



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

October 5, 2025

Twenty-seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

www.icc-columbia-il.us



*Let us joyfully sing
psalms to him.
Come, let us bow
down in worship.
- Psalm 95:2,6*

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. Brian Barker
ext. 358 or 618-281-5105
frbrian@iccmil.org

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

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

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

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

**Bookkeeper,
Sheryl Oglesby**
ext. 351, shoglesby@iccmil.org

**Secretary,
Michelle Muckensturm**
ext. 300, iccmil@iccmil.org

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

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

**Pastoral Council Chair,
Tammy Hoeflinger**
parishcouncil@iccmil.org

**School Board President,
Jessica Wachtel**
boardpresident@iccmil.org

Sacramental Information

Baptisms: Parents/guardians are asked to attend a Preparation Seminar scheduled on the second Sunday of the month after 9:00 a.m. Mass (approximately 10:00 a.m.) in the lower-level library. We celebrate Baptisms on the first Sunday of the month during any Mass, and the third Sunday of the month after the 11:00 a.m. Mass. (No Baptisms are scheduled during Lent.) Please call the office to schedule at 281-5105.

Weddings: The parish is happy to celebrate the Sacrament of Holy Matrimony with adults who are currently registered members of Immaculate Conception Church (bride or groom). If you are one of many who would like to “come home” to celebrate the Sacrament with family and friends, please provide the name of the parish where you are now a member, along with contact information. We ask that you contact the IC Parish Office a minimum of four months prior to Marriage, but in most cases, couples will need to allow time for Pre-Cana formation, and we suggest beginning to plan your Sacrament 12 or 18 months prior to Marriage.

Anointing of the Sick & Funerals: Since individual needs differ, please contact the Parish Office at 281-5105 for pastoral care. Do not hesitate to call; we are grateful for the opportunity to open our hearts to you and your family and offer these sacramental services.

OCIA (Order of Christian Initiation of Adults): OCIA (formerly known as RCIA) is for everyone who has been drawn by God to form a deeper relationship. Wherever you are in your faith practice – baptized in another Christian faith, starting from the beginning, or simply enriching your Catholic practice – consider the OCIA. Get to know God better and find out what it means to be Catholic. Individuals will meet with our director of faith formation (Lizanne Young) to discuss the process. We meet as a group on Sundays (from Autumn through the Triduum just before Easter), starting with “Breaking Open the Word” dismissal from 9:00 a.m. Mass, and catechetical sessions from 10:00-11:30 a.m. Contact Lizanne at the Parish Office, 281-5105, ext. 354, or email lyoung@iccmil.org.

Reconciliation: Reconciliation is offered from 4:00-4:30 p.m. on Saturdays and by appointment.

IMPORTANT VOLUNTEER INFO!

Anyone who wishes to volunteer at school or church when there are children present **MUST** be compliant with the Diocesan Child Protection Policy. Please be proactive! ***EVERYONE** must have an IL state background check, as well as doing the online refresher and filling out CANTS forms. *Coaches and employees will need to be fingerprinted in addition to the usual Child Protection paperwork. *The initial course is now available online. Please contact Michelle at the Parish Office for directions. ***The refresher course for 2025-2026 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, October 6	8:05 a.m.	We Remember Jim Vogt
Tuesday, October 7	8:05 a.m.	We Remember Joseph Colley
Wednesday, October 8	8:05 a.m.	We Remember Anna Marie Lawlor
Thursday, October 9	8:05 a.m.	We Remember Ed Janson
Friday, October 10	8:05 a.m.	We Remember Elsie Hofstetter
Saturday, October 11	5:00 p.m.	We Remember Angela Krupp
Sunday, October 12	7:00 a.m.	We Remember Crawford Bryant
	9:00 a.m.	We Remember Fr. Gene Linnemann
	11:00 a.m.	We Remember Jim Vogt



