

September 10, 2023 | Twenty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time



Fr. Larry's Weekly Letter #530

IF YOU DON'T CHANGE UPWARD...

A parishioner emailed a hopeful article last week from *America Magazine*, entitled, "Pope Francis Speaks Out Against His Critics in the U.S. Catholic Church," written by Gerald O'Connell. I encourage you to take the time to read the entire article. Just, CLICK HERE.

The article gives you a clear idea of what direction Pope Francis wants to take for the future of our Church. Simply, he desires to move the Church forward, when addressing many of its complex issues. There is a need for our Church to continue to evolve in order to be relevant.

Pope Francis says: "Some people go backwards; they are what I call 'indietisti.' When you go backward, you form something closed, disconnected from the roots of the Church and you lose the sap of revelation. If you don't change upward, you go backward, and then you take on a criteria for change other than those of our faith gives for growth and change. And the effects on morality is devastating."

His courage and wisdom gives me hope.

KEEPING MY JOB

Besides serving as the pastor of Immaculate Conception and St. Joseph Parish, for the past several years, I also have been serving as one the Deans for the Archdiocese of Chicago. As Dean, I was assigned to work closely with Bishop Mark Bartosic, who is the episcopal vicar for our Vicariate II. I have been helping him to "promote and coordinate common pastoral activities" with the ten Near North parishes that comprised Deanery 2-D. This involved offering guidance and support to priests and deacons to help them perform their roles and duties; assuring that parishes are being administered properly in accord to liturgical norms and cannon law, as well as the Archdiocesan policies and procedures.

Cardinal Blase Cupich has recently reappointed me as the Dean for Deanery 2-D, while retaining my duties as pastor of Immaculate Conception and St. Joseph Parish. The Dean position is a three-year term. You can read his appointment letter that is included with this bulletin.

Deanery 2-D has been recently been reconfigured as a result of the *Renew My Church* restructuring and consolidation program for the Archdiocese. The parishes that I will now be directly working with are St. Michael in Old Town, St. Teresa of Avila, St. Vincent DePaul, St. Josaphat, and St. Clement.

Being a Dean has been a rewarding experience for me. I have learned a lot about the good things happening at our neighboring parishes. I have come to know and appreciate even more the efforts of our dedicated priests, staff members and volunteers who are committed to making their parishes active and vibrant for their people. It has been a blessing to share our ministries and resources together across traditional parish lines. We have come to realize that somethings are actually better done together rather than foolishly multiplied.

In case you're wondering... yes, the job involves more work for me, and the pay is the same.

THEY'RE BACK !!!

It's great to have our choir back from their summer break. It is a joy to join our voices with theirs as we give praise and worship to God.



Continued on the next page

Music is such an important part of our Sunday prayer. I am proud of the great care and attention that Kate Ryan, our Music Director; along with Josephine Stracek, our Assistant Music Director, give to the ministry. It is truly a wonderful hallmark of our parish.

In my 39 years as a priest, I have worked in six parishes. This is the only parish where I notice that folks do not leave Mass early. They actually stay until the final hymn is over. Our congregation hangs around to applaud our cantors, choir, and musicians. This is a wonderful way to express our gratitude at our Sunday liturgies. It's a nice habit to have.

SUBSCRIBE NOW

It is important that our Parish Staff has the basic contact information to communicate with our families. Email addresses, telephone numbers, and home addresses are key in order for us to effectively minister to families, especially in times of emergency.

With a busy parish like ours, it is our goal to provide information in a clear and quick manner so that you know what is taking place, and so that you don't miss a particular event. It is important for us to keep you in the loop.

The best way to do this is to subscribe to our weekly Newsletter that is sent out every Friday. To subscribe: **CLICK HERE.**



Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults (RCIA)

Are you not Catholic but...

Feeling called to a deeper faith?

Looking for a place to ...
belong, pray, share, serve and grow?
Curious about the Catholic faith?
Ready to receive the sacraments,
and become Catholic?

These are all great reasons to explore RCIA. Let's start the conversation! The new season begins in September. Your journey begins HERE!

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



Office of the Archbishop 835 North Rush Street Chicago, IL 60611-2030 312.534.8230 archchicago.org

August 28, 2023

Reverend Lawrence M. Lisowski Immaculate Conception and St. Joseph Parish 1107 North Orleans Street Chicago, IL 60641-3913

Dear Father Lisowski,

In accord with canon 553 of the Code of Canon Law, I am pleased to appoint you as dean of Deanery II-D. This responsibility will be fulfilled concurrently as Pastor of Immaculate Conception and St. Joseph Parish. Your term of office, which is renewable, is effective September 1, 2023, and will conclude on June 30, 2026.

