



IMMACULATE CONCEPTION SCHOOL

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CELEBRATING 163 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.

November 22, 2016

V. 42 #24

THE JOY OF LOVE

Dear Parent, Guardian, Student, Teacher, Friend,



What a peaceful morning of Thanks! Fr. Chris pinch-hit for Fr. Carl (who has a bad wrist) and did a great job reminding us of the exclusion of leprosy compared with poison ivy. And of course, only the Samaritan, the foreigner, the outcast, said thanks. We must be a grateful people if we are to be true stewards. Everything comes from God and goes back to God Thanks to Mrs. Huebner and our cooks for making our home-made rolls this morning and to Mrs.

Whelan for set-up and Mrs. Borgmeyer and Mrs. Neff for staging the feast of the Eucharist and celebration of little children. As one of our Grand-dads said to me today "You sure do things right!" I replied, "don't look at me---I have good help"!



Thanks for donating \$242.20 to St. Raymond's this morning!

AND ANOTHER THING TO BE THANKFUL FOR...

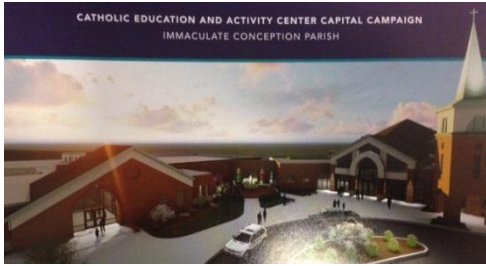
The Columbia Volunteer Fire Department, activated by Rob Huebner for us yesterday. We had a smoldering bird nest in our chimney that

was easily and professionally handled and the way is clear for St. Nick now! I was proud of our many alums and parishioners and community members who give of their precious time to keep us safe! Thanks men!



TURKEYS SPOTTED THIS MORNING HEADING NORTH FOR CANADA ON QUARRY ROAD!

I am grateful for the FIRST RECONCILIATION of 54 students who received their second Sacrament last Sunday! We will have Reconciliation for the upper grades on December 14 at 1:00 and 1:45, **The Parish Advent Reconciliation will be on Dec. 11 at 3 PM at Sacred Heart in Dupo for our parish cluster.**



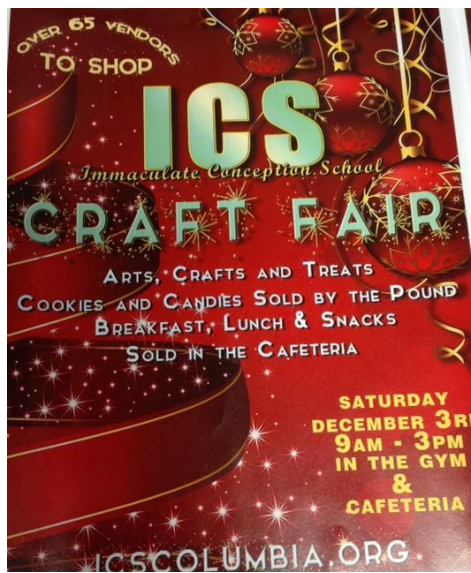
I am grateful for our Capital Campaign---Catholic Education and Activity Center .

And for those who have already made their Full Stewardship commitment!

I am grateful for all who can support...

THE GRIFFIN CENTER Sr. Beth Ruder, D.C.(Daughter of Charity) called about spreading joy to over 500 students at the DeShields Project through Catholic Urban Programs. With that notorious, winner-take all, shopping event right after Thanksgiving coming up, you may want to have your child select a Christmas gift they would like to get. We are committed to 100 gifts(we usually average 130-160) for a boy or girl with the age marked on it. If you can wrap it, that would be great. Otherwise, the Builders Club will be happy to wrap them. Delivery is December 16. Make sure the games and gifts are peaceful! Thanks for spreading the joy of the birth of the King!

Joy of love tee shirts this week---Will Schmoll, Karina Jerkatis, Ava Blaskiewicz, Sam Bollone, Lindsay Harget, Reagan Kenner!



PARENTS AND FRIENDS We need your help with the raffle baskets for our Craft Fair on December 3rd. Attached is a sign-up sheet for all the items we will need to make 7 awesome baskets. Please take a look at the list and sign up for any and all items that you can donate. All donations must be dropped off at school by Tuesday, November 29th or contact Christy Hornacek to schedule a drop off or pickup (618) 830-1090. Then, come out to the craft fair to purchase a chance to win one of these amazing baskets! Thank you, Craft fair committee.

http://www.signupgenius.com/go/30e094_4a5ae2ca4f85-icscraft

Thanks for all your help. Christy Hornacek

CRAFT FAIR 70 tables sold! We need flyers distributed if someone is looking for a project with your kids. We also need students to help unload cars that morning and help with breakdown at 3:00.

