

Immaculate Conce March 5, 2023 — Second Sunday of Lent

Our Mission Statement:

Rooted In The Gospel Of Christ And In The Tradition Of Catholicism And Under The Patronage Of Mary Immaculate, We Commit Ourselves To Be a Welcoming Community Of Faith, Worshipping With Generations Of Believers And Serving God in All People.

Welcome New Parishioners...

If you are new to our parish and reside within the parish boundaries, and would like to be members, please call the parish office at 618-281-5105, and Angie will be happy to help make that happen!

Hola, Bienvenidosa la iglesia Catolica en Immaculata Concepcion. ¡Que tengas una bendita semana!

We Live-Stream! To participate, please use this link: https:// www.voutube.com/c/ **ImmaculateConception** CatholicChurch ColumbiaIL



Are you a "Practicing Catholic?"

We are ten days into our Lenten journey. We have thirty days to go, and God continues to call us deeper into faith. So, how's your faith and what more might the Lord be asking of you?

Around this time of Lent, I find it helpful to go back to the basics and ask myself, "Am I a good Catholic and how am I 'practicing' my faith?" So, what does it mean to be a "practicing Catholic" anyway? According to the Catechism of the Catholic Church, the following five precepts (tools) are given to guide our lives and are requirements to be considered a practicing Catholic:

~Attend Mass every Sunday of the year and on Holy Days of Obligation. The most important time and place

to develop a relationship with God is Mass. The Church teaches us that Sundays and Holy Day Masses are essential to our faith. It's one hour a week when we are reminded to "love God above all the obligation of going to Mass each Sunday can't be set aside for anything less than a serious reason. No "walking the dog," "preferring to sleep in," "I don't like the priest," "there's a Cardinal baseball game to get to" (insert here any other human activity that you enjoy)," or "I didn't want to" are not good reasons! Sickness, hospitalization, immobility, horrible weather and traveling in the most northern regions of the Yukon are!

~Go to Confession at least once a year, typically during Lent. The Sacrament of Reconciliation is a beautiful sacrament, but a humbling one. It reminds us that we are not perfect. We sin. We need God's forgiveness which then helps us to be reconciled with each other. In essence, this sacrament helps us love God and our neighbor better.



~Receive Communion at least once a year. Most Catholics in the United States find this one easy to do.

We have been trained that God loves us and that the Eucharist is one of God's ways of showing us 302 this. Jesus died for us and the Eucharist is what He left for us. For some of us, however, we don't feel worthy of so much love. In a feeling of sinfulness, we turn away from receiving His Body and Blood. The Church invites us back into His love always, but at least once a year in the reception of Holy

Communion.

~Observe "fasting" and "abstinence" as established by the Church. This rule used to be much tougher. Every Friday of the year was a day of fasting and abstaining from meat, but now the only time we must fast is Ash Wednesday, the Fridays of Lent and Good Friday. Again, the purpose of this one is to remind us how much material goods we actually have while what we truly need to make us happy is God. We fast and abstain from selfishness so that we can turn to God for our needs.

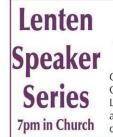




~Provide for the material needs of the Church. Time, Treasure and Talent! What more is the Lord calling you to do to help Immaculate Conception Parish live its' stewardship of NEEDS YOU! spirituality?

Remember, without your time, treasure and talent, we aren't living fully as a stewardship parish.

According to the Catholic Catechism these five tools are given by the Church to help us deepen our faith and live out a relationship with God. Put simply, to be a "practicing Catholic," we must live the Ten Commandments (loving God above all else, and our neighbor as ourselves) and assent to Catholic Church teaching...topics for future bulletin covers! Suffice it to say, Lent.



Thursday, March 16 Fr. Steve Thoma, C.R. "What Do You Know About..." Catholic life? Pro-life? The Catechism? Let's dig in and answer your questions!

