

Welcome to the Parish of
Immaculate Conception

A Catholic Community Inviting People to Follow Christ

July 26, 2020 - Seventeenth Sunday In Ordinary Time



"We know that all things work for good for those who love God, who are called according to His purpose."

- Romans 8:28

Love God, Serve Others, Make Disciples

Immaculate Conception Parish



Gather with us virtually as we pray with, and for, one another during our Masses which are broadcast live through **Twitch TV** (www.twitch.tv/icchicago) and through **Facebook Live** on our Facebook page: *Immaculate Conception Parish Chicago (Talcott)*. Direct links to both platforms are easily accessible on our parish website (www.icparish.net). For your convenience, all Masses are recorded and archived for a limited time.

We also invite you to pray the **Rosary** and **Divine Mercy Chaplet** with us daily (Monday through Friday) at **3:00 P.M.** via Zoom. Additional instructions on how to join us are available on our website.



Lucas DeGuia Aguilar
Child of Rampelle Querido and Heather (DeGuia) Aguilar



Phase 2 Preliminary Reopening Mass Schedule:

Sunday Mass in Church (with reserved seating)
@ 8:30 A.M. & 10:30 A.M.

Please visit www.icparish.net to register.

First Friday Mass & Adoration in Church (with reserved seating) @ 5:30 P.M. (August 7th)

Worship with IC from home...

Sunday Virtual Mass @ 10:30 A.M.

Daily Virtual Mass @ 7:00 P.M. (Monday through Friday)



Opportunities for **Confessions** will be offered on the first and third Tuesdays of each month from **6:00-7:00 P.M.**
Next Opportunities: *August 4th & August 18th
***Reservations are required.**

Support IC through Give Central...

We are truly grateful for the continued generosity of our faithful parishioners as we would not be able to maintain our parish and continue our mission without you.

If you are able, please consider contributing electronically via Give Central at www.givecentral.org/location/349 to assist us in maintaining the vital ministries and services we provide on behalf of our community. If you have any questions regarding setting up your online donations through Give Central, please contact our Parish Office at 773.775.3833 and a member of our Parish Staff will be happy to assist you.

If you would prefer to support our parish with an offertory donation through cash or check, please mail your envelopes to our Parish Office at:

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



"You will be enriched in every way so that you can be generous on every occasion, and through us your generosity will result in thanksgiving to God." - 2 Corinthians 9:11

Navigating a Pandemic Part II...

It's easy to offer answers and sound confident, but all of us have to navigate this pandemic with our own thoughts and feelings. I loved poetry when I was younger and two poems have stood out to me for years.

The first is by John Donne, this part from his famous "*No Man is an Island*," where he writes,

"No man is an island entire of itself; every man is a piece of the continent, a part of the main;"

The other is far lesser known, but one of my favorites by Matthew Arnold. This excerpt is from "*To Marguerite: Continued*,"

"Yes! in the sea of life enisled, With echoing straits between us thrown,
Dotting the shoreless watery wild, We mortal millions live *alone*.
The islands feel the enclaspings flow, And then their endless bounds they know."

While at first Donne's poem seems hopeful and Arnold's dreary, both have a melancholy tone. Behind it, however, are two men who struggle with our common experience: there is pain in being together and there is pain in being apart. For Donne, there is a sorrow in our shared experience of loss, and for Arnold, a sorrow in our shared experience of isolation. Why do I say all this? The sense I get from both of these poems all these years later, is the courage it takes to confront this sorrow. If we can confront it and feel it, there is a confidence we can have about life. Isolation is nothing to be afraid of, and in the eyes of faith, even death is powerless. "*Death is swallowed up in victory. Where, O death, is your victory, where, O death, is your sting?*" (1 Cor 15:55).

Life is beautiful in its own way, and the emotions we feel and struggle with are beautiful in their own way too. Sorrow, I believe, allows us to sympathize with the common sadness and yearning we all feel. The better we sympathize, the greater we are able to love. Even Christ could say, "*My soul is sorrowful even to death.*" (Mt 28:38) For this reason "*we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who has similarly been tested in every way, yet without sin. So let us confidently approach the throne of grace to receive mercy and to find grace for timely help.*" (Heb 4:15-16)

Many people turn to many things in order to escape sorrow, boredom, fear, and even emotions themselves. My hope is that people are better able to turn to faith, which does not ask us to destroy life, but to be masters of it. "*I came that they might have life and have it more abundantly.*" (Jn 10:10) Part of this mastery is our ability to love. The ability to love means to have the power to feel and to feel with someone. Part of this mastery means to think, reflect, and understand with humility and courage. In short, to love God with our heart, mind, and soul. Art, like the poetry I quoted above, gives us free access to these feelings and allows us to see its beauty. Music and art have this power, and its something we can be thankful for. In a way, this moment in history has emphasized our isolation, while in other ways it emphasizes our shared plight.

