



IMMACULATE CONCEPTION SCHOOL

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CELEBRATING 163 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.

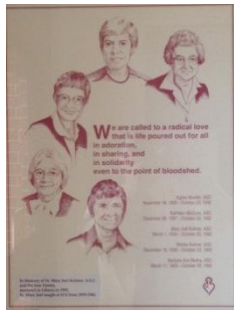
February 3, 2017

V. 42 #33

THE JOY OF LOVE

Dear Parent, Guardian, Student, Teacher, Friend,

CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK We don't have to look hard to find Saints among us. Right in our hall we celebrate the lives of 5 martyred sisters from Ruma and Sr. Mary Joel who taught here in 1959. Thanks for all the work paying attention to Saints this week. They were just like us---ordinary folks who did extraordinary things and we are future saints!



THANKS TO ALL WHO MINISTERED for the kick-off and served as Ambassadors for Open House. We had Ten Families come!

What a Week!

- Science Fair
- Open House----Special thanks to our School Board and President Teresa Dorshorst, Katie Hrdlicka, Bob Wachtel, and Megan Gilbreth
- Thanks yous were sent to veterans or active military
- Gibault Band 1pm
- Trivia 1st – 4th 12:40-1:40pm & 5th – 8th 1:45-2:45pm
- Scholastic Book Fair (will be held at the Church in the Garden Level)
- Adopt-a-seminarian – Students write letters/cards encouraging and supporting local seminarians.
- Scholastic Book Fair--- Garden Level of Church
- Religion Class taught by 8th graders
- Students create a thank you for school support staff.
- 8th Grade vs. Faculty Volleyball Game
- Thanks to all who ministered last Sunday. Marie welcomed, Eli and Molly proclaimed the Word, Katie cantored the psalm, Kalia delivered our petitions and we served and greeted and led tours at school.

CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK TRIVIA WINNERS: lower grades

1st place: Lillian Braun Hogan Story Grayson Ritson Steven Schaefer Eleanor McGuire
Cailynn Mueth Cheyenne May Grant Monheiser Emily Rose

2nd place: Parker Kish Nicholas Holdner Julie Hoeflinger Kale Harrington
Lila Griffin Drew Hagedorn Kate Adams Summer Harrington

3rd place: two teams tied: Rina Baker Kate Sheehan Eleanor Nadziejko Ryan Kroenig
Hayden Lieber Riley McGill Karina Jerkatis Sadie Metz Audrey Randle
Lucy Keeven Brooke Hagedorn Delaney Glasscock Sean Frederick Luke Dalpoas
Broedy Furlow Oliver Unwin Owen Haney

Grades 5-8

1st place: Briana Baldrige, Constance Barnett, Aidan Sullivan, Ariel Adams, Addie Murphy, Emma Melliere, Andrew Harmon, Katie Grawitch

2nd place: Drew Roche, Cade Kostelec, Andrew Feldker, Ben Haney, Allie Shuler, Georgia Sasser, Anna Adams, Marie Prindiville

Tie for 3rd place: Elisabeth Schaefer, Marisa McGill, Dan Stewart, Autumn Ramey, Jacob Whitworth, Emily Gillan, Nik Traiteur
Jack Keeven, Ty Griffin, Jack Basler, Sydney Wahle, Dorian Thorne, Noah Newton, Rhyan Ward, Tyler Stern

GIBAULT HAWK BAND---FROM THIS.....TO THIS!



Kidflicks.org DVD Donation And CS WEEK continues through service---

- Donate used DVDs for kids, G, PG, or PG-13, for kids in hospitals.
- DVDs must be in original cases, and the DVDs must be in good condition.
- DVDs may not be burned.

-Remember this is for a good cause, please bring to either **6th Grade Home Room or Pre-K.**

Final donation day is **February 10th.**



BEST OF FAIR *Is Distillation a good way to purify water?*

Well, it depends. Noah Newton of Immaculate Conception School in Columbia won "Best of Fair" of 54 entries as he distilled tincture of iodine, KCl and NaCl after combining it with water. The price for doing this would be \$40 per liter at the price of ethanol. With the world water supply a critical issue, this experiment is a great entry point for thinking about the potable water crisis. Noah is the son of Doug and Lynetta Newton of Columbia.

