



# Immaculate Conception

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

February 9, 2025

Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

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

*In the sight  
of the angels I will  
sing your praises,  
Lord.  
- Psalm 138:1*

ROOTED IN THE GOSPEL OF CHRIST AND IN THE TRADITION OF CATHOLICISM AND UNDER THE PATRONAGE OF MARY IMMACULATE, WE COMMIT OURSELVES TO BE A WELCOMING COMMUNITY OF FAITH, WORSHIPPING WITH GENERATIONS OF BELIEVERS AND SERVING GOD IN ALL PEOPLE.

## *Welcome New Parishioners*

If you are new to our parish and reside within the parish boundaries, and would like to be members, please call the Parish Office at 618-281-5105, and our secretary will be happy to help make that happen!

Hola, Bienvenidos – a la iglesia Catolica en Immaculata Concepcion. ¡Que tengas una bendita semana!

We livestream! To participate, please use this link:  
<https://www.youtube.com/c/ImmaculateConceptionCatholicChurchColumbiaIL>

## Parish Office Hours

Monday-Friday  
8:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.

Phone: 618-281-5105

## Parish Staff

**Pastor, Fr. Steve Thoma, C.R.**  
ext. 358 or 805-670-3541  
frsteve@iccmil.org

**Business Manager,  
Kara Dell-Hunt**  
ext. 350, kdell-hunt@iccmil.org

**Director of Liturgy & Music,  
Theresa Flores**  
ext. 312, tflores@iccmil.org

**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,  
Tammy Hoefflinger**  
parishcouncil@iccmil.org

**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, February 10	8:05 a.m.	We Remember Mike Heller
Tuesday, February 11	8:05 a.m.	We Remember Bridgette Littmann
Wednesday, February 12	8:05 a.m.	We Remember Ruth Herrmann
Thursday, February 13	8:05 a.m.	We Remember Eugene Gilbreth
Friday, February 14	8:05 a.m.	We Remember Michael A. Conrad
Saturday, February 15	5:00 p.m.	We Remember Jesse, Rita, and Nicholetta Howell
Sunday, February 16	7:00 a.m.	We Remember Carl & Bernice Riebeling
	9:00 a.m.	We Remember Ray & Velma Budde
	11:00 a.m.	We Remember Ed Janson



## *Please Pray For*

Adam Brandt	Molly Blevins	Maryanne Klosterman	Harold Lutman
Shane Martin	Curtis Sievers	Margie Kolaz	Jackie Lutman
Jacob Nelson	Craig Greer	Barbara Kendall	Donna Archambault-Kania
Bob Beckert	Janet Michael	Patricia Gober	Shirley Friesz
John Kirk	Patricia Pulcher	Jim Grau	
Amanda Boitano	K. Myers	Delores G.	
Trace Ahrens	Jane Menner	Nicole Pennington	

*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 and call the Parish Office at 281-5105.



## *Weekly Reflections*

*February 9, 2025*

**First Reading:** Isaiah 6:1-2a, 3-8

**Second Reading:** First Corinthians 15:1-11

**Gospel:** Luke 5:1-11



## **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.*



## **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.

## Stewardship...

Thank you for sharing your blessings with us!

February 2, 2025

Actual	\$	60,893.98
Budget	\$	21,925.00
Actual YTD	\$	1,350,883.51
Budget YTD	\$	1,358,500.00
Over (under)	\$	(7,616.49)
Prior YTD	\$	1,290,064.88
Over (under)	\$	60,818.63

*\* The above totals include online giving through 1/31/2025.*

Guatemala	\$	948.00
Sr. Thea Bowman	\$	219.00
SVDP	\$	96.00
Votive	\$	139.80
Capital Improvements	\$	303.00
Gibault	\$	316.00
ICCCW Dues	\$	40.00
Phase 3	\$	7,758.60
CEAC	\$	695.00



### From Our Young Stewards

Treasure: \$2.80

Time and Talent: Being kind to my parents;  
I made my bed; Been nice to Maggie.

