



IMMACULATE CONCEPTION SCHOOL
 321 South Metter Avenue
 Columbia, Illinois 62236
 Michael L. Kish, Principal
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 Bob Wachtel, School Board President

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*

April 13, 2018

Bienvenido el parrochia!

V. 43 #41

Dear Parent,

First Communion 2018 Congratulations on coming to the Table of the Lord. May the Lord be with you in this Sacrament of relationship. May the love you feel last a lifetime!

Sebastian Acevedo	Emma Ashton	Reid Bailey	Rina Baker	Connor Basinski
Chase Becker	Sam Bollone	Lillian Braun	Gracin Butler	David Callico
Sophie Conrad	Kennedy Cooper	Will Dalpoas	Maya Dill	Julia Drury
Drew Endraske	Noah Ettling	Chase Friedrich	Dante Gianino	Jameson Goetcke
Brooke Hagedorn	Maria Hake	Claire Harbaugh	Turner Haywood	Nicholas Holdener
Malone Hohman	Daniel Huels	Jordan Hugger	Connor Jacobs	Liam Johnson
Lucy Keeven	Trevor Kelley	Liam Kilian	Parker Kish	Keira Knox
Addison Koppeis	Liam Kujawa	Marly Matthews	Anna McGill	London Meinhardt
Mikah Meinhardt	Cecilia Muehl	Eleanor Nadziejko	Addie Ramage	Grant Reed
Isabel Roche	Taylor Rose	Brayden Sabo	Logan Sabo	Averie Sanker
Anna Schreckenber	Aaron Schrub	Taylor Schultz	Katherine Sheehan	Jack Siegel
Hunter Smith	Cayden Stahl	Reed Sternau	Hogan Story	Mason Tharp
Grant Tucker	Tiffany Valleroy	Ayven VanMatre	Xavier Voegel	Nicholas Wahle
Arthur Webb	Cam Woodrome	Joseph Wynn		

CALENDAR FOR END OF YEAR: Grade 8: Graduation Picture April 24 1:15 at Church---
Graduation May 17 Pre-school/Pre-K Metter Park Lunch and Talent Show will be Monday, May 21.
Last day of school will be May 23 with release at 11:20. Kindergarten graduation will be 9:30 in the gym that day. Opening Day for 2018-2019 is August 16!

LEMONADE STAND FOR BUILDERS CLUB Future members Bella Schuette, Piper Schuette, Emmalyn Sander, Addelyn Sander, and Poppy Haywood earned "\$9000" (really \$38.05) in their 501 c 3 non—profit lemonade stand business over the weekend. Future entrepreneurs of the world look-out! Profit to BC charities! Bless you!



BUILDERS CLUB WEEK/MISSION WEEK

What a fun week! And yesterday's Talent Show was amazing. Director Jordan Smugala put together a fine show!

Here is the link for the newsletter of the pictures and videos from the talent show.

<https://suelewis.smugmug.com/2018-ICS/Talent-Show-2018>

Talent Show Acts

Act 1 Devin Cason	Singing <i>Thunder</i> by Imagine Dragons
Act 2 Hope Pollman and Elizabeth Schaffer	Doing magic tricks
Act 3 Audrey Sullivan	Singing <i>Waving Through the Window</i> by Dear Evan Hansen
Act 4 Brooke Heimburger	Singing <i>The Show</i>
Act 5 Maria Biske	Singing <i>Middle of the Moment</i>
Act 6 Sadie Loless	Tap Dancing
Act 7 Maddie Swip	Singing <i>Little Do You Know</i> by Sierra and Alexa
Act 8 Kaiden Timmons	Playing <i>Joy to the World</i> on the piano
Act 9 Hake Family	Playing <i>Lights Out</i>
Act 10 Percussion Ensemble	Playing <i>Good Grief</i>
Act 11 Ally Curry	Playing <i>Riptide</i>
Act 12 Glenn Powers, Andrew Epplin, Collin Schmidt, and Grant Mathany	3 point shoot-out!

