

SCHOOL REVITALIZATION PROJECT

MICHIGAN STATE COMMUNITY SERVICE PROGRAM
KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS AU LAC COUNCIL 10724



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SCHOOL REVITALIZATION PROJECT – JUNE & NOVEMBER 2022

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II. INTRODUCTION

The existing ceilings and lights in our parish school were many years old and needed to be updated to provide a brighter and more positive environment. The ceiling tiles were old and stained, many of which had fallen out and then were reinstalled as best as possible. The ceiling looked dingy and made one feel as though it was "closing in" on you. The old fluorescent lighting cast an ominously "sad" tone on the indoor environment, these fixtures had been repaired and band-aided over many years. By installing the new ceiling and lighting system there was/is a "night-and-day" difference. This difference has made an incredibly positive impact on the learning environment and made our school into a more modern environment which will inspire our existing students and teachers, as well as potential new students and their parents to see that we ARE investing in Catholic education.

This project benefits the students, teachers, parents and parishioners at Immaculate Conception School, as well as those who attend Faith Formation classes, OCIA program, Baptismal preparation classes, Sunday preschool classes, Reconciliation retreats, 7th grade Confirmation retreats, Good Friday children's programs and our Lenten fish fries. The school was built in 1958 and is the alma mater of our Detroit Archbishop, the Most Reverend Allen Vigneron. While many upgrades and renovations have been done over the years, the school was in desperate need of a face lift. Within the last several years, walls were painted and aesthetic improvements were made, but the ceilings in the entire school were a real eyesore. Our Council removed the existing 1958 ceiling and then installed a brand new modern drop ceiling system throughout the school and multipurpose room including new natural light LED lighting throughout. To

say there is a dramatic improvement in the overall look and feel of the school is an understatement, the project was an enormous success!

Worthy Grand Knight Jeff Wooten

Our Council has completed many programs and activities during the past year, but we are most proud of this one because it shows our commitment and dedication to our parish school and all who use it. Not only did it result in a tremendous improvement in a physical sense, but even more important is the great sense of brotherhood that our members and other volunteers felt during the many days of working together. The Au Lac Council is the fifth council in which I have had the privilege of being a member. The charity, unity and fraternity that I have experienced with them is second to none. I am very proud to be a member of the Au Lac Council 10724 in Anchorville (Ira Township).

Program Director Mark Kehoe PGK/FDD

III. OVERVIEW

Our Council held several fundraisers to raise money for continued improvements to our parish school. One major fundraiser was the Outdoor Knights event held on March 19, 2022 which resulted in a \$30,000 profit. A total of 650 volunteer hours were contributed by members for the fundraiser.

Council members approved motions to fund two phases of the school improvement project: (1) Install new ceilings and overhead lights in the school hallways and specials (art) room in June 2022; and (2) Install new ceilings and overhead lights in the school multi-purpose room and adjacent storage closets in October/November 2022.

Phase 1, which involved removing and replacing the existing drop ceilings and overhead lights in the school hallways, was started on June 16, 2022 and completed on June 25, 2022. New ceiling tiles and gridwork were installed along with new high efficiency LED lights. Twenty-two members and one volunteer contributed a total of 690 hours to this project.

Phase 2, which involved removing and replacing the existing drop ceilings and overhead lights in the school multi-purpose room and adjacent storage closets, was started on October 29, 2022 and completed on November 3, 2022. New ceiling tiles and gridwork were installed along with new high efficiency LED lights and emergency lights.

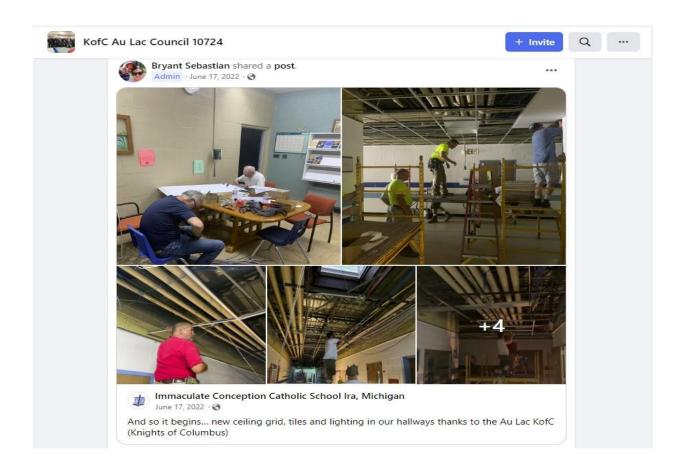
Ten members and four volunteers contributed a total of 756 hours to this project.