~Fr. Steve

411 PALMER ROAD, COLUMBIA, IL 62236 618-281-5105 FAX 281-6848 WWW.ICC-COLUMBIA-IL.US



Parish Office Information

Hours: M-F 8:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. Parísh Office Phone Number 618-281-5105 Parísh Staff

Pastor, Fr. Steve Thoma, C.R. ext. 358 or 805-670-3541 ~ frsteve@iccmail.org

Associate Pastor, Fr. Eric Wagner, C.R. 773-269-0227 ~ ericwagnercr1@gmail.com

Business Manager, Kara Dell-Hunt ext. 350 ~ kdell-hunt@iccmail.org

Director of Music, Karen Lundy, 618-719-1815 ~ karenslundy@gmail.com

Director of Faith Formation,

Lízanne Young ext. 354~lyoung@iccmail.org

Liturgy Coordinator & IC-PSR Coordinator,

Hope Wienhoff ext. 353~ hwienhoff@icsmail.org

Bookkeeper, Sheryl Oglesby ext. 351~ soglesby@htc.net

Secretary, Angie Bueltemann ext. 300~abuelt@htc.net

Spírítual And Mental Health Advocate Shea Chrístensen ext 352 ~schrístensen@icsmaíl.org

ICS Príncípal, Dave Gregson, 281-5353 ext. 202 dgregson@ícsmaíl.org

Pastoral Councíl Chaír, John Adams John.ADAMS@ampf.com

School Board President, Kyle Doerr boardpresident@icsmail.org

You must Check In at the Parish Office if you visit church during business hours.

Sacramental Information

- **Baptisms:** Parents/guardians are asked to attend a Preparation Seminar scheduled on the 2nd Sunday of the month after 9am Mass—at approximately 10 am—in the lower-level library. We celebrate baptisms on the First Sunday of the month during any Mass, and the third Sunday of the month after the 11 am Mass. (No baptisms are scheduled during Lent.) Please call the office to schedule: 281-5105.
- Weddings: Please contact the Parish Office a minimum of four months prior to Marriage.
- Anointing of the Sick & Funerals: Since individual needs differ, please contact the Parish Office at 281-5105 for pastoral care. Do not hesitate to call; we are grateful for the opportunity to open our hearts to you and your family and offer these sacramental services.
- RCIA: (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults) The RCIA is for everyone who has been drawn by God to form a deeper relationship. Wherever you are in your faith practice – baptized in another Christian faith, starting from the beginning, or simply enriching your Catholic practice – consider the RCIA. Get to know God better and find out what it means to be Catholic. We meet in the Parish Office on Sundays, starting with "Breaking Open the Word" dismissal from 9 a.m. Mass, and catechetical sessions from 10-11:30 a.m. Contact Lizanne Young: at the Parish Office, 281-5105, ext. 354, or email lyoung@iccmail.org.

Important Volunteer Info!

Anyone who wishes to volunteer at school or church when there are children present **MUST be compliant** with the Diocesan Child Protection Policy. Please be proactive! ***EVERYONE must have an IL state background check as well as doing the online refresher and filling out CANTS forms. *Coaches and employees will need to be fingerprinted in addition to the usual Child Protection paperwork. Contact Angie at the Parish office if you have questions.** *The initial course is now available online. Please contact Angie at the parish office for directions. Not sure if you are compliant?? Contact Angie at the Parish Office. *The refresher course for the 2022-2023 IS AVAILABLE ONLINE! Follow the link on our website! If you can't find it there, it is also on the diocesan website:

http://diobelle.org/b.aspx Questions? Contact Angie at the parish office 281-5105. *Sexual Abuse Hotline: Anyone wishing to report an allegation of sexual misconduct by a Priest or other Diocesan personnel, please call the hotline: 800-640-3044.

Purchase Scrip Gift Cards from all of your favorite stores, restaurants, etc... in the Parish Office!

