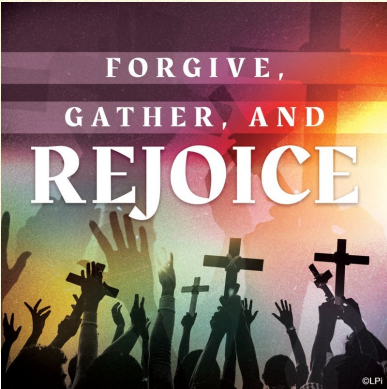




A few summers ago, my family had a big reunion. It included my parents, my four siblings, and all their many children. One of my favorite moments was simply watching my parents’ contented faces as they took in all of us together, laughing, sharing food, singing, telling stories. They loved seeing their children happily together with each other. That is something like the heart of God we see in today’s Gospel message about Christian reconciliation. These verses come right after Jesus’ parable of the lost sheep. He is not giving the disciples a cold formula for dealing with conflict. He is revealing the Father’s longing for children who love and reconcile with each other. His heart aches when His children are divided and isolated. So when Jesus says, “Go and tell your brother his fault.” He is not deputizing us as morality police. He is inviting us into His mission of reconciliation. When He adds, “If he listens to you, you have won over your brother,” we glimpse the real goal. Not winning arguments, but reuniting a divided family. These days, we often think religion is just between God and me. But the Father’s dream is about a lively family, one in which His children forgive, gather, and rejoice together.

Lord Jesus, give me the courage to seek reconciliation where it is needed. Make my heart resemble the Father’s heart, longing and working for unity among His children. Amen. — Fr. John Muir

LITURGICAL MINISTERS FOR SEPT. 12 & 13 2026
Sat. Sept. 12 @ 4:30PM @ St. Nicholas
Reader: Brenda Tebbe
Music: Sally Rehberger, Barb Zaloga, & Colleen Lozier
Euch. Min.: Marce & Brenda Tebbe
Server: Pat Kalous

Sun. Sept. 13 @ 8:00AM @ St. Gertrude
Reader: Carole Sauls
Music: Nick Worman & Randy Eckstein
Sacristan: Carole Sauls
Euch.Min.: Judi Rode, Gail Ohren & Debby Schwarz
Ushers: Karen & Nathaniel Straube
Servers: Katie Schwarz & Nevin Straube

Sun. Sept. 13 @10:00AM @ IC
Reader: Terry Potthast
Music: Roger Frey & Madi Crawford
Servers: Jentry Lobello & Cyiah Wiegmann
Euch. Min.: Cindy Knebel, John Dea & Amy Gilomen

Pray for Holy Marriages
Tiffany Knebel and Christopher Dilks
Please join us in prayer for the upcoming marriage of Tiffany & Christopher.

Lord God, the source of all love, the wise plan of Your providence has brought these two together.

As they prepare themselves for the sacrament of marriage and pray for Your grace, grant that, strengthened by Your blessing, they may grow in their respect for one another and cherish each other with a sincere love. Amen.

They will be married at Immaculate Conception on October 17, 2026

Please keep them and all those discerning Holy Marriage in your prayers.



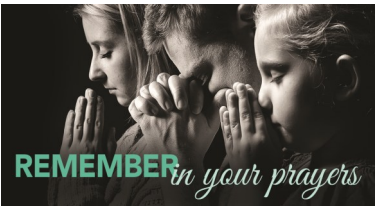
Mon.	(Sept. 7)	8:00am	(IC)
Tues.	(Sept. 8)	8:00am	(St.G)
Wed.	(Sept. 9)	8:00am	(IC)
Thur.	(Sept.10)	8:00am	(St.N)
Fri.	(Sept.11)	8:00am	(IC)
Sat.	(Sept.12)	4:30pm	(St.N)
Sun.	(Sept.13)	8:00am	(St.G)
Sun.	(Sept.13)	10:00am	(IC)

Back-to-School Blessing

Dear God,
We ask that You bless the students in our congregation, giving them inspirational teachers, studious habits, solid friendships, and Your grace in every moment of this school year. Bless the teachers and school staff in our congregation, too. Fill them with Your love and care so that, as they teach and minister to our young people, Your wisdom and light may be known, encountered, and shared. Amen.



