



# 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

December 10, 2023

Second Sunday of Advent

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

*As we anticipate the PEACE of Christ,  
please take note of our schedule of holiday Masses and preparations.*

## **Saturday, December 23**

9:30 am Trim the Church for Christmas. All hands welcome.

5:00 pm Vigil Mass, Fourth Sunday of Advent

## **Sunday, December 24**

7:00 am Fourth Sunday of Advent Mass

9:00 am Fourth Sunday of Advent Mass

11:00 am Fourth Sunday of Advent Mass



4:00 pm Christmas Eve Vigil Mass with Children's Choir  
(Prelude at 3:30 pm)

10:00 pm Christmas Eve Vigil Mass  
with Adult Choir  
(Prelude at 9:30 pm)

## **Monday, December 25**

9:00 am Christmas Day Mass

11:00 am Christmas Day Mass



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  
ericwagnercr1@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

**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:** The parish is happy to celebrate the Sacrament of Holy Matrimony with adults who are currently registered members of Immaculate Conception Church (bride or groom). If you are one of many who would like to “come home” to celebrate the Sacrament with family and friends, please provide the name of the parish where you are now a member, along with contact information. We ask that you contact the IC Parish Office a minimum of four months prior to Marriage, but in most cases couples will need to allow time for Pre-Cana formation, and we suggest beginning to plan your Sacrament 12 or 18 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, December 11	8:05 a.m.	We Remember Holy Souls
Tuesday, December 12	8:05 a.m.	We Remember Urhan Family
Wednesday, December 13	8:05 a.m.	We Remember Herb & Betty Lehr
Thursday, December 14	8:05 a.m.	We Remember Mary Obermier
Friday, December 15	8:05 a.m.	We Remember Job George & Family
Saturday, December 16	5:00 p.m.	We Remember Jason Mueller & Leo Thoma
Sunday, December 17	7:00 a.m.	We Remember Betty Lang
	9:00 a.m.	We Remember Bill Harbaugh
	11:00 a.m.	We Remember Henry & Mae Doerr, Patricia (Patty) Rickett



### *Please Pray For*

Danielle Dorlac	Joan Thoma	Ellen Dietz
Donna Archambault-Kania	Grace Nolan	Sharon Nealon
Arlin Stechmesser	Special Intention	Jamie Moravec
Catherine Marlo	Liam Pugh	Elsie Hofstetter
Peggy Schutt	Baby Marcella	Mary Lou Mees
Dakota Schutt	Norman Pautler	Kelsey Christensen
Mike Conrad	Don & Shirley Mehrmann	Jean Conrad
Janice McDermott	Dolores G.	Jim Grau
Delores Deleveski	Elliana Cloin	Geri Griffin
Brian Kreher	Earl & Arlene Kruse	Donna Ritson
Rich Sambo	Mrs. Steele	Owen Kinane
Catherine Sambo	Brian Hirsh	Gina Haberl
Nicole Pennington	The Kruse Family	Alan Schertel
Ruth Herrmann	Betty Schmieder	Ken Breitenstein
Bill Kutz	Lynn Naumann Casey	
Chris Peel	Kate Patterson	

*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*

*December 10, 2023:*

**First Reading:** Isaiah 40:1-5, 9-11  
**Second Reading:** Second Peter 3:8-14  
**Gospel:** Mark 1:1-8



### *Our Sympathies...*

To Dianna Schwartz and her family on the death of her husband Charles (Cliff), 79, of Columbia.



## Stewardship...

Thank you for sharing your blessings with us!

December 3, 2023

Actual	\$ 56,271.65
Budget	\$ 67,300.00
Actual YTD	\$ 915,824.35
Budget YTD	\$ 933,800.00
Over (under)	\$ (17,975.65)
Prior YTD	\$ 795,208.48
Over (under)	\$ 120,615.87

\* The above totals include online giving through 11/30.

