



Immaculate Conception

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

February 25, 2024

Second Sunday of Lent

www.icc-columbia-il.us

Eleven years ago, our parish made a cultural change and covenant to be a *stewardship community*, in which we look with gratitude at the radical generosity of God, and give “off the top” (our firstfruits) back to God with our time, talent and treasure. One component of our gratitude is to, as a parish, give two percent of our annual offerings to the poor, through not-for-profit organizations suggested by you, our parishioners.

We call this the Stewardship of Charity, and recall that in the bible, the virtues of charity and selfless love are identical. This year, we are reworking this event to make participation truly accessible to all parishioners. Here’s our timeline this year.

January 1: We start with you! When you make your annual stewardship commitment to our parish, offering your time, talent and treasure, your contributions grow our charitable giving for the following year.

February 25-March 1: As of today (Feb. 25) downloadable nomination forms are available on the parish website and hard copies are located in the kiosk in the Gathering Space. They must be received at the Parish Office by March 1 (in person, through offertory, or by mail). Nominations must be accredited charitable organizations which serve the poor and align with **Catholic Social Teaching** (USCCB.org), especially the *Option for*

the Poor and Vulnerable, and regard for *Life and Dignity of the Human Person*.

Each household which has made a current stewardship commitment to our parish may nominate one charity. Organizations will be evaluated for eligibility by the pastoral staff, and the final list will be approved by Fr. Steve. Organizations must also be outside those already served by the parish (e.g. through our stewardship envelopes). Complete rules of eligibility will be included with the nomination forms. Get your family and friends together and do some brainstorming! Who can we help?

Weekends of March 17 & March 24: Nominated charities will be listed in the bulletin and website by that first weekend, and *voting will take place after all Masses* on both weekends (paper ballots may be mailed, but must be received at the parish office by March 25). Each household gets 10 votes, no more than 5 to a single charity.

April 21: Votes will be tabulated and the final distribution printed in the bulletin on the weekend of April 21. Every charity that receives votes will receive a share of the distribution, but no organization may receive more than 10% of the funds available, so that all may be served.

We cannot do this without you, and you cannot do anything without God! We thank everyone who has made a commitment to stewardship so that we can help those most in need of God’s care.

Stewardship of Charity 2024

**BLESSED ARE YOU
WHO ARE POOR
FOR THE KINGDOM
OF GOD IS YOURS!**

Luke 6:20

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, February 26	8:05 a.m.	We Remember Margaret Ann Conrad
Tuesday, February 27	8:05 a.m.	We Remember Holy Souls in Purgatory
Wednesday, February 28	8:05 a.m.	We Remember Harold Netemeyer
Thursday, February 29	8:05 a.m.	We Remember Josh Ritter
Friday, March 1	8:05 a.m.	We Remember Leo Thoma
Saturday, March 2	5:00 p.m.	We Remember Angela Krupp
Sunday, March 3	7:00 a.m.	We Remember Chester & Lillian Kopec
	9:00 a.m.	We Remember Anna Lawlor
	11:00 a.m.	We Remember Cletus Whelan



Please Pray For

Danielle Dorlac	Bill Kutz	The Kruse Family	Ken Breitenstein
Donna Archambault-Kania	Chris Peel	Betty Schmieder	Amy Adler
Arlin Stechmesser	Joan Thoma	Lynn Naumann Casey	Wanda Schewe
Catherine Marlo	Grace Nolan	Kate Patterson	Eris Wood
Dakota Schutt	Special Intention	Ellen Dietz	Katie Schoellhorn
Mike Conrad	Liam Pugh	Sharon Nealon	Kristen Brewer
Janice McDermott	Baby Marcella	Jamie Moravec	Jenny Candler
Delores Deleveski	Don & Shirley Mehrmann	Elsie Hofstetter	Rosina Belt
Brian Kreher	Dolores G.	Mary Lou Mees	Kasen Greer
Rich Sambo	Elliana Cloin	Jean Conrad	Christine Baldas
Catherine Sambo	Earl & Arlene Kruse	Jim Grau	Gary May
Nicole Pennington	Mrs. Steele	Geri Griffin	Irma Proffer
Ruth Herrmann	Brian Hirsh	Donna Ritson	Joanne Schilling
		Owen Kinane	

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

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.



