



Immaculate Conception School
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Celebrating 167 years of Mission, Community, Service.

The mission of Immaculate Conception School is to provide experiences to inspire, challenge, and nurture the mind, body, and spirit of our students within the framework of the Gospel of Jesus Christ and the tradition of the Catholic Church.

January 4, 2021

Bienvenido el parrochia!

V. 46 #20



Dear Parents, Guardians, and Friends,



First in first day 2021!



Parents and Guardians: Thanks for the cash donations to the Faculty, Staff and me and your most generous donations to Fr. Carl, Fr. Nick, parish staff as well. And add in the Griffin Center, Secret Santa, Funderwear for DayStar, and Blankets for Babies---all we can say is **Thank you!**

A FULL STEWARDSHIP PARISH Jeanne and I got ours finished over the holidays. Please go to our website and complete your Full Stewardship Pledge. We need 100% compliance from school parishioners by January 7. This does not cover Sister Parish families or tuition families. Full Stewardship is about getting attached to God's people, not things. Open hands can give AND receive! We all know that God will provide. Usually, that's us, working for God for God's people.

Free Lunches from the CARES ACT ALL students may eat lunch free. Please take advantage and grow our count and **help our profit line.** Credit will be applied for past paid lunches.

FYI: Grade 6 will sit down with me in January to discuss their Iowa Test and GPA (four 7th graders left-remote). Each student, in turn, has been asked to sit down with Mom or Dad, have a nice glass of Kool-Aid, and explain their meeting with me. (Pre-Christmas, one student mentioned they still had their Iowa scores in their back pack.)

JOIN US FOR A VIRTUAL REIMAGINING OF OUR ANNUAL ICS DINNER AUCTION FEBRUARY 20, 2021! We are working to bring you the fun and excitement you expect from an ICS auction with the safety and social distance prescribed this year. The theme is "Lucky 21" and you can bet it'll be unlike any auction you've attended! Ticket sales are now live at Lucky21.givesmart.com - and this year your ticket is also an entry into a prize drawing!

As you may know, our annual auction is ICS Parents & Friends top fundraiser of the year. Parents & Friends financially supports the ICS Art and Spanish programs, has pledged \$500,000 to our CEAC fund, and funds a long list of school needs and teacher/staff appreciation activities. The money we raise has a direct effect on our children's education.

There is a lot of work that goes into this event, and we welcome your help and support. Here's just a few ways you can help over the next couple months:

1. Buy a ticket and "attend" our auction.
2. Buy raffle tickets and help sell them to friends & family (no auction tickets required for purchase!).
3. Donate items to our silent or live auctions (Need ideas on what to donate? Check out our Amazon Wish List: https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/2G7CTN9I0HQWW?ref_=wl_share)
4. Advertise your business on our auction site and in our auction book.
5. Participate in our Grandparent or ICS Honor Roll - thru the auction site!
6. Join one of our auction committees.
7. Sign up to help "work" the auction. (sign-ups available leading up to the event)

Contact the auction committee with questions at ICSauction@ICSmail.org
Mandy McGuire Tricia Haywood Maggie Bollone Jolene Sasser

THANKS to Wells Fargo for a Your Cause Match for \$2846!

THANKS for a CEAC donation/pledge of \$6,000! We love new money!

Many THANKS from Parents and Friends. We netted \$3335.81 from Square 1 Art! Thanks to Chair Jolene Sasser!

THANKS TO THE DOROTHY WEINEL EPPINGER FOUNDATION for their generous donation of \$1,500 to the arts at ICS . We are still hoping to do something in the Spring. Dorothy's legacy lives on as she touches the lives of Columbia children and our community every year!

CONGRATULATIONS to Mrs. Sue Lewis on being awarded a Touchstone Grant for \$500 for chromebooks. Community partnerships really help!