This Week's Liturgical Celebrations

Monday, Mar 6, 8:05 a.m.	We Remember Gene Matlock
Tuesday, Mar 7, 8:05 a.m.	We Remember Margie Pautler
Wednesday, Mar 8, 8:05 a.mWe Pray For Holy Souls In Purgatory	
Thursday, Mar 9, 8:05 a.m	We Pray For Tom Sutterer
Friday, Mar 10, 8:05 a.m	We Remember Lester Frierdich
Saturday, Mar 11, 5:00 p.m	We Remember Angela Krupp
Sunday, Mar 12, 7:00 a.m	We Pray For All Parishioners
9:00 a.m	We Remember Greg Fasnacht
11:00 a.mWe Remember Ron & Margaret Wallace	

Friday Stations Of the Cross...

We hold Stations of the Cross every Friday at 2:15 p.m. and 7p.m. in church During Lent from now through Good Friday (Stations will be at noon on Good Friday). All are welcome!



Prayer List Guidelines... Please be mindful if your loved one no longer needs to be on the prayer list and call the parish office: 281-5105.

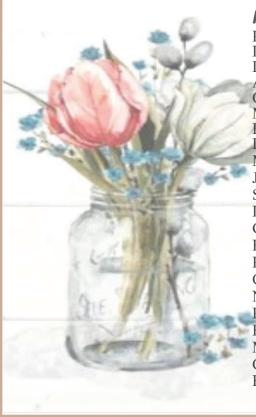




First Reading: Exodus 17:3-7 **Second Reading**: Romans 5:1-2, 5-8 **Gospel**: John 4:5-42 or 4:5-15, 19-26, 39, 40-42

Little Black Books...

Please take a copy to help you on your Lenten journey! These books are sponsored by: **McAuliffe Chiropractic**-109 Wedgewood Drive-Columbia-618-281-7171. Go see Dr. Kathy for all your chiropractic needs!



Please Pray For...

Patty Pulcher Danielle Dorlac Donna Archambault-Kania Arlin Stechmesser Catherine Marlo Margaret Ann Conrad Peggy Schutt Dakota Schutt Mike Conrad Janice McDermott Scott Dabbs Delores Deleveski **Ginny Lambert** Brian Kreher **Rich Sambo** Catherine Sambo Nicole Pennington Ruth Herrmann Bill Kutz Marilyn Peel Chris Peel Better health for all who are ill Joan Thoma Jodie Ward Grace Nolan Special Intention Liam Pugh Jill Bean Baby Marcella Dennis Naumann

Troops in Service... SGM Joseph Pope US Army

Our Sympathies...

To Mary Lou Ratajczyk and all of her family on the death of her granddaughter, Jenny Eckenfels, who died on February 22, at the age of 36.

Tarish Events & News...

Lenten Regulations...

 Everyone 14 years of age or over is bound to abstain from meat on Ash Wednesday, Good Friday and all Fridays of Lent.
 Everyone 18 years of age and under 59 years of age is also bound to fast on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday.
 On these two days of fast and abstinence, only one full meatless meal is allowed. The other meatless meals, sufficient to maintain strength, may be taken according to one's needs, but altogether they should not equal another full meal. Eating between meals is not permitted on these two days, but liquids, including milk and fruit juices are allowed. When health or ability to work would be seriously affected, the obligation of the law is modified. Because Lent is a special season for all Christians, we should not lightly excuse ourselves from these penitential practices. 4. To completely disregard the law of fast and abstinence is seriously sinful.

2023 K of C Catholic High School Scholarship -8th Grade Essay Contest ...

Sunday, March 19, 12:30 p.m. (after 11 am Mass). The Contest will be held in the CEAC - Room 225 (Mr. Kassebaum's classroom). In accordance with Contest rules: No late entry/or make-up dates. The Contest prize is one \$2,000 scholarship – payable in (4) installments of \$500 - directly to the Catholic high school of winner's choice. The Contest participant must be ICC Parish Member, who will be an entering freshman of a Catholic high school for the 2023-24 school year. The Contest is open to 8th graders from either ICS OR the Columbia public school system. Questions? Please contact Kevin W. Hutchinson, K of C Council 6165 - 314-974-7072.



