

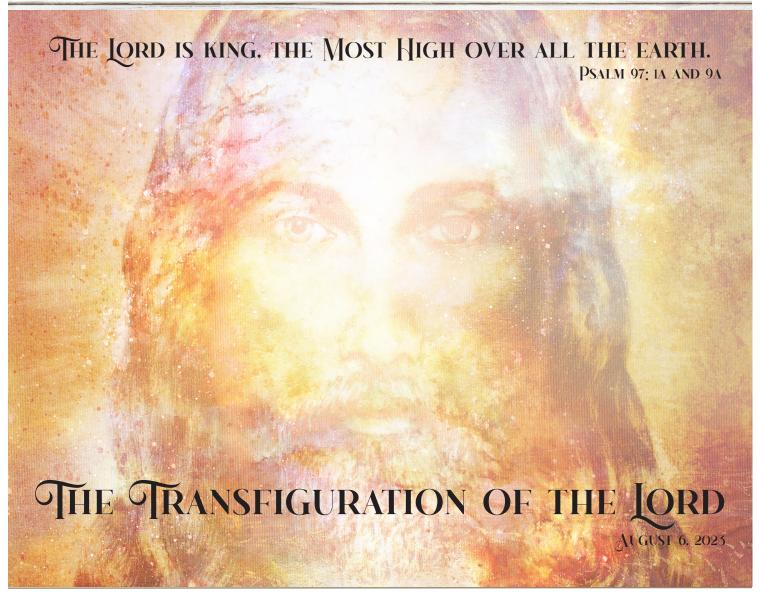
Immaculate Conception

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

August 6, 2023

The Transfiguration of the Lord

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@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, Lizanne Young ext. 354, lyoung@iccmail.org

Liturgy Coordinator, TBA

IC-PSR Coordinator, Rebecca Husman ext. 353, rhusman@iccmail.org

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

Secretary, Michelle Muckensturm ext. 300, iccmail@iccmail.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@iccmail.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 7	8:05 a.m.	We Remember Herb & Betty Lehr
Tuesday, August 8	8:05 a.m.	We Remember Holy Souls
Wednesday, August 9	8:05 a.m.	We Remember Edith L. Sexauer
Thursday, August 10	8:05 a.m.	We Remember Anna Lawlor
Friday, August 11	8:05 a.m.	We Remember Harold Stemler
Saturday, August 12	5:00 p.m.	We Remember Carl & Bernice Riebeling

7:00 a.m. We Remember Chester & Lillian Kopec 9:00 a.m. We Remember Ray Ratajczyk

We Remember Walter Menner 11:00 a.m.



Please Pray For

Danielle Dorlac Donna Archambault-Kania

Arlin Stechmesser Catherine Marlo

Margaret Ann Conrad Peggy Schutt

Dakota Schutt Mike Conrad

Sunday, August 13

Janice McDermott Delores Deleveski Brian Kreher

Catherine Sambo

Rich Sambo

Nicole Pennington

Ruth Herrmann Bill Kutz

Chris Peel Joan Thoma

Iodie Ward Grace Nolan

Special Intention Liam Pugh

Jill Bean Baby Marcella

Norman Pautler

Don & Shirley Mehrmann

Dolores G. Elliana Cloin

Earl & Arlene Kruse

Mrs. Steele Brian Hirsh Bob Frey

The Kruse Family Betty Schmieder

Lynn Naumann Casey

Kate Patterson Ellen Dietz

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.

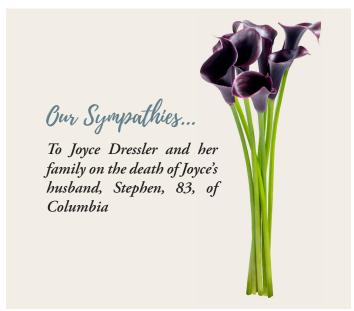


August 6, 2023:

First Reading: Daniel 7: 9-10, 13-14

Gospel: Matthew 17: 1-9





Parish Events & News...

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.

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.

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!



SAVE THE DATE!

411 PALMER ROAD - COLUMBIA, ILLINOIS

LABOR DAY WEEKEND,

Interested in joining the planning committee?

Contact:

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



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.

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.



