

Many of the Samaritans...began to believe in him  
because of the word of the woman who testified,  
"He told me everything I have done."

JOHN 4:39

## A Fountain of Life

FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

**T**he lovelorn column in the local newspaper shared a letter from someone who felt adrift. She had everything she needed or wanted—a marriage, a job, a home. Yet she felt there had to be more to life, but she didn't know what it was or where to go. She wondered, *Could anyone help me?*

Like the woman from Samaria who happened upon Jesus when she came looking for water at the local well, she and the letter writer were both eager for "living water." The woman at the well would then no longer need to come each day for her household needs, and the letter writer would have her deeper thirsts quenched. Both wanted something more out of life, not unlike most people at one time or another.

Long before Jesus encountered the woman at the well, the people who were led by Moses through the desert grumbled to him about their thirst, which triggered Moses to grumble to God about the people. The result

was finding water in the desert, the most unlikely of places. As a result, they realized that God was taking care of them, that God was ultimately their source of life.

We may decide what will bring new life—a new relationship, a new job, a new home. Yet just as often the answer comes from totally unexpected sources: the deserts of our lives. Also just as often, we somehow miss the answer. When we do recognize it, however, we say, "Thanks be to God." ●

### Reflect

***When and where have  
you found grace in an  
"unexpected place"?***



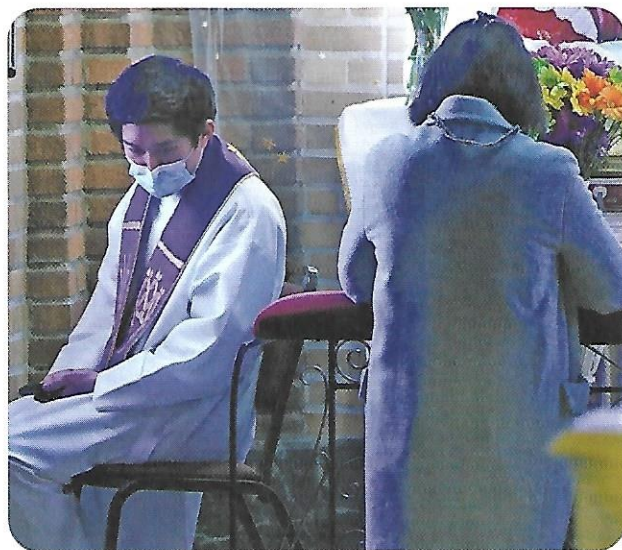
# Dear Padre,

*I have done some really terrible things in my life. When I did them, I didn't think anything about them, but now I feel very guilty. Can God really forgive me?*

As we Redemptorists like to say, "With God there is plentiful redemption." God's mercy is everlasting and overflowing in its abundance. As we continue in Lent, let's remember that Easter is the sign that God forgave even the great sin of the crucifixion of his only Son. Time and time again throughout the Scriptures, Jesus demonstrates this bountiful mercy. He forgave Zacchaeus, the tax collector. He forgave the woman caught in adultery. He was tender with the Samaritan woman we hear about in today's Gospel. He spent his days living among and forgiving all manner of sinners. He even forgave Peter's great denial. The Church has named a multitude of saints, but note that in 2,000 years it has never declared anyone to be definitively condemned to eternal punishment. There is hope and mercy for all.

No matter how great the sin, God will forgive it. All you have to do is ask for mercy sincerely. All that takes is a repentant heart. From the tone of your message, you are truly sorry. Find a priest with whom you are comfortable and ask him to celebrate with you the sacrament of reconciliation. If you don't know how to go to confession, just ask. The priest will help you. Be at peace. ●

**Fr. Rick Potts, CSSR / DearPadre.org**

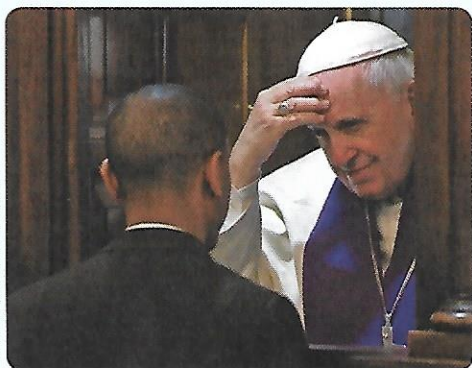


CNS PHOTO/GREGORY A. SHEMITZ

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
March 13	March 14	March 15	March 16	March 17	March 18	March 19
Lenten Weekday	Lenten Weekday	Lenten Weekday	Lenten Weekday	Lenten Weekday	Lenten Weekday	Fourth Sunday of Lent
2 Kgs 5:1-15ab	Dn 3:25, 34-43	Dt 4:1, 5-9	Jer 7:23-28	Hos 14:2-10	Hos 6:1-6	1 Sm 16:1b, 6-7, 10-13a
Lk 4:24-30	Mt 18:21-35	Mt 5:17-19	Lk 11:14-23	Mk 12:28-34	Lk 18:9-14	Eph 5:8-14
						Jn 9:1-41