1st Place Sadie Loless 2nd Place Brooke Heimburger 3rd Place Ally Curry

BUILDERS CLUB VIRTUES WEEK The Club annually salutes students. Congratulations to:

Monday-*Patience*- Bryce Frierdich, Chase Southerland, Gianna Carrow, Bree Heimburger, Grant Tucker, Taylor Schultz, Delaney Glasscock, Garrett Patton, Avery Ellner, Hope Schwartz, Sadie Loless, Owen Haney, Marisa McGill, Hope Pollmann, Emma Schmidt, Paula Boser

Tuesday-*Creativity*- Emmalyn Sander, Henry Wachtel, Arilyn Baker, Maxine Connor, Lucy Keeven, Hayden Lieber, Eleanor McGuire, Emma Tyler, Keeley Cooper, Kaiden Timmons, Brady Moore, Lily Barrett, Kyra Newton, Emma Tipen, Ally Curry

Wednesday-*Generosity*- Sienna Gianino, Koda Hudson, Emilia Doerr, Maggie Buhr, Chase Frierdich, Lily Braun, Steven Schaefer, Malia Schaffer, Cailynn Mueth, Avery Herrmann, Henry Shulte, Emily Rose, Kristina Videmschek, Grace Barrett, Sydney Wahle, Caitlyn Schwartz

Thursday-*Leadership*- Bella Schuette, Stella Hart, Isaac Thieret, Tyler LoPorto, Nicholas Wahle, Liam Johnson, Gus Schmidt, Easton Dill, Genevieve Nadziejko, Logan LoPorto, Grant Monheiser, Kate Adams, Gavin Kesler, Jaylyn Brister, Tyler Wahle, Autumn Ramey

Friday-*Kindness*- Poppy Haywood, Grady Van Matre, Morgan Conrad, Amelia Blaskiewicz, Kate Sheehan, Hogan Story, Sean Frederick, Claire Wachtel, Keegan Thompson, Ava Blaskiewicz, Ava Schmidt, Summer Harrington, Sam Glasscock, Andrew Donjon, Collin Mueth, Glenn Powers



Scholastic Challenge 2018 Congratulations to **Brock Murphy** who was named Illinois State Champion of the 6th grade Scholastic Challenge 2018. This online contest, which features 100 questions in math, science, history, English, and common knowledge, was taken by 5000 students in thirty states and various military bases. Brock's score of 94% was one question less than the National Champion! The national average was

59%, and ICS 5th and 6th graders who scored at or above the national average were Brock Murphy, Joe Tyler, Brady Moore, Lindsay Harget, Maggie Williamson, Grant Monheiser, Kyra Newton, Abigail Repp, Jack Keeven, Hope Pollmann, Owen Dill, Samantha Glasscock, Zackary Harrington, Owen Haney, Bryce Raby, Olivia Blaskiewicz, Drew Roche, Michael Wessel, Gavin Kesler, Thomas Schaefer, Kristina Videmschek, Sadie Loless, Liliana Barrett, Elisabeth Schaefer, Maddi Swip, Ava Hake, Andrew Donjon, William Sanker, and Briana Baldrige.

ICS 7th and 8th graders also took the 8th grade Scholastic Challenge 2018, which was taken by 12500 students in 41 states and various military bases. 8th grader **Noah Newton** was school champion with 87% correct. ICS students who scored at or above the national average of 53% were Noah Newton, Autumn Ramey, Jacob Whitworth, Sydney Wahle, Georgia Sasser, Paula Boser, Ben Haney, Andrew Schmoll, Emma Schmidt, Adelynn Murphy, Andrew Feldker, Colin Mueth, Ally Curry, Charles Matthews, Allie Shuler, Dominic Voegele, Anna Haubrich, Audrey Sullivan, Zachary Gibson, Tyler Wahle, Daylen Litke, Grant Mathany, Maria Biske, and Jordan Smugala.

