



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!

November 20, 2015

V. 41 #22



Dear Parent, Guardian, Student, Teacher, Friend,



Annual THANKSGIVING Liturgy On Tuesday, November 24, our First Graders will help us thank our good God for all our blessings---during and after our Liturgy at 8:05. Chairs will be set up for Grandma and Grandpa. Park on the playground if you have difficulty walking. The back gym door will also be open. Please expect it to be crowded and share the inconvenience as we celebrate this tradition for the first time in our gym. Everyone is welcome and we'll share a caramel roll after! (The cafeteria and Band room will be set-up for rolls. Teachers will adopt students if you can't make it.) Thanks! *Come Ye Thankful People Come!*

FIRST RECONCILIATION is this Sunday at 3:00 for our Second Grade. This Sacrament of God's compassion is good for the common soul!!! Feel the warmth, feel the grace, feel the joy of God's embrace!

FULL STEWARDSHIP COMMITMENT WEEKEND Stewardship is simply saying thanks to God for all we have been given. We demonstrate this by sharing with others. We are the only Full Stewardship Parish in the Diocese. We go against the grain. We are making it but if everyone bought in, imagine how much more we could do! Thank you for reading the information this weekend and prayerfully making a commitment. Our goal is get this done now and not have to keep asking or considering the alternatives to noncompliance. Time-Talent-Treasure. Give according to how you have been blessed. It's the fair thing to do and our God is not only fair, but compassionate.

PARENTS AND FRIENDS...ICS Trivia Night- A big thank you to our 2015 Trivia Night Sponsors.

These generous businesses support our school, so it is important we support them. If you are in need of the services they provide, please consider them first!

Techlystics

Crawford Butz Insurance Agency

Family Hospice

First Class Workforce Solutions

Illini Pediatrics

Korte and Luitjohan

Suite Hair Salon

Chris Thomas Plumbing

Drury Construction

Family Practice Associates

Hentscher-Johnson Orthodontics

It Works

Mandy McGuire Century 21

Window Tint Central

We had a very successful night---maybe best ever! Details coming soon! TEAM---together Everyone Achieves More!



THANKS to Tom Smugala of Stoneftree Fabrications for our beautiful new portable Altar for our Liturgies. Fr. Carl blessed it on Thursday!

How Our Scrip Fundraiser Saves Your Holidays!!

The holidays are rapidly approaching and from Thanksgiving to New Year's, Scrip gift cards are ready to help you. Our Scrip Program is a year round fundraiser that doesn't cost anything extra and there's no better time to participate than the holiday season. It's simple: you purchase gift cards at face value, and the businesses give a rebate back to us. That's right, every time you use a Scrip card for a purchase you were already planning, you make money for your school!

Not sure how you would use Scrip gift cards? Check out these ideas:

Cooking for Thanksgiving, Christmas or New Year's Eve? Every good meal starts with fresh ingredients; try gift cards from Dierbergs, Shop N Save, Walmart, or Whole Foods.

Tired of holiday cooking? When you need a break from the kitchen or a bite on the go; try gift cards for all kinds of restaurants, fast food to fine dining and everything in between.

Plan to do any Christmas shopping? Give a gift to ICS just by using Scrip to pay for the gifts your family and friends want; try gift cards from JCPenney, Macys, Sears, Best Buy, Home Depot, Kohls, Children's Place, Toys R Us, Dick's Sporting Goods, Bass Pro, Old Navy, Gap, American Eagle, Aeropostale, Bed Bath & Beyond, Bath & Body Works, Hallmark, American Girl, Game Stop and many more.

Prefer to do your shopping online? When you prefer to shop without worrying about holiday traffic or bad weather; try gift cards for Amazon.com, LL Bean, Land's End, iTunes, Overstock.com, and Zappos.com. You can also use store gift cards for online shopping at most store websites.

Planning any holiday travel? Whether you're going to Grandma's house or getting away from it all, try gift cards for gas (Shell, Circle K, BP, etc), hotels (Best Western, Hyatt, Comfort Inn, etc), rental cars (Budget, Avis), airlines (Delta), or even cruises (Carnival, Celebrity, Royal Caribbean). Disney gift cards can be used at Disney stores, hotels, theme parks, and restaurants.

Hard-to-shop-for people on your Christmas list? Whether it's a co-worker, great aunt, or teenager, try the gift of gift cards.

To participate in this simple, "free" fundraiser, print out and complete the attached order form. You can send your order into the school office with your payment (cash or check made out to ICS Parents & Friends). If your order comes in on Monday, we can guarantee fulfillment by Friday of the same week. You can either pick up your order at the school office or have it sent home with your child.

