

## Solidarity: Embracing the Whole Human Family

By Sr. Annette Wagner, IWBS

Recent headlines remind us that violence is still very much a part of the United States. Whether it is the shocking events in Tucson that made national news or an attack on a homeless man in the local paper, the reports of violence are all around us.

What is the root of such violence? Mental illness? In some cases...but such an answer is too easy. It cannot explain the collective violence recorded throughout human history not only in wars, but also in slavery and other consistent expressions of specific prejudices.

What gives people permission to kill, maim, and deny basic rights to other human beings? Propaganda specialists say it is simple. We just need to be convinced that our adversary is simply not human: at best, sub-human and therefore not worthy of respect or compassion; at worst, diabolical, and therefore worthy of hatred and destruction.

Popular literature from any era offers us a view of such attitudes. Movies made when our country was at war shows very clearly why we need to bomb and kill, to mow down and destroy these "monsters." The Japanese depicted in the 40's clearly deserve to be wiped out. The "bad guys" of today's espionage movies do not look or sound like the "bad guys" of the Cold War era, but we in the audience know to root for their eradication. Note the concern in the entertainment world when the U.S.S.R. fell apart: Now who is going to be the enemy? Obviously, since 9-11, we have found a new group. Does their violence give us permission to respond in kind? Over time has our reason simplified into their ethnicity? Or their religion? Christ's response to violence as He hung on the cross makes clear that there simply is no Christian reason for violence.

Literary stereotypes effectively help an audience recognize the conflict and arrive at the appropriate moral. However, real life is not that simple. Real life in Christ calls us to focus not on what separates us, but on what unites us.

We may be familiar with the truism: There is only one race . . . the human race. Yes, recognizing that connection is essential, but it is not enough. Ever since Cain smarted off to God, we have continued to use his rationalization: "Am I my brother's keeper?" Our bishops remind us of Jesus' challenge to be just that.

*We are our brothers' and sisters' keepers, wherever they live. We are one human family, whatever national, racial, ethnic, economic, and ideological differences.*

Our bishops may not have invented the description of our planet as a "global village," but surely they have that truth in mind when they challenge us:

*Learning to practice the virtue of solidarity means learning that "loving our neighbor" has global dimensions in an interdependent world.*

Yes, we are called to do what Jesus did: claim all members of the human family as our own. "Whatever you do to the least of my brothers, you do to me." Perhaps the word "least" can urge us to attend most carefully to the brothers and



## Celebrating 140 Years

By: Connie F. Cadena, Advancement Director

Mark your calendars for...

Saturday, March 5, 2011.

Incarnate Word Academy and the Sisters of the Incarnate Word and Blessed Sacrament will celebrate 140 years of serving the teaching mission of the Church at its annual gala. This momentous occasion will feature live, silent and blackboard auctions, a delicious dinner, and the amazing vocal and musical talents of Sisters Morales.

**Patty and Joe Mueller** will serve as honorary chairmen and **Jenny and Philip Skrobarczyk** are this year's gala chairmen. They will be joined by the many parents, alumni, grandparents, past parents, and friends who have taken a key role by serving as advisory or event committee members. The 140<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Gala will immediately benefit our students and our campus by raising necessary unrestricted funds for the Annual Giving Campaign. Our goal is to raise \$120,000.

The 140<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Gala is a fantastic opportunity for us to celebrate, as a community, our unique place in history. It is also an opportunity to contribute a gift for the advancement of IWA's mission. Sponsorship opportunities are still available (see information in this newsletter for sponsorship benefits).

Your formal invitation is in the mail. Hope to see you there!

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### **Solidarity: Embracing the Whole Human Family**

sisters we are least attracted to, least comfortable with—different in nationality, race, ideology. Perhaps then we can acknowledge that hurting others boomerangs back to hurting me—in who I am, in where I belong, with whom I belong, in my relationship with Christ.

President Ronald Reagan had his own approach. He commented that we may disagree with each other, but we need not be disagreeable to each other. In his recent speech in Tucson, President Barack Obama said it more directly: "We may not be able to stop all evil in the world, but I know that how we treat one another is entirely up to us."