ROE SPELLING BEE Grant Monheiser won it all this week in the 5th grade division at the Bi-County Regional Contest. His winning word was column! Allison Stark placed 3rd in the 6th grade and Zach Gibson 4th in the 7th grade. One of our best showings in years! Congratulations!

DIOCESAN SPEECH MEET AT BLESSED SACRAMENT

Congratulations to our First Place Duet of Emma Tippen and Allison Stark performing "Tough-it Muffit". They received 3 perfect scores and 1 First place. They took 4 perfects in our book though!

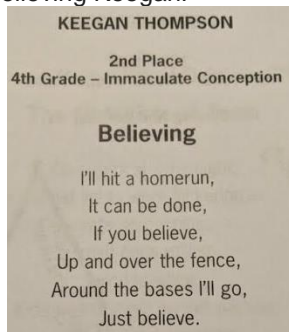
ICS SCHOLASTIC BOWL TEAM: The ICS Scholastic Bowl has wrapped up the regular season and are currently preparing for State competition. The Varsity team ended the season with a record of 25-10 with recent match wins over Aviston and splits with Edward Fulton Junior High & Amelia Carriel Junior High. The JV team ended with a record of 20-11. State competition will begin with Regional play on Wednesday, April 25th at Aviston. Team toss up leaders are Noah Newton (215), Autumn Ramey (107), Ben Haney (71), Tyler Wahle (63), and Maria Biske (59). Coaches are Tiffany Taylor & Dan Kassebaum.



VFW Poster and Coloring Contest Cam Donjon went to the VFW in Sparta April 14 to collect on his first place poster on the regional level - his poster went on to the state level. Carmen Meyer was recognized for a coloring contest and is also going to state! Congratulations Cam and Carmine!



Keegan Thompson won second place in the SWIC-Red Bud Poetry Contest! Proud of you for believing Keegan!



THE MONROE-RANDOLPH YOUNG AUTHORS' CONFERENCE will be held Saturday, April 21st, at Chester Grade School. Congratulations to our honored writers!

K - Hunter Tharp 1 - Wiley Sasser 2 - Dante Gianino 3 - Lucas Sheehan
4 - Caroline Roche 5 - Brooke Heimburger 6 - Olivia Blaskiewicz 7- Abby Eichenseer
8 - Autumn Ramey

Children's book author, Dan Killeen, will speak to parents as the children attend entertaining sessions with presenters on creativity, communication and writing skills. 8:30 is registration and the conference will be concluded around noon.

Give STL Day is a 24 hour online campaign organized by the St. Louis Community Foundation to inspire philanthropy in the St. Louis area. The ICS Parents and Friends organization voted to match up to \$10,000 given to ICS on May 2nd via the Give STL website at the following website:

<https://www.givestlday.org/ICS62236>

ICS has designated **6:00 a.m. to 7:00 a.m. as the "Power Hour"** of giving. If you are able, log in and donate during our "Power Hour" so we can maximize the amount that our dollars are "lifted" by corporate sponsors. During this "Power Hour," we could earn up to 50 cents on every dollar donated to ICS! For a minimum donation of \$10 during the "Power Hour," your children can participate in the jeans, crazy sock AND crazy hat day on May 18, 2018. Thank you for your continued support of ICS

PARENTS AND FRIENDS

5th Annual ICS May the 4th Be With You 5K/Kids Fun Glow Run & Family Fair!

SIGNUP GENIUS FOR THE 5K in the newsletter and/or send out an email for volunteers for the 5k. This is the first year I was tasked with this and we are behind and I want to make sure I get it out to everyone. Thank you for your help!!

