



Immaculate Conception School  
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 Tammy Hoeflinger, School Board President

**Celebrating 165 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.**

*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*



**REJOICE AND BE GLAD IN THE LORD!**

March 1, 2019

Bienvenido el parrochia!

V. 44 #35

Dear Parent,



**DINNER AUCTION** What a great time last Saturday night! We just might catch last year's profit total! We can only keep doing this because of THE COMMITTEE and THE GANG OF FIFTEEN! And then of course our DONORS, ATTENDEES, BIDDERS, AND SPONSORS! Thanks for HUMBLING me again! God is good and so are YOU! (And 17 teachers and staff at The Falls too!)



**ICS received First Place Team** at the St. Louis University High School Middle School Math Contest on Saturday, Feb. 23!  
 The annual contest for 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders featured both an individual and team component with 90 participants from 13 different St. Louis area grade schools. The 8<sup>th</sup> grade team of **Ben Haney, Emma Schmidt, Sydney Wahle and Tyler Wahle** won first place out of 27 teams in the team contest, while three of the students were also honored as being in the top ten students for the **individual contest- Tyler Wahle 8<sup>th</sup> place, Ben Haney 9<sup>th</sup> place, and Sydney Wahle 10<sup>th</sup> place.** Other ICS students participating were 7<sup>th</sup> graders Olivia Blaskiewicz, Jack Keeven, Gavin Kesler, Brock Murphy, Kyra Newton, and Drew Roche. The team is coached by math teacher Karen Weiler.



**SPEECH MEET** Thanks to Ms. Catie Taylor for putting it all together so well! It was a great morning! 48 students were here from 5 schools! Parents covered so much for us! Perfect- Allison Stark Maria Biske Layne Traxler Hope Schwartz Sadie Loless - 1<sup>st</sup> 2<sup>nd</sup>- Abby Eichenseer Aubry Thomas Avery Ellner Avery Herrmann Josie Thomas Hailey Wilkerson Summer Harrington

**WE WERE FANTASTIC AT THE ADJUDICATION** at the St. Louis Archdiocese Band Festival! What a delightful performance all the way around! Hats off to The Band and Mr. Matt Hake!



**TEAM QUEST TODAY** ICS Students in gr. 5-8 participated in a TeamQuest competition on Friday, March 1. The theme of the competition, provided by Adventures In Learning Team, was "Read All About It" and featured related movie, music and book trivia, two engineering challenges, a geography challenge using newspaper headlines and a math challenge. Students competed in 32 four-person teams. Congratulations to our winning teams!

First place: Maria Biske, Ava Hake, Owen Dill, and Layne Traxler.

Second place: Colin Mueth, Lily Barrett, Grant Monheiser, and Genevieve Nadziejko .

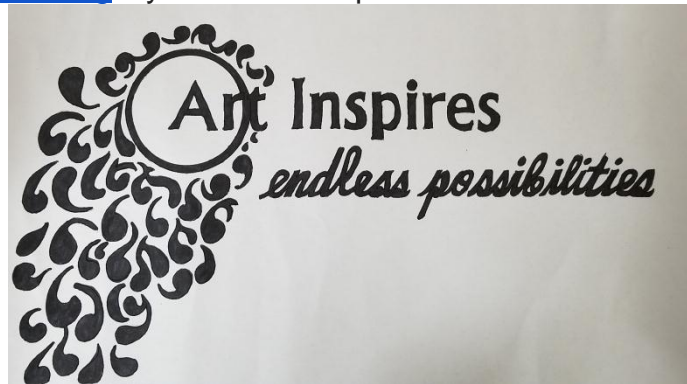
Third place: Emma Schmidt, Andrew Donjon, Vance Ray, and Hope Schwartz.



