



Immaculate Conception

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

December 14, 2025

Third Sunday of Advent

www.icc-columbia-il.us

PREPARE THE WAY FOR THE LORD;
MAKE STRAIGHT IN THE DESERT A HIGHWAY FOR OUR GOD.

THE SEASON OF

Advent
2025



HOPE · PEACE · JOY · LOVE

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

Deacon Tom Helfrich
deacontom@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, December 15	8:05 a.m.	We Remember Mary Jane Frey
Tuesday, December 16	8:05 a.m.	We Remember Earl Niermann
Wednesday, December 17	8:05 a.m.	We Remember Norm Schmidt
Thursday, December 18	8:05 a.m.	We Remember Mary Obermier
Friday, December 19	8:05 a.m.	We Remember Anna Lawlor
Saturday, December 20	5:00 p.m.	We Remember Jim Vogt
Sunday, December 21	7:00 a.m.	We Remember Laura Straub, Bernie Kutz, & Vernon & Ruth Friedrich
	9:00 a.m.	We Remember Catherine Linnemann
	11:00 a.m.	We Remember Elsie Hofstetter



Please Pray For

Adam Brandt	Barbara Kendall	Grant Koenigstein	Emmalyn Richardet
Shane Martin	Jim Grau	Doug Mercille	Corynn Becker
Jacob Nelson	Dolores G.	Theresa Zeisler	Teresa Dorshorst
Bob Beckert	Nicole Pennington	Doris Boss	William Christopher Crosson
Amanda Boitano	Harold Lutman	Karen Miller	Thomas Lorenz
Trace Ahrens	Elsa Wiemerslage	Larry Greenfield	Bo Taylor
Molly Blevins	John Stonis	Beth Heisel	Betty Schmieder
Curtis Sievers	Pedro Acevedo	Arlene Kruse	Phyllis Siwiecki
Craig Greer	Taylor Cygan	Delores Delevski	Gary Hoeffken
Janet Michael	Nate Meyer	Susan Oswill	Joyce Rose
Maryanne Klosterman	The Matt Smith Family	Steve Dineen	Tonya Richardson

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, Kaiden Timmons, US Army; Ensign Kalia Jerkatis, US Coast Guard

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

December 14, 2025

First Reading: Isaiah 35:1-6a, 10

Second Reading: James 5:7-10

Gospel: Matthew 11:2-11



Our Sympathies...

To Jodi Hentscher-Johnson and her family on the death of her mother Julie Hentscher, 73, of Waterloo.
To the family of Ruby Faust who passed away at the age of 93.

To Lisa Patton and her family on the death of her mother Sandra Gaines, 77, of Columbia



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!

December 7, 2025

Actual	33,367.06
Budget	30,900.00
Actual YTD	924,654.19
Budget YTD	966,400.00
Over (under)	(41,745.81)
Prior YTD	890,316.58
Over (under)	34,337.61
Guatemala	195.00
Votive	176.00
SVDP	105.00
Capital Improvements	133.00
Cemetery Maintenance	50.00
Gibault	40.00
Human Development	45.00
Needy	145.00
Retirement Fund	
for the Religious	305.00
Christmas Collection	765.00
Flowers	776.00
Phase 3	6,667.67



From Our Young Stewards

Time: Helped put away laundry, I picked up my room.

Treasure: 10.06

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

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.

CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE:

Christmas Eve: 4:00 p.m. & 10:00 p.m.

Christmas Day: 9:00 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.

PARISH OFFICE HOLIDAY HOURS:

December 24th-December 26th – Closed

December 31st-January 2nd – Closed

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.

Parish Work Day! February 14, 2026

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 December 20 & 21. All proceeds go to the 8th graders' trip to Washington D.C.

Ministry News & Happenings




ICC Ministry Spotlight

Funeral Meals Ministry

This ministry is a subgroup of the Immaculate Conception Council of Catholic Women (ICCCW). Members prepare dishes for the meal and/or serve the meal to family and friends of deceased parishioners. Meals consist of the family's choice of fried chicken and/or lunch meat, and side dishes donated by parishioners. Volunteers are needed to provide a side dish, set up, serve the meal, and clean up afterwards. Time commitment varies. Volunteers must be available to serve on a 2-3 day notice.