IV. ROSTER

- Project Manager Joseph Whitenight
- Grand Knight Jeff Wooten
- Financial Secretary Jim Mattina PGK
- Treasurer Bryant Sebastian
- Communications Mark Kehoe PGK/FDD
- Volunteers 50 members & 5 volunteers (1446 total hours)

V. MEDIA

Attached are screenshots of articles about the two project phases.



Revitalization Project



The Au Lac Council 10724 held an Outdoor Nights event in March which raised over \$20,000 for improvements to the parish school. The first project was completed in June and involved replacing the ceiling tiles and overhead lights in the school hallways and art room. Twenty-two members and one volunteer worked approximately 8 hours each day over a period of nine days to complete the work. The next project is being planned for sometime this winter.

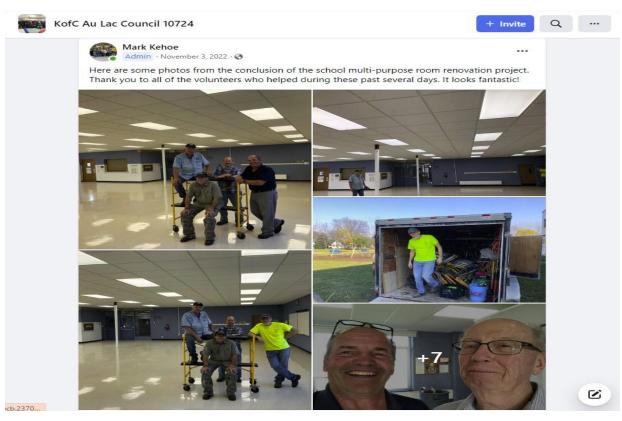
Michigan Columbian - October 2022 & January 2023

School Revitalization



Members of Au-Lac Council 10724 in Anchorville, Mich., gather during a work day at Immaculate Conception Catholic School in Ira Township. More than 20 Knights volunteered over nine days to replace the school's ceiling tiles and overhead lights. The council previously held a fundraiser that collected more than \$20,000 for school improvements







Students in grades 4 through 9 are invited to participate in the Knights of Columbus Spelling Bee Contest sponsored by the Au Lac Council 10724.

There will be two groups - grades 4 through 6 and grades 7 through 9. The winners will advance to the district contest and possibly to the state contest.

The contest will be held at 6:00pm on Wednesday, November 16th at IC School in the newly renovated multi-purpose room. For more information please contact Mark Kehoe, K of C Program Director, at 810-289-8802.

SPELLING BEE

K of C School Multi-Purpose Room Renovation Project

The Knights of Columbus Au Lac Council recently removed the existing drop ceiling and overhead lights in the school multi-purpose room and installed a new ceiling with high efficiency LED lights. This project was completed in less than a week.

The materials were funded by various Council fundraisers and the labor was provided by many members and other volunteers. Thank you to everyone who helped with this project!

Diaconate Vocation Awareness Night Wednesday, November 30th



Our next Diaconate Vocation Awareness Night is Wednesday, November 30th, at Sacred Heart Major Seminary from 7:00 - 8:30pm. If you or someone you know is discerning the call or would like to learn more about the Permanent Diaconate Vocation, please RSVP for the event to Deacon Chris

Beltowski at <u>beltowski.christopher@aod.org</u> or Erin Dewimille at <u>dewimille.erin@aod.org</u>.

For men who are interested and married, wives are strongly encouraged to attend. Permanent deacons are highly encouraged to accompany men they recommend to this event.