To check out the wide variety of gift cards that are available to order, please see the attachments. In addition to those national retailers, some of our local businesses also participate in the Scrip Program. They are:

Dairy Queen - \$10 cards

Dierberg's - \$25 and \$100 cards

Joe Boccardi's - \$25 cards

Schneider's Quality Meats - \$25 cards

AND our newest retailer - REIFSCHNEIDER'S - \$25 cards

Scrip paid for curriculum updates and teacher attendance bonuses this past year. This translates into better and happier teaching and great test scores!

Robert Stark will do his Mater Dei Senior Service Project here starting January 3.

Robert is a cousin to Brian and Allison Stark and will be staying with them for the 3 weeks. Thanks to Shari Murphy for supervising his schedule!

FAMILY FUN NIGHT AT ICS On Thursday, November 19st Immaculate Conception School held their 8th Annual Family Fun Night in conjunction with the Illinois State Library's Family Literacy Night program. Faculty and Staff put on 6 different stations including arts and crafts – thanksgiving turkey (Carol Fetcho & Angie Ettling), STEM @home activity bags (Mandy Borgmeyer & Jenny Neff), thanksgiving related reading (Maren Donjon), science – sink and float (Priscilla Wilkerson) and cooking – *Donut Chef* : donut making (Beth Carrow & Sandy Bradley). Fun (and learning) was had by all!



COLUMBIA MCDONALD'S

We had the #1 Ronald McDonald Tuesday night. I sat next to a family as he explained the most recent Ronald McDonald house at Children's Hospital. Ronald's handler was very pleased with our effort, the behavior of our children, and the turn-out. We netted \$770! Thanks to all who worked and ate and bought Christmas cards! Special thanks to the Burris Family (owners) for this opportunity, to Danielle and Jamie Barnett (managers) for extra efforts and to Teresa Dorshorst for attendance prizes and promotion!

Raffle Winners:

Jennifer Thorne-Melting Pot Gift Certificate	Chris Basler-Longhorn Steakhouse
Susan Dalpoas-Walmart gift card	Curt Pollman-Jewelry
Kevin Schmoll-Surprise gift bag	Katie Repp-Christmas Gift Bag

IOWA TEST RESULTS I have completed meeting with the Class of 2016 and Class of 2017 on their Iowa test scores and grade point averages from 5th grade to the present. Their parents should ask them to pass on this information. The goal is to have our students "own" their education. The beauty of grade school is the fact it should be a safe place to make mistakes, for that's the way we learn. In my 45 years here, I have had 2 U.S. Marshals come in to review the permanent record folders---both times were for high level security clearances. Grades and test scores matter, but both are relative to developmental maturity, attitude, and work ethic which all take time to foster.

During the meeting we talked about the "relativity" of tests. Test scores are dependent on the norming group, time of day, disposition, breakfast, amount of sleep, and curriculum timing. The ICS curriculum is not totally in sync with standardized tests, i.e. we have 2 years of Geography-(one for U.S.-one for World), U.S. History is spread over 3 years, Science curriculum is in-depth, and Math is developmental, allowing students to advance. Sometimes students are tested on things not taught yet but eventually, our curriculum will exceed the knowledge base sought. A change in a score of plus or minus 7 is considered "significant". It might be caused by relativity, curriculum, transfer from test to paper and "being a bubble off", or the latest impact item---online testing. Most comments on that have been favorable from the Class of 2016.

Our Belleville Diocesan composite test scores are very good. Our own composite scores exceed the Diocese 9 of 10 times and tie the Diocese on the other for 7th and 8th grade. On grades 2-8 composite scores, we are 11 points from being at or above in all. My goal in all of this is to get students to continue or improve the next 3 quarters and be sure to be ready for high school. Good parenting and good teaching prepares the child for the path, not the path for the child.

ACADEMIC NEWS...

SPEECH TEAM Marie Prindiville and Anna Haubrich-perfect, Sydney Wahle-perfect, Josie Thomas-1st place, Abby Eichenseer and Emma Tippen-1st place



Thanks to Coach Sam Watters and Coach Lucy Hollman for getting us ready!

James Ramette placed 26 of 51 at Lindberg High School in the Gateway Chess Tournament! Many of his competitors were in high school!

Emma Tyler has won first place in State Rep Jerry Costello's Illinois State Symbols Coloring Contest. She will receive a pizza party for her classroom! Congratulations Emma!