If you feel called to serve in this ministry, please contact Julie Ingold at julieingold11@gmail.com



Snippet from Mrs. Shea

We are in the thick of the holiday season with the passing of Thanksgiving and short trek into Christmas, so I would like to remind all parishioners of my presence as a mental and spiritual resource. For some, the holiday season can be a time of grief, anger, or great sadness due to any number of losses. So, if you or someone you know finds yourself in this position, know that you are not alone. Please call me in the Parish Office or send an email any time at 618- 281-5105 or schristensen@iccmil.org

ALZHEIMER'S & DEMENTIA SUPPORT GROUP

The next meeting will be on December 21st at 10:00 a.m. in the KC Room.

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 out!

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.



SVDP FOOD DRIVE:

SVDP will be collecting canned goods in the back of church. Please drop off in the designated area. Canned goods in need: Vegetables, Fruits and Meats.




Let us help you with your Christmas Ham!

The Knights of Columbus are offering fully cooked bone-in hams for purchase, with local pick-up or delivery*. Small (12-15lb) and large hams (23-28lb) are offered to fit your family needs.

The Knights will be taking orders in the Gathering Space after all masses on the weekends of December 6th & 7th and December 13th & 14th. The hams will be available for pick up at the chicken coop on the weekend of December 20th and 21st.

Order forms are available and can be submitted electronically to gk@kofc6165.org.

Proceeds support the Knights of Columbus Scholarship Fund.



THE 2025 CATHOLIC SERVICE AND MINISTRY APPEAL


Hope in the Lord

The true joy of Christmas is in the everlasting love of Christ. May you find His peace, love and joy now and in the coming new year.

With deepest gratitude for your prayers and generosity,

– Ministries and Programs Funded by
The Catholic Service and Ministry Appeal

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



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.



Christmas Cards

The ICC Sanctity of Life Ministry is selling Christmas cards to earn money for items that raise awareness for and promote the Sanctity of Life as well as to support our local crisis pregnancy care centers.

\$10 per pack



10 cards/pack

Christmas cards are available for purchase in the ICC parish office during normal business hours and at the ICS Craft Fair on Saturday, Dec 6.

Thank you for your support!

THE SANCTITY OF LIFE COMMITTEE IS COLLECTING NEW ITEMS FOR LIFE NETWORK.

The following items are most needed: Diapers, sizes 5-6; Girls Pull-ups, sizes, 2T-5T; Boys Pull-ups, sizes 5T-6T; Baby Wipes; Infants' or Children's Tylenol; Toddler Snacks, Toddler GO-GO squeeze pouches, Toddler Juice; Children's Clothing, Girls Sizes 12M-3T and Boys Sizes 24M-3T; and Walmart Gift Cards. Please take a tag, with a listed item, from the Giving Tree and bring back a new, unwrapped gift. Thanks on behalf of the clients of Life Network.



Topic:

Spiritual
Sonship &
Fatherhood

Discernment

DAY OF RECOLLECTION

Join us for a day of prayer, reflection, and fraternity to explore what it means to live as beloved sons of the Father and how that relationship shapes our understanding of spiritual fatherhood. The day will include conferences, Mass, Eucharistic Adoration, time for discussion & lunch. For single Catholic men ages 15-35. Email mkskorch@diobelle.org for more information.



Sat, Dec. 20, 2025
9:00 AM - 2:30 PM



St. Nicholas Parish
O'Fallon, IL



Scan here
to register

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.





IMMACULATE CONCEPTION SCHOOL

409 Palmer Road ~ 281-5353

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

ICS PARENTS & FRIENDS PRESENT
AN ALPINE GALA
GOING FOR GOLD

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 2026
IMMACULATE CONCEPTION
409 PALMER ROAD, COLUMBIA, IL

JOIN US FOR A SPARKLING EVENING IN SUPPORT OF IMMACULATE CONCEPTION SCHOOL: A NIGHT OF GOOD FOOD, GREAT FRIENDS AND GOLDEN OPPORTUNITIES TO GIVE BACK!

ALL TICKETS INCLUDE:

- DINNER, APPETIZERS & AN OPEN BAR
- SILENT & LIVE AUCTIONS
- RAFFLES & AUCTION NIGHT GAMES
- THIS YEAR'S EXCLUSIVE ALPINE PENTATHLON GAME!

EVERY DOLLAR RAISED SUPPORTS THE STUDENTS OF ICS — AND THAT'S A WIN WORTH CELEBRATING!

