



Immaculate Conception School
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Michael L. Kish, Principal
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Tammy Hoeflinger, School Board President

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 8, 2021

Bienvenido el parrochia!

V. 46 #21



Dear Parents, Guardians, and Friends,

A FULL STEWARDSHIP PARISH Your stewardship form is due today. Please go to the parish website, download, complete, and send it to school marked "Full Stewardship" or mail to the parish-411 Palmer Rd. This is confidential information that only goes to our Parish Business Manager Keith Huels. Keith has done an outstanding job for us and is so easy to work with. Please do your part as a parish member and meet the deadline. Save him some time so he can do good work in other areas for our parish and school!

FOR ANYONE WHO USES ONLINE GIVING FOR STEWARDSHIP (weekly envelope collection) you will need to login and set up a new gift for your 2021 stewardship. Your previous giving settings for the envelope collection expired on 12/31/20. This only affects the regular envelopes.

We changed software this spring and had to create a new fund for the envelope collection, because the old fund expired on 12/31 of 2020 before we were able to change the end date. We created a new fund titled "**envelopes**" with no year specified and with no end date so this should not be a problem going forward. If you have questions please call the parish office.

Sorry for any inconvenience! Thank you for your support of our wonderful parish!

CEAC DONOR BOARD We are sending in our proof sheet on Donors, Memorials, Honorariums, and Naming Opportunities this week. Are you on it? We have 19 big ticket items covered with 10 still available. If you have any questions or would like a

presentation, give the Principal a call for an appointment. We are going to be here a long time and we pray for our beneficiaries often but want to save on the interest on the debt. Several people have increased their pledges due to recent highs on the stock market! It all helps!

Free Lunches from the CARES ACT ALL students may eat lunch free. Our lunch count is up over 20 per day! We can take more! The federal government has just raised support \$.16 per meal so it makes it even more beneficial to increase lunch participation. The spaghetti yesterday was just like Mama Mia's!

School pictures, Retake Day will be Wednesday, 1/20/21. If your child was absent during school picture day please have them dress up for retake day. If there was an issue with your child's picture and you want them retaken, please write a note explaining the reason for the retake and send it with the package you ordered on retake day. Expectable reasons for retakes: Glass glare, out of focus and eyes closed etc. **Class composites** will be delivered later in the school year.

PARENTS AND FRIENDS

Parents & Friends Agenda

December 11h, 2020 - 7:00pm VIRTUAL ONLY

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85942105584?pwd=MkgvOWJCCcG9yVW9RdExYYnF4bG5GZz09>

Meeting ID: 859 4210 5584

Passcode: CRUSADER

- I. Opening Prayer
- II. President Report: Kim Siegel
- III. Vice-President Report: Stephanie Roccasalva
- IV. Secretary Report: Katie Hart
- V. Treasurer's Report: Amanda Sander
- VI. Public Relations Representative: Jolene Sasser
- VII. Teacher's Report: TBD
- VIII. Principal's Report: Mr. Kish
- IX. Old Business
 - Spirit Wear - Laura Oberkfell
- X. New Business
 - Dinner Auction: Mandy McGuire, Tricia Haywood, Jolene Sasser
 - Box Tops: Dierdra Doerr & Angie Gregorski
 - Spring fair & 5K: Holly Blaskiewicz, Jen LoPorto
- XI. New Idea
- XIII. Closing Prayer
- XIV. Next Meeting Dates
 - Monday, February 8th
- XV. Important P&F Event Dates
 - Saturday, February 20th: Lucky '21 Dinner Auction
 - Thursday, May 6th: Give STL Day
 - Friday, May 7th: Spring fair & 5K

JOIN US FOR A VIRTUAL REIMAGINING OF OUR ANNUAL ICS DINNER AUCTION FEBRUARY 20, 2021! Fun, excitement, safety and social distance Auction! 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!

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 impact on our children's education.

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

BOXTOPS FOR EDUCATION! Another check for \$253.10! We need more families to download the app on their phone and scan their cash register receipts. And then we don't have to get snippy about those little coupons! Thanks to Deidre Doerr for chairing!

Thanks to Carol Fetcho for all her work on Square 1! The works of art don't just happen. She lets them out of her students, just like Michelangelo let "David" out of a single piece of stone. Thanks Mrs. Fetcho!

School Block Challenge---Thanks to **Carol Fetcho and Karen Weiler** who led this great project again! Though we didn't get a hit this year, we

Magazine Drive #40

- No landed sales this year, booklets, or order forms---All on-line
- Youtube kick-off on January TBD
- Tuition reward certificates sent home TODAY! **32 students earned \$2500 in college tuition credits and 39 students earned \$1000 = \$119,000!!!**
- \$26,000 in gross sales last year so renew with us! (40% STAYS HERE!)
- Some prize carry-over from last year's Covid cancellation of rewards will be extended or cashed out to grads.
- Do not renew from the publisher. Renew with us Grandpa and Grandma!

