



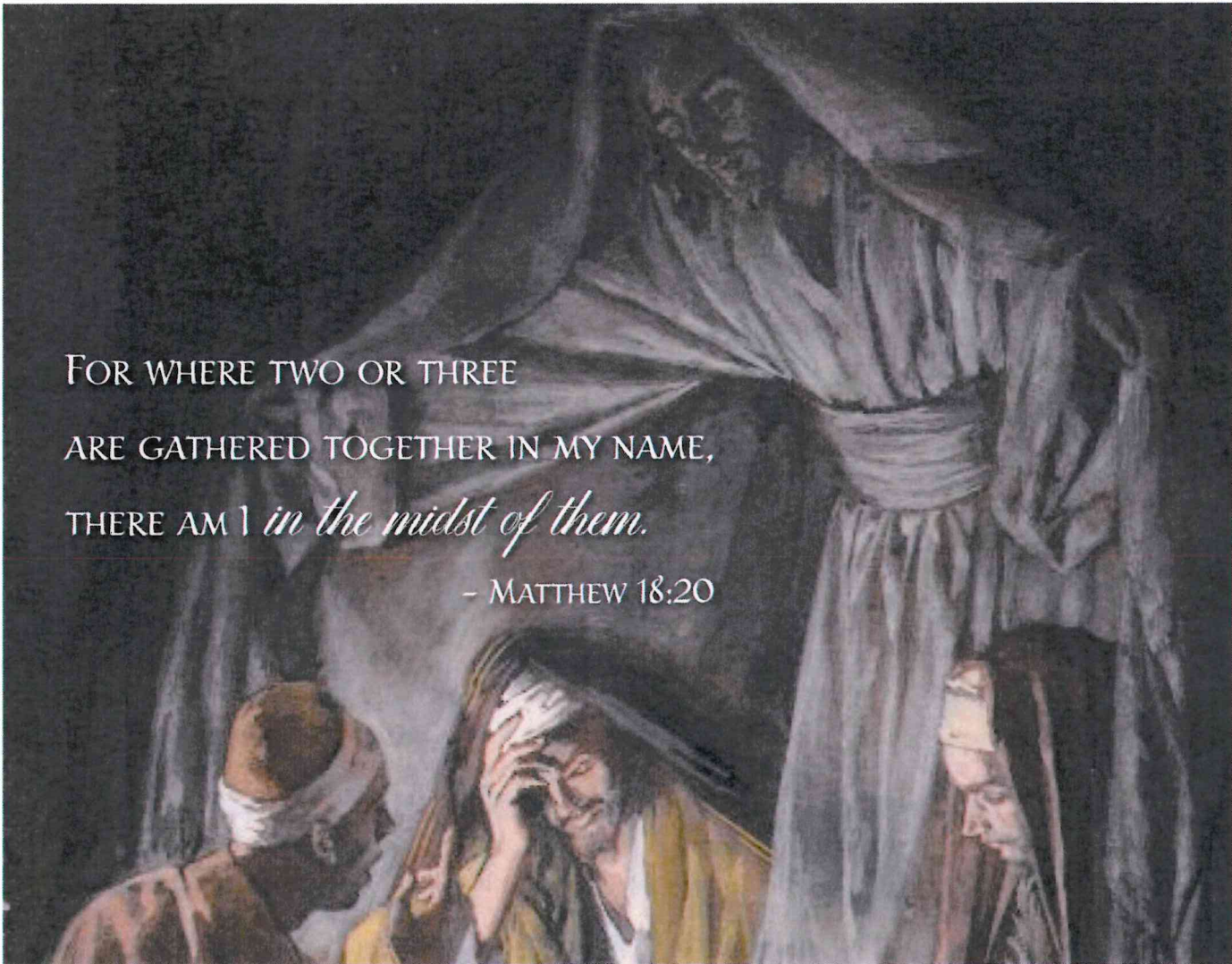
Immaculate Conception

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

September 6, 2026

Twenty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time

www.icc-columbia-il.us



FOR WHERE TWO OR THREE
ARE GATHERED TOGETHER IN MY NAME,
THERE AM I *in the midst of them.*

- MATTHEW 18:20

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 y bienvenidos a la iglesia Catolica Immaculata Concepcion. ¡Tengas una semana bendita!

