



IMMACULATE CONCEPTION SCHOOL
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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*

November 17, 2017

Bienvenido el parrochia!

V. 43 #18

Dear Parent, Guardian, Student, Teacher, Friend,

THANKSGIVING INVITE Come to our annual Thanksgiving School Liturgy on Tuesday, November 21 at 8:05! Bring a canned good for the needy(place in hallway) and the children's donations for the St. Raymond collection at the door. Pilgrims-Indians-Eucharist-caramel rolls! Our Community Celebration will be at 7:00 pm on Wednesday, November 22 in our church with Pastor Jared Parker giving the reflection.

BLACK FRIDAY PARENTS DAY OUT FUNDRAISER The ICS 8th Grade Class is hosting on Friday, November 24th in the ICS Gym/Cafeteria. Drop your kiddos off for fun, games, popcorn snack and a movie while you complete your shopping or have a date night! Reserve your spot early! [Click Here](#).

Sessions available are 10 am - 2 pm, 2 pm - 6 pm, and 6 pm - 10 pm. The cost is \$10/child (age 3 and up), \$15/child (age 2 and under) - per session (Please provide a nut-free sack lunch/dinner per child per session). **8TH GRADERS ARE FUNDRAISING FOR THEIR DC FIELD TRIP.** If you would like to order \$1 chocolate candy bars, talk to an 8th grader! The 8th Grade Class says thanks for supporting our efforts to visit D.C.!



THE CRAFT FAIR IS SATURDAY, DECEMBER 2ND!

[Cookie Volunteers](#)

www.signupgenius.com

Join us to help the ICS Parents and Friends cookie booth at the ICS Craft Fair. Volunteer for any shift to help out! Fun and easy shifts and students 10 and up are welcome to help! [Click here](#)

[for cookie flyer](#)

[Click here for ICS Craft Fair Flyer](#)

Last year we raised almost \$1,000 in basket raffle sales and we need your help to beat that this year! Please visit our signup genius to pick any items you can donate towards our 8 raffle baskets, and contact Christy Hornacek or leave your items at school with Bev by Monday, November 27th. Thank you all for your support! <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/30e0944a5ae2ca4f85-craft>

The Columba Kiwanis Club presented a check for \$2,945 to Immaculate Conception School for technology at their meeting on November 7. The school purchased 5 mini-Ipads, 8 chrome books, and 12 head-sets for classroom use. The Kiwanis believe in youth and they build! Pictured: ICS Tech Director Sue Lewis, Kiwanis President Bruce Doyle, ICS Principal Mike Kish, and Vice-President Chad Stultz. Lynda Hofstetter is Treasurer and Sharon Nealon is Secretary, ICS Builders Club Advisor, and CHS Key Club Advisor.



Edward Jones Teacher of the Month **Emily Brutton!** Award presented by Todd Osterhage to an excellent teacher who brightens our day with music and “I’ll tackle anything attitude”.



Terrific Kids – November 2017

Mrs. Diewald: Jordan Hugger – Jordan is our Terrific Kid! He is an all-around great student. He follows the rules, has his materials ready for class, works very hard in all subject areas and is a great friend to others. I am proud of Jordan's hard work!

Mrs. Meyer: Averie Sanker – Averie is the Terrific Kid because she follows classroom rules consistently. She is kind and always willing to help others. She enjoys learning and participates well during class discussions.

Mrs. Matrisotto: Hayden Lieber – Hayden earned Terrific Kid for Mrs. Matrisotto's Classroom for being in control of her body, voice, and cooperation. Hayden has worked very hard this first quarter and continues to share God's light with others.

Ms. Kennedy: Liam Heinen – Liam is a Terrific Kid because he focuses in class, works hard, and is respectful to classmates and teachers. He has adapted to our school exceptionally! Keep up the great work Liam!

Mrs. Donjon: Genevieve Nadziejko – Genevieve is a Terrific Kid! She works hard inside and outside of the classroom. Genevieve turns in her best work and helps other students when they need it. She is not afraid to do something new when asked.

Mrs. Ettling: Adrian DeClue – Adrian is a Terrific Kid because she follows the classroom rules, is respectful to everyone, and participates in class.

