



Immaculate Conception

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

July 23, 2023

Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

www.icc-columbia-il.us



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>

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, lyoung@iccmil.org

Liturgy Coordinator, TBA

**IC-PSR Coordinator,
Rebecca Husman**
ext. 320, rhusman@iccmil.org

Bookkeeper, Sheryl Oglesby
ext. 351, soglesby@iccmil.org

**Secretary,
Michelle Muckensturm**
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 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 (September-Easter), 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 at 281-5105, ext. 354, or email lyoung@iccmil.org.

Reconciliation: Reconciliation is offered from 4:00-4:30 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 Kara at the Parish Office if you have questions. ***The initial course** is now available online. Please contact Kara at the Parish Office for directions. Not sure if you are compliant? Contact Kara at the Parish Office. ***The refresher course for 2023-2024 IS AVAILABLE ONLINE!** Follow the link on our website! If you can't find it there, it is also on the Diocesan website at <http://diobelle.org/b.aspx>. Questions? Contact Kara 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 at 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, July 24	8:05 a.m.	We Remember Holy Souls
Tuesday, July 25	8:05 a.m.	We Remember Holy Souls
Wednesday, July 26	8:05 a.m.	We Remember Jason Mueller
Thursday, July 27	8:05 a.m.	We Remember Edith Sexauer
Friday, July 28	8:05 a.m.	We Remember Helen Flinn
Saturday, July 29	5:00 p.m.	We Remember Josh Ritter
Sunday, July 30	7:00 a.m.	We Remember Bill Wolf
	9:00 a.m.	We Remember Ed & Mary Smugala
	11:00 a.m.	We Remember Chester & Lillian Kopec



Please Pray For

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

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

July 23, 2023:

First Reading: Wisdom 12:13, 16-19

Second Reading: Romans 8:26-27

Gospel: Matthew 13:24-43



Parish Events & News...

8th grade Confirmands
with Moms On a Mission

BLESSING BAG Collection for homeless

Donation Box Available in Gathering Space

Venmo anytime, Cash donations
accepted after all Masses July 29-30

Any non-perishable items accepted

Suggested items: deodorant, soap, baby wipes, baby powder,
Vaseline, sunscreen, chapstick, toothpaste, toothbrush,
shampoo, mouth wash, floss, bandages, granola bars, comb,
hair brush, socks, sunglasses, etc.



FINAL DAY
TO DONATE
6
AUGUST

REMINDER TO GET YOUR PSR STUDENTS REGISTERED!

All registrations received after July 30 will have an additional \$10.00 per student late registration fee. You can register at the link on our website. Contact the Parish Office for any questions.

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. Submissions will need to be sent to iccmail@iccmail.org. If you have any questions, please call the Parish Office at 618-281-5105.

D.C. PRETZEL AND DONUT SALES

The next Pretzel and Donut weekend will be **August 5 & 6**. All proceeds go to the 8th graders' trip to Washington, D.C.

TIME TO UPDATE YOUR INFO...

In preparation for this year's guidebook and ministry catalogue, please let us know if your Name, Address, Phone Number, or Email has changed. We only know to change it if you tell us! Send all changes to iccmail@iccmail.org. Thanks!

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
to get more information!

SATURDAY
SEPTEMBER
2

Evening Band Event

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



MONDAY
SEPTEMBER
4

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

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.

THEOLOGY ON TAP'S UPCOMING EVENTS

Dates and Topics are below. All dates are at Sunset Overlook in Columbia, IL at 7:00 p.m. unless otherwise noted.

August 7: Purgatory & Afterlife

August 21: Hiking – location TBD

September 4: None

September 18: Service Outing – details TBD

October 2: Book of Leviticus

October 16: Game Night!!

