

October 8, 2023 | Twenty-Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time



ALL
OF US

Fr. Larry's Weekly Letter #534



BISHOP KEVIN BIRMINGHAM A GOOD AND FAITHFUL SERVANT

Fr. Larry McBrady and I lost a good friend this past week; and the Church of Chicago lost a good and faithful servant. Bishop Kevin Birmingham passed away in his sleep on Sunday night. His death comes as a huge shock to many. He was only 52 years old.

Kevin was the episcopal vicar for Vicariate VI (and most recently Vicariate IV) for the Archdiocese of Chicago. He was ordained to the priesthood in 1997, and to the episcopacy in 2020.

Kevin was a true shining light for the Church of Chicago. He was greatly loved and respected by many, especially his brother priests.

Kevin was a humble man with a wonderful sense of humor. He never took himself or life too seriously. For many years, he was blessed to serve as a pastor for various Hispanic parishes.

I got to know Kevin when he was assigned to be the personal secretary for Cardinal Blase Cupich. At the time he lived at Holy Name Cathedral. Occasionally, he would

help us out at ICSJ with Masses when we were shorthanded. Over the years he concelebrated with us at our Holy Thursday Mass; on Ash Wednesday he distributed ashes to our school children; and he administered the Sacrament of Confirmation to our 8th Graders. It was always a joy and a pleasure to experience his simple but powerful holiness.

One time, when I was out of town, Kevin graciously covered one of our weekday morning Masses for me. When I got back home, I asked the morning Mass crowd, "So, how did things go with Birmingham?"

They said, "He was fantastic! We love him! Make sure you get him again!"

Their high regard for him made me very curious and even suspicious. I wondered if he was giving out free indulgences?

So I asked the morning folks, "So, what did you like about Birmingham?"

They instantly said, "He finished Mass in 15 minutes!"

15 minutes! How he could be so fast?

I then asked, "What did he do... start Mass in the parking lot and finish in church?"

The crowd said, "Well, after he read the gospel, he told us, 'My friends, I got up early in the morning today to look at the scripture readings. I prayed over them, and I even looked at a couple of commentaries about the readings.' Then he paused, smiled, and said, 'I got nothing! So let's just go on with the Mass.'" That was Kevin, humble and honest to the core.

He will be greatly missed. For sure his reward will be great in heaven. Please keep him, his family, and your priests in your prayers this week.

Continued on the next page

**CONGRATULATIONS
MIKE AND ANGELA**



Congratulations to Mike and Angela Baranowski who received the highly distinguished Christifidelis Award (*which means "Being Faithful to Christ"*) from Bishop Bob Casey, the Vicar General for the Archdiocese of Chicago, at Holy Name Cathedral last Sunday. The award recognizes their great service to our parish community and beyond.

**WE ARE DISCIPLES
ON A MISSION... NOW WHAT?**

A big word commonly being tossed around in church circles nowadays is "discipleship." My guess is that many Catholics today struggle to understand what it exactly means to be a "disciple of Christ."

What are we supposed to do when it comes to following Jesus? How are we to act? What are the best things to be engaged in as we try to live out our Catholic faith? How can our parish help you to do this?

For the next three Sundays, October 15, 22 and 29, Fr. Larry McBrady and I, will be preaching at all the Mass about the five basic hallmarks of discipleship – **BELONGING, GROWING, PRAYING, SHARING, and SERVING.** How can these things happen in our daily life?

Our hope is that this "Mini-October Mission" will lead all of us to fresh encounters with Jesus, and deepen our faith.

THANK YOU FOR COMING

I am grateful for all who were able to make it to church on this weekend while the running of the Chicago Marathon is right in the midst of our neighborhood. Thank you for adjusting your schedules, and making an extra effort to get to church.

Your presence is always a precious gift. We are so glad you are here to pray with us!

