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164th YEAR OF SERVICE

Immaculate Conception

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



573.564.2375 Parish Office | Office Hours M - Th 9am-3pm
Janet Cobb, Bookkeeper/Secretary | imm-con@sbcglobal.net | www.micicparish.org
Parish Council Members: Dennis Benney-President, Jack Wells-Vice-President,
Vicki Parker, Dennis Cobb, and Michael Smith

Society of St. Vincent DePaul - 573.835.3631

Fr. Ernest Dike, Parochial Administrator, edike@diojeffcity.org Bulletin Deadline 9:00 AM on Wednesdays

January 4, 2026 - The Epiphany of the Lord

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.

St. Patrick Parish Mission

As a church community here at St. Patrick, we want to know, love and serve Jesus in our efforts in: Christian formation/faith development; worship; social services; and stewardship of resources.

MONDAY

January 5
St. John
Neumann, Bishop
1 Jn 3:22-4:6
Mt 4:12-17, 23-25

TUESDAY

January 6
Christmas Weekday
1 Jn 4:7-10
Mk 6:34-44

WEDNESDAY

January 7
Christmas Weekday
1 Jn 4:11-18
Mk 6:45-52

THURSDAY

January 8
Christmas Weekday
1 Jn 4:19-5:4
Lk 4:14-22a

FRIDAY

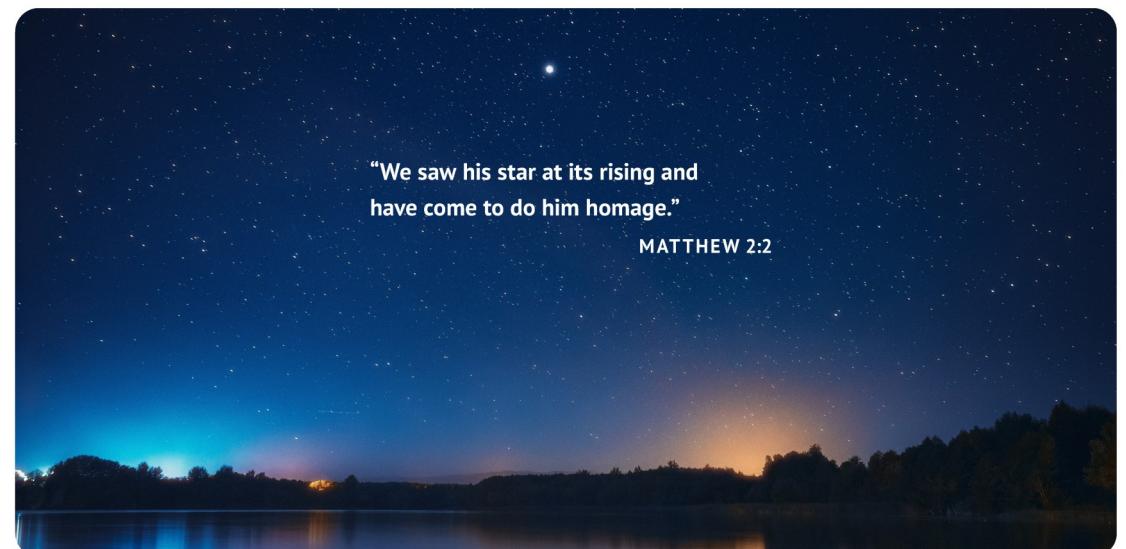
January 9
Christmas Weekday
1 Jn 5:5-13
Lk 5:12-16

SATURDAY

January 10
Christmas Weekday
1 Jn 5:14-21
Jn 3:22-30

SUNDAY

January 11
The Baptism
of the Lord
Is 42:1-4, 6-7
Acts 10:34-38
Mt 3:13-17



**Following Jesus Without
a Star to Guide Us**

FR. THOMAS M. SANTA, CSSR

“We saw his star at its rising and have come to do him homage” (Matthew 2:2) describes the spark that sent the Magi on their journey. Something unusual in the sky, interpreted as a sign of something wonderful—in response, they changed direction in their lives and devoted themselves to a completely different path. As wonderful as it might well be, a special star in the heavens is not the ordinary experience of how we learn to follow the Lord or discern his will. If only there could be a sign in God’s universe for each of us, beckoning us forward, clarifying what we need to do, setting down the path that needs to be followed. Perhaps life would be much simpler. Or perhaps not?

