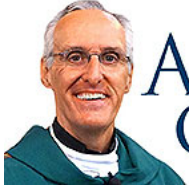
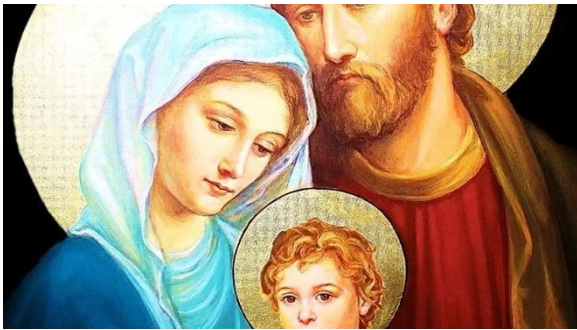


December 31, 2023 | Feast of the Holy Family



ALL
OF US

Fr. Larry's
Weekly Letter
#546



Christmas was just a few days ago. This Sunday we turn our eyes to the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph. We move quickly from baby Jesus who was born in the manger, and now to the temple in Jerusalem where his parents come to present their child to God. For this family, the Jewish laws were important and they kept them as was the custom of the day.

Pope Francis, a couple of years ago, shared this wonderful reflection about the dynamics of families. He writes, **"None of us was born magically, with a magic wand. We all have our own story and the family is the story from which we originate. Just like Jesus, we come from a story composed of bonds of love, and the person we are today was born not so much out of the material goods that we make use of, but from the love that we received — the love in the heart of the family."**

We may not have been born into an exceptional family, one without problems, but this is our story —everyone must think: this is my story —these are our roots; if we cut them off, life dries off!

God did not make us to be lone rangers, but to walk together. Let us thank him and pray to him for our families. God thinks about us and wants us to be together: grateful, united, capable of preserving our roots. We need to think about this, about our story."

I love that our parish motto boldly states that, **"We Are A Family Of Families."** This beautifully reflects the diversity of our community, but also the reality that families today come in all shapes and sizes. Your "traditional family structure" has evolved into multiple new versions. No matter what our family might look like, what unites us is that fact that we are all children of God. No one is excluded from God's family. All are welcome, and we need each other!

OUR PARISH AT ITS BEST

I am proud of the generosity of so many of our parishioners who have shared their time, talents, and treasures this Christmas. Their humble works of charity are a true inspiration.

Thank you to all who participated in our Christmas Giving Tree program that brought lots of joy to the families of the incarcerated at the Kolbe House Jail Ministry, to our ten parish refugee families, and our Sharing Parish, Mother of the Americas.



Also with the help of some of Santa's volunteers, and the Knights of Columbus, we also were able to support families in need in our neighborhood via Art on Sedgwick, families of Blessed Maria Gabriella Church, families of Union Baptist Missionary Church (on Orleans Street) and ICSJ's Food Pantry families.

Continued on the next page



**LOTS OF SANTA'S ELVES
AT WORK**

Thank you to all who worked so hard to make Christmas a really beautiful and sacred experience for many who came to worship at our parish. Thank you to those who helped to decorate our churches, who provided wonderful music and Christmas carols at our liturgies, who guided our angels and shepherds through the Christmas pageant on Christmas Eve, and those who extended their hospitality and welcome to our visitors.

I am so proud to be part of our "Family of Families."



If you have not done so, please remember our parish in your Christmas gift-giving. Our Christmas collection is the biggest line item on our Parish Operating Budget for Income. Your donation helps us to pay our monthly bills and salaries. Moreover, your financial support enables us to continue all the good things that we do. Thank you for your constant generosity and support.

Fr. Lacey



*Tessa Kay Williams
Baptized Wednesday, December 27th
Nathanael & Bridget Williams,
older sister Teegan*



ICSJ Parish

2023 Second Collection Schedule

Support our Sharing Parish Mother of the Americas

As Catholics, we are part of a universal Church that extends beyond our own parish boundaries. Second & Special collections combine our resources to support important causes that carry out the mission of the Church. Please mark your calendar with the dates listed below and thank you for your generosity!