Baptismal Prep Announcement

Due to Easter being on the 2nd Sunday of the month, **there will be no baptismal prep in April.** We will resume the second week of May.

Stewardship Renewal Commitment

Please return your stewardship form ASAP if you have not done so already. Even if you do not have kids in ICS, or PSR this information is VERY important to us! Your completed form will help with budget planning, ministry planning and contact info updating. We are a full-stewardship parish. In order for us to have the most accurate info, we need everyone to fill out a form. Thank you!!

It's Fish Fry Time!

The Knights of Columbus will once again be hosting drive-thru only fish fries **From 3-7 p.m.** on the following dates: Fridays,



March 10 & 31 and April 7. If you are interested in helping at any or all of the fish fries, please email the Knights gk@ofc6165.org or go to www.kofc6165.org to sign up online.

Cemetery Cleanup

Spring is just around the corner. If you have a loved one in our cemetery and would like to save anything you have placed on their grave, please go up and remove it soon, before cleaning and mowing begins!

D.C. Pretzel and Donut Sales...

The Next Pretzel and Donut weekend will be March 11 & 12 Pretzels at the Saturday Mass Donuts at all Sunday Masses.



Want to Make a Dífference in the Life

Catholic Schools of a Child?

Retired too Soon and Still Want to Teach and/or Lead? Why not Collect Your Retirement and Work in a Catholic School? We Want You and Our Students Need You! Come Share Your Expertise and Passion in a Faith Based Setting! Contact the Diocese of Belleville, Office of Education at Officeofeducation@diobelle.org for More Information!

STBS MEGA RAFFLE ...

It's that time of year! Representatives from Sister Thea Bowman Catholic School will be selling MEGA Raffle tickets **after Masses on March 4 and 5.** GRAND PRIZE \$10,000 -SECOND PRIZE \$1,000 - THIRD PRIZE \$500.00. Ticket cost is \$100. Last year's \$10,000 grand prize winner was an ICC parishioner!

Ministry News & Happenings

Women's ACTS ...

The next Women's ACTS Retreat will be Thursday, **April 20 through Sunday**, **April 23, 2023**, at the King's House in Belleville, IL. This parish-based retreat offers the opportunity to renew your spirituality, to strengthen your faith, and to build and deepen lasting friendships throughout your parish community. Registration forms can be found online at http://www.icc-columbia-il.us/acts If you need further information on the retreat weekend, please contact one of the following: Director: Laura Whelan -- 618-698-2462 Co-Director: Penny Prindiville --314-707-0783.

ICCCW News...

Spring Raffle Ticket Sales have begun! See raffle tickets in this bulletin!!

There will be two raffles: **#1 Handmade quilt**, Handmade afghan and \$100 Linneman gas card!

#2 Lottery Ticket Board! Drawing at the May 4th Meeting!!

The proceeds of the raffles go to the purchase of Mass supplies. Thanks for all of your support!

Theology on Tap Upcoming Events...

Mar. 13 – St. Ignatius' Teachings – Sunset Overlook at 7:00 pm

Mar. 27 – Easter–Sunset Overlook at 7:00 pm April 17–Forgiveness– Sunset Overlook at 7:00 pm

May 1-St. Benedict—Sunset Overlook at 7:00 pm May 15 - Book of the Bible — Sunset Overlook at 7:00 pm

* The speaker in this series will be Fr. Nick Fleming

ICY Odd Sundays

Every Sunday with an odd date is Odd Sunday ICY Meeting. Check out the QR code below for more details!



Women's Bible Study...

Meets Tuesdays at 6:30 p.m. in the library. All are welcome! Contact Lizanne for more info -281-5105 ext 354

Join The Welcoming Committee!

Thank you to Kevin Glasscock who has volunteered to head up our new welcome committee! We are planning to have the first welcome reception on **June 4 after the 9am Mass. If you are interested in being on this committee, please contact Kevin at soccerkevn@att.net** Come join us in the welcoming of our new parish family members. All are welcome!!

Pregnancy Retreat

Are you or someone you know expecting the unexpected?

Join us for an upcoming Gabriel's Retreat weekend. Our retreats are specifically designed for any woman facing the challenges of any type of unexpected pregnancy. Whatever is making your pregnancy unexpected, the timing, the number you are expecting, a diagnosis, or just difficult life circumstances, we are here to love and support you through it.

March 24th-26th, 2023 @ La Salle Retreat Center June 23rd-25th, 2023 @ Marianist Retreat Center September 22-23, 2023 @ La Salle Retreat Center

Our Catholic-based retreats are no-cost and open to all women 18 years and older regardless of faith, marital status, or pregnancy situation.

Gubriel's Retreat Ministries

To register or find out more about this peace and joy-filled weekend visit www.gabrielsretreat.org



or Email Shawna DuBois at gabrielsretreat@gmail.com

Discipleship Corner...

"For those who set out to clean the dirt of the world the best broom is their own clean morals, because you can't clean dirt with dirt." (Mehmet Murat Ildan). Truth is the basis of good morals. Unfortunately, we often find ourselves struggling through a thicket of lies trying to discover the truth. There is a lot of "dirt" in the world. Without a truthful basis to our morals, we will continue to find ourselves in a messy place. Help others have better morals; be a truthteller. Help yourself have better morals; distance yourself from those who spread lies.

Vocation Corner...

"During my younger years, the Lord allowed a lot of loneliness in my life. I was quiet and shy, and the church became my refuge; I always felt cared for by the priests and religious sisters there. I was intrigued by their joy and the presence of God so visible in them. This was something I wanted. I started going to Adoration, where my faith and relationship with Jesus became my own. When I finished high school, I served as a missionary for a year and then decided to seriously discern religious life. Honestly, that time was hard; I didn't know anyone else discerning or how to go about it....God continued to affirm my desire for this vocation. When I learned about the Benedictine way of life, I felt as if I were reading my own journal."

~Sr. Fidelis Marie Lanowich; Missionary Benedictine Sister, Sioux City, Iowa ~Columbia Magazine Nov. 2021

God Calling: Vocation Awareness

Moms and dads, how often do you speak to your children about becoming a priest or a sister?

They are wonderful vocations! It's never too early to start the conversation.

Eucharistic Adoration...

Eucharistic Adoration is held **Tuesdays from 5-8pm.** Come and join us!



Just Faith...

The Just Faith group that has been studying climate change and the environment invites us all to hear Pope Francis' urgent plea to care for our common home. Follow the quotes from his encyclical, Laudato Si in this spot beginning next week!

Prayer Shawls Available! Do you know someone who needs prayers?? Why not bring them some comfort with a handmade prayer shawl, from our Prayer Shawl Ministry?? Each Shawl will wrap your loved one in the prayers of our parish! Even during this vastly different time with COVID, we can get your loved one a prayer shawl. We deliver in sanitized bags and will leave on a porch or you can still pick up at the office during office hours. Call Marsha Narzinski at 314-517-4927 or Angie at the Parish Office 281-5105.

Quílter's Corner...

Join our super fun quilter's group on Tuesdays and



Thursdays from 9-11:30 a.m. All skill levels welcome and appreciated, even beginners! Contact Carlene at 281-5877.

Pro-life/Pregnancy Resources...

~Free and confidential pregnancy testing, counseling, and practical support: -Life Network of Southern Illinois (in Waterloo & Red Bud)
618-939-4224 mylifenet.org
~Birthright Counseling STL
(3 locations in St. Louis) birthrightstl.org
~Free and confidential counseling for anyone hurt by abortion-Project Rachel 618-722-5068 hopeafterabortion.com
~A caring place for women who are pregnant and experiencing homelessness-Fontebella Maternity Home 618-406-4355.
If you, or someone you know, have an unborn baby diagnosed with "fetal abnormalities" or an

baby diagnosed with "fetal abnormalities" or an "adverse prenatal diagnosis," please refer to: BeNotAfraid.net or PrenatalPartnersforLife.org. Both offer free parent-centered case management and parental support for parents carrying to term following a prenatal diagnosis. Birthrightstl.org offers their Melissa's Smile program, a counseling and supportive resource for mothers and fathers whose baby has been diagnosed prenatally with a genetic abnormality or whose baby has been born with a disability or serious medical condition.

