



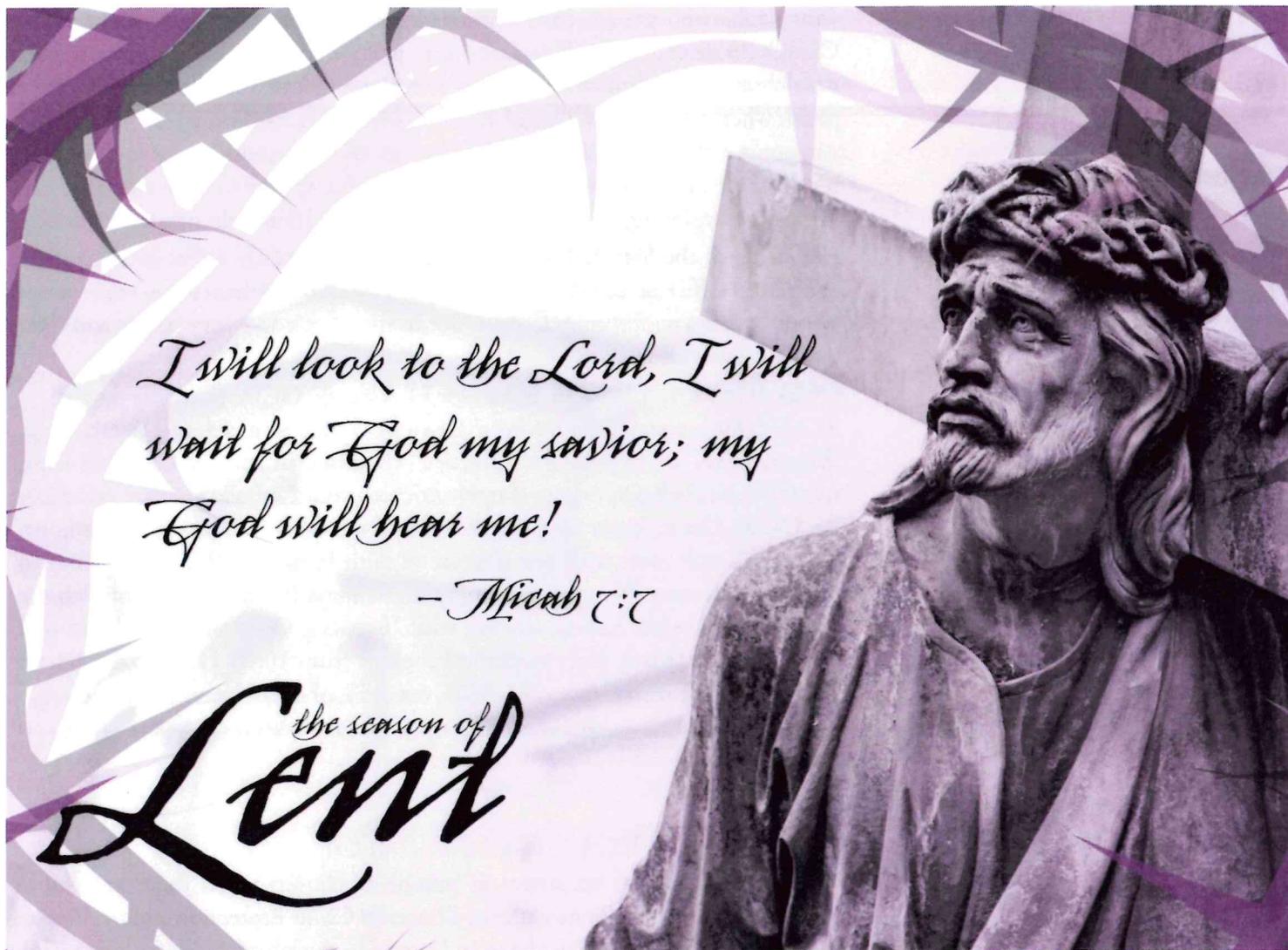
# Immaculate Conception

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

March 1, 2026

Second Sunday of Lent

[www.icc-columbia-il.us](http://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 Católica en Immaculata Concepción. ¡Que tengas una bendita semana!

We livestream! To participate, please use this link:  
<https://www.youtube.com/c/ImmaculateConceptionCatholicChurchColumbiaIL>

## *This Week's Liturgical Celebrations*

Masses – Saturday, 5:00 p.m. and Sunday, 7:00, 9:00, 11:00 a.m.