SLU HIGH MATH CONTEST Jacob Whitworth placed 8th overall of 75 New format this year. Team mates were Katie Grawitch, Noah Newton, Jacob Feldker, Daylen Litke, and Autumn Ramey.



We are the first middle school group to clinch the whole category in the National School Block Challenge. There were 115 quilt blocks in the largest category. Here is our picture at the awards presentation in Paducah.



MISSED OPPORTUNITY! I wanted to yell out “Holy Smoke” last Sunday as we held a ceremonial burning of the mortgage! But then our faithful CVFD would have come running! Mike Whelan, Rich Toenjes, Fr. Carl--- 2006 ---2016 R.I.P. mortgage! Our new 4 year old Church is paid for and we are on our way with the campaign for the **new Catholic Education and Activity Center!** Join us and see what faith can build! **IF YOU HAVE BEEN VISITED, PLEASE GET YOUR “PENDING” ENVELOPE IN.**(This always reminds me of the bubble-gum wrapper I found with the question: “Name 3 great inventors.” “Thomas Edison”---

“George Washington Carver”---“Pat Pending”) If you haven’t been visited yet, say yes when we call. Give what you can but be sure and be counted!

BOOK FAIR TIMES: Today from 1:00 to 7:00 pm. Tomorrow(Saturday) from 10:00-6:30 pm Sunday from 8:00 am to 2 pm Church Garden level---Thanks to Teresa Dorshorst and our volunteers!
VOLUNTEERS TO SIGN-UP, PLEASE CONTACT TERESA DORSHORST AT [314-303-5352](tel:314-303-5352) OR TDORSHORST79@GMAIL.COM.

The gift of reading is a gift that keeps on giving. Reading is the first defense of liberty. Reading grows mind, soul, and body. Historic times began 5500 years ago when humankind started writing things down. Before writing is called Pre-Historic! Be historic! Come to the Fair, buy books, read!

TO KILL A MOCKINGBIRD February 23---Grades 7 and 8 We read this classic every year and we go to the play whenever it tours St. Louis---at The Rep---Thanks to parents and Friends for funding!
<http://www.repstl.org/assets/doc/M5-Mockingbird-9f0cf76fe2.pdf>

CHESS We had a nice showing at the chess January 28th. We had 37 students in attendance and came in 2nd place. Tyler Stern and Reagan Herrmann both posted a 4-0 record. Drew Schmolli was undefeated with 3 1/2 points. (3 wins and a tie) Six schools participated. The rankings were 1)St. Teresa 2) Immaculate Conception 3) Queen of Peace 4) Blessed Sacrament 5) St. Clare 6) St. Agatha. We host the next meet on February 25th.

2017 Knights of Columbus Spelling Bee. It got off to a rocky start, having only a Spanish word list with which to work, but Jim VonDerHaar and his crew saved the day and the bee went off without further incident. Congratulations to First Place winner Noah Boyer-Edwards, Second Place winner **Brock Murphy**, and Third Place winner Ethan Ernst. Our spelling bee is the only spelling bee in our district, so the winners will go on to participate in the regional spelling bee. Our thanks to Jim for leading this event, all who helped put it together, and PGK Bob Stadler, his wife Pat, and CMS teacher Teresa Fehrenz who officiated for us.



Stewardship for children---envelopes were sent home last week. Raise your children with an attitude of gratitude. It is not how much you give but give something and belong. *Believing is belonging!*

THE BLUES ARE COMING!! We start a Street Hockey Unit next week in PE and there will be a person from the Blues organization who will be here to help each day teach the skills to get us started. We will receive sticks, pucks, goals, goalie equipment and instructions! A Blues player is supposed to come as well at least one day, but we do not know who or what day. The Preschoolers, Pre-K and Kindergarteners will not have this unit, **just 1st through 8th**. This unit will be from February 6th to February 17th. Thank you to Mr. Kassebaum for suggesting this event and LET'S GO BLUES!! We will have a quick assembly at 8:05, **let's make Monday Blues Day**, and maybe we can get a winning streak going again. Wear your Blues jersey's or blue with your uniform bottoms. It was a shame that Hitch was fired the same week Bobby Plager's number was retired. YEO!

