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

September 22, 2024

Twenty-fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

www.icc-columbia-il.us

Hello! My name is Zack Gillan, and I am the Kindergarten teacher at Sister Thea Bowman Catholic School in East St. Louis. As one of many other ICS alumni, I was very fortunate in being able to attend Sister Thea Bowman Catholic Schools' Advent Prayer Service through my years. Seeing how dedicated the students and staff were to giving praise to God's good Name is something I will not soon forget.

Our mission at Sister Thea Bowman is to "prepare grades K-8 students through holistic learning, academic excellence, personal empowerment, and a deepening faith in Jesus Christ within the Catholic tradition." Through a well-planned curriculum, Sister Thea Bowman Catholic School succeeds in having 100% of graduates attend high school, and 95% of



graduates attending or have attended college. Our school does a fantastic job at getting students to the next steps in their lives through Access Academy. Access not only offers high school tuition scholarships, work-study scholarships, and post-secondary preparation (ACT preparation), but also offers counseling and enrichment in such a crucial part of the student's life.

I could say so much more about what makes Sister Thea Bowman Catholic School such a special place, but as Fr. Carl would say, our school truly keeps the Main Thing, the Main Thing. Through all the success of Sister Thea, Jesus Christ remains the backbone, heart, and soul of our school.

Please, consider helping out by donating to Sister Thea Bowman. When donating, you would not just be helping our school, but you would be helping every single student in it get the education they deserve.

Thank you, and God bless you, Zack Gillan Sister Thea Bowman Catholic School

> 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.

OCIA (Order of Christian Initiation of Adults): OCIA (formerly known as 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 OCIA. Get to know God better and find out what it means to be Catholic. Individuals will meet with our director of faith formation (Lizanne Young) to discuss the process. We meet as a group on Sundays (from Autumn through the Triduum just before 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 at the Parish Office, 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. *The initial course is now available online. Please contact Michelle at the Parish Office for directions. *The refresher course for 2024-2025 IS AVAILABLE ONLINE! Follow the link on our website! If you can't find it there, it is also on the Diocesan website at https://diobelle.safeenvironment.org/login/index.php. Not sure if you are compliant, or have additional questions? Contact Michelle 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. We Remember Edward & Mary Smugala Monday, September 23 8:05 a.m. Tuesday, September 24 8:05 a.m. We Remember Betty Lang Wednesday, September 25 8:05 a.m. We Remember Raymond & Loretta Mueller Thursday, September 26 8:05 a.m. We Remember Jenny Candler Friday, September 27 We Remember Earl Niermann 8:05 a.m. Saturday, September 28 5:00 p.m. We Remember Florence Ducat We Remember Delores Wenkel Sunday, September 29 7:00 a.m. We Remember Josh Ritter 9:00 a.m. 11:00 a.m. We Remember Ralph Herrmann

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 **Bill Kessler** Sandy Kirpatrick Darrell May Beth Johns Hope Weinhoff Mark Belt



Doug Mercille Brian Hirsh Don Day Brother John Ritter Mary Schroeder Roger Karsten Barbara Kendall Adam Brandt Shane Martin JoAnn Sander Jacob Nelson

Jroops 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.



September 22, 2024: First Reading: Wisdom 2:12, 17-20 Second Reading: James 3:16–4:3 Gospel: Mark 9:30-37



Our Sympathies ...

To Ray Schaffer and his family on the death of his wife Jeannine Schaffer, 88, of Columbia



Stewardship...

Thank you for sharing your blessings with us!

September 15, 2024		
Actual	\$	71,374.21
Budget	\$	23,700.00
Actual YTD	\$	444,722.55
Budget YTD	\$	453,625.00
Over (under)	\$	(8,902.45)
Prior YTD	\$	397,254.16
Over (under)	\$	47,468.39
*The above totals include online giving		
		through 9/15.
Guatemala	\$	715.00
Capital Improvements	\$	184.00
Cemetery Maintenance	\$	50.00
Sr. Thea Bowman	\$	105.00
SVDP	\$	55.00
Gibault	\$	350.00
Votive	\$	288.63
Retired Priests	\$	1,070.00
Phase 3	\$	8,392.66
CEAC	\$	780.77

Labor Day Picnic: Preliminary Gross Receipts: \$109,000.00



From Our Young Stewards Treasure: \$52:44 Time and Talent: Being good in the store; help my grandpa clean the basement; love all God's people.

