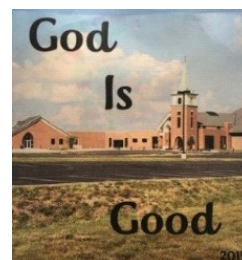




Immaculate Conception School
409 Palmer Rd.
Columbia, Illinois 62236
Michael L. Kish, Principal
(618) 281-5353 mkish@icsmail.org
Tammy Hoeflinger, School Board President

Celebrating 166 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.



April 3, 2020
V. 45 #40

"God is good!"
Bienvenido el parrochia!

Dear Parents, Guardians, and Friends,

BIGG NEWS...Archdiocese of Chicago Priest Reverend Michael G. McGovern Appointed Bishop of the Diocese of Belleville, Illinois

Bishop-elect McGovern will succeed Bishop Edward K. Braxton as Ordinary Bishop of Belleville.

Chicago, Ill. (April 3, 2020) – Pope Francis today announced that he has named Father Michael G. McGovern, a priest of the Archdiocese of Chicago, as the Bishop of the Catholic Diocese of Belleville, Illinois. Pope Francis also announced that he had accepted the resignation of Bishop Edward K. Braxton, who was installed as the Bishop of Belleville in 2005. Bishop-elect McGovern, 55, is expected to begin his ministry in the Diocese of Belleville later this year. Read more at bottom...

BY ORDER OF GOVERNOR PRITZKER, school will be remote learning days till at least April 30. We will keep you apprised of any changes.

CLASS OF 2020 FEEDBACK--- Comments during the "Act of God" days:

I think my teachers are doing great! I really like how it's going and I am grateful that ICS has the opportunity to do e-learning so we don't have to make up a ton of days at the end of the school year. – Lindsay Harget

The way our school's teachers are managing the whole process is very productive in my opinion. Some other schools in the state are not even doing any homework or schooling which puts them extremely far behind, but with ICS we are being extremely productive and keeping everybody up to date on what we need to be learning. – Gavin Kesler

It has forced us to develop better time management skills. – Bryce Raby

I think the teachers have been doing a good job with e-learning and spacing work out for us. Overall, I do like online learning and I like working at my own pace. I think that this gives us a little peek at what highschool and college to be like. – Ling Pace

I think that the teachers are doing a very good job of keeping up with the assignments and trying to do their best for us. – Allison Stark

COMMENTS DURING ELEARNING DAYS from the Principal: What I have heard has been really positive. Struggles come mainly from both parents working and not enough time to become parent-teacher for the younger students. Please do not fret over this.

Teachers will be compassionate as long as you reach out and work with them. Jon Gordon of “The Energy Bus” fame reminds us we need to embrace the change. Our “curse of experience” makes us long for what was. What was is over. Get a rookie mindset as you enter this new era. Go for great growth, not just growth. Setting your bar high will get you moving out of your comfort zone. What you believe is what you will create. There is an ocean of possibility out there and we will never be the same once we get through this.

3 Realizations of Remote Teaching

- 1. Students still need structure**
- 2. It requires a different playbook**
- 3. It might be outside your comfort zone**

AND each class has a private Facebook group setup where you can congregate with other parents, ask questions of them, relate to them, and bond. Use this as a resource. It's a great tool. If you currently aren't in your class group reach out to P&F or your home room parent for assistance to get added. Most groups are named, “ICS Class of 20XX”. Many teachers are on these pages and I ask them to assist where they can. Remember:

Be Kind and Courteous. We're all in this together to create a welcoming environment. ...

No Hate Speech or Bullying. Make sure everyone feels safe. ...

No Promotions or Spam.

Respect Everyone's Privacy.

ZOOM WARS We are currently evaluating Zoom vs. Google Meet as a delivery system. Both have weaknesses. Zoom has more but seems to be tightening that up quickly due to national and FBI attention. Please try to work with us as we work through this. We are tightening up our settings for both. Evil is always lurking and this is an opportunity for them for which we must be vigilant.