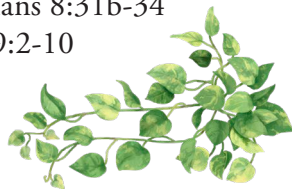
Weekly Reflections

February 25, 2024:

First Reading: Genesis 22:1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18

Second Reading: Romans 8:31b-34

Gospel: Mark 9:2-10



Our Sympathies...

To Brian Pautler and his family on the death of his mother Margaret "Marge" Gladys Pautler, 87, of Red Bud.

To Larry and Melissa Herbeck and their family on the death of their daughter Melanie Herbeck, 33, of Columbia.



Stewardship...

Thank you for sharing your blessings with us!

February 18, 2024

Actual	\$	74,567.91
Budget	\$	66,400.00
Actual YTD	\$	1,376,791.44
Budget YTD	\$	1,449,625.00
Over (under)	\$	(72,833.56)
Prior YTD	\$	1,304,444.30
Over (under)	\$	72,347.14

**the above totals include Online Giving through 2/17/2024.*

Capital Improvements	\$	156.00
Gibault	\$	190.00
Cemetery Maintenance	\$	45.00
Guatemala	\$	943.00
Votive	\$	161.00
Messenger	\$	200.00
Phase 3	\$	2524.00
Black & Indian	\$	255.00
Eugene Schorb Education Endowment Fund	\$	50.00
Sr Thea Bowman	\$	70.00
SVDP	\$	320.00
CEAC	\$	130.00
ICCCW Dues	\$	30.00



From Our Young Stewards

Treasure: \$3.65

Time and Talent: I donated money; I've been nice; cleaned the basement.

WHAT IS A DONOR-ADVISED FUND?

A donor-advised fund is a charitable gift fund administered by a third party public foundation created for the purpose of managing charitable donations on behalf of an organization, a family, or an individual. Donor-advised funds have become increasingly popular, primarily because they offer the donor greater ease of administration while still allowing them to maintain significant control over the placement and distribution of charitable grants after making a tax-deductible contribution.

Donor-advised funds offer the maximum tax benefit available for a charitable gift. Unlike private foundations, donor-advised fund-holders enjoy a federal income tax deduction of up to 60% of adjusted gross income (AGI) for cash contributions and up to 30% of AGI for the appreciated publically traded securities in the year contributed. When donors contribute appreciated assets to donor-advised funds, they avoid long-term capital gains taxes and receive immediate fair market value tax deductions.

Many national and local foundations offer donor-advised funds. Each fund sponsor has different minimums to open, maintain, and grant. You may recommend an investment strategy for the assets in your fund for tax-free growth until you decide to recommend grants to the organizations you choose on your own timeline.

Donor-advised fund sponsors generally accept more contributions of more complex assets like real estate or closely held business interests as well. Advantages and Disadvantages of Donor-Advised Funds:

Pros:

- Ability to recommend grants on your own timeline
- Maximum tax benefit available for a charitable contribution
- Allows donation of non-cash assets
- No required minimum distributions

Cons:

- Contributions are irrevocable.
- Grants are subject to final approval of the fund sponsor
- Subject to administrative and investment fees

There are no specific tax laws stipulating how long after setting up a donor-advised fund it can be inactive, but many fund providers have their own timeline for giving.

Donor-advised funds offer both legacy and succession options which may vary with each fund sponsor. After the lifetime of the initial donor, the fund may be passed to children or trusted family members with full discretion to continue charitable grant-making or distribute the remaining funds to one or more approved charities.

For more information about Donor-advised funds, contact your financial or tax advisor.

– 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...

