

[Jesus said,] “If anyone wishes to be first, he shall be the last of all and the servant of all.”

MARK 9:35

## Learning How to Die Well

FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

**K**arl Rahner was a German Jesuit priest and a leading theologian of the twentieth century. He once observed that one of the tasks of life is to learn how to die well. On first hearing this, we may be much like the disciples who didn’t understand Jesus when he spoke of his own need to enter death (see Mark 9:31–32).

How do we learn to “die well”? If we forgo the need to always have our own way, if we forgive and resist the impulse to get revenge, if we are sensitive to the needs of others even when it’s inconvenient, if we care for the child among us, whether that “little one” be five, forty-five, or eighty-five—if we practice a willingness to die in such ways, then when it comes time for us to make that final journey of our earthly lives, it will not be as frightening because we will have been there before.

Furthermore, if we learn how to die well, our lives will take on new meaning. The focus of our lives will not be on ourselves, but on others and their needs. We will find ourselves less disappointed when life doesn’t go our way. Blue moods will evaporate more readily. We will have a greater interest in daily life. In other words, the very aspects that once seemed to drag us down will become doorways to hope and renewed life. What once seemed to have been a kind of death will become an avenue to faith in the resurrection. ●

### Reflect

***Have you ever “died to yourself” and then experienced a resurrection?***

# Dear Padre,

## What is spiritual direction? How does it differ from counseling?

In spiritual direction, a person is guided in a process of reflection, self-discovery, and recognition of God's presence in human experience; the primary focus is on one's relationship with God. Thus, in one sense, it is the Lord himself who is the "director" in all spiritual direction. In counseling, a person is also guided in a process of reflection and self-discovery; but the primary focus is on human growth and development. Counseling does not presuppose a person's faith or relationship with God; spiritual direction cannot be complete without it. Both spiritual direction and counseling share the same expectations of openness and honesty in the process; they share the same standards of confidentiality and professional conduct. Moreover, spiritual direction is similar to counseling in its aim toward human growth and development, but it further aims toward holiness and "toward ever more intimate union with Christ" (*Catechism of the Catholic Church*, 2014). That union is twofold: a personal relationship with Christ and with Christ's Church. "This union is called 'mystical' because it participates in the mystery of Christ through the sacraments" (CCC 2014). "All Christians in any state or walk of life are called to the fullness of Christian life and to the perfection of charity. All are called to holiness: 'Be perfect, as your heavenly Father is perfect'" (CCC 2013). ●



Fr. Byron Miller, CSSR / DearPadre.org



### A WORD FROM POPE FRANCIS

*Greatness and success in God's eyes are measured differently: they are measured by service. Not on what someone has, but on what someone gives. Do you want to be first? Serve.... [Service] has a precise and concrete meaning in the Gospel. To serve is not a courteous expression: it means to act like Jesus.*

ANGELUS, ROME, SEPTEMBER 19, 2021

#### Monday

September 23  
St. Pius of Pietrelcina, Priest  
Prv 3:27-34  
Lk 8:16-18

#### Tuesday

September 24  
Weekday  
Prv 21:1-6, 10-13  
Lk 8:19-21

#### Wednesday

September 25  
Weekday  
Prv 30:5-9  
Lk 9:1-6

#### Thursday

September 26  
Weekday  
Eccl 1:2-11  
Lk 9:7-9

#### Friday

September 27  
St. Vincent de Paul, Priest  
Eccl 3:1-11  
Lk 9:18-22

#### Saturday

September 28  
Weekday  
Eccl 11:9-12:8  
Lk 9:43b-45

#### Sunday

September 29  
Twenty-sixth Sunday  
in Ordinary Time  
Nm 11:25-29  
Jas 5:1-6  
Mk 9:38-43, 45, 47-48



# 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.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

### SEPTEMBER 22, 2024 - TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

#### Mass Intentions



#### Your Gifts to God!

July 1, 2024 - June 30, 2025

Monday, September 23rd **NO Mass - Montgomery City**  
 Tuesday, September 24th **5:30 PM Mass - Montgomery City** +Karen Oyer  
 Wednesday, Sept. 25th **8:30 AM Mass - Jonesburg**  
 Thursday, September 26th **8:00 AM Mass - Mont. City** +Melvin & Elizabeth Duncan  
 Friday, September 27th **NO Mass - Montgomery City**  
 Saturday, September 28th **5:00 PM Mass - Mont. City** +Lafe O'Bryan  
 Sunday, September 29th **8:00 AM Mass - Jonesburg**  
**10:00 AM Mass - Mont. City** - Our Parish Family