<http://www.signupgenius.com/go/30e0e4aabac23a3f49-ics5kvolunteers>

We are excited once again to announce the 5th Annual ICS 5K/Kids Fun Run & Family Fair! For a new twist on our theme, we have decided to move our event to incorporate a Glow Run!!!! Our event will take place on Friday, May 4, 2018 at the Garden Level of Immaculate Conception Church. So we hope you bring your favorite lightsaber and join us at the ICS May the 4th Be With You 5K/Kids Fun Glow Run & Family Fair!

Check-in will be at 6:15 pm, and the races will begin at 7 pm. Immediately following the runs, we will be holding a Family Fun Fair from 7 pm - 10 pm with music from the ICS Jazz Band and Mr. Hake's Main Street Jazz Band, raffles, games, taco bar, beer, margaritas, bounce house, face painting, prizes, and vendor fair (to shop for Mother's & Father's Day) all to raise funds to support the Catholic Education & Activity Center. There will be some special guest appearances from Darth Vader and Princess Leia to cheer us on!!!

We also are giving away 1st, 2nd, and 3rd Place Prizes for the child who brings in the most race pledges! This is sure to be a great fun filled day for all.

To register for the run go to www.icscolumbia.org or www.ICS5K2018.gesture.com. We have sponsorships available (and family sponsorships are welcomed as well). For more details contact Holly at 314-707-0145 or www.ics5k.gesture.com

[5K Flyer](#)

[Pledge Sheet](#)

[Registration Form](#)

There is still plenty of Room for the Buy-in Party at Herbeck Lake on July 28. \$50 per person with tons of fun to be had. Checks to Parents and Friends to Mrs. Epplin.

Teacher Appreciation – April 23 – 27

It's that time of the year again...when we get to put our fabulous teachers up on a pedestal for the week! But, we need your help in two ways. 1. We need volunteers to chaperone the classrooms during mass on Thursday morning while the teachers enjoy a yummy, homemade breakfast. 2. We need items for the breakfast.

For those willing to volunteer their time during mass on Thursday, please click here to sign up. Details are within:

www.SignUpGenius.com/go/30E054AADAF22A1F85-mass1

For those who are able to contribute breakfast items on Thursday morning, please sign up here. Details are within:

www.SignUpGenius.com/go/30E054AADAF22A1F85-breakfast

If you have any questions, please contact Kara Boyd at knboyd2@yahoo.com

Joe Boccardi's Night – Tuesday, April 24th! Dine at Joe Boccardi's on Tuesday, April 24th, from 4:00 p.m. to close, and Joe Boccardi's will donate 20% of your bill to ICS! Be sure to present the flyer to your server. You can buy scrip for Joe Boccardi's at ICS and use it on the ICS Fundraising night. You can purchase scrip during the week from Mrs. Epplin and after masses over the weekend. Thank you in advance for your support of ICS and our local Joe Boccardi's!

ICS Dairy Queen Night – Tuesday, May 1st! The Columbia Dairy Queen has offered to hold ICS fundraising nights on the first Tuesday of each month of the school year! The second and final ICS Dairy Queen night for this school year will be the first Tuesday in May – May 1st. ICS will be given **10% of all sales** from 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. Since the fundraiser is based on all sales, there is no need to present a flyer! After this May, we will take a break for the summer and resume the Dairy Queen fundraising nights in September 2018. Want to give even more? You can buy scrip for Dairy Queen at ICS and use it on the ICS Fundraising nights.

SHOPAROO: CONTEST WINNER ANNOUNCEMENT

Parents and Friends is happy to announce the kindergarten class won the Shoparoo monthly contests for four out of the past five months! The kindergarten will be rewarded with a popcorn party on May 18th. The second grade class won the Shoparoo contest in February 2018 with 7,075 points. The second grade class will receive gum. Congratulations to the kindergarteners and second graders! Please keep snapping those receipts and earning free money for ICS!

Shoparoo: April Contest Announcement

At Monday's Parents and Friends meeting, the group decided to have an April Shoparoo contest. The class with the highest number of points by the end of April will win a pizza party on May 18th! If you have any questions about the Shoparoo app, please contact Joyce Randle at jarandle30@yahoo.com. Good luck!



