



# Immaculate Conception

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

October 13, 2024

Twenty-eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time

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

## Walk to Remember



You are not alone. Twenty-three million babies are miscarried every year and mostly treated quietly after their demise. Many are without names, sex, or cause of death, but their memory lives on. Twenty-one thousand babies are stillborn averaging 1-175 births, usually from medical complications, and their memory lives on. If you have experienced a miscarriage, stillbirth, failed adoption, a SIDS death, lost foster or abortion, there is no need to grieve alone.

October is the month dedicated nationally in observance of pregnancy loss. On October 20th at 3:00 p.m., the Bereavement Ministry will host an opportunity for you to celebrate that child, talk about the loss (optional), pray, and walk in his/her memory. All of these tragedies result in shattered hopes and dreams in a welcoming family. If you have suffered any of these losses or are a part of a family that has, please join us. We will have a short prayer service which includes a .5 mile walk and candle lighting (rain or shine).

Come, remember, pray and walk in the memory of your child who lives in Heaven and still holds a deep place in your heart. Should you not be able to attend, please put the name of your child in the basket in the Gathering Space, and we will include him/her in our prayer service.

But Jesus said, "Let the little children come to me and do not hinder them, for the Kingdom of Heaven belongs to such as these." – Matthew 19:14

Please contact Kathy Fern at 618-719-1632 with any questions regarding the Walk to Remember or the Bereavement Ministry.

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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>

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## 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

**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, shoglesby@iccmil.org

**Secretary,**

**Michelle Muckensturm**

ext. 300, iccmil@iccmil.org

**Spiritual and Mental Health**

**Advocate, Shea Christensen**

ext. 352, schristensen@iccmil.org

**ICS Principal,**

**Dave Gregson**

281-5353, ext. 202

dgregson@iccmil.org

**Pastoral Council Chair,**

**Bill Simmons**

wsimmons85@yahoo.com

**School Board President,**

**Jolene Sasser**

boardpresident@iccmil.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@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. \*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.

Monday, October 14	8:05 a.m.	We Remember Uhrhan Family
Tuesday, October 15	8:05 a.m.	We Remember Bob Stadler
Wednesday, October 16	8:05 a.m.	We Remember Calvin Fries
Thursday, October 17	8:05 a.m.	We Remember Mary Osterhagen
Friday, October 18	8:05 a.m.	We Remember Babs Jackson
Saturday, October 19	5:00 p.m.	We Remember Ray & Velma Budde
Sunday, October 20	7:00 a.m.	We Remember Mac McKown
	9:00 a.m.	We Remember William & Genevieve Doerr
	11:00 a.m.	We Remember Edward & Mary Smugala



## *Please Pray For*

Danielle Dorlac	Special Intention	Jean Conrad	Hope Weinhoff
Donna Archambault-Kania	Liam Pugh	Jim Grau	Mark Belt
Arlin Stechmesser	Don & Shirley Mehrmann	Geri Griffin	Doug Mercille
Dakota Schutt	Dolores G.	Owen Kinane	Brian Hirsh
Janice McDermott	Elliana Cloin	Ken Breitenstein	Don Day
Delores Deleveski	Earl & Arlene Kruse	Wanda Schewe	Brother John Ritter
Brian Kreher	Mrs. Steele	Katie Schoellhorn	Mary Schroeder
Rich Sambo	The Kruse Family	Kristen Brewer	Roger Karsten
Catherine Sambo	Betty Schmieder	Kasen Greer	Barbara Kendall
Nicole Pennington	Lynn Naumann Casey	Bill Kessler	Adam Brandt
Bill Kutz	Ellen Dietz	Sandy Kirpatrick	Shane Martin
Chris Peel	Jamie Moravec	Darrell May	JoAnn Sander
Joan Thoma	Mary Lou Mees	Beth Johns	Jacob Nelson

*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.



## *Weekly Reflections*

*October 13, 2024:*

**First Reading:** Wisdom 7:7-11

**Second Reading:** Hebrews 4:12-13

**Gospel:** Mark 10:17-30



## *Our Sympathies...*

To Pamela Janson and her family on the death of her husband, Edward Janson, 84, of Columbia.



