



IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

CATHOLIC CHURCH

414 E. NORTH BROADWAY COLUMBUS, OHIO 43214

PARISH OFFICE

(614) 267-9241

SCHOOL OFFICE

(614) 267-6579

www.iccols.org

WELCOME

to Immaculate Conception!

Leading people to Jesus through Worship, Community, Service, and Devotion to Mary

Celebration of Holy Mass

SUNDAY MASSES

Saturday Vigil: 4:00 p.m.

Sunday: 8:30 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.

DAILY MASSES

Monday: 8:30 a.m.

Tuesday: 6:15 p.m.

Wednesday - Friday: 8:30 a.m.

HOLY DAY MASSES

8:30 a.m., 7:00 p.m., or as announced

Reconciliation

Tuesdays: 5:30 - 6:00 p.m.

Fridays: Following the 8:30 a.m. Mass, 9:15 - 9:45 a.m.

Or by appointment

Sacraments

BAPTISM

For detailed information related to preparation and scheduling, please contact the Parish Office at (614) 267-9241, or at icoffice@iccols.org.

MARRIAGE

Couples should inquire at least 12 months in advance of the intended date.

A marriage preparation program is required. For information, contact Elizabeth DeLuca at (614) 267-9241, ext. 608 or at edeluca@iccols.org.

ANointing OF THE SICK & PASTORAL MINISTRY TO THE HOMEBOUND

If there is an emergency need for Anointing of the Sick, please call the parish office. If you get the voicemail message, press "1" and leave a message on the sacramental emergency line. For pastoral care needs, please contact the Parish Office at (614) 267-9241, or at icoffice@iccols.org.

FUNERAL & BEREAVEMENT MINISTRY

Family of the deceased loved one should contact the Parish Office at (614) 267-9241, or at icoffice@iccols.org.

OCIA

OCIA (Order of Christian Initiation of Adults) is the formation program of inquiry, discernment and instruction for adults. If you are interested in learning more about our faith and becoming Catholic, please contact Mary Ann Rivera at (614) 267-9241, ext. 605 or at marivera@iccols.org.


PARISH

 [immaculateconceptioncolumbus](https://www.instagram.com/immaculateconceptioncolumbus)

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SCHOOL

 [icschool_cbus](https://www.instagram.com/icschool_cbus)

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MASS INTENTIONS

SATURDAY, AUGUST 2
Lev 25:1, 8-17; Mt 14:1-12
4:00 p.m. Louis Đỗ Văn Vinh †

SUNDAY, AUGUST 3
Ecc 1:2; 2:21-23; Col 3:1-5, 9-11; Lk 12:13-21
8:30 a.m. Frances Nagella †
11:00 a.m. For the People of
Immaculate Conception Parish

MONDAY, AUGUST 4
Num 11:4b-15; Mt 14:13-21
8:30 a.m. Living & Deceased Members of
the St. Vincent de Paul Society

TUESDAY, AUGUST 5
Num 12:1-13; Mt 14:22-36
6:15 p.m. Bruce Viertel †

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 6
Dan 7:9-10, 13-14; 2 Pet 1:16-19; Lk 9:28b-36
8:30 a.m. Gary S. Watson †

THURSDAY, AUGUST 7
Num 20:1-13; Mt 16:13-23
8:30 a.m. Catalina Renteri †

FRIDAY, AUGUST 8
Deut 4:32-40; Mt 16:24-28
8:30 a.m. Living & Deceased Members of
the IC Women's Club

SATURDAY, AUGUST 9
Deut 6:4-13; Mt 17:14-20
4:00 p.m. For the People of
Immaculate Conception Parish

SUNDAY, AUGUST 10
*Wis 18:6-9; Heb 11:1-2, 8-19 or Heb 11:1-2, 8-12;
Lk 12:32-48*
8:30 a.m. The Rarick Family
11:00 a.m. John and Mary Dimond
59th Wedding Anniversary

† Deceased

PASTORAL STAFF

Pastor Fr. Matthew Hoover icooffice@iccols.org
Permanent Deacon Rev. Mr. Christopher Campbell ccampbel@cdeducation.org
Weekend Assistant Msgr. Anthony Frecker
Pastoral Care Coordinator Peggy O'Donovanext. 606 | podonovan@iccols.org

FAITH FORMATION

Music Ministry Adam Fehrenbach..... ext. 607 | musicdirector@iccols.org
Evangelization and Faith Formation Mary Ann Riveraext. 605 | marivera@iccols.org
Evangelization and Faith Formation for Youth Veronica Dannemiller..... vdannemiller@iccols.org

PARISH OFFICE STAFF Phone: 614-267-9241

Parish Business Administrator John Bernardext. 602 | jbernard@iccols.org
Ministry Coordinator Elizabeth DeLuca.....ext. 608 | edeluca@iccols.org
Administrative Assistant Karen Cannellext. 601 | icooffice@iccols.org
Facilities Manager Jason Stallkamp
Communications and Social Media Director Tom Berryhill ext. 604 | tberryhill@iccols.org

