

Welcome to
Immaculate Conception Parish

A Catholic Community Inviting People to Follow Christ

January 31, 2021 - Fourth Sunday In Ordinary Time

Celebrate Catholic Schools Week: January 31st - February 6th



*"The people were astonished at his teaching, for he taught them
as one having authority and not as the scribes."*

- Mark 1:22

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

School Website:

💻: 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



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

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 2)

Last week I wrote about the Greatest Commandment, both my inspiration for emphasizing it and how I have researched it. I have been inspired these last few years by St. Bonaventure and recently I have investigated the Abbey of St. Victor (the Victorine Fathers), who dedicated much of their own writing on the matter.

When I wrote about St. Bonaventure last week, he made two major points:

- 1) God is the source of love and the perfection of love, and so we can only progress in love in Him and through Him.
- 2) We need to take a serious account of ourselves and our love, which is to say: to what extent do I actually love others?

Much of what inspired Bonaventure was St. Augustine, but he was also influenced by the Victorines, who likewise reflected on Scripture and Augustine.

Hugh of St. Victor writes of love, *"When [love] moves in a disorderly fashion toward those things which it should not, it is said to be cupidity [greed]; but when it is ordered, it is called charity. ... When [love] is bad, great evils come forth; and when it is good, such good things come forth!"*

Order is the keyword here. The classical understanding of "order" is what we might call priorities today. What can be prioritized? Hugh claims that it can be desire, thoughts, and pleasure.

We hear a lot about meditation and mindfulness today. I suppose there is not anything inherently wrong with meditation, but my critique of the modern form of it is that it is ultimately selfish in nature. We focus on ourselves; we look to find ourselves; we acknowledge ourselves. For my own part, this is only a piece, a stone, in the whole structure of meditation. In meditation, we can become aware of our desires, thoughts, and joys. Yet, through what method do we examine, criticize, refine, and realize these things? Modern meditation offers no certain criterion; it is left to our own judgment. If our judgment is flawed, however, what good does it do for the blind to lead the blind?

God has provided for us the Greatest Commandment: *"Love the Lord your God with all your heart, all your mind, all your soul, and all your strength...* and the second is likewise, *"love your neighbor as yourself."*

Our religion is not a self-focused enterprise. It is never *my* faith, but always *ours*. God has called us to be holy, but he has called us to be a *"holy nation, a royal priesthood, a people of his own"* (1 Pet 2:9).

Next week, we will look at how from the starting point of the Greatest Commandment we can order our desires, thoughts, and joys at the suggestion of our forefathers. Meditation and contemplation can be the tools of our growth in love.

Fr. Matt





2021 Annual Catholic Appeal: Announcement Weekend (January 30th-31st)

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

Many families in our parish will be receiving the Annual Catholic Appeal mailing from Cardinal Cupich. On behalf of those served by the ministries, parishes and schools who receive funding from the Appeal, we thank you for your gifts. Please return your response as soon as possible.

The Annual Catholic Appeal offers a wonderful opportunity to answer Jesus' call to *"Come, follow me ... and bring hope to the world."* This is especially important during these trying and challenging times. Many in our parishes are affected financially by the pandemic, and we encourage giving at all levels to support this initiative.

In addition to providing for ministries and services throughout the Archdiocese, the Annual Catholic Appeal funds services in our own parish.

When we financially support the work of our parish, our Archdiocese and the Catholic Church throughout the world, we experience a feeling of deep gratitude, especially when we contemplate God's many gifts to us personally. By sharing our wealth through gifts to the 2021 Annual Catholic Appeal, we demonstrate our commitment to the Church and to each other.



a dozen reasons to choose Catholic Schools



Please join our parish family in 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:

Ruth Kremer (Sister of Charles Kremer)
James "Jimmy" Byrne (Brother of Betty Duffy)
Margaret A. "Peggy" Hart



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

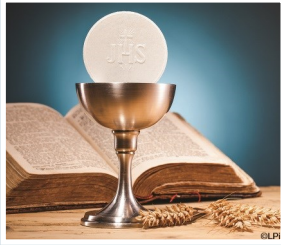


For those who serve our country:



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 that provides information that can be of assistance.