Mrs. Schauster: Lauren Thorne – Lauren is a terrific kid. She is a hard worker in class, and always tries her hardest. Lauren is a quiet young lady who has a smile for everyone. She is a great addition to our classroom.

Mrs. Taylor: Hailey Wilkerson - Hailey is a hard worker and had a great first quarter in 5th grade. She is always willing to lend me a hand in the classroom, too.



We were SO fortunate to have Dariia from Kyrgyzstan and Maria from Ukraine come speak with us yesterday! Though Kyrgyzstan is covered in mountains, has a nomadic ancestry, and is predominantly non-denominational Muslim and Ukraine is rolling fields of farmland, part of the European continent, and is Ukrainian Orthodox Christian, these two young ladies showed us how much we all have in common. What a wonderful opportunity for our community! They are attending Columbia High School.

IT'S TIME FOR THE CHRISTMAS PLAY!! Everyone in K-3 is a part of the **Christmas Play, Tuesday Dec. 12th in the school gym. KINDERGARTEN** will be in the play as chorus, **1st Graders** who want to be in the play will need to sign-up with Mrs. Epplin. All those in 1-3 who do not wish to play a "PART" in the play will be in the chorus with their classes. These students learn the songs for the play during music class at school. So they do not need to come to after school rehearsals either. Rehearsals will be Monday-Thursday 3-4:30 (except on Thanksgiving week... only Monday and Tuesday that week Nov 20, and 21). Rehearsals won't necessarily be for everyone everyday. Once the details are released you can refer to that. Please feel free to email or call me with questions. [MaryBeth](#)

It's Chess Time! The ICS Chess Team is ready to make their first move of the season! We will have a new format. Practices are as follows through the new year: **November 28th - Grades 2 and 3 (3:00 - 4:00 in Cafeteria) and December 5th - Grades 4 through 8 (3:00 - 4:00 in Cafeteria)**

~"Chess 101" classes for first grade will be starting this winter. These will include 3 or 4 one hour sessions probably on consecutive Wednesdays or Thursdays. We will get in the basics and have time to play games as well. Details after the first of the year.

~**The team is looking for assistants and/or volunteers!** Ask grandma, grandpa, or Uncle Joe, or even a parishioner you know! Parents are welcome to come help as well. Contact Mrs. Herrmann at cherrmann@icsmail.org if you or someone you know has an interest in chess and would like to be a part of our thriving chess program!

We will be working with Human Support Services to help Mrs. Karen Lundy with counseling for us. Starts on Thursday, November 30 from 10:00-2:00.

GOOD DEEDS DONE...

VETERANS CARDS APPRECIATED: Thanks to all the ICS students who created cards for our parish veterans, prompted by Mrs. Katie Hart and J.U.S.T. Families. After distribution at our weekend Masses (the vets had fun selecting their keepsakes!), we had 64 left over, so we packaged them up for the Veterans Administration. They were much appreciated and will be given out at John Cochran Hospital in St. Louis Thursday evening (tonight). Special thanks to VA employee and IC PSR catechist Christina Moallankamp for making the delivery.

GOOD DEEDS TO DO...

TIRED TEDDIES: STUFFED ANIMAL RE-HOMING! Gibault is collecting pre-loved stuffed animals for cleaning and distribution. If you bring them in to Mrs. Epplin before December 8, Mrs. Young will make sure they get to GCHS. (Stuffed toys will be steam-cleaned but should not have rips/tears.) Thank you beary much!

Lizanne Young | Director of Faith Formation

CHRISTMAS EVE CHOIR NEEDS SINGERS!!!

If your family is planning to attend the 5 p.m. Liturgy on Christmas Eve and your child is 3rd grade or older, we NEED a choir for this mass. We have only a handful and normally we have 20-25 singers. Please encourage your child to join for these rehearsals: Wed, Nov 29 Wed, Dec 6 Wed, Dec 13 in the ICS Band room.

SCRIP Volunteers needed: we are looking for new volunteers to help sell Scrip at Mass on the weekends. It's a great way to fulfill your time, talent and treasure! We will schedule you for a mass you already attend. Email Catie Tyler at rcjetyler@gmail.com if interested in helping.



a brief look at the Funderwear trophy---

FUNDERWEAR The annual ICS-SPPCS competition sponsored by the ICS Builders Club for Day Star in Cairo is scheduled for Saturday, December 16. Last year we got a late start and lost. I think the series is tied at 4 each so it is our turn to bring home the traveling trophy if we can muster enough briefs, boxers, tees, underwear, hats gloves, and socks. Many of these will end up as Christmas gifts. Being clean from the inside out is one of the little dignities of life. Let's help bring it home! Help brighten the lives of others at Day Star.

