



IMMACULATE CONCEPTION SCHOOL

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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"

February 20, 2015

V. 40 #37

Dear Parent, Guardian, Student, Teacher, Friend,

LENT Readings from the 1st Sunday of Lent

After God destroyed all living creatures with devastating flood waters, God made a covenant with Noah and his descendants. God promised Noah never again to destroy creation. The rainbow in the sky was a sign of God's covenant or promise to protect the human family.

In the second reading from St. Peter's letter, Jesus' suffering, death and resurrection to glory is the final and perfect covenant which will endure forever. In the sacrament of baptism, we are joined to Jesus' death and resurrection, God's covenant with us. In baptism we receive sanctifying grace by which we share in God's life.

The gospel today tells us how to live our covenant with God in this life. We are to repent and believe in the gospel. Lent is a time to repent of our sinfulness and failings of the past and to strengthen our faith in Jesus Christ for the future. Jesus strengthens us to overcome our sinful past and opens the door to his Father's Kingdom.

WHEN JASON HEYWORD joined the St. Louis Cardinals, he was given a book on "the Cardinal Way". I have heard the "Cardinal Way" is three times as big as other professional teams. And maybe that is why the Cardinals have an class organization other professional ball players want to join, even taking less money to be in St. Louis. Well, any institution has its "Way". Apple has its "Way". ICS has its "Way". The Church has its "Way". If you follow along, it isn't a burden but a joy. You don't pay the price, you reap the benefits. Follow the Lenten "Way"!

LENTEN REGULATIONS... The season of Lent this year extends from Ash Wednesday, February 18, to the Mass to the Mass of the Lord's Supper, April, 3. Everyone 14 years of age or over is bound to abstain from meat on Ash Wednesday, Good Friday, and all Fridays in Lent. Everyone 18 years of age and under 59 years of age is also bound to fast on Ash Wed and Good Friday. On these two days of fast and abstinence, only one full meatless meal is allowed. The other meatless meals, sufficient to maintain strength may be taken according to ones needs, but altogether they should not equal another full meal. Eating between meals is not permitted on these two days, but liquids, including milk and fruit juices are allowed. When health and ability to work would be seriously affected, the obligation of the law is modified. Because Lent is a special season for all Christians, we should not lightly excuse ourselves from these penitential practices.

LENTEN OPPORTUNITY 6 weeks on the Gospel of Mark starting Feb. 25 at ICS if enough sign up. Catechist Certification-1 hr. each session (6 total) Wednesday at 3:30 Mark is the shortest and earliest gospel. Contact Russ at rpeterson@iccmil.org . All are welcome---one session or all!

Volleyball Games tonight: The 6th grade girls, 7th grade girls and 7th grade boys volleyball games tonight are still on and will be played. If the weather starts to get bad we will shorten games(15-15-10) to try and get them played. Worker [schedule attached](#). If you cannot make it, its your responsibility to find a replacement!

CONFIRMATION RETREAT RESCHEDULED FOR SUNDAY MARCH 15 2:30-7:30

The Confirmation retreat will not be this evening. The reapeam is fantastic largely due to the involvement of teens as presenters. Paul Masek, the founder of the retreat program is wary of having the teens drive on bad roads. He has done this ministry for 25 years without a teen traffic injury and does not want to risk that record this evening. I agree with him that this is probably an evening with icy roads. It seems that the weather is mocking me in connection with this Confirmation year; tornado warning, no snow days, wintry mix. Oh well, the kids should be able to still grow in love of God and neighbor.

Peace, Russ Peterson

TEXAS HOLD'EM TOURNAMENT---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.

KIDS AGAINST HUNGER 67 cases times 216 = 14,472 meals to Nicaragua! 35 helpers from our Builders Club, BC grads from Ursuline and Gibault, Columbia High School Key Club Members, Columbia and Fairview Kiwanis including two past State Kiwanis Governors, parents, and siblings. A \$3,300 investment in the life of people we will never meet!



