



The night is advanced, the day is at hand. Let us then throw off the works of darkness [and] put on the armor of light.

ROMANS 13:12



## The Waiting Game

FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

**I**f Advent is a time of waiting, then our entire lives must be an Advent, for we spend so much of our lives waiting—at one point for Santa to come with his sack of surprises, at other times for the dizzying lure of summertime. Later we eagerly wait to get our driver's license and then to move out on our own for our first real job and then the independence it promises. We wait for love to find us and, for some, for love to return. Some wait for children, others for the empty nest, and others for retirement.

Our mothers told us not to wish our lives away, and yet we did, and still we do, waiting for life to be more than what it seems to be. Then one day we look

back and wish we could have again all that once was. So maybe Advent is not about waiting for God to make a splash in our lives. Maybe Advent is about God waiting for us to come around and recognize God is with us here and now.

The question for each of us, then, is what are we waiting for at this point in our lives? There is no right answer, only the one each of us has for ourselves.

### Reflect

***Has there ever been a time when you didn't recognize that God was with you?***

Whatever it is, there is no doubt that there is love or joy or peace or meaning at the heart of it, all camouflaged by whatever we say we are waiting for. Beneath it all is the hunger for God-with-us. ●



**Fr. Joseph Juknialis**, a retired priest of the Milwaukee Archdiocese, is the new author of reflections for Liguori Publications' *Our Parish Community* bulletins. Fr. Joe has served in ministry as a parish priest and a teacher of homiletics at St. Francis de Sales Seminary in Milwaukee. Retirement has given him time for hiking, canoeing, writing, poetry, gin rummy, the Green Bay Packers, and pursuing his appreciation of nature. In noting the most amazing aspect of his life, Fr. Joe says, "God has always brought me to the place I should be."

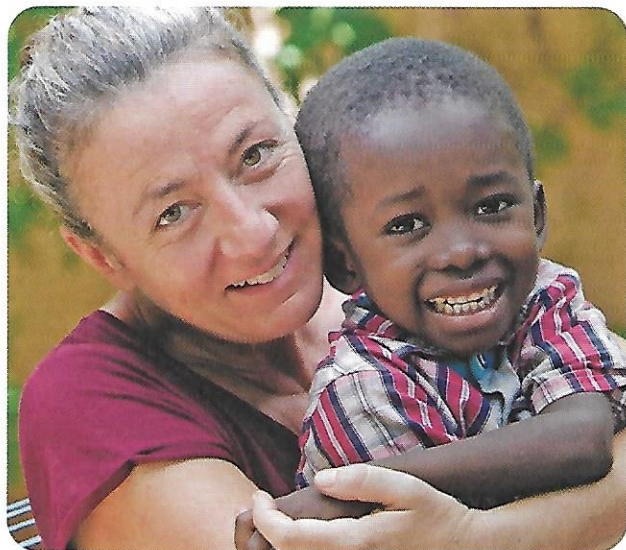


# Dear Padre,

## *Should adopted children know who their biological parents are?*

Arguments can be made in favor of and against adopted children knowing their biological origins. It appears more and more that adoption agencies encourage knowledge of biological parents over closed adoptions, where this information is not known by the child or the adopting parents. There are many issues here that are packed emotionally, such as why a person was placed for adoption, fear by adopting parents that this new information could compromise their relationship with their child, perhaps fear on the part of biological parents that they will be asked to be involved in a relationship against their wishes.

An argument to be made in favor of disclosure about one's biological parents has to do with one's health. Today we realize that challenges to our health come not just from bacteria and viruses that invade our system from outside ourselves, but also from within, that is, from genetic predispositions to heart disease, diabetes, and other disorders that could compromise our well-being. This information becomes more critical when persons are of an age to marry and to bear their own children. They might want to know as much information as possible to act responsibly in bearing and raising children. ●

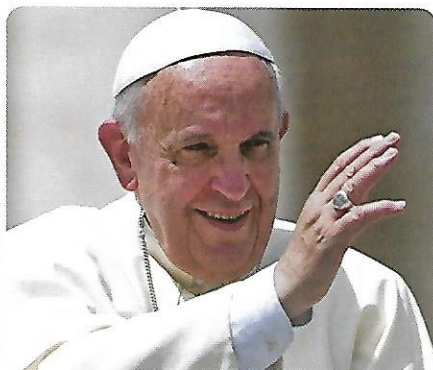


From *Life, Death, and Catholic Medical Choices: 50 Questions from the Pews*, © 2011 Liguori Publications

## **Do you have a question for the Padre?**

Go to **DearPadre.org** to send your question and to learn more about *Dear Padre*.