## Know Someone Overly Anxious about Sin?

Since 1964, the Redemptorists' *Scrupulous Anonymous* free monthly newsletter has ministered compassionately to those struggling with scrupulosity. To subscribe, visit [ScrupulousAnonymous.org](http://ScrupulousAnonymous.org).



CNS PHOTO/VATICAN MEDIA

## A WORD FROM POPE FRANCIS

*We all have the right to be forgiven. All of us....Forgiveness is a "right" in the sense that God, in the Paschal Mystery of Christ, has given it in a total and irreversible way to every person willing to accept it with a humble and repentant heart.*

ADDRESS AT A COURSE ORGANIZED BY APOSTOLIC PENITENTIARY,  
MARCH 25, 2022



# Immaculate Conception Parish Family

162nd YEAR OF SERVICE

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

Fr. Ernest Dike, Parochial Administrator, [edike@diojeffcity.org](mailto:edike@diojeffcity.org)

Janet Cobb, Bookkeeper/Secretary | 573.564.2375 Parish Office | [imm-con@sbcglobal.net](mailto:imm-con@sbcglobal.net) | [www.mcicparish.org](http://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](mailto: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



## MARCH 12, 2023 THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT

### Mass Intentions

Monday, March 13th  
Tuesday, March 14th

**No Mass - Montgomery City**

**5:30 PM Mass - Mont. City** +Don

Benney

Wednesday, March 15th

8:30 AM Mass - Jonesburg

Thursday, March 16th

**8:00 AM Mass - Mont. City** +Bill & Dion Auchly

Friday, March 17th

**8:00 AM Mass - Mont. City** +Robert Merz

Saturday, March 18th

**5:00 PM Mass - Mont. City** +Shery'll Schierhoff

Sunday, March 19th

8:00 AM Mass - Jonesburg

**10:00 AM Mass - Mont. City** - Our Parish Family



### Your Gifts to God!

July 1, 2022 - June 30, 2023

Church & School Financial Report:	Income	Expenses	Difference
<b>February 2023</b>	\$74,690.68	\$74,419.76	\$270.92
<b>Fiscal Year July-Feb. 2022-23</b>	\$536,752.48	\$476,067.80	\$60,684.68
<b>Needed Weekly</b> - \$ 13,232.95			
March 5th - \$6,844.16-Church; \$6,164.00-ICS/Daycare; \$13,008.16-Total			
March 12th -			
March 19th -			
March 26th -			

**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:** 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 March 18th & 19th

Ministries	Saturday, 5:00 PM	Sunday, 10:00 AM
Lector	Larry Brueggemann	Jerry Witthaus
Children's Liturgy	Not During Saturday Evening Mass	Anna Harrell
Communion Minister	Mary Pottebaum	Jenidean Readey
Ministers of Hospitality	Daryl & Nancy Cobb Bonnie Walker	Jeff & Amanda Arens Ron & Dianne Talley
Servers	Reed Pottebaum Malorie Schulte	Kendra & Keegan Rakers
Gift Bearers	Hospitality Ministers	Hospitality Ministers
Money Counters	Rea Jean & Daryl Rhoads	Dottie Brueggen Elaine Winford

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

For a greater respect for the dignity of all human life; may our Catholic faith inspire us to recognize all human beings—no matter their age, race, or condition—as our brothers and sisters in the Lord.



## Weekly Mass Schedule

Monday, March 13th	<b>No Mass - Montgomery City</b>
Tuesday, March 14th	<b>5:30 PM Mass - Montgomery City</b>
Wednesday, March 15th	8:30 AM Mass - Jonesburg
Thursday, March 15th	<b>8:00 AM Mass - Montgomery City</b>
Friday, March 17th	<b>8:00 AM Mass - Montgomery City</b>
Saturday, March 18th	<b>5:00 PM Mass - Montgomery City (Rosary at 4:30 PM)</b>
Sunday, March 19th	8:00 AM Mass - Jonesburg <b>10:00 AM Mass - Montgomery City (Rosary at 9:30 AM)</b>