## PAYROLL TAX WITHHOLDING

As we start the new year 2025, it's time to consider reviewing your payroll tax withholding for the following:

- When the tax law changes
- When you have life changes:
  - Lifestyle – Marriage, divorce, birth or adoption of a child, home purchase, retirement, filing chapter 11 bankruptcy
  - Wage income – You or your spouse start or stop working or start or stop a second job
  - Taxable income not subject to withholding – Interest income, dividends, capital gains, self-employment income, IRA (including certain Roth IRA) distributions
  - Adjustments to income – IRA deduction, student loan interest deduction, alimony expense
  - Itemized deductions or tax credits – Medical expenses, taxes, interest expense, gifts to charity, dependent care expenses, education credit, child tax credit, earned income credit

### To Change Your Withholding:

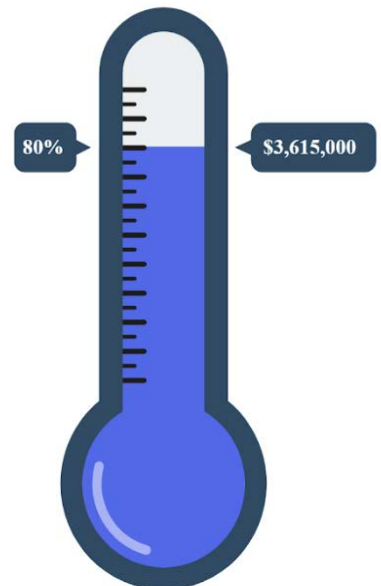
- Complete a new Form W-4, Employee's Withholding Allowance Certificate, and submit it to your employer.
- Complete a new Form W-4P, Withholding Certificate for Pension or Annuity Payments, and submit it to your payer
- Make an additional or estimated tax payment to the IRS before the end of the year.

– Immaculate Conception Planned Giving Council

## CAPITAL CAMPAIGN UPDATE

As we begin a new year, we are excited to provide this capital campaign update. We are currently at \$3,615,000 in pledges or 80.3% of our goal. 470 families have made a pledge, thus far. We are so close to the goal of \$4,500,000 thanks to the generosity of so many families. If you have not yet made your pledge, please consider doing so today. Through your generous contributions and prayers, we can make the campus enhancement phase a reality and ensure that Immaculate Conception Parish continues to grow strong into the future. Let's work together to make 2025 a year of growth, impact, and blessings!  
Thank you for your continued support and generosity!

**GOAL: \$4,500,000**



# Parish Events & News...

## BLOOD DRIVE

Next Blood Drive is Friday, March 7th in the Garden Level from 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Visit <https://www.redcrossblood.org/give.html/donation-time?dt=WB:PL:DR:PM&zipSponsor=62236>.

Are you a Catholic man looking to discern God's call in your life? Are you considering a vocation to religious life or the priesthood? Interested in learning more about the Congregation of the Resurrection and its way of life? Join Fr. Eric and Resurrectionists from the U.S. and Canada for a COME-AND-SEE WEEKEND. Presentations, discussions, prayer and discernment aim to foster greater awareness of God's call in your life. Food and accommodations are included, and travel assistance is provided as needed.



Join Fr. Eric Wagner, C.R., at Resurrection House St. Louis  
4252 W. Pine Blvd., St. Louis, MO 63108  
➔ RSVP to [vocationoffice.usa.cr@gmail.com](mailto:vocationoffice.usa.cr@gmail.com)



A weekend of prayer and discernment for Catholic men ages 18-35  
RESURRECTION VOCATION PROJECT

**COME-AND-SEE**

**WEEKEND**

March 14-16, 2025

RSVP by March 12

## CONGRATULATIONS TO THE COUPLES WHO ATTENDED PRE-CANA!



## 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 [iccmil@iccmil.org](mailto:iccmil@iccmil.org). If you have any questions, please call the Parish Office at 618-281-5105.

## PARISH WORK DAYS! March 8, April 12

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

The next Pretzel & Donut weekend will be February 15 and 16. All proceeds go to the 8th graders' trip to Washington, D.C.

# Ministry News & Happenings

## THE 2024 CATHOLIC SERVICE AND MINISTRY APPEAL

*Serve the Lord with gladness – Psalm 100*

The Society of St. Vincent de Paul truly serves the poorest of the poor through its Cosgrove's Soup Kitchen, SVDP Thrift Store, Help Center and Night Drop-in Center. Men, women and children are provided the basic necessities of life – food, clothing and shelter – and the hope and the tools they need for a better tomorrow. Help St. Vincent de Paul serve those who have no place else to turn. Please make your gift to The Catholic Service and Ministry Appeal today.



## Pope Francis Prays...

"The notion of the common good also extends to future generations." (Laudato Si #159)

**What can I do?** Ask yourself whether you think about how your actions today regarding use of our natural resources affect the lives of your children and grandchildren.

