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 November 3, 2024 Thirty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time www.icc-columbia-il.us



Meet our New Director of Liturgy & Music

Born and raised a Catholic in St. Louis as the oldest of three children and the daughter of a liturgical musician, Theresa Flores has been a musician for most of her life. She graduated from the University of Missouri – St. Louis with a degree in Music Theory, which mostly makes her a big nerd. She studied theory with Dr. Zachary Cairns, voice with Dr. Leslie Allnatt Mallory, and choral conducting with Dr. Jim Henry, but she has been largely self-taught on the piano and organ. She was a Choral Scholar and cantor at the Cathedral Basilica of St. Louis for four years under the remarkable direction of Dr. Horst Buchholz. Her prior directorial work has been at St. Sabina Catholic Church in Florissant, MO, and St. Mary's Catholic Church in Alton, IL; she has been working as a cantor and accompanist around the Archdiocese of St. Louis since 2014 and the Diocese of Springfield (IL) since 2021.

Theresa's first liturgical music experience came from her mother, who has also been a parish director for many years. She cantored Mass for the first time at the age of six! She captained her high school and college choirs

as a section leader and won awards for her work with the music ministry and choral programs. Over the years, she has played/sung for many high school and youth group Masses, weekend parish Masses, funerals, weddings, school events, and everything in between. Currently, she also teaches music part-time at St. John Paul II Preparatory School, under a classical homeschool-hybrid program. When she isn't making music, she's likely found crocheting, cooking/baking, thrift shopping, or watching her favorite TV shows. Above all, she is a wife to Carlos (also a liturgical musician!), big sister to Dominic and Regina, and godmother to Evan, and they are her life's greatest joys.

Please help Immaculate Conception welcome our newest staff member! You may contact Theresa Flores at the Parish Office through tflores@iccmail.org or 618-281-5105, ext. 312.

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 Liturgy & Music, Theresa Flores ext. 312, tflores@iccmail.org

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, shoglesby@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, Jolene Sasser 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. Monday, November 4 8:05 a.m. We Remember Dean Erpenbach Tuesday, November 5 8:05 a.m. We Remember Betty Lang Wednesday, November 6 8:05 a.m. We Remember Holy Souls in Purgatory Thursday, November 7 8:05 a.m. We Remember Marlene Augustine Friday, November 8 8:05 a.m. We Remember Harold Stemler Saturday, November 9 5:00 p.m. We Remember Chester & Lillian Kopec Sunday, November 10 7:00 a.m. We Remember Loretta Weiler 9:00 a.m. We Remember Joanne Hoffman 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 Ellen Dietz Jamie Moravec Mary Lou Mees Jean Conrad Jim Grau Geri Griffin 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 Bob Beckert John Kirk

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

November 3, 2024: First Reading: Deuteronomy 6:2-6 Second Reading: Hebrews 7:23-28 Gospel: Mark 12:28b-34



| (| Stewardship | | |
|---|-------------|--|--|
| Thank you for sharing your blessings with us! | | | |
| | | | |

| October 27, 2024 | | | |
|----------------------|----|-------------|--|
| Actual | \$ | 10,071.06 | |
| Budget | | 22,250.00 | |
| Actual YTD | | 617,568.52 | |
| Budget YTD | | 664,275.00 | |
| Over (under) | | (46,706.48) | |
| Prior YTD | | 635,550.11 | |
| Over (under) | \$ | (17,981.59) | |
| Guatemala | \$ | 208.00 | |
| Capital Improvements | \$ | 10.00 | |
| Gibault | \$ | 180.00 | |
| Votive | \$ | 151.00 | |
| World Mission Sunday | | 560.00 | |
| Phase 3 | \$ | 16,508.50 | |



From Bur Young Stewards Treasure: \$7.50

Time and Talent: I cleaned my room; took the dog out; helped my mom and grandma make my halloween costume.