HONOR ROLL 2ND QUARTER:

1st honors: Anna Adams, Ariel Adams, Briana Baldrige, Constance Barnett, Grace Barrett, Lily Barrett, Jack Basler, Maria Biske, Olivia Blaskiewicz, Paula Boser, Jaylyn Brister, Ally Curry, Owen Dalpaos, Andrew Donjon, Abby Eichenseer, Andrew Feldker, Jacob Feldker, Isabella Foutch, Eli Garcia, Zachary Gibson, Sam Glasscock, Ava Hake, Ben Haney, Lindsay Harget, Andrew Harmon, Zack Harrington, Reagan Herrmann, Kalia Jerkatis, Jack Keeven, Gavin Kesler, Jessica Lambert, Daylen Litke, Grant Mathany, Maddie Mauch, Marisa McGill, Colin Mueth, Addie Murphy, Brock Murphy, Mary Clare Murphy, Kyra Newton, Noah Newton, Hope Pollmann, Blake Powers, Glenn Powers, Marie Prindiville, Autumn Ramey, Abby Repp, Danny Repp, Holly Repp, Drew Roche, Elisabeth Schaefer, Thomas Schaefer, Collin Schmidt, Emma Schmidt, Drew Schmoll, Caitlyn Schwartz, Ally Shuler, Rose Sippel, Jordan Smugala, Allison Stark, Hannah Stearns, Audrey Sullivan, Maddie Swip, Zoe Swip, Aubrey Thompson, Joseph Tyler, Sydney Wahle, Tyler Wahle, Rhyan Ward, Jacob Whitworth, Maggie Williamson

2nd honors: Emma Blaskiewicz, Noah Chism, Dominic Dalpoas, Matthew Epplin, Emma Farris, Isabella Frasure, Emily Gillan, Lucy Haubrich, Cole Huebner, Charles Matthews, Jacob Reed, William Reed, Kyle Rose, Brian Stark, Nate Stechmesser, Dustin Swindle, Josie Thomas, Emma Tippen, Molly Tippen, Dominic Voegele, Reece Ward

Honor Roll Most Improved: Danny Stewart, Jacob Reed, Nate Stechmesser, Zoe Swip, Rosie Sippel, Michael Costner, Gavin Kesler, Emily Everett, Emma Melliere, Aidan Sullivan, Ariel Adams, Jack Basler

36th Annual ICS Magazine Drive Go to www.gaschoolstore.com to continue ordering on-line. Our ID # is 2710556. We received our first check for **\$4980.70 from on-line sales!** Remember we are raising 1% for the new CEAC with your help! This should put us at around the \$25k mark on our pledge from last year and this year. THINK VALENTINE'S GIFT---MOTHER/FATHER'S DAY

ICS FATHERS CLUB **Feb 18th Texas Hold 'em 7:30pm ---\$50 Buy-in** Feb 18 - 7:30pm @ IC Church Garden Level. Early Reserved Tickets will be on sale next week at Khoury Pharmacy on Main in Columbia or at the door. This event is limited seating so get your tickets early to guarantee a spot. Same format as last year, hope to see everyone there. All proceeds go towards ICS. Contact icsfathers@gmail.com or [\(314\) 690-3237](tel:3146903237) with questions. Thanks! Devin Dalpoas

Fathers club meeting---looking at Feb. 9TH 8:00 PM CAFETERIA

YOUNG AUTHORS **Friday, Feb. 17th:** Spring Assembly **Sat., March 18th:** ROE Conference

