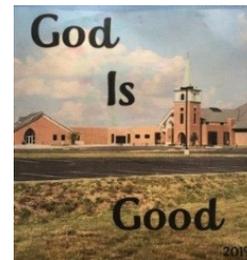




Immaculate Conception School  
409 Palmer Rd.  
Columbia, Illinois 62236  
Michael L. Kish, Principal  
(618) 281-5353 [mkish@icsmail.org](mailto:mkish@icsmail.org)  
Tammy Hoeflinger, School Board President

**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 17, 2020

Bienvenido el parrochia!

V. 45 #42

**Dear Parents, Guardians, and Friends,**



**NEW BISHOP MICHAEL McGOVERN** will be the 9<sup>th</sup> Bishop of our Diocese upon ordination and installation on a future date. Prior to be named a Diocese in 1887, Southern Illinois was under the Diocese of Alton and Bishop Peter Baltes, one of our former traveling priests! 4 German heritage bishops, 2 Black heritage bishops, and 3 Irish heritage bishops have headed our Diocese. We ask God's blessing on Bishop-elect McGovern and our retiring Bishop Edward Braxton.

### **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.

New members will be drawn from the boxes at the end of the **5PM Mass on May 2nd**.

If you have any questions or **to submit your name via email, text or voicemail...**

regarding **School Board Nominations** contact...

Toby Ellner at 618.615.2868 or [toby.ellner@gmail.com](mailto:toby.ellner@gmail.com) or Leave a message at Immaculate Conception School at 618.281.5353

regarding **Pastoral Council Nominations** contact...

Lauren Powers at 314.402.8009 or [L1POWERS@yahoo.com](mailto:L1POWERS@yahoo.com) or Leave a message at Immaculate Conception Church at 618.281.5105

**A SINCERE THANK YOU** for all the kind words, art work, songs, poems, prayers, cards, and laughs for my 71 <sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub> celebration this week. My warranty hasn't expired yet so on we go. God is always throwing me a bone and this old dog still chases them! When I count my blessings, I think of you!

**eLearning updates:** We have not had an extension of the stay at home order from the Governor yet but eLearning is working except for a handful of individual cases where a chrome book was knocked off the table by a dog or both parents in the medical field are so swamped it has been hard to manage their children's deadlines. I have had the joy of attending several classes and have had no complaints from our faculty who keep finding a way to get it done. Learning is alive and well. Our teachers and students are getting better for all this and we will never be the same when we go back. Compassion will rule but you still need to be a worker bee during this time, self included! Picking up the daily readings from usccb.org has been a morning ritual for me and God continues to speak to us right where we are! Today it is fish for breakfast--from a catch of 153 large ones! Today is also the feast of St. Drogo, patron saint of coffeehouses. My coffee always comes with the Morning Offering Prayer each day. Coffee starts my prayer day and my busy day!

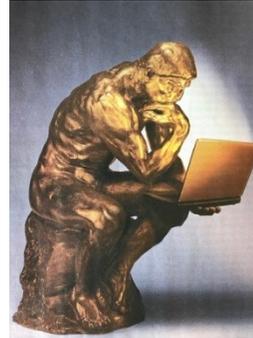
Here are a couple comments from A. Nonymous parents to Mrs. Taylor and Mrs. Schauster this morning:

*Thank you both very much for the weekly Zoom meetings! ??? so looks forward to the meetings and it is one of the rare times he smiles during the day. I also want to thank you for being reasonable with the work you assign each week. It is challenging without being overwhelming. You guys are the best! – A. Nonymous*

*That was really such a fun zoom to watch. You are both doing such a great job with this e-learning. Thank you!! It's actually been really nice to be so in touch with what ???'s learning. J I hope you both have wonderful weekends! – A. Nonymous*

AND: ??? told her Mom when she tucked her in, "Mom, you know like 'home sick'? I'm 'school sick'."

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



**Time on your hands to think. Be The Thinker on these thoughts:**

When Mom died and we parceled out the heirlooms, I acquired an NCR 1905 cash register that had been repaired the day before my Mom was born in 1924. Since it cannot talk, I am not sure how Dad picked it up but it was probably his first business machine for *Al's Cleaners* here in Columbia. It has a respected place in my office to remind me that "time is money". It caught Joel Sommer 's eye one day when he stopped in to chat about the Fathers Club. I had no idea what I had or how intricate it was. Joel later brought in a key and showed me the security behind it and the counters inside. I had no idea! But what a parallel with the Lord being the key to what goes on in the depth of our lives. People without a belief system to fall back on regard life as being only what you can see. They don't realize that with the key, there is a depth that can help you understand a lot better and be safer than you ever knew how. It is the story of someone's life, while being content and pleasing, (just as I was content and pleased with my really cool cash register reminding me that "time is money"), however someone can come along (Joel/Jesus) and gave you the key which answered my curiosity and brought greater happiness. Jesus is the key! **So ponder this:**