SAVE TAXES ON IRA REQUIRED MINIMUM DISTRIBUTIONS

Individuals subject to Required Minimum Distributions (RMD) from their Individual Retirement Accounts (IRA) have an opportunity to use the distributions for charitable giving instead of taking a taxable distribution.

If you are age 70 ½ or older, the IRS will allow you to distribute up to \$105,000 annually directly to qualified nonprofit organizations without incurring any taxable income. The benefit is known as the Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD).

A QCD is a direct transfer of funds from your IRA, payable to a qualified charity, like Immaculate Conception Church. QCDs can be counted toward satisfying your required minimum distribution (RMD) for the year, if certain rules are met.

Here are the requirements:

- You must be $70\frac{1}{2}$ or older to be eligible to make a QCD.
- QCDs are limited to the amount that would otherwise be taxed as ordinary income. This excludes non-deductible contributions.
- The maximum annual amount that can qualify for a QCD is \$105,000. This applies to the sum of QCDs made to one or more charities in a calendar year. (If, however, you file taxes jointly, your spouse can also make a QCD from his or her own IRA within the same tax year for up to \$105,000.)
- For a QCD to count towards your current year RMD, the funds must come out of your IRA by your RMD deadline, generally December 31.
- Any amount donated above your RMD does not count toward satisfying a future year
- The QCD must be paid directly from your IRA to the charity to qualify.

In addition to the benefits of giving to charity, a QCD excludes the amount donated from taxable income, unlike regular withdrawals from an IRA. Keeping your taxable income lower may reduce the impact to certain tax credits and deductions, including Social Security and Medicare.

Also, QCDs require that you itemize, which, due to the tax law changes means you may decide to take advantage of the higher standard deduction, but still use a QCD for charitable giving.

Funds distributed directly to you, the IRA owner, which you then give to charity do not qualify as a QCD.

There are some other tax rules that may also apply to your situation, so consult with a financial professional for more details about this strategy.

- 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.

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.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY

After serving as the Head of Funeral Lunches for many years, Judy Kinane wants to retire from her position. Since this is a service of the Council of Catholic Women, she asked that we find her replacement. Please prayerfully consider taking the lead on this wonderful service to our parish family. Judy would be happy to explain what is involved and what she and her crew are responsible for to put on a funeral lunch. Please call or text Lori Doerr at 618-210-5881 if you would like to know more.

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! November 9, December 14



D.C. PRETZEL AND DONUT SALES...

The next Pretzel & Donut weekend will be November 23 & 24. All proceeds go to the 8th graders' trip to Washington, D.C.

Ministry News & Happenings

Discipleship

There is a difference between clutching life to oneself and learning to let go of our selfishness so that we can go out and truly enjoy life. That's the way Jesus lived, that's the way Jesus died.

We were never meant to be a single candle, preserving the flame all to ourselves, as though we were the center of the universe. By itself, that one candle is not going to give much light. We are made to be part of a grand family called the *human race*. We are fulfilled and we grow when we come in contact with and reach toward and receive the love of other people. I was made to go outward, to be giving and loving, and not to go inward, to be greedy, grasping, selfish, alone and isolated. The flame of my candle is meant to join the flame of other people's lives. It's how I truly become "rich."

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.

Theology on Tap's Upcoming Events

- Monday, November 4 Bible Study on *The Call* of *Matthew* at 7:00 p.m. at Sunset Overlook
- Monday, November 18 Trivia Night at 7:00 p.m. at Sunset Overlook
- Tuesday, December 3 An Introduction to Adoration at 7:00 p.m. at ICC Gathering Space
- Monday, December 16 Theology on Tap Christmas Party at 7:00 p.m. at ICC Garden Level

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.

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...

