



Who's Calling?

FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

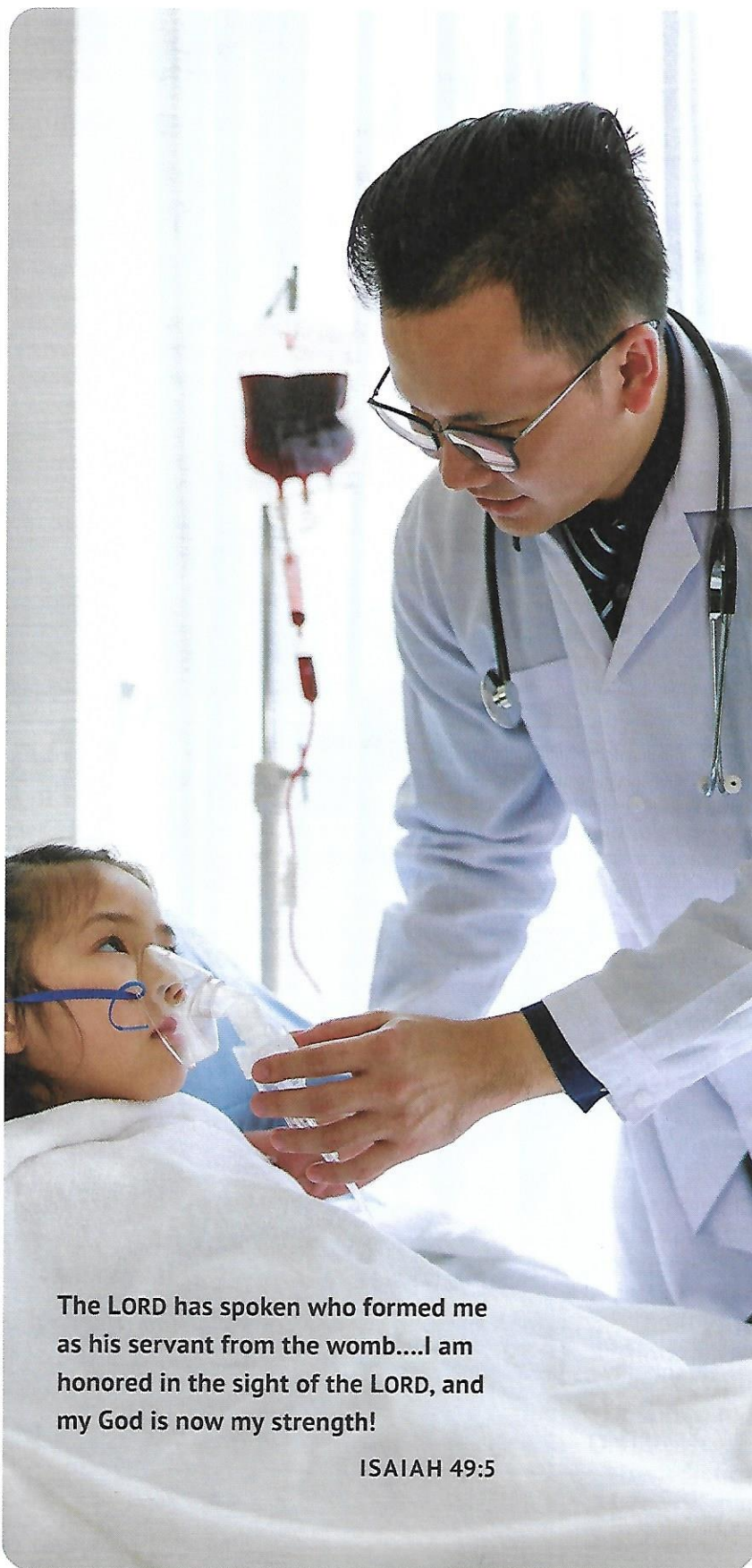
God called Isaiah: "You are my servant.... I will make you a light to the nations" (Isaiah 49:3, 6). God called John the Baptist: "The one who sent me to baptize with water..." (John 1:33). God called St. Paul: "Called to be an apostle of Christ Jesus...." (1 Corinthians 1:1). And Paul says God calls us: We are "called to be holy" (1 Corinthians 1:2). Given that call, the question is, "What are we called to do with our lives?"