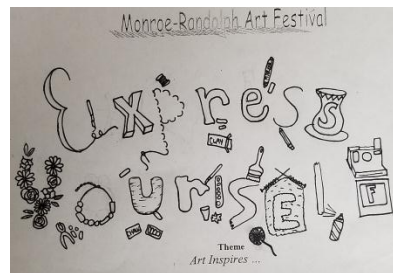
**IMMACULATE CONCEPTION SCHOOL WILL HOLD REGISTRATION** for Pre-School, Pre-K, Kindergarten and new students for all grades for the 2019-2020 school year on Sunday, March 17, 2019 from 10:00 am until 12:30 pm in the school cafeteria at the old campus. Parents should bring the child's baptismal certificate if not baptized at Immaculate Conception Parish and a stamped birth certificate. (We will make a copy, initial the copy, and return the original that day as per Illinois School Code.) If you are looking for small class sizes, more individual attention, better preparation for high school and college, student self-discipline, responsive teachers, administration, safety, world class field trips and assemblies and a new school--- all in a Christian environment, then find out how we've built "Mission-Community-Service...since 1853". Check us out at [www.icscolumbia.org](http://www.icscolumbia.org) . Questions? Need a personal tour? Can't make that date? Call ICS at 281-5353 or email Mike Kish at [mkish@icsmail.org](mailto:mkish@icsmail.org) or any ICS Parent!

**ART INSPIRES** is the theme of the ROE ART celebration **we are hosting on April 9.** In conjunction with this celebration is a Tee Shirt Design Contest. There were 30 entries from 4 schools and in the blind judging **Samantha Glasscock's** was chosen as the official contest tee shirt! Runners-up were Emma Tippen and Sydney Wahle! Congratulations to our artists! Samantha's design will appear on the Regional Art Contest T-Shirts.

T-shirts are sold for 10 dollars a piece, orders must be in by March 4, Tuesday. Email- [cfetcho@icsmail.org](mailto:cfetcho@icsmail.org) if you would like purchase.



Emma Tippen 2nd



Sydney Wahle 3rd

Mrs. Fetcho will need lots of help as we celebrate God smiling back at us through our creations! Pitch in please.

**Good luck in the annual Rosati-Kain Math Contest for 7th grade girls** tomorrow morning! Olivia Blaskiewicz, Briana Baldrige, Lindsay Harget, Kyra Newton, Allison Stark, and Aubrey Thompson. We compete to give opportunity, not promote where to go to high school. We've done well at R-K! Go Mathletes!

**Tornado Drill Tuesday.** We will practice here. Make sure you have a family plan on how to be safe at home!

**Box Tops Jeans Day is Tuesday, March 5<sup>th</sup>!** Any student who turned in at least 50 box tops can participate (including their family members) and all students in Mrs. Weiler's homeroom class.

**THE FATHERS CLUB TEXAS HOLD'EM** Lay your cards on the table! Friday, March 15, 6:30 doors open, 7:30 start. Tickets at Khoury Pharmacy. See the flyer last week!

**CHESS MEETS-** Mar. 23 - St. Clare, O'Fallon March 30 - Diocesan HERE –  
**ICSCHESS PRACTICES** - 3:00-4:00 Grades 2 and 3 - March 12 and 26  
Grades 4 through 8- March 5, March 19

**CASIMIR PULASKI FUN-RAISER ON MARCH 4TH!** NO SCHOOL in honor of the great Polish cavalry hero who died at the Battle of Savannah. (Chicago is the second largest Polish city in the world----we are a nation of immigrants!) SOOOOOO...

**Nerf Fight and Arcade day at PowerHaus sports!**

8719 Hanover Industrial Dr, Columbia, IL 62236

March 4th 1-3pm. \$10 (\$5 will go to ICS) per kid. For wristband to play all arcade games and play in the Nerf arena! Kids bring their own nerf guns and PowerHaus supplies the standard size nerf ammo and goggles. All kids and adults welcome to play! There will be a waiver for parents to sign when they bring kids. Snack bar will also be open for hungry gamers! Thanks to Amanda Buhr!

**ICS NEWS...** <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SeOgNAokXRM>



**Heroes in front and heroes in back!** The second grade class of Immaculate Conception School made their annual visit to Integrity Healthcare of Columbia on February 26. The biography parade featured Michael Jackson, Leonard Da Vinci, Amelia Earhart, and Princess Di among others. Students sang, related on their biography, passed out cards, and were reminded that the residents are our heroes for building America!

