

From The Heart

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Alumni Greetings
Its time to rekindle relationships.
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Greetings Alumni!!

For over 105 years Immaculate Heart of Mary School (previously St. Nicholas School / Immaculate Heart of Mary Academy) has been educating students at the corner of Flora and MacKenzie in Winnipeg's North end. Hundreds of graduates from the school have gone on to lead enriched lives and enjoy successful careers. These successes are due in part to the solid foundation, and strong values instilled, during their tenure at the school.

This inaugural alumni newsletter entitled *From the Heart* is intended to rekindle relationships between the school, the alumni students, current staff, and the former staff. The stories and information on the pages of this newsletter will hopefully spark an interest for acquaintances to reconnect.

Future editions of this newsletter are forthcoming.

From the Heart will feature:

- stories of past graduates and the lives they are leading.
- information about current events at the present Immaculate Heart of Mary School.
- updates on the school's exciting relocation project.
- information about the Sisters Servants of Mary Immaculate.
- interesting stories about the history of the school.
- updates on the development of the Alumni Association

As we endeavor to create an Alumni Association for the school, there are plans to distribute an eNewsletter, as well as, opportunities to follow the Alumni Association on Facebook to keep up with school alumni across the globe!

The school has a long and treasured story that we can all be very proud of. If you would like to send us some news please contact us at alumni@ihms.mb.ca Don't forget to include your year of graduation in the body of your news. Thank you for your updates. We will try to get them posted as soon as possible.



Vintage Photos!
 clockwise: St. Nicholas School badge, Eleanor Debroni (nee Palahniuk) 1950 Junior Parliament, Immaculate Heart of Mary Academy badge, Walter Sahan & Bill Norrie at the school's 75th Anniversary

Where are They Now?!

Anna Marie Bogdan (nee Sirdar) attended Immaculate Heart of Mary School for eight years from 1988 to 1996. She then went on to attend St. Boniface Diocesan High School, graduating in 2000. She attended the University of Manitoba and graduated from the nursing program there, later taking extended studies in Intensive Care. She is now employed with the St. Boniface Hospital as an Intensive Care Nurse.

Her fondest elementary school memories include taking part in the rich cultural experiences that IHMS had to offer (of which included the Christmas Concerts and Ukrainian Week), and as well, the close connections she made with her classmates. One of those connections included her future husband, Derek, who attended IHMS with one of Anna Marie's older brothers.

The Bogdan's oldest child, Arianna, just started at Immaculate Heart this year in the Sadochok (Nursery) program. Her younger child Lucjan still has a couple years before he begins. When asked what reasons she had for bringing her own children to IHMS, Anna Marie mentioned that the Catholic program was very important for both her and Derek. Anna Marie and Derek were very interested in a school that reflected their own spiritual values. From their shared personal experience, they knew and trusted that the Catholic education that their children would get at IHMS would more than meet their expectations.

Other factors that affected their decision was their familiarity with some of the staff, and the proximity of the new school facility to where they are currently living. Anna Marie was quick to mention that it didn't really matter where the school was located ... she was prepared to drive her daughter to IHMS no matter where it was! It was just an added bonus that the brand new IHMS is going to be built near her neighborhood!



Anna Marie Bogdan (nee Sirdar) with husband Derek, daughter Arianna and son Lucjan.



Donna Faryon with husband Roger Loewen, daughter Sydney and son Eric.

Donna Faryon attended Immaculate Heart of Mary School from 1966 to 1975. She graduated from St. John's High School in 1979 and received a basketball scholarship to attend Red River College where she studied Business Administration. She later took the Business Analyst program there and is now a Lead Business Analyst for Great West Life in Winnipeg where she works on system and process improvement projects.

Donna's uncle attended St. Nicholas School. Donna's daughter, Sydney, graduated from IHMS in 2009 and her son Eric, is currently in grade five. Donna's husband Roger is involved in private business in Winnipeg and is also a member of the IHMS Board of Trustees. Donna generously shares her time and talents by coaching in the basketball program at IHMS.

Donna and her husband Roger decided to bring their children to IHMS because of the excellent academic and faith education that Donna received, and, because of the memorable experiences she had at IHMS.

Donna shares, "... the School inspired a great work ethic which I carried forward into high school and College. I remember how easy Grade 9 was at St. John's because I already learned everything at IHMS in grade 8! I wanted my children to experience those same things that I did." Donna indicated her fondest memory of IHMS was, "While in Grade 6, I heard that IHMS was having a school softball team. I had never played any sport before, but my classmate and I thought we would give it a try. I remember walking to Old Ex Park a few blocks away for the tryout. The coaches asked us to stand in a line facing the coaches. Each player was asked to throw the ball to the coach. I was the only one to hit the glove so I became the pitcher! This was the beginning of a long softball pitching career; playing well into my adult years. This experience also led to my involvement in many sports which became a big part of my life and now a big part of my children's lives."