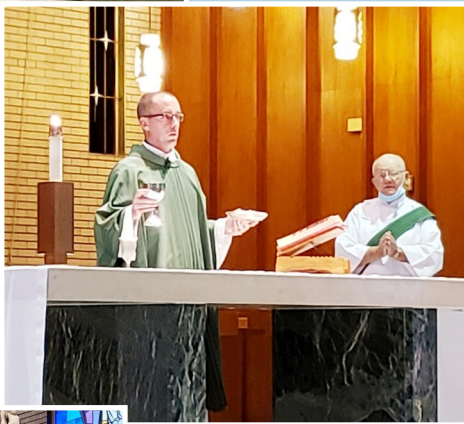
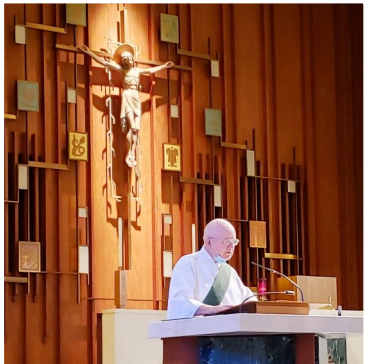
In reality, every moment only emphasizes what we already know, but fail to recognize freely: our broken, but nevertheless beautiful, humanity—the same that God loves and raises up. So do not be afraid. If God is for us, who (or what) can be against us?

Fr. Matt



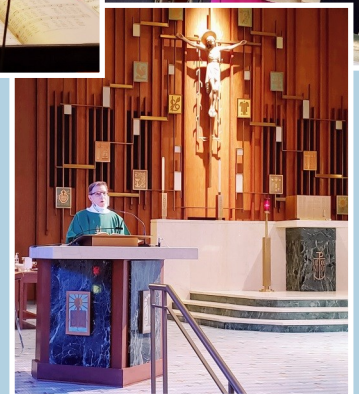
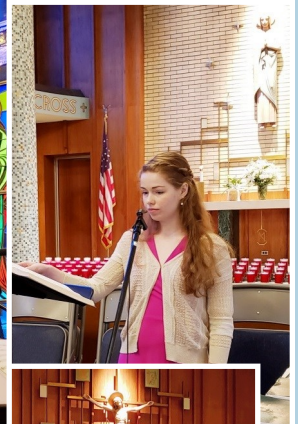
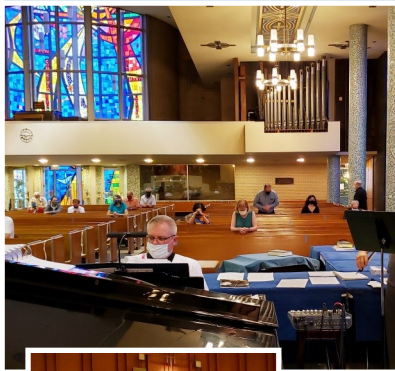
Immaculate Conception Parish

Scenes from our 10:30 A.M. Mass as our parish family gathered with us on Sunday, July 19th as Fr. Robert Carlton celebrated his first Mass as our Associate Pastor...



Immaculate Conception Parish

Snapshots from our 8:30 A.M. celebration of the Eucharist with our Weekend Assistant, Fr. Robert presiding...

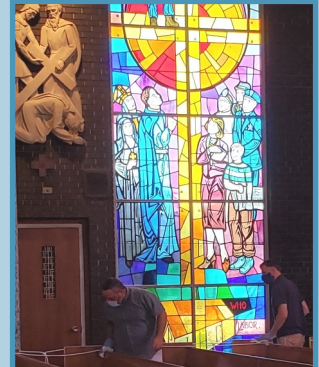




VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

We are still actively recruiting additional volunteers to help staff our Greeting and Cleaning teams (led by our dedicated Captains, Darlene Mroz & Joe Jummati). If the Spirit moves you and you would like to volunteer to assist us with our ongoing reopening process, please complete our Parish Reopening Team Volunteer Form located at: <https://forms.gle/irmheB4qaeyPtDQu7>. (A direct link to our volunteer form is also easily accessible on our parish website at www.icparish.net.) Thank you for your prayerful consideration!

"The harvest is abundant but the laborers are few; so ask the master of the harvest to send out laborers for his harvest" - Luke 10:2



Why Do We Do That? Catholic Life Explained...

