

Rights and Responsibilities

By Marc Ortiz, Director of Campus Ministry

“Am I my brother’s keeper?” (cf. Genesis 4:9) Though this is the response Cain gave to God when he was asked where his brother Abel was after he had killed him, it is a question we can ask ourselves when thinking of others and our responsibilities towards them. We understand that every person has a fundamental right to life and all of life’s necessities. The right to life should be protected from the moment of conception to its natural end. To that end, then, we have responsibilities to ensure that every person’s right to life and his/her necessities are met.

The Bishops remind us that our responsibilities are to one another, our families, and to the larger society. In their reflection in *Our Catholic Faith in Action*, they show us that we must help the poor, speak up for those faced with injustice, help the foreigner, seek the good of all so as to secure our own good, live out our faith through our works, and ensure that our government upholds the rights of the poor and vulnerable. As noted in *Pacem in Terris* #30, to ignore these duties while expecting our own rights to be met is like building a house with one hand and tearing it down with the other.

Through our fundamental right to life, we also live out that right in society. It is, then, to society, to our families and to others, that we must be responsible. If we do not protect or assist the least members of society, we run the risk of harming our own good. We also ignore the Gospel command, “As I have loved you, so you also should love one another.” (John 13:34) Love in and of itself brings its own responsibilities: the good of the one being loved.

It is easy to think that it is the government’s responsibility to assist those less fortunate through healthcare, education, employment, etc. It is, however, our responsibility to form and inform our conscience when voting for the people who will make up the government. We have a responsibility to vote for those who will form policies that ensure the protection of the fundamental right to life and the provision of all of life’s necessities. I would submit that our vote carries as much weight, if not more, than our own works to protect the right to life and helping meet life’s needs to those who are unable to provide them for themselves.

“For freedom Christ set us free.” (Galatians 5:1a) Freedom brings responsibilities. To live out our freedom, we must live out our responsibilities. We must strive to protect the right to live and we must provide for those who are unable to provide for themselves. Love demands it of us; however, it should be out of our relationship with God that we respond to this demand, rather than a sense of obligation. If we live our lives in full communion with God, we will clearly hear His voice in our hearts. When we ask, “Am I my brother’s keeper?” there can be no doubt that the answer is yes.

Time to Remember, Rejoice, and Celebrate!

By: Connie Cadena, Executive Director of Advancement

The next few months will surely be busy ones. There are many activities scheduled that will provide the Incarnate Word Academy family an opportunity to gather as a group, make new friends, renew old acquaintances, and celebrate all that the Incarnate Word Academy community has to offer.

Please mark your calendars and make plans to join us for these upcoming events:

Sunday, November 7, 2010 – Memorial Mass

On Sunday, November 7, all those who have passed away during the year will be remembered in a special way. The entire Incarnate Word Academy community has been invited to celebrate Mass together. Any family who has lost a loved one since last November has also been invited to participate in a special candle light ceremony of remembrance in the entrance procession.

The Incarnate Word Academy Memorial Mass, which is scheduled to begin at 11:00 a.m. in the Convent Chapel, will be followed by lunch.

Saturday, December 4, 2010 – Christmas Luncheon

Incarnate Word Academy's annual Christmas luncheon will be held on Saturday, December 4, at the Omni Hotel. Event Chair Valarie Buhidar, and Assistant-Chair Tricia Guerra promise a wonderful and exciting program.

Kick off the holiday season by joining us for this festive luncheon. There will be a Santa's Workshop for your children, a silent auction of Incarnate Word Academy students' artwork, and a champagne raffle.

March 5, 2011 – 140th Anniversary Gala

Incarnate Word Academy will celebrate 140 years of service to the teaching mission of the Church. This event is not only an opportunity for us to celebrate as a community, but as a benefit gala, it is vital to the funding of our educational program. The entire Incarnate Word Academy and local community are invited to celebrate this special moment in our history with us. The honorary chairs for this year's gala are Mr. and Mrs. Joseph P. Mueller.

