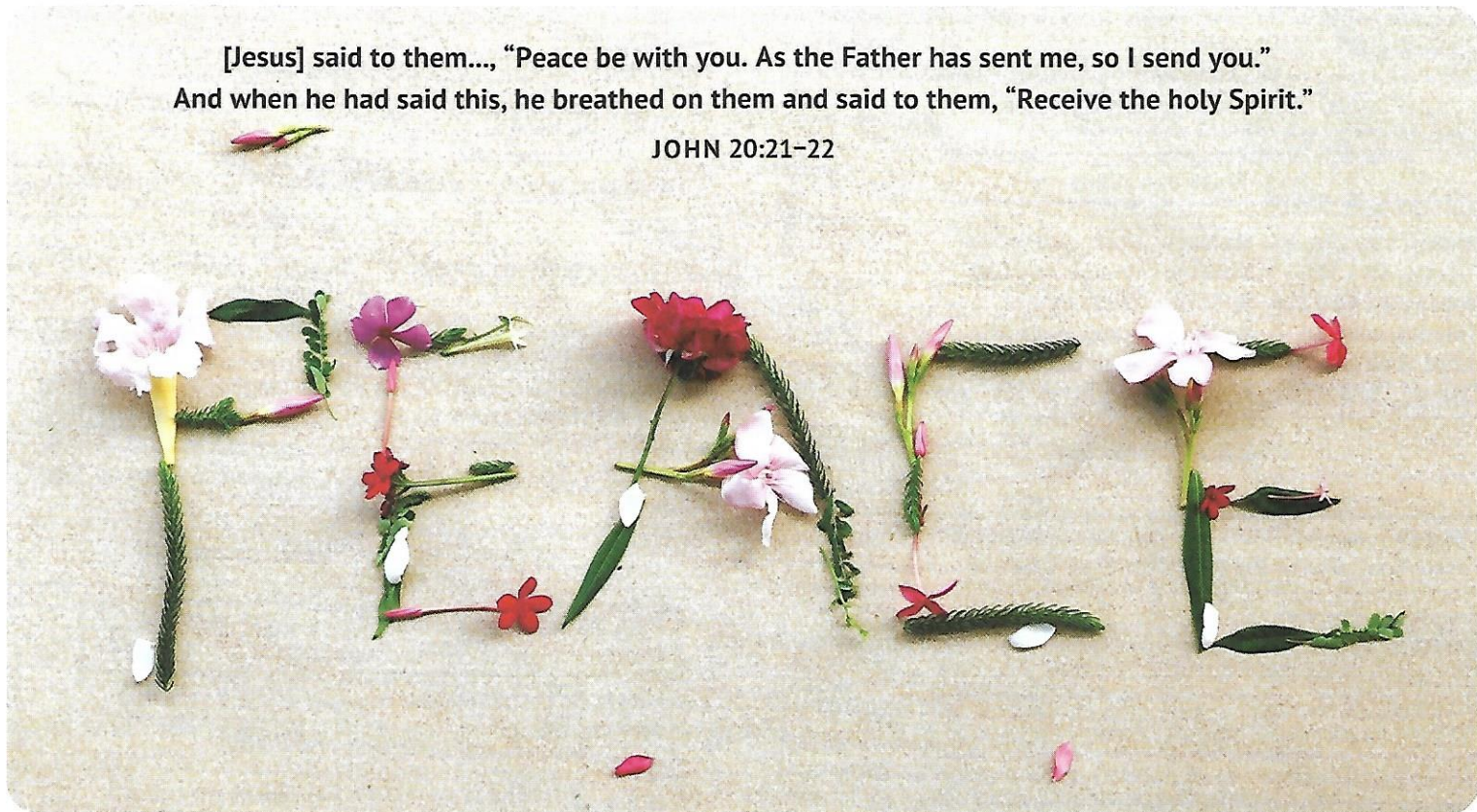




[Jesus] said to them..., "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you."
And when he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the holy Spirit."

JOHN 20:21-22



Freed by the Spirit

FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

Fear can be a most powerful imprisoning force. Like the apostles who locked themselves behind closed doors after the resurrection for fear of the local leaders, there are times when our own fears lock us out of the future and into our past.

