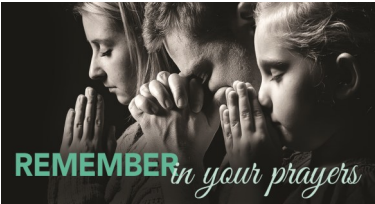




Occasionally, I'll slip into a parish I've never visited before, pick up the bulletin, and find one of my Gospel reflections. My heart usually swells with a bit of affection for my creation. I imprint a bit of myself into my little "literary labors of love." Anyone who has created something— a piece of writing, a garden, a meal, a child —knows that feeling. We love the things into which we put ourselves. We are happy when they return to us. With that in mind, listen to Jesus' classic line in this Sunday's Gospel: "Then repay to Caesar what belongs to Caesar and to God what belongs to God" (Matthew 22:21). He presents this little riddle to deepen the theme from taxes to human beings. A Roman coin bears Caesar's image, so it belongs to Caesar. Therefore, he has a legitimate claim to it. Fair enough. But what belongs to God? What bears *His* image? Every human being. God has imprinted Himself on every person. Which means everyone — including Caesar — belongs to Him. Jesus, who is God's perfect image, has come to draw everyone back to God. We can be tempted to imagine that our lives are made up of "things for God" and "things not for God." The good news is that no such division is possible because *everything* in life is a gift from God to us. Therefore, all is meant to be placed at the service of God's kingdom. He loves everything He has created. We have the privilege of giving it all back to Him. — Fr. John Muir

LITURGICAL MINISTERS FOR OCT 24 & 25 2026
Sat. Oct. 24 @ 4:30PM @ St. Nicholas
Reader: Kelsey Bentlage
Euch. Min.: Marce & Brenda Tebbe
Server: Pat Kalous
Ushers: Dean & Michelle Reynolds
Sun. Oct. 25 @ 8:00AM @ St. Gertrude
Reader: 4th-8th Grade PSR
Sacristan: Carole Sauls
Euch.Min.: Terry & Sue Dickman & Brenda Knackstedt
Ushers: 4th-8th Grade PSR
Servers: 4th-8th Grade PSR
Sun. Oct. 25 @10:00AM @ IC
Reader: Lowell Wellen
Servers: Emma Winte & Landry Korte
Euch. Min.: Mary Korte, John Dea & Amy Gilomen



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, 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 Luber, Christopher Marti, Taylor Marti, Barry May, Alex McCall, Eleanor Munie, Cody Neal, Marcia Rowe, Gunner Sadler, Abby Schrage, Bill Schroeder, Suzanne Steinbring, Brenda Usher, 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, Jerritt Mettler, Jimmy O'Boyle, Sgt. Joseph Patterson, Rickie Ford, 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.

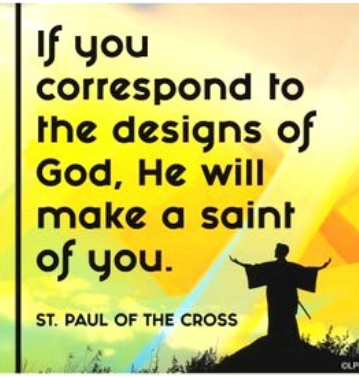
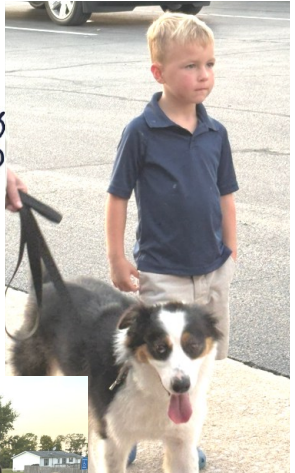
Readings for the Week of October 18, 2026
Sunday
Is 45:1, 4-6/Ps 96:1 and 3, 4-5, 7-8, 9-10/1 Thes 1:1-5b/ Mt 22:15-21
Monday
Eph 2:1-10/Ps 100:1b-2, 3, 4ab, 4c-5/Lk 12:13-21
Tuesday
Eph 2:12-22/Ps 85:9ab-10, 11-12, 13-14/Lk 12:35-38
Wednesday
Eph 3:2-12/Is 12:2-3, 4bcd, 5-6/Lk 12:39-48
Thursday
Eph 3:14-21/Ps 33:1-2, 4-5, 11-12, 18-19/Lk 12:49-53
Friday
Eph 4:1-6/Ps 24:1-2, 3-4ab, 5-6/Lk 12:54-59
Saturday
Eph 4:7-16/Ps 122:1-2, 3-4ab, 4cd-5/Lk 13:1-9
Next Sunday
Ex 22:20-26/Ps 18:2-3a, 3b-4, 47 and 51/1 Thes 1:5c-10/ Mt 22:34-40