Frederick Buechner, an author, suggests we are called to wherever our deep hunger and the world's great need meet. As he explains, the world's great need may be to feed the hungry and shelter the homeless, but if we become depressed helping the poor, that is not where God wants us to be. On the other hand, we may love designing sandcastles, but the world has no great need for sandcastles, so that surely is not what God calls us to do. Rather, God calls us to the place where what we love doing and what the world desperately needs intersect.

Adults are often inclined to ask children what they want to be or do when they grow up. Perhaps asking them what they think God wants them to do might be a question laced with greater wisdom. To turn the question may call forth a more thoughtful answer. ●

Reflect

***What is God calling you to do now,
and how has God's call changed
over the years?***



The LORD has spoken who formed me
as his servant from the womb....I am
honored in the sight of the LORD, and
my God is now my strength!

ISAIAH 49:5

Dear Padre,

*I am African American. When I go to church,
I feel disconnected from the rest of my life.
How does the Church fit with my culture?*

Church documents lift up different cultures as treasures to be preserved and incorporated into the life of the Church. The *Catechism of the Catholic Church* teaches, “[The gospel] must be proclaimed, celebrated, and lived in all cultures in such a way that they themselves are not abolished by it, but redeemed and fulfilled: It is with and through their own human culture, assumed and transfigured by Christ, that the multitude of God’s children has access to the Father, in order to glorify him in the one Spirit” (CCC 1204).

Many think “catholic” means homogenous, that the Mass should be exactly the same everywhere. On the contrary, it is “catholic” because it takes in everything. It is, or at least it should be, a cross-cultural experience, for we all are the children of God. All cultures should find their expression in the Catholic Mass.

The difficulty is putting this into practice, especially in communities with members from more than one culture. Receptivity on the part of the pastor is important, too. As he learns about another culture, he’ll be more open to using the best of it in worship. Perhaps you, along with other concerned parishioners, might discuss this with your pastor. There are resources and institutes available to assist you in making your worship truly reflect who you are individually and communally. ●



ALF RIBEIRO / SHUTTERSTOCK

Fr. Rick Potts, CSsR / DearPadre.org

MONDAY

JANUARY 16

Weekday

Heb 5:1–10

Mk 2:18–22

TUESDAY

JANUARY 17

*St. Anthony,
Abbot*

Heb 6:10–20

Mk 2:23–28

WEDNESDAY

JANUARY 18

Weekday

Heb 7:1–3,
15–17

Mk 3:1–6

THURSDAY

JANUARY 19

Weekday

Heb 7:25–8:6

Mk 3:7–12

FRIDAY

JANUARY 20

Weekday

Heb 8:6–13

Mk 3:13–19

SATURDAY

JANUARY 21

*St. Agnes, Virgin
and Martyr*

Heb 9:2–3,
11–14

Mk 3:20–21

SUNDAY

JANUARY 22

*Third Sunday in
Ordinary Time*

Is 8:23–9:3

1 Cor 1:10–13,
17; Mt 4:12–23
or Mt 4:12–17



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A WORD FROM POPE FRANCIS

*The Lord is deliberate in repeating the word all.
He knows that we are always using the words “my”
and “our”: my things, our people, our community....
But he constantly uses the word all. All, because no
one is excluded from his heart, from his salvation.*

HOMILY, WORLD MISSIONS DAY, OCTOBER 20, 2019



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, and Dennis Cobb

January 15, 2023 SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Mass Intentions