Fr. Larry



*Jack Walsh & Ciara Murray
Married Friday, September 29th
St. Joseph Church
Rev. Lawrence Lisowski presided*

Welcome



Inspired by God's great love, we are called to be the face of Jesus in today's world, welcoming all to our Family of Families, and walking as disciples through our works of compassion and mercy.

Our Two Places of Worship





Immaculate Conception Church

1431 N. North Park Avenue, Chicago, IL 60610

  Free parking available in church parking lot; street parking also available.

St. Joseph Church

1107 N. Orleans Street, Chicago, IL 60610

  Street parking available; free parking available across the street at ICSJ School, 363 W. Hill St.

Mass Schedule

Sunday

8:00 a.m. – St. Joseph Church

9:30 a.m. – Immaculate Conception Church

11:00 a.m. – St. Joseph Church

Saturday

5:00 p.m. – Immaculate Conception Church

Monday • Wednesday • Friday

9:00 a.m. – St. Joseph Church

Contact Us

Parish Office: 312-787-7174 • Visit Us Online: www.icsjparish.org

Main Office

1107 N. Orleans Street, Chicago, IL 60610

Main Office Hours

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday
9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. (closed Thursday)

North Park Office

1431 N. North Park Ave, Chicago, IL 60610

North Park Office Hours

Tuesday, Wednesday 4:00-8:00 p.m.,
Saturday 9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.

For questions regarding Weddings, Registration, Mass Intentions, Baptisms, Giving, volunteering, and other general information, please visit our website or call the Parish Office.

Staff Directory

Pastor

Rev. Lawrence Lisowski
pastor@icsjparish.org
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Sherrine Manning
312-787-7174, ext. 0

Follow ICSJ Parish on Social Media



@icsjparish (Parish)



@i.do.at.icsj (Weddings)



@icsjparish



*Corey Finke & Rachel Rendak
Married Saturday, September 30th
St. Joseph Church
Rev. Lawrence Lisowski presided*



*Lilian Grace O'Donnell
Baptized, Sunday, October 1st
Brendan and Kacey O'Donnell*



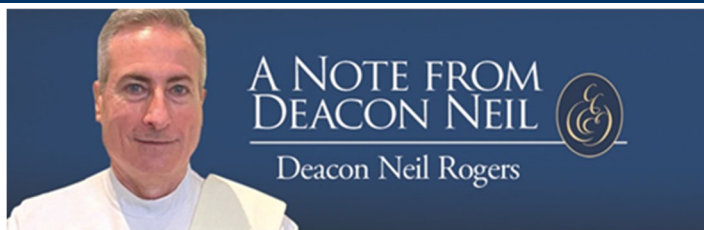
*Ben Matthew Bloom
Baptized, Saturday, September 30th
Matthew and Mary Bloom*



Your feedback means a lot to us –and to others!

If you're a longtime parishioner, or have recently had a great experience at ICSJ Parish, please consider taking a moment to leave us a Google review. We'd love to know what you think—and future visitors would too!

To leave a review visit www.icsjparish.org/reviews



Zachary Smith professed perpetual vows with the Society of the Divine Word on Saturday, September 16. The Society of the Divine Word is a Roman Catholic order that focuses on missionary work. On Sunday, October 1, Zachary was ordained a deacon at Our Lady of Africa Parish in Chicago. Bishop Mark Bartosic presided. I was honored and humbled to attend this beautiful ceremony. Zachary is a transitional deacon, studying for the priesthood. He will assist us at Immaculate Conception and St. Joseph Parish over the next few months prior to ordination as a priest of the Society of the Divine Word. Please join us in welcoming Zach to ICSJ!



Why Register at a Parish?

- It is a **sign of commitment and support to the life of a parish community** and indicates willingness to **belong to our parish family**.
- Our Parish Staff will have the basic information needed to **communicate with individual families, especially in times of emergency**.
- Every Catholic needs to have their **sacramental information documented**. Copies of one's Baptismal, First Communion, Confirmation, and Marriage records are required at various times in our life.
- Families that enroll their children in **our Parish School or Religious Education Program** should be registered and active in the parish, especially if they intend to have their children receive the Sacraments.
- Families are able to receive **important information about the parish** that often comes through direct mailing.
- For **Godparents**, it is required to provide information stating active parish registration, practice of faith and ongoing support to the overall life of the parish.

