



Immaculate Heart of Mary Catholic Church

Mailing Address: P. O. Box 100 * New Melle, MO 63365

Website: www.ihm-newmelle.org

Office Phone: 636-398-5270

Deliveries only address: 8 West Highway D, New Melle, MO 63365

Schedule of Holy Mass

Saturday: 8:00am, 4:00pm Vigil Mass for Sunday
Sunday: 7:30am, 10:00am
Weekdays: 8:00am and Wednesdays at 6:30pm in church

Weekly Devotions and Prayers

Eucharistic Adoration:

Monday 8:30am until Friday 11:00am, St. Joseph Chapel

Rosary: Prior to Saturday evening 4pm Mass

Weekday devotions after morning Mass:

Tuesday: Mother of Perpetual Help

Wednesday: Litany of St. Joseph

Thursday: Celebrating the Sanctity of Life

First Friday: Litany of the Sacred Heart

First Saturday of the Month Devotions

8am Mass, Rosary, 15 minutes of meditation

Sacraments

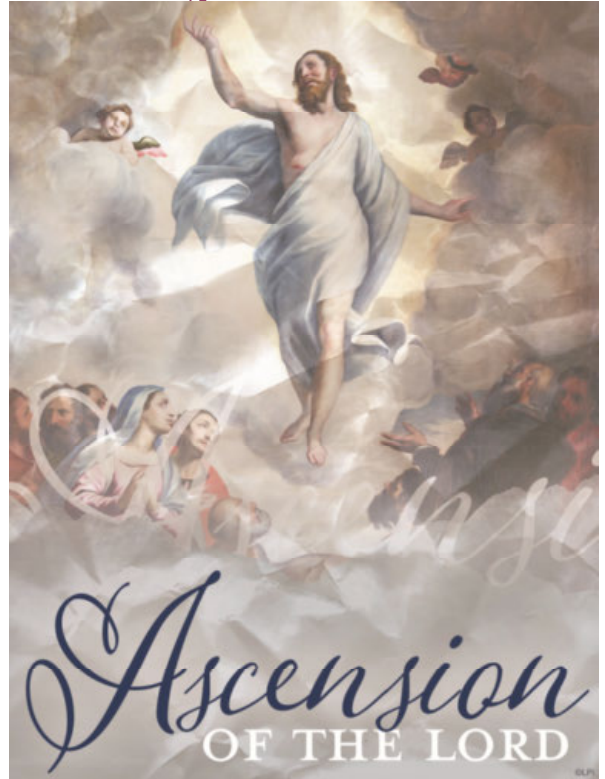
Reconciliation: Wednesdays in church, 7pm
Saturdays in church following 8am Mass

Marriage: Contact the parish office
at least six months prior to the wedding

Baptism: Contact the parish office
to register for class and to arrange date

Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults:
Contact Shawn Mueller in the parish office

May 29, 2022



A Deeper Understanding of Scripture

We have the ability to walk with joyful hope! Jesus, during His earthly ministry, pointed the way to God's kingdom. What is finally understood about God's kingdom is that it is filled with the glory of Christ! We are all in the process of being emptied into and becoming one with Christ. We are new creations, clothed in Christ, made in God's very image and likeness, and on this incredible journey of glory. The Ascension allows us to see this truth about ourselves and it enlightens our hearts. Christ who was most perfectly, vividly, and brilliantly transfigured before the very eyes of the disciples will be our destiny. Seeing only imperfectly now, we will see perfectly then. We will bask in the brilliance of understanding and

truth. Christ is our destiny and our hope. Alleluia!

Believing this with our whole heart allows us to walk proudly through life's darkness. There is so much that can upset us and weigh us down. Sometimes, life's news can not only be challenging but downright discouraging. Our own lives can easily become unsettled and empty. We rely too much on the things of this world to please us and wonder how we lost our excitement, enthusiasm, wonder, and joy. Getting so caught up in superficialities and unnecessary dependencies, we lose our axis, anchor, and center. Today, we can claim it back again! We are reminded that it is not here that we find fulfillment but in the world of Christ yet to

come. Jesus sent this promise of His Father upon His disciples, and He sends it to us as well.

Faith in God really has power to change things. In essence, all we have to do is believe in what God promises. God is ever close to us. He can even use what we see as the "useless scraps of life" to create "God moments" of inspiration and invitation. Then, even what is perceived as unpleasant, distasteful, or even hurtful can be transformed into an experience of joy. The Ascension of Christ becomes our reference point for self-knowledge. This firm anchor allows us to work through whatever comes our way and never be robbed of joy!

