7	Immaculate Conception				
b	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 25, 2024	Twenty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time	www.icc-columbia-il.us		

Please join us! Women's ACTS Retreat

October 17-20, 2024

Ladies ages 18 and up, you are invited to share an ACTS Retreat weekend! This retreat, under the leadership of parishioners just like you, offers the opportunity to renew your spirituality, strengthen your faith and its application to your daily life, and build and deepen lasting friendships throughout your parish community.

Every once in a while, we need to consider:

- + Where is my path in life going?
- + What do I want for my life?
- + What is truly important to me?

What are YOU looking for in your life?

- + A closer relationship with God?
- + More meaning in your life?
- + Closer relationships with your family members?
- + To make new and closer relationships with the people in your parish?

The ACTS weekend inspires, encourages, challenges, and so much more. It is put on by lay people for lay people. Through this weekend, you will get to know others in your parish and local community who are searching for the same things you are. Won't you join them on the journey?

The retreat begins on Thursday evening with check-in at 6:30 p.m. at Immaculate Conception Church. Transportation to and from the Retreat Center (Kings House at the Shrine of Our Lady of the Snows in Belleville) is provided. A **minimum deposit of \$50.00** is requested to reserve your space, with the balance due at check-in Thursday. *The full amount for single occupancy is \$345.00, or you may request to room with a designated friend for \$265.00 per person.* Please do not let financial

hardship stand in the way of attending this retreat. Financial assistance is available confidentially by reaching out to IC Pastor Fr. Steve Thoma, C.R., at 618-281-5105 or in person. Your retreat director can also guide you to assistance.

If you have any questions about this upcoming retreat, pick up a brochure and registration form in the Gathering Space, and you may also reach out to your team leaders:

- Director: Libby Nolan, 314-393-6096, or libby.nolan@yahoo.com
- Co-Director: Angela Burns, 618-567-6793, or bunchaburnses@gmail.com

Take a leap of faith! Put yourself in the hands of God through the hands of others, and enjoy some quality time with Jesus, away from the busy-ness of every day. Embrace the journey. You'll be glad you did!

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

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

Masses – Saturday, 5:00 p.m. and Sunday, 7:00, 9:00, 11:00 a.m.						
Monday, August 26	8:05 a.m.	We Remember Jason Mueller				
Tuesday, August 27	8:05 a.m.	We Remember Ruth Herrmann				
Wednesday, August 28	8:05 a.m.	We Remember Elsie Hofstetter				
Thursday, August 29	8:05 a.m.	We Remember Josh Ritter				
Friday, August 30	8:05 a.m.	We Remember Margie Passananti				
Saturday, August 31	5:00 p.m.	We Remember Edward & Dorothy Schaffer				
Sunday, September 1	7:00 a.m.	We Remember Bernard & Ida Weilbacher				
	9:00 a.m.	We Remember Babs Jackson				
	11:00 a.m.	We Remember Henry & Mae Doerr				



Please Pray For

Danielle Dorlac Donna Archambault-Kania Arlin Stechmesser Dakota Schutt Janice McDermott Delores Deleveski Brian Kreher **Rich Sambo** Catherine Sambo Nicole Pennington **Bill Kutz** Chris Peel Joan Thoma

Special Intention Liam Pugh Don & Shirley Mehrmann Dolores G. Elliana Cloin Earl & Arlene Kruse Mrs. Steele The Kruse Family **Betty Schmieder** Lynn Naumann Casey Ellen Dietz Jamie Moravec Mary Lou Mees

Jean Conrad Jim Grau Geri Griffin Donna Ritson **Owen Kinane** Ken Breitenstein Wanda Schewe Katie Schoellhorn Kristen Brewer Kasen Greer Christine Baldas Irma Proffer **Bill Kessler**

Sandy Kirpatrick Darrell May Beth Johns Hope Weinhoff Mark Belt Doug Mercille Brian Hirsh Don Day Brother John Ritter Elaine Matlock-Kish Mary Schroeder Roger Karsten

Troops in Service ... SGM Joseph Pope, US Army; Colonel Brian Schoellhorn; Samuel Campbell, Navy; Captain Benjamin Thoma, United States Air Force; Captain Alex Kawalec, United States Air Force

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 25, 2024: First Reading: Joshua 24:1-2a, 15-17, 18b Second Reading: Ephesians 5:21-32 Gospel: John 6:60-69



Our Sympathies...

To Kevin Candler and his family on the death of his wife, Jenny Candler, 67, of Waterloo.