Parish Mailing list is **only used for church purposes and never shared with businesses or other organizations.

Click Here to Register



In honor of the feast of
St. Francis of Assisi,
God Bless Our Pets!



ICSJ MUSIC MINISTRY PRESENTS

Tunes ON A SUNDAY AFTERNOON

A CONCERT SERIES

Don't Miss
Organist Clay Corso
October 8th!

The ICSJ Music Ministry is proud to present *Tunes on a Sunday Afternoon*, a series of free community concerts featuring the gifts and talents of our ICSJ choir members and musicians, and other special guests. The series will begin this fall and run through next spring.

JOIN US FOR OUR NEXT PERFORMANCE!

October 8th!



September 10th
2pm, St. Joseph Church

**Josephine Stracek:
Women Voices
in Song**

A solo voice recital featuring music by women composers at the turn of the 20th century



**2pm,
St. Joseph Church**

**Organist
Clay Corso**

A pipe organ concert featuring the historic 1892 Hutchings organ in St Joseph Church



November 12th
2pm, St. Joseph Church

**An Afternoon
of Taizé**

Join the Music Ministry team for a candlelit afternoon of meditative Taizé songs and prayer



December 10th
2pm, St. Joseph Church

**Lessons & Carols
for Christmas**

*'Tis the season!
Join the ICJS Music Ministry Team for a sing-a-long of all of your favorite carols*

HELP SUPPORT THIS WONDERFUL SERIES!
SCAN THE QR CODE OR VISIT ICSJPARISH.ORG/TUNES



HELP MAKE A MEAL FOR THOSE AT THE 18TH DISTRICT

Help us assemble and deliver lunch for the
migrants & asylees at the 18th District
Police Station

- When: Sunday, October 15th, following the 9:30am Mass at ~10:30
- Where: Immaculate Conception Church Parish Hall (1431 N North Park)
- Please RSVP (prior to Oct. 11th at the below link) by signing up to bring an item

www.mealtrain.com/potlucks/lkqzrd

Questions and/or interested in further
migrant & asylee ministry opportunities?



312-787-7174 ext 3



aklazura@icsjparish.org

OPEN HOUSE CHICAGO

We are pleased to announce that historic St. Joseph Church has again been selected to participate in the Open House Chicago this year. Plan to join us October 14 from 10am-1pm or October 15 from 1pm-5pm.

This is a very special event that will feature Derek Nickels who will present an organ recital on our historic 1892 Hutchings Organ on Sunday afternoon, October 15 at 2pm.

Derek E. Nickels is Director of Music at Church of the Holy Comforter (Episcopal), in Kenilworth, IL, and has performed recitals across the United States. He holds Doctor of Musical Arts and Master of Music degrees in organ performance from Arizona State University and a Bachelor of Music degree from Southern Methodist University. He has been a featured recitalist at several National Conventions of the Organ Historical Society as well as appearances with Ars Musica Chicago, Early Music Chicago, and the Phoenix Bach and Madrigal Society. He has



performed recitals at the Washington National Cathedral and National City Christian Church in Washington, D.C., and Holy Name Cathedral, Fourth Presbyterian Church, and Loyola University's Madonna della Strada Chapel in Chicago. He is the past President of the Chicago-Midwest Chapter of the Organ Historical Society, and serves on the board of the North Shore Chapter of the American Guild of Organists.

WARNING - SPAM EMAIL ALERT: Fr. Larry, Fr. McBrady and the parish staff do not solicit individuals for gift cards or money via email or text. The emails look legitimate with a picture and full signature but they're not! Please mark them as "Spam" or "Phishing."