Immaculate Conception Parish, Ira, Michigan

November 20, 2022

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Fr. Joe's Jottings

Today's Solemnity of Christ the King was added to the Church's liturgical calendar by Pope Pius XI in 1925. This feast, which occurs on the last Sunday of the liturgical year, reminds us that we must give our total allegiance to Jesus, Who alone is the King of all creation.

We live in a world, however, which by and large refuses to acknowledge Our Lord's divine authority. Today's Gospel (Lk. 23:35-43) describes how, on Good Friday, the rulers of the people, the soldiers, and even one of those crucified with Jesus, sneered at and mocked Him. Only the criminal traditionally known as Dismas, the "Good Thief," recognized the identity of the Lord, proclaimed His innocence, and asked to be remembered by Him. Jesus, of course, promised him a place in Paradise.

Many of the results of the recent election—most especially the passage of the diabolically-inspired Proposal 3—represent a rejection or denial of God's divine authority. Even though true followers of Christ and faithful members of His Church may seem to be a minority in our society, however, we must not grow weak or despondent; His Kingdom will come, and, like the Good Thief, we must continue bearing witness to it, despite this world's opposition. Our culture of death will, sooner or later, be overthrown and replaced by a society of life—and all those who work and pray for this transformation will one day give thanks and rejoice.

On the subject of giving thanks, I wish to express my gratitude once again to the Knights of Columbus for their work in installing the new dropped ceiling in the school's multi-purpose room (cafeteria)—a project that was done in a very timely and professional manner; the final appearance is wonderful to behold.

Mass when the driver of an SUV lost control of his vehicle. The SUV was heading directly at the priest, about to cause a collision that likely would have killed him—when it suddenly went airborne and jumped over the priest's vehicle. A still photograph made from a video of the near-accident clearly shows the faint but distinct outline of an angel lifting up the SUV from beneath as it approached the priest's car.

This is a timely illustration of the promise that "to His angels He has given command about you, that they guard you in all your ways" (Ps. 91:11), and a reminder of the wisdom of developing a relationship with our own guardian angels.

Here is a final installment of interesting trivia items from the book Factourism:

- Passenger airplanes usually fly slower today than they did about fifty years ago (in order to save fuel).
- 2500 years ago in China, knives were used as a form of money.
- The first man to step on the moon, astronaut Neil Armstrong, left his boots behind on the lunar surface (as it was necessary to jettison some weight).
- Due to different concentrations of sugar, a can of Diet Coke will float in water, but a can of regular Coke will sink. (Try this at home if you wish.)
- In 1930s London, babies were put in cages and dangled out of windows to give them fresh air. (Don't try this at home.)
- Cheerleading began as an all-male activity. (Only in 1923 did the University of Minnesota allow women to ioin the cheerleading squad.)
- One of Samsung's first products was dried fish.



Members of St. Ann Council
11925 and Deacon John
Casey of St. Ann Catholic
Church in Nashville, Tenn.,
stand with children dressed
as saints — from left: St. Anthony, St. Thérèse of Lisieux
and St. Nicholas — during the
council's annual All Saints
Day party.

RENOVATING HOMES, RESTORING HEARTS

Members of Good Shepherd Council 10685 in Camp Hill, Pa., have helped renovate five houses in the Harrisburg area so far this year, replacing windows and doors, rebuilding decks and balconies, and tackling other projects to make the homes safer. Knights have contributed more than 190 volunteer hours to the program, which serves residents who cannot afford the repairs themselves.

FAMILY SUPPORTED

Three councils in Maine — St. Joseph Council 12941 in Biddeford, Father James J. Mullen Council 2266 in Old Orchard Beach, and Father Gerard R. Proulx Council 7078 in Lyman — held a fundraiser dinner for a local family struggling with medical expenses for one of their children. Several local businesses also contributed to the event, which raised \$1,700 for the family.

ALL FUN AND GAMES

Bishop Eugene McGuinness Council 4660 in Wilson, N.C., joined several community organizations to build playground equipment, including a pirate fort, for a new park. The playground, an initiative of Seeds of Hope Wilson, was named Pirate Force Garden by children in the nonprofit's after-school program.

