Welcome to Immaculate Conception Parish

A Catholic Community Inviting People to Follow Christ

December 19, 2021 - Fourth Sunday Of Advent





"Blessed are you who believed that what was spoken to you by the Lord would be fulfilled." - Luke 1:45

Love God • Serve Others • Make Disciples

Contact Us

Parish Office Hours:

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

: 773.775.3833

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

: parishoffice@icchicago.org

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.

Social Media

Twitch:

Membership-free platform where all are welcome to view our Masses and access content. 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. All are welcome!



Weekday Mass Schedule:

Online Monday through Thursday @ 8:30 A.M. (Worship with us virtually on our Facebook Page or Twitch)

In-Person Monday through Friday @ 8:30 A.M. First Friday Mass @ 5:30 P.M. each month followed by Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament & Benediction from 6:00-7:00 P.M. **Confessions:**

Parish Website: . www.icchicago.org

School Website:

□ : www.iccowboys.net

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Sunday mornings from 9:30 A.M.-10:15 A.M.

(Special dates & times offered during Advent & Lent)

Baptisms:

Sundays @ Noon (As of January 2022: Baptisms will be celebrated on the 2nd & 4th Sundays of each month)

Donate

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.

School:

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. 2

Christmas Season Food Collection For Catholic Charities: Des Plaines

In the spirit of the Christmas season, we are hosting a Parish Food Drive to benefit the Catholic Charities Food Pantry in Des Plaines (located at 1717 Rand Road.) Both food and monetary donations will be gratefully accepted. Our collection will officially begin **next weekend**, **December 18**th **& 19**th and will continue each weekend thereafter **through January 8**th **& 9**th (*The Baptism of the Lord* - the conclusion of the Christmas Octave.)

The items currently most in need are as follows:

- QR Code (scan with your phone to donate):
- * Cereal * Rice * Beans
- * Dry Packaged Goods Christmas "treats" are als

Christmas "treats" are also welcome and appreciated! If you are donating food items, please be certain to check expiration dates prior to doing so as we cannot accept expired food or opened packages/

containers (**please note**: all donated food items must have the factory-seal intact.) Please deposit all food donations in the collection boxes located in the Vestibule of our Church. Food donations will also be accepted in our Parish Office during the week between the hours of

9:00 A.M. until 5:00 P.M. If you prefer to contribute to our Catholic Charities collection electronically, monetary donations will also be accepted via Give Central: <u>givecentral.org/location/349/event/32488</u>

Joshua Talbot Memorial Gift Wrap-A-Thon: Thursday, December 23rd



Josh was a Religious Education student at IC who passed away from childhood cancer in 2015. In his memory, our 7th grade students will be wrapping gifts in our School Cafeteria **this Thursday, December 23rd** from **4:00 until 6:30 P.M.** Please stop by and have your Christmas gifts wrapped for a small monetary

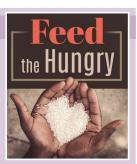
donation. All gift wrap is provided. All proceeds raised will be used to assist local families in need this holiday season. Our 7th grade school and Religious Education Program students look forward to serving you as they prepare for their Confirmation next year.

IC Community Outreach

Our prayers as a community continue for all those affected by the catastrophic devastation in the wake of the severe storms and tornadoes that ravaged the Midwest and Southeast regions of our country. Following a conversation with Tom Lilly, Chancellor of the Owensboro Diocese in Western Kentucky, Fr. Matt was provided with the following recommendations on how best to aid and support our brothers and sisters in need:

- provided with the following recommendations on how best to aid and support our brothers and sisters in need:
 Visit the Diocese of Owensboro website: <u>owensborodiocese.org/give/</u>wherein you can donate directly to those affected by designating "Tornado Relief Catholic Charities " The diocese is working to restore and rebuild destroyed /damaged schools and churcher and schools and schole and schools and schools and schools and schools and schoo
- **Catholic Charities.**" The diocese is working to restore and rebuild destroyed/damaged schools and churches, which are also providing temporary shelter for others who have lost their homes.
- One of the major inter-religious offerings in Western Kentucky, in Mayfield specifically, is "*Catalyst Mayfield*" which is coordinating the outpouring of gifts, supplies, and general needs of the local population. You may donate here: <u>catalystcenter.churchcenter.com/giving</u> All donations received will be used for tornado relief.
- As many families and children have lost their homes, Tom mentioned that children writing cards to other children has made a huge positive impact in their community, especially of them knowing others are doing things for them in faith (i.e. *"I'm praying for you at our Church"* etc.) Letters of support & prayers may be sent to: Families Affected by Disaster Attn. Tom Lilly, Diocese of Owensboro 600 Locust Street, Owensboro, KY 42301. Once received at their main office, the letters will then be dispersed to children and families who are currently without electricity, recreation, or homes to receive more personalized letters.

