



IMMACULATE CONCEPTION SCHOOL

321 South Metter Avenue

Columbia, Illinois 62236

Michael L. Kish, Principal

(618) 281-5353 mkish@htc.net www.icscolumbia.org

Teresa Dorshorst, School Board President

tjdbusiness@aol.com

Celebrating 161 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.

"We are people of joy"

January 31, 2015

V. 40 #33

Dear Parent, Guardian, Student, Teacher, Friend,



Catholic Schools Week 2015 What a fun week! Featuring...

Posters and videos of the Joy of the Gospel

Opening Liturgy with the school theme of the Joy of the Gospel

Science Fair

Thank you cards for the parish

Open House with new students from 20 families-Faculty-Staff-Builders Club and Ambassadors

45 kids for "Baseball in January"

Morning prayer by the 8th grade

Trivia contest

The Gibault Hawk Band (22 ICS grads) and the Hawk-a-pellas (6 of the 8 from ICS!)

Service projects

Rosary for our Veterans-living-deceased-PTSD-Wounded Warriors-Commander-in-Chief

Magazine Drive-profit to the Eugene J. Schorb – Immaculate Conception Fund for Catholic Education

Opening of volleyball and scholastic bowl seasons

Cards for our seminarians: Brett Judkins, Nicholas Flemng, Joel Seipp, Hayden Holloway, William Holmes, and Thomas Lugge

Day 100

Honor Fr. Carl and Mr. Kish

8th grade teach Religion Classes

Volleyball Game

Sr. Rose Marie Riley, O.P., Sr. Elizabeth Wren, O.P., Br. Reginald---Q and A on vocations

8th Grade vs. Faculty volleyball game

Thank you to all who had a hand in the celebration and to Ms. Green for chairing for us!

HOMEWORK FOR PARENTS AND PARISH In honor of Catholic Schools Week, please turn in your stewardship form. If you are enjoying Full Stewardship, you know a Catholic education is not free. We are a unique parish but we have to pull together to make things work!

ICS Mad Hatter's Ball Dinner Auction:

Saturday, February 7, 2015 - Doors Open at 5pm.

RESERVATIONS! Make your reservations now! Tickets are \$55 per person and include a fabulous evening at the Falls in Columbia with dinner, live auction, silent auction, and raffles.

bepplin@icsmail.org

CSW---continued...

Lower grades song for Fr. Carl to Ode to Joy
Father Carl, we adore you,
We thank you for all you do.
Teaching us to live each day,
In God's loving, joyful way!

You take care of your little bunny,
Wearing hats that are really funny.
Your high fives always make us smile,
You pick up trash while you walk a mile.

That's not all, we see how you live,
Helping others, finding ways to give.
You show us the love of Jesus,
Always kind, you never fuss.

So, joyfully, we adore you,
We thank you for all you do.
Teaching us to live each day,
In God's loving, joyful way!

Upper grades song for Fr. Carl To the tune of "Stay Awake Be Ready"

Fr. Carl, (clap clap) we love you! (clap clap) You do not how much that you mean to us,
Fr. Carl, (clap clap) we love you! (clap clap) Thank you very much.
Alleluia, Alleluia, you bring us so much joy!

MAGAZINE DRIVE: #34 1,606 sales---\$39,000 gross so far! **Congratulations to Mrs. Tolan's Class** on winning the drive with 332 sales! 2nd place went to Mr. Kassebaum's Class with 219, 3rd to Mrs. Ettling's Class with 140 and 4th to Ms. Kennedy's Class with 120. **Top 10 students are Spencer Biske with 149, Lexi Hennes with 132, Andrew Schmoll with 61, Matthew Epplin with 56, Sam Sippel with 50, Maddie Gummersheimer with 46, Emily Gillan with 43, Eleanor McGuire with 39, Isabella Frasure with 36 and Stephen Johns with 34.** All Class and rankings are finished. **BUT---** **The Drive will continue till Wednesday, February 4 for INDIVIDUAL prizes.** *Need 5 more to get to the Cardinals Game? Sell 'em! Need 8 more to go on the Limo Ride? Sell 'em!* Thank you and thanks to Lori Hennes, Andrea Biske, Sherry Gogolek, Carrie Boser, Dave Boser, Kim Sullivan, Donna Archambault, and Desiree Frasure for tabulating. On-line sales and rewards will be stopped on February 4 for this year's credit. All sales Feb. 5 till the next drive will be credited to next year. You can sell all year! To order online anytime--- go to www.gaschoolstore.com I.D. 2710556 The drive is the single largest donor (\$469,544) in the

Eugene J. Schorb - Immaculate Conception Fund for Catholic Education.

