

# From The Heart

Immaculate Heart of Mary School 650 Flora Avenue Winnipeg MB R2W 2S5 Phone: 204-582-5698 Fax: 205-586-6698 www.ihms.mb.ca

#### THREE GENERATIONS—ONE COMMON SPIRIT!



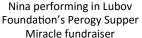
The Hawaleshka/Hutsulak Family
Photo by: Norbert k, Ivan

Shortly upon arriving in Winnipeg in 1948, Tatiana (Kysilewsky) Hawaleshka began her Grade 1 education at St. Nicholas school. The devotion of faith, music, family, friends as well as those of her Ukrainian roots would become central pillars in Tatiana's life, instilled in her by both her parents and the Sister Servants of Mary Immaculate. Tatiana graduated from the Immaculate Heart of Mary Academy in 1959 and still has many fond memories that she shares with friends from that time. Little did she know that in the future her daughter and grandchildren would also experience that love for learning in-

stilled by the sisters at Immaculate of Mary

Tatiana's children Natalka (Hawaleshka) Hutsulak and Adrian Hawaleshka both attended IHMS.

Natalka began her IHMS journey in kindergarten and graduated from grade 8 in 1981. Ten years later she returned to the school as a teacher and continued to teach music for the next 6 years. Her journey continues today as a substitute and past parent.





Maksym, Vladimir, Natalka, and Nina

This June, Natalka and Vladimir's daughter Nina

Miracle fundraiser

Hutsulak graduated from grade 8. Nina represents

three generations of women who carry with them that

Spirit that is so strongly shared with all those that have experienced attending a

school that is owned and operated by the Sister Servants of Mary Immaculate. Each generation of women shares life long friend-ships that were developed while attending IHMS. Both Tatiana and Natalka still stay in touch with many of the friends that they met at school. As Nina graduates from Immaculate Heart, she too, like her brother Maksym, who graduated from Immaculate Heart three years ago, will leave with many life-long friendships.



Immaculate Heart of Mary Academy Graduation - 1959
Front row (I-r): G. Williams, T. Kysilewsky, M. Hladky, O. Bashuk, G. Sobieski, F. Germak.
Back row (I-r): A. Dobuschak, I. Nawrocky, V. Klos, V. Melnyk, M. Wachal,

C. Dubowits, P. Chapel, D. Tymko.

#### **GET IN TOUCH**

One thing that is certain after 110 years of existence "the Spirit is Strong" amongst alumni from St. Nicholas School, Immaculate Heart of Mary Academy and Immaculate Heart of Mary School. Welcome to the Summer Issue of From the Heart. You will see from the articles that have been submitted in this issue, that our alumni value their relationships and connections that were nurtured at School and continue today no matter what decade you attended.

As alumni, you are part of this school's community. We invite you to help us strengthen our community by staying connected and by helping us reconnect with others. If you have friends from your time at the school and they are not receiving this newsletter please have them connect with us. They can call the Lubov SSMI Foundation at 204-942-0443 which is helping us establish our Alumni Association or they can email alumni@ihms.mb.ca

We look forward to planning future Alumni opportunities to reconnect classes and friends, to share stories and memories that will inspire current and future students. If you have ideas to reconnect with your classmates, share them through email or you can connect on Facebook. We also invite you to share any news or articles that you would like us to share in the newsletter.

We look forward to hearing from you.

Mikhas '02 & Johanna '01(Washchyshyn) Chabluk
Co-Chairs - Alumni Association



2nd Annual Alumni Hockey Night

#### **MEMORIES OF IHMA**

The Immaculate Heart of Mary Academy opened its doors on September 1st, 1957 to welcome 30 students attending grades 9 and 10. The Academy existed at 131 Aberdeen Avenue, between 1957 and 1963, and while the years were few, the memories were grand.

