

Immaculate Conception

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

July 27, 2025

Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

www.icc-columbia-il.us



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



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

Phone: 618-281-5105

Parish Staff

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

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

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

Director of Faith Formation, Lizanne Young ext. 354, lyoung@iccmail.org

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

Bookkeeper, Sheryl Oglesby ext. 351, shoglesby@iccmail.org

Secretary, Michelle Muckensturm ext. 300, iccmail@iccmail.org

Spiritual and Mental Health Advocate, Shea Christensen ext. 352, schristensen@icsmail.org

ICS Principal, Mike Crean 281-5353, ext. 202 mcrean@icsmail.org

Pastoral Council Chair, Tammy Hoeflinger parishcouncil@iccmail.org

School Board President, Jessica Wachtel 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, July 28 8:05 a.m. We Remember Josh Ritter Tuesday, July 29 8:05 a.m. We Remember Loretta Weiler Wednesday, July 30 8:05 a.m. We Remember Doris Ling Thursday, July 31 8:05 a.m. We Remember Mary Lou Ratajczyk

Friday, August 1 We Remember Babs Jackson 8:05 a.m. Saturday, August 2 5:00 p.m. We Remember Jim Vogt

Sunday, August 3 7:00 a.m. We Remember Carl & Bernice Riebeling

> 9:00 a.m. We Remember Mary Wheeler

11:00 a.m. In honor of Deacon Joe Kroutil – 25th Anniversary



Please Pray For

Harold Lutman Adam Brandt Craig Greer The Matt Smith Family Shane Martin Janet Michael Jackie Lutman Mark Fiore Iacob Nelson Patricia Pulcher Elsa Wiemerslage Emily Koenigstein Bob Beckert Maryanne Klosterman John Stonis Robert Niebruegge Amanda Boitano Barbara Kendall Pedro Acevedo Doug Mercille Kirsten Halton Williams Trace Ahrens Iim Grau Taylor Cygan Molly Blevins Dolores G. Helen Nowack Theresa Zeisler Curtis Sievers Nicole Pennington Nate Meyer

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.



July 27, 2025

First Reading: Genesis 18:20-32

Second Reading: Colossians 2:12-14

Gospel: Luke 11:1-13



To Jill Georger and her family on the death of her grandmother,

Alice Baird.



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!

July 13, 2025	
Actual	18,722.63
Budget	21,800.00
Actual YTD	31,529.96
Budget YTD	43,800.00
Over (under)	(12,270.04)
Prior YTD	66,905.23
Over (under)	(35,375.27)
Guatemala	1,319.00
Votive	162.00
Sr. Thea Bowman	400.00
Capital Improvements	220.00
Gibault	30.00
Phase 3	4,444.00
July 20, 2025	(0.200.57
Actual	68,308.57
Budget Actual YTD	65,800.00
	99,838.53 109,600.00
Budget YTD Over (under)	(9,761.47)
Prior YTD	66,905.23
Over (under)	(32,933.30)
Over (under)	(32,933.30)
Guatemala	816.00
Votive	203.00
Sr. Thea Bowman	620.00
Eugene Schorb Edu.	
Endowment Fund	53.00
Newman Auxiliary	65.00
Capital Improvements	125.00
Cemetery Maintenance	45.00
Gibault	635.00
SVDP	25.00
Holy Father	20.00
Phase 3	8,265.69
CEAC	515.00

*The above totals include online giving through 7/15/2025.

WHY DONATE APPRECIATED STOCK OR MUTUAL FUNDS TO CHARITY?

Giving stock or mutual funds instead of cash as a charitable donation can greatly benefit the donor as well as the recipient. You will find that many charities, churches, schools, and other nonprofit organizations will accept stock or mutual funds as a gift. Tax Benefits of Donating Stock or Mutual Funds to Charity. If the stock or mutual fund has increased in value from the time of purchase, the owner can avoid paying long-term capital gains tax by donating the security to a qualified charitable organization. When an appreciated security held for a minimum of one year is donated to a charitable organization, its fair market value may be itemized as an income tax deduction if the donor is eligible to itemize on their tax filing. The resulting tax savings could be factored in to allow for a larger donation. For publicly traded shares, the fair market value is the average of the high and low price on the transfer date.