Cookie Booth The flyer is out. We are asking for 3 dozen per child . Call Kathy Daniels or Sister Suites and maybe they can bake them for you!

ICS DINNER AUCTION Coming soon, February 11th, get the date on your schedule. Planning for success makes it happen a lot easier.

NATIONAL HISTORY BEE We have our 10 History Bee finalists who will be taking the online qualifying exam in December. We have had a fantastic record in qualifying the Nationals! Let's keep it up!

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|----------------|-------------------|-------------------|---------------|--------------|
| Jessie Lambert | Andrew Harmon | Marie Prindiville | Jacob Feldker | Molly Tippen |
| Eli Garcia | Mary Clare Murphy | Autumn Ramey | Addy Murphy | Noah Newton |

Chess 2016-2017 Practice Schedule:

Practices for Grades 1&2: Tues 12/6, Tues 1/10, Tues 1/31, Tues 2/21, Tues 3/14

Practices for Grades 3&4: WEDNESDAY 12/14 Tues 1/17, Tues 2/7, Tues 2/28, Tues 3/21

Practices for grades 5-8: Tues 11/29, Tues 12/20, Tues 1/24, Tues 2/14, Tues 3/7, Tues 3/28

PAPA JOHN'S is running an additional promotion for your November event next week. The opportunity for every family that orders to earn a **FREE PIZZA!** Order for Papa John's November School Night Event & Earn Free Pizza! Order Online with promo code on flyer and 25 Papa Points will be deposited into your account the next day. 25 Papa Points will redeem a large 3 topping pizza! \$10 minimum purchase required to receive 25 Papa Points. Must be a Papa Reward Member. This Papa Reward Free Pizza is valid through 5-30-17.

ICS is having a Spirit Wear fundraiser...just in time for Christmas! Your child should've received a form today. Take a look over break, fill out the form, and return to school in an envelope with your payment marked: ICS Spirit Wear. All orders are due on FRIDAY, DEC, 2. This will give us plenty of time for the items to be in before Christmas break. Also, if this is a gift for your child, simply make a note on the form, and we can set up a way to get your items! If you have any questions, feel free to contact Jessi Gianino @ jessicawaldron13@yahoo.com Thanks for your support!

THE SPORTING NEWS...

BASKETBALL TEAM PICTURES WILL TAKE PLACE ON DEC. 12. DATE CHANGE!!!!

The date for the basketball pictures is moved to Dec. 12.

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|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 5th Boys 4:45 (home game 5:30) | 7th Girls 5:00 (no game) |
| 5th Girls 5:15 (no game) | 6th Boys 5:30 (home game 6:15?) |
| 6th Girls 5:45 (no game) | 8th Girls 6:00 (no game) |
| 8th Boys 6:15 (home game 7:00?) | |

GIBAULT CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL NEWS... Placement Test for the incoming Class

of 2021 will be given **Saturday, December 3, from 8:30-11:45.** The test is given free of charge, please RSVP to Susan Mackin (smackin@gibaultonline.com). *Something Better Within Reach! Welcome to the Gibault Catholic family!*

COMMUNITY NEWS...COMMUNITY THANKSGIVING WORSHIP Wednesday, November 23rd at 7 p.m. at Christ Community. Pastor Bob Goddard of St. Paul's U.C.C. will be preaching. An offering will be collected for the Columbia Clergy Fund which allows for food and gas assistance and other needs in the community. Pastor Bob is a good friend and great preacher. Come and share our blessing that is Columbia!

PRAYERS: Special Intention, , Leigh-Anne Feldker, Thomas Lorenz, Mike Juengling, Jessica Stemler Barcik, Dan Borisuk, Dan Whelan, Patricia Steppig, Lauren Foran, Rich Cullen, Barb Winschel, Josh Ritter, Stella Moll, Gertrude Scherrer, Henry Scott Dabbs, Carolyn Baker, Scott Schaefer, Katy Basinski, Chrissy Hoeflinger, Barbara Buchheit, Angie Rose, Ken Bolton, Nick Carron, Mary Giovanni, Denise Conner, Roy Lansing, Sis Blaes, Arlin Stechmesser, Marcella Heinrichs, Florence Dorshorst, Bill Pennock, Pat Weber, Ed Hengel, Vince Webb, George Stein, Desiree Frasure, Special Intentions

BEST THANKSGIVING EVER? The last time your entire family was together? The time everyone got along in the non-election year? Was it the Last Supper? I am not sure when mine was since they all flood together but this year is the first ever without Mom and Dad and my Mom and Dad in-law. Whatever God sends your way, find peace in it and enjoy the TIME together. Remember, new traditions are on the way if you notice them and let them happen!