## 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.

- **February 10** – Trivia!
  - Prize for winner!
- **February 24** – Guest Speaker Sr. Mary Flick, CSJ on Ignatian Spirituality
- **March 9** – Family Gym Night at ICS, 4:00-6:00 p.m.
  - Open to all young adults (ages 18-35) with children
  - Come for fun games like Dodgeball, Spikeball, Cornhole and much more!
- **March 24** – Adoration & Board Games
  - Will attend Adoration at Immaculate Conception Church starting at 7:00 p.m., then head down to the Garden Level gathering space for board games and snacks

## 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!*

## ICY ODD SUNDAYS

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



## BEREAVEMENT MINISTRY

*In My Heart*

I thought of you today.  
But that is nothing new.  
I thought about you yesterday.  
And days before that too.  
I think of you in silence.  
I often speak your name.  
Now all I have are memories.  
And your picture in a frame.  
Your memory is my keepsake.  
With which I'll never part.  
God has you in his keeping.  
I have you in my heart.

*craftyahel*  
SVG PDF PNG & More

**SAVE THE DATES!**

Upcoming ICC ACTS Retreats

**MEN'S RETREAT JAN 23 - 26, 2025**

**WOMEN'S RETREAT APRIL 24 - 27, 2025**

**MEN'S RETREAT OCTOBER 16 - 19, 2025**

**ACTS**

## 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 Administrator: Beverly Epplin, ext. 200 ~ bepplin@icsmail.org

Administrative Assistant: Lori Deffenbaugh, ext. 201 ~ ldeffenbaugh@icsmail.org

MISSION • COMMUNITY • SERVICE



ICS PARENTS & FRIENDS PRESENTS:

## DERBY & DINNER

HORSES, HATS & HIGH BIDS

ICS DINNER AUCTION  
SATURDAY, FEB 22, 2025  
6:00 IN THE EVENING  
IMMACULATE CONCEPTION  
409 PALMER ROAD, COLUMBIA, IL

EARLY BIRD TICKETS ON SALE NOW  

7th Grade Golf Ball Drop has been rescheduled.  
Ticket sales continue.

Ticket \$10  
50/50 raffle

Proceeds benefit ICS 7th Grade trip to Space Camp

Come watch!  
9:00 am  
on **March 17th**  
at ICS



Upcoming Parents and Friends Meetings:  
February 10, March 10

## What's Happening at Gibault?



**GIBAULT CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL**

FOR 1-8 GRADE GIRLS

## GIBAULT SOCCER CAMP

FEBRUARY 1, 8, 15 & 22

9:00-10:00AM: 1-4 GRADE  
10:00-11:00AM: 5-8 GRADE  
FR. ED HUSTEDDE GYMNASIUM @ GCHS

**REGISTER HERE** 

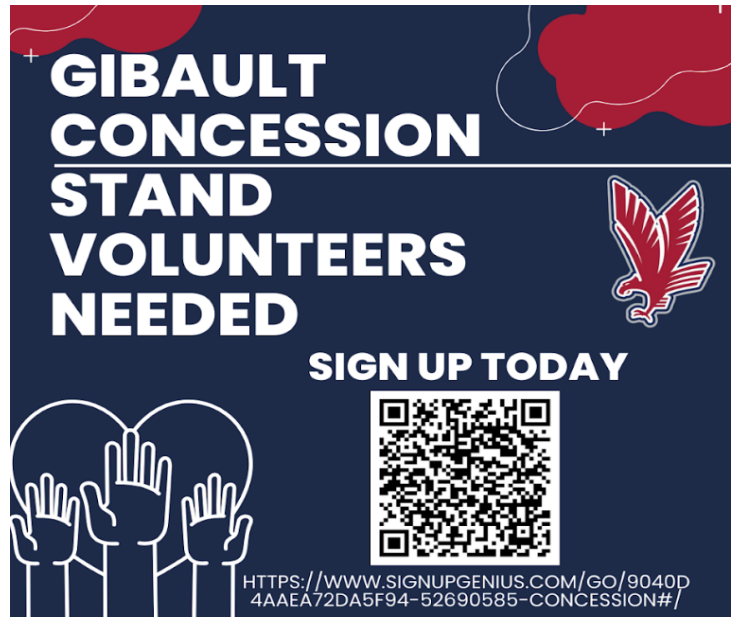
\$60 for 4 SATURDAYS  
CAMP T-SHIRT INCLUDED

WHAT TO EXPECT:

- TRAIN W/ HIGH SCHOOLERS & HEAD COACH
- TECHNICAL TRAINING
- FRIENDLY COMPETITION GAMES
- SPEED & AGILITY



TENNIS OR TURF SHOES  
NO SOCCER CLEATS

<https://gfn.us/form/0tc3EA>



## GIBAULT CONCESSION STAND VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

**SIGN UP TODAY**

[HTTPS://WWW.SIGNUPGENIUS.COM/GO/9040D4AAEA72DA5F94-52690585-CONCESSION#/](https://www.signupgenius.com/go/9040D4AAEA72DA5F94-52690585-CONCESSION#/)

# Diocesan and Area Interests...

## ILLINOIS PRO-LIFE MARCH



Join the Diocese of Belleville at the Illinois Pro-Life March in Springfield, Illinois, on Tuesday, March 25, 2025!