Church & School Financial Report:	Income	Expenses	Difference
<b>August 2024</b>	\$63,250.15	\$68,969.81	-\$5,719.66
<b>Fiscal Year July-August, 2024-25</b>	\$120,030.03	\$143,634.92	-\$23,604.89
<b>Needed Weekly - \$13,967.97</b>			
Sept. 1st -	\$5,617.77-Church;	\$7,481.50-ICS/Daycare;	\$13,099.27 - Total
Sept. 8th -	\$4,103.75-Church;	\$3,299.00-ICS/Daycare;	\$7,402.75 - Total
Sept. 15th -	\$3,473.00-Church;	\$4,753.00-ICS/Daycare;	\$8,226.00 - Total
Sept. 22nd-			
Sept. 30th			

**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.

**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 September 28th & September 29th

Ministries	Saturday, 5:00 PM	Sunday, 10:00 AM
<b>Lector</b>	Gary Hoette	Mark Brower
<b>Children's Liturgy</b>	Not During Saturday Evening Mass	Lisa Gotsch
<b>Communion Minister</b>	Beth Roesner	Jenidean Readey
<b>Ministers of Hospitality</b>	Kasey Pottebaum Family	Jeff & Amanda Arens Pat & Janet Stumbaugh
<b>Servers</b>	Mercer Cothren Jacob Roesner	Keagan Rakers Kendra Rakers
<b>Gift Bearers</b>	Hospitality Ministers	Hospitality Ministers
<b>Money Counters</b>	Judy Cobb John & Aggie Baldetti	Vickie Parker Megan Hans

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

For those who serve our community as first responders; may God keep them safe as they serve with honor the safety and well-being of all.

## Weekly Mass Schedule

Monday, September 23rd	<b>NO Mass - Montgomery City</b>
Tuesday, September 24th	<b>5:30 PM Mass - Montgomery City</b>
Wednesday, September 25th	8:30 AM Mass - Jonesburg
Thursday, September 26th	<b>8:00 AM Mass - Montgomery City</b>
Friday, September 27th	<b>NO Mass - Montgomery City</b>
Saturday, September 28th	<b>5:00 PM Mass - Montgomery City</b> (Rosary at 4:30 PM)
Sunday, September 29th	8:00 AM Mass - Jonesburg <b>10:00 AM Mass - Montgomery City</b> (Rosary at 9:30 AM)

## Upcoming Events & Announcements

Monday, September 23rd	6:30 PM - St. Vincent DePaul
Tuesday, September 24th	6:00 AM-5:00 PM - Adoration 5:00 PM - Benediction & Devotion to Divine Mercy
Wednesday, September 25th	6:30 PM - Movie - "The Chosen"- KC Hall
Thursday, September 26th	
Friday, September 27th	Priests' Workshop at the Diocese
Saturday, September 28th	
Sunday, September 29th	

### *Wedding Anniversary*



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

*Mike & Jenidean Readey - 43 yrs of marriage on September 25th  
Ritchie & Gayla See - 20 yrs of marriage on September 25th  
Jesse & Anna Harrell - 12 yrs of marriage on September 29th*

### **Additional Financial Information**

Capital Improvements/Maintenance	\$ 320.00
Mass Intentions	\$ 10.00
All Saints/All Souls Days	\$ 20.00

### **Stewardship Renewal**

October is Stewardship Renewal Month. New forms will need to be filled out **ONLY** if you want to make a change from the ones you filled out last year, or if you are new to the parish and wish to fill one out. For your convenience, these forms will be in an envelope on the bulletin board in the church vestibule next weekend. Completed forms may be left in the locked mailbox also in the vestibule. We ask that all completed forms be returned by the weekend of October 19th and 20th. Janet Stumbaugh will talk more on the Stewardship Renewal the weekend of September 28th and 29th.

### **Harvest Picnic Raffle Winners**

Congratulations to the following raffle winners at the Harvest Picnic!