We livestream! To participate, please use this link:

<https://www.youtube.com/c/ImmaculateConceptionCatholicChurchColumbiaIL>

Parish Office Information

Summer Hours: Monday-
Thursday 8:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.
Friday: 8:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.
Phone: 618-281-5105

Parish Staff

Pastor, Fr. Brian Barker
ext. 358, frbrian@iccmail.org

Deacon Tom Helfrich
deacontom@iccmail.org

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

Co-Directors of Music,
Karen Lundy & Emily Holland

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

**IC-PSR Coordinator &
Liturgy Director,**
Rebecca Husman
ext. 353, rhusman@iccmail.org

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

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

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

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

Pastoral Council Chair,
Carrie Boser,
parishcouncil@iccmail.org

**School Advisory Council
President, Ali Kosydor,**
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. Contact Michelle at the Parish Office if you have questions. *The initial course is now available online. Please contact Michelle at the Parish Office for directions. Not sure if you are compliant?? Contact Michelle at the Parish Office. *The refresher course for 2026-2027 IS AVAILABLE ONLINE. Follow the link on our website! If you can't find it there, it is also on the diocesan website: <http://diobelle.org/b.aspx>. Questions? Contact Kara at the Parish Office, 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: 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, September 7	8:05 a.m.	We Remember Alonzo & Theresa Beckerle
Tuesday, September 8	8:05 a.m.	We Remember Fr. Gary Hogan
Wednesday, September 9	8:05 a.m.	We Remember Donna Bauer
Thursday, September 10	9:00 a.m.	For the safety of our School Community
Friday, September 11	8:05 a.m.	We Remember Jenny Eckenfels
Saturday, September 12	5:00 p.m.	We Remember James Herrmann & Matt Hart
Sunday, September 13	7:00 a.m.	We Remember Elisabeth Weillbacher
	9:00 a.m.	We Remember Patricia McMullan
	11:00 a.m.	We Remember Patti Rottler



Please Pray For

Grant Koenigstein	Betty Schmieder	Thomas Oleski	Jessica Oertwig	Patti French
Doug Mercille	Gary Hoeffken	Lindsey Proksha	Don Williams	Barbara Kendall
Theresa Zeisler	Joyce Rose	Karin Bennett	Dolores G.	Connie Cox
Larry Greenfield	Tonya Richardson	Adam Brandt	Cheryl Cobin	Howard Martin
Beth Heisel	Jane Quernheim	Tim Friedrich	Julie Beckert	Terry Mouser
Arlene Kruse	Andy Amann	Susie Settle	David Procasky &	Ronald Gordon
Delores Deleveski	Nicole Hughes	Larry Shuler	Family	
Susan Oswill	Laura Tasted	Kasen Greer	David Thomas	
Teresa Dorshorst	Sarah Davis	Jim M.	David Meyer	

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...

CSM Joseph Pope, Dustin Crawford, Kaiden Timmons, United States Army;
Colonel Brian Schoellhorn, Samuel Campbell, Chief Petty Officer Seth Spencer,
LT John Paul Winkler, LTJG William Winkler, United States Navy;
Captain Benjamin Thoma, Captain Alex Kawalec, United States Air Force;
Ensign Kalia Jerkatis, United States 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

September 6, 2026

First Reading: Ezekiel 33:7-9

Second Reading: Romans 13:8-10

Gospel: Matthew 18:15-20



Our Sympathies...

To the Family and Friends of Dennis Gruchala who passed away at the age of 81.

To Melissa, Bruce, Kelly, & Angie and their Families on the death of their mother Irma Naumann, 95, 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 3:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m. Spend some quiet time with the Lord.

Stewardship...

Thank you for sharing your blessings with us!