Welcome to Immaculate Heart of Mary: *Informed—Hospitable—Missionary*

Parish Staff

Parish Office: 636-398-5270

Fr. Tom Miller, Pastor *askpadre@aol.com*
(for emergencies only: 314-303-2428)
Deacon Chris Ast *chrisast@archstl.org*
Deacon Tony Falbo *tony.2011@centurylink.net*
Laura Orf, Business Manager *lorf@ihm-newmelle.org*
Peggy Dupree, Office Manager *secretary@ihm-newmelle.org*
Bryan Beams, Director of Music and Liturgy
bryanbeams@ihm-newmelle.org
Michael McDonald, Plant Manager *macmcd1123@gmail.com*
Karen Wappelhorst, Child Safety Coordinator
childsafety@ihm-newmelle.org

Religious Education

Shawn Mueller, Director

636-398-5270, *smueller@ihm-newmelle.org*

Parish School of Religion
Grades 1 thru 8, September thru May, 8:45-9:45am, Sundays
Confirmation Preparation
8th Grade—September thru May, 8:45-9:45am, Sundays
Children's Liturgy of the Word
September thru May, during the 10am Sunday Mass
Adult Education
Sundays 8:45—9:45am Grand Hall, Wednesdays 7:10pm Weber Hall
Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults—contact Shawn for schedule

Quick Contacts Directory

Parish Youth

High School Youth Leader
Janet Hespern 314-369-6521, *janethspn@outlook.com*

Weddings, Receptions, Events

Pat Gentry, Hall Rental 636-398-5270
Kelly Meyer, Wedding Coordinator 636-828-4994
Jean Hitt, Wedding Coordinator 636-987-2131
Joan Marren-Slaughter, Event Coordinator 636-398-5270
Mary Keune, Event Coordinator 636-398-5270

Prayer and Devotion

Eucharistic Adoration
Shawn Mueller 636-398-5270
Legion of Mary
Maria Romine-Kantor 314-614-0857
Prayer Chain
Brenda Hutchcraft 636-248-8493
Prayer Intercession/Jonah Team
Debbie Gillespie 636-398-4971
Prayer Shawl Ministry
Julia Kettler 314-616-0096

Liturgical Ministries

Extraordinary Ministers
Kathy Lalonde 636-439-9131
Lectors
Joe Willis 618-806-6684
Gift Bearers
Peggy Dupree 636-398-5270
Ushers
Gary Struckhoff 636-828-6067
Altar Servers
Deacon Chris Ast *chrisast@archstl.org*
Altar Society
Pam DeBold 636-482-4765
Art & Environment
Ashley Czuchna 636-578-8774
Music Ministry
Bryan Beams 636-398-5270
Adult Choir
Mary Sweeten 314-324-3249
Children's Choir
Elizabeth Jaeckle 636-828-4811

Liturgical Videographer

Stan Kostecki 314-397-5965

Parish Organizations

Budget & Finance
Larry Graves 314-799-9804
Cemetery Committee
Mark Keune 314-220-7075
Dinner Committee
Jeff Comotto 314-570-6972
Funeral Lunches
Ruth Neske 636-398-5699
Vicki Grunz 636-497-5230
Helping Hearts
John Grady 314-662-2138
Mary Hardesty 636-398-5663
Tim Lebb 314-775-7717
Maria Romine-Kantor 314-614-0857
Knights of Columbus
Tim Lebb 314-775-7717
Marian Council
Barb Pope 773-383-8602
Meal Train
Kelly Meyer *meyer5853@qmcinc.org*, 636-828-4994
Meals on Wheels
Jean Bammann 636-798-2718
Pro Life
Bill Winters 636-828-4133
Quilters
Vanita Joerling 636-544-0416
Ruth Willis 636-398-4597
Scouting
Chuck Hinkle 636-544-6639
Cub Scouts: Jerry Hespern 636-236-1955
Scouts: Chris Williams 314-713-9170
St. Vincent de Paul
Joe Willis 618-806-6684
Welcoming Committee
Teresa Berfanger 636-398-5565

Famous Last Words

A fun way to waste an hour or two on the internet is to Google “famous last words.” There are entire websites devoted to chronicling the last utterances of celebrities and historical figures. I think the fascination with parting words stems from the drama of a person’s final moment on earth. We want to ascribe some kind of power and significance to the last words they say, especially if they are our loved ones, because it gives us something to carry with us in our grief.