If you would like to assist in the relief efforts (particularly during this season of giving), please consider any of these ways to support our brothers and sisters in Kentucky in their time of need.



"He who has compassion on the poor lends to the Lord, and he will repay him for his good deed." - Proverbs 19:17

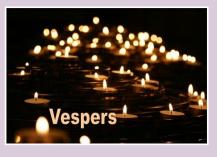




Opportunities For Confessions: Sunday @ 9:30 A.M.

This Sunday, December 19th, we will offer the Sacrament of Reconciliation from 9:30 until 10:30 A.M. Please note: this will be your final opportunity to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation prior to Christmas.

Advent Vespers Service: Thursday @ 7:00 P.M.



We invite you to gather with us in prayer from **7:00 until 7:30 P.M. this Thursday, December 23rd** as our professional musicians present our final **Vespers Service** this Advent. If you are unable to join us in-person, you are welcome to join us virtually via our Facebook Page or Twitch Channel (twitch.tv/icchicago).

Freewill offerings will be gratefully accepted to help support our Music Ministry program @ IC. You may donate in-person or online at: <u>givecentral.org/location/349/</u> <u>event/17649</u>

Join us for this simple form of prayer expressed to God through song and Scripture as we prepare our hearts to celebrate the birth of Christ next weekend!





Friday, December 24th (Christmas Eve): 5:00 P.M. Family Mass with Fr. Robert Carlton presiding featuring our Vocal Quintet, John Eckhardt (Violin) & Donovan Mixon (Guitar) (Contemporary Music) (Livestreamed)

8:00 P.M. Mass with Fr. Robert Fedek presiding featuring Elizabeth Doyle (Cantor), John Eckhardt (Violin) & Paul Semanic (Trumpet) (Traditional Music)

> 10:30 P.M. Mass with Fr. Matthew Heinrich presiding featuring our Vocal Quintet, Violin Quartet, & John Eckhardt (Violin) (Traditional Music) (Livestreamed)

Saturday, December 25th (Christmas Day):

8:30 A.M. Mass with Fr. Matthew Heinrich presiding featuring our Vocal Quintet & John Eckhardt (Violin) (Traditional Music)

10:30 A.M. Mass with Fr. Robert Carlton presiding featuring our Vocal Quintet & John Eckhardt (Violin) (Traditional Music) (Livestreamed)

Prelude and Postlude Music @ 5:00 P.M., 10:30 P.M. & 10:30 A.M. Masses

All are welcome!

www.icchicago.org

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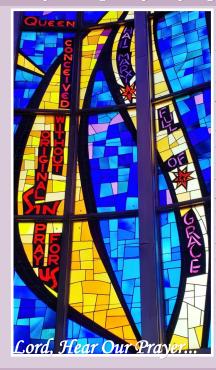


IC Drama Club Presents: "A Muppet Family Christmas"

This past week, our IC Drama Club presented their production of "*A Muppet Family Christmas*" to an enthusiastic audience comprised of students and family members. Under the direction of Ms. Szwedo (who has faithfully served as our Drama teacher for 22 years), our talented students genuinely enjoyed the opportunity to perform on the big stage!



Please join our parish family in prayer ...



Tom Altman Caleb Anstett Robert Behrman Sonia M. B. Roberta Berger John Bozek Vince Caeti Rita Castillo Zita Castro Donna Chaplin Marie Conway James Covello Ronnie Cunningham Paige Dicks Margarita DiSalvo Paula Drew Ozzie D'Souza Richard Flanagan Brooke Foreman Patricia Furgat

For those who are sick:

Lila Gehner Bonnie Jean Gorski Ofelia Hernandez Kevin Jaburek Craig Kloss Lillian Kohut Katherine Kreuser Benny Martinez Edwin Martinez Frank Martinez Gerry Michalek, Jr. Sam Milazzo Molly Morris Veronica Murillo Timothy Murray Brendan Nelson Judith Nosko Anne O'Brien John O'Brien Jackie O'Koniewski

David Olson Mary Potwora Helen Rasmussen Bill Remblake *Joe Rispoli* Pia Rizza David Rodriguez Elaine Schatz Jennie Sekula Don Skorey Edward Stanczyk Ed Stanislawski Marion Szumski Donna Tisdale Camilla Trevino Steven P. Trifilio John F. Vargo Henry Wagener Rita Zambon *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.