SCHOOL STAFF Phone: 614-267-6579

Principal Colleen Kent.....cokent@cdeducation.org
Office Manager Marina Hachwa.....mhachwa@cdeducation.org
Preschool School Office.....mhachwa@cdeducation.org
School Age Child Care John Bernard jbernard@iccols.org

PARISH SUPPORT SERVICES

Faith-Based Counselor Mary Ann Jepsen.....jepsen.ma@gmail.com, 614-309-2270
Planned Giving Liaison Kelly Nollknoll@gbq.com, 614-352-1655

ADVISORY COUNCILS

Finance Council Chairman Andy MacKinnon..... amackinnon@horizon10.com
Parish Council President Rich Viertel.....parishcouncil@iccols.org
School Board President Danielle Culbertson.....danielle.w.culbertson@gmail.com

LITURGICAL MINISTERS SCHEDULE – AUGUST 9 & 10, 2025

MASS TIMES	4:00 p.m.	8:30 a.m.	11:00 a.m.
EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS	Bobbie Mitch MaryAnn Grossman	Todd Wickerham Anne Beharry	Mary Leathley Colleen Kent
LECTORS	Jen Grant	Jeff Racz	Heather MacKinnon
ALTAR SERVERS	Kevin Wilson Lillian Wilson Allie Edwards Noah Edwards	James Kane James Krzyzewski Vince Krzyzewski Samie Miller	Justin Nagy Tyler Popp Vacant Vacant
GREETERS	Patty Conway Terry Butts Bob & Linda Bauer	Walter Family Sue & Sophia Ruschau Suzanne Smith	Lang Family Lyden Family Coleman Family April Byrne
WELCOME DESK	Patty Conway	Suzanne Smith	Karen Cannell

MINISTRY SCHEDULES

Ministry schedules are available on the parish website. To see complete schedules, go to iccols.org>Parish Life>Organization Schedules.

SCHEDULING MASS INTENTIONS

One of the greatest acts of charity is to pray for the living and the dead (a spiritual work of mercy). The greatest and most powerful prayer we have is the Mass since the fruits of the Mass are the very fruits of Jesus' redemption. Mass stipends (offerings) are \$10.00 each with only one intention per Mass. Mass Intentions are scheduled by calling the parish office at (614) 267-9241, emailing icoffice@iccols.org, or mailing your request to the parish office. We will do our best to honor the dates and times requested, but no day/time can be guaranteed. **Currently, we are scheduling Mass Intentions from August through December 2025. The parish still has available Mass Intentions during August.**

CONTRIBUTORS TO THE SANCTUARY LAMPS

The sanctuary lamps in the church burn constantly to proclaim the real presence of Jesus in the Tabernacle. For the month of August, the three sanctuary candles were donated by **Sharon Kendall**. Thank you for your generosity.

HOW TO DONATE TO THE SANCTUARY LAMPS

Parishioners interested in contributing to a candle/s for the Sanctuary Lamps in the Church, please contact Sue Beman at (614) 214-5333 or Beman_sue@yahoo.com to make arrangements. Contributors' names will be included in the Sunday bulletin. The suggested offering is \$25.00 per candle. The IC Women's Club thanks you for supporting this ministry. Candles are available for the months of September and November.

LIVESTREAMED MASSES

Immaculate Conception Parish livestreams 8:30 a.m. Sunday Masses and 8:30 a.m. Wednesday and Friday morning Masses for individuals who are unable to come to church. Go to www.iccols.org and scroll down to "Mass Schedule," then "See the Mass." Livestreamed Masses are archived and can be experienced at a later time.

IN OUR PARISH



BANNS OF MARRIAGE

Brett Stone and Julie Warren

Wedding date – August 23, 2025

We wish Brett and Julie God's blessings, love, and guidance for the couple's new life together.



NEW PARISHIONERS

We welcome these new parishioners to Immaculate Conception Parish: **Zachary, Madison and Anthony Strayer**. We invite and encourage you to join us as we pray, work, and play together and hope that you find a welcoming and spiritual home here at Immaculate Conception.



VOLUNTEER TRAINING SESSION

Are you approved to volunteer with children at Immaculate Conception Parish and/or School? If you are 18 years or older and interested in volunteering with youth ministries/activities at Immaculate Conception Parish/School, you must attend a PROTECTING GOD'S CHILDREN training session and have a clear background check. To register for a training session through the Diocese of Columbus, visit www.virtusonline.org. For more information, contact the parish office or email icoffice@iccols.org.

“

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

”



PLEASE JOIN THE IC GARDEN MINISTRY FOR ITS MONTHLY GARDENING SESSION

Please join us this Saturday, August 9 from 9 to 11 a.m. as we continue to beautify the IC grounds. We will be weeding and watering. Please bring gloves, hand tools, a hat, and especially, personal water. This is a great service project for students and parents to do together.

Thank you to all our parishioners who are members of our garden ministry and those who help when able. The parish grounds are alive with beautiful flowers, a rain garden, and not too many weeds. The results of your hard work have been noticed and appreciated by many. The parish grounds looked beautiful for the Festival.