Donna's daughter, Sydney graduated from Immaculate Heart in 2009 and is now attending St. Mary's Academy. When Donna reflects on Sydney's experience at IHMS ... "She strives to be the best she can be at everything she does; something that was instilled upon her at IHMS. At Immaculate Heart she learned how to study effectively, how to organize her time, and how to be respectful of other people. She continues to use those skills as she continues to excel in her studies while participating in many school sports."

School Website

Immaculate Heart has an excellent website. There is a lot of information about current events at the school, as well as, a wealth of interesting historical info. See some interesting photos of when you went to school. See some very interesting old photos of the construction of the current Immaculate Heart. Are you curious to know who some of your classmates were? Go to www.ihms.mb.ca and surf away!



Alumni Association

It may have been decades since you strolled the halls of the school, or it may have been only a year or two ago. Either way, as an alumni of St. Nicholas School / Immaculate Heart of Mary Academy / Immaculate Heart of Mary School you are a part of a unique and proud group. Alumni of the school have gone on to do wonderful things ... successful careers, create businesses, raise families (graduate more school alumni!), and more! The Alumni Association is created to serve as ambassadors between the alumni and the school; to strengthen relationships among alumni, students, parents, current staff, former staff and the community; and to build spirit and support for the school through communications and events. Please ensure that IHMS has your current contact information. To have your address changed, or to receive email communication from the Alumni Association please email alumni@ihms.mb.ca or call the school office at 204-582-5698. Please feel free to pass the exciting news of an Alumni Association on to other former students and staff.



Alumni Database

Immaculate Heart of Mary School respects and understands the importance of privacy and security for our alumni community. Any information collected is used only by Immaculate Heart of Mary School to contact alumni. Persons who supply us with their telephone numbers or email addresses may receive telephone or email contact from us with information regarding alumni related services or events, news and special promotions, as well as responding to questions or seeking alumni service feedback.

Facebook Us



Check us out on Facebook! It's a great way to stay in touch with your friends from school. Go to:
Immaculate Heart of Mary School Winnipeg

Alumni Reception

Good fun, good food and great fellowship! Please join us on Sunday afternoon, October 6 for our first ever Alumni Association Reception!! It will be a Sunday afternoon, wine and cheese affair at Immaculate Heart of Mary School. Come and stroll the school halls, step into a classroom, rub shoulders with old friends, and reminisce good times! This will also be the launch of the schools 100th Anniversary Book! Stay tuned for more information. If you're interested in assisting to organize the Reception please contact the school at: alumni@ihms.mb.ca or 204-582-5698.

Fund Raising Dinner

Immaculate Heart of Mary School hosted their Annual Fund Raising Dinner on Saturday, March 9, 2013. All the proceeds from this elegant event are for the academic, spiritual and cultural programs at the school. The evening included a spectacular meal catered by Bergman's Restaurant, delicious wine, a strolling minstrel, fabulous door prizes and very generous silent auction prizes. Thank you to all the generous sponsors of the Dinner. Next year's Annual Fund Raising Dinner takes place on Saturday, March 8, 2014.

Annual School Tea

Immaculate Heart of Mary School hosted its Annual School Tea on Sunday, February 3. This year's theme celebrated the centenary of Canada's first Ukrainian Catholic Bishop ... Blessed Bishop Nykyta Budka. The Tea was officially opened Mrs. Natalia Radawetz Currator for the St. Volodymyr Museum. There was a Bake Sale Room, Bishop Budka Display Room, over 40 Basket Raffle Prizes and generous Main Raffle prizes. It was wonderful to see so many alumni coming by to visit and support the school. Next year's Tea will be on Sunday, February 2, 2014 hope to see you there!



Natalia Radawetz escorted by Sr. Anne Pidsklany, SSMI, & Barb Pichlyk officially open the Tea.



IHM School Calendar

- June 24 - Graduation Divine Liturgy
- June 24 - Annual Awards Day
- **October 6, 2013 - Alumni Wine & Cheese Reception**
- November 27, 2013 - Fund Raising Raffle
- February 2, 2014 - Annual School Tea
- March 8, 2014 - Annual Fund Raising Dinner

Can You Help?

There are many exciting activities the new Alumni Association will be taking part in. Can you help us out?! Send us an email, or give us a phone, indicating your desire to get involved. Most immediately we are in need of helping hands for: organizing the Alumni Reception, getting in touch with other Alumni, writing articles for this 'From the Heart' Newsletter. email: alumni@ihms.mb.ca phone: 204-582-5698

Admissions

Word of mouth continues to be one of the Immaculate Heart's best forms of advertising. A family's positive experience at the school is great for public relations and encourages new families to inquire.

