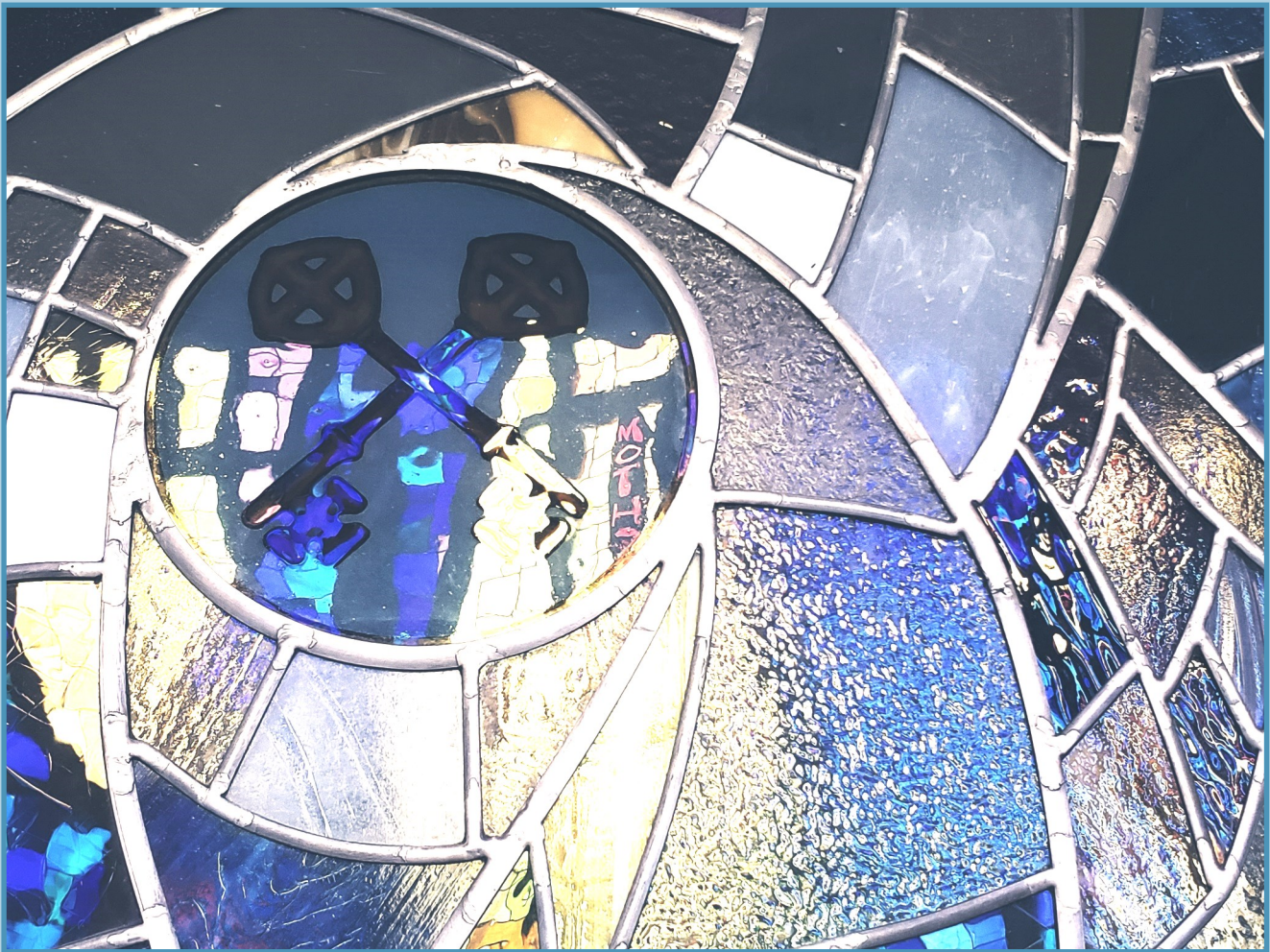


Welcome to
Immaculate Conception Parish

A Catholic Community Inviting People to Follow Christ

August 23, 2020 - Twenty-First Sunday In Ordinary Time



"...Upon this rock I will build my Church, and the gates of the netherworld shall not prevail against it. I will give you the keys to the Kingdom of Heaven. Whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in Heaven; and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in Heaven." - Matthew 16:18-19

Love God, Serve Others, Make Disciples

Immaculate Conception Parish



Gather with us virtually as we pray with, and for, one another during our Masses which are broadcast live through **Twitch TV** (www.twitch.tv/icchicago) and through **Facebook Live** on our Facebook page: *Immaculate Conception Parish Chicago (Talcott)*. Direct links to both platforms are easily accessible on our parish website (www.icparish.net). For your convenience, all Masses are recorded and archived for a limited time.