Stewards						
Thank you for sharing your blessings with us!						
August 18,	202	4				
Actual	\$	98,422.39				
Budget	\$	62,875.00				
Actual YTD	\$	277,470.53				
Budget YTD	\$	280,450.00				
Over (under)	\$	(2,979.47)				
Prior YTD	\$	216,174.15				
Over (under)	\$	61,296.38				
* The above totals include online giving						
1	throu	igh 8/18/2024.				
Guatemala	\$	896.00				
Capital Improvements	\$	391.00				
Cemetery Maintenance	\$	65.00				
Gibault	\$	196.00				
Sr. Thea Bowman	\$	1,091.00				
Phase 3	\$	11,128.22				
CEAC	\$	1,140.77				
Eugene Schorb Edu.						
Endowment Fund	\$	53.00				
SVDP	\$	70.00				



200.00

Picnic Donation

From Our Young Stewards Treasure: \$44.70 Time and Talent: Caring for my dogs; taking my dog out; helping clean the truck.

WILLS AND LIVING TRUSTS

In the world of estate planning, Wills and Living Trusts often take center stage because they are the most common documents used to pass assets after one's death. They are similar, yet different – kind of like siblings, but without all the fighting. Both are legal tools that transfer your property to those you love. The main difference is that one can be effective while you are still alive and the other goes into effect only after you die. There are a few more important distinctions you should know about. Let's go over each one, starting with the basics, so you can decide what's best for you.

What Is a Will?

A Will is a legal document that explains what you want to have happen when you die – and puts it all in writing. It outlines things like who you want to get your property, your money, and guardianship of your kids or pets. The important thing to note about a Will is that it does not avoid the probate process, which is a common misconception. When you die, the person(s) you've named as Personal Representative (a.k.a Executor), must present your Will to the court in the county where you reside at death and ask the judge to recognize your Will as valid and grant what are known as "letters testamentary" to the person(s) you've name. It is only then that your Personal Representative has the legal authority to administer the terms of your Will.

What Is a Living Trust?

A living trust is a legal document that governs what happens to your assets during your lifetime as well as at death, quickly and easily. It's referred to as "living" because the Trust goes into effect while you're alive, as opposed to a Will, which only becomes effective at your death. You can transfer things like bank or savings accounts, cars, real estate, art, jewelry and even intellectual property (like your novel manuscript) into a Living Trust. There are several significant advantages that a Living Trust provides that a Will does not. Those include incapacity planning – your Trustee (i.e. the person(s) you've designated to manage trust assets after you can no longer do it yourself) can manage your trust assets for you if you become incapacitated; privacy – the actions taken under a Living Trust are private between your Trustee and your beneficiaries; and probate avoidance – a Living Trust if properly funded will avoid the probate process, where a Will does not. Also Living Trusts, just like Wills, can be changed or completely rewritten as many times as you determine necessary prior to your incapacity or death. When a Living Trust is used as the primary estate planning document, a Will is still recommended to "catch" any property that was not placed in your Living Trust prior to your death, and to then add that property to your Trust at that time.

- Immaculate Conception Planned Giving Council

Parish Events & News...

LOOKING FOR A LITURGY DIRECTOR

Immaculate Conception is seeking a Director of Liturgy who will report



to the pastor and be responsible for planning and coordinating all liturgical celebrations, including Sunday and daily Masses, as well as funerals, weddings and special occasions. The ideal candidate will have a love of God and Church, spirit of collaboration, independent judgement and initiative, and liturgical/ theological education and experience. Please contact Kara Dell-Hunt, IC business manager, for a complete job description. Kara can be reached at kdell-hunt@ iccmail.org or 618-281-5105, ext. 350.

PSR

Is that still small voice calling you? Volunteer for PSR! A love of God and children is all that is needed. We are looking for volunteers for the 2024-2025 school year to help our PSR program continue to grow. Contact Rebecca Husman at 618-281-5105, ext. 353 or Lizanne Young at 618-281-5105, ext. 354. We look forward to meeting you.

LABOR DAY PICNIC

Plants needed – The plant booth counts on your plant donations every year to make our booth successful. This is a great time to start dividing any house plants you have. This way they have a chance to root in before picnic day. We appreciate all our donors and look forward to seeing you on Labor Day.



CAPITAL CAMPAIGN PHASE 3 UPDATE

We continue to see the generosity of our parishioners in regards to Phase 3 of the Capital Campaign. We are slightly over the halfway point toward the goal of

eliminating the current debt and enhancing the church and school with the four proposed projects. Please take time to prayerfully consider making a pledge to the campaign so we can reach our goal. You can mail your pledge card to the Parish Office or drop it in the offertory basket. Thank you for your support!



ICY



PARISH WORK DAYS! October 12, November 9

SCRIPTURE DISCUSSIONS FOR MEN AND WOMEN

How's this for a Plan: 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!

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.

D.C. PRETZELAND DONUT SALES...

The next Pretzel & Donut weekend will be September 21 & 22. All proceeds go to the 8th graders' trip to Washington, D.C.