Know that I am grateful for your willingness to serve the Archdiocese and, in particular, the People of God in this deanery through the Office of Dean. As dean, you will be assisting me, the vicar general and your episcopal vicar to better provide for the pastoral governance of this Archdiocese, particularly through your fraternal support of your brother priests in your deanery. As we continue with the spiritual renewal of *Renew My Church*, we know the importance of building positive community among priests, grounded in prayer and accompaniment.

The Office of Dean is described in canons 554 and 555. In general, it is the dean's responsibility to promote and coordinate common pastoral activity within the deanery, to see to it that the priests and deacons in the deanery diligently perform their proper roles and duties, that the parishes in the deanery are being administered properly in accord with liturgical norms and canon law, as well as Archdiocesan policies and procedures, and that parish sacramental records are correctly inscribed and kept in good condition. In addition to these provisions, your role as dean will be more fully explained and discussed in future meetings with the episcopal vicars and other deans.

Father Lisowski, you have my personal support and prayers for you in this ministry. Wishing you every blessing, with kind regards, I remain.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Ecclesiastical Notary

Enclosures

cc: Most Reverend Mark Bartosic, Episcopal Vicar, Vicariate II

Most Reverend Robert Casey, Vicar General

Deacon David Keene, Ph.D., Chancellor

Reverend Michael Knotek, Executive Secretary, Diocesan Priests' Placement Board

Reverend Kurt Boras, Vicar for Priests

Reverend Michael Foley, Vicar for Priests

Ms. Meg Hall, Director, Archives and Records

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



P 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 ICS J Parish on Social Media







Staff Directory

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

Senior Priest

Rev. Larry McBrady 312-787-7174

Deacon

Neil Rogers nrogers@archchicago.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

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ICSJ School Co-Principal

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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**

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Director of Evangelization & Events

Jutta Keenan jkeenan@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 Looking to grow your faith? Feeling called to Serve?

Answer the Call

Become an ICSJ Liturgical Minister

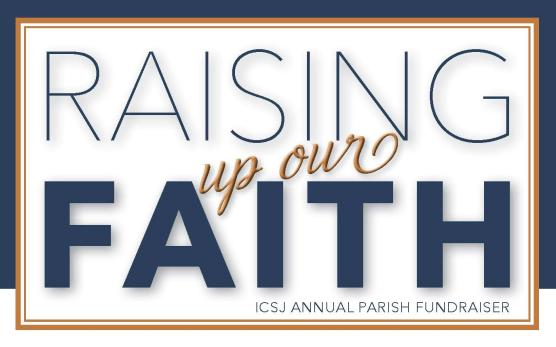


Are you looking to grow in your faith and share your talents with ICSJ on Sundays? Join us for our upcoming Liturgical Ministry Training on Saturday, September 16th to receive formation as a lector, eucharistic minister, and/or usher. Belong to our growing community of ministers that help make our Sunday liturgies a vibrant service for all! Please RSVP to Elly at erodriguez@icsjparish.org if you plan to attend.

Liturgical Minister Training

September 16th • 9:00-11:00 a.m. • Immaculate Conception Church





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

SCHOOL HOUSE

{LOCATED AT 1065 N. ORLEANS}

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



A warm welcome back to our ICSJ Music Ministry Team!







September 10th!

ICSJ MUSIC MINISTRY PRESENTS

MUNES ON SUNDAY AFTERNOON

A CONCERT SERIES

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.

UPCOMING PERFORMANCES:



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



October 8th 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 RESTOCK THE SHELVES!

FOOD & MORE DRIVE

9AM-12PM - SEPTEMBER 16TH IC PARKING LOT - 1431 N NORTH PARK AVE

Our Knights of Columbus will be collecting food to restock ICSJ's Food Ministry & clothing items to restock St. Josaphat's Don's Helping Hands ministry. Needed items include:

- Peanut Butter & Jelly
- Cereal & Oatmeal
- Canned Meats & Non-Perishable Entrees
- Individually packaged: multigrain bars(not harder granola-type bars), cookies, crackers, chips
- Dry ramen (in cups!)



- Men's T-Shirts/Undershirts (M, L, XL)
- Men's Underwear (M, L, XL)
- Men's Sweatshirts (M, L, XL)
- Socks (Tube socks)

Contact Allie at aklazura@icsjparish.org with questions or to help volunteer during the drive!



JOIN ICSJ YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY FOR MASS AND BRUNCH

Sunday, September 24th 11 AM | St. Joseph Church 12 PM | Happy Camper

Email erodriguez@icsjparish.org if you have any questions!