CEAC	\$ 8,535.00
Capital Improvements	\$ 192.00
Gibault	\$ 275.00
SVDP	\$ 2,610.00
Guatemala	\$ 517.00
Votive	\$ 162.00
Capital Campaign for Human Development	\$ 130.00
Christmas Flowers	\$ 455.00
Cemetery Maintenance	\$ 185.00
Sr. Thea Bowman	\$ 135.00
Mission Sunday	\$ 103.00
Retired Priests	\$ 220.00
Retirement for Religious Diocese of Belleville –	\$ 45.00
Christmas for those in need	\$ 45.00
Christmas Offering	\$ 660.00



### From Our Young Stewards

Treasure: \$46.50

Time and Talent: I helped make breakfast; I picked up my room.

## WHY DONATE APPRECIATED STOCK TO CHARITY?

Giving stock instead of cash as a charitable donation can greatly benefit the donor as well as the recipient. You will find that many charities, churches, schools, and other nonprofit organizations will accept stock as a gift.

### Tax Benefits of Donating Stock to Charity

If the stock has increased in value from the time of purchase, the owner can avoid paying capital gains tax by donating the security to a qualified charitable organization. When an appreciated security held for at least a year is donated to a charitable organization, its fair market value may be itemized as an income tax deduction. The resulting tax savings could be factored in to make a larger donation. For publicly traded shares, the fair market value is the average of the high and low price on the transfer date.

### Considerations:

- Many nonprofits, such as hospitals, schools, and various other organizations, will accept stock as a gift or donation.
- Giving stock often results in a larger donation to the organization, as the gift is tax-deductible and there are no capital gains taxes to pay.
- If your stock has risen in value since purchase, donating it directly is preferable, but if it has lost value, it may be more advantageous to sell it first and then donate the proceeds, so the giver can take the tax loss.
- Most organizations will immediately liquidate the donation, converting the stock to cash.
- Depending on the organization you donate to and your adjusted gross income, a varying amount of your donation may be able to be deducted on your taxes.

Consult your tax or financial advisor for more information.

– Immaculate Conception Planned Giving Council

## PHASE 3 IS COMING!

Phase 2 of our most recent Capital Campaign for the Catholic Education and Activity Center officially comes to an end on December 31, 2023. For those of you who were able to complete your pledges, we are grateful. Our debt is so much smaller because of your generosity! If you are still working toward completing your pledge – or would like to donate more – please continue to use the purple envelopes provided in your current packets, or bring your offerings to the parish office before December 31. Your next packet of stewardship envelopes, arriving in December, includes a new white envelope with a blue border, titled, “Building the Church, Continuing the Dream, Campus Enhancement.” This envelope is for Phase 3 of our Capital Campaign, (the soccer field, Rosary and Stations of the Cross walk, the pavilion, and a new lighted sign) which will be kicked off officially in January 2024. More about this in the new year, but you are most welcome to begin your donations now using the new white with blue border envelopes!

*Thank you so much for your generosity...past, present, and future!*

# Parish Events & News...

## What's Ahead for ICY?

12/17-- Youth Mass 11 am  
Drive-By Caroling and Pizza 5pm-7pm

See our website for details!



## 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](mailto: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 **December 20 and 21**. All proceeds go to the

8th graders' trip to Washington, D.C.

## Ministry News & Happenings

### THEOLOGY ON TAP'S UPCOMING EVENT

December 11: Christmas Party & White Elephant  
At Sunset Overlook in Columbia, IL, 7:00 p.m.

### Theology on Tap

invites all ICC young adults to our annual  
**Christmas Party!**

Dec. 11 at 7pm  
Sunset Overlook

Wear your best Ugly Christmas Sweater  
and  
Bring a gift for our White Elephant game  
(only items already in your house!)

### 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...

Humanity has changed profoundly, and the accumulation of constant novelties exalts a superficiality which pulls us in one direction. It becomes difficult to pause and recover depth in life. (LS 113)

**What can I do?** Refurbish old toys for kids, buy practical gifts, meditate 10 minutes daily, walk outside in nature, grab a quiet moment and just sit and think. Re-use gift-wrap.

### 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.

### SVDP

SVDP is hosting a Food Drive for Christmas. We will do it for the weekends of December, 9/10 and 16/17. This will support local food pantries. Please drop off food items (December 9/10 and 16/17) in the designated area at the back of Church in the Gathering Space. We will deliver the items prior to Christmas. The items requested are canned fruit, chicken, chili and chicken & dumplings and also boxed potato mixes. Any single-serve items are also much appreciated.

