



Up in Heaven

The message of this feast is that Jesus was taken up into heaven. Just what does this mean? Is heaven “up there” along with the moon and the stars? Cosmology would question that. Today’s readings also say that Jesus is seated at God’s right hand. Is this science, or is it a concrete image used to explain something more marvelous than words can describe?

Traditionally the place of honor is at the dignitary’s right hand (decided by a right-hander, no doubt). That Jesus sits at God’s right hand means he enjoys the place of highest honor. The psalm response refers to this exalted place as the throne of God. “Throne” suggests king. Thus, the readings tell us that Jesus, who is now exalted with divine honor, is above everything else. Finally, to say that heaven is above means that it is beyond earth, perhaps not in actual distance but in distinction and glory. Thus, Jesus’ ascension means that the risen Lord is no longer limited by the

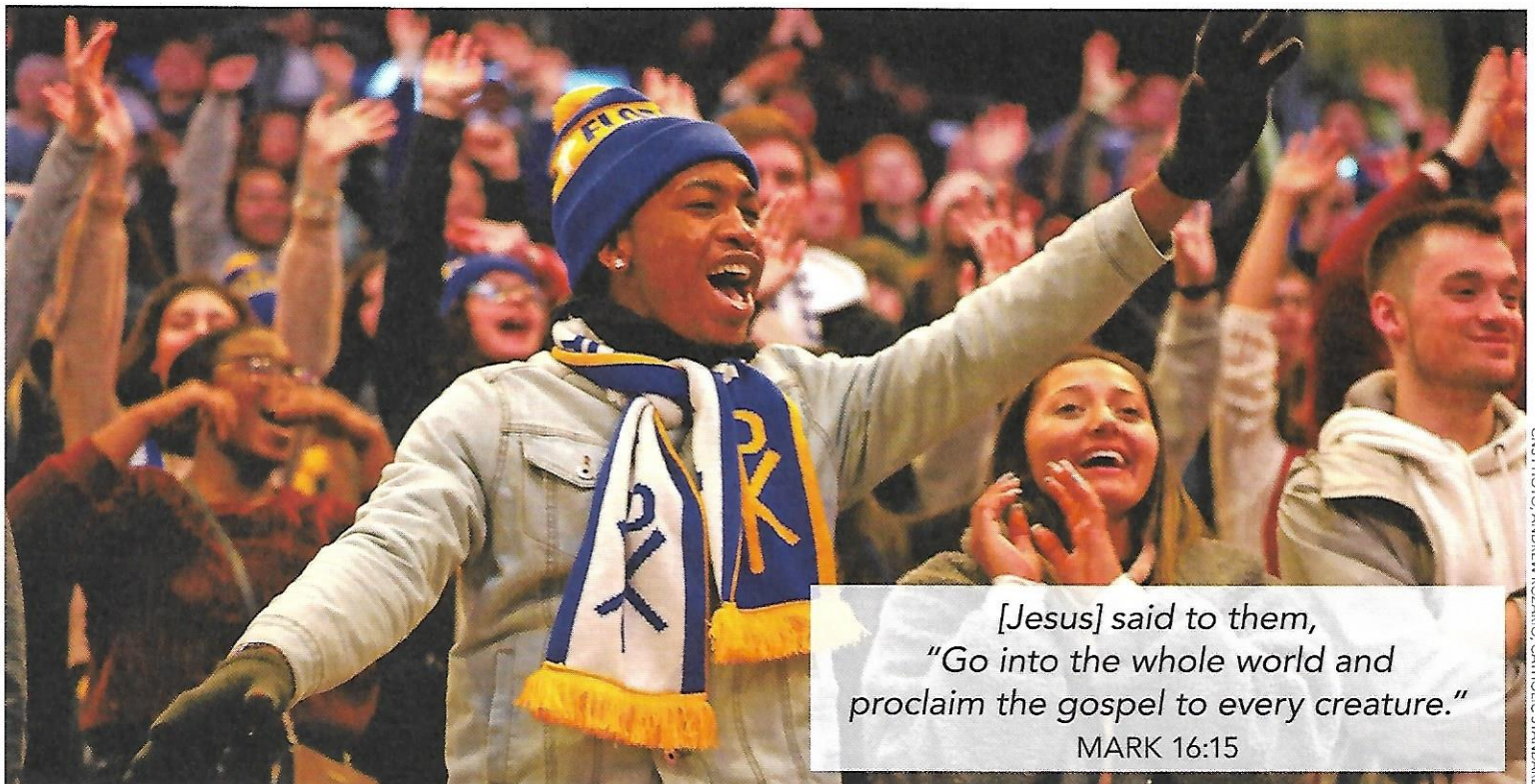
restrictions of earth’s space and time but now enjoys the highest honor with God everywhere and always.

