Welcome to

Immaculate Conception Parish

A Catholic Community Inviting People to Follow Christ

December 18, 2022 - Fourth Sunday Of Advent



"Grace to you and peace from God our father and the Lord Jesus Christ."
- Romans 1:7

Love God • Serve Others • Make Disciples

Contact Us

]: 773.775.3833

Parish Office Hours:

: 7211 W. Talcott Avenue Chicago, IL. 60631

Monday-Friday: 9:00 A.M. - 5:00 P.M. Saturday: 9:00 A.M. - 2:00 P.M. Sunday:

Closed

Parish Website:

School Website:

■: www.iccowboys.net

⊠: parishoffice@icchicago.org

Social Media

Facebook:

View our Masses, connect with fellow parishioners, and access exclusive articles and content. Simply search "Immaculate Conception Parish Chicago (Talcott)" and request to join our online community.

Twitch:

Membership-free platform where all are welcome to view our Masses and access

Visit us at www.twitch.tv/icchicago



Weekend Mass Schedule:

Saturday Vigil @ 5:00 P.M. Sunday Mass @ 8:30 A.M. Sunday Mass @ 10:30 A.M.* (*Our 10:30 A.M. Mass is also livestreamed)

Capacity limits have been lifted and reservations are no longer required. Masks are optional.

All are welcome!

Weekday Mass Schedule:

In-Person Monday through Thursday @ 8:30 A.M.

(**Please note**: Friday daily Masses & First Friday Mass & Adoration temporarily suspended as of July 8th)

Online

Wednesdays @ 8:30 A.M. (School Mass) (Worship with us virtually on our Facebook Page or Twitch)

Donate

Confessions:

Sunday mornings from 9:30 A.M.-10:15 A.M. (offered every Sunday during Advent)

(Special dates & times offered during Advent & Lent)

Baptisms:

2nd & 4th Sundays of each month @ Noon (except during Lent)

School:

Church & Special Collections:

Interested in supporting our parish, specific ministries and projects?

Please consider giving online at Give Central: www.givecentral.org/location/349

Offertory envelopes can also be mailed in or dropped off at our Parish Office.

Interested in supporting Catholic Education for both present and future generations?

Please donate to our Endowment Fund (via Give Central) or support efforts by our Holy Name Men's Club and Parents Club posted on our Social Media or featured in our bulletin.

Celebrating Our Past, Passing On Our Tradition

Last week, we had the opportunity to celebrate our Feast Day, *The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary*. The Feast commemorates how Mary was conceived without sin because she was to be the '*tabernacle*,' as St. Thomas Aquinas puts it, for the Word of God, Jesus Christ. Our faith teaches us how Mary received the graces of Christ's Death and Resurrection in advance. As I prefer to emphasize, she received the gifts that we were to daily receive from God.

For our community, our Feast Day also marks a celebration of our history. Nearly 120 years in Norwood Park; the mother Church of many of the parishes around us — and in this year, the 60^{th} Anniversary of the very first Mass celebrated in our current Church.



It is difficult to sum up history in just years. Look at the photographs of the past and our ever-evolving campus and you can see the many thousands of lives and tens of thousands of memories involving our parish. Our Church itself is a beautiful testament to our Passionist heritage: featuring full wall stained glass windows depicting prayer, family, community, evangelization, and healing. Powerful depictions of the Passion of Christ accompanied by beautiful use of light and shadow. Striking colors from wall to ceiling to display the majesty and beauty of creation, which shows merely a fraction of the majesty of God. Immaculate Conception is not only a place in history, but a living, dynamic sign of God's Kingdom on earth.

This dynamic comes from our Savior, continually speaking to us. From our heritage, local and universal, struggling to realize the Kingdom of God. It comes from us, flesh and blood people – from the simple and mundane acts of life to sincere (and at times heroic) acts of love.



This is why it was such a delight to honor all of that on December 8th. My thanks to Bishop Bartosic for his routine support and concern for IC. The Mass we celebrated together, with people from all generations (including a number of people who were present at the first Mass 60 years ago), accompanied by beautiful music and meaningful prayers, all made for a special night.

