



Immaculate Conception

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

August 20, 2023

Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time

www.icc-columbia-il.us



*May your way be known upon earth;
among all nations, your salvation.*

Psalm 67:3

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
ericwagnerc1@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. 353, 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,
Bill Simmons**
wsimmons85@yahoo.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, August 21	8:05 a.m.	We Remember Fr. Steve Gira
Tuesday, August 22	8:05 a.m.	We Remember Albert Lampe
Wednesday, August 23	8:05 a.m.	We Remember Edith Sexauer
Thursday, August 24	8:05 a.m.	We Remember Calvin Fries
Friday, August 25	8:05 a.m.	We Remember Sarah Matlock
Saturday, August 26	5:00 p.m.	We Remember Chester & Lillian Kopec
Sunday, August 27	7:00 a.m.	We Remember Joan Johns
	9:00 a.m.	We Remember Joanne Hoffman
	11:00 a.m.	We Remember Anna Lawlor



Please Pray For

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

Troops in Service... SGM Joseph Pope, US Army; Colonel Brian Schoellhorn

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



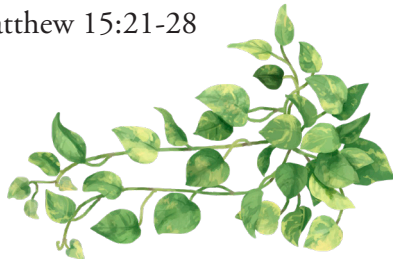
Weekly Reflections

August 20, 2023:

First Reading: Isaiah 56:1, 6-7

Second Reading: Romans 11:13-15, 29-32

Gospel: Matthew 15:21-28



Our Sympathies...

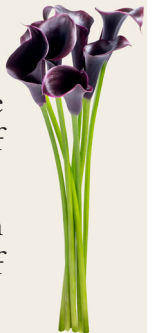
To Carol Swindle and her family on the death of Carol's mom, Joyce Taylor, 86, of St. Louis, MO

To Barbara, David, and John on the death of their mother, Elizabeth Lang, 95, of Creve Coeur, MO

To Mike Conrad and his family on the death of his wife, Margaret Ann Conrad, 85, of Columbia

To Rosemary Littmann and her family on the death of Rosemary's daughter, Bridgette Littmann, 55, of St. Louis, MO

To Kim VonDerHaar and her family on the death of Kim's father, Charlie Drinen, 78, of St. Louis, MO



Parish Events & News...

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



IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

PARISH

Labor Day Weekend Picnic

2023

For those who want to donate

pies/cakes to the picnic, but are unable to bake, Sisters' Sweets to the rescue!

You can order directly from them and they will bake AND deliver just for you.

Order by Sat. Aug. 26

<https://tinyurl.com/iccpies>



PLANT LOVERS!

The Plant Booth for the Parish Picnic is gearing up! Please remember us and get your plants potted and trimmed and ready to donate. We were a little short last year and had to close down early. We hope our Parish Family comes through to make this year's picnic a huge success. Bring donations to the drop-off point on the morning of the picnic. Volunteers will grab them from you and get them to the right place. Thanks so much for your help. Pam and Carol

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 iccmil@iccmil.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 **September 9 and 10**. 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 iccmil@iccmil.org. Thanks!

UPDATE:

The June 30 storm wreaked havoc on our cemetery with eighteen pine trees, two cedars and one oak damaged.

On July 5th and 6th, volunteers removed the damaged trees and limbs.

Some stones were toppled and will be reset pending insurance review. They will reset regardless.

Thank you for your patience while we get things cleaned up.

The Cemetery Committee

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 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

PSR

Share Your Faith: PSR Catechists & Aides Needed

Love sharing your love of God? Our Parish School of Religion (PSR) needs people like you! Catechists and aides spend an hour Wednesday evenings during the school year making sure our Columbia Eagles (grades K-8) grow in love and faith. It's a great way to learn more yourself, as you hand on the faith to others. Check the parish website for the PSR Volunteer application, or email Rebecca Husman at rhusman@iccmil.org.

WELCOME!

Welcome PSR Families! PSR orientation is August 23rd at 6:30 p.m. Our first full class is August 30th. We are looking forward to see you there. Registration for PSR will close on September 8th. We are looking forward to an amazing, Christ-filled year!

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...

Our industrial system, at the end of its cycle of production and consumption, has not developed the capacity to absorb and reuse waste and bi-products. (LS 22)

What can I do? Refuse. Reduce. Reuse. Recycle

THE 2023 CATHOLIC SERVICE AND MINISTRY APPEAL

The one who does justice will live in the presence of the Lord.
– Psalm 15

The Society of St. Vincent de Paul truly serves the poorest of the poor through its Cosgrove's Soup Kitchen, SVDP Thrift Store, Help Center and Night Drop-In Center. Men, women and children are provided the basic necessities of life – food, clothing and shelter – and the hope and the tools they need for a better tomorrow. Help St. Vincent de Paul serve those who have no place else to turn. Please make your gift to The Catholic Service and Ministry Appeal today.