If your household is running out of bandwidth, Columbia Bolm-Schuhkraft Park has free WiFi access thanks to HTC.

This is one of the best sources of info I have heard so far:

Alanna Shaikh: Why COVID-19 is hitting us now -- and how to prepare for the next outbreak. <https://go.ted.com/6Fk4>

MEMPHIS We will miss our trip this school year but the Class of 2020 has been and 2021 and 2022 should stop by the National Civil Rights Museum and view the last 8 days of Dr. Martin Luther King's life. 1968---from the assassination of MLK, LBJ's decision not to run for re-election, and the assassination of RFK, and even the death of Thomas Merton, O.P. rocked our nation.

LIVESTREAM - A SPECIAL SMALL BUT MIGHTY STORYTIME

04.04.2020 • 10:00AM CDT • WITH MUSEUM EDUCATOR, DORY LERNER

<https://www.civilrightsmuseum.org/remembering-mlk-timeline#>

THE CREATIVITY IS THRIVING!



Easton



Zoe



Ian and Zoe

NEW STUDENT REGISTRATION continues at Immaculate Conception School. Please call the office at 281-5353 or email Mrs. Epplin and she will get you started. We can do this through Option C, our student information system.

MASS THIS WEEKEND: Fr. Carl is back for Palm Sunday. This pandemic will doubtless have a lasting effect on the church, but it is worth recalling Timothy Radcliffe's observation that, for Catholicism, crisis is *la spécialité de la maison*, "the specialty of the house."

Remember, we are a community, not an audience. Watching from home should raise a yearning in our hearts to be together for the Liturgy.

Cloisters, monasteries, cabin-fever, going to the cave, the desert---we year for our freedom and individualism but the current solution is a routine, an "ora et labora" (pray and work) approach---offer everything up you do to God as a prayer---God's giant "etch-a-sketch" will shake out our infractions during the day as we work to get better each day.

LINK FOR LIVE STREAMED LITURGIES AT IC:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC8Qrck7-lpPOOcA9UQ2qRqQ/>

The financial impact of the coronavirus is devastating to everyone, including your parish. As a matter of justice, during this time of "Shelter in Place," we continue to pay all our employees at Immaculate Conception. We appreciate all who continue to practice generous stewardship of treasure, and urge you to continue your on-line giving or giving through the stewardship of treasure envelopes you receive monthly in the mail. Your stewardship envelopes can be mailed to the parish office at 411 Palmer Rd, Columbia, IL 62236. If anyone in our parish needs any financial assistance during this time of crisis, please contact me at 618:541-9008, and I will see that you receive the assistance you need, all in complete confidentiality.

FIRST EUCHARIST is now planned for June 14.

CONFIRMATION is planned for Monday, June 22 at 7:00.

GRADS IN THE NEWS...Congratulations to **Lexi Hennes**(ICS '16) on receiving the Archbishop John May Award for Service! Lexi attends Nerinx Hall High School and she is a "Marker". Lexi is the daughter of Lori and Kevin Hennes of our parish.

WHO WANTS TO WIN A BASKET? The women's club at Immaculate Conception has some wonderful baskets that you can win. The average value of the baskets are \$70 a piece! Our members worked hard on these baskets and due to the current shelter in place, we are only able to sell the chances online. I attached pictures of all eight baskets - Cardinals Basket, Spa Basket, Eckert's Basket, Spring Basket, D'Italia Basket, Turtle Mania Basket, Baby Basket and Light of My Life Basket.

If you are interested in purchasing raffle tickets, the prices are: \$1 for one ticket, 6 for \$5, and 15 for \$10. You can message me your order and I will fill out your tickets for you. jarandle30@yahoo.com You can send your money to Joyce Randle at 315 Armin Circle, Columbia, IL. 62236 Winners will be announced on April 19th.