LOOK FOR
OUR RAFFLE
REVEAL
JANUARY 1,
2026!

PURCHASE TICKETS NOW

EARLY BIRD PRICE	NOV 7 - DEC 31	\$75
REGULAR PRICE	JAN 1 - JAN 31	\$100
LAST MINUTE PRICE	FEB 1 - FEB 21	\$125



DONATE TO THE AUCTION

HELP US GO FOR THE GOLD! WE'RE COLLECTING SILENT AND LIVE AUCTION ITEMS (OR CASH DONATIONS) TO SUPPORT IMMACULATE CONCEPTION SCHOOL STUDENTS.



TAKE YOUR AUCTION EXPERIENCE TO THE NEXT LEVEL WITH OUR AUCTION TABLE ADD-ONS



ONLY 10
AVAILABLE!
\$200/TABLE
SCAN THE CODE
TO LEARN MORE



UPCOMING PARENTS AND FRIENDS MEETINGS

January 9, 2026

8:15 p.m. in the Garden Level

What's Happening at Gibault?

Need something to keep your baseball or softball player busy this winter? Sign them up for our Winter Warmups! (See flyers on this page)

The 2026-27 New Student Application is NOW OPEN! Go to <https://gibaulthawks.com> and click "APPLY" to apply. All 7th and 8th graders can schedule a shadow visit and spend the day with one of our Student Ambassadors. Go to <https://gibaulthawks.com> and click "INQUIRE" to request more information.

2025 GIBAULT BASEBALL
Winter Camp
FOR 5-8 GRADERS

ALL CURRENT 5-8 GRADE BASEBALL PLAYERS ARE INVITED TO THE 2025 BASEBALL WINTER CAMP. THIS IS A GREAT OPPORTUNITY TO MEET THE COACHES, CURRENT PLAYERS, AND TAKE YOUR GAME TO THE NEXT LEVEL!

DEC. 29 - 31 | 9:00 - 11:30AM
FR. ED HUSTEDDE GYMNASIUM

REGISTER HERE:

PLEASE COMPLETE REGISTRATION BY DEC. 7 TO ASSURE YOUR CHILD'S T-SHIRT ORDER.
(LATE ENTRIES ARE STILL ACCEPTED!)

OR TEXT
"GIBAULTBASEBALL"
TO 41444

WITH QUESTIONS, CONTACT ANNY TARRER
ANN@GIBAULTHAWKS.COM

REGISTER NOW

WINTER SOFTBALL CAMPS

HOSTED BY
GIBAULT CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

Sun: Feb. 15, 22; March 1, 8

U.S. Softball Academy's Spring Training Program is a unique concept that provides young players an opportunity to take their game to the next level. **USSA camps are designed to develop skills in all facets of the game with an emphasis on teaching proper fundamentals and techniques.**

- Grades 1-12. Winter sessions are available in hitting, pitching, fielding/baserunning, and catching. Sessions include six hours of instruction in one skill for \$139. Add a second skill and save \$20. Add a third skill and save \$60!
- A national softball program with a local touch operated by Maggie Bollone, Head Coach, Gibault Catholic HS.
- With a low player to coach ratio, each player gets plenty of individual attention in a small-group atmosphere.
- Scan QR Code to Register! Scan QR Code with your cell phone camera to go to registration website.

MAKE THIS SEASON, THE BEST SEASON!

SAVE THE DATES

JANUARY 3, 2026
BOYS BASKETBALL ALUMNI NIGHT
CHEER ALUMNI NIGHT
BAND ALUMNI NIGHT
 JV STARTS AT 5:15, VARSITY & ALUMNI GAME TO FOLLOW

JANUARY 20, 2026
GIRLS BASKETBALL ALUMNI NIGHT
 VARSITY STARTS AT 6 WITH ALUMNI TO FOLLOW

JANUARY 31, 2026
HALL OF FAME NIGHT
 JV STARTS AT 5:15
 HALL OF FAME INDUCTION HAPPENS BETWEEN JV AND VARSITY GAMES

Diocesan and Area Interests...

SS. PETER & PAUL HOLY NAME SOCIETY

17th Annual Euchre Tournament
 Friday, January 30th, 2026
 SPPS Grade School Gym, Waterloo
 Doors open at 6:00 p.m.
 Tournament starts at 7:00 p.m.