IC-CCW NEWS

Fall Events:

- The Metro East Vicariate will have its Fall Day of Prayer at St. Stephen in Caseyville on Thursday, September 21st
 - The Belleville Diocese will have its Convention at St. James in Millstadt on Wednesday, October 11th
- Please contact Glenda Sexauer if you are interested in attending.

Fall Fundraiser:

- Mark your calendars for Bunco Night Thursday, November 2nd in the garden level. We will draw the winners of the Quilt/Linneman Gas Card/Afghan raffle AND the Basket raffle!
- Next meeting September 7th, 6:30 p.m. in the garden level

HOMEBOUND MINISTRY

The schedule will be coming out soon for September. We are looking for a few more volunteers to help. If you know anyone who may be interested in being a volunteer, please reach out to the Parish Office at 281-5105 or email iccmil@iccmil.org.

Discipleship

What type of faith is great? Great faith is that which brings its own story, marked even by wounds, and brings it to the Lord's feet asking Him to heal them, to give them meaning. Each one of us has our own story and it is not always a story "of export," it is not always a clean story... Many times, it is a difficult story, with a lot of pain, many misfortunes and many sins. What do I do with my story? Do I hide it? No! We must bring it before the Lord. "Lord, if You will it, You can heal me!" This is what this woman teaches us: the courage to bring our own painful story before God, before Jesus, to touch God's tenderness, Jesus' tenderness. Let's try this story, this prayer: let each one of us think of his or her own story. There are always ugly things in a story, always. Let us go to Jesus, knock on Jesus' heart and say to Him: "Lord, if You will it, You can heal me!"

NEWS FROM THE KNIGHTS

K of C 4th Degree Restaurant Raffle

The local Knights of Columbus 4th Degree Assembly 1529 is selling tickets for a 12-month Restaurant Raffle. Each winner will receive a \$250.00 gift card to the sponsored restaurant of the month. Alternatively, the winner can elect to receive \$200.00 in cash. The drawings will happen the third Wednesday of each month beginning October 2023. All winning tickets are re-entered for subsequent monthly drawings. Only 400 tickets will be sold at a cost of \$20.00 each. For tickets, contact Wes Hoeffken, Ken Ebers, or any other K of C 4th Degree member.

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!

August 13, 2023

Actual	\$	13,369.00
Budget	\$	23,075.00
Actual YTD	\$	251,278.05
Budget YTD	\$	237,225.00
Over (under)	\$	14,053.05
Prior YTD	\$	225,069.69
Over (under)	\$	26,208.36
Votive	\$	168.00
Guatemala	\$	689.00
Gibault	\$	50.00
St Thea Bowman	\$	995.00
Seminarian Education	\$	20.00
Catholic Community	\$	20.00
CEAC	\$	2,318.00
Capital Improvements	\$	320.00



From Our Young Stewards

Treasure: \$1.50

Time and Talent: Helping Grandma go through pictures. I love you, God.

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 Eplin, Ext. 200 ~ bepplin@icsmail.org

MISSION • COMMUNITY • SERVICE

GOLF TOURNAMENT

ICS Golf Tournament: The Joe Hoguet Memorial | Friday, September 22 at The Acorns | 1:00 p.m. shotgun start.

Register your team at icsfathers.square.site

TO BENEFIT:
IMMACULATE CONCEPTION
COLUMBIA, ILLINOIS

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION PRESENTS
**QUEEN
OF
HEARTS
& 50/50 RAFFLE**

LOCATION:
SUNSET
OVERLOOK
11604 BLUFF
ROAD
COLUMBIA,
ILLINOIS

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?

Ms. Z and some of her FFA officers visited Parker Dairy Farm and Salger Ostrich Farm as part of their yearly officer retreat. Thanks to the Parker and Salger Families for sharing their knowledge with our students!



GIBAULT MEN'S CLUB FULL MOON RIDE

The Gibault Men's Club, in coordination with the City of Waterloo, is sponsoring the Full Moon Ride, a five-mile bike ride through the streets of Waterloo on Friday, September 8th. Individuals (\$25.00) and families (\$75.00) are invited. All riders are guaranteed a T-shirt if registered by August 21st. The ride starts at 8:00 p.m. (assembly at 7:00 p.m.) at Gibault Catholic High School. To register, please send your check payable to Gibault Catholic High School, c/o Full Moon Ride, 501 Columbia Avenue, Waterloo, IL 62298 or visit <https://gibaulthawks.square.site>. For additional information, please text Darren Mechler at 618-972-9989, or Mark Reinholz at 314-496-0056. Please include shirt sizes (adult unisex and youth sizes available).

