



# Immaculate Conception

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

May 4, 2025

Third Sunday of Easter

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

## The Sister Parish Ministry Has a Lot to Offer

### ***Learn How You Can Be a Part of It***

Last July, four ICC parishioners embarked on a weeklong spiritual journey to Guatemala. Joined by 25 like-minded travelers from parishes across the diocese, we ate, prayed, laughed, danced, hung out, sang, and traveled together. **And boy did we do a lot of traveling together!** We started out by visiting each of our individual sister parishes and did many things that families typically do when visiting distant relatives. Then, when individual sister parish site visits were complete, everyone returned to Guatemala City. There we shared photos, stories, tears, and laughs with both old and new found friends. Before saying our final good-bye to Guatemala, we journeyed to Santiago Atitlan, where (now) Blessed Stanley Rother was murdered in 1981 and where his heart remains enshrined to this day. Each person who went on this trip would likely say that they, too, left behind a piece of their heart with the people of Guatemala.

Then, in September, Padre Abdias, the longtime pastor at St. Raymond's made his first ever visit to Immaculate Conception. While here, Padre Abdias experienced our parish life to the fullest. He met one-on-one with more than a dozen parish ministries, joined Father Steve in celebrating Mass, spent the day with Mr. Gregson and ICS students, played in the gaga pit with the youth group, was honored in a parish-wide Welcome Ceremony, joined ICC families for dinner and fellowship, toured Cosgroves Kitchen & Sister Thea Bowman Catholic School, visited the Schaefer farm to learn about local farming techniques, took the tram to top of the Gateway Arch, toured St. Louis, and did much more.



July 2024 Trip to Guatemala



September 2024 Padre Abdias Visit



## You, Too, Can Be Part of the Sister Parish Experience

Learn more about ICC's next trip to St. Raymond's. Be part of the plan for Padre Walver's (the new pastor) first visit here. Explore the depths of your own faith and open your heart to new possibilities. Remember, it's not just the destination that matters. It's the journey. Be part of it. For more information, contact Catie Evans at [cevens@icsmail.org](mailto:cevens@icsmail.org).

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@icsmail.org

**ICS Principal,**  
**Dave Gregson**  
281-5353, ext. 202  
dgregson@icsmail.org

**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, May 5	8:05 a.m.	We Remember Barb Brouk
Tuesday, May 6	8:05 a.m.	We Remember JoAnn Sander
Wednesday, May 7	8:05 a.m.	We Remember Jim Vogt
Thursday, May 8	8:05 a.m.	We Remember Henry & Mae Doerr
Friday, May 9	8:05 a.m.	We Remember Harold Stemler
Saturday, May 10	5:00 p.m.	We Remember John & Fronie Kamadulski
Sunday, May 11	7:00 a.m.	We Remember Mary Lou Ratajczyk
	9:00 a.m.	We Remember Genevieve Doerr & Gerry Schilling
	11:00 a.m.	We Remember Linda Ripplemeyer & Margaret Ann Conrad



## *Please Pray For*

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

*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*

May 4, 2025

**First Reading:** Acts 5:27-32, 40b-41

**Second Reading:** Revelation 5:11-14

**Gospel:** John 21:1-19



## 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

Actual	\$	32,632.82
Budget	\$	44,500.00
Actual YTD	\$	1,833,286.56
Budget YTD	\$	1,755,300.00
Over (under)	\$	77,986.56
Prior YTD	\$	1,852,759.73
Over (under)	\$	(19,473.17)

Guatemala	\$	955.00
SVDP	\$	1,391.00
Votive	\$	205.00
Black & Indian Missions	\$	10.00
Catholic Home Missions	\$	10.00
Holy Land	\$	1,146.00
Catholic Relief Services	\$	50.00
Rice Bowl	\$	210.00
Capital Improvements	\$	40.00
Gibault	\$	165.00
Phase 3	\$	6,028.00

### April 27, 2025

Actual	\$	11,386.60
Budget	\$	23,750.00
Actual YTD	\$	1,844,673.16
Budget YTD	\$	1,779,050.00
Over (under)	\$	65,623.16
Prior YTD	\$	1,872,581.97
Over (under)	\$	(27,908.81)

Guatemala	\$	180.00
SVDP	\$	120.00
Votive	\$	282.00
Flowers	\$	10.00
Catholic Home Missions	\$	300.00
Holy Land	\$	115.00
Catholic Relief Services	\$	60.00
Black & Indian Missions	\$	30.00
Capital Improvements	\$	20.00
Gibault	\$	40.00
Phase 3	\$	1,526.00

## From Our Young Stewards

Treasure: \$102.91

Time and Talent: Helped clean my room; made earrings for my mom; I have been nice to my friends.