August 30, 2026

Actual	20,582.90
Budget	25,000.00
Actual YTD	298,890.36
Budget YTD	344,300.00
Over (under)	(45,409.64)
Prior YTD	350,138.01
Over (under)	(51,247.65)
Guatemala	170.00
Votive	204.00
Gibault	20.00
Capital Improvements	15.00
Retired Diocesan Priests	100.00
Sr. Thea Bowman	120.00
Phase 3	1,277.00



From Our Young Stewards:

Treasure: 60.00

Thank You for Sharing Your Blessings!

WHAT IS A 529 PLAN?

A 529 plan is an investment account that offers tax-free withdrawals and other benefits when used to pay for qualified educational expenses. You can use a 529 plan to pay for college, K-12 tuition, apprenticeship programs, and even student loan repayments. Any leftover funds can be used in different ways, including funding a Roth IRA. There are two primary 529 plans: education savings plans and prepaid tuition plans.

Education Saving Plans – Also known as 529 college savings plans, these are tax-advantaged investment accounts that are designed for educational savings. They work much like a Roth 401(k) or Roth IRA by allowing you to invest your after-tax contributions in mutual funds or similar investments. 529 plans offer several investment options from which to choose. The 529 plan account will go up or down in value based on the performance of the investment options.

Prepaid Tuition Plans - These plans let you prepay all or part of the costs of an in-state public college education. You may also convert them for use at private and out-of-state colleges. Educational institutions can offer a prepaid tuition plan but not a college savings plan.

Federal Tax Advantages of 529 Plans: Earnings in your account accumulate tax free. In other words, no income taxes are due on earnings as long as the money stays in your account. You will not have to pay federal income taxes on withdrawals as long as the money is used to pay for qualified educational expenses. In most cases, these withdrawals will also be exempt from state income taxes. Note that similar to a Roth IRA, contributions to a 529 plan are not deductible for federal income tax purposes. Some families use 529 plans as an estate planning vehicle because contributions are considered completed gifts to the beneficiary. Up to \$20,000.00 per donor, per beneficiary, qualifies for the annual gift tax exclusion in 2026. State Tax Benefits can also be available. The steps on how a 529 plan works are:

1. Choosing a 529 Plan;
2. Opening an Account and Designating a Beneficiary;
3. Contributing to 529 Plans;
4. Choosing a 529 Plan Investment Portfolio; and
5. Withdrawing Funds from 529 Plans to Pay for Qualified Expenses.

Using a 529 Plan for Education Expenses – It's important to understand that with a 529 plan, only qualified withdrawals are tax-free. You should only use your 529 plan to pay for qualified educational expenses. 529 plan withdrawals must happen in the same tax year as the expenses incurred. This means that if you're paying for January expenses, you can't withdraw funds in December of the previous year, even though it's only weeks from when you need the money. Qualified expenses for college include costs required for enrollment or attendance, such as tuition and fees, books and materials, room and board (for students enrolled at least half-time), computers and related equipment, internet access, and special needs equipment for students attending a college, university, or other eligible post-secondary educational institutions. In recent years, the IRS has expanded the definition of qualified education expenses beyond traditional higher education costs, including K-12 tuition expenses and student loan repayments. There is a \$10,000.00 annual limit on qualified K-12 withdrawals and a \$10,000.00 lifetime limit on student loans. 529 plans can also be used to pay for qualified expenses at a trade or vocational school or for registered apprenticeship program expenses. A common concern in the past has been what to do in case you don't use all the money you've saved in a 529 account. This is now less of a potential drawback as the definition of qualified expenses has expanded, and parents have more options than ever on what to do with unused 529 funds. For more information about 529 plans, contact your financial or tax advisor.

– Immaculate Conception Planned Giving Council

Parish Events & News...

THE PARISH OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED ON
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 8TH DUE TO
PICNIC CLEANUP

COUNTRY STORE

The ICC Labor Day Picnic Country Store
appreciates donations of:

- homegrown fruits and veggies •
- homemade jellies/jams •
- breads • cupcakes • cookies •
- soaps • candles • afghans • baby quilts •

Items must be washed/clean/new.

THANK
YOU!

Please deliver to the Parish Office during
regular business hours thru 9/3 OR
bring to the lower parking lot VALET
between 8 & 10:30am on 9/7.

