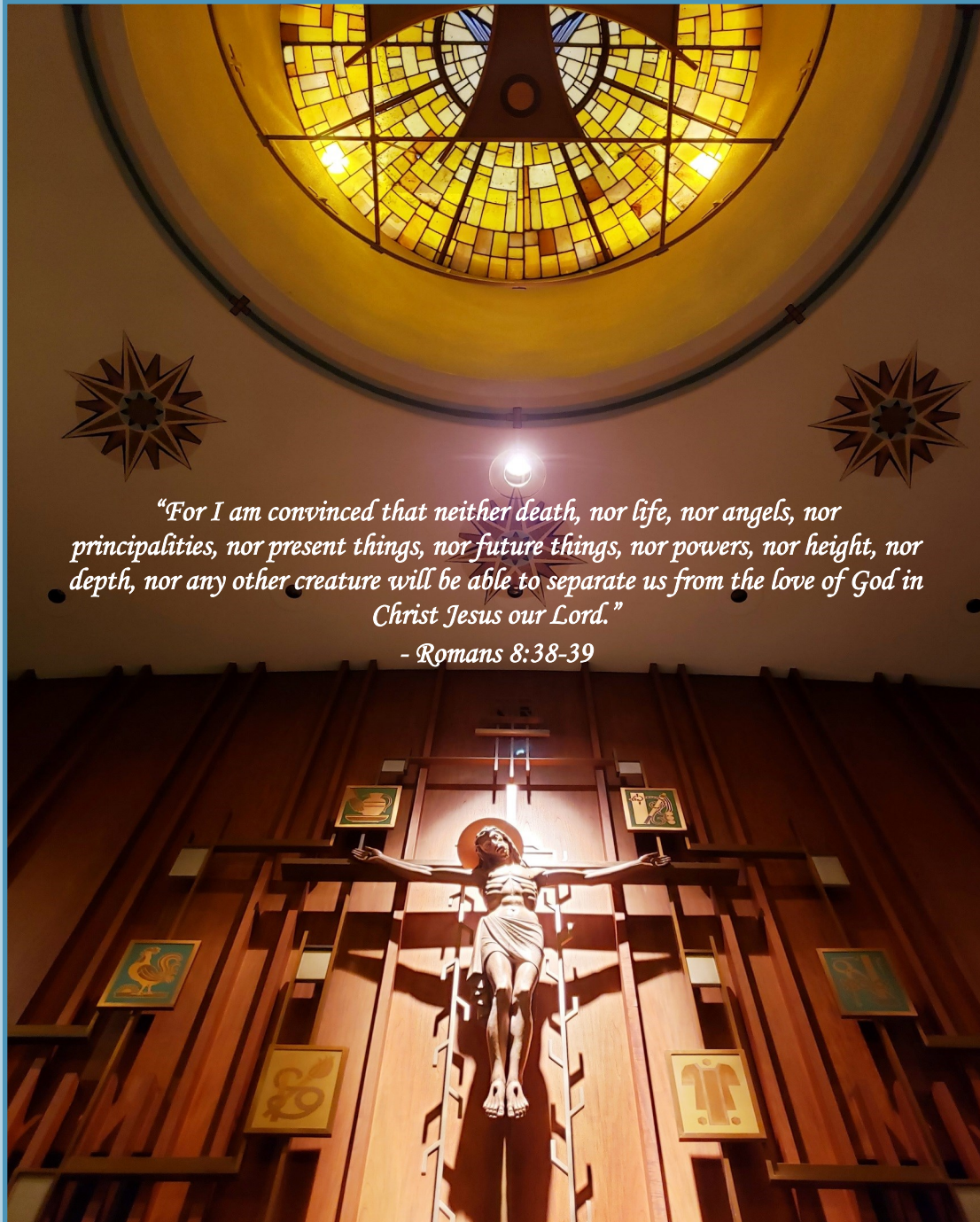


Welcome to the Parish of
Immaculate Conception

A Catholic Community Inviting People to Follow Christ

August 2, 2020 - Eighteenth Sunday In Ordinary Time



"For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor present things, nor future things, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord."