## CONSIDER BUNCHING ITEMIZED DEDUCTIONS

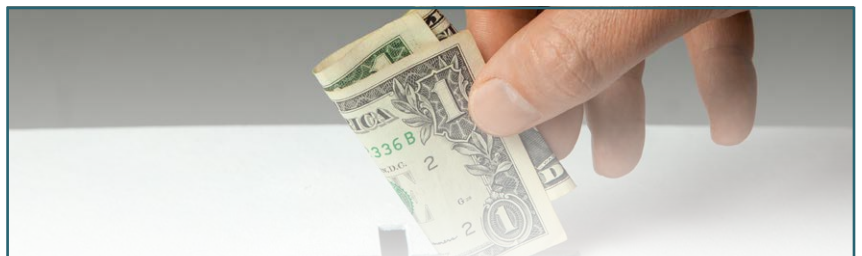
Depending on your tax situation, bunching several years' worth of charitable gifts into a single tax year may be a great way to increase the tax benefit of your charitable dollars.

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 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](mailto: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](mailto: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.



## 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.

## THE 2025 CATHOLIC SERVICE AND MINISTRY APPEAL

*Hope in the Lord* – A special thanks to everyone who has so generously supported the 2025 Catholic Service and Ministry Appeal – we are most grateful. If you haven't had an opportunity to make a gift as of yet, we hope you will prayerfully consider doing so now. Gifts can be made through your parish or by visiting [www.diobelle.org](http://www.diobelle.org) and clicking on "Giving." Seventeen (17) ministries and programs and all those they so faithfully serve are counting on YOU. Please make your contribution today!



## ST. RAYMOND'S CORNER

### St. Raymond's Expenses

**Total amount received: \$16,540.00 (July-Dec 2024)**

\$2,388.00	Given to Diocese for health care for priest, catechism materials, and training
\$7,435.00	Repairs to Vehicle (parts of parish are over an hour away by car)
\$695.00	Gas for Vehicle
\$975.00	Training Lay Ministers
\$1,306.00	Repairs to Chapel (roof needs to be replaced)
\$2,625.00	New building project (expanding gathering spaces)
\$805.00	Retreats
\$663.00	Church Supplies
\$585.00	Food for Parish Gatherings (sometimes the only good meal parishioners get)
\$585.00	Education for Youth
\$675.00	Utilities
\$246.00	Development of Sustainable Projects/ Fair Trade
\$551.00	Seminarian Fund
\$3,248.00	Sent to remote sub-parish Parroquia Nuestra Señora de Candelaria

*(numbers rounded due to exchange rate calculations)*

### Message from Padre Walver:

A cordial greeting, I appreciate the help that the sister parish of La Inmaculada Concepción has given to our sister parish of San Raymundo de Peñafort. We are united by faith and mutual affection. On behalf of the entire parish, I thank you for your help and prayers, which we also pray for you.



### Pope Francis Prayed...

"It is foreseeable that, once certain resources have been depleted, the scene will be set for new wars, albeit under the guise of noble claims." (Laudato Si #57)

**What can I do?** Consider whether any recent global conflicts (wars) have been fought over natural resources. Consider why there are so many refugees migrating.