GIBAULT CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL PLACEMENT TEST FOR THE INCOMING CLASS OF 2022 will be given Saturday, December 2, from 8:30-11:45. The test is given free of charge, please RSVP to Susan Mackin (smackin@gibaulthawks.com).

Tuition options/Invest in Kids Scholarships - While the placement test is being given, we will hold an informational meeting for parents in the Gibault library to discuss variable tuition, Gibault sponsored scholarships, and scholarships that will be available under the new Invest in Kids Act offered by the state of Illinois.

Comparing high schools? Come take a look at Gibault Catholic! Our innovative schedule and electronic curriculum will get your 7th or 8th grader excited about high school! Schedule your student's date to shadow a Gibault Catholic student for a full day of class by contacting Pat Herzing (pherzing@gibaulthawks.com). *Something Better Within Reach*. We look forward to meeting you! Follow us on Facebook, Twitter (@GibaultCatholic) and Instagram (#gibaultproud) for more information.

National Catholic Youth Conference(NCYC)-This Weekend Please pray for our parish teens, Catie Whitworth, Jane Whelan, Alexis Poepper, and Ivana West, and adults, Sandra Whitworth and Maria West, who will join with over 20,000 teens and

adults this weekend in Indianapolis IN at the National Catholic Youth Conference. They will join with thousands of other Catholic youth to celebrate and deepen their Catholic faith, share in Masses celebrated with dozens of bishops and hundreds of priests from all over the country, and have a great time. Thanks, Sandra Whitworth

THANKS

To Parents and Friends for funding faculty and staff flu shots(keep 'em healthy-keep 'em working!), Mix-it-up Day, and Memorials for Dan Whelan in honor of Laura Whelan and Catie Evans.

To a generous donor who bought our last 5 Entertainment books for us to donate!

Family Fun Night Thanks to Mrs. Beth Carrow for chairing and Mrs. Mandy Bormeyer, Mrs. Cyra Herrmann, Ms. Emily Brutton, Mrs. Sue Lewis, Mrs. Angie Ettlign, and Mrs. Christine Matrisotto for sharing their time in such a fun way!

To **PAPA JOHN'S** for \$55.59 from the last pizza night Oct. 30!

MAGAZINE DRIVE Go to www.gaschoolstore.com --- order on-line. Our ID # is 2710556. We get 40%! Another \$22.80 just came in---\$53,771.15 in gross sales!

THE SPORTING NEWS...

RUNNING CLUB 18 kids participated in the ICS Running Club Wednesday afternoon. 12 completed a 5k and 6 ran 2.5 miles for a total of 53.5 miles. Such an impressive start to a positive, supportive activity. Thanks Susan Dalpoas! Life-long sport

GRADS in the news...Congratulations to **Mary Wessel** (ICS '16) on helping the Althoff Crusaders win the State 3A Title in Volleyball last week. Mary was quite the athlete and student for us and she makes Michael and ICS proud!

Congratulations to Zack Gillan (ICS '14) on being selected as a 1st Team member of 2017 Chicago Fire Boys All-State All-Academic team. This year's team was produced from a very strong group of nominations. We are proud of Zack and our 9 grads on the State 2A Second Place Team! **Fast Facts:**

- 14 of the Boys (61%) on the 1st team scored 30 or more on their ACT compared to 43% of the nominations scoring 30 or higher.
- We had huge # of high test scores with 4 perfect 36, 5 students scoring 35, 4 who scored 34 and 12 who had a 33. From this total of 25 students only 13 made the 1st team.
- We had 39% of the 1st team & 41% of the nominations that had coached some soccer.
- Another, 39% of the 1st team & 38% of the nominations had been a soccer referee.
- Finally, 39% of the 1st team & 53% of the nominations were team captains.