Considerations:

- Many nonprofits, such as hospitals, schools, and various other organizations, will accept stock or mutual funds as a gift or donation.
- Giving securities often results in a larger donation to the organization, as the gift is tax-deductible and there are no long-term capital gains taxes to pay.
- If your security has risen in value since purchase, donating it directly is preferable, but if it has lost value, it may be more advantageous to sell it first and then donate the proceeds, so you can take the tax loss.
- Most organizations will immediately liquidate the donation, converting the security to cash.
- Depending on the organization you donate to and your adjusted gross income, a varying amount of your donation may be able to be deducted on your taxes.

Consult your tax or financial advisor for more information.

- Immaculate Conception Planned Giving Council



July 13, 2025 Treasure: 1.00

July 20, 2025 Treasure: 82.10

Time and Talent: "Helping my parents at Sam's, and I volunteered to hold the church doors open while it was raining."

Parish Events & News...





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! August 9th, 2025

DO YOU OR SOMEONE YOU KNOW STRUGGLE WITH ALZHEIMER'S OR DEMENTIA?

Are you a caregiver for a loved one with memory loss? We are seeking individuals who would be interested in attending a peer-led support group for those impacted by Alzheimer's and other diseases that cause dementia. If you are interested in joining us, please contact Shea Christensen at schristensen@icsmail.org or extension 352 in the Parish Office.

POSITIONS AVAILABLE

Position: Janitor and Maintenance

Job Type: Full-Time (approx. 40 hrs. weekly) **Benefits:** Diocese of Belleville - Benefits

Salary Range: \$30,000-\$40,000 + Benefits (Final salary will be determined by relevant skills and experience.)

To apply: Send cover letter and resume to kdell-hunt@iccmail.org or by mail at 411 Palmer Road, Columbia, IL 62236. For more information or to apply, please contact Kara Dell Hunt or check out the ICC website. (https://icc-columbia-il.us/).

PSR

Is that still, small voice calling you? Volunteer for PSR. A love of God and children is all that is needed. We are looking for volunteers for the 2025-2026 school year to help our PSR program continue to grow. Contact Rebecca Husman at 618-281-5105, ext. 353 or Lizanne Young at 618-281-5105, ext. 354. We look forward to meeting you.

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 8th graders will be August 16 & 17. All proceeds go to the 8th graders' trip to Washington D.C.

Ministry News & Happenings

Suippet from Mrs. Shea

Mental Health Fast Fact:

Suicide is the 2nd leading cause of death among people ages 10-14 and the 3rd leading cause of death among those ages 15-24 in the U.S.

WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

Tuesdays, 6:30 p.m. in the library. All are welcome! Contact Lizanne for more info at 618-281-5105, ext. 354.

ICY ODD SUNDAYS

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





Pope Francis Said ...

"When conflict arises, some people simply look at it and go on their ways as if nothing happened; others embrace it in such a way that they become its prisoners." (The Joy of the Gospel #227)

What can I do? How do you handle conflicts within your family or among friends? Work to listen more to the other's position. Where are they coming from?

THE 2025 CATHOLIC SERVICE AND MINISTRY APPEAL

Hope in the Lord

YOU have the opportunity to support the four men who have answered YES to God's call to serve in the Priesthood of Jesus Christ in our Belleville Diocese. The annual cost for each of our seminarians is over \$50,000.00. Funding from the Catholic Service and Ministry Appeal helps support the expenses of our seminarians and Vocation Office; your pledge or one-time gift is truly an investment in our faith and the life of the Church here in southern Illinois. Please continue to pray for vocations and consider making your gift today!

ICCCW NEWS:

Our summer hiatus is coming to an end. Our next meeting is August 7th at 6:30 p.m.

