Welcome to

Immaculate Conception Parish

A Catholic Community Inviting People to Follow Christ

January 1, 2023 - The Solemnity Of Mary, Holy Mother of God



"When the fullness of time had come, God sent his Son, born of a woman."
- Galatians 4:4

Love God • Serve Others • Make Disciples

av God bless us in his mercy.

Contact Us

1: 773.775.3833

: 7211 W. Talcott Avenue Chicago, IL. 60631

⊠: parishoffice@icchicago.org

Parish Office Holiday Hours:

(December 27th through January 7th)

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

Sunday: Closed

Parish Website:

■: www.icchicago.org

School Website:

■: www.iccowboys.net

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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



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)

Confessions:

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

(Special dates & times offered during Advent & Lent)

Baptisms:

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

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.

A New Year 2023

After our Arctic Christmas, we look to a New Year and, of course, the continuation of our Christmas Season.

I hope many of you have kept your decorations and trees, because for us Christians the celebration of Christmas extends well into January. The <u>Holy Family</u> is celebrated this New Year's weekend, and of course we consecrate the new year through the Blessed Virgin Mary. We then celebrate the <u>Epiphany</u> on the weekend of the 8th. Some go even a step further, like me, to celebrate through February 2nd, the <u>Feast of the Presentation</u>.

Advent is merely the preface to the holy days which celebrate family, and a family's relationship with God. My prayer for you all, as your pastor, is to grow closer to God this year. There is no shortage of stories of unrest, war, politics, division, poverty — both physical and spiritual — and many other things. The light of God dispels the darkness of what we perceive. We will find evil if we choose to see it in everything. We will find God, even in darkness, if we choose to seek Him.

It is why this season is a hopeful one. God is with us. He is at work in our community. I have seen the good many people do here despite their own suffering. Religion requires sacrifice and the people of Immaculate Conception have offered sacrifice to rebuild the spiritual walls of our Church. The work is not over, though. We need our families now more than ever. Parents must endeavor to teach their children about Christ, to place into their minds the words of prayer and Scripture, and to live justly so that they can meet the world with confidence and faith.

We need worship, and people gathering together to worship. I hope that each of you who read this feel the call to be with us and pray. I hope that each of you who pray with us also help to draw others to us. I want our Church to be a place where God's peace is found. May God bless our community and our work together.

As we look to the future, I also look with gratitude at the past. My thanks to the work of my Councils: Parish Council (led by *Suzanne Witz*), Finance Council (led by *Ed Peters*), and School Board (led by *Bridget McDonald*). My thanks to our Holy Name Men's Club and Parents' Club for their work on behalf of our parish and school.

I am also thankful for our Connect Team which began Summer of 2022. It represented a major step in our development of our Leadership Process and our progression from Alpha.

Rob Lohman and Theresa Borowski endeavored to organize service projects in our local area with our Connect Team and Alpha Alumni. We have done our best to serve people out of love, showing our love for God by how we serve others. Thank you to everyone who donated food in December and for everyone who gave their time during a busy Advent season.

Next weekend, we will be calling upon all parishioners to consider joining our Alpha program, which I cannot suggest highly enough. Open your hearts to His will this year, and in doing so, be open to one another.



IC Alpha Alumni volunteering @ Self-Help Closet & Pantry of Des Plaines on December 17th

May God bless us with good health and just works. Through Mary, our Mother,
- Fr. Matt







IC Cherub Concert







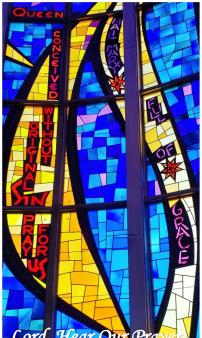








Please join our parish family in prayer ...