American
Red Cross

SUMMER BLOOD DRIVE – BLOOD SHORTAGE

The IC Women's Club Annual Summer Blood Drive is on Monday August 11, 2025 from 12 p.m. to 6 p.m. If you last donated blood on or before Monday June 15, 25 you may be eligible to donate. Every donor will receive a \$15 electronic gift card via email after the drive (this can take up to two weeks to go out), as well as A1C Testing during their donation. They can check their A1C results on their blood donor app or by calling 1-800-REDCROSS. Please schedule an appointment by visiting RedCrossBlood.org, sponsor code: IC or call 1-800-RED CROSS. If you need assistance, please reach out to Sue Beman at (614) 214-5333.



CARRY UP THE GIFTS AT A WEEKEND MASS

We invite all individuals and/or families to carry up the Offertory gifts at a weekend Mass. Register for a particular Mass or check with the ushers when you arrive to see if a family is still needed. **To sign up for a specific date and time, go to the parish website at iccols.org>Parish Life>Presentation of Gifts Ministry.** Or call the parish office and we will add you to the calendar.



THE APPEAL – WATCH THE NEEDLE MOVE AS WE GET CLOSER TO OUR PARISH GOAL!

Thank you to all who have donated to the Appeal!!! With 19.2% parish participation, we have now achieved our Diocesan Goal of \$181,386 and are at 80.85% of our additional parish goal. Now, every subsequent pledge/donation will be returned to the parish with no Diocesan tax subtracted.

If you have not had the opportunity to donate, please use one of the pledge cards in the bulletin holders or go online to columbuscatholicgiving.org to make a secure pledge or gift.

Remember, no gift is too small or too large. We need everyone to get involved! Thank you for your generosity.

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

WEDNESDAY

AUGUST 6, 2025

7 A.M. – 6 P.M.

Sign Up for a Holy Hour at:
bit.ly/IC_Adoration or call the parish office.



TIME, TALENT & TREASURE

Fostering Stewardship as a Way of Life

Fiscal Year 7/1/2025-6/30/2026 • Offertory Report 7/27/2025

	<u>7/27/2025</u>	<u>YTD 2025/2026</u>
Recorded Envelopes/Checks	\$ 41,872	\$ 118,257
Loose Cash	\$ 756	\$ 3,340
TOTAL RECEIVED	\$ 42,628	\$ 121,597
Weekly Operating Expenses	\$ 27,000	\$ 108,000
Weekly Overage/ <i>(Shortage)</i>	\$ 15,628	\$ 13,597
Families Receiving Envelopes		840
Envelopes Received		110
Families on EFT		366



Manage your electronic contributions online! Visit www.iccols.org and click "Offertory & Stewardship" under the Giving menu. Alternatively, text "Give" to (614) 953-6436, or scan the QR code to the left. Thank you for your financial support of our Catholic faith here in our parish. We are grateful for your generosity.

"For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also." (Matthew 6:21)



FESTIVAL THANK-YOU!!

Special thanks go to our 2025 Festival Co-Chairs, **Katie Lewis and Eric Torgerson** and their families.

We also thank their team members for their hard work and for a great Parish Festival. The weather added some excitement, but it still was a wonderful parish and community event.

Thanks also to our IC parishioners and friends who volunteered their time, and for their donations of desserts, drinks, silent auction items, wine/liquor etc.

Your time, commitment, and generosity are greatly appreciated! **THANK YOU!!**

We especially thank all our many sponsors who contributed to our Parish Festival.

Please patronize our sponsors and the companies who advertise in our bulletin.

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR FESTIVAL RAFFLE WINNERS!

Wine Wagon: Schultheis Family

Liquor Wagon: Scott Reing-Hurley

50/50 Raffle: Sean Moore

SOCIAL CONCERNS

OPEN SHELTER DINNER – AUGUST 4

The Open Shelter meal for homeless and marginally housed individuals is this Monday, August 4, 2025. We need donations of sloppy joes, mac & cheese, cookies, lunch-size chips, snacky desserts, bottled water and sturdy, clean to-go containers (can be recycled ones). Cash donations are welcome. Arrangements can be made to pick up your donations on that Monday or earlier in the week or weekend if Monday by 10 a.m. is not a convenient drop-off time. Please contact Cheryl Costello at (614) 774-8879 to coordinate. Thank you for your support of this ministry.

INVEST IN BREAD! INVEST IN JUSTICE!

THANK YOU to you who have invested in the work of BREAD, an ecumenical ministry serving the poor of Columbus. In 2024, every \$1 invested in BREAD leveraged \$66 back to the community in the form of public monies directed towards solutions such as affordable housing for those earning less than \$40,000 annually, neighborhood safety programs to reduce violence, staff training and support for Restorative Practices in Columbus City Schools and other actions. Your fully tax-deductible investment is welcome via personal check (made out to BREAD Organization and please note "Immaculate Conception" in the memo line) OR VENMO (@BREAD-Organization and please note "Immaculate Conception" during the transaction). Questions? Want to participate? Contact Icbread43214@gmail.com OR MaryAnn at (614) 530-5872. BREAD rises to serve our Columbus neighbors because of you!