For our faithful departed:

Nancy Lynn Forbes (Mother of Terry Forbes) Jennifer A. Gehl (Wife of David)



"Eternal rest grant unto them, O 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, Thomas Treslo, National Guard Specialist 4th Class

U.S. Navy - CMDR Michael Brasseur, LCDR 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; Captain Colleen Bernal

U.S. Marines - Sean Gronset, 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 19th through Sunday, December 26th

Sunday, December 19th– Fourth Sunday Of Advent

5:00 P.M. (Saturday) - Brian Belen (Living) (Birthday - For Good Health & Success In Life)

8:30 A.M. – [†]Marlene Bartolotta; [†]Florence Jakot; and John & Diane Bozek (Living)

10:30 A.M. – [†]Frank Ghidara (on his 17th Anniversary); [†]Katharina Kraemer (Birthday Remembrance); [†]Carmen & Irene Covello; [†]Alex & Edelia Covello; [†]Klemens & Sophie Fudala; [†]Stanislaw Swiderski; [†]Noreen Nolan; [†]Aida Miranda; [†]Linda Fong; [†]Charles Grayzeck; [†]George O'Connor; [†]Michael Naughton; [†]Mary & Michael Raleigh; [†]William & Margaret Casey; [†]Denny San Buenaventura; [†]Larry Martin, Jr.; [†]Francis & Moira Cross; and The People of the Parish

Monday, December 20th - Late Advent Weekday

8:30 *A.M.* **–**[†]Nick J. Perisin (Birthday Remembrance); and The Bucio Family

Tuesday, December 21st - Saint Peter Canisius, Priest and Doctor of the Church

8:30 A.M. – ⁺Ted & Mary Bednarz (Death Anniversary)

Wednesday, December 22nd – *Late Advent Weekday* 8:30 A.M. – Living & Deceased Members of The Bednarz & Baumgartner Families

Thursday, December 23rd – *Saint John of Kanty, Priest* 8:30 A.M. – [†]Gloria Budziak

Friday, December 24th - Christmas Eve

8:30 A.M. – [†]Poor Souls In Purgatory **5:00** P.M. – [†]Sandra Duchane; [†]Tom Casey; [†]Marian Corcoran; [†]Leona E. Fitz; Eleanor Czernik (Living); and Deacon Rick & Carol Moritz (Living) **8:00** P.M. – The People of the Parish

10:30 *P.M.* – [†]Arthur Capra (on his 3rd Anniversary); [†]Frank & Margherita Martino; [†]Anna & Nicola Chiusolo; [†]Edward Labuz; [†]The Boksa Family; [†]Tony & Jean Reszotko; and [†]James, Eileen & Lawrence Staunton

Saturday, December 25th - *The Nativity of the Lord* 8:30 A.M. - Frank Fabianski (on his 100th Birthday) (Living); [†]John Seibert; and [†]Ted, Mary & Melissa Bednarz 10:30 A.M. – [†]Paul Kokalj; [†]Joseph & Antoinette Svoboda; [†]Sophie & Stephen Oleksy; [†]Pat Ralston (Birthday Remembrance); [†]Charles

Grayzeck; *Philip Bober; *Salvatore Azzariti (Birthday Remembrance); and *Thomas McHugh

Sunday, December 26th - The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

8:30 A.M.- ⁺Joseph Saccomonto; Maria Kula (Living); and Gene Dengler (Living)

10:30 *A.M.* – [†]Vincenzo Porcelli; [†]Stanislaw Swiderski; [†]Linda Fong; [†]Joanna Rice (on her 1st Anniversary); [†]Francis & Moira Cross; St. Stephen's Branch #153; and The People of the Parish



poorest brothers and sisters."



