



IMMACULATE CONCEPTION SCHOOL

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CELEBRATING 162 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.

OPEN THE DOORS OF MERCY!

July 23, 2015

V. 41 #03

Dear Parent, Guardian, Student, Teacher, Friend,

Update on Sale of Main St. Campus...from our parish bulletin: We are happy to announce that his Excellency, The Most Reverend Edward K. Braxton, Ph.D, S.T.D, has approved our contract to sell the entire Main St. property, including the school, to Main Street Redevelopers LLC (owned by parishioners Gregg and Jane Crawford). The contract with the buyer provides an adequate timeline for us to continue to use the school until our new Catholic Education and Activities Center is completed. The anticipated closing on this sale is sometime this Fall. At that time more details can be disclosed about this transaction, which has been previously approved by our Parish Pastoral Council and Finance Council.

So what does this mean? We are going to build the Church of the Future on our 35 acre campus!

As Fr. Carl put so well last month, "Secrecy is self-serving. Confidentiality serves the good of the parish." We have had a lot of confidentiality with the sale of the property. It now our job to help people understand that this sacred space in Old Town Columbia will continue to be sacred space in all the memories that reside here and the future memories for its new use. Churches throughout the ages have been constructed upon temples to lesser gods. Our new Church was once the home of native Americans and pioneers. We now pray where they prayed!

Soccer is on the way! Please click on the links to get the forms needed for soccer. They can also be found on our website under Parents/Forms/Sports. We have a separate ICS fee and a Maple Grove fee. Athletes must also have a physical each year in order to play as per Diocesan policy. Please bring them to uniform pick-up on August 2nd - 5pm to 6:30pm or August 9th - 5pm to 6:30pm at the ICS gym.

At Uniform Distribution, please be sure to bring:

- a. ICS Athletics registration form and any sports fees due if not already paid
- b. [Physical for 2015-16 athletics seasons](#)
- c. [Consent form filled out and signed](#)
- d. [Parents Agreement filled out and signed](#)
- e. [Diocesan Parent Code of Conduct Form filled out and signed](#)
- f. Maple Grove Fees (\$50 for first child, \$40 for second child, \$30 for 3rd child)

Fill them out early and save yourself the time!

Thanks to our Soccer Coordinator Ed Williamson, all coaches and helpers for the biggest program on campus! Soccer is hot in the U.S. and at ICS!

DIRECTOR OF FAITH FORMATION Lizanne Young has been selected to bring our parish programs under one umbrella of faith. This gifted communicator and “quick study” will help us do what we are supposed to do as we were baptized to be “priest, prophet, and king”. Our baptism is a marker that calls us to evangelize and spread the Good News by how we live. Lizanne will make it fun as we grow in our faith. Welcome Lizanne!

UNIFORM RESALE THIS SATURDAY JULY (7/25/15). Resale will be held in the ICS Cafeteria from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm. Help is needed to set the tables up and sort the donations on Friday afternoon 7/24/15 at 3:00 p.m. Contact Skip Ward [618-975-2340](tel:618-975-2340) with questions or to volunteer. Re-use, Recycle, Re-gift and still make a profit! A winner to the 4th power! Thanks Skip and helpers!

DQ NIGHT What a turn-out! “Belonging is believing” and we aim to make our families belong! Shannon Haney and Chris Schorb Schmoll and Cindy Schaefer and Bev Epplin did most of the work I think...I am never sure who the unsung heroes are but we all pulled it off by promoting and getting 32 new families there! How do you get over 75% attendance on a Sunday night in July? That is the level of support we have! Beth Carrow, Shari Murphy, Dani Merz, and Jeanne Kish were all smiles and made some great connections. Next up is the Pot-Luck on Sunday August 16 after 11:00 Mass. We will gather at school to eat and get further acquainted for the new year!

CONGRATULATIONS to James Ramette who was invited by Grand Master Susan Polgar to join the SPICE Team (Susan Polgar Inspires Chess Enthusiasm) last Monday with some visiting kids from Brazil. James won his match! Susan Polgar directs the NCAA Champion Webster University Program and has played Gary Kasparov and Bobby Fischer and once took on 40 individual players in a 17 hour meet. Cyra Herrmann is the ICS Coach! Good going James!

OUR THEME SONG hit our website and sing along! www.icscolumbia.org

OPEN THE DOORS OF MERCY

Open the door of mercy open the door, Open the door.

