



IMMACULATE CONCEPTION SCHOOL



Est. 2001 Principal's Message - March 2018 - #1 Visit Us on the Web At: www.icsannandale.org

From Mr. Stone's Desk

Greetings Immaculate Conception School Community,

"Be still and know that I am God." (Psalm 46:10)

As we continue on our Lenten journey let us remember that Lent is a time to recommit ourselves to our Lord. Allow God to minister to you as He allowed angels to minister to him. We are a society of outward activity, seemingly always on the go via a myriad of Energizer Bunny-like pursuits. Even so, it is important to find time during this Lenten season for times of prayer and reflection.

It's been said that the only certain way to fail is to not try. Now is a good time to try and do a little self-examination, acknowledging our sins by attending Reconciliation, understanding that our Lord is there for us and loves us beyond human comprehension. It is not that we may have failed on occasion in the past. Rather, it is that we recognize and honestly acknowledge our past faults, purposefully choosing quiet time to be still with God, listening for and seeking His guidance.

Youngsters, spouse, jobs, friends and relatives, regular pursuits involved with daily life – it's no wonder that for many of us it may be a challenge to find time to be still, to pause and reflect, to say "Here I am Jesus, your will be done." However, we can do it. We are up to the challenge. We need to try. God will listen to our prayers.

Finally, it is my prayer that your Lenten journey will help you know the grace that goes with walking with Jesus. I pray that we as individuals and as a school community will be able to make a conscious, purposeful effort to journey with Jesus as he makes his way to Jerusalem. By spending this time in His presence we may refresh and rediscover the richness of what Jesus' life, death, and resurrection are all about, what this means for us, and what this offers us as followers of Christ.

Jesus, thank you for all that you do. Serviam, -David

2018-2019 Registration Now Open

Have you filled out and turned in your registration packet yet, along with your registration fee, related forms, etc.? Yes?



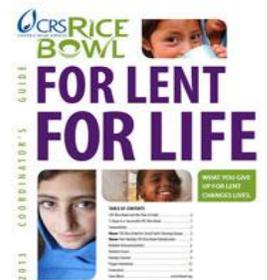
Awesome! Not yet? No problem. We would appreciate you please trying to do so at your earliest convenience. Also, recruitment, recruitment, recruitment...don't forget about the mutually beneficial recruitment/referral tuition discount option! The talented and hard-working staff of Immaculate Conception School are always available to provide tours, answer classroom-based questions, etc., with our own Mrs. Sharon Hillwig on point for Admissions and Enrollment related matters. Thank you.



- 03/11 – Daylight Savings Time Begins
- 03/15 – GALA Meeting - 8:20a.m. - All Are Welcome
- 03/16 – Pep Rally – 1:45p.m. 'ish
- 03/17 – St. Patrick's Day

CRS Rice Bowl brings Lent to life.

CRS Rice Bowl is a Lenten faith formation program that helps us to live in solidarity with the poor and vulnerable around the world.



We **pray** to reflect on what type of person we are called to be. We **fast** to remove the things that get between us and God, and to remember those without enough to eat. We **give** to honor Jesus' call to serve those in need. <http://www.crsricebowl.org> Additional/Extra Rice Bowls are available via the school office.

PROMISE TO PROTECT



Attention: Virtus/Safe Environment Training

Spring is coming and you may want to accompany children on ICC/ICS activities. All adults involved with youth on our property or thru our organizations are required to take the 3-hour course - Protecting God's Children. Please pre-register for either the Wednesday, March 14 or Tuesday, April 24 classes at virtus.org thru the Diocese of Metuchen. Classes will be in the Parish Hall in the church basement from 7p.m. thru 10p.m. Individuals who have not taken the course since 2014 are urged to update their knowledge with the new videos now being shown.

Prayer for Immaculate Conception School:

Dear Lord, bless our Catholic school. Help us to continue to be a humble source of wisdom, always yearning to learn more about your tremendous love for us. May all who enter Immaculate Conception School be filled with the gift of your Holy Spirit, coming to know you in a more meaningful way. Guide us as a community that respects and welcomes everyone. May Catholic education continue to grow so that your good news can be taught to children throughout the world. In your son Jesus's name we pray, Amen.



“Technology, like art, is a soaring exercise of the human imagination.” – Daniel Bell

Explore Mr. De Lauro's new tech website:

www.icsdelaurotech.weebly.com

Weather Days vs. Number of School Days

I (Mr. Stone) have checked in with diocesan Superintendent Ellen Ayoub. Right now ICS is two days below its expected target for the school year, with impending weather possibly adding to this total.

We know that Hunterdon County law enforcement and emergency services declared a state of emergency with respect to the recent nor'easter that came through on Friday, March 02nd and had a lasting effect regarding power outages, road closures, etc.

While additional considerations may need to be facilitated, at this time I can communicate two things.

1. We will not be restoring Holy Thursday to a school day. We believe it is important to be thankful for and honor the 'gift' that Monsignor Benwell designated.
2. We will not be looking to extend school beyond our current last day of Tuesday, June 19th as we recognize that the Parish Festival begins the next day, there would be no area for busses, etc.

Otherwise, I will communicate any additional measures that are determined. For example, it is being discussed that perhaps the teachers might provide some lesson material for students to work on for some part of the Easter Break (TBD).