Child of Sean Michael & Vivian Lee (Vallone) Lucas

donate):



Immaculate Conception Parish would like to restart our Catholic High School Scholarship Fund which we started last year. We recognize the value and importance of a Catholic High School education and hope that this could potentially make a difference in the ability of our graduates to continue their Catholic education. All graduates from Immaculate Conception School or our IC Religious Education Program, who either will attend a Catholic High School next year or are currently attending Catholic High Schools, would be eligible to apply. Application materials and directions will be posted on our parish website after March 1, 2022 with applications due by May 1, 2022. While the amount and number of scholarships

available will depend upon the amount of money raised, it is hoped that they would be a minimum of \$500, as they

were last year. Also, while it is hoped that the scholarships could be renewed, funding initially is only guaranteed for one year. If you would like to contribute electronically to our IC Catholic High School Scholarship Fund, please visit: givecentral.org/location/349/event/28631 (The direct link to donate to our Scholarship Fund via Give Central is also accessible via icchicago.org). Please contact Fr. Robert Carlton at rcarlton@archchicago.org with any questions. Fr. Robert OR Code will run a 10k through the neighborhood after Mass this Sunday, December 19th (scan with your phone to to officially begin our fundraising efforts.





Sunday: Mi 5:1-4a/Ps 80:2-3, 15-16, 18-19 [4]/Heb 10:5-10/Lk 1:39-45 Monday: Is 7:10-14/Ps 24:1-2, 3-4ab, 5-6 [cf. 7c and 10b]/Lk 1:26-38 Tuesday: Sg 2:8-14 or Zep 3:14-18a/Ps 33:2-3, 11-12, 20-21 [1a; 3a]/Lk 1:39-45 Wednesday: 1 Sm 1:24-28/1 Sm 2:1, 4-5, 6-7, 8abcd [cf. 1a]/Lk 1:46-56 Thursday: Mal 3:1-4, 23-24/Ps 25:4-5ab, 8-9, 10 and 14 [cf. Lk 21:28]/Lk 1:57-66 Friday: Morning: 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16/Ps 89:2-3, 4-5, 27 and 29 [2]/Lk 1:67-79 Saturday: Vigil: Is 62:1-5/Ps 89:4-5, 16-17, 27, 29 [2a]/Acts 13:16-17, 22-25/ Mt 1:1-25 or 1:18-25 Night: Is 9:1-6/Ps 96:1-2, 2-3, 11-12, 13 [Lk 2:11]/Ti 2:11-14/Lk 2:1-14 Dawn: Is 62:11-12/Ps 97:1, 6, 11-12/Ti 3:4-7/Lk 2:15-20 Day: Is 52:7-10/Ps 98:1, 2-3, 3-4, 5-6 [3c]/Heb 1:1-6/Jn 1:1-18 or 1:1-5, 9-14 Next Sunday: Sir 3:2-6, 12-14/Ps 128:1-2, 3, 4-5 [cf. 1]/Col 3:12-21 or 3:12-17/Lk 2:41-52 or 1 Sm 1:20-22, 24-28/Ps 84:2-3, 5-6, 9-10 [cf. 5a]/1 Jn 3:1-2, 21-24/Lk 2:41-52

Gospel Meditation - Encourage a Deeper Understanding of Scripture



St. Augustine tells us that a "*Christian is a mind through which Christ thinks, a heart through which Christ loves, a voice through which Christ speaks and a hand through which Christ helps.*" As we look around and out at the world, we do not have to search too far before we come face to face with inequity and injustice. There is so much unfairness, prejudice, anger, hatred, violence, and want. The stories of human heartache, people being hurt, deprived of life's necessities, loneliness, and sickness are far too commonplace. For many of the world's ills, the vices of greed, lust, pride,

gluttony, and jealousy are clearly among the more significant root causes.

Why doesn't God just step in and fix this mess? After all, God created this world, and one would hope that he would step up and take some measure of responsibility for it! Once we sit with this thinking for a while, we can begin to realize just how flawed it really is. God did take responsibility and God did fix the problem! God sent us Jesus Christ as the divine solution to the world's ills. It is not God who has shirked responsibility, we have. We are the ones who continually fail to set our own personal needs, wants, and securities aside so that One more powerful than us can use us.