Quilt - Ruth Brueggen  
Baby Quilt - Grayson Dunlap  
Sporting Goods - Beth Roesner  
Pick-A-Prize - Glen Landolt

### **Thank You, Thank You!**

We want to thank the Harvest Committee—Julie Worsham, Pat Korman, Dianne Talley, Megan Hans, Judy Cobb, Gina Smith, Dottie Brueggen, Anna Harrell, Tony & Betty Wessel, Don & Lila Broz—Kim Schroeder for the countless hours they spent on the Harvest Picnic to make it a big success!

### **Twenty-fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time**



As summer transitions to fall, farmers' thoughts turn toward the coming harvest. Speaking of harvesting, in the second reading Saint James declares that those who cultivate peace will sow the fruit of righteousness.

Besides the traditional fall harvest of apples and pumpkins, may we all also savor the fruit of righteousness—that is, of moral goodness and justice—which in turn brings peace to our world, our nation, and our communities. Let us sing and praise the God who makes all this possible.

### **Question of the Week**

When have I asked wrongly, whether for material things or status? Where has that left me?

### **2024 8th Annual Harvest Picnic - Success!**

What a wonderful day we had! It was so great to see so many people out at our 8th Annual Harvest Picnic. The food was delicious and it looked like everyone was having a good time. It was amazing to see so many volunteers from our parish community! The committee would like to thank all of those who helped to make the Picnic a success with their time, talent, and treasure. We had plenty of items for the Silent, Paddle, and Live Auctions as well as the Country Store & Bake Sale! We are truly blessed to have had such a wonderful and successful day! God is Good!



Bills are still coming in, so we do not know yet how much the picnic made. As soon as we do, we will let you know.

We are already thinking of ways to make it even better next year. If you have any ideas, please let us know.

The Harvest Picnic Committee:  
Julie Worsham, Pat Korman, Dianne Talley, Megan Hans, Judy Cobb, Gina Smith, Dottie Brueggen, Anna Harrell, Tony & Betty Wessel, Don & Lila Broz, Kim Schroeder

## Immaculate Conception School News



We plan to have a day in which the students present their saints to the whole school.

**Oct. 2- Home & School Meeting at 6pm**

**Oct. 3 - Prayer Partner Mass**

**Oct. 8 - School Picture Day**

Tuesday, October 8 is School Picture Day with Inter-State Studio. Students will wear their regular school uniform for individual photos as well as the whole school photo. We ask that Father and all staff get their photos taken this day. Mrs. Smith plans on taking class photos as well, since Inter-State Studio does not include this option for us.

**October 8-11 - Testing Week**

Students take the IOWA and CogAT tests. Families send in snacks for classes.

### Knights of Columbus Fifth Sunday

Knights of Columbus Council 2044 will be celebrating the fifth Sunday September 28-29. All Knights will sit together as a family group at mass. Our Council is inviting the whole parish to a Carry in Lunch directly after mass at the Hall. Kettle Beef and Drinks will be provided. We look forward to sharing fellowship with one another. Jerry Witthaus Grand Knight.

**What would Amendment 3 actually do?**

#### Prohibit any regulation of abortion

Amendment 3 would invalidate any existing laws and prohibit new laws that voters on both sides of the abortion issue support, including health and safety laws that protect women.



**VOTE NO ON 3  
AMENDMENT**

*Safeguard them both*

Learn more at [diojeffcity.org/amendment3](http://diojeffcity.org/amendment3)

Paid for by the Diocese of Jefferson City

Bishop W. Shawn McKnight, 2207 West Main Street, Jefferson City, MO 65109-0914



***But the wisdom from above is first of all pure, then peaceable, gentle, compliant, full of mercy and good fruits, without inconstancy or insincerity. And the fruit of righteousness is sown in peace for those who cultivate peace.***

James 3:17-18

**In seeking the Lord, he gives us the strength to choose good and the wisdom to share in gratitude the blessings he has bestowed upon us in his glory.**



Stewardship  
GROWING OUR FAITH



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

**September 22nd** - Fall Festival at Our Lady, Help of Christian Parish in Frankenstein from 11:00 AM to 6:00 PM

**October 6th** - Oktoberfest at St. Joseph Parish in Martinsburg starting at 11:00 AM

**October 6th** - Fall Festival at St. Mary's Parish in Hawk Point from 11:00 AM to 5:00 PM



### Pick-A-Prize Final Winners

...and the final winner drawn at the Harvest Picnic was **Glen Landolt** who received the \$500.00 gift card to Bass Pro. He was so excited to receive it!

