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

February 4, 2024

Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

www.icc-columbia-il.us

Lent is upon us – bringing messages of prayer, fasting, and almsgiving. The Lenten journey provides an opportunity for us to become absorbed in our relationship with Christ. Lent is a time we can selfishly put ourselves first by setting aside some daily time with Him. This selfishness becomes the Lenten paradox. The more time we devote and spend with Him, the more absorbed we become with Him, the more we look to help others. When journeyed well, we become better disciples of Christ.

Every journey requires tools to help us maintain focus and arrive safely to our destination. The Discipleship Committee has prepared a tool to help us in our journey. This weekend, you have the opportunity to adopt a "silent" prayer partner for your daily walk through Lent. The name of each confirmandi, RCIA candidate, Seminarian, and homebound or nursing home parishioner has been placed on a prayer card. Please accept one of these prayer cards as you exit church. You do not need to know the person on the card, just be willing to pray for them.

The goal is daily prayer. Search your heart to identify your current practice of prayer, then choose to become a little better. Make a prayer commitment to your "silent" prayer partner, note it on the card, sign the card, then do your best to live up to your commitment. Place this card in a strategic location to help you maintain your focus. Do not measure yourself by your failings, but simply enjoy the closer relationship with Jesus you will discover through spending more time in prayer.

Additional prayer cards will be in the gathering space throughout Lent. Please consider taking one or more of these cards. Turn in the card at any time during Lent by placing it in the purple box in the Gathering Space. After Easter, the Discipleship Committee will send the prayer cards to each "silent" prayer partner as a tangible and powerful expression of love from a fellow brother or sister in Christ.

God yearns to be in union with us, but does not force us to choose Him. As we choose to accept a prayer card and "selfishly" commit to letting ourselves come first in an experience of a focused daily journey of prayer, we are choosing to become closer to God. Your world will be changed for the better.

Maggie Burns Discipleship Committee Chair

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 Stakk

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

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: 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@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

o.m. and Sund	ay, 7:00, 9:00, 11:00 a.m.	
8:05 a.m.	We Remember Charley Farley	
8:05 a.m.	We Remember Betty Lang	
8:05 a.m.	We Remember Evola Niermann	
8:05 a.m.	We Remember Tom Sutterer	
8:05 a.m.	We Remember Babs Jackson	
5:00 p.m.	We Remember Joanne Hoffman	
7:00 a.m.	We Remember Stephen Dressler & Lawrence Spier	
9:00 a.m.	We Remember Catherine Linneman	
11:00 a.m.	We Remember Norm Schmidt	and the second
	8:05 a.m. 8:05 a.m. 8:05 a.m. 8:05 a.m. 8:05 a.m. 5:00 p.m. 7:00 a.m. 9:00 a.m.	<ul> <li>8:05 a.m. We Remember Tom Sutterer</li> <li>8:05 a.m. We Remember Babs Jackson</li> <li>5:00 p.m. We Remember Joanne Hoffman</li> <li>7:00 a.m. We Remember Stephen Dressler &amp; Lawrence Spier</li> <li>9:00 a.m. We Remember Catherine Linneman</li> </ul>

## Please Pray For

Danielle Dorlac			
Donna Archambault-			
Kania			
Arlin Stechmesser			
Catherine Marlo			
Dakota Schutt			
Mike Conrad			
Janice McDermott			
Delores Deleveski			
Brian Kreher			
Rich Sambo			
Catherine Sambo			
Nicole Pennington			
Ruth Herrmann			

Bill Kutz Chris Peel Joan Thoma Grace Nolan Special Intention Liam Pugh Baby Marcella Don & Shirley Mehrmann Dolores G. Elliana Cloin Earl & Arlene Kruse Mrs. Steele Brian Hirsh The Kruse Family Betty Schmieder Lynn Naumann Casey Kate Patterson Ellen Dietz Sharon Nealon Jamie Moravec Elsie Hofstetter Mary Lou Mees Jean Conrad Jim Grau Geri Griffin Donna Ritson Owen Kinane Gina Haberl Alan Schertel Ken Breitenstein Amy Adler Wanda Schewe Eris Wood Katie Schoellhorn Kristen Brewer Jenny Candler Rosina Belt Dean Erpenbach Kasen Greer

*Troops in Service...* SGM Joseph Pope, US Army; Colonel Brian Schoellhorn; Alex Lochirco, Lance Corporal, Marines

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.