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**Saturday, March 5, 2011**

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Personalized large size paver in Middle Level Courtyard  
20 Complimentary Cocktail Tickets  
Invitation to Sponsor Cocktail Party – February 2011

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\_\_\_ **Individual Tickets - \$100 each**

I am unable to attend the Gala. Please accept my donation to Incarnate Word Academy. \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Name or company name as it should appear in all printed materials: \_\_\_\_\_

Send Gala invitation to: \_\_\_\_\_

I do not wish to be listed in printed materials or applicable publications.

**Billing information:**

Make check payable to Incarnate Word Academy . Amount Enclosed: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Please bill my credit card. Amount: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

MASTERCARD, VISA Card #: \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Cardholder's name and signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Please retain a copy of this completed contract and return the original contract to:**

**Incarinate Word Academy, 2920 So. Alameda, Corpus Christi, Texas 78404**

**Phone 361-883-8229 Fax 361-883-2185 Print Deadline: February 1, 2011**

Incarinate Word Academy is a Non-Profit 501c3 organization. The tax-exempt number is 74-870019F.

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## ELEMENTARY LEVEL

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### Spelling Bee

Classroom Spellings Bees were held on January 11, 2011. Students in grades 3 through 5, Traditional and Montessori, participated. The following are the results of the top three spellers in each category:

#### Grade 3:

Connor Hein  
Aaron Palmer  
Claire Thomas

#### Grade 4A:

Katelyn Ashley  
Steffi De Leon  
Kensley McCain

#### Grade 4B:

Gabriella Barrera  
Alyssa Davila  
Carly Teichman

#### Grade 5:

Kaylyn Dinh  
Katherine MacLachlan  
David Pierce

#### MEJ1:

Samuel Canales  
Lexi Galvan

#### MEJ2:

Ryan Nurenberg

#### MES1 (4th):

Ian Kuffel  
Theresa Salazar  
Katie Skrobarczyk

#### MES1 (5th):

Kelly Cortes  
Molly Flood  
Carl Hilliard

*Congratulations to all of our finalists!*

### Basketball Teams

Basketball games began on Monday, January 24. The team members are as follows:

**4th Grade Girls:** Katelyn Ashley, Amy Ayala, Grace Bell, Jessie Cruz, Sara Humpal, Teresa Salazar, Katie Skrobarczyk;

**4th Grade Boys, White Team:** Alejandro Carreno, Daniel Diejomaoh, Andrew Ficenc, Christian Gonzalez, Robbie Hilliard, Dylan Limas, Ben Torres;

**4th Grade Boys, Red Team:** Michael Canterbury, Andrew Garcia, Juan Hinojosa, Ian Kuffel, William Pettus, Daniel Rock, Zachary Rumley, Dylan Spillar, Nicholas Stark;

**5th Grade Girls:** Sofia Alonso-Bauer, Brooklyn Berrones, Kelly Cortes, Sarah Cummins, Remy Ellison, Mary Ann Fergie, Anna Martin, Mariah Montemayor, Lindsay Rye, Ashley Salinas. Anna Simank, Natalie Smith

**5th Grade Boys:** William Beauchamp, Tyler Cortes, Romulo Corrada, Nathan Doherty, Ian Fernandez, Jack Harrison, Stevie Martinez, Michael Morales, Wilson Strain, Robert Walsh

Good luck to all the teams and to their coaches, Mr. Korey Hardeman and Mrs. Brenda Pena.

***Gospel Value  
for February:  
Solidarity***

### Visionarios 2011

#### Youth Art Contest

This year's Visionarios Youth Art Contest theme, *Our Land, Our People*, pays tribute to our South Texas heritage. Forty-seven of our students, grades 1 to 5, participated. Entries were submitted on January 14 from the following students:

**Grade 1:** Matthew Nurenberg;  
**Grade 2:** Teresa Esparza, Gabriella Gonzalez, Andrea Reyes; **Grade 3:** Perry Burkett, Sarah Garcia, Riley Gourley, Lukas Graf, Drake Leeson, Claire Thomas; **Grade 4A:** Alex Beato, Hannah Claudio, Nicholas Hein, Juan Hinojosa, Kensley McCain, Payton Vicknair; **Grade 4B:** Jacek Bhakta, Lydia Jimenez, Carly Teichman; **Grade 5:** Nathan Doherty, Mary Ann Fergie, Eric Kuhn, Athanacia Papoutsis, Robert Walsh; **MEJ1:** Jordan Anthony, Cole Barger, Ava Bell, Patrick Ficenc, Bavaria Heckenbach, Michael Koch; **MEJ2:** Audrey Braugh, Clara Martin, Ryan Nurenberg, Lily Smith; **MEJ3:** John Anthony Cruz, Austin Frazier; **MES1, Grade 4:** Amy Ayala, Daniel Diejomaoh, Robert Moffitt, Daniel Rock, Theresa Salazar, Lexi Soward **MES1, Grade 5:** Sofia Alonso-Bauer, Romulo Corrada, Kelly Cortes, Molly Flood, Ariana Jones, Anna Martin

This year's Visionarios Youth Art Contest theme, *Our Land, Our People*, pays tribute to our South Texas heritage. It encourages young people to study their surroundings and develop a sense of pride in the people and places around them.

The winning exhibits will be on view from January 30 through February 27, 2011.

A special thank you to Mrs. Susie Martin, Art Teacher.

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## MIDDLE LEVEL

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### Geography Bee

As part of the 23rd annual National Geographic Society's Geography Bee program, the ML School Bee was held on January 7. The participants, who were winners at the classroom level, were as follows: 6th grade: Michael Diejomaoh and Dillon Humpal; 7th grade: John Johnson, Matthew Moffitt, and Natasha Stark; 8th grade: Madeline Baker, Michael McBurney, Joseph McNiff, Phoebe Strain, and Claire Weis.

After determining which two students were to go into the Final Round, it took eight rounds to determine the school winner, which we are proud to announce, is Dillon Humpal (runner-up was Madeline Baker). Congratulations to both Dillon and Madeline. Dillon will take a qualifying test to determine whether or not he is eligible for the State Bee.

### Girls Basketball

The seventh and eighth grade basketball season is coming to an end with only one week of play left. Both teams have played extremely well this season. The seventh grade basketball team won consolation at the CCISD tournament and second place at the St. James basketball tournament.

Eighth grade won second place at the CCISD tournament, second place at the St. James tournament, and first place at the IWA tournament.

### Forever

in our

Hearts....

### Mr. Oscar Esparza

On Friday, January 14, 2011, IWA Middle Level students, staff, family, and friends attended a Mass of remembrance on the one year anniversary of the Mr. Oscar Esparza's passing. The Mass celebrated Mr. Esparza's life and his great contributions to IWA.

After Communion, Harmon Dobson played a solo trumpet rendition of "Ave Maria" in tribute to the role Mr. Esparza played in influencing Harmon's trumpet skills. As the "Ave Maria" was played, Mass participants viewed a photo collage of Mr. Esparza as a member of the IWA band.

After Mass, Alexa Mora, an eighth grader and former student of Mr. Esparza's, read a heartfelt eulogy in which she recalled Mr. Esparza's influence on his students. Mr. Esparza was remembered as a good teacher and a friend whose allegiance to the Dallas Cowboys was a focus of his teaching tactics, and how he used data from the games to motivate his students in math. Alexa shared how Mr. Esparza's smile lit a room, and that his presence outside his classroom door provided a sense of safety. Mr. Esparza was faithful to the care of all students as they moved from room

to room, regardless of the weather.

A final tribute in celebration of Mr. Esparza's life was the slide presentation prepared by Mrs. Samaniego.

The presentation focused on his participation in IWA activities and on family activities he shared with his beloved wife and children.

The Entrepreneur Club sold green bracelets with the logo "Forever in our hearts...Mr. Esparza" to raise funds to purchase a bench in memory of Mr. Esparza.

The club raised more than \$1,325.00, which will be matched by the PTO to assist in the purchase. The bench will be placed near the area where Mr. Esparza stood as he monitored students.