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

March 1: 2:15 & 7:00, Church
March 8: 2:15 & 7:00, Church
March 15: 2:15 & 7:00, Church
March 22: 1:30 – Living Stations of
the Cross, ICS Gym & 7:00, Church
March 29: 3:00 – Good Friday Stations
of the Cross, Church

PADRE ABDIAS IS COMING TO IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

The Sister Parish ministry is excited to announce that Padre Abdias, the pastor at St. Raymond's, our sister parish in Guatemala, will visit us this fall – from September 20th through September 27th.

Still in the early planning stages, this weeklong visit marks the first time that a priest from St. Raymond's will join us as part of a parish-wide event. While here, Padre's schedule includes: Meeting parishioners at a welcome ceremony, touring the church and school, concelebrating Mass, engaging with parish, school, and ministry leaders, spending time with ICS students and staff, visiting a local farm, touring St. Louis, attending a sports event, touring Our Lady of the Snows, visiting Cosgroves Soup Kitchen, St. Vincent de Paul, and Sister Thea Bowman in East St. Louis, and more.

If you would like to be part of organizing one or more of these activities, please contact Karen Waide at cooperwaide@aol.com or 618-281-4715. Additionally, the ministry is also in need of interpreters, drivers (to transport Padre/others to and from events), and help with occasional meal preparation. All help is greatly appreciated.

Call To Lenten Conversion

From the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (usccb.org)

As we observe the time of Lent with the universal church, please take a minute to understand the three pillars of this penitential season: Prayer, Fasting, and Almsgiving.

PRAYER: *"For me, prayer is a surge of the heart; it is a simple look turned toward heaven, it is a cry of recognition and of love, embracing both trial and joy."* -St. Therese of Lisieux (*Catechism of the Catholic Church (CCC) 2558*). During Lent, we are asked to devote ourselves to seeking the Lord in prayer and reading Scripture, to service by giving alms, and to practice self-control through fasting. Dive into God's word in Scripture this Lent or pray the rosary with your family.

FASTING: Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are obligatory days of fasting and abstinence for Catholics. In addition, Fridays during Lent are obligatory days of abstinence. For members of the Latin Catholic Church, the norms on fasting are obligatory from age 18 until age 59. When fasting, a person is permitted to eat one full meal, as well as two smaller meals that together are not equal to a full meal. The norms concerning abstinence from meat are binding upon members of the Latin Catholic Church from age 14 onwards. If possible, the fast on Good Friday is continued until the Easter Vigil (on Holy Saturday night) as the "paschal fast" to honor the suffering and death of the Lord Jesus and to prepare ourselves to share more fully and to celebrate more readily his Resurrection.

ALMSGIVING: The foundational call of Christians to charity is a frequent theme of the Gospels. During Lent, we are asked to focus more intently on "almsgiving," which means donating money or goods to the poor and performing other acts of charity. As one of the three pillars of Lenten practice, almsgiving is "a witness to fraternal charity" and "a work of justice pleasing to God." (*CCC 2462*). **Particular Opportunities for Almsgiving during Lent:** There are several special opportunities for almsgiving through donations to Church ministries for which collections are conducted during the Lenten season including: Collection for the Church in Central & Eastern Europe, National Black and Indiana Mission Collection, Catholic Relief Services Collection, Pontifical Good Friday Collection for Care for Christians in the Holy Land, CRS Rice Bowl.

ICY



gather your peeps for an
egg dying party

- wednesday, march 27, 6-7:30pm
- immaculate conception garden level
409 palmer road, columbia
- this is a fun family event - no drop-offs
- we will provide the dye, decorations,
& a little help
- bring your own boiled eggs
or prepurchase boiled eggs using the
link below

this free event is presented by
immaculate conception youth.
all are welcome.



**IMMACULATE CONCEPTION YOUTH
MISSION TRIP TO
CAIRO, IL
JUNE 28-30, 2024**

**HOMEMADE
PIE SALE
FUNDRAISER**

**SATURDAY
JUNE 22**

**MORE INFO
TO COME**



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.