SCHOOL NEWS



IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

Kindergarten volunteer opportunities are available for the coming school year to assist with Catechesis of the Good Shepherd. The Bible and liturgy are the foundation of this method that provides an opportunity for the children to encounter God through presentations, prayer, and meditation. The children will spend time with the Lord, Our Shepherd, in a quiet, prepared space called the Atrium. Assistants will help the lead catechist prepare and maintain this environment, one that nurtures the religious life of the child. This is a wonderful opportunity to learn more about this program while deepening your relationship with God alongside the children. We are asking for a two-hour weekly commitment. Times available are Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, or Friday from 12:30-2:30 p.m. To learn more, please contact Olivia Fetko at ofetko@cducation.org.

Summer Office Hours:

August 4-8: Tuesdays-Thursday 9 a.m.-12 p.m.

August 11-15: Tuesday-Thursday 9 a.m.-12 p.m.

August 19: 9 a.m.-12 p.m.

MARRIAGE ENRICHMENT CONFERENCE

Together in Holiness Marriage Conference – Married and engaged couples are invited to the first annual Together in Holiness marriage conference on October 4, 2025 from 10:30 a.m.-6 p.m. at St. Matthew the Apostle Catholic Church in Gahanna, OH. This one-day conference will help you strengthen your relationship with your spouse and discover God's plan for your family. Registration: \$64/couple and \$5/child for on-site childcare. **An Early Bird discount is available through August 18 as well as scholarships upon request.** This conference is presented by the St. John Paul II Foundation and the Diocese of Columbus. For more info, visit togetherinholiness.org/columbus or email nancy@forlifeandfamily.org. Questions? Email Conference Coordinator Nancy Ariza at nancy@forlifeandfamily.org.

BOTTOMS UP IS TURNING 7!

What started with 40 boxes of diapers has grown into more than a million delivered this year alone. We're thankful to the donors and volunteers who have helped us reach families across Ohio. Seven years in, we've learned that growth spurts aren't just for kids. With steady support, we've been able to meet a growing need and expand our reach year after year. Thank you for helping us keep babies clean, dry, and healthy. We couldn't do it without you. For more information, go to www.bottomsup.life or email Mary at mary@bottomsup.life.

THANKS TO ALL OF OUR FESTIVAL SPONSORS!



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Sarah Dawes
Bridgid Davis-Ray
Kevin Davis
Peggy Shanahan
Kasey Welch

Shawn M Hageman
Addie Davis-Holsinger
Mike McLaughlin
Robert Ray
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FAITH FORMATION

Immaculate Conception Catholic Church

August 3, 2025

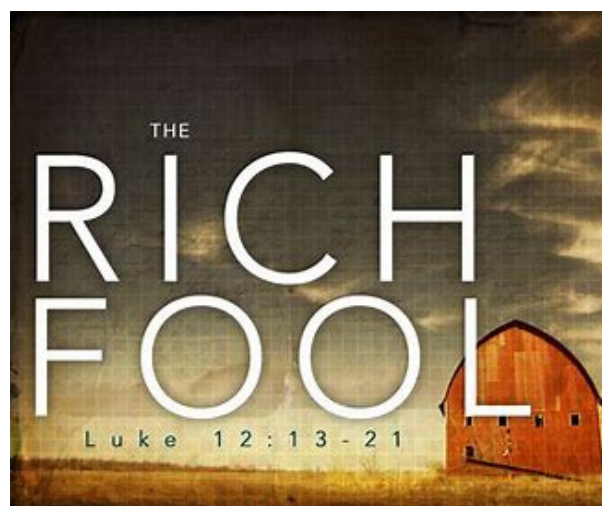
What is really necessary? The truth is that our lives are measured most pointedly not by what we get, but by what we give. Luke's Gospel this Sunday puts it succinctly: "One's life," Jesus told his listeners, "does not consist of possessions. "The parable that follows tells the story of a rich man who collected everything he wanted, but who neglected what really mattered. And all of this was revealed just hours before he was going to die. "You fool," God tells him. "The things you have prepared, to whom will they belong?" And Jesus concluded with this pointed lesson: "Thus will it be for all who store up treasure for themselves but are not rich in what matters to God."

We realize that if we are going to spend our lives pining for a bigger barn, what really needs to be enlarged is the barn of our heart.

How much room do we make there for God? For prayer, for fasting, for gratitude, for humility? St. Paul has a few thoughts on that. This Sunday, we are confronted once again by Paul's stark words to the Colossians.

"Think of what is above," he wrote, "not of what is on earth... Put to death, then, the parts of you that are earthly: immorality, impurity, passion, evil desire, and the greed that is idolatry."

We are meant, he writes, to be converted, changed, made new. "You have taken off the old self with its practices and have put on the new self, which is being renewed, for knowledge, in the image of its creator." news.diocesetucson.org



THE MIRACULOUS MEDAL AND ST. BENEDICT MEDAL



The Medal of St. Benedict is one of the most well-known and revered sacramentals within the Catholic Church. Its symbolism, deeply rooted in Christian spirituality and tradition, goes beyond being a simple religious object. For those who wear it with faith, the Medal of St. Benedict is a reminder of God's protective presence, a tool for spiritual defense, and an invitation to live a profound faith.

