

The CtK Promise



Volunteers Needed:

- *Morning and afternoon bus drivers for next Fall.*
- *Route Planners.*
- *Tutors, Coaches, Mentors.*
- *Summer: school prep/clean-up.*
- *Contact Jim Sweany: 773-261-7505 ex. 228 or email jsweany@ctkjesuit.org*

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"Topping Off" Ceremony Celebrates Construction Milestone as New Building Rises

The site for Christ the King's (CtK) new home, a 100,000 square foot building at 5088 West Jackson, is a busy and wonderful sight on the West Side. Designed by award winning Chicago architect John Ronan, CtK's new building will be the first Catholic high school built on the West Side of Chicago in 85 years. Scheduled to be completed in Winter 2009, CtK will share the Resurrection Campus with Chicago Jesuit Academy, a Jesuit-sponsored middle school for boys following the Nativity model.

Topping Off Ceremony

The school hit a milestone in late January when the entire structure was covered by a roof. This is typically cele-



brated with a "topping off" ceremony", and students, staff and faculty happily obliged, climbing to the top of the building and flying the banner of Christ the King.

Why build a whole new school building?

"There were absolutely no viable existing school buildings on the West Side," says Jack Crowe, CtK Trustee and Chairman of the Building Committee.

According to Crowe the

school building is going to impact not only the kids who go to school there, but the neighborhood as well. The school is designed to be uniquely open, "... literally and figuratively a beacon on the west side," says Crowe.



A student signs a beam in the structure.

Making Their Mark

Students have also had the opportunity to tour the site, check out the plans and sign some of the beams, forever marking their place in history as CtK's Founding Class of 2012.



Students, faculty and staff celebrate the "Topping Off" of the new school.

Scenes from Ctk's Historic First Semester: Working toward the "Grad at Grad"

One of the salient characteristics of a Jesuit School is the "Grad at Grad" statement that sets forth goals and characteristics that a graduate of a Jesuit high school should attain by graduation. These are five characteristics shared amongst all Jesuit high schools: *Religious, Intellectually Competent, Open to Growth, Loving and Committed to Justice*. Christ the King has one additional trait — *seasoned, responsible worker*— to reflect the unique nature of the school.



Religious: Students attended a number of masses in their first semester.



Loving: Students get to know their fellow "pioneers" at a brand new Ctk.



Open to Growth: Students participate in co-curricular activities.

Letter from the President

Dear Friends:

The season of Lent calls us to pray, fast and give to the needy so we can draw closer to the God who saves and redeems us. Each of these practices is meant to remind us of our dependence on God's grace and love which, as St. Ignatius Loyola taught, are sufficient for our every need.

God has certainly been alive and active in the life of Christ the King this year, and provides for us through the generosity and care of so many people:

We opened our school with over 100 students....Our teams of student-workers fill full-time positions at more than 25 jobs throughout Chicagoland....Students excel in the classroom and on sports teams....We pray together at Mass and every day at our morning assembly.....And we broke ground on our new building.

But the economic downturn means that our greatest challenges lie ahead, as we recruit an additional 150 students for next year, and corporate sponsors for their jobs. It is sure to impact our students, faculty, staff and donor community. It will certainly affect the companies who employ our students and provide 75% of their tuition so that they can attend a safe, affordable, Jesuit, college-prep education. Of course, our parents will be asked to make a greater sacrifice to keep their children in a tuition-charging school. And, in a time when we were already pressed to raise \$28 million for our new school building, we will need still more funds for tuition assistance.

And yet, we believe that the God who has called us will be faithful.

During this holy season, please consider Christ the King as you remember God's blessings in your life. I ask for your help in whatever capacity: pray for our students and families; contribute to our scholarship fund; connect us to companies that can hire our students; volunteer your time; spread the news about our efforts...

As you remember us, please know that we gratefully remember you, especially as we pray together each morning.

May God bless you and your family.

Rev. Christopher Devron, SJ



King of Hearts Gala Breaks Records in its 1st Year!

The numbers from the 1st Annual King of Hearts Gala, held on February 20th at the Garfield Park Conservatory, are in, and the results are extraordinary! The goal for King of Hearts was set at \$75,000 and the event raised at least \$120,000! Moreover, King of Hearts sold out to about 380 guests two weeks before the event. The King of Hearts Gala was the largest indoor dinner recorded in the 100-year old history of the Garfield Park Conservatory. Thank you



to the many people who made King of Hearts a success.