SCHOLASTIC BOWL: Congratulations to the 2015-2016 Scholastic Bowl team members: Spencer Biske, Kaylum Furlow, Ryan Gallagher, Hannah Janson, Eve Melliere, Ben Traxler, Mary Wessel, Jane Whelan, Jacob Feldker, Isabella Frasure, Eli Garcia, Katie Grawitch, Reagan Herrmann, Kalia Jerkatis, and James Ramette. The first practice will be Monday, November 30th from 3-4:30pm. Thanks to all who tried out! - Mrs. Taylor

2015 K—3 Christmas Play DATE CHANGE---PLEASE NOTE. December 14- 15 at 7:00. Two nights as a pilot this year. (Trying it out to see if 2 nights is better than one.) School Board to follow. **MONDAY December 14th and Tuesday December 15th at 7pm; arrive in costume no later than 6:30pm.**

CHESS NEWS- PLEASE NOTE.... major revisions in the remaining chess practice schedule and change your calendars if you have already written the dates.

The remaining practice schedule will be as follows:

Lower Grades (1-3):- December 1, December 15, January 12, January 26, February 9, February 23, March 8, March 22

Upper Grades (4-8): November 24, December 8, January 5, January 19, February 2, February 16, March 1, March 15

We are off to a great start! Over 80 students are in the program again this year! We hope to have dates for the meets sometime soon. Keep practicing! Mrs. Herrmann

REGIONAL OFFICE OF EDUCATION CONTESTS Art-Spelling-YA

Spelling Contest. Match 31 Waterloo Gardner

Art Contest. Waterloo Jr. High

Young Authors CMS. March 19

MENU CHANGE November 24th: Hot dog on bun, sweet potatoes, mixed vegetables, pineapple
Lunch survey results coming Monday.

Papa John's is so thankful for the partnerships that we have with so many schools in the community that we would like to share a Special Deal with you over the next 10 days during the Thanksgiving Break.....50% off orders!! Great option for Wednesday when cooking for the big day and after Thanksgiving when we can not stomach anymore turkey!! Offer is valid today through 11-29. [Attached is a pdf](#) with the offer info, which includes the promo code.

THE LITTLE MERMAID Emma, Olivia and Ava Blaskiewicz are in this Disney classic December 3rd-5th 7:30 and December 5th and 6th 2:30 p.m. at the Ivory Theatre, 7620 Michigan Ave., St. Louis, MO 63111. Tickets on Sale igniteunderthesea.brownpapertickets.com Under the C!

SECRET SANTA PROGRAM The gifts will be due Monday, November 30th. We are dropping them off on Tuesday, December 1st. Thanks! Mandy Borgmeyer and Jenny Neff

ASK ME ABOUT MY MERCY SHIRT This week: Ally Curry-Emily Gillan-Audrey Randle-Jacob Whitworth-Audrey Sullivan

Godspell Jr. pictures can be viewed at www.keevenevents.com no password

THANKS FOR PAYING YOUR PHONE BILL There is an FCC fee on your phone bill that allows schools to get a reduction in phone and internet bills according to our Free/Reduced price numbers. This year we were reimbursed \$1881.36! Can you believe there are many schools in the country that won't fill out the paperwork? We try to get every nickel here as part of being good stewards.

COMMUNITY HELPERS UNIT----Kindergarten presentations It's never too early to think about careers.

Thank you to...

Kim Siegel - sells Municipal Bonds
Justin Siegel- President of DeliStar Inc.
Molly Hake - Neo Natal ICU nurse
Jason Ettling- Officer for the Monroe County Sheriff's Department
Dave Holdener- Structural Engineer
Jamie Kish- Hairstylist
Dennis Schlemmer- Officer for the East Carondelet Police Department
Fr. Carl Scherrer - ICC Parish priest
Leah Jasper - firefighter/paramedic (her presentation was actually during Fire Safety week)
Ben Baker – Telecommunications (Level 3)
Dave Bollone – Police Officer (Millstadt Police Department)
Julie Braun – Pharmacist (Shop-N-Save)
Mike Conrad – Police Officer (Columbia Police Department)
Jessica Dickman – Nurse/Stroke Coordinator (St. Mary's Hospital)
Betty Hasenstab – Nurse, R.N. (Belleville Memorial Hospital)
Kory Haywood – Property Adjuster
John Hugger – Carpenter
Mark Wahle – Business Analyst (SWANK Motion Pictures)
Nick Gianino (presented by Dante) Athletic Director (Fox School District)
Jessica Sheehan – Nurse Practitioner
Craig Story – PGA Golf Professional (Story Golf/Family Golf Center)
Meghan Frierdich - Physical Therapist At Columbia Convalescent Center