This is the message the disciples were sent to preach. This is the message we also are sent to preach. But how are we to do it? By the way we live our lives. Emmanuel Célestin Cardinal Suhard of Paris (1874–1949) wrote: “To be a witness...means to live in such a way that one’s life would not make sense if God did not exist.” Do our lives show that we believe this?

Sr. Dianne Bergant, CSA

FOR *Reflection*

- ★ *Thank God for people in your life who mirror God’s generosity, forgiveness, and kindness to you.*
- ★ *Think about ways you might mirror God’s goodness to others.*



*[Jesus] said to them,
“Go into the whole world and
proclaim the gospel to every creature.”
MARK 16:15*

Dear Padre,

My neighbor, a fundamentalist Christian, said I won't be saved unless I accept Jesus as my personal savior. Didn't Jesus become my savior when I was baptized?

Your neighbor is probably referring to John 3:7, when Jesus said, "You must be born anew" (*Common English Bible*). Jesus is talking about a spiritual rebirth; we must have a spiritual birth in order to be saved. As you noted, Catholics believe this happens at baptism. In John 3:5, Jesus says,

"Unless someone is born of water and the Spirit, it's not possible to enter God's kingdom."

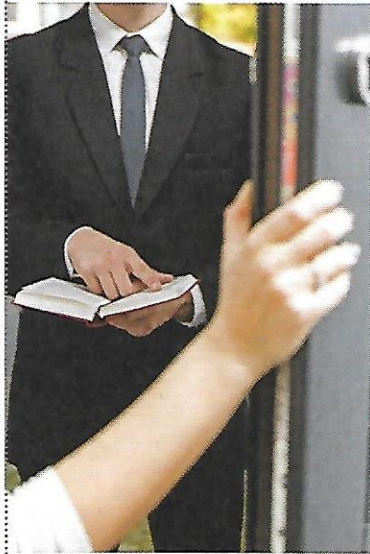
We are saved by the waters of baptism. But for Catholics, it's not merely a one-time event. We continue to accept or reject the salvation offered us by the decisions we make every day.

Your neighbor used the words "personal savior." Catholic Christians go even deeper through the sacraments. We develop and nurture a very personal relationship with Jesus by regularly receiving the Eucharist. In the sacrament of reconciliation, we admit we have sinned and ask Jesus to forgive us. And in the sacrament of confirmation, our relationship is "sealed" with the gift of the Spirit.

Many Catholics also celebrate the sacrament of marriage. The couple's personal relationship with Jesus is deepened through the love the couple shares.

So, tell your neighbor you are indeed saved by Jesus. And because you are saved, you deepen that relationship with Jesus by living a sacramental life.

Fr. Patrick Keyes, CSSR
Sundaybulletin@Liguori.org



A WORD FROM *Pope Francis*

The Ascension tells us that Jesus, although he ascended to heaven to dwell gloriously at the right hand of the Father, is still and is always among us: this is the source of our strength, our perseverance, and our joy, from the presence of Jesus among us with the strength of the Holy Spirit.

ASCENSION SUNDAY, MAY 24, 2020



Calendar

Monday

MAY 17

Easter Weekday

Acts 19:1–8

Jn 16:29–33

Tuesday

MAY 18

Easter Weekday

Acts 20:17–27

Jn 17:1–11a

Wednesday

MAY 19

Easter Weekday

Acts 20:28–38

Jn 17:11b–19

Thursday

MAY 20

Easter Weekday

Acts 22:30; 23:6–11

Jn 17:20–26

Friday

MAY 21

Easter Weekday

Acts 25:13b–21

Jn 21:15–19

Saturday

MAY 22

Easter Weekday

Acts 28:16–20, 30–31

Jn 21:20–25

Sunday

MAY 23

Pentecost Sunday

Acts 2:1–11

1 Cor 12:3b–7, 12–13

or Gal 5:16–25

Jn 20:19–23

or Jn 15:26–27;

16:12–15

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.