For information or questions, please contact:
 Tim Huels (406-6399)
 Josh Phelps (978-4048)

THE MESSENGER

As a reminder, our current subscription rates are:

- \$40.00 for print edition
- \$35.00 for digital edition
- \$45.00 for both print and digital

Christmas DINNER

Thursday, December 25, 2025
SERVING 11:30 AM - 1:00 PM

St. Henry Parish
Msg. Voss Parish Center
5303 W. Main Street, Belleville

CALL 618-722-5024
BY DECEMBER 16
TO MAKE RESEVATIONS

No Carry-Outs Available
 A meal delivery (up to three) is available to the homebound

Sponsored by the Diocese of Belleville and Catholic Charities of Southern Illinois

Winter Coat Drive

Sponsor a Coat for \$25

Send a check to: Molly King, Life, Marriage and Family
 222 South Third St., Belleville IL 62220
 or click the QR code to pay on-line

St. Anne Cradle of Hope
 Carbondale, Illinois

Sponsor a new coat for \$25 or drop off a used coat (sizes NB-5T) at your local Pregnancy Resource Center!

More information:
<https://stannecradleofhope.org/stanne-coh>

Questions: mking@diobelle.org



Seeds of Healing through Faith, Hope, and Love

Join us for our 3rd annual Seeds of Healing retreat on Saturday, January 17, 2026, from 9am-6pm. Bringing God's healing grace to those who have lost loved ones unexpectedly: suicide, sudden, tragic or unforeseen death.

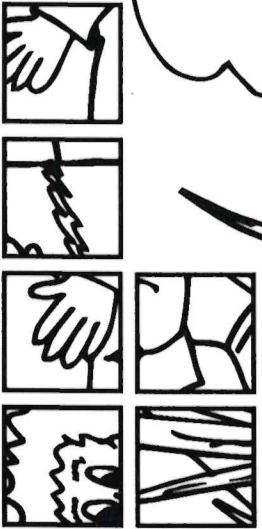
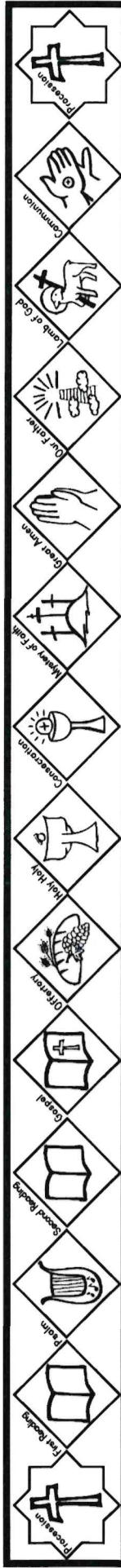
Though the roller coaster of emotions experienced through tragedy can be enough to make one doubt God's presence, this day of reflection is designed to help in the journey through these emotions and come out renewed with confidence in God's love and care for each one of us.

Members of our ministry team for this day will include a variety of gifted individuals, Gerard Fleming (Ambrose Dad), St Joseph Cottleville
 Judy Reel, All Saints, St Peters, MO
 Diane Meyer, St Patrick's, Wentzville
 Sue Vana, Murphysboro, IL - author "Shaken by God's Love"