## 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.**

## 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](mailto:gk@kofc6165.org)  
or call/text 314-494-8874

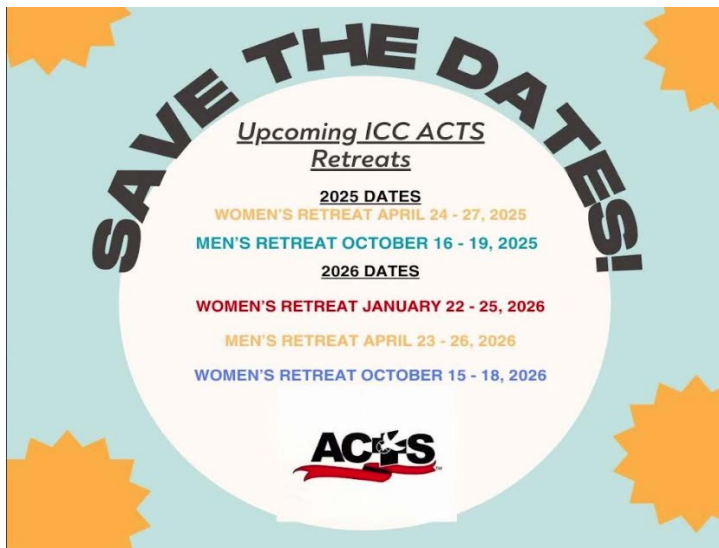


## ACTS



***Stay Connected with the ACTS Community!***

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



***SAVE THE DATES!***

***Upcoming ICC ACTS Retreats***

***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](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

## 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.

## 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](http://mylifenet.org)
- ~ Birthright Counseling STL (3 locations in St. Louis) [birthrightstl.org](http://birthrightstl.org)
- ~ Free and confidential counseling for anyone hurt by Abortion; Project Rachel, 618-722-5068 or [hopeafterabortion.com](http://hopeafterabortion.com)
- ~ A caring place for women who are pregnant and experiencing homelessness; Fontebella Maternity Home, 618-406-4355.

If you, or someone you know, has an unborn baby diagnosed with “fetal abnormalities” or an “adverse prenatal diagnosis,” please refer to: [BeNotAfraid.net](http://BeNotAfraid.net) or [PrenatalPartnersforLife.org](http://PrenatalPartnersforLife.org). Both offer free parent-centered case management and parental support for parents carrying to term following a prenatal diagnosis. Birthrightstl.org 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, ext. 201 ~ ldeffenbaugh@icsmail.org

MISSION • COMMUNITY • SERVICE

Upcoming Parents and Friends Meeting: May 12



**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,  
MAY 31

ICS GYM  
409 PALMER RD  
COLUMBIA IL 62236

License #  
BL-51465

\$25 PER PERSON / \$30 AT THE DOOR

INCLUDES 6 BINGO CARDS FOR 10 GAMES, GLO HAT AND DAUBER

\$5 PER ADDITIONAL 6 CARDS.

[HTTPS://WWW.GLO-BINGO.COM/EVENTS/](https://www.glo-bingo.com/events/)

BRING YOUR OWN SNACKS BUT PLEASE NO OUTSIDE DRINKS.  
BEER/SELTZER/SODA AVAILABLE AT THE CONCESSION STAND.

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

Scan for  
Tickets  
.....>



## What's Happening at Gibault?

**SAVE THE DATE**



**GIBAULT**  
SUMMER CLASSIC

FRIDAY, JUNE 20, 2025

4-PERSON SHOTGUN SCRAMBLE

ANNBRIAR GOLF COURSE

MORE DETAILS TO COME



**SOCCER CAMP**  
**JUNE 23 - 26**  
FOR ATHLETES ENTERING  
**1-3 GRADE: 5 - 6PM**  
**4-8 GRADE: 6 - 7PM**  
**\$75 ENTRY FEE INCLUDES T-SHIRT**

**WHAT TO EXPECT**

- WORK ON TECHNICAL SKILLS
- WORK WITH EXPERIENCED COACHES AND PLAYERS
- FRIENDLY COMPETITION



**GIBAULT'S ART**

*Summer Camp*

**July 14 - 18:**

FOR ARTISTS ENTERING 4-6 GRADE



**July 21 - 25:**

FOR ARTISTS ENTERING 7-8 GRADE

**9 - 11 AM In the Art Room**

**\$100 Entry Fee**





# Diocesan and Area Interests...

Dear Friends in Christ,

On March 31, our Holy Father Pope Francis appointed me the new Archbishop of Omaha. As I will soon conclude my ministry as Bishop of Belleville, I thank all of you for your prayers and for sharing your faith with me throughout the past five years. I enjoyed being your Bishop and have seen many signs of hope for the future of our diocese. I hope that the seeds we have planted will, with God's blessing, come to fruition in the years ahead. For more reflections on these years, please read our Diocesan newspaper, *The Messenger*, April 24, 2025.