## Discipleship

Sometimes we think of religion as a system that's always telling us: You have to do this...you have to do that...don't forget to give your time...to give your money...

Sure, that's part of it, but that's not the heart of our faith. The most exciting part of our faith is discovering how much the Lord loves me and has given me... and enjoying that discovery. The Lord has given me the Spirit so that I may have life and be more fulfilled, more alive, knowing that I am loved, that I have a destiny, and that I am worth something. God has given me so much. Sure, I work hard to earn much of what I have. But who gave me the intellect? the energy? the opportunity? Who filled me with the Spirit? Now, that's the truth.

God can't be outdone in generosity. God always gives off the top.

## NEWS FROM THE KNIGHTS CHRISTMAS CAROLING!

We will be Christmas Caroling on December 19 starting at 5:30 p.m. We would love for you to join us. We will meet at 5:15 p.m. in the garden level.

If you know anyone who is interested in our coming to their home to carol, please email us at [gk@kofc6165.org](mailto:gk@kofc6165.org). Also if you want to join us in singing, please email us at [gk@kofc6165.org](mailto:gk@kofc6165.org).

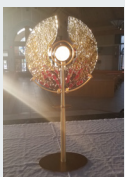
If you are under 18, you will need to have an adult accompany you.

## THE 2023 CATHOLIC SERVICE AND MINISTRY APPEAL

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

Your contribution to The Catholic Service and Ministry Appeal enables the Office of Education to impact the lives of over 9,500 students at 25 Catholic grade schools, three Catholic high schools and in PSR (Parish School of Religion) classes throughout our Belleville Diocese. If you haven't already done so, we prayerfully ask you to consider making a gift to the 2023 Appeal today...no amount is too large or too small!

Thank you.



## EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

Please join us for Eucharistic Adoration on Tuesdays from 4:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m. Spend some quiet time with the Lord.

## Vocation

The world needs you. God calls you. We invite you... with other Catholic Young Women to our Vocation Discernment Retreats, or invite us to meet you where you are.

El mundo te necesita. Dios te llama. Te invitamos... con otras mujeres católicas a nuestros Retiros de Discernimiento Vocacional o invita nos a encontrar contigo donde estés.



## SANCTITY OF LIFE

The Sanctity of Life Committee will be collecting new gifts for the babies and mothers served by Life Network. Please take a paper ornament from the Giving Tree with a reminder of what is needed. Please leave your unwrapped gift near the Christmas tree in the Gathering Space. Here is a list of needed items:

Amazon Gift Cards  
Aveeno Baby Lotion  
Baby Juice (any flavor)  
Baby Wipes (fragrance free)  
Booster High Chair Seat  
Boudreaux's Butt Paste  
Diapers (Pampers/Huggies preferred, sizes 4,5,6)  
Disposable Nursing Pads  
Gerber Lil Crunchers  
Good Nights (unisex, medium or large)  
Motrin (Children's or Infant's Liquid)  
Onesies (long-sleeved)  
Potty Chairs  
Pull-Ups (girls, all sizes)  
Sippy Cups  
Socks (for kids, any size)  
Toddler Meals  
Toddler Snacks  
Walmart Gift Cards  
Monetary donations may be mailed to Life Network of Southern Illinois, 722 N. Market, Waterloo, IL 62298. Collection ends on January 5, 2024.

## CHRISTMAS CARDS!

Need any Christmas Cards? These beautiful "Kissing the Face of God" Christmas cards are available for purchase in the Parish Office. A pack of 10 is \$10.00. Quantities are limited, so get them before they're gone! The inside says, "So gentle this time of wonder, so holy Christ's moment of birth, So wondrous the gift of life, When love was born on earth. A blessed Christmas!" The back says, "By sending this card, you are furthering efforts towards restoring the sanctity of all human life."