- Romans 8:38-39

Love God, Serve Others, Make Disciples

Immaculate Conception Parish

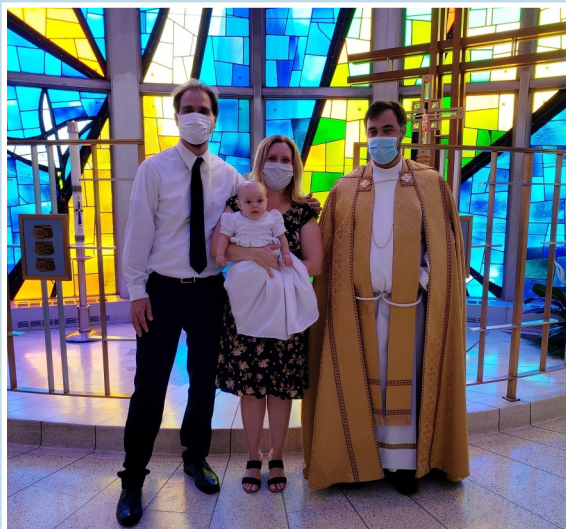
Worship...



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.



*Hazel Sari Schnitzlein
Child of Robert Charles and Alissa Rose (Hartlaub)
Schnitzlein*



Phase 2 Preliminary Reopening Mass Schedule:

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

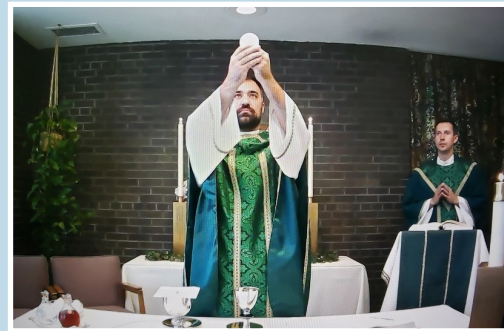
First Friday Mass & Adoration in Church (with reserved seating) @ 5:30 P.M. on August 7th
Please visit www.icparish.net to register.

Worship with IC from home...

Sunday Virtual Mass @ 10:30 A.M.

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

***Except August 3rd through 5th - Masses will be celebrated privately to honor the intentions of the day.**



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

Next Opportunities: *August 4th & August 18th

***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

The Power of Prayer – A Skill We Can Develop

Last weekend at the 10:30 A.M. Mass I talked about the parables of Jesus, namely the ones that begin with “*The Kingdom of God is like...*”

When we take note of many of them, they are related to what we might call today “skilled positions.” Fishing, farming, financing, administrating, and so on. Certainly, the grace of God is a gift that He freely gives. The *cultivation* of that gift, however, is related to how much we appreciate this gift and see it grow. One of the prayers from our Mass says, “Our praise adds nothing to Your greatness, but is itself Your gift to us.” Our ability to pray, worship, do good deeds, and love is impossible without God’s help, and with His help, we are able to produce fruit “*a hundred or sixty or thirtyfold.*” (Mt 13:8)



To that effect, I thought I might introduce you to some ideas with prayer – specifically, how to pray and different ways of praying. When I work with our 7th grade children preparing for Confirmation, I give them the 8 categories of prayer, based off of Scripture. They are, with simple definitions in parentheses:

Intercession (Request)	Praise and Worship (Acknowledging God)	Repentance (Reparation for Sin)	Meditation (Reflection on God’s Word/ Goodness/Covenant)
Silence (Being with God and Self)	Complaint (Struggling with or Doubting God)	Confession (Declaring what we Believe)	Thanksgiving (Gratitude for God’s Goodness and Gifts)

Of the eight types of prayer, intercession (asking God for something) and Thanksgiving (thanking God for something) are quite common. They are good, but nevertheless, usually where people stop when it comes to prayer.

Scripture teaches these eight types of prayer because, ultimately, they are the ways we communicate in a healthy relationship. Like any relationship, all of us are different and have different aptitudes, personalities, etc. Try for yourself one of these other types of prayer for one week, 10-15 minutes a day:

Praise God, not for what He’s done for you, but who He is to you.

Meditate on what His word means for your life, or how it can inform your actions.

Repent for any sins you have committed against God or others, resolving to live in a new way.

Be Silent, blocking out as much noise as you can, with only the intention of being with God.

Complain to God about what He asks us to do or how to live – but be sure to give time to listen to Him with your heart.