We find ourselves choosing not to be generous for fear that if we are, we will find ourselves empty-handed with no one to care for us because all of our resources have been used up. And so, because of our fear, we lock ourselves into our own selfishness. At other times, we hesitate to be kind for fear that our care will be misconstrued or, worse, will be taken advantage of and abused. And so, for fear of continual demands upon our kindness, we lock ourselves into indifference. At other times, we find ourselves too cautious to speak out in the face of injustice because of a misguided respect

for "someone else's business" or because we are afraid anger or rejection will come down upon us. So, we lock ourselves into silence.

It is always the Spirit, however, that enables us to unlock those doors once locked by our fear. While that new power enables us to venture into a sometimes-shattering world, it does not promise we won't be shattered in the process. All that Jesus promised is that the Spirit would bring us peace. Such peace happens to us whenever we choose not to succumb to our fears. It is indeed a new creation taking place in us, even now.

Reflect

***Has fear ever paralyzed you,
keeping you from doing good?***

Dear Padre,

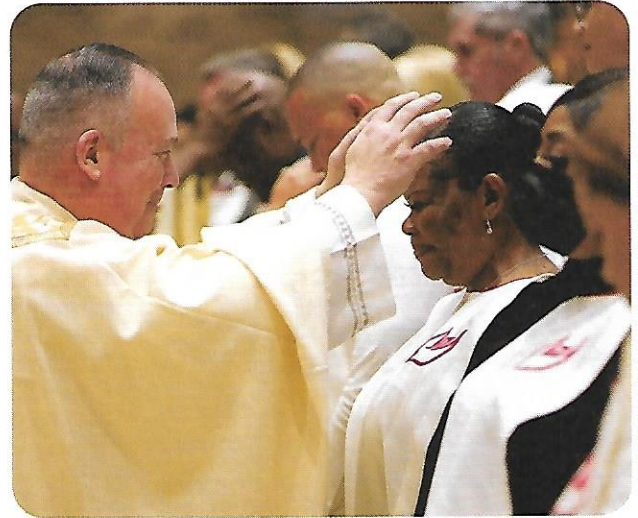
I am a practicing Catholic and I don't remember being confirmed. Is it too late for me to be confirmed?

The sacrament of confirmation usually happens when a person is older, and therefore you would likely remember the occasion. It could be that you were not confirmed. You can check with the parish you lived in during your school years to be sure. They keep records of confirmations done in the parish.

Confirmation is the final sacrament of initiation. Baptism ushers us into our life with God by giving us new life. Confirmation seals us with the spirit so we can follow Jesus and live out our particular vocation. And the Eucharist gives us strength for the journey and keeps us in union with God.

If you discover you have not been confirmed or if you can't find out for certain, talk with your pastor. You would not be the first adult seeking confirmation. Your pastor can tell you how your diocese handles confirmation for adults. There might be a program of adult instruction for confirmation to ensure you understand the sacrament and the teachings of the Church.

Today is Pentecost, the day when we celebrate the coming of the Holy Spirit into the lives of the apostles. The Spirit gave them strength for what they had to do. The Spirit can do the same for you.



CNS PHOTO/GUGLIELMO MANGIAPANE, REUTERS

The Redemptorists / DearPadre.org

Do you have a question for the Padre?

Go to **DearPadre.org** to send your question and to learn more about **Dear Padre**.

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
May 29 <i>Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of the Church</i> Gn 3:9–15, 20 or Acts 1:12–14 Jn 19:25–34	May 30 <i>Weekday</i> Sir 35:1–12 Mk 10:28–31	May 31 <i>Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary</i> Zep 3:14–18a or Rom 12:9–16 Lk 1:39–56	June 1 <i>St. Justin, Martyr</i> Sir 42:15–25 Mk 10:46–52	June 2 <i>Weekday</i> Sir 44:1, 9–13 Mk 11:11–26	June 3 <i>St. Charles Lwanga and Companions, Martyrs</i> Sir 51:12cd–20 Mk 11:27–33	June 4 <i>Most Holy Trinity</i> Ex 34:4b–6, 8–9 2 Cor 13:11–13 Jn 3:16–18



A WORD FROM POPE FRANCIS

On the day of Pentecost, Jesus' disciples were still disoriented and fearful. They did not yet have the courage to go out in the open. We too, at times, prefer to remain within the protective walls of our surroundings. But the Lord...sends upon us the Holy Spirit who envelops us and overpowers all our hesitations.

