

Welcome to  
*Immaculate Conception Parish*

*A Catholic Community Inviting People to Follow Christ*

*February 7, 2021 - Fifth Sunday In Ordinary Time*

*Praise The Lord, Who Heals The Brokenhearted*



COME, FOLLOW ME...

**and bring hope to  
the world**

*2021 Annual Catholic Appeal*

*"I have become all things to all, to save at least some. All this I do for the sake of the Gospel, so that I too may have a share in it."*

*- 1 Corinthians 9:22-23*

*Love God • Serve Others • Make Disciples*

## Contact Us

☎: 773.775.3833

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

✉: parishoffice@icchicago.org  
(Please note: new email address)

### Parish Office Hours:

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

### Parish Website:

💻: [www.icchicago.org](http://www.icchicago.org)

### School Website:

💻: [www.iccowboys.net](http://www.iccowboys.net)

## 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 content.  
Visit us at [www.twitch.tv/icchicago](http://www.twitch.tv/icchicago)



## Mass and Sacrament Schedule

### 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)

*Reservations are recommended to assist with contact tracing.  
Walk-ins are welcome, but must provide name and telephone number (or email) upon entry.  
Please visit our website or contact our Parish Office to register.*

### Weekday Mass Schedule:

**Online Only**  
Monday through Friday @ 7:00 P.M.  
Wednesdays @ 8:30 A.M. (School Mass)  
(Worship with us virtually on our Facebook Page or Twitch)

**In-Person**  
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:

First and Third Tuesdays of each month from 6:00-7:00 P.M.  
(Special dates & times offered during Advent & Lent)

### Baptisms:

Saturdays @ 1:00 P.M.  
Sundays @ 12:30 P.M.

## 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](http://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.

### Concerning Love (Part 3)

The Greatest Commandment compels us to love God and others. Our covenant with God is to *fulfill* the commandments and so, to do that, it stands that knowing what love truly is holds great significance.

While St. Bonaventure (parts 1 & 2) talked about how we can be sure God is the model for our goodness, Hugh of St. Victor wrote about the experience of love - *'what is the nature of love?'* Hugh, abbot of the monastery of St. Victor, writes how love itself is a singular movement of the heart, described by both desire and joy.



Love is a sort of desire because it strives for something and longs for something. Love is a sort of joy because we can possess what we love and rest in it (i.e., delight).

Yet his wisdom comes from a discussion about how love is *ordered*. For him this means, *'how is love prioritized?'*

Last week, I offered a light critique of modern meditation in that it focuses on the self, sometimes exclusively. The Christian tradition views meditation as looking inward but doing so to find the imprint of God's goodness in us. The Christian looks inwardly so that he might love outwardly. Such a love needs to be pure or, rather, be purified by God's love. This is only possible by, first, being loved by God and, in return, loving Him.

Thus, true love is a *desire* for being near to God. It is also the *joy* of knowing and trusting Him (i.e., faith). When we think about the Greatest Commandment, it asks us to order love in this way:

God ➡ Self & Others ➡ World

*"There are three things that can be loved well or badly, that is God, neighbor, and the world. God is above us, our neighbor next to us, and the world is under us. Therefore, order love"* (Hugh of St. Victor).

God can be loved as *'good,'* because *"no one is good except God alone"* (Mk 10:18). He may be loved as the source of goodness, and our own source of love.

Human beings cannot be loved in this way — that is, no person is the source of goodness. At best, they can only reflect the goodness of God. It is *disordered* love to look to a person as the source of goodness, but it is proper to love them as a fellow child of God; to love them as one who shares in His goodness. The world, likewise, reflects the goodness of God, but should only be the cause of our wonder and gratitude.

This is hard for us because we genuinely love others close to us. We also admire others who have done great things. But ordering our minds to understand love, allows us to love a person fully while not making them something they are not. All men are, in fact, weak. But like all, are loved by God with eternal mercy and kindness.