In Jesus’ case, every word He ever said had power and significance, but especially those He said before ascending into Heaven: “You will be my witnesses ... to the ends of the earth.”

And then He was gone.

If I were one of the Apostles, I think a small anxiety attack would have commenced at that

point. As much as they knew and believed that Christ was still with them, it must have felt awfully lonely standing there staring at an empty sky, with the mother of all homework assignments having just been handed down.

Stewardship is intimidating by nature. The baptismal call is an honor and a gift. But it is also a little scary bearing witness to Christ.

When we doubt ourselves, let’s return to Christ’s last words and cling to the faith he had in His Father’s love for us. He says not “you will be witnesses” but “you are witnesses.” We already have what we need. God is within us, and we take Him wherever we go.

— Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

©LPi

A Prayer for Graduates

Loving God,

we thank you for all who graduate from grade school, high school and college at this time of year.

You have blessed them during their years in school with wisdom, friendships, and skills.

You continue to challenge them to make this world a better place because of their education.

Help them to look forward to their next steps: continuing in their education or entering the work world.

Particularly help those who are seeking employment to find a job suitable to their education.

Give them faith and a sense of purpose in their next steps.

Show them how to serve others in effective ways.

And may they always be aware in everything they do that they will find fulfillment in doing Your will, that You will be with them always, and that You will bring to completion the good work You have begun in them.

Amen.

The Ascension of the Lord — Year C

(Jesus said) “And behold, I am sending the promise of my Father upon you; but stay in the city until you are clothed with power from on high.” (Luke 24:49)

The Ascension of Christ is His liberation from all restrictions of time and space. It does not represent His removal from earth, but His constant presence within the members of His Body.

The Holy Spirit is the love of God poured into our hearts, offered as Gift by Christ whose being struck and pierced has opened up gifts for all.

Ministry Schedule

May 28—4pm

EM: Becky Wilson, Jim & Theresa Risch
Lec: Donna Hecht, Joe Willis
Music: Bryan, Mike, Betsy
Serv: Chase Spurgeon
Ush: Mike Rieker, Tim Wilson, Chris Cuddihee, Andy Pope

May 29—7:30am

EM: Mary Keune, Bob Brossette, Peggy Dupree
Lec: Chuck Kettler, Yvonne Brossette
Music: Verdi & Brooke
Serv: Mary Grace & Janie Becker
Ush: Ron Jacob, Joe Weber, Mark Thome, Ron Neske

May 29—9:30am

EM: Pat Gentry, Maureen Blondin, Janet Hespen
Lec: Bill Winters, Michelle Greiwe
Music: Adult Choir
Serv: Thomas Kokker, Izzy Czuchna
Ush: Bill Riley, Ron Simpson, Alan Raymond, Bob Hutchcraft

IHMformation Station

4:00: Brian & Becky Wilson
7:30: Peggy Dupree
10:00: Maureen Blondin

Ministry Schedule—Pentecost

June 4—4pm

EM: Judy Cova, Wally & Jan Karase
Lec: Chuck Kettler, Larry Graves
Serv: Izzy & Jack Scheer
Music: Bryan, Mike, Betsy
Ush: Bill Pollihan, Tim Wilson, Andy Pope, Chris Cuddihee

June 5—7:30am

EM: Dianne Dickherber, Emily Cooksey, Kris Jenkins
Lec: Bob Leeker, Peggy Dupree
Serv: KaBella Bruno, David Vehige
Music: Verdi & Elizabeth
Ush: Brian Corrigan, Chris Molitor, Rick Scharf, Tom Meczkowski

June 5—10am

EM: Maureen Blondin, Don & Susan Hladky
Lec: Bev Mayhew, Chuck Hinkle
Serv: Billy & Peter Simon
Music: Adult Choir
Ush: Bill Winters, Gary Struckhoff, Larry Smith, Bill Riley

IHMformation Station

4:00 Wally & Jan Karase
7:30 Peggy Dupree
10:00 Chuck & Laurie Hinkle

Heavenly Dusters

Week of May 29: Legion of Mary
Week of June 5: Peggy Dupree
Week of June 12: Pat Roche
Week of June 19: Shirley Gassei
Week of June 26: Dot Keune