Thank You Kindly, -David

ICS GALA 'Tease Item' of the Week:

Flash back to the
EIGHTIES SATURDAY, APRIL 28, 2018 6:30PM

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION GALA

GIANTS **2018 PRESEASON GIANTS**

Two seats in Coaches Club
Section 113
Row 16, Seats 15 and 16
On 50-yard line

Item #241

Also includes
Coaches club exclusive, on-field patio 5-yards behind Giants bench
All food and non-alcoholic beverages
VIP Parking

Place your bid at: www.501auctions.com/icsannandale



February 22, 2018

Dear School Parents,

The Gala Committee kindly asks your support of the 2018 Flash back to the Eighties Gala. We are asking parents to assist us by donating an item, service, gift certificate or contributing money to be used as part of the Live Auction, Silent Auction or Tricky Tray. Please consider asking family, friends and business associates to partner with you as well.

Some suggestions (but not limited to) for items that are needed are as follows:

Technology

iPad, iWatch, Mini iPad, iPod Touch, Chrome Book, Amazon Echo/Alexa, Nook, Kindle, etc.

Video Gaming Systems

Play Station 4, Xbox One X, Nintendo Switch

Electronics

Home Theatre Systems, Flat Panel TV's

Excursions

Charter Fishing Trips, Ski Packages, Time Shares, Helicopter Tours, Hot Air Balloon Ride, etc.

Scrip Gift Cards

Shammy Shine (30% Rebate to ICS), Department Stores, Restaurants, Gas Cards, ShopRite

Gift Certificates

Vineyard Tours/Tastings, Museum Passes, Water Parks, Spas, Restaurants or Hotels, Tutoring, Power Washing, Window Cleaning, Car Detailing, Lawn and Pool Maintenance, Accounting Services, etc.

Golfing and Vacation Opportunities

Golf Foursomes, Airline Mileage for Tickets, Vacation Homes or Time Shares

Women's and Men's Fine Jewelry

Gemstone pendant, ring, earrings, watch

Signed Sports Memorabilia

Sports Jerseys, footballs, baseballs, guitars

Tickets

Any Sporting Events, Concerts, Symphony, Opera, Theatre, Broadway Shows

Kids Excursions

Camps, parties, play date fun (laser tag, horseback riding, the movies, Lego Discovery Center, etc.)

Small Item Donations

Bottles of Wine, Video Games, Keurig Coffee Brewer, designer handbags and luggage, golf clubs, golf balls, Lego Sets, YETI Tundra Cooler

All donated items can be delivered to the school office with the completed donation form (below) by Friday March 23, 2018. Should you have any questions, please contact Marielia Gavlick at icsgala@icsclinton.org. We thank you in advance for your support of this fundraising endeavor.

Gratefully,

The 2018 Gala Committee



Donation Form

Live/Silent Auction and Tricky Tray Items

Please complete the information below if you would like to donate an item or service to the ICS "9th Annual Gala: Flash Back to The Eighties". All forms may be mailed or emailed to ICS no later than Friday March 23, 2018.

Donation forms can also be dropped off at the ICS Main Office. If you have any questions or concerns please contact Marielia Gavlick: icsgala@icsclinton.org. Please also visit our website www.icsannandale.org for additional information.

Contact Information:

Donor Contact/Company Name

Donor Mailing Address City State Zip

Donor Phone Donor Email

Are you a ___ Parent ___ Friend ___ Business?

Donation:

Item _____ Value _____

Description _____

Expiration _____ Restrictions _____

Delivery Options:

___ Donation included with this form.

___ Donation to be delivered later to ICS Main Office by (date) _____

___ Pick-up required. Please call Donor to arrange.

Thank you very much for supporting this event for ICS!

**Letter from Msgr. Benwell to be Read
at All Masses the Weekend of
March 3-4**

Dear Parishioners,

I regret that I must share with you the news that I have requested, and received permission from our bishop, to take a leave of absence from active ministry for reasons of health. For several months now I have struggled with some medical issues that have seriously impaired my energy and stamina. While these issues are treatable, my doctors advise that I should give them my full-time attention.

A parish as large and as vibrant as Immaculate Conception needs and deserves a pastor who is healthy and able to be fully engaged in all aspects of parish life. Following a good deal of prayer, thought and consultation, I have decided it is in the best interest of all that I resign as pastor. Bishop Checchio has appointed Fr. Jonathan "Jay" Toborowsky as my successor. Fr. Jay, who has been pastor of St. Lawrence Parish in Laurence Harbor, will take up his new role as your pastor on Easter Monday. Until then, you will be in the very capable hands of Fr. Edgar, our deacons, and the parish staff.

It has been a blessing to have been a part of this parish family, even if only for seven months. Those seven months were, however, enough time for me to know that I can count on your understanding and on your prayers in the weeks and months ahead. Please know that you will always have a place in mine.

Finally, I want to thank all those who collaborated with me these seven months, especially Fr. Edgar, who was a pleasure to live with and in whom you have a good and dedicated priest. I am also deeply grateful to our bishop, who throughout this time of discernment has been a compassionate spiritual father.

With my prayers for grace-filled remainder of Lent and for a Blessed Easter, I remain

Sincerely in the Lord,

Msgr. Benwell



2018-19 REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN

2-Year-Old Preschool - 8TH Grade

Register online at:

<http://www.icsannandale.org/2018-19-registration>

* Deadline to register for bus transportation is March 13, 2018