Fr. Matt



Parents and Parishioners:

Our Immaculate Conception School Board is looking for new volunteers, both parents and parishioners, to replace outgoing members. Our School Board is comprised of three elected board positions:

- President
- Vice President
- Secretary

These elected roles require 4-6 hours per month, and leadership in one of the following Committees:

- Maintenance
- Board Constitution, Policy & Discipline
- Finance
- Future Planning
- Public Relations/Marketing

If you wish to get involved but only have 1-2 hours a month to help, you could serve as a Committee member of our School Board (non-elected role). You get to see firsthand how our School Board operates, while “testing the waters” to fill a future elected board position vacancy. You would also have an opportunity to serve in one of the committees outlined above.

If interested, please join our virtual School Board open house during our February meeting where we will talk more in depth about School Board roles and responsibilities and answer questions from prospective members. This will take place on **Thursday, February 18th at 7:00 P.M.**

If you are interested in being a part of this open house as a prospective member, please let us know by **this Thursday, February 11th** so that we are aware of your interest and can send you the Zoom Meeting information. Interested parents and parishioners should send their information to Theresa Borowski on Fast Direct or at [schoolboard@iccowboys.net](mailto:schoolboard@iccowboys.net).

Thank you and we look forward to hearing from you!

Theresa Borowski, Vice President

Immaculate Conception School Board



### *2021 Annual Catholic Appeal: Commitment Weekend (February 6th - February 7th)*

Please Make Your Gift to the 2021 Annual Catholic Appeal  
*Come, follow me ... and bring hope to the world.*

I invite you to spend some time this week reflecting on the Annual Catholic Appeal materials you should have received in your bulletin or in the mail. The Annual Catholic Appeal is much different than a one-time special collection: it is a pledged commitment to make a gift over time. Your pledge can be made payable in installments.

Each pledge makes a difference because all parishes participate in the campaign and the gifts of many enable our Archdiocese to deliver needed ministries and services to answer the call of Jesus to “*Come, follow me ... and bring hope to the world.*” Once we successfully achieve our parish goal of **\$49,532.00**, all additional money received is sent back to us for use in our parish.

If you received your pledge form in the mail, please complete it and mail it back. This year, we also encourage our parishioners to make their Annual Catholic Appeal gifts online or via text message: please visit **[annualcatholicappeal.com](http://annualcatholicappeal.com)** or text the word: **ACA2021** to **345345**.





## 2021 Annual Catholic Appeal: Commitment Weekend (February 6th - February 7th)

### Cardinal's Homily

The words of Job find a place in our own hearts in these days: *"Is not man's life on earth a drudgery? ... My days are swifter than a weaver's shuttle; they come to an end without hope ... I shall not see happiness again."* This past year has worn many of us down with the pandemic, economic uncertainties, and social unrest. Hope seems very thin. Still, that painful experience—for us as people of faith—isn't the whole story. It must be completed by the Gospel that we just now heard.

There, Jesus heals bodies and spirits. He raises up Peter's mother-in-law and others who are physically ill. He casts out oppressive demons. But, to all who are afflicted, he also brings hope.

Hope, as much as air or water or food, enables us to live and to go forward. Hope cannot simply be wishful thinking. And it cannot amount to hope in ourselves or our own resources. The only hope that will truly sustain is the hope that God gives us in Jesus Christ by the power of the Holy Spirit. As Saint Paul tells us, the gift of hope is already ours for Jesus Christ dwelling in us, is our hope of glory (Col. 1:27).

Recently, Pope Francis, addressed an encyclical letter to the entire world, *On Fraternity and Social Friendship*. The Holy Father describes the many daunting challenges that face humanity in this moment, but also offers a path forward that renews our most fundamental relationships and our life together. He presses forward because hope leads him. He writes: *"I invite everyone to renewed hope, for hope 'speaks to us of something deeply rooted in every human heart ... and it can open us up to grand ideals that make life more beautiful and worthwhile.'"* (FT, n. 55; Greeting to Young People at the Padre Felix Varela Cultural Center, Havana, 2015)

We need to reclaim the gift of hope that is ours in Jesus in this moment. Otherwise, we can fall into spirals of desperation. But we also need to embrace our responsibility for bringing the hope of Jesus to the world, for hope is a gift to be shared.