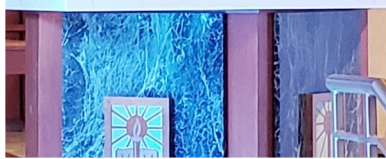
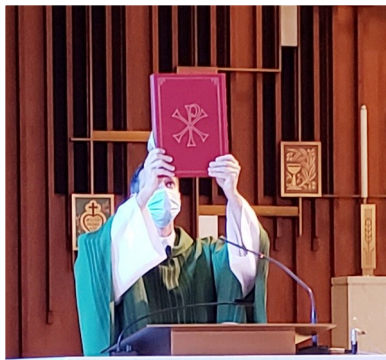
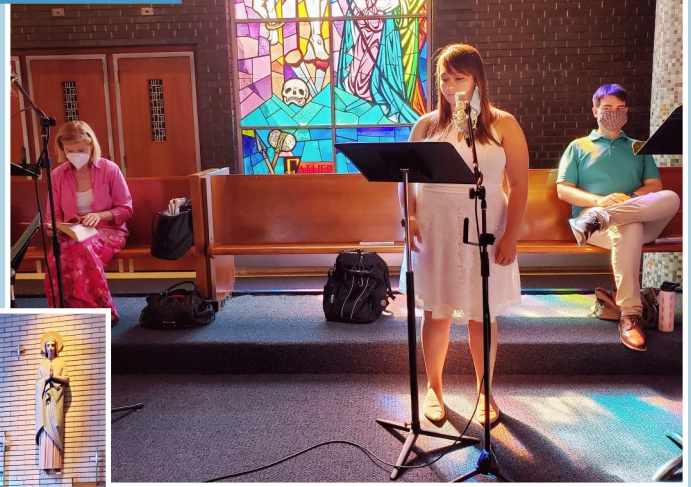
Confess what you believe. The *Nicene Creed* is a “Confession” Prayer. Affirm who God truly is, like Peter did (cf., Mt 16:16). (Remember, “Confession” prayers are **not** the same as the Sacrament of Reconciliation.)

We never improve if we don’t try. I’d love to hear if a week of this exercise has helped you with your prayer. This is only the tip of the iceberg when it comes to prayer, but it’s also a great way to improve the vocabulary of our prayer and the ways we can relate to God and to each other.

Fr. Matt

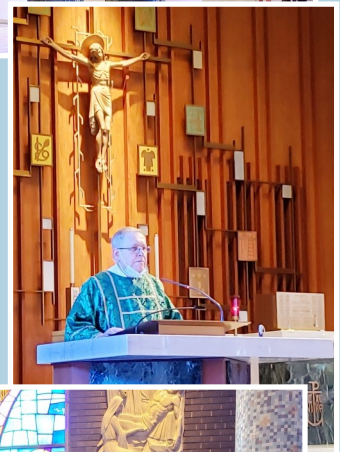
Immaculate Conception Parish

Scenes from our 8:30 A.M. & 10:30 A.M. Masses as our parish family gathered with us on Sunday, July 26th for our celebration of the Eucharist...

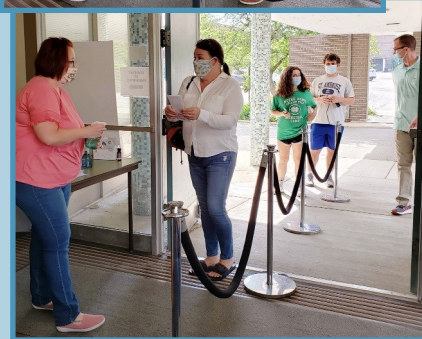


Immaculate Conception Parish

10:30 A.M. Contemporary Music Mass...



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 located at: <https://forms.gle/irmheB4qaeyPtDQu7>. (A direct link to our volunteer form is also easily accessible on our parish website at www.icparish.net.) Thank you for your prayerful consideration!

"The harvest is abundant but the laborers are few; so ask the master of the harvest to send out laborers for his harvest" - Luke 10:2



Why Do We Do That? Catholic Life Explained...

Sunday Mass

Question:

Why do Catholics need to go to Mass every Sunday?