On Tuesday, April 17th, 2018, the first grade classes at Immaculate Conception School, Columbia, IL, took their annual Butterfly House Field Trip. Their first stop was Sister Thea Bowman's Butterfly Garden in East St. Louis, where they were joined by their first graders as they all released

butterflies each class had raised in their classrooms. The first graders of Sister Thea Bowman then accompanied the students of ICS to the Butterfly House where they enjoyed hands-on learning and exploration of the butterfly conservatory. This learning experience wrapped up the 1st graders science unit on butterflies.

THE SPORTING NEWS...ICS Track We placed first with a 287 vs. St. Theresa-265, St. John Smithton, and Holy Childhood. Both Jr. Boys and Girls placed 1st in the 30 mile an hour wind! Next track meet is Wednesday April 18th at Dupo High School at 4:30 p.m.

KC FREE THROW FINALS IN CHATHAM, ILLINOIS Brian Stark hit 21 of 25, then had a loss in a tie-breaker to take third in the State of 13 Regions. Congratulations Brian! Nerves of Steel!

SPORTS PHYSICALS WILL BE AVAILABLE HERE at ICS for \$15 each on Saturday May 19 in the morning from 9-12. We also plan to do another day of physicals on the same day as soccer uniform pickup in August. Thanks to Jessica Wachtel for working this out for us!

CALLING ALL SUPERHEROES!!! Mark your calendars...ICS Superhero Camp is the **week of June 25th**. We are recruiting superheroes entering 1st through 5th grades to fine tune their skills for the upcoming school year. Superboys and supergirls will solve math problems faster than a speeding bullet, experiment with super powers in science, cook up "super" nutritious lunches & snacks, learn the latest superhero technology, leap tall buildings in a single bound, and fine tune their super powers. Camp will be from 8am to 3pm at Immaculate Conception School with before & after care available. [Information & registration form is attached.](#) Please register by Friday, May 18th. Contact Mrs.Epplin (beplin@icsmail.org) with any questions

GIBAULT WOMEN'S CLUB SPRING RUMMAGE SALE Time for Spring Cleaning! The Gibault Women's Club will hold their Spring Rummage Sale in the auditorium on Sat, April 21st, from 8AM-3PM. As always, there will be special deals from 1-3PM.

We will attend the Little Mermaid on Thursday morning at Gibault or the Cardinal Game for the Magazine Drive. Due to the field trip to Gibault on Thursday, April 26, the lunch menu for that day has changed. The lunch that day will be: Sub Sandwich, Chips, Carrots, Pineapples, Milk. The only exception will be 7th grade and the other students who are leaving early to attend the Cardinal game.

THE LITTLE MERMAID – Gibault's spring musical is April 26 – 28 at 7PM and April 29 at 2PM. Our cast of amazing high school students join with over 25 grade school students (our School of Fish) to bring you this presentation! Hope to see you "under the sea...."

CAST and CREW of LITTLE MERMAID---11 grads and 18 students in the cast and one on sound.

Ariel	Isabella Garcia	Prince Eric	Johnny Adams
Pilot, King Triton	Thomas Young	Grimsby	Zack Gillan
Flounder	Sophie Spurgeon	Scuttle	Mason Babcock
Andrina, Jetsam	Hannah Janson	Arista, Chef, Princess, Maid	Katie Grawitch
Ursula	Elena Biske	Maid, Chef, Princess, Gull	Isabella Frasure
Chef Louie	Mason Babcock	Sound Tech: Spencer Biske	
Sea Creatures	Kate Adams, Sean Frederick, Avery Herrmann, Julia Hoeflinger, Anna Hornacek, Megan Hornacek, Megan Janson, Naomi Langhans, Eleanor McGuire, Violet McGuire, Noah Newton, Hope Schwartz, Katherine Sheehan, Alison Stark, Aubrey Thomas, Kaiden Timmons, Claire Wachtel, Therese West		

SAVE THE DATE! The Gibault Catholic High School Spring Concert & Senior Art Show will be held Sunday, May 6th at 7 pm in the Hustedde Gymnasium. Come celebrate the arts with us!