HISTORY 8 Each year at the conclusion of our Holocaust unit, the 8th graders each pick a survivor story from USC's Shoah Foundation video archive to study. They then create an original reflective piece of art, video, writing or audio to go along with the story. This is one of

the best I have seen. I am very impressed with Grant Monheiser's hard work and proud of how deeply he reflected here. I think he has a future in podcasting! It is 17 minutes long so you might want to grab a snack or a coffee first. You will be amazed every minute of it!
<http://www.icscolumbia.org/uploads/3/0/8/1/3081466/historyreflection-holocaust.m4a>

Days to support DC funding. \$464 today from pj day! Thanks!

- 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 8th grade DC Trip.

NO EXAMS this semester. Second quarter ends January 12. Early release on January 15 at 11:30 to work on grades and parent reports. Dummies printed on January 20. Grades posted January 21.

We will change the January 28 All-School Mass to January 27 as we kick off the 175th Anniversary of our parish.



"A waist is a terrible thing to mind" or **"Little Christmas"** on January 6, 12th Day of Christmas. Take lots---take 2!

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

TEACHABLE MOMENTS The seal of eternity is upon history. We cannot undo this week's sad events in our nation's capital. As a school, we cannot bury our head in the sand and ignore the world around us. A teacher's job is to change the world. To teach students to get the facts, think, pray, and act. Not all subjects are age appropriate and we are counting on our parents to talk their children through this current national struggle. What follows is the charge I gave to our Faculty last night. I should have given it yesterday morning. God be with us as we build a better world. The energy being put into the blame game should be magnified through loving our neighbor and justice served.

Faculty,

Just a reminder that yesterday's event is a teachable moment. I should have gotten this out this morning and am negligent as an educator. If students want to talk about what

happened in our nation's capitol, do so in an age appropriate way. Do so in the light of the Gospels.

As I mentioned in our closing prayer for the day Wednesday, our hearts ache for all who have died. The Capitol is "our house" but it has visiting hours and it was violated. We do not break into our house. Yesterday was a riot with the accompanying terrorist ordinance along with it. There was intent to do damage by people whose emotions have the best of them.

In the coming days there will be all kinds of talk of the 25th Amendment, Impeachment, reunification, compassion, healing and in a short time, an Inauguration. We always have a right of redress of grievances: it's the next election in 2 years. That's what has kept our democracy under the Constitution going since 1787. In 2016, I told the students it was our duty to support the President and work to have the best country possible. It is unpatriotic to wish ill or poor job performance on our country's leader. After an election, it is our duty to support and hope for the best for our country during the next term. That is patriotism.

I always ask myself why someone has to die during these crises. George Floyd's death ignited a movement that must continue. Lincoln's death stopped short of the message of his second inaugural address which phrased reunification so brilliantly in the words "with malice towards none, with charity for all". I always like to play "what if". What if Lincoln hadn't died? Would jim crow laws, voter suppression, re-enslavement through share cropping, over 4400 lynchings not happened? Would all the statues glorifying a rebellion not gone up 50 years later? (Robert E. Lee wanted no statues made of him.) We have no memorials of others we have defeated in war.

What if yesterday's riots had not happened? What if an election had been accepted, with the knowledge in 2 years we have another one if you didn't like the results?

Yesterday was hard for me to watch. I have made 26 visits to The United States Capitol. Many at a time where we roamed free to catch the tram over to our Senators or Representatives offices to visit. Where I ran into Senator Bill Bradley of New Jersey who hailed from Crystal City Missouri. I yelled to Senator Bradley, "I'm from Columbia, Illinois!" He said right back "I know where you live"! Where Senator Ted Kennedy told me to "have a nice trip". Where I took Yasser Arafat's picture in the Rotunda and almost had my camera confiscated for taking Speaker of the House John Boehner's picture as I ran down the hall after him for a yearbook shot. Where I caught a rough picture of Netanyahu just 3 years ago. I have been to an inauguration as well. And I look at our beautiful Capitol, built by enslaved people, with the Statue "Freedom" on top, placed there by Philip Reid, an enslaved person.

We have a long way to go. We will not get there with hate or violence. That has to be our message. This is America. It is okay to agree to disagree. This is America. We are not supposed to "feel" but to think. God made us all different. Accept it.

Let's have cooler heads prevail at school and have it ripple back to our families. We don't have to get along. We don't have to like each other. But we do have to love each other and that we can do.

Today's readings(Wednesday) said "If I say I love God but hate my brother, I am a liar." I have a long way to go yet to get to heaven.
Choose your words carefully---in the light of the Gospels.