**First Ladies  
Retreat at Our  
Lady of the Snows  
Shrine**

This parish-based retreat offers the opportunity to renew your spirituality, to strengthen your faith and to build and deepen lasting friendships throughout your parish community.

Enjoy some quality time away from your busy life and spend time with Jesus.

**For More Information or To Register:**

<https://icc-columbia-il.us/acts-retreats/womans-acts-retreat/>

# JANUARY 25-28

## WOMEN'S ACTS RETREAT

### How the ACTS Retreat Impacted My Life . . .

- "I had been searching for ways to get closer to God on my own. The ACTS Retreat helped me to strengthen that relationship in so many ways."
- "My ACTS Retreat showed me how to listen to God's whispers even in the most noisy day-to-day experiences."
- "The ACTS Retreat Weekend for me was a spiritual awakening and much needed conversion. Now I am directing my focus and energy on following Him and striving to stay on this long-life path."



## 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.



# 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

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION SCHOOL presents

**MOE'S ORNAMENTS FUNDRAISER**

**SHOP: MOESORNAMENTS.COM**

Use Coupon Code ICS at checkout

This fundraiser is being run to help our 8th grade class trip to Washington! Please support us. Thank you.

SALE ENDS 12/15/2023

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION PRESENTS

**QUEEN OF HEARTS & 50/50 RAFFLE**

DRAWING TO BE HELD ON TUESDAY EVENINGS  
6:30PM - TICKET SALES END  
7:00PM - QUEEN OF HEARTS DRAWING  
7:15PM - 50/50 DRAWING

LOCATION: SUNSET OVERLOOK 11028 BLUE POND COLUMBIA, IL  
TO BENEFIT: ICS COLUMBIA, IL

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](http://ICC-columbia-IL.us) for a link to our Queen of Hearts sign-up.

# What's Happening At Gibault?

## RAFFLE-MANIA

Raffle-Mania is back with bigger prizes! This year's grand prize has **DOUBLED** to **\$5,000.00!** Visit <https://givebutter.com/Raffle-Mania> to purchase your tickets!

**GRAND PRIZES** of \$5,000.00, \$1,000.00, \$500.00, and \$250.00, and 6 at \$100.00

Prizes will be drawn on February 1st during Catholic Schools Week.

Tickets are being sold exclusively online. If anyone has difficulty with their online purchase, contact Desiree Frasure at Gibault Catholic High School. (dfrasure@gibaulthawks.com or 618-939-3883)

## WINTER CAMPS

The State Champion Gibault Baseball team welcomes 5th-8th graders for its camp on December 27-29. For full camp info and registration forms, visit [www.gibaulthawks.com/winter-camps](http://www.gibaulthawks.com/winter-camps).



## FAMILY SPORTS PASS

Show you're #gibaultproud all year long! For \$125.00, Hawk Fans can purchase a Family Pass that covers admission to most of our home games (some exclusions apply.) This pass is valid for girls' and boys' volleyball, girls' and boys' basketball, girls' soccer, softball, baseball, and select boys' soccer home games throughout the 2023-2024 school year! Visit [GCHSSportsPass.givesmart.com](http://GCHSSportsPass.givesmart.com) to purchase your pass!

## 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.

## VISIT GIBAULT

Come see what life as a Gibault Hawk is like! On select Tuesdays and Fridays, your 7th or 8th grader or current high school student can spend the day at Gibault as a Shadow Visitor. Shadows will be matched with a current student with similar interests and together, they'll attend classes, meet teachers, enjoy lunch in our cafeteria, and more! We also offer Private Tours for the whole family. See our campus and get your questions answered by our Director of Enrollment. Get started at <https://bit.ly/GCHSInquire>.

## Diocesan and Area Interests...

### JOB OPPORTUNITIES

**Fill-in Staff Member** wanted at Hincke-Sense Home for Retired Priests in Belleville, IL. Cover staff absences for Cook, Housekeeper, Security Desk, or Overnight. Qualifications include housekeeping, homemaker, cook, and/or security attendant experience, but willing to train the right person. Must demonstrate a positive attitude, caring and responsible demeanor, and willingness to learn. Practicing Catholic preferred. Biweekly pay when working, casual environment, and onsite meals provided during shift. Call Joline at 618-234-5722.

