant to be. "Lord, you are our father; we are the clay and you our potter: we are all the work of your hand" (Isaiah 64:7). Advent may be a time to figure out how God is acting in your life now and look back to see that God was shaping you all along.

Reflect What did you learn in your last ten-year block of life?

Dear Padre,

Why are the Gospels Matthew and Mark so alike? Why did the Church keep both Gospels when so much of Mark seems to be a mirror image of Matthew?

The Gospels were written over time and used by the faithful when they gathered for worship. They read the Hebrew Scriptures (Old Testament) and accounts of the life and ministry of Jesus collected by Matthew, Mark, and Luke. This first page of the

The Christian communities were often great distances from one another. A community may have had access to only one of these accounts. There is considerable similarity because the Gospel writers depended on one another. All three Gospels include

some of the same incidents. Each also has incidents or details unique to that Gospel.

These were not the only accounts written about the life and ministry of Jesus. At some point, the Church had to decide which should be considered the inspired word of God. There were four

accounts that were widely used: Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John. With their similarities and differences, the Church accepted these four accounts as Gospel-the Good News.

Gospel of Mark is from

a fourteenth-century Armenian illuminated

Sargis Pitsak.

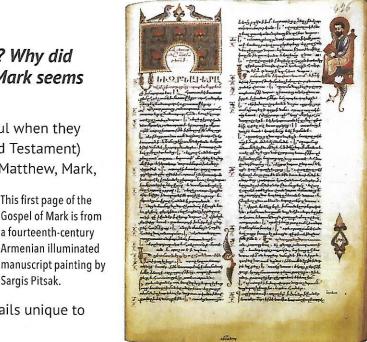
MONDAY December 4 Advent Weekday ls 2:1-5 Mt 8:5-11

TUESDAY December 5 Advent Weekday ls 11:1-10 Lk 10:21-24

WEDNESDAY December 6 Advent Weekday ls 25:6-10a Mt 15:29-37

THURS Decemb St. Ambr Bishop a Doctor o Church

Is 26:1-0 Mt 7:21,



The Redemptorists / DearPadre.org

		F F	F		
SDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY		
ber 7 rose, and of the	December 8 Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary	December 9 <i>Advent Weekday</i> Is 30:19–21, 23–26 Mt 9:35–	December 10 <i>Second Sunday</i> <i>of Advent</i> Is 40:1–5, 9–11 2 Pt 3:8–14		
·6 , 24–27	Gn 3:9–15, 20 Eph 1:3–6, 11–12 Lk 1:26–38	10:1, 5a, 6-8	Mk 1:1-8		

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A WORD FROM POPE FRANCIS

[Jesus] ... is at the door to our heart. He knocks. Do you know how to listen to the Lord...who has come today to visit you...? He came to Bethlehem, he will come at the end of the world, but every day he comes to us. Be attentive, look at what you feel in your heart when the Lord knocks.

ANGELUS, ROME, NOVEMBER 29, 2020



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Immaculate Conception Parish Family 162nd 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, Dennis Cobb, & Jack Wells

DECEMBER 3, 2023 - FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Monday, December 4th	No Mass - Montgomery City				
Tuesday, December 5th					
	Cunningham				
Wednesday, Dec. 6th	8:30 AM Mass - Jonesburg				
Thursday, Dec. 7th	10:00 AM Mass - Mont. City +Delores Schmidt				
Friday, December 8th	8:30 AM Mass - Jonesburg				
•	5:30 PM Mass - Mont. City +Ross Dunlap				
Saturday, December 9th					
Sunday, December 10th	8:00 AM Mass - Jonesburg				
10:00 AM Mass - Mont. City +Jim Walker					
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.					

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.

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.