October 30: Image of God

November 13: Social, no topic

December 11: Christmas Party & White Elephant

ST. ANNE CRADLE OF HOPE COLLECTION

The Sanctity of Life Committee will be collecting items for the St. Anne Cradle of Hope until August 4, 2023. The most needed items are:

- Diaper Bags
- Bouncy Seats
- Diapers and Pull-ups, especially sizes 6-7
- Swim Diapers
- Car Seats

Of course, cash is always appreciated since it allows the volunteer staff at St. Anne's to buy exactly what is needed, as well as making it easier and more convenient than transporting large items. The address is:

St. Anne Cradle of Hope, C/O Mary Fleming
222 South Third Street, Belleville, IL 62220

Or, if it's easier, you may drop your check in the collection basket or leave it in the Parish Office.

Thanks in advance for your generosity. Please place your donated items in the baby crib or in the bins next to it in the Gathering Space.

TRAINING FOR MASS MINISTRIES

Looking for a more active way to participate in Mass? Teens and adults (if you're Confirmed, you're qualified!) are invited to a training session for Eucharistic Ministers, Lectors, and Ministers of Hospitality (ushers) on either of the following dates: Thursday, July 27, at 6:30 p.m. OR Sunday, July 30, 12:00 p.m. (immediately following 11:00 a.m. Mass). These sessions are for new ministers and anyone who would like a refresher. *Would you like to assist with training?* Shoot an email to Lizanne at lyoung@iccm.org.

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.

ICY ODD SUNDAYS

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



Pope Francis Says...

I urgently appeal for a new dialogue about how we are shaping the future of our planet. We need a conversation which includes everyone. (LS 14)

What can I do? Watch a YouTube video on Plastics.

Discipleship

"The structure of the church, the traditional – if correctly understood – is always modern. This is because tradition continues to develop and grow." (Pope Francis). Tradition is not static; it evolves over time. In the United States, we may think that Christmas trees have been around forever, but they did not become a wide-spread tradition until Queen Victoria and Prince Albert started the practice in England less than 200 years ago. Church traditions will also continue to change. We have a duty to be a positive part of that change rather than merely grumbling or just withdrawing from the church.

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 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 today!

PILGRIMAGE UPDATE (CORRECTION)

Thank you to all those who emailed me their interest in a potential pilgrimage to the Holy Land. There was plenty of interest, so I will be contacting my friends at Catholic Travel and inviting them to put together a pilgrimage for the end of FEBRUARY 2025. When I receive the details, I will let you all know, and we will schedule a meeting. Until then, thanks for your interest!
– Fr. Steve

WOULD YOU LIKE TO DONATE A BASKET FOR OUR FALL RAFFLE?

Baskets are due at the September 7th meeting. Contact Glenda Sexauer at glenda.sexauer@gmail.com or 618-520-9369 if you are interested.

Collecting items now for the Keeping College Kids Connected bags to be handed out to students heading off to college at the August 5th/6th Masses. We will fill 20 bags at our August 3rd meeting. If you have items to be picked up, please call or email Glenda Sexauer.

All College Students – Wishing you the very best in your new school year. We hope and pray for your success in all your endeavors. Please be sure to sign up every year for the Keeping College Kids Connected program, so we have your updated information. *Parents can also sign up their kids. Forms found in the gathering space. Return in basket or to the office.*

Our next meeting will be at 6:30 p.m., Thursday, August 3rd in the Garden Level.

Vocation

Gracious God, You have called us through Baptism to discipleship, believing in Your Son, Jesus Christ, who has sent us to bring the Good News of salvation to the world. We pray to You, asking that You grant us more priests and religious who will help us build up Your Church in the Diocese of Belleville and the world. Stir up the grace of a religious vocation in the hearts of many of our youth. Grant to them the willingness and generosity to give of themselves in service to our Lord Jesus and His people. May a new generation of priests, deacons, sisters and brothers be a sign of Your presence among us. We ask this in the name of Jesus the Lord. Amen.

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.

PRO-LIFE/PREGNANCY RESOURCES...

- ~ Free and confidential pregnancy testing, counseling, and practical support: Life Network of Southern Illinois (in Waterloo and 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; contact Project Rachel at 618-722-5068 or 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 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...

Thank you for sharing your blessings with us!