Scenes from Ctk's Historic First Semester: Working toward the "Grad at Grad" (cont'd from pg. 2)



Intellectually Competent: Students work hard in a rigorous college-prep curriculum.



Committed to Justice: Students become "men and women for others" as they serve the community.



A Seasoned, Responsible Worker: Students are provided with feedback and training to constantly improve.

Community Bank of Oak Park River Forest is Proud to be a CIP Partner

❄️ Winter Featured Intern/CIP Partner



Kendra ('12) spends her Fridays, and some Mondays, at the Community Bank of Oak Park River Forest working with Vice President Kathy Mangos as her "right hand." Kendra "... is the only admin assistance I have and I really appreciate how much she is able to accomplish for me. I store up tasks for her to do all week and wait for her on Fridays."

Kendra is one of nine students recently honored for receiving "Outstanding" 1st semester reviews from their job sponsors.

For Kendra, she has gained confidence and knowledge, "At first I wanted to be a personal banker, but now I want to be a computer engineer. At the bank, every time something goes wrong with the computer, they just call and the problem is solved."

Two years ago, the bank was among the first to sign up to be in the Corporate Internship Program (CIP) when Bank President, Marty Noll, attended a meeting about the Ctk.

Day-to-day routine for the students mainly includes administrative work with documents, sending and distributing mail, and organizing the inventory of various bank promotional items.

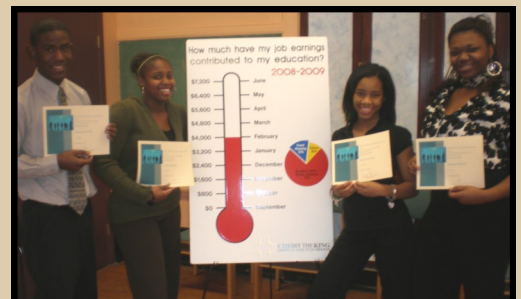


According to Mangos, having the students working at the bank is a very positive experience. "We are a fairly small bank where all the employees know each other. I tease the staff and the students that we are to assist in 'molding their young lives.' It's such a cliché that everyone laughs, but I know we are all proud to be participants".

Kendra says she enjoys working at the bank, particularly because of the people and the variety of tasks. She adds, "Working at the bank is helping me because when I actually go out and get a job, I already have experience."

Outstanding Students Honored

The Ctk Corporate Internship Program (CIP) recently honored nine students (four are pictured to the right) who received First Semester "Outstanding" Performance Reviews from their job sponsors. Here's a sample of the good things their employers are saying:



- **Kyara (Community Investment Corporation):** "It is very clear that she is here to learn and to work. I love that!"
- **Emmanuel (Gardner Rich):** "...is a wonderful employee." "We appreciate Emmanuel's motivation and willingness to learn."
- **Jasmine (Park National):** "needs little direction" and she works "fast" and "makes few errors."
- **Reagan (Advocate Christ Medical Center):** "...is wonderful with the patients." She has "outstanding interaction" with co-workers.



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Advancing the Promise of Our Future for the Greater Glory of God

CtK Community Celebrates Martin Luther King Day with Special Mass



On Martin Luther King Day, over 200 students, trustees, friends, faculty and staff gathered to commemorate the life and legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Rev. J. Glenn Murray, S.J., the parochial vicar at St. Aloysius Gonzaga Church, a Jesuit parish in the archdiocese of Washington, D.C., presided over a very lively and celebratory mass.

“You cannot be what you cannot see,” was the theme of Fr. Murray’s celebration. He encouraged the CtK community to follow the example of

Jesus Christ as Martin Luther King, Jr. did.

Fr. Murray said that MLK “himself could not be what he did not see. And what he saw was that there was a God somewhere.” Murray said, “Martin saw Jesus who if you were hungry, multiplied bread for you. If you were down on yourself, he lifted you up. If you were a sinner, you could count on him to share your supper.”

Fr. Murray continued, “But here is the great good news of this day. You

students here before me are here because we, the members of the Society of Jesus, your parents, grandparents, and guardians, your administration, teachers, staff, your benefactors—we all want *you to see what Martin saw. We want you to be what you see in Christ Jesus.*”

The students sang, danced and enjoyed the morning of celebration. The MLK Day Mass and Celebration will be an annual event. Please join us next year!