WELCOME TO THE TABLE OF THE LORD!

Brynn & Kendall McCarthy
Daughters of Ryan & Crystal (Christie) McCarthy

Phase 2 Reopening Mass Schedule:

Sunday Mass in Church (with reserved seating)
@ 8:30 A.M. & 10:30 A.M.

Please visit www.icparish.net to register.

First Friday Mass & Adoration in Church (with reserved seating) @ 5:30 P.M. (September 4th)

Worship with IC from home...

Sunday Virtual Mass @ 10:30 A.M.

Daily Virtual Mass @ 7:00 P.M. (Monday through Friday)



Opportunities for **Confessions** will be offered on the first and third Tuesdays of each month from 6:00-7:00 P.M.

***September 1st & September 15th**

***Reservations are required.**

Support IC through Give Central...

We are truly grateful for the continued generosity of our faithful parishioners as we would not be able to maintain our parish and continue our mission without you.

If you are able, please consider contributing electronically via Give Central at www.givecentral.org/location/349 to assist us in maintaining the vital ministries and services we provide on behalf of our community. If you have any questions regarding setting up your online donations through Give Central, please contact our Parish Office at 773.775.3833 and a member of our Parish Staff will be happy to assist you.

If you would prefer to support our parish with an offertory donation through cash or check, please mail your envelopes to our Parish Office at:

7211 W. Talcott Avenue, Chicago, IL. 60631.



"You will be enriched in every way so that you can be generous on every occasion, and through us your generosity will result in thanksgiving to God." - 2 Corinthians 9:11

Fishers of Men...

One of the phrases being floated around in certain circles today, is that the Church is not just a place to “shepherd the sheep”, but that Christians are called to be “fishers of men.” I went fishing recently, and I thought about what this notion of being “fishers of men” could mean. While fishing on the lake, there are days when absolutely nothing happens. Try as you might, not a single nibble, let alone a catch. Other days, there is a lot of activity, but it is mostly small and insignificant fish. Occasionally, you hook a big fish and then the line breaks (due to a bad knot, or teeth, or weeds), while at other times, it seems you can’t lose. We experienced a day where the hook barely touched the water, and fish were fighting over who got the worm or lure.



I think I have provided enough examples, but you can see how fishing is full of variables, even on the same lake and on the same day. Fishing is about experience, patience, failure, luck, preparation, execution, and focus.

Perhaps there is a reason behind Jesus using fishing as his example for preaching and evangelization. To preach the Gospel, evangelize about Jesus and draw people to God’s light requires all of these elements.

When you catch fish, sometimes all you can do is be thankful. Fish are tenacious, strong creatures built to survive. They will fight you with everything they have. To hunt them and catch them takes work and dedication. When you catch one, you appreciate the hard-won fight. When you lose one, sometimes you acknowledge that the fish’s life was on the line and they won. You try again.

Evangelization is about failure, because it takes time and experience to articulate the Gospel in our own words. It takes even longer to build up the confidence to speak with conviction. It is about preparation. You would not convince anyone of the Gospel if the only time you spoke about faith was when it surprised you in conversation.

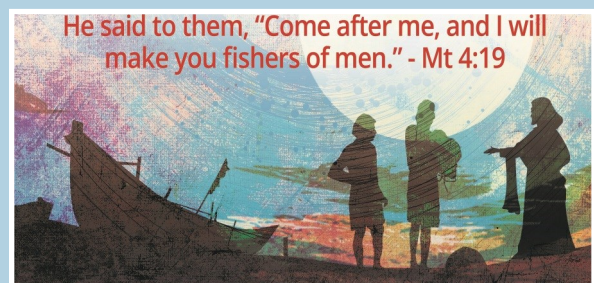
You can’t catch fish, if you don’t go fishing. It is similar to Wayne Gretzky’s great quote, “you miss 100% of the shots you don’t take.” You bring no one to God, if you don’t evangelize. Sometimes evangelization starts within our family: speaking about faith with your husband and wife, your sons and daughters, and your brothers and sisters. If we can’t talk about it at home, it rarely leaves home.