Lighting Candles in Church

Question:

Why do Catholics light candles in church?

Answer:

Candles have been a part of the Church's worship from the earliest times. In the days before electricity, candles and oil lamps were the ways that people lighted buildings. Even today, we often still depend on candles during power outages, relying on their flickering flames to bring light into the darkness.



Like our ancestors, we also light candles on special occasions. Think about a festive family meal or a romantic dinner for two – there will often be candles on the table, special objects for a special event. We light candles on birthday cakes and carry them in processions. We also place candles at makeshift memorials that appear when there has been an accident or an act of violence. In these moments, their light casts aside a different kind of darkness – the darkness of grief, fear, and death.

The custom of the early Christians lighting candles and lamps at the tombs of the martyrs gave way to the practice of having candles at Mass, honoring the sacredness of the celebration. As Christians decorated their worship spaces with statues and icons, they would burn candles in front of sacred images and the relics of the saints, basically "shining a light" on what they held to be sacred. When pilgrims would visit these shrines, they would often bring candles to light before the image or relic. These candles came to be a symbol of the person, and their prayer and the burning of these candles came to be understood as an extension and continuation of the prayer that was offered. What began as a practical way to provide light has come to be a symbol of the hopes, desires, loves, losses, fears, and faith of everyday Christians offering their prayers to God and his saints.

Gospel Reflection...



*"The kingdom of heaven is like a treasure buried in a field, which a person finds and hides again, and out of joy goes and sells all that he has and buys that field."
- Matthew 13:44*

Jesus offers several "end of the age" parables to the disciples: buried treasure and fine pearls (a priceless discovery) and the large catch of fish (an inclusive invitation). What do you think Jesus is teaching his disciples about the kingdom of heaven?

Immaculate Conception
School

A Great Place to Learn!



Summer Tours are Available.

**To schedule, please call the
School Office at 773-775-0545.**

Live the Liturgy – Inspiration for the Week

When a merchant finally finds a priceless, perfect pearl, he sells all he has and buys it. He does this because that pearl matters to him. It has significance and brings a depth of joy like none other. What matters and is of importance to you? When what matters to us has something to do with the kingdom of God, God is delighted. His exuberant happiness is hard to contain because He knows that we are happy stumbling upon this beautiful wisdom. Ask God to help you discover this pearl of great price. There are many things competing for our attention every day. But not all of these things are important. We focus too much energy on the unimportant, superficial stuff and neglect paying attention to the things that really make a difference and have the greatest impact. Things all too easily become more significant than people, and our agendas become more essential than God's. We do not have to empty our bank accounts and totally detach from everything we have in order to serve God. But, we are asked to prioritize our lives and make what matters to God what matters most to us. In doing so, when we rise each day, we will be able to see what really needs our attention and embrace it with great joy! ©LPi

**"WE BECOME WHAT
WE LOVE AND WHO
WE LOVE SHAPES
WHAT WE BECOME."**

ST. CLARE OF ASSISI

Michael & Kate Pruski and their daughters Ayla & Brooklyn

Kevin & Tiffany Walsh and their children Matthew, Thomas, & Louise

Walter & Elaine Labuz and their sons Walter & Patrick

Anthony & Jennifer Scriven and their daughters Isabella & Olivia

Daniel Lapinski & Kristin Jones and their son Patrick

Patrick & Bridget Maguire and their daughters Fiona & Ava



Immaculate Conception Parish

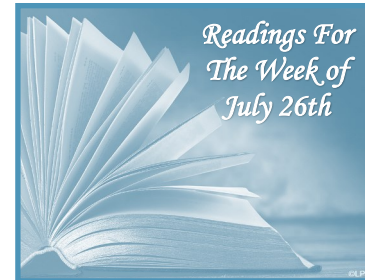
PRAYER LIST FOR THE SICK

Concetta Bartucci	Arlene Lacey-Beyna
Melissa Bednarz	Richard Losik
Celerina Behrman	Benny Martinez
Robert Behrman	Edwin Martinez
Sonia M. B.	Frank Martinez
Vince Caeti	Jan Merino
Jackie Campbell	Veronica Murillo
Rita Castillo	Timothy Murray
James Covello	Mae O'Donnell
Sherry Crocifisso	Jackie O'Koniewski
Ronnie Cunningham	Mary (Kores) Potwora
Richard Flanagan	Bill Remblake
Brooke Foreman	Sebastian L. Rivera
Lila Gehner	David Rodriguez
Irene Hand	Elaine Schatz
Ofelia Hernandez	Edward Stanczyk
Nancy Kinzie	Steven P. Trifilio
Craig Kloss	John Varallo
Lillian Kohut	

Eternal Rest Grant Unto Them...