ANNUAL PARISH CHRISTMAS PARTY Please show your support and Christmas spirit this season by **making reservations as soon as possible** with John Haubrich at **618-281-6021** or **kcchristmasparty@gmail.com** for the grand event of the year on Saturday, December 9th as the Knights of Columbus host the annual Parish Christmas Party in the ICS Gym. Don't miss this fun evening!



Joey Stuart to his Mom: *“Grandpa sure sings good for having only one arm”!*

BUILD UP THE KINGDOM OF YOUR LOVE daily shirts Alaina Patton, Nicholas Holdener, Summer Harrington, Sean Frederick, Brynn Moore, Wiley Sasser, Daniel Huels

Prayers for **Louie Diewald**, Mrs. Diewald’s father-in-law, who had a quadruple by-pass this week. He is doing well.

Prayers for **Carrie Daigle**, mom of Andrew and Danica, she is in the hospital.

PRAYERS: Special Intention Carrie Daigle, m Louis Diewald, Pat Schwartz, Madison Gould, Norm Waterman, Brian Sabin, Kaylee Fogarty, Barbara Thompson, George Perry, Pat Huels, Pearl Mueller, Dennis Kish, Donna Kania, Larry Pelker, Brandon Martin, Susan Adams, Laurie Austin, Donna Barton, Lydia Boyer, Alicia Cohen, Jan Habermehl, Denise Conner, Kenny Hamontree, Susie Kish Settle, Rachel Warden, Bill Kesler, Sis Blaes, Dan Borisuk, Lauren Foran, Jessica Stemler Barcik, Stella Moll, Gertrude Scherrer, Carolyn Baker, Scott Schaefer, Katy Basinski, Chrissy Hoeflinger, Barbara Buchheit, Angie Rose, Ken Bolton, Nick Carron, Roy Lansing, Marcella Heinrichs, Florence Dorshorst, Bill Pennock, Pat Weber, Vince Webb, George Stein, Desiree Frasure

FIRST WORLD DAY OF THE POOR The poor are a gift to us. A lower middle class carpenter who left everything to walk with the poor and become rich in spirit is Our Leader and Our Lord. We all share a poverty of spirit that we spend a lifetime overcoming by imitating Our Lord. Read the words of Pope Francis below. STEWARDSHIP SUNDAY---SO FITTING!

Mike Kish

Principal

PS December 8 Feast Day---All School Mass at Church at 8:15. Come with your children---We will need a bus count.

PS We ran a snow tree phone test this week. Let Mrs. Epplin know if you were not called.

PS Great remarks to Catholic University of America by Bishop Braxton in **The Messenger** this week! The 7th grade acted out the Dred Scott case today at the Old State Capitol! Read The messenger and see the connection!

PS Builder's Club---candy cane sale December 5-6-7 \$.25 each. Funderwear Dec. 16, Griffin Center gifts December 20.

[PS Click Here-Kids Bowling Flyer with Kiwanias](#)

MESSAGE OF HIS HOLINESS POPE FRANCIS

FIRST WORLD DAY OF THE POOR

33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

19 November 2017

Let us love, not with words but with deeds

1. "Little children, let us not love in word or speech, but in deed and in truth" (*1 Jn 3:18*). These words of the Apostle John voice an imperative that no Christian may disregard. The seriousness with which the "beloved disciple" hands down Jesus' command to our own day is made even clearer by the contrast between the *empty words* so frequently on our lips and the *concrete deeds* against which we are called to measure ourselves. Love has no alibi. Whenever we set out to love as Jesus loved, we have to take the Lord as our example; especially when it comes to loving the poor. The Son of God's way of loving is well-known, and John spells it out clearly. It stands on two pillars: God loved us first (cf. *1 Jn 4:10.19*), and he loved us by giving completely of himself, even to laying down his life (cf. *1 Jn 3:16*).

Such love cannot go unanswered. Even though offered unconditionally, asking nothing in return, it so sets hearts on fire that all who experience it are led to love back, despite their limitations and sins. Yet this can only happen if we welcome God's grace, his merciful charity, as fully as possible into our hearts, so that our will and even our emotions are drawn to love both God and neighbour. In this way, the mercy that wells up – as it were – from the heart of the Trinity can shape our lives and bring forth compassion and works of mercy for the benefit of our brothers and sisters in need.