NATIONAL HISTORY BEE We've done it again but even bigger! We have qualified **5** students for the Regional of the National History Bee in our 3rd year of competing. This makes 13 students in 3 years! Congratulations to Mr. Bill Riley and Sarah Rose, Hannah Weiler, Adam Stearns, Nick Prindiville, and Ben Traxler. Our "Fab Five" compete on March 24 from 5:00-8:00 at Wydown Middle School in St. Louis for a chance to join our other 6 National Finalists. Who are the "Friendship Nine"?



BEST OF FAIR! Jane Whelan “Wheeled Vehicle” Her hypothesis was correct. Surface does matter and reduces friction, giving you a greater distance for energy expended! Cool car Jane!

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR ELEVEN FINALISTS FOR THE GEOGRAPHY BEE! Eighth graders **Mason Babcock, Chloe Graff, Lucas Herrmann, Sarah Rose, Jack Sainz, Adam Stearns, and Thomas Young** along with seventh graders **Jack Burke, Claire Eppinger, Nick Prindiville, and Ben Traxler** round out our 2015 Geography Bee finalists. These students will proceed to the final round of the bee, competing against each other to be the ICS Geography Bee Champion! Our school champion will take the written state-qualifying test and hopefully advance to the state round. Good luck to all our finalists!

JAMES RAMETTE went to the Pattonville Gateway Chess League Tournament last Saturday. There were 117 kids in the open pool. Here are his impressive results:

1st match vs high school sophomore - Played for over an hour and finally got check mated.

2nd match vs seventh grader - he beat her pretty handily.

3rd match vs fifth grader - he got beat pretty bad. The kid that beat him was ranked #15 and they were told he was an animal on the boards.

4th match vs eighth grader - He took that one to a draw. Half way through he was down to three pieces and fought back to a draw. Good going James!

CHESS NEWS: Our first Chess Meet is this Saturday, January 31st at St. Teresa in Belleville. Registration begins at 8:15 and play starts at 9:00. Carpool will be available for those who need a ride. Please contact Mrs. Herrmann. Meet in the **NEW CHURCH parking lot at 7:45 in the lower lot (garden level).**

Chess Meet Schedule: February 21st- ICS, March 7th- Queen of Peace, March 14th- Blessed Sacrament (Diocesan Tournament). Practice Schedule: Grades 1-3- February 3, February 17, March 10, March 24 Grades 4-8- February 10, February 24, March 17, March 31 *No practice March 3rd*

KC Spelling Bee-tomorrow at our new Church K of C room Gr. 3-8 10:00.

KC Free Throw Contest: noon registration this Saturday at our gym. Winners also shoot Sunday at SPPS in Waterloo at 11:30 registration. Ages 9-14 as of January 1. Boys and girls.

KIDS AGAINST HUNGER We have received \$1820 from outright donations AND \$814.45 from M and M's so we are close to our goal of \$3200. On Valentine's Day the ICS Builders Club will package food for the **Kids Against Hunger** program in the **CAFETERIA** at school. Please send donations to: ICS Builders Club, 321 S. Metter Ave., Columbia, Il.

African Children's Choir: This international group will be here on March 9 for a 1:00 show. Our Children's Choir has been learning a song to sing with them. They will eat lunch with us, put on their program for us and then do a 7:00 show for the Parish. Thanks to Parents and Friends for funding the school program! No Homework Night for students who attend the evening program.