**Mr. Oscar Esparza**

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# HIGH SCHOOL

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## Second Quarter Honor Roll

### Grade 9

Chloe Bajunaid de Roche  
Jacob Bartlett \*  
Bradley Becker  
Elliott Bottom  
Austin DeGaish \*  
Michael DeLeon \*  
Cassidy Faught  
Megan Flanigan \*  
Gabrielle Garcia  
Alexandra Gauntt \*  
Theresa Gayle  
Kyle Guerra  
Annika Johnson  
Marivel Jurica  
David Kring  
Danielle Kudlicki  
Erin Kuffel  
Kathleen Langan \*  
Clarissa Lara \*  
Kristina Lopez  
James Matl \*  
Katherine McClung \*  
Alexandrea Perales  
Margaret Pesek  
Caitlyn Ramirez  
Courtney Ramirez \*  
Mackenzie Thering  
Megan Turner \*  
Phillip Ugarte  
Meri-Ashton Van Winkle  
Will Wallace  
Ashley Zawicky

### Grade 10

Avery Bottom  
Jackson Bright \*  
John Bronold  
Robert Buchan  
Jacob Clark \*  
Brittany Donald \*  
Kayla Dural  
Alegre Elizondo  
Derek Ficenech \*  
Madison Groesbeck  
Chelsea Guerra \*  
Dodie Heredia  
Elizabeth Kirkland \*  
Kaitlin Lindell  
Madison Longwell \*  
Kanyarat Maliwan  
Zachary Martin  
Clarra Moore  
Victoria Parra  
Michael Salloum  
Jason Simank

Kevin Smith  
Andrew Thomas \*  
Michael Tinning \*  
Sebastian Villamil

### Grade 11

Dylan Alaniz  
Alex Armstrong  
Julia Baker \*  
Parixit Bhakta  
Alyssa Biggins  
Samantha Brozo  
Catherine Fergie  
Mary Flood  
Amelia Gonzalez  
Cody Hammond  
Cameron Knox  
Matthew Matl \*  
Frank McNiff III  
Miles Novack  
Regina Salinas  
David Sonka \*  
Jessica Yang

### Grade 12

Charles Baker \*  
Ryan Camacho \*  
Hallie Campbell  
Tyler Gentry  
Christopher Gover  
John Hall  
Caitlin Hart  
Monica Herbst \*  
Gyuwon Kim  
Madeleine Lu  
Sam Novack  
Gilbert Rodriguez  
Liza Salloum  
Samuel Schauer  
Steele Schauer  
Mary Jane Shea  
Allison Sirimanotham

\* Denotes "A" HONOR ROLL

## Favorites Dance

Saturday, February 12, 2011

8:00 p.m. to midnight

Doughtery Center

## Christmas Classic in the City

The Lady Angel basketball team hosted their 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Christmas Classic in the City December 29<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup>. Participants in the tournament consisted of IWA, Runge, Pettus, Woodsboro, and Yorktown. The tournament was a round-robin format/and the results were as follows:

1<sup>st</sup> place: Woodsboro (3-1)

2<sup>nd</sup> place: IWA (3-1)

3<sup>rd</sup> place: Pettus (2-2)

4<sup>th</sup> place: Runge (1-3)

5<sup>th</sup> place: Yorktown (1-3)

Tied records were determined by who won head-to-head.

### All Tournament Team:

Most Valuable Player:  
Kitty Avery- Woodsboro  
IWA: Ashley Zawicky  
IWA: Annika Johnson  
IWA: Alora Suarez  
Runge: Jeanette Ramirez  
Runge: Yvette Ramirez  
Yorktown: Dana Gips  
Woodsboro: Bria Brown  
Pettus: Madi Garza  
Pettus: Mari Carrizales

Thanks to all who came to show their support as well as those who helped to make this tournament a success. We look forward to next year!

## Baseball Info

Boy's baseball season begins with practice on Jan. 17. The JV and Varsity schedules are posted on the website.

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# **Incarnate Word Academy on Facebook**

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By: Colette Rye, Director of Marketing & Enrollment Management

We are excited to announce the launch of the Incarnate Word Academy Facebook page. Facebook will provide another tool to enhance communication and build school spirit. If you are a Facebook user, join our fan page; tell us your thoughts, share information and ideas, and get the most up-to-date information. To find us, search Incarnate Word Academy, Corpus Christi, Texas. All postings are public, so please be respectful of others, but most importantly, have fun!