## Stewardship...

Thank you for sharing your blessings with us!

October 6, 2024

Actual	\$	66,996.34
Budget	\$	63,250.00
Actual YTD	\$	537,612.91
Budget YTD	\$	556,275.00
Over (under)	\$	(18,662.09)
Prior YTD	\$	545,211.91
Over (under)	\$	(7,599.00)

*\*The above totals include  
Online Giving through 9/30.*

Guatemala	\$	702.00
Capital Improvements	\$	449.00
Flowers	\$	10.00
Eugene Schorb Edu. Endowment Fund	\$	53.00
Gibault	\$	216.00
Votive	\$	169.75
Sr. Thea Bowman	\$	419.00
SVDP	\$	96.00
Retired Priests	\$	75.00
World Mission Sunday	\$	120.00
Phase 3	\$	29,170.90
CEAC	\$	1,005.00



### From Our Young Stewards

Treasure: \$9.15

Time and Talent: helped clean our camper;  
being nice to friends; cleaned my room.

## WHAT IS A 529 PLAN?

A 529 plan is an investment account that offers tax-free withdrawals and other benefits when used to pay for qualified educational expenses. You can use a 529 plan to pay for college, K-12 tuition, apprenticeship programs, and even student loan repayments. Any leftover funds can be used in different ways, including funding a Roth IRA. There are two primary 529 plans: education savings plans and prepaid tuition plans.

### Education Savings Plans

Also known as 529 college savings plans, these are tax-advantaged investment accounts that are designed for educational savings. They work much like a Roth 401(k) or Roth IRA by allowing you to invest your after-tax contributions in mutual funds or similar investments. 529 plans offer several investment options from which to choose. The 529 plan account will go up or down in value based on the performance of the investment options.

### Prepaid Tuition Plans

These plans let you prepay all or part of the costs of an in-state public college education. You may also convert them for use at private and out-of-state colleges. The Private College 529 Plan is a separate prepaid plan for private colleges sponsored by more than 250 private colleges. Educational institutions can offer a prepaid tuition plan but not a college savings plan.

### Tax Advantages of 529 Plans

529 plans offer federal tax benefits and may offer state tax benefits depending on the state where the account owner or person contributing to the plan lives. Earnings in your account accumulate tax-free. In other words, no income taxes are due on earnings as long as the money stays in your account. You will not have to pay federal income taxes on withdrawals as long as the money is used to pay for qualified educational expenses. In most cases, these withdrawals will also be exempt from state income taxes. Contributions to a 529 plan are not deductible for federal income tax purposes, however. Some families use 529 plans as an estate planning vehicle because contributions are considered completed gifts to the beneficiary. Up to \$18,000 per donor, per beneficiary, qualifies for the annual gift tax exclusion in 2024. Depending on where you live, you may also qualify for a state tax benefit. Over 30 states offer either state income tax deductions or state tax credits for 529 plan contributions. The tax benefit is typically available for residents who invest in their home state's 529 plan. However, many states offer a tax benefit for contributions to any state's 529 plan. These tax benefits make 529 plans more valuable for college savings than traditional savings or investment accounts.

For more information about 529 plans, contact your financial or tax advisor.

– Immaculate Conception Planned Giving Council

# Parish Events & News...

## CAPITAL CAMPAIGN PHASE 3 UPDATE

Exciting things happening! The Parish digital sign is up! Thank you to those of you who made this possible! Your Capital Campaign pledge money is making great things happen!



If you haven't made your pledge yet, please do so as soon as possible. You can turn it in to the Parish office or drop it in the offertory basket.

## 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!

## ICY



## BULLETIN DEADLINE

All submissions for the bulletin will need to be in to the Parish Office two Thursdays before you need it in the bulletin. Submissions will need to be sent to [iccmil@iccmil.org](mailto:iccmil@iccmil.org). If you have any questions, please call the Parish Office at 618-281-5105.