Son of God, Jesus, through You all things were made. You were formed in the womb of Mary our Mother, You became part of this earth, and You gazed upon this world with human eyes. Today, You are alive in every creature in Your risen glory. Praise be to You! (*Laudato Si 246*)

What can I do? Many creatures ingest bits of plastic mistaking it for food. Tiny plastics make their way through the food chain and we, too, consume plastic. Let's refuse single-use plastics, like straws, store bags, water bottles, cutlery, and the like.

ICCCW NEWS: UPCOMING IMPORTANT DATES:

Thursday, November 14, 2024 is our annual Bunko Night of Fun!

Check In begins at 6:00 p.m.

Bunko starts at 7:00 p.m.

Cost is \$20.00

Includes wine, water, lemonade & coffee and a wonderful snack buffet.

You do not need to know how to play to come join us. All you need to know is how to roll dice! There are also cash prizes for different Bunko categories.

We will also be drawing our fall raffle winners on this evening.

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

SVDP

THANK YOU!!

We would like to thank you for your continued generosity to our Annual Winter Clothing, & Bedding Drive. We had a wonderful response again this year. Always keep this drive in your thoughts in the fall. Pat Hogrebe, from St. Vincent de Paul, Belleville, says our contributions are so needed! She is so pleased with our efforts here at ICC. (Men's winter shoes are urgently needed as the weather will be changing and tennis shoes do not cut it for the homeless. There is an urgency for men's jeans as well!) Your generosity is very heartwarming. May God bless you and keep you in His loving care!!

The St. Vincent de Paul Society

THE 2024 CATHOLIC SERVICE AND MINISTRY APPEAL

Serve the Lord with gladness – Psalm 100

The Catholic Service and Ministry Appeal Fund for Ministry provides funding to parishes, schools and organizations throughout our diocese for local projects. A total of 37 grants were awarded throughout our diocese in the past year. Help this popular program which funds local projects continue through your gift to this year's Catholic Service and Ministry Appeal.



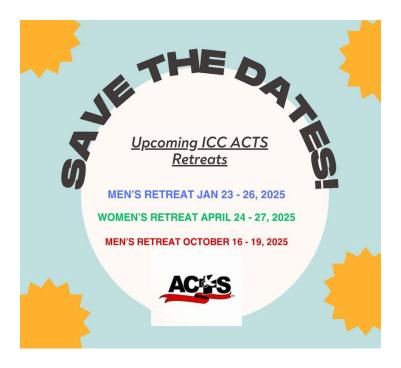
EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

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 theACISCommunity!

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!



SANCTITY OF LIFE

The ICC Sanctity of Life Group will be selling Christmas cards this weekend and next (November 9-10), after all Masses, to earn money for items that raise awareness for and promote the Sanctity of Life as well as to support our local crisis pregnancy care centers. The cards come in packages of 10 and are \$10.00 per package. Cash

preferred or a check written to Immaculate Conception Church. Christmas Cards will also be available for purchase in the Parish Office while supplies last. Thank you for your support!



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.

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, 618-719-1632, if you have any questions about our activities or the Bereavement Ministry.

QUILTERS' CORNER

Join our super fun quilters' group on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9:00-11:30 a.m. All skill levels welcome and appreciated, even beginners! Contact Carlene at 281-5877.

PRO-LIFE/PREGNANCY RESOURCES...

- Free and confidential pregnancy testing, counseling, and practical support: Life Network of Southern Illinois (in Waterloo & 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, hopeafter abortion.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 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 Administrator: Beverly Epplin, ext. 200 - bepplin@icsmail.org Administrative Assistant: Lori Deffenbaugh ~ ldeffenbaugh@icsmail.org

MISSION COMMUNITY SERVICE

Upcoming Parents and Friends Meetings: November 11, December 9



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.



Saturday, November 9, 2024

8 a.m. - 2 p.m. (1/2 price and bag sale after noon)

Donation drop-off at the front entrance:

Monday, November 4: 3 p.m. - 6 p.m. Tuesday, November 5: 8 a.m. - 6 p.m. Wednesday, November 6: 8 a.m. - 8 p.m. Thursday, November 7: 8 a.m. - 8 p.m.

