

December 21, 2025
Fourth Sunday of Advent

*For to us a
Child is born,*

*to us a Son
is given.*

-Isaiah 9:6

Immaculate Conception

A Full Stewardship Parish ~ Partner Parish of Sacred Heart of Jesus, Dupo, IL

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

Parish Office Hours

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

Phone: 618-281-5105

Parish Staff

Pastor, Fr. Brian Barker
ext. 358 or 618-281-5105
frbrian@iccmail.org

Deacon Tom Helfrich
deacontom@iccmail.org

**Business Manager,
Kara Dell-Hunt**
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**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,
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Advocate, Shea Christensen**
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**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 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 22	8:05 a.m.	We Remember Job George Sugey
Tuesday, December 23	8:05 a.m.	We Remember Lawrence Spier
Wednesday, December 24	4:00 p.m.	We Remember Dan & Shirley O'Brien
	10:00 p.m.	We Remember Michael Conrad
Thursday, December 25	9:00 a.m.	We Remember Helen Marquardt
	11:00 a.m.	We Remember Dean & Marian Keim
Friday, December 26	8:05 a.m.	We Remember Suzanne Browne
Saturday, December 27	5:00 p.m.	We Remember Jim Vogt
Sunday, December 28	7:00 a.m.	We Remember David Smith
	9:00 a.m.	We Remember Joanne Hoffman
	11:00 a.m.	We Remember Chester & Lillian Kopec



Please Pray For

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

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 21, 2025

First Reading: Isaiah 7:10-14

Second Reading: Romans 1:1-7

Gospel: Matthew 1:18-24



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.

Our Sympathies...

To the family of Margaret (Marge) Byerley
 who passed away at the age of 93.



EUCARISTIC 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 14, 2025

Actual	88,228.23
Budget	30,931.00
Actual YTD	1,012,882.42
Budget YTD	997,331.00
Over (under)	15,551.42
Prior YTD	979,502.32
Over (under)	33,380.10
Guatemala	2,140.00
Votive	189.00
SVDP	260.00
Capital Improvements	5,845.00
Cemetery Maintenance	85.00
Gibault	195.00
Human Development	50.00
Needy	375.00
Retirement Fund for the Religious	845.00
Sr. Thea Bowman	45.00
Christmas Collection	755.00
Flowers	365.00
Eugene Schorb	
Edu Endowment	53.00
Phase 3	31,979.00
CEAC	140.00



From Our Young Stewards

Time: I took the dogs out & I loaded up the dishwasher.

Treasure: 135.44

* The above totals include online giving through 12/14/2025.

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*

Parish Events & News...

CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE:

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

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

PARISH OFFICE HOLIDAY HOURS:

December 24th-December 26th – Closed

December 31st-January 2nd – Closed

Parish Work Day! February 14, 2026

THE WINNERS OF THE QUILT MINISTRY RAFFLE ARE:

1st Prize – Queen Size Christmas Log Cabin Quilt: **Sue Farr (a quilter)**
2nd Prize – Snowman Quilt Throw: **Shirley Hock**
3rd Prize – Snowman Wall Hanging: **Glenda Sexauer**
4th Prize – Santa Door Hanging: **Dorothy Weiser (a quilter)**

Thank you to all who contributed to the success of the raffle craft sales.

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.

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!

BULLETIN DEADLINE...

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

D.C. PRETZEL AND DONUT SALES...

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

Ministry News & Happenings

Snippet from Mrs. Shea

May blessings be with you this Advent and Christmas season, from our family to yours.



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 on December 20 and 21. Please drop off in the designated area.

Canned goods in need: Vegetables, Fruits and Meats.

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK:

I have been very blessed, so much so that I've been able to lead pilgrimages to the Holy Land several times. One of my favorite sites is the Church of the Nativity in Bethlehem. It was built in 339 and it was erected over the cave where tradition believes that Jesus was born. To be at the spot where the Word became Flesh, to go down below ground and see that cave, is always quite inspiring for me. It's one of the oldest Christian shrines in the world. It's a powerful, mystical site. Yet the thing that I like most about going to this church is the entry door. There are no signs telling you that this is the church of Jesus' birth. It's remarkably unassuming. There's no grand entrance. No huge doors like at St. Peter's in Vatican City, which are 25 feet tall. You could actually walk right by it and not know this is one of the most sacred spaces in all of Christendom. The entrance is disarmingly simple. It's only one door. This lone door is four feet high and two feet wide. To go inside and see the place where Christ was born, one has to first lower oneself and pass through this, what they call "The Door of Humility."