Please Pray For

Adam Brandt	Barbara Kendall	The Matt Smith Family	Arlene Kruse
Shane Martin	Jim Grau	Mark Fiore	Delores Deleveski
Jacob Nelson	Dolores G.	Emily Koenigstein	Bob Braun
Bob Beckert	Nicole Pennington	Doug Mercille	Susan Oswill
Amanda Boitano	Harold Lutman	Kirsten Halton Williams	Steve Dineen
Trace Ahrens	Jackie Lutman	Theresa Zeisler	Walter Novak
Molly Blevins	Elsa Wiemerslage	Doris Boss	Carrie Dachsteiner
Curtis Sievers	John Stonis	Karen Miller	Emmalyn Richardet
Craig Greer	Pedro Acevedo	Larry Greenfield	Corynn Becker
Janet Michael	Taylor Cygan	Beth Heisel	
Maryanne Klosterman	Nate Meyer	Ed Evertsen	

Troops in Service... SGM Joseph Pope, US Army; Colonel Brian Schoellhorn, Samuel Campbell, Navy; Captain Benjamin Thoma, 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

October 5, 2025

First Reading: Habakkuk 1:2-3; 2:2-4
Second Reading: Second Timothy 1:6-8, 13-14
Gospel: Luke 17:5-10



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!

September 28, 2025

Actual	15,481.00
Budget	23,700.00
Actual YTD	473,638.22
Budget YTD	502,050.00
Over (under)	(28,411.78)
Prior YTD	470,616.57
Over (under)	3,021.65
Guatemala	685.00
Votive	257.00
Capital Improvements	15.00
World Mission Sunday	14.00
Gibault	65.00
Diocese Retired Priests	230.00
Easter	50.00
Christmas	50.00
Phase 3	2,157.50

From Our Young Stewards

Treasure: 228.60
Time and Talent: I listened to my parents and did my chores, I made my bed, helped load the dishwasher.

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION CHURCH

411 PALMER ROAD
COLUMBIA, IL 62236

Profit & Loss [With Year to Date]

July 2024 through June 2025

Selected Period	
Income	
Religious Education	\$8,577.00
Parish Collections	\$2,501,167.59
Diocesan / Special Collections	\$137,521.19
Other Income	\$65,129.04
Misc. Income	\$137,353.33
Total Income	\$2,849,748.15
Expenses	
Household	\$7,043.61
Employment Costs	\$500,851.28
Office Administration	\$52,923.36
Operating Expense	\$144,878.89
Liturgical Expenses	\$29,276.66
Religious Education	\$7,247.66
Parish Collections	\$122,378.63
Diocesan Collections	\$137,180.10
Other Expenses	\$1,702,142.83
Total Expenses	\$2,703,923.02
Net Profit / (Loss)	\$145,825.13

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION SCHOOL

409 PALMER ROAD
COLUMBIA, IL 62236

Profit & Loss [With Year to Date]

July 2024 through June 2025

Selected Period	
Income	
School Contributions	\$1,613,799.90
Operations	\$373,475.88
Reimbursements	\$319,164.51
Other Income	\$797.00
Latch Key	\$73,444.00
Pre-K Income	\$264,879.97
Lunch Program	\$183,786.93
Total Income	\$2,829,348.19
Expenses	
Employment Costs	\$1,892,099.21
Operating Expenses	\$159,459.90
Administration/Office	\$100,564.18
Instructional/Teaching Expense	\$79,156.51
Diocesan Assessments	\$35,057.89
Reimbursements	\$255,533.62
Latch Key Expenses	\$35,160.64
Pre K Expenditures	\$205,995.91
Lunch Program Expenses	\$207,849.80
Total Expenses	\$2,970,877.66
Net Profit / (Loss)	(\$141,529.47)

YEAR-END TAX PLANNING

To optimize your tax savings before the year ends, consider these year-end tax planning tips:

- Maximize contributions to retirement accounts like 401(k)s and IRAs.
- Harvest tax losses by selling underperforming investments.
- Bunch charitable donations into one year to exceed the standard deduction.
- Review your withholding and adjust if necessary to avoid penalties.
- Take advantage of flexible spending accounts (FSAs) before funds expire.
- Consider making energy-efficient home improvements for potential tax credits.

Contact your financial or tax advisor for more information.

— Immaculate Conception Planned Giving Council

Parish Events & News...

WELCOMING COMMITTEE

SAVE THE DATE FOR FELLOWSHIP SUNDAY



God desires fellowship because it strengthens faith, encourages believers, and reflects His own nature of shared unity. It allows for mutual support, growth in understanding God's Word, and the opportunity to serve others in the name of Christ.

