



IMMACULATE CONCEPTION SCHOOL

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CELEBRATING 162 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.

OPEN THE DOORS OF MERCY!

February 12, 2016

V. 41 #33



Dear Parent, Guardian, Student,

Teacher, Friend,

SPEECH PRACTICE NEXT WEEK TUESDAY-FRIDAY 3:15-4:45 We need 3 or 4 Builders Club members for the Speech Meet on the 20th to help the guests get to where they need to go and serve as ambassadors. Please see Mr. Kish on Tuesday! Spot time next Saturday is 8:15 am.



SCIENCE OLYMPIAD IN MACOMB We placed third by one point. We had a 69 behind two 68's and they flipped a coin...Congratulations to the team, Mr. Kassebaum, and our parents and professionals (when you have the guy who blew up the old Jefferson Barracks Bridge(Bill Ulivi) teaching bridge design, a pilot, engineers, nurses and scientists on team you are blessed)! Since the Chicago Middle Schools are Gr. 7-8-9, you are allowed five freshmen on the team. **The schools that beat us had 5 freshmen each on the team.** We sent grades 6-7-8 and qualified for STATE on April 16 at U of I. We placed in 17 of 23 events!
Air Trajectory - 1st Noah Newton-Isabella Frasure

- Anatomy & Physiology - 3rd Eve Melliere—Jane Whelan
- Bio Process - 1st Spencer Biske-Isabella Frasure
- Bottle Rocket - 1st Mary Wessel-Lexi Hennes
- Bridge - 1st Eve Melliere-Jane Whelan
- Disease Detective - 2nd Charlie Soetaert-Ben Traxler
- Elastic Launch Glider –2nd Lexi Hennes-Charlie Soetaert
- Experimental Design - 3rd Maggie Schulte- Jane Whelan- Ben Traxler
- Food Science - 3rd Jane Whelan-Eve Melliere
- Fossils - 2nd Isabella Frasure- Noah Newton
- Invasive Species-3rd Charlie Soetaert- Jack Burke
- Meteorology - 3rd Lexi Hennes-Mary Wessel
- Mission Possible- 3rd Spencer Biske-Ben Traxler
- Reach for the Stars- 3rd Mary Wessel- Maggie Schulte
- Scrambler-3rd Isabella Frasure- Noah Newton
- Wind Power- 1st Spencer Biske-Noah Newton
- Write It Do It-3rd Spencer Biske-Kaylum Furlow

THE DINNER AUCTION Expect a mailing on Tuesday. The Main Event is next Saturday and we need you to make it a success!

I AM NOT FOND OF LENT---THAT IS SO--- BECAUSE I NEED IT! From White House Retreats: Lent is here. Some dread it. Others wonder: what's the point of it? A few have been looking forward to it-maybe as a chance to lose a few pounds by fasting.

For Catholics, Lent is not just another spiritual 'self-help' program. Every Lenten practice should be focused on one thing: helping me to grow closer to Jesus. My actions should open my heart to a deeper communion with Him. During Lent, the Church offers us 4 traditional practices to help us grow in relationship with Christ.

First: wage war on sin. For many of us, there are two or three main sins that consistently drag us down. These sins get in the way of our relationship with God. They make me self-centered. They distract me from the mission God has given to me. Yes, Christ forgives my sins. And He can help me to pull these sins out by the root. This takes trust, self-awareness, and...

Second: prayer. In the Gospels, Jesus Himself often takes time to be alone with His Father. He goes to the desert or to the mountain. How many times do I say, 'I wish I prayed more'? We have a wealth of spiritual resources in the Church: Scripture, rosary, Eucharistic Adoration, and more. The most important thing is to mark out time for prayer each day. 15 minutes is a reasonable goal to start with. To quote Duck Dynasty, 'If you're too busy to fish and hunt, then you're too busy.' If you are too busy to pray 15 minutes today, then...

Third: fasting. All are asked to refrain from meat on Fridays. And we are each invited to cut other clutter from our lives. How much time do I spend aimlessly surfing the Internet, or clicking through channels? How about needlessly worrying? These things are spiritual junk food. Cutting back on these will free me to love Christ and to receive His love.

Finally, alms. This means sharing my gifts with those in need, especially the poor. Pope Francis has especially highlighted this practice in this Year of Mercy. Jesus Himself did this. He promises that I will meet Him when I serve the poor, the elderly, the weak and wounded.