MAGAZINE DRIVE: Another profit check for **\$170.40!**

Magazine Drive #40

No landed sales this year, booklets, or order forms---All on-line

Youtube kick-off on January 12 or 19 TBD

Tuition reward certificates out January 4th or with kick-off letter TBD

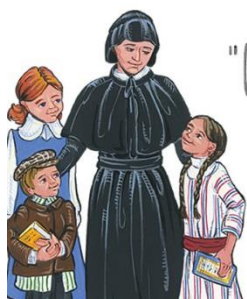
32 students earned \$2500 in college tuition credits and 39 students earned \$1000 = \$119,000!!! We grossed over \$26,000 in sales from last year so renew with us!

Some prize carry-over from last year's Covid cancellation of rewards will be extended or cashed out to grads.

Days to support DC funding.

- January 8th = Pajama Day to promote an end to the hectic-ness of the **holidays**
- February 5th = Sport Jersey Day to promote **Teamwork/upcoming Superbowl**
- March 5th = Dr. Seuss Day to promote **Reading**
- April 9th = Hat day to promote "**Thinking cap**" & **Father Carl's favorite activity**
- May 7th = Hawaiian Day to promote **Goodwill**, with all proceeds going to next year's 8th grade DC Trip.

HOW A REMOTE KINDERGARTENER GETS HER TEACHER'S ATTENTION:



"We are not called upon to do all the good possible, but only that which we can do."

Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton

Elizabeth Ann Seton,

née **Elizabeth Ann Bayley**, (born August 28, 1774, New York, New York [U.S.]—died January 4, 1821, Emmitsburg, Maryland, U.S.; canonized 1975; **feast** day January 4),

first native-born American to be canonized by the Roman Catholic Church. Patron saint of Catholic schools. Like St. Katherine Drexel Lambert (the Drexel name is on Wall Street), she was a wealthy widow who walked away from riches to create a life for others. We pass her shrine every year off I-15

at Mount St. Mary University. A great day to return to school! Seton Hall University is named after her!



Santa Claus Drive By or Drive by Santa Claus or Elf roadkill. Last rites by Santa Claus.

SANTA JOE Joe Gilbreth is delivered 10 of our computers relegated to word processing to Sr. Thea Bowman School December 21st . There is a great digital divide in our country that needs to be remedied. Many of our social ills can be reduced by early childhood education and equal access to education. Thanks Joe!

KIDS AGAINST HUNGER is on hold due to Covid. This kills me. People still need to eat. The poor always get hit the hardest. We may be able to pull something off in April or May and will need to start fund raising soon. We are one of the largest producing groups that Jerry and Sharon Ambrecht of Washington Overseas Missions works with.

THE SPORTING NEWS... Still no decision on sports. Looking bleak.

Sports Illustrated---a real hero---**Laurent Duvernay-Tardiff** opted out of 2020 NFL season after winning a Super Bowl ring to work on the front lines of the pandemic as a doctor. He has a passion for football but a stronger passion to help people and works at a long term care facility in Quebec where he grew up. Our students need to know.

Gibault Raffle-Mania! It's not too late to purchase your Raffle-Mania ticket! Lots of chances to win with daily, monthly, and grand prize drawings. You can buy your ticket online at www.GibaultRaffle.givesmart.com or contact the school office at 939-3883.

Gibault Enrollment Office Our placement exam for the Class of 2025 is rescheduled for Saturday, January 16, 2021, at 8:30 a.m. Please RSVP to Susan Mackin at smackin@gibalthawks.com. We are currently offering private tours of our campus and are also scheduling shadow visits. To schedule a tour/arrange a shadow visit, contact Director of Enrollment, Kelly Day, at kday@gibalthawks.com or 939-3883.