ADVENT Well, here we go again celebrating the thousands of years of waiting for the coming of Emmanuel---**God With Us.** This preparation time, this suspenseful time, this nerve-wracking time, it is supposed to help us appreciate the peaceful time of the coming of the Son of Man. We have had a 200 year advantage of having the Christ with us. **It is not a time to pretend Jesus hasn't been born yet.**(stolen from G.I.A.) We must work daily to bring Him to life in our world. Wars still rage, people are more marginalized than ever, yet we have the singular hope of knowing that it is up to us individually to do His work. Make Advent special at home and come to church and join the community of believers. *Put on the armor of light* and don't pretend Jesus hasn't been born yet!
When Will We Realize, People Need the Lord!

Sincerely

Mike Kish, Principal



FUNDERWEAR Why does it always creep up on you? This year the ICS---SPPS Game at Gibault is December 2. That gives us a week to compete and we don't have Jack Burke, doggone it! Briefs, boxers, tee shirts, panties, sox, scarves, gloves, sock hats---we are begging! Please bring them in on Monday so we can start counting! We are defending champs! Builders Club---let's get on this please!

Ps No school tomorrow! See you Monday or at Mass!

Need a Thanksgiving meal prayer? Bishop Braxton has one for you!

A Prayer of Praise For Thanksgiving Day



**His Excellency The Most Reverend Edward K. Braxton, Ph.D., S.T.D.
Bishop of Belleville**

We give thanks to You, O God Almighty, for Your wondrous creation: the millions of galaxies; the billions of glittering stars in each galaxy; our own galaxy, The Milky Way; for our star, the life sustaining sun; for earth's companion, the moon, with its soft and lovely light.

O God, we thank You and we praise You!

We give thanks to You for our wayside planet, the earth, set in this vast universe; for its light tempered to our eyes; for its sounds tempered to our ears; its air, to our lungs; the weight of gravity, to our bodies so that we can live on earth because Your Providence guided it for us through the ages of development.

O God, we thank You and we praise You!

We give thanks to You for this beautiful world: the changes of the seasons: the exhilaration of spring, the richness of summer, the multi-colored fall, the shrewd bite of winter. We give you thanks for the 525,600 minutes that unfold in the course of a year.

O God, we thank You and we praise You!

We give thanks to You for the endless beauty of the earth: sunrise and sunset; the brilliance of day, the gathering dusk, the dark of night; the sky, this brave, o'erhanging firmament, this majestic roof fretted with golden fire; the clouds, bright towers of silence stealing into infinity; the roll of thunder, the flash of lightning; the beneficent rain; the strength of mountains; the ever-changing face of the waters, including our own Mississippi River.

O God, we thank You and we praise You!

We give thanks to You for the amazing diversity of our kin, the wonderful animals; the astonishing variety and loveliness of the flowers and trees so abundant.

O God, we thank You and we praise You!

We give thanks to You for ourselves, all of humanity, Your creatures whom You have set over the other works of Your hands; men and women endowed with reason, with freedom, with deep emotions, endowed with bodies — "in form and motion how admirable;" Your images and Your children destined to live with You eternally in Paradise.

O God, we thank You and we praise You!

We give thanks to You for our country, spanning the fairest portion of a continent, from sea to sea: so blessed with rich resources – the gifts of Your goodness: We are so extraordinarily blessed in our democratic government. Make us fully determined to share America's promise with every person, of whatever race, or creed, who dwell here, especially the oppressed, the excluded, and the marginalized. Sustain us in the face of nature's mighty power. Make us circumspect in this time of political transition, economic uncertainty, conflict, and war.

O God, we thank You and we praise You!