But if we succeed only 1 out of 100 times, that is still one more person who grew closer to God because of us. Just like catching one fish, maybe that’s reason enough to be thankful. At times, the successes are small and insignificant, while other times people are truly “caught,” changed by a Christian’s example of humility and love.

“After he had finished speaking, he said to Simon, “Put out into deep water and lower your nets for a catch.” Simon said in reply, “Master, we have worked hard all night and have caught nothing, but at your command I will lower the nets.” When they had done this, they caught a great number of fish and their nets were tearing.” (Lk 5:4-6)

Like any confident fisherman, success is in the next cast.

Fr. Matt



Extra Safety Precautions Added To Our Choir Area...

Dear IC Parishioners,

Over the last few weeks, you might have noticed five PVC barriers in the choir/musician's area of our Church. These barriers were designed by our Director of Operations, Vince Kennedy. Our Maintenance team (consisting of Michael Lahaye [Head of Maintenance] and Anthony Vitali) cut the individual pieces of piping and assembled them with clear plastic screens attached. The purpose of these barriers is for the protection of our assembled congregation.



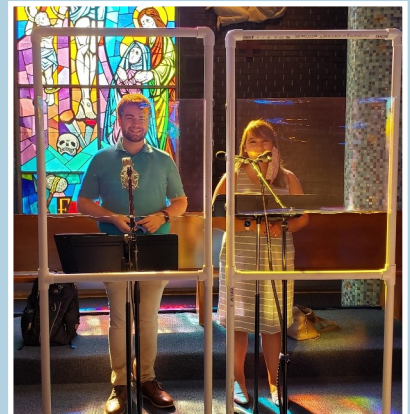
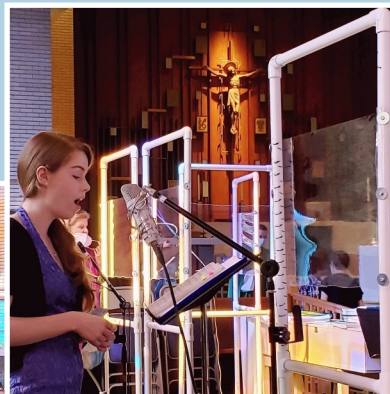
As you may already know, COVID-19 is most easily transmitted through droplets or "aerosols" when we speak, cough, sneeze, and yes, even sing. Singers breathe quite deeply as strong breath support is required to produce the sound you often hear from professional singers. Musicians not only inhale deeply, but also expel that air with enough force to spread aerosols six or more feet from where they are standing. As our singers cannot sing with masks on (although they do cover their faces when not actively singing), we added the barriers as an additional precaution (on top of the six foot social distancing guideline for anyone seated closest to our music area.)



You may also have noticed that several seats are marked off as not usable near the piano - that is for my protection, as well as for the congregants around me. I often must lower my mask below my nose while playing the piano to keep my glasses from fogging, as it is certainly a challenge to play through steamed up glass. By distancing parishioners from myself and our vocal quartet, we are trying to do everything we can to maintain the integrity and beauty of the Mass without exposing our congregation to unnecessary risk. Please know that our staff and volunteers are doing everything we can to keep our parish family safe and healthy. Echoing Fr. Matt's past sentiments, we want you to know that it is okay if you still do not feel comfortable worshiping with us in our Church during this time. We continue to offer online streaming Masses Monday through Friday at 7:00 P.M. as well as on Sunday mornings at 10:30 A.M. The music you hear during our online streaming Masses is performed by our IC musicians, either live or prerecorded.

We thank you for your understanding and continued support of our Music Ministry at IC.

Yours in Christ,
Scott Will, Director of Worship



Immaculate Conception Parish

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED



We are still actively recruiting additional volunteers to help staff our Greeting and Cleaning teams (led by our dedicated Captains, Darlene Mroz & Joe Jummati). If the Spirit moves you and you would like to volunteer to assist us with our ongoing reopening process, please complete our Parish Reopening Team Volunteer Form which is easily accessible on our parish website at www.icparish.net. Thank you for your prayerful consideration!

