EASTER 2025

# He is Risen!

"Then the other disciple also went in, the one who had arrived at the tomb first, and he saw and believed."

JOHN 20:8

## Immaculate Conception Church

411 PALMER ROAD, COLUMBIA, IL 62236 618-281-5105 • WWW.ICC-COLUMBIA-IL.US



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

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IC-PSR Coordinator, Rebecca Husman ext. 353, rhusman@iccmail.org

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281-5353, ext. 202
dgregson@icsmail.org

Pastoral Council Chair, Tammy Hoeflinger parishcouncil@iccmail.org

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, April 21 8:05 a.m. We Remember Mary Catherine Winkler

Tuesday, April 22 8:05 a.m. We Remember Michael Conrad Wednesday, April 23 8:05 a.m. We Remember Eugene Gilbreth Thursday, April 24 8:05 a.m. We Remember Betty Lang

Friday, April 25 8:05 a.m. We Remember Joanne Hoffman Saturday, April 26 5:00 p.m. We Remember Michael Conrad Sunday, April 27 7:00 a.m. We Remember Loretta Weiler

9:00 a.m. We Remember Margie Pautler 11:00 a.m. We Remember Babs Jackson



### Please Pray For

Adam Brandt Maryanne Klosterman Harold Lutman Molly Blevins Shane Martin Curtis Sievers Barbara Kendall **Jackie Lutman Iacob** Nelson Craig Greer Patricia Gober Donna Archambault-Kania **Bob Beckert** Janet Michael Iim Grau Elsa Wiemerslage Amanda Boitano Patricia Pulcher Dolores G. John Stonis Pedro Acevedo 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; Dustin Crawford, US Army

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.



April 20, 2025

First Reading: Acts 10:34a, 37-43 Second Reading: Colossians 3:1-4

Gospel: John 20:1-9

### Our Sympathies...

To Lizanne Young and her family on the death of her father, Frank Klaverkamp, 88, of St. Louis.



### **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.



### 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.

### Stewardship...

Thank you for sharing your blessings with us!

| April 13, 2025           |    |              |
|--------------------------|----|--------------|
| Actual                   | \$ | 20,487.95    |
| Budget                   | \$ | 30,450.00    |
| Actual YTD               | \$ | 1,689,926.25 |
| Budget YTD               | \$ | 1,635,450.00 |
| Over (under)             | \$ | 54,476.25    |
| Prior YTD                | \$ | 1,760,068.26 |
| Over (under)             | \$ | (70,142.01)  |
|                          | 4  | 2.5/2.22     |
| Guatemala                | \$ | 3,649.00     |
| SVDP                     | \$ | 355.00       |
| Votive                   | \$ | 177.00       |
| Catholic Home Missions   | \$ | 145.00       |
| Holy Land                | \$ | 260.00       |
| Catholic Relief Services | \$ | 85.00        |
| Sr. Thea Bowman          | \$ | 545.00       |
| Cemetery Maintenance     | \$ | 25.00        |
| Eugene Schorb Eduation   |    |              |
| Endowment Fund           | \$ | 153.00       |
| Capital Improvements     | \$ | 435.00       |
| Gibault                  | \$ | 140.00       |
| Phase 3                  | \$ | 8,530.00     |
| CEAC                     | \$ | 165.00       |

<sup>\*</sup> The above totals include online giving through 4/13/2025



From Bur Young Stewards

Treasure: \$3.89

Time and Talent: I put my clothes away; I cleaned the floors; I made my mom a painting.

### CONSIDER BUNCHING ITEMIZED DEDUCTIONS

Depending on your tax situation, bunching several years' worth of charitable gifts into a single tax year may be a great way to increase the tax benefit of your charitable dollars.

Consider the following hypothetical example: John and Jane Smith are both age 65 and contribute \$15,000.00 to their parish on an annual basis. Besides their charitable contributions, their only other itemized deductions include (a) \$10,000.00 of state and local taxes paid and (b) \$2,000.00 of mortgage interest. This brings their total itemized deductions to \$27,000.00. Since John and Jane are both age 65, their standard deduction in 2025 is \$30,000.00. Because the standard deduction exceeds their total itemized deductions, they will take the standard deduction on their 2025 federal income tax return. Effectively, this means their \$15,000.00 charitable contribution did nothing to help reduce their taxable income. Rather than contributing \$15,000.00 to the parish every year, John and Jane decide to contribute four years' worth of charitable gifts (\$60,000.00) in 2025. By doing so, they will be entitled to a \$60,000.00 charitable deduction in the current year bringing their total itemized deductions in 2025 up to \$72,000.00 (\$60,000.00 + \$10,000.00 + \$2,000.00). They will then take the standard deduction in the following three years, if available.

To learn more about bunching donations and to determine whether this strategy is appropriate for you, you should discuss your situation with your financial advisor, attorney, and tax advisor.

NOTE: Assumes deductibility of taxpayers' charitable contributions is not subject to adjusted gross income limitations.