The ICS 5th Grade Girls Volleyball Teams competed in the St. Clare O'Fallon Tourney 5th Grade Champs with two teams. ICS B captured the championship. In the picture: Emma Melliere, Bree Massie, Reece Ward, Allyse Broske, Jacquie Gogolek, Autumn Ramey and Coach Katie Voges and Assistant Coach Abby Broske. Not available were Allison Shuler, Caitlyn Schwartz, Georgia Sasser, Ally Curry, Lacie Hausmann, Holly Repp, Emily Everett, Adelynn Murphy, Paula Boser, and Assistant Coach Brooke Schwartz. The team defeated Holy Childhood, Blessed Sacrament and St. Clare.



Mater Dei Scholastic Bowl Team Third Place

The Immaculate Conception Scholastic Bowl team finished 3rd out of 25 teams at the Mater Dei Scholastic Bowl Tournament on Saturday, February 14th. ICS started by winning their pool in the morning defeating St. Theresa of Avila, 210-85; St. Mary's Centralia, 255-40; Damiansville, 220-85; and Queen of Peace, 195-65. ICS moved onto the afternoon championship bracket, seeded first. The team started with a win against Queen of Peace, 165-25. A loss to Blessed Sacrament, 105-120, put ICS into a 3rd place match with Amelia Carriel Junior High of O'Fallon. ICS won 3rd place by defeating ACJH 145-65. Toss up leaders for the day were Thomas Young with 12 toss ups, Spencer Biske and Sarah Rose with 10 toss ups each, Johnny Adams with 9 toss ups, and Adam Stearns with 8 toss ups. The Immaculate Conception Scholastic Bowl team has started off the season

with a record of 18-3.

CHESS The ICS Chess Meet for tomorrow (2/21) has been canceled due to the threat of ice and freezing rain. A big thank you to all who volunteered to help. We are working on options for a date to reschedule if possible. Our next meet will be at Queen of Peace on Saturday, March 7th. The carpool will meet at the NEW CHURCH parking lot lower level at 8:00. Please let Mrs. Herrmann know if your child would like a ride.

Students in Grades 4-8 will have practice this Tuesday 2/24, but there will be NO PRACTICE on March 3rd because of the 8th Grade D.C. Trip. Practice for Grades 1-3 will be the

following Tuesday, March 10th. The Diocesan Tournament will be on Saturday, March 14th at Blessed Sacrament.

SPEECH TEAM MEET IS ON!!! St. John the Baptist Catholic School, Smithton, Saturday, 2/21/2015
Lucy Settle-"Thoughts During a Boring Sermon"; Caroline Keefe-"God Remembers"; Allison Curry and Allison Shuler-"Mouse in the House";Katie Grawitch-"Thoughts during a Boring Sermon"; Mason Babcock and Eli Garcia-"Camp Improv"; Isabella Garcia-"The Old Woman and the Clock"; Sophie Spurgeon-"The Bargin"; Molly Tippen-"The Time Machine"; Jacob Feldker-"Stupid in School"

PARENTS & FRIENDS EVENTS

Meeting - Our March meeting date has been changed to March 16, at 7pm.

Cure for Cabin Fever - Monday, March 2 we are off school for Casimir Pulaski Day, so we've set up a FUN raiser to shake off those winter blues! Join us at the South County Bounce U 2-3pm for all the bouncing fun you can handle for \$10/jumper. Everyone is welcome, but space is limited and reservations are required, so please contact Jolene Sasser at [618.444.6525](tel:618.444.6525) or josasser@yahoo.com to claim your spots. [See attached flier for details.](#)

ICS Trivia Night - Friday, March 20 at 7pm in the ICS gym, join us for our "Candyland" Trivia Night! 10 people per table, \$12/person in advance or \$15/person at the door. Raffles, silent auction, mulligans, head or tails, table decorating contest, and prizes! It'll be a fun night so reserve your table before space runs out by contacting Mandy McGuire at McGuireC21@gmail.com or [618.558.1350](tel:618.558.1350). [See the attached flier for more details.](#)

YOUNG AUTHORS K-4 ceremony – Wednesday February 25 at 2:00

Gibault Math Contest We usually have bragging rights on this one!