**Full-time Cook** wanted at Hincke-Sense Home for Retired Priests in Belleville, IL. Four days/week, 8:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m. Qualifications desired include institutional, restaurant, or large family cooking experience, but willing to train the right person. Must demonstrate a positive attitude, caring and responsible demeanor, and willingness to learn. Practicing Catholic preferred. Full benefits, biweekly pay, casual environment, and onsite meals provided during shift. Call Joline at 618-234-5722.



## 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 Helen Csik at 314-651-5033 or the Parish Office at 618-281-5105.

## QUILT OF THE MONTH

Our Lady of Good Counsel, Renault, is sponsoring a Quilt-of-the-Month Raffle. From January through December 2024, a beautiful queen-sized handmade quilt will be given away each month. Tickets are \$25.00 each, and they give you 12 chances to win. Please pick up a ticket here at the ICC Parish Office. Our hours are Monday-Friday, 8:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.



**YOUNG ADULT**  
*Christmas*  
**PARTY**

You are invited to the Diocese of Belleville young adult Christmas party. Mass is at 4:00pm in the church and the party is to follow

- Attendance raffle with prizes
- Hot chocolate bar
- Food
- Fellowship

**Wear your favorite Christmas sweater!**

DECEMBER

SATURDAY	16	5:00PM
2023		

Cathedral of St. Peter Undercroft, Belleville

Diocese of Belleville



## SEEDS OF HEALING THROUGH FAITH, HOPE, AND LOVE

Saturday, January 20, 2024, 9:00 a.m.-7:00 p.m.

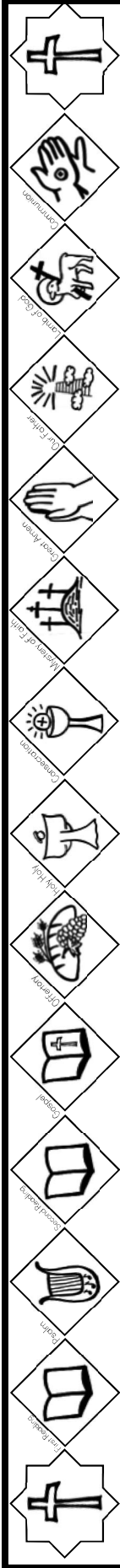
Marianist Retreat and Conference Center, 4000 Hwy 109, Eureka, MO 63025

Losing a loved one to suicide or any tragic death is a pain that no one can prepare for. The roller coaster of emotions is enough to make one doubt God's presence in the situation. This day of reflection is designed to help you journey through these emotions and come out renewed with confidence in God's love and care for each one of us.

