



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!

December 4, 2015

V. 41 #24



Dear Parent, Guardian, Student, Teacher, Friend,

“THE SOCIAL EVENT OF THE YEAR” The 17TH ANNUAL PARISH CHRISTMAS PARTY is December 12, 2015 in the ICS Gym, hosted by the Knights of Columbus (you don't have to be a member to come!) Doors open at 5:30 p.m., Dinner starts at 6:30 p.m., Soda & Beer included with meal. Music and Dancing provided by "A Family Affair" and expect a visit from Santa Claus!

*Reservations are required, Please Pay in Advance.

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

*Ticket information:

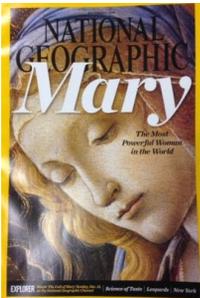
*Adults (13 and older): \$12

*Children (ages 7–12): \$5

*Kids 6 and under: FREE!

THE I.C.S. CRAFT FAIR AND CHRISTMAS COOKIE & CANDY BOOTH TOMORROW Dec. 5th.

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.)
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 OR 2:30 and 3:30 pm. 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 via 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 36 cookies get a jeans day on Monday, Dec. 7th!**** [Desiree Frasure \(281-4078\)](tel:281-4078)/[Sandra Whitworth \(281-5131\)](tel:281-5131)



HOLY DAY ON Tuesday, DECEMBER 8. We will honor the patroness of our parish and our country at the all-school **Mass at 8:15 at the new church.** Permission forms have been sent home. **If you need bus service, be sure to let us know. It would be great for your families to come and pray together.**

THE HOLY YEAR OF MERCY STARTS ON DECEMBER 8. Our vicariate has chosen Our Brothers Keepers as our special spiritual and corporal work of mercy partner. Fr. Chris Rueter, OFM, works in prison ministry and helps lead this group.

Well, Pope Francis made the cover of Rolling Stone...Look who made the cover of National Geographic! Encourage your students to read the article!

FUNDERWEAR: The game is at 4:45 between ICS and SPPS. Let's win 3 times this year---Funderwear-the game-and Day Star! Thanks to the Builders Club for great leadership(esp. Lexi Hennes and Spencer Biske) and Jack Burke for leading the way!



TIRED TEDDIES TOY DRIVE NOVEMBER 23RD – DECEMBER 11TH gently used stuffed animals for redistribution to local First Responders, Children's Hospitals and the Salvation Army---They have a company sanitize them---Send them in to the office please.

FULL STEWARDSHIP UPDATE Our current church budget is 3% below projected at about \$20,000. For our new campaign of generosity, we have 67 commitment cards in and 113 out. Please read the information, pray, and make your commitment back based on God's generosity to you. "The Lord loves a cheerful giver---and receiver"!

CONGRATULATIONS to Kaylee Eichenseer (Lauren and Ralph) on the birth of twin brothers **Logan and Landon**. A little premature but 5-1 and 4-6! Say a prayer for them and welcome to our world boys!

DAN AND LAURA WHELAN AND FAMILY are featured in this week's Messenger in a great article. Dan has been at war with cancer for some time and just got back from MD Anderson in Houston with some options full of hope! Read the article, pray for Dan and his family, and be inspired!

MENU UPDATE: Dec. 17: Mini Corn dogs, broccoli, pretzels, pears
Dec. 18: Papa Johns-Pepperoni, Romaine salad, pineapple, chocolate chip cookies

In case of snow and changes to the school day, you will get a robo-call from Mr. Kish. There is a possibility we could have a "Late" Start to school. This would be a 2 hour delay to the school day, buses will run on that schedule. If roads are bad we could also have "snow routes" which means the routes are condensed. If you have signed up with the transportation office, these were listed on your sheet. If you have questions regarding the condensed route, call Patty or Brenda at 281-6555.

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. Buffet dinner---our annual ornament exchange---lots of laughs!

How Our Scrip Fundraiser Saves Your Holidays!! Our Scrip Program is a year round fundraiser that doesn't cost anything extra. It's simple: you purchase gift cards at face value, and the businesses give a rebate back to us. Every time you use a Scrip card for a purchase you were already planning, you make money for your school or yourself! Check out these ideas:
Cooking for Thanksgiving, Christmas or New Year's Eve? gift cards from Dierbergs, Shop N Save, Walmart, or Whole Foods.