Monday, January 16th
Tuesday, January 17th

No Mass - Montgomery City
5:30 PM Mass - Mont. City - Robert Merz

Wednesday, January 18th
Thursday, January 19th
Friday, January 20th
Saturday, January 21st
Sunday, January 22nd

8:30 AM Mass - Jonesburg
8:00 AM Mass - Mont. City +Lorraine Brower
8:00 AM Mass - Mont. City +Jim Cochran, Sr.
5:00 PM Mass - Mont. City - Our Parish Family
8:00 AM Mass - Jonesburg
10:00 AM Mass - Mont. City +Ralph & Earline Rothermich



July 1, 2022 - June 30, 2023

Church & School Financial Report:	Income	Expenses	Difference
December 2022	\$72,876.48	\$53,491.25	\$19,385.23
Fiscal Year July-June 2022-23	\$386,944.55	\$350,831.55	\$36,113.00
Needed Weekly - \$ 13,232.95			
January 1st - \$3,838.00-Church; \$9,003.00-ICS/Daycare; \$12,841.00-Total			
January 8th - \$5,083.90-Church; \$6,052.00-ICS/Daycare; \$11,135.90-Total			
January 15th -			
January 22nd -			
January 29th -			

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.

Last Week's Envelopes: 53

Thank you!! With God all things are possible!

Parish Membership: Call the parish office to register.

Sacrament of Reconciliation: Saturdays 4:15 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.

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 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 January 21st & 22nd

Ministries	Saturday, 5:00 PM	Sunday, 10:00 AM
Lector	Vicki Oden	Michael Smith
Children's Liturgy	No During Saturday Evening Mass	Dianne Talley
Communion Minister	Ruth Ann O'Keefe	Megan Hans
Ministers of Hospitality	Daryl & Nancy Cobb Bonnie Walker	Dana Schneider & Brady Craven Steve Williams
Servers	Reed Pottebaum Malorie Schulte	Noah & Zander Beck
Gift Bearers	Hospitality Ministers	Hospitality Ministers
Money Counters	Dottie Brueggen Debbie Heidelberg	Cathy McCormack Pam Schwartz

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

For foster parents and adopting parents; may they experience the support of the Church and the love of God as they expand their homes to make room for more children in their families. We pray to the Lord.

Weekly Mass Schedule

Monday, January 16th	No Mass - Montgomery City
Tuesday, January 17th	5:30 PM Mass - Montgomery City
Wednesday, January 18th	8:30 AM Mass - Jonesburg
Thursday, January 19th	8:00 AM Mass - Montgomery City
Friday, January 20th	8:00 AM Mass - Montgomery City
Saturday, January 21st	5:00 PM Mass - Montgomery City (Rosary at 4:30 PM)
Sunday, January 22nd	8:00 AM Mass - Jonesburg 10:00 AM Mass - Montgomery City (Rosary at 9:30 PM)

Upcoming Events & Announcements

Monday, January 16th	
Tuesday, January 17th	6:00 AM - 5:00 PM - Adoration 5:00 PM - Benediction & Devotion To Divine Mercy
Wednesday, January 18th	7:30 PM-Knights of Columbus Mtg
Thursday, January 19th	
Friday, January 20th	
Saturday, January 21st	
Sunday, January 22nd	10:30 AM-2:30PM - Knights of Columbus Sausage Dinner 6:00 PM - 5th & 6th Grade PSR 6:00 PM - Confirmation Class



Wedding Anniversary

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

There are no anniversaries this weekend.

Additional Financial Information

Capital Improvements/Maintenance	\$ 55.00
Seminary & Infirm Priests Fund	\$ 20.00
First Offering	\$ 15.00
School Donation-Orscheln Foundation	\$ 25,000.00

(This is NOT included in Page 1 totals)

Orscheln Foundation Donation

We want to thank the Orscheln Foundation for their generous donation to our school of \$25,000.00 this week. It was a complete surprise! In their letter to us, they stipulated that this money is to be used for the needs of Immaculate Conception School. God is Good!