Just after I started at IHMA in September 1960, my Father died suddenly, and my Mother became a widow with three children. How it was



Immaculate Heart of Mary School Academy Yearbook Executive 1961-62

(left to right) Marian (McCosky) Makarchuk, Joanne Lewandosky, Joan Prystupa, Wirlana (Kysilewsky) Holowka, Marianne Wawrykow decided, I don't recall, but I moved into residence at IHMA, and in my year and a half there, I learned much about independence while living in a community, and doing household chores on a large scale.

I learned to sing with the Sisters, in harmony with a choir. That was a surprise because I never thought I had a good singing voice. But with a group I could follow the melody I was supposed to sing, and I could even do it in Ukrainian! Sister Epiphany did wonders with us! I carried this on with me into University, where I joined the SUSK choir, and kept harmonizing.

I also learned how to type—a skill which is more important today than ever. My learning curve for the computer was made much smoother because I started typing in high school, over 50 years ago! Did Sister Ruth have a premonition that her course would be so useful?

My fondest memories are of the friends I made, some of whom are still close comrades today. It's true, I

believe, that "the most valuable antiques are dear old friends", and I thank IHMA for my personal set!

After IHMA, I received my Bachelor or Arts, before going on to receive my Bachelor of Education and Masters in special education. I found my passion teaching special education, and English as a second language (ESL) courses with the Winnipeg School Division, where I spent my career giving back the way the sisters did for me.

Submitted by Marianne Wawrykow



& Marianne Wawrykow

From the Heart—June 2016



#### **WELCOME NEW ALUMNI**

Our most recent graduating class are now alumni! In June, 2016 a group of 21 young people completed their educational journeys at IHMS. As they go forth may they be blessed with success and continue to develop and share their God given gifts.

1<sup>st</sup> Row (L-R): Eldrec Abanto, Victoria Ochrymowicz, Marie An Therese Azcueta, Arianna Barczak, James Lee, Mark Dudych, Anna Radawetz, Jenna Tokariwski 2<sup>nd</sup> Row (L-R): Mr. Michael Banias, Thomas Tutor, Janelle Kubara, Yelena Romaniuk, Yaroslav Paches, Eric Loewen, Sahil Khurana, Adriana Sawczuk, Mrs. Debby Wittevrongel 3<sup>rd</sup> Row (L-R): Nina Hutsulak, Armaan Dhaliwal, Matthew Pimentel, Jennifer Karabin, Rachel Sturgess, Anna Volotovska, Mr. Rod Picklyk

#### AN 'IMMACULATE' DOZEN



In June, 2016, these 12 gentleman graduated together—again!

These men all transitioned from Immaculate Heart to St Paul's High School together, carrying on with their Catholic education, and recently graduated from High School together.

Congratulations to the entire class of 2016!

#### Class of 2016

1st row (L-R): Spencer Katerynuk, Matthew Pichlyk, Alexander Woloshyn, Don Nguyen 2nd row (L-R): Julian Fosty, Alexander Karpa, Lukas Skromeda, Anton Sikorsky, Benjamin Skromeda, Orion Kandia, Erik Huebner, Andrij Tkaczyk



#### **IHMS Class of 2012**

1<sup>st</sup> Row (L-R): Meaghan Harik, Nicholas Station, Orion Kandia, Adrianna Karpa, Anton Sikorsky, Petro Hrynda, Jacob Kimacovich, Simran Brar 2<sup>nd</sup> Row (L-R): Benjamin Skromeda, Alexander Hryndzio, Matthew Pichlyk, Jonathan De Leon, Maksym Khoma, Kevin Villordon, Alexander Woloshyn, Jessica Misiak, Ms. Melissa DePiero 3<sup>rd</sup> Row (L-R): Mr. Rod Picklyk, Alexander Karpa, Andrij Tkaczyk, ulian Fosty, Spencer Katerynuk, Daria Duplak, Mr. Michael Crooks 4<sup>th</sup> Row (L-R): Maria Lazar, Lukas Skromeda, Don Nguyen, Dmytro Shulyakov

#### SET FOR SUCCESS

In the fall of 1978, Jennifer Motkaluk started Grade One at Immaculate Heart of Mary School. She was in Mrs. Mazur's class where Tyt i Tam and Mr. Mugs gave Jenny the solid foundation in Language Arts that she still uses today.