St. Josaphat School is on a mission to collect 250 winter coats, sneakers, and boots (kids' and adults' sizes) for newly arrived migrants who are about to experience their first Chicago winter. Please consider helping them. Bins will be in the back of **St. Josaphat church** (2311 N. Southport) **October 7-29**. Please deposit your clean, gently used items there. (ONLY winter coats, sneakers and boots, please)

KnitWits

We are a group of knitters and crocheters who have been getting together for several years. Our purpose is to make baby blankets, hats and/or 8x8 squares for an organization called



Children's Place www.childrens-place.org. One of their many services helps newborns who are brought to this facility if their parent(s) cannot care for them. The babies either go into the foster system, or are adopted. In some cases, they do go back to their birth parent(s).

If you enjoy knitting and/or crocheting (or would like to learn), join us! We get together at St. Joe's once a month. Our next KnitWit gathering is **Monday, October 16th 10AM-1PM**. You can come for a half hour, a couple hours or for the entire time...whatever fits your schedule. Or, you can make a blanket, a hat or 8x8 squares at your convenience and drop off at IC or SJ. If you have any questions, please leave a message for me at ICSJ or send an email to me, Kathy at kmust1@yahoo.com.

RAISING *up our* FAITH

ICSJ ANNUAL PARISH FUNDRAISER

LAST YEAR WE HOWLED TO THE HEAVENS.
JOIN US THIS YEAR AS WE GATHER TO
DINE & DANCE THE NIGHT AWAY
WHILE BUILDING COMMUNITY & FAITH.

we hope to see you there!

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 16, 2023
6-10PM

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**SCHOOL
HOUSE**

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WE WILL LIFT OUR GLASSES, FAITH & HEARTS
AS WE RAISE FUNDS TO BEAUTIFULLY RENOVATE
THE ENTRYWAY OF OUR BELOVED
IMMACULATE CONCEPTION CHURCH



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TICKETS & SPONSORSHIPS

TO PURCHASE FUNDRAISER EVENT TICKETS AND VIEW SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES, CLICK THE QR CODE OR
VISIT WWW.ICSJPARISH.ORG/RAISE. QUESTIONS? PLEASE EMAIL JUTTA KEENAN AT JKEENAN@ICSJPARISH.ORG



DOLPHIN DAYS

News from Immaculate Conception - St. Joseph School



IMMACULATE CONCEPTION
ST. JOSEPH SCHOOL

A premier PreK3 - 8th Grade
Catholic elementary school
on 2 campuses in Old Town



COME CHECK OUT OUR FAITH FORMATION



Admissions Tours (9-10AM)
Thursday, September 28
Thursday, October 12
Friday, October 27
Wednesday, November 8
Monday, December 4

Midday Zoom (noon-1PM)
Thursday, November 16

RSVP at www.icsjschool.org



7th Graders Caught Enjoying Science Class!



PreK3 enjoying the Play Lot and Some Early Reading Play



IMMACULATE CONCEPTION
ST. JOSEPH SCHOOL

TOT PROGRAM

A fun, social, and learning
experience for Toddlers ages 2+
along with their caregiver

TUESDAYS & THURSDAYS
9:30 - 11 AM

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1431 N. NORTH PARK AVENUE



REGISTER TODAY!
SESSION BEGINS OCTOBER 3!

Visit our website at
www.icsjschool.org,
or scan this QR code.



Immaculate Conception-St. Joseph School is a
premier PreK3 - 8th grade Catholic School on
2 campuses in Chicago's Old Town neighborhood.

Learn more at www.icsjschool.org or,
call Jodi Thyen at 312-944-0304, ext. 312.

OVERHEARD AT TOTS...

"...a great transition from
home-based care to a
structured classroom!"



"I love spending this
special time together,
without the distractions
at home!"



"She's getting used to
a school environment
which will help when
she heads to preschool!"



"Can I go to my
school today?"



Do you have time on
your hands and an
interest in basketball?

Volunteer
basketball coaches
are needed!