*February 4, 2024:* First Reading: Job 7:1-4, 6-7 Second Reading: First Corinthians 9:16-19, 22-23 Gospel: Mark 1:29-39



Our Sympathies...

To Karen, Hayden and Hannah on the death of their husband and father, Dean Erpenbach, 65, of Columbia.



## *Stewardship...* Thank you for sharing your blessings with us!

January 21, 2024*					
Actual		9,619.50			
Budget	\$ 23	2,900.00			
Actual YTD	\$1,19	0,205.51			
Budget YTD	\$1,27	1,525.00			
Over (under)	\$ (81	,319.49)			
Prior YTD	\$1,13	3,728.36			
Over (under)	\$ 5	\$ 56,477.15			
*Bulletin Summary Corrections					
due to online posting error					
L 20.202/					
January 28, 2 Actual		2 (20 50			
		3,638.59			
Budget		2,900.00			
Actual YTD	\$1,190,205.51				
Budget YTD	\$1,294,425.00				
Over (under)	\$ (104,219.49)				
Prior YTD \$1,156,213		6,213.37			
Over (under)	\$ 3.	3,992.14			
Capital Improvements	\$	10.00			
Gibault	\$	45.00			
Guatemala	\$	650.00			
Votive	\$	75.00			
ICCCW Dues	\$	30.00			
Phase 3		3,250.00			
Christmas	\$ : \$ \$	525.00			
Black & Indian	\$	50.00			



From Our Young Stewards Treasure: \$2.50 Time and Talent: Help to take my dogs out; being nice; listening.

## THE IMPORTANCE OF NAMING BENEFICIARIES

#### What do I need to know?

Taking the time to choose your beneficiaries now can help your family avoid probate later. Please tell your family or friends if you have selected them as a beneficiary, because your beneficiaries must contact your investment firm themselves to receive their assets. Your assets can then be distributed to your beneficiaries without requiring a will or other legal documents.

You will need to assign at least one beneficiary for each account; most of the time you can add, change, or delete your beneficiaries online. To get started, you will need to provide the following for each beneficiary:

- Beneficiary type (e.g., spouse, non-spouse, trust, entity)
- Full name
- Date of birth

• Social Security number (optional)

You can also name contingent beneficiaries. Contingent beneficiaries receive your assets if there is no living primary beneficiary.

Note: Some retirement accounts or plans may require spousal consent (e.g., profit sharing, self-employed, 401k, Keogh) before you can add or change the beneficiary.

#### What to expect:

After you have updated your beneficiaries:

- If you've updated online, and no additional consent or paperwork is needed, your changes will be effective in just a few minutes.
- If spousal consent is required, your beneficiaries will typically be updated within three business days after the paperwork is received or email approval.

You can name your favorite charity (such as church or school) as beneficiary of your insurance, annuity, real estate or other financial investments. Contact your attorney or investment firm for more information or assistance.

- 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 came to an end on December 31, 2023. For those of you who were able to complete your pledges, we are so grateful. For those who are a little behind, we are still accepting your pledges or donations. If you give in person you will have to specify CEAC on your envelope since those are no longer in the packets, or bring your offerings into the office.

When you receive your stewardship envelopes now you will notice the purple ones removed and a new white envelope with a navy blue border inserted. This envelope is for our new Capital Campaign for Phase 3, (the Athletic Complex, Rosary and Stations of the Cross walk, the pavilion, and a new lighted sign) which will be kicked off officially in February 2024.