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...

DIRECTOR OF MUSIC & LITURGY

IMMEDIATE OPENING: Immaculate Conception Parish seeks a Director of Music & Liturgy who will answer God's call to lead worship music and coordinate liturgical celebrations. This full-time position includes managing coverage for weekend and Holy Day Masses, up to three weekday Masses with school children, as well as funerals, weddings and special occasions (be present or delegate). The position calls for a love of God and Church, the ability to play and lead choirs and congregational music, a spirit of collaboration, independent judgement and initiative, and liturgical experience. The ideal candidate will be proficient on piano and organ, and a strong cantor. Salary commensurate with experience. To request a complete job description, contact Kara Dell-Hunt, parish business manager, at 618-281-5105 or email kdell-hunt@iccmail.org.

CAPITAL CAMPAIGN PHASE 3 UPDATE

Your generosity is at work enhancing Immaculate

Conception Parish in a truly amazing way. We have received responses from over 250 parish families with a total of \$2,800,000 pledged. We are getting close to reaching our goal of \$4,500,000. However, we need YOUR help. If you have not turned in your pledge card, please consider doing so today. The pledge card provides many ways to show your support.



GOAL: \$4,500,000

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!

PARISH WORK DAYS! October 12, November 9

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. PRETZEL AND DONUT SALES...

The next Pretzel & Donut weekend will be October 19 & 20. 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 23 Salt Lick hike (weather permitting), 5:30 p.m.
- October 7 Knights of Columbus Speaker Series, location TBD

OUR CAMPAIGN PRAYER

Heavenly Father, You have created us in Your own image, 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.

• 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 ...

We do not only exist by God's mighty power; we also live with him and beside him. This is why we adore him. (Laudato Si 72)

What can I do? Take a walk with God outside. Try to see how God looks at His creation. Get a close-up view of the various plants and critters.

THE 2024 CATHOLIC SERVICE AND MINISTRY APPEAL

Serve the Lord with gladness – Psalm 100

On behalf of Bishop Michael McGovern and diocesan ministries and programs, a most heartfelt thanks to all those who have already responded with a gift to The 2024 Catholic Service and Ministry Appeal. If you have not done so as of yet, there's still plenty of time. One-time donations or pledges – in any amount – are needed and can be made through your parish or at www.diobelle.org (click on "Giving to the Diocese"). Your generosity supports 17 agencies and programs that daily serve thousands of people. Please consider making your gift today or at any time you are able in the coming months. We also ask for your prayers for the success of this year's Appeal and all those we serve. Thank you and may God bless you always.

Piscipleship

Throughout history, the state of civil discourse waxes and wanes. Currently, it seems to be waning. As Christians, we are guided by the Word. "No foul language should come out of your mouths, but only such as is good for needed edification, that it may impart grace to those who hear." (Eph 4:29). "The babble of some people is like sword thrusts, but the tongue of the wise is healing. Truthful lips endure forever, the lying tongue, for only a moment. Deceit is in the heart of those who plot evil, but those who counsel peace have joy." (Prov 12:18-20)

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 began 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.

ICCCW NEWS:

BOXES OF JOY – We are still collecting items for the Boxes of Joy Program. You can donate items for a box (see box in Gathering space) and we will pack it, you can take a whole box to fill, or you can make a donation and we will do the shopping for you. Just drop your donation in the collection basket and mark it "Boxes of Joy." Items suggested are small toys, school supplies, bar soap, comb/brush, toothbrush and toothpaste, socks, chapstick, rosary, headbands and ponytail holders, etc...

