



Immaculate Conception School
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Celebrating 167 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.

August 21, 2020

Bienvenido el parrochia!

V. 47 #02



Dear Parents, Guardians, and Friends,



THANKS FOR THE THANKS! The best way to thank our faculty and staff for all their effort since March 17 is to comply with the rules. I hate rules. Moses had 10, Jesus consolidated them to 2 and had the 8 "how to's" of the Beatitudes. So I can hate the rules and yet follow them for the good of the community. I also hate seat belts, stop signs, speed limits (who can drive 15 on Fr. Carl Scherrer Drive---my car tries to stall out), no cell phone while driving, and not getting to eat onions. But I follow them for the good of COMMUNITY! To this point in the year, I am so grateful to our parents for honest reporting. We simply have to follow the

quarantine rules. I hate them too but we are not fighting headlice here. My how things have changed! As Cam said yesterday, "that was B.C.---Before Covid."



VERY FEW FIRST DAY JITTERS THIS YEAR! And very few tears(from teachers)! Fr. Carl was reminded by Fr. Nick to wear a hat this year---it worked!

WELCOME to Savahna Scheibe who is teaching Grades 5 and 6, Ashley Wright who has third graders, Sharon Nealon who will be doing her student teaching in Grade 4, Holly Blaskiewicz for K inclusion, Katie Cornish in Pre-K, Kaeli Hart in cafeteria, Alex Frenz in cafeteria, Audrey Sullivan in latchkey, and our 68 new students from Pre-S to Gr. 8!

ENROLLMENT: Pre-School: 21 Pre-K: 30 KGN: 44
1st grade: 38 2nd grade: 33 3rd grade: 43
4th grade: 35 5th grade: 38 6th grade: 38
7th grade: 35 8th grade: 33 388 total---up 9 after a large graduation.

HELP! We need a Pre-School aid for a half day on Monday and all day on Wednesday. 618-670-3968

BAGS & BUBBLY Thanks to Mandy McGuire, Christy Hornacek and Committee and Parents and Friends for last night's virtual fund raiser! Details coming! My wife has a Kendra Scott now!

UNIFORM RESALE: AUGUST 8 WE MADE \$1100! Thanks to Shannon Howard for chairing and all our helpers. This is a tremendous service!

INCLUSION We can sing *All Are Welcome* all we want but we have to work to find a place for everyone. We currently have an inclusion project going to provide for a special needs student. We are trying to fund this outside the budget. To date we have \$9,750 pledged and need more funding during the course of the year. Once again, we're just letting you know if you can help. Our parish is amazingly generous!

Miinehealth We are getting the bugs out. We did have a Quarantine for a 990 degree temp and a chronic sniffler but they were cleared. We must manage the risk at home and not at the front door of school. Parents must do it, not minors. NO ONE ENTERS

THE BUILDING WITHOUT THE GREEN CHECK MARK. This is our first layer of security and the second is our fevIR2 scanner which is simply amazing!

Policy/Handbook/Calendar In teachers' mailboxes for Monday delivery!
FORMAL AGREEMENT is REQUIRED. Insurance---acceptable use form---publicity release---Covid response safety agreement---verification of our Reopening Plan.
Optionc accounts under communication. Note there is also space for you to fill in any allergies or medical needs that your child might have. This is critical for the office to know. **We will cut off internet use unless the agreement is in. This was due 8-14.**

COMPREHENSIVE (BOOK) FEES were due by the first day of school (August 19). Please make payment in OptionC. Disregard if full payment made. Thank you!