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

# Parish Events & News...



## PANCAKE & SAUSAGE DINNER FFBRUARY 13 • 5:00-7:00 PM



IMMACULATE CONCEPTION CHURCH FREE EVENT 💞 GARDEN LEVEL BRING A DESSERT TO SHARE

## ICY

#### Attention 8th graders to High School Seniors!

Our parish is gathering a group to go to the Steubenville Conference on July 12-14, 2024, at Missouri State in

Springfield, MO. Registration is due February 5, 2024. Use the QR code or text the keyword: ICY Conference to 41444 for more information and the link to sign up online.



## PARISH WORK DAYS

February 10 March 9 April 13

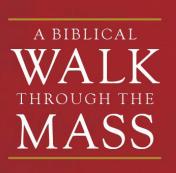


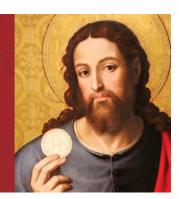
#### **D.C. PRETZEL AND DONUT SALES**

The next Pretzel and Donut weekend

will be February 10 and 11. All

proceeds go to the 8th graders' trip to Washington, D.C.





## LENTEN FAITH ENRICHMENT **OPPORTUNITY**

Join us this Lent for A Biblical Walk Through the Mass, as we explore the roots of the words and gestures we experience at Mass and explain their profound significance. This fascinating tour of the Mass will renew your faith and deepen your love for and devotion to the Holy Eucharist.

This study, hosted by the Knights of Columbus, is open to both men and women and intended for all members of the parish aged 8th grade or up. A Biblical Walk Through the Mass will take place at 7pm in the Garden Level on the following Mondays in Lent: 2/19, 2/26, 3/4, 3/18, and 3/25. Note that there will be no meeting on 3/11. Advance registration is appreciated by contacting Joe Dent at joe@dentsoft.com or (618) 210-2003, but walk-ins are welcome. Although not reqired, we encourage participants to purchase a copy of the study book and companion workbook in advance at a cost of \$32 during registration.

## **BOOK FAIR**

Winter Exercise - Let's Keep Your Brain in Shape! -Immaculate Conception Scholastic Book Fair – Help Our School and Parish. January 31st-February 4th, Garden Level. For any questions, contact Teresa Dorshorst at 314-303-5352.

## **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.

## SCRIPTURE DISCUSSIONS FOR MEN AND WOMEN

How's this for a New Year's Resolution: Come to Mass on Sunday ready to engage in the Gospel, Old and New Testament Readings and even the homily by spending an hour praying with them in advance, with friends!

- Women's Bible Study meets every week in the Library on Tuesday evenings from 6:30-7:30 p.m.
- The Pathfinders Men's Group meets every week in the Knights of Columbus Room on Saturday mornings from 7:30-8:30 a.m.

Just show up; you're more than welcome!

Ministry News & Happenings

## 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. February 12: Topic Discussion – Lent February 19: Fun in the ICS Gym (see bulletin for more information) March 4: Topic Discussion – TBD

#### **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 ...

To stop investing in people in order to gain greater shortterm financial gain, is bad for business and society. (*Laudato Si*, 128)

What can I do? Consider, what do I invest in? How do I support the common good? Spend a half hour deliberately supporting/encouraging/helping one person this week.

Discipleship

The word generosity comes from the Latin word for "birth." At its root it means "someone of noble birth." It can (without intending to) carry the implication of bestowing some of one's own riches on other people. Now that's not all bad, but what I need to do is move beyond generosity – as though I were giving away what rightfully belongs to me by birth (or however I get it). What I need to do is go beyond generosity and arrive at stewardship – the realization that it all belongs to God, no matter how I got it, and I am administering it on God's behalf. A very different way to look at all my "stuff."

