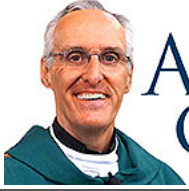


February 11, 2024 | Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time



ALL
OF US

Fr. Larry's
Weekly Letter
#552

GETTING READY FOR LENT



We enter the sacred season of Lent this Wednesday, February 14th. Ashes will be traced on our foreheads as a sign of our willingness to embrace the traditional disciplines of prayer, fasting and almsgiving. We spiritually center our lives around these actions over the next forty days. We proudly wear a cross made of ashes on our foreheads to remind us that one day we too will share in the resurrection of Jesus Christ.

Ash Wednesday Masses

Ashes will be distributed during the Mass

9:00 a.m. at St. Joseph Church
Fr. Larry Lisowski

10:15 a.m. at St. Joseph Church
(Includes the students from the Hill St campus)
Fr. Larry Lisowski

1:00 p.m. at Immaculate Conception
(Includes the students from the North Park campus)
Fr. Larry Lisowski

Ash Wednesday "Open Houses"

For those unable to attend our Ash Wednesday Mass, we will be offering three drop-in "open houses" where one of our ministers will be distributing ashes at **St. Joseph Church**.

8:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m.

11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Here are a few reflection questions to help you prepare for Lent.

What is your attitude as you enter Lent this year?

What do you hope will happen this Lent?

What would you like to do this Lent to make it more meaningful for you and your family?

What do you need most from Jesus this Lent?

2-MINUTE HOMIIES DURING LENT

Our Sunday homilies during Lent will be very short. Like last year, Fr. Larry McBrady, Deacon Neil, Deacon Zach, and I will give only 2-minute homilies. Our preaching will be brief, simple and to the point. Our "homiletic commercial" will lead us to a handful of reflection questions for each particular Sunday that everyone will have in their pew. We will have the opportunity to pause and prayerfully enjoy a moment of silence at Mass for meditation and reflection. With the guidance of the Holy Spirit, we will be able to see how the Word of God directly applies to our life.

Continued on the next page

“LISTEN TO THE LORD, LIVE IN GOD’S LIGHT”

Our theme for Lent is, “**Listen to the Lord, Live in God’s Light.**” Lent gives us the opportunity to listen to God. It’s hard to hear God when our life is noisy, restless and filled with distractions. God will speak to us if we give God a chance, if we are willing to listen, if we will be quiet. “Be still” the psalmist wrote, “and know that I am God.” (Psalm 46:10).

2024 LENTEN LINEUP

Our parish will be offering many opportunities for Lenten prayer and service over the next several weeks. Here a few suggestions. More information about each activity can be found on our parish website: icsjparish.org/lentenlineup.

- Attend Weekday Masses
- Contribute to one of our Lenten Food Drives
 - Participate in our Parish Service Day at our Sharing Parish
 - Make a meal for a migrant family
 - Join us for Children’s Liturgy of the Word
- Attend Fr. McBrady’s “Morning of Reflection”
 - Try Alpha
 - Become a Liturgical Minister
- Pray with ICSJ’s Prayer Connection Group
 - Attend Reconciliation
 - Reflect daily with “Word on Fire”
- Pray and reflect with Henry Nouwen’s booklet “Lifted Up in Love”

- Attend “From Ashes to Glory,” a Virtual Lenten Retreat
 - Focus your prayer with the “Praying From the Heart” prayer tool
- Meditate on the daily scripture readings with “The Word Among Us”
 - Pray along with the Stations of the Cross
 - Take time to journal your spiritual thoughts
 - Join our Women’s Scripture Study, “Open Your Heart”
- Download the Hallow App on your smart phone
 - Zoom-in to our Parish Rosary Group

Fr. Larry



Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are obligatory days of fasting and abstinence for Catholics. In addition, Fridays during Lent are obligatory days of abstinence.