Mother of the Americas / Kolbe House Adoption of Migrant Families

Items & Gift Cards Needed

Recently, Mother of the Americas parish and a Kolbe House employee helped two migrant families with housing. The families now have an apartment, but there are a significant number of items they need. Items can be dropped off at Mother of the Americas, 2226 S. Whipple St M-F 9-5 with attention to the Gonzalez-Rivas and the Vasquez-Chacoa Families. Please call Gloria Hernandez at 773-247-0070 to coordinate drop off of items or with questions.

Here is the list we received detailing some of their specific needs: pots & pans, kitchen table w/chairs, beds (full), couch, towels, pillows, sheets (size full and twin), curtains (6), tv, lamps, gift cards to Target or Wal-Mart, and the following clothing:

Daughter - Children's Size 4 top; 4 pants; shoes 6

Adult Male - Men's XL top; 36 waist pants; shoes 9

Adult Female- Women's S top; 2/4 / S pants; shoes 5.5

Adult Male - Men's S top; 30 waist pants; shoes 8.5

Adult Female - Women's M top; 12/14 / L pants; shoes 7.5



Knights of Columbus Tootsie Roll Drive 2023



Each year our Knights of Columbus don their familiar yellow aprons for their annual Tootsie Roll Drive. The Knights are at it again and plan to be at all the ICSJ Masses on September 23rd and 24th to collect your donations and distribute tootsie rolls. However, you can also choose to contribute online using the following website:



To support the 2023 Tootsie Roll Drive, please go to icsjparish.org/spred

Funds collected from the Tootsie Roll Drive go to the ICSJ SPRED program. SPRED (Special Religious Development) is an Archdiocese religious education program specifically designed to meet the spiritual needs of children and adults with developmental disabilities. Through the experience of friendship in one-to-one relationships, our Friends with special needs discover a sacred place of belonging where they enjoy meaningful relationships in helping them realize their own giftedness and dignity.

WISDOM, WOMEN & WINE BOOK CLUB!



FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 22 @3:30 AT IC CHURCH.

WE'LL BE DISCUSSING WITHOUT YOU THERE IS NO US: UNDERCOVER AMONG THE SONS OF NORTH KOREA'S ELITE BY SUKIYAKI KIM

PLEASE EMAIL
COLLEEN CM.424.SVDP@GMAIL.COM
AND/OR
MARTHA M

MARTHA MARTHA_60603@YAHOO.COM
TO LET THEM KNOW YOU WILL BE JOINING.

OPEN HOUSE CHICAGO

We are pleased to announce that historic St. Joseph Church has again been selected to participate in the Open House Chicago event on October 14 and 15 this year. If you would like to volunteer to help guide visitors on either day, please contact Joan Moore at ibem28@msn.com.

This is a very special event that will feature an organ recital on our historic 1892 Hutchings Organ on Sunday afternoon, October 15 at 2 pm as an added bonus for us and our visitors



September 10 | Tunes on a Sunday Afternoon

• St. Joseph church at 2pm

September 16 | Liturgical Minister Training

• Immaculate Conception Church

September 18 | KnitWits

• 10am-1pm at St. Joseph lower level

September 22 | Wisdom, Women & Wine Book Club

• email Colleen cm.424.svdp@gmail.com

September 24 | Young Adults Brunch

• after 11AM Mass at Happy Camper

October 14 and 15 | Open House Chicago

• St. Joseph Church Architectural Tours

November 16 | Parish Fundraiser

• The School House

Look out for more details on all events in our News from the Pews!

WHEN FAITH IS SHARED, FAITH IS STRENGTHENED

Alpha returns this Fall!

Thursdays starting September 7th from 6:30-8:15pm





Join us at the Immaculate Conception Parish Center for engaging videos, delicious food and inspiring conversations that take a closer look at our life, our faith and what it all means.

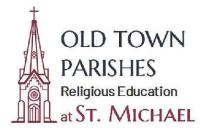


Everyone is welcome! Parishioners, neighbors, friends and family. Christian and non-Christians. Bring a friend! There's no pressure, no commitment, no homework and it's completely free!



Join us the first few nights to give it a try! Visit www.icsjparish.org/alpha for more details and to register for September 7th.

News About Our Children's Religious Education Program



ICSJ Parish continues its partnership with neighboring St. Michael Parish to provide children's religious education. Our combined program, now called *Old Town Parishes Religious Education at St. Michael*, is proud to offer *Family Faith Formation* as its cornerstone.

The *Family Faith Formation* program offers a combination of in-class learning as well as at-home learning. Teaching children about the Catholic faith is first and foremost the privilege and responsibility of parents. That is the reason we strive to include families in our educational initiatives. We dedicate ourselves to helping families raise their children in the Catholic faith by promoting lifelong learning and growth in the Four Pillars of Faith: faithformation, worship, service, and community.

