



IMMACULATE CONCEPTION SCHOOL

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Bob Wachtel, School Board President

**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.**

*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

February 9, 2018

*Bienvenido el parrochia!*

V. 43 #30

Dear Parent, Guardian, Student, Teacher, Friend,

**STEWARDSHIP OF CHARITY** As a corporate body, our parish has committed 2% of its annual budget to charities outside those we normally sponsor. This Sunday we gather after the 11:00 Mass to decide where to send the 2%. Each family has votes. We do vet the suggested recipients so they are in line with our values. Stewardship is a way of life that disconnects you from things material so you can do things spiritual. Parents and Teachers are the gatekeepers. Come at 12:30 and see how Full Stewardship works!

**HERE YE! HERE YE! The Dinner Auction is less than a month away!** This will be our second ICS Dinner Auction using mobile bidding and that means we get to try all sorts of new things. You can now use the website ( [ics2018.gesture.com](http://ics2018.gesture.com) ) to purchase raffle tickets, put ads in our auction booklet, or sign up for Grandparent Honor Roll. You can also use the website to buy your tickets if you haven't, yet. **Monday, February 5---first item up for bid!** Chauffeur for the night!

**Texas Hold'em Tournament** Our Fathers Club is hosting our annual tourney on Friday February 16 2018 in the Garden Level of the Church. 6:30pm doors open 7:30pm cards begin. Tickets available at Khoury Pharmacy for pre-sale. Spread the word but don't show your hand! Thanks to Devin Dalpoas and Committee for this exciting event!

**BOOK FAIR 2018!** The 2018 ICS Book Fair has come to another successful conclusion. Our total sales were **\$2,112.00**. I would like to extend my appreciation to those who gave of their time to help make this event a success. Catie Tyler, Dawn Heimbunger, Jeanne Kish, Danielle Dorlac, Jamie Barnett and Constance Barnett who not only helped during the event but was also helped to setup and breakdown the fair. And a giant thank you to our great reader-leader **Teresa Dorshorst!**

**WELCOME TO GOD'S WORLD!** Congratulations to Stephanie and Drew Armstrong and big brother Easton on the birth of **Graeyson** weighing in at 7lbs. 5oz. Easton has a new buddy!

**WELCOME TO ICS CAM ELLNER (Gr. 7) and AVERY ELLNER(Gr. 4)**from Murphysboro Middle School and St. Andrew's. We hope you feel at home! Welcome to Dad Toby and Mom Jennifer too!

**A DAY FOR LOGAN** Thanks to you, Logan received another round of therapy this week! We are helping this amazing little guy grow!

**One Busy Place...Thanks to Allison Stark for representing ICS at the DIOCESAN SPEECH MEET** on February 17<sup>th</sup>. Allison Stark will be doing a speech called "Every Cat in the Twilight Grey"

at SPPS. Thanks to Coach Sam Watters for years of growing students!



### **More Info on last Friday night**

**Extra Credit On Stage at Powell---**44 musicians from the St. Louis Symphony Orchestra and 90 music educators from 82 schools in 52 different school districts--  
-What a delight to the senses and a proud moment for Mr. Hake connecting with his mentor Thomas Stubbs who met both Louie Bellson and Buddy Rich.  
Connections in life sure help and we build them through relationship!



### **Daddy Daughter Dance**

A big, huge thank you to all the daddies and daughters who came out to dance the night away at this year's Daddy/Daughter Dance. There were a lot of stunning dresses, smiles and dancing feet (along with popcorn J ) on the gymnasium floor! Please visit <https://suelewis.smugmug.com/> to see all of the wonderful pictures from the evening. The planning committee wants to especially thank all who came out Saturday morning to set up tables and chairs and decorate the gym. It truly was an amazing transformation! We also want to thank the dads and girls who helped clean up afterwards. We thought for sure we would be at school until midnight, but thanks to you, we were done in an hour! Most of all, there are not enough thank yous for Laura and Heath Wilson. We persuaded you to help us and you came through full force! Plus, the stunning centerpieces are being donated to the Gibault prom - again thanks to the Wilsons for transporting them. This was probably the best and the last face-lift our current gym will receive of this caliber. We ended it with a bang!