Historians will argue that it was designed this way to prevent horse and camel-riding looters from pillaging the church at the time of the Crusades. And that just may very well be true. But I find it quite amazing that if you want to see the place where Jesus was born, you have to bow, lower yourself, humble yourself to encounter this sacred spot. The small and narrow door also helps me understand the way Jesus humbled Himself by entering into our broken and human condition. The proud and the arrogant can't understand this mystery, nor can those puffed up by their own egos. Only those who know of their own unworthiness have the wisdom to bow down before entering into this sacred space, not because they have to if they want to fit through, but because it's the right thing to do, to bow, lower ourselves, before the God who loved us into our very existence, and humbled Himself to become one like us to save us from our sins.

This Jesus who became like us was born in a food trough with straw as His bed. That's humble! Humility seems to be in short supply in our culture and country. Yet humility is a trait, a way of life, that can lead us to God and God's home, Heaven. Heaven is our goal. To be with our loved ones whom we miss so much, to see all the saints and angels, to be in the presence of God with never a problem or concern and just always being happy, is hard to imagine. But it's real. And it all starts with Christmas, with Christ's birth, to save humanity.

May the Christ Child bring you a peace this Christmas that only He can give. Peace on earth. Good will to all. May we do our part to bring a little Heaven on earth this Christmas.



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.

For any questions call 344-494-8874 or email gk@kofc6165.org

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

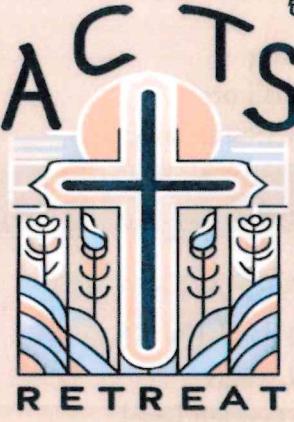
VOCATION

Today we hear of Joseph's call to be the Head of the Holy Family. What a wonderful act of selflessness — turning his whole life over to the will of God, even under some really stressful circumstances. This is the call for each one of us — to be "righteous". This should be our daily goal. Encourage everyone to follow their unique vocation to follow the Lord.

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 28 - 29, 2026

WOMEN'S RETREAT OCTOBER 15 - 18, 2026

ACTS

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.

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.



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

KIDS AGAINST HUNGER

ICS Builders Club is sponsoring a meal packing day February 20, 2026. Goal: Help us reach our \$10,000.00 goal to feed 30,000 people! We have held bake sales, sucker sales, and candy cane sales to get us 40% there.

Packing day will include all 7th and 8th grade Builders Club members, Key Club members from CHS, and Kiwanis volunteers. The group will work for 2.5 hours packing dry ingredients into plastic bags destined to feed the hungry.

All donations can be made

1. By check to: Kiwanis Club of Columbia, ICS Builders Club and put in the offering basket with a note for KAH.
2. Or to the Parish Venmo with a note for KAH.

Thank you for helping us feed the hungry!



venmo

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!

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: <https://gibaultbaseball.com>

PLEASE COMPLETE REGISTRATION BY DEC. 7 TO ASSURE YOUR CHILD'S 1/8 GRADE ORDER!
(LATE ENTRIES ARE STILL ACCEPTED)

OR TEXT "GIBAULTBASEBALL" TO 41444

WITH QUESTIONS, CONTACT ANDY MAIER: AMAIER@GIBAULTHAWKS.COM

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.

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

 **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.

MAKE THIS SEASON, THE BEST SEASON!

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 Boilone, 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.



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)



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

Questions: mking@diobelle.org

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>



Gibault Catholic High School



\$100 Daily Winners

March 1st - 31st 2026



*Diocesan and Area
Interests...*

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

RESPECT LIFE CORNER

"O Blessed Mother, at the angel's word you went in haste to the aid of your cousin Elizabeth. Although pregnant yourself, you placed her needs before your own. By your example of radical solidarity, teach us to reverence and protect those in need, without conditions or expectations... Obtain for us the grace to bring Christ to any expectant mother who is alone and afraid."