† Mass Intentions †
† **Ron Davis** —Int. of Steve & Debbie Baczewski
† **Sr. Barbara Geers, SSND** — Int. of Mark Williams
† **Hannah Lucco** — Int. of Bill & Denise Trickey
† **All Souls**
† **John & Rose Wellen** —Int. of Lowell & Denise Wellen
† **Bill & Betty Haberer** —Int. of Murray & Eunice Hediger
† **Michael Lazella** —Int. of the Lazella Family
† **Clarence & Ruth Korte** — Int. of JoAnn Crager, Marie Hess, Sasha Keiser
For the People of St. Gertrude, St. Nicholas & Immaculate Conception
† **Harvey & Dolores Knebel** — Int. of the Knebel Family
† **Sam Palazzolo, Lucy Wellen & Jaisen Wellen**—Int. of the Wellen Family



Members of our parish families who are recovering in the hospital & at home, for their strength and patience each day, and for all those who ask for our prayers for health or other issues. John Alberternst, Pat Beard, Ana Cantrell, Steve Crawford, Don Dapkus, Teresa Dickman, Garland Edwards, Jean Fields, Gabriel Frey, Jerry Fyke, Ed Gagen, Karen Grabowski, John Grubb, Eugene Henson, P.J. Hereford, James Hodge, Gene Jolliff, Pat Kalous, Val King, Barrett Korte, Denny Korte, Gerry Korte, Randy Korte, Steve Korte, David Kuehn, Sue Lubber, Christopher Marti, Taylor Marti, Barry May, Alex McCall, Eleanor Munie, Cody Neal, Marcia Rowe, Gunner Sadler, Abby Schrage, Bill Schroeder, Suzanne Steinbring, Brenda Usher, Marie Weis, Rich Weis, Ginny Werner, Dean Wernle, Melanie Wernle, Paige Wernle.

FOR OUR PARISHIONERS IN NURSING HOMES:
Delmar Knebel, Harold Schwarz, Barbara Weiss, Margie Zurliene and special people in our families.

FOR THOSE CURRENTLY SERVING IN THE MILITARY:
Adam Canfield, Tim Doll, Ensign Eli Jones, Michael Knebel, Dustin Korte, Solon McGill, Lt. Abigail Mesaros, Jerriett Mettler, Jimmy O'Boyle, Sgt. Joseph Patterson, Rickie Schuster, Joseph Schatte, Greg Spina, T.J. Waddington, Sgt. Tyler Wegman, Sgt. Zach Weiss.

If you would like to have someone added or removed from the prayer list please call the parish office.



OCIA
Order of Christian Initiation for Adults

Next weekend we will welcome
Autumn Kalous, Mitch Campbell and Christopher Dilks into Full Communion of the Catholic Church. The Sacraments of Confirmation and Eucharist will be celebrated for Autumn on September 12 at the 4:30 p.m. Mass; and for Mitch and Christopher on September 13 at the 10:00 a.m. Mass.

Readings for the Week of September 6, 2026

Sunday
Ez 33:7-9/Ps 95:1-2, 6-7b, 7c-9/Rom 13:8-10/ Mt 18:15-20

Monday
1 Cor 5:1-8/Ps 5:5-6, 7, 12/Lk 6:6-11

Tuesday
Mt 5:1-4a or Rom 8:28-30/Ps 13:6ab, 6c/Mt 1:1-16, 18-23 or 1:18-23

Wednesday
1 Cor 7:25-31/Ps 45:11-12, 14-15, 16-17/ Lk 6:20-26

Thursday
1 Cor 8:1b-7, 11-13/Ps 139:1b-3, 13-14ab, 23-24/Lk 6:27-38

Friday
1 Cor 9:16-19, 22b-27/Ps 84:3, 4, 5-6, 12/Lk 6:39-42

Saturday
1 Cor 10:14-22/Ps 116:12-13, 17-18/Lk 6:43-49

Next Sunday
Sir 27:30-28:7/Ps 103:1-2, 3-4, 9-10, 11-12/Rom 14:7-9/ Mt 18:21-35



Brent, Kaitlin, Briggs & Ruthie Maedge at Ruthie’s baptism at St. Gertrude last Friday.

STN Collection	8/29/26
Envelopes/Loose	\$1,035.00
All Saints	\$10.00
Capital Improvement	\$150.00
All Souls	\$50.00
Sister Parish	\$210.00
Church in Africa	\$5.00
World Mission	\$25.00
Black & Indian Mission	\$10.00
Budget Goal	\$1,276.00
Weekly Surplus/Deficit	-\$231.00
Support Needed (budget)	\$11,484.00
Support Actual	\$12,229.00
Surplus/Deficit YTD	\$745.00



Baby Ruthie with Fr. Cal

Next Immaculate Conception Council Meeting will be held on Tuesday, September 15th at 7PM.