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.

March 4: Knights of Columbus Biblical Walk Through the Mass (meet in the Garden Level at 6:50 p.m.)

March 18: Trivia

Discipleship

Lent is a time of prayer, fasting, and almsgiving.

There's nothing tricky about prayer. It's simply tuning in to God's presence – and God is always present. Not simply alongside me, but within me at the deepest part of who I am. I never have to get God's attention. I have God's total attention. Always. Everywhere. I never have to make an appointment with God. I'm "first on the list." My appointment is always "right now." When I call God, I never get voice mail. It's direct. To draw near to God, I don't have to travel anywhere. God does all the traveling. I don't have to figure out the right words to get started. God is already speaking to me. All I have to do is turn off the "mute" button.

IC-CCW NEWS:

Come join us at the next ICCCW meeting on Thursday, March 7th at 6:30 p.m. in the Garden Level.

Spring Raffle sales to begin March 7!

ICY ODD SUNDAYS

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



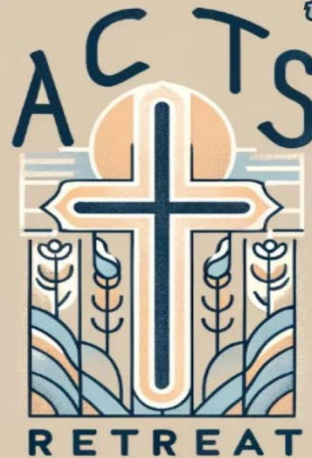
Pope Francis Says...

We are faced not with two separate crises, one environmental and the other social, but rather with one complex crisis which is both social and environmental. (LS 139)

What can I do? Refuse palm oil. To create the palm oil plantation, the local rain forest is burned or chopped down and the native wildlife are killed, captured or driven away. The fires release high levels of CO2 and cause extreme air pollution in neighboring countries.

ACTS

**Stay Connected with
the ACTS Community!**



Embrace the calmness and reconnect with the ACTS family. If you're not receiving emails from acts@iccmil.org, you might be missing out! Update Your Info Now! If you're not on our mailing list, simply send us an email at acts@iccmil.org with your latest contact information. Let's keep you in the loop and build a stronger, connected ACTS family together!

The Cupboards Are Bare –
Society of St. Vincent De Paul Needs Your Help!

The Society of St. Vincent de Paul Belleville Council reports record numbers of people staying at its OverNite Center and 300+ people per day coming for meals at Cosgrove's Kitchen. With these increased numbers, there is an urgent need for food. We humbly ask for your prayers for SVDP and its clients and, if you are able, your donation of food (all kinds) that will be cooked and served at the soup kitchen and/or 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) to distribute at the OverNite Center.

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 Noon

For additional information contact Joe Hubbard or Pat Hogrebe at 618-394-0126. Thank you and God bless you for your generosity which enables St. Vincent de Paul's ministry to the poorest among us.

NEWS FROM THE KNIGHTS

FISH FRY'S ARE BACK

Fish Fry FRIDAYS (sides available) will be from 3:00-7:00 p.m. – March 1, 15, and 29.

2024 K OF C – CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL SCHOLARSHIP – ESSAY CONTEST

2024 K of C - Catholic High School Scholarship - Essay Contest will be held on **Sunday, March 10 at 12:30 p.m.** (after 11:00 a.m. Mass). The Contest will be held in ICS/CEAC – Room 225 (Mr. Kassebaum's classroom). In accordance with Contest rules: **No late entry/or make-up dates.**

The Contest prize is one \$2,000.00 scholarship – payable in (4) installments of \$500 – directly to the Catholic high school of winner's choice. The Contest participant must be an **ICC Parish Member**, who will be an entering freshman of a **Catholic high school** for the **2024-2025** school year. The Contestant may be attending either ICS Grade School OR the Columbia public school system.