Contributions may be made in-person at Mass or online via GiveCentral by visiting icsjparish.org/second-collections

Collection for the Church in Latin America	January 22
Annual Catholic Appeal	February 4-5, February 11-12, February 18-19
Aid for the Church in Central & Eastern Europe	February 26
Sharing Parish: Mother of the Americas*	Palm Sunday – April 2
Holy Land	Good Friday – April 7
Catholic Charities	Mother's Day – May 14
Priests' Health & Retirement	June 11
Peter's Pence	July 2
Missionary Co-Op	July 16
Sharing Parish: Mother of the Americas*	July 30
Seminarian Education	September 17
World Mission Sunday	October 22
Catholic Campaign for Human Development	November 19
Retirement Fund for Religious	December 10
Sharing Parish: Mother of the Americas*	December 31

* for the benefit of Mother of the Americas, ICSJ's Sharing Parish



IMMACULATE CONCEPTION AND ST. JOSEPH PARISH

2023 Christmas Season MASS SCHEDULE

FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY SUNDAY, DECEMBER 31ST

5:00 p.m. Mass (Saturday night) at Immaculate Conception Church – Fr. Larry Lisowski

8:00 a.m. Mass at St. Joseph Church – Fr. Larry McBrady

9:30 a.m. Mass at Immaculate Conception Church – Fr. Larry Lisowski

11:00 a.m. Mass at St. Joseph Church – Fr. Larry McBrady

NEW YEAR'S DAY MONDAY, JANUARY 1ST

9:30 a.m. Mass at Immaculate Conception Church – Fr. Larry McBrady

11:00 a.m. Mass at St. Joseph Church – Fr. Larry Lisowski

EPIPHANY OF OUR LORD SUNDAY, JANUARY 7TH

5:00 p.m. Mass (Saturday night) at Immaculate Conception Church – Fr. Larry McBrady

8:00 a.m. Mass at St. Joseph Church – Fr. Larry Lisowski

9:30 a.m. Mass at Immaculate Conception Church – Fr. Larry McBrady

11:00 a.m. Mass at St. Joseph Church – Fr. Larry Lisowski



IMMACULATE CONCEPTION
AND ST. JOSEPH PARISH

Your holiday giving is important.

