



Alleluia

EASTER 2025

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION CHURCH

411 Palmer Road, Columbia, IL 62236
618-281-5105 • www.icc-columbia-il.us

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

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IC-PSR Coordinator,
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Bookkeeper,
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ICS Principal,
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Pastoral Council Chair,
Tammy Hoefflinger
parishcouncil@iccmil.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@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, April 28	8:05 a.m.	We Remember Mike Markus
Tuesday, April 29	8:05 a.m.	We Remember Josh Ritter
Wednesday, April 30	8:05 a.m.	Special Intention: Mehig Family
Thursday, May 1	8:05 a.m.	We Remember Harold Netemeyer
Friday, May 2	8:05 a.m.	We Remember Bill Kutz
Saturday, May 3	5:00 p.m.	We Remember Michael Conrad
Sunday, May 4	7:00 a.m.	We Remember Carl & Bernice Riebeling
	9:00 a.m.	We Remember Elsie Herrmann
	11:00 a.m.	We Remember Ed Janson



Please Pray For

Adam Brandt	Curtis Sievers	Patricia Gober	Elsa Wiemerslage
Shane Martin	Craig Greer	Jim Grau	John Stonis
Jacob Nelson	Janet Michael	Dolores G.	Pedro Acevedo
Bob Beckert	Patricia Pulcher	Nicole Pennington	Taylor Cygan
Amanda Boitano	Jane Menner	Harold Lutman	
Trace Ahrens	Maryanne Klosterman	Jackie Lutman	
Molly Blevins	Barbara Kendall	Donna Archambault-Kania	

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.



Weekly Reflections

April 27, 2025

First Reading: Acts 5:12-16

Second Reading: Revelation 1:9-11a, 12-13, 17-19

Gospel: John 20:19-31



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!

April 20, 2025

Not available at time of printing



From Our Young Stewards

Not available at time of printing

CONSIDER BUNCHING ITEMIZED DEDUCTIONS

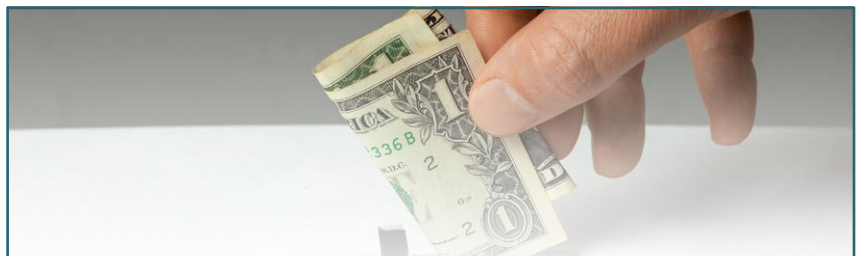
Depending on your tax situation, bunching several years' worth of charitable gifts into a single tax year may be a great way to increase the tax benefit of your charitable dollars.

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.

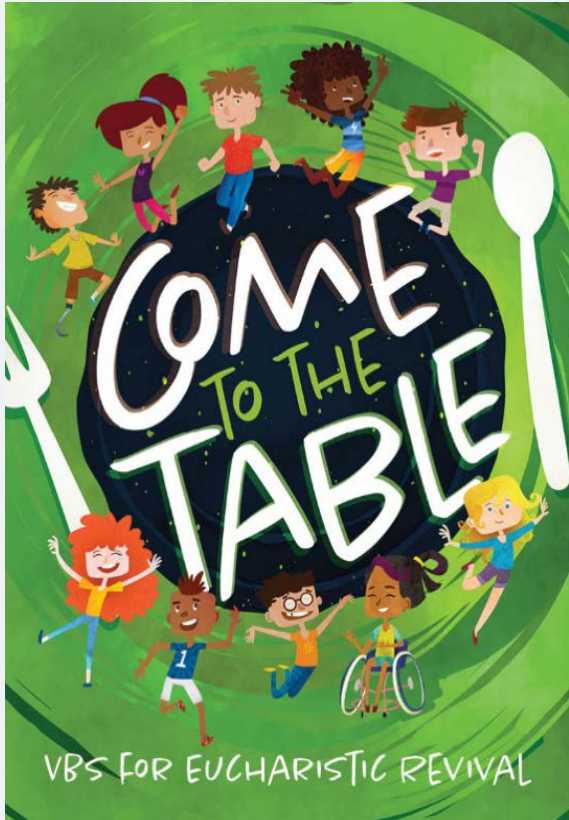
– Immaculate Conception Planned Giving Council



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 groundbreaking! Immaculate Conception's Phase 3 and Capital Campaign are moving forward. Please continue to pray for the success of this campaign. If you have not done so yet, please consider donating. We appreciate it all very much.

Parish Events & News...



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!

BLOOD DRIVE

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

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 DAY!

June 14

BULLETIN DEADLINE...