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
November 28	November 29	November 30	December 1	December 2	December 3	December 4
Advent Weekday	Advent Weekday	St. Andrew, Apostle	Advent Weekday	Advent Weekday	St. Francis Xavier, Priest	Second Sunday of Advent
Is 4:2-6	Is 11:1-10	Rom 10:9-18	Is 26:1-6	Is 29:17-24	Is 30:19-21, 23-26	Is 11:1-10
Mt 8:5-11	Lk 10:21-24	Mt 4:18-22	Mt 7:21, 24-27	Mt 9:27-31	Mt 9:35-10:1, 5a, 6-8	Rom 15:4-9
						Mt 3:1-12



## **A WORD FROM POPE FRANCIS**

***Today it is our task to keep watch: to overcome the temptation of thinking that life means accumulating....It is up to us to unmask the deception that we are happy when we have many things...and to believe that prayer and charity...are the greatest of treasures.***

**HOMILY, FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT,  
DECEMBER 1, 2019**



# Immaculate Conception Parish Family



**161st 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

## NOVEMBER 27, 2022 FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

### Mass Intentions

Monday, November 28th **No Mass - Montgomery City**  
 Tuesday, November 29th **No Mass - Montgomery City**  
 Wednesday, November 30th 8:30 AM Mass - Jonesburg  
 Thursday, December 1st **10:00 AM Mass - Mont. City** +Bill & Dione  
 Auchly  
 Friday, December 2nd **8:00 AM Mass - Mont. City** +Robert Merz  
 Saturday, December 3rd **5:00 PM Mass - Mont. City** - Our Parish  
 Family  
 Sunday, December 4th 8:00 AM Mass - Jonesburg  
**10:00 AM Mass - Mont. City** +Jerry  
 Cunningham



**July 1, 2022 - June 30, 2023**

**Church & School Financial Report:** **Income** **Expenses** **Difference**  
**October 2022** \$78,335.73 \$51,005.17 \$27,330.56  
**Fiscal Year July-June 2022-23** \$270,148.33 \$246,985.15 \$23,163.18  
**Needed Weekly** - \$ 13,232.95  
 November 6th - \$5,441.00-Church; \$6,431.00-ICS/Daycare; \$11,872.00 Total  
 November 13th - \$4,464.27-Church; \$4,652.00-ICS/Daycare; \$9,116.27 Total  
 November 20th - \$3,499.94-Church; \$5,439.00-ICS/Daycare; \$8,938.94 Total  
 November 27th -

Last Week's Envelopes: 50

*Thank you!! With God all things are possible!*

**(No Mass if there is a funeral at any of the two parishes)**

**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.

### 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 December 3rd & 4th

Ministries	Saturday, 5:00 PM	Sunday, 10:00 AM
Lector	Dennis Benney	Michael Readey
Children's Liturgy	Not during Saturday Evening Mass	Geri Park
Communion Minister	Vicki Oden	Tudie Simpson
Ministers of Hospitality	Ty & Courtney Cothren Family	Ron & Dianne Talley Dana Schneider & Brady Craven
Servers	Mercer Cothren Jacob Roesner	Owen Merz Carl Smith
Gift Bearers	Hospitality Ministers	Hospitality Ministers
Money Counters	Daryl & Rae Jean Rhoads	Dottie Brueggen Elaine Winford

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

Recognizing the many blessings God has bestowed upon us, may we embrace the spirituality of stewardship and avoid any sense of entitlement in our relationship with God.  
 We pray to the Lord.