The theme for this year's Annual Catholic Appeal captures this calling to be Jesus' missionary disciples: *Come, follow me ... and bring hope to the world*. But how do we do this? How do we firm up our hope and bring it to others?

Certainly, this happens when we pray, both personally and as a community, when we lift up our wounded and needy world to the Lord. It happens through the daily witness of our lives, especially in our families and places of work. It happens through the small acts of kindness and compassion that we extend to others. Finally, it happens through our participation in the Annual Catholic Appeal, as we join together in solidarity and bring His hope to the world.

Your support of the Appeal is more important than ever. Through it you give hope to so many, to the parish and school communities financially impacted by the virus, to the ministries in the Archdiocese that care for vulnerable individuals during this global crisis and to Catholic Relief Services, which reaches out to the world.

Jesus says to each of us: *Come, follow me ... and bring hope to the world*. As your financial circumstances permit, please join me and other Catholics in making a gift to the Annual Catholic Appeal of the Archdiocese. You have my promise that the Archdiocese will be respectful of your sacrifice and a good steward of your gift. And once your parish meets its goal, proceeds return to the parish to support its mission in your local community.

Listen now to your pastor's instructions. Because of restrictions imposed by the virus, he will help you to make your pledge on your phone. Then, celebrate the Eucharist with hearts uplifted and grateful for the hope that God has poured into them.

Cardinal Blase J. Cupich

*Please join our parish family in prayer ...*



*Lord, Hear Our Prayer...*

*For those who are sick:*

Tom Altman  
Concetta Bartucci  
Melissa Bednarz  
Robert Behrman  
Sonia M. B.  
Vince Caeti  
Jackie Campbell  
Rita Castillo  
Donna Chaplin  
James Covello  
Sherry Crocifisso  
Ronnie Cunningham  
Christina Dziekonski  
Jason Finney  
Richard Flanagan  
Brooke Foreman  
Lila Gehner  
MaryBeth Gronek

Ofelia Hernandez  
Dennis M. Jaburek  
Esther Jarosh  
Helga Jarosz  
Erma Kinzie  
Wayne Kinzie  
Craig Kloss  
Lillian Kohut  
Phyllis Levand  
Benny Martinez  
Edwin Martinez  
Frank Martinez  
Fr. Eric Meyer, C.P.  
Sam Milazzo  
Veronica Murillo  
Timothy Murray  
Mary Beth O'Grady  
Jackie O'Koniewski

David Olson  
Fr. Alan Phillip, C.P.  
Mary Potwora  
Helen Rasmussen  
Bill Remblake  
David Rodriguez  
Elaine Schatz  
Jennie Sekula  
Don Skorey  
Edward Stanczyk  
Marion Szumski  
Donna Tisdale  
Steven P. Trifilio  
John F. Vargo  
Henry Wagener  
Geoffrey Woittel

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:*

John J. Cook



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



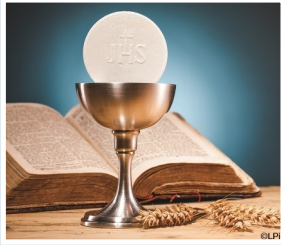
*For those who serve our country:*



**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, 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](http://vets.archchicago.org) that provides information that can be of assistance.