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

D.C. PRETZEL AND DONUT SALES...

The next Pretzel and Donut weekend for the incoming 8th graders will be May 17 & 18. All proceeds go to the 8th graders' trip to Washington D.C.

Ministry News & Happenings

ICY ODD SUNDAYS

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



THE 2025 CATHOLIC SERVICE AND MINISTRY APPEAL

Hope in the Lord

Your contribution to the Catholic Service and Ministry Appeal enables the Office of Education to impact the lives of over 10,283 students at 25 Catholic grade schools, three Catholic high schools and in PSR (Parish School of Religion) classes throughout our Belleville Diocese. If you haven't already done so, we prayerfully ask you to consider making a gift to the 2025 Appeal today...no amount is too large or too small! Thank you.

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

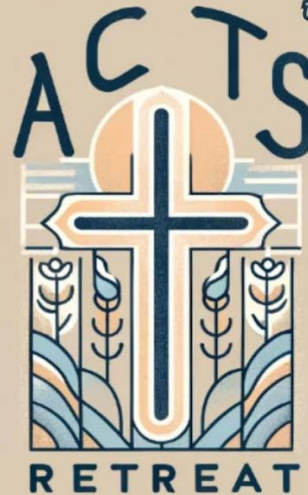
**Saturday, May 10, 2025
12:00 noon**

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.

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, 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!

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

Mother's Day Breakfast

May 11

8:00 - 11:00am

Immaculate Conception Church

The Knights of Columbus cordially invite you to the Garden Level for pancakes, ham, and sausage.

Moms eat free!

Donations accepted to benefit
LifeNetwork of Waterloo.

To volunteer: gk@kofc6165.org
or call/text 314-494-8874



SAVE THE DATES!

Upcoming ICC ACTS
Retreats

2025 DATES
WOMEN'S RETREAT APRIL 24 - 27, 2025
MEN'S RETREAT OCTOBER 16 - 19, 2025

2026 DATES
WOMEN'S RETREAT JANUARY 22 - 25, 2026
MEN'S RETREAT APRIL 23 - 26, 2026
WOMEN'S RETREAT OCTOBER 15 - 18, 2026

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



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

SANCTITY OF LIFE

This weekend, after all Masses, the Sanctity of Life Committee will be collecting signatures for the annual Monroe County 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. Your envelope must be postmarked by Monday, April 28. 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.

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 and 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 or 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 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.



"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. Inspiranos 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 Hijo, Jesucristo, quién es Amor y Piedad. Amén."

USCCB Secretariado de Actividades Pro-Vida, "Oración a Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe"



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

Upcoming Parents and Friends Meeting: May 12

GLOBingo

Not Your Grandma's Bingo!

Over \$1000 in cash prizes!

50/50 & Raffles

Must be 18 and older to attend

7:00PM
DOORS OPEN
@ 6:00M

SATURDAY,
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Hosted by Immaculate Conception Families for
8th grade fundraising for Washington DC.

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Tickets
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ICS PRESENTS:



Delight in the wicked:

THURSDAY, APRIL 24TH AT 7:00 P.M.

FRIDAY, APRIL 25TH AT 7:00 P.M.

SATURDAY, APRIL 26TH AT 7:00 P.M.

SUNDAY, APRIL 27TH AT 2:00 P.M.

Tickets:

General Admission: \$10

Students & Seniors: \$8

4 and under are free.

What's Happening at Gibault?



2025 GIBAULT GIRLS BASKETBALL SUMMER CAMP

MAY 27 - 30

9:30 AM - 12:00 PM

FOR ATHLETES ENTERING 5-8 GRADE
\$50 PER ATHLETE



GIBAULT BOYS BASKETBALL

Summer Camp

JUNE 2 - 6

FOR ATHLETES
ENTERING 5-8 GRADE
\$75 ENTRY

8:30 - 11:00 AM

WHAT TO EXPECT:

- EXPERIENCED BASKETBALL PLAYERS
- SKILL DEVELOPMENT
- TEAM BUILDING EXERCISES
- STRATEGY SESSIONS
- FITNESS & CONDITIONING DRILLS
- FRIENDLY COMPETITION

REGISTER TODAY!

SAVE THE DATE



GIBAULT SUMMER CLASSIC

FRIDAY, JUNE 20, 2025

4-PERSON SHOTGUN SCRAMBLE

ANNBRIAR GOLF COURSE



MORE DETAILS TO COME

Diocesan and Area Interests...

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.

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.

Lunch & Card Party

Tuesday, May 6, 2025

St. Luke's Parish Center

226 North Church St., Belleville, IL



Play Cards or a Board Game of your choice & BINGO

Doors Open-10:30am, Lunch Served-Noon, Event Ends-3pm

Delicious Lunch! Have fun & support St. Luke's Parish!