SCHOOL REVITALIZATION

Members of Au-Lac Council 10724 in Anchorville, Mich., worked for nine days to replace the ceiling tiles and overhead lights at Immaculate Conception Catholic School in Ira Township. The council previously held a fundraiser that collected more than \$20,000 for school improvements.

RETURN OF THE FELLOWSHIP

After a two-year hiatus due to COVID-19, Knights from Divine Mercy Council 14822 in Kenner, La., resumed hosting their monthly Donut Sunday gatherings to build fellowship among parishioners of Divine Mercy Parish.

SCHOOL STORAGE

Members of Holy Child Council 12981 in Tijeras Village, N.M., built wooden locker benches for students at Holy Child Catholic School. The Knights also constructed storage cabinets for the classrooms, saving the school tens of thousands of dollars.

RAINY DAY COLLECTION

St. Bernadette Council 8478 in Parlin, N.J., held a food drive at St. Bernadette Church to support a local food bank. Despite the collection taking place outdoors during a rainstorm, the council was able to collect 550 pounds of groceries.



A Ukrainian family picks Saskatoon berries during an event hosted by Bishop Savaryn Council 9559 in Red Deer, Alberta. The council invited refugees from Ukraine to its annual berry-picking outing and family picnic. Council members have also refurbished and donated more than 50 bicycles to refugee families.

VI. FINANCIALS

Outdoor Knights Summary

Description	Cost
Bartenders	\$ 300.00
Printing Coffee Talk	\$ 472.00
Achatz	\$ 6,750.00
Knight Club	\$ 2,682.50
Insurance	\$ 362.00
Raffle Ticket State Fess	\$ 50.00
Special Liquor License	\$ 25.00
Beer & Wine	\$ 1,164.00
Grand Prize Cost	\$ 500.00
Auctioneer	\$ 60.00
PayPal Fee	\$ 35.41
Michigun Cost	\$ 3,090.00
Staples	\$ 119.25
Dunhams	\$ 79.27
Totals	\$ 15,689.43
WATER AND THE PROPERTY OF THE	

\$ 198.52

Description	Revenue
Attendance	\$20,320.00
Liquor Sales	\$57.00
Baskets	\$2,592.00
50-50	\$4,043.00
Gun Raffles	\$9,800.00
Silent Auction	\$3,049.59
Live Auction	\$5,940.00
Misc. Donations	\$400.00
Total Revenue	\$46,201.59

35 Tables \$ 580.57 Tables Divided by Attendance Avg Table revenue

Profit \$30,512.16

Information provided by Financial Secretary, Jim Mattina PGK

SCHOOL REVITALIZATION PROJECT EXPENSES (BOTH PHASES)

SCHOOL HALLWAY PROJECT (PHASE 1)

DESCRIPTION	COST	CHECK #
Medler Electric Co.	\$3,547.60	110
Ryan Building Materials	\$9,575.52	111
Medler Electric Co.	\$466.97	114
K/E Electric Co. (Ted S.)	\$336.63	116
K/E Electric Co. (Joe W.)	\$52.76	117
Ryan Building Materials (Joe W.)	\$101.76	118
Lumber Jack (Dave F.)	\$17.55	119
K/E Electric Co. (Ted S.)	\$372.73	124
Total Cost of Materials	\$14,471.52	
School PTC To Pay	\$2,624.99	
Total Cost Paid by Council	\$11,846.53	
Budget Amount for Project	\$20,000.00	
Total Cost Paid by Council	\$11,846.53	
Amount Under Budget	\$8,153.47	

MULTI-PURPOSE ROOM PROJECT (PHASE 2)

DESCRIPTION	COST	CHECK #
K/E Electric Co. (Ted S.)	\$372.73	124
Ryan Building Materials	\$7,842.10	127
Ventilation System (Jeff W.)	\$774.93	139
K/E Electric Co. (Ted S.)	\$294.21	141
Medler Electric Co.	\$2,138.98	164
Materials for MP Room (Theresa W.)	\$120.93	180
Total Cost of Materials	\$11,543.88	
Total Cost Paid by Council	\$11,543.88	
Total Profit from Outdoor Knights Fundraiser	\$30,512.16	
Total Cost Paid by Council (Both Phases)	\$23,390.41	