Interested in coaching? ICSJ is looking for basketball coaches
for the upcoming 2023/2024 season.

All coaches must undergo background checks and be VIRTUS
trained. If you are interested, please reach out to athletic
director Jared Sterenberg at jsterenberg@icsjschool.org.

Learn more about Immaculate Conception-St. Joseph School at www.icsjschool.org!

TO BENEFIT
ICSJ SCHOOL



JOIN US FOR ICSJ'S 2023

FALL

Festival & CHILI COOK OFF

PUMPKIN DECORATING, INFLATABLES, GAMES,
PRIZES, FACE PAINTING, COSTUME CONTEST,
CRAFTS, MAGIC SHOW AND MUCH MORE

SATURDAY, OCT 21ST, 11AM TO 4PM

WHERE: HILL STREET PARKING LOT

11AM BALLOON TWISTING
12PM MAGIC SHOW
1230 COSTUME CONTEST
2PM EXOTIC ANIMAL SHOW
3PM CAKE WALK

Tickets \$25 per
child (3 or more
children \$75
max) Scan code
to buy tickets



*All children must be accompanied
by an adult

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Chili Cook Off. Email Sarah
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spot!

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Parents Association at
ICSJ



Have you considered a Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD)?

A QCD gift (a.k.a. IRA charitable rollover) allows individuals age 70½ or older to authorize their IRA administrator to make a direct transfer of funds from their IRA to qualified charities, tax-free. This way of giving does not generate taxable income, which may lower your annual income level. If you are age 72 or older, the amount you transfer may count towards your required minimum distribution.

If you would like more information on how to make a QCD gift to Immaculate Conception and St. Joseph Parish please contact: Nancy Gies at ngies@icsiparish.org or (312) 787-7174 ext 7.

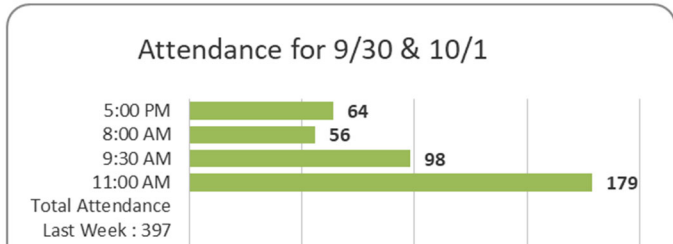
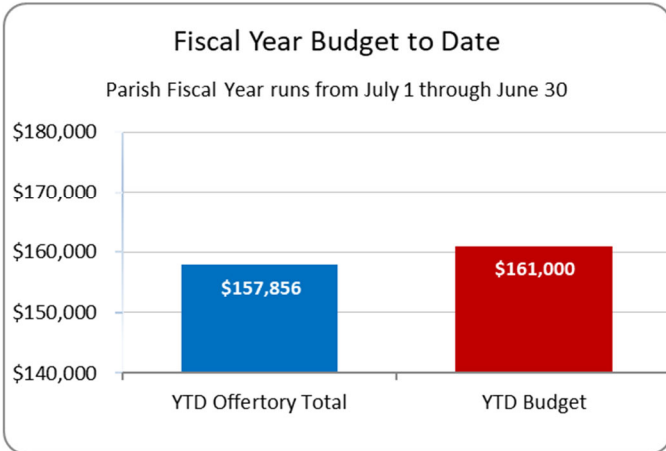
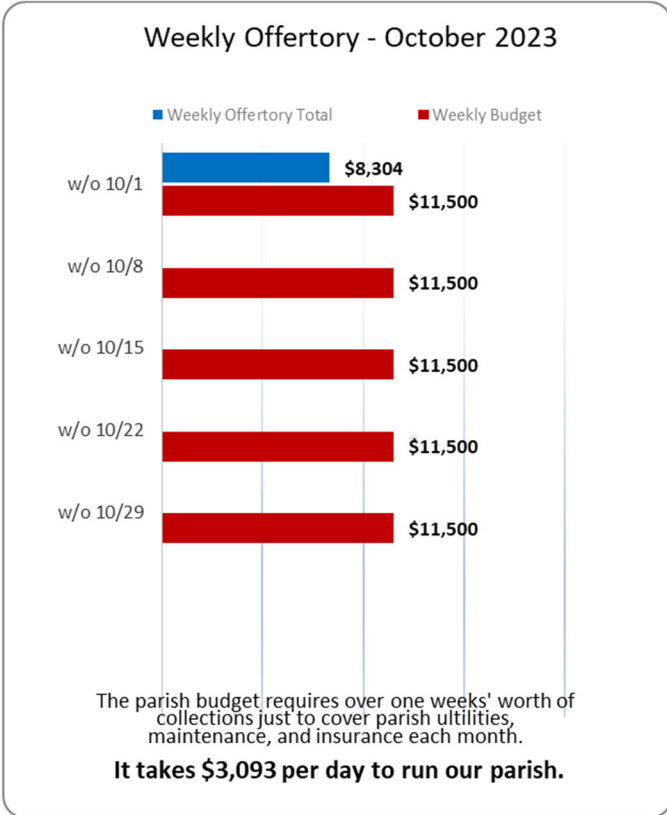
Sign up for eGiving