UPCOMING IMPORTANT DATES:

Thursday, November 14, 2024 is our annual Bunko Night of Fun! We will also be drawing our Fall Raffle winners on this evening. More details to come.

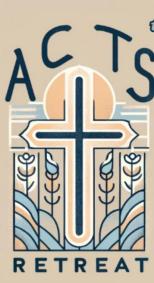
Thursday, December 5, 2024 – IC Council of Catholic Women Christmas Extravaganza.

Next meeting is **Thursday**, **October 3**, **2024** at 6:30 p.m. in the Garden Level. Come enjoy a fun evening with other ladies of the parish.



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.



StayConnected with the ACIS 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!



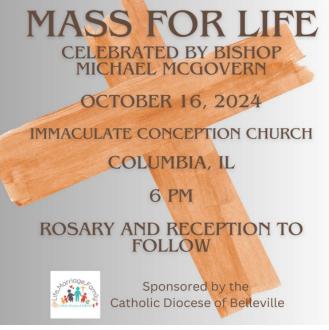
BEREAVEMENT MINISTRY

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.

SANCTITY OF LIFE





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.

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.

PRO-LIFE/PREGNANCYRESOURCES...

- Free and confidential pregnancy testing, counseling, and practical support: Life Network of Southern Illinois (in Waterloo & Red Bud) – 618-939-4224, mylifenet.org
- ~ Birthright Counseling STL (3 locations in St. Louis) birthrightstl.org



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: October 14, November 11



What's Happening at Gibault?

GIBAULT INVITES YOU TO ENCHANTED MASQUERADE OCTOBER 26, 2024 REGISTER ONLINE: WWW.GIBAULT2024.GIVESMART.COM

REGISTER ONLINE: WWW.GIBAULT2024.GIVESMART.CO FOR ANY QUESTIONS: (618)-939-3883

BEHIND EVERY MASK THERE IS A FACE & BEHIND EVERY FACE THERE IS A STORY



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.



Diocesan and Area Interests...

XLT ADORATION AT SS. PETER & PAUL, SEPTEMBER 25

Ss. Peter & Paul Parish invites everyone to join them at their church (in Waterloo) for the next XLT Adoration, Wednesday, September 25, from 7:00-8:00 p.m. This form of Adoration includes contemporary Christian music, Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, Eucharistic procession in church, reflection/witness talk on the Eucharist, a brief period of quiet Adoration, and Benediction.



Annual Diocesan Blessing of the Harvest Tuesday, September 24, 2024 1:00 PM Four Beck Dairy 9500 Bartelso Road Bartelso, IL 62218

Traveling Directions:

From the West: One heads East on Rt 161 for approximately 35 miles into Bartelso. Turn LEFT (heading North) onto Bartelso Road.

From the East:

From Salem Area: Take Rt 37 South for 7 miles. Turn RIGHT onto Rt 161 heading West for 28.8 miles. Turn RIGHT (heading North) on Bartelso Road.

From Carlyle Area: Take Rt 127 South for 6.4 miles. Turn RIGHT onto Rt 161 heading West for 6.3 miles. Turn RIGHT (heading North) on Bartelso Road. OR

Take Rt 127 South for 2.3 miles. Turn RIGHT onto Slant Road/County Hwy 1150 for 5.9 miles reaching Rt 161. Turn RIGHT onto Rt 161 heading West into Bartelso. Turn RIGHT (heading North) on Bartelso Road.

From the South:

From Pinckneyville Area: Take Rt 127 North for 32 miles to Rt 161. Turn LEFT onto Rt 161 into Bartelso. Turn RIGHT (heading North) on Bartelso Road.

"Farm Blessing" signs will guide you along the way. Those attending are invited to bring harvested grain, fruit, vegetables and garden produce in sealed, marked containers along with animals and farm machinery to be blessed.

You are encouraged to bring non-perishable food items to be donated to the local food pantry.

We look forward to having you join us!



Holy Mass at 12:00 with Bishop McGovern

12:30 Registration and Light Lunch

1-5 pm Speakers

5:30 pm Dinner and Presentations

Come for One Session or Both!