My sincerest thanks for everyone's generosity with our 60 for 60 Campaign. As of this writing, we have collected nearly \$84,000 with more coming in. Thank you for believing in our vision and helping us to make it a reality. The things we will do for our Church and campus will help improve things for decades (and generations of families) to come.

My thanks also extends to the staff, ministers, and volunteers of Immaculate Conception who in these last 7 years have helped to transform our culture. No parish survives on words alone — it requires the work, sacrifice, and love of everyone who lives here. So, thank you to everyone who continues to sacrifice to preserve our past and build towards our future.

As we continue this Advent Season, please be on the lookout for updates to our various projects. In due time, by May, I hope to see these, and even more projects completed and well in use.

May God continue to bless us as we prepare for Christmas,







Midnight Mass

with Fr. Matthew Heinrich presiding feat. Select Vocalists & Strings (Livestreamed)

Sunday, December 25th (Christmas Day):

8:30 A.M. Mass

with Fr. Matthew Heinrich presiding feat. our Vocal Quartet, Donovan Mixon (Guitar) & Jim Cox (String Bass)

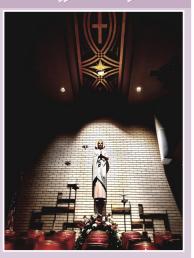
10:30 A.M. Mass

with Fr. Matthew Heinrich presiding

feat. our Vocal Quintet, Donovan Mixon (Guitar) & Jim Cox (String Bass) (Livestreamed) All are welcome! icchicago.org







Our Parish Office will be closed in observance of Christmas:

Friday, December 23rd Saturday, December 24th Monday, December 26th

Beginning on Tuesday, December 27th and continuing through Saturday, January 7th, our Parish Office will be open from 9:00 A.M. until 2:00 P.M. (with 2 exceptions).

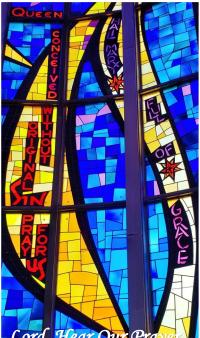
Our Parish Office will be closed in observance of New Year's Day:

Friday, December 30th Saturday, December 31st





Please join our parish family in prayer . .



Tom Altman Paul Amandes Arnold B. Robert Behrman Sonia M. B. Roberta Berger John Bozek Vince Caeti Mary Cali Jackie Campbell Zita Castro Donna Chaplin James Covello Ronnie Cunningham Paige Dicks Margarita DiSalvo Emily Divarco Eric Dulce Lilia Dulce Ozzie D'Souza Valerie Dziekonski John Eckhardt Richard Flanagan

Brooke Foreman

Patricia Furgat

Lila Gehner

For those who are sick:

Bonnie Jean Gorski Marie Hagarty Gloria Hernandez Ofelia Hernandez Mike Hickey Judy Hull Mary Ann Schmitt Hurtig Kevin Jaburek Wayne Kinzie, Sr. Craig Kloss Lillian Kohut Katherine Kreuser Anthony LaPash Terri Latina Dawn LaVeau Benny Martinez Edwin Martinez Frank Martinez Pat Miaso Gerry Michalek, Jr. Glen Molo Mira Moroz Molly Morris Veronica Murillo Timothy Murray Brendan Nelson

Anne O'Brien John O'Brien Jackie O'Koniewski David Olson Ashton Peterson Leo Pfest Mary Potwora Helen Rasmussen Bill Remblake Joe Rispoli Pia Rizza David Rodriguez Don Skorey Edward Stanczyk Jack Stewart Jill Swagler Alma T. Donna Tisdale Camilla Trevino Steven P. Trifilio Mary Ellen Vanderman Miss Westhoff Rita Zambon

For our faithful departed:

James "Jim" Duffy (Son of Betty Duffy) Rose Ann Vargo



"Eternal rest grant unto them, Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them."