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.

Diocesan and Area Interests...

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)

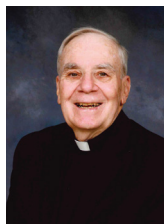
Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday, 9:00 a.m.-2:30 p.m.

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.



FR. CARL'S 50TH JUBILEE

With gratitude and love, former pastor Fr. Carl E. Scherrer invites Immaculate Conception parishioners to celebrate his Golden Jubilee on September 17, 2023, with Mass at 11:00 a.m., followed by a 1:00 p.m. luncheon in the Michael L. Kish Gymnasium. Fr. Carl requests no gifts, but would appreciate donations to Sr. Thea Bowman Catholic School (www.stbcs.com). All are welcome, but space for lunch is

limited, so please make reservations through Sheryl at the Parish Office at 618-281-5105 or soglesby@iccmil.org. Reservations will be accepted until August 25.

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

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

FUNDRAISER DINNER

On September 24, 2023, the Congregation of the Resurrection is hosting their fundraising dinner for formation and retirement needs. This event will take place at Allegra Banquets in Schiller Park (a suburb of Chicago) Illinois. If anyone happens to be in the Chicago area on that weekend and would like to attend the fundraiser dinner, please contact the Parish Office for details. It's a long way to go, but the Polish food will be delicious! Many of you have already supported the Congregation of the Resurrection by purchasing raffle tickets. We are so grateful for all the support. If you didn't have a chance to purchase tickets and would like some, we have those available in the Parish Office. Your prayers, love and support for the Congregation are always appreciated.

Fr. Steve, C.R.

JUST FAITH

What does the food on your plate have to do with the climate crisis?

JustFaith Ministries' *Sacred Land: Food & Farming* is



an eight-session, small group program that celebrates our interconnectedness with the land and those who live on it. Together, group members learn how food and farming practices affect the climate crisis, marginalized communities, and their own health and spiritual wellbeing. For more information, visit <https://justfaith.org/sacred-land-immaculate-conception-columbia-fall-2023-small-group/>.

SISTER THEA BOWMAN CATHOLIC SCHOOL

We have a special envelope in our August packet for our sister school in East St. Louis, the only Catholic grade school in East St. Louis. Nearly all the students there need tuition assistance, and our financial support helps make that possible. Once again, we have an anonymous donor who has offered a \$10,000.00 matching gift. Please be generous in helping us help those in need!

CHURCH HAPPENINGS!

Holy Childhood, Mascoutah, IL

August 26, Mass at 4:00 p.m.

Dinner/Quilt Bingo

St. Theresa/St. Luke, Belleville, IL

August 26, Mass at 4:00 p.m.

Dinner at 4:00 p.m./Quilt Bingo

St. Joseph, Freeburg, IL

September 8 & 9, Mass

Dinner/Cash & Quilt Bingo

St. Stephen, Caseyville, IL

September 8 & 9, Mass at 4:00 p.m.

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

Quilt/Cash Bingo, 5:00-11:00 p.m.

BOLDLY PRAY

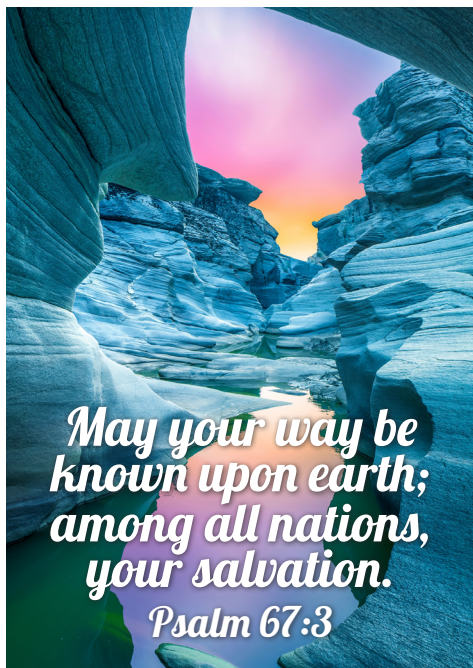
Reflection on Matthew 15:21-28

Early in life, our parents begin to teach us our manners, how to be polite – our “please” and “thank-you” – all the words and actions we will need to be respectful of others and not embarrass ourselves (or our parents!) in public. All of this socialization serves us well as we move through life, even in how we relate to God.

Today’s Gospel compels us to consider a different dimension of relating to God: with boldness, persistence, even a bit of an argumentative spirit. There is precedence for how this Canaanite woman converses with Jesus. Think of Abraham arguing with God as to whether the city of Sodom might be spared destruction. Think of the Psalmist demanding of God better treatment than his people are getting at the moment (Psalm 44). These are the prayers that end with exclamation points!