Much appreciation,

Tammy Hoeflinger, Jean Swip, and Kara Boyd

Here is a link to pictures of the Daddy daughter dance

<https://suelewis.smugmug.com/2018-ICS/Daddy-Daughter-Dance/>

**SCHNUCKS – BAGS 4 MY CAUSE** program has netted us \$30! They will now honor our St. Vincent DePaul Society when you purchase a re-usable grocery bag during the month of March. SVdP wins, you win, the earth wins as we recycle!

**VALENTINE'S BAGS** Mrs. Patti Hopkins dropped off our Valentine collections this morning Thanks to Mrs. Sarah Diewald for chairing and you for donating!

**CSW Service Project** Shari Murphy dropped off our donations last Saturday morning. They were very appreciative. Thank you so much for your support in this Service Project. *Making a Difference* is a new non-profit helping the homeless in Belleville.



**Cafeteria Floor Pour** Meetings continue, pledge payments continue, and we need new pledges to continue. We are under \$4 million needed to have our project covered by pledges. Stewardship is not about giving out of your excess or left-overs or second best (like Abel's brother taught us). When our hands are open, we can receive! Thanks for making stewardship a family way of life!

**CONGRATULATIONS VFW #6504 POSTER AND ESSAY (Gr. 4-5) CONTEST WINNERS** Dante Gianino, Maxx Carrow, Carmen Meyer, Tessa Kolweier, Eleanor Rinella, Rina Baker, Grant Tucker, Ayven VanMater, Emma Ashton, Maria Hake, Cam Donjon, Eva Haywood, Joseph Whitworth, Aiden Howard-Maul, Lila Griffin, Connor Thoma, Ava Blaskiewicz, John Bollone, Kate Adams. They will find out what they won at the awards on February 23rd @ 7:00 p.m. at Post #6504 in Waterloo. Suspense! We sent home the invite from the VFW.



Twelve ICS mathletes competed in the regional MathCounts competition at the SIU-E campus on Saturday, Feb. 3. This contest, sponsored by the St. Clair Chapter of Professional Engineers, features difficult questions in three different individual and team rounds. 7<sup>th</sup> grader Colin Mueth was the top scorer for the team made up of 7<sup>th</sup> graders Andrew Feldker, Ben Haney, Emma Schmidt, Sydney Wahle, and Tyler Wahle, and 6<sup>th</sup> graders Jack Keeven, Brock Murphy, Kyra Newton, Allison Stark, Maddi Swip, and Joe Tyler.



Also competing in the annual St. Louis University High School math contest on Saturday, Feb. 3 was the team of ICS 8<sup>th</sup> graders Daylen Litke, Grant Mathany, Adelynn Murphy, and 7<sup>th</sup> grader Danny Repp. This contest featured both an individual and a team problem solving contest. Thanks to our math students for representing us so well! Both teams are coached by math teacher Karen Weiler.



Thursday, February 8<sup>th</sup>, Dr. Jodi Hentscher-Johnson came to ICS to celebrate **Dental Health Month** with the students. She visited Pre-School/Pre-K, Kindergarten, 1<sup>st</sup> Grade, 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade and 4<sup>th</sup> Grade. She taught us the importance of taking care of our teeth, how to keep them clean, and what to eat to keep them healthy. To wrap up the visit she gave each student a cool purple draw string bag with her logo filled with a water bottle that changes colors, a toothbrush, toothpaste, and floss. Thank you Dr. Jodi!



Dr. Renee Doyle visited the 2nd graders to teach them why it is important to brush and floss their teeth. They enjoyed learning interesting facts about their teeth and ways to keep their smiles healthy.

As my old friend Armin Eschmann once said, *"If I knew I was going to live this long, I would have taken better care of my teeth!"*

**FEBRUARY 12 Lincoln Day presentation by Judge Heinz Rudolph 8:05.** Grades 4-8. Grades 7-8 will quietly leave at 8:28 for **Adventures In Medecine at SLU**. A thoracic cavity will be dissected. **THE BARD** Shakespeare Festival St. Louis comes to ICS on February 20<sup>th</sup>. Grades 5-8. Here is the *Romeo & Juliet* study guide:

<https://www.sfstl.com/wp-content/uploads/2012/04/SFSTL-Romeo-and-Juliet-Study-Guide.pdf>

The Eppinger Foundation is funding this 10:30 presentation. Workshop in afternoon from 1:15 to 2:00 in classrooms. This has always been an outstanding cultural performance! Thanks to Dorothy Weinel Eppinger who's legacy lives on and to Pastor Bill Groennert and Mrs. Patti French for advocating for us!