Purificators

Month of May: Cassie Potter
Month of June: June Spiess

*Please pray for all the sick
and suffering:*

Phyllis Zerr, Fran Bussen, Betty Boyd, Amy Robbins,
Don Schmidt, Carl Wolff, George Stark, Ann Fitzgerald,
Pat Foster, Betty Heppermann, Joyce Brakensiek,
Tom & Mary Jean Hartenbach, Terry Hagan,
Richard & Doris Berhorst, Pat Ryan,
Pete Schepis, Jeff Bollman, Tom Baker, Jim Hall

Steve Wengerski and Kathy Schuckman (friends of Mandy Daub),
Keith Langford (son of Rita & brother of Valerie Langford),
Red Brockmeyer (cousin of Kay & Ray Cherry),
Karla Sitzes (daughter of Sophia Bax),
Pat Finan (daughter of Fran Bussen),
Jennifer Fitzsimmons (cousin of Karen Fitzsimmons),
Mary Ann Blaske (mother of Jeff Blaske),
Marlene Hagemeyer (sister of Pat Roche),
Charlie Grady (grandson of John & Carol Grady),
Marlene Hagemeyer (sister of Pat Roche),
Michael Gober (son of Ray and Janice Gober),
Rosemary Bell (sister of Janet & Jerry Hespen),
Jessica Anderson (daughter-in-law of Bill & Terri Anderson)

Hospitalization: If you are hospitalized, please let us know.
Please call the office or ask a friend to call for you if necessary.

Communion Calls: If you would like to receive Communion but
are unable to get to Mass because of illness or disability, please
contact the parish office: 636-398-5270.

Prayer Requests: Brenda Hutchcraft at 636-248-8493 or email
brhutchcraft@centurytel.net



Rest in Peace



We offer our prayerful sympathy
to the families of

Ann Terbrock, sister of Tom Terbrock
Sheila Birk, daughter-in-law of Ken & Mary Birk

May they and all the faithful departed
rest in the eternal peace of Christ.



We welcome to our parish family
through the Sacrament of Baptism:
Christopher John Civili
son of Nick and Jane (Schleipman) Civili



The next class will be June 19.
Please contact the parish office to
register by Tuesday, June 14.

Mass Intentions

| | |
|-------------------------|--|
| Monday, May 30 | |
| 8:00am <u>in Chapel</u> | Louis & Agnes Benne + |
| Tuesday, May 31 | |
| 8:00am | intention of Jeff & Chris Comotto |
| Wednesday, June 1 | |
| 8:00am | Brett Varady + Bill & Wilma Zurweller 65th Ann. |
| 6:30pm <u>in Chapel</u> | Norbert Haarmann + |
| Thursday, June 2 | |
| 8:00am | All Souls Bob & Irene Caldwell 60th Ann. |
| Friday, June 3 | |
| 8:00am | Holy Vocations John Bax (10th) + |
| Saturday, June 4 | |
| 8:00am | Michael Hales + |
| 4:00pm | Charles Smith + |
| Sunday, June 5 | |
| 7:30am | People of IHM Jane Schwane + |
| 10:00am | Bud Guinn + Dale Dudenhoeffer + |

Contributions May 21/22

| | |
|------------------------|--------------------|
| General contributions: | \$7,062.50 |
| Online gifts: | \$8,355.49 |
| Total offering: | \$15,417.99 |

"I am the Alpha and the Omega, the first and the last, the beginning and end." (Revelations 22:13)

This is a reminder of how we should live our lives 24 hours a day, 7 days a week—putting God first in all that we do. Not only when I am at Mass and parish activities, but when I am in the world, at work or at school. Living gratefully and generously is an intentional lifestyle. Every decision you make either moves you closer to God or farther away. Choose wisely!

We pray: that with every decision we make, we take one step closer to God.

Needed at the Pantry



oil, sugar, fruit juices, coffee, beef stew, sloppy Joe, pasta sauce (in plastic or cans), plastic bags—please double them

Today as we celebrate the feast of the Ascension we are reminded that Christ's saving work on earth continues through His disciples ... and now through us.

When we give to the poor, God indeed pours His love, peace and joy into our hearts, into our lives, and into the hearts of those who are poor.

At our recent gathering...