Gibault High School is sponsoring a *Grade School Math Contest* on Thursday, **March 12, 2014** and your school is invited to participate. The schedule for the day is:

The test will consist of 35 multiple-choice questions. Each correct answer will be worth 1 point and there will be no penalty for guessing. There will be **no calculators** used on this test. Predetermined questions will be used as tiebreakers. Students should bring at least two #2 pencils and money if they wish to buy a soda from the vending machine in the cafeteria during the break.

Awards will be presented to the top six individual finishers in each grade level. We will have two divisions of schools (based on enrollment) again this year. A team award will be given to the school with the highest participation of all three grade levels. Names of students will be drawn at random from the score sheets for attendance prizes. Certificates will be given to all participants.

3:45 Registration 4:15 test 5:30 awards Sign up with Mrs. Weiler.

Please park and enter the building through the front doors on Columbia Avenue.

Sincerely, Carrie Laur, *Gibault Math Team Sponsor*

COMMUNITY NEWS...From Carol Waide---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.) On March 11th Riefschneiders will donate a portion of the proceeds to support the upcoming AOTB Art Walk set for Sept. 19, 2015.

The Hero911™ Network is a national non-profit organization comprised of over 18,000 federal, state and local law enforcement officers that was created to help reduce the police response time to active shooter incidents in schools and save lives! To help fund schools that have a hard time funding it, there is a great opportunity to catch a St. Louis Blues game on Tuesday night, March 10. You will save \$5/ticket if you use the link below to purchase tickets and in return the non-profit Hero911 Network receives \$5 from the St. Louis Blues for each ticket sold. They must use the promo code **HEROES** to receive their discount. *Go Blues!!!*

RESTRICTED TO LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS

Free Active School Shooting Alert App

Download the free Hero911™ school shooting alert app.

If in close proximity to a SchoolGuard™ alert, you will be notified in seconds.

The display will show a mapped location, a timer from the initial alert and information from all acknowledging officers.

WWW.HERO911.ORG Download the FREE Hero911™ app today!

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REGISTRATION: Linda-Beth-Karen-Shari Time! Immaculate Conception School of Columbia will hold registration for Pre-School, Pre-K, Kindergarten and new students in grades 1-8 for the 2015-2016 school year on Sunday, March 15, 2015 from 10:00 am until 12:30 pm in the school cafeteria or by appointment. Parents should bring the child's baptismal certificate if not baptized at Immaculate Conception Parish, a copy of the official birth certificate from the County (not the hospital) and social security number. (We will copy and return it that morning.) Kindergarten pre-screening dates are April 22nd and 23rd for sign-up. The joy of the Gospels, small class size, outstanding parent support, and academic rigor add up to an award winning school and an education for life. Check us out at www.icscolumbia.org. Questions? Need a personal tour? Can't make that date? Call ICS at 281-5353 or Mike Kish at 281-7459. Please spread the word!

RESEARCH SAYS... This is one of my all-time favorite expressions. Seldom does anyone ask--- "who's research?" Seldom does anyone ask---"does it involve brown Norwegian rats?" But research does move science and thus the world. So one of our grads Brittany Kleinschmidt needs your help. Could you give her a few minutes please?

Dear Readers,

My name is Brittany Kleinschmidt, and I am a 2006 graduate of ICS. I'm currently working toward getting a Master of Nutrition and Dietetics at Saint Louis University. To do this, I need to complete a research project, and I am hoping to learn more about the dynamics of meal planning and family meals. I have created a survey that asks questions on basic demographics, meal planning behaviors, and the structure of family meals. This survey is to be completed by parents of school aged children. I would really appreciate if you could take a few minutes to answer the questions! Attached is a document outlining your rights as a participant. Here is the link to the survey: https://slu.az1.qualtrics.com/SE/?SID=SV_0uIMSttQN6cYdMh

Thank you for your support!
Brittany Kleinschmidt

TARGET Take Charge of Education \$224.63! Thank you!

Children's Choir will resume on 2/25.