Would it truly be less complicated if everything were made clear and certain? Is the manifestation of God’s grace and blessings confined to the straight and narrow, or can we also experience God in the chaos—“in the weeds,” so to speak. Human experience seems to suggest that life is more “gray” than “black and white.” There is real grace in the journey, in making mistakes, even in choosing something that is incomplete. Thankfully, God’s grace does not need perfection to be powerful. We can know and follow God’s will for us in the ordinary moments of day-to-day living. We do not need the extraordinary or the dramatic. ●

Reflect

How can I resolve to look for God in the unplanned, the unexpected, the interruptions?



LEARN ABOUT
THE AUTHORS
OF OUR PARISH
COMMUNITY

Mon	January	5th	NO Mass - Montgomery City
Tues	January	6th	NO Mass - Montgomery City
Wed	January	7th	NO Mass - Jonesburg
Thur	January	8th	NO Mass - Montgomery City
Fri	January	9th	NO Mass - Montgomery City
Sat	January	10th	5:00 PM Mass - Montgomery City - Our Parish Family
Sun	January	11th	8:00 AM Mass - Jonesburg +Tim Ebbesmeyer 10:00 AM Mass - Montgomery City +Fr. Paul Hartley

A reminder: If there is a funeral at any of the two parishes or a school cancellation due to weather, there will be **no** scheduled Mass

Immaculate Conception Parish & School

	Income	Expenses	Difference
Fiscal Jul 25-Nov 25	\$280,181.03	\$295,489.39	-\$15,308.36
November 2025	\$41,269.85	\$49,583.31	-\$8,313.46
	Church	ICS/Daycare	Total
December 7th	\$6,151.00	\$8,800.00	\$14,951.00
December 14th	\$4,344.25	\$4,608.00	\$8,952.25
December 21st	\$6,703.00	\$5,337.00	\$12,040.00
December 28th	\$17,294.68	\$2,087.00	\$19,381.68
Weekly Goal	\$13,768.96	Wkly Avg	\$13,831.23



Additional Financial Information

Seminary & Infirm Priests - \$1,340.00
Christmas Flowers - \$20.00

St. Patrick Parish

	Income	Expenses	Difference
Fiscal Jul 25-Nov 25	\$32,922.48	\$38,463.08	-\$5,540.60
November 2025	\$7,002.46	\$4,472.32	\$2,530.14
	Church	Total	
December 7th	\$1,258.55	\$1,258.55	
December 14th	\$1,448.00	\$1,448.00	
December 21st	\$4,618.10	\$4,618.10	
December 28th			
Weekly Goal	\$1,964.42	Wkly Avg	\$2,441.52

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.

Mass Ministries	January 3rd & 4th	January 10th & 11th	January 17th & 18th	January 24th & 25th
Lector	Larry Brueggemann	Beth Cobb	Dennis Benney	Beth Roesner
Eucharistic Ministers	Beth Cobb, Tom Cobb & Don Broz	Dennis Cobb, Mary Pottebaum Ruth Ann O'Keefe	Gary Hoette, Beth Cobb, Tom Cobb	Don Broz, Dennis Cobb, Ruth Ann O'Keefe
Ministers of Hospitality	Cothren Family	Tom Cobb, Bob Dryden Bill & Liz Huston	Kasey Pottebaum Family Tom Cobb	Steve & Beth Cobb Daryl & Nancy Cobb
Servers	Jacob Roesner Beth Roesner	Lila Broz Malorie Schulte	Jacob Roesner Mercer Cothren	Lila Broz Malorie Schulte
Money Counters	Don /Sandy Oakes & Darryl Rhoads	Dottie Brueggen & Dobbie Heidelberger	John/Aggie Baldetti & Darryl Rhoads	Don/Sandy Oakes & Judy Cobb
Lector	Pat Stumbaugh	Michael Readey	Amanda Arens	Michael Smith
Children's Liturgy	Gerri Park	Rachel Rakers	Anna Harrell	Dianne Talley
Eucharistic Ministers	Tudie Simpson, Jack Wells & Jenidean Readey	Megan Hans, Gayle Adams Steven Williams	Dennis Cobb, Jacob Lotton, Tony Wessel	Eileen Lotton, Tudie Simpson, Jenidean Readey
Ministers of Hospitality	Dave & Janet Cobb Jeff & Amanda Arens	Dana Schneider, Brady Craven & Jerry Neale, Julie Worsham	Jeff & Amanda Arens Pat & Janet Stumbaugh	Dana Schneider/Brady Craven Tony Wessel, Steve Williams
Servers	Maverick Johnson & Leia Johnson	Axton Johnson & Kendra Rakers	Josie & Wade Harrell	Ella & Emilia Hans
Money Counters	Megan Hans & Vicki Parker	Pam Schwartz & Cathy McCormack	Vicki Parker & Mark Brower	Rick/Gayle Adams & Dave Teeter
Hospitality/Usher	Youth	Farrar Family	Nancy & John Cobb, Sr.	John Cobb, Jr. Family
Altar Clean Up Only	Jam Milzark	Jan Milzark	Laurie Dothage	Jan Milzark
Lector	Gracie Cobb	Julie Ellis	Laurie Gilbert	Sara Johnson
Servers	Jordan Finke & McCullie Schluss	Emma Cobb & Carl Johnson	Luke Farrar & Anna Johnson	Emma Cobb & Carl Johnson
Eucharistic Minister	Bridget Cobb, John Cobb, Sr. & Terri Lenzenhuber	Nancy Cobb, Vicki Duenke & Barb Turpin	Terri Lenzenhuber, John Cobb, Sr., Sara Johnson	Bridget Cobb, Vicki Duenke, Barb Turpin
Money Counters	Derrick Cobb & John Cobb, Jr.	Jan Milzark & Karen Stenger	John Cobb, Jr. & Brad Ellis	Bridget Cobb & Laurie Dothage