For Christmas in Grade Two, the project was making Christmas Stockings and Sister Anne gave instructions and showed the class to do a blanket stitch with white yarn around the red stocking. Very shortly, one of the children went up to ask Sister to untangle their yarn. Sister Anne sat down in a little chair in front of her teacher's desk to untangle the yarn. When she looked up, the rest of the class was lined up in front of her waiting for help with their tangled yarn. One by one, Sister Anne untangled the yarn and then, each child made their way to the back of the line again. Sister Anne, with her infinite patience, sat in that little chair and the perpetual line of children with tangled yarn all afternoon. And so, by example, Sister Anne taught the Virtue of Patience.

Five years spent at Immaculate paved the way for Jenny's illustrious school career. After leaving Immaculate Heart at the end of Grade 5, she skipped grade 6, became a Massey Mathlete, achieved

Early Final Acceptance to McGill University at age 15 and graduated High School at age 16. She went on to McGill to study science and DNA, specifically. Ultimately, she graduated from UBC in 1993 with a Bachelor of Science degree with a major in Molecular Biology.

After graduating from university, she built a very nice career in sales representing companies like Fischer Scientific, Qiagen, BioRad and Pall Canada. She also worked in the IT industry before coming home to Winnipeg in 2007.

Her homecoming has been wonderful so far. She is married to Trevor Sprague and they have a 7-year-old daughter. Active in the community, she serves on the City of Winnipeg Board of Revision and is an Ambassador of ICTAM, (Information, Communications, Technology Association of Manitoba). At YES! Winnipeg, she made great strides in business development on behalf of the City of Winnipeg. That success prompted her to strike out on her own and she now runs Cumula Inc. Through Cumula (www.cumula.ca), Jenny is sharing her secret formula with others. Jenny does business development, coaching and workshops.



Jenny's Grade 5 Class, 1982-83

Jenny is also a sought after subject matter expert when it comes to sales. She is often invited to participate as a keynote speaker at conferences and industry events. What makes her so riveting and confident? Well, perhaps it's the same skills, learned at IHMS, that led to her win at the Ukrainian Verse Speaking competition back in Grade 4.

Written by Jenny's sister Twyla Motkaluk

#### **ART EXPERIENCE**

For the first time, Immaculate Heart of Mary Students experienced the process a professional artist goes through to create a piece. Local artist Lauren Gowler engaged the students to prepare the canvas, guided them through the creative process and then led them through the displaying process for the IHMS art showing.



A selected group of students had their paintings for sale as part of the Silent Auction featured at IHMS Annual fundraising dinner in

March. Part of the proceeds raised through the sale of each piece went to the student artist, having them complete the process from canvas to the sale of their piece.





#### REMEMBER THE PAST, ENJOY THE PRESENT, BECOME THE FUTURE

I was an IHMS "Super-Niner," which means I completed all nine years of schooling starting from Kindergarten through grade eight, 2002 to 2011. Upon graduating from IHMS, I spent my high-school years at Kildonan-East Collegiate. I currently have completed my first year at the University of Manitoba studying Science and Film, and look forward to opportunities that fate may present in the future.

My time at IHMS was certainly an inspiration for my future. I became very interested in the area of science particularly because of the teachers who introduced us to it; I looked forward to classes and like many others, enjoyed all of Mr. Dram's experiments. I remember lending books from the library - I always chose Eye-Spy books, adventure books, or books filled with science experiments to perform at home.