Please join us for Fellowship, for coffee and donuts on the *fourth Sunday* of each month after the 9:00 a.m. Mass in the garden level.



FISHPOT CREEK BLUEGRASS BAND will be providing music for Mass here at ICC on Saturday, October 18th. Bluegrass/Gospel music has a simplicity and genuine character that lends itself to worship. It's easy to sing and unmistakable in its message. The rhythmic style can put a smile on your face and remind you that we are a people of hope.

Parish Work Day! October 11, 2025

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 October 18 and 19. All proceeds go to the 8th graders' trip to Washington D.C.

BULLETIN DEADLINE...

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

Ministry News & Happenings

ALZHEIMER'S AND DEMENTIA SUPPORT GROUP

Our first meeting will be on October 12th at 10:00 a.m in the Garden Level Library. Anyone impacted by Alzheimer's or Dementia, whether it be personally or through a family member, is welcome to attend. Please contact Shea Christensen in the Parish Office at 281-5105, ext. 352 for more information.

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.



Pope Francis Said:

"Ecological education take place in a variety of settings: at school, in families, in the media, in catechesis and elsewhere." (Laudato Si #213)

What can I do? Think of one way in which you might help educate someone you know about ecology. Take hikes with your children. Have playdates at the park. Support organizations like Audubon Society, Wild Ones, or join Cornell Lab to track the birds in your backyard.

Snippet from Mrs. Shea

Happy October everyone!

As we start to see the weather, leaves, and schedules change, I would like to introduce you to the new character trait of the month we are working on at IC: Responsibility.

The littles in our school will learn what it means to have Responsibility in our words and actions, and our older kids will navigate how having responsibility can foster freedom and trust. For us IC adults, I challenge you to consider what we are responsible for as Christians. Here are a few notable instructions from God to ponder:

- Love God with deed, word, and Sabbath (Deut 6:4-6, Ex 20:1-17)
- Care for the earth and all its creatures (Genesis 1:26-29) including...
 - Our neighbor (Mt 22:34-40), regardless of their status (Gal 3:26-29) or whether they pray like you (Lk 10:29-37)
 - Our parents (Ex 20:12)
 - And the most vulnerable (Mt 25:31-46)
- Do no wrong against others, such as...
 - Killing, stealing, adultery, telling lies, or acting with greed (Ex 20:13-17)
- Tell everyone about the Gospel (Mk 16:15)

While this is not everything God commands (I don't think they would let me print the whole Bible), I encourage you to reflect on these responsibilities and others we hear about in Scripture to see where your heart struggles the most. Then, I encourage you to bring your struggle to God in prayer and see where He can sow growth in your life.

PUBLIC ROSARY



**Saturday, Oct. 11, 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 and for the sanctity of human life on Saturday, October 11, 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 which is being coordinated across the country by over 23,000 other groups at the same time.

Private prayer is like straw scattered here and there; if you set it on fire, it makes a lot of little flames. But gather these straws into a bundle and light them, and you get a mighty fire, rising like a column into the sky.

Public prayer is like that.
-Saint John Vianney

ANNUAL ST. VINCENT DE PAUL WINTER CLOTHING AND ITEMS DRIVE

The Drive will be held the weekend of October 11-12, 2025. All items of warm clothing and bedding will be accepted. Sizes of clothing range from infant to adult and bedding items include blankets, quilts, sheets, and pillows. Men's shoes (not tennis shoes) and jeans are particularly needed. Items collected will be distributed in East St. Louis. Questions? Carol or John Waide at 618-281-4186 or 618-910-1648. We appreciate your help.

– ICC St. Vincent de Paul Society

THANK YOU

The SVDP Ministry thanks all who took the time to prepare the casseroles for those in need. *"He who has compassion on the poor lends to the LORD, and He will repay him for his good deed."*

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)

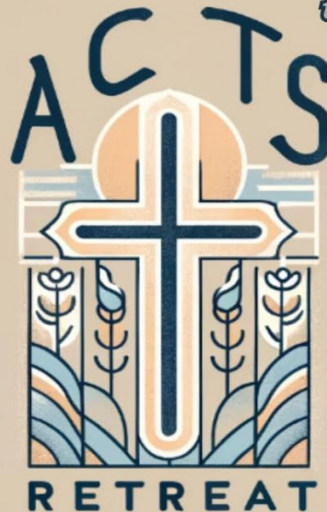
If you are unable to join us on the 19th, please fill out a paper from the basket in the Gathering Space with your baby's name and we will read it during our service. Return the paper to the basket.