On Sunday, May 15th, our SVDP Conference members gathered in fellowship for our Spring social event. Most of our members were present. I had the privilege of presenting my lovely wife Debbie an award certificate for the love and support she offers us all, for organizing our seasonal gathering, baking birthday treats for our active members who attend meetings, as well as for all her work in our Conference and Food Pantry as we serve our neighbors in need. Fr. Tim kindly joined us and offered Debbie congratulations and thanked all of our Vincentians for our good works. If YOU feel God is calling you to this vocation, maybe we should chat: 618-806-6684. We truly appreciate the love and support of our Parish-



ioners and community. God bless you all!

Activities this Week

Bring your Rummage Sale items to the Pavilion

| |
|---|
| Monday, May 30—Memorial Day |
| Mass at 8am in St. Joseph Chapel |
| Church office closed |
| Tuesday, May 31 |
| Legion of Mary, Weber Hall, following 8am Mass |
| Fitness, Grand Hall, 9am |
| Rosary for Peace in Ukraine, Chapel, 6pm |
| All Things New Committee, Weber Hall, 3pm |
| Adult Choir rehearsal, 7pm |
| Wednesday, June 1 |
| Rosary for Peace in Ukraine, Chapel, 6pm |
| Evening Mass 6:30pm in St. Joseph Chapel |
| Reconciliation 7pm in St. Joseph Chapel |
| Thursday, June 2 |
| Fitness, Grand Hall, 9am |
| Friday, June 3 |
| Quilters, Weber Hall, 8:30—noon |
| <i>The Chosen</i> , episode 5, Grand Hall, 8:45am |
| Saturday, June 4 |
| Reconciliation, church, 8:45am |
| SVDP Food Pantry open 9—10:30am |
| Jonah Team will pray with you after 4pm Mass and Sunday after 10am Mass |

What's Your Catholic IQ?

- The traditional Marian prayer said in the morning, at noon, and in the evening, often at the tolling of bells, is called the _____.
 - Angelus
 - Our Father
 - Grace before Meals
 - Act of Contrition
- Notre Dame Cathedral _____.
 - is in Paris, France
 - was consecrated in 1182
 - is a classic example of Gothic architecture
 - all of these
- The word “pope” comes from the Italian word for _____.
 - disciple
 - vicar of Christ
 - father
 - Peter
- Rubrics are _____.
 - directions for celebrants, found in liturgical books
 - little flasks containing water and wine for Mass
 - small gold vessels used for Communion to the Sick
 - a type of arch used in Gothic cathedrals
- More than 35 craters on the moon are named for _____.
 - Apostles
 - heretics
 - Jesuits
 - martyrs
- The person in the New Testament who escaped in a basket down the city wall of Damascus was _____.
 - Peter
 - Paul
 - Barnabas
 - Timothy
- The Seventh Commandment forbids _____.
 - shoplifting
 - vandalism
 - cheating
 - all of these
- It is more blessed to give _____.
 - than to receive
 - than to have two tunics
 - than to want more things
 - than to shop
- The Roman Empire launched its first empire-wide persecution of Christians in _____.
 - 250 BC
 - 250 AD
 - 450 AD
 - 650 AD
- The earliest defined dogma about Mary was _____.
 - the Assumption
 - the Immaculate Conception
 - that she was the “Mother of God”
 - that she appeared at Lourdes

PSR Corner

In the Traditional- Devotional Dedication of the Months of the Year, the month of May is the month of Mary. Have you seen all the resources on FORMED.ORG in regards to our Lady? Recall that you have a free subscription.

Go to www.ihm-newmelle.formed.org



St. Paul Library / Lighthouse CD Resources

(Note: With close to 3000 items, the *Parish Library* is located in the Grand Hall past the restrooms. It is open during the week—normal business hours—and works on an honor system. Items from the *Lighthouse CD rack* are located and available in the Narthex.

From the Lighthouse Catholic CD Rack: Narthex



- What are the different kinds of prayer?
- I prayed for something and God didn't grant it. Why?
- Doesn't the Bible condemn repetitious prayers like the rosary?
- Why do I have to say traditional prayers in a church instead of just talking to God in my own way?

Prayer is the Christian's source of strength and peace, a channel of grace, a medium of joy and consolation. By it we open our minds to the One who made us and loves us, to give Him praise and thanks and to tell Him our needs. And we also open our hearts to Him, asking Him for wisdom and direction in our life. But prayer doesn't always come easily, especially when we have questions about how or why we should do it. *20 Answers: Prayer* addresses some of the most common questions, giving you profitable understanding of what prayer is, strategies for praying more often in a busy day, and ways to advance in prayer toward its goal: deeper, more loving communion with God.