The 140th Anniversary Gala will include blackboard, silent, and live auctions. Preparations are being made to make this event a memorable occasion. Several committees are in place and we are always in need of additional volunteers. You may select from a variety of responsibilities including acquiring event sponsorships, obtaining items from local businesses for inclusion in our auctions, basket wrapping, and assisting with the preparations and orchestration of the event to take place on Saturday, March 5.

We need your involvement to make this event come to life! If you would like to join a committee, or have a business and would like to underwrite the event or donate an item for our auction, please call me or Courtney McLain at 883-8229.



INCARNATE WORD ACADEMY SCHOOL BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2010-2011

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ELEMENTARY LEVEL

Boy Scouts at IWA Elementary

Boy Scouts have been busy at Incarnate Word Elementary with many meetings, projects, and activities. The troops, scouts, and leaders are as follows:

Webelos I: Matthew Charles, Ian Kuffel, William Pettus, Daniel Rock, and Luke Trevino.

Mrs. Kathy Rock is Webelos I Leader.

Webelos II: David Casas, Nathan Doherty, Romulo Corrada, Diego Elizondo, Jack Harrison, David Pierce, and Nitesh Sharma.

Dr. Romulo Corrada and Mr. Rick Casas are Webelos II Leaders.

Bears: William Dotin, Joseph Garcia, Lukas Graf, Drake Leeson, Timothy Nye, Patrick Shea, and Gavin Vicknair.

Dr. Ben Leeson and Mr. Dan Shea are Leaders for the Bears.

Wolves: Alex Alonso-Bauer, Jacobe Ellison, and Aiden Porter. Mrs. Michelle Alonso-Bauer is Wolves Leader.

Tigers: John Anthony Cruz, Michael Fergie, Austin Frazier, Max Harrison, Pranai Reddy, Jorge Rivera, and Nicholas Trigger.

Mr. Augustin Rivera and Mr. Steve Trigger are Leaders for the Tigers.

Mr. Brian Charles is Cubmaster.

K4 and K5 First Field Trip!

After a few weeks of reading *Curious George* stories and learning different species of primates, the K4 and K5 classes enriched these lessons by taking their very first field trip. Eager feet stepped onto the IWA bus, a first experience for many, as they embarked to see the musical, *Curious George*.

Little eyes were glued to the fantastic scenery, songs and story lines that entertained big imaginations. The *Man in the Big Yellow Hat* was a favorite character in the show.

The children were accompanied by Sr. Camelia, teachers, and parents. The show was an awesome experience and enjoyed by all.

International Youth Competition at Carnegie Hall

Winners of the Fryderyk Chopin Society of Texas performed at Carnegie Hall in New York City on October 2.

Three talented Incarnate Word Academy students were fortunate enough to be a part of this event. These students are Gabriella Barrera - 4th grade, Sofia Alexander - 3rd grade, and Sophia Choucair - M1.

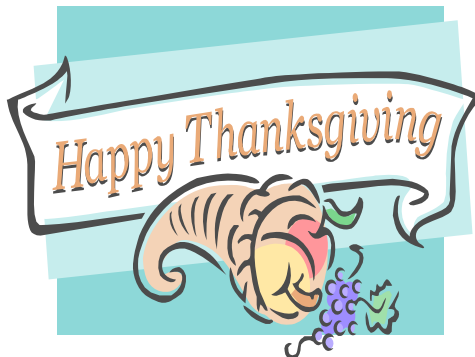
This experience was quite an honor and one that will be remembered for years to come.

Congratulations to these talented young musicians!

All Aboard the Pinta

On October 15, students in MEJ1 took part in the Annual Columbus Days festivities at the Corpus Christi Museum of Science and History.

Mrs. Rangel's class saw the Santa Maria and joined the crew aboard the Pinta. Each student received a *coin of the realm* and became an Honorary Navigator of the Christopher Columbus ships.



**Gospel Value for
November: Rights
and
Responsibilities**

**Scholastic
Book Fair
November 9-15**

MIDDLE LEVEL

Election Time!!!