We're #gibaultproud of: Reagan Herrmann (Immaculate Conception Parish) for being recognized in the Hawk Spotlight and our **FFA Ag Communications Team** for their overall second place finish at their competition and individual category finishes: **Logan Mechler (Sts. Peter & Paul Parish)** – first; **Aleaha Anderson** – first; **Melissa Bernal (Holy Childhood Parish–Mascoutah)** – fifth; and **Macy Schneider (Sts. Peter & Paul Parish)** – fifth.

Sr. Thea Bowman Catholic School will hold a Virtual Auction this year from March 10-13. The Mega Raffle for \$10,000 has already started. **Tickets: \$100** Buy 1, Get 1 / Buy 2, Get 3 / Buy 3, Get 5

email Karen Waide at kwaide@srthea.org

Kay Wylder, mother of Heather(Brian) Garcia and grandmother of Isabella and Eli, passed away over the Holidays. **Pat Smith**(Mayor of Waterloo and our pest control agent) both died over the holidays. I also lost my last Aunt on my dad's side, Florence Kish, on Christmas Eve. God's peace to these good people and their families.

Fr. Gary Gummersheimer, former IC Parish Administrator, is awaiting surgery for spinal stenosis on January 20. He is in need of some major relief. Please keep him in your prayers. We had a good talk on 12-28 and needs to get back to his flock at St. Andrew's in Murphysboro.

PRAYERS: Special Intention Fr. Gary Gummersheimer, Lynn Dugan, Harley Greer, Pat Whelan, Gary Greenfield, Pete Riederer. Dennis Stork, Velma Taylor, Steve Killy, Larry Carrico, Joan Prigge, Joanna Prigge Ellner, George Perry, Gladys Williamson, Danielle Dorlac, Arlin Stechmesser, Karen Hornacek, Seth Watters, Glyn Raeber, Mike Drone, Geraldine McCoy, Kathy Neal, Logan Eichenseer, Ashley Burris, Ed Schaefer, Libby LoPorto, Tom Giovanni, Dion Scherr Miller, Donna Kania, Owen Jordan, Anthony Hendricks, Shawn Eichoff, Charlie Stockes, Angela Roepke, Jan Hoffmann, Bill West, Jennifer Nesser, Tom Kish, Patti Rottler, Mike Taylor

Mike Kish

Principal

Ps Epiphanies are many. Incarnations are few.
We are an Incarnation People.

Hope

When the storm has passed
And the roads are tamed
And we are the survivors
Of a collective shipwreck

With tearful heart
And our destiny blessed
We will feel joy
Simply for being alive.

And we'll give a hug
To the first stranger
And praise our good luck
That we kept a friend.

And then we'll remember
All that we lost
And finally learn
Everything we never learned.

And we'll envy no one
For all of us have suffered
And we'll not be idle
But more compassionate.

We'll value more what belongs to all
than what was earned
We'll be more generous
And much more committed.

We'll understand how fragile
It is to be alive
We'll sweat empathy
For those still with us and those who are gone.

We'll miss the old man
Who asked for a buck in the market
Whose name was we never knew
Who was always at your side

And maybe the poor old man
Was your God in disguise.
But you never asked his name
Because you never had the time.

(Alexis Valdes, Cuban Actor and Comedian in Miami)

From Pope Francis new book Let Us Dream: The Path to a Better Future



Every time
a hand reaches out
to help another...
that is Christmas.

Every time
someone puts conflict aside
and strives
for understanding...
that is Christmas.

Every time
people forget their differences
and realize their love
for each other...
that is Christmas.



BACK TO SCHOOL HEALTH REMINDERS

Please make sure to send your student to school with a mask that fits correctly & a spare mask in their backpack.

Do NOT send your child to school if they are showing even 1 symptom of COVID-19.

Please keep all other household members home from school until you speak to Mrs. Epplin.

If someone in your house is sick and/or being tested for Covid-19, please do not send your child(ren) to school until more is known.

Please send your student with a full water bottle everyday.

Report all symptoms to the office or Mrs. Epplin by calling 618-281-5353 or you may email any time to bepplin@icsmail.org.