According to the historical record, after Jesus' death on the cross and his subsequent burial in the tomb of Joseph of Arimathaea, he appeared alive to more than 500 people, on twelve (12) separate occasions. All but one of the appearances (the appearance to Paul aka Saul) occurred within the first 40 day period following Jesus' crucifixion and resurrection. Jesus also appeared to at least two skeptics, James the Just and Paul aka Saul. On all twelve (12) occasions Jesus was seen and he was probably heard. Jesus offered for his body to be touched at least three times and he was definitely touched twice. Jesus showed witnesses the scars from his crucifixion on two occasions and ate food with his disciples 3 – 4 times (like breakfast fish today on the shore). Since the Gospels were written some 30-40 years after Jesus died (once they realized he wasn't coming back tomorrow and they better write it all down), our first account of all this is from St. Paul in 1 Corinthians. So hit [www.usccb.org](http://www.usccb.org) for the daily readings and count the sightings of our Resurrected Lord, the ultimate winner, who beat death itself!

**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.

**THANK YOU** choosing to partner with us in the education of your children, and for your continued stewardship!

If you have been negatively impacted financially by this situation, please contact us to discuss options. We do not want any student/family to be harmed because of these uncontrollable circumstances, and we will do everything we can to help you.

**FIRST EUCHARIST** planned for Sunday, June 14.  
**CONFIRMATION** planned for Monday, June 22 at 7:00.

### **CRUSADERS' TEACHER SPOTLIGHT**

At ICS our children are led each day by some of the best teachers in the country. Their talents, background and community involvement, along with their phenomenal education, bring an addition to the classroom that sets ICS apart from other schools. This month's Crusaders' Teacher Spotlight goes to one of our wonderful fifth grade teachers, **Mrs. Jen Schauster**. Please click [here](#) to learn more about this fabulous ICS teacher! Thank you, Mrs. Schauster, for all you do for the students at ICS!

**JAMESTOWN REDISCOVERY** is a cool sight and I hope you can hit these early native American and colonial games for fun in the back yard. [Here is the link](#)

### **From Magnus Health via Mrs. Karen Lundy:**

Here at Magnus Health, we are fortunate to work with hundreds of schools in an effort to improve student health. While the COVID-19 pandemic has affected everyone, it is amazing how quickly the staff at every school has come together to continue their operations from home!

As a result of the coronavirus outbreak, many of our client schools are providing informative resources to their families to help them cope during the quarantine. We have collected a list of some of the best content we've found, in case it's something you'd like to share.

- [The Coronavirus disease \(COVID-19\) Pandemic](#) – WHO Updates
- [How to Talk to Your Anxious Child About the Coronavirus](#)
- [Talking to Kids About the Coronavirus](#)
- [Helping Children Cope With Changes Resulting From COVID-19](#)
- [Supporting Individuals with Autism through Uncertain Times](#)
- [How to answer the many coronavirus questions that children have and helping them cope](#)
- [12 Famous Museums Offer Virtual Video Tours](#)
- [53 Things to Do at Home](#) - Recommended by the Hopkins School students
- [Middle School Art resources](#)
- [10 strategies for online learning during a coronavirus outbreak](#)
- [How K-12 Schools Manage Prospective Students, Enrollment, and Student Health During COVID-19](#)
- [Best Ways to Reduce Stress and Anxiety while Coping with COVID-19](#)

We have published an extensive COVID-19 resource list for schools on [our website](#). Please don't hesitate to reach out to us if you have any questions or if there is anything Magnus can do to help you or Immaculate Conception!

Wishing you good health and perseverance as you navigate through these unprecedented time!

**WHO WANTS TO WIN A BASKET?** The women's club at Immaculate Conception has some wonderful baskets worth an average \$70 a piece! Our members worked hard and due to the current shelter in place, we are only able to sell the chances online. Cardinals Basket, Spa Basket, Eckert's Basket, Spring Basket, D'Italia Basket, Turtle Mania Basket, Baby Basket and Light of My Life Basket. Raffle ticket prices are: \$1 for one ticket, 6 for \$5, and 15 for \$10. Message your order to [jarandle30@yahoo.com](mailto:jarandle30@yahoo.com) You can send your money to Joyce Randle at 315 Armin Circle, Columbia, IL. 62236 Winners on April 19th. Our ministry provides hosts, wine, candles and other important alter items. Joyce Randle

**GRAD IN THE NEWS:** Granddaughter Abbie Meyer graduates from Missouri State today at 1:00 virtually. They moved it up so the nurses can get to work legally. She signed yesterday with Children's Hospital. Not sure what this foreshadows for our future.