Immaculate Conception Parish Family



160th YEAR OF SERVICE

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

Fr. Paul Hartley, Pastor | Deacon Wayne Korte | 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; Secretary-Mary Pottebaum, Laura Yelton, & Vicki Parker

MAY 16, 2021 - THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD

Mass Intentions

Monday, May 17th	NO MASS - Montgomery City
Tuesday, May 18th	5:30 PM Mass - Montgomery City +Don Benney
Wednesday, May 19th	8:30 AM Mass - Jonesburg
Thursday, May 20th	8:00 AM Mass - Montgomery City +Lorraine Brower
Friday, May 21st	8:00 AM Mass - Montgomery City +Bill & Dione Auchly
Saturday, May 22nd	5:00 PM Mass - Montgomery City +Roger Richard
Sunday, May 23rd	8:00 AM Mass - Jonesburg 10:00 AM Mass - Montgomery City - Our Parish Family



July 1, 2020 - June 30, 2021

Church/School Financial Report:	Income	Expenses	Difference
April 2021	\$44,285.36	\$61,966.99	-\$17,681.63
Fiscal Year July-April 2020-21	\$470,734.65	\$505,117.74	-\$34,383.09
Needed Weekly - \$ 11,835.50			
May 2nd - \$12,644.23			
May 9th - \$ 7,295.04			
May 16th - \$			
May 23rd - \$			
May 30th - \$			

May 2nd Envelopes: 73 of 179

May 9th Envelopes: 42 of 179

(No Mass if there is a funeral or school has been cancelled.)

With God all things are possible

Parish Membership: Call the parish office to register.

Sacrament of Reconciliation: 3:30 to 4:50 PM Saturday or call for an appointment.

Sacrament of Baptism: Call the parish office to set up an appointment to meet with Fr. Hartley.

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.

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 May 22nd & 23rd

Ministries	Saturday, 5:00 PM	Sunday, 10:00 AM
Lector	Beth Roesner	ICS Students
Children's Liturgy	Not assigned at this time	Not assigned at this time
Communion Minister	Mary Pottebaum	Richard Bainbridge
Ministers of Hospitality	Steve & Beth Cobb	ICS Students
Servers	Landon & Reed Pottebaum	ICS Students
Gift Bearers	Not assigned at this time	Not assigned at this time
Money Counters	Rea Jean & Daryl Rhoads	Pam Schwartz Cathy McCormack

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

May we honor the Blessed Virgin Mary, our spiritual mother, this month by our support in charity for all mothers who struggle in poverty to raise their children.

Weekly Mass Schedule

Monday, May 17th	NO MASS
Tuesday, May 18th	5:30 PM Mass - Montgomery City
Wednesday, May 19th	8:30 AM Mass - Jonesburg
Thursday, May 20th	8:00 AM Mass - Montgomery City
Friday, May 21st	8:00 AM Mass - Montgomery City
Saturday, May 22nd	5:00 PM Mass - Montgomery City (Rosary @ 4:30 PM)
Sunday, May 23rd	8:00 AM Mass - Jonesburg 10:00 AM Mass - Montgomery City (Rosary @ 9:30 AM)

Upcoming Events & Announcements

Monday, May 17th	7:00 PM - St. Vincent dePaul Mtg.
Tuesday, May 18th	
Wednesday, May 19th	7:30 PM - Knights of Columbus Mtg.
Thursday, May 20th	
Friday, May 21st	
Saturday, May 22nd	
Sunday, May 23rd	

Wedding Anniversary



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

*Francis & Diane Happe – 53 years of marriage on May 18th
Jeff & Amanda Arens - 32 years of marriage on May 20th
Gary & Orlana Gardner - 43 years of marriage on May 20th*

Additional Financial Information

Capital Improvements	\$ 603.00
Capital Campaign (Cornerstone)	\$ 4,285.16
Special Collections:	
Catholic Home Missions Appeal	\$ 35.00
Infirm Priest Fund	\$ 20.00
Communication & Education Fund	\$ 78.00
Ascension of the Lord	\$ 60.00
Donation - School	\$ 100.00

Bishop McKnight Removes Dispensation

As more people become vaccinated, Bishop McKnight has removed the general dispensation from attending Mass in person, effective **June 1st**. We are happy to invite all who have been away to join us to worship together, in person, and to receive the Body of Christ in Holy Communion, which nourishes our souls and heals us of our sins. Of course, if you are ill, please continue to participate in the Mass via livestream. We look forward to seeing you in person at Mass!