Our Annual Mass of Remembrance will be held at IC Church on Monday, Nov. 2nd at 6:30pm. This liturgy will be especially in remembrance of anyone who has died since October 2025. The names of all our deceased parishioners who died last year will be read after the homily at this Mass and candles with the names of the deceased will be lit. (Please note: For parishioners who have lost a loved one this past year who is not a member of IC, STN, or STG please contact the parish office by Oct. 23rd to have your loved ones name included in the Mass of Remembrance). If you cannot be present at the service, you may pick up the candle with your loved one's name at the Parish Office. Please remember in prayer the souls of all the faithful departed and all who are grieving. As we enter this season of remembrance when we especially honor our brothers and sisters who have gone before us, may we always remember them in prayer and place our hope in the power of the Resurrected Christ, who binds us all together.



Pics from St. Francis Pet Blessing at IC



Observances for the Week of October 18, 2026
Sunday
29th Sunday in Ordinary Time; World Mission Sunday
Monday
Sts. John de Brébeuf and Isaac Jogues, Priests, and Companions, Martyrs; St. Peter of Alcantara
Tuesday
St. Paul of the Cross, Priest
Thursday
St. John Paul II, Pope
Friday
St. John of Capistrano, Priest
Saturday
St. Anthony Mary Claret, Bishop
Next Sunday
30th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Bringing Comfort Through Grief Support
It is incredibly painful for us to lose a loved one, especially during the holidays. You are not alone in your pain. Blessed are they who mourn, for they will be comforted. Jesus included this teaching in the Beatitudes for a reason. Fr. Cal provides support services for families who are grieving; his grief support is centered on Jesus Christ. Seek his expertise if you need any grief support at all. Call the parish office for an appointment, he is available anytime you need him.

The Diocesan October Count will continue throughout the month of October. We ask that all parishioners attend Mass at IC, STN, or STG during this month, as this count is used for assigning priests to parishes in the Diocese. **It's important to be counted!**

CAKE ROLL

Fundraiser
HELP US RAISE MONEY FOR OUR MISSION TRIP NEXT SUMMER WHILE ENJOYING A DELICIOUS READY TO EAT CAKE ROLL WITH YOUR FAMILY & FRIENDS!
WHEN:
October 1st - October 31st
WHERE TO PLACE AN ORDER:
After 10:00 am Mass, QR Code or contact a PAPAYA Youth Member

Every purchase supports our fundraising efforts.
Thank you for your generosity!

Blessing for World Mission Sunday
O God, You never cease to call us to Yourself, bless the mission fields where we sow, tend, and reap. Give us your grace and strength as we share Your love with families and friends, strangers and sojourners. Give us the right words, the right inspirations, the right invitations, the right love. Your love, shared. Amen.



Happy 65th Wedding Anniversary to Donald & Lucille (Kloss) Rutz from Immaculate Conception Church.
The couple were united in marriage at St. Gertrude Church by Fr. Kirby on October 21, 1961. Please keep Don and Lucille in your prayers!!

'And over all these virtues put on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity.'
Colossians 3:14.

Peace Mass on Thursday, October 22 at Immaculate conception Church
Adoration 5:30p
Mass 6:00pm

Mon.	(Oct.19)	8:00am	(IC)
Tues.	(Oct.20)	8:00am	(St.G)
Wed.	(Oct.21)	8:00am	(IC)
Thur.	(Oct.22)	8:00am	(St.N)
Thur.	(Oct.22)	6:00pm	(IC)
Fri.	(Oct.23)	8:00am	(IC)
Sat.	(Oct.24)	4:30pm	(St.N)
Sun.	(Oct.25)	8:00am	(St.G)
Sun.	(Oct.25)	10:00am	(IC)