LOQUACIOUSNESS BOWL There will be a lot of “oral interference” this weekend at the Super Bowl as commentators and commercials and hype and “gates” get in the way of a 1 hour activity that will take 4 hours. Despite it all, it will be fun. Many people have full-conscious-active-participation in this event. Yet we have an even greater event with our Sacrifice of the Mass. Full-conscious-active-participation there, will yield you a better chance of a long-term good feeling than one commercialized to the point of missing the point!

TEXAS HOLD’EM TOURNAMENT ON SATURDAY FEB. 21ST AT 6:30PM. First hand at 7:30pm sharp! Event will be held at a new venue – The Garden Level of the New Church! \$50 buy-in - Top 8 finalists win cash prizes - Top Prize \$1000 - 50/50 raffle All are welcome (yes ladies, that means you) - Appetizers and Soda provided - BYO beer/beverage. Advanced tickets available at Khoury Pharmacy 101 N. Main St. Tickets at the door will be sold until first hand or until event sells out - So get your tickets now! For further info email Fathers Club at icsfathers@gmail.com or call/text 314-690-3237. Sponsored by the ICS Fathers Club.

ALLY CURRY is making and selling decorated Valentine cookies as a fundraiser for her **People to People** trip. This is an academic trip like Isabella Frasure took last year. Cookies are \$5.00 per dozen and the Curry Family will deliver! See the attachment folder on our home page!

BOX TOPS FOR EDUCATION COLLECTION CONTEST – Turn-in deadline is Valentine’s Day, Feb. 14th. It’s an easy way to support ICS--a dime for each valid Box Top...that’s \$5 per sheet! For more info, go to <http://www.boxtops4education.com> Thanks to Carrie Boser for helping!

"I can't compete with kids who are rich or privileged or who have money and status to help them succeed. But I can compete on sheer will and determination because that can't be bought and its supply is endless if I decide to never give up."

THE SPORTING NEWS...Volleyball is has a lot of net value for our school. Good luck to all players and coaches as we start our season!



45 kids turned out for our ***"Baseball in January"*** on January 25. Pictured are former Grizzly player and School Board member Tim Mueth, Neil Fiala, head coach of SWIC and former Cardinal player, and ICS grad and Colorado Rockies prospect Josh Mueller! Remember to line up those knuckles!

THE COLUMBIA KHOURY LEAGUE & COLUMBIA ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION will be coordinating to offer 3 spring 2015 tournaments.

-6U, 7U & 8U Open Machine Pitch 4GG tournament

-May 30th-31st at the Columbia American Legion fields.

-Baseball divisions offered are 6U,7U and 8U.

-This is an open tournament using George Khoury Association of Baseball, Inc. 2015 Baseball Rules.

-All registration and payment will be online through this webpage beginning April 1st and concluding May 20th.

-The registration fee is \$150 per team.

-USSSA Father's Day Softball 4GG tournament


- June 19th-21th at the Columbia American Legion fields.
- Softball divisions offered are 10U, 12U, & 14U. All divisions are open.
- This tournament will follow the official 2015 USSSA Softball Rules.
- All registration and payment will be online through this webpage beginning January 22nd and concluding June 7th.
- The registration fee is \$400 per team.

-Atom Bantam Open Baseball 4GG tournament

- June 26th-28th at the CAL fields.
- Baseball divisions offered are Atom 1, Atom 2, Bantam 1 & Bantam 2.
- This is an open tournament using George Khoury Association of Baseball, Inc. 2015 Official Baseball Rules.
- All registration and payment will be online through this webpage beginning April 1st and concluding June 20th.
- The registration fee is \$150 per team.

Please register for an account at columbiaathleticassociation.org for more details or to register your team today. We would love to see your team at our newly lighted 11 field park!

GIBAULT NEWS...

	You Can't Take It With You...	A Comedy by Hart & Kaufman Jan. 30 & 31 at 7pm Feb. 1 at 2pm GCHS Auditorium
---	--	--

Gibault Catholic High School Theater program presents the comedy ***You Can't Take It With You...*** Jan. 30th & 31st at 7 pm and Feb. 1st at 2 pm in the GCHS Auditorium. Come laugh with us!