I also gained an interest in performing from my experiences in the school Christmas and Ukrainian concerts, and as a member of the school's performing group. I enjoyed being a part of a cast, going to rehearsals, and each moment up until the very performance. I remember the auditions that took place beforehand; how each of us prepared for them, got into character and performed for a chance to be a part



Nazariy's Grade 8 class, 2010 - 11

of the main cast. Each rehearsal and recital lead by Ms. Stanowych was very entertaining to watch and be a part of. I carried this passion with me through larger school theatre productions and music performances during my years in high-school.

I have many fond memories from school and performances; one of which includes the opening of the IHMS time capsule on the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the school -September 16<sup>th</sup>, 2005. This was a very exciting moment for both staff and students as the history of IHMS had been preserved for 100 years behind a wall, and the mysterious possessions it contained had finally been taken

out and shown to the public. I remember being very intrigued to see something from such a long time ago. I also very much enjoyed singing Canada's National Anthem at a Manitoba Moose game in the MTS Centre as part of the IHMS Performing Group. There are many memories

ranging from competing at Track and Field where I enjoyed performing high-jumps, to the annual IHMS Family Picnic where each student was eager to dunk their teacher in the Dunk Tank; as our Grade 8 Graduation quote states, "Remember the Past, Enjoy the Present, Become the Future."

The Ukrainian culture ever so present at IHMS strengthened the heritage of the students and community alike. Monthly church gatherings and elements of Ukrainian traditions were always present throughout the year. Being involved in the Ukrainian community, I enjoy being an Altar Server in church, volunteering at Folklorama, Ukrainian Day, and recently at the Third Ukrainian Kino Film Festival. Opportunities like these have allowed me to run into IHMS alumni and I always enjoy catching up and staying in touch via family, socials, and now university.

In the past few years I have had many adventures arise in the world of acting; some of which include travelling to Vancouver for the Joey Awards, and most recently to Hollywood for the Young Entertainer Awards. This amazing experience surprised me with a glowing red carpet and a mass of press at the wondrous Globe Theatre in Universal Studios; I was speechless to receive a nomination among such talented young actors, and to be awarded was that much more special. I am extremely grateful for the many experiences I have had so far, and for the strong support I receive from my family, friends, and the Ukrainian community.



On the Red Carpet at the Joey Awards

I know that time will show what adventures await me next, and that fate will continue to bring together the students of IHMS during each of their adventurous lives.

Submitted by Nazariy Demkowicz '11



Laura instructing grade 7 students

In May, the kindergarten to grade 8 students of IHMS also participated in a unique school wide art activity. The art activity was held at the Sts. Vladimir and Olga Parish Hall, and was facilitated by guest artist Laura Gowler.

Each grade received instruction in acrylic painting, completing a painting that was displayed before they took them home.



The scene grade 7 students learned to paint

From the Heart-June 2016

#### FONDLY REMEMBERED..... NEVER TO BE FORGOTTEN

**Walter Oleh Romaniw** passed away suddenly on March 7, 2016. He was born on March 7, 1944 in Komancza, Ukraine where he lived for 2 short years before his family was sponsored to Canada in October 1946, settling on a farm near Weirdale, Saskatchewan before ultimately moving to Winnipeg.

Oleh attended St. Nicholas School from grade one to eight (1950-58) (now IHMS), and St. John's High School, before attaining his BA from St. Paul's College at the U of M in 1966. He received his Bachelor of Law in 1969, and was called to the bar in 1970. Oleh was appointed Queen's Council in December of 1993.

He served from 1972-1984 on the Rusalka Ukrainian Dance Ensemble's Board of Directors, where he was pivotal in enhancing their international reputation, organizing many trips for them to perform in the USA, London, Scotland, Ukraine and Rome, where they performed for Pope John Paul II at his summer residence at Castel Gandolfo.



In 1984, the Sister Servants of Mary Immaculate invited Oleh to be on the Advisory Board for IHMS, where he served them and the Catholic Schools Foundation with dedication until 1999. Oleh shared his leadership gifts with the School especially when it came to negotiations. He was very instrumental in influencing the City of Winnipeg to establish a City Park on the corner of Stella Avenue and McKenzie Street, a place that IHMS students still use today. His love for the Sisters and their education ministry at IHMS carried on even after his board position. Whenever possible he would attend the School's fundraising events including this year's fundraising dinner in March.