† **Mass Intentions** †
No Mass
† **All Souls**
† **Living & Deceased of the Howard & Anita Goring Family** —Int. of Kevin & Jackie Goring Family
† **George Luber** —Int. of Sue Luber & Family
For the People of Immaculate Conception, St. Nicholas & St. Gertrude
† **Kent Knebel** —Int. of Bill & Denise Trickey
† **Ralph Goesten Kors** —Int. of Steve & Jayne Fergesen
† **Jerry Frey** —Int. of Bryan & Kris Rutz Family
† **Clarence & Ruth Korte** —Int. of Debby Schwarz
† **Bob & Pam Winet** —Int. of Terry & Joan Riffel
† **Jess & Clara Knebel** — Int. of Gregg & Celeste Korte

Next St. Gertrude Council meeting will be held on Tuesday, October 20th at 7PM.

STN Collection	10/10/26
Envelopes/Loose	\$1,335.00
All Saints	\$120.00
Sister Parish	\$30.00
World Mission	\$100.00
Black/Indian Mission	\$70.00
Candles	\$182.00
All Souls	\$10.00
Budget Goal	\$1,276.00
Weekly Surplus/Deficit	\$179.00
Support Needed (budget)	\$19,140.00
Support Actual	\$19,140.00
Surplus/Deficit YTD	\$0.00

CONGRATULATIONS
To **Tiffany Knebel & Christopher Dilks** who were married on **October 17th** at Immaculate Conception Church!



STG Collection	10/11/26
Envelopes/Loose	\$906.00
Sister Parish	\$30.00
Maintenance Fund	\$50.00
Budget Goal	\$1,524.00
Weekly Surplus/Deficit	-\$618.00
Support Needed (budget)	\$22,860.00
Support Actual	\$17,760.00
Surplus/Deficit YTD	-\$5,100.00

IC Collection	10/11/26
Envelopes/Loose	\$1,315.00
Building Fund	\$101.00
Candles	\$84.00
All Souls	\$40.00
Budget Goal	\$2,920.00
Weekly Surplus/Deficit	-\$1,605.00
Support Needed (budget)	\$43,800.00
Support Actual	\$37,593.03
Surplus/Deficit YTD	-\$6,206.97

Annual Diocesan
**Respect Life Mass,
Rosary Walk & Luncheon**



Bishop Paprocki
Mass Celebrant

Lucy Sykes
Speaker

October 24, 2026

9:00 am | Mass
Holy Family Catholic Church, Granite City
Celebrated by Bishop Thomas John Paprocki

10:00 am | Rosary Walk
Peaceful, prayerful walk to Hope Clinic and return

11:30 am | Luncheon
Englebert Hall, Madison
Guest Speaker: Lucy Sykes, Students for Life of America
Free lunch; free-will offering benefiting Project Rachel



HUNDREDFOLD WORKSHOP

DATE: NOVEMBER 7, 2026 TIME: 10 AM – 4 PM
LOCATION: CHRIST THE KING, SPRINGFIELD

You are personally invited as our parish takes an intentional step toward fostering a culture of vocations — a place where young people can more easily discern God's call.

Your love for the Church and commitment to our parish are the reason you were chosen to attend. Let's discover how we can spark a culture of vocations together!

THIS FREE WORKSHOP WILL HELP YOU:

- Understand how a parish fosters vocations to priesthood, consecrated life, and marriage.
- Learn practical, proven ways to encourage future vocations.
- Receive ready-to-use tools and resources to begin immediately.
- Collaborate with fellow parishioners committed to helping parish vocations flourish.
- Leave equipped with clear, actionable next steps for our community.

Rhonda Gruenewald
Founder & President

REGISTER NOW

go.dio.org/k8s

SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS VOCATIONS

Your "Yes" could help God's call grow a hundredfold right here in our parish. I warmly invite you to join us and make a lasting impact!

LUNCH PROVIDED. NO COST TO ATTEND.

St. John Paul II was born Karol Wojtyla in the small Polish town of Wadowice. During World War II, when the Nazis invaded Poland, Karol secretly studied for the priesthood in an underground seminary. He was ordained to the priesthood in 1946, appointed Archbishop of Krakow in 1964, and made a cardinal three years later. In 1978, he was elected the 264th pope, and he took the name John Paul II.