## Weekly Mass Schedule

Monday, November 28th	<b>No MASS - Montgomery City</b>
Tuesday, November 29th	<b>No Mass - Montgomery City</b>
Wednesday, November 30th	8:30 AM Mass - Jonesburg
Thursday, December 1st	<b>10:00 AM Mass - Montgomery City</b>
Friday, December 2nd	<b>8:00 AM Mass - Montgomery City</b>
Saturday, December 3rd	<b>5:00 PM Mass - Montgomery City</b>
Sunday, December 4th	8:00 AM Mass - Jonesburg <b>10:00 AM Mass - Montgomery City</b> <b>(Rosary @ 9:30 AM)</b>

## Upcoming Events & Announcements

Monday, November 28th	6:30 PM - RCIA in Sacristy
Tuesday, November 29th	6:00 AM - 5:00 PM - Adoration
Wednesday, November 30th	6:00 PM - Parish Council/Finance Christmas Party
Thursday, December 1st	10:00 AM - Prayer Partner Mass followed by luncheon @ ICS
Friday, December 2nd	
Saturday, December 3rd	
Sunday, December 4th	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!*

*Steven & Debbie Williams - 47 years of marriage on Nov. 29th*  
*Michael & Lisa Merz - 18 years of marriage on December 3rd*

### **Additional Financial Information**

Capital Improvements/Maintenance	\$	25.00
Christmas Flowers	\$	70.00
Human Development	\$	336.00
All Saints Day	\$	40.00
Orscheln Foundation	\$	600.00

(This is NOT included in Page 1 totals)

### **Grateful Living**

The challenges, pressures, and many things on our schedules in our lives today often offer little opportunity for us to stop and reflect on our spirituality, our faith life. Small faith-sharing groups give us the time, the space, and the direction to reflect on our relationship with God and others; to reflect on how, through our time, talents and treasure, we can have an incredible impact in the lives of others and experience a life of purpose and meaning. Watch for more announcements about Grateful Living.

### **December Prayer Partner Mass**

Please remember that the Prayer Partner Mass and Luncheon will be on Thursday, December 1st. It will start with **10:00 AM Mass** followed by lunch at Immaculate Conception School, ending around 12:00 PM. In order to get a head count for the preparation of lunch, please let Ruth Ann know if you will NOT be able to attend at (573) 826-2676. Thank you!

### **Town Hall Meeting**

There will be a Town Hall Meeting on December 6th at 6:00 PM at the Knights of Columbus Hall on the new Stewardship Model. Fr. Stephen Jones from the diocese will be there to explain the program

### **First Sunday of Advent**

Already we are bombarded with urgent reminders to get ready for Christmas. But we gather here today to begin a different kind of preparation. Over the next four weeks (and it's a full four weeks this Advent), we will recall how Jesus comes to us. He has come as an infant lying in a manger. One day he will come like a thief in the night, as our judge at the end of time. But today and every day he comes to us as Emmanuel, "God with us." Amid all the Christmas planning and holiday shopping, let us welcome God's most wonderful gift into our world, our homes, and our hearts.

### **Question of the Week**

How can I walk in the Lord's paths in my own community and with my own family?

### **All Souls**

In the month of November, we remember those who have passed away in the past year:



Diane Happe, Jim Walker, James Cochran, Sr., Lorraine (Punky) Boes, Fr. Paul Hartley, Ignatius Busken, Douglas Zerr, Jane Dorlac, and Valerie Readey Neudecker.

### **Advent/Christmas Program**



The students at Immaculate Conception School will present their Advent/Christmas Program on Monday, December 19, 2022 at 6:00 PM in IC Church. There will also be a matinee/dress rehearsal on the same day at 1:30 PM in the church. All are invited to attend!



### **Change in December Calendar**

The Knights of Columbus Ladies Auxiliary Meeting/Christmas Party be on **December 6th**, at 1:00 PM in the KOC Chambers not December 12th as published in the December Calendar. Thank you!

## Immaculate Conception School News



November 29th-December 8th - ICS Book Fair  
November 30th - Muffins with Mom @ 7am  
December 1st - Prayer Partner Mass@ 10am & Luncheon  
December 7th - Home & School Meeting @ 6:00 PM

### 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.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.**



### Advent Supplies Available at SSDP Gift Shop

Advent is fast approaching! The SVDP Gift Shop has advent wreaths and candles. A variety of ornaments reduced for sale and other Christmas items. Please stop by the gift shop after Mass and check it out!! or contact Dianne Talley or Debbie Heidelberger for questions or assistance.