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

The next Pretzel & Donut weekend will be October 19 & 20. All proceeds go to the 8th graders' trip to Washington, D.C.

PARISH WORK DAYS! November 9, December 14

# Ministry News & Happenings

## 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.*

## 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.

- 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...*

Bring healing to our lives, that we may protect the world and not prey on it, that we may sow beauty, not pollution and destruction. Touch the hearts of those who look only for gain at the expense of the poor and the earth. (*Laudato Si* 246)

**What can I do?** Get an indoor plant for the winter. Admire the marvel of the colored leaves of the season in the woods, along the bluffs. Mulch or mow leaves in the yard instead of bagging them.

## ICCCW NEWS:

### 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.

## ANNUAL ST. VINCENT DE PAUL COAT & WINTER ITEMS DRIVE

The Drive will be held the weekend of October 19-20, 2024. All items of warm clothing and bedding will be accepted. Sizes of clothing range from infant to adult and bedding items include blankets, quilts, throws, pillows, and sheets. There is a particular need for adult men's jeans. Items collected will be distributed to St. Vincent de Paul Thrift Store and Overnight Shelter in East St. Louis. Questions: Carol or John Waide at 281-4186, or 619-910-1648. We appreciate your help.  
ICC St. Vincent de Paul Society

## THE 2024 CATHOLIC SERVICE AND MINISTRY APPEAL

*Serve the Lord with gladness – Psalm 100*

The homebound, sick and seniors living in the southernmost part of the state are assured they will have food to eat thanks to Daystar Community Program's mobile food pantry, which delivers groceries on a regular basis to those not able to visit Daystar's on-site food pantry. YOUR GIFT to The Catholic Service and Ministry Appeal makes Daystar's truly life-saving ministry possible. If you haven't already done so, please donate today and help Daystar to serve truly the poorest of the poor; they are counting on YOU!

## ACTS

**Stay Connected with  
the ACTS Community!**



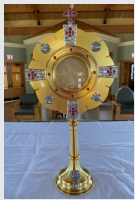
**Embrace the calmness and reconnect with the ACTS family. If you're not receiving emails from [acts@iccmail.org](mailto:acts@iccmail.org), you might be missing out! Update Your Info Now! If you're not on our mailing list, simply send us an email at [acts@iccmail.org](mailto:acts@iccmail.org) with your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

**SAVE THE DATES!**

**Upcoming ICC ACTS Retreats**

- WOMEN'S RETREAT OCT 17 - 20, 2024**
- MEN'S RETREAT JAN 23 - 26, 2025**
- WOMEN'S RETREAT APRIL 24 - 27, 2025**
- MEN'S RETREAT OCTOBER 16 - 19, 2025**





## 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.

## SANCTITY OF LIFE



## MASS FOR LIFE

CELEBRATED BY BISHOP  
MICHAEL MCGOVERN

OCTOBER 16, 2024

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION CHURCH

COLUMBIA, IL

6 PM

ROSARY AND RECEPTION TO FOLLOW



Sponsored by the  
Catholic Diocese of Belleville

## BEREAVEMENT MINISTRY

All members of a family, no matter what age, who have lost a loved one suffer from grief. From toddlers to adults, a death in the family creates a void where it was once filled. A wide range of emotions occur, and these emotions come and go over time. The grieving process can take years. Learn more about grief, its stages and effects, in this section in upcoming Sunday bulletins. Contact Kathy Fern at 618-719-1632, if you have any questions about our activities or the Bereavement Ministry.

### Upcoming events:

October 20th: Walk to Remember – 3:00 p.m.

November 2nd: All Souls Mass – 5:00 p.m.

