



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!

March fourth, 2016

V. 41 #36



Dear Parent, Guardian, Student, Teacher, Friend,

AND THE ACADEMIC SUCCESS CONTINUES!



Spencer Biske won the District and State DAR Essay contest and **James Ramette** medaled at the IESA State Chess Championship with 15th place of 156 players. James went 5-2 in the two day nerve-wracking competition!



ALTHOFF SCIENCE CHALLENGE 2nd place out of 16 teams for ICS 6th grade girls **Autumn Ramey, Paula Boser, Adelynn Murphy, and Holly Repp Holly Repp**. Also competing:- Noah Newton, Collin Schmidt, Jordan Smugala, Jacob Whitworth, Emma Melliere, Allie Shuler, Joe Soetaert, and Emma Tippen. On March 8, our 7th graders compete. Good luck to: Eli Garcia, Kalia Jerkatis, James Ramette, Nik Traiteur, and Dominic Dalpoas. The theme this year is Aquatic Adventures. Activities include boat building, trivia, urinalysis, and testing water samples. Thanks Mr. K for coaching!

HOW YOU GONNA KEEP 'EM, DOWN ON THE FARM, NOW THAT THEY'VE SEEN PAREE?

This WW I "doughboy" song (thank you George M. I think), always reminds me of new experiences. They change us. Going to Washington, D.C., changes us. The world gets smaller. Myths and urban legends are debunked. And the tour director gusts up to 600 words per minute he is so excited. Trip #31 is all set to go. Say a prayer that we have accommodating weather, good health, and well-behaved chaperons! We'll be praying for you from the Basilica of the Immaculate Conception on Sunday! The smell of the flowers from Justice Scalia will still be wafting through the air. Time to be transfigured! Time to hear the Parable of the Forgiving Father. **Thanks to our chaperons** who made this possible and especially the founders of this trip, Barry and Marge Krizan! Everything comes from somewhere.

Diocesan Chess Meet: The ICS chess team will compete in the final meet of the season this Saturday at **Blessed Sacrament in Belleville**. Registration begins at 8:00 and the first round starts promptly at 9:00. Please email Mrs. Herrmann if you need a ride. We are looking forward to a strong finish to a fantastic season!

And since you are in Belleville, either run over to see our 7th grade girls who beat St Clare tonight and will play for championship on Saturday at 1215 at St. Teresa. Or---head over to Holy Trinity and see our 5th grade girls play for the championship at 11:30! Go girls!

GOOD LUCK TO OUR MATH TEAM headed to Cor Jesus tomorrow---Saturday, March 5! Special thanks to our parents for transport!

Jessica Lambert, Katie Grawitch, Autumn Ramey, Adelynn Murphy,
Paula Boser, Ally Curry, Allie Shuler, Emma Blaskiewicz, Jacqie Gogolek, Georgia Sasser

SCHOLASTIC BOWL Our Scholastic Bowl Team has had a great start to the season. After winning the Mater Dei tournament they have continued to find success. The varsity has a 24-4 record. The Junior Varsity team has a 8-7 record. Spencer Biske leads the toss ups with 67. Kaylum Furlow (64), Ben Traxler(54) , Hannah Jansen(47) and James Ramette(42) round out the top five.

ICS FATHERS CLUB TEXAS HOLD'EM We still cleared about \$2100 on a busy community fundraising night with action at the Legion and Turner Hall. Also, if you're in Merz on Main, thank Steve and Linda for being so generous, basically charging us nothing for the food. We really appreciate it. Lots of good fellowship that night! Thanks to Devin Dalpoas and the Fathers Club! We build church by getting together but this is one night you hold your own hand!

COUNSELOR'S CORNER As many of you know, I work as a school counselor here at ICS and also at Sr. Thea Bowman School in East St. Louis. This year, I am so fortunate to be working with Pastor Derek Bastian, who is also a counselor. Together we are doing group therapy for our 6-8th grade boys. Our group is called "Boys to Men."