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 Ledoina Monacelli Mira Moroz Molly Morris Veronica Murillo Timothy Murray

Brendan Nelson Anne O'Brien Iohn O'Brien Jackie O'Koniewski David Olson Ashton Peterson Leo Pfest Mary Potwora 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:

Victoria H. Keenan Helen T. Rasmussen Eva E. Tarenski



"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, January 1st through Sunday, January 8th

Sunday, January 1st - The Solemnity of Mary, The Holy Mother of God (New Year's Day)

5:00 P.M. (Saturday) — †John Chaplin (Birthday Remembrance); †JoAnn Barder; †Erin Adreani; and †Joseph Henmueller 8:30 A.M. — †James Duffy; and †Francis & Moira Cross 10:30 A.M. — †Jack Simone; †Tommy Fuller; †Ben Guazzo; †Marianne Shaw; and The People of the Parish

Monday, January 2nd - Saints Basil the Great and Gregory Nazianzen, Bishops and Doctors of the Church 8:30 A.M. - [†]Juana & Domingo Medrano; and [†]Ponciana Esguerra

Tuesday, January 3rd - The Most Holy Name of Jesus 8:30 A.M. — [†]Norman B. Schroeder; [†]Stella Zablocki; and [†]JoAnn Barder

Wednesday, January 4th - Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton, Religious 8:30 A.M. - [†]Poor Souls In Purgatory

Thursday, January 5th – *Saint John Neumann, Bishop* 8:30 A.M. – †Dolores Capra (Birthday Remembrance); and †Gaetana "Donna" Bova

Friday, January 6th - Saint Andre Bessette, Religious

Saturday, January 7th - *Saint Raymond of Penyafort, Priest* 5:00 P.M. — †Charles "Chuck" Johnson; †Diane Sprincz (Birthday Remembrance); and †JoAnn Barder

Sunday, January 8th - The Epiphany of The Lord 8:30 A.M.- †Dennis Jaburek; and †Raymond & Sophia Starzynski 10:30 A.M. - †Chuck Johnson; †Deceased Members of The Furgat Family; †Catherine Lacey; †Paul Haugh; †Sean Nee; †Rosario Bongiovanni; †Phyllis Ventura; †Laura Bush; †Gregory A. Tomaino; The Cozzo-Puccio Families (Living); The Altman Family (Living); and The People of the Parish





Pope Tweet of the Week...

"God is faithful to His promises and guides our steps in the way of #peace. He guides the steps of those who journey on Earth with their gaze turned toward Heaven."





You're Invited ...

Join us for our upcoming Winter 2023 Alpha Session @ IC!

Alpha allows you to explore questions of the Christian faith in an open-minded and friendly environment. There's no cost and no pressure! Just lots of great conversation and space to think.

Each session begins with a meal, followed by a video presentation, then small group discussion. An hour and a half of the best time you will spend in an evening - or weekend morning!

Sign up now... spots are limited and fill up fast! Visit us at: icchicago.org/connect/alpha.cfm for more information and to register.

Our Winter Alpha Session begins on **Saturday, January 21**st (8:30-10:00 A.M.) and **Monday, January 23**rd (7:00-8:30 P.M.)

Coffee House: Next Sunday, January 8th (hosted by our IC Alpha Team)







Dr. Andrew Jarosz & Dr. Megan Smith

Gospel Meditation - Encourage a Deeper Understanding of Scripture



We hide ourselves and our secrets from God because we are afraid. Even Mary can seem too perfect to approach. The shepherds find the strength to speak to Mary and Joseph *at the moment they see the child in the manger*. They open their hearts and share what they've experienced. Saint Luke writes of the shepherds, "When they saw this, they made known the message that had been told them about this child."

When I was a college student, I visited Rome. Beggars often approached and

said, "Mangia? Mangia?"

I didn't speak Italian and thought, "Why are they speaking about the Christmas nativity scene?" My friend said, "Mangia means eat. They're hungry." That's when I realized more deeply than ever before that Mary puts her baby in a place designed for hungry animals to eat.

See that baby in the manger in your heart. Imagine Mary kneeling nearby looking at you with love. She doesn't cling to God for herself. In that cave, from the beginning, she quietly offers her son to hungry souls. The manger means vulnerable self-offering love. That's the sign. This week that same manger opens our hearts to tell Mary about our lives, too.

- Father John Muir ©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.





Parish Office Holiday Hours

As of **Tuesday**, **December 27**th and continuing through **Saturday**, **January 7**th, our Parish Office will be open from 9:00 A.M. until 2:00 P.M.