Some would argue that this is how Jesus Himself taught us to pray: “Give us this day our daily bread. Forgive our sins. Deliver us from evil.” These are straightforward and confident requests. However, whatever our prayer request might be, and however boldly we bring it to the altar, we always must submit to God’s veto, precisely because He is our Lord. “Your will be done” is always a good ending to every prayer.

~ Fr. Jay



*May your way be
known upon earth;
among all nations,
your salvation.*

Psalm 67:3

WEEKLY SCRIPTURE

Sunday, August 20, 2023

20th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Is 56:1, 6-7

Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8

Rom 11:13-15, 29-32

Mt 15:21-28

Monday, August 21, 2023

Saint Pius X, Pope

Jgs 2:11-19

Ps 106:34-35, 36-37, 39-40, 43ab, 44

Mt 19:16-22

Tuesday, August 22, 2023

The Queenship of the

Blessed Virgin Mary

Jgs 6:11-24a

Ps 85:9, 11-12, 13-14

Mt 19:23-30

Wednesday, August 23, 2023

Saint Rose of Lima

Jgs 9:6-15

Ps 21:2-3, 4-5, 6-7

Mt 20:1-16

Thursday, August 24, 2023

Saint Bartholomew, Apostle

Rv 21:9b-14

Ps 145:10-11, 12-13, 17-18

Jn 1:45-51

Friday, August 25, 2023

Weekday

Ru 1:1, 3-6, 14b-16, 22

Ps 146:5-6ab, 6c-7, 8-9a, 9bc-10

Mt 22:34-40

Saturday, August 26, 2023

Weekday

Ru 2:1-3, 8-11; 4:13-17

Ps 128:1b-2, 3, 4, 5

Mt 23:1-12

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

SAINT ROSE OF LIMA

Feast Day: August 23

Patron Saint of: Florists

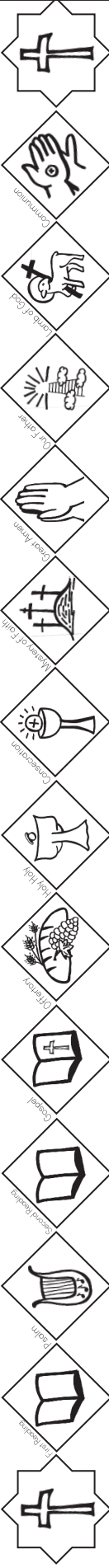
She was born to parents of Spanish descent in Lima, Peru, at a time when South America was in its first century of evangelization. She seems to have taken Catherine of Siena as a model, in spite of the objections and ridicule of parents and friends. When her parents fell into financial trouble, she worked in the garden all day and sewed at night. Ten years of struggle against her parents began when they tried to make Rose marry. They refused to let her enter a convent, and out of obedience she continued her life of penance and solitude at home as a member of the Third Order of Saint Dominic. So deep was her desire to live the life of Christ that she spent most of her time at home in solitude.

During the last few years of her life, Rose set up a room in the house where she cared for homeless children, the elderly, and the sick. This was a beginning of social services in Peru. Though secluded in life and activity, she was brought to the attention of Inquisition interrogators, who could only say that she was influenced by grace.

What might have been a merely eccentric life was transfigured from the inside. If we remember some unusual penances, we should also remember the greatest thing about Rose: a love of God so ardent that it withstood ridicule from without, violent temptation, and lengthy periods of sickness. When she died at 31, the city turned out for her funeral. Prominent men took turns carrying her coffin.

We enjoy the most comfort-oriented life in human history. We eat too much, drink too much, use a million gadgets, fill our eyes and ears with everything imaginable. Commerce thrives on creating useless needs on which to spend our money. It seems that when we have become most like slaves, there is the greatest talk of “freedom.” Are we willing to discipline ourselves in such an atmosphere?

Read the full article: “Saint Rose of Lima” Franciscan Media, Franciscan Friars,
<https://www.franciscanmedia.org/saint-of-the-day/saint-rose-of-lima/>. (Accessed July 28, 2023).



Gospel

A little girl was sick so her mom spoke to Jesus and asked him to heal her. The woman had faith and her daughter was healed!

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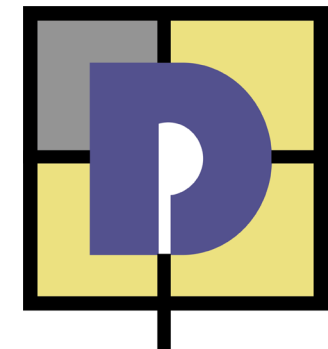
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