Include a note that says
COUNTRY STORE & a suggested sale price.

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:

September 11, 2026 in the Gym Lobby

Parish Work Day! October 10, 2026

Upcoming ICY Events:

Sept 13. 2:30-4:40pm - Scavenger Hunt

Sept 16. 7pm - ICY Leadership Meeting

Oct 14. 7pm - ICY Pumpkin Carving Contest

Nov 1. 6pm - ICY Movie Night: Coco!

Nov 14. 8:30am - Work & Play Day!

Immaculate
Conception Youth
is open to all
parish high school
students. Check
out our website
for more details:



ICY@ICCMAIL.ORG

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION
Parish

LABOR DAY PICNIC

Monday | September 7



Chicken Dinner

11am-4pm
(or until sold out)
Dine-in or Carry-out.



Quilt Bingo

11am-6pm
Play a bit or stay all day!
\$500
FINAL GAME PAYOUT



Booths & Games

11am-7pm
Books - Country Store -
Desserts - Raffles - Plant
Stand - Food & Drink -
Adult & Kid Games

Live music throughout the day

MORE INFO

ON FACEBOOK
@ImmaculateConception
ParishPicnic



Ways to Support the Picnic

- Donate books, desserts & homegrowns
- Sell Raffle Tickets
- Sign up to help (August 1)

411 PALMER ROAD | COLUMBIA, IL 62236 | ALL PARKING WILL BE ONSITE

September **ICY**
SCAVANGER HUNT

BINGO

GLORIOUS PRIZES FOR WINNING TEAMS!

THIS YEAR'S HUNT WILL BE ON CAMPUS, ON FOOT!

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 2:30-4:40PM
MEET US 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 iccmil@iccmil.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 incoming 8th graders will be September 19 and 20. All proceeds go to the 8th graders' trip to Washington D.C.

Ministry News & Happenings



ICC Ministry Spotlight

Sister School Ministry

Our parish and school have formed a partnership with **Sister Thea Bowman School**, a K-8 Catholic School in East St. Louis, and a ministry of the Diocese of Belleville. Sr. Thea Bowman School opened in 1989, and it is located in one of the poorest communities in Illinois. Nearly 100% of the students are eligible for and receive tuition assistance. The school provides a holistic learning approach to faith development and education through music and the arts. In their efforts to break the cycle of intergenerational poverty, the school has a philosophy not to just educate each child, but to also educate the whole family. 100% of their alumni graduate high school on time which is not typically the case in poor communities. As a show of support, students from ICS attend Sr. Thea Bowman's annual Advent Prayer Service, and the students from Sr. Thea Bowman occasionally make visits to our school for engagement in student activities which broaden perspectives and build a sense of shared community. Every August, there is a special envelope with the opportunity to make a donation to support this unique ministry in our diocese.



If you would like to volunteer at Sister Thea Bowman School, contact Mr. Kenny Nance (Principal) at 618-397-0316 or knance@srthea.org. For general information, email Karen Waide at cooperwaide@aol.com.

ALZHEIMER'S & DEMENTIA SUPPORT GROUP

Next monthly meeting is September 20 at 10:00 a.m. in the KC Room.



Are you or someone you know unable to attend Mass?

Whether it be a temporary or ongoing injury or illness that keeps you away from joining us in person, our Homebound Ministers are ready to bring the Holy Eucharist to you on Sunday mornings.

Call the parish office at 618/281-5105
with questions or to get signed up.



MEN'S CANCER SUPPORT GROUP

Immaculate Conception has formed a men's group to try to help other men who have cancer or who have encountered cancer in the past. We are also open to those with any disease, those undergoing special testing or experiencing prostate issues. We hope through bonding with one another we can ease your mind with your issues. Any questions, please call Kevin Glasscock at 314-565-4418. **Next meeting is September 8th at 6:30 p.m. in the Garden Level.**

GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP

Do you or someone you know struggle with the loss of a loved one? ICC has started a support group for those struggling to cope with grief in their everyday lives. Grief is an experience that can be deeply personal, but it is also an experience understood by many regardless of age, socioeconomic status, gender, or religion. Whether your loved one has been gone for days, months, or years – we hope that you join us for our next meeting **on September 9th at 6:00 p.m.** in the Library. Because no one should have to suffer alone. For further questions, please contact Shea Christensen at schristensen@iccmil.org.