Is faith reasonable? What can we know about God through reason alone? How can we make sense of Christian beliefs that seem to defy logic and science? What can I say to people who claim that the God of the Bible is cruel and irrational?



We believe that God is one, and so is His truth. The mysteries He has revealed to the world, the teachings that His Church professes and safeguards, and the conclusions that we reach by the light of natural reason all harmonize and enrich each other. But in a world skeptical of faith and often too clouded by sentiment and sin to wield reason, it can seem that religious truth and rational truth must be enemies—or at least from different worlds. *20 Answers: Faith and Reason* shows you how to restore the unity of truth that is our only basis for living a coherent life of the mind and of the soul, helping you tackle both secular skeptics and your own nagging doubts.

Save the date!



Family Fun Night at IHM
on Saturday, July 23
Fun for All!



Food Trucks—Bounce House—Music

Here's who will be here:
Daddy O's Cheesesteaks and Waffle Nerds



Ballerina Princess Camp

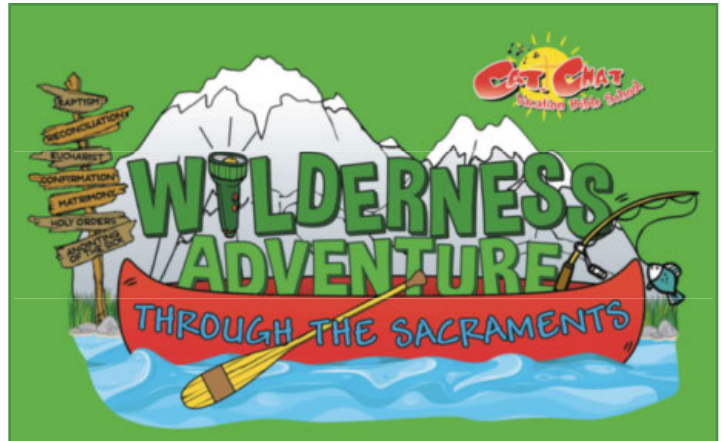
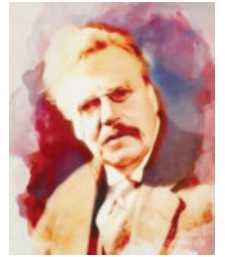
Children ages 4-7 are invited to join Miss Kathy for 3 fun-filled mornings of dancing, crafts, and games with a princess theme!

- June 6, 7, 8 from 9:00-11:00
 - \$40 per camper (All proceeds will be donated to IHM)
 - Register early, as there are limited spots available
 - We'll meet downstairs in the Grand Hall at IHM
- To register, email Kathy at dancetimellc@gmail.com

Missouri Inmates Sew Custom Quilts for Foster Children and they need your donations to do it!

The Knights of Columbus are asking for donations for the Men's South Central Correctional Center in Licking, MO. As part of their rehabilitation, the men are taught to make quilts and are in need of donations of material, yarn, thread, polyfill and batting. The men design the quilts, with individual children in mind, embroidering their first names on the corner. Once finished, each quilt is packaged with a handmade hat, along with school supplies and toiletries donated by other inmates at South Central. If you would be willing to donate and help these men with their rehabilitation, please bring your donation to a bin in the narthex or contact Mary Leeker at 314-303-9884 or mtleeker@gmail.com

Maria Romine will be speaking on *G. K. Chesterton and Our Lady* after morning Mass on Saturday, June 4 in the Grand Hall. You might recognize the name of Chesterton since he was one of the featured authors in the Bishop Barron series that was viewed during Adult Education.



Immaculate heart of Mary will be hosting
Vacation Bible School
July 11 through the 15
9am to noon each day

The goal of this program is to help children better understand the seven sacraments and deepen their love for Jesus.

Calling kids of all ages. contact Julie Lassiter 636-357-0121 if you have questions, if you'd like to donate snacks for the week, and of course we would love all the volunteers we can have! Volunteers must have completed Protecting Gods Children course and all requirements from the Archdiocese in order to participate in this activity. Also, a good way to contact Julie is by email:

Julie.R.Lassiter@gmail.com

Check our IHM-NewMelle.org website to register!

Authentic Catholic Radio: AM 1460
EWTN Global Catholic Network: www.ewtn.com/radio
and on Dish Network Channel 261

Let us Pray the Rosary for Ukraine

Please join us in praying the Rosary in church Monday thru Saturday at 7:30am, just prior to daily Mass. We will pray in the chapel on Tuesday May 31 and Wednesday June 1 at 6pm, ending in time for 6:30 Mass.