Our Parish Office will be closed in observance of *New Year's Day*: **Friday, December 30**th **through Monday, January 2**nd

Ministry Sched	ıles: Saturday, Janua	ry 7 th & Sund	iy, January 8 th
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	Saturday 5:00 P.M. Mass Epiphany of the Lord	Sunday 8:30 A.M. Epiphany of the Lord	Sunday 10:30 A.M. Epiphany of the Lord	
Presiders	Fr. Matthew Heinrich	Fr. Robert Fedek	Fr. Matthew Heinrich	
Lectors	TBA	ТВА	ТВА	
Cantors	Vocal Quartet	Vocal Quintet	Vocal Quintet	
Extraordinary Ministers	R. Altman	C. Mulligan	E. Niewinski & D. Mroz	
Altar Servers	ТВА	ТВА	ТВА	



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, January 2nd -

Parish Office Closed

9:00 A.M.-3:00 P.M. - Winter Break Sports & Games Camp; PC

Tuesday, January 3rd -

9:00 A.M.-3:00 P.M. – Winter Break Sports & Games Camp; PC

Wednesday, January 4th -

9:00 A.M.-3:00 P.M. — Winter Break Sports & Games Camp; PC 7:00-9:00 P.M. — Parish Pastoral Council Mtg.; RA

Thursday, January 5th –

9:00 A.M.-3:00 P.M. - Winter Break Sports & Games Camp; PC

Friday, January 6th -

9:00 A.M.-3:00 P.M. – Winter Break Sports & Games Camp

Concludes; PC

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

Saturday, January 7th -

5:00 P.M. – Mass; CH

Sunday, January 8th - The Epiphany of the Lord

8:30 A.M. – Mass; CH

9:30 A.M.-12:30 P.M. - Coffee House (Hosted By: IC Alpha Team); RA

10:30 A.M. - Mass; CH

11:30 A.M.-3:00 P.M. - Latvian Community Christmas Celebration; PH

Your Gifts to God and Parish...

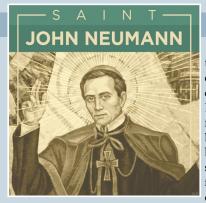
If you plan to move from our parish, please notify our Parish Office at least three months prior to your change of address. Also, if you will be away from home for more than 3 months, please contact us so that your envelopes can be stopped during that time period.

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: 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





Saint of The Week - Examples of Our Faith: Saint John Neumann (January 5th)

St. John Neumann is the patron saint of educators, immigrants, and, due to the miracles that secured his canonization, sick children. This is a fitting patronage as he was a lover of education and learning from a very young age. In fact, when he was a child, his mother called him "my little bibliomaniac" due to his preoccupation with reading. Born in 1811 Bohemia, in what is now the Czech Republic, he attended the university in Prague preparing for ordination. However, his local bishops were not ordaining new priests at the time because Bohemia was overstocked with priests. He inquired about ordination all over Europe but received the same answer everywhere. Not one to be deterred, John then applied to several United States dioceses. Receiving no immediate responses, the saint took a leap of faith and decided to just immigrate to the United States in 1836, during his 25th year, with only \$40 in his pocket. This risk paid off when he was ordained in New York a month later.

Early in his priesthood he worked primarily as a missionary to German immigrants in Buffalo. His missionary work also created an opportunity for him to spend time in Maryland, Virginia, Michigan, and Ohio. When he was 29, he joined the Congregation of the Most Holy Redeemer (Redemptorists), a congregation of priests and brothers dedicated to helping the poor and most abandoned. He was their first member to profess vows in the United States.

In 1852, at the age of 41, Neumann became the fourth Bishop of Philadelphia. During this time, he organized the individual parochial schools in his region into a diocesan system. This change allowed Catholic schools to quickly increase the number of pupils enrolled by almost twentyfold. Over the course of his ministry, St. John expanded the number of Catholic schools in his diocese from 2 to 100! His passion for education extended to immigrants, like himself, and his love for learning languages made it possible for him to hear confessions in English, Spanish, French, Italian, Dutch, and Gaelic!

A man of the people, he could often be found outside the church walls visiting people who were sick, staying in taverns and public houses to teach, and celebrating Mass in people's homes at their kitchen tables. He was canonized on June 19, 1977, following three miracles, two of which regarded the healing of youth from grave illnesses. St. John Neumann was the first American man to be canonized a saint. ©LPi

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