Chess Meet Dates so far... ICS - February 25 March 18 St. Clare

Chess 2016-2017 Practice Schedule: Cyra Herrmann, ICS Chess Coach

Practices for Grades 1&2: Tues 2/21, Tues 3/14

Practices for Grades 3&4: Tues 2/7, Tues 2/28, Tues 3/21

Practices for grades 5-8: Tues 2/14, Tues 3/7, Tues 3/28



BUILDERS CLUB M and M's for Kids Against Hunger We have netted over \$290 so far. Please send your M and M sleeve back or a donation. This is an optional program which reminds us to be grateful for even tiny M and M's and tiny rice grains that can save lives. We are also soliciting donations of any size and have about \$1900 of the \$3200 we need to make our 14,000 meals on February 18. We are getting there!

PARENTS AND FRIENDS After 42 years, the **CAMPBELL'S LABELS FOR EDUCATION PROGRAM** is being phased out (link below). Campbell's stopped putting LFE on their products 8/1/16, but they will continue to accept them & credit schools for any submitted through 8/1/17. Please continue to turn in any Campbell's Labels for Education you find on products you use until the end of this school year. We will miss this easy fundraiser. Thanks to MaryAnne Lambert for her many years of coordinating this program for ICS.
<http://www.labelsforeducation.com/>

COUNSELOR'S CORNER

Parenting can be relentless. Non-stop. Exhausting. Sometimes you may wonder if anything you are doing matters. Children often don't look like their habits are ever going to improve. The changes can be so small that you may feel you will never witness the progress you want. You may have to back away from the picture you see to get a broader view. You might need to look at the forest and not the trees.

Just like your pediatrician tells you to relax when your 3 or 4 year old is not yet potty trained, you may need to remind yourself that "this too shall pass." Do you know many 15 year old who aren't potty trained? Right.

Being a parent and being relaxed sometimes seems like 2 things that can't live together. Relaxing doesn't mean stop trying. It means keep trying, keep shaping, keep molding and then let your work evolve. You are the yeast in this loaf of bread. Keep the conditions right and let that bread rise! Remember, if you don't make sure that YOU are getting a break now and then some things can begin to fall apart. Nurturing yourself trickles down to the little ones.

Karen Lundy, ICS School Counselor, The Teaching Never Stops

THE SPORTING NEWS... The 2017 Knights of Columbus Free Throw Contest was held on Saturday, January 21st. Congratulations to our champs Kinley Jany, Allison Stark, Karsen Jany, Zoe Swip, Emily Pfeffer, Drew Hagedorn, Michael Wessel, Ethan Ernst, Brian Stark, and Isaac Schrecknberg. And our thanks to Outside Guard Matt Buhr for leading this popular event for us!



CONGRATULATIONS TO TARA KENNEDY was inducted into the Gibault High School Athletic Hall of Fame this Saturday night. Tara was MVP in Soccer and MVP in Basketball star and played college soccer at McKendree! Where she was Academic All-American. A proud moment for a humble lady!

GIBAULT CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL SENIOR SERVICE PROJECT Fr. Ed Hustedde created the model copied by most local Catholic High Schools back in the 1970's. Fr. Ed was a visionary, ahead of his times, and my mentor. Our graduates Henry Babcock and Ethan Schmersahl are headed to Ecuador and want to take these items along. Could you? Would you? Many might be in the closet...

- *Bouncy balls
- *Deflated soccer balls, basketballs, any kind of “hole-free” deflated ball
- *Bracelets, stickers
- * Mosquito nets
- * Children's clothes - all sizes - shorts, t-shirts, sun dresses, skirts
- * Shoes - flip flops, croc type of shoes, sandals, sneakers
- * Any personal hygiene items (*new only). Shampoo, soap, toothpaste, toothbrushes, deodorant, etc.
- * Over the counter medical supplies: band aids, Neosporin, aspirin, Tylenol, (*new only)
- * Art supplies - we could really use any kind of paints, crayons, coloring books, colored pencils, pencils, arts and crafts material
- * Vitamins (*new only)
- * Used or new reading glasses or any type of used prescription glasses.