Any questions, please call Kevin W. Hutchinson, K of C Council 6165 at 314-974-7072.

THE 2024 CATHOLIC SERVICE AND MINISTRY APPEAL

Serve the Lord with gladness

– Psalm 100

From the Pastor's Desk . . .

Thank you to the 1,400 households that have already pledged to support the mission of the Church to teach, preach, minister and serve in the name of Jesus through their financial support of The Catholic Service and Ministry Appeal. So far, \$62,177.20 has been pledged by our parish members. If you have not yet responded, please make every effort to do so. Thank you for your consideration and generosity!

BEREAVEMENT MINISTRY

Looking for your place in the parish? Do you like helping others, providing comfort and being part of a larger purpose? The Bereavement Ministry is looking for new members. Our ministry is a support ministry for those who have experienced a loss in their family whether adult, child or baby. If you are looking for a way to support your fellow parishioners, let us be your path. Contact Kathy Fern to learn more at 618-719-1632 or email kaammifern@gmail with your interest.

– Members of Bereavement Ministry

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.

CEMETERY COMMITTEE

Please remove any headstone decorations as our mowing season will be starting up soon. We don't want anything to get damaged.



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.

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; Project Rachel, 618-722-5068 or hopeafterabortion.com.
- A caring place for women who are pregnant and experiencing homelessness; Fontebella Maternity Home, 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

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

THE ZAC EPPLIN GOLF TOURNAMENT

Friday, April 26, 2024, Annbriar Golf Course. 12:00 shotgun start. Registration opens on Saturday, March 9. Use the QR code to sponsor the tournament and/or to register your team.






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 17404 BLUFF ROAD COLUMBIA, IL
TO BENEFIT: ICC 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.

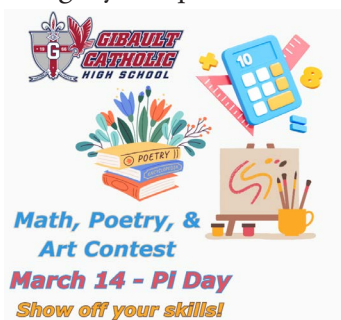
VOLUNTEERS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME! Visit the Parish website: ICC-columbia-IL.us for a link to our Queen of Hearts sign-up.

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>.



MATH, POETRY, AND ART CONTEST

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

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>.



Saturday, March 2nd

5:00 - 10:00 \$35/person

in advance or \$40 at the door.

Enjoy an evening of food sampling from local establishments & entertainment by Gibault Jazz Band and Miranda Bury. Scan the QR code to purchase tickets!

ENROLLMENT NEWS

There's still time to become a Gibault Hawk! We are accepting students for the Class of 2027. 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.

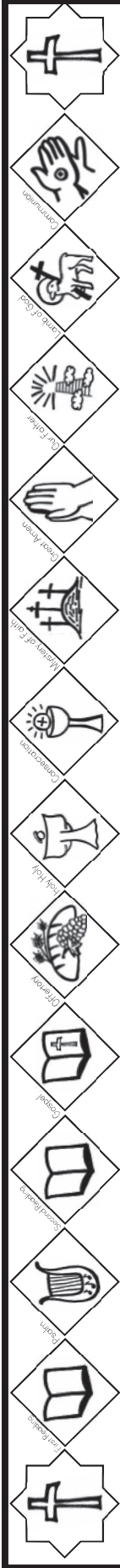
Diocesan and Area Interests...

The image shows a sign for 'I Support the Girls'. At the top is a logo with the letters 'SD' in blue and pink. Below it, the text reads 'I SUPPORT THE GIRLS' and 'OUR MISSION'. The mission statement follows: 'Through an international network of Affiliates, I Support the Girls collects and distributes essential items, including bras, underwear, and menstrual hygiene products, allowing women and folk experiencing homelessness, impoverishment, or distress to stand tall with dignity.' At the bottom, a large number '21,253,882' is displayed, with 'PRODUCTS DONATED TO DATE' written below it.