eGiving is a secure and convenient way of giving to Immaculate Conception and St. Joseph parish. It is eco-friendly and cost-saving. Just click **HERE** and to make your one-time, weekly, or monthly donation.

To all our faithful parishioners who give their time, talent and treasure— thank you for your generosity!

Get Involved

Check out all the opportunities here at ICSJ parish, click **HERE**. Or let's set up a coffee so we can get to know each other, your talents and strengths and where they might be used best here at ICSJ. Contact Elly Rodriguez at erodriguez@icsjparish.org or (312)787-7174 ext 4.



Mass Intentions

week of October 7-13

Saturday, October 7

5pm at Immaculate Conception with
Fr. Larry McBrady: **Nicholas Boland**

Sunday, October 8

8am Mass at St. Joseph with
Fr. Larry McBrady: **Bishop Kevin Birmingham**

Sunday, October 8

9:30am Mass at Immaculate Conception with
Fr. David Godleski, SJ: **Mark Alles**

Sunday, October 8

11am Mass at St. Joseph with
Fr. Larry McBrady: **Bishop Kevin Birmingham**

Monday, October 9

9am Mass at St. Joseph with Fr. Ed Vella:
Matthew Schweinberg

Wednesday, October 11

9am Mass at St. Joseph with
Fr. Larry McBrady: **Martin Lundgren**

Friday, October 13

9am Mass at St. Joseph with Fr. Larry
McBrady: **Mark Alles**

What is a Mass Intention?

Immaculate Conception and St. Joseph parish offers the possibility for you to request that a Mass be celebrated for a particular intention. Requesting a Mass intention means that you are asking that the grace of Christ's sacrifice in his death and resurrection be applied for a particular purpose, for example, for a deceased person or a living person who is ill or in thanksgiving for a favor received. An intention can also be made for an occasion of a birthday, anniversary or special need, or it can be directed to a cause, such as an increase of vocations or respect for life. Usually, a single intention is attached to a given Mass. But it is also possible to gather several intentions in one Mass with exactly the same effect.

To request a Mass Intention, please visit www.icsjparish.org/mass-intentions or call Angela at the parish office (312)787-7174 ext 1.

Prayer Request

Every month, we receive dozens of prayer requests on our website. No matter where you live in the world, you are invited to share your needs with those who have committed to pray on your behalf. Please visit www.icsjparish.org/the-prayer-connection to submit a prayer Request. To join our ICSJ prayer ministry, email Angela at agore@icsjparish.org

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Consider taking advantage of celebrating the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Going to confession is great for one's soul. Receive the wonderful gift of healing and peace that our God longs for us to have in our life.

Contact Fr. Larry, at pastor@icsjparish.org, to schedule a time to meet.

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