



May the God of endurance and encouragement grant you to think in harmony with one another, in keeping with Christ Jesus.

ROMANS 15:5

Pretend the Dream

FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

When I was in college, we had a professor who would often say that if, instead of acting the way we feel, we would act the way we would like to feel, then we would soon begin to feel the way we hoped. Over the years, I've found a fair amount of wisdom in that advice, although I don't always remember to tap into it. I know it's all a kind of pretending, but somehow the pretending does seem to make a difference.

Each year, we make our journey into Christmas with a year's baggage. We come with good memories of moments of lazy fun, sun-drenched summers, and dappled autumns, vacations, and birthday parties. But we also make our way into this red and green season with a generous share of hurts and pains, failures and even sins, just because most years are lived that way.

And so, during this last month of each year we play at being happy and pretend that all is good. We sing carols

and toast friendships and wish each other blessings and goodness. And we do it all with an unspoken honesty, knowing full well that life is not always so, but maybe by pretending, and by some freakish twist of godliness, we can find for some short time the harmony once prophesied by Isaiah. Maybe the wolf and the lamb will be kind, and the calf and lion will forget their history, and for at least one brief shining moment we will live in harmony with one another. ●

Reflect

This Advent, once a week, try to skip doing something that stresses you.

Once a week, act the way you would like to feel. Fake it if you must.



Holy Trinity



St. Thomas More



St. Patrick

Holy Trinity Catholic Church
212 S. Main St. PO Box 159
Cherry, IL 61317-0159
Phone 815-894-2006
Office Email
HolyTSP@gmail.com

Pastor of the Three Churches
Fr. Thaddeus Tran

Main Office: Holy Trinity Rectory
Pastoral Assistant: Julie Hollinger
Email: JulieHTC@outlook.com

Office Hours
Tuesday - Friday 9 am - 1 pm

St Thomas More Catholic Church
302 Chestnut St.
Dalzell, IL 61320
Phone 815-663-6201
Email
thomasmore32@gmail.com

Adoration Room at STM
Open Monday - Sunday
Regular Hours
9 am - 6 pm

Events at St Thomas More
Rav Group taking orders now.
Call 815-252-2215 to place an order

St. Patrick Catholic Church
106 Church St.
Arlington, IL 61312
Phone 815-894-2006
Mail: PO Box 159 Cherry IL 61317

Website for the Three Churches
www.bureaucatholic.org
and on Facebook at
"Bureau Catholic Churches"

Facebook for the Three Churches
Use Link on Home Page
www.bureaucatholic.org

Emergency Number for all 3 Churches 779-248-2164



9: 30 am - 10: 30 am at Cherry Church Hall
Sunday, December 4th - K thru 4th grades / Card & Craft Day following class
Sunday, December 11th - 5th thru 8th grades
CCD new email address is holytrinitycherry@gmail.com
Reminder: ALL parents/guardians need to be signed up for BCR Alerts!

Daily Mass Intentions for the Week of December 5, 2022

Monday	12/5			† No Mass
Tuesday	12/6	8:00 am	STM	† Diane Heil
Wednesday	12/7	5:30 pm	HT (Immaculate Conception)	† Joan Hansen
Thursday	12/8	9:00 am	STM (Immaculate Conception)	† For the Parishioners
Friday	12/9	8:00 am	STM	† Geraldine Sondgeroth

Mass Intentions for the weekend of December 10-11, 2022

Saturday	12/10	4:00 pm	St. Thomas More	† Julie Taliani
Sunday	12/11	8:30 am	Holy Trinity	† Ron Floroplus
		10:30 am	St. Patrick	† Dec Mem David Hunter family
		5:00 pm	St. Thomas More	† For the Parishioners

What is the Immaculate Conception?

The Feast of the Immaculate Conception is celebrated every December 8. It is considered a holy day of obligation and some countries even declare it a public holiday.



The Immaculate Conception is a Catholic dogma that states that Mary, whose conception was brought about the normal way, was conceived without original sin or its stain. That's what "immaculate" means: without stain. The grace given to Mary is at once permanent and of a unique kind and extended over the whole of her life, from conception onward. She was in a state of sanctifying grace from the first moment of her existence.

It's important to understand what the doctrine of the Immaculate Conception is and what it is not. Some people mistakenly think that the term refers to Christ's conception in Mary's womb without the intervention of a human father. Others think the Immaculate Conception means Mary was conceived "by the power of the Holy Spirit," in the way Jesus was, but that, too, is incorrect.