## Upcoming Events & Announcements

Monday, March 13th	12:00 PM - KofC Women's Aux. Mtg. (this is a change in calendar)
Tuesday, March 14th	6:00 AM - 5:00 PM - Adoration 5:00 PM - Benediction & Devotion To Divine Mercy
Wednesday, March 15th	7:00 PM - Stations of the Cross 7:00 PM - Knights of Columbus Mtg.
Thursday, March 16th	
Friday, March 17th	11:00 AM-1:00 PM - Fish Fry 4:30 PM - 6:30 PM - Fish Fry 3:00 PM - Stations of the Cross by ICS Students
Saturday, March 18th	
Sunday, March 19th	6:00 PM - 5th/6th Grade PSR Class 6:00 PM - Confirmation Class



### *Wedding Anniversary*

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

*Joseph & Lisa Gotsch - 10 years of marriage on March 15th  
Karl & Becky Queathem - 28 years of marriage on March 18th*

### **Additional Financial Information**

Capital Improvements	\$ 1,545.00
3 in 1 Collection	\$ 25.00
Easter Flowers	\$ 35.00

(This is NOT included in Page 1 totals)

### **GRATEFUL LIVING SMALL GROUP PRAYER MEETINGS**

Please pray for the success of the Grateful Living Small Groups.

#### **January 28<sup>th</sup> – February 5<sup>th</sup>**

Tuesday	2:00 PM	Tony Wessel 128 Baker Road, MC
Tuesday	6:30 PM	Vicki Oden 1884 Highway 161, MC
Wednesday	9:30 AM	Orlana Gardner 320 E. Spinsby St., MC
Wednesday	6:30 PM	Beth Roesner Immaculate Conception School
Thursday	6:30 PM	Dave Teeter 111 Two-Mile Branch Road or Knights of Columbus Building
Thursday	6:30 PM	Dianne Talley 434 Long Road, NF
Sunday	7:00 PM	Courtney Cothren (HS Students) 10 Craven Drive, MC

### **Next Weekend Masses**

Fr. Stephen Jones, Diocesan Director of Stewardship, will be here next weekend (March 18th & 19th) to celebrate Mass and share more about the new Stewardship Program.

### **Third Sunday of Lent**

We hear the Chosen People grumble in today's first reading, for they are thirsty and have no idea how long their journey through the desert will last. "Is the LORD in our midst or not?" they complain. Here in this place, where we gather with God's people to worship the Lord, to listen to God's word, and to receive the Lord's body and blood, we can be assured that the Lord is in our midst. Jesus has quenched our deepest thirst with living water, with water welling up to eternal life. Together let us give witness to our faith that God remains always in our midst.

### **Question of the Week**

What can I do or say that will show others the living water that I have found in Jesus, the water that satisfies my spiritual thirst? Will I make that my mission this week?

*But the hour is coming, and is now here,  
when true worshippers will worship the Father  
in Spirit and truth;  
and indeed the Father seeks such people to worship  
him. God is Spirit, and those who worship him  
must worship in Spirit and truth.*

John 4:23-24

**Stewardship**  
GROWING OUR FAITH

DIOCESE OF  
**Jefferson City**

## Immaculate Conception School News



March 12th - Daylight Savings Starts  
March 17th - K of C/Home & School Fish Fry  
Stations of the Cross @ 3:00 pm

Please see the enclosed Newsletter from Dana Schroeder, Principal, for exciting things that are 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](http://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.**

### Immaculate Conception School Athletics



Seventh and Eighth grade ICS students are eligible to participate with the public school 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade sports throughout the school year. The spring sports season has started and Max Angel – 7<sup>th</sup> grader, is on the middle school track team. All “Home” track meets are at the R-II High School/Middle School track campus. You are welcome to attend the meets to support our ICS student! The “Home” meets are listed. **THANK YOU** for supporting the ICS Middle School athletes!

Friday, March 24<sup>th</sup> – 4:15 PM  
Thursday, April 13<sup>th</sup> – 4:15 PM  
Monday, May 1<sup>st</sup> – 3:30 PM  
Friday, May 5<sup>th</sup> – 4:15 PM



### Vacation Bible School

We are excited to offer Vacation Bible School this summer **July 11th thru 14th** from 5:30 PM to 8:00 PM! Please mark your calendars now for these four exciting evenings where your child(ren) will learn more about their faith! More information in future bulletins!

