

January 21, 2024 | Third Sunday in Ordinary Time



ALL
OF US

Fr. Larry's
Weekly Letter
#549

A GOOD DOSE OF HUMILITY



Winters in Chicago can be brutal. We have been reminded of this in the past week with the arrival of temperatures that sunk well below zero for days. Our breath is taken away when we step outside, as the cold air automatically fills and freezes our lungs. If you're lucky, you get to stay at home and hide from the elements. You quickly become grateful if you do not have to go anywhere.

A good old fashioned Chicago winter forces us to surrender to the things we cannot control in our life. Schedules are thrown off. Plans are cancelled. Appointments have to be rescheduled. Routines are disrupted. You have to be flexible and adjust, otherwise you will be frustrated fighting a battle that you can never win. You just have to roll with it.

A good old fashioned Chicago winter is good for our soul. It humbles us because we are forced to surrender to Mother Nature who is much more powerful than our fragile egos. We have to face the reality that we are not in charge, that we cannot do what we want to do, and that's all okay.

Thank you to all who have braved the elements and have been able to attend Mass on these frigid and snowy days. I admire your faithfulness and perseverance. Your reward will great in heaven!

We are lucky here in Chicago to have two Catholic Masses televised at 9:30 a.m. on Sundays, one on channel 7, ABC-TV, and another on channel 9, WGN-TV. These are great alternatives to worshipping in-person on Sunday when the

weather gets dicey outside. It's better to pray virtually, than to not pray at all.

There is a wonderful quote that simply states, "Seven days without prayer, makes one weak." Don't let this winter weaken your faith. Stay strong even when your family and friends in Florida mock you for being up north in the middle of January.

I am grateful for our parish maintenance crew that has been working hard to ensure that all of our buildings are warm and ready for both our school and parish activities. These guys are the ones who shovel and salt our sidewalks, who tend to the boilers in the middle of the night, and check for any frozen pipes. Things would be a real mess without them working quietly behind the scenes.

ONE LUCKY GUY



Note that Fr. Larry McBrydy leaves this week for Florida to thaw out. He will be on vacation for the month of February. He deserves the time away. Good for him.

While Fr. McBrydy is away from the parish we will have several visiting priests to help me out with our weekend Mass schedule. As always, let us extend to them a warm welcome and our hospitality to them. We are grateful that they can lead us in prayer.

CATHOLIC SCHOOL WEEK

Note that next Sunday, January 28th, we will celebrate the beginning of Catholic School Week at our 11:00 a.m. Mass. We welcome our faculty and our students who will be helping with the various parts of the liturgy. This is a great way to

acknowledge one of the biggest ministries of our parish that has a significant impact upon so many families.

A WARM THOUGHT

Here is something to help keep your hopes up high. Spring training for MLB baseball begins in just about three weeks.

Stay warm, and be well. This too shall pass!

Fx. Lacey

Wisdom, Women & Wine BOOK CLUB



The next WWW Book Club is on **Friday, January 26th at 3:30pm**. We will be discussing *The Heaven and Earth Grocery Store* by James McBride.

To RSVP for either of these events or for any questions, please email Colleen at cm.424.svdp@gmail.com



KnitWits

We are a group of knitters and crocheters who have been getting together for several years. 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, January 22nd 10AM-1PM

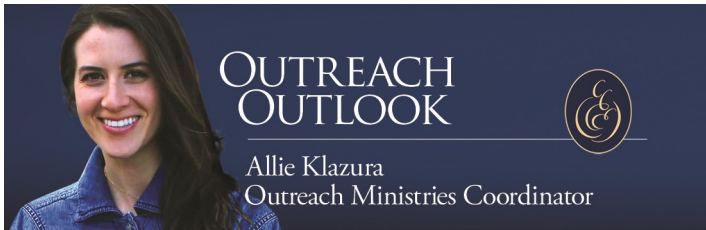
You can come for a half hour, a couple hours or for the entire time...whatever fits your schedule. Or, you can make a blanket, a hat or 8x8 squares at your convenience and drop off at IC or SJ. If you have any questions, please leave a message for me at ICSJ or send an email to me, Kathy at kmust1@yahoo.com.

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



Migrant Assistance Updates; Help is Needed!

St. Clement Parish is partnering with Catholic Charities to reopen the Madonna House for migrant women and children who have been victims of domestic abuse (<https://www.clement.org/resources/catholic-charities-madonna-house>).

As an LPOT mission, we are partnering with St. Teresa's and St. Josaphat's to provide Wednesday dinners to these families, beginning 1/31. We are looking for volunteers to sign up to make meals at your home and drop off at the parish on Wednesday before noon. We have additional volunteers who have already completed training to be our drivers for meal delivery, so you don't have to worry about delivering the meal to Madonna House, only getting it to ICSJ! (If interested in becoming a driver/drop off volunteer, please email me at aklazura@icsjparish.org) You can view our Meal Train here: <https://www.mealtrain.com/trains/qkdyzr/>.