REGINA CAELI, ST. PETER'S SQUARE, MAY 23, 2021

A VIGIL LED BY POPE FRANCIS AHEAD OF PENTECOST SUNDAY AT THE VATICAN IN JUNE 2019.
CNS PHOTO/REMO CASILLI, REUTERS



Immaculate Conception Parish Family

162nd YEAR OF SERVICE

307 N. Walker St. | Montgomery City | Missouri | 63361

Fr. Ernest Dike, Parochial Administrator, edike@diojeffcity.org

Janet Cobb, Bookkeeper/Secretary | 573.564.2375 Parish Office | imm-con@sbcglobal.net | www.mcicparish.org | Office Hours M-Th 9:00am-3pm **Bulletin Deadline: Wed. 9:00 AM**

Ms. Dana Schroeder, School Principal | Judy Cobb, School Secretary | immaculateconception@icschool-mc.org | 573.564.2679 - School Office

Society of St. Vincent DePaul - 573.835.3631

Parish Council Members: Beth Cobb-President; Dennis Benney-Vice-President; Mary Pottebaum, Vicki Parker, and Dennis Cobb



MAY 28, 2023 - PENTICOST SUNDAY

Mass Intentions

Monday, May 29th **No Mass - Montgomery City**
Tuesday, May 30th **No Mass - Montgomery City**
Wednesday, May 31st **No Mass - Jonesburg**
Thursday, June 1st **No Mass - Montgomery City**
Friday, June 2nd **No Mass - Mont. City**
Saturday, June 3rd **5:00 PM Mass - Mont. City** – Our Parish Family
Sunday, June 4th **8:00 AM Mass - Jonesburg**
10:00 AM Mass - Mont. City +William (Bill) Broz



Your Gifts to God!

July 1, 2022 - June 30, 2023

Church & School Financial Report:

	Income	Expenses	Difference
March 2023	\$63,880.98	\$67,576.48	-\$3,695.50
Fiscal Year July-March 2022-23	\$600,633.46	\$543,644.28	\$56,989.18
Needed Weekly	- \$13,232.95		
April 30th	- \$6,175.00-Church; \$8,754.00-ICS/Daycare; \$14,929.00-Total		
May 7th	- \$5,616.45-Church; \$3,334.00-ICS/Daycare; \$ 8,950.45-Total		
May 14th	- \$5,378.46-Church; \$5,745.00-ICS/Daycare; \$11,123.46-Total		
May 21st	- \$3,453.00-Church; \$6,191.50-ICS/Daycare; \$ 9,644.50-Total		
May 28th	-		

A friendly reminder: That if there is a funeral at any of the two parishes or a school cancellation due to weather, there will be no scheduled Mass.

Thank you for your support!

Parish Membership: Call the parish office to register.

Sacrament of Reconciliation: Saturdays 4:15 PM - 4:45 PM, or by appointment.

Sacrament of Baptism: Call the parish office to set up an appointment.

Sacrament of Marriage: Call the office at least six months prior to the date you would like to get married to make arrangements and set a date.

To Become a Catholic: Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults begins in the Fall and sacramental initiation normally occurs at the Easter Vigil. Call for details.

If you are hospitalized or if you have a family member who is homebound, please call the office/rectory at 573-564-2375.

Immaculate Conception Parish Mission

To proclaim the good news of the Gospel; to build community among the parishioners that we may journey in our faith together, giving witness to love and unity; to serve the needs of others in whatever form they may exit in our midst and to celebrate the realities of our faith together.

Who is an Active Parishioner?

- Registered in the parish
- Regularly participates in Mass and the sacraments
- Supports the parish financially
- Annually completes a stewardship of Time, Talent, and Treasure form and fulfills that commitment

Liturgical Ministers for June 3rd & 4th

Ministries	Saturday, 5:00 PM	Sunday, 10:00 AM
Lector	Gary Hoette	Jerry Witthaus
Children's Liturgy	Not During Saturday Evening Mass	Geri Park
Communion Minister	Larry Brueggemann	Tudie Simpson
Ministers of Hospitality	Daryl & Nancy Cobb Kasey & Mary Pottebaum	Jacob & Megan Hans Family
Servers	Reed Pottebaum Jacob Roesner	Leyla Beabout Natalie Beabout
Gift Bearers	Hospitality Ministers	Hospitality Ministers
Money Counters	Rae Jean Rhoads Daryl Rhoads	Megan Hans Steve Williams

**Bishop McKnight's
May
prayer
intention for our
Local Church is:**

For the clergy and faithful of the Diocese of Jefferson City; may the reopening of our cathedral strengthen our communion with God and one another in the one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church.