For members of the Latin Catholic Church, the norms on fasting are obligatory from age 18 until age 59. When fasting, a person is permitted to eat one full meal, as well as two smaller meals that together are not equal to a full meal. The norms concerning abstinence from meat are binding upon members of the Latin Catholic Church from age 14 onwards.



*Ryan Michael Forand
Baptized Saturday, February 3
Alex & Kristen Forand,
older brother Grant*

Join ICSJ's *Wedding Ministry*



Charitable Contributions for 2023

Our Parish Office mailed out the 2023 tax statements for those families that have made a charitable contribution of \$250 or more to Immaculate Conception and St. Joseph Parish in the 2023 annual year. You should receive the statement this week. If you believe you are missing a statement, or have any questions, please contact Angela Gore at: agore@icsjparish.org.

Join our team of Wedding Sacristans!

A wedding sacristan serves at the wedding rehearsal and helps behind the scenes on the day of the wedding. They help with setting-up so that things run smoothly, and bring a sense of welcome and hospitality, especially to our visitors and guests.

Wisdom, Women & Wine Book Club



The next book club is scheduled
at
3:30 pm on
Friday, March 15th

The book selected is
The Silent Patient by Alex Michaelides

For more details, please email
Colleen cm424svdp@gmail.com or
Martha Martha_60603@yahoo.com

Our parish has a reputation for making the whole wedding process a meaningful and positive experience for the bride, groom, and their family.

This is a truly a fun and rewarding ministry. Please give it some thought. We certainly could use your help!

If you are interested in joining this ministry, please contact Kevin O'Connell, our Parish Wedding Coordinator koconnell@icsjparish.org