Answer:

The heart of the Church's instruction that we are to attend Mass on Sundays goes back to the Third Commandment: *"Take care to keep holy the sabbath day as the LORD, Your God, has commanded you"* (Deuteronomy 5:12). Although the Jewish People celebrate the Sabbath on Saturday, the first generations of Christians began to observe the sabbath on Sunday, recognizing how important it is for Christians to celebrate the day that Jesus rose from the dead. As the United States Catholic Catechism for Adults observes, "Sunday extends the celebration of Easter throughout the year ... It makes present the new creation brought about by Christ." (364)



The focus of our Sunday should be the celebration of the Eucharist in the Mass. This is our time to be formed by God's Word and nourished at the table of the Lord, becoming prepared to live out and share our faith in the week that follows. In his encyclical, *Dies Domini*, Pope Saint John Paul II reminded us that Christians *"cannot live their faith or share fully in the life of the Christian community unless they take part regularly in the Sunday Eucharistic assembly"* (no. 81). This is why the Church teaches us that Sunday Mass is a non-negotiable part of being a Christian. (see *Catechism of the Catholic Church*, no. 2192)

Beyond being a time of worship, we should also remember that Sunday is intended to be a day of rest, when we make time for recreation, for sharing meals, and enjoying the company of friends and family. Sunday is given to us as a day to take stock of and enjoy the blessings that God has given us (see *Catechism of the Catholic Church*, no. 2187). Pope Francis reminds us, *"The day of rest, centered on the Eucharist, sheds its light on the whole week, and motivates us to greater concern for nature and the poor."* (*Laudato Si'*, no. 237)

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To honor our patroness on the
Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary,
we will offer a special Mass at:

***10:00 A.M. on Saturday, August 15th**

(with Fr. Robert Carlton presiding.)

***Due to limited attendance restrictions,
reservations are required.**

Please visit our parish website (www.icparish.net) or contact our
Parish Office at 773.775.3833 to register.

As it falls on a Saturday, it is not considered a Holy Day of Obligation
this year, but we still encourage you to gather with us in prayer on this
special day (if you are able.)

Live the Liturgy - Inspiration for the Week

What do you really hope and hunger for? We are most familiar with our physical hungers and cravings as they are quite obvious. What we don't always realize is that we also have emotional and spiritual hungers. Many are starving for acceptance and love. Many others hunger for a sense of purpose, more focused direction, and deeper connection and meaning. Our hungers can easily get confused. We think we are in need of one thing but are actually being driven by another. We need to recognize and pursue our spiritual hungers. If we do not do so, we will attempt to fill these needs with lesser, and not always healthier, things. God, ultimately through the Eucharist, is the only One who can quench our more profound thirsts. Have we discovered this yet?

©LPi

THE LORD
ANSWERS
ALL OUR
NEEDS.

PSALM 145

Gospel Reflection...



"Taking the five loaves and the two fish, and looking up to heaven, He said the blessing, broke the loaves, and gave them to the disciples, who in turn gave them to the crowds. They all ate and were satisfied."

- Matthew 14:19-20a

In the immediate aftermath of the news of the death of John the Baptist, Matthew reports that Jesus, "moved with pity," cured those who were sick in the crowds and fed the entire crowd of 5,000. How do you react toward others for whom you feel "pity"?

Immaculate Conception
School

A Great Place to Learn!



Summer Tours are Available.

**To schedule, please call the
School Office at 773-775-0545.**

Immaculate Conception Parish

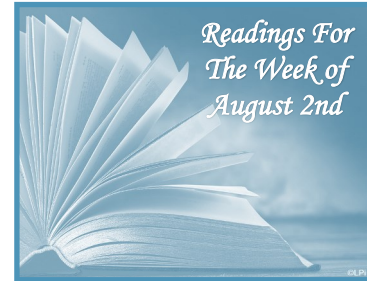
PRAYER LIST FOR THE SICK

Concetta Bartucci	Arlene Lacey-Beyna
Melissa Bednarz	Richard Losik
Celerina Behrman	Benny Martinez
Robert Behrman	Edwin Martinez
Sonia M. B.	Frank Martinez
Vince Caeti	Jan Merino
Jackie Campbell	Veronica Murillo
Rita Castillo	Timothy Murray
James Covello	Mae O'Donnell
Sherry Crocifisso	Jackie O'Koniewski
Ronnie Cunningham	Mary (Kores) Potwora
Richard Flanagan	Bill Remblake
Brooke Foreman	Sebastian L. Rivera
Lila Gehner	David Rodriguez
Irene Hand	Elaine Schatz
Ofelia Hernandez	Edward Stanczyk
Nancy Kinzie	Steven P. Trifilio
Craig Kloss	John Varallo
Lillian Kohut	

Eternal Rest Grant Unto Them...

