

Dear Padre,

I am African American. When I go to church, I feel disconnected from the rest of my life. How does the Church fit with my culture?

Church documents lift up different cultures as treasures to be preserved and incorporated into the life of the Church. The *Catechism of the Catholic Church* teaches, “[The gospel] must be proclaimed, celebrated, and lived in all cultures in such a way that they themselves are not abolished by it, but redeemed and fulfilled: It is with and through their own human culture, assumed and transfigured by Christ, that the multitude of God’s children has access to the Father, in order to glorify him in the one Spirit” (CCC 1204).

Many think “catholic” means homogenous, that the Mass should be exactly the same everywhere. On the contrary, it is “catholic” because it takes in everything. It is, or at least it should be, a cross-cultural experience, for we all are the children of God. All cultures should find their expression in the Catholic Mass.

The difficulty is putting this into practice, especially in communities with members from more than one culture. Receptivity on the part of the pastor is important, too. As he learns about another culture, he’ll be more open to using the best of it in worship. Perhaps you, along with other concerned parishioners, might discuss this with your pastor. There are resources and institutes available to assist you in making your worship truly reflect who you are individually and communally. ●

Fr. Rick Potts, CSsR / DearPadre.org



ALF ABERNETHY / SHUTTERSTOCK

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
JANUARY 16 Weekday Heb 5:1-10 Mk 2:18-22	JANUARY 17 St. Anthony, Abbot Heb 6:10-20 Mk 2:23-28	JANUARY 18 Weekday Heb 7:1-3, 15-17 Mk 3:1-6	JANUARY 19 Weekday Heb 7:25-8:6 Mk 3:7-12	JANUARY 20 Weekday Heb 8:6-13 Mk 3:13-19	JANUARY 21 St. Agnes, Virgin and Martyr Heb 9:2-3, 11-14 Mk 3:20-21	JANUARY 22 Third Sunday in Ordinary Time Is 8:23-9:3 1 Cor 1:10-13, 17; Mt 4:12-23 or Mt 4:12-17



CNS PHOTO / VATICAN MEDIA

A WORD FROM POPE FRANCIS

The Lord is deliberate in repeating the word all. He knows that we are always using the words “my” and “our”: my things, our people, our community... But he constantly uses the word all. All, because no one is excluded from his heart, from his salvation.

HOMILY, WORLD MISSIONS DAY, OCTOBER 20, 2019



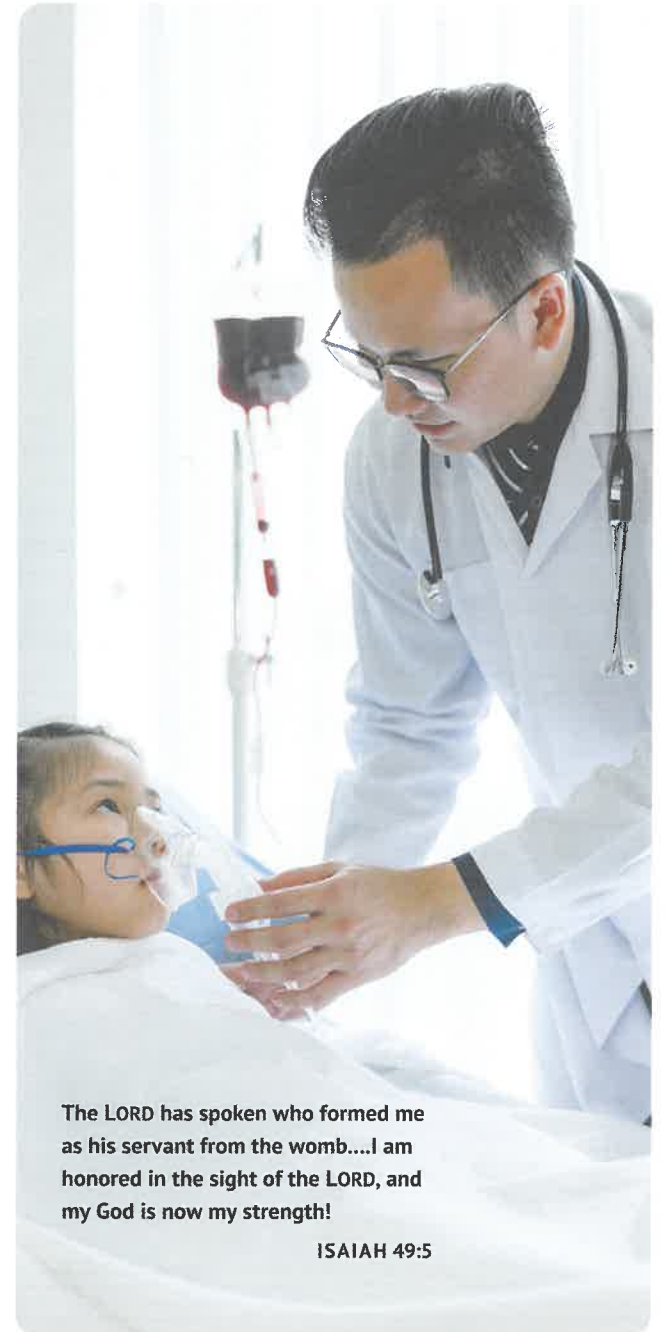
Who’s Calling?

FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

God called Isaiah: “You are my servant.... I will make you a light to the nations” (Isaiah 49:3, 6). God called John the Baptist: “The one who sent me to baptize with water...” (John 1:33). God called St. Paul: “Called to be an apostle of Christ Jesus...” (1 Corinthians 1:1). And Paul says God calls us: We are “called to be holy” (1 Corinthians 1:2). Given that call, the question is, “What are we called to do with our lives?”

Frederick Buechner, an author, suggests we are called to wherever our deep hunger and the world’s great need meet. As he explains, the world’s great need may be to feed the hungry and shelter the homeless, but if we become depressed helping the poor, that is not where God wants us to be. On the other hand, we may love designing sandcastles, but the world has no great need for sandcastles, so that surely is not what God calls us to do. Rather, God calls us to the place where what we love doing and what the world desperately needs intersect.

Adults are often inclined to ask children what they want to be or do when they grow up. Perhaps asking them what they think God wants them to do might be a question laced with greater wisdom. To turn the question may call forth a more thoughtful answer. ●



The LORD has spoken who formed me as his servant from the womb....I am honored in the sight of the LORD, and my God is now my strength!

ISAIAH 49:5

Reflect

What is God calling you to do now, and how has God’s call changed over the years?



St. Joseph Neier

Rev. Thomas J. Wissler, Pastor

January
14 & 15
2023

Weekday: 6:30am

Saturday: 5:00pm

Sunday: 8:00am & 10:00am

Confessions – Saturday

4:00pm – 4:40pm

Office: 636.583.2806

Website: stjosephneier.com

Email: parishoffice@stjosephneier.com

Father Tom's Cell: 636.744.5587

Sarah's Cell: 314.808.0337



From Fr. Tom,

Christmas lights down yet? Decorations put away, or are there still a few things lying around? Liturgically, when Christmas falls on a Sunday as it did this year, the Advent season is the longest it can be and the actual Christmas season is the shortest. The season of Ordinary Time began last week as this is the Second Sunday in Ordinary Time. We have to be careful not to think that this time between Christmas and Lent is not important or in some way insignificant. This can be the time for us to put into practice the blessings gained from our recent Christmas events. Then after Lent and the Easter season which have their own spiritual emphases go out again renewed and refreshed with Easter joy! Lent begins on February 22nd this year. Between now and then let's all make the best of our blessings. Perhaps we can focus more on our own individual baptismal call and our confirmation promise to live out our faith with a deeper prayer life and a more meaningful sense of worship. In other words, coming closer to God in private and in public. God bless you.



Please pray for those who are sick in our parish and families:

Betty Bean
Shirley Beckman
Anna Marie Brueggemann
Peggy Collins
Chris Elbert
Cynthia Faust
Zachery Goosage
Benny Hammer
Andrew Hellebusch
Marcia Herbst
Brandon Huels
Kevin Gibbons
Olivia Jasper
Rick Just

Get
Well
Soon

Alisha Koelling
Marcus Lowe
Jacob McMullin
Jean Oldavi
Frank Rice
Alice Rolf
Ashley Shelton
Marcia Shollenberger
Courtney Smith
Special Intention
George West
Sr. Georgiann Wildhaber, SSND
Sheri Zambruski



Please pray for those serving our country:

Adam Amato
Matthew Blankenship
Jamie Brueggemann
Murphy
Andy Davis
Taylor Donner
Emily Guenther

Caleb Logsdon
Michael Miller
Michael Murphy
Reese Pellin
Sam Smith
Owen Struckhoff
Luke Stuesse

Thank you for your generosity!

Donations for General Fund
January 2 – 8, 2023

Regular Offering Envelopes: (70)	\$	4,108.00
Regular Offering Loose:	\$	30.00
Christmas: (1)	\$	50.00
First Offering: (9)	\$	90.00
Rental Income: (2)	\$	550.00
Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God (4)	\$	60.00
Online Giving*:	(1) \$	88.95
Total:	\$	4,976.95

* With Transaction Fees Removed.
(Number of Contributors)

Tithes & Offerings
Giving Back to God

Faith
is not hoping
God can
it is knowing
He **Will**

Thank you for your generosity!

Donations for Restricted Funds: January 2 – 8

St. Louis Review (3)
\$105.00

January
"General Fund" Collections

January 1, 2023	\$4,970.85
January 8, 2023	\$4,976.95
January 15, 2023	\$ TBD
January 22, 2023	\$ TBD
January 29, 2023	\$ TBD



THIS WEEK'S MASS INTENTIONS

Monday, January 16th

NO MASS HAVE A VERY BLESSED DAY!