*Mass Intentions:  
Sunday, February 7th  
through  
Sunday, February 14th*

**Sunday, February 7th - Fifth Sunday In Ordinary Time**

5:00 P.M. (Saturday) - †John J. Joyce; and †Genevieve Bielski

8:30 A.M. — †Rita Davis; and †Bill Roberts (on his 10th Anniversary)

10:30 A.M. — †Joseph J. Lykowski; †Louis Siciliano (on his 20th Anniversary); †John Dosek; †Tommy Fuller; †Francis & Moira Cross; and The People of the Parish

**Monday, February 8th - Saint Jerome Emiliani; Saint Josephine Bakhita, Virgin**

7:00 P.M. (Virtual Mass) — Phyllis Levand (Living)

**Tuesday, February 9th - Weekday**

7:00 P.M. (Virtual Mass) — †Joyce Pennington

**Wednesday, February 10th - Saint Scholastica, Virgin**

8:30 A.M. (Virtual Mass) — †Elizabeth Serafin

**Thursday, February 11th - Our Lady of Lourdes (World Day Of The Sick)**

7:00 P.M. (Virtual Mass) — †Sister M. Jean Kula

**Friday, February 12th - Weekday**

7:00 P.M. (Virtual Mass) — †Jimmy Byrne; and †Margaret Hart

**Saturday, February 13th - Weekday**

5:00 P.M. - †Paul Baul

**Sunday, February 14th - Sixth Sunday In Ordinary Time**

8:30 A.M. — Valentino M. Garcia (on his 76th Birthday)

10:30 A.M. — †Stephen Oleksy; †Eileen Mascha; †Jack Simone; †Carmen & Irene Covello; †Anastasia Fudala; †Edward Labuz; †Gerard Dreyfuss; †Andrew & Regina Brinskelle; †Lib & Marie Allocco; †Francis & Moira Cross; †Arthur O'Koniewski (on his 5th Anniversary); and The People of the Parish



**February 7th through February 13th**

Our Sanctuary Lamp is burning this week for the prayer intentions of

Phyllis  
Levand

**February 7th through February 12th**

Our Blessed Mother Votive is burning this week for the repose of the soul of

Jimmy  
Byrne

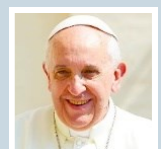
**February 7th through February 12th**

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

Melissa  
Bednarz

**Pope Tweet of the Week...**

"The word of God is the antidote to our fear of having to face life. In speaking to us, the Lord reminds us that we are in His heart, that we are precious in His eyes, and that He holds us in the palm of his Hand."







*Claire Teresa Gallagher  
Child of James Joseph and Patricia Genevieve (Hogan) Gallagher*

### Ash Wednesday Mass Schedule

(The blessing and distribution of ashes will take place at our 6:30 A.M. and 7:00 P.M. Masses. IC students will receive ashes in their classrooms following our School Virtual Mass.)

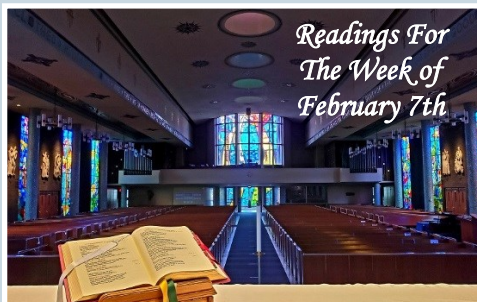
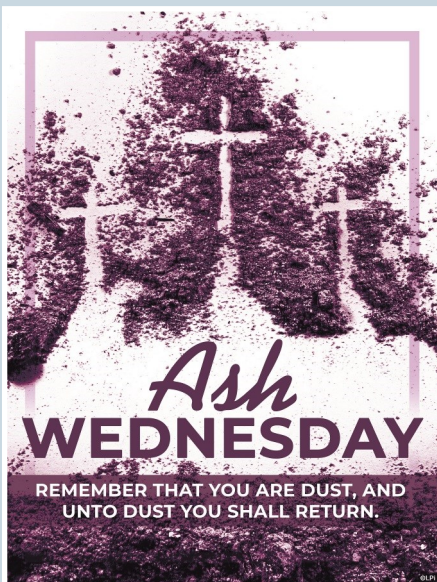
**6:30 A.M.** Mass with Fr. Robert Carlton presiding (In-Person)

**8:30 A.M.** School Virtual Mass with Fr. Matt presiding

**7:00 P.M.** Mass with Fr. Matt presiding (In-Person & Livestreamed)

Reservations are recommended due to attendance restrictions and to assist with contact tracing. Please visit our parish website ([www.icchicago.org](http://www.icchicago.org)) or contact our Parish Office at 773.775.3833 to register. For those unable to join us in-person, our 8:30 A.M. and 7:00 P.M. Masses will both be livestreamed via Twitch TV & Facebook.