Graduates Honored at Mass

Sunday, June 6, 2021 at 10 a.m. Mass Immaculate Conception Church will be honoring parish high school and post-secondary graduates. Graduates are asked to wear their cap and gown at the mass. This includes high school and any type of graduation or certification after high school. Please contact Ruth Ann O'Keefe (573-823-2676) if you have a student that has graduated in the past year.



Fr. Hartley's 40th Ordination Celebration



On May 30, 2021, we will honor Fr. Hartley on his 40th year of ordination. Please plan to join us at 10:00 AM Mass followed by a carry-in dinner at the Knights of Columbus building in Montgomery City. The Knights of Columbus will provide the meat (ham), drinks and table service.

Capital Campaign Update

Dear Parishioners,

Our current total in pledges and donations stands at \$233,755.16. Thank you for your generosity and your prayerful consideration in moving us toward our goal. We are anxiously awaiting the next two projects and hope that you will soon be seeing a very visible difference on the outside of our church. If you take the time to look at our thermometer either in the vestibule, or on the last page of the bulletin, you will see some interim goals. For example, our first goal is to get to the \$600,000 mark. Once we hit that mark, we feel we will be able to complete the many tasks needed to update and remodel our church. In fact, as it stands, we are only \$366,244.84 away from that mark. We hope you will make the decision today to help us with this important campaign. Thank you and God Bless!



Total in donations and pledges:	\$233,755.15
Total in expenses:	\$ 65,884.95
Total in insurance claims:	\$ 29,146.19
Current bank balance:	\$144,882.40

Memorial Day at St. Mary's Cemetery

For those planning to visit St. Mary's Cemetery on Memorial Day, May 31st, the Rosary will be prayed under the pavilion beginning at 9:00 a.m. Bring a lawn chair and join us in praying for our deceased veterans and other loved ones who are buried at St. Mary's. The Joyful Mysteries of the Rosary will be prayed as May 31st is also the Feast of the Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary. For more information, contact Dottie Brueggen at (573) 564-2183.

Immaculate Conception School News



May 14th - Awards & last day of school - Fun Day @
Graham Cave

Congratulations to Miley, Hudson, Clark, Roy, and Gabe on their 8th grade graduation! We wish you many blessings in your high school years. ICS will definitely miss you!

We are needing volunteers to help move the commercial oven out of the kitchen. If you are willing to volunteer a few minutes of your time please contact the school office (573-564-2679).

ECLC Happenings

ECLC is looking for a part-time daytime employee. If you are interested or know of someone who would be interested, please contact Peggy at the school (573) 564-2679.



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.ShopWithScrip.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.**

Teaching Positions Available At ICS

Immaculate Conception School is seeking a Part-Time Art/Music Teacher for the 2021-2022 school year. This past year, our students have been learning instrumental music with keyboards, guitars, recorders, etc. ICS is a kindergarten through 8th grade Catholic School located in Montgomery City, with approximately 50 students. ICS runs on a 4-day school week (Tuesday-Friday). A successful candidate is a practicing Catholic in good standing who can minister to students regardless of subject area or a teacher who, consistent with the Mission of Immaculate Conception School, promotes and teaches the Catholic faith as reasonably determined by the principal. Applicants should hold the appropriate Missouri teaching certification, or its equivalent.

Immaculate Conception School (ICS), a kindergarten through 8th grade Catholic School located in Montgomery City, with approximately 40 students, is seeking a 3rd & 4th Grade Homeroom Teacher for the 2021-2022 school year. ICS runs on a 4-day (Tuesday-Friday) school week. A successful candidate is a practicing Catholic in good standing who can minister to students regardless of subject area or a teacher who, consistent with the Mission of Immaculate Conception School, promotes and teaches the Catholic faith as reasonably determined by the principal. Applicants should hold the appropriate Missouri teaching certification, or its equivalent.