Tuesday Morning, January 17th

6:30AM MARY CATHERINE FINK

Wednesday Morning, January 18th

6:30AM JOYCE STUESSE

Thursday Morning, January 19th

6:30AM BONNIE BIRKE

Friday Morning, January 20th

6:30AM EUGENE BRUEGGEMANN

*Be who God meant you to be
and you will set the world on Fire!*
~ St. Catherine of Siena ~

MASS TIMES

THIS WEEKEND

NEXT WEEKEND

5:00pm Saturday

January 14

January 21

Mass Intention:	Marge Hankins	Melvin Brune
Lector:	Karen Gerlemann	Jim Noelker
Eucharistic Minister: (C)	Kathy Feth	Cheryl Voss
Eucharistic Minister: (C)	Anna Donner	Joan Kloeppel

8:00am Sunday

January 15

January 22

Mass Intention:	Joseph & Mathilda Feth	Dorothy Brueggemann & Hilda Voss
Lector:	Jim & Chris Block	Amie Kohlbusch
Eucharistic Minister: (C)	Diane Schmidt	Dennis Randolph
Eucharistic Minister: (C)	Cathie Grus	Delores Swoboda

10:00am Sunday

January 15

January 22

Mass Intention:	Parish Family of St. Joseph	Parish Family of St. Joseph
Lector:	Jen Kissinger	Lisa Bocklage
Eucharistic Minister: (C)	Jeff Baker	VOLUNTEER
Eucharistic Minister: (C)	Christine Baker	Patti Greife

UPCOMING EVENTS

January

- **Monday, January 16th**
 - OFFICE CLOSED – MLK, Jr. Day
- **Wednesday, January 18th**
 - PSR – 6:30pm – 7:45pm – Parish Hall
- **Thursday, January 19th**
 - Quilters – 8am – 1pm & 7pm – 9pm – Quilters Room
- **Wednesday, January 22nd**
 - Parish Breakfast – Sponsored by the Dinner Auction Committee – 8:30am – 10am – Parish Hall
- **Wednesday, January 25th**
 - PSR – 6:30pm – 7:45pm – Parish Hall
- **Thursday, January 26th**
 - Quilters – 8am – 1pm & 7pm – 9pm – Quilters Room
- **Sunday, January 29th**
 - Knights of Columbus – 4th Degree Honor Guard will be in attendance – 10am Mass – The Rosary will be prayed before Mass at 9:40am.

Saturday,
January 21st

Stand for Life

Immaculate Conception (IC) Church, and any other churches wishing to join them, will meet at their Marian Activity Center at NOON on Saturday, January 21st.

We will stand in support of Life, in support of the reversal of Roe vs Wade.

You may bring your own signs (IC does have some), and for one hour we will stand together in prayer, and maybe song.

This will be a peaceful stand, so we will not chant or call out.

We hope you will join us!



good morning

The Dinner Auction Committee is sponsoring a parish breakfast on Sunday, January 22nd 8:30am - 10:00am

All are welcome



We hope to see you there!

Sunday, January 22nd

has been set aside as a special day to celebrate the **Sanctity of Human Life** and stand in opposition to the culture of death promoted by the abortion industry.

Donations for **Your Other Mother** will be accepted in honor of this day. Donations can be placed in the cash box in the back of church or at the Parish Breakfast.

Thank you for your support of saving human lives!



January "Extra" Envelopes

January
First Offering - \$10
Solemnity of Mary

January 15th
St. Louis Review - \$35

Save The Date



donate blood
DONATE LIFE

Blood Drive

St. Joseph Neier Catholic Church

Parish Hall
2401 Neier Road
Union, MO 63084

Thursday, March 16TH, 2023

2:00pm - 6:00pm



Sign up online: <https://www.redcrossblood.org/account-login.html>

or contact the parish office: 636.583.2806
parishoffice@stjosephneier.com

5th SUNDAY OF THE MONTH

The Knights of Columbus, Council 1576, along with the 4th Degree Honor Guard, will be attending Mass on Sunday, January 29th @ 10:00am.

We would like to have as many members of the Knights of Columbus and their families attend. The rosary will be prayed before Mass @ 9:40. Please take this opportunity to join them in the Eucharistic celebration. Also, if you are 18 years or older, please consider joining the Knights of Columbus. To learn more about this Catholic men's organization, please contact a fellow Knight as there are many in our parish.

St. Louis Review Subscription

Anyone who would like to cancel their subscription for the St. Louis Review must do so in writing. You may email the parish office, or for your convenience you can complete the information below, cut and return it in the collection basket on or before February 1st. Thank you!

Please cancel the St. Louis Review Subscription for...

Name/Names