**Menu: Sliced Ham, Potatoes au Gratin,
JELLO with Fruit
Cake, Coffee, hot tea, iced tea & water**

Tally: \$10 (includes lunch or lunch carryout)

Cards & BINGO with prizes

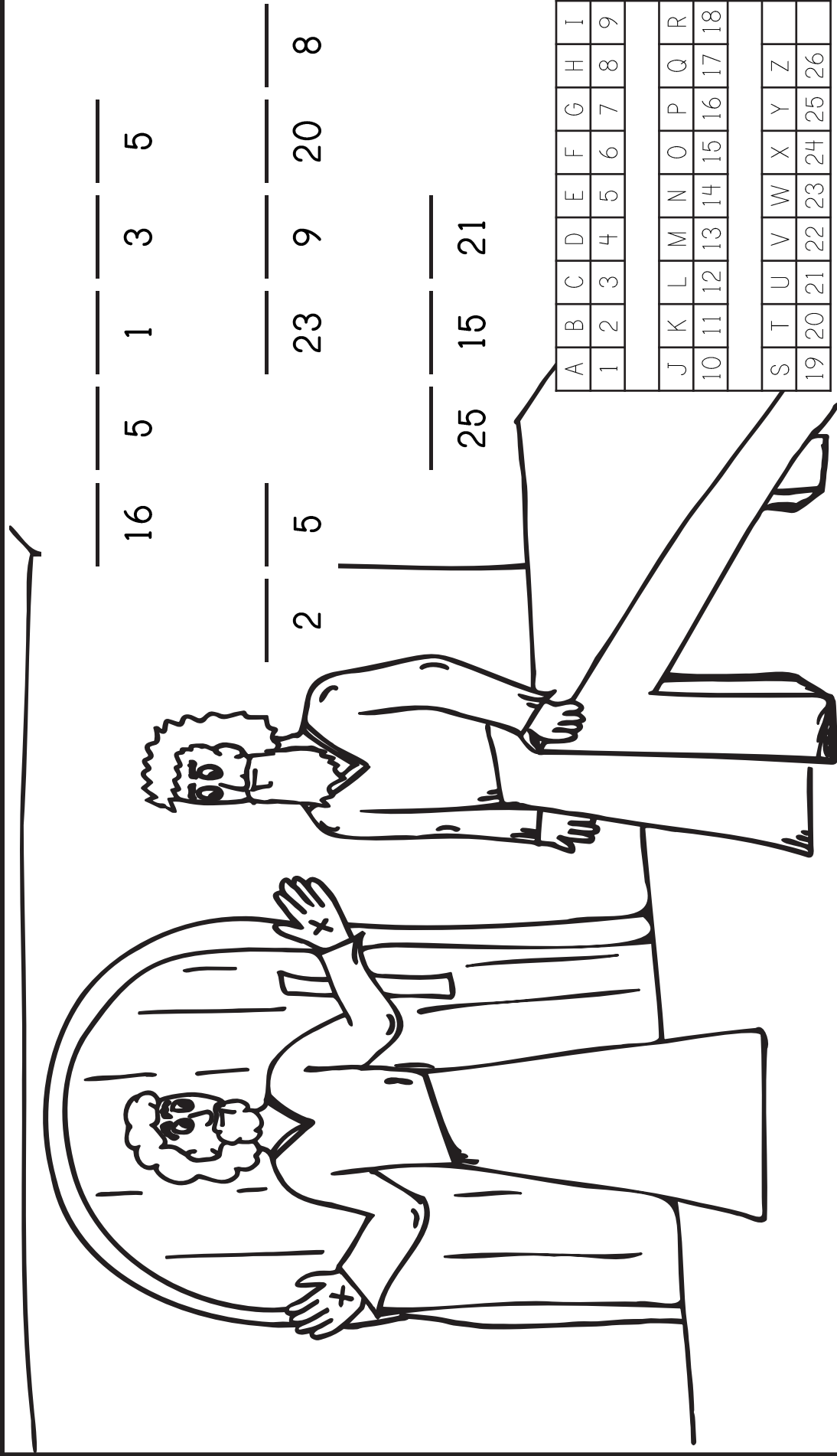
**Bring canned goods
for the Food Pantry**



In case of bad weather, an post will be made on the parish website.

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 for additional information and resources.



Jesus rose from the dead and visited the disciples. Thomas didn't believe his friends when they told him about it. Jesus appeared to Thomas and said, "Blessed are those who have not seen and have believed."



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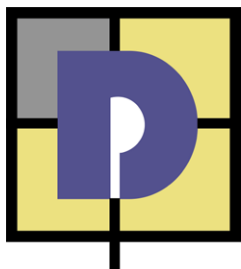
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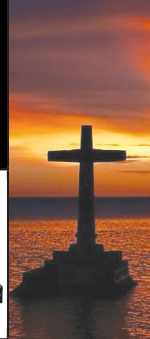
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