As the Pick-A-Prize portion of the Harvest Picnic comes to a close, we would like to thank everyone who purchased or sold a ticket, and especially to Beth Cobb, Vicki Parker, and Mary Pottebaum who were in charge of this event!

Past winners and prizes include:

- George Boes - \$500.00 gift card to Sams/Walmart
- Angela Keller - \$500.00 gift card to Amazon
- Daryl & Nancy Cobb - \$250.00 Cash/\$250.00 in lottery tickets
- Eileen Lotton - \$500.00 Visa gift card
- Joe Oden - Texas Roadhouse/Olive Garden/Culvers/Sybergs gift cards
- Wesley Cobb - Mystery Prize (\$500.00 in cash!)
- Richard Bainbridge - \$500 Gift Certificate to Montgomery Home & Hardware
- Sydney Peak - \$500.00 Gift Certificate to Yardbirds, LLC
- George Boes - \$500.00 Gift Certificate to Bratcher's
- Bonnie Walker - gift cards to Subway, Dos Primos, Bundy's, 2nd Place, Papa B's Wing Shack, and Rugged Roots.
- The late Sue Kyle (daughter, Janice, was recipient) - Gift cards to Casey's & Fast Lane

**PLEASE REMEMBER NOT TO PARK IN THE STREET FACING MFA DURING HARVEST SEASON.**

**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.

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

**Resident in Victorian Manor,** 2120 Village Lane, Hermann, MO 65041 - Peggy Gardner



**Please pray for:** Susie Ryan, John Rybacki, Tom Eggering, Clint Cunningham, Avery Penn, Jim Wortmann, Lindsey O'Bryan, Michael & Grace Hanneken, Evelyn Strauss, Larry Brueggemann, Beau Boschenreither, Sheryl Gibbs, Ed Grillo, Tony Wessel, Sr, Ed Torbeck, Donald Oakes, Pat Klein, Nick Schneider, Rae Jean Rhoads, Lucille Griesbauer, Pat Merz, Parker Calbreath, Al & Christine Barger, Don Zerr, Marla Daniels, Matt Brumagin, Ingrid Keller, Margaret Van Beek, and Terry Parker.

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

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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.



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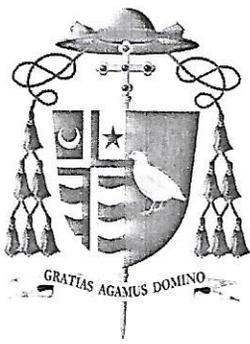
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# DIOCESE OF JEFFERSON CITY

OFFICE OF THE BISHOP

7 August 2024

Dear Brothers in Christ:

As Catholic Gentlemen, we are called to a life of service. We are called to care for our families, serve our communities and serve our Holy Mother Church. I am excited to share with you that a great and wonderful opportunity exists for Catholic men to answer this call to serve by becoming a member of the Knights of Columbus.

This exemplary order of Catholic men was founded in 1882 by a simple Parish Priest, who had the vision and foresight to conceive an organization which would provide Catholic men the opportunity to live their faith through charitable works, caring for their families, and defending the Catholic Faith. Today, the Knights of Columbus are over 2 million members strong in 16 Countries, and they provide a strong moral example in an age where culture promotes secularism over service to others. Last year, this organization of practicing Catholic men donated more than \$185 million and 50 million service hours to charity, in addition to providing its members with the opportunity to share a fraternal brotherhood with men of similar values.

As a Fourth Degree Knight of Columbus, I have personally witnessed the tremendous work that these men accomplish in our diocese. I strongly encourage any man in this Diocese, who considers himself to be a practicing Catholic and is at least 18 years old, to prayerfully consider joining the ranks of this fine organization.

Members of the Knights of Columbus will be in parishes after Masses on the weekend of September 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> with more information. Please take some time to visit with one of these men so that you may join us in our mission to promote Charity, Unity, Fraternity and Patriotism.

With gratitude for your attention to this request, I am

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Most Reverend W. Shawn McKnight  
Bishop of Jefferson City