2. "This poor man cried, and the Lord heard him" (*Pss 34:6*). The Church has always understood the importance of this cry. We possess an outstanding testimony to this in the very first pages of the Acts of the Apostles, where Peter asks that seven men, "full of the Spirit and of wisdom" (6:3), be chosen for the ministry of caring for the poor. This is certainly one of the

first signs of the entrance of the Christian community upon the world's stage: the service of the poor. The earliest community realized that being a disciple of Jesus meant demonstrating fraternity and solidarity, in obedience to the Master's proclamation that the poor are *blessed* and *heirs* to the Kingdom of heaven (cf. *Mt* 5:3).

"They sold their possessions and goods and distributed them to all, as any had need" (*Acts* 2:45). In these words, we see clearly expressed the lively concern of the first Christians. The evangelist Luke, who more than any other speaks of mercy, does not exaggerate when he describes the practice of sharing in the early community. On the contrary, his words are addressed to believers in every generation, and thus also to us, in order to sustain our own witness and to encourage our care for those most in need. The same message is conveyed with similar conviction by the Apostle James. In his Letter, he spares no words: "Listen, my beloved brethren. Has not God chosen those who are poor in the world to be rich in faith and heirs of the kingdom that he has promised to those who love him? But you have dishonoured the poor man. Is it not the rich who oppress you, and drag you into court? ... What does it profit, my brethren, if a man says he has faith but has not works? Can his faith save him? If a brother or sister is poorly clothed and in lack of daily food, and one of you says to them, 'Go in peace, be warmed and filled', without giving them the things needed for the body; what does it profit? So faith by itself, if it has not works, is dead' (2:5-6.14-17).

3. Yet there have been times when Christians have not fully heeded this appeal, and have assumed a worldly way of thinking. Yet the Holy Spirit has not failed to call them to keep their gaze fixed on what is essential. He has raised up men and women who, in a variety of ways, have devoted their lives to the service of the poor. Over these two thousand years, how many pages of history have been written by Christians who, in utter simplicity and humility, and with generous and creative charity, have served their poorest brothers and sisters!

The most outstanding example is that of Francis of Assisi, followed by many other holy men and women over the centuries. He was not satisfied to *embrace* lepers and give them *alms*, but chose to go to Gubbio to *stay* with them. He saw this meeting as the turning point of his conversion: "When I was in my sins, it seemed a thing too bitter to look on lepers, and the Lord himself led me among them and I showed them mercy. And when I left them, what had seemed bitter to me was changed into sweetness of mind and body" (*Text* 1-3: *FF* 110). This testimony shows the transformative power of charity and the Christian way of life.

We may think of the poor simply as the beneficiaries of our occasional volunteer work, or of impromptu acts of generosity that appease our conscience. However good and useful such acts may be for making us sensitive to people's needs and the injustices that are often their cause, they ought to lead to a true *encounter* with the poor and a *sharing* that becomes a way of life. Our prayer and our journey of discipleship and conversion find the confirmation of their evangelic authenticity in precisely such charity and sharing. This way of life gives rise to joy and peace of soul, because we touch with our own hands the *flesh of Christ*. If we truly wish to encounter Christ, we have to touch his body in the suffering bodies of the poor, as a response to the sacramental communion bestowed in the Eucharist. The Body of Christ, broken in the sacred liturgy, can be seen, through charity and sharing, in the faces and persons of the most vulnerable of our brothers and sisters. Saint John Chrysostom's admonition remains ever timely: "If you want to honour the body of Christ, do not scorn it when it is naked; do not

honour the Eucharistic Christ with silk vestments, and then, leaving the church, neglect the other Christ suffering from cold and nakedness" (*Hom. in Matthaeum*, 50.3: PG 58).

We are called, then, to draw near to the poor, to encounter them, to meet their gaze, to embrace them and to let them feel the warmth of love that breaks through their solitude. Their outstretched hand is also an invitation to step out of our certainties and comforts, and to acknowledge the value of poverty in itself.