Information provided by Treasurer, Bryant Sebastian

VII. CHRONOLOGY

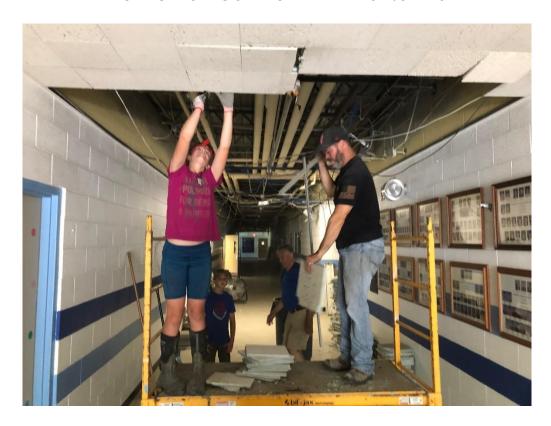
- Raise money to fund projects
- Obtain Council approval to fund School Revitalization Projects
- Price and get quotes from vendors for materials
- Contract signed by Fr. Joe Esper (Pastor)
- Schedule dates to complete each phase
 - Remove existing ceilings & lights
 - Cleaning
 - Painting
 - Plumbing repairs
 - Install new drop ceilings
 - Install new LED lights
 - Final walk through
- Apply for grant from DTE for new lights
- Phase 1 completed: June 16-25, 2022
- Phase 2 completed: October 29 November 3, 2022

Information provided by Joe Whitenight, Project Manager

VIII. PHOTOS

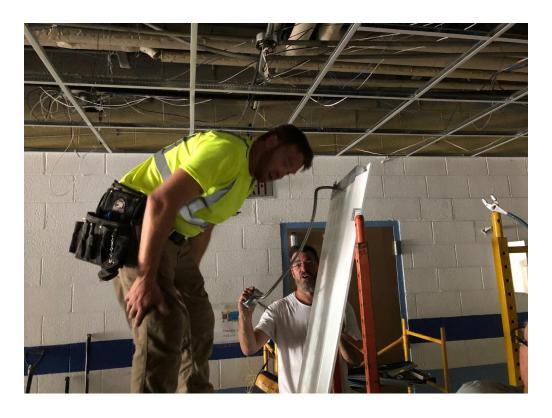


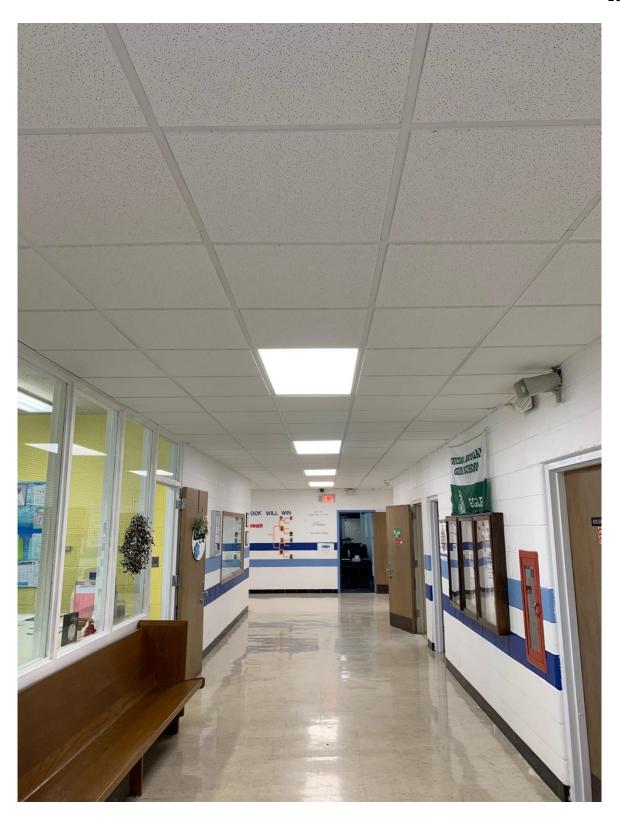
REMOVING EXISTING CEILING IN HALLWAYS – JUNE 2022