Ministry News & Happenings

THEOLOGY ON TAP'S UPCOMING EVENTS

Dates and Topics are below. All dates are at Sunset Overlook in Columbia, IL unless otherwise noted. All at 7:00 p.m.

- September 9 Gym Fun @ ICS gym, 7:00-9:00 p.m.
- September 23 Salt Lick hike (weather permitting), 5:30 p.m.
- October 7 Knights of Columbus Speaker Series, location TBD
- October 21 Board Game Night!

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...

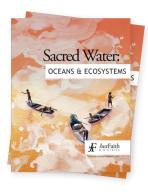
The mindset which leaves no room for sincere concern for the environment is the same mindset which lacks concern for the inclusion of the most vulnerable members of society. *(Laudato Si 196)*

What can I do? Since the overabundance of plastics greatly affects future generations and poorer countries, try to fast from plastics for a week, or a month. See how much we can do without.

Heavenly Father, You have created us in Your own image, to love, serve and honor You with our lives. You have

OUR CAMPAIGN PRAYER

to love, serve and honor You with our lives. You have tasked us with building Your Church, and passing from one generation to the next the treasure trove of our faith. Bless the work of our hands as we undertake our next phase in serving You. Keep us strong in faith, hope, and love, so that all we do may bring glory and honor to You, forever and ever. AMEN.



JUST FAITH CLASS

You are invited to participate in the last of the three classes on the Climate, *Sacred Water: Oceans and Ecosystems.* Water is central both to our Christian theology and to our survival. *Sacred Water: Oceans and Ecosystems* guides small groups in discerning how they can better care for the

earth's waters, as well as the creatures and communities who live in and around them.

Sr. Marcia Kruse, 618-570-4084, ASC, Faith Clark, 618-420-3164, and Carol Waide, 618-910-1648, will facilitate the 8 sessions which will begin September 18. Mark your calendars. If interested, you can register at https://justfaith. org/product/sacred-water-immaculate-conceptioncatholic-church/. You will need to set up an account in order to register. If you had one from last year you will need to set it up again, as a new system was put in place. Cost will be \$35.00-\$75.00. Our two previous classes have been well received. Come join in and learn how you can help.

Discipleship Corner

All of us are called to the vocations of holiness and evangelization. In addition, we are each personally called by God to the one of four vocational journeys which is most likely to give us happiness and sanctity. Many of us, upon hearing the word "vocations," immediately think of the **priesthood** or, perhaps, the "**religious**" (or **consecrated**) **life** of "brothers" or "sisters." Most of us, however, follow the vocations of **single life** or **marriage**. When properly discerned and followed, each of these vocations is good. Each vocation and the people contemplating or following them should be included in our prayers.

THE 2024 CATHOLIC SERVICE AND MINISTRY APPEAL

Serve the Lord with gladness – Psalm 100

Do you remember your or your children's or, perhaps, your grandchildren's first time away from home attending college? While greatly anticipated, it can also be a challenging, sometimes overwhelming experience. Today hundreds of young adults find a comfortable, secure, faithbased home during their college years as a "family" member of the Newman Catholic Student Center at Southern Illinois University. Your contribution to The Catholic Service and Ministry Appeal helps makes this experience possible. Partner with Newman's students and staff by making your gift to The Appeal today!



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.

ACTS



StayConnected with the ACUS Community!

Embrace the calmness and reconnect with the ACTS family. If you're not receiving emails from acts@iccmail.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@iccmail.org with your latest contact information. Let's keep you in the loop and build a stronger, connected ACTS family together!



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. The ministry meets on the 2nd Thursday of each month at 6:30 p.m. in the Garden level. Contact Kathy Fern to learn more at 618-719-1632 or email kaammifern@gmail with your interest. **Upcoming events:**

October 20th: Walk to Remember – 3:00 p.m. November 2nd: All Souls Mass – 5:00 p.m.

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.



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



What's Happening at Gibault?

ENROLLING FOR FALL 2024

There is still time to be a Gibault Hawk this fall! We are accepting incoming freshmen and transfer students at all other grade levels. To learn how you can be part of the Gibault family, visit https://bit.ly/GCHSInquire.

Niocesan and Area Interests...