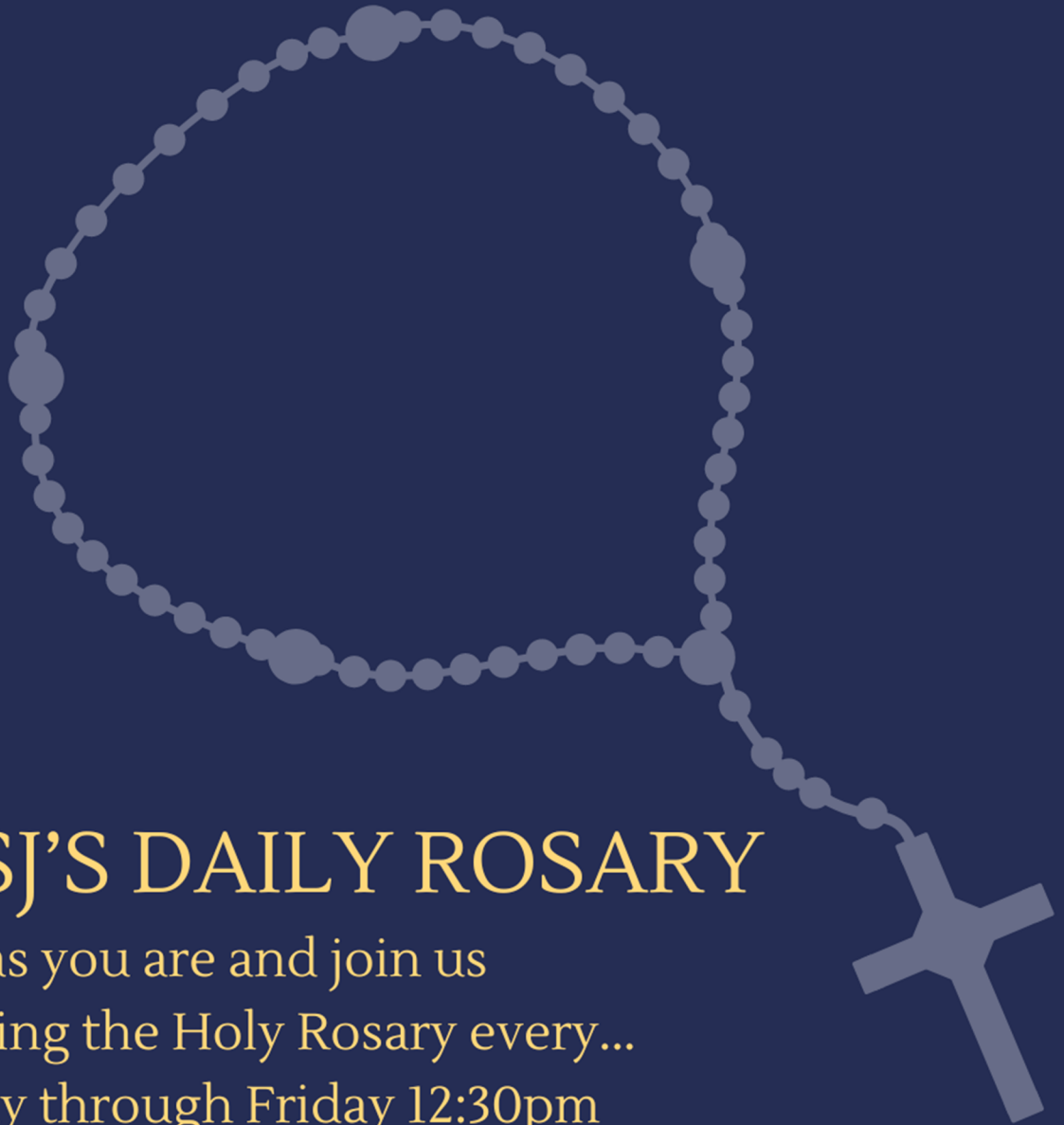
God calls us to be good and faithful stewards. Sharing our blessings helps us to build the Kingdom of God. As we approach Christmas and the year end, please review your parish contributions. Your financial support at this time is important, helping our parish pay its bills and continue the mission and ministry of Jesus.

There are many easy ways to give:



- 1. Make one-time or recurring contributions** on our GiveCentral page by using this QR code above or by visiting www.rebrand.ly/GiveToday-To-ICSJ
- 2. Send your gift with Venmo** to either venmo@icsjparish.org or the username ICSJ-Chicago.
- 3. Send a gift check my mail** to ICSJ Parish, 1107 N. Orleans Street, Chicago, IL 60610.
- 4. Take advantage of tax deductions** for this tax year if your gift is made on or before December 31st.
- 5. Gifts of stocks and other securities**, held more than one year, are excellent gifts. You may be able to deduct the stocks' fair market value and avoid paying capital gains tax on the appreciation of the stock.
- 6. Consider gifts from an IRA** as a Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD).
- 7. Gift annuities** are an option for parishioners wishing to donate to their parish over a long time frame.
- 8. A matching gift donation from your employer** is an easy way to multiply your giving. Check to see if they offer this option.
- 9. Consider donating your time, talent and resources to the church or school!**
Visit www.icsjparish.org/mission for ideas on how you can "be the face of Jesus in today's world."

Thank you for your loyalty and support!