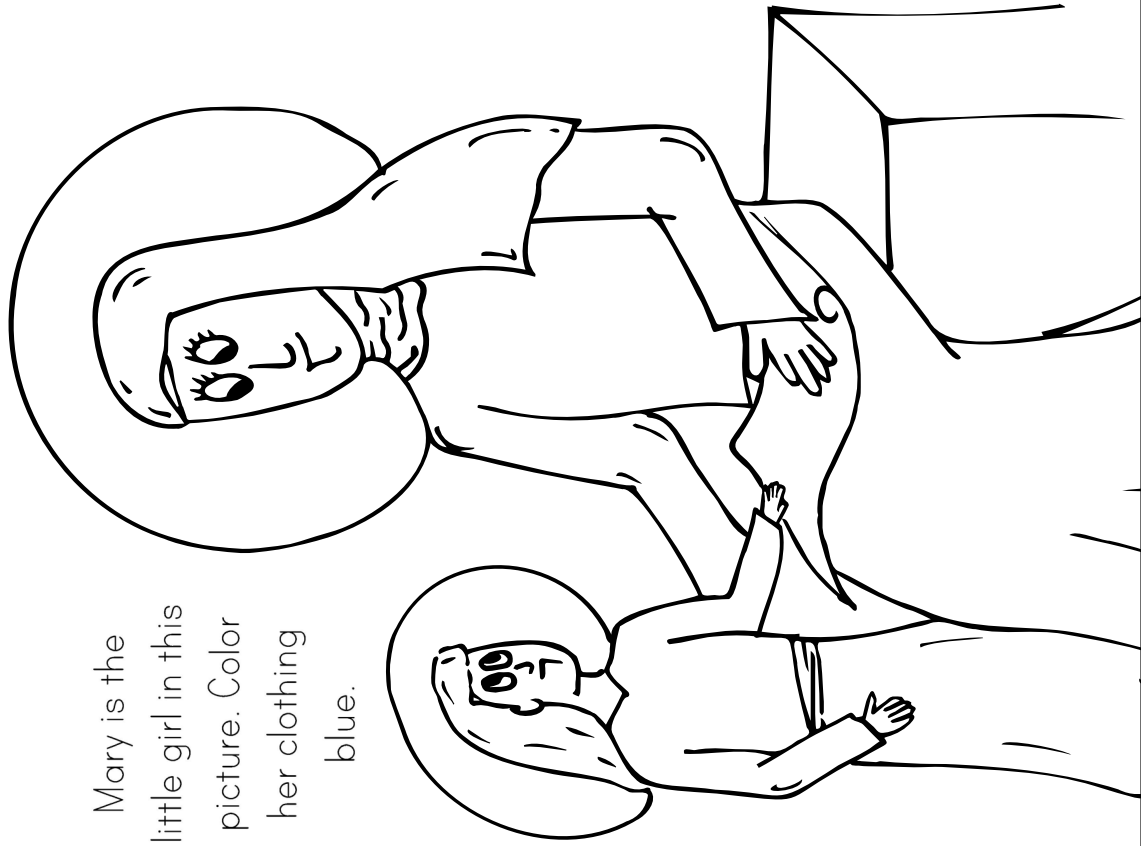
The medal is inspired by the life and "Rule of St. Benedict," a set of principles that St. Benedict wrote to guide the lives of his monks. His emphasis on prayer, work, humility, and community life established a model of monastic life that has endured for centuries. www.ewtnvatican.com/

St. Catherine Labouré's miraculous medal must be the most famous of sacramental medals. The story of its founding is remarkable. In France, between July 18 and November 27, 1830, the Blessed Virgin Mary appeared in multiple visions to Catherine, asking her to have a medal produced with exacting specifications. Eventually, after much prayer and consideration, her priest had the coin struck with confidence, and he and Catherine kept the secret for forty-six years. Within two years of the medal's founding, millions were distributed, and due to the many miracles attributed to the sacramental, it is prevalently known as the "miraculous medal."



Saint Anne

Saint Anne is Mary's mom. That means that she is Jesus' grandma! Say a special prayer for your grandparents today.



Mary is the little girl in this picture. Color her clothing blue.