Open the door of mercy, God calls us to open the door of mercy, let love in, let love in, open the door, open the door!

Live the way of mercy, kindness and truth, forgiveness and peace.

Live the way of mercy, God calls us to live the way of mercy, let love in, let love in, open the door, open the door!

Mercy brings serenity, joy and peace. Let the well-spring of God's love release!

Be the face of mercy, you are God's hands, you are God's feet!

Be the face of mercy, God calls us to be the face of mercy let love shine, let love shine!

Open the door, Open the door!

FULL STEWARDSHIP 447 parishioners have completed their stewardship pledge. I sure hope you are in this number! Make a commitment of time, talent, and treasure and live the life you are meant to live. God does not hold back on his love and generosity. God blesses us so we can bless others. Do your part and watch your priorities turn around! **Jesus-~~O~~thers-~~Y~~ourself.**

MAGAZINE DRIVE To order online anytime---your child will get credit during the drive--- go to www.gaschoolstore.com I.D. 2710556 Magazines make great gifts---gifts that give all year long. The drive is the single largest donor and we have placed over \$490,000 into the ***Eugene J. Schorb - Immaculate Conception Fund for Catholic Education.***

A HOMILY FOR THIS SUNDAY from a very good friend...find yourself in here like I did!

More than five thousand had come to hear Jesus. The sick had certainly come, hoping that what they heard about this wonder worker was true. "Maybe he will see my pleurisy, my shattered limb, my disfigurement and heal me." The crowd must have included exhausted moms with their babies in tow, who needed a break from their 24/7 juggling of family and household. There must have been unemployed workers and struggling farmers there too, whose lives had become a fog of hopelessness.

Among those who had come to hear Jesus must have been more than one soul dealing, quietly and alone, with a shattered relationship, a serious illness, a lost son or daughter. The depressed, the homeless, the disabled also found a patch of grass to sit on that afternoon. In the back, on the edges of the crowds, were those who were embarrassed to be there or who did not want to be noticed; tax collectors, prostitutes, thieves, alcoholics, addicts, abusers. Also looking from the shadows, trying to be as inconspicuous as possible were Jesus' harshest critics: Pharisees, scribes, priests.

The happy and troubled, the doubting and the curious, the believer and the skeptic, the grateful and the broken, ALL found a place on the grass. Jesus welcomed every one of them. And he fed them. Jesus fed them ALL, no exceptions. The wonder, the sign, the miracle, choose your own word, is that Jesus transforms a crowd of all ages, talents, abilities, those with much and those with nothing and those with liabilities, into a community of generosity. Taking a few fish and barley bread, barley bread was the bread of the poor---a cheaper grain, sharing them, ALL were fed. ALL were welcome. Simple sharing became a community where others shared until ALL were fed. This story is told six times in our gospels and its importance is the mirror of the community we are to become, ALL welcomed, ALL fed. (And as Immaculate Conception Parish proclaims so loudly and often---ALL ARE WELCOME!)

Appalled by the waste of their fellow students, two elementary teachers planted a young sapling on their school campus and named it Free-Food Tree. Rather than throw away uneaten or unwanted sandwiches the kids were encouraged to place them under the tree so that students who had lost their lunch or could not afford one could help themselves. Some kids even began to bring an extra sandwich from home so they would have one to put under the Free-Food Tree. Soon ALL had lunch. The leftovers were gathered to offer the homeless in a near by park. In a country where 25 to 40% of food is wasted, children learned a lesson about hunger and gathering up the leftovers so that nothing goes to waste.

My prayer for us is that our welcoming All, sharing with All, will create in us a people the generosity that Christ has shown us--- in the welcoming and feeding of ALL.

PRAYERS: Florence Dorshorst, Bill Pennock, Patty Juengling, Marian Keim, Dan Whelan, Edward Pelker, Pat Weber, Ed Hengel, Josh Ritter, Valerie Bauchens, Vince Webb, George Stein, Desiree Frasure, Special Intention

**Mike Kish
Principal**

Ps Happy Belated Birthdays to Sue Lewis July 12, Kim Sullivan July 16, Penny Prindiville July 6!

Ps2 School supply lists are on the website under parents-forms.

Ps3 Welcome to all our new families as they come in to the ICS "fold" for the first time.