**CHESS PRACTICES FOR WINTER 3:00-4:00 IN THE ICS CAFETERIA:**

Grades 2 and 3 - TUESDAYS - 2/20, 3/6, 3/20

Grades 4 through 8 - TUESDAYS 2/13, 2/27, 3/13, 3/27

**Chess Meets:** February 17- ICS March 10 - St. Clare, O'Fallon March (date TBD) Diocesan Meet

**KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS ESSAY CONTEST...** 2018 K of C Catholic High School Scholarship Essay contest will be held Sunday, March 11 @ 1p.m. (after 11a.m. Mass), in the lower level of church in the K of C room. No late entry/or make-up dates. The prize is one \$2,000 scholarship-payable over 4 years- paid directly to the Catholic high school where the winner will attend. The participants must be ICC Parish Members who will be entering freshmen for the 2018-2019 school year. Any questions, please call Kevin W. Hutchinson (Not the Mayor), 314-974-7072.

**FAMILY BOWLING NIGHT... SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 18TH FROM 6:00 - 8:00 PM** ~Columbia's West Park Bowl The Knights of Columbus invite 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. FYI: No school the next day. Please call, text or e-mail Nick Matrisotto to make your reservations at (314) 609-7092 or stlouisareamaps@aol.com.



**BUILDERS CLUB MANY THANKS TO THE Columbia Kiwanis Club AND the Knights of Columbus(Jacob Whitworth and Paula Boser presented last night) for each donating \$250 to Kids against Hunger! M and M's ---over \$400 Donations---total over \$3100 so far! **We now need Help for KAH tomorrow Saturday from 8:00-11:15.** We will produce over 15,000 meals to feed children we will never meet in a world we will never know. The gospel is about going the distance. KAH reminds us! Adults are welcome. You can come in shifts.**

**BOXTOPS FOR EDUCATION** Our next collection (\$28,805.45 cash so far) of those precious little coupons will be **from now-2/7**. Prizes:

Turn in 25 get a crazy sock day

Turn in 50 and get hat day plus an entry to win 2 movie passes to Waterloo theater.

Top class wins a jeans day for them and their family member, and a class pizza party.

Thanks to our chairpersons Katie Hart and Deidra Doerr!

**Magazine Drive 2018** Thanks to all who sold or bought. Profit goes towards our Catholic Education and Activity Center. All Pay-later bills should arrive soon. We get paid when you pay. Thanks again to Andrea Biske, Kim Siegel, Carrie Boser and all helpers---update coming soon!

**Limo Ride:** Liam Johnson, Michael Wessel, Violet McGuire, Nate Stechmesser, Andrew Epplin, Stephen Johns, Will Schmoll, Maria Biske, Connor Kennedy, Tyler Johnson, Daniel Huels, Julia Hoeflinger, MaryAnn Imhoff, Vance Ray, Sydney Wahle, Noah Newton

**Cardinal Day:** Ms. Tolan's homeroom(26), Will Schmoll, Matthew and Andrew Epplin, Nate Stechmesser, Liam Johnson, Violet and Eleanor McGuire, Michael Wessel

**Ice Cream Party:** Ms. Tolan's homeroom(26), Will Schmoll, Matthew and Andrew Epplin, Nate Stechmesser, Liam Johnson, Violet and Eleanor McGuire, Michael Wessel, Noah and Kyra Newton

**MAGAZINE DRIVE PRIZE-UP** Student prizes are being selected and ordered now through the teachers.

**Hello Families,**

**BUILDING THE DOMESTIC CHURCH: *The Family Fully Alive***

reminds us the theme for February is [THE SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE.](#)

"The foundation of the domestic church is the sacrament of marriage. It is therefore important to reflect often on the mystery and calling of this sacrament. Also, our children may be called to become spouses and parents, so it is important to help them understand the type of love that is necessary in marriage and family life."

What stands out this month in reading from the booklet is from the Meditation:

"The two have become one. This is not an empty symbol. "

Here is a short video you can watch on the sacrament:

<https://youtu.be/e04WPLpbldY>

P.S. Love is in the air...Sunday, February 11th is World Marriage Day & Wednesday, February 14th is Valentine's Day.