War on sin, prayer, fasting and alms. Through the practices, Christ brings peace and clarity to my life and draws me closer to Himself. -Fr Joe Laramie, SJ

CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK A sincere thanks to Tiffany Taylor for chairing and each and every faculty member for making this a great week. Disruptive? You bet! Memorable? Indeed. When you look back at a school career, it is the stuff that doesn't seem like school that sticks best. We need to get the basics through which we do very well but we also give a world class experience in loving each other. Our God Jesus never said "Like one another"----he said "Love one another" and we can do that through respecting each other and working together for the kingdom here on earth.

They are the champions! Somehow beating the Faculty in the annual Volleyball game can make your year but the Class of 2016 will have a hard time being defined by this fun event in light of all their accomplishments! They are a "Class" Act!



SATURDAY SCHOOL Tomorrow we will be at **MathCounts at SIUE**(3rd last year behind Edwardsville Lincoln and Liberty), the **Mater Dei Scholastic Bowl**, and a **Chess Meet at St. Joe** in Freeburg. Good luck teams and coaches!

LATCHKEY We are currently seeking a new Latchkey Director for our school. Thanks to Ms. Sherry Gogolek for all her work for us. Mrs. Epplin and Mrs. Lewis and our teachers are covering for now but we have some good leads and are making transitional changes to be ready for moving out of the convent. Through a generous donor, we have some latchkey “scholarship money” available. Please contact the Principal to inquire.

Terrific Kids – February 2016

Mrs. Diewald: **Emma Tyler** - Emma is our Terrific Kid for the month of February. Emma is a hard worker and great listener in the classroom. She is always willing to cheer up a friend and make others feel welcome.

Mrs. Meyer: **Aubry Thomas** - Aubry always lends a helping hand in the classroom! She is always kind to her classmates and friends!

Ms. Kennedy: **Ava Schmidt**- Ava has been working very hard this quarter. She has excellent participation in class each and every day. Ava is also very sweet to her teachers and classmates.

Mrs. Matrisotto: **Vance Ray** - Vance has really stepped up his game since the beginning of the year. His behavior has truly blossomed. Working extra hard at home practicing multiplication facts drastically has helped Vance with Math. All the extra time spent focusing on reading has transferred over to other subjects. Keep up the great work! Way to go Vance Ray! I am so proud of you!

Mrs. Donjon: **Maddi Swip** - Maddi truly is a Terrific Kid. She works hard in class and recently has been having to work even harder outside the classroom. Maddi has proven that she is responsible, brave, and able to handle situations which she has no control over. Great work Maddi - Keep it up!

Mrs. Ettl: **Maggie Williamson** – Maggie is a self-motivated student. She is always keeping busy in the classroom. She tries her best on her work, asks questions when she is curious or confused, and has a passion for reading.

Mrs. Taylor: **Stephen Johns** – Stephen tries very hard, is aware of what’s always going on in the classroom, and comes prepared for class.

Mrs. Schauster: **Kyle Rose** - Kyle is a Terrific Kid. Kyle is always willing to help out his fellow classmates or a teacher. He has a very kind and caring spirit.

CONGRATULATIONS to Spencer Biske on winning the DAR Essay Contest! His essay was on the STAMP ACT OF 1765. He will be honored on March 2 by the Daughters of the American Revolution at the Monroe County Annex in Waterloo.

BOOK FAIR Clifford gave some free reading tips to School Board Vice-President Adam Randle Sunday morning. Teresa Dorshorst and Crystal Schaefer and parent volunteers did a great job again promoting reading. I have often felt that we who can read and won't read are little better off than those who can't read at all! Read to succeed. Read to know your God better. Read to know God's world better!



\$2,759.19 total sales!

Knights of Columbus Essay Contest February 27 9:00 KC Room
\$1000 to be awarded over 4 years to any Catholic High School --- 30th annual. Over \$25,000 awarded! Open to IC parishioners! Use those writing skills: take the topic---pre-think-jot thoughts-organize-write-proof it-turn in! Thanks to Brother Knight Al Ziegler for founding and chairing this great event. 281-5707 if questions.

FULL STEWARSHIP 94 families of 159 attending have completed the full stewardship request from January 3. Please call Mr. Kish if you need more information at 281-5353. If not, please mail it in or drop into the Sunday collection. Time, Talent, Treasure---a gift from God that should be lovingly returned!



