



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 165 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.**

*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*



**"God is good!"**

Bienvenido el parrochia!

V. 45 #2

July 19, 2019

Dear Parent,



**PRE-FLIGHTING THE GROUNDS** Thanks for all the help last Saturday. We moved the earth! And Otto Oberkfell became the youngest member of the grounds crew in our history! (Once a dad took his college graduate son down to the highway. His son said "Dad, look at all those cars! I wonder where they are going?". Dad replied, "To work, my son, to work!". Working with your children gives them an apprenticeship for life. (A career is good for your children, unless, of course, you want them living with you when they are 43.) **It's been amazing** how I haven't had a chance to miss old 321 yet (56 years in the same school building) and 409 is sure moving fast. I am glad that God the Eternal Postmaster, never loses my address. My address is currently *HERE*.



Work is progressing as the chandeliers in the entry went up yesterday (where are the bulbs now?), the phones almost work, the playground has been graded for asphalt (rain please stop), the main entrance landscaping is almost begun with irrigation and sod following, the base of Mary's statue is contracted and scheduled to be done by August 15, flags requested, pictures and treasures are going up, and John Whitworth, Ed Schaefer, Dave Boser, Rich Southard, Ben Baker, Mike Whelan, Jim Held, Joe Sander, Tom Sr. and Jr. Keeven, Tom Swip, and all the Tinkers and volunteers are working their magic and Chris Neumann is constructing the chicken coop.

**WALK-THROUGH** The Catholic Education and Activity Center will be open next weekend after Masses on the 27<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> so you can check our progress and see where your \$8.4m in pledges have been going. We are still seeking \$3,000,000 (three million dollars) but God knows our address. Mike Whelan and Mrs. Epplin will be around if you get lost. This is going to be such fun year!

**THE SPORTING NEWS... Coaches meeting** for coaches of **ALL** sports at ICS will be held on Sunday July 21 from 4:00-5:00 pm. We had 17 at the first meeting! The Garden Level of the Church is the site. Please make sure you have taken the initial Child Protection Class and have all the other paperwork handed in. The new Child Protection Refresher Course will be available online in August. There is a **NEW** background check. Please contact Angie at the parish office for information. 281-5105

**Parent meeting** for parents of all athletes at ICS will be **Sunday July 28** from 12:30-1:30 pm, or **Wednesday August 7** from 6:30-7:30 pm with both meetings in the Garden Level of Church.

**Soccer uniform distribution** will be **Sunday August 4 from 12:30-2** for grades 5-8, and **2-3:30 for grades 1-4**, and **Sunday August 11 from 12:30-2** for grades 5-8, and **2-3:30 for grades 1-4**. Uniforms will be given out in the new gym. PLEASE HAVE PHYSICALS ON FILE AT SCHOOL OR BRING A COPY, AND HAVE ATHLETIC AND MAPLE GROVE FEES PAID. YOU CAN DO THIS WHEN YOU PICK UP THE UNIFORM. **Kindergarten uniforms will be their first day of school blue shirt.**

**Coaches are needed for 5th grade girl's sports teams** for basketball and volleyball. Please apply with Tara Kennedy tkennedy@icsmail.org Thanks!

**VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL: July 28-Aug. 1, 2019 evenings.** Garden Level for this year. Volunteers needed. Online registration available for participants and volunteers through the parish website. <https://www.icc-columbia-il.us/>

**THANKS to Superintendent Dr. Gina Segobiano, Transportation Director Mark Keiser, and Columbia Community Unit #4** for loving all the children in Columbia and graciously covering the cost of a new bus antenna for \$2,130.28. Wireless USA installed our antenna yesterday for connection to the District buses and we can hear each other as clear as an Alexander Graham Bell!

**MAGAZINE DRIVE** Three weeks in a row---a hit! Another check for \$81.60 from "Bill Me Later". Thanks for paying for your commitments and encouraging reading through magazines. \$12,351.89 total. You can order online anytime from our webpage too! Reading is the first defense of liberty! People who can read and won't read are no better off than people who can't read at all. It all starts with the WORD!