4. Let us never forget that, for Christ's disciples, poverty is above all a *call to follow Jesus in his own poverty*. It means walking behind him and beside him, a journey that leads to the beatitude of the Kingdom of heaven (cf. *Mt* 5:3; *Lk* 6:20). Poverty means having a humble heart that accepts our creaturely limitations and sinfulness and thus enables us to overcome the temptation to feel omnipotent and immortal. Poverty is an interior attitude that avoids looking upon money, career and luxury as our goal in life and the condition for our happiness. Poverty instead creates the conditions for freely shouldering our personal and social responsibilities, despite our limitations, with trust in God's closeness and the support of his grace. Poverty, understood in this way, is the yardstick that allows us to judge how best to use material goods and to build relationships that are neither selfish nor possessive (cf. *Catechism of the Catholic Church*, Nos. 25-45).

Let us, then, take as our example Saint Francis and his witness of authentic poverty. Precisely because he kept his gaze fixed on Christ, Francis was able to see and serve him in the poor. If we want to help change history and promote real development, we need to hear the cry of the poor and commit ourselves to ending their marginalization. At the same time, I ask the poor in our cities and our communities not to lose the sense of evangelical poverty that is part of their daily life.

5. We know how hard it is for our contemporary world to see poverty clearly for what it is. Yet in myriad ways poverty challenges us daily, in faces marked by suffering, marginalization, oppression, violence, torture and imprisonment, war, deprivation of freedom and dignity, ignorance and illiteracy, medical emergencies and shortage of work, trafficking and slavery, exile, extreme poverty and forced migration. Poverty has the face of women, men and children exploited by base interests, crushed by the machinations of power and money. What a bitter and endless list we would have to compile were we to add the poverty born of social injustice, moral degeneration, the greed of a chosen few, and generalized indifference!

Tragically, in our own time, even as ostentatious wealth accumulates in the hands of the privileged few, often in connection with illegal activities and the appalling exploitation of human dignity, there is a scandalous growth of poverty in broad sectors of society throughout our world. Faced with this scenario, we cannot remain passive, much less resigned. There is a poverty that stifles the spirit of initiative of so many young people by keeping them from finding work. There is a poverty that dulls the sense of personal responsibility and leaves others to do the work while we go looking for favours. There is a poverty that poisons the wells of participation and allows little room for professionalism; in this way it demeans the merit of those who do work and are productive. To all these forms of poverty we must respond with a new vision of life and society.

All the poor – as Blessed Paul VI loved to say – belong to the Church by “evangelical right” (*Address at the Opening of the Second Session of the Second Vatican Ecumenical Council*, 29 September 1963), and require of us a fundamental option on their behalf. Blessed, therefore, are the open hands that embrace the poor and help them: they are hands that bring hope. Blessed are the hands that reach beyond every barrier of culture, religion and nationality, and pour the balm of consolation over the wounds of humanity. Blessed are the open hands that ask nothing in exchange, with no “ifs” or “buts” or “maybes”: they are hands that call down God’s blessing upon their brothers and sisters.

6. At the conclusion of the Jubilee of Mercy, I wanted to offer the Church a *World Day of the Poor*, so that throughout the world Christian communities can become an ever greater sign of Christ’s charity for the least and those most in need. To the World Days instituted by my Predecessors, which are already a tradition in the life of our communities, I wish to add this one, which adds to them an exquisitely evangelical fullness, that is, Jesus’ preferential love for the poor.

I invite the whole Church, and men and women of good will everywhere, to turn their gaze on this day to all those who stretch out their hands and plead for our help and solidarity. They are our brothers and sisters, created and loved by the one Heavenly Father. This *Day* is meant, above all, to encourage believers to react against a culture of discard and waste, and to embrace the culture of encounter. At the same time, everyone, independent of religious affiliation, is invited to openness and sharing with the poor through concrete signs of solidarity and fraternity. God created the heavens and the earth for all; yet sadly some have erected barriers, walls and fences, betraying the original gift meant for all humanity, with none excluded.

7. It is my wish that, in the week preceding the World Day of the Poor, which falls this year on 19 November, the Thirty-third Sunday of Ordinary Time, Christian communities will make every effort to create moments of encounter and friendship, solidarity and concrete assistance. They can invite the poor and volunteers to take part together in the Eucharist on this Sunday, in such a way that there be an even more authentic celebration of the Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, Universal King, on the following Sunday. The kingship of Christ is most evident on Golgotha, when the Innocent One, nailed to the cross, poor, naked and stripped of everything, incarnates and reveals the fullness of God’s love. Jesus’ complete abandonment to the Father expresses his utter poverty and reveals the power of the Love that awakens him to new life on the day of the Resurrection.