KIDS AGAINST HUNGER 31 ICS Builders Club, Columbia Key Club, Columbia Kiwanis, ICS students, siblings, and 12 adults totalling 47 workers spent Saturday morning making 14,040 meals that will be sent to Honduras to feed children. Retired Lutheran Pastor Rudy and Dorothy Schaser officially handed over their relationship with the ICS Builders Club to Dr. Greg and Karen Fremel who coordinate the program through Washington Overseas Missions, of Washington Missouri which started out as a medical missions team via contacts through St. Francis Borgia High School. Kiwanians Sharon Nealon, Pat McDermott, Jolene Devlin, and Charity Wright, represented the ICS Builders Club sponsors for the 7th year of the program. The Builders Club raised \$3,250 to fund the effort through donations and fund-raising projects. This week Channel 2 featured an organization that made over 1000 packets last Saturday---we made 2,340 on Saturday!



THANKS TO Columbia Girl Scout Troop 1117 and troop leader Laura Whelan for donating \$218.33 to the ICS Builders Club project in memory of Claire's **Mary Eppinger!**

Kids Against Hunger

2016	14,040	65 cases	Honduras
2015	14,472	67	Nicaragua
2014	15,768	73	Honduras
2013	13,176	61	Uganda
2012	13,176	61	Madagascar
2011	11,016	51	Mexico
2010	8,856	41	Haiti
7 years	90,504	419	avg. 12,929

35th ANNUAL MAGAZINE DRIVE Let's keep the profit coming in. Order online anytime and your child will get credit during the drive! www.gaschoolstore.com I.D. 2710556 Profit to our **CATHOLIC EDUCATION AND ACTIVITY CENTER** which is in the planning stage!



The second graders would like to thank everyone for their donation towards the Valentine bags for the children at the Griffin Center. We were able to make over 500 bags and send lots of unused Valentine cards for the children to share. Thanks for your support on this project! Mrs. Diewald and Ms. Dinges

Show me some teeth...



Thanks to **Dr. Jodi Hentscher-Johnson**, **Dr. Renee Doyle** and **Dr. Lori Trost** for presenting to Grade 3, Grade 2, and Kindergarten for Dental Health Month! Brush properly---make healthy food choices, get those check-ups, and smiles go miles!

SCHOOLA \$786.450 from our latest check and 7 more boxes were just sent in! Thank you for recycling our way! Thanks to Jessica Wachtel and Jolene Sasser!

Thank you for **\$100.43** from our **St. Raymond's** collection at last week's all-school liturgy. Last year our parish, school and PSR, gave St. Raymond's \$27,629.00!

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

FISH FRIES

FISH FRY SCHEDULE:

- *ASH WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 10TH
- *FIRST FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 25TH
- *SPRING FRIDAY, MARCH 11TH
- *GOOD FRIDAY, MARCH 25TH

WHERE: ICS CAFETERIA & GYM
WHEN: 4:00 - 7:00PM

• Come support the Lenten Fish Fries as they help us as an organization reach our goals of sponsoring and supporting many charities & activities:
- We sponsor the ICC Youth Group on their mission trip to Cairo, IL
- We contribute to Life Network and the Right to Life Movement
- We support the priesthood as they connect the Holy Eucharist
- We conduct many parish family events

Expand and put on your fridge to catch the best fish in town. Like my Dad, I love fishing. You catch 'em, I'll eat 'em!

Chess News: 24 Students from ICS will participate in a chess meet at St. Joseph in Freeburg this weekend. The Diocesan Meet will be on March 5th. Remaining practices for Grades 4-8 are February 16 and March 1. Grades 1-3 last practice will be February 23.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS SPELLING BEE Congratulations to Alycie Caya from the Columbia Middle School who took 1st, Katie Grawitch on taking 2nd, and Brock Murphy on his 3rd place! Allison Stark, Andrew Donjon, and Isabella Frasure also participated from ICS!

PAPA JOHN'S fun incentive for your event on Feb 16th. If total sales exceed \$600, all students and staff in the school WILL RECEIVE A FREE Large 1 topping pizza coupon!! Thanks Dana Martin!

FROM COLUMBIA HIGH SCHOOL SCHEDULING CLASSES February 23rd, Columbia High School --- 8th grade student testing -- finalize their schedule.

Gibault Catholic High School

Gibault **spring musical this year: "Beauty and the Beast"!!! Auditions** for grade school students will be on February 24 at 6:30PM at Gibault. The musical will be performed April 14-17.