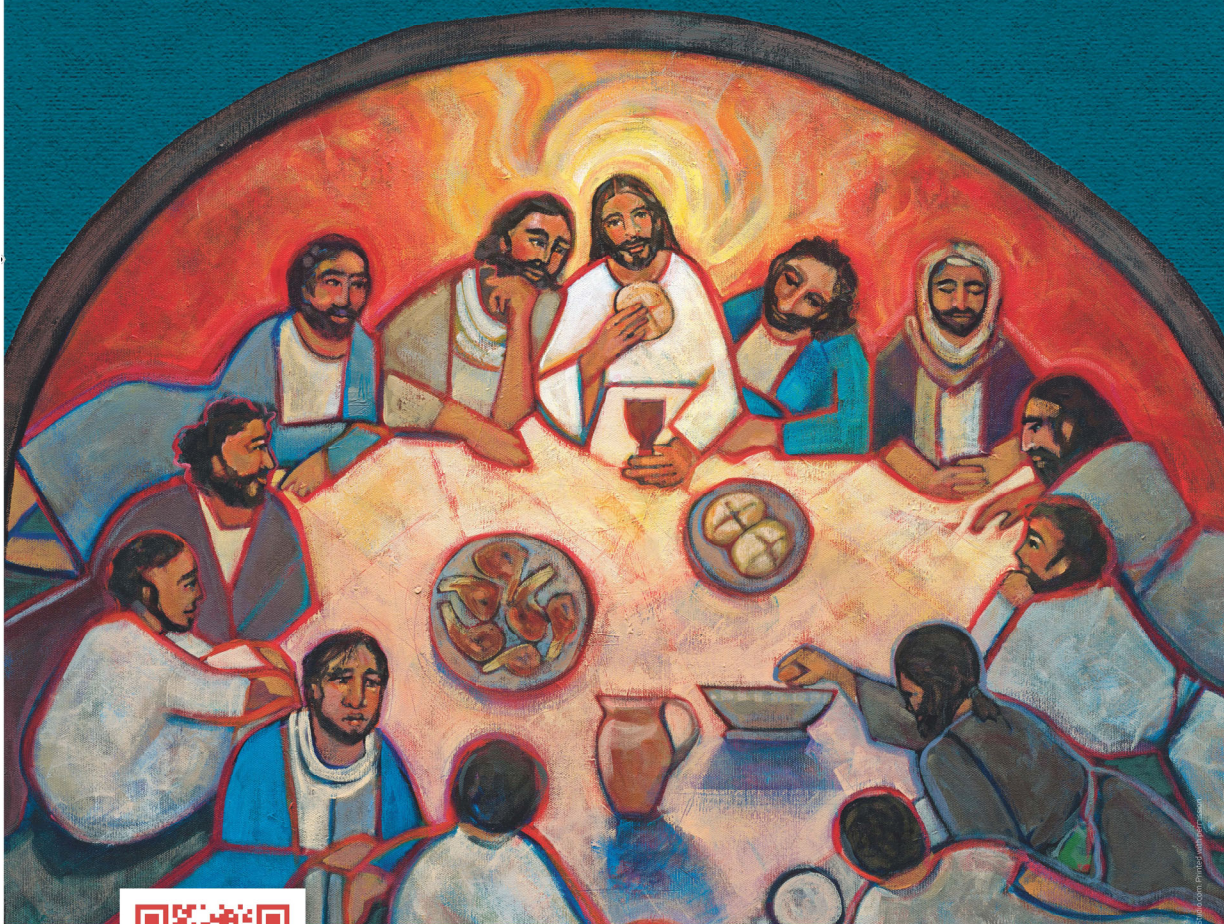


ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO



2024 Annual Catholic Appeal

Together at the table



annualcatholicappeal.com

CALLING ALL ICSJ SCHOOL ALUMNI PARENTS & PARISHONERS

Join us to celebrate Sparkle, the school's largest fundraiser of the year, on February 24 for the first time at ICSJ! Catch up with old friends and have a good ol' time as we enjoy "just for fun" games of chance (blackjack, poker, craps, roulette), cocktails and hors d'oeuvres.

A Friend of ICSJ ticket costs \$100. Register to attend via the link below by Sunday, February 11.



WWW.GIVECENTRAL.ORG/SPARKLE

To learn more about Sparkle or to donate an item to the online auction, visit www.icsjschool.org/sparkle.

Join Us!

Service Day at Sharing Parish

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

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





IMMACULATE CONCEPTION
AND ST. JOSEPH PARISH

Presents our Annual

ST. JOSEPH *Table*

A Luncheon Feast in Honor of our Patron Saint

Save the Date

Sunday, March 10th

12:00 to 2:00 pm • ICSJ Hill Street Campus

Circle Sunday, March 10th on your calendar for St. Joseph Table, ICSJ's annual lunchtime "Festa Italiana" in honor of our patron saint, St. Joseph. This complimentary feast features mouth-watering selections from area restaurants along with parishioner pot-luck favorites.

All are invited - more details to come!





DOLPHIN DAYS

NEWS FROM IMMACULATE CONCEPTION - ST. JOSEPH



IMMACULATE CONCEPTION
ST. JOSEPH SCHOOL

Join us for an upcoming

ADMISSIONS TOUR

Thursday, February 15 | 9 AM

Wednesday, February 28 | 9 AM

Friday, March 22 | 9 AM

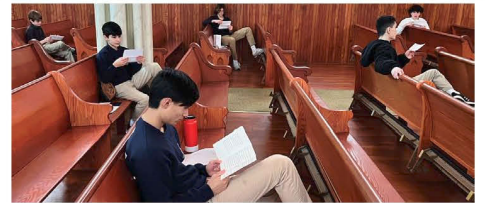
Thursday, April 18 | 9 AM

RSVP on our school website at
www.ICSJSchool.org
or, by scanning
the QR code -->



8th GRADE RETREAT

In preparation for their Confirmation, which is coming up on March 2, our 8th Graders participated in a Retreat led by their Religion Teacher, Claire Cosgrove, and assisted by other ICSJ teachers. Father Larry Lisowski led them in an Examination of Conscience and Elly Rodriguez, assistant to Father Larry and Master's Candidate in Pastoral Counseling, gave a testimonial about her own faith journey. Students reflected on their their spiritual path and read heartfelt letters from their parents. They also wrote welcome notes and packed backpacks for immigrant students with materials which were donated for the cause. It was a great opportunity to reflect in preparation for their big day!