### St. Patrick's Day Decree of Dispensation

Those who wish to celebrate St. Patrick Day from the observance of abstinence from meat on Friday, March 17, 2023. Those who reside or are present within the Diocese of Jefferson City and who wish to make use of this provision are encouraged to observe at least one of these three alternative penances on that day: participate at Mass; participate in the devotion of the Stations of the Cross; or pray the Sorrowful Mysteries of the Holy Rosary. To read the full decree from Bishop McKnight, visit [Decree of dispensation for St. Patrick's Day | Diocese of Jefferson City \(diojeffcity.org\)](http://Decree of dispensation for St. Patrick's Day | Diocese of Jefferson City (diojeffcity.org)).



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

March 12th – KC Hall in Martinsburg “All you Can Eat” Breakfast  
8:00 AM to 11:00 AM  
March 12th - St. Alphonsus Parish-Millwood Spring Sausage Dinner  
from 11:00 AM to 5:00 PM  
March 14th - Starkenburg Mo - Second Tuesday Mass - Reconciliation at 11:00 AM; Rosary at 11:40 AM, Mass at 12 Noon followed by lunch

### Annual Lenten Fish Fries

February 24 - March 31, 2023  
11:00 AM - 1:00 PM  
4:30 PM - 6:30 PM  
Adults: \$13.00 Child: \$6.00  
(both lunch and dinner)



### Pick-A-Prize Fundraiser



With only one week “under our belt”, 52 tickets have been sold! Several parishioners have picked up tickets to sell. We are still encouraging each family to sell 2 or 3 tickets. They will be available after Mass. Just look for Vicki Parker, Beth Cobb or Mary Pottebaum. We will continue to sell tickets after weekend Masses and at the Knights of Columbus Fish Fries.

### Head Count for March

March 4th - 84	March 5th - 104
March 11th -	March 12th -
March 18th -	March 19th -
March 25th -	March 26th -

### Grand Total for March -

**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), Christine Welter (niece of Kathy Holtz), Matt Brumagin, Don Zerr, Peggy Readey, Becky Queathem, Warner Walton (great, great nephew of Vicki Parker), Kim Dryden, Ingrid Keller, and Mary Kay Johnson (sister-in-law of Sharon Pottebaum).

*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.

*Contact the parish office to have someone added!*





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**God Bless  
our  
Parish Family!**

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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.



# Immaculate Conception School

407 West Third

Montgomery City, MO 63361

[www.icschool-mc.org](http://www.icschool-mc.org) 573.564.2679

March 9, 2023

## Message from Ms. Schroeder

*Easter Break will be extended! We currently have 5 full snow days that we have built into the calendar, therefore, Easter Break now will be April 6-14. This will leave 2 snow days left to use at a later date, if needed. School will resume on April 18, 2023. Enjoy the extra time with your family and friends!*

*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.*

*Thank you to Jesse Harrell of J.D. Excavating for the AMAZING work and rock donation for our school. The driveway/parking lot looks FABULOUS! We appreciate all the hard work you and your family do for ICS!*

*The Home and School and Knights of Columbus Fish Frys are currently underway. Thank you to everyone who has remembered to bring in your cakes/pies and working your shift in the evening. We THANK YOU!*

*We will be performing the our traditional Good Friday Living Stations of the Cross on April 7 at 12pm. We need your help to make this a success once again. We are needing students to be available for that day to present to our parish and community. Please contact Mrs. Smith or the office if your child can help on April 7.*

*Grade cards will be sent home next Friday, March 17. Please sign and return the envelopes as soon as possible.*

## Important Dates:

**Mar. 10- NO School**

**K of C Fish Fry**

**Mar. 12- Daylight Savings Begins**

**Mar. 17- ICS Spelling Bee**

**K of C Fish Fry**

**Stations of the Cross- 3pm**

**Mar. 21- Reconciliation for Confirmation Candidates- 6:30pm**

**Mar. 24- K of C Fish Fry**

**Stations of the Cross- 3pm**

**Mar. 25- Diocesan Speech Meet**

**Mar. 28- Confirmation- 6:30pm**

**Mar. 30- First Reconciliation & Parish Penance Service- 6:30pm**

**Mar. 31- K of C Fish Fry**

**Stations of the Cross- 3pm**

**Apr. 3- School IN Session PE Day**

**Apr. 5- Living Stations of the Cross- 2pm**

**Home & School Meeting- 6pm**

**Apr. 6-14- Easter Break**

**Apr. 7- Good Friday Living Stations of the Cross- 12pm**

## \*\*\*\*\*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.

**Spring Work Days: Friday, April 21, 8am-5pm & Saturday, April 22, 8am-5pm**