"BRING THE WORLD TO YOU, AND BE THE WORLD TO THEM." Gibault Catholic HS is excited to welcome MORE international students to join the community for the 2018-2019 school year! These students are very excited to continue their schooling in America. We are looking for families to host these students. They come fully insured, have their own spending money and speak good English. As a loving host family you are responsible for enhancing their experience, providing three meals a day and ensuring they have means to get to school. The commitment is the 9 month school year and you have the help and assistance of the student's Local Coordinator. Please contact Andrea (Ebers) Bodinet at andrea.educatius@gmail.com or Desiree Frasure at dfrasure.educatius@gmail.com to learn more about the students we have available! This is a wonderful opportunity to make a difference for the students and your community!"



GOTR WEEK 6 – COOPERATION, TEAMWORK, COMMUNITY

This was a week to remember; many “AHA” moments occurred! Our focus this week was on cooperation and working together to accomplish our goals. The first day there were some frustrating moments as they tried to work together to reach their lap goals. But by second meeting, it seemed to click! The girls realized they need to listen to one another and communicate kindly to succeed. They also learned that each girl has her role in a team and in her community. Best of all, they experienced how fun it is to win together when they work together. There were a lot of hugs and energy awards given out by the end of the session.

Coaches' Corner:

~“There were lots of hugs at practice today! Girls hugging coaches, hugging each other....it made me so happy!!” – Coach Theresa (Traxler)

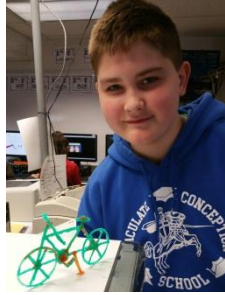
~“While walking with Malia yesterday afternoon, I asked her if she liked Girls on the Run. She initially said yes. Then she said, ‘well, I don’t like Girls on the Run, I LOVE Girls on the Run!’ She was smiling from ear-to-ear. It made my day!” – Coach Joyce (Randle)

~“I do feel like the hugs are a result of girls becoming more confident and comfortable with themselves. They’re happy and they’re not afraid to share that happiness.” – Coach Priscilla (Wilkerson)

~“Today’s practice was awesome! Lots of hugs and teamwork ” – Coach Lauren (Conner)

SO HOW DO YOU PRAY Mr. Kish? Mostly by talking to God and knowing that sometimes, I talk and God listens. Sometimes God talks(when I pay attention and notice) and I listen. I have not yet reached the ultimate yet, where neither of us talk because we are in that much harmony. Mystics and monks can sometimes do this but I live in a world of soundbites and 7 second interruptions kind of like Harrison Bergeron from Kurt Vonnegut. I do use formal prayer and my favorite is the Morning Offering, said thoughtfully, which would include everyone who has asked for or needs prayers.

O Jesus, through the Immaculate Heart of Mary, I offer You my prayers, works, joys and sufferings of this day for all the intentions of Your Sacred Heart, in union with the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass throughout the world, in reparation for my sins, for the intentions of all my relatives and friends, and in particular for the intentions recommended this month by the Holy Father. Amen.



MAKER LAB: Daylen made a double doggie bowl with the 3D printer, Grant a bicycle and Emma an Elvis guitar with a 3D pen. Design and coding on some---manual dexterity on others.

GRADS IN THE NEWS... Jacob Hennes, son of Kevin & Lori Hennes, and ICS graduate '14, received the Archbishop May Service Award on April 19. One high school senior from each of the twenty- five Catholic High Schools in the Archdiocese of St. Louis is selected for this award of achievement in volunteer service during their high school career. Jacob is a senior at St. Louis University High School. I think Jake is our third winner of this prestigious award! Proud of you Jake!