#### **IC-CCW NEWS**:

Our Spring Raffle will be happening soon! This year we will not only have our Handmade quilt, Handmade afghan and \$100.00 gift card raffle, but we will also have a raffle for a lottery ticket board! If anyone would like to make a cash donation for the purchase of lottery cards, please phone/ text Glenda Sexauer at 618-520-9369 or email glenda. sexauer@gmail.com or drop a donation marked "ICCCW lottery board" in the basket. THANK YOU!

#### NEWS FROM THE KNIGHTS FISH FRYS ARE BACK Eich Erz EPIDAYS will be from 3:00 7:00 r

Fish Fry FRIDAYS will be from 3:00-7:00 p.m. February 16, March 1, 15, and 29.





## EUCHARISTIC 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.

## COMFORT WITH A PRAYER SHAWL

If you, or someone you know, needs comfort and prayers, consider bringing them a Prayer Shawl, handmade by Immaculate Conception parishioners. Each crocheted or knitted shawl is unique, and prayers are said throughout the process of the creation. The goal is to provide comfort to the recipient, knowing that they are wrapped in the prayers of the parish.

The Prayer Shawl can be delivered to you, or you may stop in the Parish Office during business hours and pick up what you need. Prayer Shawls are available for children as well.

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

## 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.

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

MISSION • COMMUNITY • SERVICE

## UPCOMING PARENTS AND FRIENDS MEETINGS

February 12, 2024, 7:00 p.m. – Garden Level March 11, 2024, 7:00 p.m. – Garden Level April 8, 2024, 7:00 p.m. – Garden Level



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 signup.

## FATHERS' CLUB Chicken Wing, Toasted Ravioli & Pizza Fundraiser ICS Fathers' Club



## Jumbo Cut Chicken Wings 20 pieces for just \$25

Deep Fried, light dash of seasoning salt. Your choice of sauce on the side: Syberg's, Frailey's & Hot



## Toasted Ravioli Local Made 20 pieces for just \$15

Deep Fried, light dash of seasoning salt with Marinara



## Syberg's Signature Frozen 12" Pizzas \$10/each Triple Cheese, Joe Mama Meat Lovers, Double Pepperoni & Signature Chicken

## Big Game "Square Board" available for just \$25/square

Drive Thru Pick up from Noon to 4 pm, Sunday Feb 11<sup>th</sup> ICS Lower Level North of ICS Gymnasium. Please use the same route as the KC fish fry. Delivery service available for additional \$10 donation to 62236 Zip Code

To Order, scan the QR code or text icswings to 41444

Questions? Email: <u>icsfathers@gmail.com</u> Thank you for your support!



What's Happening At Gibault?

## VISIT GIBAULT

We are accepting Shadow Visitors for the second semester. 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.

#### WINTER PLAY

The Gibault Theatre Department presents *Poe: Dreams* of *Madness.* Performances: Wednesday, February 7, at 7:00 p.m.; Thursday, February 8, at 7:00 p.m.; Saturday, February 10, at 7:30 p.m.; and Sunday, February 11, at 1:30 p.m. (No performance on Friday, February 9.)

#### TASTE OF THE REGION

Join the Gibault Women's Club on March 2 for Taste of the Region. For full event info or to purchase tickets, visit: https://givebutter.com/ TasteoftheRegion.

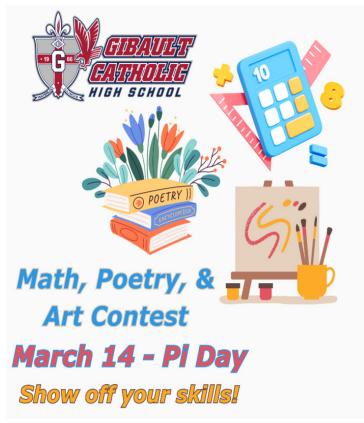
#### **ENROLLMENT NEWS**

There's still time to become a Gibault Hawk! We are accepting students for the Class of 2027 as well as transfer students for the remainder of the 2023-2024 school year. 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.

#### MATH, POETRY, AND ART CONTEST

Save the date to be part of this year's event!