July 16, 2023

Actual	\$ 101,539.70
Budget	\$ 62,500.00
Actual YTD	\$ 161,143.50
Budget YTD	\$ 105,500.00
Over (under)	\$ 55,643.50
Prior YTD	\$ 88,566.61
Over (under)	\$ 72,576.89
Guatemala.....	\$ 2,048.00
Peter’s Pence	\$ 485.00
CEAC	\$ 31,915.43
CI	\$ 747.00
Gibault	\$ 886.00
Newman Auxiliary	\$ 230.00
St. Thea Bowman	\$ 45.00
SVDP	\$ 90.00
Cemetery	\$ 60.00
Messenger	\$ 30.00



From Our Young Stewards

Treasure: \$8.50

Time and Talent: I helped mom and dad pull weeds; I cleaned the basement; I picked up my room.

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

School Secretary: Beverly Epplin, Ext. 200 ~ bepplin@icsmail.org

MISSION • COMMUNITY • SERVICE

Keep an eye out for your Latchkey registration email. Make sure you get your kids registered so they have a spot. For questions, contact the School Office.

HIRING!

We have two cafeteria positions available for the 2023/2024 school year. One position is Monday, Tuesday, Friday and the other is Tuesday, Thursday, Friday. The hours for both positions will be 10:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m.

Duties include: set up cafeteria for students, get trays ready for serving, help with dishes, set out lunch for pre-s/pre-k, monitor students during lunch, help on serving line, help clean up cafeteria, take out trash, mop kitchen, help with dishes. For more information or to inquire about position, please call the School Office at 618-281-5353 or email Connie at mrshueber@icsmail.org.



Don't forget to come out on Tuesday nights for our Queen of Hearts drawing. Queen of Hearts drawing is at 7:00 p.m. and 50/50 is drawn at 7:15 p.m. Check back for monthly reports on how much we have been able to raise.

VOLUNTEERS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME!
Visit the Parish website: ICC-columbia-IL.us for a link to our Queen of Hearts sign-up.

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 for information on all things Gibault or to schedule a private tour of our campus.



We would like to welcome

Sarah Lanham,
Gibault's new Principal.

Sarah grew up in New Athens, she is married to her husband, Bob, and they have three children, Josh, Lauren, and Chase.

Diocesan and Area Interests...



NATIONAL SHRINE OF OUR LADY OF THE SNOWS – VISITORS CENTER

Journey to Nicaea: The Evolution of Christianity from Gospel to Creed

Presenter: Mark Etling, PhD

Saturdays, August 5 and September 2 – 10:00 a.m.-Noon

The first four centuries of the Christian era saw an incredible evolution – from a tiny movement in Israel to a vast, thriving institution in much of the Roman Empire. In its earliest days, the Christian movement was a

disorganized network of communities with no Bible, no central authority, and no unified system of beliefs. But by the year 400, the Church had adopted a universal statement of faith – the Nicene Creed. In this three-part series, we will explore Christianity's historical and theological journey from Jerusalem to Nicaea.

Cost: \$10.00 per session/\$30.00 for the series.

For more information, call 618-394-6281. Register online at <https://snows.org>.

80th Annual Novena to Our Lady of the Snows

Friday, July 28 through Saturday, August 5 – Mass begins at 7:30 p.m.

“Mary the Dawn, Christ the Perfect Day!” – Each evening of the Novena includes Mass, special music, and prayers, Scripture reflections and praying the Rosary. For more information, call 618-394-6276 or visit snows.org/novena.



GATORADE AND BOTTLED WATER NEEDED!

During the intense heat of summer, the Society of St. Vincent de Paul Belleville Council desperately needs bottled water and Gatorade (or similar drinks) for the homeless who visit the soup kitchen, thrift store and OverNite Center every day. And...no matter what the weather...individually packaged food items (cookies, fruit cups, tuna and chicken snack packs, chips, crackers, cheese sticks, yogurt, cereal, instant oatmeal, Pop Tarts, breakfast bars, soup or pasta in a cup) are also needed! If you are able to help, items can be dropped off at:

St. Vincent de Paul Council Office

8800 West Main Street, Belleville, Illinois 62223

(across from Blessed Sacrament Church)

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday – 9:00 a.m.-2:30 p.m.

or

SVDP Thrift Store/Soup Kitchen

3718 State Street, East St. Louis

Monday-Friday – 9:00 a.m.-1:30 p.m.;

Saturday – 9:00 a.m.-12:00 Noon

For additional information, contact Joe Hubbard or Pat Hogrebe at 618-394-0126. If you are unable to donate items, we humbly ask for your prayers for SVDP and its clients. Thank you and God bless you for enabling St. Vincent de Paul's ministry to the poorest among us.