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

U.S. Navy - CMDR Michael Brasseur, LCDR Christopher Jenkins, PO Thomas T. Tudisco **U.S.** Air Force - John Christopher Ocasio, Major Laurel Walsh, Major Paul H. Kolk, LT. COL. Michael O'Koniewski; Captain Colleen Bernal

U.S. Marines - PFC Sebastian L. Rivera, Jr., PFC Christopher Hughes, PFC Algene D. Porticos, LCpl Daniel Wieczorek

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, December 18th through Sunday, December 25th

Sunday, December 18th – Fourth Sunday of Advent 5:00 P.M. (Saturday) – [†]The Furgat Family; [†]Stanislaw Swiderski; [†]Ignacy & Bronislawa Skiba; [†]Karol & Stefania Godek; [†]Teresa & Krystyna Motyka; [†]Fred Dagley; and Brian Belen (on his Birthday) (Living)

8:30 A.M. — †Francis & Moira Cross; †Dorothy & Frank Tudisco; and †Tom Tudisco

10:30 A.M. – †Carmen & Irene Covello; †Klemens & Sophie Fudala; †Alex & Edelia Covello; †Manuel Mendoza; †Bogdan Hanek; †Angela Conlin; †Elaine Karbowski; †The Raleigh Family; †Joan Larson (on her 10th Anniversary); and The People of the Parish

Monday, December 19th - Late Advent Weekday

8:30 A.M. — [†]Frank Ghidara (on his 18th Anniversary); [†]Katharina Kraemer (Birthday Remembrance); [†]Margaret Kroll; and [†]Joseph Zagotta (on his Anniversary)

Tuesday, December 20th - *Late Advent Weekday* 8:30 A.M. — †James Forrestal; †Nick J. Perisin (on his 5th Anniversary); and †The Bucio Family

Wednesday, December 21st – Saint Peter Canisius, Priest and Doctor of the Church

8:30 *A.M.* - †Margaret "Mairead" Kroll; and †Mary Bednarz (on her 10^{th} Anniversary)

Thursday, December 22nd - *Late Advent Weekday* 8:30 A.M. - [†]The Furgat Family; and [†]Gloria Budziak

Friday, December 23rd - Saint John of Kanty, Priest

Saturday, December 24th - Late Advent Weekday (Christmas Eve) 5:00 P.M. — †Edward Labuz; †The Boksa Family; †Tony & Jean Reszotko; †Arthur Capra (on his 3rd Anniversary); †Sandra Duchane; †Michael Kelly; †Patrick, Barbara & their Son Patrick McDonagh; †Wally Heidkamp Family; †Joe Henmueller Family; and †Richard Hurtig (on his Anniversary)

Midnight — [†]Frank & Margherita Martino; [†]Nicola & Anna Chiusolo; [†]Stanislaw Swiderski; [†]Ann Butler; [†]Ammal Philip (1st Anniversary); [†]Praxedes Andag (2nd Anniversary); and [†]Reynaldo Abrantes (on his 2nd Anniversary)

Sunday, December 25th – *The Nativity of the Lord (Christmas Day)* 8:30 A.M. – †Pat Ralston; †The Furgat Family; †Francis & Moira Cross; †Laura Bresnahan Bush; and †Stanislaw Swiderski 10:30 A.M. – †Sophie & Stephen Oleksy; †Mr. & Mrs. J. Svoboda; †Paul Kokalj; †Vincenzo Porcelli; †Sr. Ann Beauvais (on her 1st Anniversary); †Philip Milano; †Salvatore Azzariti (Birthday Remembrance); †Margaret O'Donnell; †Rev. Philip McGlynn, OSM; †Bill & Margaret Casey; †Ben Guazzo; The Bednarz Family (Living); and The People of the Parish



Pope Tweet of the Week...

"I wish you all a good <u>#Advent</u> journey made up of many small gestures of <u>#peace</u> every day: welcoming gestures, gestures of understanding,

closeness, forgiveness, and service... Gestures from the heart, like steps towards Bethlehem, towards Jesus, the King of peace."