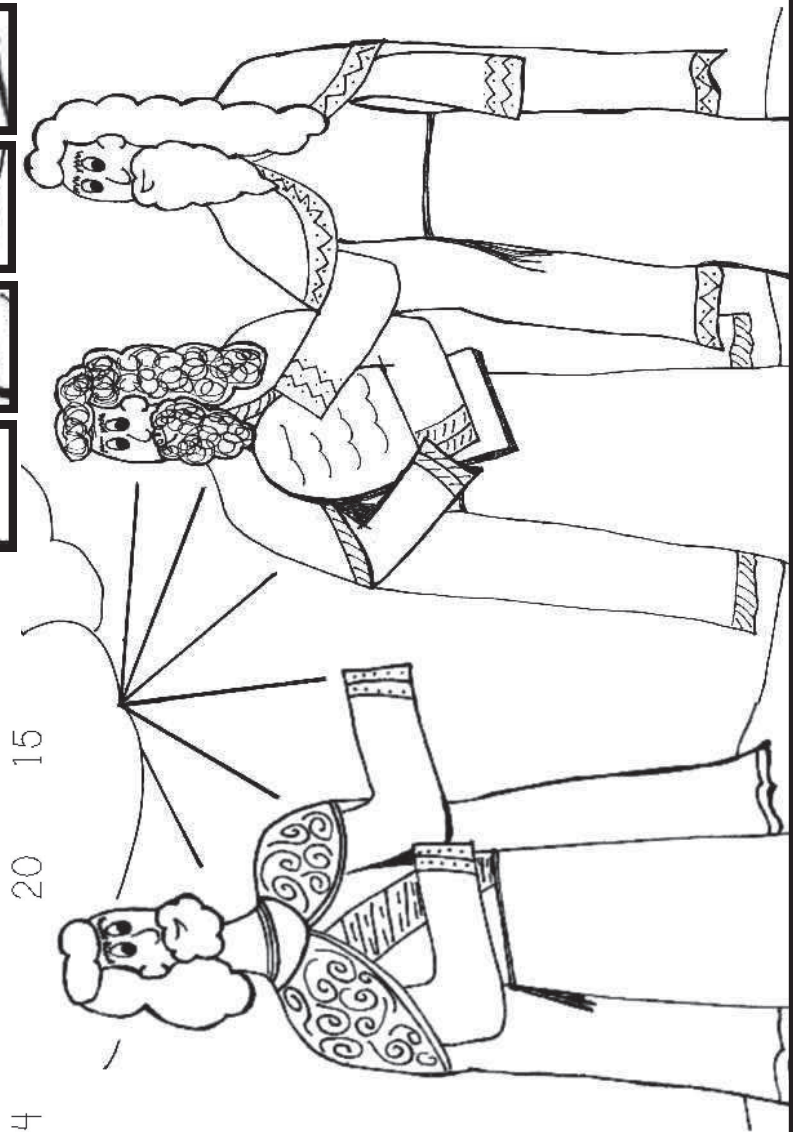
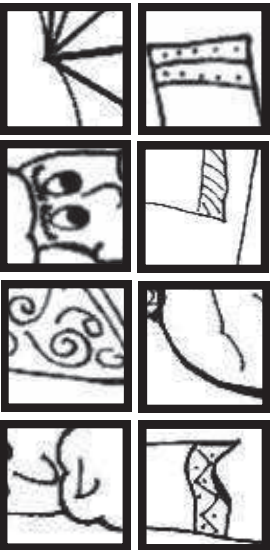


QUILT OF THE MONTH

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.



God spoke from Heaven and said, "This is my beloved Son..."



12 9 19 20 5 14 20 15

8 9 13

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R
10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z	
19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	



Gospel

Today's Gospel story is called the Transfiguration. Jesus went to the top of a mountain with some of His disciples and He suddenly looked different. His clothes were bright white! Elijah and Moses appeared on the mountain with Jesus.