Future Important Dates

March 28th - Confirmation at 6:30 PM
April 23rd - First Communion at 10:00 AM Mass
April 28th - Ladies Auxiliary Spaghetti Dinner

With everyone's busy schedule, we thought you would like to get these dates on your calendar now. More information will appear in the bulletin closer to the time of the event.

Adoration

As Father spoke in his homily a couple of weeks ago everyone is invited to attend Adoration on Tuesdays. We have a couple of people who would like to step down from their 1-hour time. If you would like to commit to an hour each Tuesday, please let the office or Ruth Ann O'Keefe know. Thank you!

Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

We call this period of the liturgical year "Ordinary Time," but this time after Christmas is not ordinary at all, for it is now that we learn about the first days of Jesus' public life. In today's Gospel, John testifies that the Holy Spirit descended upon Jesus when John baptized him, meaning that the Holy Spirit joined in Christ's entire mission. The Holy Spirit descended upon us in our own baptism as well. May we be conscious of that divine presence as we join in Christ's mission during our own ordinary time.

Question of the Week

How can I be a better witness to the truth, to what I see with eyes of faith?

Stewardship

For now the LORD has spoken
who formed me as his servant from the womb,
That Jacob may be brought back to him
and Israel gathered to him;
I am honored in the sight of the LORD,
and my God is now my strength!

Isaiah 49:5

Jesus' saving mission began the first moment of his
conception in the womb of our Blessed Mother,
thus making it true for us.
We have each been called by the Father to further
His kingdom on earth.



Immaculate Conception School News



January 15th - Self Study Standards Due
January 28th thru February 4th - Catholic Schools Week

Please see Mrs. Schroeder's Newsletter enclosed to see all the exciting things happening at ICS!

IC Scrip Cards



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.**

Light in the Darkness

An afternoon of music, story, and prayer presented by Orin Johnson, Shannon Cerneka, and Kathleen Basi.

Sunday, January 22nd, 2:00 PM at St. Margaret of Scotland
in St. Louis

Sunday, January 29th, 2:00 PM at St. Peters in Fulton

Sunday, February 5th, 2:00 PM at Our Lady of Lourdes in
Columbia

Admission is free, though donations may be accepted.

2022-23 Catholic Stewardship Appeal

\$12,485.00 - Parish Goal



Committed
\$5,020.00

\$ Received
\$3,480.00

% of Goal
28%

Over(Under)
(\$9,005.00)

Head Count for January

January 7th - 62	January 1st - 109
January 14th -	January 8th - 101
January 21st -	January 15th -
January 28th -	January 22nd -
	January 29th -

Grand Total for January -

Tax Statement



It's that time of the year! If you **WANT** a tithing statement for your taxes, please call (573) 564-2375 or email (imm-con@sbcglobal.net) the parish office and let us know and we will get one out to you.

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

January 13-15, 2023 - Winter Weekend Crop (Scrapbooking Event)
For more information call Lanie Gardner at
(573) 823-5756

January 22, 2023 - Knights of Columbus Annual Sausage Dinner -
10:30 AM to 2:30 PM. More information below.

January 22, 2023 - Spaghetti Dinner - 12 Noon; "Instruments of the Bible" - 2:00 PM at First United Methodist Presbyterian Church in Montgomery City.

Annual Knights of Columbus Dinner



Mark your calendars for January 22, 2023 when the Knight of Columbus will have their 57th Annual Whole Hog Sausage Dinner! Serving will be from 10:30 AM to 2:30 PM. "Rain, Ice, Sleet, or Snow, IT'S A GO"! There will be in-house seating as well as carry-out service.

Bulk sausage sales will start Friday, January 20th at the KC Hall.



Deserts Needed for Sausage Dinner

The annual Knights of Columbus Sausage Dinner is right around the corner. If you like to bake, they would love to have your pies, cakes, and/or cookies for deserts. Thank you!