The **Gibault Catholic Welcome Wednesday** series continues **February 4th**, 9 – 11 am. Meet Principal Russ Hart for coffee and conversation about **Gibault Catholic** – an area leader in academics, technology, fine arts and athletics. Tour the campus “live” when classes are in session. RSVP: Pat Herzing pherzing@gibaultonline.com

FRANCIS CALLS ON CATHOLICS TO SHARE EVERYTHING, BE 'ISLANDS OF MERCY'

[Joshua J. McElwee](#) | Jan. 27, 2015 [The Francis Chronicles](#) [VATICAN CITY](#)

Pope Francis has called on Catholics to use the upcoming Lenten season to tackle what he has called a "globalization of indifference" by practicing acts of charity and becoming "islands of mercy" for brothers and sisters in need.

Reflecting on the sense of communion that Catholics have, Francis has also said that those in the church should share their possessions with one another.

"The Church is the *communio sanctorum* not only because of her saints, but also because she is a communion in holy things: the love of God revealed to us in Christ and all his gifts," states the pope, writing in his annual Lenten message.

"Among these gifts there is also the response of those who let themselves be touched by this love," he continues. "In this communion of saints, in this sharing in holy things, no one possesses anything alone, but shares everything with others."

Released by the Vatican Tuesday, [Francis' message for Lent](#) focuses on three quotations from the New Testament -- with one reflection directed towards the church as a whole, another to parish groups and communities, and the last to individual Christians.

Francis uses his Lenten message -- which has the title "Make your hearts firm," a quotation from the New Testament letter of James -- to call on Christians to remember those in need during the season before Easter.

"Usually, when we are healthy and comfortable, we forget about others (something God the Father never does): we are unconcerned with their problems, their sufferings and the injustices they endure... Our heart grows cold," states the pope at the beginning of the message.

"As long as I am relatively healthy and comfortable, I don't think about those less well off," he continues. "Today, this selfish attitude of indifference has taken on global proportions, to the extent that we can speak of a globalization of indifference. It is a problem that we, as Christians, need to confront."

"Indifference to our neighbor and to God also represents a real temptation for us Christians," states the pope. "Each year during Lent we need to hear once more the voice of the prophets who cry out and trouble our conscience."

THOMAS MERTON Saturday is the 100th birthday of this inspirational Trappist monk. He was a favorite of Fr. Steve Gira's and many seeking spiritual guidance. He was very human and the fact he transcended life a little is our inspiration. This is lifted from **A Year With Thomas Merton**, selected and edited by Jonathan Montaldo.

J A N U A R Y 3 1 The Gift of My Life (Thomas Merton's birthday; born in 1915 in Prades, France)

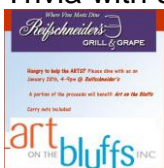
Why was I always half-convinced I would die young? Perhaps a kind of superstition-the fear of admitting a hope of life which, if admitted, might have to be dashed. But now "I have lived" a fair span of life and, whether or not, the fact be important, nothing can alter it. It is certain, infallible-even though that too is only a kind of dream. If I don't make it to sixty-five, it matters less. I can relax. But life is a gift I am glad of, and I do not curse the day when I was born. On the contrary, if I had never been born I would never have had friends to love and be loved by, never have made mistakes to learn from, never have seen new countries,' and, as for what I may have suffered, it is inconsequential and indeed part of the great good which life has been and will, I hope, continue to be.

January 31, 1960, 111.372-73

(Merton died in the Thailand in 1968 due to an accidental electric shock from a faulty fan. He had presented a paper on monastics at a conference that morning.)

COMMUNITY NEWS...From Carol Waide---Art on the Bluffs: On March 11th Riefschneiders will donate a portion of the proceeds to support the upcoming AOTB Art Walk set for Sept. 19, 2015. Mark your calendars and come out for the Arts in Columbia!

Art On The Bluff is hosting a Tri-Art-athon set for Feb. 21 at the ICS Gym. It will be a night of Trivia with some fun "art" twists. Register: (281-4186 or email me carolwaide@gmail.com.)



PARISH NEWS...