We invite you to sign-up for a date or dates that work for you in the coming weeks! This is a great opportunity to cook with your family, your friends, or maybe even your small group. The Madonna House will house about 20 people; for serving sizes ~15 adults and 5 children to begin; serving sizes will likely increase over the coming months. If you need help with recipe ideas, have questions about drop-off at ICSJ, or would like to learn more about other ways to be involved with the Madonna House, please contact Allie at the email address listed above. Thank you!

Service Day at our Sharing Parish

Please mark your calendars for a day of service at our sharing parish, Mother of the Americas. We will be helping perform a deep clean of their social center located at 2412 S. Albany on February 17th from 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.. This is a great service project for individuals, group or families. Hope you can join us!

Kolbe House:

Need for Winter Coats in Larger Sizes

Kolbe House is in need of men's winter coats sizes L-5XL to provide for men who are released from jail or prison. You can help them on their way to stability. Contact Sandra Botello at sbotello@kolbehouseministry.org. If you'd rather send new donations directly to Kolbe House, please see our [Amazon wish list](#).



Hey ICSJ basketball players: Here's a fun activity that you are invited to participate in.

All boys and girls ages 9 through 14 are invited to participate in the upcoming Knights of Columbus Free-Throw Competition on Sunday, February 4 at 12:00 PM. The event will take place at the ICSJ gym at 363 West Hill St. Knights basketballs will be awarded in each age/gender category, and winners will have a chance to compete in a District competition, and possibly State and National events. Please arrive at the gym by 12pm to participate. For questions contact Mr. Moulis or Dan Stolze at danstolze@gmail.com or 312-622-2293. It will be lots of fun - we hope you can join in!

Winning boys and girls in each age group will receive a Knights of Columbus basketball.



Join Us!

Service Day at Sharing Parish

February 17th, 2024 10:30-12:30

Mother of the Americas Social Center

Join us at 10:30 on Saturday, 2/17, as we deep clean our sharing parish's social center. The social center is located at 2412 S. Albany, where there is a lot for ~10 cars and additional street parking available.

With Questions / To RSVP:

 aklazura@icsjparish.org



• DINNERS FOR MIGRANT FAMILIES •

DELIVERY DRIVERS NEEDED

DETAILS:
WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON
MEAL PICKUP FROM THE
ST JOSEPH PARISH
CENTER FOR DELIVERY
TO MADONNA HOUSE
BETWEEN 2 AND 4PM

IF INTERESTED IN
PROVIDING A
DINNER, VISIT THE
MEAL TRAIN:

[MEALTRAIN.COM/
TRAINS/QKDYZR](https://mealtrain.com/trains/qkdyzr)



IF INTERESTED IN BECOMING A DRIVING VOLUNTEER,
CONTACT ALLIE AT AKLAZURA@ICSJPARISH.ORG



Looking for a new way to serve at ICSJ?

Join Coffee & Donuts Crew

To help after 11AM Mass contact
Kathy at kscherer@deloitte.com

To help after 9:30AM Mass contact
Maureen at maureenhaugh@yahoo.com



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@icsjparish.org or (312) 787-7174 ext 7.