Please join our parish family in prayer as we honor our faithful departed:

Jean Wesolowski



Connect with our Parish Staff...

Although our Church building will be open on a limited basis, our Parish Office will continue to remain closed for the time being. In the meantime, our Parish Staff is still available to assist you. Please don't hesitate to contact us at 773.775.3833 (voicemails are monitored daily) or connect with us via email at frontdesk@icparish.info with any questions, concerns or needs that may arise during this time.

Please take comfort in the knowledge that you are loved, missed and prayed for daily by all of us.

WHAT'S HAPPENING @ IC

For more information on upcoming events, please visit our parish website at www.icparish.net.

Please note: As a precautionary measure, all previously scheduled activities, meetings, and events have either been canceled or postponed until further notice. Additional scheduling changes may occur as the situation continues to develop.

Pope Tweet of the Week...

"On the Day of Judgment we will not be judged for our ideas, but for the compassion we have shown to others."



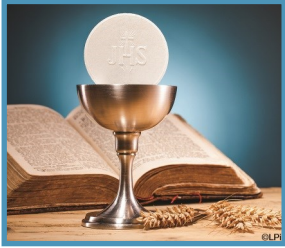
Sunday: 1 Kgs 3:5, 7-12/Ps 119:57, 72, 76-77, 127-128, 129-130 [97a]/Rom 8:28-30/Mt 13:44-52 or 13:44-46
Monday: Jer 13:1-11/Dt 32:18-19, 20, 21 [cf. 18a]/Mt 13:31-35
Tuesday: Jer 14:17-22/Ps 79:8, 9, 11 and 13 [9]/Mt 13:36-43
Wednesday: Jer 15:10, 16-21/Ps 34:2-3, 4-5, 6-7, 8-9, 10-11 [2]/Jn 11:19-27 or Lk 10:38-42
Thursday: Jer 18:1-6/Ps 146:1b-2, 3-4, 5-6ab [5a]/Mt 13:47-53
Friday: Jer 26:1-9/Ps 69:5, 8-10, 14 [14c]/Mt 13:54-58
Saturday: Jer 26:11-16, 24/Ps 69:15-16, 30-31, 33-34 [14c]/Mt 14:1-12
Next Sunday: Is 55:1-3/Ps 145:8-9, 15-16, 17-18 [cf. 16]/Rom 8:35, 37-39/Mt 14:13-21

Your Gifts to God and Parish

If you plan to move from the 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 call our Parish Office, so your envelopes can be stopped for that time period. If you use electronic giving and still receive envelopes, please contact our Parish Office so that we can discontinue your receiving of envelopes.

BULLETIN DEADLINE: The deadline for all bulletin submissions is Friday at noon – 8 days prior to the Sunday it will appear. The email address is icparishbulletin@gmail.com.

PARISH REGISTRATION: Please contact our Parish Office at 773.775.3833 or visit our parish website at www.icparish.net for additional information.



**Mass Intentions:
Sunday, July 26th through
Sunday, August 2nd**

Sunday, July 26th - Seventeenth Sunday In Ordinary Time

5:00 P.M. (Saturday) - †John Bielski, Sr.; and †James F. Hegarty (Death Anniversary)

8:30 A.M.— †Francis & Moira Cross; and †Poor Souls In Purgatory

10:30 A.M.— †Daniel Steppan, Sr.; †Fillat Godman; and Dr. Daniel Dalinghaus & Family (Living)

6:00 P.M. - The People of the Parish

Monday, July 27th – Weekday

8:30 A.M.— †Joseph Zagotta (Birthday Remembrance)

Tuesday, July 28th - Weekday

8:30 A.M.— †Martha Petramala (Birthday Remembrance)

Wednesday, July 29th - Saint Martha

8:30 A.M.— †Jane Strom; and †Adeline Rokicki

Thursday, July 30th – Saint Peter Chrysologus, Bishop and Doctor of the Church

8:30 A.M. — The Staff At Resurrection Medical Center (Living)

Friday, July 31st - Saint Ignatius of Loyola, Priest

8:30 A.M.— †Alfonso Gempis (on his 1st Anniversary); and The ICU Staff at Resurrection Medical Center (Living)

Saturday, August 1st - Saint Alphonsus Liguori, Bishop and Doctor of the Church

5:00 P.M. - †Mary A. Hegarty (Death Anniversary)