## 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/PREGNANCY RESOURCES...

- ~ Free and confidential pregnancy testing, counseling, and practical support: Life Network of Southern Illinois (in Waterloo & Red Bud) – 618-939-4224, [mylifenet.org](http://mylifenet.org)
- ~ Birthright Counseling STL (3 locations in St. Louis) [birthrightstl.org](http://birthrightstl.org)
- ~ Free and confidential counseling for anyone hurt by abortion; Project Rachel, 618-722-5068, [hopeafterabortion.com](http://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, has an unborn baby diagnosed with “fetal abnormalities” or an “adverse prenatal diagnosis,” please refer to: [BeNotAfraid.net](http://BeNotAfraid.net) or [PrenatalPartnersforLife.org](http://PrenatalPartnersforLife.org). Both offer free parent-centered case management and parental support for parents carrying to term following a prenatal diagnosis. [Birthrightstl.org](http://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 Administrator: Beverly Epplin, ext. 200 ~ bepplin@icsmail.org

Administrative Assistant: Lori Deffenbaugh ~ ldeffenbaugh@icsmail.org

MISSION • COMMUNITY • SERVICE

Congrats to the 5th & 6th grade boys for finishing second in the diocesan championship.



Congrats to the 7th & 8th grade baseball team on finishing third in the Diocesan tournament.



Upcoming Parents and Friends Meetings:  
October 14, November 11

## FATHER'S CLUB



### 1/2 Hog Raffle

4 chances to win

Custom processing included by Wenneman Meat Co.

\$20 each, 3 for \$50, 7 for \$100

Drawing: **October 17th, 2024**

After Mass sales Oct. 12th and 13th

Proceeds support Immaculate Conception School

Tickets can also be purchased on-line via below QR code:



TRICK OR TRIVIA

## ICS TRIVIA NIGHT

OCTOBER 18TH 2024

Doors at 6 p.m., Trivia Starts at 7 p.m.

Immaculate Conception Garden Level  
409 Palmer Rd., Columbia IL

\$200 PER TABLE OF 10

MULLIGANS, GAMES AND RAFFLES FOR PURCHASE

OUTSIDE FOOD AND DRINK WELCOME

Halloween Costume Contest!

Questions?  
Contact Jackie Weaver at  
schmidjk@gmail.com





# 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>.



GIBAULT INVITES YOU TO  
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OCTOBER 26, 2024  
REGISTER ONLINE: [WWW.GIBAULT2024.GIVESMART.COM](http://WWW.GIBAULT2024.GIVESMART.COM)  
FOR ANY QUESTIONS: (618)-939-3883

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

## Diocesan and Area Interests...

DIocese OF BELLEVILLE

# RESPECT LIFE CONFERENCE

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 18, 2024  
ST. PETER'S CATHEDRAL UNDERCROFT  
BELLEVILLE, ILLINOIS

**EVERYONE IS INVITED!**

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 | \$25 Dinner | \$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