We got a nice "shout out" in the Waterloo Republic Times from ICS grad Brendan Fournie who is manager of baseball operations with the Houston Astros. Craig Unger's wife Pam Kelemetc Unger and daughter Ellen stopped by Graceland to connect a little with some friends on our Memphis trip. Pam is an ICS grad and husband Craig is President and part-owner of the Memphis Redbirds. They are adding a soccer team to Autozone Park now. Memphis is even more of a fun town now!

"Spirituality is recognizing and celebrating that we are all inextricably connected to each other by a power greater than all of us, and that our connection to that power and to one another is grounded in love and compassion. Practicing spirituality brings a sense of perspective, meaning, and purpose to our lives." Brené Brown

"BUILDING THE DOMESTIC CHURCH WHILE STRENGTHENING OUR PARISH"

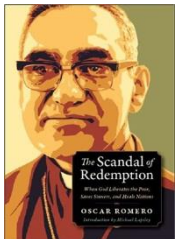
Nick Matrisotto, Brian Repp, Ted Haney, Knights of Columbus Family Committee

FAMILY MOVIE NIGHT Friday, April 27th starting at 6:30 pm

YOU'RE INVITED! Please come and join us in the Garden Level-Lower Level of the Immaculate Conception Church as the Knights of Columbus presents the next film from the BUILDING THE DOMESTIC CHURCH program: "**GNOMEO AND JULIET**". We will have free popcorn and drinks available. If you would like, please bring comfortable chairs, bean bags and/or sleeping bags. If you have any questions, contact Nick Matrisotto at [\(314\) 609-7092](tel:3146097092).

Shriners Hospital is having a **screening clinic** at the **Monroe County YMCA** on **April 21st**, as part of their **Healthy Kids Day**.

Archbishop Oscar Romero is on the wall in the adjunct museum at the National Civil Rights Museum along with Gandhi, Rabin, Sadat, Malcolm X, Harvey Milk, Medgar Evers, and many more martyrs more killed for signing up voters in the South and leading peace movements.



The Scandal of Redemption

When God Liberates the Poor, Saves Sinners, and Heals Nations

[Oscar Romero](#)

"A church that does not provoke crisis, a gospel that does not disturb, a word of God that does not touch the concrete sin of the society in which it is being proclaimed—what kind of gospel is that?"

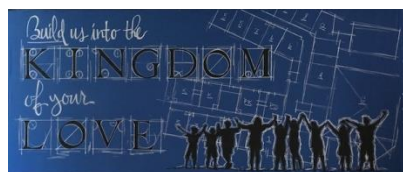
Three short years transformed El Salvador's Archbishop Oscar Romero from a conservative defender

of the status quo into one of the most outspoken voices of the oppressed. An assassin's bullet ended his life, but his challenge lives on. In March 2018 Pope Francis announced that the Catholic Church would canonize Oscar Romero, acknowledging that he is indeed a saint who was martyred for proclaiming the gospel, and that the political and social implications of that message, which so scandalized the powerful, flowed directly from Romero's faithfulness to the teachings of Jesus.

These selections from Archbishop Oscar Romero's diaries, letters, homilies, and radio talks invite each of us to align our own lives with the way of Jesus that lifts up the poor, welcomes the broken, wins over enemies, and transforms the history of entire nations.

