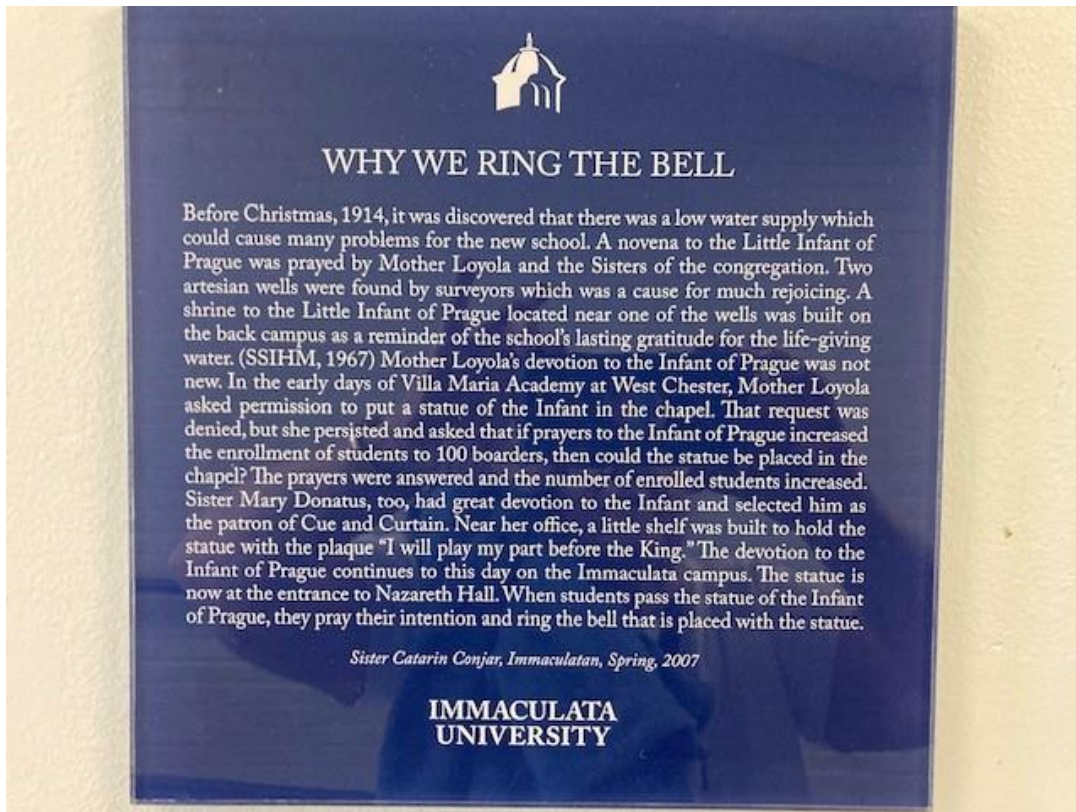


Dear Mission Partners,

On one of my first days at Immaculata last fall, I followed a couple of students into the entrance by Nazareth Hall. After we walked through the door, I noticed that one of them rang a small bell by the statue of the Infant of Prague on the left of the entryway. The students then moved down the hall and left me wondering, what was that all about! Was it a custom, a tradition, here at IU? I couldn't recall this from my student days, but then I was an oblivious teenager during those years! I soon noticed this plaque on the wall written by Sister Catarin Conjar, IHM. It tells of the original IU tradition of prayer before the Infant of Prague, whose feast day is January 14.



Pope Benedict the XVI wrote: *“The figure of the Child Jesus, brings home to us God’s closeness and his love. We come to understand how precious we are in his eyes, because it is through him that we in our turn have become children of God. May our society grasp this truth! Every human person would then be appreciated not for what he or she has, but for who he or she is, since in the face of every human being, without distinction of race or culture, God’s image shines forth.”*

You can read more about the description and history of the Infant of Prague on the website of the Basilica of the Immaculate Conception, in Washington, DC.

<https://www.nationalshrine.org/blog/what-is-the-origin-of-the-infant-jesus-of-prague/>

Be sure to ring the bell and pray for your special intention when you pass by the statue of the Infant of Prague!