CHURCH PICNICS

St. Boniface, Germantown, IL

July 25

Chicken Dinner starts at 3:30 p.m.

Quilt/Cash Bingo at 6:30 p.m.

St. Francis, Aviston, IL

August 5

Mass at 4:00 p.m.,

Quilt Bingo at 6:30 p.m.

(every game for a Quilt)

St. Joseph, Prairie du Rocher, IL

August 5

Dinner starts at 3:30 p.m.,

Mass at 4:00 p.m.,

Quilt & Cash Bingo from 5:00-11:00 p.m.

St. Anthony, Lively Grove

August 5

Polka Mass at 4:00 p.m.,

Chicken Dinner from 4:00-8:00 p.m.

Quilt & Cash Bingo from 6:30-11:00 p.m.

WEEDS AND WHEAT

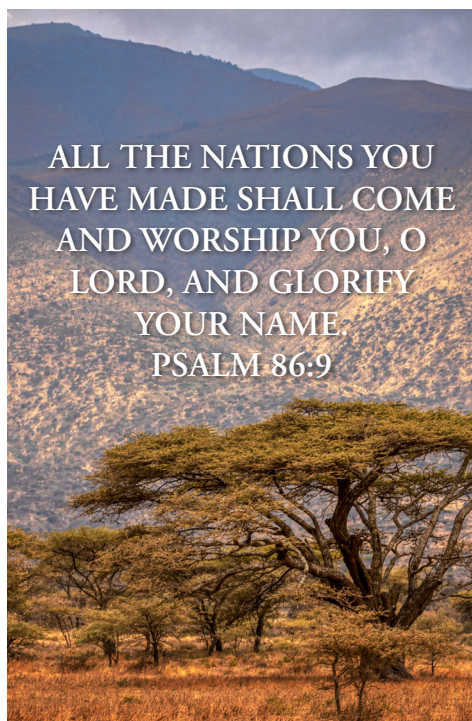
Reflection on Matthew 13:24-43

Last week, Jesus spoke of the frustrations of the sower. What with poor soil conditions, pests, weeds, and plant blight, it seems foolhardy to expect a crop. Today's parable focuses more sharply on the crop itself; the field is dotted with weeds that are crowding out the wheat, stealing its nourishment, blocking its access to the sunlight. Today's farmer would spray a herbicide, but the farmer of Jesus' day could rely only on the back-breaking method of tearing out the weeds by hand. And that, Jesus says, would do more harm than good. Better to let both grow until the harvest, when they can be sorted out more carefully.

Jesus, of course, is not giving agricultural advice, but using this image to remind us that only God can read hearts. The parable cautions us to be patient. We are not infallible in our judgments about what is wheat and what is weed.

God is the final harvester. God is the final judge, and God has not invited any of us to sit on that judgment seat with Him. The truth is, most if not all of us are a mixture of weeds and wheat. But God is faithful. God is not finished with any of us yet. God has been present throughout our growth, our struggles, our journeying with each one of us to make of us a gleaming, golden field of wheat, of goodness, justice, and kindness, a rich harvest of love for the world.