**THE SPORTING NEWS...**



**Consolation Champs! 6<sup>th</sup> grade girls volleyball at Queen of Peace!**

**Auditions for Hello Dolly** will be held for students, grades 2-8, on Monday, March 4th at 5:30PM in the Gibault auditorium. Please direct any questions to MaryBeth Babcock ([actorsattic@gmail.com](mailto:actorsattic@gmail.com))

**GIBAULT HIGH SCHOOL NEWS:**

**FRESHMAN REGISTRATION** for the incoming class of 2023 is Monday, March 11 and Wednesday, March 13. All incoming freshman with applications on file at Gibault have

been mailed information on the registration process. Contact Becky Ramlose ([bramlose@gibaulthawks.com](mailto:bramlose@gibaulthawks.com)) to schedule an appointment and Pat Herzing ([pherzing@gibaulthawks.com](mailto:pherzing@gibaulthawks.com)) with any questions.

**SCHOLARSHIPS** - application packages/ variable tuition instructions for freshmen have been mailed. If you have not received one, please contact Pat Herzing ([pherzing@gibaulthawks.com](mailto:pherzing@gibaulthawks.com))

**Be a Gibault Hawk for a day!** Middle school students who want to check out high school life at Gibault are invited to shadow a current student. Contact Pat Herzing to schedule a visit. ([pherzing@gibaulthawks.com](mailto:pherzing@gibaulthawks.com))

**Calling all girls, grades 3-8** Join GCHS girls' soccer players in a mini camp session April 17, AND at the home game vs. Althoff on April 20<sup>th</sup>; youth players walk on the field with GCHS starters! For more details, and to register online, visit the following link: <https://goo.gl/forms/T9ruMQccgebozV5r2>  
Contact Lauren Stepp ([lstepp@gibaulthawks.com](mailto:lstepp@gibaulthawks.com)) for questions.

**CHILDREN'S CHOIR** will sing at the 9:00 Mass on March 3rd. Praise the Lord! Also, I have asked the choir to sing in the choir section when ICS celebrates Ash Wednesday Mass at the big church this Wednesday. When they arrive at church that morning they can join me by the piano. We will NOT have choir practice next week, March 6th. Thank you!! Mrs. Lundy

**Joey Krebel's Memorial Tree** blew over Saturday night. Joey died from a Wilms's tumor as a second grader. He will be remembered in our new Memorial Prayer Garden. He would have been in the Class of '98. We will miss the "snow blossoms".



**CEAC Rich Southard and Tom Swip** have coordinated wiring pulls of over 7 miles for our new facility. Thousands in in-kind savings for us as we build! In the end, you need to call THE TERMINATORS as they install plugs. Thanks to so many for so much!



Tuesday night **Fr. Steve Humphrey**, pastor here from 1993-2000 fell down some stairs. He is now at Barnes recovering after a nearly 5 hour surgery fusing 3 vertebrae and repairing a broken nose. Please keep him in your prayers. We hope he gets out of the ICU today.

**PRAYERS: Special Intention** Danielle Dorlac, Fr. Steve Humphrey, Sharon Nealon, Jim Edgar, Tom Johns, Pat Morr, Charlie Stockes, George Perry, Angela Roepke, Joyce LaPrade, Jan Hoffmann, Bill West, Jennifer Nesser, Bill Anderson, Patrick Kish, Owen Jordan, Patti Rottler, Mike Taylor, Richard Prater, Donna Kania, Libby LoPorto, Lindsey Herbeck, Judy Gundlach

**MO MO CHALLENGE** Parents are supposed to be like shamans. You are supposed to know where the poison is and where it is safe to drink. Several parents have brought up warnings about the Mo Mo Challenge on YouTube. If your child isn't online, good. If they are, be aware of the poison. Don't share with those who don't need to know and alert those who have been exposed. Be a shaman!

**THIS SUNDAY'S READINGS:** Both Sirach and Luke talk about trees this weekend. God speaks to us right where we are for many had to clean up downed trees from last weekend's storm. **Sirach:** *The fruit of a tree shows the care it has had; so too does one's speech disclose the bent of one's mind.* **Luke:** *"A good tree does not bear rotten fruit, nor does a rotten tree bear good fruit. For every tree is known by its own fruit. For people do not pick figs from thorn bushes, nor do they gather grapes from brambles.*

You can make so many references in human life to trees. Where's your tap root? Knots in the wood are like knots in life. From a little acorn grows the mighty oak. Climb a tree like Zachaeus to see better. When should you plant a tree? (The day before you move in.) Don't dig a 5 dollar hole for a 10 dollar tree! Bloom where you are planted! The Class of 2019 heads to DC via Gettysburg where we will see the Witness Tree. We will also see trees George Washington had planted at Mt. Vernon. Joey's tree always yielded snow blossoms upon maturity...and every year we rejoiced! Jesus spoke in stories and analogies so we can understand. Come and hear the Good News and get ready for the start of LENT, the spring time of the Church!