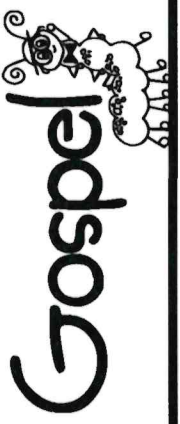
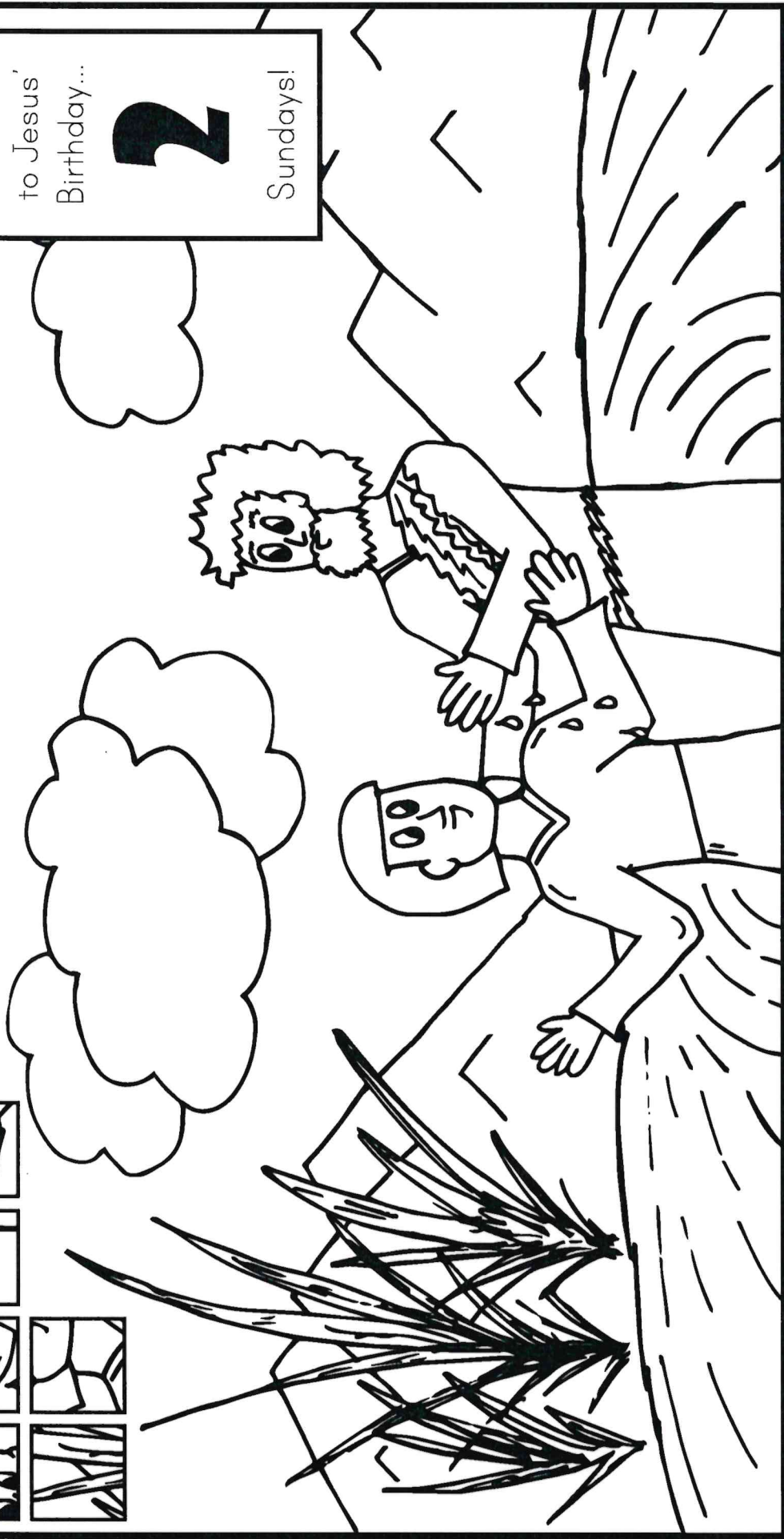
There will be time for healing prayers, discussions, sharing, for healthy outlet of emotions, and testimony from those who are healing from the same pain you may be feeling. Attendance will be limited to 100 participants total for Saturday, which will run from 9 am - 6 pm and will include lunch and dinner for \$68. We are also offering the option for up to 40 participants to spend the night and to stay through 10 am on Sunday; those who choose to spend the night will have additional time for rest, fellowship, snacks, a private room and breakfast on Sunday morning. The cost of the overnight experience is \$162. We expect to sell out, so please register early. We look forward to spending this beautiful time of healing with you!

For more information, don't hesitate to reach out to Barb @ 314.910.3942 or Mary @ 314.210.5098





Countdown
to Jesus'
Birthday...
2
Sundays!



John the Baptist was a great man, and people thought he might be God.
He told them that a greater man was coming. They were waiting for Jesus!



John Adams, CFP®
Financial Advisor
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John.Adams@ampf.com
ameripriseadvisors.com/john.1.adams
Ameriprise Financial Services, LLC
1065 Executive Parkway Dr., Suite 215
St. Louis, MO 63141

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Dr. Ken Kloess
Trusted Dentistry
286-4855
240 S. Main Dupo

Braun Family Funeral Home



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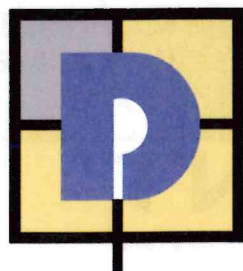
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