"Serve one another humbly in love."
- Galatians 5:13



Catholic Charities Collection on August 30th *Give to Change Lives...*

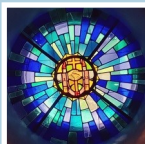
Our neighbors across Chicagoland who live in poverty have been especially burdened by the COVID-19 pandemic. Since it has started, Catholic Charities has been there for them, answering the most urgent requests. Please give to the Catholic Charities collection **next Sunday, August 30th** to feed, comfort, shelter, and care for the most vulnerable among us and to connect them to Catholic Charities' network of services that will guide them as they work through extraordinary challenges. To learn more or to make a gift, please visit www.catholiccharities.net.

Please join our parish family in prayer for those preparing to be joined together in Holy Matrimony:



Margaret Alexandra Crnkovich
and Brian Garrett Felke

"And the two shall become one..."
- Ephesians 5:31



Immaculate Conception
First Day of School!
August 24
WELCOME HOME
We can't wait to see you!



IC Holy Name Men's Club Fundraiser

Dino's Pizza & Italian Restaurant

7004 W. Higgins Avenue, Chicago, Illinois 60656 773.763.4077

From: **August 22, 2020** To: **August 29, 2020**

This Coupon Preferred - Dine-In, Carryout & Delivery

Proceeds Benefit: Immaculate Conception Parish & School

Food Total: \$ _____ Date: _____



Immaculate Conception Parish

Please join our parish family in prayer ...



For those who are sick:

Tom Altman
Concetta Bartucci
Melissa Bednarz
Celerina Behrman
Robert Behrman
Sonia M. B.
Vince Caeti
Jackie Campbell
Rita Castillo
James Covello
Sherry Crocifisso
Ronnie Cunningham
Richard Flanagan
Brooke Foreman
Lila Gehner

Irene Hand
Ofelia Hernandez
Esther Jarosh
Nancy Kinzie
Craig Kloss
Lillian Kohut
Arlene Lacey-Beyna
Richard Losik
Stanley Lyskanowski*
Benny Martinez
Edwin Martinez
Frank Martinez
Jan Merino
Veronica Murillo
Timothy Murray

Mae O'Donnell
Mary Beth O'Grady
Jackie O'Koniewski
Mary Potwora
Bill Remblake
Sebastian L. Rivera
David Rodriguez
Elaine Schatz
Thomas Skorupa
Edward Stanczyk
Eileen Staunton
Julie Szvedo*
Donna Tisdale
Steven P. Trifilio

**Newly Added*

If you wish to have your name included in our prayer list (or removed), please contact our Parish Office at 773.775.3833.

Eternal Rest Grant Unto Them...

For our faithful departed:

John P. Varallo (Husband of Tina)
Emmanuel San Jose
Josephine Cirrincione



For those who serve our country:



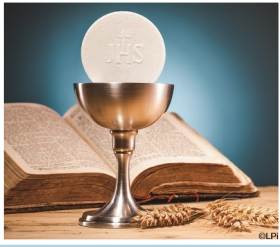
U.S. Army - SSgt. John Francis Mikita, Sgt. Kevin Whalen, SSgt Martine Makita, Chris Dash, Pvt. Jason G. Cavanaugh, Major Christopher Walsh, Capt. Benjamin Monson, 1st Lt. Katherine D. Hartnett, SPC Michael J. Stone, Pvt. Charlie Cruz Pappas, Thomas Treslo, National Guard Specialist 4th Class

U.S. Navy - CMDR Michael Brasseur, Lt. Christopher Jenkins, PO Thomas T. Tudisco

U.S. Air Force - John Christopher Ocasio, Major Laurel Walsh, Captain Paul H. Kolk, LT. COL. Michael O'Koniewski; 2nd Lt. Colleen Bernal

U.S. Marines - Sean Gronset, PFC Sebastian L. Rivera, Jr., PFC Christopher Hughes, PFC Algene D. Porticos

Please contact our Parish Office when these service people return home safely. If you are a veteran or know a veteran, the Archdiocese of Chicago has a website located at vets.archchicago.org that provides information that can be of assistance.