Tired of holiday cooking? 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.

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? 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/restaurants.

Hard-to-shop-for people on your Christmas list? try the gift of gift cards.

To participate in this simple, “free” fundraiser, print out and complete the attached order form from last week. 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.

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 sellers: help is needed. This is a great way to tag into some “time” for your stewardship.

When you buy, you can pick church, school, DC trip, Book bill for a percentage in your pocket!

We have **Entertainment books** for \$25 each(11 months left.) Great gifts that keep on giving!

2015 K—3 Christmas Play December 14- 15 at 7:00. arrive in costume no later than 6:30pm.

Cast of **The Night That Changed the World**

Detective Noir	Grant Monheiser	Dawn Wool	Kate Adams
Sheep Dude Bill	Charlie Hake	Sheep Dude Ted	Logan LoPorto
Shepherd Meohgod	Mariska Lyle	Sleepy Sheep	Gabe Thebeau
Valley Shepherd	Ava Blaskiewicz	Herod	Kaiden Timmons
Joseph	Henry Schulte	Bitter Sheep	Layne Traxler
Bitter Ram	Cheyenne May	Bitter Donkey	Avery Herrmann
Bitter Camel	Charlie Stewart	3 Kings	Riley McGill, Paul Ott, Keegan Thompson
Star	Genevieve Nadziejko	Mary	Sadie Loless
Innkeeper	Owen Haney	Angel Gabriel	Broedy Furlow
Elizabeth	Hope Schwartz	Customer #1	Hailey Wilkerson
Customer #2	Caroline Roche	Customer #3	Connor Thoma
Innkeeper’s Wife	Ava Hrdlicka	Deep Sheep #1	Eva Haywood
Deep Sheep #2	Mary Ann Imhoff	Deep Sheep #3	Aubry Thomas
Deep Sheep #4	Carson Timmons	Deep Sheep #5	Easton Dill
Singing Sheep:	Sophia Schuette, Carolyn Randle, Megan Janson, Naomi Langhans,		
Eleanor McGuire,	Gali Palacios-Goudey, Julia Hoeflinger, Lucas Sheehan, Avery Melliere, Ella Boyd		
Caravan Girls:	Audrey Randle, Addison Sanker, Natalia Palacios-Goudey, Sadie Metz, Summer Harrington, Ava Langhans, Brooke Heimburger		



Congratulations to Teacher of the month Christine Matrisotto who was honored by Edward Jones representative Todd Osterhage for November!

Christine is a very active parishioner and a great addition to our faculty!

CHESS NEWS- practice schedule:

Lower Grades (1-3):- Dec. 15, Jan. 12, Jan. 26, Feb. 9, Feb. 23, March 8, March 22

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

ASK ME ABOUT MY MERCY SHIRT This week: Kale Harrington-John Bollone-Julia Hoeflinger-Kate Adams

Builders Club Minutes

December 3, 2015

Meeting called open by Builders Club President Nick Prindiville who read the Pledge.

All officers were present at the meeting and guests were Mr.Kish and Ms. Nealon.

The last minutes were accepted by the Builders Club with a motion by Alex and a second by Abby.

Treasurer Mary Wessel did not have a total amount in the cash box currently. We made over \$200 on the dance. The checking account has \$2651.87 and Kids Against Hunger will need over \$3000.00

Candy Cane Sale starts on Tuesday (December 8, 2015)- Friday. We received a donation of candy canes from Mrs. Jeanne Schulte-Mohr. Profits for Kids Against Hunger.

Funderwear is ending on Dec. 4. We hope to beat SPPS!

Patriotic Rosary Mr.Bollone felt honored to be asked and he did a great job. Ryan got to wear his navy blouse!

Hunger is Scary 2097 items were collected for CUP! This was one of our best over the past years!

Kids Against Hunger Hannah needs to sign people up to work on February 6 and put it in the Bulletin and paper. Science Olympiad is on the same day, so some members cannot help.

Ambassadors for Open House Jane is chairing the event

Craft Fair Kaylum is passing out more flyers

Talked about setting up the next dance.

Motion to end the meeting by Abby. 2nd by Marie. Majority to close the meeting.