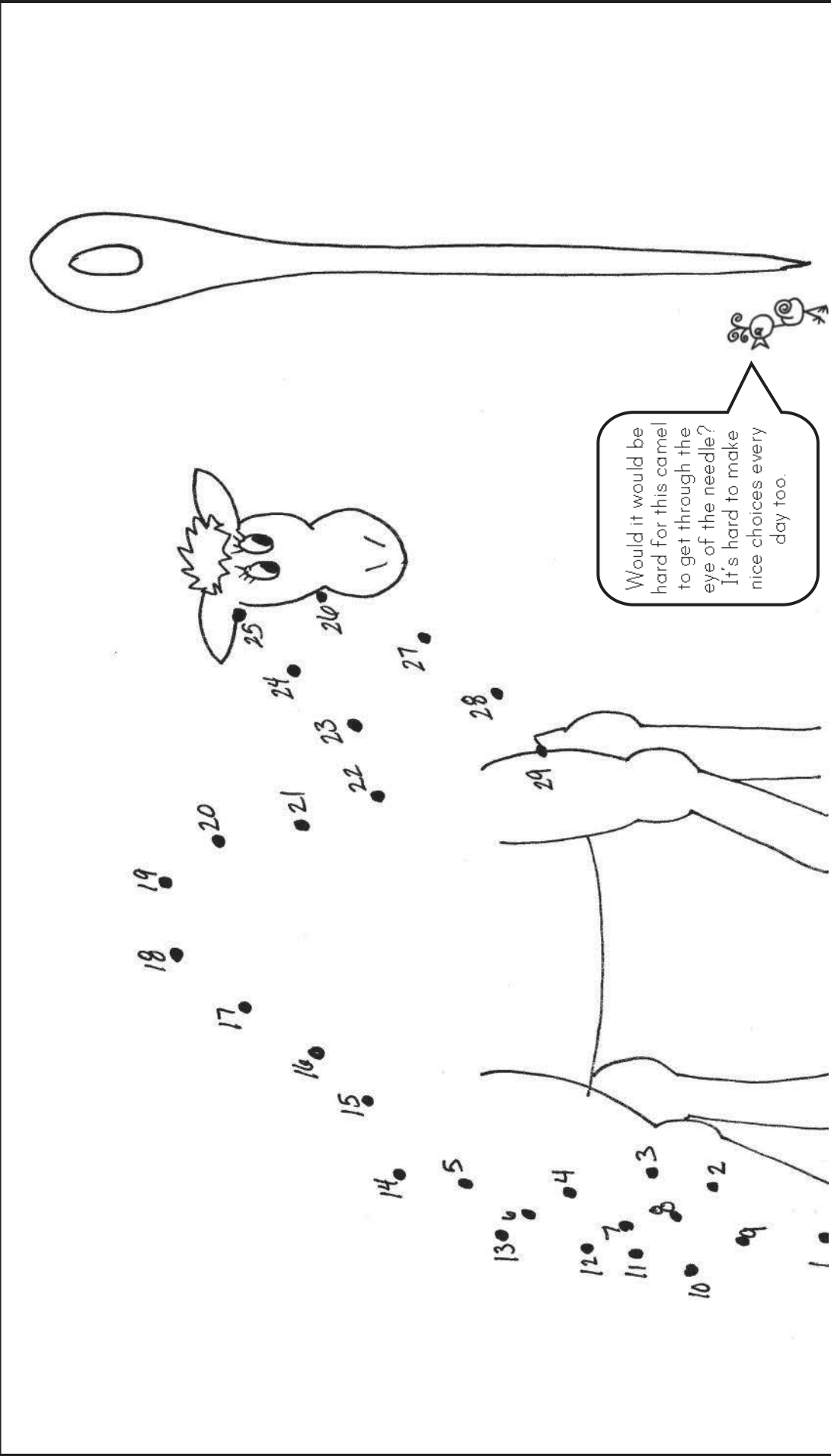
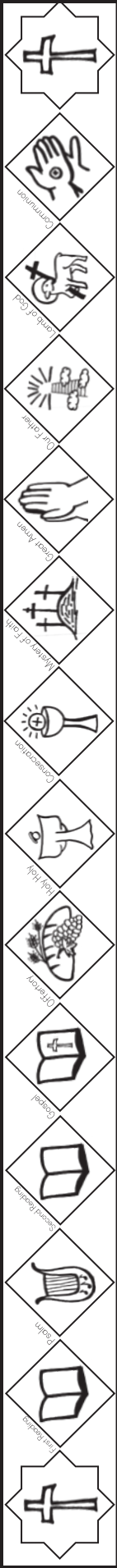
Contact Molly King for more info  
[mking@diobelle.org](mailto:mking@diobelle.org)  
Register now w/QR code or at  
[www.diobelle.org/respectlife](http://www.diobelle.org/respectlife)

## 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 [www.pchoirs.org](http://www.pchoirs.org).



# Gospel

A rich man asked Jesus how to get to Heaven. Jesus told him that he should sell his favorite things. Jesus said that it would be easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich man to get to heaven.



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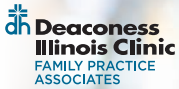


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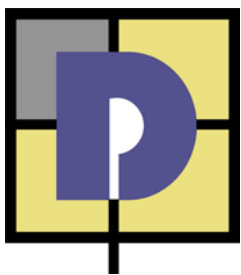
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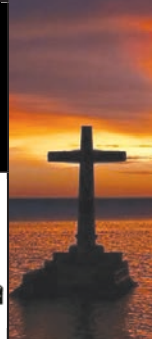
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