BLOOD DRIVE



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Rectory Assembly

Immaculate Conception Parish

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Gospel Meditation - Encourage a Deeper Understanding of Scripture



An entire town is wiped out by fire, a tornado rips through several neighborhoods, a bomb claims a maternity hospital and a sudden heart attack takes the life of a soul mate. Life is unpredictable and dramatic. Many buy into the sad illusion that the securities and familiarities we see around us today will remain forever: our homes, our friends, our spouses, our churches, and even our health. We are stunned and shaken by a sudden change, finding ourselves bewildered, mortified, and even embittered. We do not like change, especially change driven by sources beyond our control. Are there any guarantees in life?

We often live as if our lives come with lifetime warranties. When they break, they can be fixed or replaced. Such is not the case. Many things are irreplaceable and unable to be fixed. During life's inevitable chaos, God says: "Do not be afraid." Seriously? How can one not be afraid when things are falling apart?

Fear is normal and it has a purpose. It is unrealistic, and somewhat unhealthy, to strive to live without any fear. Fear teaches us lessons and can be a catalyst to discovering more profound things. What we do with fear and how we understand it is critical. Fear can either cripple us or move us forward. God does not want fear to cripple us. If we look around at all that can change in our lives and consider what we might have to do, we can easily wallow in the mire of self-misery. Or we can step up to the challenge, as Mary did, and do what needs doing! We can stand tall, as did Joseph, and do the right and just thing! What gives us this courage? Faith.

God is with us. This is the focus of our Advent preparations. We need to be reminded that we are not in this alone. God not only made us and loves us, but God keeps us! In the person of Jesus Christ, God is the sign we need to persevere! Do not be afraid and do not be unbelieving! Hold fast to what God has done in giving us His only begotten Son. We do not have to anxiously attempt to control life's unpredictability. God has blessed us with the birth of His Son. Trust that He is with us and will not abandon us, even in death. ©LPi

Teaching Position Available @ IC



Immaculate Conception School is looking for a **Middle School** (*Grades 7 & 8*) **Math/Religion Teacher**. If you are interested in applying for the position, or know someone who might be, please contact *Principal Sue Canzoneri* at: canzoneri@iccowboys.net or 773.775.0545.

Christmas Oplatkį Wafers @ IC

The breaking of the Christmas wafer is a custom that began in Poland in the 10th century. It is considered the most ancient and beloved of Polish traditions that expresses unity in the brokenness of the shared wafer, as well as a link to the unbroken chain of Christ's own Body shared through the one Bread in His one Church. The sharing of the Christmas wafer also symbolized forgiveness and reconciliation, an essential key to unity. After a two-year hiatus during the pandemic, we are happy to announce that we have

resumed our parish tradition of offering

Oplatki to our community, which are

available at our Parish Office for \$3.00.

Ministry Schedules: Saturday, December 24 $^{ m th}$ & Sunday, December 25 $^{ m th}$

		- "	<i>→</i> ′	
	Saturday 5:00 P.M. Family Mass Christmas Eve	Saturday Midnight Christmas Eve	Sunday 8:30 A.M. Christmas Day	Sunday 10:30 A.M. Christmas Day
Presiders	Fr. Robert Fedek	Fr. Matthew Heinrich	Fr. Matthew Heinrich	Fr. Matthew Heinrich
Lectors	M. Carroll; R. Altman	L. Beckman; J. Lim	M. Davila; J. Semmler	N. Kremer; N. Schroeder
Cantors	Choristers & Guitar & String Bass	Select Vocalists & Strings	Vocal Quartet & Guitar & String Bass	Vocal Quintet & Guitar & String Bass
Extraordinary Ministers	ТВА	C. Mulligan	D. Sebastian	C. Kech & R. Siciliano
Altar Servers	E. Carroll; B. Yak; K. Yau	P. Beckman; L. Love; M. Gallagher	S. Eaglin; N. Eaglin; I. Luna	K. Bowers; E. Serb; C. Villafane



Our Parish Staff:

Fr. Matthew Heinrich, Pastor

Fr. Robert Fedek, Weekend Assistant

Deacon Rick & Carol Moritz

Deacon Ronald & Connie Gronek

Vincent Kennedy, Director of Operations

Scott Will, Director of Worship

Melissa Anna, Office Administration & Communications/

Bulletin Editor

Elizabeth Doyle, Assistant Director of Music

Marilyn Sadowski, Receptionist

Bernadette Anna, Parish Sacristan

Michael La Haye, Head of Maintenance

* .