Remember, if you are unable to complete your assigned time, you are responsible for finding a replacement! Thank you for your service!

Parish Membership: Please call the parish office to register.

Sacrament of Reconciliation: IC Sat 4:15PM-4:45PM, SP Sun 7:15AM 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.

To Become a Catholic: Order of Christian Initiation of Adults begins in the Fall and sacramental initiation normally occurs at the Easter Vigil. Please call for details. Classes on Tuesday evenings at 6:30 PM at ICS.

Hospitalization: If you are hospitalized or have a family member who is home-bound, please call the parish office.

Dear Padre,

I recently lost my husband of sixty years. I prayed for him through his four-year illness. Since he has died, I cannot pray. Any advice for me?

My heartfelt condolences on your profound loss. When someone we love dies, a part of us dies too. Sometimes, the trauma is so severe that it can even affect our relationship with God.

Psychiatrist Elisabeth Kübler-Ross identified five stages of grief. In the denial stage, some people can't accept the reality of the death. It becomes too much to handle. In the anger stage, some may question their belief in God—especially if their prayer requests (such as, "Please God, if you heal my loved one, I will...") weren't successful in the bargaining stage. People in the depression stage feel overwhelmed by the reality of the loss and may not always feel like connecting with others—even with God in prayer. However, in the acceptance stage, emotions stabilize, and a person comes to terms with their new reality. Nothing makes up for the absence of a loved one, but people manage to cope and live on.

It's because you loved so deeply that the loss feels so deep. God accepts you completely; God understands how you feel. He wants you to be at peace and live life fully. Our compassionate God yearns to help console you and offer assistance in your healing process until you can embrace him again in prayer. ●



YANDRY FERNANDEZ PERDOMO / CATHOPIC

Do you have a question for the Padre?

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

A WORD FROM POPE LEO XIV

Let us resolve to bring [God's] love everywhere, never forgetting that each of our sisters and brothers is a dwelling place of God and that his presence is manifested above all in the little ones, in the poor and the suffering, who ask us to be thoughtful and compassionate Christians.

REGINA CAELI, ROME, MAY 25, 2025



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Pope Leo XIV's Prayer Intention for January

For prayer with the word of God

Let us pray that praying with the word of God be nourishment for our lives and a source of hope in our communities, helping us to build a more fraternal and missionary Church.

SHEER GOODNESS

MISSOURI CATHOLIC SUMMIT 2026



ST. JOSEPH CATHEDRAL JEFFERSON CITY, MO

FEBRUARY 28, 2026

COLLEGE AGED YOUNG ADULTS 18-25

For more information and registration, visit diojeffcity.org/mo-catholic-summit/





Proceeds donated to

Immaculate Conception Home & School

Goodie Bags & Attendance Prizes

\$75 for Weekend or \$40 for Saturday Only

Winter Craft Weekend

Friday, January 30, 2026
2 pm - 9 pm • Dinner provided

Saturday, January 31, 2026
9 am - 9 pm • Lunch & Dinner provided

Sunday, February 1, 2026
9 am - 2 pm • Brunch provided



Bring your sewing, scrapbooking, needle art, or whatever you want to work on!

Sign up and pay by January 15 to reserve your spot!