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

THE 2023 CATHOLIC SERVICE AND MINISTRY APPEAL

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

YOU have the opportunity to support the men who have answered "YES" to God's call to serve in the Priesthood of Jesus Christ in our Belleville Diocese. The annual cost for each of our seminarians is approximately \$50,000. Funding from The Catholic Service and Ministry Appeal helps support the expenses of our seminarians and Vocation Office; your pledge or one-time gift is truly an investment in our faith and the life of the Church here in southern Illinois. Please continue to pray for vocations and consider making your gift today!

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@ iccmail.org.

Discipleship

Our bishop, Michael McGovern, recently recommended four habits to become a better witness for Jesus and the Gospel in our lives. First, reclaim Sunday as the Lord's Day with a focus on the Eucharist, leisure time, and family. Second, make a commitment to pray at least fifteen minutes each day. Third, go to confession once each month. Fourth, embrace Jesus and his cross each Friday of the year through some work of mercy, charity, or penance. By embracing these "four holy habits" the Christian life can change for the better and become more attractive to others seeking richness and meaning in their lives

IC-CCW NEWS

College Students - the ICCCW is handing out bags of goodies today at each Mass. We want you to know we are thinking of you and praying for a successful school year. Would you like to donate a basket for our Fall Raffle? Baskets due at the September 1st meeting. Contact Glenda Sexauer if you are interested – glenda.sexauer@gmail.com or 618-520-9369.

Pope Francis Says...

Pope Francis says: Exposure to atmospheric pollutants produces a broad spectrum of health hazards, especially for the poor, and causes millions of premature deaths. (LS 20) What can I do? Don't idle your car in the carpool line. Avoid the drive-thru lanes at Fast Food restaurants.



NEWS FROM THE KNIGHTS

ALL ARE WELCOME

3rd Annual Mass to Honor

Blessed Fr. Michael J. McGivney

Founder of the Knights of Columbus

August 10, 2023 Immaculate Conception Church 411 Palmer Road, Columbia, IL 62236 Exemplification Ceremony 6:15 p.m., Mass 7:00 p.m. Reception immediately following in Garden Level INTERESTED IN JOINING THE KNIGHTS? Grand Knight gk@kofc6165.org

Or call 314-494-8874 or Scan the QR Code.

Vocations

The Lord is calling. Are you listening? The best way to know if God is calling you to be a priest, permanent deacon or religious sister or brother, is simply to ask! For the unmarried members of our Immaculate Conception parish, here is a prayer to help you with your discernment: Lord, my God and my loving Father, You have made me to know You, to love You, to serve You and thereby to find and fulfill my deepest longings. I know that You are in all things, and that every path can lead me to You. But of them all, there is one especially by which You want me to come to You. Since I will do what You want of me, I pray You, send your Holy Spirit to me: into my mind, to show me what You want of me; into my heart, to give me the determination to do it, and to do it with all my love, with all my mind, and with all of my strength right to the end. Jesus, I trust in You. 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.

JUST FAITH:

Consider a Regional JustFaith Small Group Program This Fall How Do I Respond as a Catholic to Today's Challenging Problems? Two regional JustFaith programs will be held this fall at Immaculate Conception Church in Columbia.

Faith and Poverty: A Biblical Response through Catholic Social Teaching – Mondays, September 11-November 6, 6:30-8:30 p.m. Facilitators: Kathy Daniels and Maria Renner.

How are we being called to address poverty? What tools does my Catholic faith have to offer? With Pope Francis' *The Joy of the Gospel* as a foundational document of this program, participants will emerge with a transformed understanding of who they are as God's child and how God is calling them to use their lives. To register, go to https://justfaith.org/faith-and-poverty-a-biblical-response-catholic-version-st-louis-fall-2023-small-group-immaculate-conception-columbia-il/. For more information, contact Maria Renner at 314-750-3577 or JustFaith.com.

Sacred Land: Food & Farming – Wednesdays, September 20-November 15 (skipping November 1).

Facilitators: Sr. Marcia Kruse and Carol Waide.

How do we care for our common home? This 8-session program explores our connection with the land and our responsibility for it. With Pope Francis' encyclical *Laudato Si* as a foundational document, participants learn how food and farming practices affect the climate crisis, marginalized communities, and their own health and spiritual well-being. The group explores practical ways to support, advocate for, and implement sustainable food and farming practices in the communities and the institutions of which they're a part. Register at https://justfaith.org/sacred-land-immaculate-conception-columbia-fall-2023-small-group/.