July 1, 2023 - June 30, 2024

 Church & School Financial Report:
 Income
 Expenses
 Difference

 October 2023
 \$55,695.45
 \$52,223.98
 \$3,471.47

 Fiscal Year July-October, 2023-24
 \$240,739.87
 \$247,705.90
 -\$6,966.03

 Needed Weekly - \$13,397.08
 \$13,397.08
 \$13,397.08
 \$13,120

November 5th - \$6,368.00-Church; \$5,907.25-ICS/Daycare; \$12,275.25-Total November 12th -\$3,534.13-Church; \$4,520.00-ICS/Daycare; \$ 8,054.13-Total November 19th -\$4,528.00-Church; \$5,440.00-ICS/Daycare; \$ 9,968.00-Total November 26th -\$2,976.00-Church; \$5,235.00-ICS/Daycare; \$ 8,211.00-Total

Thank you for your support!

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

homebound, please call the office/rectory at 573-564-23

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 December 9th & 10th			Bishop	
	Ministries	Saturday, 5:00 PM	Sunday, 10:00 AM	McKnight's December
	Lector	ISC Students	Amanda Arens	prayer intention for
	Children's Liturgy	Not During Saturday Evening Mass	Bonnie Walker	our Local Church is:
	Communion Minister	Ruth Ann O'Keefe	Tudie Simpson	For the family; that all fathers, mothers
	Ministers of Hospitality	ICS Students	Ron & Dianne Talley Melissa & Justin Beabout	and children of our community may follow the example
	Servers	ICS Students	Leyla Beabout Elizabeth Schierhoff	of the Holy Family in practicing the virtues of family
	Gift Bearers	ICS Students	Hospitality Ministers	life and be bound more strongly together in the
	Money Counters	Dottie Brueggen Debbie Heidelberger	Cathy McCormack Pam Schwartz	bonds of charity.

Weekly Mass Schedule

Upcoming Events & Announcements

VV CCK	y wass schedule			
Monday, December 4th	No Mass - Montgomery City	Monday, December 4th		
Tuesday, December 5th 5:30 PM Mass - Montgomery City		Tuesday, December 5th	6:00 AM to 5:00 PM - Adoration 5:00 PM - Benediction & Devotion to Divine Mercy	
Wednesday, December 6th 8:30 AM Mass - Jonesburg		Wednesday, December 6th 6:00 PM - Home & School Meetin		
Thursday, December 7th (Prayer Partner Mass)	10:00 AM Mass - Montgomery City	6:00 PM - Parish Council/Admir Finance Committee Christmas Party 7:00 PM - Knights of Columbus		
Friday, December 8th (Immaculate Conception)	8:30 AM Mass - Jonesburg 5:30 PM Mass - Montgomery City	Thursday, December 7th	10:00 AM - Prayer Partner Mass with lunch afterwards at ICS	
Saturday, December 9th	5:00 PM Mass - Montgomery City (Rosary at 4:30 PM)	Friday, December 8th	Feast of Immaculate Conception	
Sunday, December 10th	8:00 AM Mass - Jonesburg 10:00 AM Mass - Montgomery City	Saturday, December 9th		
	(Rosary at 9:30 AM)	Sunday, December 10th		
Congratulations to the for special day! Tom & Kaye Benney –42 James & Chris Futhey -	\$ 30.00 \$ 379.00 \$ 140.00 \$ 540.00	First Sunday of Advent Bombarded with Christmas decorations and music for weeks now, we are undoubtedly already anticipating the celebration of our Savior's birth. But today we are re- minded that Christ's coming was not a single, one-time- only event. In the Gospel Jesus warns us that he will come again when we least expect. He is referring to the end of the world, but in truth he can also come to us in our hearts at any time: during a traumatic event, in a chance encounter with a stranger, or even through someone who's prematurely spreading the Christmas spirit. May we remain vigilant for our Lord's coming in whatever way or whatever time it may happen. 		
Penance Services for the Chr follows: December 13th - St. Patrick's	s at 6:30 PM	Is may happen at any time? Holiday Mass Schedule Eve/Day Feast of Immaculate Conception Thursday, December 8th - 8:30 AM @ St. Patrick's Thursday, December 8th - 5:30 PM @ Immaculate		
December 14th - Immaculate Fr. Derek Hooper and Fr. Jos	•	Conception <u>Vigil Mass of Christmas</u> Sunday, December 24th - 5:30 PM @ Immaculate Conception		
Steward We want to thank everyone w have not yet turned yours in, forms and drop them in the lo board in the church vestibule		Christmas Day Monday, December 25th - 8:00 AM @ St. Patrick's - 10:00 AM @ Immaculate Conception New Year's Day January 1st - 8:00 AM @ St. Patrick's - 10:00 AM @ Immaculate Conception		
Liturgical Min We will not be assigning Litu Christmas and New Year's M -up sheets in the church vesti assist with any of these to Ma these sheets. <i>Thank you!</i>	Iasses. We DO have a sign bule. If you are able to	The 2024 calendars are ready church vestibule. We want to ance Agency and Korman Au them again this year!	o thank Bainbridge Insur-	