"Christmas in July"

Want to show a child a wonderful Christmas? Join the ICCCW in support of Cross Catholic Outreach's 10th Anniversary BOX OF JOY program. What can you do to help? You can take a box (about the size of a box for a pair of shoes) and fill it, or bring items for us to use to fill boxes! We'll have ICCCW members in



the gathering space after all Masses this weekend (July 26 and 27). We will have sample filled boxes, empty boxes to take & fill, lists of suggested items to pack and can answer any questions you have. Or, if you don't want to do the shopping, you can make a monetary donation. A member of the ICCCW will do the shopping and fill the box. It only takes approximately \$20.00-\$25.00 to fill a box. Donations of any amount will help. Some of the most wanted items are: Toys – deflated ball with pump, dolls, small plush animals, coloring books, crayons; Clothing – dresses, T-shirts; Other – cups or bottles with lids, toothbrushes, headbands, hair ribbons, necklaces, purses or wallets, sunglasses and drawstring bags. Start your Christmas giving a little early this year. Boxes are due by September 15th. Our goal is to fill 150 boxes; we filled 133 boxes last year. Please help us reach our goal! *There will be a box in the gathering space for donations during the month of August.*

SANCTITY OF LIFE

The Sanctity of Life Committee is collecting items for St. Anne Cradle of Hope in Carbondale. This organization serves pregnant women and families with infants and toddlers. They always need diapers and wipes. At this time, they could also use new toddler clothing, including PJs and hooded towels. There are several ways to give. You may purchase your items and drop them off in the baby crib located in the Gathering Space. You may select items from their Amazon wish list: https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/2JAMAUQS55TX1?ref_=wl_share.

If someone would like to make a cash or check donation, the check can be made out to St. Anne Cradle of Hope and mailed to 222 S. Third Street, Belleville, IL 62220, or dropped in the collection basket, or you may donate online: https://www.diobelle.org/stanne-coh.

The collection ends on Friday, August 1, 2025. Thank you for your support.

SVDP

Members of the St. Vincent de Paul group have been busy this quarter doing their best to help people in need. That wouldn't be possible without your generous support. Thank you.

April through June: How your donations were dispersed...

- \$2,154 in utility assistance
- \$1,606 in housing expenses
- Additional assistance for food, sundries and gas.
- 9 households received the help listed above

Here is a summary of how your donations helped one particular family this past quarter: Mrs. X called the SVdP Hotline asking for help with her Ameren bill. They got into trouble with their bill because Mr. X lost his job and then had a disconnect notice. While he is working again, the bills piled up in the interim. A disconnect would have set them back even further. She and her husband were able to pay a significant portion of the Ameren bill and SVdP paid the remainder. Your donations made it possible for SVdP to help. The couple is so grateful for the support. If you know someone in need of help, please share our SVdP Hotline number: 618-280-8041. If you would like to learn more about our St. Vincent de Paul conference, contact Sue Taylor at smtaylor55@gmail.com.

BEREAVEMENT MINISTRY

Upcoming Memorial Events held at ICC – All are welcome!

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
- 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.

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.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS 4TH DEGREE

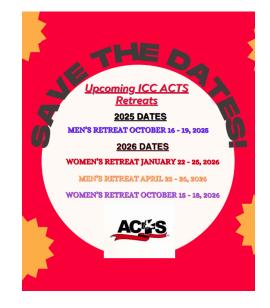
4th Degree Knights 12-Month Restaurant Raffle
Win a \$250 Restaurant Gift Certificate or choose \$200 Cash
Tickets - \$20 each. Only 400 tickets will be sold



Tickets will be sold after all Masses August 2nd & 3nd or Contact Steve Wilson at 314-497-0798

ACTS







IMMACULATE CONCEPTION SCHOOL

409 Palmer Road ~ 281-5353

School Principal: School Principal: Mike Crean, ext. 202 - mcrean@icsmail.org School Administrator: Beverly Epplin, ext. 200 - bepplin@icsmail.org Administrative Assistant: Lori Deffenbaugh, ext. 201 - ldeffenbaugh@icsmail.org

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CAFETERIA DISHWASHER

THURSDAY, AND EVERY OTHER FRIDAY, 11:00 a.m.-2:30 p.m.

Duties include: Wash dishes and run the dishwashing machine, maintain cleaning the dishwasher and dishwashing area, help serve the students, help with cleanup of the kitchen. Great work environment, free lunch.

Please contact Connie Huebner at mrshuebner@icsmail.org or call the school office at 618-281-5353 for more information.

LATCHKEY STAFF

Immaculate Conception School is looking to hire after-school latchkey workers. The ideal candidate will have a passion to work with children from ages 5-13. The hours are 3:00-5:30 p.m. We are willing to work around high school activities. Interested candidates should contact Principal Mike Crean at mcrean@icsmail.org.

What's Happening at Gibault?



Diocesan and Area Interests...