**Please be advised: In accordance with Archdiocesan COVID-19 guidelines, distribution of ashes will take place by sprinkling ashes on the top of the head, instead of signing with ashes on the forehead.**



**Sunday:** Jb 7:1-4, 6-7/Ps 147:1-2, 3-4, 5-6 [cf. 3a]/1 Cor 9:16-19, 22-23/Mk 1:29-39

**Monday:** Gn 1:1-19/Ps 104:1-2a, 5-6, 10 and 12, 24 and 35c [31b]/Mk 6:53-56

**Tuesday:** Gn 1:20 – 2:4a/Ps 8:4-5, 6-7, 8-9 [2ab]/Mk 7:1-13

**Wednesday:** Gn 2:4b-9, 15-17/Ps 104:1-2a, 27-28, 29bc-30 [1a]/Mk 7:14-23

**Thursday:** Gn 2:18-25/Ps 128:1-2, 3, 4-5 [cf. 1a]/Mk 7:24-30

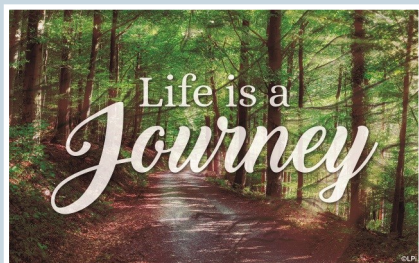
**Friday:** Gn 3:1-8/Ps 32:1-2, 5, 6, 7 [1a]/Mk 7:31-37

**Saturday:** Gn 3:9-24/Ps 90:2, 3-4abc, 5-6, 12-13 [1]/Mk 8:1-10

**Next Sunday:** Lv 13:1-2, 44-46/Ps 32:1-2, 5, 11 [7]/1 Cor 10:31 – 11:1/Mk 1:40-45



### Gospel Meditation - Encourage a Deeper Understanding of Scripture



If I only knew then what I know now, how different life would be. This sentiment, expressed in myriad ways, is found on every human being's lips at one point or another. Life may have brought us to a vulnerable place where we see some of the poor choices we made and the effects they are having. Perhaps we fell into some destructive and dysfunctional relationships or behaviors and are finding how they held us captive. Our zeal and passion for life may have drifted away and we are waking up to the reasons apathy has taken hold. Life can be hard. In fact, some would describe their lives as a drudgery. They walk through each day with an anxious unsettledness, wondering when their

restlessness will cease. There is a temptation to believe that what I see is all I will get. Mortality and hopelessness await the dawn. If I could only have known what would come in the future, I could have made better choices and avoided all of this misery!

Really? While we can certainly give into weakness, sin, impulsiveness, and idiosyncrasies that cause us to stumble over ourselves, life is really a journey. If we don't make the mistake of wallowing in the mire of self-pity and realize the new life God is calling us to, then there are thrills, adventures, surprises, and soul-searching graces we can surely miss. We are not tethered to our past nor are we bound to the ills life can bring upon us. We are never hopeless or helpless. The problem is that our myopic vision only allows us to see the misery and misfortune that is before us, not the potential that can come from choosing healthier and more life-giving options. Jesus came that we might have fullness of life. We need to learn how to reach for Jesus' hand and let him help us to our feet.