***Mass Intentions:
Sunday, August 23rd through
Sunday, August 30th***

Sunday, August 23rd - Twenty-First Sunday In Ordinary Time

5:00 P.M. (Saturday) - †The Allen, Bender & Tobin Families

8:30 A.M. — †Clementine Longo; †Francis & Moira Cross; †Ruben Castillo; †Stanislaw Swiderski (Birthday Remembrance); †Stasia Dzieciol; †John Perna; and Stanley Lyskanowski (Living)

10:30 A.M. — †Sophie Oleksy; †Charles Conlin; †John Bacchi; †Isaac, Baito & Youil Kanoon; and Living & Deceased Members of the Kanoon & Delgado Families

6:00 P.M. - The People of the Parish

Monday, August 24th - Saint Bartholomew, Apostle

8:30 A.M. — †Arthur & Dolores Capra (Wedding Anniversary Remembrance)

Tuesday, August 25th - Saint Louis; Saint Joseph Calasanz, Priest

8:30 A.M. — †Ilse Trapler

Wednesday, August 26th - Weekday

8:30 A.M. — †Karolina Haderspeck (Birthday Remembrance);

†Walter Herschbach; and †Tedmund Felix (Birthday Remembrance)

Thursday, August 27th - Saint Monica

8:30 A.M. — †Ray Michael Shamo; and †Nick J. Perisin (on his 3rd Anniversary)

Friday, August 28th - Saint Augustine, Bishop and Doctor of the Church

8:30 A.M. — †Kathy Nasello (on her 9th Anniversary); †Michael Potwora (Birthday Remembrance); and Jack Burgess & Jackie Campbell (on their 81st Birthday) (Living)

Saturday, August 29th - The Passion of Saint John the Baptist

5:00 P.M. - Stanley Lyskanowski (Living)

Sunday, August 30th - Twenty-Second Sunday In Ordinary Time

8:30 A.M.- †Barrett J. Moran, Jr. (on his 6th Anniversary); and †Michael Hutchinson

10:30 A.M. — †Frank & Margherita Martino; †Francis & Moira Cross; †Marilyn Passeri (on her 1st Anniversary); †Stanislaw Swiderski; Rosana D. Hegarty (Birthday — In Thanksgiving) (Living); Deacon Rick Moritz (Belated Birthday) (Living); and Carol Moritz (For Good Health) (Living)

6:00 P.M. — The People of the Parish



August 23rd through August 29th

*The Sanctuary Lamp is burning this week
for the repose of the soul of*

**Krystyna
Sadowska**



August 23rd through August 28th

*The Blessed Mother Votive is burning this
week for the prayer intentions of*

**Stanley & Josephine
Lyskanowski**



August 23rd through August 28th

*The St. Joseph Votive is burning
this week for the prayer intentions of*

**Melissa
Bednarz**



Pope Tweet of the Week...

*"Hope needs patience,
the patience of knowing that
we sow, but it is God who
gives growth."*





Sunday: Is 22:19-23/Ps 138:1-2, 2-3, 6, 8 [8bc]/Rom 11:33-36/Mt 16:13-20

Monday: Rv 21:9b-14/Ps 145:10-11, 12-13, 17-18 [12]/Jn 1:45-51

Tuesday: 2 Thes 2:1-3a, 14-17/Ps 96:10, 11-12, 13 [13b]/Mt 23:23-26

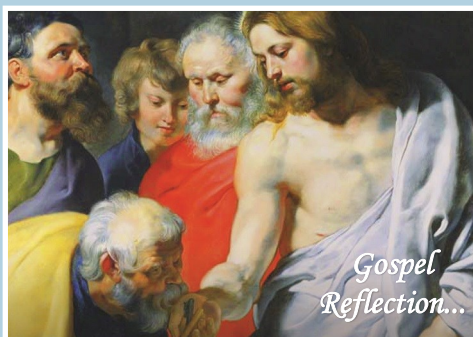
Wednesday: 2 Thes 3:6-10, 16-18/Ps 128:1-2, 4-5 [1]/Mt 23:27-32

