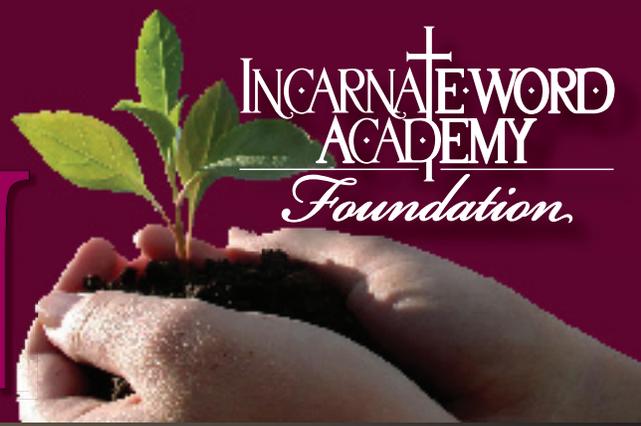


Advancing the MISSION

INCARNATE WORD
ACADEMY
Foundation



INCARNATE WORD ACADEMY FOUNDATION NEWSLETTER

SPRING 2012

Theme “Precious Stones Supporting the Mission” Honors Scholarship Donors At Annual Luncheon

With the theme, “Precious Stones Supporting the Mission,” the Incarnate Word Academy Foundation hosted the Ninth Annual Scholarship Donor Appreciation Luncheon on Thursday, April 19. Attending the event were scholarship donors and recipients, IWA Foundation Trustees and staff and scholarship luncheon committee members.

Participants were welcomed by Sister Michelle Marie Kuntscher, Foundation President, and the opening prayer was said by Sister Martha Ann Snapka. Julia Baker and Matthew Matl, student scholarship recipients, thanked the donors in the name of all recipients for their generosity and commitment to Incarnate Word Academy and its mission. They expressed appreciation for the opportunity of a Catholic education at Incarnate Word Academy and the benefits they have enjoyed.



Sharon, Joe B. and Diane Metz visit with IWA freshman, Analisa Cantu, scholarship recipient, at the Donor Appreciation Luncheon.

Inducted into the Scholarship Donor Recognition Society was Joe B. Metz for his contribution of \$10,000 for the Joseph M. “Jody” Metz Scholarship in memory of his son. Sister Michelle Marie expressed gratitude to donors who had initiated and contributed to scholarships which had reached permanent status. She invited these donors to participate in a signing ceremony. They were Richard and Mary Ann Davis for the Paul and Marie Chilen Scholarship; Joe B. and Sharon Metz, and Diane Metz for the Joseph M. “Jody” Metz Scholarship; Don, Cil and V. J. Pesek for the V. J. and Mary Lou Pesek Scholarship; and Mary Beth Schonhoeft for the Frank and Mary Beth Snapka Schonhoeft Scholarship.



Don, V.J., and Cil Hendricks Pesek '76 sign the recognition certificate for the V.J. and Mary Lou Pesek Scholarship.

If you don't mind the laws of your state dictating who will receive your property, then perhaps you don't need a will. On the other hand, if you want to make your own decisions, and if you view being faithful in taking care of the resources God has blessed you with as an act of Christian stewardship, then perhaps you do need a will.

State Laws

When a person passes away without leaving a valid will, it is commonly referred to as intestacy. Each state has intestacy laws to govern how assets are distributed. By necessity, the laws are written to be applied as a "one size fits all" sort of band-aid approach. Although state laws differ from state to state, in general they rely upon a formula of how close a person is related to arrive at the share of property he/she will receive. State law also guides the court on who should be appointed to administer your estate, and even who is appointed to care for any minor children. In many cases, all decisions made by the court appointed representatives must be reviewed by the court, significantly increasing the costs of administering your estate and decreasing the amount that will go to your heirs. Of course, under state laws, there are no provisions for the charitable organizations whose missions you supported during your lifetime.

Christian Stewardship

If it is your viewpoint that all we have is a gift from God, and you want to be a good steward of the resources with which we have been entrusted, then making sure you have a well drafted will and other estate planning arrangements in place are acts of Christian stewardship. Additionally, by taking the time to make your own decisions, instead of relying on the laws of your state, you will help ensure the people and charitable organization you love are provided for and expenses of administration minimized.

Contacting an attorney that devotes a substantial portion of his or her practice to estate planning and probate issues will be well worth the effort and expense. You will benefit from his or her wise counsel and be confident in knowing that once you have completed making estate planning arrangements, you have done your best to be a good steward of God's resources.