Stewardship...

Thank you for sharing your blessings with us!

July 30, 2023	
Actual\$	8,724.50
Budget\$	
Actual YTD\$	
Budget YTD\$	
Over (under) \$	
Prior YTD\$	
Over (under)\$	
Guatemala\$	135.00
Gibault\$	30.00
St. Thea Bowman\$	235.00
SVDP\$	20.00
Catholic Home Mission \$	20.00
Holy Land\$	20.00
Votive\$	130.00
CEAC\$	1,510.00



From Our Young Stewards

Treasure: \$5.75

Time and Talent: I made my bed; helped with the dishwasher; cleaned the basement

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.



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!

Our NHS students are always willing to serve our school – working at events, tutoring students, or even cleaning up our patios! #gibaultproud



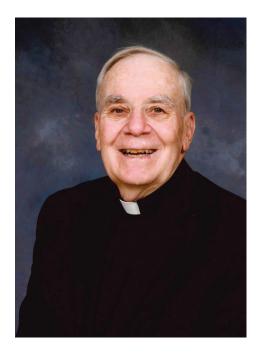


ENROLLMENT NEWS:

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...



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

MASS AND DEVOTIONAL PRAYERS

The parishioners of Our Lady, Queen of Peace in Belleville invite your participation in 8:15 a.m. Mass and Devotional Prayers following Mass on the First Thursday of each month for the Intercession of St. Peregrine for all our brothers and sisters who are ill. Queen of Peace Catholic Church – 5923 North Belt West, Belleville, IL.



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/\$30.00 for the series.

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



CHURCH HAPPENINGS!

St. George, New Baden, IL
August 12
Dinner begins at 3:00 p.m.
Mass at 4:00 p.m.,
Quilt/Gift Card Bingo at 6:30 p.m.

St. Michael, Radom, IL
August 12
Dinner, 3:00-7:30 p.m.
Polka Mass at 4:00 p.m.,
Quilt/Cash Bingo at 6:30 p.m.

St. Rose of Lima, St. Rose, IL August 12 Mass at 4:00 p.m., Chicken Dinner, Quilt/Cash Bingo

St. Augustine, Hecker, IL August 19 Annual Kirchenfest Mass at 3:00 p.m., Dinner begins at 3:00 p.m. Quilt Bingo at 6:30 pm.

ENCOUNTERING GOD

Reflection on Matthew 17:1-9

Peter, James and John had no doubt experienced Jesus in many mundane moments – sharing a meal, walking together along the road, relaxing after a busy day, and the many other actions that make up daily life. Now, they encounter Jesus in a mountaintop moment – an explosion of light and awareness revealing the awesome beauty and truth of who Jesus is: the fulfillment of the law (Moses) and the prophets (Elijah); the fulfillment of every human desire.

How often do we, like these disciples, wish to "stay in" these mountaintop moments ("Lord, it is good that we are here...[let's] make three tents..."). I have encountered some Christians who spend much of their energy seeking out these mountaintop moments; I call them "spiritual thrill seekers." But Jesus always beckons us to follow Him back down the mountain, to the valley and the mundane, where we encounter Jesus daily in the ordinary.

The irony that I have discovered is that every "mundane," "ordinary" moment holds a potential for an encounter with Jesus that can pack as much punch as any mountaintop moment. For example, oftentimes liturgical ministers will ask me, as the presider before Mass, if there is anything special about today's liturgy. You bet there is! In the ordinary elements of bread and wine, Jesus Himself deigns to become present to us, body and spirit, to nourish and transform us! Truly a mountaintop in the ordinary!