Catholic Kids Bulletin

August 3, 2025
Ordinary Time
Color: Green

WOAIFPWTODAYWODKYOUNK

WPHEARQHISVOICEL

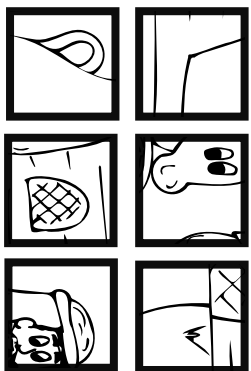
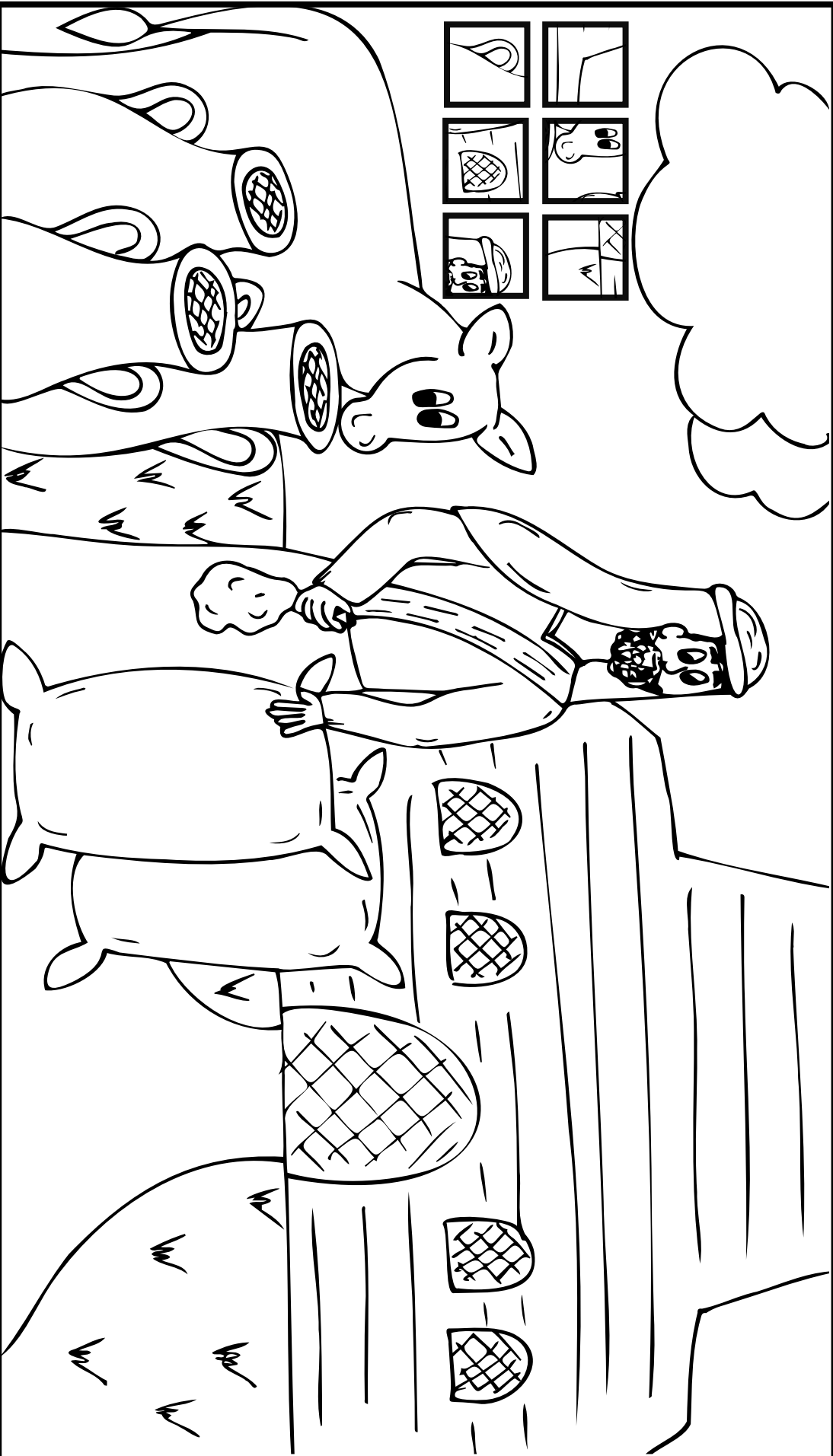
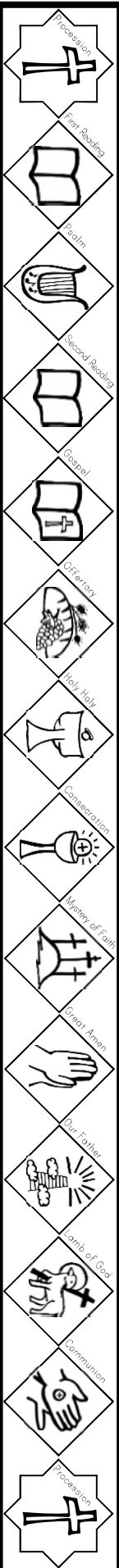
If today you
hear his voice,
harden not
your hearts.

QPWOHEARTSCOBJJ

HARDENWNOTWPYOUNEIAPIXK



Mass is a meal with your
Catholic family!



Gospel

This rich man only thought about his treasures on Earth. He had a lot of food, oxen, and money. God told him to focus on the treasures of Heaven by praying and helping others more than himself. God doesn't look at how many cool toys you have; He looks at your heart.



Discovering **hope** and **joy** in the Catholic faith.

August 2025

Immaculate Conception Church

Fr. Matthew Hoover

One Minute Meditations

St. Clare of Assisi

Born to a noble family in Assisi, St. Clare was eighteen when St. Francis was invited to preach at the church of San Giorgio. She was so inspired, she renounced everything to serve God in poverty, penance, and simplicity. Others joined, forming the first Order of Poor Ladies (Poor Clares). St. Clare is most famous for protecting Assisi from invasion by displaying the Blessed Sacrament on the fortress walls, causing the enemy to flee in terror.