TRIVIA NIGHT FOR ST. JUDE CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL

Royale Orleans Banquet Center – 2801 Telegraph Road, St. Louis, MO 63125. August 9th: 7:00-10:00 p.m.

Doors open at 6:00 p.m. \$25.00/person – Tables of 8. Contact Jim for more information at 314-283-5102.

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.



RESPECT LIFE CORNER

July 27, 2025, Respect Life Corner, 2025 NFP Week Series 3 of 3

For those struggling with infertility, you are not alone! Springs in the Desert is an online platform that can meet you in this very personal and difficult time. Visit https://springsinthedesert.org/ to receive guidance and support.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 2ND - PICNICS

St. Francis – Aviston, IL
Dinner is from 3:30-6:30 p.m. (seating by #)
Mass at 4:00 p.m., Quilt Bingo at 6:30 p.m.
(every game for a quilt!)

St. Joseph – Prairie du Rocher, IL Dinner, 3:00-7:30 p.m., Mass at 4:00 p.m., Quilt/Cash Bingo, 5:00-11:00 p.m., \$1.00/card for 4 games (3 cash, 1 quilt)

St. Anthony – Lively Grove Polka Mass 4:00 p.m., Chicken Dinner 4:00-8:00 p.m. Quilt/Cash Bingo, 6:30-11:00 p.m.

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.

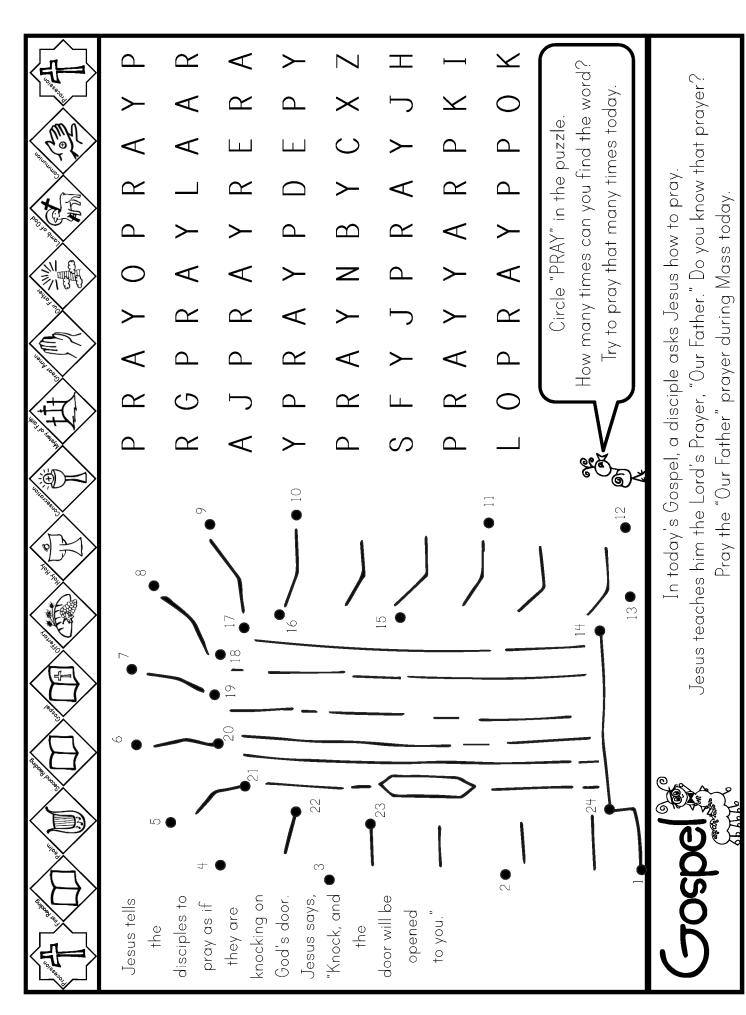


"Virgin of Guadalupe, Patroness of unborn children, we implore your intercession for every child at risk of abortion. ... Guide our public officials to defend each and every human life through just laws. Inspire us all to bring our faith into public life, to speak for those who have no voice. We ask 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 Hijo, Jesucristo, quién es Amor y Piedad. Amén."

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



Year C: Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

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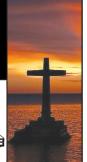
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