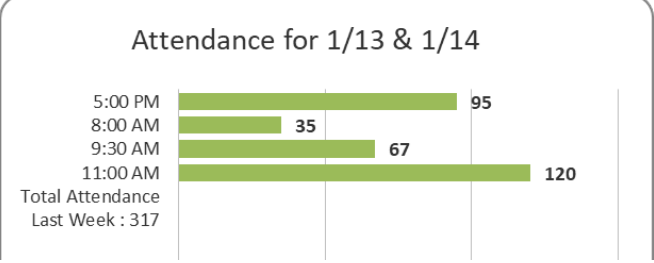
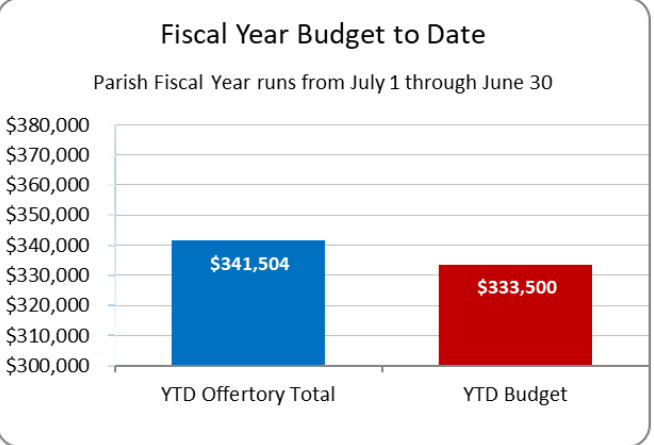
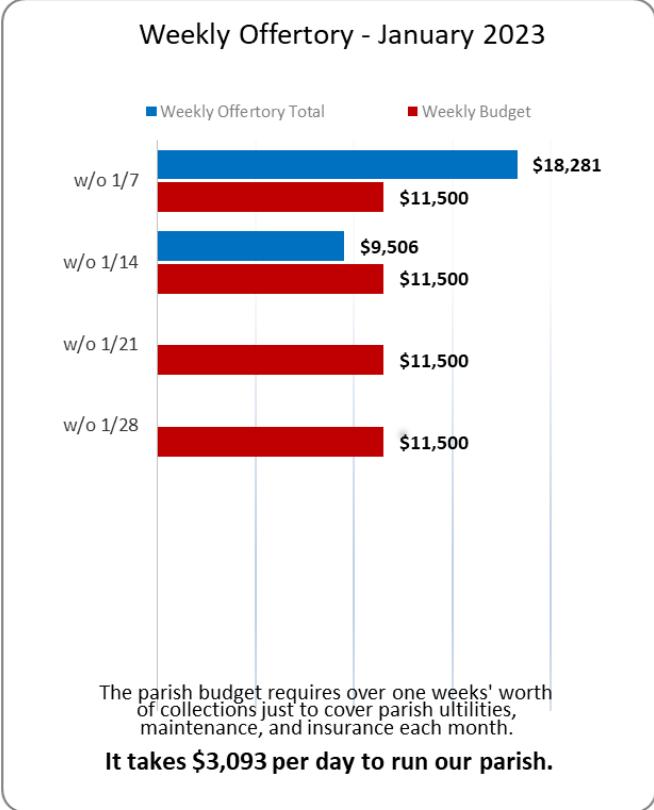
Sign up for eGiving

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 January 20-26

Saturday, January 20

5pm at Immaculate Conception with
Fr. Larry Lisowski:

Bill Chakos

Mary Ann Sullivan

Sunday, January 21

8am at St. Joseph with Fr. Larry McBrady:

Bob Goldberg

Sunday, January 21

9:30am Mass at Immaculate Conception with
Fr. Larry Lisowski:

Mary Ann Sullivan

Sunday, January 21

11am Mass at St. Joseph with Fr. Larry McBrady:

Susan Bollendorf

Hilda Santos

Monday, January 22

9am Mass at St. Joseph Fr. Larry Lisowski:

Mary Ann Sullivan

Wednesday, January 24

9am Mass at St. Joseph with Fr. Larry Lisowski:

Francesco Salamone

Friday, January 26

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

Lynn Ray

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.



IMMACULATE CONCEPTION
AND ST. JOSEPH PARISH

A family of families

OUR VISION

WHERE DO WE WANT TO GO?

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 MISSION

HOW DO WE GET THERE?

We will be
disciples on a joyful mission,
constantly committed
anew to praying,
serving, growing, sharing
and belonging
in Jesus' name.

Be the Face of Jesus and change the world!



PRAY

Imagine having a deep, rich prayer life
which brings clarity, comfort, hope and joy
into your life and to others!



GROW

Imagine feeling really close with God,
who loves you always!



SERVE

Imagine being God's hands and feet in
this world, that desperately needs
help and healing!



SHARE

Imagine brimming with faith and God's love
so that it spills over into every relationship
and aspect of your life!



BELONG

Imagine creating a diverse, loving community
where everyone is welcomed and
appreciated for who they are!

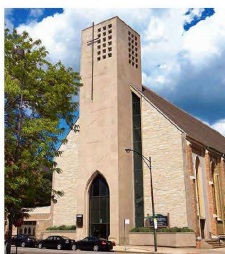
Visit icsjparish.org/mission
for ideas on taking the next step!



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.

Follow ICSJ Parish on Social Media



@icsjparish (Parish)



@i.do.at.icsj (Weddings)



@icsjparish

Staff Directory

Pastor

Rev. Lawrence Lisowski
pastor@icsjparish.org
312-787-7174, ext. 5

Senior Priest

Rev. Larry McBrady
312-787-7174

Deacon

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nrogers@icsjparish.org
312-787-7174, ext. 6

Business Manager

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ICSJ School Co-Principal

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Maintenance Supervisor

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Director of Evangelization & Events

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Assistant to the Pastor

Elly Rodriguez
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312-787-7174, ext. 4

Outreach Ministries Coordinator

Allie Klazura
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312-787-7174, ext. 3

Assistant to the Director of Music

Josephine Stracek
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312-787-7174

Evening/Weekend Receptionist

Sherrine Manning
312-787-7174, ext. 0