STG Collection	8/30/26
Envelopes/Loose	\$1,036.00
Sister Parish	\$110.00
Maintenance Fund	\$220.00
Cemetery	\$100.00
Budget Goal	\$1,524.00
Weekly Surplus/Deficit	-\$488.00
Support Needed (budget)	\$13,716.00
Support Actual	\$9,080.00
Surplus/Deficit YTD	-\$4,636.00

“You, son of man, I have appointed watchman for the house of Israel...” – Ezekiel 33:7

Many of us are generous with our gifts. However, many of us are not generous in proportion to the gifts we have been given. How often do we give at the minimum level required? Remember, the Lord calls us to nurture and develop our gifts and to give back with increase. He calls us to be generous with all the gifts, especially the one that means the most to us.

Grantfork Historical Society Rummage Sale
Grantfork Auction Barn
Thurs, Sept 17 11 am -7 pm
Fri, Sept 18 8 am- 5 pm
Sat, Sept 19 8 am - Noon

Household, Furniture, Décor and More
Donation Drop off Accepted
(No books, clothing or electronics)
Mon, Aug 31 9 am - Noon
Sun, Sept 13 Noon - 4 pm
Mon, Sept 14 9 am - 1 pm

For Rummage sale questions, call or text Aimee at 618-604-2452

Bake Sale Items Needed on Thurs, Sept 17 and Fri, Sept 18 only
Contact Emily Schwarz at 618-675-3386 for bake sale questions



Parish School of Religion
PSR for IC and STN starts this Wednesday, September 9th; 6:30 to 7:45PM at IC Hall in Pierron.

Registration is that evening starting at 6PM, and a class schedule will be given.

Any 1st graders or new members, please contact Mary Jo Luitjohan, PSR DRE at 618-210-1112.

Next Immaculate Conception Council Meeting will be held on Tuesday, September 15th at 7PM.



Observances for the Week of September 6, 2026

- Sunday**
23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time
- Monday**
Labor Day
- Tuesday**
The Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary
- Wednesday**
St. Peter Claver, Priest
- Friday**
Patriot Day
- Saturday**
The Most Holy Name of Mary
- Next Sunday**
24th Sunday in Ordinary Time; Grandparent’s Day

★ GET YOUR TEAM TOGETHER & JOIN THE FUN! ★

YOUTH KICKBALL TOURNAMENT

GOOD FRIENDS GREAT FUN STRONGER COMMUNITY

≤ SUNDAY ≤
SEPTEMBER 20TH

PIC PARK
208 Edward’s St
Pierron, IL

★ AGES 12-17 • FOOD • FELLOWSHIP • FUN ★

TEAM INFO
COED - EVEN BOY & GIRLS
8 PLAYERS PER TEAM
ALL SKILL LEVELS WELCOME!

FUN CASH PRIZE
FOR 1ST PLACE TEAM
- 40% -
BRAGGING RIGHTS!

GAME INFO
DOUBLE ELIMINATION
STARTS AT NOON

SIGN UP TODAY!
CONTACT
RAY WILLIAMSON
618-225-9208
TO REGISTER

\$50 NON-REFUNDABLE ENTRY FEE

★ PLAY HARD. HAVE FUN. MAKE MEMORIES. ★

IC Collection	8/30/26
Envelopes/Loose	\$2,217.00
Assumption of Mary	\$10.00
Building Fund	\$10.00
Candles	\$72.00
Sister Parish	\$160.00
Budget Goal	\$2,920.00
Weekly Surplus/Deficit	-\$693.00
Support Needed (budget)	\$26,280.00
Support Actual	\$21,819.57
Surplus/Deficit YTD	-\$4,460.43

ST. LAWRENCE CHURCH
ANNUAL CHICKEN DINNER

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 13

11 A.M. - 2 P.M.

DINE-IN	PRICE
ADULT	\$15
AGE 6-12	\$8
AGE 0-5	FREE
CARRYOUT	\$15

CASH, CHECK OR VENMO
ACCEPTED FOR DINNERS

DINNER INCLUDES:
FRIED CHICKEN
NOODLES
GREEN BEANS
MASHED POTATOES & GRAVY
COLESLAW
HOMEMADE DESSERT



CAKE WALK
COUNTRY STORE
SILENT AUCTION
RAFFLE

From September 23 to November 1, we are uniting with many others for another major simultaneous pro-life mobilization – the 40 Days for Life campaign. The mission of 40 Days for Life is to bring together the Body of Christ in a spirit of unity during a focused 40 day campaign of prayer, fasting and peaceful activism, with the purpose of repentance, to seek God's favor to turn hearts and minds from a culture of death to a culture of life, thus bringing an end to abortion. We (Immaculate Conception, St. Gertrude & St. Nicholas parishes) chose to Adopt a Day in the 40 Days for Life Granite City campaign to end the demand for abortion. We were assigned Sunday, **September 27th** as our adopted day, and we need many prayer warriors to join us in this important mission. We will need prayer warriors to pray with us at the facility in Granite City, and we need some praying from work, home, etc. too. In order to sign up for an hour or two of prayer on Sept. 27, 2026, please call or text Denise Trickey at 618-358-3954. 40 Days for Life works because prayer works!