Thursday: 1 Cor 1:1-9/Ps 145:2-3, 4-5, 6-7 [1]/Mt 24:42-51

Friday: 1 Cor 1:17-25/Ps 33:1-2, 4-5, 10-11 [5]/Mt 25:1-13

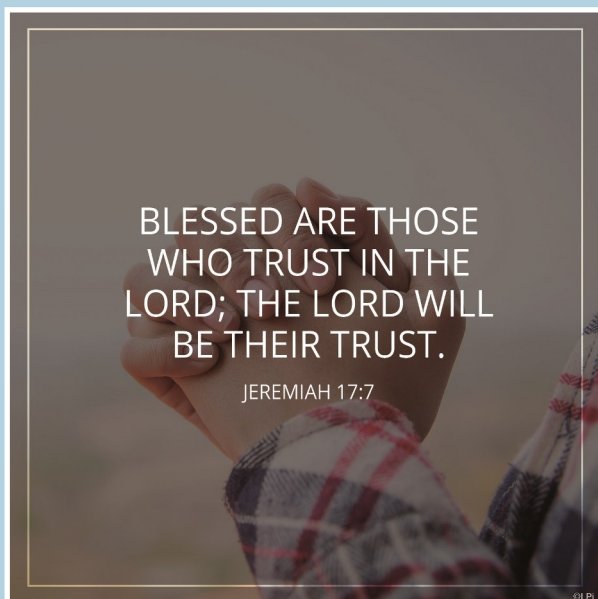
Saturday: 1 Cor 1:26-31/Ps 71:1-2, 3-4a, 5-6ab, 15ab and 17 [cf. 15ab]/Mk 6:17-29

Next Sunday: Jer 20:7-9/Ps 63:2, 3-4, 5-6, 8-9 [2b]/Rom 12:1-2/Mt 16:21-27



*"And so I say to you, you are Peter,
and upon this rock I will build my church,
and the gates of the netherworld shall not prevail against it."
- Matthew 16:18*

Jesus informs Peter that his confession of him as "the Messiah, the Son of the living God" is divinely inspired.
How do you imagine Peter personally reacted to the news of this revelation?

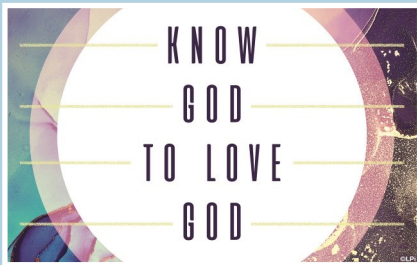


Live the Liturgy - Inspiration for the Week..

To stand in the presence of God is to stand in the presence of incomprehensible mystery. We are people of proofs and facts.

With good reason, we are becoming more doubtful of what presents itself to us, as technology makes it easy to fabricate false images and distort what is actually true. What we think is real actually may not be. We become skeptical. Does this skepticism affect our relationship with God? To have faith in God means that we must be willing to trust in the absence of full knowledge. To know the mind of God means we would know God himself, and that is impossible. To acknowledge Jesus as the Christ means we acknowledge that the reality and presence of an incarnate God has a fundamental claim on who we are. When we name this truth, we participate in a depth of knowledge that stretches us far beyond the scope of our minds. It brings us to silence, which is the only way to touch our soul.

Gospel Meditation - Encourage a Deeper Understanding of Scripture



The only way to know God is to love God. Our minds will never fully grasp the mystery of God, but our hearts and souls can learn to love the mystery. Years ago, when life had a more innocent quality to it, we believed what we were told or witnessed, unless there was direct evidence otherwise. This was especially true if the information came from someone in authority. In a sense, we were a bit more gullible on one hand but also more trusting on the other. The latter is an admirable quality that sadly can be eroded when we realize we have been duped. With education and technological advances, we find ourselves more skeptical and less likely to too quickly accept and believe what we see and hear.

For all of the good that social media can do, it can also easily distort reality and truth. Photoshop and a myriad other technological truths can add to, fabricate, and make even the non-existent seem real. It is amazing. How far do we allow this obviously justifiable skepticism to take us? Questioning and doubting are healthy elements of any good relationship as long as we don't allow them to turn us away from a deeper experience of love and encounter. If we cannot get our minds around something or empirically justify or prove it, we tend to declare it a hoax, untrue, or unauthentic and walk away. The very same trust that can quickly be eroded is exactly what is essential for all of our relationships, especially our relationship with God. With all things and people that make a profound claim on us, we have to trust in the absence of knowledge. Full self-investment involves plunging completely into the unknown!