Prayerful Consideration

There are many unintended consequences of not having a will and other estate planning documents. Ultimately, only you can answer the question of whether or not you need a will, but it does seem to be a wise choice to prayerfully make your own decisions about your estate planning arrangements, utilizing the advice and counsel of the attorney you select.



Ramsey Rodriguez '93 Scholarship

This scholarship was initiated by Mrs. Enriqueta Rodriguez in memory of her son, Ramsey, who died in September, 2010. An IWA graduate of 1993, Ramsey was an outstanding athlete in Track and Field. After earning his college degree he taught eighth grade Language Arts at IWA Middle Level.

Motivated by his gentleness, care and compassion, Mrs. Enriqueta Rodriguez pledged to keep her son's memory alive through the Ramsey Rodriguez '93 Scholarship. Because of the generosity of friends, co-workers and past acquaintances, this fund has realized almost 50% toward the \$10,000 minimum required amount for the establishment of a permanent scholarship.

A graduate of Incarnate Word Academy, Ramsey was active in the sports program during his high school years. His former coach, Casper Wenzel, remembers him as "an outstanding athlete and a fine young man who took his faith and his academic studies seriously. As a teacher, he was devoted to his students and faithful to his friends." Ramsey graduated from Texas A&M Corpus Christi, earning a BA degree in English and Kinesiology with certification in Special Education. His experience as an educator included teaching Language Arts to eighth graders at IWA Middle Level; Special Education to students at Menger Elementary; Language Arts and Reading to students at Tuloso Midway Middle School; and Creative Writing and English at Freer High School, where he also coached the Track Team to State championship.

When the Ramsey Rodriguez '93 Scholarship becomes a permanent fund, an award will be granted to a qualifying student annually. Through this scholarship Ramsey's goodness will continue to affect the lives of the recipients into the future and thus make a difference in the lives of others.

*"I am so proud to have been the mother of such an incredible son, who worked faithfully to make a difference in the lives of others."
~Mrs. Enriqueta Rodriguez*

Sisters' Leadership To Begin New Four-Term in June

Sister Michelle Marie Kuntscher '60, will begin her second term as Superior General of the Sisters of the Incarnate Word and Blessed Sacrament, Corpus Christi, Texas in June, 2012. Joining her to be installed June 9, 2012, as the Congregation's Leadership Team for the term 2012-2016 will be Sister Mary Ann Korczynski, Councilor and Assistant General, and Councilors Sister Maria Irma Gonzalez, Sister Marilyn Grace Springs, and Sister Annette Wagner '64.

Every four years Sisters of the Incarnate Word and Blessed Sacrament convene to celebrate what is known as General Chapter. Their Constitutions describe a Chapter as "an ecclesial event through which the Holy Spirit works. It is a privileged moment in time in which the Lord is present in a special way to the Community and to the Church." On Monday, June 18, the Congregation members will gather in the Motherhouse chapel for the celebration of the Mass



L-R: Sister Mary Ann Korczynski, Sister Maria Irma Gonzalez, Sister Michelle Marie Kuntscher '60, Sister Annette Wagner '64, Sister Marilyn Grace Springs



Mary Ann Chilen Davis '57 and her husband Richard Davis completed the scholarship in honor of her parents.



Cheyenne Arispe, Charles D. Imbergamo, Sister Martha O'Gara '51, and Andrew Montgomery display the check from Incarnate Word Academy in completion of the Sister Martha O'Gara Scholarship.



Raymond Sykora congratulates Mary Beth Snapka Schonhoeft '61, on her completed named scholarship.

of the Holy Spirit, with Bishop Daniel Flores, Bishop of Brownsville, as main celebrant. Later in the day the Chapter of Affairs will officially open, and participants will continue the communal discernment process as they address the basic Chapter question: "How can we both proclaim and make present the grace of the Incarnation at this time in history?"

PLANNED GIVING

We are available to answer any questions you may have. If you have already included IWA in your estate planning arrangements, please let us know. We would sincerely appreciate the opportunity to recognize you as a member of our Jeanne de Matel Heritage Circle.

On behalf of all of the children we serve, thank you for including Incarnate Word Academy in your estate planning arrangements.

For more information please call or email: (361) 877-1232 or (361) 883-8229, snapkam@iwacc.org.



Sister Martha Ann Snapka
Advancement Associate:
Planned Giving and
IWA Foundation Liaison

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