- Immaculate Conception Planned Giving Council

### CAPITAL CAMPAIGN UPDATE

Immaculate Conception's sign is up, and it looks great! The plans for the rosary walk are coming into focus. The athletic field and pavilion are moving toward a ground breaking! Immaculate Conception's phase 3 and capital campaign are moving forward. If you are interested in an update on both, please join Fr. Steve after the 11:00 Mass on Sunday, April 6 for a town hall.

Where we are, and what can we hope for moving forward will be shared. Please come to share in the good news as we move forward with both important projects for our parish. The meeting will take less than thirty minutes, so there will be time for questions as well. Please mark your calendar for this important update, and plan to attend.

## Parish Events & News...

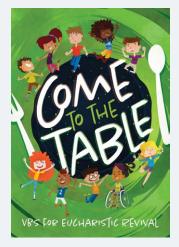


#### OCIA

#### Welcome to Full Communion

At the Easter Vigil, we celebrate those who complete their Sacraments of Initiation, pictured here after the Rite of the Call to Continuing Conversion at the Cathedral of St. Peter in Belleville. We give thanks for the faith and perseverance of:

Adam Battaglia, Amanda Buhr, Nathan Williamson, Molly Williamson, Shelly Green, and Sandra Evans.



### VBS VOLUNTEER REGISTRATION!

We are getting ready for an amazing VBS summer. If you would like to volunteer, please go to the ICC website and fill out the Volunteer form. VBS is July 28th to August 1st, with setup on the 27th. It will be from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m., except setup which will be Sunday evening. Please pray about it; we would love to have you join us. Questions? Contact Rebecca Husman at rhusman@iccmail.org. Thank you for all that you do!

### 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!

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

The next Pretzel and Donut weekend for the incoming 8th graders will be April 26 & 27. All proceeds go to the 8th graders' trip to Washington D.C.

## SAVE 岩 DATE THE NIGHT OF APRIL 26-27, 2025



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CANONIZATION
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DETAILS TO

#### **BLOOD DRIVE**

May 9th in the Garden Level 8:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

#### LENTEN PRAYER CARDS

Thank you for your Lenten prayer card prayers! Please put completed prayer cards in the purple box in the Gathering Space so they can be distributed to the recipients of your prayers.

#### 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.

#### PARISH WORK DAY!

June 14

## Ministry News & Happenings

### 2025 CATHOLIC SERVICE AND MINISTRY APPEAL

Hope in the Lord

Easter Blessings! We pray that God may bless you and your loved ones with the peace, the hope and the love that the Lord gave to us all through the Resurrection of Jesus.

- Bishop Michael McGovern and the Ministries and Agencies Funded by The Catholic Service and Ministry Appeal

### GAME NIGHT AT BRIA

The Knights of Columbus will be hosting a monthly game night for residents at the Bria Nursing Home and we would



like to invite all parishioners to join us in hosting these events. Five or six volunteers is ideal each evening, and this opportunity is great for a group of friends, families with older children, and anyone needing service hours (Confirmation candidates or high school students). The game night will be held on the 2nd Wednesday of each month beginning on May 14th. We will play Card Lotto and assist the residents as needed.

If you are interested in helping, please notify Dennis Meier using the email address meierdennis@sbcglobal.net and he will provide you with the details and put you on the schedule.

#### **ICY ODD SUNDAYS**

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



### **ICCCW NEWS:**

Please join the ladies of CCW for our May dinner meeting and installation of officers. CCW will be providing the meat. All those attending are asked to bring a side dish. Please RSVP by May 4th to Kathy Ritter at 618-719-6819.

This will be our last meeting until August 7, 2025.

### **PUBLIC ROSARY**

Saturday, May 10, 2025 12:00 noon

The Immaculate Conception Council of Catholic Women invites you to join them in praying the Holy Rosary for peace in our world on Saturday, May 10, 2025, at 12:00 noon, by the fountain in front of Columbia City Hall.

All are welcome and encouraged to join in this powerful 30-minute prayer event.



### Pope Francis Prays...

The human environment and the natural environment deteriorate together; we cannot adequately combat environmental degradation unless we attend to causes related to human social degradation." (Laudato Si #48)

What can I do? Consider the fighting in Ukraine and Gaza. Other than the obvious destruction of buildings and farm land, list three specific ways in which these wars are contributing to the degradation of the natural environment.

#### **SVDP**

#### St. Vincent de Paul News

This is the first installment of an occasional SVdP update to let you know how your donations are helping neighbors in need. We will share highlights of the work we've done over the previous few months, including a brief profile of one of our clients who will be identified as "X" to maintain confidentiality.

Neighbor in Need: Mr. X had a very serious car accident which has left him unable to work. He has undergone multiple surgeries and there are more to come. Mrs. X cannot work outside the home as her husband needs continuous care. There are grade school age children in the home as well. Your donations provided help with a utility bill and food as well as Christmas gifts. Their needs are ongoing and they hope to make ends meet through a combination of support services and family. Mr. and Mrs. X are most appreciative of the help they have received from SVdP.

January through March: How your donations were dispersed....

\$2,400.00 in utility assistance

\$1,400.00 in housing expenses

Additional assistance for food, sundries and gas.

12 households received the help listed above.