~ Fr. Jay



WEEKLY SCRIPTURE

Sunday, August 6, 2023

The Transfiguration of the Lord Dn 7:9-10, 13-14 Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 9 2 Pt 1:16-19 Mt 17:1-9

Monday, August 7, 2023

Weekday Nm 11:4b-15 Ps 81:12-13, 14-15, 16-17 Mt 14:13-21

Tuesday, August 8, 2023

Saint Dominic, Priest Nm 12:1-13 Ps 51:3-4, 5-6ab, 6cd-7, 12-13 Mt 14:22-36 or Mt 15:1-2, 10-14

Wednesday, August 9, 2023

Weekday Nm 13:1-2, 25–14:1, 26a-29a, 34-35 Ps 106:6-7ab, 13-14, 21-22, 23 Mt 15: 21-28

Thursday, August 10, 2023

Saint Lawrence, Deacon and Martyr 2 Cor 9:6-10 Ps 112:1-2, 5-6, 7-8, 9 Jn 12:24-26

Friday, August 11, 2023

Saint Clare, Virgin
Dt 4:32-40
Ps 77:12-13, 14-15, 16 and 21
Mt 16:24-28

Saturday, August 12, 2023

Weekday Dt 6:4-13 Ps 18:2-3a, 3bc-4, 47 and 51 Mt 17:14-20

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

SAINT DOMINIC

Feast Day: August 8

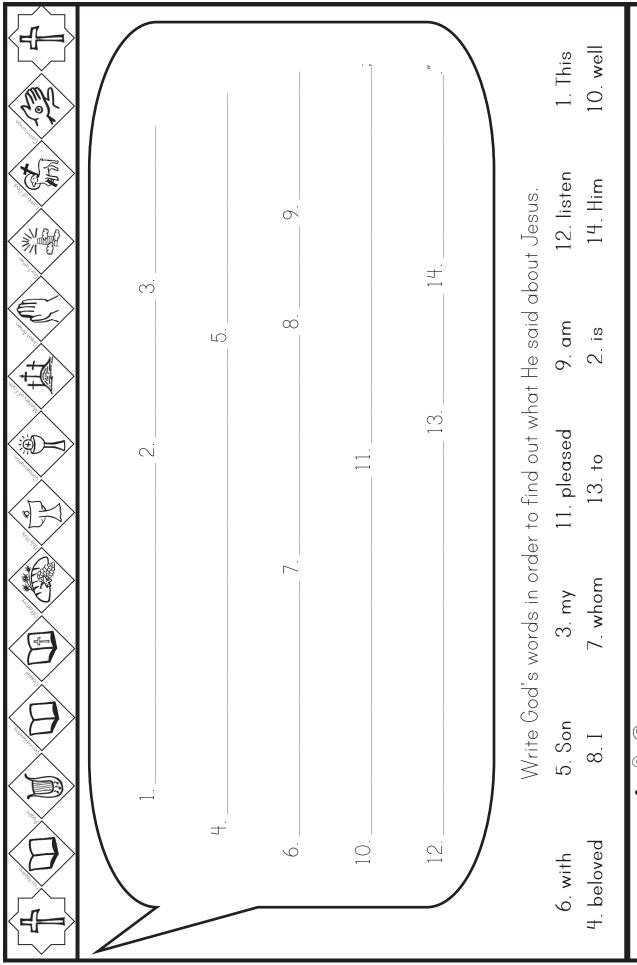
Patron Saint of: Astronomers

Born in old Castile, Spain, Dominic was trained for the priesthood by a priestuncle, studied the arts and theology, and became a canon of the cathedral at Osma, where there was an attempt to revive the apostolic common life described in Acts of the Apostles.

On a journey through France with his bishop, Dominic came face to face with the then virulent Albigensian heresy at Languedoc. The Albigensians—or Cathari, "the pure ones"—held to two principles—one good, one evil—in the world. All matter is evil—hence they denied the Incarnation and the sacraments. On the same principle, they abstained from procreation and took a minimum of food and drink. The inner circle led what some people regarded as a heroic life of purity and asceticism not shared by ordinary followers.

Dominic sensed the need for the Church to combat this heresy, and was commissioned to be part of the preaching crusade against it. He saw immediately why the preaching crusade was not succeeding: the ordinary people admired and followed the ascetical heroes of the Albigenses. Understandably, they were not impressed by the Catholic preachers who traveled with horse and retinues, stayed at the best inns and had servants. Dominic therefore, with three Cistercians, began itinerant preaching according to the Gospel ideal. He continued this work for 10 years, being successful with the ordinary people but not with the leaders.

His fellow preachers gradually became a community, and in 1215 Dominic founded a religious house at Toulouse, the beginning of the Order of Preachers or Dominicans.





Elijah appeared from heaven and stood with Jesus. God spoke to them. Solve the Jesus took Peter, James, and John, his apostles, up a high mountain. Moses and puzzle above to find out what God said.

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