MEALS FROM THE



Just a reminder that we 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!

JUST FAITH:

The Just Faith group will be offering a seven-week course on Wednesday evenings from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. Beginning September 30 and concluding November 11, just ahead of the holidays. The goal of the course is to educate parishioners about Catholic Social Teachings and explore how we can apply these teachings to our lives as we live out God's love for the world. If you are interested in participating, please contact Carol Waide at 618-910-1648 or Faith Clark at 618-420-3164.

SISTER PARISH REPORT

St. Raymond

The total USD sent from June-December 2025 is **\$21,599.00**

Please tell us how much that is in Quetzales: **Q 162,161.87**

\$	USE
\$3,209.00	Given to Diocese to help with health care for priest, catechism materials, and training
\$1,117.00	Repairs to vehicle
\$563.00	Gas for vehicle
\$900.00	Training lay ministers
\$5,041.00	Repair to chapel
\$5,238.00	New building project
\$764.00	Retreats
\$485.00	Church supplies
\$488.00	Food for church sponsored events
\$589.00	Education for youth
\$635.00	Utilities
\$1,097.00	Developmant of sustainable projects/fair trade
\$1,292.00	Seminarian fund
Numbers rounded for conversion to U.S. dollars	

Note: \$3,928.00 given to the remote parish of Our Lady of Candelaria; a former part of the St. Raymond parish.

Candelaria

The total USD sent from June-December 2025 is **\$3,963.90**

Please tell us how much that is in Quetzales: **Q 30,000.00.**

\$	Use
\$392.00	Repairs to vehicle
\$485.00	Gas for vehicle
\$589.00	Training lay ministers
\$654.00	Retreats
\$589.00	Church supplies
\$458.00	Food for church sponsored events
\$458.00	Utilities
\$327.00	Seminarian fund

THE 2026 CATHOLIC SERVICE AND MINISTRY APPEAL

Those who are kind to the needy honor Him

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!**

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.

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!

✦

**Retreat for Women:
NEW DATE:
January 21-24, 2027**

✦

Save the date!

BEREAVEMENT MINISTRY

Next meeting is September 10th at 6:30 p.m. in the GL Library.

Walk to Remember – October 4 at 3:00 p.m.

All Souls Mass/Annual Parishioner Memorial

Candlelighting – November 2 at 6:30 p.m.



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



2026 ICS

Joe Hoguet Memorial Golf Tournament

Friday September 25, 2026 - Acorns Golf Links - Waterloo, IL
12:00PM Registration/Lunch 1:00PM- Shotgun Dinner & Awards
\$150 per player/ \$600 4 person team



STATE BANK
TOURNAMENT OF CHAMPIONS
QUALIFIER

- **Platinum Sponsors (1 per hole) \$1,000** - 4' X 8' color banner with your logo or photo
- **Gold Sponsors (2 per hole) \$500** - 4' X 6' color banner with your logo or photo
- **Silver Sponsors (4 per hole) \$250** - 3' X 4' color banner with your logo or photo
- **Family/Friend Sponsors \$100** - Sponsor names will be placed on a shared 4' X 8' banner near the clubhouse

Email your high-resolution logo or photo to icsfathers@gmail.com



Book your Sponsorship and Teams by using the QR code

What's Happening at Gibault?

PAUL J. KIM
Catholic Speaker

COMING TO
GIBAULT CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL
SEPTEMBER 10 2026

Festivities, Music, Food & Drinks starts at 5PM
"Life is Short, Eternity is Forever"
starts at 7PM

No RSVP Needed. Free & Open to the Public!

Gibault Catholic High School's GYM ENHANCEMENTS COMPLETE

THANK
YOU
SO
MUCH!