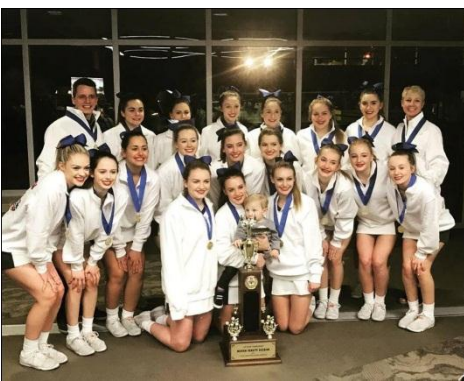
[Attached is a prayer](#) you can pray with your spouse and family.

"Building The Domestic Church While Strengthening Our Parish"

Nick Matrisotto-Brian Repp-Ted Haney, [Knights of Columbus Family Committee](#)

### **THE SPORTING NEWS... Sign Up For Girls on the Run**

It's time to sign your girls up for Girls on the Run!! Any girl grades 3-8 are welcome to participate in this 10 week program. We will be meeting Tuesday and Thursdays until 4:15pm, with flexibility to accommodate chess practice. Our primary goal will be to run the Girls on the Run 5K in St. Louis on May 12 and participate in the ICS 5K glow run on May 5. Please consider signing your girls up for this exciting new program!! Go to [www.girlsontherunstlouis.org](http://www.girlsontherunstlouis.org) to sign up. Please contact Jessica Wachtel, [314-749-1663](tel:314-749-1663), with any questions.



### **GRADS in the NEWS...**

**Congratulations to the Columbia Varsity Cheerleaders and ICS graduates Anna Adams, Megan Levin, Emily Gillan and Delaney Eastep** for their eighth place finish at the IHSA State Finals this past weekend in Bloomington. In a stacked Medium Division, the Eagles were the only Southern Illinois team to qualify for finals. It is the team's fourth consecutive top ten finish and caps

off another successful competitive season, including an ICCA Championship and an IHSA Sectional Title. Way to go girls!

**GIBAULT SCHOLARSHIPS** - Scholarship application packages and variable tuition instructions for incoming freshmen are being mailed out now to those who have completed applications on file. If you have not received one, please contact Pat Herzing ([pherzing@gibalthawks.com](mailto:pherzing@gibalthawks.com))

**DISCOVER GIBAULT LIFE** – 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade students who want to check out high school life at Gibault are invited to shadow a current student. Contact Pat Herzing ([pherzing@gibalthawks.com](mailto:pherzing@gibalthawks.com)) to schedule a visit!

**Parish Work Day**                      Projects                      February 10, 2018

Church (consider bringing ladder)

Clean upstairs women's restroom stall doors

Put out little black Lenten books

Replace any missing kneeler pads

Scout new location for 3 outdoor crosses for Holy week

Clean front door glass, gathering space glass, office door glass and exterior glass doors

Dust gathering space furniture including the grouping near the elevator. Dust cabinets and counter tops in Father's vesting room.

Clean lower garden level windows including those in the elevator area. Wipe down the elevator interior walls.

Clean windows in main stair well as high as can be reached.

Dust the office area, Father's office, conference room and hallway ledges. Clean glass in these areas

Dust cabinets in warming kitchen and clean counter tops.

Clean Glass in the Reservation Chapel Room.

Clean west side lower windows. Several people needed to carefully move the candle holder in from the Mary's statue.

Clean lower windows on the east side including the window in the music storage room and confessional

Clean lower windows and ledges in hallway to garden area.

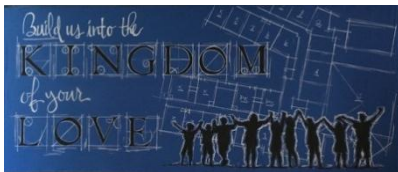
Clean high windows and ledges in hallway to garden area.

Clean lower windows and ledges in Garden Level

Clean windows in Kitchen and back stairs

Clean black drop box outside office exterior doors

Coffee and donuts to be furnished by A.C.T.S.



**BUILD UP THE KINGDOM OF YOUR LOVE** daily shirts Aiden Howard-Maul, Anna McGill, Abby Repp, Megan Janson, Wes Jasper, Turner Haywood, Ella Boyd, Jackson Drury, Jaylyn Brister, Abby Eichenseer, Lucas Sheehan, Vance Ray

**TAJCI** Our parish is hosting a music event featuring Tajci who has performed here before with great approval in our wonderfully acoustical Church.