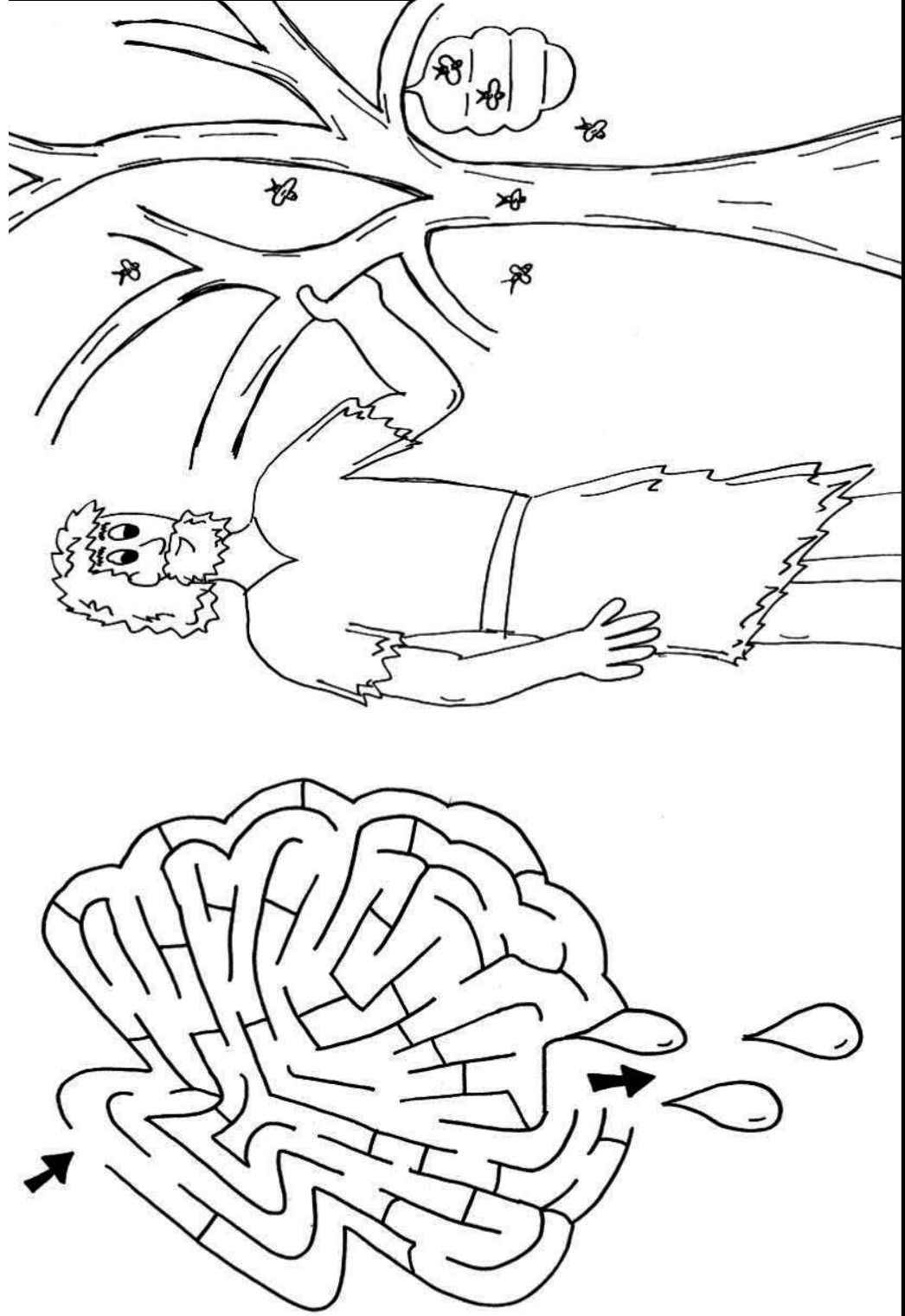
Members of our ministry team for this day will include Father Tom Miller (pastor of Our Lady Queen of Peace and St. Anthony Parishes), Deacon Rob Lawson (Incarnate Word Parish), Adam Bitter (Incarnate Word Parish), and the Jonah Prayer Teams from Incarnate Word, St. Alban Roe, and St. Anthony of Padua Parishes. There will be time for healing prayer, discussions, sharing, techniques for healthy outlet of emotions, and testimony from those who have healed from the same pain you may be feeling.

Attendance will be limited to 100 participants total for Saturday, 9:00 a.m.-7:00 p.m. and include two meals for \$65.00. We are also offering the option for up to 45 participants to spend the night through 10:00 a.m. on Sunday which includes a private room and breakfast for \$155.00. For more information, call Barb at 314-910-3942, Mary at 314-210-5098 or Shelby at 636-288-9841. Registration: <https://marianistretreat.com/events/seeds-of-healing-retreat-2024/>





Countdown  
to Jesus'  
Birthday...  
**3**  
Sundays!



# Gospel

John the Baptist baptized people so they were ready to see God. He said, "Prepare the Way of the Lord."

## COLUMBIA CAR WASH

Darrell & Tootie May, Owners  
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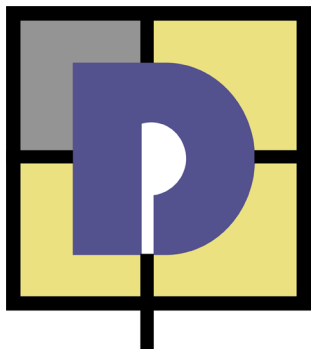
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