COLUMBIA HIGH SCHOOL presents 2 major events starring ICS grads Maria Barton, Mary Boser, Cara Gallagher, Sam Groppe, Sam Smith, Allie Terveer, Julia Oglesby, and Emma Zika --- performing in Columbia High School's theatrical performance of:

RADIUM GIRLS Based on the true story of the dial painters who made labor history. Written by D.W. Gregory, Directed by MaryBeth Babcock. Performances Sat., Feb 21 at 7pm, Sunday, Feb 22 at 2pm at Columbia Middle School, 100 Eagle Drive, Columbia IL.

Tickets \$5 students, \$7 general admission, \$8 reserved, \$20 immediate family cap at the door for general admission. Door box office opens one hour before curtain.

<http://www.dwgregory.com/plays/dramas/radium-girls.php>

COLUMBIA HIGH SCHOOL SWEETHEART CABARET Enjoy a variety of Italian fare and delectable desserts and beverages while being entertained by the CHS Treble and Mixed Choirs as well as individual acts.

Friday & Sat, March 13 & 14 at 7pm (dinner performances) \$25 per ticket, and Sunday March 15th at 2pm (dessert matinee) \$12 per ticket. Performances are at Columbia Middle School. For tickets, please email chssweetheartcabaret@gmail.com, or Mrs. Sara McGinthy at [618/281-5001, ext 2051](tel:6182815001).

COSMIC BINGO Sponsored by the *Gibault Catholic High School Men's Club*

Proceeds to Support School Improvements

FRIDAY, MARCH 20, 2015 Gibault Catholic High School Gym

Doors Open at 6:00 PM / Bingo Starts at 7:30 PM

\$20.00 Per Person in Advance / \$25.00 At The Door

Includes 6 Bingo Cards - Glow Dauber - Glow Hat \$5.00 per Additional 6 Cards

For Tickets Contact: Kermit Constantine (618) 939-4681 or Rick Schmidt (618) 939-8514

Gibault High School (618) 939-3883 OVER \$1,000 IN CASH PRIZES!

50/50 Raffle - Wheel Barrel of Booze Drawing *THIS IS NOT YOUR GRANDMA'S BINGO!*

Drinks Available to Purchase / Bring Your Own Snacks Must Be 18 Years of Age To Attend

Gibault Catholic Welcome Wednesday series continues **March 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 or 618.939.3883.

GIBAULT CATHOLIC High School Registration for incoming freshman will take place March 9 and March 11 from 5 - 8 pm. Please contact Becky Ramlose at 618-939-3883 or bramlose@gibaultonline.com to schedule your appointment. Congratulations to our future Hawks!

THE ASHES OF LENT Fr. Ron Rolheiser, OMI

We begin the season of lent with ashes on our foreheads. What is symbolized by this smudging? Perhaps the heart understands better than the head because more people go to church on Ash Wednesday than on any other day of the year, including Christmas. The queues to receive the ashes in many churches are endless. Why? Why are the ashes so popular?

Their popularity, I suspect, comes from the fact that, as a symbol, they are blunt, primal, archetypal, and speak the language of the soul. Something inside each of us knows exactly why we take the ashes: “Dust thou art and into dust thou shalt return!” No doctor of metaphysics need explain this. Ashes are dust and dust is soil, humus; humanity and humility come from there. It is no accident that ashes have always been a major symbol within all religions. To put on ashes, to sit in ashes, is to say publicly and to yourself that you are reflective, in a penitential mode, that this is not “ordinary time” for you, that you are not in a season of celebration, that you are grieving some of the things you have done and lost, that some important work is going on silently inside you, and that you are, metaphorically and really, in the cinders of a dead fire, waiting for a fuller day in your life.

All of this has deep roots. There is something innate to the human soul that knows that, every so often, one must make a journey of descent, be smudged, lose one's lustre, and wait while the ashes do their work. All ancient traditions, be they religious or purely mythical, abound with stories of having to sit in the ashes. We all know, for example, the story of Cinderella. This is a centuries-old, wisdom-tale that speaks about the value of ashes. The name, Cinderella, itself already says most of it. Literally it means: “the young girl who sits in the

cinders, the ashes.” Moreover, as the tale makes plain, before the glass slipper is placed on her foot, before the beautiful gown, ball, dance, and marriage, there must first be a period of sitting in the cinders, of being smudged, of being humbled, and of waiting while a proper joy and consummation are being prepared. In the story of Cinderella there is a theology of lent.