St. John Paul II made evangelization a key part of his papacy and made pastoral visits around the world. In 1981, he was shot twice in an assassination attempt. Following Jesus' example of compassion, he later met with his would-be assassin in his prison cell, where he forgave him for what he had done.

St. John Paul II was well known as an active sportsman throughout his life, hiking and skiing well into his 60s. In 1992, his health began to decline, and it was later discovered that he suffered from Parkinson's disease, a degenerative disorder of the central nervous system. Near the end of his papacy, he struggled to speak, and his poor health and physical suffering made public appearances difficult. Still, he continued his pastoral work. He died April 2, 2005, and he was declared blessed on May 1, 2011. He became a saint on April 27, 2014.

St. John Paul II, pray for us!

DON'T MISS THIS!

Pray Along
with the
Prairie Travelers



Join us next Sunday, October 25th at 8am for a special Mass at St. Gertrude with music from the Prairie Travelers acoustic trio! All are welcome!



*Prayer for Our Holy Father,
Pope Leo XIV*

St. Paul Catholic Church in Highland would like to invite all 6th-12th graders to our upcoming New Year's Retreat! Come kick off the new year with great music, inspiring messages, fun activities, and powerful times of prayer. It's the perfect way to reset and grow closer to God alongside other Catholic youth. For more details on dates, registration, and costs, please visit <https://www.stpaulhighland.org/youth-retreats> or contact Carrie Albaugh at chenrichsalbaugh@stpaulhighland.org.

PRAYER FOR POPE LEO XIV

O great St. Peregrine, you have been called "The Mighty," "The Wonder-Worker," because of the numerous miracles which you have obtained from God for those who have had recourse to you.

For so many years you bore in your own flesh this cancerous disease that destroys the very fiber of our being, and who had recourse to the source of all grace when the power of man could do no more. You were favored with the vision of Jesus coming down from His Cross to heal your affliction.

Ask of God and Our Lady, the cure of the sick whom we entrust to you. O St Peregrine, pray for our Holy Father, Pope Leo.

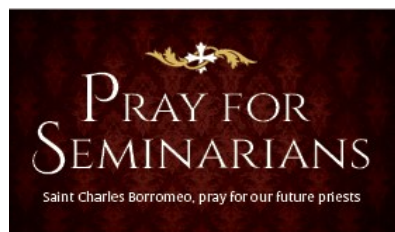
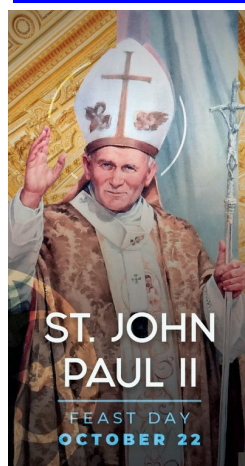
Aided in this way by your powerful intercession, we shall sing to God, now and for all eternity, a song of gratitude for His great goodness and mercy.

Holy Mary, Health of the Sick, gather our Holy Father under your mantle. Stay close to him in his suffering and comfort him as you comforted your Son. Bring our prayers to the Lord, that He may grant him healing and give him strength to keep shepherding the Church and serving the world. Amen.

Catholicimprint.com

"Render therefore to Caesar the things that are Caesar's and to God the things that are God's. – Matthew 22:21"

Everything we are and everything we have belongs to God. We aren't "owners" of anything, we are merely "stewards" of the gifts God has given each of us. All God is asking is that we give back a portion of what He gave us. This is the essence of Stewardship. God should be our first priority in everything. All else comes second, especially our money.



St. Anne's Altar Society
Mother of Perpetual Help Church
200 North Lange, Maryville

**Put on a Happy Face
Card Party Luncheon**

Play cards and games at your table!
Wednesday, October 28
Doors open at 11:00 AM
Lunch served at 11:30 AM

- \$12 Per Person
- Salad Buffet
- RSVP to Michelle
618-972-7372
- Pot of Gold
- Table Prizes
- Gift Card Raffle