THE 2025 CATHOLIC SERVICE AND MINISTRY APPEAL

Hope in the Lord

The homebound, sick and seniors living in the southernmost part of the state are assured they will have food to eat thanks to Daystar Community Program's mobile food pantry, which delivers groceries on a regular basis to those not able to visit Daystar's on-site food pantry. YOUR GIFT to the Catholic Service and Ministry Appeal makes Daystar's truly life-saving ministry possible. If you haven't already done so, please donate today and help Daystar to serve truly the poorest of the poor; they are counting on YOU!

**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!

SAVE THE DATES!

Upcoming ICC ACTS
Retreats

2025 DATES

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



VOCATION

"Wherever there are consecrated people...there is always joy!" These words of Pope Francis reflect my own experience since I was a child. Through my parish, I had the opportunity to meet many religious sisters from different communities, and each time I was amazed at the contagious joy of these women who had given up everything to follow Jesus. I began to recognize in my heart a desire to do the same. When I was in grade school, my parish opened a perpetual adoration chapel, and my parents and I would pray there an hour each week. In this quiet time of prayer... my desire to become a bride of Christ continued to grow. During my senior year of high school, I spent time visiting the Dominican Sisters of St. Cecelia. I entered the community in 2013 and made my final profession in 2020. The Lord has continued to fill my heart with his peace and joy!"

— Sr. Rose Dominic Daily; *Dominican Sisters of St. Cecilia; Columbia Magazine October 2022*

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 & 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.

MEALS FROM THE



Just a reminder that we still have a group of parishioners available to make meals. So if you're going through a rough time, let us help you out! We provide meals as needed on a temporary basis. Just call or text Robin Billmeyer at 314-604-4495 if we can help!

ICY ODD SUNDAYS

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



"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"



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

MISSION • COMMUNITY • SERVICE

UPCOMING FATHER'S CLUB MEETINGS

October 16th, 2025
7:30 p.m. at Sunset Overlook

UPCOMING PARENTS AND FRIENDS MEETINGS

November 3rd, 2025
7:00 p.m. in the Garden Level

What's Happening at Gibault?

The application for 2026-2027 is now open! Our Jr. High Bonfire Bash is BACK! Come roast some s'mores and hang out with some of the Hawk Family: Friday, October 17, 6:00-8:00 p.m. All 7th and 8th graders can schedule a shadow visit and spend the day with one of our Student Ambassadors. Come and experience what a day in the life of a Hawk is all about! Want to know more about Gibault? Schedule a private tour! Open House is October 5th – come and take a tour of the school, meet the teachers, and see what our alumni are up to. Any questions can be emailed to our Admissions Coordinator, Pam Kueker at pkueker@gibaulthawks.com.

GIBAULT
Ole Opry

OCTOBER 18, 2025 | OKTOBERFEST DINNER AUCTION

SCAN QR CODE TO BUY TICKETS, DONATE & MORE

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 5
Open House
**EMPOWERING MINDS.
ENRICHING SOULS.
WE ARE GIBAULT**

**GIBAULT CATHOLIC
HIGH SCHOOL**

COME AS YOU CAN
DOORS ARE OPEN FROM 12PM - 3PM
**WHETHER YOU'RE SCOPING IT OUT OR STROLLING DOWN
MEMORY LANE, THIS IS YOUR PLACE!**

BONFIRE
Bash

6-8 GRADERS
GIBAULT CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL
6-9PM
FRIDAY, OCTOBER 17

Diocesan and Area Interests...

Honor your Loved Ones on

All Souls Day

With Your Personalized Tribute In *The Messenger*

Tributes will appear in our October 23rd publication.

Sample Tributes



Please Print the name(s) of your deceased loved one(s) on the line(s) below. \$20 donation for each name.