Mary had to set her needs aside in order for the Son of God to come into the world. Put simply, Mary listened and believed. Having opened herself to being an instrument of the Divine, God could use her as his mind, heart, voice, and hand. She became God's vessel so that God's greatness could reach the ends of the earth and peace could come upon the world. God's fix for the world's difficulties is you and me. We are the ones who confess that Jesus Christ came into the world as the Son of God, the Prince of Peace, and herald of justice. All we have to do is believe, as did Mary, that what has been spoken to us by the Lord will be fulfilled. Then, we can step aside and be the Christians we claim to be. What a difference it would make if every person who professed to be Christian truly understood that their one and only vocation is to be God's instrument. What a beautiful, equitable, and just world it would be. ©LPi

Ministry Schedules: Friday, December 24 th , Saturday, December 25 th & Sunday, December 26 th							
	Friday 5:00 P.M. Family Mass Christmas Eve		Friday 8:00 P.M. Christmas Eve		Friday 10:30 P.M. Christmas Eve		
Presiders	Fr. Robert Carlton		Fr. Robert Fedek		Fr. Matthew Heinrich		
Lectors	N. Kremer		J. Lim		J. Semmler		
Cantors	Vocal Quintet &Violin & Guitar		E. Doyle & Violin & Trumpet		Vocal Quintet &Violin Quartet		
Extraordinary Ministers	ТВА		ТВА	ЪА		ТВА	
Altar Servers	I. Cox; O. Magruder; B. Yak		C. Beach; K. Bowers; E. Peters		J. Edwards; J. Losik; E. Miehlich		
	Saturday 8:30 A.M. Christmas Day	Saturday 10:30 A.M. Christmas Day		Sunday 8:30 A.M. The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph		Sunday 10:30 A.M. The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph	
Presiders	Fr. Matthew Heinrich	Fr. Robert Carlton		Fr. Matthew Heinrich		Fr. Robert Fedek	
Lectors	N. Kremer	J. Campbell		N. Kremer		R. Lohman & N. Kanoon	
Cantors	Vocal Quintet &Violin	Vocal Quintet &Violin		Vocal Quintet &Violin		Vocal Quintet	
Extraordinary Ministers	TBA	ТВА		L. Delana		C. Kech	
	S. Eaglin; M. Gallagher; G. Reichle	I. Cox; O. Magruder		P. Beckman; S. Eaglin; M. Eaglin		C. Beach; M. Gallagher; O. Magruder	

Ministry Schedules: Friday, December 24th, Saturday, December 25th & Sunday, December 26th



Our Parish Staff:

Fr. Matthew Heinrich, PastorfnFr. Robert Carlton, Associate PastorrdFr. Robert Fedek, Weekend AssistantrdDeacon Rick & Carol MoritzrdDeacon Ronald & Connie GronekrdDeacon Michael BednarzrdVincent Kennedy, Director of OperationsvdScott Will, Director of WorshipsdMelissa Anna, Office Administration & Communications/rdBulletin EditorpdElizabeth Doyle, Assistant Director of MusicpdMarilyn Sadowski, ReceptionistpdBernadette Anna, Parish SacristanMichael La Haye, Head of MaintenanceAnthony Vitali, Maintenancerd

Our School Staff: Sue Canzoneri, Principal Tina Fitzgerald, Assistant Principal Julie Szwedo, Religious Education Coordinator Lisa Kessler, School Accountant Mary Haley, School Secretary

What's Happening @ IC...

<u>Monday, December 20th</u> – 7:00-8:30 P.M. – Overtones Rehearsal; CH

<u>Tuesday, December 21st</u>-6:30-8:30 P.M. – Parish Finance Council Mtg.; RCR 7:00-8:00 P.M. – Advent Ignatian Spirituality Series; RA

<u>Thursday, December 23rd</u> **4:30-6:30 P.M. –** Joshua Talbot Memorial Gift Wrap-A-Thon; Café **7:00-7:30 P.M. –** Advent Vespers Service; CH

<u>Friday, December 24th</u> – Christmas Eve Parish Office Closed 5:00 P.M. – Family Mass 8:00 P.M. – Mass 10:30 P.M. – Mass



<u>Saturday, December 25th</u> – Christmas Day Parish Office Closed 8:30 A.M. – Mass 10:30 A.M. – Mass

*⊠:

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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.

Bulletin Deadline: 'Tis the season for early deadlines! All submissions must be received at least 2 weeks in advance of desired bulletin now through the beginning of January. Bulletin submissions are accepted via email at: parishbulletin@icchicago.org

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