The essence of original sin consists in the deprivation of sanctifying grace, and its stain is a corrupt nature. Mary was preserved from these defects by God's grace; from the first instant of her existence she was in the state of sanctifying grace and was free from the corrupt nature original sin brings.

Please be reminded that this is a holy day of obligation. Mass times and locations are as follows:

5:30 pm on Wednesday, December 7th at Holy Trinity and also 9:00 am on Thursday, December 8th at St Thomas More



Christmas Mass Schedule

Christmas Eve ~ Saturday, December 24th

4:00 pm at St Thomas More

(Prior to the 4pm mass, there will be a 30 min special CCD Christmas program featuring our CCD students.)

10:00 pm at St Patrick

(Christmas Choir selections will begin at 9:30 pm)

Christmas Day ~ Sunday, December 25th

10:00 am at Holy Trinity

Please note there will be no 5:00 pm mass at St Thomas

Christmas Flowers

We are now taking Christmas flower donations. Envelopes will be in the back of all 3 churches.

Please donate \$25 for each of the deceased family members that you would like to donate Christmas flowers in remembrance of.

If you just want to donate money to the Christmas flower fund, any amount will be greatly appreciated.



Names will be listed in the bulletin. You may also have the names of family members attached to the poinsettia's if you'd like.

LATEST OFFERING'S

WEEKEND NOV 27TH

HT – \$963.00

SP – \$416.00

STM – \$870.00



CONFESSIONS

THE NEXT CONFESSIONS
WILL BE SAT. DEC 10TH
10:30 – 11:15 AM AT
ST PATRICK
IN THE CHAPEL

Dear Padre,

Many LGBTQ+ youth are homeless, suicidal, or even murdered because of who they are. How can we support them?

Your desire to be compassionate is very much in keeping with the Church's teaching. In 1986, the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith, led by then-Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger (now emeritus Pope Benedict XVI), issued a strongly worded call for civility and respect for homosexual persons. On the Pastoral Care of Homosexual Persons emphasized, "It is deplorable that homosexual persons have been and are the object of violent malice in speech or in action. Such treatment deserves condemnation from the Church's pastors wherever it occurs." The *Catechism of the Catholic Church* stresses that homosexual persons "must be accepted with respect, compassion, and sensitivity" (CCC 2358).

"The Church actively asserts and promotes the intrinsic dignity of every person. As human persons, persons with a homosexual inclination have the same basic rights as all people, including the right to be treated with dignity," wrote the US Bishops in "Ministry to Persons with a Homosexual Inclination" (2006). In terms of offering support, this document reads, "As baptized members of the Catholic community, persons with a homosexual inclination continue to look to the Church for a place where they may live in authentic human integrity and holiness of life. Being welcomed into and participating in their local faith community is the foundation of spiritual support that the Church offers to them. Full and active participation is encouraged. Participation in a worshipping Catholic community is a support for living a life of chastity and integrity and an encouragement to an ongoing personal conversion." ●

— **The Redemptorists**
DearPadre.org



VECTOR: GORODES / SHUTTERSTOCK

A WORD FROM POPE FRANCIS

Many people today are constantly using social media, but are not themselves very social: they are caught up in themselves, prisoners of the cell phone in their hand. What appears on the screen is not the reality of other persons: their eyes, their breath and their hands.

ADDRESS IN A MEETING
WITH YOUNG PEOPLE,
ATHENS, DECEMBER 6, 2021



MONDAY

December 5
Advent Weekday
Is 35:1-10
Lk 5:17-26

TUESDAY

December 6
Advent Weekday
Is 40:1-11
Mt 18:12-14

WEDNESDAY

December 7
St. Ambrose, Bishop and Doctor of the Church
Is 40:25-31
Mt 11:28-30

THURSDAY

December 8
The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary
Gn 3:9-15, 20
Eph 1:3-6, 11-12
Lk 1:26-38

FRIDAY

December 9
Advent Weekday
Is 48:17-19
Mt 11:16-19

SATURDAY

December 10
Advent Weekday
Sir 48:1-4, 9-11
Mt 17:9a, 10-13

SUNDAY

December 11
Third Sunday of Advent
Is 35:1-6a, 10
Jas 5:7-10
Mt 11:2-11

Timely topics viewed with a Catholic perspective

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