~ Fr. Jay



WEEKLY SCRIPTURE

Sunday, July 23, 2023

16th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Wis 12:13, 16-19

Ps 86:5-6, 9-10, 15-16

Rom 8:26-27

Mt 13:24-43

Monday, July 24, 2023

Weekday

Ex 14:5-18

Ex 15:1bc-2, 3-4, 5-6

Mt 12:38-42

Tuesday, July 25, 2023

Saint James, Apostle

2 Cor 4:7-15

Ps 126:1bc-2ab, 2cd-3, 4-5, 6

Mt 20:20-28

Wednesday, July 26, 2023

Saints Joachim and Anne, Parents of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Ex 16:1-5, 9-15

Ps 78:18-19, 23-24, 25-26, 27-28

Mt 13:1-9

Thursday, July 27, 2023

Weekday

Ex 19:1-2, 9-11, 16-20b

Dn 3:52, 53, 54, 55, 56

Mt 13:10-17

Friday, July 28, 2023

Weekday

Ex 20:1-17

Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 11

Mt 13:18-23

Saturday, July 29, 2023

Saints Martha, Mary and Lazarus

Ex 24:3-8

Ps 50:1b-2, 5-6, 14-15

Jn 11:19-27

Access Daily Readings from
the New American Bible,
Revised Edition (NABRE) online at
<https://bible.usccb.org>

SAINT JAMES

Feast Day: July 25

Patron Saint of: Laborers

This James is the brother of John the Evangelist. The two were called by Jesus as they worked with their father in a fishing boat on the Sea of Galilee. James was one of the favored three who had the privilege of witnessing the Transfiguration, the raising to life of the daughter of Jairus, and the agony in Gethsemani.

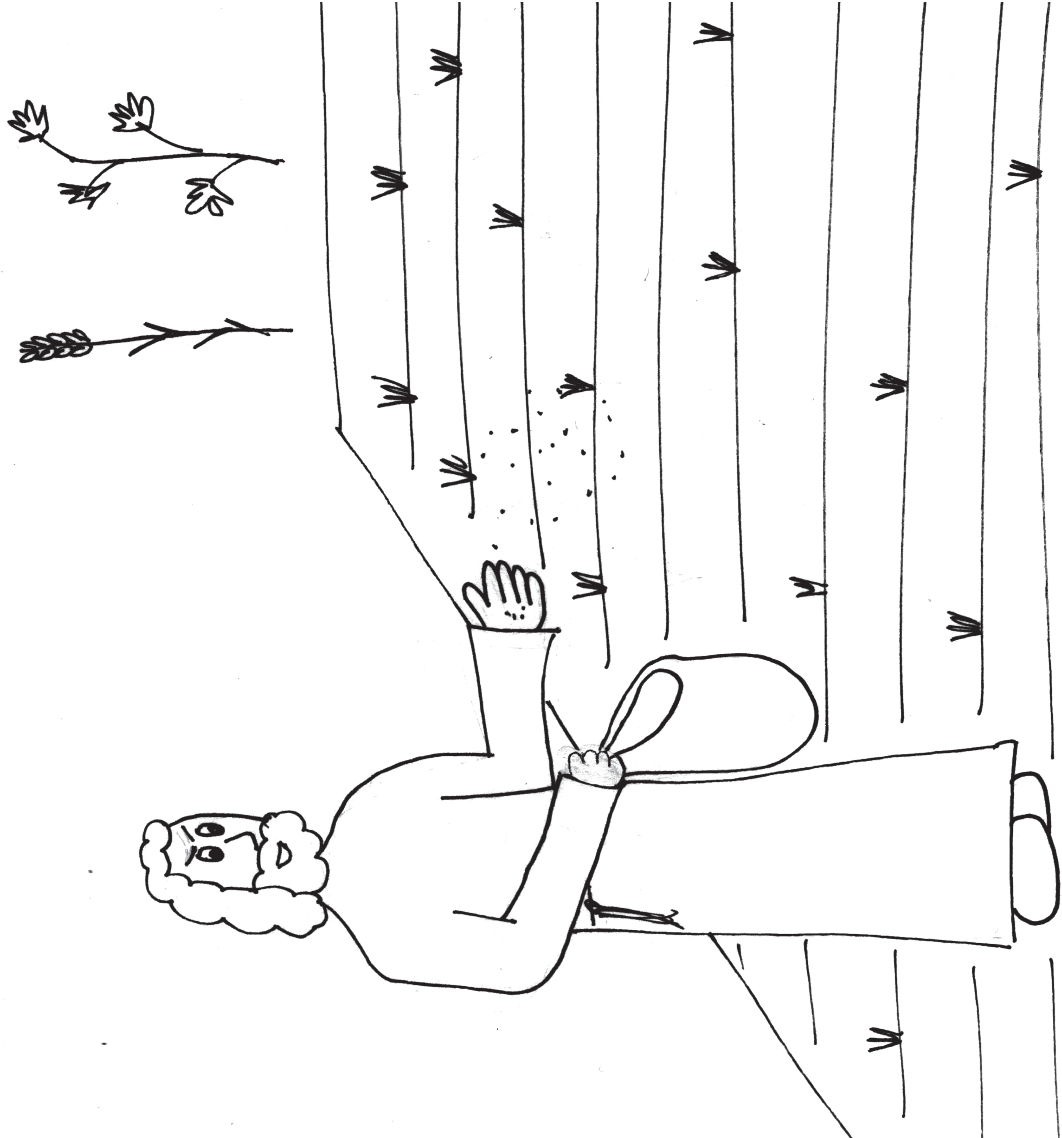
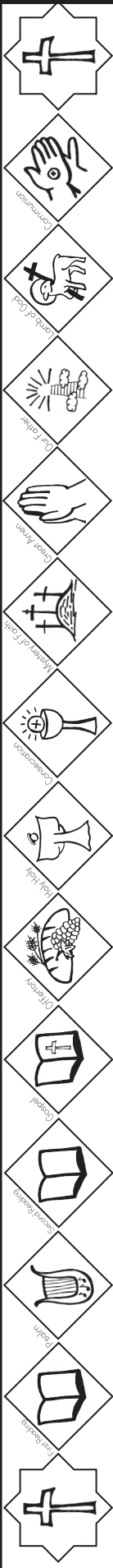
James and John gave evidence that the nickname Jesus gave them—"sons of thunder"—was an apt one. The Samaritans would not welcome Jesus because He was on His way to hated Jerusalem. "When the disciples James and John saw this they asked, 'Lord, do you want us to call down fire from heaven to consume them?' Jesus turned and rebuked them..." (Luke 9:54-55).