Native American traditions too have always had an important place for ashes. In some Aboriginal communities there was the concept that occasionally someone would have to spend time in the ashes. Nobody knew why a specific person was called at a particular moment to sit in the ashes, but everyone knew that this was natural thing, that ashes do an important work in the soul, and that sooner or later that person would return his or her regular life and be better for having spent time in the ashes. To offer one such example: Certain native communities used to live in what they called long-houses. A long-house was the communal building; in effect, the house for the whole community. A long-house was long, rectangular, with large sloping sides, and with the center of the roof open so that this could function as a natural chimney. Fires were kept burning, both for cooking and for warmth, all along the center of the long-house. People gathered there, near the fires, to cook, eat, and socialize, but they slept away from the fires, under the roofs that sloped down either side of the open center. Now, every so often, someone, a man or a woman, for reasons they didn't have to explain, would cease adhering to the normal routine. Instead he or she would, become silent, sit just off the fire in the ashes, eat very sparingly, not socialize, not go outside, not wash, not go to bed with the others, but simply sit in the cinders, like Cinderella. Today we would probably diagnose this as clinical depression and rush that person off for professional help. They, for their part, didn't panic. They saw this as perfectly normal, something everyone was called upon to do at one time or another. They simply let the person sit there, in the ashes, until one day he or she got up, washed the ashes off, and began again to live a regular life. The belief was that the ashes, that period of silent sitting, had done some important, unseen work inside of the person. You sat in the ashes for healing.

The church taps into this deep well of wisdom when it puts ashes on our foreheads at the beginning of lent. Lent is a season for each of us to sit in the ashes, to spend our time, like Cinderella, working and sitting among the cinders of the fire – grieving what we've done wrong, renouncing the dance, refraining from the banquet, refusing to do business as usual, waiting while some silent growth takes place within us, and simply being still so that the ashes can do their work in us.

PARISH NEWS....

TACO DINNER! Tuesday February 24th from 4:30-6:15 or when we sell out tacos, which ever comes first. TACOS are \$.75 and soda is \$.75. This event will be held in the Cafeteria at ICS. All proceeds will benefit Youth Ministry Activities. Volleyball game here that night vs. St. Theresa's!

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS FISH FRIES

March 6

March 20

April 3

We had a great crowd for the dedication of the **Fr. Steve Gira Memorial Library** and Mardi Gras and burning of the palms! Thank you! One of Fr. Steve Gira's favorite writers was Trappist Monk Thomas Merton...and Fr. Carl has visited his cell at Gethsemani...

My Lord God, I have no idea where I am going. I do not see the road ahead of me. I cannot know for certain where it will end. Nor do I really know myself... But I believe that the desire to please you does in fact please you. And I hope I have that desire in all that I am doing. Therefore I will trust you always though I may seem to be lost... I will not fear, for you are ever with me, and you will never leave me to face my perils alone.

—Thomas Merton

CARITAS FAMILY SOLUTIONS, formerly Catholic Social Service, is having their annual breakfast at the Heckerdome on Saturday, February 28. Free will offering for a great country breakfast and short

program. RSVP by Feb. 18 to Marge Francois at francois@accessus.net or 618-531-4483. Programs and services benefit Adoption, Counseling, Foster Care, and Pregnancy Care.

AFRICAN CHILDREN'S CHOIR March 9 7:00 PM No HW Night for those who attend



Special Intention A good friend of ICS needs some prayers for a good outcome from a recent test. He is nervous about it so pray for the best please!

Ron Drainer, Mrs. Schauster's Dad, had some hospital tests run yesterday but seems ok. Prayers please.

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

PS The Schema

Here oh Israel Jehovah our God is one Jehovah ; and thou shalt love Jehovah your God with all your heart and all your soul and all your might.

Mike Kish

Principal

Band Schedule Week of Feb. 23-27

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