Congratulations to ICS Dad Jason Ettling(Noah and Alaina) and teacher Angie Ettling on receiving a Lifesaver Award this week. On September 13, Jason, and several other police officers saved a lady's life. She was in cardiac arrest. Jason was the first to arrive and began CPR. Another deputy, Larry Chausse, then came with the AED. There were other police officers and dispatchers also involved, but without the quick response, the circumstances would be very different for the person. She has fully recovered! The lady just so happened to be one of their neighbors. It was a special evening.

TIRED TEDDIES TOY DRIVE NOVEMBER 23RD – DECEMBER 11TH

Last year a local realty company collected 6982 gently used stuffed animals for redistribution to local First Responders, Children's Hospitals and the Salvation Army. They have a company sanitize them. SO...if your zoo or ark has gotten too full, we will be happy to recycle them for you. Send them in to the office.



THE SPORTING NEWS...

Our 7th grade girls took the Consolation Championship of the Holy Trinity Tournament last Saturday. Congratulations to this high energy team!

GIBAULT CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL NEWS

HO, HO, HO!!! The 3rd Annual Magical Breakfast with Santa will be Sunday, Dec 6th! All proceeds will support the students traveling to Washington DC for the March for Life in January. RSVP by Dec 1st to reserve your spot! 2 seatings available. Bring the family to mass and join us afterwards to visit with the Jolly Ole man himself...and Mrs. Claus too! [Please see attachment for information.](#)

Experience your Catholic high school in action! The **Gibault Catholic Welcome Wednesday** series continues **December 2nd**, 9 – 11 am. Meet Principal Russ Hart for coffee and conversation about **Gibault Catholic** – an area leader in academics, technology, fine arts and athletics. Tour the campus “live” when classes are in session. RSVP: Pat Herzing pherzing@gibaultonline.com or 618.939.3883. Join us for part or all of the morning – We would love to see you!

Gibault Catholic High School Placement test for the incoming class of 2020 will be held Sat., Dec. 5th from 8:30 AM -11:45 AM. Gibault Auditorium. RSVP to Susan Mackin. If the date doesn't work, schedule an alternate date and time. (smackin@gibaultonline.com).

It's beginning to look a lot like.... Gibault Catholic High School invites you to celebrate the joy of the Christmas season with us at our **Christmas Concert and Art Show** on Sunday, December 6th at 7:00 PM in the Hustedde Gymnasium. Enjoy the displays from our talented artists and listen as our bands and choirs perform Christmas favorites to celebrate the season. Tis' the season of joy!

GIBAULT FRESHMAN REGISTRATION Mar 14 & 16 from 5PM – 8PM.

PARISH NEWS...Book Club for Advent:

If you are interested in signing up for the four-week Advent book selection "Simply Wait: Cultivating Stillness in the Season of Advent" by Patricia Hawkins, phone or email Lizanne Young (lyoung@iccmil.org) to reserve your copy (\$12 each) and join a group. Home groups will meet at varying times, and two groups will meet in the Fr. Steve Library on Mondays at 7 p.m. and Wednesdays at 10:30 a.m., beginning Nov. 30.

THE CHILDREN'S CHOIR will be singing at Mass Nov. 22 at the **11:00 a.m. Mass.**(NOTE TIME PLEASE!) Have the children meet me by 10:50 at the choir risers. NO REHEARSAL NEXT WED the 25th! We will resume on December 2.
Happy Thanksgiving to one and all. Karen Lundy

NOVEMBER IS VOCATIONS MONTH: The Vocation Office is holding a discernment retreat for young men, juniors in high school through age 35. The retreat is being held at Our Lady of the Snows on December 19-21.

Will you please help by personally inviting at least one young man in your parish to attend?

Our retreat leader is Fr. David Hasser from Lafayette, Indiana, who is an experienced vocation director and retreat leader. There will be Mass, Confession, spiritual direction, camaraderie, and plenty of time for prayer and reflection. It should be a great weekend! Note that men don't need to want to become priests to attend - they just need to be open to God's call! We'll be talking about how to discover where God is calling, whether to marriage, the priesthood, or religious life. For details and registration see www.bellevillevocations.com.

Thank you for your help and support!