### BAKE SALE

N.R.G. Packs, which provides weekend meals for students in need, will be having a BAKE SALE at the KC Hall – Christmas Craft and Gift Show on Saturday, Dec. 10<sup>th</sup> from 9 a.m. – 2 p.m. If you would like to donate any bake sale items for that Saturday, please contact Ruth Ann O’Keefe / 573-823-2676. Any baked items would be appreciated!

### Catholic Campaign for Human Development

Thank you for your generous support last week for the collection for the Catholic Campaign for Human Development! As a parish, we raised \$711.00 to support those on the margins who live in poverty in the United States. If you missed the collection, it’s not too late to give! Visit [www.usccb.org/national\\_collections](http://www.usccb.org/national_collections) and click “How to Give” under “Resources.”

### Thank You!

Dear Congregation,

On behalf of the Crisis Food Closet of Montgomery County, I want to take this opportunity to thank you for your continued support in giving non-perishable food, cleaning supplies, paper products, and personal hygiene items that we received on November 1st. With the colder months approaching and inflation, your support will continue to help those most vulnerable.

Sincerely,  
Sharon Wehrman, Secretary

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

**November 26th** - Sounds of Starkenburg Holiday Concert from 2:00 PM to 5:00 PM at St. Martin’s Church Museum, 197 Hwy P, Starkenburg. A Soup Supper and Christmas Market will be held in Valentine Hall from 1:00 PM to 5:00 PM.

### Head Count for October

We want to let you know the weekly head count for each month of the year. Starting in September this count will be listed in the bulletin with a grand total at the end of each month.

November 1st - 69	
November 5th - 75	November 6th - 123
November 12th - 62	November 13th - 126
November 19th - 61	November 20th - 102
November 26th -	November 27th -

### Grand Total for November -

### Catholic Stewardship Appeal



We are near the end of this year’s Catholic Stewardship Appeal. For each one of you who chose to give back gratefully to God through a contribution to the CSA, we are deeply appreciative. Each gift, when combined with the gifts of thousands of other parishioners throughout the diocese, makes a very real difference. For those who have not yet joined your fellow Catholics in support of the CSA, we urge you to pray about it. You can also make a pledge by going online to [diojeffcity.org](http://diojeffcity.org) and clicking the “Donate Now” button.

### CHRISTMAS GIVING TREE NOTICE



Please remember to take your gifts to Youth in Need (YIN) from Dec 2<sup>nd</sup> to Dec 9th. YIN is located next to Dominos Pizza and they are open from 7:45am to 3:15pm Tuesday thru Friday. When you return the gifts to YIN, please have the gifts wrapped and the ornament attached. The Montgomery County Christmas Club recommends each gift be in the range of \$25. Keep in mind that each child that we are helping has 3 ornaments on the tree, so you only need to buy one item per gift tag. If you would like to give a cash donation, please send Beth Roesner or Debbie Heidelberger the money by December 4. The Social Concerns Commission and the Montgomery County Christmas Club thank all of you who participates in this program.

### 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), and Matt Brumagin.

*Contact the parish office to have someone added!*



**Please pray for all our men and women serving in the armed forces.** Corey Stulce, Tanner Cobb, Steve (Hip) Hill, 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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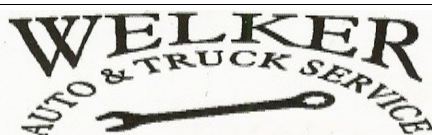
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**“Finally,  
brothers  
and sisters,  
rejoice!  
Strive  
for full  
restoration,  
encourage  
one  
another, be  
of one mind,  
live in  
peace. And  
the God of  
love and  
peace will  
be with  
you.”**

*2 Corinthians 11*

Any business wanting to advertise in our weekly parish bulletin is asked to contact the parish office. The twelve month cost is \$150/spot. Ad size depends on the number of advertisers.