Oleh served two terms as President of the Ukrainian Canadian Congress from 1992-1998, which gave him the opportunity to travel to



St Nicholas School Grade 1 & 2 1950 - 51

Ukraine several times. He was grateful to be able to reconnect with his Ukrainian relatives during these trips. For his outstanding contributions to the Ukrainian Community, Oleh was presented with the Shevchenko Medal in 2004, the highest honour that the UCC bestows.

Predeceased by his parents Semen and Olha and his son Steven (IHMS '87), Oleh is survived by his beloved wife Irene, daughter Martha (IHMS '90) and son-in-law Jody Klapprat, and cherished grandchildren – Sebastian, Madelynne, and Nathaniel.

Oleh will forever be remembered for his kind spirit, generosity, dedication to the Ukrainian community, and the light and laughter he brought with him into a room.

May the memory of Oleh Romaniw be eternal. Вічная Пам'ять!



**Sr. Junia (Anne) Kunanec** passed away on March 2, 2016 in Holy Family Home during her 86<sup>th</sup> year of life, 67 of those in religious life with SSMI. Sister Junia was born on May 28, 1930 in Wolverine, SK near Saskatoon to Dmytro and Maria, who had immigrated to Canada from Yavoriv, Ukraine in the late 1920's.

Sr. Junia's parents treasured their faith and ensured it was instilled in their children. Sr. Junia recalled that her mother taught her and her siblings how to pray, recounted

Bible stories and sang hymns with them. In particular, she shared her deep devotion to the Mother of God. In the words of Sr. Junia: "Through my Mother, God first gave me life and through her He kept calling me to a deeper life of faith in Him. My mother was God's greatest gift to me."

Sr. Junia (Anne) first met the Sisters Servants of Mary Immaculate in their country church in Saskatchewan, where they came to teach catechism during the summer months. She liked the Sisters because they told "stories about Jesus," participated in the recess games and seemed to be always happy. The desire to be like them and do what the Sisters did came to her at the age of seven or eight. Later on at Holy Eucharist Church in Toronto, she met the Sisters again, who supported her desire to respond to Christ's call. Anne entered Mount Mary Novitiate in Ancaster, ON, September 18, 1949. Now Sister Junia, she made First Profession of Vows as a Sister Servant on March 20, 1952 and Final Profession on August 15, 1957.

Her teaching apostolate began after she had graduated from Toronto Teachers' College in 1953. Besides her musical talent, the

Lord gifted her with artistic sensibility and creativity. Her studies in this field began in Toronto where she received an Ontario Arts and Crafts Certificate in 1953. Sr. Junia attended the University of Saskatchewan, 1966-1968, obtaining B.A. and B. Ed degrees. She welcomed all opportunities offered her to continue her studies in Art so she could enable her students to develop their talents. She was grateful for her years at Gonzaga University, Spokane, WA, where she obtained her M.A. degree in Spirituality in 1980. Ever a seeker of truth and wary of seeing things "black or white," she chose for her thesis: Spirituality and Charism of the Sisters Servants of Mary Immaculate: Eastern or Western?

Sr. Junia did not hide the Light of Christ she received in baptism and renewed in religious profession, but allowed it to enlighten all she served in her mission work, teaching primary, elementary and high school grades in Catholic Schools, for thirty-five years.

Sr. Junia taught primary and elementary grades in Catholic schools in Toronto, Edmonton, Yorkton, Ituna, Calgary and at our very own Immaculate Heart of Mary School in Winnipeg. She served as Principal at IHMS from 1972 to 1976. Reflecting on these years, Sr. Junia was grateful to the Lord, who blessed her with good rapport with the staff and students and acceptance and love. "I discovered that in the process of teaching my students, I am also taught by them, as we establish a friendly relationship of give and take."