Janet Hespen, Youth Minister,
314-369-6521

Come and meet your Parish friends
and let the Holy Spirit guide you in
new directions.

All meetings from 6:30 to 8pm

| | |
|--------------|---------------|
| June 9 | Weber Hall |
| June 23 | Weber Hall |
| July 21 | Founders Hall |
| August 4 | Founders Hall |
| August 18 | Founders Hall |
| September 1 | Founders Hall |
| September 15 | Founders Hall |

*As always, if you have any questions
or just need to talk, call/email/text
any time.*

Janet Hespen: 314-369-6521
janethspn@outlook.com

IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY CHURCH

NEW MELLE (at the intersection of Hwys. Z & D)

WANTED:

- Clothing items that are clean, wearable and stain free
- Functional household items
- Hardback and paperback books
- ABSOLUTELY NO TV'S or APPLIANCES

DONATIONS ACCEPTED: MAY 28 to JUNE 15

SALE DAYS - 8:00am to 1:00pm

Wednesdays, June 15 and June 22
Fridays, June 17 and June 24
Saturdays, June 18 and June 25

Pope's Intentions for May:
For faith-filled young people

We pray for all young people, called
to live life to the fullest; may they
see in Mary's life the way
to listen, the depth of dis-
cernment, the courage that
faith generates, and the
dedication to service,



Answers to Catholic IQ

- a The Angelus reminds us of the Incarnation and dates from the thirteenth century. It began with the simple tolling of an Ave Maria bell once in the evening and gradually grew into a longer prayer.
- d The cathedral was begun in 1163 and is one of the most famous churches in the world. It has seen many famous events of French history, including Napoleon's coronation.
- c "Papa" is the Italian word for father, thus its use for referring to the Holy Father.
- a Rubrics (from the Latin word for "red") can be found in the introduction to a liturgical book or scattered throughout. They are printed in red to distinguish them from the text which is read aloud by the priest.
- c Jesuit scholars were among those first interested in the science of astronomy.
- b Preaching that Jesus was the Messiah, Paul disturbed the Jews of Damascus so much that they plotted to kill him. Paul's friends lowered him in a basket through an opening in the city wall (Acts 9:23-25).
- d The Seventh Commandment also forbids fraud in business dealings and slacking off at work. It tells us to use the gifts of creation properly.
- a These words of Jesus were quoted by Paul (Acts 20:35).
- b This official persecution ended with the accidental death of the emperor.
- c This doctrine was greatly debated before being defined at the Council of Ephesus in 431 AD.

Dear Parishioners,

Our Masses are so beautifully enhanced by your participation in the prayers and singing, and we'd like to make participation simpler and even more accessible for you. The JumboTron™ was used to great success during COVID to supplement our worship when we were not able to have hymnals in pews. Things like the creed really "boomed" when folks didn't have to try to find it in the hymnal - which was great!

We appreciate the viewpoint which sees the potential for distraction or the feeling of a "mega-church" if the JumboTron™ is not used tastefully. This is why the slides have been formatted simply with plain white text on black background. Since the restriction on hymnals in pews was lifted, the use of the JumboTron™ has been scaled back to a static slide with hymn numbers for the Mass. While this has been simpler logistically (requires no advancing of slides), it seems the JumboTron™ could be used to even greater effect aiding participation at Mass.

As we continue to ponder which parts of the Mass would benefit from more use of the JumboTron™, we are again looking to build up a ministry of volunteers willing to advance slides for Mass. We are looking for folks of any age, with no special skills needed! If you are interested in joining a rotation of ministers, please contact Peggy in the office at 636-398-5270 or secretary@ihm-newmelle.org



Thank you for your consideration!

Bryan, Shawn, and Fr. Tom

7 Things Every High School Graduate Should Hear

1. Live with intention. College will be full of new opportunities. Think carefully about your priorities for your new start.
2. Make the right friends. There will be plenty of new people! Concentrate on the ones who motivate you to be a better person.
3. It's a big world! Look for new perspectives, new opportunities, and new ideas that push you to grow.
4. Find a mentor. Building relationships with people who have "been there, done that" can be a great help.
5. Give yourself away. You may not need to volunteer anymore, but you'll be surprised what you learn, how you grow, and who you meet when you serve.
6. Before you go, learn how to do your laundry, address an envelope, schedule a doctor's appointment, use public transportation, and cook basic meals (ramen doesn't count!).
7. Remember that God is in control. And that's a good thing!