Simon Peter said to Jesus, "*You are the Christ, the Son of the Living God.*" Peter came to this knowledge, which is not "head knowledge" because of the relationship he shared with Jesus and what God was able to reveal in and through that relationship. Peter simply "knew" because of love that this is who Jesus really is. The silent exchange of love between friends, and not an intellectual exercise of the mind, brought Peter to this place. When we stop and think about it, there are many things in life that we simply know but do not completely understand. When someone sacrifices their own well-being for another, it may not make intellectual sense when examined. But it makes a world of sense when it is carried out. The vastness of reality and an encounter with incomprehensible mystery all lead us to profound silence where we simply know something to be true. Have you trusted enough to allow your relationship with God to bring you to this place or are you still too skeptical?

©LPi

Everyday Stewardship – Recognize God in your Ordinary Moments

The Choice of Stewardship...

What does it mean to be a good steward? Does it mean to be an active parishioner, or something more? Are we better stewards because we give more in terms of our money and time to our parish, or are we called to do even more than that?

The truth is that stewardship is a way of life. We are not simply called to be active parishioners, but instead to be active disciples all the time. In fact, what we learn to do in our parish should serve as preparation for the mission field of the world. What have we really done if we only act like disciples of Jesus Christ while we are assembled with others who claim to be the same?

The choice before us is to give of ourselves in all aspects of our day and life. The call of Jesus will come in our everyday lives with our co-workers, family, and friends more often than it will within our parish community. First, if we can't become good stewards when we are among those who proclaim Jesus as Lord, how will we be able to do so when we are with those who are non-believers? Second, when our muscles of gratitude, generosity, and graciousness are strengthened within our parish community, we are more able to meet the challenges of this world. However, we do not become good stewards by accident. We must always choose to live this way. What will you choose?

– Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

©LPi



Connect...

Connect with our Parish Staff...

Although our Church building will be open on a limited basis, our Parish Office will continue to remain closed for the time being. In the meantime, our Parish Staff is still available to assist you. Please don't hesitate to contact us at 773.775.3833 (voicemails are monitored daily) or connect with us via email at frontdesk@icparish.info with any questions, concerns or needs that may arise during this time.

Please take comfort in the knowledge that you are loved, missed and prayed for daily by all of us.

Follow us on Facebook...

Groups you can join:

Immaculate Conception Parish Chicago (Talcott)
Immaculate Conception School Alumni Chicago, IL
IC Cowboys (for current school parents only)



Pages you can "like":

Immaculate Conception School Chicago
Immaculate Conception Church

Events...

What's Happening @ IC...

Monday, August 24th -
First Day of School
8:00 A.M.-12:30 P.M. - Student
Orientation; School

Saturday, August 29th -
8:30 A.M.-11:30 A.M. — 41st Ward
Paper Shredding & Electronic
Recycling Event; PC West Lot



For more information on upcoming events, or to register for our Masses or Confessions, please visit our parish website at www.icparish.net.

Please note: As a precautionary measure, all other previously scheduled activities, meetings, and events have either been canceled or postponed until further notice.

Your Gifts to God and Parish...

If you plan to move from our parish, please notify our Parish Office at least three months prior to your change of address. Also, if you will be away from home for more than 3 months, please contact us so that your envelopes can be stopped during that time period. If you have transitioned to electronic giving and still receive offertory envelopes, please contact our Parish Office so that we can discontinue your receiving of envelopes.

Parish Registration: Please contact our Parish Office at 773.775.3833 or visit our parish website at www.icparish.net for additional information.

Bulletin Deadline: The deadline for all bulletin submissions is Friday at Noon - 8 days prior to the Sunday it will appear. The email address is icparishbulletin@gmail.com.

Follow us on Twitch Tv...

www.twitch.tv/icchicago



& YouTube...



<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCv5KKsLvpD9Q2yuAR8naK4A>

41st Ward Paper Shredding & Electronic Recycling Event



Saturday August 29
8:30 am – 11:30 am

Immaculate Conception Parish Center
7271 W. Talcott Ave.
(Enter Parking Lot from Odell)

***Please note TV's and Computer Monitors will NOT be accepted at this event.**

ALDERMAN
NAPOLITANO
41ST WARD