*Mike Kish*

Principal  
Come and get it!

PS **MAGAZINE DRIVE PROFIT CHECK SENT \$1,167.20!** Over \$7,000 back so far!  
PS Prayers for a safe DC trip please for the Class of 2019!



**Franciscan priest recognized for ministry to those in prison**

Dismas Award given posthumously to Father Christian Reuter, who died in 2018. **Fr. Christian Reuter** "was always getting into trouble growing up," said his brother, Paul. "He liked to buck the system."

Paul Reuter reflected on his brother at St. Anthony of Padua Church in south St. Louis at a prayer service and presentation of the first Dismas

Award, given posthumously to his brother, a priest of the Franciscan province based in St. Louis. The province accepted the award on behalf of Father Reuter from the national Dismas Ministry, which serves prisoners with free Catholic Scripture, faith and prayer resources. Father Reuter died June 30 at age 79 following complications from back surgery.

The Reuter boys and their sister, Roselyn Simila, grew up in St. George Parish in Affton and attended the parish school. The family had several relatives on both parents' side who were Franciscan priests and visited St. Anthony Parish often, so it was no surprise when Christian Reuter entered the seminary. They beamed with pride when he was ordained a Franciscan priest in 1966 and when he served as a teacher, counselor and principal at Hales Franciscan High School in Chicago, which has a mission of educating African-American males, and as pastor of two African-American congregations in Chicago.

Their joy continued when Father Reuter was one of three Franciscans assigned to the Belleville, Ill., Diocese in 2002 to establish a Franciscan presence in East St. Louis, Ill. Bishop Wilton Gregory appointed him to direct prison ministry for the diocese. His role was to coordinate services in 12 prisons and other jails, said Franciscan Father Carroll Mizicko, pastor of St. Augustine Parish in East St. Louis. At the time, only three or four priests and a few other volunteers visited prisons in the diocese, "and by the time he died, over 50 priests, deacons and laypeople worked in prison ministry in the diocese," Father Mizicko said.

Father Reuter, with help from retired Bishop Stanley G. Schlarman of Dodge City, Kan., and Bishop Edward K. Braxton of Belleville, began [Our Brother's Keepers](#), a re-entry project to assist returning citizens when they leave prisons, a ministry that thrives today.

At the award ceremony, Franciscan Father Tom Nairn, provincial minister, recalled that during their last visit together in the hospital, Father Reuter spoke with the sister of a man who was imprisoned and followed through on a promise to contact someone to visit her brother. "His ministry was based on love," Father Nairn said, "a love that lets all know that they have light and need the light to shine, that they have dignity as sons and daughters of God, that they are precious in the sight of God."

Ron Zeilinger of Dismas Ministry said that when people in prison understand they are a child of God, they grasp that they can begin a new life. Father Reuter, he said, "remains a driving force" for reform of the criminal justice system.

As a young priest of the 1960s, Father Reuter was involved in the Civil Rights movement. When the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. came to Chicago, it was widely reported that the priest drove a truck that the Civil Rights leader used to deliver his speeches and experienced bricks being thrown at them from people opposed to the message of justice and equality for all.

***Brian Nelson, who spent 12 years in solitary confinement at Tamms SuperMax Prison, told the Belleville Messenger of the many times Father Chris came to see him and the other inmates. "He walked into that ugly, depressing and terrifying place, but treated all men of faith and those without faith as human beings guided by the caring hand of God as a beacon of light to wash away evil and oppression," Nelson said.***

**Our Brothers' Keepers**

- A Christian faith-based organization that is dedicated to the full integration of formerly incarcerated persons into the St. Clair County, Ill., community.
- Assists with re-entry services, including supportive housing, life and career skills, and counseling services
- Grew out of the dreams of prison ministers in the Catholic Diocese of Belleville, Ill. After several years of experience inside the prisons of southern Illinois and with an ever-increasing awareness of parolees' recidivism, they concluded that action needed to be taken to help the released avoid returning to prison as well.
- For information, visit [www.obkministry.org](http://www.obkministry.org) or call (618) 482-5570.