You can bring items to ICS, or to ICC or to MaryBeth's front porch 980 Forestview.

Thank you, Henry Babcock and Ethan Schmersahl

TREVOR DAVIS AND BLAKE METZGER will work here for their Senior Project. Mrs. Murphy will line up their schedule. More gifts from God!

GRADS IN THE NEWS...

WINTER COMEDY: Come laugh--- fun comedy version of the **Sherlock Holmes mystery the *Hound of the Baskervilles*** with the Gibault Catholic drama department **THIS**

WEEKEND February 3-4 at 7:00 and 2:00 on the 5th. Shows will be performed in the GCHS auditorium. Admission is \$8. We all have our Moriarity---come see how it turns out as we howl.



ICS Families, Thank you so much for your generous donations of pajamas for my Senior Project trip for SLUH to Yoro, Honduras. The children down there are in desperate need of love and attention and your generosity went a long way.

Thanks again, Zach Hennes, ICS Class of 2013

CAPES AND TIARAS is something fun for the whole family to enjoy on a Saturday morning! There are fun events for kids, including a special meet and greet with some of their favorite superheroes and princesses. This event also showcases many elements of exciting party planning from several vendors around our own community for the parents.

- Turner Hall in Columbia, IL 211 E. Cherry St.
- February 11, 2017 ● From 9am-12pm Fun For The Kids!
- Meet and greet with well known superheroes/princesses courtesy of Royal Party Princesses
- Princess Tea Party ● Photobooth ● Games ● Vendors AGES 0-4:

FREE AGES 0-4 5 AND UP: \$5 Parents must be present with their kids at the event.

This is a venture from a Monroe County wide high school classroom project called **CEO** which stands for Creating Entrepreneurial Opportunities, teaching students how to be young entrepreneurs. This interactive trade show event called Capes and Tiaras which will include princesses and superheroes interacting with the young kids present while the parents will be able to look around at the vendors, many of which will be focused on activities for children's birthday parties or events. Grads Hillary Wessel and Jake Daniels are leading the charge!

SUMMER HELP AVAILABLE Hi, my name is Amanda Schmidt & I am a graduate of ICS as well as Gibault Catholic High School & currently just started my second semester at Missouri State University! This summer I am looking for a part-time babysitting job & would be happy to drive to run errands, go to practices or camps, as well as do crafts, go to the pool, or anything else! My number is [618-978-0145](tel:618-978-0145), let me know if you are interested!

COMMUNITY NEWS...



FAMILY BOWLING NIGHT Sunday, February 19th 6:00 - 8:00 pm Columbia's West Park Bowl

The Knights of Columbus invites you to enjoy a night of bowling, pizza and drink. Reservations are required. Please arrive at 5:45 pm and \$40.00 per lane includes shoe rental, a pizza and a pitcher of soda. Single (\$10.00) and couples (\$20) are welcome. If you have young children and would like bumpers, please indicate when making reservations and will only be available on a first come basis. Please call, text or e-mail Nick Matrivotto to make your reservations at (314) 609-7092 or stlouisareamaps@aol.com

2017 Knight of Columbus Council 6165 Scholarship Essay Contest --- Saturday, March 12th at 11:00am in the KC room. The contest is open to any Immaculate Conception eighth grader who plans to attend a local Catholic High School. The winner will receive a \$2000.00 scholarship, payable over 4 years in \$500.00 payments, to the Catholic high school of their choice.

COLUMBIA COMMUNITY UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT #4 DEVELOPMENTAL SCREENING

Children ages birth -5 years Feb. 24, 2017, 8:00 am --- 3:00 pm, Feb. 27. 8:00 am --- 3:00 pm Egleview Elementary ---113 S. Rapp Screenings to determine if your child is reaching his/her developmental milestones at age appropriate times will last approximately 45 minutes – 1 hour. Call the Eagleview at 281-4995 to reserve a time.