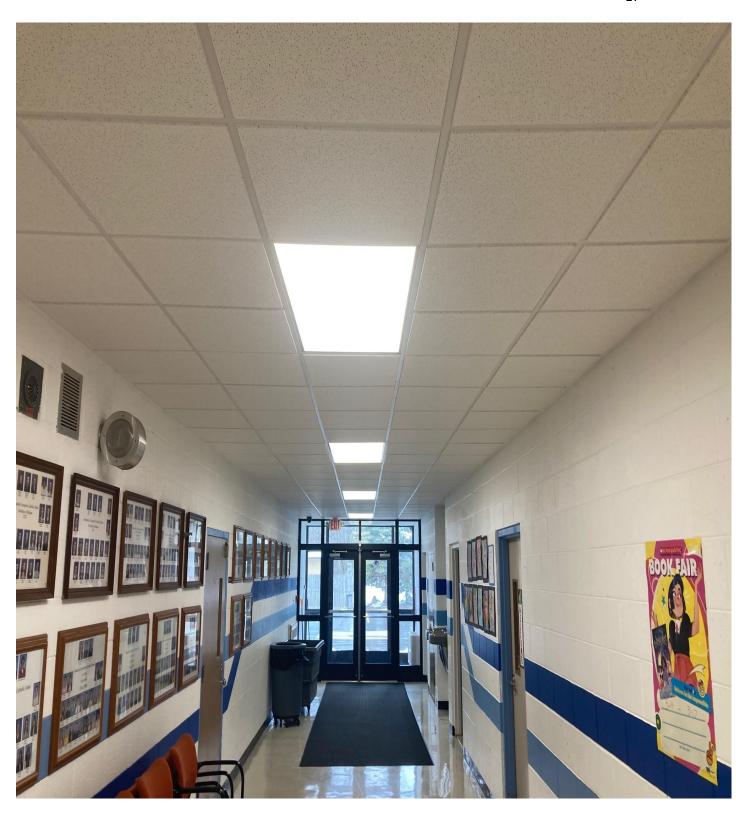


INSTALLING NEW CEILING IN HALLWAY – JUNE 2022





NEW CEILING IN HALLWAY – JUNE 2022



NEW CEILING IN HALLWAY – JUNE 2022



WORK COMPLETE – JUNE 2022



REMOVING EXISTING CEILING IN MP ROOM – NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2022



BROTHER LARRY (I.C. SCHOOL PRINCIPAL) AT WORK



REMOVING EXISTING CEILING IN MP ROOM – NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2022





BROTHER BOB AT WORK



(L-R) BROTHERS RANDY, RENE, JIM & MATT AT WORK



BROTHER STEVE AT WORK



I.C. SCHOOL STUDENTS HELPED US, TOO!



LUNCH TIME FOR BROTHERS & OTHER VOLUNTEERS



FRATERNITY IN ACTION – PLUS GOOD FOOD!



INSTALLING NEW CEILING IN MP ROOM – OCTOBER/NOVEMBER 2022





INSTALLING NEW CEILING IN MP ROOM – NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2022