**BOXTOPS** Thanks to Deidra Doerr and all who sent in last minute Boxtops for Education! \$91.60 from those tiny clippings! And over \$30,000 since we started!

**Seeking individual with bachelors degree in Psychology** or related field to work 16- 20 hour/week in a student liaison position with summers off at Sr. Thea Bowman Catholic School. Pass the word, or if interested yourself, contact Karen Lundy at [karenlundy@gmail.com](mailto:karenlundy@gmail.com)

**LOOKING FOR HOST FAMILIES:** We have several students coming to Gibault CHS for the 2019-20 school years who are looking for good families. Know someone who would make a great host family in the area? **You can receive \$200 for referring a family to host.** Host families come in all shapes and sizes; some are empty nesters, couples with no children, homes with teenagers or young children. The possibilities are endless. **A host family needs to provide a bed, meals, and transportation to and from school and will receive a monthly stipend.** This is a great way to share with a student your beliefs, culture, and community. Thank you for helping make their dreams of studying in the US and staying with a loving family come true! **Andrea Bodinet**, Educatius Group, Cell Number: 618-250-2569



**REPFEEST** “Amelie”, our Columbia Community Theatre Project produced by Actor’s Attic, hit the stage last night and runs July 18-20 at 7:00 pm and 2:00 pm on Sunday July 21 at CMS. Emily Brutton is directing and this is her last production for her before leaving for New York seeking employment as a rehearsal and stage pianist. This is a new production which Emily loved so that is endorsement enough! The stage will be full of IC and community talent and MaryBeth is behind it all. Our Layne Traxler played young Amelie to our Isabella Garcia’s mature Amelie. Terrific casting, performance, laughs, and you may just see yourself in this character as we have all had to learn how to deal with life.



**MISSIONS INTERNATIONAL** Our connection to our sister parish of St. Raymond de Penjafort in Guatemala began in 1988 through an idea from Sr. Kathleen McGuire, A.S.C., who was later martyred in Liberia. The idea was brought to life by Fr. Vince Haselhorst, our pastor at the time who had served 6 ½ years in Guastatoya and the late Len Daiber of Highland whose daughter Shelly Sands now runs the Board. 99.27% of our donation gets to Guatemala with our only expense being an annual audit to maintain 501 ( c ) 3 status. A

generous donor has underwritten all costs for the Board including a Conference this past week with 31 parishes from Belleville and Springfield (75 have sister parishes) to start coordinating next year’s visit to to our sister parish. In the picture, parishioners Karen Waide, Susie Gilbreth, Carol Waide, and Greg Narez shared their experiences with the group from the last trip. If you go, you will leave part of your heart there! My trip in 1998 seems like yesterday and we share a common bond from the heart with all who have visited (as long as you don’t drink the water---I didn’t and had the trip of a lifetime!). You will here more of this. July, 2020 will give you vision!



**Thursday, July 18, 2019** Ex 3:13-20; Mt 11:28-30

*Come to me...for my yoke is easy and my burden light.*

Whenever I would complain to my mother about my life as a teenager, she would always say, “You know, this too shall pass.” Experience and faith had taught her that if she placed her worries and pain into God’s care each day, she would in time, find the strength she needed to get through them. So often in Scripture we hear God’s encouragement, “Do not be afraid. I am with you” (Isaiah 41:10, NIRV). As the much beloved Psalm 23 relates, God does not create bypasses or promise to remove the dark valleys of our life, but God does promise to be our guide and support every step of the way. Knowing that we are never alone in our suffering and sorrows can make the yoke of life easier to handle and our burdens lighter to carry.

*In times of doubt or fear, O Lord, restore my awareness and trust in your loving presence.*

[Mary Joshi](#)

**Friday, July 19, 2019** Ex 11:10–12:14; Mt 12:1-8

*I say to you, something greater than the temple is here.*

One of my favorite professors in the education department warned us, “You cannot teach a student who refuses to learn. All of us, learn more effectively by invitation than by obligation.”