The day will include Mass with Bishop Michael McGovern as homilist, followed by the Rally and March around the Illinois State Capitol building.

Parishes, schools, & individuals are encouraged to attend!

Registration coming soon!

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT [MKING@DIOBELLE.ORG](mailto:MKING@DIOBELLE.ORG)



Looking to explore God's call in your life? Considering priesthood or religious life? Join Fr. Eric to discuss and discern your vocation over a light meal in a relaxed, household setting.



Join Fr. Eric Wagner, C.R., at Resurrection House St. Louis  
4252 W. Pine Blvd., St. Louis, MO 63108  
➔ RSVP to [vocationoffice.usa.cr@gmail.com](mailto:vocationoffice.usa.cr@gmail.com)



An opportunity for discerning Catholics, ages 18-35  
RESURRECTION VOCATION PROJECT

**DISCERNER DINNERS & DISCUSSIONS**

Fridays from 6:30-8:30pm

February 7, 14, 21, 28,

May 2, 9, 16

RSVP no later than noon that day

Diocese Of Belleville  
Young Adult  
Community

## Holy Hour Happy Hour

Third Thursdays 6 p.m.  
January 16, February 20, March 20

Cathedral of St. Peter  
200 W. Harrison St.  
Belleville, Il

Adoration Followed by Fellowship and a Few Beers

Ages 21-35

## 2025 ST. LOUIS METROPOLITAN YOUTH CHORAL FESTIVAL & MASS

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

AMERICAN FEDERATION  
PUERI CANTORES

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.pcchoirs.org](http://www.pcchoirs.org).



## DOCTORS OPPOSE ASSISTED SUICIDE

The American Medical Association (AMA), American Psychiatric Association, and dozens of other medical groups oppose assisted suicide. The AMA says “Physician-assisted suicide is fundamentally incompatible with the physician’s role as healer.” Physicians are entrusted with saving lives, not ending them, and assisted suicide violates the Hippocratic Oath. Tell your state legislators to Vote NO on SB 3499 – assisted suicide. Visit [www.ilcatholic.org](http://www.ilcatholic.org) for additional information and resources.

### 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](http://www.usccb.org/home-missions).



### ST. VINCENT DE PAUL NEEDS COATS!

Cold winter weather has definitely arrived and the Society of St. Vincent de Paul Belleville Council desperately needs coats to distribute to those in need. Gently-used or new coats of all types in all sizes for all ages – toddlers, children, teens and adults (men and women) are being requested. Items can be dropped off at the St. Vincent de Paul office located at 8800 West Main Street, Belleville, across from Blessed Sacrament Church, or call Joe Hubbard or Pat Hogrebe at 618-394-0126 for additional information. Warm your heart by keeping someone warm and donate a coat today! Thank you very much.

*“Virgin of Guadalupe, Patroness of unborn children, we implore your intercession for every child at risk of abortion. ... Guide our public officials to defend each and every human life through just laws. Inspire us all to bring our faith into public life, to speak for those who have no voice. We ask this in the name of your Son, Jesus Christ, who is Love and Mercy itself. Amen.”*

*USCCB Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities, “A Prayer to Our Lady of Guadalupe”*

*“Virgen de Guadalupe, patrona de los niños en el vientre materno, te imploramos tu intercesión por cada niño en peligro de ser abortado. ... Guía a nuestros funcionarios públicos a defender cada vida humana mediante leyes justas. Inspíranos a todos a traer nuestra fe a la vida pública, para hablar por aquellos que no tienen voz. Te lo pedimos en el nombre de tu Niño, Jesucristo, quién es Amor y Piedad. Amén.”*

*USCCB Secretariado de Actividades Pro-Vida, “Oración a Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe”*



Jesus said, "From now on you will be..."

15.                      16.                      17.



Simon caught so many fish that his boat almost sank. Draw more fish in the net.

14.

3    1    20    3    8    9    14    7

13    5    14

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

# Gospel

Jesus told Simon to lower his nets one more time after a night of unsuccessful fishing. Simon caught so many fish that they almost sank!  
It was a miracle!



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Parishioners



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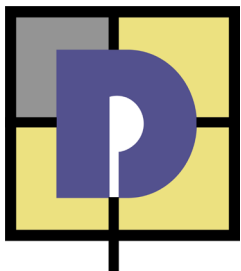
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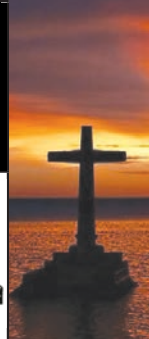
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