BROTHERS BOB & JIM GETTING MORE CEILING TILES



VOLUNTEER AND FUTURE KNIGHT CHRIS IN ACTION



BROTHER RON IN ACTION



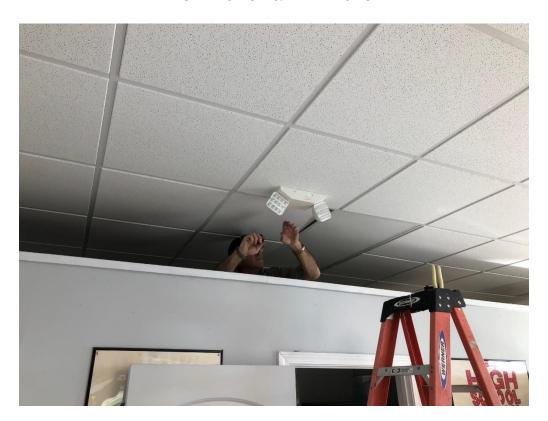
BROTHERS JOHN & JIM IN ACTION



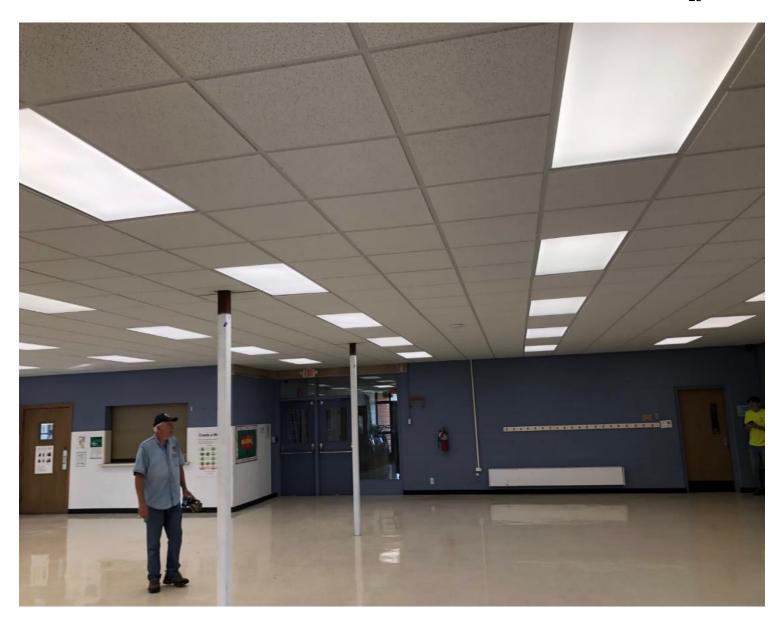
BROTHERS STAN & BOB IN ACTION



BROTHERS DON & TED IN ACTION



NEW EMERGENCY LIGHTS BEING INSTALLED



MP ROOM WITH NEW CEILING & OVERHEAD LIGHTS



MP ROOM WITH NEW CEILING & OVERHEAD LIGHTS



PROJECT MANAGER JOE & MASTER ELECTRICIAN TED



BROTHERS DON, JIM, CLIFF & JOHN AT JOB END

IX. ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

- Fr. Joseph Esper Pastor of I.C. Parish
- SK Larry Ricard Principal of I.C. School
- Mr. Patrick Pordon Director of Facilities at I.C. Parish
- I.C. School students & families
- I.C. Faith Formation students & families
- Members of the Au Lac #10724 & Anchor Bay #5981 Councils

Thank you to Father Joe for allowing us to help and trusting us to take on this project. To Patrick Pordon for all his expertise and countless hours he worked not on the clock. To all the Knights and their families who all worked hard fundraising and working on this project. Most of all, praise to our Lord who always sees us through to help others and blessed our works of mercy – Joe Whitenight, Project Manager

X. COMMENTS

- The K of C Au Lac Council did an outstanding job in its school improvement projects; everyone is rightly impressed by the quality of the workmanship and the efficiency and dedication of the volunteers. We are very grateful and the Knights are deserving of the highest possible praise. Well done and may God bless you and your families!
 Fr. Joseph Esper – Pastor – Immaculate Conception Parish
- In my tenure of nine years as principal of Immaculate Conception Catholic School, the Au Lac Knights of Columbus have been a wonderful partner in providing their parish school safety, aesthetic beauty, and financial support.

When asked, the Knights have never turned down a request of need and many times have surprised the school community with projects of their own that once again provided safety and aesthetic enhancement. The hallway and cafeteria (multi-purpose room) are such examples.

After vetting theses project through myself and our pastor, Fr. Joseph Esper, these great gentlemen raised money and selflessly used it to replace decades old ceiling tile and replaced lighting fixtures that were faulty and costly. Before these projects, the school hallways and cafeteria looked dim and dingy. With these two improvements, the school is a brighter, happier looking building. Staff, students, alumni, parishioners, and existing families are astounded at the improvements. It truly makes for a happier place to be in. Throughout the project's construction, these gentlemen truly exhibited the values of charity, fraternity, and unity.