Immaculate Conception School News



December 6th - Home & School Meeting @ 6pm December 7th- Prayer Partner Mass at 10am & Lunch following Mass

December 9th - ICS Liturgies at 5pm Mass December 15th - Christmas Program @ 6pm, IC Church (Matinee/Dress Rehearsal @ 1:00 PM)

We are excited to receive the Diocesan Excellence in Education Fund (DEEF) in the amount of \$7,000.00. We thank the Diocese of Jefferson City for their commitment to supporting strong Catholic schools, both large and small, thru this fund.

Head Count for November

November 4th - 84 November 5th - 93 November 11th - 58 November 12th - 111 November 18th - 77 November 19th - 103 November 25th - 113 November 26th - 96

Grand Total for November - 735 _____



Tambourine Ringing

There are still a couple of times left for the Tambourine Ringing for Montgomery County Cares on December 9th

at Bratcher's Market. If you can help out for just a half hour, please sign up on the list posted on the bulletin board in the back of church. If you have any questions, please call Beth Roesner at 314-974-1087.

Our Prayers & Condolences

We offer our prayers and condolences to Mike and Marilyn Peveler, and their family. Mike's mother, Julia Peveler, passed away on November 26th. May they find comfort in God's love.

Christmas Giving Tree Countdown



Please remember to deliver your gifts from the "Giving Tree" to Youth in Need by December 8th. They are located next to Dominos Pizza and are open from 7:30 AM to 3:00 PM Tuesday thru Friday. There are still a couple of ornaments left on the tree in church or if you would like to make a cash donation, please make checks payable to Youth in Need and give to Beth Roesner or Debbie Heidelberger by December 3rd. Questions, call Beth at 314-974-1087. Thank you! _____

Yet, Lord, you are our father; we are the clay and you our potter: we are all the work of your hand.

Isaiah 64:7

As we begin this holy season of Advent, let us turn our hearts and minds to God for our lives are not our own. they are a gift to be used to glorify God and serve others.







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

December 3rd - "Rooftop" Luncheon at United Methodist Presbyterian Church in Montgomery City. Serving starts at 11:15 AM



Dr. Mary Healy Biblical Healing, Then and Now Sunday | December 3, 2023 | 1 PM - 4:30 PM St. Thomas More Newman Center Parish 602 Turner Avenue, Columbia, MO 1:00 - 1:50 pm - Talk #1 (Church) - Break (refreshments in the Gathering Space) 1:50 pm 2:00 - 2:50 pm - Talk #2 (Church)

- Break (refreshments in the Gathering Space)

to the Dicas



Scan the QR code to register!

- Mass

Clarification on Upcoming Holydays

2:50 pm

5:00 pm

This year the Solemnity of Christmas falls on a Monday and is a holyday of obligation. All the faithful are obligated to participate in two Masses, from the anticipated Mass of the 4th Sunday of Advent on Saturday evening Dec. 23 through the evening of Dec. 25. In the "Universal Norms on the Liturgical Year and the Calendar," no. 34 states, "The Vigil Mass of the Nativity is used on the evening of December 24, either before or after First Vespers (Evening Prayer I). On the day of the Nativity of the Lord, following ancient Roman tradition, Mass may be celebrated three times, that is, in the night, at dawn, and during the day."

The Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God, falls on a Monday (Jan. 1) and so is NOT a holyday of obligation. As a Solemnity, however, it still outranks the Feast of the Holy Family, which will be celebrated that Sunday Dec. 31. Any Masses celebrated on the evening of Dec. 31 should be for Mary, Mother of God. -----

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, and Ida Kopf.

Resident of Oak Point Nursing Home in Warrenton, 700 Forrest Avenue, Warrenton, MO 63383 - Judy Topel.

Resident of Stonebridge in Hermann, 1800 Wein St, Hermann, MO 65041 - Tony Wessel, Sr.

Contact the parish office to have someone added!



Please pray for: Beau Boschenreither (son of Cameron & Carolyn Bethel Boschenreither) Darrel Prior, Pat Stumbaugh, 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, Kim Dryden, Ingrid Keller, Laverne Wessel, and Margaret Van Beek.

Contact the parish office to have someone added!



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



St Vincent DePaul Craft Fair Knight of Columbus Bldg 9 am - 2 pm Simply Strings will be playing from 10-12

Montgomery County

R n

PRESENTS

Arts Council

Villagescapes, Art displays

VFW Post 4436 Tablescapes

Historical Society Open

Faith Baptist Church

AT THE MONTGOMERY COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS

~ Ã.

<u>6-9 pm</u>

HH

Corner of 1st and Sturgeon Free Coffee, Cookies, Goodie Bags, Train rides Register for Poinsettas, Bibles & Scooters

Montgomery Hardware 10% off Saturday 10-3pm

Fox & Fern Cocoa & Cookies, Kids Make & Take

Moolah Shriner's Tram Additional Sponsors

Milner Agency Real Estate Julie Worsham Senior Health Consultants Missouri Farm Bureau Shelter Insurance

Second Place Grill Bank of Missouri

Faith Baptist Church Corner of 1st and Sturgeon St. Jude's Night Away K. Lynn Photography Peoples Savings Bank Montgomery City Lions Club



Carolers / Food Trucks / Fire Pit (1 block North of 4-way) Gigi's on Wheels Bucky's Sit or Get

Rugged Root Candy & Coffee House Movie

Old Threshers Tram Friday night

Bundy's \$1 Small Ice Cream Cone

Historical Society

Additional Sponsors

Senior Health Consultants Missouri Farm Bureau Shelter Insurance Bank of Missouri Milner Agency Real Estate Julie Worsham Second Place Grill St. Jude's Night Away K. Lynn Photography Peoples Savings Bank Montgomery City Lions Club Faith Baptist Church Corner of 1st and Sturgeon, MC Montgomery County Arts Council Villagescapes, Fire Pit, Hot Cocoa, Art displays

Montgomery Hardware Tara Calton performing, Shriners face painting Hamburgers & Hot dogs 10% off Friday 6-9pm

> VFW Post 4436 Tablescapes

Kustoms & Klassics (526 N Sturgeon) Car Drive-in

BelleEve Boutique Chili & Hot dogs

> BirthRight Cookies

Fox & Fern Cocoa & Cookies, Kids Make & Take

Papa B's Wing Shack Holiday Drink Specials

> Dry Dock \$16 Bucket Special

Laura's Sugar N Spice Delights Make and Take Gingerbread Houses \$5

> New Montgomery Florist Buy 1 wrapped rose / Get 1 Free

Manni's By Maddie Cam's Beauty Stop in Friday to get a Coupon

Central Barber Shop Stop in & Check it out

AJ's Grindstone Restaurant & Bar 50% Off Alcoholic Drinks (Drafts not included)

Friday Night's Event is Coordinated by The Montgomery County Arts Council