Weekly Mass Schedule

Monday, May 29th	No Mass - Montgomery City
Tuesday, May 30th	No Mass - Montgomery City
Wednesday, May 31st	No Mass - Jonesburg
Thursday, June 1st	No Mass - Montgomery City
Friday, June 2nd	No Mass - Montgomery City
Saturday, June 3rd	5:00 PM Mass - Montgomery City (Rosary at 4:30 PM)
Sunday, June 4th	8:00 AM Mass - Jonesburg 10:00 AM Mass - Montgomery City (Rosary at 9:30 AM)

Upcoming Events & Announcements

Monday, May 29th	Memorial Day!
Tuesday, May 30th	6:00 AM-5:00 PM - Adoration No - Benediction & Devotion To Divine Mercy
Wednesday, May 31st	
Thursday, June 1st	
Friday, June 2nd	
Saturday, June 4th	
Sunday, June 5th	



Wedding Anniversary

Congratulations to the following couple(s) as they celebrate their special day!

There are no anniversaries this week.

Additional Financial Information

Capital Improvements	\$	326.00
Easter (Religious Retirement)	\$	300.00
Catholic Home Missions Appeal	\$	394.00
Catholic Missourian	\$	14.00
Mass Intentions	\$	45.00
Communication & Education	\$	100.00
Holy Days (Ascension)	\$	415.00
Pick-A-Prize Fundraiser	\$	400.00
Home & School Donation	\$	5,000.00
School Donation	\$	3,200.00

(This is NOT included in Page 1 totals)



Save the Date Harvest Picnic

This year's Harvest picnic will be held on September 17th. Please watch future bulletins for additional information on this exciting event.

Congratulations and Best Wishes

Last Saturday Mitch Leitschuh and Merrill Arens, daughter of Jeff and Amanda Arens, were married here at Immaculate Conception Church. Congratulations to Mitch and Merrill! May you be blessed with a happy, holy marriage!



News from Nigeria

Father Ernest emailed on Wednesday morning to say he arrived safely to Nigeria. He is glad to see his family and friends after a long time!

Pentecost Sunday



Today we celebrate the coming of the Holy Spirit, fulfilling the promises Jesus made to his disciples before he ascended to the Father. We ourselves were filled with the Holy Spirit at our baptism, along with the gifts the Holy Spirit bestowed upon us: wisdom, understanding, counsel, fortitude, knowledge, piety, and fear of the Lord. Drawn here together by the Holy Spirit, we recall the moment when the first disciples received the power that allowed them to carry out the mission Jesus left them. May the Holy Spirit energize us on the Christian mission as well.

Question of the Week

What gifts of the Holy Spirit do I recognize in myself? How can I use these gifts to bring Christ's peace and mercy to others?

Congratulations and Welcome!

Father was very busy last weekend! He also had three baptisms! We want to congratulate and welcome into our parish family Laila Vandillen, daughter of Zachary & Gina Vandillen (new to our parish family), and Levi & Madeline Schroeder, children of Tim & Kim (Sparks) Schroeder also of our parish.

Pick-A-Prize Fundraiser



Here is an update on the Pick-A-Prize drawings. Nicole Hines was the winner of the May 1st drawing for Pick-A-Prize and chose the \$250.00 cash prize and \$250.00 worth of lottery tickets. Nicole graciously donated the cash prize of \$250.00 back to the church. Rachel Rakers was the winner of the May 15th drawing and chose the \$500.00 Visa Gift Card. Thank you to all those who participated in the fun fundraiser.

The Parish Office will be closed on Monday, May 29th in observance of Memorial Day.

Immaculate Conception School News



The 2023 ICS Self Study was a success!

The Visiting Team found in the school community a spirit of family atmosphere, polite students, and dedicated teachers, staff, and students. We enjoyed a warm welcoming from the time we checked into our hotel, through the delicious meals, and the smooth process of completing our report.

The Visiting Team noted that the school improvement process done by the school was thorough and thoughtful. The schools report reflected professionalism, quality, and is a beautiful representation of all that is Immaculate Conception School.