Thank you for helping us support the Masses at Immaculate Conception. Our ministry provides hosts, wine, candles and other important altar items. We couldn't do this without your support! Joyce Randle

Author Fr. Jacques Philippe teaches us about trust in his book "Fire & Light" when he says:

"To the extent we have riches or place our trust in security and human support, we can't really practice hope, which consists in counting on God alone. God sometimes permits us to go through trials, the loss of some of our security, even lamentable falls, in order that we learn in the end to count on nothing but Him and His mercy. Peter is a good example: he had to fall, denying Christ during his Passion, in order to learn not to lean on his own virtues, his own courage, the momentum of human enthusiasm, but only on the love of Jesus."

ARE YOU BEING CALLED TO SERVE?

We are currently collecting names to be drawn for new School Board and Pastoral Council members on 5/2.

What's involved in serving on the School Board?

- ◆ Serve as an advisory group to support the Principal and Pastor in developing and implementing school policies.
- ◆ Meet 3rd Tuesday of the month, 3 year term beginning in June

What's involved in serving on the Pastoral Council?

- ◆ Serve to recommend policy to the Pastor for parish spiritual, educational and financial matters.
- ◆ Meet 4th Tuesday of the month, 3 year term beginning in June

Please **prayerfully** consider **placing your name in the discernment box** for School Board or Pastoral Council (located in the gathering space in the back of Church). New members will be drawn from the boxes at the end of the 5PM Mass on May 2nd. If you have any questions or want to **submit your name via email**, you may contact Toby Ellner at 618.615.2868 or toby.ellner@gmail.com regarding School Board or Lauren Powers at 314.402.8009 or L1POWERS@yahoo.com regarding Pastoral Council.

A Semblance of Normalcy---School uniform fitting from Catholic Supply: Because of the "Stay Home" order currently in place, we have moved the remainder of the March and April fittings to online orders. Our current suppliers do have inventory in stock and are shipping goods, however, their factories have closed due to the virus and are they uncertain when they will be able to reopen. We would like to get any orders in with our suppliers sooner rather than later. We have lowered the amount to qualify for free shipping and we have dock pick-up. Our retail store is closed while the 'Stay Home' order remains in place. See the attached flyer from last week!

Seth Conner is back in the hospital. Turn up the prayers please!

PRAYERS: Special Intention Glyn Raeber, Mike Drone, Lindsay White, Marge Krizan, George Perry, Seth Conner, Geraldine McCoy, Kathy Neal, Logan Eichenseer, Patrick Kish, Danielle Dorlac, Marian Wickersham, Lauren Darr, Ashley Burris, Tom Keeven Sr., Ed Schaefer, Dan Hoeflinger, Libby LoPorto, Tom Giovanni, Dion Scherr Miller, Donna Kania, Owen Jordan, Anthony Hendricks, Mark Fiore, Shawn Eichoff, Charlie Stockes, Angela Roepke, Jan Hoffmann, Bill West, Jennifer Nesser, Tom Kish, Patti Rottler, Mike Taylor

PALM SUNDAY Holy Week is upon us! If we don't die with Him, how can we rise with Him? Please jump in on our online liturgies and don't let "another Sunday or Liturgy apart" depress you. Easter will come for us but we have to go through a crisis first. Jesus enters Jerusalem at the peak of His pre-crisis movement. The elation He felt must have been tempered by what He knew lay before Him. Join in the Hosanna! As hard as it is, join in the crowd that will encourage his death during the Passion. On Good Friday, to mourn is human. To remember is holy! And then let's run to the Tomb on Easter Sunday morning! Our journey awaits!

Mike Kish
Principal

Archdiocese of Chicago Priest Reverend Michael G. McGovern Appointed Bishop of the Diocese of Belleville, Illinois

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Chicago, Ill. (April 3, 2020) – Pope Francis today announced that he has named Father Michael G. McGovern, a priest of the Archdiocese of Chicago, as the Bishop of the Catholic Diocese of Belleville, Illinois. Pope Francis also announced that he had accepted the resignation of Bishop Edward K. Braxton, who was installed as the Bishop of Belleville in 2005. Bishop-elect McGovern, 55, is expected to begin his ministry in the Diocese of Belleville later this year.