Collin Taylor
Propaedeutic
Bishop Simon Bruté Seminary



29TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME OCTOBER 17 & 18, 2026



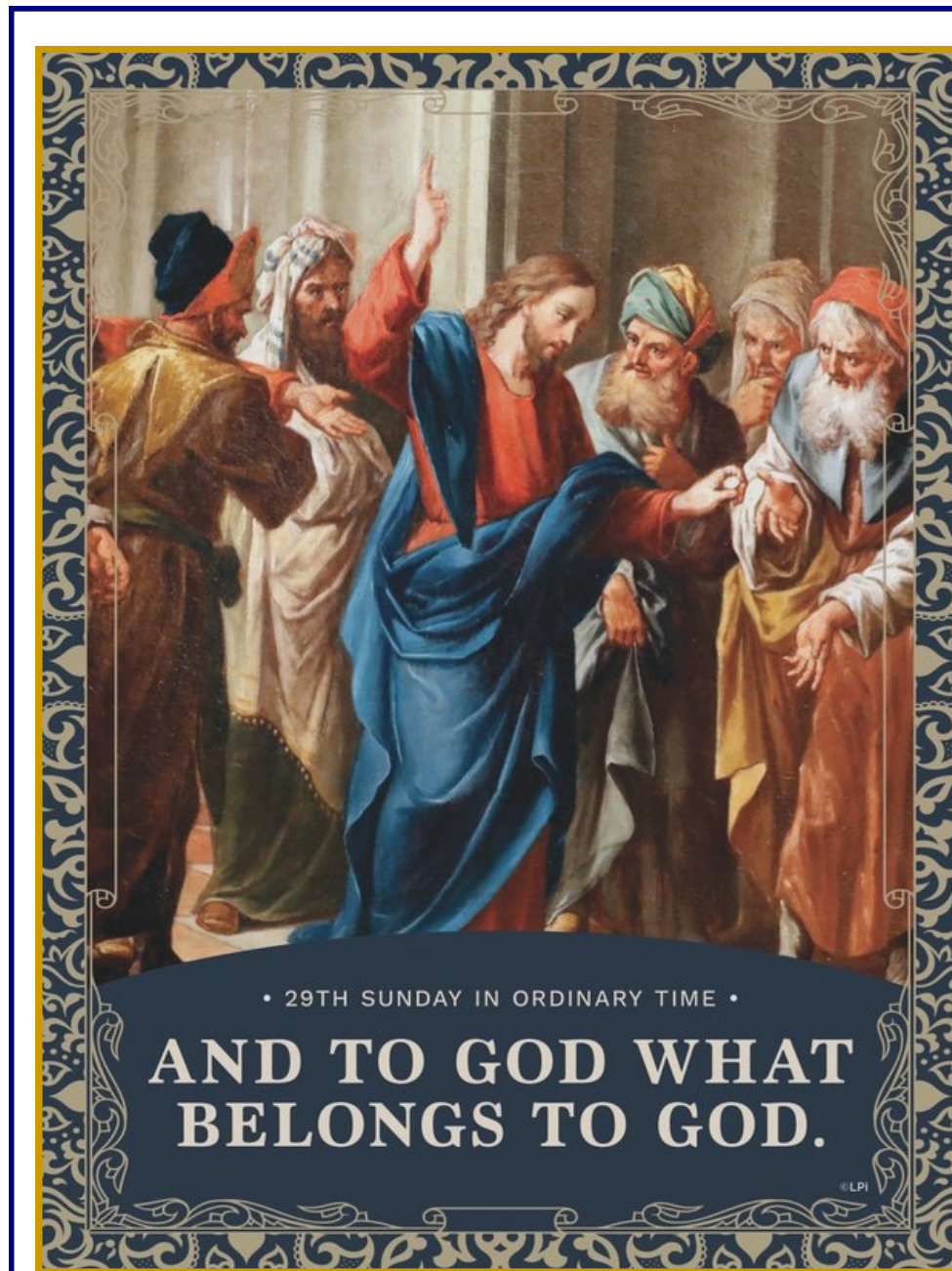
Saint Nicholas - Pocahontas



Immaculate Conception—Pierron



Saint Gertrude—Grantfork



+BISHOP
THOMAS JOHN PAPROCKI
DIOCESE OF SPRINGFIELD
IN ILLINOIS

✠
REV. CALLISTUS OSIAGA
PASTOR

SONYA CURRY
SECRETARY

Mailing Address:
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Pierron, IL 62273

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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