The Au Lac Knights of Columbus recognize the importance of Catholic education as the source of potential future priests and a foundation for future vibrant Catholic families. Through their help, they have also helped the school's budget of major expenditures recognizing that budgets of Catholic schools are regularly strained and fundraising for such capital expenditures are difficult. In Christ, Lawrence Ricard – Principal, Athletic Director – K of C Member Council 5981

The Knights of Columbus have been such a blessing to Immaculate Conception School.
 They continually give their time and work effortlessly to make I.C. a better place for our students. From ripping out and replacing our hallway and cafeteria ceilings and lights, to gutting our specials room and crafting a beautiful learning space for our students.

These are just some of the ways the K of C have brightened our school over the years. All of these 'labors of love' have created a welcoming atmosphere and illuminated our spirits. We will be forever grateful.

Kelly Pennell – 6th Grade Teacher Immaculate Conception School

• Most people don't realize what an impact a ceiling might have on space, but now our whole community does. When you walk into our school building it is bright and well lit. It sets a wonderful tone for our days. The K of C raised money for and installed a ceiling that can easily be upkept and the lights are led so they are bright and use less energy. They also helped renovate the specials room. It was small, dark and not functional. They helped with free labor doing a complete overhaul of the room. The K of C men in this council give so freely of their time, talent and funds. We are blessed to have them in our community.

Ashley Sebastian – 5th Grade Teacher

- The renovation and upgrades made to the specials room at Immaculate Conception have had a wonderful impact on the students and teachers alike. The environment that we learn in can certainly set the tone for teachers and learners, and our new bright, clean, open and organized space creates a wonderful atmosphere for students to feel successful. The dependable technology creates new opportunities for student engagement, and the ample storage and workspace allows our room and minds to feel uncluttered and focused on our learning goals. A sincere thanks is due to all those who contributed to the renovations, physically, financially or otherwise!

 Heather Shovan Spanish Teacher
- The specials room is my favorite room in the school. Since it has been remodeled, it has been 100 times better. For one thing, there is plenty of space for fun activities. Also, the tables are smooth and easy to write or draw on. There is also plenty of storage for all our supplies. To most people the specials room is just a room. To me though, it's so much more than that. It's easy to love a new upgraded specials room!
 Avery 6th Grade Student
- Recently there have been many interesting renovations to the specials room. The entire
 room has been made a lot cleaner and it looks a lot newer and more modern than it
 used to. This new atmosphere is nice for learning in because the room feels a lot calmer
 and more relaxed. The new renovations have created a positive experience for all the
 students in the school. I am glad that the room looks so much better than before. The
 specials room had a great upgrade with a much needed renovation.
 Bridgette 8th Grade Student
- The new specials room and ceiling tiles are awesome! The room looks so sleek, clean
 and organized. The ceiling tiles add a nice touch of bright white. All the organization is
 perfect. These improvements are very beneficial to our education. The white walls help
 me to concentrate. The space has also improved a lot. I really appreciate the donation.
 <u>Katrina 8th Grade Student</u>

• I think the renovations here at I.C. are a great addition. I feel like I can focus more in school. The art room looks so much better. Some of the things in the art room were a bit rundown so that almost held us back from doing more art projects. In the multi-purpose room, the ceiling tiles make the room look so much better. I am so grateful that the Knights of Columbus did all these great things for our school and they continue to do these things for I.C.

Olivia – 6th Grade Student

- Ever since we have gotten the renovations done to our school it has really made the
 whole school a brighter place. In the art room the expansion and organization has really
 made being in the specials room a better experience. The new ceiling tiles in the hallway
 and the cafeteria made the school neater and safer. Overall, these renovations have
 made I.C. an amazing place to be.
 Sophie 6th Grade Student
- The specials room was renovated this summer. When I first heard that the specials room was being redone I was so excited. Whenever I walk into that room I am still so surprised by the difference. We now have way more storage, natural light, new tables and white boards. It was very kind of our Knights of Columbus to help us in remodeling parts of our school. We thank you so much for your generosity.

 Zofia 8th Grade Student