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We're watching Season 1 of THE CHOSEN
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"The Lord says to us, 'Do not fear: I am with you.'" (Isaiah 41:10)

He speaks these words not as one who merely observes our pain, but as one who experienced immense suffering. And the very wounds that bear witness to His suffering indicate the essence of our identity and worth: we are loved by God. Reflecting on the healed wounds of the Risen Christ, we see that even our most difficult trials can be the place where God manifests His victory. He makes all things beautiful. He makes all things new.

Painful Goodbyes and the Ascension

by Fr. Ron Rohlheiser

Among the deeper mysteries in life, perhaps the one we struggle with the most is the mystery of the Ascension. It's not so much that we misunderstand it, we simply don't understand it. What is the Ascension?

Historically it was an event within the life of Jesus and the early Church and is now a feast-day for Christians, one that links Easter to Pentecost. But it is more than an historical event, it is at the same time a theology, a spirituality, and an insight into life that we need to understand to better sort out the paradoxical interplay between life and death, presence and absence, love and loss.

The Ascension names and highlights a paradox that lies deep at the center of life, namely, that we all reach a point in life where we can only give our presence more deeply by going away so that others can receive the full blessing of our spirits. What does that mean? When Jesus was preparing to leave this earth He kept repeating the words: "It is better for you that I go away! You will be sad now, but your sadness will turn to joy. If I don't go away you will be unable to receive my Spirit. Don't cling to me, I must ascend." Why is it better sometimes that we go away? Any parent with grown children has heard similar words from their children, unspoken perhaps but there nonetheless. When young people leave home to go to college or to begin life on their own, what they are really saying to their parents is: "Mom and dad, it is better that I go away. You will be sad now, but your sadness will turn to joy. If I don't go, I will always be your little boy or little girl but I will be unable to give you my life as an adult. So please don't cling to the child you once had or you will never be able to receive



my adulthood. I need to go away now so that our love can come to full bloom."

The pain in this kind of letting go is often excruciating, as parents know, but to refuse to do that is to truncate life. The same is true for the mystery of death. For example: I was 22 years old when in the space of four months both of my parents, still young, died. For my siblings and me the pain was searing. Initially we were nearly overwhelmed with a sense of being orphaned, abandoned, of losing a vital life-connection (that, ironically, we had mostly taken for granted until then). And our feelings were mainly cold, there's little that's warm in death. But time is a great healer. After a while, and for me this took several years, the coldness disappeared and my parents' deaths were no longer a painful thing. I felt again their presence, and now as a warm, nurturing spirit that was with me all the time. The coldness of death turned into a warmth. They had gone away but now they could give me their love and blessing in a way that they

never could fully while they were alive. Their going away eventually created a deeper and purer presence.

The mystery of love and intimacy contains that paradox: To remain present to someone we love we have to sometimes be absent, in ways big and small. In the paradox of love, we can only fully bless each other when we go away. That is why most of us only "get" the blessing our loved ones were for us after they die. Mystically, "blood and water" (cleansing and the deep permission to live without guilt) flow from their dead bodies, just as these flowed from Jesus' dead body. And this is even true, perhaps particularly so, in cases where our loved ones were difficult characters who struggled for peace or to bless anyone in this life. Death washes clean and releases the spirit and, even in the case of people who struggled to love, we can after their deaths receive their blessing in ways we never could while they were alive. Like Jesus, they could only give us their real presence by going away.

"It is better for you that I go away!" These are painful words most of the time, from a young child leaving her mother for a day to go to school, to the man leaving his family for a week to go on a business trip, to the young man moving out of his family's house to begin life on his own, to a loved one saying goodbye in death. Separation hurts, goodbyes bring painful tears, and death of every kind wrenches the heart.

But that is part of the mystery of love. Eventually we all reach a point where what is best for everyone is that we go away so that we can give our spirit. The gift that our lives are can only be fully received after we ascend.

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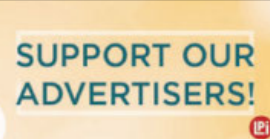


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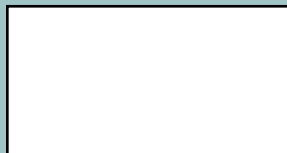
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