We need to allow God into our pain and heal our past. We have to wrestle with our histories, agonize and search and cry out for the Divine healing we need to restore our faith, hope, and love. Job could not see how his story would end or trust the guidance of the God who called him. We live in that same blindness and suffer from the same lack of confidence. Once we allow ourselves to be touched by God's healing power, we begin to see that all of the pieces of our lives are necessary parts of a greater whole. Along the way of our lives, God uses our omissions and failures to create new things and possibilities. When doors close, others open and we can be amazed by the joyful and unexpected surprises we receive. Once we know the power of God's creative, healing, life-giving, forgiving, and dynamic presence, it is no wonder we want to put ourselves at the service of others and show them what life can be.

©LPi

### Everyday Stewardship – Recognize God in your Ordinary Moments

#### The Audacity of Holiness...

Do you know a holy person? I'm not talking about piety — that's important, too, in its own way. But right now, I'm speaking of holiness.

St. Therese of Lisieux called holiness *"a disposition of the heart that makes us humble and little in the arms of God, aware of our weakness, and confident — in the most audacious way — in His Fatherly goodness."*

The holy person sees a storm on the horizon of life, and rather than give themselves over to fear and despair (natural and understandable reactions), regards the gathering winds as an opportunity to rely more fully on God. The holy person takes a bad situation and sanctifies it with charity and understanding that defies our fallen human nature.

Peter's mother-in-law was still in the throes of a fever when Jesus grasped her hand. It wasn't until she took his hand and allowed him to help her up that *"the fever left her and she waited on them."* Before the fever could leave her, she had to commit to holiness — to put her trust in him in a most audacious way. She had to find it within herself to lift her weakened hand to grasp his — and as soon as she did, she was rewarded. Her bodily health restored, she gave thanks, and attended to his needs.

God's hand is always outstretched to us. Will we take it, even if the fever of sin and pride and worldly concerns rages in our souls? Will we muster the strength? Will we be audacious enough to have confidence in His Fatherly goodness?

— Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS ©LPi





**Our Parish Staff:**

**Fr. Matthew Heinrich**, *Pastor*  
**Fr. Robert Carlton**, *Associate Pastor*  
**Fr. Robert Fedek**, *Weekend Assistant*  
**Deacon Rick & Carol Moritz**  
**Deacon Ronald & Connie Gronek**  
**Deacon Michael & Melissa Bednarz**  
**Vincent Kennedy**, *Director of Operations*  
**Scott Will**, *Director of Worship*  
**Melissa Anna**, *Office Administration & Communications/ Bulletin Editor*  
**Marilyn Sadowski**, *Receptionist*  
**Bernadette Anna**, *Parish Sacristan*  
**Michael La Haye**, *Head of Maintenance*  
**Anthony Vitali**, *Maintenance*

\*✉:

fr.matt@icchicago.org  
 fr.rcarlton@icchicago.org  
  
 rmoritz@icchicago.org  
  
 vkennedy@icchicago.org  
 swill@icchicago.org  
 m.anna@icchicago.org  
 parishbulletin@icchicago.org  
 parishoffice@icchicago.org

**\*Please note:** new email addresses of our Parish Staff

**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, February 8th –**  
**7:00 P.M. – Alpha Session; Zoom**

**Wednesday, February 10th –**  
**7:00 P.M. – Pastoral Council Mtg.; Zoom**  
**7:30 P.M. – Parents Club Mtg.; Zoom**



**For more information on upcoming events, or to register for our Masses or Confessions, please visit our new parish website @ [www.icchicago.org](http://www.icchicago.org)**

**2020 Contribution Statements**

Contribution Statements for tax purposes are now available for pick up in our Parish Office. If you would prefer to receive your statement via postal mail or email, please contact our Parish Office with your request at: 773.775.3833 or [m.anna@icchicago.org](mailto:m.anna@icchicago.org). We thank you for your faithful & generous support of our parish!

**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](http://www.icchicago.org) to join our parish family.

**Bulletin Deadline:** The deadline for all bulletin submissions is Friday at Noon – 8 days prior to the Sunday it will appear. Bulletin submissions are accepted via email at: [parishbulletin@icchicago.org](mailto:parishbulletin@icchicago.org) (**\*Please note: new email address.**)