The promise of the Assumption

This month, we celebrate Mary's Assumption, body and soul, into Heaven. What is often thought of as a "privilege" unique to Mary is actually a "preview" of what we are made for: endless joy, dwelling in the life and love of the Trinity, souls and bodies. It's another reminder that Catholicism isn't just about spiritual truths but concrete, physical, and tangible realities.

"I want to stress what I think that we...need more; the joy and delight in God which meet us in the Psalms...[The Jews] did not know that He offered them eternal joy; still less that He would die to win it for them. Yet they express a longing for Him, for His mere presence, which comes only to the best Christians" C.S. Lewis.

The Saints and the secret to true happiness

The saints understood that real happiness is about knowing where to find peace, perspective, and joy—no matter what life brings. This month, we look at four saints who show us what it takes to live with true happiness.

Simplicity – St. Francis of Assisi. St. Francis gave up wealth and comfort to follow Christ completely. In doing so, he made space in his heart to receive everything from God with peace and joy. While most of us aren't called to material poverty, we can imitate his spiritual poverty—letting go of sin and distractions to focus more fully on our relationship with God.

Trust and Love – St. Thérèse of Lisieux. St. Thérèse's "Little Way" was built on doing small things with great love. Her "humble confidence" in God's mercy gave her strength through illness, loss, and interior suffering. Her path invites us to respond to life's challenges not with fear or striving, but with trust and consistent, simple acts of love.

Holy Humor – St. Philip Neri. St.

Philip Neri understood the spiritual power of joy. Known for his deep prayer life and playful spirit, he used humor to lift others out of gloom, deflate pride, and open hearts to God. He once shaved half his beard just to make

"Thou dost show me the path of life; in thy presence there is fulness of joy, in thy right hand are pleasures evermore."
Psalm 16:11

people laugh. His life reminds us that holiness isn't dour—joy, laughter, and reverence can all go hand-in-hand.

Faithful Friendship – Blessed Pier Giorgio Frassati. Blessed Pier Giorgio balanced an active social life with a deep love for the poor and for Christ. He surrounded himself with friends who shared his love for the faith, frequently inviting them to Mass and Eucharistic Adoration. Whether hiking mountains or visiting the sick, he lived with joy rooted in friendship—with others, and above all, with Jesus.

Why Do Catholics Do That?

Why do Catholics believe in miracles?

The Gospels contain many well-attested accounts of miracles, often witnessed by large crowds. It makes sense that the Creator of the natural order would occasionally suspend it to reveal His power. At the heart of our faith stands the greatest miracle of all—the **Resurrection of Jesus Christ**.

St. Paul wrote, *"If Christ has not been raised, then our proclamation has been in vain, and your faith has been in vain"* (1 Corinthians 15:14). God continues to work miracles today to bless those who experience them directly and to strengthen our trust in His providence, love, and divine presence.

The Queen who leads us home

When Jesus entrusted Mary to St. John at the foot of the Cross (John 19:27), He gave us one of His greatest gifts: His own mother. In that moment, we were welcomed into His family. As Queen of Heaven, Mary blesses us in many ways. We look to her as:

As Mother: Jesus gave us the person closest to Him on earth to help draw us even closer to Him. He was not content simply to be our Savior—He wanted to be our Brother. Mary is not a barrier to Christ but a window into His heart. Through her, we come to know Him more intimately.

As model: Mary is also a model of faithful discipleship.

Though sinless, she had no supernatural powers or hidden knowledge. She rejoiced and suffered, worked and traveled, just as we do. Her life shows us how to remain faithful in the face of sorrow, uncertainty, and loss—and that perseverance in faith is always rewarded.

As intercessor: God does not need Mary's prayers or assistance to act on our behalf, yet He chooses to involve her in His work. Her intercession—like ours—finds its power in Christ's perfect prayer to the Father. As Queen, Mary is not passive in heaven; she actively cares for us, her children, with a mother's love.

from Scripture

Luke 14:1, 7-14, Humility is holy "self-forgetfulness"

Fewer things are more awkward than accepting an honor publicly—only to discover it wasn't meant for you. In this Gospel passage, Jesus offers a clear lesson: the safest way to "move up" in God's Kingdom is through humility.

In Jesus' time, a person's status at a banquet was reflected in how close they sat to the host. Like today, not everyone knew who had been invited. If you mistakenly sat too close, you could be asked—publicly—to move down. It was wiser to take a lower seat and be invited higher, if appropriate.

Humility is often misunderstood. It's

not weakness, self-doubt, or putting yourself down.

True humility is honest self-awareness—recognizing your flaws and limitations, but also your gifts, strengths, and constant need for God's grace. The humble person doesn't seek to be the center of attention. Instead, they reflect God's goodness and elevate others.

Jesus isn't giving us etiquette tips. He's showing us the posture of the heart that honors God, protects our soul, and prepares us for the only banquet that matters—the eternal one.

Q & A What is a "rule of life" and why should I make one?

A rule of life is simply a structured way to integrate regular prayer into your day. It's a long-standing practice among priests, monks, and nuns—but it's not just for the consecrated. Everyone needs time each day to be with the One who loves us most. Your personal rule can be as simple or as detailed as you need; what matters is remaining faithful to the time you commit.