In Loving Memory of: _____

In Loving Memory of: _____

In Loving Memory of: _____

In Loving Memory of: _____

Please return your All Souls Day Tributes to *The Messenger* (222 S. Third St. Belleville, IL 62220) by **October 6, 2025**. If you have any questions, please call 618-722-5047 or email advertising@bellevillemessenger.org.

Submitting Person's Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone Number: _____

TEENS ENCOUNTER CHRIST (TEC)

retreats for 2025-2026. The Belleville Diocese is providing two TEC retreat weekends for the 2025/2026 academic school year. TEC is a 3-day Catholic retreat weekend designed for young adults, juniors and seniors (or older) in high school, who are looking for an opportunity to develop a stronger relationship with God and/or their fellow Christians. If you, or someone you know, are looking for an opportunity to enhance your relationship with Jesus Christ or experience your Catholic faith in a dynamic and fun-filled setting, then a TEC retreat may be just what you are looking for. The TEC weekends are scheduled for October 11-13 at Mater Dei High School in Breese and January 17-19 at Immaculate Conception School in Columbia. To learn more, or attend a TEC weekend, please visit our website at bellevilletec.org. If you've attended a TEC weekend in the past and would like to attend one of the reunions, please visit bellevilletec.org for additional details.

RESPECT LIFE CORNER

The *Diocese of Belleville Annual Respect Life Conference* will be held at St. Clare of Assisi Church, in O'Fallon, IL on November 15, 2025 from 10:00 a.m.-4:30 p.m. with Holy Mass at 5:00 p.m. The conference includes breakout sessions for teens and college-age students. Info and registration can be found at: <https://www.diobelle.org/respectlife/2025-respect-life-conference>.

"We are called to be signs of hope to all people, especially those whose goodness, value, and dignity are undermined. As members of the Body of Christ, we carry this hope with us as we continue Jesus' mission on earth... We have been entrusted with a message of hope for the woman who finds herself unexpectedly pregnant or for the man diagnosed with a terminal illness. At these challenging moments, we must bring God's presence, witnessing to His love, and inspiring a renewal of hope in those whose hearts are burdened."

– USCCB Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities
Respect Life Reflection: "Life: Our Sign of Hope"

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.

ALL SAINTS' DAY MASS FOR HOMESCHOOLING AND PRE-SCHOOL FAMILIES

OCTOBER 30, 2025

Holy Mass 11:00 am
St. Peter's Cathedral, Belleville, IL

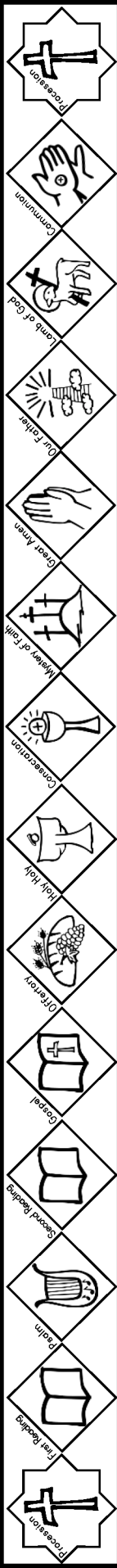
Tour of the Cathedral and Complimentary Lunch Follows

Come dressed as
your favorite saint!

RSVP to Molly King
(mking@diobelle.org)

Optional:
Come prepared to share
info about your saint!

