



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 24, 2015

V. 41 #23



Dear Parent, Guardian, Student, Teacher, Friend,



WHAT A HUMBLING DAY!

We thank God for so many gifts but especially the gift of each other!

Our "Pilgrims and Indians" made the day for us and we thank Grade 1 and their parents, Mrs. Borgmeyer and Mrs. Neff and Mrs. Babcock and Mrs. Lundy!



Mr. Hake prepped Robbie Guetterman, Lexi Hennes, Hannah Janson, Maggie Schulte, Jane Whelan, Eve Melliere and Claire Eppinger for music ministry. Dan and Laura Whelan and the 7th Grade Girls Basketball Team and parents set up last night and Mrs. Fansher and Mrs. Carrico made over 600 rolls on Sunday morning! Our teachers for jumping in and filled the gaps and this morning was so smooth. Controlled chaos, done with mercy, will work every time! Thank you God! And thanks for \$289.75 for the children of St. Raymond's in Guatemala!



EMERSON EXCELLENCE IN TEACHING HONOREE

Outstanding teachers take their students from where they are to what they can become---and have the results to prove it. **Karen Weiler**, Immaculate Conception School Math Teacher in Columbia, Illinois, is an outstanding teacher in an outstanding school. Her extraordinary organizational skills give her the freedom to be passionate about mathematics, technology, and creativity in the class room.

In the classroom her students describe her "as a natural born teacher who is caring but not someone you want to disrespect" and "she is the 'faith image' I want to follow." Her impact reaches beyond the classroom as she served the parish community on the cemetery committee, is a former Pastoral Council

Chairperson and Pre-school PSR Director, and is active in the A.C.T.S. retreat program.

She began her career teaching 6 years in Jefferson City, Missouri, at Lewis and Clark and Thomas Jefferson Middle Schools. She is a key teacher at ICS which is well known among the 12 Metro and

St. Louis high schools graduates currently attend and is in her 15th year in education. Karen Weiler has led the ICS academic teams to nine 1st or 2nd place finishes in contests at MathCounts, St. Louis U. High, Rosati Kain, Illinois Math League, a perennial school 1st at the Gibault Math Contest, two 1st places in "Engineer in the Classroom" and a 1st place at the Vianney Academic Decathlon(25 schools). This year she has implemented a high school accredited Algebra II course through the Illinois Virtual High School to meet student needs. In addition to all this, Karen Weiler serves as co-Dean of Students and promotes the school vision and gender equity. The school has 3 previous recipients of the Emerson Excellence in Teaching Award and another on staff. Karen was honored at the Ritz Carlton on Sunday, November 22 along with 102 teachers from the St. Louis Metro-East area and represented the Diocese of Belleville. She was presented with an engraved Tiffany crystal apple by Executive Vice-President Patrick Sly of Emerson with KMOV Channel 4's Claire Kellett as the keynote speaker.

FULL STEWARDSHIP COMMITMENT Please return your card. Pray, reflect on your blessings, and commit. Stewardship is such that you don't "pay the price---you reap the benefits"! When we reflect back on our lives, it is the good that we did that will live on. Time, talent, treasure---it all builds community and that is how we find God's best in this world!

THE I.C.S. CRAFT FAIR AND CHRISTMAS COOKIE & CANDY BOOTH will be open for business December 5th. Last year we made over \$2800 for ICS Parents & Friends. Please help us exceed last year! 1. Bake up your best homemade cookies, treats, or candies and donate 3 dozen cookies/treats or 3 lbs. of homemade candy per student. (Please, no store bought cookies.) Any questions please call! 2. Mark your treats "with nuts" or "nut free". 3. Deliver and sign-in on the Baker's List Friday, December 4th. Between 7:30 and 8:30 am (Cafeteria) Between 2:30 and 3:30 pm (Cafeteria) Early Saturday morning (Band Room), December 5th. 4. Volunteer to work in the Booth. (fun and easy shifts, students 10 and up are welcome!) 5. Return your sign-up sheet below in care of Isabella Frasure (7-Tolan) or email it to desireefrasure@yahoo.com. Special Treats will be given to the classes with the most cookies/candies donated. **Students that bring in at least 3 dozen cookies will get a jeans day on Monday, December 7th!** Thanks in advance, Desiree Frasure (281-4078) and Sandra Whitworth (281-5131) [See the attachment!!](#)

DON'T HAVE TIME TO BAKE COOKIES FOR ICS CRAFT FAIR? Kathy Daniels has offered to make several different kinds for \$7.00 a dozen. Please send checks in through school marked Cookie Sale - Kathy Daniels. Any questions email Ellen.sippel@crawfordbutz.com. Kathy has also volunteered to deliver the cookies to school for craft fair. She will hand in a list to Desiree so that all families will get credit!

ICS PARENTS & FRIENDS DECEMBER MEETING DATE has been changed to accommodate the Christmas play. We will be meeting on DECEMBER 16 at 7 at Mokka in Columbia. We will have a buffet dinner and our annual ornament exchange - join us! The exchange is really "controlled stealing" and the pleading and whining and jib-jab going on is a delight whether you win or lose! Come and see how much fun this is!