Venmo: @IChomeandschool

Checks made payable and sent to:
IC Home & School
407 W. Third St.
Montgomery City, MO 63361

Knights of Columbus Hall
318 N. Sturgeon St.
Montgomery City, Missouri

For More Information:
Lanie Gardner 573.823.5756 or
HomeAndSchool@icschool-mc.org



MINISTRY on the Move



January

St. Mary Parish, Shelbina.....22nd
St. Joseph Parish, Westphalia 23rd
St. Brendan's School Mexico 29th
SVDP Parish, Sedalia.....30th

6:30- 8:00 PM
Doors open @ 6 pm

<https://diojeffcity.org/womens-ministry-on-the-move-2026-registration/>



Finding Joy Living in the Spirit

Discover how the Holy Spirit leads us toward a life of deeper joy, peace, and purpose. This inspiring talk invites us to open our hearts to God's presence, recognize His movement in our daily lives, and embrace the joy that flows from living in true communion with Him.

Shelley Pichler

Register here!



Religious Ed, Youth & Young Adult Ministry presents

Come & Join

DREYM Winter Workshop

Gather with other DREs and Youth Ministers (or other faith leadership in parishes) as we grow in knowledge & community

2 Date Options, choose ONE:

- Thursday, January 15, 2026
- Saturday, January 17, 2026

9:30am-2:00pm

Alphonse J. Schwartz
Memorial Catholic Center
2207 West Main, St.
Jefferson City, MO 65109

Register Now!

Register at: <https://diojeffcity.org/2026-winter-dreym-workshop/>

Upcoming Events and Announcements

Monday January 5th	IC IC	5:30 PM - Choir Practice 6:30 PM - St. Vincent dePaul Meeting
Tuesday January 6th	IC IC IC	6:00 AM to 5:00 PM - Adoration NO Benediction & Devotion to Divine Mercy 6:30 PM - OCIA
Wednesday January 7th	IC IC IC	9:00 AM to 1:30 PM - Quilting at the St. Vincent dePaul Building - all are welcome 6:00 PM - Home and School Meeting @ ICS 7:00 PM - Knights of Columbus Meeting @ KC Hall
Thursday January 8th	IC IC SP	10:00 AM Ministerial Alliance Meeting 12:00 Noon - K of C Ladies Auxiliary Meeting @ KC Hall 11:30 AM - Ladies Luncheon @ Frumpy Joe's in Jonesburg
Friday January 9th		
Saturday January 10th		
Sunday January 11th	IC SP	4:15 PM to 6:15 PM - 1st thru 8th Grade PSR Class After Mass - Coffee & Donuts in the Parish Hall - all are welcome!



Then you will call on me and come and pray to me, and I will listen to you.
Jeremiah 29:12

PLEASE KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS THE FOLLOWING PEOPLE:

Residents of Aspire Nursing Home (formerly St. Andrews)
515 Picnic Street, New Florence, MO 63363
Bill Muenz, and Dorothy Bowman

Resident of The Arbors at South Pointe
5125 Old State Hwy 100, Room 13, Washington, MO 63090
Peggy Gardner

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

Residents (including Fr. Lou Dorn) of
Aspire Nursing Home
308 Cedar Avenue, Jonesburg, MO 63351

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE STRUGGLING, SICK AND INFIRMED:

Al & Christine Barger, Mike Benzen, Mike Busken, Elizabeth Brueggen, Molly Brueggen, Larry Brueggemann, Marion Bullerdick, Parker Calbreath, Robert Carillo, Bill Cobb, Becky Cothren, Clint Cunningham, Lori Dorsey, Ebbesmeyer Family, Nick Erbe, John Goodwin, Sheryl Gibbs, Richard Grelle, Lucille Griesbauer, Anna Gross, Ed Grillo, Henry Hamill, Antoinette Hoing, Howard Hollensteiner, Ingrid Keller, Genevieve Kelly, Annie Kempf, Darlie Lamb, Pat Merz, Sarah Matthews, Kathleen Mohrmann, Nancy Nylund, Lyndsey O'Bryan, Alice O'Donnell, Margaret O'Donnell, Paula Peatross, Avery Penn, Peggy Readey, Rae Jean Rhoads, Nick Schneider, Tommy Shine, Nancy Smiley, Eric Smith, Evelyn Strauss, Katherine Stroot, Ed Torbeck, Sue Umphenour, Sandy Waddell, Tony Wessel, Sr.

PLEASE PRAY FOR ALL OUR MEN AND WOMEN IN THE ARMED SERVICES

Brandon Wells, Dylan Willis, Daniel Lohmann, Donnie Wisdom, Alex Brueggen, & Justin Beabout



Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her. ~Ephesians 5:25

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

Matt & Karen Milner - 33 years of marriage on Jan. 9th

Happy Birthday to those who are celebrating in January!

