



SCHOOL OF THE INCARNATION

Incarnation Highlights

A newsletter for friends and alumni of
INCARNATION SCHOOL
Washington Heights, New York City



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Dear Alumni and Friends,

The first and possibly the last snowstorm of the winter just ended. Enrollment is up. Our eighth annual benefit was a success. The Middle States team came and went, leaving us with a great report.

On the sports front, our boys' Varsity team is headed to the playoffs, as are the Tyros. The Tyros are fourteen and one, the best record in Manhattan. Citi-track participants are enjoying themselves in the armory. Yes, the Amory is alive and well with a state of the art track and Incarnation students.

Our 8th graders have all been accepted in high school and are quite happy with their choices.

All told, it's been a terrific first semester.

On top of all this, Incarnation has a new patron, Stephen Freidheim. Stephen has committed one hundred thousand dollars per year for the next three years. His generosity ensures that our children will continue to enjoy a multi-media library, a reading consultant and phys.ed classes so their bodies are as fit as their minds.

As always we like to hear from you. We're looking forward to the reunion of the class of '57. As for the rest of you, feel free to drop by anytime.

Sincerely,
Pat O'Keefe

Eighth Annual School Benefit Honors Cardinal Theodore E. McCarrick

On Sunday, October 22, 2006, over 100 alumni and friends of Incarnation gathered at The New York Athletic Club for Incarnation School's eighth annual benefit, "A Celebration of Children: Building a Bridge to the Future at Incarnation School."

The annual Monsignor Waterson Award was presented to Cardinal Theodore E. McCarrick, the recently retired Archbishop of Washington D.C. and a 1944 Incarnation graduate. Dr. Stephen Sweeney, President of the College of New Rochelle, made the opening remarks and Msgr. Thomas Leonard presented the award to the honoree.

Cardinal McCarrick spoke about the learning that went on at Incarnation over 60 years ago and described in detail how much he remembered the

morning line-ups with the principal ringing the bell and everyone immediately doing exactly what they should. There were several nods from his classmates in the room who were excited to be sharing this moment with the Cardinal.

With the assistance of Shane Bigelow and the other members of the Advisory Board, this year's event included a silent auction, featuring items ranging from a signed hat by Joe Nameth and dinner for four at the Stony Brook Inn. The auction helped bring in an extra \$1600. We hope to hold an auction of an even greater scale at next year's benefit.

This annual event serves not only as an opportunity to pay tribute to our honorees, but also as an excellent opportunity for school's alumni and

friends to mingle and enjoy an evening of cocktails and hors d'oeuvres. From the many alumni in attendance, we were able update our database and foster continued involvement in the school.

Thank you to everyone who contributed to the success of this event.



Monsignor Waterson Award being presented to Cardinal McCarrick

Cardinal's Scholarships Increase Enrollment

Incarnation's enrollment has reached 584 students – nearly 40 students more than we had last year – thanks to the 90 Cardinal's Scholarship recipients this year. This is the second year for the Cardinal's Scholarship Program (CSP) which offers tuition assistance to students previously enrolled in public schools. In the 2005-06 academic year, 60 students joined Incarnation through CSP. With the total of 150 scholarship recipients tuition revenue has significantly increased.

The CSP recipients are thriving academically and socially. Keydee Pena, a CSP recipient, came from a public school and is now a sixth grader. When asked about the school Katie says, "I feel at home here because Ms. O'Keefe (principal) and my teachers are all very nice but they make me do my work – just like my mom." Katie's grades have improved greatly in the last year and we are all very proud of her progress. Without the help of the Endowment for Inner-City Education, The Inner-

City Scholarship Fund, the Patrons Program and the Children's Scholarship Fund these 150 marvelous new students would not have become a part of the Incarnation family. They have significantly improved the outlook of many families in the Washington Heights community.



Emily (grade 3) presenting to the class

Incarnation 1st Graders



The 3rd Grade

Looking Back : Interview With an Alum

Patricia Lau was one of the many 1944 alumni who attended the Monsignor Waterson event on October 22nd to honor classmate Cardinal Theodore McCarrick. She was delighted to see some of her peers and reminisce about her elementary school days. Cardinal McCarrick and Ms. Lau both vividly remember Sister Peter Claver, their principal, calmly ringing the bell as everyone lined up quietly and quickly into perfect rows ready to march straight into the building each morning.