Fr. Bill Hitpas has just put out 7 CDs titled ***“Conversations with Fr. Bill”***. Legendary pastor at St. Nicholas in O’Fallon since its founding. Some of my best quotes come from him---favorite: ***“Our first vocation in life is to be happy. God did not put us on earth to be unhappy.”***

This reminds me to find the joy in what I am doing in the moment. I cannot chase little gods of things and be happy. Mrs. Epplin has permission to fire me when I turn crabby or too feeble to get school done. Look at your life this way. If your job makes you crabby, if you cannot find the joy, then find your passion and run to it. If you don't know you are crabby, ask someone. Life is taken way too seriously and we all think we are the only one with problems. When people say to me "I see your splint is gone", I tell them, "Yeah, I put on a lampshade instead. It has been so much more fun with it!" Find the Joy of the Gospel. Build the Kingdom! Focus Five yourself into the NOW based on the Spirit of the Gospels!

Thanks for prayers for **Michelle Bender!** More needed.

**Marge Krizan**, my first hire and all-world geography teacher, is now fighting cancer. Typical Marge---take a treatment and head to Phoenix for a week and then back for more treatments. Much of who we are as a Humanities Schools goes to her love of Geography. Prayers please for wherever she is right now that God's healing hand be upon her!

**Norman Waterman**(Mrs. Karen Waterman's husband) is really suffering now. Please pray for some relief. I told Karen our prayers would be her angel of support.

Lay your hands on these names and the names on our parish bulletin and say a prayer for them!

**PRAYERS: Special Intention** Norman Waterman, Danielle Dorlac, Michelle Bender, Marge Krizan, Jerry Kish, Marvin Parker, Tom Giovanni, Arlin Stechmesser, Bob Springer, Angela Roepke, Paul Thode, Pat Schwartz, George Perry, Pearl Mueller, Donna Kania, Dennis Kish, Kaylee Fogarty, Larry Pelker, Danielle Dorlac, Brandon Martin, Susan Adams, Laurie Austin, Donna Barton, Alicia Cohen, Denise Conner, Kenny Hamontree, Susie Kish Settle, Rachel Warden, Bill Kesler, Dan Borisuk, Lauren Foran, Rich Cullen, Jessica Stemler Barcik, Gertrude Scherrer, Carolyn Baker, Scott Schaefer, Katy Basinski, Chrissy Hoeflinger, Barbara Buchheit, Angie Rose, Ken Bolton, Nick Carron, Roy Lansing, Sis Blaes, Marcella Heinrichs, Florence Dorshorst, Bill Pennock, Pat Weber, 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

***"Pay attention to me. I am important."*** That is what the leper really said to Jesus. God does answer all our prayers. Sometimes it is yes and sometimes no. All of us have different ways of saying pay attention to me. My behavior, my volume, my choice of jokes, my sarcasm, my non-verbal cues----all tell you to look at me. The Lord knows we are all important. Come hear the message this weekend.

LENT STARTS ASH WEDNESDAY. We celebrate with "Mardi Gras" Tuesday night in the lower level of Church and burn last year's palm branches to imprint on our foreheads. Lent is a time to give more so than give up. Give your time. Give a smile. Lessen a burden for someone. Lent is the springtime of the Church!

*Mike Kish*

Principal

PS Full Stewardship: 107 of 170 from school families. Please get yours in. Commit to your God!





Dear People of God,

ICHTHUS is the Greek word for “fish.” Jesus tells us to,

“Come follow me. And I will make you fishers of men!”

We often see a fish in Christian art. During Lent many parishes enjoy a “fish fry.” In the early Church, this word was used as a “symbol,” an acronym, a word formed from the first letter of several words.

I C H T H U S stands for “Jesus Christ, God’s Son, Savior.” This has often been expressed as, “Jesus Christ is the Son of God our Savior.”

Thus, with this simple image, or drawing Christians could profess their faith in times of persecution.

- I = *Iesous* = Jesus
- Ch = *Khristos* = Christ
- Th = *Theou* = God’s
- U = *Huios* = Son
- S = *Soter* = Savior

The sign of the fish in early times was used by Christians as a secret symbol that all who believed that Jesus was the Christ would recognize, whether scratched on walls, rocks, or sand.

So, as a Catholic, you can express the heart of our faith throughout your day by simply praying with one word ICHTHUS, or even FISH.

The Most Reverend Edward K. Braxton, Ph.D., S.T.D.  
Bishop of Belleville