Monday, March 2	8:05 a.m.	We Remember Katherine Holtgrieve
Tuesday, March 3	8:05 a.m.	We Remember JoAnn Sander
Wednesday, March 4	8:05 a.m.	We Remember Mary Frey
Thursday, March 5	8:05 a.m.	We Remember Norm Schmidt
Friday, March 6	8:05 a.m.	We Remember Babs Jackson
Saturday, March 7	5:00 p.m.	We Remember Edward Richardt
		In honor of Charlie Lepp
Sunday, March 8	7:00 a.m.	We Remember Norine Schmidt
	9:00 a.m.	We Remember Catherine Linnemann
	11:00 a.m.	We Remember Mitchel Rick



### *Please Pray For*

Grant Koenigstein	Steve Dineen	Tonya Richardson	Karin Bennett
Doug Mercille	Emmalyn Richardet	Jane Quernheim	Julie Beckert
Theresa Zeisler	Corynn Becker	Andy Amann	Jim Grau
Larry Greenfield	Teresa Dorshorst	Nicole Hughes	Adam Brandt
Beth Heisel	Bo Taylor	Laura Tasted	Tim Friedrich
Arlene Kruse	Betty Schmieder	Sarah Davis	Susie Settle
Delores Deleveski	Gary Hoeffken	Thomas Oleski	
Susan Oswill	Joyce Rose	Lindsey Proksha	

*If you need someone to continue to be on the prayer list, please contact Michelle at the Parish Office to add them back on.*

### *Troops in Service...*

SGM Joseph Pope, Dustin Crawford, Kaiden Timmons, US Army;  
Colonel Brian Schoellhorn, Samuel Campbell, Chief Petty Officer, Seth Spencer, Navy;  
Captain Benjamin Thoma, Captain Alex Kawalec, United States Air Force;  
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*

**March 1, 2026**

**First Reading:** Genesis 12:1-4a  
**Second Reading:** Second Timothy 1:8b-10  
**Gospel:** Matthew 17:1-9



### **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.

# Parish Events & News...

## HOW TO HAVE A HOLY LENT

Each year, the Lord Jesus calls the entire Church to a special season of penance and renewal. As we journey through this holy time of Lent, we should reflect on our need for conversion of heart, prayer, charitable works and penance. The Season of Lent extends this year from Ash Wednesday, February 18, to the Mass of the Lord's Supper, April 2, inclusive.

1. Everyone 14 years of age or over is bound to abstain from meat on Ash Wednesday, Good Friday and all Fridays of Lent.
2. Everyone 18 years of age and under 59 years of age is also bound to fast on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday.
3. On these two days of fast and abstinence, only one full meatless meal is allowed. The other meatless meals, sufficient to maintain strength, may be taken according to one's needs, but altogether they should not equal another full meal. Eating between meals is not permitted on these two days, but liquids, including milk and fruit juices are allowed.
4. When health or ability to work would be seriously affected, the obligation of the law is modified. Those that are excused from fast and abstinence outside the age limits include the physically or mentally ill including individuals suffering from chronic illnesses such as diabetes. Also excluded are pregnant or nursing women. In all cases, common sense should prevail, and ill persons should not further jeopardize their health by fasting.
5. Because Lent is a special season for all Christians, we should not lightly excuse ourselves from these penitential practices.

The Season of Lent gives way to the celebration of Easter in Holy Week, the most sacred period of the liturgical calendar. Holy Week includes both the Church's most solemn observances and joyous feasts. Unique, beautiful liturgies fill the period of time that begins on Palm Sunday and culminates with Easter Sunday. Holy Week 2026 is a great time to recommit to prayer and draw close to God.

## FISH FRY FRIDAYS WILL BE HERE SOON.

They will be serving 3:00-7:00 p.m. If you are interested in working the Fish Frys, please contact Pat Grawitch at [gk@kofc6165.org](mailto:gk@kofc6165.org).

Below are the dates:

- March 6, 2026
- March 20, 2026
- April 3, 2026 (Good Friday)



## 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.

## BLOOD DRIVE:

March 6, 2026 in the Garden Level

*Parish Work Day!* March 14, 2026

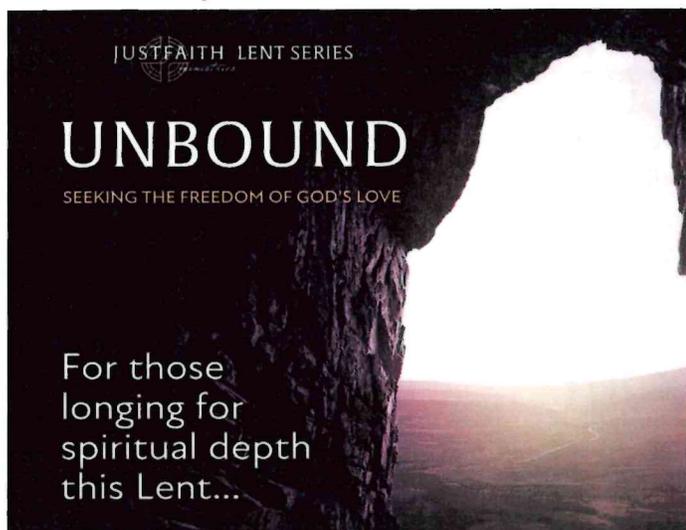
## SCRIPTURE DISCUSSIONS FOR MEN AND WOMEN

**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!*



## JUST FAITH FOR LENT – UNBOUND: SEEKING THE FREEDOM OF GOD’S LOVE

If you feel weary and long for a deeper spirituality; want to seek justice and connections; yearn for the Resurrection and long to begin again, you are in the right place. For six weeks here at ICC, we will gather, read, reflect and share about the Gospel. This Lenten Season, let’s join together in following Jesus through the wilderness. We’ll meet characters like Nicodemus, the Samaritan woman at the well, the man born blind, and Lazarus, and explore how Jesus invites each of them – and us – to step into the light. **Each session of Unbound: Seeking the Freedom of God’s Love** is based on Jesus’ stories. We will gather on Wednesday nights, February 25-April 1, 2026 at 6:30 p.m. in the Fr. Steve Gira Library. (There is no fee for this weekly hour session.) Contact Carol Waide at 618-910-1648 if you have questions or to sign up.