"We congratulate Bishop-elect Michael McGovern on his appointment to the diocese of Belleville," said Cardinal Blase J. Cupich, archbishop of Chicago. "He has served the People of God and the Church with humility and distinction for more than 27 years. We are confident he will be a strong and compassionate leader for the Belleville diocese, and we look forward to working with him."

Bishop-elect McGovern, a native of Evergreen Park, Illinois attended Christ the King Grammar School and St. Ignatius College Prep, both in Chicago. He graduated from Loyola University Chicago in 1986, and from St. Mary of the Lake Seminary in Mundelein, Ill., earning an S.T.B in 1993 and a M.Div. in 1994. He was ordained to the priesthood on May 21, 1994 at Holy Name Cathedral in Chicago.

Bishop-elect McGovern has had several parish assignments including as Resident at Immaculate Conception Parish, Highland Park, and at St. Clement Parish and Holy Name Cathedral, both in Chicago. He was Associate Pastor at St. Juliana Parish and Queen of the Universe Parish, both in Chicago and at St. Mary Parish, Lake Forest and Pastor at St. Mary Parish, Lake Forest and St. Raphael the Archangel, Old Mill Creek.

Bishop-elect McGovern has served the archdiocese as Secretary of the Archdiocesan Incardination Committee, Associate and Vice Chancellor, Archbishop's Delegate for Lay Ecclesial Movements, Archbishop's Delegate for Extern and International Priests and as the Co-Chair of the Chicago Priest Convocation. He has been a member of the Archdiocese Presbyteral

Council, a Dean in two Vicariate I Deaneries and a Member of the College of Consultors. He served on the Pastor Advisory Committee for the To Teach Who Christ Is Campaign and as member of the Priests' Placement Board. He has served as the Interim Episcopal Vicar for Vicariate I since the 2019 appointment of then-Auxiliary Bishop Alberto Rojas as the Bishop of the Diocese of San Bernardino, California.

Bishop-elect McGovern served as a Member of the Board of Trustees of St. Ignatius College Prep and is a Member Equestrian Order of the Holy Sepulchre of Jerusalem.

REMARKS OF BISHOP-ELECT MICHAEL MCGOVERN NINTH BISHOP OF BELLEVILLE

Dear Friends,

I am honored and humbled that today our Holy Father Pope Francis has appointed me the ninth Bishop of the Diocese of Belleville. I thank the Holy Father for the confidence he has placed in me and want to express my abiding respect and full support of him, who as the successor of Peter preserves the unity of love in the Church.

Since receiving news of this appointment a week ago, I have been praying each day for Bishop Edward Braxton and I thank him for his fifteen years of dedicated service to the Diocese of Belleville. I have been praying as well each day for the clergy, religious and lay faithful of the diocese. You are very much in prayer as I offer daily Mass.

Last May, when I celebrated my 25th anniversary as a priest with family, friends and classmates, I was filled with gratitude for God's blessings in my life as a priest. Little did I know that as I experienced the renewal of the Lord's call as a priest a year ago, that it was a grace-filled prelude to God's call to serve his people now as a bishop, shepherding the Catholic clergy and faithful of southern Illinois.

As the news of this appointment is shared, some of you may be asking: what is our new bishop like? Who are you? I would answer and describe myself as a pastor, a shepherd. Within my 26 years as a priest, I have been the pastor of two parishes communities in Lake County: St. Mary in Lake Forest and now St. Raphael the Archangel in Old Mill Creek, a rural community close to the Wisconsin border.

While I have served in archdiocesan ministries, I love being a pastor most of all; being a pastor has been the most rewarding and challenging ministry of my priesthood. It has been a great privilege meeting and praying with so many faith-filled people, who have inspired me with their deep commitment to Jesus Christ. Now I look forward to meeting the many faith-filled people of the 28 counties in southern Illinois; hearing your stories of how you have encountered Jesus in your lives and how much the Lord has done for you. May I ask for your prayers as I begin this new way of serving in Christ's name as the shepherd of your diocese.