Quilt Raffle Tickets Available



The Knights of Columbus Ladies Auxiliary have quilt raffle tickets available for \$1.00/each or 6/\$5.00 donation. The tickets will be available thru the Knights of Columbus Sausage Dinner when one lucky person will receive it! Please see any auxiliary member for tickets. They will also be available at the sausage dinner.

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 - Dorothy Bowman, Mary Pettig, and Susie 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, Marla Daniels, John Rybacki (father of Sue Beck), Kim Dryden, Christine Welter (niece of Kathy Holtz), Matt Brumagin, Don Zerr, Peggy Readey, Becky Queathem, and Warner Walton (great, great nephew of Vicki Parker).

Contact the parish office to have someone added!



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

Steve (Hip) Hill is back in the states. Thank you for your prayers while he was deployed.

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



**God Bless
our
Parish Family!**

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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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Immaculate Conception School

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January 6, 2023

Message from Ms. Schroeder

It's hard to believe we are already halfway through the school year. First semester grade cards will be sent home next Friday, January 13, 2023. Please review the grade cards and reach out if you have any questions or concerns.

All Catholic families will need to meet with Fr. Ernest before the end of the school year. Please call the rectory at 573-564-2375 to make your appointment.

*Catholic Schools Week will be held January 28-February 3, 2023. **Catholic Schools Week Mass is mandatory for your child (PK4-8th grade) to participate in the Catholic Schools Week activities. Mass will be held on January 28, 2023 at 5pm at church. Please plan to attend!** The committee has planned a very fun and faith filled week for our students, staff, parish and community. ICS students will attend a field trip to celebrate our students on February 3, 2023. We will be ice skating at Wentzville Ice Arena from 10am-12pm. Lunch will also be provided by Home & School that day.*

Reminder that Home and School meetings are a perfect time for parents to be informed of upcoming events, policies, school and classroom information, etc. Please mark your calendars to attend. Our next meeting will be on February 1, 2023 at 6pm in the school cafeteria.

Thank you to all who completed your mandatory volunteer/work hours for the first semester! For those who did not complete their hours, fees will be added to your account. The next spring work days will be April 21 & 22, 2023. Mark your calendars and plan to attend at least one of the days. Please be watching for a Google form sign up sheet for these days. There are several opportunities to obtain volunteer hours in the next few months (Winter Weekend Crop, Catholic Schools Week, field trip, class parties, Donuts with Dad, etc).

Important Dates:

Jan. 12- Protecting God's Children Presentations

Jan. 13-15- Winter Weekend Crop - Scrapbooking Event

Jan. 15- Self Study Standards DUE

Jan. 28-Feb. 4- Catholic Schools Week

Jan. 28- Catholic Schools Week Mass @ 5pm

Feb. 1- Home & School Meeting @ 6m at school

Feb. 3- PK4-8th Grade Catholic Schools Week Field Trip

Feb. 8- Donuts with Dad @ 7:15am

Feb 14.- Valentine's Day Parties @ 1:30-3:30 pm

Feb. 22- Ash Wednesday

*****2022-23 Mandatory Volunteer/Work Hours*****

After many long hours of discussion with the School Advisory Committee, Home and School, and Parish Council/Administration, each family is now responsible for 5 volunteer hours & 5 work hours for the school per semester (10 volunteer & 10 work hours per year). If those hours are not completed, a fine of \$250 per semester will be added to your account. We will have 4 opportunities for work days (2 days in the Spring & 2 days in the Winter) to attend to help receive the hours. Those days will include outside and inside work which will include painting, yearly maintenance, playground work, deep cleaning, etc. Volunteer hours will consist of committee hours, volunteering at school/classrooms, attending and helping with classroom parties, helping at H&S and school events, etc. We are a family and a family works together to ensure everything is working and running properly. Please do your part to show ownership and pride within our school.