He encouraged us to nurture the desire to learn in our students rather than focusing only on the content. It is advice I still find relevant in my RCIA ministry. Prayer is more meaningful when we see it as an invitation from God rather than an obligation of faith. Any relationship based on love, respect and a genuine desire to know the other better enriches our lives more than one based on obligation, fear, guilt or habit. From the day we are born, God invites us into relationship and spiritual transformation.

*Loving God, you do not call us to be successful, but to be faithful.* [Mary Joshi](#)

**Hope Wienhoff**, our Latchkey Director and PSR director, is in recovery. Keep her in your prayers for a quick one!

**Danielle Dorlac** Please continue to pray for her and her caregivers, especially Constance.

**OUR CONDOLENCES** to Lindsay Harget(Andrea and Todd) on the loss of her grandfather. God's peace to this good man and his family!

**Vernon H. Nolte**, 87 years of Dupou, IL, born November 3, 1931 in Dupou, IL. passed away on Thursday, July 11, 2019 at his residence. Vernon was a retired meat cutter from Fred Nolte's Dupou Bi-Rite. He was a member of the First Congregational Church in Dupou, IL. the Meat Cutter's Local Union 534, Columbia Blue Lodge 474 AF & A.M., the Ainad Shriners, past member of the Dupou Volunteer Fire Department and he was a veteran of the United States Coast Guard. Surviving are his wife, Rosella Nolte, nee Bicklein, his two daughters, Melissa (Robert) Karn and Andrea (Troy) Harget, his granddaughter, Lindsay Harget, his sister, Dolores Howard, he is also survived by nieces, nephews, along with other relatives and friends. Visitation was last Sunday and service on Monday at the First Congregational Church in Dupou, IL. In lieu of customary remembrances, the family requests with gratitude that memorial contributions be directed to Hospice of Southern Illinois or to the Dupou Volunteer Fire Department. For more information, please access our website, [www.leesmanfuneralhome.com](http://www.leesmanfuneralhome.com).

### **FROM WHITE HOUSE RETREATS:**

What does it mean to have a Marian spirit? Martha has to learn the answer the hard way in this Sunday's Gospel, from her own sister Mary. A Marian spirit is actively receptive. It is prayerful in the midst of busyness. Martha does eventually become St. Martha, we know, so she learns her lesson! So can we.

What does she learn? What is it that our Lord reproves in her? What is it that he wishes to correct? Let us listen to the sage insight of St. Therese of Lisieux in this regard: "It is not Martha's works that Jesus finds fault with; His divine Mother submitted humbly to these works all through her life since she had to prepare the meals of the Holy Family. It is only the restlessness of His ardent hostess that He willed to correct." (XI, 258)

You and I can indeed perform the very same works during our day either with a spirit of restless anxiety, or a spirit of prayerful openness. The choice is ours.

In our busy day-to-day life, how is the Lord inviting us to acquire a Marian spirit? A helpful suggestion in this regard is to bookend our day with prayer. When I grew up on the farm, there was a beautiful painting on the wall of our home stating, "A day hemmed in prayer is less likely to unravel." It is true. Let us pray to St. Martha to teach us the Marian spirit of her sister, so similar to that of the Mother of God! -Fr. Anthony Wieck, SJ

**PRAYERS: Special Intention** Jim Edgar, Danielle Dorlac, Shawn Eichoff,  
Charlie Stockes, George Perry, Angela Roepke, Jan Hoffmann, Bill West, Jennifer Nesser,  
Patrick Kish, Tom Kish, Owen Jordan, Patti Rottler, Mike Taylor, Richard Prater, Donna Kania,  
Libby LoPorto, Lindsey Herbeck, Judy Gundlach

*Mike Kish*

Principal

**PS If you haven't met Deacon Nick Fleming yet, do yourself a favor and introduce yourself. He is going to make a good shepherd!**