If you are sending any correspondence home to parents, copy me.

Thanks and let's pray for peace and loving one another.

We the people of the United States, in order to form a more perfect union, establish justice, insure domestic tranquility, provide for the common defense, promote the general welfare, and secure the blessings of liberty to ourselves and our posterity, do ordain and establish this Constitution for the United States of America.

GRADS IN THE NEWS... FROM ICS '12 grad Ryan Hoffman: *"Been having a lot of fun working with the amazing Chrissy Metz"* (from This Is Us)

<https://www.facebook.com/100001197148827/posts/3500858543297349/?d=n>

Ryan got his licks in at our Talent Show in 2012 on BTO's TCoB! I played a bass and did the vocals and Mr. Hake had the drums covered! Proud of you Ryan!

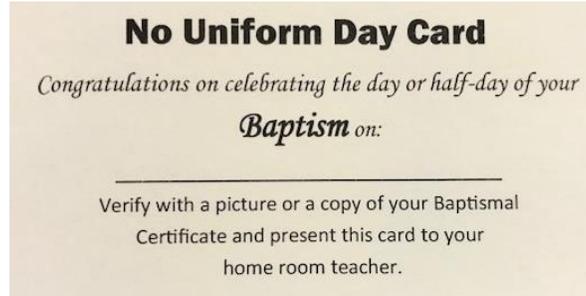
Gibault Raffle-Mania! It's not too late to purchase your Raffle-Mania ticket! Lots of chances to win with daily, monthly, and grand prize drawings. You can buy your ticket online at www.GibaultRaffle.givesmart.com or contact the school office at 939-3883.

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.

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

ANNOUNCING...

THE BAPTISM PROJECT



The Baptism of the Lord...this Sunday!

Why are we here? We're baptized! Jesus' submission to John's Baptism in the River Jordan was not needed. John baptized with water to symbolically clean his disciples from sin. Jesus set a divine example that I am one with you in his baptism by John and a voice from the heavens proclaims "You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased". Jesus will baptize with the Holy Spirit and bind us together as God's adopted heirs. We are "Baptism strong". Baptism helps us belong. We are divine heirs and sons and daughters of God!

In Pope Francis latest book: Let Us Dream: The Path to a Better Future, we are reminded that we are baptized into "a people", a Divine closeness to each other, bound by Baptism. Baptism makes us our brother's keepers. The Church is astray when we forget we belong to "a people". If you strip us of the reminder that we are baptized, we are uprooted from our history, our culture, our religion, our heritage. An uprooted person is very easy to dominate by other gods. Tradition is not a repository of ashes but the preservation of fire. Baptism strong!

My mentor Fr. Ed Hustedde often stated the most important day of his life was his Baptism. Mine was April 24, 1949. **Do you know the date of your Baptism?** To help students at ICS re-search and remember their baptismal date (half-date if a summer birth), we will help celebrate it with a dress down day certificate on that great day. **Why are we here?~We're Baptized!**

Rosemary Remiger Debbie(Joe) Sander's Mom(Emmalyn and Addie's great grandmother), fell and broke her hip while recovering from Covid. It was not displaced so there was no immediate surgery but she is in a lot of pain and healing slowly. Please pray for her for some quick healing!

PRAYERS: Special Intention Rosemary Remiger, 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 Saw Sr. Marcy Kruse, ASC, ICS grad, this morning at a cousin's funeral. I asked her if she got fired from Rome or was here to be Vicar General for Religious for our new Bishop. She said neither. Her assignment is pending. Before her assignment in Rome, she played the charanga for our 11:00 Sunday liturgies.

A prayer for peace

Great God, who has told us "Vengeance is mine,"
save us from ourselves, save us from the vengeance in our hearts and the acid in our souls.

Save us from our desire to hurt as we have been hurt, to punish as we have been punished, to terrorize as we have been terrorized.

Give us the strength it takes to listen rather than to judge, to trust rather than to fear, to try again and again to make peace even when peace eludes us.

We ask, O God, for the grace to be our best selves.

We ask for the vision to be builders of the human community rather than its destroyers.

We ask for the humility as a people to understand the fears and hopes of other peoples.

We ask for the love it takes to bequeath to the children of the world to come more than the failures of our own making. We ask for the heart it takes to care for all the peoples [in Washington D.C. and around our nation tonight] as well as for ourselves.

Give us the depth of soul, O God, to constrain our might, to resist the temptations of

power to refuse to attack the attackable, to understand that vengeance begets violence, and to bring peace—not war—wherever we go.

For You, O God, have been merciful to us.

For You, O God, have been patient with us.

For You, O God, have been gracious to us.

And so may we be merciful and patient and gracious and trusting with these others whom you also love. This we ask through Jesus, the one without vengeance in his heart. This we ask forever and ever. Amen.