At first, the idea of a rule of life might seem intimidating. But in reality, most of us already follow one. Maybe we always wake up at the same time or never skip a morning jog. Prayer can—and should—become part of that rhythm. It's not just a duty; it's an investment that transforms us and blesses those around us.

In the *Introduction to the Devout Life*, St. Francis de Sales encourages us to "begin all prayers... in the presence of God." He emphasized the value of consistency—staying faithful to a few well-chosen prayers is more effective than rushing through many. If, during prayer, you feel God inviting you simply to rest in His love, don't worry about finishing every word. The goal is not to check boxes, but to draw close to Him.

Feasts & Celebrations

August 8 – St. Dominic de Guzman (1221). Born to a noble family in Spain, St. Dominic studied to become an Augustinian canon regular, but left to preach against the widely popular but dangerous Albigensian heresy. He founded the Order of Preachers, or "Dominicans," who successfully defeated this heresy. He's also credited with receiving the Rosary from Our Lady and teaching it to others.

August 15 - The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary (1950). Declared a dogma of our faith by Pope Pius XII, the Assumption celebrates Mary being taken up into Heaven body and soul at

the end of her life. It is a Holy Day of Obligation this year.

August 27 – St. Monica of Hippo (387). St. Monica is best known for converting her wayward son and pagan husband by her patience, piety, and prayers. Her son, St. Augustine, became a great saint and Doctor of the Church.

August 29 – The Beheading of St. John the Baptist (1st Century). Today we recall the martyrdom of St. John the Baptist, whose mission was to prepare the Jews for Jesus' coming by calling them to repentance. He was arrested and executed for preaching the truth to powerful enemies. Caving into the pressure of his courtiers, King Herod permitted his niece's request – the head of John the Baptist on a platter.

Our Mission

To provide practical ideas that promote faithful Catholic living.

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(Unless noted Bible quotes and references are from the Revised Standard Version and the New American Bible - Revised)

CATHOLIC MEN'S LUNCHEON – SPEAKER: FATHER JACQUES KIK

Join us Friday, September 5 at St. Patrick Church in downtown Columbus for a luncheon featuring a talk by Father Jacques Kik, Pastor of Our Lady of Victory Parish. Since July 2023, Our Lady of Victory Parish has been the spiritual home for the Maronite Mission of Our Lady of Lebanon. Fr. Kik's talk will be on "The Lebanese Maronite Church." St. Gabriel Radio is sponsoring the September luncheon. If you are interested in sponsoring a luncheon, contact Dave Kilanowski at dkilano@aol.com. Holy Mass (optional) begins at 11:45 a.m., followed by lunch at 12:10 p.m. and Fr. Kik's presentation. No reservations are necessary. \$12 covers the lunch and meeting. Bring a friend! Our next luncheon on Friday, October 3, 2025 will feature a talk by Father William Hahn on vocations. Please mark your calendar.

SAVE THE DATE – "NIGHT OF CHAMPIONS"

The Brian Muha Foundation memorializes Brian Muha, a graduate of St. Charles Preparatory School and student at Franciscan University, who was killed in a random act of violence at the age of 19 twenty-six years ago. The foundation honors his kind and charitable spirit by helping others who are in need. The Run the Race Club (RTR) was started by Brian's mother, Rachel Muha, and the foundation. RTR offers a safe and loving atmosphere on Columbus' West Side (The Hilltop) where children can go to play, learn and study. RTR provides education, clothing, food, furniture, toys and more to families in our community, at no cost. The Muha Foundation is able to help others continue to "Run the Race" through its generous donors and fundraising events such as the annual "Night of Champions" on September 20, 2025. To learn more, visit <http://brianmuhafoundation.org>.

PASTORAL PLANNING SURVEY

Bishop Fernandes has a desire to hear from as many of the Christian Faithful in the Diocese of Columbus about their perspective on his four priorities of pastoral concern:



VOCATIONS



EVANGELIZATION



CATHOLIC
EDUCATION AND
FORMATION



SOCIAL
OUTREACH



Please take a brief survey
with the QR code.

"Acknowledging our co-responsibility in addressing pastoral needs, but faced with limited resources and a finite amount of time to consult effectively, Bishop Fernandes has a desire to hear from as many of the Christian faithful as possible. Therefore, this brief and open-ended survey is available to all the faithful in the Diocese of Columbus to share your perspectives on these four priorities. Thank you for your participation as we continue to pray that the Holy Spirit will give us wisdom, understanding, and courage as we respond to the needs of the people of the Diocese of Columbus."

To learn more about the reasons for and the goals of this diocesan survey, go to iccols.org>News & Events. **We encourage all parishioners to fill out the survey.** It is important for the Diocese to gather as much feedback as possible from all over the 23 counties of the diocese. You can use the QR code or go to Pastoral Planning Survey – Immaculate Conception Church.

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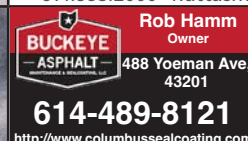
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