> Early drop-offs by appointment only (call 618-719-9419 to schedule)

· We will be accepting clean donations of any kind. (Large furniture, exercise equipment, TVs, and computers will be accepted at our discretion.

· All items should be recently cleaned.

· Please try to have like items bagged together when dropping off donations in order to help our volunteers. (Ex: Men's small, Women's dresses XL, sheets (including sizes), knick-knacks, kitchen tools, baby boy (include sizes), etc.



Diocesan and Area Interests...

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.

DOES EVERYBODY GO TO HEAVEN?

A Reflection on "the life of the World to Come" The Most Reverend Edward K. Braxton, Ph.D., S.T.D. 2:00 p.n. Sunday, November 17, 2024 The Cathedral of St. Peter (In the Blessed Sacrament Chapel) 200 W. Harrison Street, Belleville

Bishop Braxton will explain the teachings of the Catholic Church about Heaven, Hell, Purgatory, and Limbo, as presented in The Catechism of the Catholic Church. He will also examine the prevailing secular, scientific world view that rejects the possibility of "life after death." He will clarify the difference between "the immortality of the human soul" and "the resurrection of the body" and explain why the Catholic Funeral Mass is correctly called "The Liturgy of Christian Burial" and not "The Mass of the Resurrection." The presentation will conclude with time for prayer in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament for family members and friends who have died.

ALL ARE WELCOME.



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>.



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

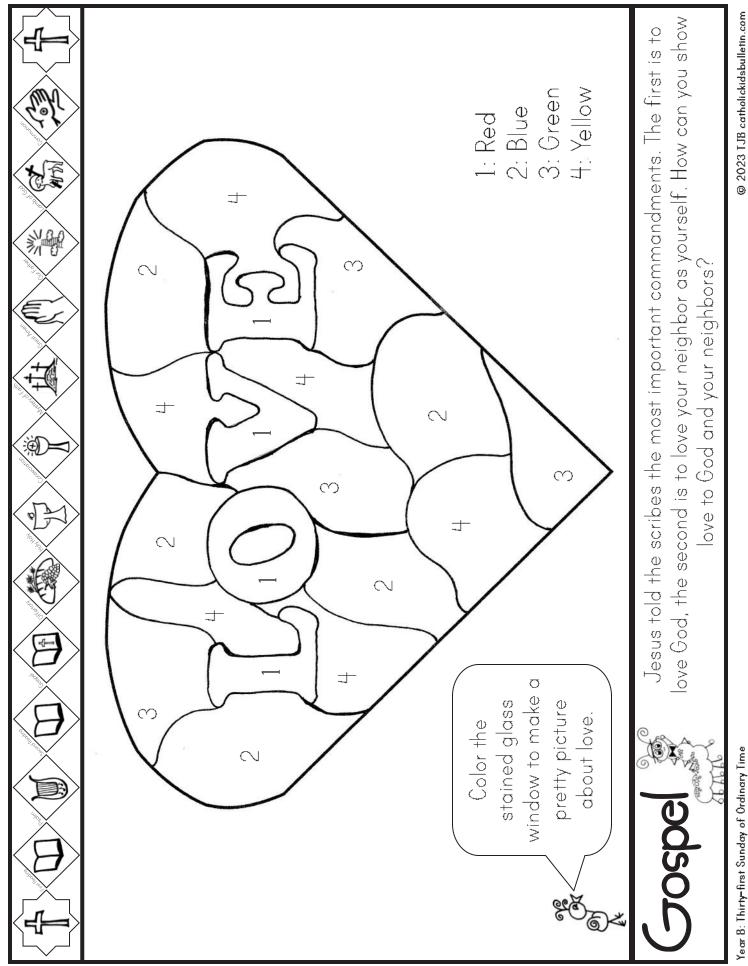
We are asking for summer clothing for boys sizes 2T-4T







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