- ✓ Air Conditioning
- ✓ New Lobby Flooring
- ✓ Bleacher Handrails



Diocesan and Area Interests

HOLY ARTS

Please visit our display
Saturday and Sunday
September 12th-13th, 2026
After each Mass

Holy Arts will be visiting our parish on behalf of the Catholic families in Bethlehem, Palestine. Their mission is to support those families in the Holy Land during the ongoing war. When Holy Arts visits our Parish, they will have hand-carved Nativity sets, statues, crosses, and many other pieces of beautiful olive wood art. We gladly accept cash, checks, and all major Credit Cards.

METRO-EAST VICARIATE CCW FALL MEETING/DAY OF PRAYER REGISTRATION

Thursday, October 1, 2026 • 8:15 a.m.-2:00 p.m.

St. James Parish Center
423 West Madison Street, Millstadt, IL 62260

The ladies of St. James Council of Catholic Women are honored to host the MEVCCW Fall Day of Prayer/Meeting. Join us for fellowship, inspiration, and celebration of faith.

RSVP by September 21. Mail checks for \$20.00 payable to St. James CCW (to be received by September 21) to St. James Catholic Church, 405 W. Madison, Millstadt, IL.

Contact Madonna Stapf with any questions or
Venmo information, at 618-791-3675 or
gmstapf@gmail.com

SEEKING VOLUNTEERS FOR THE BEATIFICATION OF ARCHBISHOP FULTON J. SHEEN

An historic moment for the Catholic Church in the United States that will bring together thousands of pilgrims from across the country to celebrate the life and legacy of one of America's most beloved Catholic evangelists. This extraordinary event in St. Louis, Missouri, will only happen once, and we are looking for volunteers to help make it a joyful and welcoming experience for everyone who attends. Whether you have a few hours or several days to give, there are a variety of volunteer opportunities available before and during the celebration.

BEATIFICATION MASS AND EXPO

Thursday, September 24, The Dome at America's Center,
St. Louis, MO

To volunteer, go to
<https://www.celebratesheen.com/volunteer>

DOCTORS OPPOSE ASSISTED SUICIDE

The American Medical Association (AMA), American Psychiatric Association, and dozens of other medical groups oppose assisted suicide. The AMA says "Physician-assisted suicide is fundamentally incompatible with the physician's role as healer." Physicians are entrusted with saving lives, not ending them, and assisted suicide violates the Hippocratic Oath. Tell your state legislators to Vote NO on SB 3499 – assisted suicide. Visit www.ilcatholic.org for additional information and resources.

RESPECT LIFE CORNER

"Discover the Power of Natural Family Planning"

NFP is a church-approved, scientifically validated system of fertility awareness that honors your marriage vows to love Freely, Totally, Faithfully, and Fruitfully. But how many children should you have? The Church leaves that to your prayerful discernment through "responsible parenthood" – balancing a generous heart with a prudent look at your life circumstances. NFP also empowers ALL women by decoding the body's natural signs. It provides deep insight into reproductive health, helps uncover underlying medical issues, and fosters true marital connection. Follow the QR code to learn about several different methods of NFP, Responsible Parenthood, and more. Contact mejoost@gmail.com for more help in finding the right method for you.



CATHOLIC HOME MISSIONS APPEAL

Support the Catholic Home Missions Appeal today! Over 40% of dioceses in the United States and its territories are considered mission territories because they are unable to fund essential pastoral activities needed in their communities. Your support funds religious education, seminary formation, lay ministry training, and other programs that build vibrant faith communities right here in the United States, including in our own Belleville Diocese. Please be generous. More information can be found at www.usccb.org/home-missions.

Virgin of Guadalupe, Patroness of unborn children, we implore your intercession for every child at risk of abortion. ... Guide our public officials to defend each and every human life through just laws. Inspire us all to bring our faith into public life, to speak for those who have no voice. We ask this in the name of your Son, Jesus Christ, who is Love and Mercy itself. Amen.