## 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.

## 2026 K of C – 40th ANNUAL CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL SCHOLARSHIP –



**ESSAY CONTEST** will be held on **Sunday, March 15 at 12:30 p.m.** (after 11:00 a.m. Mass).

The Contest will be held in the ICS/CEAC – Room 225 (Mr. Kassebaum’s classroom).

In accordance with Contest rules:

**No late entry/or make-up dates.** The Contest prize is one \$2,400.00 scholarship – payable in (4) annual installments of \$600.00 – directly to the Catholic High School of winner’s choice.

The Contest participant must be **ICC Parish Member**, who will be an entering freshman of a **Catholic High School** for the 2026-27 school year. The Contestant must currently be attending either ICS Grade School OR the Columbia public school system.

*Any questions, please call Kevin W. Hutchinson, KC Council 6165 at 314-974-7072. Please RSVP to Kevin one week prior to Contest if possible, for planning the room setup.*

## BEREAVEMENT MINISTRY

The Bereavement Ministry was delighted to host SLU doctoral candidate Ben Parvis as the first of our three Lenten speakers. Ben spoke to an appreciative audience about end-of-life experiences, and “Grief, But With Hope.” Mark your calendars for our next speakers, both at 6:30 p.m. on the following Lenten Thursdays:

March 12: Fr. Brian Barker, “Reflections on Lent”

March 19: Louis Damani Jones, “Mental Health and Faith”





HOP INTO FUN!

# EASTER EGG HUNT

MARCH 22 | 12:30PM

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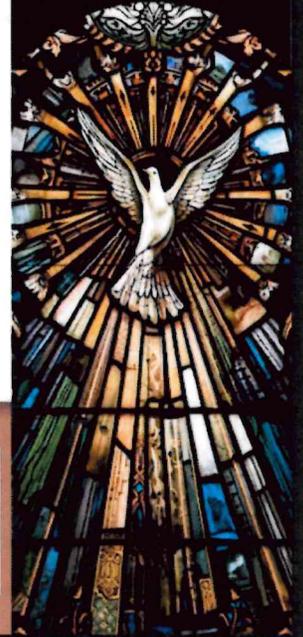
Saturday, April 11

Holy Trinity Church  
Fairview Hts., IL

4:00 pm - Mass

5:00 pm - Cocktail Hour

6:00 pm - Dinner & Auction



To Register please visit -  
<https://www.diobelle.org/>

Or Scan the QR Code



For more information please  
contact Mary Fleming  
mfleming@diobelle.org  
or 618-722-5031

## Diocesan and Area Interests

SAVE THE DATE!

Catholic Youth Program



**TOTUS  
TUUS  
2026**

Totus Tuus summer youth program is back at Ss. Peter and Paul, Waterloo, and Immaculate Conception will help to host! Exciting weeklong summer program for Grades 1-12! Totally Catholic program in a fun learning environment.

Grades 1-6\* – July 6-10, Monday-Friday, 9:00 a.m.-2:30 p.m. Bring a sack lunch.

Grades 7-12\* – July 5-9, Sunday-Thursday, 6:30-8:45 p.m. Dinner provided.

Registration info coming in March.

Students grade 7-12 may apply to be volunteers for daytime.

*\*Grade entering in fall of 2026*

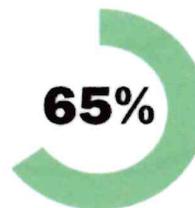
### OBK CAPITAL CAMPAIGN

We are thrilled to be purchasing a larger, one-story building that will allow returning citizens to receive expanded programs and services, all in an accessible building closer to the bus stop! We will still be in East St Louis where the IDOC Transitional Houses are.



HONORING JOURNEYS  
INSPIRING TRANSFORMATION

Thanks to some generous early donors, we have already raised \$81,000 of the \$125,000 asking price!!



READY TO SUPPORT OUR CAMPAIGN?

You can mail a check to:

Our Brothers' Keepers of Southern Illinois  
614 North 7<sup>th</sup> Street

East St Louis IL 62201 or online at [www.obkministry.org](http://www.obkministry.org)

Thank you SO much!



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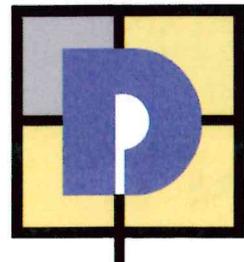
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