As Pope Francis wrote on the occasion of Oscar Romero's beatification in 2015, "Archbishop Romero, who built peace with the strength of love, gave witness to the faith with his life, given to the extreme.... We give thanks to God because he granted the martyred bishop the ability to see and hear the suffering of his people, and molded his heart so that, in His name, he could direct them and illuminate them.... Archbishop Romero invites us to sanity and reflection, to respect for life and harmony. It is necessary to renounce 'the violence of the sword, of hate' and to live 'the violence of love, that left Christ nailed to the Cross, that makes each one of us overcome selfishness and so that there be no more such cruel inequality between us.' He knew how to see, and experienced in his own flesh, 'the selfishness that hides itself in those who do not wish to give up what is theirs for the benefit of others.' And, with the heart of a father, he would worry about the 'poor majority,' asking the powerful to convert 'weapons into sickles for work.' May those who have Archbishop Romero as a friend... find in him the strength and courage to build the kingdom of God, to commit to a more equal and dignified social order."

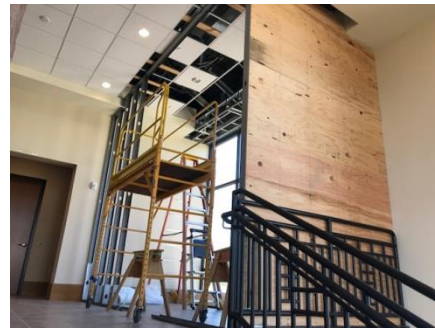
BUILD UP THE KINGDOM OF YOUR LOVE daily shirts Maggie Buhr, Carolyn Randle, Taylor Rose, Eleanor McGuire



PRAYERS: Special Intention Danielle Dorlac, Mike Taylor, Pearl Mueller, Richard Prater, Jerry Kish, James Duke, Tom Giovanni, Bob Springer, Angela Roepke, Arlin Stechmesser, Paul Thode, Pat Schwartz, George Perry, Donna Kania, Kaylee Fogarty, Karen Lundy, Larry Pelker, Brandon Martin, Susan Adams, Laurie Austin, Alicia Cohen, Denise Conner, Kenny Hamontree, Rachel Warden, Bill Kesler, Dan Borisuk, Lauren Foran, Rich Cullen, Jessica Stemler Barcik, Carolyn Baker, Scott Schaefer, Katy Basinski, Chrissy Hoeflinger, Barbara Buchheit, Angie Rose, Ken Bolton, Nick Carron, Roy Lansing, Sis Blaes, Marcella Heinrichs, Florence Dorshorst, Bill Pennock, Pat Weber, Vince Webb, George Stein, Desiree Frasure

BUILDING OUR CATHOLIC EDUCATION AND ACTIVITY CENTER PRAYER

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.



THE STONE WHICH THE BUILDERS REJECTED We have a whole pile of broken pieces at our site but they are have nothing to do with Jesus who was perfect. He just wasn't perfect for the kind of world humans wanted. As we build, we also "un-build". The stairwells where church and school are to be joined together are being blocked off as the connection meets all codes and fire ratings. Scripture this week talks of the Good Shepherd and being rejected. All human beings have an innate and personal idea of God. Some reject the notion of God, are can't get over saying "prove it to me", or won't turn to Scripture to figure it out. Life is like the early childhood story of "Stone Soup". We have all heard the story. Some really cannot contribute. Some want to eat without contributing even though they could. Some give their "share" only. Some can't seem to give enough so that all can eat. We can't run the world based on opinion. We have to find our own vocation. Scripture and our priests and prayer and community can help. Find them all this Sunday. 411 Palmer Road, Columbia, Illinois!

Mike Kish

Principal

PS **Sr. Beth called from the Griffin Center** and would like us to send in any travel samples we have from our hotel visits for a hygiene unit. Any oversupply will go to CUP! The Spirit at work!

PS **STEWARDSHIP** Thanks for getting yours in.

PS **BOND MEETING** April 29-30 to explain sales of bonds for CEAC. The Diocese has loaned us 3 million. We will buy these back at 5% interest so they can loan the money to other parishes.

PS **HEADS UP WE HAVE REACHED A SATURATION POINT AND WE ARE GOING TO MOVE TO CHROME BOOKS FOR GRADES 5-8 NEXT YEAR.** We are working out the details and will let you know.