ICSJ'S DAILY ROSARY

Come as you are and join us
in praying the Holy Rosary every...
Monday through Friday 12:30pm
Saturday and Sunday at 7:30am

****No experience needed. We will guide you.****

**Pick up a card in the back of church that looks like
this page for the zoom meeting ID and password or
email Angela at agore@icsjparish.org or
call (312)787-7174 ext 1**



STEWARDSHIP UPDATE

Nancy Gies
Parish Business Manager



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

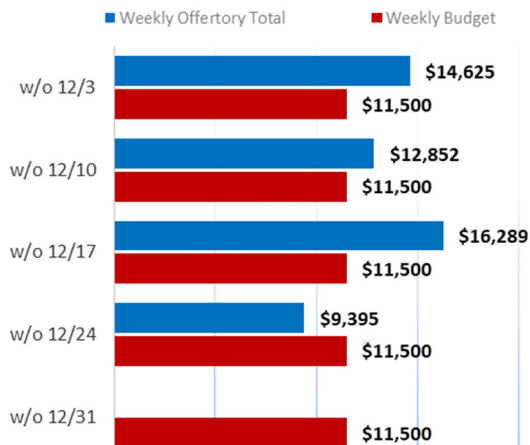
eGiving is a secure and convenient way of giving to Immaculate Conception and St. Joseph parish. It is eco-friendly and cost-saving. Just click **HERE** and to make your one-time, weekly, or monthly donation.

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.

Weekly Offertory - December 2023

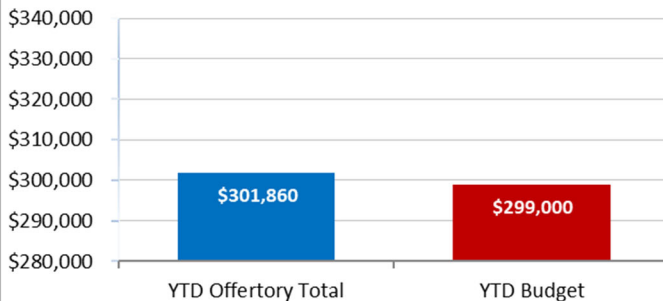


The parish budget requires over one weeks' worth of collections just to cover parish utilities, maintenance, and insurance each month.

It takes \$3,093 per day to run our parish.

Fiscal Year Budget to Date

Parish Fiscal Year runs from July 1 through June 30



Mass Intentions

week of December 30– January 5

Saturday, December 30

5pm at Immaculate Conception with
Fr. Larry Lisowski:

For the healing of Francisco Frederickson

Sunday, December 31

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

For the well-being of David Lynn

Sunday, December 31

9:30am Mass at Immaculate Conception with
Fr. Larry Lisowski: **Peter & Jacqueline Giacalone**

Sunday, December 31

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

Monday, January 1 – New Year's Day

9:30am Mass at Immaculate Conception with
Fr. Larry McBrady: **Elsa Gran**

11am Mass at St. Joseph with Fr. Larry Lisowski:
Dr. Stanton Pyburn Champion

Wednesday, January 3

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

Ronald Campbell
Sean O'Shea

Friday, January 5

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

For the Lynn and Volkert Family

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

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

Business Manager

Nancy Gies
ngies@icsjparish.org
312-787-7174, ext. 7

Sacramental Coordinator

Kevin O'Connell
koconnell@icsjparish.org
312-787-7174, ext. 2

Director of Music

Kate Ryan
kryan@icsjparish.org
312-787-7174, ext. 9

ICSJ School Co-Principal

Katie Sullivan
ksullivan@icsjschool.org
312-944-0304, ext. 3

ICSJ School Co-Principal

Heather Lux
hlux@icsjschool.org
312-944-0304, ext. 4

Maintenance Supervisor

Colm Murphy
cmurphy@icsjschool.org
312-787-7174

Parish Coordinator, Bulletin Editor

Angela Gore
agore@icsjparish.org
312-787-7174, ext. 1

Director of Evangelization & Events

Jutta Keenan
jkeen@icsjparish.org
312-787-7174, ext. 8

Assistant to the Pastor

Elly Rodriguez
erodriguez@icsjparish.org
312-787-7174, ext. 4

Outreach Ministries Coordinator

Allie Klazura
aklazura@icsjparish.org
312-787-7174, ext. 3

Assistant to the Director of Music

Josephine Stracek
jstracek@icsjparish.org
312-787-7174

Evening/Weekend Receptionist

Sherrine Manning
312-787-7174, ext. 0