200 YEAR PLANNING We had a great cemetery report at Parish Council the other night. I can even see where my grave will be! Our current cemetery has about a 100 years left at current burial rates and cremation trends. God bless our parish fathers and mothers of old who started our first cemetery in 1858. Our first burial was baby Elizabeth Friedrich that year. We have 9 priests buried there, the first pilot to fly into the Grand Canyon, and so many of my friends. Thanks to Mike Whelan, Vince Daabs, Steve Krebel, Ed Schaefer, Vern Ritter and all who serve on this great committee and take care of our city cemeteries!

BUILDING THE DOMESTIC CHURCH KC Family Movie **TONIGHT** in the Fellowship Hall. **The Lion King!** Free popcorn and drinks. TONIGHT! Bring a comfy chair and your blankie! 7:00 pm

Mrs. Donjon's sister **Erin McKean** is in need of some heartfelt prayers as she struggles with cancer. A major part of the fight is attitudinal and have a support system.

"Cancer is not just about me but my family and friends and all who support me."

Zac Epplin on Channel 2

*"You beat cancer by how you live, why you live, and in the manner in which you live." Stuart Scott
And about 100 quotes from our inspirational Dan Whelan!*

Ms. Tara Kennedy's grandfather is in need of our prayers. She left for the hospital to see him this afternoon. Our lives are fragile and our connections to each other run deep.

Our condolences to Mrs. Karen Weiler on the loss of her Uncle **Bob Perry**. He was laid to rest Thursday morning at 10:00 am in Bethel, MO. May he rest in peace and may Karen's family get a little break from this kind of heartache.

PRAYERS: Zac Epplin, Erin McKean, Marian Keim, Stella Moll, Dan Whelan, Edward Pelker, George Perry, Pat Weber, Ed Hengel, Josh Ritter, Vince Webb, George Stein, Desiree Frasure, Special Intention

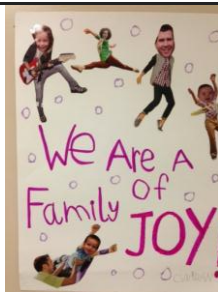
WHAT'S THE GOOD NEWS? The Exorcist this Sunday. Jesus handles the unclean spirit. I am not sure what the "clean spirit" would be like. But I do know that *"Quiet! Come out of him!"* are the same words my Mom thought when the devil was in me! See you at the Table!

Mike Kish

Principal

PS: The ANNUAL ALUMNI AND FRIENDS APPEAL is out! We have \$3715 so far. This is another area that let's our dreams be realized and we help pay a debt top the past. Thank you!

PS: Live in such a way that you would not be ashamed to sell your parrot to the town gossip.



Band Schedule Week of Feb 2-6

Monday

8:05-8:35 6th-8th Clarinet 2

8:35-9:05 5th Flute

9:05-9:35 6th-8th Flute and Clarinet 1

10:35-11:05 4th Flutes

11:05-11:35 4th Clarinet

Tuesday

7:15-7:55 **Jazz Band**

8:55-9:25 6th-8th Trumpet

9:25-9:55 5th Clarinet

9:55-10:35 6th-8th Saxophone and F Horn

11:05-11:35 4th Saxophone

11:35-12:05 4th Trumpet

Wednesday

8:05-9:05 **Concert Band Full Band**

9:05-9:35 Percussion Ensemble

10:35-11:35 **Beginning Band Full Band**

1:45-2:45 **Intermediate Band Full Band**

Thursday

7:15-7:55 **Jazz Band**

8:55-9:25 6th-8th Percussion

9:25-9:55 5th Saxophone

9:55-10:35 6th-8th Low Brass

11:05-11:35 4th Low Brass

11:35-12:05 4th Percussion

Friday

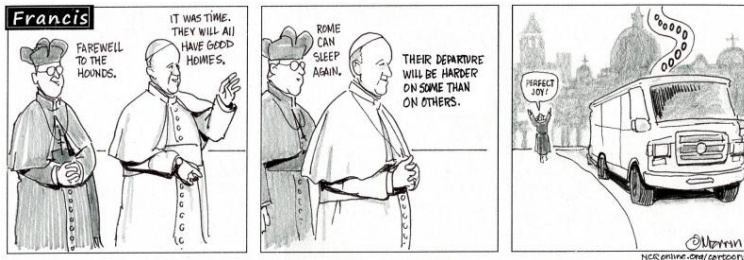
8:05-8:35 5th Low Brass

8:35-9:05 5th Percussion

9:05-9:35 5th Trumpet

10:35-11:05 Jazz Band Sectionals

11:05-11:35 Smart Music Lab



Why My Kids Go To Catholic School January 20, 2015 by [Tod Wornor](#)



Author's Note: For Catholic Schools Week, I've been asked to speak to my parish congregation about why, as parents, we chose to send our kids to Catholic school. While my testimony spoke about our Catholic school specifically, I have changed the name to reflect what I think is common to most Catholic schools. Here was my answer.