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



THANKS to Parents and Friends for annually funding our rolls and drinks for our Thanksgiving Liturgy. \$159 this year!

Thanks Mrs. Fansher, Mrs. Carrico, Mrs. Fohne, Mrs. Repp, and Mrs. Weilbacher for your gracious hospitality!

THANKS for the \$14 from the corporate employee giving program. We love matches!

Mag drive: 10.40 profit Great gifts! Hit our website!

ROLLERCADE FUNDRAISER

Price: \$8.00 per skater w/regular skate rental

\$3.00 extra for inline skate

When: DECEMBER 29, 2015 Time: 4:15-6:30

Where: Rollercade, [11703 Baptist Church Rd, Saint Louis, MO 63128](http://www.rollercadeskating.com)

www.rollercadeskating.com



THE SPORTING NEWS...

Good luck to Marie Prindiville who is headed to Danville, AL to compete in the **AAU Cross Country National Championship Race** tomorrow. Give it a kick Marie!

Ed Williamson has resigned as Soccer Coordinator for ICS after serving for 3 years. We have one of the largest programs in the Diocese and Ed has been great in using his connections to bring in Dave Fernandez and to upgrade our Kindergarten program. Thanks a million Ed! Brian Boyd will be taking over for him and joins a list of tremendous Soccer Coordinators: Joe Hoguet, Jeanne Kish, Steve Dressler, Tom Soraghan, Steve Sexauer, Dave Gregson, Dave Bernhard, and Ed Williamson.

GIBAULT CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL NEWS

Placement test for the incoming class of 2020 --- Sat., Dec. 5th from 8:30 AM -11:45 AM. Gibault Auditorium. RSVP to Susan Mackin. (smackin@gibaultonline.com).

Christmas Concert Sunday, December 6th at 7:00 PM in the Hustedde Gymnasium. Rejoice!

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

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



ADVENT HAPPENINGS: Pre-K blessing their Christmas tree

****Grade 4: students read chapters in the bible each day that go along with the Jesse Tree. Students are picking one or two verses they read and illustrating a picture which depicts the main idea. They will continue to do this each morning before we leave for Christmas Break. We also have the large Advent calendar in the hallway. Mrs. Ettling and I discuss a way to update it - since each year the numbers are changing!

*****Second graders made Advent wreaths for their lockers and we will add a flame on each candle according to the week we are on in Advent. We also made an Advent prayer chain. Each day we will remove a link and on the back a student has put the name of someone in need of our prayers.

***Kindergarten: Holy Heroes - internet program

Advent wreath Advent candles Advent is for waiting - sight reader

***First grade made Advent wreaths to take home and share with their family. We have a classroom Advent wreath that we light and share a short reflection most days. We also are doing a kind act each day to be a light for one another. We also use the Adventure program online.

***Grade 6/7 I am using the little blue book for Morning Prayer. For Religion 7- am using reflections/videos from Best Advent Ever and a series of music videos for prayer, reflections, information. We will also be reading the gospel reading of the day as much as I can fit it in. I am also going to use the article on Mary from the National Geographic. I shared the Best Advent Ever site and article on Mary with upper grades Religion teachers and will get copies of the blue book for all upper grade teachers this weekend.

*** Grade 3 classes made an advent wreath. Each student make a "leaf" and we put all of them together. As we add flame to the candle we say the advent prayer.

*** 5th Religion Advent Activities - We are just finishing our unit on the liturgical year, so we focus in on Advent by completing a web quest. We then are creating Advent calendars where each day is based on a bible passage and the students decide on an image to represent each day and the bible passage. We also watch a variety of videos/reflections on Advent.

*** PreK Birthday party for Jesus Advent wreath and Christmas Tree blessing-- The grinch also visits PreK the first day of advent and hijacks our advent calendar that nasty creature. The only way we can get our daily treat bags is to "teach the grinch how to love" so the kids work harder than usual to be kind to one another, notify the grinch of their acts of love and attach a heart to him.

PARISH NEWS...

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*

Community News... St. Paul UCC is sponsoring a holiday event for kids, ages 3-10 on Friday, December 11th. The kids will have a good time, the parents will have three hours to shop, go to dinner, wrap presents, and they will be raising money to support Back Bay Mission in Biloxi, Mississippi. [See the flyer!](#)



Monroe County, Illinois
is celebrating a Birthday,
& we want you to help us celebrate!