We give thanks to You for our Redemption, wrought through the Life, Death and Resurrection of Your Son, Jesus Christ, the King, by the power of Your Holy Spirit; for our grace-filled lives in the Catholic Church; where we come close to You in the mornings, afternoons and evenings of our lives; in Baptism, Confirmation, Eucharist, Reconciliation, Marriage, Ordination and the Anointing of the Sick and the Dying; where we bring the eminently gentle remains of our Dear Ones who have died, returning them to You, hoping that You will give them a share in Eternal Life.

O God, we thank You and we praise You!

We give thanks to You, O God, for no human counsel has devised and wrought these things. They come from Your bounty. They are Your gracious gifts, O Most High God!
Amen! Amen! Alleluia!

“We have a God who can descend into any hell we can create, go straight through our locked doors, enter into the hell of our paranoia, illness, and fear, and gently breathes peace into our souls.” Fr. Ron Rolheiser, OMI

The Bi-County Regional Superintendent’s Office is hoping to be pro-active on the issue of suicide in our communities. . On Friday, December 7, they will host an in-service for 7th and 8th grades on the topic at CHS and Grades 7-8 we will be invited once I get the details. Time should be around 1:00 at CHS.

Submitted by Kelton Davis, the Regional Superintendent for Monroe And Randolph County Schools Suicide: What Are We Missing? Since the start of school this year the specter of suicide has struck our schools multiple times. Only weeks ago, a young high school student took his own life. This past week another adolescent attempted suicide but survived. Last year, students in multiple schools area-wide died at their own hands. The proximity of two impactful suicide events -- one carried out tragically and another attempted, in a month’s time, drives the Regional Office of Education for Monroe and Randolph Counties to take up the baton and enter this issue with all the force and persuasion the office can muster.

Like a relay, it must start somewhere, but we all have to accept the challenge as a team. And we cannot drop that baton. We need everyone to participate in the prevention of these overwhelming events.”

The statistics relating to suicide are devastating. Human Support Service in Waterloo reports that from July 11, 2016 to Nov. 17, 2016, they have dealt with 253 calls to help potential suicide victims in Monroe County. Nearly half have involved young people 18 and under. Thirty percent of the hundreds of suicide calls in the past year in Randolph County were from adolescents, reports Kendra Kennedy, director of counseling for Human Service Center of Red Bud, Suicide is not exclusive to any age group. An adult committed suicide the same day as the high school student noted above. More recently, another community member was talked out of jumping from the Jefferson Barracks Bridge. Nationwide, 22 veterans commit suicide each and every day, according to released statistics. This problem cannot be solved through school level education and intervention alone. Schools cannot “cure” the problem as the issues underlying suicide are complex and schools are not mental health service providers.

Likewise, our legal system and even families, without strong support, are challenged to take on these issues. According to HSS’s Anne King, a study in 2004, told us that 87 percent of people who commit suicide have mental health issues. And many of those contributing factors stem from traumatic episodes that begin in childhood and may continue throughout individual and family development. They include such things as drug and alcohol abuse, divorce, sexual abuse, incarceration of a family member, violence in the home, bullying, cutting, and many more triggers that stem from or lead to anxiety, depression, and despair. It will take our entire community to act with prevention and intervention. Your local Regional Office of Education is joining with groups, agencies and organizations across our two counties.

Our communities must join in this effort if it is to be successful. And it must succeed. Like infections, which spread often from person to person, suicide is not to be handled after the fact, but in a preventative manner. We need to discuss what parents, friends, family and kids can do about this scourge. This is not someone else’s problem. Rather, it is our problem and the solution must be ours

as well. Unfortunately, most people are reluctant to try, or have little idea of how to intervene in this critical issue. We have to own the issue and learn how to intervene. Area schools are addressing suicide with students, teachers and staff, in collaboration with the Regional Office of Education, Human Support Services, Human Service Center and the Maidez Center with direct presentations to junior high and high school students. We as citizens of our two counties must step up to the greater challenge – all of us – before it can be turned and behavior can be redirected in a healthier direction. There is something each of us can do, right now. Several sessions to learn about, discuss and come together, are slated for all citizens in Monroe and Randolph counties. The first is Thursday, Dec. 1, at Waterloo High School. It will start at 6 p.m., and last until about 7:30 p.m. Two community presentations are being scheduled in Randolph County the week of Dec. 6. This effort to educate and deal with issue is not going to have an ending date. A comprehensive plan to address this and other related issues is underway.

The Regional Office of Education urges Monroe and Randolph County citizens to reserve those dates on your calendars. Everyone has been touched by this be it family, friend or colleague. More details will be available at www.facebook.com/TheMaidezCenter or www.themaidezcenter.org