<https://www.optionc.com/corporate/home/login/school-login/5788>

Keith Huels, Business Administrator

UNSUNG HEROES The world is full of people who make the world go round. We have a disproportionate share of those wonderful people. Basketball goals installed, a new playground shed, bollards painted, door security upgraded, a new bell system, more security cameras, pictures hung, a room converted into a classroom, filters changed, office sneeze guards installed, video productions for our Sacraments and Masses, stripped classrooms of extraneous items for safe distancing, hung netting to keep out the swallows and more. A big thanks to Mike Whelan, Jim Held, Rich Toenjes, Ernie Schoellhorn, Rich Southard, Denis Ling, Wayne Gallagher, Ed Beck, Don Happy, Joe Koppeis, John Whitworth, Keith Huels, Mary Boser, Dave Boser, Todd Biske, Catie Whitworth, Jacob Whitworth, Dale Anderson, Mary Ellen Niemietz, Tyler Wahle, Parents and Friends, Fathers Club, Al Ziegler's Army, all the family members who helped their spouses and teacher moms/dads who helped get classrooms ready! God Bless You!



Chase in his new office!

S.H.I.E.L.D. aka Fathers Club---Christy Wegmann called in her Avengers against Covid-19 to protect our students. Thanks for keeping us safe!



THANKS to Will Southerland
Kate Aquilar for a wonderful

and Chase's Aunt
donation of dry

erase markers and school supplies through Newell Brands! Our teachers were really excited again and you spoil us!

BOXTOPS for Education Please join in from last week's letter. All the little things we do add up to big things when you have COMMUNITY.

MAGAZINE DRIVE ANOTHER PROFIT CHECK SENT **\$80.60**. For our **new families**, you need to know we have raised over \$550,000 since 1981 on our Magazine Renewal Program. And as the single largest donor, we have over \$480,000 in our Eugene J. Schorb - Immaculate Conception Church Fund for Catholic Education. Our endowment provides over \$160,000 annually to our school. Currently, profit is going towards our Catholic Education and Activity Center. Jump online and renew your magazines with us and we get 40%! Thanks!

THE SPORTING NEWS...cross country is our current sport and Coach Mike Braun is creating a course here with home meets contained to Thursdays and Saturdays. Below is the current schedule of races. I am still trying to schedule with St. John-Smithton and St. Theresa. Please update the official school calendar. For Thursday races runners should not arrive before 3:45 and we should be done by 7:00. For Saturday races the runners show up at 8:30 and we should be done by 1:00.

Saturday 8/29 - St John Lutheran - Red Bud at ICS

9/3 & 9/5 - Labor Day weekend no races

Thursday 9/10 - St. James at ICS

Thursday 9/17 - St. James at ICS

Thursday 9/24 - St John Neumann - Maryville (Welcome Dave Gregson) at ICS

Saturday 9/26 - Maryville Christian School at ICS

Friday 10/2 - at St. Clare's course

Tuesday 10/6 - at Maryville Christian School

Saturday 10/10 - St. Clare at ICS

*Races with St. Theresa and St John's still to be scheduled.

Mike Braun, ICS Cross Country Coach, 618.530.5473

Cross Country Guidelines: With the COVID Guidelines wearing a mask is required by the IHSA, IDPH, and Governor's All Sports Plan for spectators. Social distance in place except for a family cohort. We have to handle low risks sports so we can hopefully come inside for medium risk sports. Runners and coaches have to wear face coverings in the bullpen unless 6 ft. social distancing can be maintained. Coaches have to wear face coverings during practice unless they are actively exercising in practice the team and can maintain social distancing.

Red Cross blood drive at IC Sept. 13. The Red Cross has made the decision to extend its testing of blood, platelet and plasma donations for COVID-19 antibodies through early January. We will assess whether to extend this date even further closer to the end of the calendar year as we continue to plan and respond to the evolving

challenges of this pandemic. As you know, the test may indicate if the donor's immune system has produced antibodies to this coronavirus, regardless of whether they developed symptoms. **Anyone who gives blood will be tested for COVID-19 and notified if they have contracted COVID.**

CHILD PROTECTION TO DO:

1. **Initial course AND refresher course** are available online! We would like ALL parents, coaches, volunteers certified to eliminate all the paper work we have to do in being sure our children are safe.
2. ALL coaches need to be fingerprinted, most of you do this already, but this is something that needs to be adjusted at this point. I would also recommend that go ahead and have employees hired before 2007 fingerprinted at this point as well. They are/were grandfathered in but with the other change it seems to make sense that everyone would need to do that. The closest Accurate Biometric station that the Diocese uses is in Glen Carbon right now. Researching other options.