IMMACULATE CONCEPTION
ST. JOSEPH SCHOOL

TOT PROGRAM

Tuesdays & Thursdays
9:30 - 11 AM

8-week sessions

Toddler and Caregiver

[www.icsjschool.org/
apps/pages/totprogram](http://www.icsjschool.org/apps/pages/totprogram)



**TRY A
FREE CLASS!**
Contact Jodi at
312-944-0304
Ext. 312



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



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

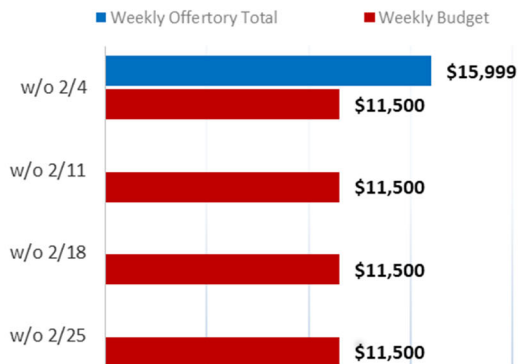
eGiving is a secure and convenient way of giving to Immaculate Conception and St. Joseph parish. It is eco-friendly and cost-saving. Just click **HERE** and to make your one-time, weekly, or monthly donation.

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 - February 2023

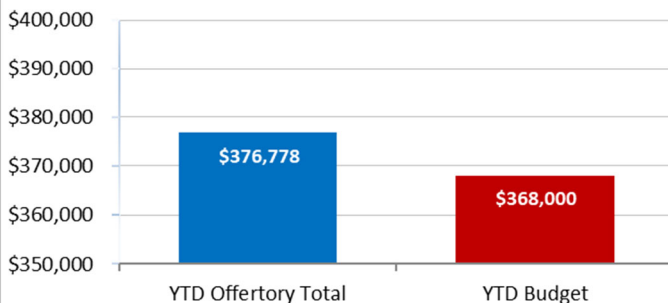


The parish budget requires over one weeks' worth of collections just to cover parish utilities, maintenance, and insurance each month.

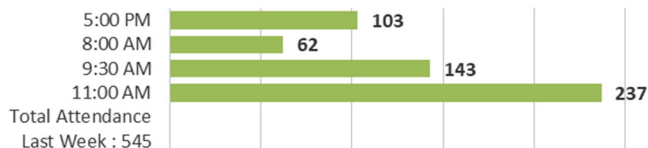
It takes \$3,093 per day to run our parish.

Fiscal Year Budget to Date

Parish Fiscal Year runs from July 1 through June 30



Attendance for 2/3 & 2/4



Mass Intentions

week of February 10– 16

Saturday, February 10

5pm at Immaculate Conception with

Fr. Larry Lisowski:

Stanley Grekowicz

Sunday, February 11

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

Adelynn Smurzynski

Sunday, February 11

9:30am Mass at Immaculate Conception with

Fr. Larry Lisowski:

For the well-being of Sue Pastore

Sunday, February 11

11am Mass at St. Joseph with

Bishop Mark Bartosic:

Francesco Salamone

Monday, February 12

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

Charles Lopardo

Vincent Peter Salvo

Wednesday, February 14

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

Thomas A. Reynolds Jr.

Friday, February 16

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

John Rowan

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
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ICSJ School Co-Principal

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Director of Evangelization & Events

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312-787-7174, ext. 8

Assistant to the Pastor

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312-787-7174, ext. 4

Outreach Ministries Coordinator

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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