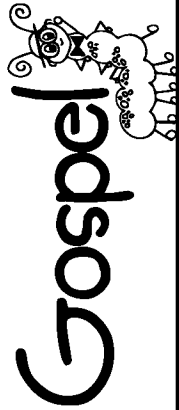
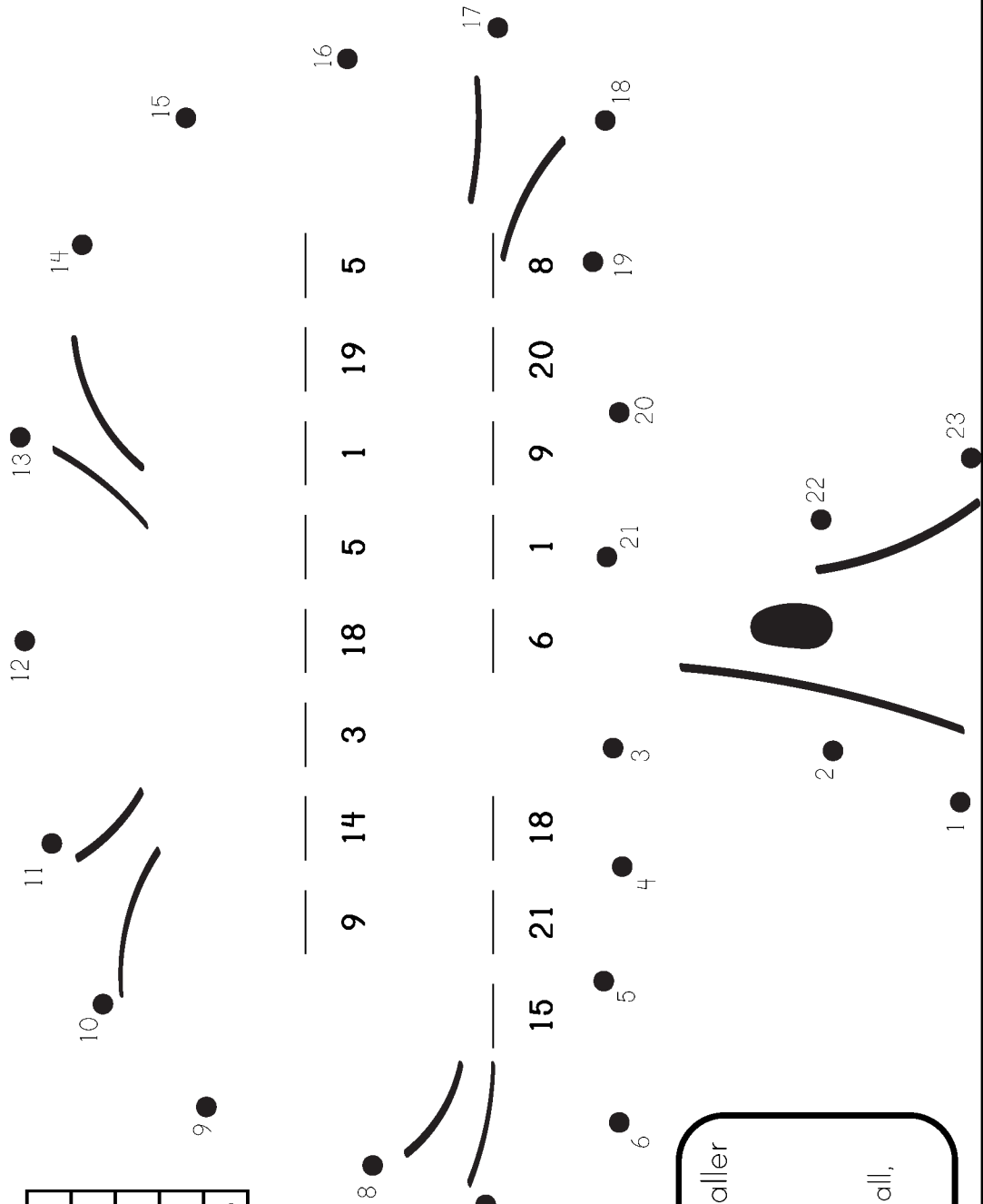
1:30-2:30 Notre Dame Academy is offering books and toys for a donation, come take a look across the street after lunch!



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	

The apostles said
to the Lord...

A mustard seed is smaller
than this dot.
*
Even if your faith is small,
you still believe!



The apostles asked Jesus to help them have more faith, and Jesus told them that even a tiny bit of faith can do amazing things.



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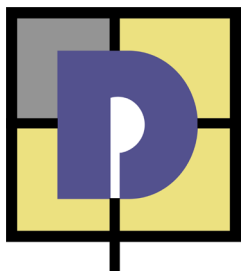
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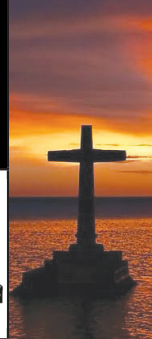
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