The Visiting Team observed classes, interviewed individuals, reviewed documents, and watched daily procedures. Throughout this process the team was able to get a glimpse of the culture, the people, and the faith that was so evident throughout the school community.

The Action Plan for areas of improvement has been sent to the Diocese for our accreditation. Over the next 5 years, ICS will take the recommended areas of improvement and implement them within our school.

IC Scrip Cards - Last Day to Purchase is June 18th



The IC SCRIP Program has some gift cards in stock that need to be sold by June 18. You may purchase them from the ICS office or see Gina after Mass.

Bundy's, McDonald's, JCPenney, Dick's, Five Below, Bass Pro, Cabela's, Golden Corral, Subway, McAllister's/Auntie Anne's, Domino's, Pizza Hut, DQ, Arby's, Taco Bell, Sonic, Amazon, Kohl's, Walmart/Sam's, BP, and Casey's.

If you have any questions, call Gina Smith, coordinator, 573-289-8635.

Parish Directory Update



We still need to take pictures of parish committees for the directory! If your committee has not yet had their group picture taken, please contact Pat Korman at (636) 359-0001. If you are new to the parish or were unable to get your pictures taken last fall, please contact Pat. These pictures can be taken after Mass. In order to move forward with the directory, we need to get this done by June 18th! Thank you!

There are different kinds of spiritual gifts but the same Spirit; there are different forms of service but the same Lord; there are different workings but the same God who produces all of them in everyone. To each individual the manifestation of the Spirit is given for some benefit.

1 Corinthians 12:4-7



Through the power of the Holy Spirit we are each given unique gifts and the guidance to use those gifts to build up the Body of Christ to accomplish the particular mission entrusted to us.



Events Around the Community (See Flyers if available in the church vestibule.)

June 13th - Starkenburg Mo - Second Tuesday Mass - Confessions begin at 11:15 AM, Rosary at 11:40 AM, Mass at 12 Noon followed lunch (\$10.00-adults & \$5.00-children) Fr. Derek Hooper will be the officiant

Vacation Bible School



Come join us this summer July 11th, 12th, & 13th from 5:30 PM to 8:00 PM at Immaculate Conception School! Preschool thru 6th grade are invited to attend. There will be music, crafts and fun activities! A snack will be provided daily. What a fun way for your children to "Grow in their Faith One Step at a Time!" Parents will need to sign their children in and out every day. Registration forms are due by June 30th to the church office. For your convenience, there are registration forms on the bulletin board in the church vestibule.

Congratulations Graduates!



Congratulations to our graduates who were recognized last Sunday during Mass!

Immaculate Conception School 8th Grade Graduates (all three have attend ICS since Kindergarten):

Owen Merz, son of Michael & Lisa Merz
Emersyn Schroeder, daughter of Doug Schroeder & Dana Schroeder
Carl Smith, son of Michael & Gina Smith

High School Graduates:

Elizabeth Schierhoff, daughter of Richard & the late Shery'll Schierhoff
Madelyn Wisdom, daughter of Donnie Wisdom & Monica Wisdom

Post-Secondary Graduates:

Ashley Queathem, daughter of Karl & Becky Queathem
Lafe Arens, son of Jeff & Amanda Arens

Please keep in your prayers the following people:

Residents of St. Andrews New Florence Nursing & Care Center, Hwy 19 & Picnic Road, New Florence, MO 63363 - Susie Ryan, Dorothy Bowman, Mary Pettig, Ida Kopf, and Robert Geisz.

Contact the parish office to have someone added!



Please pray for: Aggie Baldetti, Pat Klein, Nick Schneider, Lucille & Marvin Griesbauer, Pat Merz, Parker Calbreath (son of Chris & Stacy Calbreath), Al & Christine Barger, Marla Daniels, John Rybacki (father of Sue Beck), Christine Welter (niece of Kathy Holtz), Matt Brumagin, Don Zerr, Kim Dryden, Ingrid Keller, Laverne Wessel, and Margaret Van Beek.

Contact the parish office to have someone added!



Please pray for all our men and women serving in the armed forces. Corey Stulce, Noah Richard, Dylan Willis, and Daniel Lohmann.

Contact the parish office to have someone added!