Do you have children of your own that are of school age? Please keep Immaculate Heart in your list of options when making a choice of schools for your children. For more information about enrolling at Immaculate Heart please visit the 'admissions' link on the website, or call the school office at 204-582-5698. We would love to give you personal tour of the school!

School Trivia

What were the names of the first two Sisters to teach at St. Nicholas School? Submit your answer and contact info to alumni@ihms.mb.ca All correct answers will be entered into a draw for \$25 gift certificate to Boston Pizza! Entry deadline is August 31, 2013. All SNS / IHMA / IHMS alumni and former staff are eligible to enter.

Then & Now



St. Nicholas School Girls Baseball team 1940's / 50's.



IHMS Boys Volleyball Team - 2012 League Champions!

For over 100 years the school has been providing students an opportunity to develop their athletic skills. Pictured to the left is a St. Nicholas School Girls Baseball Team from the late 1940's early 1950's. Currently, the school's sports teams have just completed a highly successful volleyball season and are now charging ahead in basketball. IHMS fields both competitive and developmental teams to provide all interested students with a chance to participate. This past fall, the IHMS Boys Volleyball Team won the League Championship, and as well the St. Paul's High School Invitational Volleyball tournament, and came 5th in the provincial playoffs. The Girls Volleyball Team did very well also, finishing third in their league overall. IHMS competes in city-wide league play for volleyball, basketball, badminton and track & field.

There are also intramural teams that play during recess and noon hour breaks, with a Running Club that meets twice a week in the mornings. The IHMS Running Club recently competed at the Boeing Indoor Classic Track Meet.

Sisters Servants of Mary

For over 105 years the Sisters Servants of Mary Immaculate have continued their mission of operating Immaculate Heart of Mary School. In fact, the school is the longest running mission of the Sisters worldwide!

At one time it was all Sisters who taught at the school. Now, the teaching staff is predominantly lay teachers. The charism of the Sisters is still very prevalent at the school with Sr. Anne Pidskalny as the Sadochok / Kindergarten teacher, as well as, the School Director.

The Sisters recently announced the launch of the Lubov SSMI Foundation, a new community focused initiative that will undertake the challenges of raising funds to enhance and ensure the ongoing success of the Sisters' missions. The official opening of the Lubov SSMI Foundation was held on September 5 at the newly renovated building at 1085 Main Street. The ribbon cutting was officiated by His Beatitude Sviatoslav Shevchuk, Sr. Patricia Lacey (Provincial Superior), Sr. Janice Soluk, Mrs. Wowk (HFNH Resident) and Nykola Shpurko (IHMS Student). Greetings were extended to the guests from the Foundation CEO, Lesia Sianchuk. His Beatitude Sviatoslav and Metropolitan Lawrence Huculak blessed the facility and expressed best wishes to the SSMI for their tremendous work in the community and continued success in their endeavours.

The Foundation's priorities are to:

- Provide fund development support to Immaculate Heart of Mary School and Holy Family Nursing Home capital campaigns.
- Provide long term fund development capacity to support and enhance program needs of Immaculate Heart of Mary School and Holy Family Nursing Home.
- Provide fund development capacity to support and enhance other ministries of the Sisters Servants of Mary Immaculate especially in the area of hospitality in service of God's people.



LUBOV
SSMI FOUNDATION



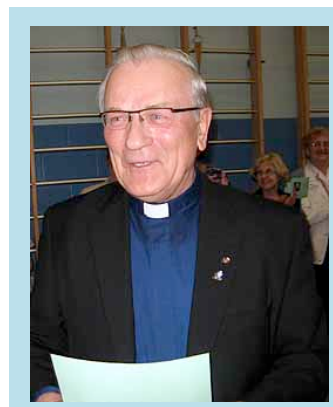
His Beatitude Sviatoslav is greeted by Veeta Zakrevky (Gr.7) and Connor Rewniak (Gr.1)

Special Visitor

His Beatitude Sviatoslav Shevchuk visited Immaculate Heart on Friday, September 7. His Beatitude Sviatoslav is the recently elected Major Archbishop of the Ukrainian Catholic Church (world-wide). He was in Manitoba at the beginning of September for a Synod (meeting with over 40 international Ukrainian Catholic bishops). The focus of His Beatitude's visit to Immaculate Heart of Mary School was to spend time with the students. During His Beatitude's visit to IHMS there was a heartfelt program presented by the students and staff, a school tour through the classrooms, and lunch with the students! What a wonderful way to begin the new school year ... with a visit from the leader of our Ukrainian Catholic Church!

Did You Know ...

... Fr. Isidore Dziadyk, OSBM has been the longest serving Chaplain for the school. Fr. Isidore has faithfully served Immaculate Heart for over 25 years and counting!! He recently celebrated his 50th anniversary of priesthood! Fr. Isidore is also currently a parish priest at St. Nicholas Church. **Многая Літа!!**



Father Isidore Dziadyk, OSBM - IHM School Chaplain