The *Family Faith Formation* model is designed to give parents the tools, knowledge, and best practices to pass on the faith to their children. Further, the model allows parents to experience an ever-growing community in the parish, to find support among fellow Catholic parents, and to learn, experience, and grow in their faith along with their children. *Family Faith Formation* assists in not only strengthening one's relationship with Jesus but also within the entire family . . .even intergenerational!

To learn more about the program, or for calendar, tuition and registration information, please scan the QR code or visit



www.st-mikes.org/religious-education



DOLPHIN DAYS

News from Immaculate Conception - St. Joseph School

TOT PROGRAM

Tuesdays & Thursdays
October 3 - November 13
(Fall Session - 7 weeks/14 classes)







Do you have a toddler ready for a lightly-structured "Mommy-and-Me" program where kids begin to learn and practice social and emotional skills to help them move smoothly into Preschool next fall?

The ICSJ TOT Program is just the place to begin working on those soft skills...sharing, flexibility, transitioning from one activity to another, listening and following instructions, and playing together with peers...all in a low-pressure and high-FUN environment!

These 1.5 hour classes follow weekly themes delivered through art projects, music, stories, centers, and free-play, all led by our experienced PreK teacher, Laura Diab.

The time spent together with your child is something truly special and the program will help to prepare you BOTH for Preschool next year! (Dads, Nannies, and Grannies are also welcome to accompany your child).

The ICSJ TOT Program will run the entire school year but will be broken into 4 sessions so you can try it in 7 or 8 week sessions without committing to the entire 31 weeks. The first session begins



October 3, so register today by scanning the QR code or going to www.icsjschool.org/apps/pages/totprogram.



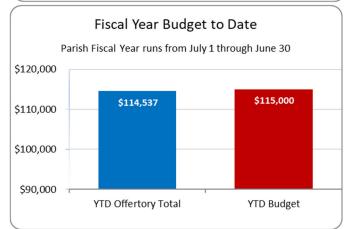
ANNUAL BOOSTER CLUB BAGS TOURNAMENT

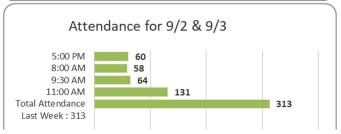
The ICSJ Athletic Booster Club Annual Bags (cornhole) Tournament is around the corner on **Saturday, September 16th.** School parents, alumni parents, and parishioners are invited to come play in the tournament (\$100 per team of two) OR to come at any point throughout the event just to socialize (\$30 per person). Food is included in your ticket, and there will be a cash bar. This event supports the ICSJ Booster Club, which helps fund the 4th-8th grade athletic teams and programming. The party begins at 3:30 p.m. and ends at 8:30 p.m. **The tourney begins at 4 pm sharp!**

Purchase your tickets at www.givecentral.org/location/167/allevents.



Weekly Offertory - September 2023 Weekly Offertory Total Weekly Budget \$13,232 \$11,500 W/o 9/10 \$11,500 W/o 9/24 \$11,500 The parish budget requires two weeks' worth of collections just to cover our ultilities, maintenance, and insurance. It takes \$2,838 per day to run our parish.





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 September 9-15

Saturday, September 9

5pm at Immaculate Conception with Fr. Larry McBrady: **Jim Singer**

Sunday, September 10

8am Mass at St. Joseph with Fr. Larry Lisowski: Billy O'Connell

Sunday, September 10

9:30am Mass at Immaculate Conception with Fr. Larry McBrady: **Michael Evangelides**

Sunday, September 10

11am Mass at St. Joseph with Fr. Larry Lisowski: **Earl Quinn**

Monday, September 11

9am Mass at St. Joseph with Fr. Larry Lisowski : **Tim O'Connell**

Wednesday, September 13

9am Mass at St. Joseph with Fr. Larry Lisowski: **Michael O'Connell**

Friday, September 15

9am at St. Joseph with Fr. Larry McBrady: For the parishioners of our ICSJ parish community

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.



If Care is what you need, we are here to Help! We offer live-in and hourly service for elderly.

Mary J. Hayes, D.D.S., M.S. Joanne R. Oppenheim, D.D.S. Marilla Montero, D.D.S.

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> I am a parishioner and mom of 3 at ICSJ school. If you buy, sell, or refer. I will donate 5% back to ICSJ Parish.

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GREAT VALUE - 70% of all households are aware of and look at the advertising in the church bulletin and 68% of households surveyed when making a choice between businesses are inclined to choose the one who advertised in the church bulletin.

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