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See!
I will not forget
you, I have carved
you on the palm of
my hand.
Isaiah 49:15



**God Bless
our
Parish Family!**

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Welcome
everyone, anytime
on Tuesdays
starting at
6:00 AM we have
Eucharistic
Adoration: A
special time to
worship and praise
our Lord and
Savior, Jesus
Christ and to
deepen your
intimate friendship
and be nourished
and strengthened
by his Presence
and Love. At
5:00 PM
Adoration will
close with
Devotion to the
Divine Mercy and
Benediction.
Mass will start at
5:30 PM.



Michael Auchly
Owner
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Some Words from the 2023 Immaculate Conception School 8th Graders

Hi, my name is **Owen Merz**, and I have been attending ICS for nine years now. I have enjoyed learning in smaller classes because it's more convenient and the teachers always helped me thoroughly. I really enjoyed learning about people and presenting during the Wax Museum nights. Then there's the field trips. I've loved learning about all of the great things. For example, The Magic House was fun and educational. On our local field trip last year, I learned how to screen print a shirt at 1st Place Printing. We went to the Capitol this year and I learned a lot about the history of the building and the State of Missouri.

The teachers have always been the best, for example, Ms. Schroeder with my Mom as an assistant in first and second grades were two of the best years I've had here. I also want to mention Mrs. Newman, Mrs. Smith and Mrs. Bergmann for many good years in school. I always loved tea time and Weekend Share. I also liked being given special responsibilities such as answering the classroom phone, operating the lights and door, and taking care of our cafeteria. I would like to thank my classmates, Carl and Emersyn for sticking with me since the start.

I want to personally thank Mrs. Eileen Lotton for being my Prayer Partner for the last six years and for the epic cards! Thank you to the parishioners for being a part of and for funding my school that I have loved dearly these last nine years. Father Ernest, thank you for being our priest and role model and for your great homilies. Mom and Dad, thank you for choosing to send me to ICS to get an "Education Through Faith" and getting me to school, early or late. Thank you all for taking your time to listen to my speech. Have a great day.

Hello, my name is **Emersyn Schroeder** and I have been attending Immaculate Conception School for nine years. My favorite things that I've done at ICS are participating in all of the Catholic School Week activities, going out to the prayer garden, and going on fun field trips. I have enjoyed our "Weekend Share" time and accidentally falling asleep in the bean bags any chance I could get.

Thank you Mom and Dad for sending me to this school and allowing me to get a Catholic education. I have learned a lot about my Catholic faith and was confirmed this year. Thank you parishioners for all the support you have given our school. Thank you, Grandma (Arlene Schroeder), for being my Prayer Partner for multiple years and bringing me Subway for lunch. Thank you Father for being our priest and leading our school Masses. Thank you, Mrs. Bergmann and Mrs. Smith, you have made me into the person I am today. Thank you, Mrs. Bergmann, for always letting it be so easy to get you off topic and for sharing the cheese and tea with us! Thank you, Mrs. Smith, for taking pictures and sharing them with me, even though you always catch me at my worst! Thank you, Ms. Schroeder, for being my principal and leading our school. Thank you to my two classmates who have stuck by my side for nine years. I have learned many things from this school and parish that I will cherish for the rest of my life. Thank you.

Hello, my name is **Carl Smith**, and I have been at ICS for nine years. I have enjoyed Grandparents Day each year and all the field trips that we went on. One of my favorite parts in class was in fifth grade when we did our science fair. I'm pretty sure everyone liked my homemade catapults. I learned a lot about the Catholic faith as well as every other subject.

I would like to thank my mom, dad, and my grandparents for making sure that I attended ICS. Thank you, parishioners, for supporting our school and attending this Mass. Thank you, Mrs. Aggie Baldetti, for being my Prayer Partner for my entire time here and for all the gifts you have given me. Thank you, Father Ernest, for being patient with me and reminding me how to serve at Mass. Thank you, Miss Dottie, for being a great music teacher and letting me play chimes in church. Thank you, Mrs. Oden, for being my PE teacher and pushing me to my limits. Thank you, Mrs. Bergmann, for being an amazing ELA and social studies teacher. Thank you, Mrs. Schroeder, for yelling at me, a lot. If I hadn't had hearing loss back then, I would have it from you. Thank you, Mrs. Smith, for being my favorite teacher and of course my mother. Thank you, Emersyn, for being an eighth grader and not ditching the school. And thank you, Owen, for being my friend/rival and being here with me all these years. IC you all again sometime!