Thank you for standing up for life!



September HACSM
Pantry Needs:
Rice Sides & Instant
Packs of Oatmeal

Pocahontas Food Pantry Needs:
Canned veggies, spaghetti & sauce,
canned meat, ravioli, cake mix &
icing, cereal.

There is a box for donations at
St. Nicholas Church.

This pantry serves the people of
Pocahontas, Millersburg & Old Ripley.

Check or cash is also accepted; checks
written to "Pocahontas Food Pantry".

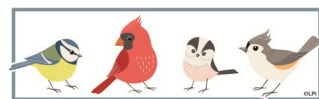
The pantry is available to all on the 1st
Monday of each month from 9AM to
11:30AM year-round. All donations
are greatly appreciated!!



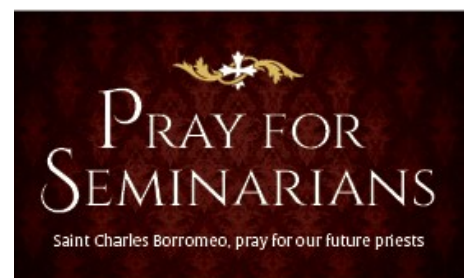
O God of the poor, help us to rescue the
abandoned and forgotten of this earth,
who are so precious in your eyes... God
of love, show us our place in this world
as channels of your love for all the
creatures of this earth, God of mercy,
may we receive your forgiveness and
convey your mercy throughout our
common home. Praise be to you! Amen.

Source: Message of His Holiness Pope
Francis for the Celebration of the World
Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation on
September 1, 2016

We are called to become people through
whom God's life flows — bringing hope
where there is despair, healing where
there is brokenness, and reconciliation
where relationships have been wounded.



Pray For Our Seminarians
Joseph Tuttle
Configuration III
Saint Meinrad Seminary



Sign up for Called and Courageous
Women's Conference in Springfield
What is preventing you from trusting God
more deeply?

Life is full of highs and lows, and it can be
hard to see where God is in the middle of it
all. At this year's Catholic Women's
Conference, discover how to trust God in
the messy, real moments of everyday life.
Learn how your emotions influence your
spiritual life and how to challenge the lies
that lead to self-criticism, comparison, and
discouragement. You'll leave with practical
tools to learn how to recognize God in your
daily life, grow in prayer, and live with
greater confidence in your identity as a
beloved daughter of God. No matter what
your season of life – single, married,
divorced, widowed, young adult, or retired
– you'll find encouragement, community,
and hope.

When? **Saturday, October 10.** Christ the
King parish Center, Springfield. Women
ages 18+. Cost \$30. For the full schedule,
speaker information, and registration,
visit go.dio.org/cac. Even if you are on the
fence about God, remember: God is not on
the fence about you. Questions?
Contact Gracie Ortiz at gortiz@dio.org or
217-321-1124.



Server Training/Refresher at St. Gertrude
this Wednesday, Sept. 9th. If you are in 4th
grade or up and feel called to serve our Lord
and your church by being an altar server, this
session is for you. This ministry helps
develop maturity and responsibility and is
an excellent way for young men and women
to serve God and others. As an altar server,
you are an integral part of the celebration
and worship of our Lord.

St. Cecilia Chicken Dinner & Fall Festival
September 27 Noon to 5pm. \$14 Adults &
Carry Outs; \$6 kids 5-10; under 5 Free
155 N. Main St., Glen Carbon IL

23RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME SEPTEMBER 5 & 6, 2026



Saint Nicholas - Pocahontas



Immaculate Conception—Pierron



Saint Gertrude—Grantfork



23RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

"For where two or three are gathered together
in my name, there am I in the midst of them."
- Mt 18:19-20

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD. ©LP1

+BISHOP
THOMAS JOHN PAPROCKI
DIOCESE OF SPRINGFIELD
IN ILLINOIS

✠
REV. CALLISTUS OSIAGA
PASTOR

SONYA CURRY
SECRETARY

Mailing Address:
PO Box 410
Pierron, IL 62273

E-mail Address:
icpierron@parish.dio.org
Website:
www.icstnsta.org
Office: 618-669-2391
Rectory: 618-654-2789

Office Address:
401 E State Street,
Pocahontas
Office Hours:
Mon.—Thurs. 9am to 4pm
Fridays 9am to 1pm

Mass Times
Immaculate Conception
Wed. & Fri. —8:00am
Sunday —10:00am

Saint Nicholas
Thursday — 8:00am
Saturday — 4:30pm

Saint Gertrude
Tuesday — 8:00am
Sunday — 8:00am