You are cordially invited to the
**Monroe County
Bicentennial
Birthday Bash**
Saturday, January 16, 2016
5:00 p.m. to Midnight
Hecker Commercial Club
Hecker, Illinois

Join us for a Delicious, Hecker Commercial Club Fried Chicken Dinner with all the fixins' -- plus lots of Music, History and Fun.
Admission - \$12.50 per person
Call 939-9925 - 9 am to 2 pm Tuesday to Friday
to make your reservations
Reservation Deadline - December 1, 2015

Order of Events
5:00 - Doors open - Cash Bar
5:30 - 7:30 - Music by
The Waterloo German Band
8:00 - Dinner
7:30 - Bicentennial Dedication
8:00 - Midnight - Music by
Butch's Polka Kings

Sponsored by
Robert "Chick" Fritz, Inc.

Monroe County is celebrating its 200th anniversary and the folks are having a gathering on January 16 at the Hecker Dome to help start the party. This will be a good time and tickets are going fast I hear. Gather your family and friends and celebrate 1816! Do it today. 939-9925

Our Condolences to the family of Betty Beckerle who was called home on November 27 at age 85. Betty and Lawrence's 7 children and many grandchildren are ICS grads. Visitation is today from 4:00-8:00 and the funeral liturgy is tomorrow at 10:00. May she rest in peace!

STILL WAITING...Sunday is the 5th anniversary of the death of Fr. Steve Gira. He is still with us in the Fr. Steve Gira Library, the podcasts of his homilies, and the first chapter of his book on the parish webpage. In his last Christmas card to Jeanne and me, Fr. Steve said "Chef Stefon" would have us over for some repartee. Well, that will be held at the divine banquet table. So we lovingly remember a great priest, friend, Scripture Scholar, and preacher this weekend.

HILLS-VALLEYS-ROADS Mankind has always been looking for the easy way out. Many of our current highways started out as animal paths. Animals take the easiest route. People followed these paths which became roads. Thus there is a buffalo wallow right off highway 161 near SWIC. Thus our current school is located on the "upper" Kaskaskia Trail for the wet times of year. Thus Smithsonian Magazine featured The Slave Trail from Virginia to the Deep South following "traces". Roads don't always take us to opportunity and good things and some roads we must not forget.

This weekend we sing and read about making straight the paths, making the mountains run low. As we WAIT during this Advent season, may we realize that deep down, the easy way out is to follow His path, follow The Way. If we are truly hereafter the hereafter, we ought to enjoy the journey. Hop in your car this weekend and follow the former animal path to our Church on a hill...our parish made the highway run smooth to it just for you! It doesn't take John the Baptizer to show the way...it takes you! We are all priests, prophets, and kings according to our Baptism!

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

Mike Kish
Principal

Band Schedule Week Dec 7-11

Monday

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

8:35-9:05 6th-8th Flute and Clarinet 1&2

9:05-9:35 6th-8th Saxophone and F Horn

10:35-11:05 4th Flutes

11:05-11:35 4th Clarinet

Tuesday

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

8:55-9:25 Mass at new church

9:25-9:55 6th-8th Low Brass

9:55-10:35 6th-8th Trumpet

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**

9:25-10:25 In the Gym **Concert Band Full Band**

10:25-10:55 In the Gym **Intermediate Band Full Band**

11:05-11:35 In the Gym **Beginning Band Full Band**

Christmas Concert 7pm

Friday

8:05-8:35 5th Trumpet

8:35-9:05 5th Low Brass

9:05-9:35 5th Percussion

10:35-11:05 Jazz Band Sectionals

11:05-11:35 Smart Music Lab



"Judging by the size and frequency of these droppings, we've found the campaign trail."

Upper Grade Exam Schedule

December	December	December	December	December
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
7	8	9	10 Pre-Algebra Course 1 math Course 2 math Weiler Algebra	11
14 English 6 Course 2 math Weiler Algebra	15 History 6 History 7 History 8	16 Science 6 (Weiler and Taylor) Geography 8	17 History 6 vocabulary History 7 vocabulary History 8 vocabulary English 7 Course 2 Tolan	18 Course 2 Tolan Science 8 Science 7
January	January	January	January	January
4	5	6	7	8

				Geography 7
11	12 English 8	13 End of Quarter 2		