Permit me to offer a word to the priests who serve in the Belleville Diocese. First and foremost, I thank you from the bottom of my heart for saying yes to our Lord Jesus' call to follow him and serve his people as priests. Today I pledge to you my constant support as I strive to be a father and a brother to you. I have always appreciated that whenever I requested that my archbishop speak with me, that I have received his time, attention and counsel. I am especially grateful to my present Archbishop Cardinal Cupich for his support these past six years. Please know, my brother priests, that I am here for you and look forward to knowing you all better as we set out into a future filled with hope in the years ahead.

I share your disappointment that due to the coronavirus we cannot be in person together today, for I would very much enjoy meeting the clergy, religious women and men, seminarians and the faithful. It is also a bit unsettling that we cannot yet set a date for my ordination and installation because no one really knows precisely when it will be safe for us to gather together for the ordination and installation liturgy. I appreciate your patience and pledge that we will make arrangements as soon as possible. In the meantime, I will be connecting with many priests and people via the phone and the internet. I thank Bishop Edward Braxton for his warm welcome as his successor and for the conversations we have had leading up to today's announcement. I look forward to more opportunities for me to engage soon with the various leaders of the Diocese.

This Sunday is Palm Sunday. We will walk again this year with Jesus Christ through Holy Week and enter into the mysteries of his passion, death and resurrection. My friends, let us walk together in spirit, even if our precautions about the coronavirus inhibit us from participating in the sacred liturgies in person.

On Good Friday as our Lord was dying on the cross, Jesus invited the Apostle John to receive the Virgin Mary as his mother; and so from that hour John received Mary into his home. As we begin this Holy Week, a week when the mysteries of our Catholic faith will be celebrated with our families in the domestic church, may we too receive the Blessed Mother into our homes. May Mary, Mother of the Church, keep us close to her Son. Please know that you are all in my heart this Holy Week and in the years ahead. God bless you all.

About the Archdiocese of Chicago

The Archdiocese of Chicago, the third largest in the United States, serves more than 2.2 million Catholics in 316 parishes in Cook and Lake Counties, a geographic area of 1,411 square miles. The archdiocese, pastored by Cardinal Blase J. Cupich, has more than 15,000 employees in its systems and ministries, including Catholic Charities, the region's largest nonprofit social service agency. The archdiocese also has one of the country's largest seminaries. The archdiocese's 205 elementary and secondary schools comprise one of the largest U.S. private school systems. It has garnered more U.S. Department of Education Blue Ribbon Awards than any system of any type. For more information on the Archdiocese of Chicago's Catholic schools, visit schools.archchicago.org.

CONTACT:

Susan Thomas

Archdiocese of Chicago stthomas@archchicago.org 312.534.8318

KEEP A LOG OF WHAT YOU ARE DOING!

Mrs. Lundy encourages you to SURPRISE that is a new skill you worked on?

US!!

Can you be inspired to learn something new or do something over this next 2 weeks Surprise us!

Join the Surprise Project!

Let us know what you are working on, which can be any of the following or your own idea:

1. I am following a daily routine that keeps my skills sharp and helps me stay current with my classes.

-AND/OR-

2. I am developing new/different study skills (tell us what has changed).

-AND/OR-

3. I am learning the new skill of _____ (cooking, cleaning (_____), laundry to help around the house.

-AND/OR-

4. I am practicing my instrument every day for _____ minutes

-AND/OR-

5. I am exercising every day this way: (give examples)

-AND/OR _____ for this many minutes_____.

6. Did you learn about someone who lived with a challenging situation and inspired you?

-AND/OR _____

7. Surprise us with your own ideas.

We are excited to hear from you! We will be looking for someone with the most unique new skill. All who submit a "surprise" skill will be publicly acknowledged.

The class with the most participants can win it's own dress down day.

The class with the most unique "surprise" can win a choice of pizza party or ice cream party for their class.