



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"

April 1, 2015

V. 40 #44

Dear Parent, Guardian, Student, Teacher, Friend,

THE TRIDUUM (Holy Thursday, Good Friday, Holy Saturday)

Morning Prayer at the New Church: Thursday & Friday at 8am and Saturday at 9am;

Holy Thursday, April 2: Mass of the Lord's Supper 7pm, New Church. Our Elect and Called will process in carrying the newly blessed Oils of the Sick, the Catechumens and the Sacred Chrism. Celebrate the Last Supper and the humbling experience of the washing of the feet in our unique and moving way: wash and be washed. Eucharistic Adoration: The liturgy concludes with a Eucharistic Procession to the Reservation Chapel- all are invited to stay and pray before the Blessed Sacrament. The church will be open for prayer till 11pm.

Good Friday, April 3: (a day of fasting and abstinence): **Noon Ecumenical Service:** take a symbolic walk from City Hall to our church on Main St. on the day that Jesus walked to Calvary. Inside the church a 30-minute inter-faith service will be held. **Service of the Lord's Passion 7pm, New Church:** This moving service includes Adoration of the Cross carried by our youth, the reading of the Passion from St. John and the reception of Holy Communion from the Reserved Eucharist of Holy Thursday.

Holy Saturday, April 4: the Vigil of the Lord's Resurrection, 7:30pm. The Easter Vigil is the Mass of Masses within the Church Year, beginning with the Lighting of the Fire in church. Our Elect will be Baptized, Confirmed and receive First Eucharist. Our Called will complete their Christian Initiation with the celebrations of Confirmation and First Eucharist.

Easter Sunday, He is Risen! Masses at 7am, 9am and 11am. This is our exuberant celebration! The great culmination of the suffering that Jesus endured for us, and we are joyful! Come enjoy the celebration of the fullness of Easter!

If Easter says anything to us today, it says this: **You can put truth in a grave, but it won't stay there. You can nail it to a cross, wrap it in winding sheets and shut it up in a tomb, but it will rise!** Clarence W. Hall

A BIG THANK YOU TO OUR ELECT AND CANDIDATES! It is humbling that you have chosen to join us in following Jesus the Christ! May your faith journey continue for your lifetime and inspire us!

Elect: **John Langhans, Brittany Krebel and Steve Wilson**

Candidates: **Ken Mohr, Peter Ingold, Jason Moore and Jacob Flick**



BUILDING THE CHURCH OF THE FUTURE Thanks to all who discerned!.. 6 girls, 6 boys, the Spirit did well as we begin what was started way back in 1846! First meeting is April 9. **Committee:**

Mike Whelan
George Johns
Chris Schorb Schmoll
Teresa Dorshorst
Lori Doerr alternate

Mary Schroeder
Steven Braun
Desi Frasure
Shari Murphy

Chris Newman
Michael Conrad, Jr.
Lisa Main Haubrich
Brian Boyd

PARISH COUNCIL/SCHOOL BOARD DISCERNMENT You meet fellow parishioners every day that would make great contributions to leadership in our school and parish. Please encourage them! We need 4 new members for the Board and Parish Council. The Discernment task will be a joint venture this year. These are exciting times for our parish and school. Please help! Here are the dates:
Bulletin/3 minutes more presentations - April 12th Masses
Discernment Meeting - April 22nd Discernment Names Pulled - May 9th at 5 pm Mass

DISTRICT BAND CONCERT Boy did we sound good last Saturday at Triad MS! It is hard to get two people to agree on anything but try to get 3! We had **TWO First Superiors** with identical scores of 38 and then a 32 for a First. It takes 3 to get a First Superior but we do advance to State and can pull it off there. Congratulations to our Band and Mr. Hake! Let's bring it home on April 25!