Sunday, August 2nd – Eighteenth Sunday In Ordinary Time

8:30 A.M.— †Tommy Fuller; and Erma Kinzie (on her 62nd Birthday) (Living)

10:30 A.M.— †Pietro Biancorosso; †Serafina Nocito; †Francis & Moira Cross; †Mirta Urizarri (Birthday Remembrance); †Krystyna Sadowska; †Gerald Michalek, Sr. (on his 12th Anniversary); †Marni Michalek Mensching (on her 2nd Anniversary); †Daniel Steppan, Sr.; and †Michael Laufenberg (Birthday Remembrance)

6:00 P.M. — The People of the Parish



July 26th through August 1st

The sanctuary lamp is burning this week for the repose of the soul of

Joseph Zagotta

Requested by: Cathy Zagotta



July 26th through July 31st

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

Richard Smola



July 26th through July 31st

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

Helga Jarosz

PRAY FOR OUR MILITARY

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. Army - Thomas Treslo National Guard Specialist 4th Class

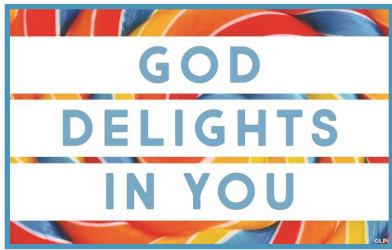
U.S. Navy - CMDR Michael Brasseur, Lt. Christopher Jenkins, PO Thomas T. Tudisco

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. Marine - Sean Gronset, PFC Sebastian L. Rivera, Jr., PFC Christopher Hughes, PFC Algene D. Porticos

Let us pray for these women and men and all who are serving in the military. Please contact our Parish Office when these service people return home. If you are a veteran or know a veteran, the Archdiocese of Chicago has a website: vets.archchicago.org that provides information that can be of assistance.

Gospel Meditation - Encourage a Deeper Understanding of Scripture



A single mother who has a child with special needs works two jobs and sacrifices much of her own pleasures in order to be available for her son. Being the best mother possible is important to her and brings her joy. We are willing to make great and often heroic sacrifices for those people and things that matter most to us. Unless there is something of obvious importance to us in our immediate path, we can easily approach life in a more haphazard and chaotic way. We jump from one thing to another, responding to whatever it is that is competing for our attention at that moment. When everything is important, nothing is important.

If we do not wear the right pair of glasses, we can get all too easily caught up in the superficial stuff and neglect paying attention to the things that really matter. The kingdom of God is like the pearl of great price that is worth selling everything for so that it can be obtained. Based on where I invest my time and energy each day, I really wonder whether I am serving God's kingdom or my own. Have you ever considered tracking how you spend your time? You may be surprised! We allow our agendas to set the clock of our lives. We forget that joy and a true sense of purpose are not going to be found in following that timepiece. Joy is the expression of the happiness that is discovered when living in the kingdom of God. When our agenda matches God, not only do we leap for joy but God leaps with delight as well. Our well-being is what matters most to God.

Can you imagine God delighting in you? It is easy to deaden our senses to the whole reality of God and the joy that living the Gospel can bring. The demands of secular life and the agendas competing for our attention can quickly do that. We can get tired and spiritually apathetic. But if we can see our way through all of the conflicting voices and hear the voice of God, we can rediscover our zeal and passion and redirect our efforts. When we begin to see as God sees, we can rise each day and notice what really needs our attention and embrace it with exuberance. Be careful, though. It may not be what we originally had on our list. Responding to it, however, will be worth putting everything else aside.

©LPi

Everyday Stewardship – Recognize God in your Ordinary Moments

What Is God Asking of You?

What are you willing to give for the sake of the kingdom of God? Often, we begin a discussion like this with a story or a few leading thoughts. However, if we are to be serious about who we claim to be as Christians, there should be no beating around the bush. The question is not only important for each of us and our relationship with our God, but it should be important for the relationship each of us has with the entire Body of Christ. Like any good team or family, I need you to have my back, and I need to have yours. If one of us is going to lay it on the line and be all in for our faith, then we *all* need to be as well.



If only all the Christians of the world felt the same way. In some parts of the world, Christians are still being martyred for their faith. Others must worship underground and avoid the government-led police. Then there are those who seem to take faith for granted, and because little is asked by their friends or parish, they give nothing. It is quite a contrast of situations.

On this day, it may seem like little is being asked of you and I by God. Is that because we aren't being asked or because we aren't listening? If you are counting on me and I am on you, we should figure this out sooner than later. Of course, I suspect we actually do know the answer, don't we?

– Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS