



# Immaculate Conception

A Full Stewardship Parish ~ Partner Parish of Sacred Heart of Jesus, Dupo, IL  
411 Palmer Road, Columbia, IL 62236 | 618-281-5105 | Fax 281-6848

May 21, 2023

The Ascension of the Lord

[www.icc-columbia-il.us](http://www.icc-columbia-il.us)

## Another Year in the Books!!!



As we come to the completion of another amazing year at Immaculate Conception School, on behalf of the entire faculty and staff, I would like to THANK YOU.

The only way ICS continues to provide a quality education of religious, academic, and life lessons is through the generosity of all of YOU. It is YOUR time, talents, and treasures that are making a difference in the lives of the students. It is YOUR generosity that enables ICS to maintain the quality of educators that form the minds, hearts, and souls of the students. YOUR stewardship contributions make a difference. We cannot do this without YOU. We pray that YOU will continue to make stewardship sacrifices and commitments in order for ICS to continue to fulfill its mission:

“The mission of Immaculate Conception School is to provide experiences to inspire, challenge, and nurture the mind, body, and spirit of our students within the framework of the Gospel of Jesus Christ and the tradition of the Catholic Church.”

Dave Gregson, Principal

Make Me a Channel of Your Peace

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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 our secretary will be happy to help make that happen!

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

We livestream! To participate, please use this link:

<https://www.youtube.com/c/ImmaculateConceptionCatholicChurchColumbiaIL>

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## Parish Office Hours

Monday-Friday,  
8:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.

Phone: 618-281-5105

## Parish Staff

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

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

**Business Manager,  
Kara Dell-Hunt, ext. 350**  
kdell-hunt@iccmil.org

**Director of Music,  
Karen Lundy,**  
618-719-1815  
karenlundy@gmail.com

**Director of Faith Formation,  
Lizanne Young**  
ext. 354, lyounge@iccmil.org

**Liturgy Coordinator &  
IC-PSR Coordinator,  
Hope Wienhoff, ext. 353,**  
hwienhoff@icsmail.org

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

**Secretary, TBA**  
ext. 300, iccmil@iccmil.org

**Spiritual and Mental Health  
Advocate, Shea Christensen**  
ext 352, schristensen@icsmail.org

**ICS Principal, Dave Gregson**  
281-5353 ext. 202  
dgregson@icsmail.org

**Pastoral Council Chair,  
John Adams**  
John.ADAMS@ampf.com

**School Board President,  
Kyle Doerr**  
boardpresident@icsmail.org

## Sacramental Information

**Baptisms:** Parents/guardians are asked to attend a Preparation Seminar scheduled on the second Sunday of the month after 9:00 a.m. Mass (approximately 10:00 a.m.) 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 11:00 a.m. Mass. (No Baptisms are scheduled during Lent.) Please call the office to schedule at 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 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 9:00 a.m. Mass, and catechetical sessions from 10:00-11:30 a.m. Contact Lizanne Young at the Parish Office, 281-5105, ext. 354, or email lyounge@iccmil.org.

**Reconciliation:** Reconciliation is offered from 3:30-4:30 p.m. on Saturdays and by appointment.

## 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 online refresher course for 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 at 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*

Masses – Saturday, 5:00 p.m. and Sunday, 7:00, 9:00, 11:00 a.m.

Monday, May 22	8:05 a.m.	We remember Rumay and Jerry Kish
Tuesday, May 23	8:05 a.m.	We Pray for a Safe and Happy Summer for All
Wednesday, May 24	8:05 a.m.	We Remember Nicholas Eynon
Thursday, May 25	8:05 a.m.	We Remember Gerry Schilling
Friday, May 26	8:05 a.m.	We pray for the Souls of Mr & Mrs L. P. Smith
Saturday, May 27	5:00 p.m.	We Remember Craig Chaput
Sunday, May 28	7:00 a.m.	We Remember Ray & Velma Budde
	9:00 a.m.	We Remember Greg Fasnacht
	11:00 a.m.	We Remember Dean & Marian Keim



### *Please Pray For*

Patty Pulcher	Rich Sambo	Norman Pautler
Danielle Dorlac	Catherine Sambo	Don & Shirley Mehrmann
Donna Archambault-Kania	Nicole Pennington	Heather Mestadagh-Muertz
Arlin Stechmesser	Ruth Herrmann	Dolores G.
Catherine Marlo	Bill Kutz	Elliana Cloin
Margaret Ann Conrad	Chris Peel	Earl & Arlene Kruse
Peggy Schutt	Joan Thoma	Mrs. Steele
Dakota Schutt	Jodie Ward	Brian Hirsh
Mike Conrad	Grace Nolan	Bob Frey
Janice McDermott	Special Intention	The Kruse Family
Delores Deleveski	Liam Pugh	Charlie Hamilton
Ginny Lambert	Jill Bean	Steve Dressler
Brian Kreher	Baby Marcella	

*Troops in Service...* SGM Joseph Pope, US Army

**Prayer List Guidelines:** Please be mindful if your loved one no longer needs to be on the Prayer List and call the Parish Office at 281-5105.



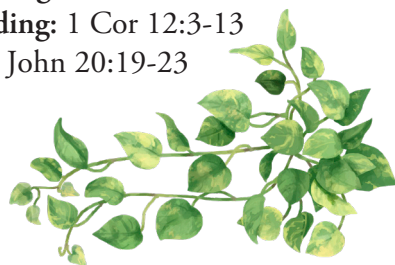
### *Weekly Reflections*

**May 28, 2023:**

**First Reading:** Acts 2:1-11

**Second Reading:** 1 Cor 12:3-13

**Gospel:** John 20:19-23



## **MEMORIAL DAY MASS AT THE CEMETERY**

The IC Cemetery Committee invites everyone to the annual Memorial Day Mass at the cemetery on Monday, May 29 at 9:00 a.m. After Mass, there will be a brief ceremony to honor military members buried in our cemetery. There will be a short blessing of the new Guardian Angel statue in the older children's section. Holy Water will be available for blessing your loved ones' graves.

Please join us and bring a lawn chair, hat, sunscreen, sunglasses, etc. The cemetery is located at 825 Bluffside Road. Please follow signs to the entrance driveway.

In case of rain, Mass will be held at Church.

# Parish Events & News...

## INVITATION FROM THE BISHOP

With great joy, I announce that on Saturday, June 3, 2023, I will ordain 14 men of our Diocese to the Order of Deacon (Permanent Diaconate). The Liturgy will take place at the Cathedral of St. Peter at 10:00 a.m. All are invited to attend. Please pray for our candidates as they prepare for ordination.

## PIE SALES ARE BACK!!

The ICY will be baking homemade cherry and apple pies for sale after all Masses Father's Day Weekend, June 17 and 18. Save your pennies and pick up a pie for Dad!

## SEEKING PSR COORDINATOR

Immaculate Conception has an immediate opening for a PSR Coordinator. This part-time staff position involves administrative tasks, recruitment of volunteers, and participation in weekly Parish School of Religion sessions on Wednesday evenings (during the school year). We are looking for someone who can devote an average of 10-12 hours per week to encourage our public school students in grades K-8 to know and grow in God's love. A complete job description is available from the Parish Office, and questions may be directed to Director of Faith Formation Lizanne Young at [lyoung@iccmail.org](mailto:lyoung@iccmail.org).

## IC YOUTH FOR THE SUMMER:

June 17 – Pie Baking  
June 17-18 – Pie Sales at Church  
June 23, 24, 25 – Mission Trip to Daystar in Cairo  
July 7, 8, 9 – Steubenville Catholic Youth Conference, Springfield, MO  
July 23 – ICY Day at Camp Vandeventer  
August – Training for Eucharistic Ministers/Lectors and Back to School Party



## D.C. PRETZEL AND DONUT SALES...

The Next Pretzel and Donut weekend will be this weekend. All proceeds to the 8th graders trip to Washington, D.C.

## PSR – REGISTER NOW!

PSR registration for the 2023-2024 year will take place now through June 1. PSR is for children grades K-8 not attending a Catholic school, and takes place on Wednesday evenings during the regular school year. You can register your child/children on the parish website under the PSR tab. If you have any questions, please contact the parish office.

## BULLETIN DEADLINE...

All submissions for the bulletin will need to be in to the parish office two Thursdays before you need it in the bulletin. In the interim of Angie leaving and our new Secretary starting, please send all bulletin info or any questions to [iccmil@iccmil.org](mailto:iccmil@iccmil.org) or call the parish office at 618-281-5105 and ask for Sheryl.

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

PARISH

# PICNIC

## SAVE THE DATE!

411 PALMER ROAD - COLUMBIA, ILLINOIS

## LABOR DAY WEEKEND, 2023

Interested in joining the  
planning committee?

Contact:  
[ICCPicnicChairs@gmail.com](mailto:ICCPicnicChairs@gmail.com)  
to get more information!



### Evening Band Event

- Live Music: 7pm-10pm
- Food & Drinks
- Select Booths & Games



### Parish Picnic, 11am-7pm

- Chicken Dinner, Fish & Grill Stands
- Book Store, Dessert Stand
- Kids & Adult Games
- Quilt Bingo 11am-7pm
- Live music through the day





# Ministry News & Happenings

## COMING SOON – WELCOME RECEPTION...

Thank you to Kevin Glasscock, who has volunteered to head up our new Welcoming Committee! We are planning to have the first Welcoming Reception on June 4, after the 9:00 a.m. Mass in the Garden Level.

Come join us in the welcoming of our new parish family members.

All are welcome!!

## MEALS FROM THE HEART...

Meals from the Heart is still available to those in need! We have volunteers ready to provide meals on a temporary basis to any parishioner experiencing a death, illness or trauma in their family. Please contact the Parish Office for assistance.

## WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

Tuesdays, 6:30 p.m. in the library. All are welcome! Contact Lizanne for more info at 618-281-5105, ext. 354.



## Pope Francis Says...

If we feel intimately united with all that exists, then sobriety and care will well up spontaneously. (LS 11)

## Discipleship Corner...

As Christians, why do we sometimes feel that life is a burden to be endured until we pass on to Heaven? Yes, heavenly joy is unsurpassable, but God's intent is that we also have a joyful earthly life. "I recognized that there is nothing better than to rejoice and to do well during life. Moreover, that all can eat and drink and enjoy the good of all their toil; this is a gift of God." (Ecc 3:12-13). "Being happy doesn't mean everything is perfect. It means you've decided to look beyond the imperfections." (Anon.)

## THE 2023 CATHOLIC SERVICE AND MINISTRY APPEAL...

"The one who does justice will live in  
the presence of the Lord"

– Psalm 15

Did you know YOUR GIFT to The 2023 Catholic Service and Ministry Appeal can be made online? Visit your Belleville Diocese's website at [www.diobelle.org](http://www.diobelle.org) and click on "Giving." It's that simple! Every donation – large or small – is needed to continue our diocesan ministry to those in need. We are counting on YOU. Please visit [www.diobelle.org](http://www.diobelle.org) today!

## ICY ODD SUNDAYS

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



## 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 the parish office at 618-281-5105.

## Vocation Corner...

"There was never a dull moment growing up with seven siblings. Little did I know that this experience would prepare me well for Benedictine life, a life of stability in community lived in the enclosure of the monastery. Would I have become a monk if my grandmother had not prayed that one of her grandsons would become a priest; if my dad had not told me, 'It doesn't hurt to give God the first option;' Nothing is more beautiful than encountering Christ. I didn't lose my family when I entered the monastery; I joined a family much larger than 10. I belong to God's family."

*Fr. Caesarius Marple, OSB; Westminster Abbey, Mission,  
British Columbia; Columbia Magazine April 2020*

## 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](http://birthrightstl.org)

~ Free and confidential counseling for anyone hurt by abortion, contact Project Rachel at 618-722-5068 or [hopeafterabortion.com](http://hopeafterabortion.com)

~ A caring place for women who are pregnant and experiencing homelessness, contact Fontebella Maternity Home at 618-406-4355.

If you, or someone you know, have an unborn baby diagnosed with “fetal abnormalities” or an “adverse prenatal diagnosis,” please refer to: [BeNotAfraid.net](http://BeNotAfraid.net) or [PrenatalPartnersforLife.org](http://PrenatalPartnersforLife.org).

Both offer free parent-centered case management and parental support for parents carrying to term following a prenatal diagnosis. [Birthrightstl.org](http://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.

## NOTE FROM BISHOP MCGOVERN

Dear Friends in Christ,

I am inviting the faithful in our area to gather for Mass on the Feast of the Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary, May 31, at 6:00 p.m. at St. Clare Church in O’Fallon. The Visitation celebrates the meeting of the Blessed Mother with her cousin St. Elizabeth as recorded in the Gospel of Luke (1:39-56). This beautiful encounter of two women, each expecting a child, moves us to marvel with them at the gracious goodness of God who is the Author of all life.



In this time when the sanctity of human life is often disregarded, it is important for us to pray together for an increase in respect for human life at all of its stages, with all of its vulnerabilities. Relying on the power of God, we affirm that every human life should be cherished and respected from conception until natural death; hospitals and healthcare agencies should remain committed to preserving life, not ending it; and that the consciences of healthcare workers should be respected and protected so that they are never coerced into actions that violate their spiritual core.

Please join with me at St. Clare on May 31 at 6:00 p.m. May Jesus Christ, the Bread of Life give us the strength we need to share the Gospel of Life with our families, friends and neighbors.

In Christ,  
Bishop Michael McGovern  
Diocese of Belleville

## Stewardship...

Thank you for sharing your blessings with us!

May 14, 2023

Actual.....	\$ 50,213.80
Budget .....	\$ 64,500.00
Actual YTD.....	\$1,879,536.92
Budget YTD .....	\$2,026,750.00
Over (under) .....	\$(147,213.08)
Prior YTD.....	\$1,865,635.35
Over (under) .....	\$ 13,901.57
Votive Offerings.....	\$ 169.00
Guatemala.....	\$ 1,639.00
Seminarian Ed.....	\$ 665.00
CCC .....	\$ 350.00
Catholic Home Missions....	\$ 225.00
CEAC .....	\$ 8,219.77
CI .....	\$ 369.00
Cemetery.....	\$ 25.00
Gibault.....	\$ 210.00
STBS.....	\$ 35.00
SVdP.....	\$ 90.00
Holy Land.....	\$ 50.00



## From Our Young Stewards

Treasure: \$3.50

Time and Talent: “helped my mom”

## QUILTERS’ CORNER...

Join our super fun quilters’ group on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9:00-11:30 a.m. All skill levels welcome and appreciated, even beginners! Contact Carlene at 281-5877.





# IMMACULATE CONCEPTION SCHOOL

409 Palmer Road ~ 281-5353

School Principal: Dave Gregson Ext. 202 ~ [dgregson@icsmail.org](mailto:dgregson@icsmail.org)

School Secretary: Beverly Epplin Ext. 200 ~ [bepplin@icsmail.org](mailto:bepplin@icsmail.org)

MISSION • COMMUNITY • SERVICE



## 1/2 Hog Raffle

### 4 chances to win

Drawing **May 31st, 2023** - winner need not be present

Ticket Sales after May 27th and 28th Masses

Proceeds support Immaculate Conception School

**\$20 each, 3 for \$50, 7 for \$100**

Tickets can also be purchased on-line at [icsfathers.square.site](https://www.icsfathers.square.site)

# What's Happening At Gibault?

## ENROLLMENT NEWS

There's still time to become a Gibault Hawk! We are accepting students for the Class of 2027 as well as transfer students for Fall 2023. Get started at: <https://bit.ly/GCHSApply>. Interested in learning more about Gibault Catholic? Contact Kelly Day at [kday@gibaulthawks.com](mailto:kday@gibaulthawks.com) for information on all things Gibault or to schedule a private tour of our campus.

## WE'RE #GIBAUTLPROUD OF:

**Drew Schmoll** (Immaculate Conception Parish) and **Annie Alvarez** (St. John the Baptist Parish – Smithton), who were crowned Prom King and Queen.

## SUMMER GOLF CLASSIC

Save the date for our Summer Golf Classic on June 16. Register your team or learn about sponsorship opportunities online at [www.bidpal.net/gibaultgolfclassic](http://www.bidpal.net/gibaultgolfclassic). You may also contact Desiree at 939-3883 or [dfrasure@gibaulthawks.com](mailto:dfrasure@gibaulthawks.com).

## SUMMER CAMPS

Register your student for our summer camps! Boys' Basketball, Girls' Basketball, and Girls' Volleyball camp registration forms are available at <https://gibaulthawks.com/summer-camps-2023/>.

## Diocesan and Area Interests...

## HNS SUMMER LUNCH 2023

Help HNS provide lunch for children in Monroe County this summer! Our summer lunch program was possible last year with financial and food donations provided by YOU! We are preparing early this year as we are gravely concerned about rising costs and availability of food items.

The 2022 program cost over \$30,000.00 last year, not including your generous food donations. If you wish to help, please check out our list below or if you would like to provide financial support, \$50.00 will sponsor a family with three children for a week or \$200.00 will cover a month. Just to remind you, we cover lunches for a total of 12 weeks during the summer. We are being specific with the sizes of some of our food items as the bags we use easily can accommodate them. Any donation can be dropped off at 217 West Mill Street, Waterloo or mailed to the same address. If you have questions, please call our office at 939-8900. You can also visit our website and donate online. Be sure to indicate "summer lunch program." [www.MonroeCountyHNS.org](http://www.MonroeCountyHNS.org) Thank you for helping us provide food security for our children this summer! We are so very blessed to partner with you!

Canned soups and chili Crackers, Canned pasta, Fruit and pudding cups, Mac & cheese, Canned chicken, Dry pasta, Canned vegetables, Canned pasta sauce, Boxes of cereal - 15 oz. to 24 oz., Sloppy Joe mix, Cake, brownie and cookie mixes, Peanut butter - 18 oz. jar, Jiffy Corn Muffin mix, Jelly - 30 oz. jar, Canned pork and beans, Granola bars, Hamburger Helper – regular size.

## Discover the Hidden Dominican Vocation



### Vocation Retreat – June 9-11, 2023

We invite young women age 16-26 to draw closer to Jesus and Mary and learn more about our vocation at the heart of the Dominican Order: [MarburyDominicanNuns.org/Vocation-Retreat-June23](http://MarburyDominicanNuns.org/Vocation-Retreat-June23)

Cloistered Dominican Nuns, Marbury, Alabama

*Get Ready to Have a Berry Good Time at the  
St. Patrick's – Ruma*

## STRAWBERRY FESTIVAL...

Sunday, May 21, 11:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.

Sunday Mass at 8:00 p.m.

Chicken dinner and so much more!!

Come out to St. Patrick's in Ruma for a day full of family fun!!





# Pregnancy Retreat

**Are you expecting?**

**Is there unexpectedness in your pregnancy?**

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

**June 23rd-25th, 2023 @ Marianist Retreat Center**

**September 22-23, 2023 @ La Salle Retreat Center**

*Our retreats are no-cost and open to all women 18 years and older regardless of faith, marital status, or pregnancy situation.  
Transportation available, if needed.*

**To register or find out more about this  
peace- and joy-filled weekend,  
email [info@gabrielsretreat.org](mailto:info@gabrielsretreat.org),  
text/call 314-412-3448, or visit our website.**

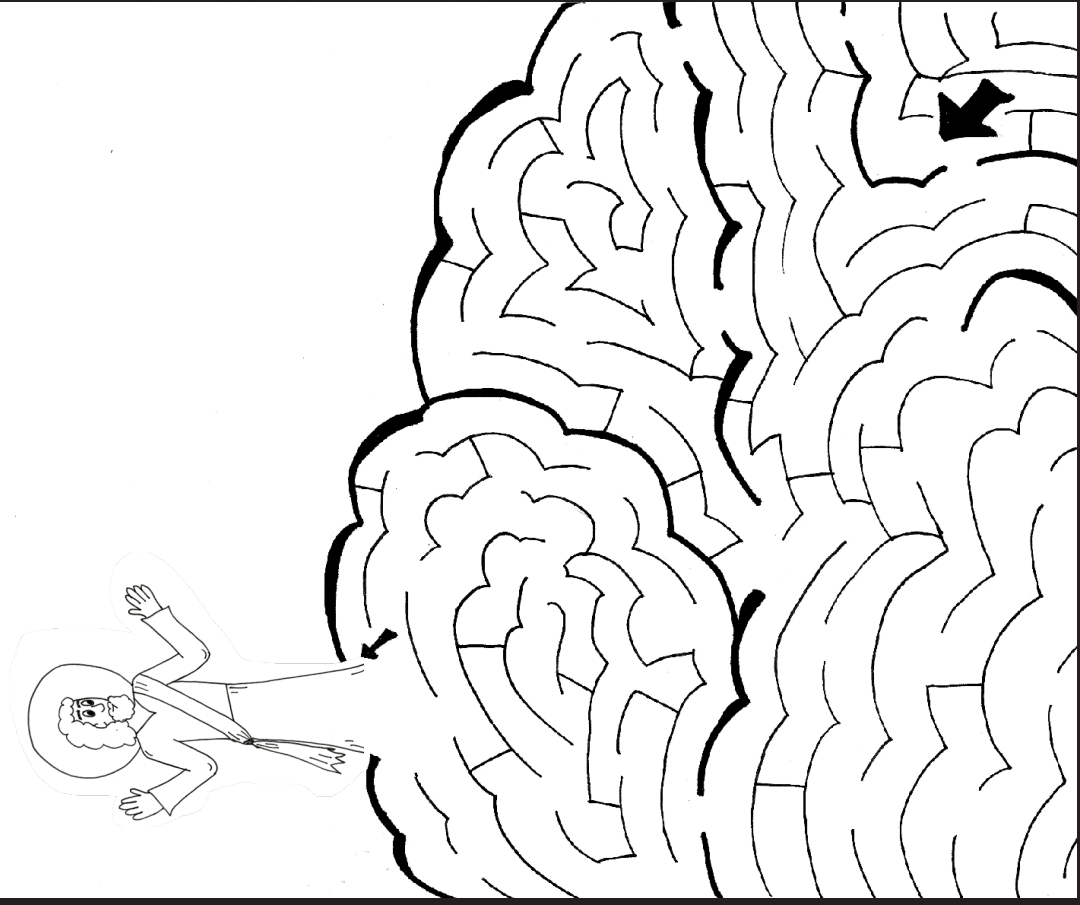
Other Pregnant & New Mom Support  
available through our Elizabeth's  
Support Programs such as education  
classes, support group meetings, diaper  
drops, and more.



Visit our website for more details. **[www.gabrielsretreat.org](http://www.gabrielsretreat.org)**

# Ascension

Can you find Jesus' path through the clouds?



Year A: Ascension of the Lord

# Catholic Kids

Bulletin

Ascension  
Color: White



WOGODWPMOUNTSOWHISP

THRONETOPSHOUTS

POFWJOYBALBLAREOFTRUMPETS

BPFORTPTHELOLORD

God mounts his  
throne to shouts  
of joy: a blare of  
trumpets for the  
Lord.



During the Nicene Creed, we say,  
"He ascended into Heaven and is  
seated at the right hand of the Father."  
Listen for those words during Mass.



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## Adams & Huetsch Attorneys at Law

TOM D. ADAMS  
Tel. 618/281-5185  
Columbia  
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Tel. 618/939-6126  
Waterloo  
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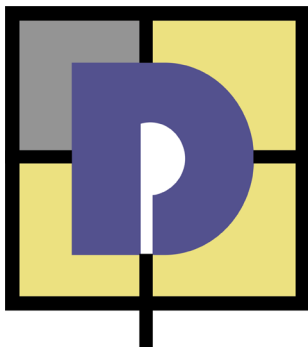
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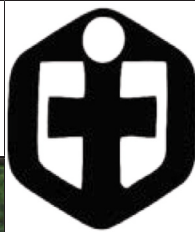
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