“Safe and Sacred” Child Protection Training, Diocese of Belleville www.diobelle.org
IF YOU HAVE NOT YET COMPLETED THE REFRESHER CHILD PROTECTION TRAINING COURSE FOR 2020, PLEASE VISIT: <https://safeandsacred-diobelle.org/>

Ministry Leaders,

The latest information from the Diocesan offices regarding the Governor's mitigation strategy: **EFFECTIVE TODAY, 8/18, Non-liturgical meetings INDOORS are now limited to 25 people (down from 50).**

As many of you are aware, because of the resurgence of COVID-19, the governor's office issued a statement, effective August 18, applying new mitigations in the Region 4 area of the Restore Illinois Plan. Region 4 includes Bond, Clinton, Madison, Monroe, Randolph, St. Clair and Washington counties.

At the present time, there are three areas of concern for the Reopening Church plan in the Diocese of Belleville.

- I. The Resurgence Mitigation Plan **does not** impact the celebration of daily or Sunday Masses. The metric of 20% of capacity or 100 people, whichever is less still applies.
- II. The new limit of 25 guests or 25% of room capacity, whichever is less, gathering limit does apply to funeral vigils (wakes) whether they are held at a funeral home or in the church. No more than 25 people are permitted to gather at any one time at a funeral vigil. The same limit will apply to Baptism outside of Mass.
- III. This limit of 25 or less also applies to social gatherings at the parish, organizational meetings, funeral brunches, etc. If food and beverages must be served, do not offer buffet-style meals. Provide items in single-serve containers (disposable containers whenever possible), Staff or volunteers serving food should wash hands frequently and wear disposable gloves and face coverings. Please remember the importance of social distancing, wearing masks, frequent hand washing/sanitizing and

the necessity to have a registration/reservation process in place to manage attendance for Masses. These are signs of charity. They are about the love for and the care of others who look to us for guidance. Thank you for continuing to do your part.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact the Reopening Church task force at reopening@diobelle.org.

Reopening Church Task Force---Deacon Doug Boyer, Sue Huett, Diane Clark

Diocese of Belleville Office of Human Resources Friday, August 21, 2020

POSITION AVAILABLE CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER: The Diocese of Belleville is seeking a Chief Financial Officer (CFO). The Chief Financial Officer of the Diocese reports directly to the Bishop. ("It is for the finance officer to administer the goods of the Diocese under the authority of the Bishop..." Cf. CCL, Canon 494, #3.) The CFO has the primary responsibility for the work of the Diocesan Finance Council. He or she provides accurate, meaningful financial statements and information to the Bishop, who is the administrator of the temporal goods of the Diocese, and to the various boards which assist the Bishop in the operation of the Diocese. The CFO, who monitors investments while assembling and monitoring the budgets of various departments and agencies throughout the Diocese, also meets with outside vendors and consultants on a wide range of issues. The CFO serves as Executive Director of the Catholic Community Foundation for the Catholic Diocese of Belleville and oversees facility and property management as well as real-estate acquisition. In addition, the CFO meets regularly with the Bishop and Vicar General and with Directors of Diocesan Departments as a planning body. The successful candidate will hold a Bachelor's Degree and have 7-10 years of directly related experience in finance, accounting, management, administration and investment analysis. A current license as a Certified Public Accountant is desirable, but not required. The candidate is required to be a faithful, committed Catholic who understands and accepts the teachings and disciplines of the Catholic Church. **TO APPLY:** Resume, cover letter, preferred salary range, and references to Human Resources, Diocese of Belleville, 222 South Third Street, Belleville, IL 62220 or email humanresources@diobelle.org. Application Deadline: September 30, 2020

OUR SPIRITUAL LIFE:

Welcome to the 21st Sunday in Ordinary Time! Join us whenever and wherever you feel most comfortable.