*Mass Intentions:
Sunday, January 31st
through
Sunday, February 7th*

Sunday, January 31st - Fourth Sunday In Ordinary Time

5:00 P.M. (Saturday) - †Michael O'Donnell

8:30 A.M. — †Domenico Siciliano; and The People of the Parish

10:30 A.M. — †Mary O'Donnell; and †Roy Lago

Monday, February 1st - Weekday

7:00 P.M. (Virtual Mass) — †Ruth Kremer

Tuesday, February 2nd - The Presentation of the Lord

7:00 P.M. (Virtual Mass) — Ed & Joan McGee (on their 58th Wedding Anniversary) (Living)

**Wednesday, February 3rd - Saint Blaise, Bishop and Martyr;
Saint Ansgar, Bishop**

8:30 A.M. (Virtual Mass) — †Jaime San Juan (Birthday Remembrance)

Thursday, February 4th - Weekday

7:00 P.M. (Virtual Mass) — †Robert Kale

Friday, February 5th - Saint Agatha, Virgin and Martyr

5:30 P.M. & 7:00 P.M. (Virtual Mass) — †Eileen "Nellie" Gavin;
†Patricia P. Dunleavy; and †Carlo Paura (on his 39th Anniversary)

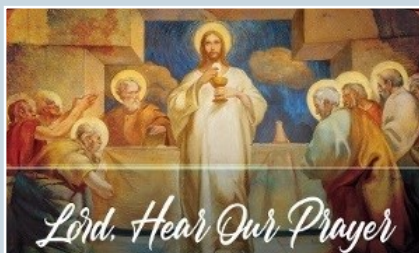
**Saturday, February 6th - Saint Paul Miki and Companions,
Martyrs**

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

Sunday, February 7th - Fifth Sunday In Ordinary Time

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; and The People of the Parish



January 31st through February 6th

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

Ed & Joan McGee
(on their 58th Wedding Anniversary)



January 31st through February 5th

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

Jaime Hernandez



January 31st through February 5th

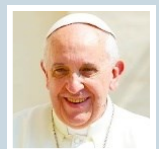
Our St. Joseph Votive is burning this week for the repose of the souls of

Paul & Joan Larson



Pope Tweet of the Week...

"The #WordOfGod consoles and encourages us. At the same time it summons us to conversion, challenges us, frees us from the bondage of our selfishness. For His word has the power to change our lives and to lead us out of darkness into the light."



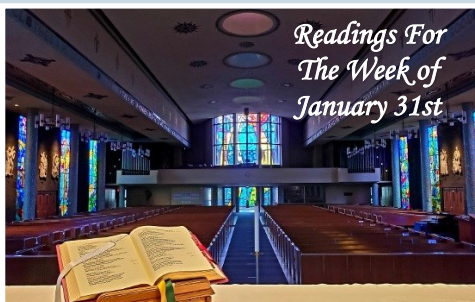
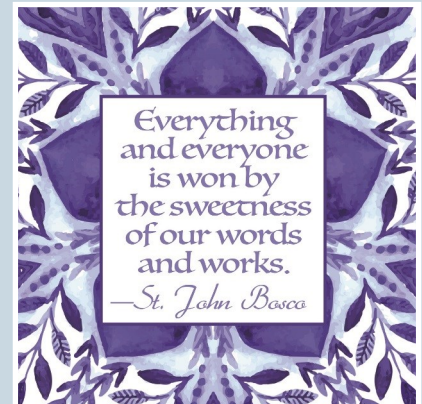


Luke Ace Sever
Child of David Mark and Mary (Moloney) Sever

Live The Liturgy: Inspiration For The Week...

Most of us are not trail blazers. Throughout history though, there have been many folks who tirelessly and persistently pursued the promptings of their hearts without giving any care to what others thought or trends dictated. Jesus is one of them. St. Teresa of Calcutta and St. Francis of Assisi are examples of others. The rest of us are people who take a more measured look at things, want to test the waters, and take our time choosing what path or person to follow. We need credible witnesses of faith. We need the Moses people in our lives to show us by word and deed who God is and what integrity and a purpose-driven life looks like. They are the pointers to truth, who even though they struggle themselves, seem to embody an unspoken timeless wisdom that just sounds and feels right. Jesus taught with this same type of authority and caught the attention of the greatest of skeptics. They were astonished. Even though we need our human prophets we can also be somewhat prophetic ourselves by putting integrity and conviction behind our embrace of the Gospel. Perhaps much to our surprise, we all have the power to be a credible witness. Are you willing to give it a try?