There are so many wonderful things happening in this group. I feel that any and every kid could benefit from the ideas that are happening in this group. We discuss respect and love of self, the importance of your given name, just to name a few. We currently are discussing this concept:

Watch your thoughts, they become words;
watch your words, they become actions;
watch your actions they become habits;
watch your habits, they become character;
Watch your character, for it becomes your destiny.

So often in church, it is the homilies for the children that teach me the most. So here we are teaching children the above concept and again I am aware at how many of us can benefit from this concept.
Karen Lundy, ICS School Counselor, The Teaching Never Stops

BUILDERS CLUB MOCK GENERAL PRIMARY Results: Green Party Ballot: no ballots taken

For President of the United States:

Republican Ballot:	Democratic Ballot:
27 Donald Trump	11 Bernie Sanders
12 Marco Rubio	6 Hillary Clinton
12 Ted Cruz	
4 Ben Carson---2 Chris Christie-----1 Jeb Bush---1 John Kasich	

For United States Senator:

45 Mark Kirk	7 Tammy Duckworth
13 James Marter	3 Andrea Zopp
---	3 Napoleon Harris

For Comptroller:

53 Leslie Munger	13 Susan Mendoza
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For Representative in congress 12th Congressional District:

57 Michael Bost	12 Charles C.J. Baricevic
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For State Senator 58th Legislative Dist.:

31 Paul Schimpf	6 Sheila Simon
22 Shirley Langenstein	---

For Representative in the General Assembly 112th Dist.:

---	11 Jerry Costello II
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For Circuit Clerk:

53 Lisa Fallon	12 Sandra Sauget
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For State's Attorney:

36 Chris Hitzemann	6 Heather Dabler
17 Myron Hanna	5 Dennis Field

For County Coroner:

32 Bob Hill	12 Cassy Goldschmidt
23 Wayne Kohlmeier	----

For County Commissioner:

37 Mark Altadonna	11 Leo Stephan
19 Vicki Koerber	---

Proposition on sales tax of 1% to be used exclusively for schools:

26 Yes	9 yes
28 No	2 no

Thanks to Spencer Biske, Mary Wessel, Jane Whelan, and Charlie Soetaert for chairing!



Dr. Don and Jeanine Unwin donated the Mercy Quilt back to us. It was designed by Michelle McGill and quilted by her Mom Jeanette Melliere. Holding the quilt prior to displaying are Jeanette's grandchildren Eve and Emma Melliere and posing are Marissa, Riley, and Anna McGill, Avery Melliere and Elliott and Oliver Unwin. The word Mercy holds the words to the school theme song "Open the Doors of Mercy" by Karen Lundy. Grade 2 circles the entrance to our Church doors.

St. Raymond's \$103.51 Thank you! This will be turned into quetzals—named after the most beautiful bird in Central America.

35th ANNUAL MAGAZINE DRIVE Order online anytime! www.gaschoolstore.com I.D. 2710556 \$298.27(\$4800 to date) just came in from Reachout sales!!! CATHOLIC EDUCATION AND ACTIVITY CENTER!

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 consecrate the Holy Eucharist
- We conduct many parish family events

KC Fish Fry next Friday March 11 and March 26

ON THE NEAR HORIZON:

Reconciliation: March 6 for the Parish and 16 for school.

Confirmation Retreat on March 4 The Bishop has been hitting the corporal and spiritual works of mercy and Beatitudes hard so be advised!

Living Stations--- March 18---led by our 8th Grade---a very spiritual experience!

Registration March 20 10:00-12:30 in the school cafeteria. Sign-up for pre-screening for Kindergarten will be April 13 and April 20 in the school gym.

Chrism Mass Our Confirmation Class will be in attendance at the Cathedral on March 22.

THANKS to Wells Fargo(and the donor) for a \$470 Matching Gift!

THANKS for a maintenance donation of \$231.00---helps fix the things here I break!

THE SPORTING NEWS... CONGRATULATIONS again to Bryce Pautler on hitting 22 of 25 free throws at the KC Free Throw Regional to tie, tying again, and then hitting 5 of 5 advance to State at Chatham Illinois on April 9.!

TRACK NEWS! Track practice will begin on Wednesday, March 16th at 5pm at IC Church on the upper parking lot.

The first few practices will be at church until the Columbia High School track becomes available. Practice and meet schedules will be posted to the Athletics website later this month. Start running now and get ready! Parents, please have your runners bring a water bottle to all practices and make sure that they have decent shoes to run in. Any questions, contact Coach Tom Prindiville at tomprindiville@yahoo.com or [314-707-0186](tel:314-707-0186).

ICS 5k & Kids Fun Run... Saturday March 19th @Immaculate Conception Church

Check-in: 8:15am Garden Level Run Kick-off: 9:00am ~Registration forms available at icscolumbia.org

1st and 2nd Place Class Prizes for the child who brings in the most pledges for the Kids Fun Run!

Family Fun Fair following the run with food, refreshments, and games available for purchase!

Questions contact: Holly (h_blaskiewicz@yahoo.com 314-707-1046) or Kim (kim@kimschwartz.net)

TEACHER UPDATE: Mrs. Emily Meyer is expected back after the birth of Dominic Maximus Meyer on December 23. Our thanks to Kelsey Dinges for a masterful job filling in! Ms. Dinges will be here to sub next week a few days. Mrs. Karen Weiler is getting her father Geroge settled in out in Phoenix and should be back Tuesday. Mrs. Tiffany Taylor is scheduled to be back on April 4. Our subs have been a blessing and have worked hard to maintain "business as usual" so the academic show can go on!

SUMMER MUSICAL IN A WEEK: Mrs. Babcock has announced the camp dates for this year's Actors' Attic Summer Musical in a Week. Things will kick off with the middle school students (going into grades 6-8) putting up *Annie Jr.*, with performance dates of June 9-10 (camp June 3-9). Then the high school students (going into grades 9-12) will launch *Legally Blonde Jr.* on June 16-17 (camp June 10-16). And the camp season ends with the grade school students (going into grades 1-5) putting up *A Year With Frog & Toad* on June 23-24 (camp June 17-23). All camps take place at the Gibault Catholic High School auditorium. See the attachments for details, and email actorsattic@gmail.com with questions.

MEETINGS TO DISCUSS SALES TAX INCREASE VOTE FOR COUNTY SCHOOLS

A sales tax increase to raise funds for county school districts will appear on the March 15 Primary Election ballot. Monroe County voters will be asked this question: Shall a retailers' occupation tax and a service occupation tax ("sales tax") be imposed in the County of Monroe at a rate of 1% to be used exclusively for school facility purposes?

Currently, schools rely on a portion of citizens' property taxes, as well as state funding, to fund their budgets. With state funding being reduced because of budgetary shortfalls, county schools are fiscally tightening their belts. To help offset the state shortfalls, the school districts are asking voters to pay additional sales tax.

Public meetings to discuss this referendum have been set on the following dates and locations:

Valmeyer School Grade School Gym / Cafeteria: March 8, at 7 p.m.

Waterloo High School Auditorium: March 7, at 6:30 p.m.

Columbia School District Office (Parkview Elementary): March 9, at 7 p.m.

Good schools make good neighbors. Be an informed citizen and vote!

SPPS Catholic School Men's Club Euchre Tourney 4-1-16 See attachment last week...and knock!

GIBAULT WILL HOLD THEIR ANNUAL MATH CONTEST for all students in Gr. 6-8 on Thurs, March 17 from 3:30-5:45. Registration is in front lobby from 3:30-3:45 and awards are in the auditorium at 5:30. We love to take as many students as possible to Gibault for this contest, so please mark your

calendars and join the team! The contest is open to all Gr. 6-8. Mrs. Weiler has a signup sheet in her classroom at school. Since the contest is right after school, we will need parents to help carpool students from ICS to Gibault. Please let Mrs. Weiler (kweiler@icsmail.org) know if you are able to help with driving extra students. She will remain at Gibault during the contest, so parents do not have to be present during the contest.

Gibault Catholic has registration for incoming Freshman on **March 14 and 16**. Call Becky Ramlose (939-3883) to set up your appointment. Welcome GCHS Class of 2020!

GLO BINGO The Gibault Catholic High School Men's Club is hosting a Glo Bingo for players 18 years of age or older on Friday, March 18th in Gibault's Hustedde Gymnasium. \$1,000 in cash prizes. Drinks available for sale. Bring your own snacks. Doors open at 6:00 pm---bingo begins at 7:30 pm. Tickets are \$20 advance and \$25 at the door. Tickets---Kermit Constantine at [618-340-3322](tel:618-340-3322), Rick Schmidt at [618-410-1827](tel:618-410-1827) or the Gibault school office at [939-3883](tel:939-3883). All proceeds will go to support Gibault Catholic High School improvements.

PARISH NEWS... Hello Families,

February is the month for love. God is love.

Each of us, whatever our state in life, are in the world for a purpose --- to receive God's love ourselves and to show God's love to others.

Communicate and celebrate your love to your children by completing the Family project for this month. With love, Knights of Columbus family Committee see the attachment from last week...

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-Isabella Frasure-Will Scholl-Abby Eichenseer-Zoe Swip-Emma Farris-Ava Blaskiewicz.-Allison Stark-Emily Everett-Sadie Loless-Lacie Hausmann-Noah Chism-Ariel Adams-Malia Schaffer-Maria Biske-Dan Stewart

Lindsay Hargett's Aunt **Denise Hickman** died suddenly Tuesday of a heart attack. She is Andrea's sister. God's peace to her and her family. These are difficult times to get through.

Prayer Request: Please keep my Mom, Virginia Slattery, in your prayers. Thank you! God's Peace, Nancy and Tom Braun

Logan Lopez, Kaylee Eichenseer's little brother, needs our prayers. Breathing problems and a rough time. Thanks for thinking of him and the family.

PRAYERS: Logan Lopez, Virginia Slattery, Angie Rose, Ken Bolton, George Perry, Adriana 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**

NO SCHOOL ON MONDAY in honor of Casimir Pulaski, Polish Catholic cavalry man and aid to George Washington(a legend out there he once saved his life). He was killed at the Battle of Savannah. Chicago is the second largest Polish city in the world---thus we honor Pulaski!

AN UNDERSTANDING OF THE PRODIGAL SON I have always struggled with this one. Some of my pastors have explained that it is about the merciful Father, not the prodigal son. Some have said it is about the elder brother's resentment. You can go through your whole life trying hard to do what is

right, to be the elder brother or sister, to be a “pleaser”, never understanding that you do “enough”. Guilt and anxiety about not showing up for every event or work day stress you out and cause anxiety. I guess my real sin is not accepting that the compassion the merciful Father has for the errant brother is the same as He has for me. And “*everything I have is already yours*” He tells me. So often in life I forget “*who I am and Whose I am*”. That’s what sin is. If I remember “who I am and Whose I am”, I would make better choices and be merciful and be less anxious. I simply need to not take responsibility for everything as the elder brother and share in the banquet for the lost sheep-who-came-home. Pray for us here and we will pray for you in DC! Hooray for the prodigal son---for whatever reason---he came home!

MIKE KISH

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

Ps KC Fish Fry on March 11 and 25.

Ps Feeling down, blue, or just want to have a better second half of Lent? Our Parish Reconciliation will be this Sunday at 3:00 at our Church. Come and feel the love of the Merciful Father!

Ps KC Blood Drive... Sunday, March 13, 8 a.m.-1p.m. in the Garden Level. In the spirit of Lent, make a sacrifice of a pint of blood to give someone else the gift of life.

Ps Parish Work Day Saturday, Mar. 12, from 8a.m. -12 noon. All volunteers are welcome.

Band Schedule Week of March 7-11

Monday

No School in honor of Casimir Pulaski

Tuesday

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

8:55-9:25 5th Clarinet

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

9:55-10:35 6th-8th Trumpet

11:05-11:35 4th Trumpet

11:35-12:05 4th Saxophone

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 5th Saxophone

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

9:55-10:35 6th-8th Percussion

11:05-11:35 4th Percussion

11:35-12:05 4th Low Brass

Friday

8:05-8:35 5th Percussion

8:35-9:05 5th Trumpet

9:05-9:35 5th Low Brass

10:35-11:05 Jazz Band Sectionals

11:05-11:35 Smart Music Lab