Ms. Lau fondly recalls her school

days, commenting on how even with 60 students in each class, she managed to learn so much at Incarnation School. "We were all very smart and paid careful attention in class," remarked Ms. Lau. She went on to explain how in the first grade she was already learning how to read, write, and prepare for her First Communion. She also remembers learning to diagram sentences, receiving penmanship awards, studying for the Regents exams, having a drawing teacher, working with an art instructor, and being involved with various shows and school plays. It is no

wonder that when asked about her fondest memory Ms. Lau simply responds "I just liked school."

Ms. Lau has kept in touch with a few of her 1944 classmates and recently has found time to visit Incarnation. She says that despite the changes things still seem the same – "just a little smaller". She hopes the current students will get as much as she did out of her days at Incarnation. After meeting some of the students at the benefit she said she is confident that the school is still doing a great job with the kids.

A Visit From A Board Member

Incarnation Advisory Board members have become closely involved with the students of the school through our “Adopt-A-Board Member” program. Each board member is assigned to a class and that class becomes responsible for corresponding with the board member and updating him/her on things happening at the school.

Last month Mr. Larry Stewart, member of the board, visited his third grade class – 3-37. The students were thrilled to meet him and were full of questions. When Mr. Stewart told them he lives near Washington D.C. they had all sorts of questions about whether he knew certain political figures and if he had been to the White House. Alberto Mena’s face lit up when Mr. Stewart said that he had once

met President Ronald Reagan.

Upon hearing that Mr. Stewart had lived in California, Kent Botia shot his hand up and asked, “Have you ever experienced an earthquake?”



What is it like?” Kent’s questions did not stop there. When Mr. Stewart mentioned visiting Saudi Arabia, Kent asked about the weather and

what he would have to do to go visit Saudi Arabia. While Kent thought about Saudi Arabia, Mia Ferreras couldn’t stop talking about the boat Mr. Stewart owns. She says, “I want to have a boat too so that I could go to different places and take my family.”

The students of 3-37 had a great time. Emily Falcones stated “it was really exciting having him there and he was really kind and funny.” Kent is hoping to make Mr. Stewart a big poster telling him that the class loves him. But first, he says, “I am waiting for him to send the picture of himself that he promised our class.”

And Mr. Stewart did just that!

Congratulations Go To...

- The eighth grade class for getting into the Catholic High Schools of their choice
- Adam Almonte and Keydee Pena– winners of the school spelling bee
- Incarnation 4th graders for putting on spectacular plays as part of the Attic Salt Theater Program
- Incarnation School faculty and staff for representing the school well during the Middle States visit this year



Snapshot of the 5th Grade



In Memoriam

We request your prayers for alumni and friends of Incarnation who have passed away. Please notify the Development Office if you know of any others who have passed away so we can remember them in our prayers

Edward O’Brien, Class of 1950

INCARNATION SCHOOL

570 West 175th Street
New York, NY 10033

Phone: 212-795-1030

Fax: 212-795-1564

<http://www.incarnationnyc.org>

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Fun and Learning

This year Incarnation School is proud to be able to offer extra programs, which are integrated into our classroom curriculum and enrich our daily lesson plans:

The Louis Calder Foundation – has allowed us to offer the following excellent programs:

Attic Salt Theatre program – a drama course offered to the fourth graders that gives students the opportunity to write and perform their own folktale plays.

Classroom Inc. – a program designed to advance mastery of reading, writing and mathematics, and to develop skills in communication, collaboration, and creative problem solving. The program uses technology-rich instructional materials to create “real life” workplace simulations. The students are currently working on newspaper writing.

Cooke Center for Learning and Development – Incarnation has a reading specialist come to the school to work with emergent readers and train teachers how best to assist children in the classroom.

NY Hall of Science – The school received funding to improve the science curriculum by working with the New York Hall of Science. The grant includes lab consultation, technical assistance with science curriculum development, professional development, materials, and maintenance.

Other outstanding programs at Incarnation include:

Creative Classrooms Visual Arts Program (CCVAP) – an art program comprised of art instruction, teacher training, museum visits, and student art exhibitions. Incarnation students benefit from art and music classes through this program.

Kinderdance – a program offered to our younger students that educates through dance and movement.

Nick Curriculum – A program designed to promote character development. Incarnation 8th grade students and parents receive instruction that encourages character development.

NY Philharmonic School Day Program – Incarnation 3rd, 4th and 5th grade students attend three 45 minute concerts performed by professional New York Philharmonic Teaching Artists.



4th Grade Students Performing Skits They Created