ILLINOIS MATH LEAGUE The results are in and congratulations are due to the 7th and 8th grade teams on their overall ranking in the League and in our seven county region of St. Clair, Madison, Monroe, Champaign, Sangamon, Vermillion and Macon Counties! The team score is comprised of the top 5 scores from each grade level. The 8th grade team of **John Adams, Thomas Young, Jack Sainz, Mason Babcock, and Lucas Herrmann** was **26th place in the State** and **4th place team in our region of 72 schools**. The 7th grade team was **tied for 30th place in the State** and **3rd place in the seven county region** of 75 schools! **Spencer Biske** was honored individually as the **second place individual in the region** and **tied for 30th overall in State**. The 7th grade team was comprised of **Spencer Biske, Maggie Schulte, Ben Traxler, Ben Lambert, and one score was taken from a five way tie with Kaylum Furlow, Rob Guetterman, Ryan Gallagher, Mary Wessel, and Nick Prindiville**.



Monroe County Farm Bureau Coloring and Poster contest winners. Anna Haubrich, Maria Biske, Genevieve Nadziejko, Avery Herrmann. Congratulations! DQ dilly bars!

GOLDEN SPATULA AWARD Congratulations to **Grade 3** for leading the way in the cafeteria! You make us proud!

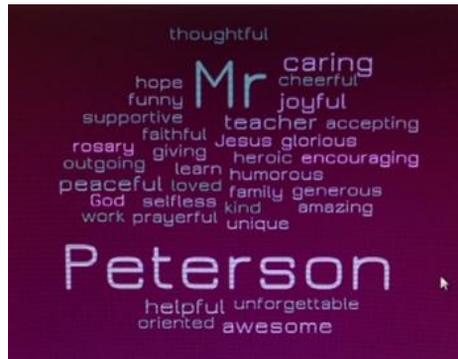
The Avalon Community has set up a GoFundMe account in Russ Peterson's name. Here is an easy way to help his family: It is called the Russ trust and it is active! Thank you so much!

<http://www.gofundme.com/p9bry8> **AFRICAN SAFARI TRIVIA NIGHT** by "friends of Russ" held at ICS on April 20. See the attachment last week!

THANKS TO THE CLASS OF 2015 for the inspiring Living Stations last week. Mr. Kassebaum, Mrs. Babcock, and Mrs. Whelan helped to make it special. Thanks for helping us pray during Lent!

KC FISH FRY Good Friday--- April 3 4:00 ---7:00 ICS cafeteria

K Word-Cloud



LUMEN CHRISTI AWARD NOMINATION – YOUR VOTE NEEDED NOW!

Diane Sonneman, Director of Catholic Urban Programs' Griffin Center, has been nominated for Catholic Extension's 2015 Lumen Christi Award. Now in its 38th year, the Lumen Christi Award is presented to an individual whose service spreads the light of Christ and transforms their community and beyond. If Diane is selected as a finalist, Griffin Center will receive a \$10,000 award; should she be selected for the award, there is a \$50,000 award.

Please visit Catholic Extension's website – www.catholicextension.org – or the Catholic Extension Facebook page and cast your vote for Diane today. Please also pass this information on to family, friends and others you feel might assist. Let's be the first mission diocese to be home to three Lumen Christi Award winners (Joe Hubbard and Sister Ann Connelly, A.S.C., were previous winners of this most prestigious award). *I have known Diane for over 30 years. Her work rivals that of the humble giants in the Church like Mother Theresa, Dorothy Day, St. Francis Xavier Cabrini and even our Holy Father. We help her through the Griffin Center Christmas Gift program through the Builders Club, Valentine supplies, school supplies, donations, and prayer. Diane once told me "sometimes I want to sit down and just pray that all these good ideas will go away" but then she remembers they are from the Spirit and flies into action.* It is easy for you to vote. We have a very small diocese. Please take the time to honor her and the good work she is doing for the children that need her so desperately in finding hope in their lives.

REGISTRATION We are looking to spread the Gospel! Please send us your friends and neighbors!

Spring Pictures are on Wednesday, April 8, 2015.

This year we will be offering the option of have siblings photographed together in addition to all of the students being photographed individually. If you would like to have a sibling shot taken, send **Bev Epplin an e-mail or call her with your children's names so that they will be put on a list for sibling pictures.** Online proofing and ordering will take place the following week. Once the photos are uploaded to the proofing site, you will receive an e-mail with instructions on where to go and how to order. Option of ordering online or contacting Keeven Photography for other payment options.

Spring Picture day volunteers. Please contact Pam Keeven, pam@martykeeven.com or [314-773-3587](tel:314-773-3587) to volunteer. Volunteers receive two, 8x10 units, at no charge for helping.