SVdP members visited Bria for the monthly Bingo night and for the weekly Monday morning Rosary.

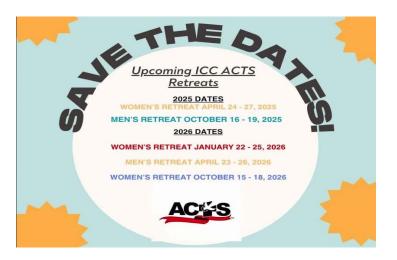
If you know someone in need of help, please share our SVdP Hotline number: 618-280-8041.

### **KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS**



### **ACTS**





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



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### 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

### **SANCTITY OF LIFE**

Next weekend the Sanctity of Life Committee will be collecting signatures for the annual Monroe Country Right to Life. The ad will appear in the Waterloo Republic-Times on the Wednesday before Mother's Day. A \$5.00 per line donation is suggested. You may also mail in your signature and donation. Please consider showing your support for the right to life. Monroe County Right to Life – 521 S. Church Street, Waterloo, IL 62298.

### **BEREAVEMENT MINISTRY**

Upcoming Memorial Events held at ICC – All are welcome!

May 18, 12:30 p.m. – Remembrance Memorial (Veterans, Fathers, Mothers)

October 19, 3:00 p.m. – Walk to Remember (Babies lost to Miscarriage, Stillbirth, SIDS, Lost Adoptions, Abortion) November 2, 11:00 a.m. Mass – Annual Candle lighting Remembrance for Parishioners.

#### 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.



### 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

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Upcoming Parents and Friends Meeting: May 12



The 1st graders had a great time at the Science Center on Friday.



Over \$1000 in cash prizes!

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## What's Happening at Gibault?







## Diocesan and Area Interests...

### EASTER SUNDAY 2025 RESPECT LIFE CORNER

"Like us, Christ entered the world through the womb of a woman. He willingly experienced the fullness of human suffering. He breathed his last on the Cross at Calvary in order that He might save us. Therefore, 'God is the foundation of hope: not any god, but the God who has a human face and who has loved us to the end." (Spe salvi 31) USCCB Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities "Respect Life Reflection: Christ Our Hope in Every Season of Life" (citing Pope Benedict XVI, Spe salvi © 2007, Libreria Editrice Vaticana. Used with permission. All rights reserved.)

"Tal como nosotros, Cristo entró en el mundo por mediación del vientre de una mujer. Él voluntariamente asumió la plenitud del sufrimiento humano. Exhaló su último suspiro en la cruz del Calvario para poder salvarnos. Por lo tanto; Dios es el fundamento de la esperanza; pero no cualquier dios, sino el Dios que tiene un rostro humano y que nos ha amado hasta el extremo (Spe salvi 31)."

USCCB Secretariado de Actividades Pro-Vida "Reflexión Respetemos la Vida: Cristo nuestra esperanza: en cada etapa de la vida" (Citando al Papa Benedicto XVI, Spe salvi © 2007, Libreria Editrice Vaticana. Se utiliza con permiso. Todos los derechos reservados.)

### HOLY YEAR ROME PILGRIMAGE WITH BISHOP MICHAEL MCGOVERN

At Christmas our Holy Father, Pope Francis opened the Holy Year, inviting Catholics from around the world to be Pilgrims of Hope. Although the Holy Father has called Bishop McGovern to serve as Archbishop of Omaha, he plans to lead a pilgrimage from Belleville to Rome beginning August 31 until September 10, 2025. This is a wonderful opportunity to travel to the Eternal City and pray at the tombs of the Apostles St. Peter and St. Paul, as well as pass through the Holy Door in the four major basilicas of the city.

The pilgrimage will include the opportunity for Mass and visits to the various churches and shrines in Rome. With the help of a professional guide, the group will visit some of the major sites of Rome, Ostia Antica, the Benedictine monastery in the beautiful town of Subiaco as well as a visit to Castel Gandolfo.

For more information, please contact Judy Hoffmann at jhoffmann@diobelle.org or 618-722-5003. Brochures are available in the back of church. Deadline to sign up for the pilgrimage is May 15, 2025.

#### VOCATION

"My desire to become a priest began when I received my first holy Communion. In that moment, I had a profound understanding that Jesus was truly present in the Eucharist and that it was the priest who makes Him present in the Mass. Serving at Mass as a child drew me even further into the mystery of the sacred liturgy. It is an otherworldly experience, as it should be; it is the most extraordinary thing that ever happens on earth! St. John Vianney said of the Mass, "Martyrdom is nothing in comparison, for it is but the sacrifice of man to God; but the Mass is the sacrifice of God for man." Those words, which I came across in seminary, changed how I saw the liturgy. I have taken them to heart since my ordinations more than 15 years ago. As a priest, I stand in a special way with Mary and John at the foot of the cross every time I celebrate Mass. I feel so unworthy, but blessed, that God called me to the priesthood."

Fr. Sean Danda; Archdiocese of Indianapolis; Columbia Magazine Jul/Aug 2024

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Year C: Solemnity of Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord

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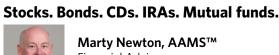


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