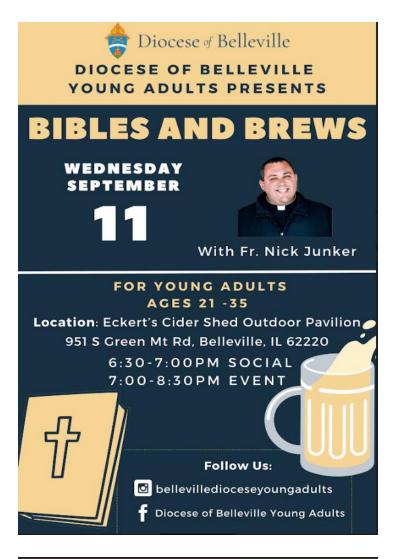
SISTER THEA BOWMAN CATHOLIC SCHOOL

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

CATHOLIC HOME MISSIONS APPEAL

Support the Catholic Home Missions Appeal today! Over 40% of dioceses in the United States and its territories are considered mission territories because they are unable to fund essential pastoral activities needed in their communities. Your support funds religious education, seminary formation, lay ministry training, and other programs that build vibrant faith communities right here in the United States, including in our own Belleville Diocese. Please be generous. More information can be found at www.usccb. org/home-missions.





2025 ST. LOUIS METROPOLITAN YOUTH CHORAL FESTIVAL & MASS

March 8, 2025 Cathedral of St. Peter, Belleville, IL Bishop Michael G. McGovern, Celebrant



Pueri Cantores, the national student choral organization of the Catholic Church, invites all parish & school treble and mixed voice choirs (grades 4–12) in the region to participate in a Festival & Mass.

Singers will unite with hundreds of their peers as one combined choir to sing beautiful music from the Church's rich historical repertoire. More information will be available soon at <u>www.pcchoirs.org</u>.



David Kauffman will perform a concert for our community on Saturday, September 7, at 7:00 p.m. in the Church Sanctuary. David Kauffman is a songwriter, recording artist, and filmmaker. He has written many songs for ACTS Retreats, and he is co-composer of The Mass of Renewal. David's Mission is simple: Song and Story for Healing and Hope. The Concert is free of charge, but we are invited to donate to David's Mission to help him recoup his costs and support his work. You may scan the QR code, or put a donation in the baskets available at the event. *Join us Saturday, September 7, at 7:00 p.m. right here in the church for a night of Song and Story, Healing and Hope!*



St. Anne Cradle of Hope needs clothing donations to help families in need!

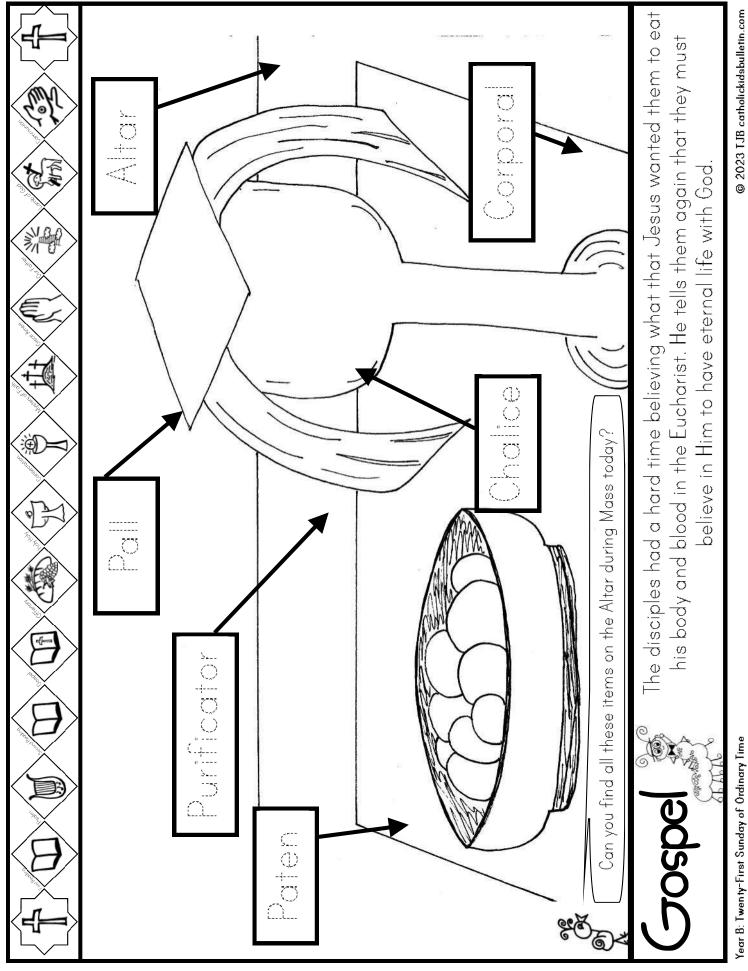
We are asking for summer clothing for boys sizes 2T-4T







To donate: Drop off at 2015 W Main St suite b, Carbondale, IL 62901 on Mon or Wed 10-2 pm, Mail to St. Francis Xavier Catholic Church at 303 S Poplar St, Carbondale, IL 62901, Or visit our Amazon wish list at https://www.diobelle.org/stanne-coh



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Columbia, IL#5957-CH-6/10/24