James was apparently the first of the apostles to be martyred. "About that time King Herod laid hands upon some members of the church to harm them. He had James, the brother of John, killed by the sword, and when he saw that this was pleasing to the Jews he proceeded to arrest Peter also" (Acts 12:1-3a).

This James, sometimes called James the Greater, is not to be confused with James the Lesser or with the author of the Letter of James and the leader of the Jerusalem community.

The way the Gospels treat the apostles is a good reminder of what holiness is all about. There is very little about their virtues as static possessions, entitling them to heavenly reward. Rather, the great emphasis is on the Kingdom, on God's giving them the power to proclaim the Good News. As far as their personal lives are concerned, there is much about Jesus' purifying them of narrowness, pettiness, fickleness.

Read the full article: "Saint James" Franciscan Media, Franciscan Friars,
<https://www.franciscanmedia.org/saint-of-the-day/saint-james/>. (Accessed July 7, 2023).



Circle the good WHEAT words.
Cross out the bad WEED words.

Friends Love Hate Share
Care Hit Give Selfish
Embarrass Bully
Compliment
Insult Hug Help
Encourage Rude Lie
Truth Happy



Gospel

Jesus tells a parable about wheat and weeds.
Listen to the priest to hear the story.

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Amy Hoffmann-Rohlfing, Salon Owner



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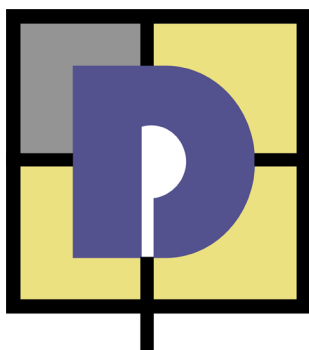
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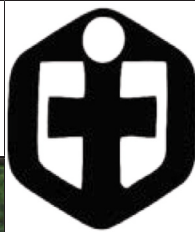
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