\$10 Afternoon I \$25 Dinner I \$30 for Both Ages 13-21 are \$10 for dinner 12 and under - dinner is free

Special Drury Inn, Shiloh, hotel rate, contact Molly King for info

ridge

Contact Molly King for more info mking@diobelle.org Register now w/QR code or at www.diobelle.org/respectlife



The Bach Society Concert Saturday, September 28, 2024, at 7:00 pm Cathedral of St. Peter, Belleville



Join The Bach Society of Saint Louis at the Cathedral of St. Peter and embark on a profound journey of light and hope with Rachmaninoff's Vespers. Immerse yourself in the sublime harmonies and soaring voices of The Bach Society Chorus under the direction of Music Director and Conductor A. Dennis Sparger. The concert features soloist's mezzosoprano Kelly Beekman and tenor Freddie Rice.

This is a free event sponsored by the Diocese of Belleville.



Honor your Loved Ones on **All Souls Day** With Your Personalized Tribute In The Messenger

Sample Tribute

Tributes will appear in our October 24th publication of The Messenger.



Please Print the name (s) of your deceased loved one (s) on the line (s) below. \$20 donation for each name.

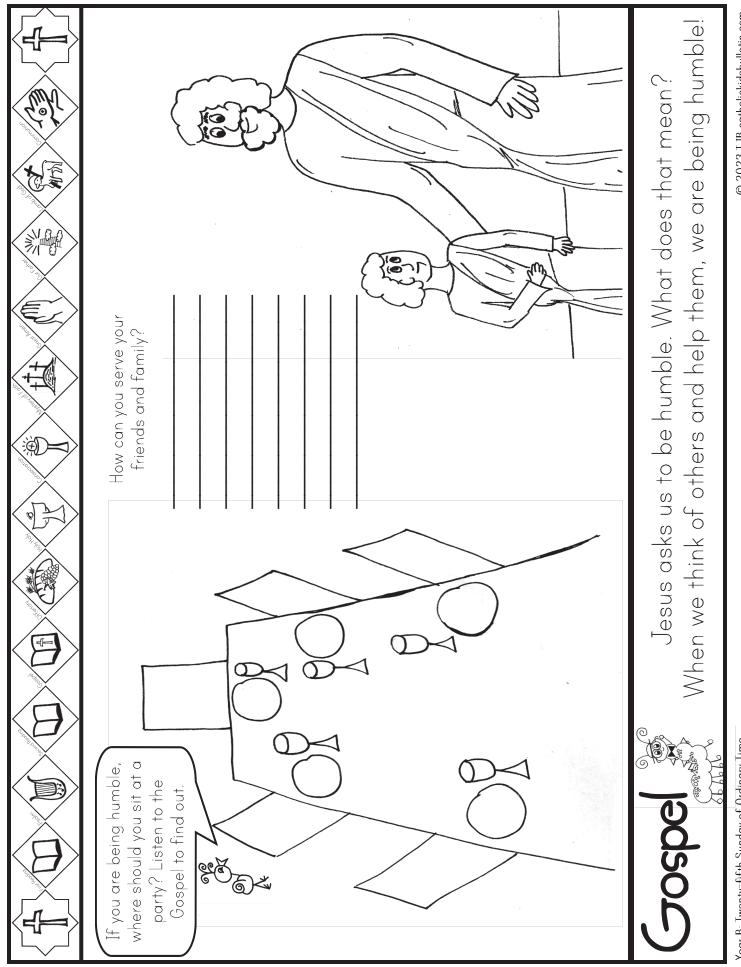
In Loving Memory of:____

In Loving Memory of:_____

In Loving Memory of:____

In Loving Memory of:____

Please return your All Souls Day Tributes to The Messenger by October 4, 2024. Please call 618-722-5047 with any questions. Submitting person's name: ____ ____ Phone #: _____



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Year B: Twenty-fifth Sunday of Ordinary Time





To Advertise here, call Dee Printing at 1-800-292-9020.

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