**Bud Kretzer,** Brad's dad(Laura, Ty Frierdich, Grady Frierdich, Kane) has just tested positive for COVID -19 and is at Mercy South. We don't have to look far to find someone we know in need of our prayers. Send some!

**PRAYERS: Special Intention** Bud Kretzer, Glyn Raeber, Patrick Kish, Danielle Dorlac, Seth Conner, Mike Drone, Lindsay White, George Perry, Geraldine McCoy, Kathy Neal, Logan Eichenseer, Marian Wickersham, 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

**MY LORD AND MY GOD!** DIDYMUS, THE TWIN(THOMAS), gets his eyes opened this Sunday in the Gospel. Open our eyes Lord! In the first Reading from Acts, there is a lot of breaking of the bread and remembering---right where we are virtually! Get online and join us this weekend.

**MASS THIS WEEKEND at 4:00 Saturday with the Divine Mercy Chaplet as prelude at 3:40.** Remember, we are a community, not an audience. Watching from home should raise a yearning in our hearts to be together for the Liturgy. Make a Spiritual Communion!

**LINK FOR LIVE STREAMED LITURGIES AT IC:**

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC8Qrck7-lpPOOcA9UQ2qRgQ/>

Fr. Carl: 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.

*Mike Kish*

Principal

**Ps** The event of Jesus Resurrection may be the only time in history where Roman guards fell asleep on the job without being executed and received a bonus for lying on top of it!

Ps This week pray for all who forget to pray, can't pray, or won't pray!

**April is National Poetry Month.** Reflect and enjoy!

**Yes, there is fear.**

Yes, there is isolation.

Yes, there is panic buying.

Yes, there is sickness.

Yes, there is even death.

But,

They say that in Wuhan after so many years of noise

You can hear the birds again.

They say that after just a few weeks of quiet

The sky is no longer thick with fumes

But blue and grey and clear.

They say that in the streets of Assisi

People are singing to each other

across the empty squares,

keeping their windows open

so that those who are alone

may hear the sounds of family and friends around them.

They say that a hotel in the West of Ireland

Is offering free meals and delivery to the housebound.

Today a young woman I know

is busy spreading fliers with her number

through the neighborhood

So that the elders may have someone to call on.

Today Churches, Synagogues, Mosques and Temples

are preparing to welcome

and shelter the homeless, the sick, the weary

All over the world people are slowing down and reflecting  
All over the world people are looking at their neighbors in a new way  
All over the world people are waking up to a new reality  
To how big we really are.  
To how little control we really have.  
To what really matters.  
To Love.  
So we pray and we remember that  
Yes there is fear.  
But there does not have to be hate.  
Yes there is isolation.  
But there does not have to be loneliness.  
Yes there is panic buying.  
But there does not have to be meanness.  
Yes there is sickness.  
But there does not have to be disease of the soul  
Yes there is even death.  
But there can always be a rebirth of love.  
Wake to the choices you make as to how to live now.  
Today, breathe.  
Listen, behind the factory noises of your panic  
The birds are singing again  
The sky is clearing,  
Spring is coming,  
And we are always encompassed by Love.  
Open the windows of your soul  
And though you may not be able  
to touch across the empty square,  
Sing.

[Br. Richard Hendrick is a Capuchin Franciscan living in Dublin.]

**Still I Rise** by St. Louis born **Maya Angelou**

You may write me down in history	With your bitter, twisted lies,
You may trod me in the very dirt	But still, like dust, I'll rise.
Does my sassiness upset you?	Why are you beset with gloom?
'Cause I walk like I've got oil wells	Pumping in my living room.
Just like moons and like suns,	With the certainty of tides,
Just like hopes springing high,	Still I'll rise.
Did you want to see me broken?	Bowed head and lowered eyes?
Shoulders falling down like teardrops,	Weakened by my soulful cries?

Does my haughtiness offend you?      Don't you take it awful hard  
'Cause I laugh like I've got gold mines      Diggin' in my own back yard.

You may shoot me with your words,      You may cut me with your eyes,  
You may kill me with your hatefulness,      But still, like air, I'll rise.

Does my sexiness upset you?      Does it come as a surprise  
That I dance like I've got diamonds      At the meeting of my thighs?

Out of the huts of history's shame      I rise  
Up from a past that's rooted in pain      I rise  
I'm a black ocean, leaping and wide,      Welling and swelling I bear in the tide.

Leaving behind nights of terror and fear I rise  
Into a daybreak that's wondrously clear I rise  
Bringing the gifts that my ancestors gave, I am the dream and the hope of the slave.  
I rise  
I rise  
I rise.