This Sunday, if there are poor people where we live who seek protection and assistance, let us draw close to them: it will be a favourable moment to encounter the God we seek. Following the teaching of Scripture (cf. *Gen 18:3-5; Heb 13:2*), let us welcome them as honoured guests at our table; they can be teachers who help us live the faith more consistently. With their trust and readiness to receive help, they show us in a quiet and often joyful way, how essential it is to live simply and to abandon ourselves to God’s providence.

8. At the heart of all the many concrete initiatives carried out on this day should always be *prayer*. Let us not forget that the *Our Father* is the prayer of the poor. Our asking for bread expresses our entrustment to God for our basic needs in life. Everything that Jesus taught us in this prayer expresses and brings together the cry of all who suffer from life’s uncertainties and

the lack of what they need. When the disciples asked Jesus to teach them to pray, he answered in the words with which the poor speak to our one Father, in whom all acknowledge themselves as brothers and sisters. The *Our Father* is a prayer said in the plural: the bread for which we ask is "ours", and that entails sharing, participation and joint responsibility. In this prayer, all of us recognize our need to overcome every form of selfishness, in order to enter into the joy of mutual acceptance.

9. I ask my brother Bishops, and all priests and deacons who by their vocation have the mission of supporting the poor, together with all consecrated persons and all associations, movements and volunteers everywhere, to help make this *World Day of the Poor* a tradition that concretely contributes to evangelization in today's world.

This new *World Day*, therefore, should become a powerful appeal to our consciences as believers, allowing us to grow in the conviction that sharing with the poor enables us to understand the deepest truth of the Gospel. The poor are not a problem: they are a resource from which to draw as we strive to accept and practise in our lives the essence of the Gospel.

From the Vatican, 13 June 2017

Memorial of Saint Anthony of Padua

Francis

**VETERANS DAY 2017 REMARKS OF FORMER ICS TEACHER BILL RILEY, LT. COL. Ret.,
TO GIBAULT CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL**

SO YOU WANT TO HONOR MILITARY VETERANS?

Thank you Mr. Gregson. Mr. Hart, Faculty, and assembled students I welcome the privilege to speak here today. A special thanks to former ICS students I taught who bear the scars of projects, exams, and essays I inflicted upon them

I am here today to tell you how to honor all of us veterans all the time. But first, please give me a show of hands to the following questions:

- How many of you have a twitter account?
- How many on facebook?
- How many use email?
- Thank you. I'll get back to this later.

It is often said that we veterans protected your freedoms and privileges as US citizens.

Simply thank them for their service. We appreciate it. Sometimes, it is a person who had a relative in the military; sometimes it's a young person who wants to ask about life in the military. If it is someone your age or younger, that never gets old. We wear these caps because it helps us recognize each other. There is a brotherhood there no matter what branch of service we were in, although we in the Air Force are often teased by the Army and Marines that our living accommodations were so better than theirs. And, they are right. So, what veterans are around today to thank?

WW2 – By 1942, it looked like both Germany and Japan were unstoppable. But these people were tough... they had scrapped through the Great Depression and there was no quit in them. Eventually, they turned the tide and secured victory in both Asia and Europe by 1945.

Korean War – sometimes called the Forgotten War, this was a bloody three year conflict that included military conflict with China. US and Allied soldiers were almost pushed out of the Korean peninsula at the start of the war, but rallied to throw the North Korean army out of South Korea.

VIETNAM WAR – A controversial war which saw 500,000 US military personnel committed at its highest. The war deeply divided our nation and the veterans who were sent there suffered an especially cruel fate when they came home. For the first time in our history, we turned our backs on the soldiers we sent overseas to fight. Cindi Vaughn story...

Desert Shield/Desert Storm 1990-91 – These veterans fought as part of a UN coalition to throw Saddam Hussein's Iraqi Army out of Kuwait. People who worked for me deployed on Christmas Eve, 1990, to go to war...

Afghanistan, 2001-present – US soldiers have been engaged in Afghanistan for 16 years, ever since the US responded to the terrorist attacks of 9-11, 2001. It is our longest war.