It was years ago, but it seems as clear as if it were yesterday. I was talking with my dad when he stopped me short. He looked me square in the eyes and simply, but firmly said,

"I'm proud of what you do, but I love you for who you are. Are you listening? I'm proud of what you do, but I love you for who you are."

I don't recall the circumstances that prompted him to say that or my sheepish response, but I'll never forget how special it made me feel.

This wasn't the first time my dad said this. Nor would it be the last. Growing up, my parents made abundantly clear that to get anywhere in life you need to set clear goals, have a strong work ethic and be honest with God and yourself. And being raised by a school superintendent, English teacher and two sisters aspiring to become

teachers, you can only guess the value we placed on education. So between my home and my local public school, there were high expectations to work hard, learn and succeed.

But that was not all.

I was taught that while accomplishments matter and success is important, achievement uninformed by faith, purpose, & character will ultimately be hollow. As my dad said, *"It's not just about what you do, it's about who you are."* It was a philosophy I have never forgotten and still value deeply.

Well, time has passed. I am now married with two young wonderful children. And three years ago, we had to make an important decision. In the west Metro, arguably a hub of the finest public and private school education in the country, where would we send our daughters? Instead of schools immersing students in language or the arts, we opted for a different type of immersion: *Catholic Immersion*. We chose to send our girls to the Catholic school here. *And we couldn't be more satisfied.*

Now, I can recite for you the data about the robust performance of our Catholic school students on standardized tests or the enviable student-teacher ratio. I could impress you with the diverse class offerings in art, music and Spanish or the deeply skilled and compassionate staff. I could even dazzle you with the Smart Board technology, iPad utilization and cutting edge internet based teaching tools. *I could...* but that vital data is proudly displayed on the website, in the brochures or available on a school tour. Instead, let me share with you the *true spirit* of my daughters' Catholic School:



At my daughters' Catholic school,

- ***a child once shy to speak much in class is soon beaming while reading prayer intentions at the School Mass***
- ***you may receive a smiling email from a teacher telling you your daughter looked up at him and said, "God bless you" because he picked her favorite game in gym class.***
- ***you find parents who tow a tractor hundreds of miles simply to pull a school float in the local parade.***

At my daughters' Catholic school,

- ***you may find your child spontaneously apologizing at the end of the day for something she said at the beginning of the day simply because of what she learned from the priest's homily at the School Mass***
- ***you encounter staff, parents and children enthusiastically showing up to pack food for the hungry, rake leaves for the elderly and plant pinwheels for peace***

At my daughters' Catholic school,

- ***teachers approach you about the right book or exercise for your child, the principal knows your kids and cheers them on by name, and the priest offers wise support at just the right time.***
- ***you may find a child at home thoughtlessly humming a hymn or telling you an interesting fact about St. Benedict, or at the school Talent Show telling corny jokes or belting out Frozen's "Let It Go"***
- ***staff, parents and students pray for and rally around a spouse who has been sick, a baby soon to be born, or a sixth grader saying goodbye***

You see, our Catholic school is more than just a school, it is a deeply invested community. A *community*. And in a world grown increasingly cold and harsh, a community of faith and warmth is an immeasurably important springboard in these young kids lives. And in ours. Undoubtedly, this school prepares the mind. But by God, it prepares the soul as well. To paraphrase my dad, *"Catholic schools are proud of what our kids do, but love them for who they are."*

If you are considering a school community for your child that is rich in academics and rooted in faith, please consider calling, visiting or touring a Catholic school. Believe me, you won't be disappointed.