3rd - Sam Cobb
4th - Marion Bullerdick
5th - Beth Bextermiller
6th - Millie Myrick
6th - Everleigh Poggas
12th - Chelsea Barclay
16th - Matthew Poltsch
18th - Linda Stewart
24th - Goldie Reynolds
24th - Barb Turpin
26th - Shelby Barclay
29th - Rich Rose



Adoration Help

We are looking for someone to take over the 10:00-11:00 AM Adoration time which Bill and Margie Cobb has done for a very long time. With Bill's health condition, they are unable to continue. We do have the month of January covered. Please call or text Ruth Ann O'Keefe at (573) 823-2676 if you are able to help out. Thank you for prayerfully considering this commitment.



Parish Renewal – Forum for Ideas
All parishioners are invited to join us.
These gatherings are simply opportunities to share thoughts, hopes, and suggestions about strengthening our parish family.

We will offer two session times:

- Saturday, January 17, 2026, after 5:00 PM Mass
- Sunday, January 18, 2026, after 10:00 AM Mass

Both sessions will be held in the school basement, and refreshments will be provided.

We will also share updates on projects currently in progress.

Your presence and input are greatly appreciated. Please join us as we work together to help our parish grow, welcome, and thrive.

St. Patrick's News

January Mass Intentions

4th - +Frank Cobb Family
11th - +Tim Ebbesmeyer
18th - +Rich Milzark
25th - +Herb Mertz Family



2026 Contribution Envelopes

Your box of Sunday Contribution Envelopes are available to pick up in the Church Lobby. They are in numerical order not alphabetically.

Come and Join the Fun!

Calling all crafters and those not so crafty! Do you like to make greeting cards? Do you like to send cards? Do you like to receive happy mail? Let's get together after Mass Sunday the 25th of January to make, write and post cards to those in our parish and community that cross our mind and those in our prayers. Debbie Enger will supply card making supplies, envelopes and postage. Please stay and help make someone's day a little brighter with happy mail. All are welcome. No experience needed!

Safe Travels, Father Ernest!

Father Ernest left on Monday for Nigeria to visit with his family and friends. Our prayers are with Father as he travels home! Have a wonderful time, Father, but please remember to come back to us the end of January!



While Father is away, Fr. Brad Berhorst will be here for weekend Masses. He is currently serving as diocesan Judicial Vicar, and Head Master of Ceremonies for the Bishop.

Our Prayers and Condolences

Susie Ryan passed peacefully on December 31st. Please pray for the repose of her soul. We also extend our prayers and condolences to Susie's friends and caregivers during this time of great sorrow.

Immaculate Conception School News

Ms. Dana Schroeder, School Principal | Mrs. Anna Harrell, Administrative Assistant | 573.564.2679 - School Office | immaculateconception@icschool-mc.org

Calendar

Dec. 23-Jan 5- Christmas Break

Jan. 6- School Resumes

Jan. 7- Home & School Meeting @ 6pm

IC Home & School is evaluating the time, day, and frequency of their meetings. Dates and times may change.

Thank you to the Knights of Columbus and the Ladies Auxiliary for the amazing FFA fruit for all of our students! We truly appreciate your kindness!

Wishing everyone a Wonderful and Blessed Holiday Season!

Collection for Seminarians & Infirm Priests

There is still time to give to the Diocesan special collection for Seminary Formation and Infirm Priests. Each diocesan parish is assessed a specific amount; Immaculate Conception-\$2,295.00 (so far, we have collected \$1,605.00) and St. Patrick-\$533.00. What is not collected will have to be made up from the general fund. There were envelopes for this collection in the December 12th *Catholic Missourian*, and in your regular giving envelopes. Either may be used. Thank you for your generosity!

Happy Birthday!

We received word that Darlie Lamb celebrated her 101 birthday on December 26th. If anyone would like to send her a card in celebration of this milestone, her address is: Darlie Lamb, 862 Mitchell Road, Sedalia, MO 65301

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 items, etc. that we received on December 9th. With winter approaching, this will be of great help for those in need.

Sincerely,
Sharon Wehrman
Secretary, Crisis Food Closet of Montgomery County



KC Council #2044

60th ANNUAL



**WHOLE HOG SAUSAGE
DINNER**

SUNDAY JANUARY 25, 2026

10:30am - 2:00pm

"Rain, Ice, Sleet, or Snow, IT'S A GO"

**Knights of Columbus Hall
Montgomery City**

Dine in and Carry out only

\$15.00 dinner... Child \$7.00

(Over 90 & under 6 no Charge) Age 6 to 12

**Sausage with Kraut, Mashed Potatoes,
Green Beans, Applesauce and Dessert**

**Bulk Sausage Sales \$6.00 4-link vacuum package
Starting Friday Jan. 23rd. at KC Hall**