Please join our parish family in prayer as we honor our faithful departed:

Robert J. May



Sunday: Is 55:1-3/Ps 145:8-9, 15-16, 17-18 [cf. 16]/Rom 8:35, 37-39/Mt 14:13-21

Monday: Jer 28:1-17/Ps 119:29, 43, 79, 80, 95, 102 [68b]/Mt 14:22-36

Tuesday: Jer 30:1-2, 12-15, 18-22/Ps 102:16-18, 19-21, 29 and 22-23 [17]/Mt 14:22-36 or Mt 15:1-2, 10-14

Wednesday: Jer 31:1-7/Jer 31:10, 11-12ab, 13 [cf. 10d]/Mt 15:21-28

Thursday: Dn 7:9-10, 13-14/Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 9 [1a, 9a]/2 Pt 1:16-19/Mt 17:1-9

Friday: Na 2:1, 3; 3:1-3, 6-7/Dt 32:35cd-36ab, 39abcd, 41 [39c]/Mt 16:24-28

Saturday: Hb 1:12 – 2:4/Ps 9:8-9, 10-11, 12-13 [11b]/Mt 17:14-20

Next Sunday: 1 Kgs 19:9a, 11-13a/Ps 85:9, 10, 11-12, 13-14 [8]/Rom 9:1-5/Mt 14:22-33

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.

WHAT'S HAPPENING @ IC

For more information on upcoming events, please visit our parish website at www.icparish.net.

Saturday, August 8th -

10:00 A.M. CH - 8th Grade Graduation Mass

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

Pope Tweet of the Week...

"When someone offers us a service, we should not think that we deserve everything. Gratitude, appreciation is, first of all, good manners, but it is also a characteristic of a Christian. It is a simple but genuine sign of the Kingdom of God."

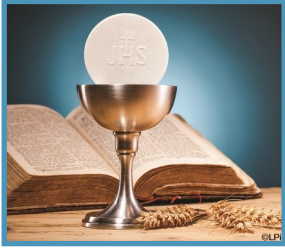


Your Gifts to God and Parish

If you plan to move from the 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 call our Parish Office, so your envelopes can be stopped for that time period. If you use electronic giving and still receive envelopes, please contact our Parish Office so that we can discontinue your receiving of envelopes.

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.

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



Mass Intentions:
Sunday, August 2nd through
Sunday, August 9th

Sunday, August 2nd - Eighteenth Sunday In Ordinary Time

5:00 P.M. (Saturday) - †Mary A. Hegarty (Death Anniversary)
8:30 A.M.— †Tommy Fuller
10:30 A.M.— †Pietro Biancorosso; †Serafina Nocito; †Francis & Moira Cross; †Mirta Urizarri (Birthday Remembrance); †Krystyna Sadowska; †Gerald Michalek, Sr. (on his 12th Anniversary); †Marni Michalek Mensching (on her 2nd Anniversary); †Daniel Steppan, Sr.; †Michael Laufenberg (Birthday Remembrance); †Kathleen Keely; †Bill Marziniak; Maria & Andy Miller & Family (Living); Bill Sabin (Living); and Erma Kinzie (on her 62nd Birthday)
6:00 P.M. - The People of the Parish

Monday, August 3rd – Weekday

8:30 A.M.— †Michael, Sabina, & Stephanie Rodrigues

Tuesday, August 4th - Saint John Vianney, Priest

8:30 A.M.— †Edmund & Dorothy Peters

Wednesday, August 5th - The Dedication of The Basilica of Saint Mary Major

8:30 A.M.— †Adeline Rokicki

Thursday, August 6th – The Transfiguration of The Lord

8:30 A.M. — †F. Fuller; and †Joseph D. Gentile (Birthday Remembrance)

Friday, August 7th - Saint Sixtus II, Pope, and Companions, Martyrs; Saint Cajetan, Priest