The following organizations held their elections for the 2010-2011 school year:

Student Council

The week of September 13, students at the Middle Level were campaigning for Student Council. Creative posters and stickers were seen all over campus that week. Speeches and introductions were given on Friday, September 17, in front of the student body and faculty. Great job to all those who campaigned for the 2010-2011 Student Council!

The 2010-2011 Student Council are as follows:

Christina Matl, President; Natasha Stark, Vice President; Angelina Wolfe, Treasurer; Mary Hubert, Secretary; Madeline Brown, 8th Grade Media Coordinator; Amanda Madrid, 7th Grade Media Coordinator; Mary Matl, 6th Grade Media Coordinator; Belize Ellison, 8th Grade Representative; Sarah Rosales, 7th Grade Representative; and J.R. Ramos, 6th Grade Representative.

National Junior Honor Society

Membership in the Incarnate Word Academy National Junior Honor Society (NJHS) is conveyed only after specific criteria have been met. Prospective candidacy is open to all students who have attended Incarnate Word Academy Middle Level for at least one semester and are either 7th or 8th graders. Nomination for candidacy requires first that the student qualifies in scholarship with a current-year's cumulative grade point average of 95.0 at the end of the third grading period. Each student's conduct is taken into consideration prior to nomination for candidacy.

NJHS members provide service to the school and to the community. This year's members were inducted in May 2010.

The 2010-2011 NJHS Officers are as follows:

Madeline Baker, President; Kristen Biggins, Vice President; Madeleine McCutcheon, Secretary; Gina Barrera, Treasurer; Christopher Guerra, Sergeant-at-Arms; and Winter Tate, Historian.

The 2010-2011 NJHS Members are as follows:

Maria Esperanza Aguilar, Madeline Baker, Alejandro Barrera, Gina Barrera, Kristen Biggins, Analisa Cantu, Jared Coco, Grecia Corrada, Mary Elizabeth Dragon, Christopher Droppa, Katie Duncan, Belize Ellison, Kimberly Fernandez, Paul Flood, John Franey, Claire Frazier, Sarah Garza, Christopher Guerra, Caitlyn Hornsby, Mary Hubert, Christopher Klient, Harrison Longwell, Christina Matl, Emily May, Madeleine McCutcheon, Joseph McNiff, Michelle Ndwaru, Victoria Pena, Joshua Rasmussen, Madison Rawls, Nicolas Rodriguez, Camille Sico, Aparna Sivakumar, Robert Stanford, Alma Olivia Tamez, Winter Tate, and Shaela Yeager.

Junior Optimist Club

The 2010-2011 Junior Optimist Club Officers are as follows:

Maddie Baker, President; Kristen Creamean, Vice-President; Aparna Sivakumar, Secretary; Kristin Biggins, Treasurer; and Andrea Puyol, Historian.

Angel Athletics

The Incarnate Word Academy Cross Country Invitational was held on October 1, at West Guth Park. The boys and girls brought home first place.

7th Grade Girls Team:

Mary Matl, 6th; Claudia Leal, 6th; Janel Soliz, 7th; Maddi Marti, 6th; Hayley Guerra, 6th; Kate Pekar, 7th

8th Grade Girls Team:

Samatha Simank, Christian Matl, Kennedy Cunningham, Kristen Biggins, Ava Buchan, Emily May, Madeline McCutcheon, Belize Ellison, Madeline Baker, Madeline Brown, Libby Nash

7th Grade Boys Team:

Mario Serrano, 7th; Daniel DeLeon, 7th; Alec House, 7th; Jacob Gonzales, 6th; Stephen Parlamas, 6th

8th Grade Boys Team:

Jared Coco, Rolando Silva, Christian House, Harrison Longwell, Kyle Cobbs, John Franey, Ethan Elizondo

Fall Retreat

On Friday, September 18, 8th graders headed to Zephyr Baptist Encampment for their annual Fall Retreat. They spent half of the day with the Zephyr staff, enjoyed a delicious lunch, and a spiritual session with Mr. Ortiz and Mrs. Samaniego. Then they did team-building activities with Mr. Patterson who was assisted by Mrs. Ortega and Mrs. Haralson. Mr. Garza, Mrs. McCrone, Mrs. Duzich, and Mr. Salas also accompanied the students. In spite of some glitches (watching a huge black cloud roll in over Lake Corpus Christi straight toward the camp was quite exciting), the day went well and the 8th graders came back refreshed and ready for their final year of middle school.