ICS FATHERS CLUB annual Texas Hold'em Tournament --- Saturday Feb. 27th. In the Lower Level of the new ICS Church on Palmer Road. \$50 Buy In - doors open 6:30pm, 7:30pm play begins BYOB Tickets available for purchase at Khoury Pharmacy on Main in Columbia. See attached flyer for details Feel free to forward and invite friends, cousins and neighbors If buying tickets from Khoury Pharmacy is not convenient contact me at icsfathers@gmail.com or call/text [314-690-3237](tel:314-690-3237) see you on the 27th! Devin Dalpoas

Fr. Ron Rolheiser, OMI

In his book, *The Return of the Prodigal Son*, Henri Nouwen suggests that one of the main things that has to happen in order for us to come to conversion and purity of heart is that we must **move from being judge to being repentant sinner.**

From judge to repentant sinner, what is being suggested here? Psalm 50 haunts the heart with the refrain: "A humbled and contrite heart you (God) will not spurn." Our problem is that, despite considerable sincerity, our hearts are rarely humble and contrite. The norm is judgment of others, anger at them, and a certain moral smugness and self-righteousness.

Rarely are we on our knees with our heads against the breast of a forgiving God, contrite about what we've done and left undone—our betrayals, our sins, our inadequacies. Most of the time our posture is that of the judge. Our own faults are rarely at issue as we adjudicate others' need for contrition and pronounce judgment on their faults.

Our own judgmental attitude and self-righteousness is, most of the time, hidden from us. In our own eyes we are never the hypocrite, the one sitting in judgment on somebody else's life. No. We are the honest ones, the compassionate ones, the humble ones.

Yet, that is rarely the way we are seen by others, especially by those closest to us. Almost always they feel judged by us and almost always they see in us a self-righteousness and a moral smugness that offends them. People around us are only too aware that we are much more the judge than the repentant sinner, even as we ourselves are little aware of it.

Thus, for example, if our temperament puts us at home in **liberal circles**, there is a good chance that we nurse a fair amount of anger against our more conservative and traditional brothers and sisters. Invariably they will appear to us as morally smug, holier-than-thou, complacent, timid, rigid, dogmatic, fundamentalistic, power-hungry and intellectually backward—and yet as claiming the moral and religious high ground.

Moreover, we feel that they are judging us, believing that we no longer pray, that we have sold out in terms of sexual morality, and that we are not really Catholic and Christian in the true sense.

And this double awareness—of their hypocrisy and of being judged by them—will dominate our self-awareness much more than will any self-criticism or awareness of our own duplicity, sin and betrayals.

Little are we aware that they, the conservatives, feel judged by us, that they feel us as intimating that they are stupid, backward, sexually hung-up, racists, sexists, blind to justice, legalistic, naive of real human experience and fundamentalistic. Little are we aware that they, whom we label as holier-than-thou, consider our attitude as "holier-than-thou."

The converse is just as true: If we find our home among those of a more **conservative mindset**,

there is a very good chance that we harbor a lot of anger against our more liberal sisters and brothers—against feminists, against social justice groups, against a lot of artists and against theologians. Invariably they will appear to us, precisely, as morally smug, as posturing (more-sensitive-and-inclusive-than-thou), as intellectually arrogant and bullying, and as claiming, in Pharisee fashion, the religious and moral high ground.

And we will feel them as judging us, believing that we are intellectually backward, fundamentalistic, unenlightened, hung up on sex, insensitive to the needs of the poor, a racist, a sexist,, a dinosaur from another age.

Little are we aware that they, on their part, feel so judged and put down by us. That they perceive us as the bully, the power to be feared, the person who is anti-life, the dealer of unfreedom and death.

Strange how each of us so clearly sees the judgmental attitude in the other and yet is so unaware of how brutally judgmental we ourselves are. One man's prophet is another man's fanatic; one woman's freedom fighter is another woman's terrorist; and one person's pro-life struggle is, for another person, the dealing of death!

What is true here in terms of the self-righteousness and self-blindness that exists within our ideological circles is perhaps even more true within the ordinary give and take of our daily lives. We are invariably judge, never repentant sinner.

Conversion begins when we stop standing as judge in order to kneel as sinner. When we are humble and contrite of heart we will not be spurned by God—nor by each other.