Sr. Junia loved her religious congregation and served it wholeheartedly in all ministries entrusted to her and in top leadership positions. She served as Provincial Councilor, Vice-Provincial and nine years as Provincial Superior, 1999-2009.

> May the memory of Sister Junia be eternal. Вічная Пам'ять!

#### **KEEPING THE SPIRIT ALIVE!**

Immaculate Heart of Mary School continues to be vibrant because of our community of supporters. Thank you to our donors that responded to the Capital Campaign over the years. In our last newsletter we introduced three important funds that will ensure our school can provide the best education today and for the future. Thank you to the donors that contributed through the Lubov SSMI Foundation Inc. to these funds. The following are donors that made a contribution between September 1, 2015 and June 30, 2016.

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Monnin

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Lesia Sianchuk

Albert & Pat Turkula



We apologize for any errors or omissions. Please contact Lubov SSMI Foundation Inc. at 204-942-0443 if you have any questions

#### **IHMS Annual Giving Program**

Please consider supporting IHMS by making a contribution to the Annual Giving Program. You can direct your support to a specific area of need. For your convenience, donations can be made online at www.ihms.mb.ca.

#### Move the Spirit Capital Fund

Contributions to the Move the Spirit Capital Fund are used for major capital expenditures that will benefit the school community now, and well into the future. A portion of the funds are invested for the long range vision of a new IHMS campus. A portion of the funds are allocated for the capital expenditures and beautification of the current school.

#### School Operation Fund

Contributions to the School Operation Fund are earmarked for the day to day programs offered to the students. IHMS provides an academic program that promotes excellence and develops independence. Along with the curriculum there are many co-curricular and extracurricular programs for students, providing them a well rounded educational experience. Some of the co-curricular programs include: Performing Arts/Drama, Cultural Education, Social Justice Club, School Intramural Sports, and the Debate Program.

#### Scholarship/Bursary Fund

Contributions to the Scholarship/ Bursary Fund provide financial assistance to students to continue their education. Full and partial bursaries are available to any student, based on financial need, as determined by the Bursary Committee. Scholarships are awarded to students based on academic achievement and/or participation in school programs and activities.

From the Heart—June 2016

## 125th Anniversary of Ukrainian Immigration to Canada

To mark the 125th Anniversary of Ukrainian immigration to Canada, the Province of Manitoba proclaimed 2016 The Year of Manitoba's Ukrainian-Canadian Cultural Heritage. The logo (depicted to the right) commemorates 125 years of Ukrainian immigration to Canada.

Just 10 years after the first Ukrainian immigration to Canada, four sisters of the Sister Servants of Mary Immaculate arrived in Edmonton Alberta to begin a life of service and prayer in Canada. This is a special acknowledgment that the Sisters are celebrating their 115th year in Canada, as they have played such a vital role in promoting and Preserving our Ukrainian heritage.

Throughout 2016 lookout for many events to commemorate this special year of celebration for the 125th anniversary of Ukrainians in Canada!



## IHMS Staff Moving On

**Ms.** Natalia Karhut, Educational Assistant, will be pursuing a new career next year. We have been blessed to have Ms. Karhut be a part of our school community. The care she provided the children, and dedication to her job, is very much appreciated.

**Mr. Michael Banias** is following his passion to be back teaching in classroom. He will be working at Holy Ghost School next year teaching Grade 7. IHMS has been blessed to have Mr. Banias share his talents and energy with our school community.

Immaculate Heart of Mary School wishes Ms. Karhut and Mr. Banias best wishes and God's choicest blessings with their new endeavors.

### IHM School Calendar

November 30 IHMS Fundraising Draw

February 5 Annual School Tea

March 11 IHMS Fundraising Dinner

For more details about School Events Visit www.ihms.mb.ca



Thank you to all the Alumni that contributed to this edition. If you have news or stories you would like to share please contact



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