Stewardship Of Treasure... Thank You For Sharing Your Blessings With Us!

Charítable Gíving...

Charitable giving is often an important component of financial, tax, and estate planning. Creating a strategic charitable giving plan will maximize your tax benefits and reduce your record-keeping burden. Creating a Donor-Advised Fund (DAF) allows you to focus on making an impact on the causes you care most about.

A donor-advised fund, or DAF, is a simple, flexible, tax-efficient way to manage charitable giving.

Donors receive an immediate tax deduction for contributions into their Donor-Advised Fund.

Gifts of appreciated securities are eligible to receive Fair Market Value deductions, typically creating significant capital gains tax savings. Your DAF assets can grow tax-free until you are ready to begin recommending grant distributions to qualified nonprofit organizations of your choice.

You can name successor advisors, such as children or trusted family members, to continue your tradition of giving for generations to come or you can create a Designated Legacy Fund to ensure your fund continues supporting the causes you care most about, even after you are gone. Currently, gifts to a DAF are eligible to receive tax deductions of up to 60% of Adjusted Gross Income (AGI) for cash contributions and up to 30% of AGI for appreciated securities, both with a five-year carry forward allowance.

You can choose when to recommend grant distributions to any IRS qualified nonprofit organization in the United States, including churches and schools like Immaculate Conception.

A DAF generally provides online access to fund balances and activity. Grant distribution recommendations are easily made online, too. Simply complete a Fund Agreement with the DAF sponsor of your choice, contribute assets to your fund account, and begin making an impact on the causes you love.

And by the way, you will enjoy choosing a meaningful, personalized name for your fund, like the Smith Family Foundation or the Oak Tree Fund, connecting you with your giving for years to come.

~ IC Planned Giving Committee



February 26, 2023

1 CD1 UU1 y 20, 2025	
Actual	
Budget	\$22,400.00
Actual YTD	\$1,323,471.50
Budget YTD	\$1,457,000.00
Over (under)	
Prior YTD	
Over (under)	(\$20,130.50)
CEAC	
Capital Improvements	
Guatemala	
Votive	
Black & Indian	
Easter Flowers	
Retired Priests	
CRS	

From Our Young Stewards ...

Treasure \$36.95

Time: I stood up for my friend; used good manners; helped take the dogs out; but dishes in dishwasher; swept the kitchen; helping with the trash; did the

dishes



The 2023 CSMA

"The one who does justice will live in the presence of the Lord" (Psalm 15). This year's CSMA campaign has started! Please consider donating to this most worthy of causes! The CSMA (Catholic Service & Ministry Appeal) funds 17 diocesan ministries directly with your funds! Please help the poorest of the poor in our diocese. When the envelope arrives in the mail, please do not disregard. You truly do have the ability to help someone in OUR AREA with your gift! Our Parish goal is to have 250 donors this year. So far, we have 82. Lets make our goal this year! Thank you!

Immaculate Conception School

Mission – Community – Service 409 Palmer Road ~ 281-5353 ~ School Principal: Dave Gregson Ext. 202 ~dgregson@icsmail.org ~School Secretary: Beverly Epplin Ext. 200 bepplin@icsmail.org



Congratulations, to our ICS 7th Grade Girls Volleyball Team for winning the St. Theresa's Tournament last weekend; And to our 8th Grade Boys Volleyball Team for winning the St. James Tournament



Cafeteria Worker Needed...

2-3 days per week. 10:30a-2:30p. Prepare cafeteria for lunch, monitor students during lunch, clean cafeteria after lunch, take out trash, mop kitchen, help with serving, help dishwasher, prepare cafeteria and kitchen for the next day.



What 's Happening At Gibault?

Spring Open House

Our Spring Open House is this Sunday!! All past, present, and future Hawks are invited to be our guests on Sunday, March 5, from 1 p.m. -3 p.m. Take a self-guided tour, visit with current teachers and staff, and see what makes Gibault Catholic such a special place!

Enrollment News

We are still welcoming visitors to Gibault Catholic! Your 7th-8th grader or current high school student can spend the day living like a Gibault Hawk during a Shadow Visit. You can also bring the whole family for a Private Tour! See our campus and have your questions answered by our Director of Enrollment. Get started at: https://bit.ly/GCHSInquire. Still enrolling for the Class of 2027! Visit https://bit.ly/ GCHSApply.

Taste of the Region

Join the Gibault Women's Club for Taste of the Region - Saturday, March 18, 2023, 5-9 pm. Scan QR code below for more info or to purchase tickets!

We're #gibaultproud of: Trey Fabie (St. John the Baptist Parish – Red Bud) for being recognized in the Hawk Spotlight and our Regional Champion Boys' Basketball Team!



Diocesan And Area Interests...

Reconciliation on Weeknights in Our Area

Every Tuesday evening 6-7 pm St. Clare, O'Fallon. Every Thursday evening 6-7 pm St. Peter's Cathedral, Belleville.

> Diocese of Belleville announces findings of the Synod Process

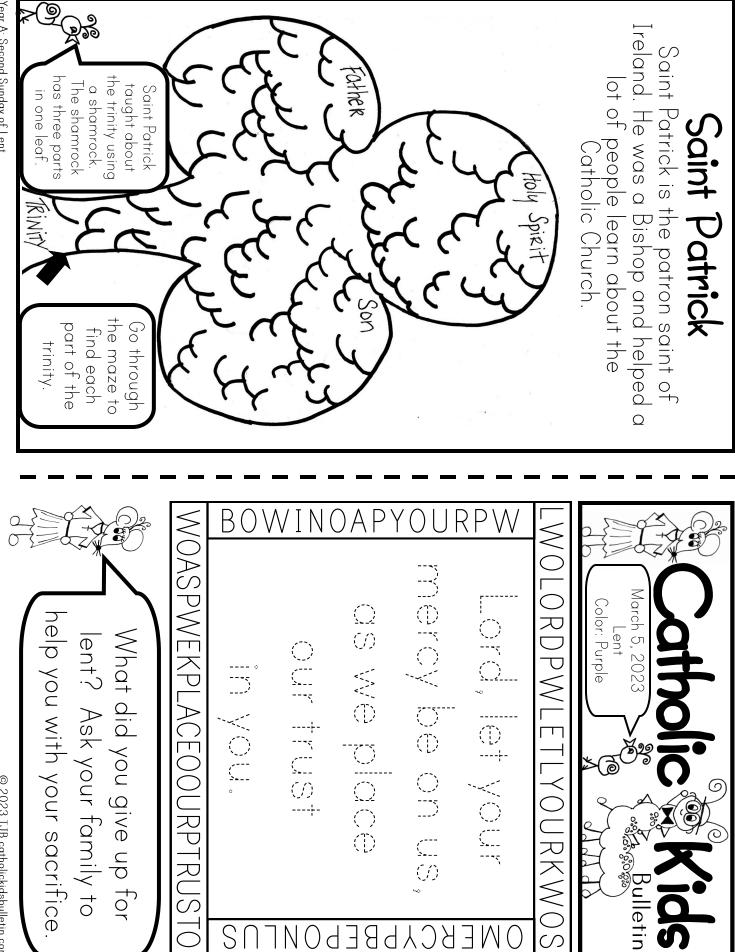
> > FOR 2021-2022

Go to diobelle.org for more info

Go Fund Me Page Set Up To Help Former Parishioners Who Lost Everything In Fire... Use the link below to read the story of the Alexander family who lost everything in a fire of

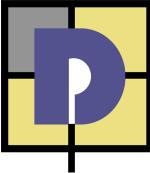
Use the link below to read the story of the Alexander family who lost everything in a fire on February 1. https://gofund.me/12615a17





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