THE HARP TWINS, SPONSORED by the Dorothy Weinel Eppinger Foundation, will be at our school on February 16 and then at our Church the next night at 7:00. Google them and be impressed! The 5th and 6th grade of Sr. Thea Bowman School will be joining us---9:30 start! And the next night at our Church at 7:00. Free Culture!



The Harp Twins

Friday, February 17, 2017
7:00 p.m.

Immaculate Conception Church
411 Palmer Road
Columbia, IL

FREE Event
sponsored by
Eppinger Foundation

Young harpists Camille and Kennerly Kitt, known as the HARP TWINS, have achieved extraordinary success by taking Electric Harps and acoustic Concert Grand Harps to unprecedented levels and smashing boundaries between different genres of music. As the world's only identical twin professional harpists, Camille and Kennerly were trained classically, but have a passion and flair for arranging and performing rock, metal, and soundtrack music for Harp Duet. The Harp Twins perform on statuesque acoustic Concert Grand Harps as well as Electric Harps. Camille and Kennerly have created a unique niche for themselves: they play rock and metal music using only their two harps. With no backtracks, no studio, no production crew, and no record label, the Harp Twins are the archetype of true independent artists.



STEPS FOR PARENTING Human Support Services is providing a fun and informative **parenting group for FREE** Held at Monroe County YMCA—HTC Center in Columbia, IL on the following dates: Tuesday, February 21th 6:00—8:00pm Tuesday, February 28th 6:00—8:00pm Tuesday, March 7th 6:00—8:00pm Tuesday, March 14th 6:00—8:00pm Daycare will be provided free of charge to those who attend group Please call 618-939-4444 ext. 1242 to register

SAVE THE DATE - Annual Benefit Dinner Gala and \$10,000 Mega Raffle

March 18, 2017

Four Points by Sheraton - Fairview Heights, IL

Zip Rzeppa - Master of Ceremonies

6:00 p.m. Silent Auction and Violins

7:00 p.m. Dinner and Liturgical Dance

8:30 p.m. Live Auction

\$50 per person or \$500 per table sponsor of Eight

Reservations are required by February 20, 2017

"Heart of Thea Foundation - Each One Teach One"

Fund-A-Need - Dollar for Dollar Tuition Match Returns

Mega Raffle

1st Prize \$10,000, 2nd Prize \$1,000, 3rd Prize \$500

\$100 per ticket Need not be present to win

For Dinner or Mega Raffle tickets please contact:

Roberta Trost Email: roberta_trost@yahoo.com hone: [618-397-0316](tel:618-397-0316)

See you there!

Thanks for \$114.92 for St. Raymond's in Alzatate, San Carlos, Guatemala!

DONATE LIFE TRIVIA EVENT Come join us on Saturday, February 18th at 7:00pm for a night of trivia and fun! Proceeds benefit The Brent Roeber Memorial Trust and The Abby Cecena Memorial Fund. Help create awareness of the incredible impact of organ donation. I just ran into a good friend today who is singing the praises of her cornea transplant---the gift of sight because someone passed it on to someone they will never meet!

Date: Saturday, February 18th, 2017 Time: 7:00pm doors open at 6:00pm

Place: Sts. Peter & Paul Catholic School Gymnasium Cost: \$10 person (Table maximum 8)

Our condolences to the family of Oleta Farris(Lyn and Anya Farris) who passed away at the age of 89. Emma traveled to Oklahoma for her memorial. God's peace to her and the family.

And to the family of Dorothy Krack (Kim Diesel's Aunt and God-mother and Jaylyn Brister's Great Aunt) has passed away. God's peace to this good lady and her family.