Here is the schedule for IC Masses August 22/23 (indoors max capacity is 100):

5pm Saturday - Indoor Mass, all are welcome

ONLINE: Mass at 5pm Saturday will be livestreamed and archived. PLEASE

SUBSCRIBE TO OUR CHANNEL: <https://bit.ly/31jaaTg>

7am Sunday - Park & Pray in the Upper Lot; tune your car radio to 90.1fm (NOTE: in case of inclement weather, the Mass moves indoors)

9am Sunday - Indoor Mass, all are welcome

11am Sunday - Indoor Mass, all are welcome

ATTENDING IN PERSON? MASS PROTOCOL:

We have not yet reached past the 80s in numbers of people in attendance. If you are joining us for Mass in church, please bring your mask, and we will be taking your name and phone number when you arrive. **To minimize contact, doors will not open until approximately 20 minutes before each Mass begins.**

QR CODE EXPERIMENT CONTINUES: We are experimenting with a QR-code check-in at church. Your phone will be directed to mycovidcheckin.com at the Immaculate Conception page, you'll complete a profile with identifying info, and voila, you are "checked in." THANKS to parishioner Michael Ecklekamp for providing the fancy tech for free.

Here is this week's bulletin link: <https://bit.ly/3hklXq7>

Questions for reflection for the readings follow my signature.

Blessings on everyone who is enjoying back-to-school in its many forms, and prayers that everyone -- in school or out -- stays healthy.

Lizanne Young | Director of Faith Formation

Twenty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time – 23 August 2020

Isaiah 22:19-23. Psalm 138:1-2, 2-3, 6, 8. Romans 11:33-36. Matthew 16:13-20.

My Experience. Jesus asks today: Who am I? Peter blurts out: The Christ. In that response, he means the Messiah, the Promised One, the Son of God, the One who saves, redeems, and binds us to God. Quite a mouthful. Profound belief. He is the very foundation of the Church, the People of God.

- What is my experience of Jesus? He is....
- How does my experience bind me to all who believe in him?
- Since I am called to be like him, whom will I save in some small way today?

PRAYERS: Special Intention Josh Ritter, Tom Keeven, Sr., Lindsay White, Danielle Dorlac, Arlin Stechmesser, JoAnn Swip, Dan Hoeflinger, Karen Hornacek, Seth Watters, Glyn Raeber, Seth Conner, Mike Drone, George Perry, Geraldine McCoy, Kathy Neal, Logan Eichenseer, Marian Wickersham, Ashley Burris, Ed Schaefer, 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



We have room for you! Maybe not your regular pew but a change of view is good too!

This Weekend's Scriptures: Matthew 16 has my favorite Catechism Question "Who do you say I am" this week. Peter gets it right and then Jesus says "don't tell anyone". The Word is meant to be broken open. Fr. Carl and Fr. Nick will do that for you. But be sure and answer Catechism Question #2---"Do you really love me?". Get to Church inside, outside, or online this weekend. Faith is caught, not taught. Set the example. Answer the questions. Get an A+!

Mike Kish

Principal

Ps At this time, our plan does not allow any shared snacks or snacks from home for other students. This includes birthdays. Half-birthdays will work once we get back to old school.(B.C.)

PS Happy Birthday to Catie Taylor on 8-14 and Maren Donjon on 8-24.

PS **OUR FIRST ALL SCHOOL MASS** of the year is next Thursday 8-27 with Grades 8 and 2 in attendance. We would have room for about 25 parents. Sign in please. First come... AND it will be live-streamed to all grades and YOU at home! Remote learners should be with us! We will send out the link Wednesday. Thanks to Mr. Joe Gilbreth for helping with this and training our tech students who will be aiding the production.



Evan



Sydney



Harper



Principal (nice tie!)