Iraqi Freedom, 2003- US forces successfully removed Saddam Hussein from power in Iraq. The country fell apart into factional fighting along both ethnic and religious lines, and US forces are currently fighting ISIS in Iraq.

But you also honor us above and beyond this great ceremony in your school today by the way you live your lives.

Freedom of Speech, Part I –Raise your hand if you agree with the following statement: **I have the right to contact my elected officials and even disagree with them if I choose to do so.**

You have an unparalleled access to communication at your fingertips. US Senators Durbin and Duckworth, US Representative Bost, State Senator Schimpf and State Representative Costello can all be contacted by email. Senator Duckworth has both twitter and facebook as well. Tell these people of your view on a state or national issue. Be an active citizen. You really don't know what you believe until you write it down.

Become a well-informed citizen. If you like CNN or MSNBC, also check out FOX NEWS. Read articles by those with whom you disagree.

Exercise your mind, for someday you will have the privilege of voting when you are 18 years old. Do you realize that you get to vote at 18 because of the Vietnam War? 11,465 soldiers of the 58,000 on the Vietnam Wall who were killed in Vietnam were 20 years old or younger. In the wake of this war, an emotional appeal swept the country to grant the vote to 18 year olds who were being sent to fight in Vietnam. 38 states had to ratify your right to vote at 18 years old – that goal was reached in two months, the fastest ratification in US history.

If you do these things, then the sacrifices of veterans will be worth it.

Freedom of Speech and Freedom of Assembly --I am going to make a series of statements. Raise your hand if you agree.

- I have the right to join a peaceful protest against abortion if I choose to do so
- White supremacists have the right to assemble and expound their views in a peaceful protest
 - Belleville example (Baptist Church group countered hate speech with Christian songs and proclamation that God loved the White Supremacists... the White supremacists went home... no violence...)
- A group of people claiming to be Christian have the right to peacefully picket the funeral of a soldier killed in Iraq or Afghanistan with signs that say “God loves dead soldiers”
 - Patriot Guard lines up between picketers and their hateful signs so that the family of the dead soldier is not disturbed...no violence...no insults toward the protestors
 - Jewish author replied with love and humor to the hate-filled emails from a lady who was part of this church... over time she came to see she was wrong and left the church with her sister)
- NFL players have the right to protest injustice by refusing to stand for the national anthem

I disapprove of what you say,(your protest, why and when you protest) but will defend to the death your right to say it.

What if Martin Luther King Jr. was right? “Darkness cannot drive out darkness; only light can do that. Hate cannot drive out hate; only love can do that.”

Do not counter hate with hate, and when you are in college, don't you dare join a group that declares someone whose views we disagree with cannot speak here.

When you embrace the idea that freedom of speech and assembly apply to all, then you honor all veterans even if you disapprove of those who speak and those who protest.

Freedom of Religion – a simple story. On 9-11, 2001, an aircraft piloted by men who falsely claimed to be following the precepts of Islam slammed into the Pentagon in Washington DC. 184 people, in both the aircraft and in that wing of the Pentagon, were killed. Today, a chapel open 24 hours per day is situated at the very spot where that aircraft crashed. That chapel hosts religious services of all faiths once a week. And yes, that means that US servicemen who are Muslim also worship in that chapel. Respect all religions, and you honor veterans who sacrificed to protect your first Amendment rights.

Freedom of the Press—we have heard a great deal about fake news. Regardless of your viewpoint of a particular newspaper or .com article, freedom of the press is essential to our democracy. The fake news rhetoric is not designed to challenge a free press, but to intimidate and silence its criticisms. It is not freedom of the press if the only articles to be printed and the only TV stations to operate are the ones with whom we agree. Write letters to the editor... and above all, support a diversity of opinion.

So, young ladies and gentlemen, you honor us veterans by how you live out your lives in accordance with the freedoms you have been given. Protect freedom of speech and assembly even for those whom you do not like; honor all religions; respect the freedom of the press. And, after you are 18, if you find yourself complaining that you are too tired to vote, and why is voting in November on a cold, uncomfortable day... think of the 18 years olds whose names are on the

Vietnam Wall.. think of those people departing for the Middle East on Christmas Eve... and you'll do the right thing and vote.

Thanks for listening, and God bless the United States.