In Christ, Fr. Nick Junker, *Vocation Director*

***17TH ANNUAL PARISH CHRISTMAS PARTY** December 12, 2015 in the ICS Gym

*Hosted by the Knights of Columbus

* *Doors open at 5:30 p.m. and Dinner starts at 6:30 p.m. *Soda & Beer included with meal.

*Music and Dancing provided by "A Family Affair" *Visit from Santa Claus

*ALL ARE WELCOME(Parish and friends!) *Reservations are required, Please Pay in Advance.

*Please contact John Haubrich for reservations at [618.281.6021](tel:618.281.6021) or email john at kcchristmasparty@gmail.com

*Ticket information:

*Adults (13 and older): \$12

*Children (ages 7–12): \$5

*Kids 6 and under: FREE!

PRAYERS: Pauline Jablonski, Sis Blaes, Brian Sherman, Connie Huebner, Joanne Schilling, Amy Meyer, Eve Dorshorst, Russell Sheddon, Dominic Matrisotto, Daniel Webster, Marcella Heinrichs, Rick Abrahamson, Denise Conner, Arlin Stechmesser, Josephine Chapman, Florence Dorshorst, Bill Pennock, Patty Juengling, Marian Keim, Dan Whelan, Pat Weber, Ed Hengel, Josh Ritter, Vince Webb, George Stein, Desiree Frasure, **Special Intention**

FEAST OF CHRIST THE KING

Window of St. Ignatius room in Loyola Spain. This is what he saw during his long recovery from the cannonball wound.



St. Ignatius was fighting for the King of Spain when he was hit by a cannonball. The French soldiers admired his courage, so they helped him onto a stretcher. His companions carried him back to his family's castle so that he could die at home. As he lay in bed, Ignatius asked for a few books to keep his mind occupied. He hoped for adventure books about knights and dragons and damsels in distress. All they had was a book about the lives of the saints and another with meditations on the life of Christ.

Slowly, powerfully, Ignatius questioned his loyalties. Why serve the King of Spain when he could be serving the King of Kings? Why battle against the French when he should be fighting for the salvation of souls?

Ignatius offers us the Call of the King meditation in the Spiritual Exercises. There, he describes Christ calling all people to join Him under the banner of His Cross. "Whoever desires should come with Me and labor with Me, that following Me in the pain he may also follow Me into glory."

This Sunday is the Solemnity of Jesus Christ, King of the Universe. Jesus is Our Lord and Savior. He has given us everything-- even pouring out His Life for us. There is no higher king. There is no higher cause than His Kingdom. We fight for His Kingdom not with gunpowder and cannons but with prayer and labor and sacrifice. Spain might win one battle but lose the next. But the saints fight for a Kingdom that will never end. Jesus does not want to defeat His enemies, but beacons them to join Him-and to live with Him in Heaven forever.

The call of Christ captured the heart of Ignatius. The King's call still stirs the hearts of those who have the courage to follow Him. "Whoever desires should come with Me...into glory."

Mike Kish

Principal

Ps **SCHOOL CALENDAR** Should be in December 3!

PS Thanks for reading the letter home! Did the Bishop really say about the Koran that "God gave it in Arabic..." so you have to know Arabic to read it. No. Muslim teaching says that to really understand it, you have to read it in Arabic. Just to clarify what I meant to say...

PS: [Knights Soccer Club attachment](#)

PS: [Kids Bowling Flyer attached](#)

Band Schedule Week of November 23

Monday

8:05-8:35 5th Clarinet and Trumpet

8:35-9:05 6th-8th Flute, Clarinets, Saxophone, F Horn

9:05-9:35 6th-8th Trumpet

10:35-11:05 4th Flutes and Clarinet

11:05-11:35 4th Saxophone Trumpet

Tuesday

7:15-7:50 **Jazz Band**

Thanksgiving Mass

9:55-10:35 6th-8th Low Brass

11:05-11:35 4th Low Brass

11:35-12:05 4th Percussion

WEDNESDAY-THURSDAY-FRIDAY Thanksgiving break

Band Dates

Christmas Concert-December 10, 7pm - Grades 4-8

K of C Christmas Party-December 12, 6:00-6:30 - Jazz Band only

Dubourg Music Festival-February 21, late morning/early afternoon - Grades 6-8

District Contest-April 9, morning/early afternoon - Grade 6-8

State Finals-April 30, morning/early afternoon - Grade 6-8

Spring Concert-May 12, 7pm - Grades 4-8

Grizzlies Game National Anthem - I'm looking at the weekend of May 14-15-not confirmed yet- Jazz Band only

Graduation-May 19, 7:00-7:15pm-Grade 6-7