PARENTS AND FRIENDS YARD SALE APRIL 18 Would you like to have a yard sale and get rid of stuff but don't live in town? Parents and Friends has the solution! We will be renting spots on the school parking lot on Saturday, April 18th, during Columbia's City Wide Yard Sale Event. Help Parents and Friends out by cleaning out your house and make some extra cash for yourself. 14 x 14 ft spot for \$10. [See attached form last week for more information and to register.](#)

Counselor's Corner March 2015

I am stepping outside the box a bit to speak about a way to help your children that you may not have considered. ICC parish, as you may well know, offers a retreat program called ACTS. The next ladies retreat is April 30-May 3 and the Men's retreat is June 11-14th. A decision to attend this retreat can have far-reaching impact that will no doubt benefit you, your spouse, your children and your community. The ACTS retreat is adult faith formation. You are already committed to providing your child with his/her own faith formation, but what about your own? Consider that all you are and how you grow spiritually will only enhance the deepening in faith of those you love. I cannot think of a more positive mental health intervention.

Karen Lundy, ICS School Counselor

The teaching never stops

THE SPORTING NEWS...

"Soccer Made Simple" Instructional Camp will be returning to Columbia, IL this summer. The camp will cater to both boys & girls who are entering grades K-8th in the fall of 2015.

About the Camp . . . The **"Soccer Made Simple"** instructional camp is designed to help ALL kids learn and enjoy the game of soccer. Whether it should be a young beginner or a more experienced youth player, the camp is designed to teach the game in a fun and age-appropriate environment. Parents are invited to come out to watch and learn more about youth soccer education. All attending will find out just how **"Simple"** it can be to help kids enjoy this GREAT GAME!

About the Director . . . Dave Fernandez is the camp director. He is nationally recognized for his ability to teach and demonstrate soccer skills and techniques to aspiring young players of all ages. He has been a director of player development and youth soccer coach for 29 years. As an educator of the game, he has been called upon repeatedly to share his dynamic teaching methods and ball skill ability. His unique way of grabbing the attention of kids is second to none.

Camp information . . .When: July 13th-16th, 2015 (Friday, July 17th will be used as a make-up date in case of a rainout during the week)

Where: Oerter Soccer Park (on route 3 in Columbia, IL)

Time: 5:30pm-7:00pm (K-3rd graders) 7:15pm-8:45pm (4th-8th graders) **Refers to grade entering in fall 2015**

Cost: \$65.00 (Includes camp T-shirt)

Please fill out the information below and mail it in with full payment made out to: Soccer Made Simple,

5706

Beefwood Ct., St. Louis, MO 63129

Volleyball season ending stats are coming. Please launder and get your uniforms in to Mrs. Whelan this week!

From Dynamic Catholic:

"The world says you will be most fully alive when you get what you want, but it's not true. In your lifetime you will encounter hundreds of people who are obsessed with getting what they want, but getting what they want won't make them happy. The reason is profoundly simple: You never can get enough of what you don't really need."

COMMUNITY NEWS...

THE GERMAN EXCHANGE STUDENTS ARE COMING TO ICS ON APRIL 13! Thanks to Mrs. Cheryl Tolan for working out our schedule. Willkommen! 12th bi-annual trip for Andreas Heuser and the students from our Sister-City of Gedern!

CAMP ONDESSONK Hit the website www.ondessonk.com. Be sure and get registered early so you get the dates you want for a great summer experience!

The Fox Performing Arts Charitable Foundation has awarded the Monroe Actors Stage Company(MASC) a grant for summer camps. Two camps available for High School and Middle School. \$25 enrollment fee for both camps. See Mrs. Epplin for a flyer.

PARISH NEWS.... CONFIRMATION IS BACK to May 20 at 7:00 pm.

KC FISH FRY Good Friday--- April 3 4:00 ---7:00 ICS cafeteria

Archbishop Blase Cupich has asked for the Vicars General of the suffragen dioceses of the Province of Chicago receive for their bishop and the diocese the attached media advisory,

BELL RINGING ON APRIL 9, 2015 TO COMMEMORATE THE END OF THE CIVIL WAR AND THE END TO SLAVERY

On April 9, 2015, our nation will mark the 150th anniversary of the surrender ceremony at the Appomattox Court House, which came to symbolize the beginning of reconciliation throughout the United States for a nation torn apart by civil war. The terms of General Lee's surrender were intentionally lenient as President Abraham Lincoln wanted to demonstrate to people in the South that they had a place in America. Confederate troops were paroled, allowed to keep their side-arms, their horses and their possessions and urged to return to their homes.

150 years later as we commemorate this event, we all can benefit from the words with which President Lincoln concluded his second inaugural address just weeks before the war ended:

With malice toward none; with charity for all; with firmness in the right, as God gives us to see the right, let us strive on to finish the work we are in; to bind up the nation's wounds; to care for him who shall have borne the battle, and for his widow, and his orphan—to do all which may achieve and cherish, a just and a lasting peace, among ourselves, and with all nations.

With a sense of respect for those who have labored these many years to act on President Lincoln's vision and with a profound sense of hope for the future, we, the Catholic Bishops of Illinois, having met at our annual spring meeting, call on all of our parishes, schools and religious houses in this Land of Lincoln to ring their bells at 2:15 p.m. CDT on April 9, for four minutes. This will be done to coincide with the very hour of the ceremony at Appomattox, leading to the end of the four-year Civil War and to an end to slavery in the United States, which came in December of that year with the ratification of the 13th amendment. We invite all citizens at the ringing of the bells to pause and say a prayer for our nation in the spirit of President Lincoln's inspiring words.

At ICS, we've been thinking about commemorating the 15th, the day Lincoln died. We spend a lot of time talking about him in school, more than 600 schools nation-wide named after him and over 200 American towns and cities. ANY IDEAS???

THE FIRST COMMUNION RETREAT IS THE SATURDAY AFTER EASTER. The photos are the second Saturday after Easter. The First Communion is the Second Sunday after Easter.

April 11 Retreat - 9:00-noon at church child and one parent

April 18 Photos and Practice - 9:00am at church

April 19 First Communion 11:00am Mass children arrive by 10:40am to the Fellowship Hall---Garden Level. There will be a cost of @\$25.00 for materials being used at the retreat. The group photo is mandatory. Professional individual photos are available. There will be opportunities for parents to take photos throughout the church.

OUR CONDOLENCES Paul Dunn, Allyse Broske's grandpa (Kerry, Lon, Alec, Abby), passed away yesterday. We were expecting it so it's not a shock but more of a blessing that he is no longer suffering. Arrangements will be made after Holy Week. There is no good time of year to die but the Hope of the Resurrection is surely with us now!

PRAYERS: Ava Blaskiewicz(hearing), Molly Hake(ankle surgery), Caroline Keefe, Karen Juengling, Bill Pennock, Zac Epplin, Becca Hangel, Erin McKean, Patty Juengling, Marian Keim, Dan Whelan, Edward Pelker, Pat Weber, Ed Hengel, Josh Ritter, Vince Webb, George Stein, Desiree Frasure, Special Intention

A Happy and Blessed and Spiritually Transforming Triduum to all!

Mike Kish
Principal

PS *The body of Christ that dies on the cross is all of us. The body of Christ that is raised from the dead to new life is all of us. Our solidarity in suffering becomes our shared resurrection.*
PS KC FISH FRY Good Friday--- April 3 4:00 ---7:00 ICS cafeteria
PS RICE BOWLS---please turn them into the office or to Church. Another of Russ's tasks.

Band Schedule

Holy Thursday Easter Break

Good Friday Easter Break KC FISH FRY April 3 4:00-7:00

Band Schedule Week April 6-10

Easter Monday Easter Break

Tuesday

7:15-7:55 **Jazz Band**

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

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

9:55-10:35 5th Clarinet

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 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

SHE DID WHAT SHE COULD...Last Sunday's Gospel told the story of a nameless person who poured oil on Jesus in preparation for what was to come. She represented us. Bishop Braxton, at the Chrism Mass, spoke of four people who did what they could---Archbishop Oscar Romero in El Salvador, Flannery O'Connor, Collette Kennett, and Russ Peterson. Here is another...

MARY UNDER THE CROSS REV. RON ROLHEISER, OMI

[Last in a six part Lenten series on Mystical Images]

One of the most popular images in all of scripture (an icon that's been endlessly painted, sung, put into litanies, written up into poetry, and used to triggered every kind of pious feeling) is the image of Mary, the mother of Jesus, standing silently under the cross as her son dies.

As Jesus was dying, the Gospels tell us that Mary, his mother, stood under the cross. What's in that image? What's in this picture that invites us to more than simple admiration, piety, or sympathy?

This is a mystical image and it is anything but pious. In the Gospels, after Jesus, Mary is the most important person to watch. She's the model of discipleship, the only one who gets it right. And she gets it very right under the cross. What's she doing while standing there?

On the surface, it seems she isn't doing anything at all: She doesn't speak, doesn't try to stop the crucifixion, and she doesn't even protest its unfairness or plead Jesus' innocence. She is mute, seemingly passive, overtly doing nothing. But at a deeper level, she is doing all that can be done when one is standing under the weight of the cross, she's holding the tension, standing in strength, refusing to give back in kind, and resisting in a deeper way.

What's meant by this?

Sometimes well-intentioned artists have painted Mary as lying prostrate under the cross, the wounded mother, helplessly distraught, paralysed in grief, an object for sympathy. But that doesn't honour what happened there nor teach its lesson. Prostration, in this situation, is weakness, collapse, hysteria, resignation. In the Gospels, "standing" is the opposite, a position of strength. Mary "stood" under the cross.

Still, why the silence and why her seeming unwillingness to act or protest?

In essence, what Mary was doing under the cross was this: She couldn't stop the crucifixion (there are times when darkness has its hour) but she could stop some of the hatred, bitterness, jealousy, heartlessness, and anger that caused it and surrounded it. And she helped stop bitterness by refusing to give it back in kind, by transforming rather than transmitting it, by swallowing hard and (literally) eating bitterness rather than giving it back, as everyone else was doing.

Had Mary, in moral outrage, begun to scream hysterically, shout angrily at those crucifying Jesus, or physically tried to attack someone as he was driving the nails into Jesus' hands, she would have been caught up in the same kind of energy as everyone else, replicating the very anger and bitterness that caused the crucifixion to begin with. What Mary was doing under the cross, her silence and seeming unwillingness to protest notwithstanding, was radiating all that is antithetical to the crucifixion: gentleness, understanding, forgiveness, peace, light.

And that's not easy to do. Everything inside us demands justice, screams for it, and refuses to remain silent in the presence of injustice. That's a healthy instinct and sometimes acting on it is good. We need, at times, to protest, to shout, to literally throw ourselves into the face of injustice and do everything in our power to stop the crucifixion.

But there are times too when things have gone so far that shouts and protests are no longer helpful, darkness is going to have its hour come what may and all we can do is to stand under the cross and help eat its bitterness by refusing to participate in its energy. In those situations, like Mary, we have to say: “I can’t stop this crucifixion, but I can stop some of the hatred, bitterness, jealousy, brute-heartlessness, and darkness that surround it. I can’t stop this, but I will not conduct its hatred.”

And that’s not the same thing as despair. Our muted helplessness is not a passive resignation but the opposite. It’s a movement towards the only rays of light, love, and faith that still exist in that darkness and hatred. And, at that moment, it’s the only thing that faith and love can do.

As the Book of Lamentations says, there are times when the best we can do is “put our mouths to the dust and wait!” Sometimes too, as Rainer Marie Rilke says, the only helpful thing is to absorb the heaviness: “Do not be afraid to suffer, give the heaviness back to the weight of the earth; mountains are heavy, seas are heavy.”

That’s not passivity, resignation, or weakness; it’s genuine, rare strength. It’s “standing under the cross” so as to help take away some of its hatred, chaos, bitterness, and violence.

So this is the image: Sometimes darkness has its hour and there is nothing we can do to stop it. Sometimes the blind, wounded forces of jealousy, bitterness, violence, and sin cannot, for that moment, be stopped. But, like Mary under the cross, we are asked to “stand” under them, not in passivity and weakness, but in strength, knowing that we can’t stop the crucifixion but we can help stop some of the hatred, anger, and bitterness that surrounds it.