PARISH NEWS... Annual Charitable Giving Event---we are a Full Stewardship Parish. Our parish is a corporate body too. Our parish practices stewardship as a corporate body. You practice as an individual. We will split up 2% of last year's donations for the poor on **February 14 at 2:00---stewardship of charity---\$32,633.00 to be awarded.** Please come, plead your case for a charity our parish does not already support, we vote "shares", and then the parish awards the proceeds. Think Globally, Act Locally!

ASK ME ABOUT MY MERCY Paul Ott-Logan Loporto-Eva Haywood-Connor Thoma-Owen Haney-Blake Powers-Riley McGill-Elisabeth Schaefer-Mary Clare Murphy-Hailey Wilkerson-Caroline Roche-Andrew Harmon-Jack Keeven-Ashton Pulliam-Naomi Langhans-Marie Prindiville-Lauren Thorne-Joseph Tyler, Sydney Wahle-Jacob Gilbreth-Dustin Swindle-Zoe Swip

Keegan Hugger needs our prayers. Hospital-RSV, pneumonia Jordan's baby brother. Little one's are precious in our eyes---pour out some prayers please!

Matthew DeWeese Our condolences to Ms. Catie Taylor on the loss of one of her students from her student-teaching at Staunton High School last spring. As we form relationships, life gets painful as we lose people we know and come to love. God's peace to Matthew, his family and friends, Staunton High School, and Ms. Taylor. He died in a traffic accident.

PRAYERS: Keegan Hugger, Ken Bolton, Adriana E. Colindres, Nick Carron, Marian Keim, Dan Whelan, Josh Ritter, Mary Giovanni, Denise Conner, Kevin Diehl, Roy Lansing, Sis Blaes, Arlin Stechmesser, Marcella Heinrichs, Rick Abrahamson, Josephine Chapman, Florence Dorshorst, Bill Pennock, Patty Juengling, Pat Weber, Ed Hengel, Vince Webb, George Stein, Desiree Frasure, Special Intention

WANDERING ARAMEAN OR THE DEVIL MADE ME DO IT Scripture always speaks to us right where we are. The First Reading---*aliens among us---the same Lord is Lord of all---wrestling with the*

devil---all topics we need to address in our lives. If you come, your chances get better. Maybe for Lent this year, you give up Sunday morning time and give it to the Lord with your family? Come to the desert---come to the Table! See who wins the wrestling match!

MIKE KISH

Ps Mardi Gras sure was fun. Thanks to the Knights and Diane Zika and faculty and parishioners who put it on for us!

Ps THE STATE OF ILINOIS will review our lunch program on Feb. 26. Kim Nesler will be here.

PS All are welcome for Stations of the Cross at 2:15 in our chapelgymnacafetorium at 2:15.

PS No school on Monday in honor of President's Day.

PS THE MESSENGER We are in it at least 4 times this week. Please read the article on Fr. Vince Haselhorst, former pastor, who helped start a credit union in Guastatoya in 1966 with 30 community members depositing \$5 each. Today it is worth \$90 million dollars. The POWER OF ONE—it's Fr. Vince---it's us! Believe!

Band Schedule Week Feb 15-19

Monday No School no school no school no school no school no school PRESIDENTS' DAY

Tuesday

7:15-7:50 **Jazz Band**

8:55-9:25 6th-8th Saxophone and F Horn

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

9:55-10:35 5th Flute and Clarinet

11:05-11:35 4th Flute and Clarinet

11:35-12:05 4th Saxophone and Trumpet

Wednesday

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

9:05-9:35 Percussion Ensemble

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

1:15-2:15 **Intermediate Band Full Band**

Thursday

7:15-7:50 **Jazz Band**

8:55-9:25 6th-8th Low Brass

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

9:55-10:35 5th Saxophone

11:05-11:35 4th Low Brass

11:35-12:05 4th Percussion

Friday

8:05-8:35 5th Trumpet

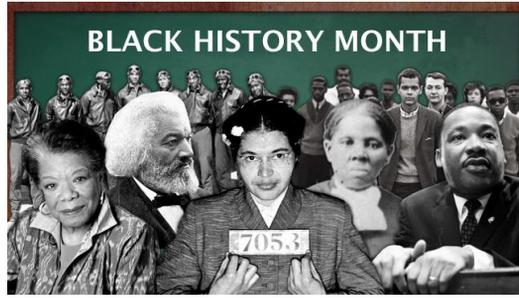
8:35-9:05 5th Low Brass

9:05-9:35 5th Percussion

10:35-11:05 Jazz Band Sectionals

11:05-11:35 Smart Music Lab





Can you name the front 5? M-F-R-H-M?