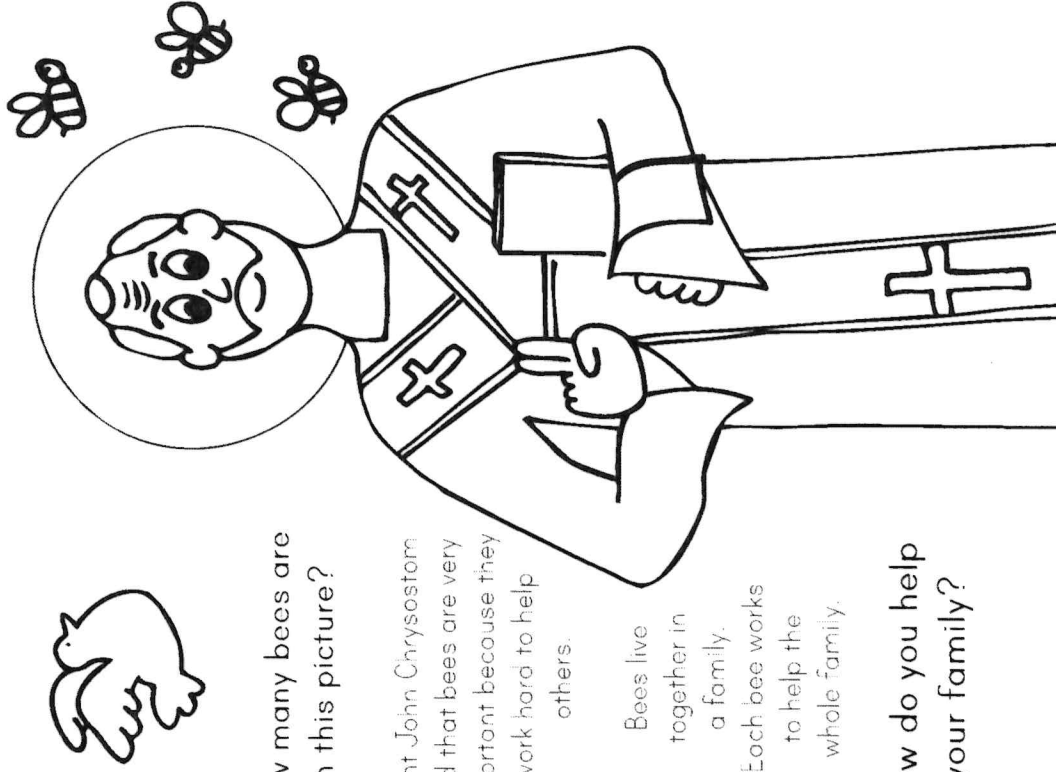
– USCCB Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities,
"A Prayer to Our Lady of Guadalupe"

Virgen de Guadalupe, patrona de los niños en el vientre materno, te imploramos tu intercesión por cada niño en peligro de ser abortado. ... Guía a nuestros funcionarios públicos a defender cada vida humana mediante leyes justas. Inspíranos a todos a traer nuestra fe a la vida pública, para hablar por aquellos que no tienen voz. Te lo pedimos en el nombre de tu Hijo, Jesucristo, quién es Amor y Piedad. Amén.

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

Saint John Chrysostom

Saint John Chrysostom was known as "Golden Mouthed" because he was a great speaker. He talked to people about Jesus.



How many bees are in this picture?

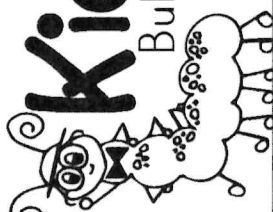
Saint John Chrysostom said that bees are very important because they work hard to help others.

Bees live together in a family. Each bee works to help the whole family.

How do you help your family?

Catholic Kids Bulletin

September 6, 2026
Ordinary Time
Color: Green



XLKJIFPTODAYWOIYOURHEAR

BJDHISOEVOICEJWK

If today you
hear his voice,
harden not
your hearts.

XLKBJHARDENTOINOTIWOYOUR



The candles in the church are made from beeswax.
How many candles are in your church?



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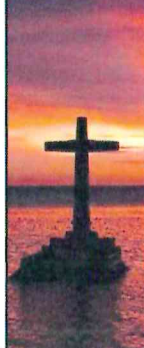
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