COLUMBIA MCDONALD'S We netted \$770.09! Check came yesterday!

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

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!

SCRIP REPORT: As of November 17, 2015, we have:

- A bank balance of \$3178.40. An inventory of \$9225.
- A returned check of \$220.00 (we are still trying to collect since July).

This past year we paid out of scrip profits:

- \$1905.85 for Book Bills.
- \$360.19 for the DC Trip.
- \$3090 for Teacher Curriculum improvement
- \$1600 Teacher attendance incentive.

On the average to get \$1000 of profit, we have to sell \$20,000 of scrip. Thanks Desiree for all the work! We need more workers to sell on Sundays! Please contact her! desireefrasure@yahoo.com

IOWA TEST RESULTS Grade 2 tests are read to them. Grade 3 takes it independently with prompts. Every year these are our lowest scores. We don't teach to the test though we may take a practice test to help students become "test wise". Grades 3-5-7 also take the Cognitive Ability

Test(Cogat) which gives us a benchmark on student ability which we can compare to the Iowa Test which assesses achievement. In ranking school strengths/weaknesses by combined grades, we would rank highest to lowest in Vocabulary, Science, Social Studies, Writing, Reading, Math, and Math Computation. Our lowest composites in our "weaker" areas would be strength scores in many schools. All in all, our scores are fantastic and our students and faculty should be proud!

Class composite score: Gr. 2---58% Gr. 3---62% Gr. 4---82% Gr. 5---75%
Gr. 6---61% Gr. 7---73% Gr. 8---83%

Our school demographics are excellent and contribute to our learning environment and test scores. Once again, good parenting and good teaching prepares the child for the path, not the path for the child.

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):- Dec. 1, Dec. 15, Jan. 12, Jan. 26, Feb. 9, Feb. 23, Mar. 8, Mar. 22

Upper Grades (4-8): Dec. 8, Jan. 5, Jan. 19, Feb. 2, Feb. 16, Mar. 1, Mar.15

We hope to have dates for the meets sometime soon. Keep practicing! Mrs. Herrmann

ROE---Spelling Contest	March 31	Waterloo Gardner
ROE---Young Authors	March 19	CMS
ROE---Art Contest	April 5	Waterloo Jr. High

Papa John's Special Deal for you over the next 10 days during the Thanksgiving Break.....50% off orders!! Offer is valid today through 11-29. See last week's attachment.

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!

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

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

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... Queen of All Saints soccer tournament---our 3rd grade boys won every playoff game earning a total of 31 points which was the most any of the 3rd grade boys team earned during the pool play. They lost 2-1 against St. Simon in OT with 30 seconds left. Good to know we can compete with the kids across the creek!

GIBAULT CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL NEWS

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).

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 last week.

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!

Attention 7th & 8th Grade Students... the **Gibault Junior High Glow Dance** is set for Monday, **Dec. 28th**, from 7pm-9pm in the **Gibault Cafeteria**. Admission is 2 canned goods or \$3. Dress casual-jeans and tops. Bright colors are encouraged!

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@iccmail.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.

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.belleville vocations.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!

Say a prayer today for **Lauren Tolan** who underwent surgery this morning for a torn ACL.

PRAYERS: Lauren Tolan, Christian Matrisotto, 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**

LK 21: “Beware that your hearts do not become drowsy from carousing and drunkenness and the anxieties of daily life, and that day will catch you by surprise like a trap.” How well we face the know what Jesus is talking about. Advent is about the anxiety of any big life event. Yet, proper prior preparation prevents a poor performance. Our efforts to be the “face of God” to each other is preparation for the Coming of the Son of Man, be it in Flesh(the Nativity) or at the end of our lives. Advent is Christ living among us!

Mike Kish
Principal

PS Happy Birthday to Emily Meyer on Nov. 7, and to **Angie Ettling** and **Priscilla Wilkerson** on Nov. 26. November is a lucky month for us!

Band Schedule Week of Nov 30-Dec 4

Monday

8:05-8:35 6th-8th Clarinet 2

8:35-9:05 5th Flute

9:05-9:35 6th-8th Flute and Clarinet 1

10:35-11:05 4th Flutes

11:05-11:35 4th Clarinet

Tuesday

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

8:55-9:25 6th-8th Trumpet

9:25-9:55 5th Clarinet

9:55-10:35 6th-8th Saxophone and F Horn

11:05-11:35 4th Saxophone

11:35-12:05 4th Trumpet

Wednesday

8:05-9:05 **Concert Band Full Band**

9:05-9:35 Percussion Ensemble

10:35-11:35 **Beginning Band Full Band**

1:15-2:15 **Intermediate Band Full Band**

Thursday

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

8:55-9:25 6th-8th Percussion

9:25-9:55 5th Saxophone

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

11:05-11:35 4th Low Brass

11:35-12:05 4th Percussion

Friday

8:05-8:35 5th Low Brass

8:35-9:05 5th Percussion

9:05-9:35 5th Trumpet

10:35-11:05 Jazz Band Sectionals

11:05-11:35 Smart Music Lab

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