HIGH SCHOOL

Homecoming 2010

**Pep Rally, Tailgate &
Burning of the A**

Thursday, November 11

Basketball Game

IWA vs. Laredo St. Augustine @
IWA

Freshman @ 5:00 p.m.

JV @ 6:30 p.m.

Varsity @ 8:00 p.m.

Dance

Saturday, November 13th

8:00 p.m. — midnight

Dougherty Center

Mum Sale

The Senior Class will be selling homecoming mums for \$10 each beginning November 8th. Show your school spirit and purchase a mum for your locker or to wear.

Thanksgiving Break

November 19th—26th

Classes resume on

Monday, November 29

Speech

Tournament Results

Congratulations to all these very talented students who attended the Carroll High School TFA Speech Tournament on October 25th: Ashley Arriaga, J.D. Noyola, Samantha Skurka, Jacob Bartlett, Lydia Ayala, Roy Riogas, Kaitlin Lindell, Elizabeth Kirkland, Chloe de Roche, Brantly Bright, Lauryn Alanis, Kelvie Mason, J.J. Arizmendi, and Tori Parra.

They competed in Poetry, Prose, Dramatic and Humorous Interpretation, and Duet Acting competitions against 22 other high schools.

Seven of our 14 students advanced into the semi-final rounds. Ashley Arriaga and Chloe de Roche went on to the final round to win 5th place in Novice Poetry and 3rd place in Novice Prose respectively.

Incarnate Word Academy's next tournament was at Gregory Portland High School on October 30, followed by Ray High School's tournament on November 5th and 6th. Break a leg Angels!

Attendance

When a student is absent for any reason, parents should telephone the attendance officer at extension 111. This extension is available at anytime for messages. Written notes must be sent with the student upon return. Please review the attendance information on pages 11 and 12 of the *Student—Parent Handbook*.

Scholarship

Application Tip

Watch deadlines posted for everything. Early Decision/Early Action deadlines are typically November 1. Many schools have scholarship application deadlines at December 1. Check the individual school's website... that is the only place you should trust for absolutely correct information. And be sure to note if the deadline is a postmark deadline or a "be in our office" deadline! Colleges **do not** make exceptions for missing deadlines.

Junior Class

Holiday Pie Sale

Don't forget the deadline to place your order for a delicious pie is Wednesday, November 10th. Please submit your order form and checks payable to Incarnate Word Academy Jr. Class to:

Incarnate Word Academy
Attention: Jr. Class Sponsor
2910 S. Alameda
C.C., Texas 78404

Pie pickup will be Wednesday, November 17th from 2:30—6:00 p.m. in the Cafeteria.

Blood Drive

Wednesday, November 10th

10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

IWA High School
2910 South Alameda

Incarnate Word Academy Marketing News

By: Colette Rye, Director of Marketing & Enrollment Management

Survey Responses

Thank you to all who took the time to complete the parent survey. Your feedback will help us identify Incarnate Word Academy's strengths and the opportunities for us to grow and improve the education your children receive. Eighty-six families completed the survey, with many detailed responses and some great ideas. Congratulations to Kimberly Lair for winning the \$50 Visa Gift Card Drawing. Please look for future opportunities to offer your feedback in the months to come.

Parish School Visits

Incarnate Word Academy has begun the annual parish school feeder visits. These visits to our diocesan parish schools are conducted by students from the middle and high school levels. It allows our students to make a meaningful connection to their Catholic peers and communicate the benefits that Incarnate Word Academy has for their continued Catholic education. If you have students or friends at an exit level of a parish school, be on the lookout for the Angel's appearance. All family and friends are welcome to attend these visits. Information is available at the parish school offices or the Incarnate Word Academy level offices.

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

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