5:30 P.M.— †Ellen “Nellie” Gavin; Carol & Deacon Rick Moritz (Living); Ann Keely (Living); and Cathy Tuggle (Living)

Saturday, August 8th - Saint Dominic, Priest

5:00 P.M. - †Anne Chamberlain; and Wayne Kinzie, Sr. (on his 84th Birthday) (Living)

Sunday, August 9th – Nineteenth Sunday In Ordinary Time

8:30 A.M.— †Rose Maisel; †Francis & Moira Cross; †Leonor Villagomez; †Vincenzo DeFalco; †Vincenzo Porcelli; †Krystyna Sadowska; and †Rosario Cozzo
10:30 A.M.— †Klemens Fudala
6:00 P.M. — The People of the Parish

August 2nd through August 8th

The sanctuary lamp is burning this week
for the repose of the soul of

Michael J. Sampey

Requested by: The Sampey, Bailey &
Curry Families

August 2nd through August 7th

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

Erma Kinzie

August 2nd through August 7th

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

Melissa Bednarz

PRAY FOR OUR MILITARY

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

Let us pray for these women and men and all who are serving in the military. Please contact our Parish Office when these service people return home. If you are a veteran or know a veteran, the Archdiocese of Chicago has a website: vets.archchicago.org that provides information that can be of assistance.

Gospel Meditation - Encourage a Deeper Understanding of Scripture



Many people in our world are hungry and thirsty. This hunger and thirst go well beyond physical needs for food, security, and shelter. Many are emotionally and spiritually parched, too. Behind every act of violence is a soul who hungers.

People live with relationships that actually starve them. They are abused, exploited, disrespected, laughed at, and marginalized. There is a lot of confusion and inner pain that needs to be acknowledged and expressed. We all long to be understood and loved, even when our inner demons or who I am make it difficult to be. Do you live with inner confusion and pain? Folks often wander through life without any real direction or purpose and take their cues from what

seems satisfying or popular at the moment. The deeper dots of our lives can easily remain unconnected, and we can find ourselves without grounding, purpose, or real happiness. Life becomes shallow and without real purpose as we hunger and thirst for an ultimate love.

It's easier to see the physical hungers and thirsts. We try to respond to these as best we can. Much more needs to be done. With all that God's earth can provide, nobody ought to face sleep at night with a belly that's empty. It's sinful. It's unjust. But isn't all hunger unjust? It doesn't need to be, and it should not be. Just as no one ought to be physically hungry and thirsty, there is really no need to be emotionally or spiritually deficient either. If we have more privileges at our fingertips, it is easier to try to satisfy our emotional and spiritual hungers and thirst by acting on impulse or self-indulgence, carelessly following passions, or by seeking self-destructive ways to dull the ache of emptiness.

Folks need to know where to look for nourishment and need the right friends to help them find it. We may not think that we have enough to respond to and to satisfy all of the needs, but we do. It doesn't take much. Five loaves and two fish provided for a huge crowd. With God, all things are possible. Our faith provides the direction for where God's children must go to find the nourishment they seek. It also tells us how to structure life so that justice and equity can be a reality for all. It also tells us how to respond to pain, sinfulness, and confusion. Come to the water and then help another get there.

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Everyday Stewardship – Recognize God in your Ordinary Moments

The Power of a Simple Action...

I remember seeing a story on a morning news program about a little girl who wanted to give an elderly man in a grocery store a hug. She had no way of knowing that this man had just lost his wife of many years and now felt so very alone and depressed. Her reaching out to the man seemed odd to her mom at first, but the girl was so insistent about giving a hug she moved the shopping carts close together so the exchange could take place. No one knew that from that moment on the little girl would ask to visit her new friend at least once a week for the next four years until he passed away. In an interview soon after the initial encounter, the man said, "I haven't been this happy in some time." Imagine the joy that relationship brought to them both over the years!



It was just a moment. It was a simple gesture. Yet, it had a large impact that no one could have predicted. You never know what will result when we give just a little of ourselves. That uncertainty too often leads us to hold back or refrain from the simple actions of love or gestures of generosity that could come so easily for us if we wanted. We should never doubt the power of a simple random act of kindness. Generosity does not need to be grand to make a big difference. The time is now, and the opportunity presents itself often to plant a small seed that God can water and nourish so that something beautiful can grow.

– Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

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