I ask for your prayers during this time of transition. Also, please keep the intention of a new bishop in your daily prayers as the diocese awaits the Holy Father's appointment of a new shepherd.

After May 1, you may write me at the Archdiocese of Omaha, 2222 N. 111th Street, Omaha, NE 68164-3817

With gratitude in the love of Christ,  
Bishop Michael McGovern

## 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).

## 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.



**Lunch & Card Party**  
**Tuesday, May 6, 2025**  
**St. Luke's Parish Center**  
226 North Church St., Belleville, IL

Icons: Playing cards, a board game, and a banner that says "MOTHER'S DAY".

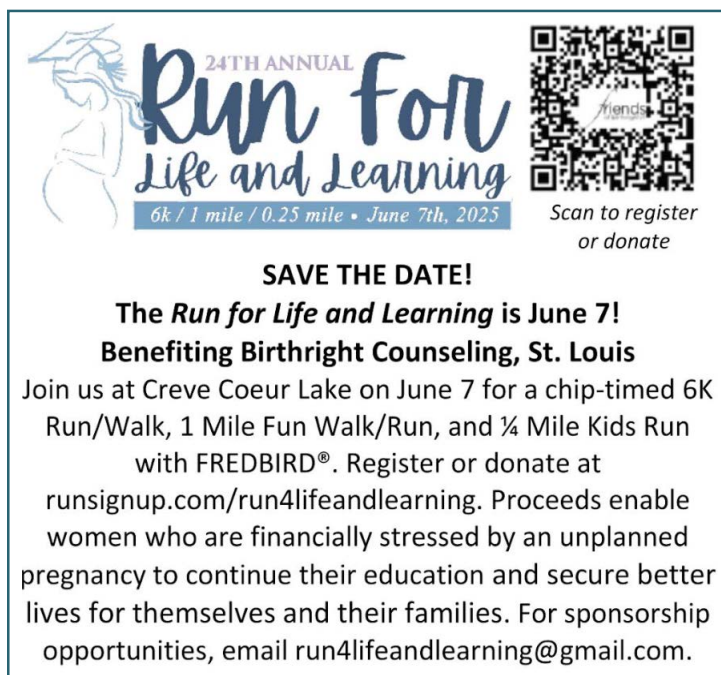
Play Cards or a Board Game of your choice & BINGO  
Doors Open-10:30am, Lunch Served-Noon, Event Ends-3pm  
Delicious Lunch! Have fun & support St. Luke's Parish!

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.



24TH ANNUAL  
**Run For**  
Life and Learning

6k / 1 mile / 0.25 mile • June 7th, 2025

Scan to register or donate

**SAVE THE DATE!**  
**The Run for Life and Learning is June 7!**  
**Benefiting Birthright Counseling, St. Louis**

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Procession

First Reading

Psalm

Second Reading

Gospel

Offering

Holy Eucharist

Consecration

Mystery of Faith

Great Amen

Our Father

Communion

Prayer

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	



9

20

9

19

20

8

5

12

15

18

4

!

# Gospel

Peter, Thomas, and Nathanael went fishing, but they didn't catch any fish! Jesus told them to cast the net one more time, and they caught so many fish that they couldn't pull in the net!





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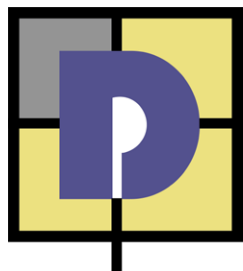
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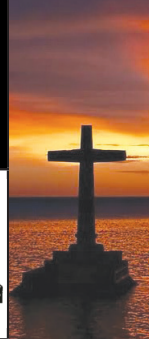
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