PRAYERS: Special Intention Christine Matrisotto, Jan Habermehl, Barbara Thompson, Denise Conner, Alicia Cohen, Steve Mudd, Kenny Hamontree, Jim Edgar, Connie Huebner, Elisabeth Weilbacher, Tootie May, Susie Kish Settle, Dennis Kish, Seth Watters, Ken Biske, Rachel Warden, Bill Kesler, Dan Borisuk, Maggie Williamson, Dan Whelan, Patricia Steppig, Lauren Foran, Rich Cullen, Barb Winschel, Jessica Stemler Barcik, Josh Ritter, Stella Moll, Gertrude Scherrer, Henry Scott Dabbs, Carolyn Baker, Scott Schaefer, Katy Basinski, Chrissy Hoeflinger, Barbara Buchheit, Angie Rose, Ken Bolton, Nick Carron, Mary Giovanni, Roy Lansing, Sis Blaes, Arlin Stechmesser, Marcella Heinrichs, Florence Dorshorst, Bill Pennock, Pat Weber, Ed Hengel, Vince Webb, George Stein, Desiree Frasure

Our Building a Catholic Education and Activity Center Prayer:

Merciful God, you are the Divine Builder, who calls us to build your Church.

Guide us in building our new Catholic Education & Activity Center, so that we can build the Church of the future by passing on the treasure of our faith to future generations. Bless the work of our hands, and keep us strong in faith, hope and love, so that all we do might bring glory and honor to you, forever and ever. AMEN

From White House Retreats:

How did Jesus prepare himself to be the light and salt for his people? He spends the first 30 or so years of his life in the little town (estimated now at roughly 300 to 500 people) of Nazareth. It was here living with his family and the people of his village he learned how to be a good Israelite, how to live and practice their faith. He learned and memorized and prayed over many of the Jewish Scriptures. He learned and practiced a profession with Joseph, He became acquainted with the strengths and weaknesses of his religious and political leaders, their right and wrong practices.

Then one day, probably to surprise of most people, he left Nazareth to be baptized by John the Baptist and then for a period of time joins his circle of disciples. Eventually he realized it was time for him to set out on his own and share with his people what he knew of God and God's plan for the Israel nation. Now was the time for him to be the light and salt for his people.

In the various gospel scenes of this week we read of some of the different ways in which Jesus accomplished this: journeying to the villages of Galilee and beyond, teaching, healing and on a few occasions even feeding the large crowd that was coming to hear him.

We too at times should reflect upon how God has been preparing us to be the light and salt for the people in our lives. How we have been imbued with our faith, our appreciation of the many gifts and blessings of our lives, the people who helped and guided us in our faith journey. How now we are being called to take on this marvelous, God-given responsibility with and for the people in our life world?

-Fr. Jim Blumeyer, S.J.

SALT OF THE EARTH People live where they can find water and salt. As you head north on I-55 there is a salt lick by Sugar Loaf Mound---close to Imbs Station Road. Salt Lick Trail in Valmeyer was another location for salt. The Spices of the East, in an area where mankind has been fighting for thousands of years, are the location of salt routes. We find the salt because animals lead us there. The lick the ground to get what their bodies need.

When Christ calls us the “salt of the earth”, what is He saying? He is speaking metaphorically. Christianity, if fully lived as Jesus showed us how, is an essential element for a good life for ourselves and others. We can bring a flavor to the world like no other. Be the salt. Be the water. Be the life for the world! Be the hope for your children by bringing them to the Table!

Mike Kish, Principal

PS Tomorrow: School continues: Mathcounts at SIUE, Scholastic Bowl at Mater Dei
PS Monday---Child Protection Class at 7:00 in the KC room at Church.---Blues in AM.
PS DINNER AUCTION next Saturday—deadline today---we could take 50 more for the social event of the year! Next Saturday---Speech Meet at St. James
PS Feb. 12---DuBourg Band Adjudication, 2% Sunday---12:15

PS Our sincere condolences to Chris(Denise) Sueme and his family on the loss of Chris's dad **Joseph Sueme, Jr.**, at age 95. Chris moved to St. Louis las year but he is still our “go-to” guy for all thing HVAC and we owe him and Denise a ton of favors for many years of self-less service to our parish, our school, the Knights of Columbus, the Boy Scouts and Waterloo Sportsmen's Club. Hoseph was Grandpa to Alex,SSgt. Alaine and Leah. Kutis South County, February 4 2-5 pm. Inurnment later at Jefferson Barracks.