Diocesan and Area Interests...

## LEARN MORE ABOUT BECOMING A PRIEST

Bishop Michael McGovern will host a St. Andrew Dinner for young men interested in learning more about the Catholic priesthood on Sunday, March 10. The St. Andrew Dinner will be held at Gibault Catholic High School in Waterloo. All young men ages 14-32 are invited to attend; parents or guardians are also welcome to join us.

The event will begin at 4:30 p.m. with gathering and introductions and Evening Prayer and will be followed by dinner and conversation.

This is a terrific opportunity to gather information for discerning a call to the priesthood; there will also be time for questions and conversation with Fr. Joel Seipp, Vocation Director.

For more information, or to RSVP, contact Judy Hoffmann at 618-722-5003, or email to: jhoffmann@ diobelle.org.

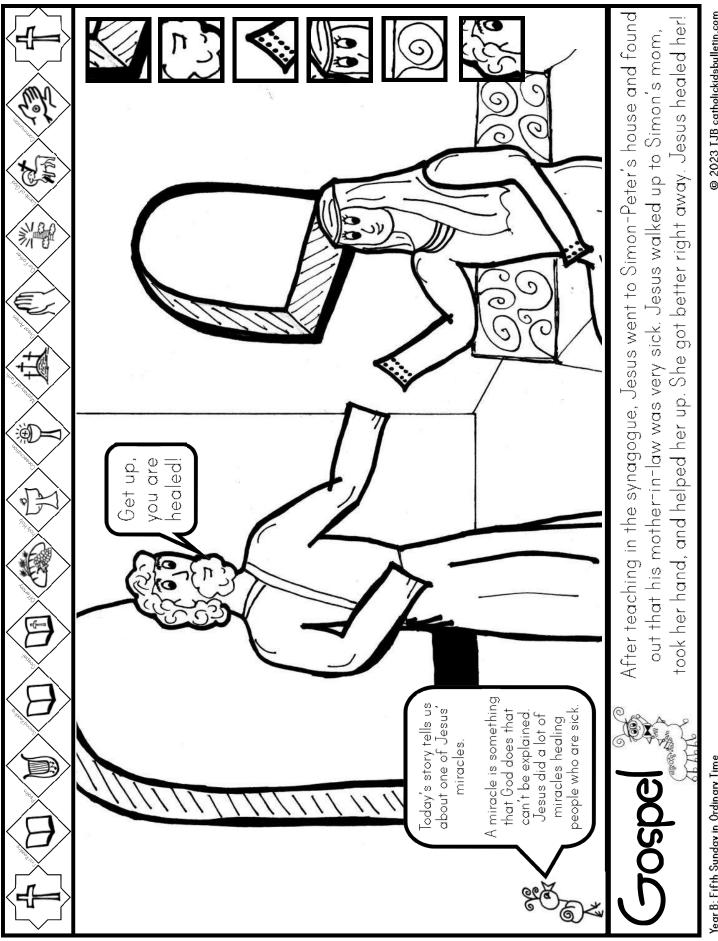
## IMMACULATE CONCEPTION CEMETERY – TRAILER FOR SALE

For Sale: Pronovost P-510/3S AG trailer S/N 7820 10-ton, 3-way dump trailer with agriculture tires. Has built-in hydraulic system. Swivel drawbar hitch. Asking \$6,995.00 For more information, contact Steve Krebel at sjkrebel@htc.net.



#### QUILT OF THE MONTH

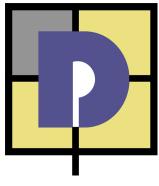
Our Lady of Good Counsel, Renault, is sponsoring a Quilt of the Month Raffle. From January through December 2024, a beautiful queen-sized handmade quilt will be given away each month. Tickets are \$25.00 each, and they give you 11 remaining chances to win. Please pick up a ticket at the ICC Parish Office. Our hours are Monday-Friday, 8:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.



Year B: Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

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