— USCCB Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities

Prayer for Radical Solidarity

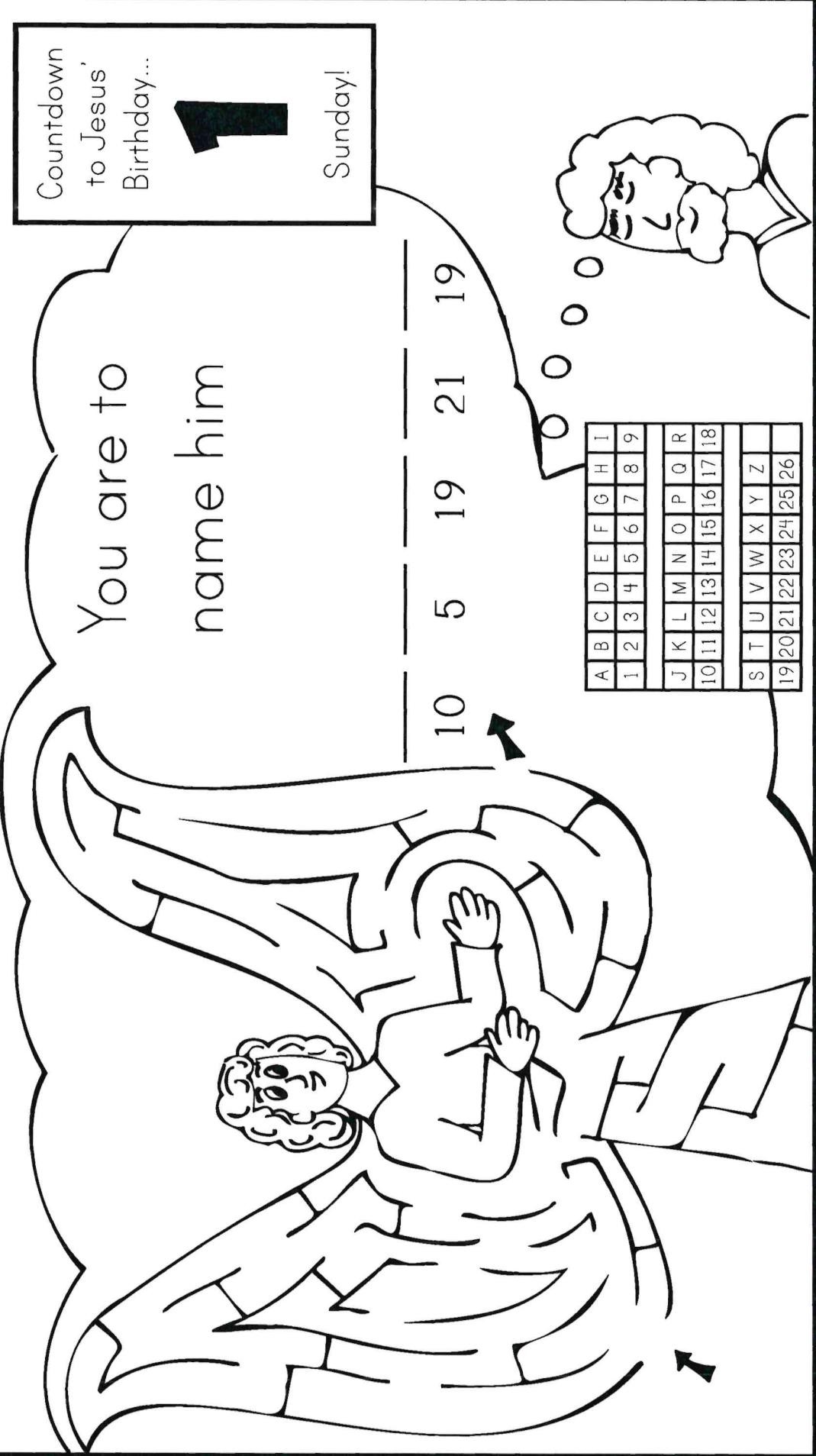
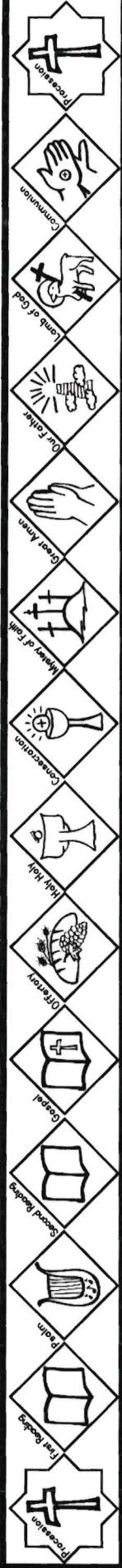
(www.respectlife.org/prayer-for-radical-solidarity)

"Oh, Santísima Madre, al anuncio del ángel acudiste de prisa a socorrer a tu prima Isabel. Aunque estabas embarazada, antepusiste sus necesidades a las tuyas. Por medio de tu ejemplo de solidaridad radical, enséñanos a amparar y proteger a los necesitados, sin condiciones ni expectativas... Concédenos la gracia de llevar a Cristo a cualquier futura madre que se encuentre sola y temerosa."

— Secretariado de Actividades Pro-Vida de la

USCCB Oración por la solidaridad radical

(es.respectlife.org/prayer-for-radical-solidarity)



Gospel

An angel visited Joseph in a dream.
The angel told him that Mary would have a son.
Listen to the Gospel to hear the angel's message.



John Adams, CFP®
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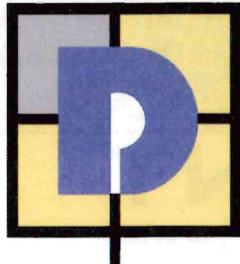
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