All interested persons should complete the application on the Jefferson City Diocesan website at: <https://diojeffcity.org/blog/2019/06/17/employment-in-our-catholic-schools/> and contact the Principal, Dana Schroeder at dschroeder@icschool-mc.org.

Hanging Basket Fundraiser

Immaculate Conception Home and School is sponsoring a Hanging Basket Fundraiser through **May 31, 2021**. Tickets for these baskets are \$19.00 can be purchased at IC School and A'la mode Salon and Boutique here in Montgomery City. If you have questions, please call (573) 564-2679.



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

June 6th - 11:00 AM - 7:00 PM Parish Picnic at Frankenstein

Employment Opportunities

Helias Catholic High School in Jefferson City, a four-year co-educational diocesan high school serving more than 750 students, is **seeking a dynamic, mission-driven leader to become its next principal**. The ideal candidate is a practicing Catholic who is a proficient and organized administrator with strong skills in faculty development, evaluation and management; a minimum five years teaching experience and two years administrative experience; master's degree in Educational Administration; Missouri Administrator Certification; and Catechetical Certification. Candidate is expected to assume the responsibilities of the position in July 2021. To apply, visit diojeffcity.org/employment-opportunities-in-our-catholic-schools.

St. Peter Parish in Fulton is seeking a Director for our Early Childhood Learning Center. The successful candidate is a practicing Catholic in good standing who can minister to students regardless of subject area or a teacher who, consistent with the Mission of St. Peter Catholic School, promotes and teaches the Catholic faith as reasonably determined by the principal. Applicants should hold the appropriate Missouri teaching certification, or its equivalent. All interested persons should complete the application on the Jefferson City Diocesan website at: <https://diojeffcity.org/blog/2019/06/17/employment-in-our-catholic-schools/> and contact the Principal, Mrs. Erin Polson, at 573-642-2839 or via email at epolson@stpeterfultonmo.org

Pick-up Truck Help Needed!

St. Vincent dePaul is looking for someone with a pick-up truck that could handle furniture deliveries to their local clients. It usually is only a couple of hours a week. If you could help out, please call Aggie Baldetti (573) 835-2630 or Bob Schipper (573) 220-8629. Any help would be greatly appreciated.



The Seven Sisters Apostolate is a call to strengthen the Church by ensuring that a Holy Hour is prayed each day of the week for the sole intention of a specific priest or bishop. For more information, visit SevenSistersApostolate.org or email SevenSistersJeffCity@gmail.com

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 - Susan Ryan

Contact the parish office to have someone added!

Please pray for: Karen Clark, Alex Clark (granddaughter of Karen Clark), Nick Schneider, Lucille Griesbauer, Marvin Griesbauer, Pat (Cobb) Hunn, Susan Schipper, Charlee Kate (niece of Sue Beck), and Diane Happe.

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, Michel James, and Daniel Lohmann.

Contact the parish office to have someone added!



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Contact the parish office to have someone added



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St. Vincent De Paul Society
Immaculate Conception Conference
Montgomery City, Missouri



No work of charity is foreign to the Society of St. Vincent DePaul. Since its founding in Paris, France, in 1833, members in over 150 countries have helped neighbors in need. Immaculate Conception Conference of SSVdP isn't that old, but we have operated for over a decade to try to assist those of our community.

We collaborate with other churches and groups who provide assistance in Montgomery County and cooperate with groups in the diocese as well as other SSVdP conferences. Most of our assistance is with utility bills—electricity, water, heating—but individual needs vary greatly. If we cannot provide the aid, we work to find someone or some agency that can.

Parish members and community members have been generous in donations of furnishings which we distribute as individuals present their needs. Thankfully, storage space has also been donated. The community has several food banks for which we collect periodically. Reverend Guffie is organizing a Community Garden in the lot next to the SSVdP Office. Volunteers are needed there.

Do you see a place for yourself in these charitable activities? We believe that the call to be a Vincentian is a call from the Spirit. Join with us and the 800,000 other Vincentians whose mission is to build a more just world, inspired by Gospel values.

To join us, or for further information, call 573-835-3631. This is an answering service and we will call you. Or fill out the form below and mail it to: Society of St. Vincent DePaul, 216 West 2nd Street, Montgomery City, MO 63361.



Name _____

Address _____

Best phone number _____