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parishoffice@icchicago.org

parishbulletin@icchicago.org

Our School Staff:

Sue Canzoneri, Principal

Tina Fitzgerald, Assistant Principal

Julie Szwedo, *Religious Education Coordinator*

Lisa Kessler, School Accountant

Mary Haley, School Secretary

canzoneri@iccowboys.net fitzgerald@iccowboys.net szwedo@iccowboys.net kessler@iccowboys.net haley@iccowboys.net

What's Happening @ IC...

Monday, December 19th -

10:15 A.M.-Noon – Monday Morning Bible Study: "The Gospel of John"; RA 7:00-8:30 P.M. - Overtones Rehearsal; CH

Tuesday, December 20th -

7:00-8:15 P.M. - Advent Reflection Program: "Lectio Divina"; RA

Wednesday, December 21st -

8:30 A.M. - School Mass; CH

2:00-3:30 P.M. - Choristers Rehearsal; CH

Thursday, December 22nd - School 11:30 A.M. Dismissal: Christmas

11:30 A.M.-6:00 P.M. - ICPC School Staff Christmas Party; PH

7:00-7:30 P.M. - Advent Vespers Service; CH

Friday, December 23rd - Parish Office Closed

8:15 P.M. - Men's Basketball; PC

Saturday, December 24th - Christmas Eve

Parish Office Closed

4:30 P.M. - School Children's Christmas Pageant; CH

5:00 P.M. – Family Mass; CH

Midnight – Mass; CH

Sunday, December 25th - Christmas Day

8:30 A.M. – Mass; CH

10:30 A.M. - Mass; CH

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.

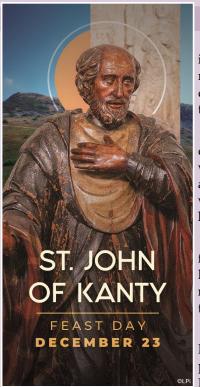
Parish Registration: Please contact our Parish Office at 773.775.3833 or visit our parish website at www.icchicago.org to join our parish family.

Early Bulletin Deadlines:

January 1st Bulletin submissions due: Thursday, December 22nd

Bulletin submissions are accepted via email at: parishbulletin@icchicago.org





Saint of The Week - Examples of Our Faith: Saint John Of Kanty (December 23rd)

Saint John, sometimes called John Cantius, was born in the Polish town of Kanty in 1390. Not much is recorded about his early life, however, he was a bright young man who did well in his studies at the university in Krakow. He earned his doctorate in philosophy and went on to be ordained and earn a doctorate in theology as well.

He began teaching at the university immediately following the conferring of his doctorate in philosophy. Unfortunately, his popularity worked against him, and he was dismissed from his post on false charges. Saint John was reassigned to a post as a parish priest in the town of Olkusz, Bohemia. His parishioners did not receive him with open arms, and he was unsettled in his new position. But John did not give up, his honest care for the people of his parish eventually endeared him to them.

After a time, he was invited back to the university and he returned to teaching, filling leadership roles in the philosophy and theological areas until the end of his long life. Saint John deeply cared for the poor, giving everything but only what he needed to survive away. He lived an aesthetic life but was such an engaging man that he often dined with nobility.

Saint John of Kanty died on December 24, 1473. He was canonized in 1767, by Pope Clement XIII. In 1998, a new religious community chose the saint for their patron and the Canons Regular of Saint John Cantius, was formed in Chicago, Illinois. ©LPi

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