©LPi



Sunday: Dt 18:15-20/Ps 95:1-2, 6-7, 7-9 [8]/1 Cor 7:32-35/Mk 1:21-28

Monday: Heb 11:32-40/Ps 31:20, 21, 22, 23, 24 [25]/Mk 5:1-20

Tuesday: Mal 3:1-4/Ps 24:7, 8, 9, 10 [8]/Heb 2:14-18/Lk 2:22-40 or 2:22-32

Wednesday: Heb 12:4-7, 11-15/Ps 103:1-2, 13-14, 17-18a [cf. 17]/Mk 6:1-6

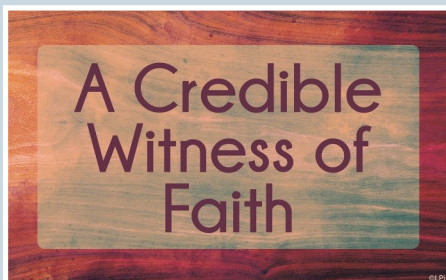
Thursday: Heb 12:18-19, 21-24/Ps 48:2-3ab, 3cd-4, 9, 10-11 [cf. 10]/Mk 6:7-13

Friday: Heb 13:1-8/Ps 27:1, 3, 5, 8b-9abc [1a]/Mk 6:14-29

Saturday: Heb 13:15-17, 20-21/Ps 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6 [1]/Mk 6:30-34

Next 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

Gospel Meditation - Encourage a Deeper Understanding of Scripture



Most of us are quiet people who desire to live a good and holy life, promote the values and mission of the Gospel as best we can and desire to one day inherit the surprise of life eternal God promises to us. We are not trail blazers. We are simple people who want to do the simple things of life well. But there are others who left a more profound impact along the way of the paths they walked. Folks like Dorothy Day, Martin Luther King, Thomas Merton, Gandhi, St. Teresa of Calcutta, and many others left lasting impacts and legacies. Like Moses, they show us by word and deed who God is and what integrity and a purpose driven life look like. They show us how to be holy. We need Moses people like these to give us inspiration, hope and an example of holy living.

We do not need to do what they did or even mirror their relationship with God. Each one of us is God's special creation, with a purpose and soul known only to us. We need to learn how to open up and bring, without compromise, our soul-ness to life. We know when someone is authentic and centered because they always point to truth, even though they struggle and sin themselves, and they embody an unspoken timeless wisdom that just sounds and feels right. Jesus taught with this same type of authority and it astonished many who listened. We do not need to move mountains, advance a cause, write books or become notable. All we have to do is become credible witnesses of the faith we profess. Moses people can teach us how to do this.

St. Oscar Romero was an amazing man and a Moses figure for sure. He saw God in the burning bush and brought the flame of Gospel faith to the poorest of the poor, challenging the evils of the society in which he lived. He was tireless and persistent. He must have gotten very close to the problem because it cost him his life. He suspected it would. St. Romero said, *"When we leave Mass, we ought to go out the way Moses descended Mt Sinai: with his face shining, with his heart brave and strong to face the world's difficulties."* We can learn from this wisdom. If we allow the power of the Mass to truly transform us, we will leave that holy encounter changed. Our face will shine, and we will have courage. We can then bring what we have received to life's challenges. That sounds doable, doesn't it? Because of the example of our simple holiness, people will be amazed.

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Everyday Stewardship – Recognize God in your Ordinary Moments

Embracing Change in Christ...

It's officially one month since we popped the champagne, toasted 2021 and wrote down a list of resolutions. This is usually the time when we start to take a good, hard look in the mirror to assess what we have done — or have not done — with the first month of this brand-new year.

New years can be scary, can't they? Full of promise, sure, but also full of room for failure. Full of space for our old baggage, old fears and the continuation of old mistakes.

The same can be said of Christ, and the new life he offers us, if we are brave enough to accept it. Opportunities like that can be intimidating. In that moment, we might find ourselves like the man with the unclean spirit crying out: *"What have you to do with me, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us?"*

Jesus is a comforter of the afflicted; he is a consoling figure, but he is also a challenging one. Sometimes we have grown attached to our afflictions. The idea of correcting bad habits or forming new ones is frankly terrifying to us. We have a voice deep inside who sees Christ and his invitation to repentance, and it cries out in fear: *"I know who you are!"*

When we live in the present, disavowing the baggage of the past or fear of the future, we submit ourselves to the promise of redemption. Let us be brave everyday stewards and invite Christ's healing power into our lives. We won't regret it — I'm sure the demoniac never did.

— 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 1st –
7:00 P.M. – Alpha Session; Zoom

Tuesday, February 2nd –
6:00-7:00 P.M. – Confessions; Church

Thursday, February 4th –
8:00-9:30 P.M. – Holy Name Men's Club Mtg.; Zoom

Friday, February 5th –
5:30 P.M. – Mass; Church
6:00-7:00 P.M. – First Friday Nocturnal Eucharistic Adoration; Church



For more information on upcoming events, or to register for our Masses or Confessions, please visit our new parish website @ www.icchicago.org

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 (*Please note: new email address.)