# Welcome to the Parish of Immaculate Conception

A Catholic Community Inviting People to Follow Christ

July 5, 2020 - Fourteenth Sunday In Ordinary Time





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.



Joseph Emerson Nee Child of Joseph Eamon L Anne Marie (Emerson) Nee



#### Phase 2 Preliminary Reopening Mass Schedule:

Sunday Mass in Church (with reserved seating) @ 8:30 A.M. & \*10:30 A.M. (\*Beginning July 12th)

\*First Friday Mass & Adoration in Church (with reserved seating) @ 5:30 P.M. (\*Resumed on July 3rd) Please visit www.icparish.net to register.

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.** \*Tuesday, July 7th & \*Tuesday, July 21st \*Reservations are required.

#### Post-Mass Virtual Hospitality -

Coffee & Chat

Sundays @ 11:15 A.M.



Zoom Room: 89760488093 Password: 456016

We invite you to connect with us via Zoom (**www.zoom.us**) for our Post-Mass Coffee & Chat Room gathering following the conclusion of our 10:30 A.M.

#### 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 <u>www.givecentral.org/location/349</u> 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

# To everyone at Immaculate Conception,

I'm happy to write to you for the first time as your Pastor. When I met with Fr. Robert two and a half years ago, we discussed the possibility of working together. I soon visited IC and found a friendly staff and a warm community. I was attracted to a parish and school that wanted to grow. Over these past two years, Fr. Robert and I can both say with confidence that we have worked hard on behalf of our parish community. More importantly, many wonderful people have worked with us on our Parish Council, Finance Council, Core Leadership Team, School Board, Men's Club, Parents Club and Athletic Committee. We have truly accomplished a lot together, and two years have just flown by.



Little did we know what 2020 would bring. We as a country, and as individuals, have suffered in our own ways. Nevertheless, we worked together. As a staff, we offered Masses online during this pandemic, contacted our vulnerable parishioners over the phone, and had many wonderful volunteers step forward as we reopened our doors.

I truly believe IC will grow stronger as a result of what we are experiencing today. During this pandemic, we've learned new ways to stay connected and to sympathize better with those who have been disconnected. Already, we plan to offer our Masses in some way online into the future, to further serve our homebound and vulnerable parishioners. Likewise, this effort will allow others access to the Word of God who would not be able to join us otherwise.

We have also worked for many months to express our vision, our goals, our plans, and our faith. All things are rooted in God and, as I often tell our children, the primary goal of our faith is found in the Greatest Commandments: "To love God with all your heart, mind, and soul and to love your neighbor as yourself."

Love is expressed in our affection for one another. It is expressed in our intentionality, to bring people to worship God in a meaningful way. It is expressed in our desire to draw others to the love of God. This can only be done through an active, visible, and tangible love. This is the heart of our mission, to "love God, serve others, make disciples."

I hope that you will work together with me to realize the vision that Fr. Robert, our leadership teams, our neighbors, friends, and I have all collaborated on—our pastoral plan to see our parish grow more fruitful and vibrant.

I recently commented to Fr. Robert that, when he was a priest for five years, he became a Pastor and saw Priesthood in a new way. In the same way, five years after my own Ordination, I take this next, new step. There is much to learn and much to do, but I have had many great mentors, Fr. Robert included, who will continue to guide and teach me.

Know of my continued affection and love for Immaculate Conception. Be well and safe during this pandemic and rest assured that we will all be together again!

Fr. Matt

### New Weekend Mass Schedule...

As you might have noticed, we have had to modify our Sunday morning Mass schedule. We introduced our 8:30 A.M. Mass on Sunday, June 21st as we gratefully welcomed our parish family back home for our celebration of the Eucharist following our prolonged separation from one another. Beginning next **Sunday, July 12<sup>th</sup>**, we will introduce our **10:30 A.M. Mass**. Due to limited attendance restrictions, reservations will be required for both of our Sunday Masses. As always, please visit our parish website at <u>www.icparish.net</u> to register. For those unable to attend either of our Masses, our 10:30 A.M. Virtual Mass will continue to be broadcast via Twitch TV and Facebook Live as well. For our older members, as well as those with underlying medical conditions, who understandably might not feel comfortable gathering with us in-person quite yet, please rest assured that the dispensation from Sunday Mass and Holy Days of Obligation continues during this time.



Our current plan is to continue with our two Sunday morning Masses for the next two weekends, July 12<sup>th</sup> & July 19<sup>th</sup>, and reassess afterward in consultation with our Parish Reopening Leadership

Team. If all goes according to plan, we hope to possibly resume our Saturday 5:00 P.M. Mass of Anticipation towards the end of July (providing that the number of regular Mass attendees merit adding another Mass to our schedule at that point, and providing that we have adequate staffing, volunteer-wise, to support offering another Mass.) We anticipate that our Sunday Evening Mass at 6:00 P.M. will return at some point in the future, but we don't have an estimated timetable as of yet for when that will occur.

Once we are fully operational again as a parish (at some point in the hopefully foreseeable future), our new Weekend Mass Schedule going forward will be: Saturday: 5:00 P.M. (Mass of Anticipation) Sunday: 8:30 A.M. Mass, 10:30 A.M. Mass & 6:00 P.M. Mass (Our 10:30 A.M. Virtual Mass on Sundays will also continue to be broadcast via Twitch TV and Facebook Live.)

For those members of our parish family who have offered Mass intentions on behalf of their loved ones, (originally scheduled at our previous Sunday Morning Mass times: 7:30 A.M., 9:30 A.M. & 11:15 A.M.), please rest assured that those names will still be remembered and honored at the next closest available Mass time on your chosen date. (i.e. 7:30 A.M. & 9:30 A.M. intentions will be transferred to our 8:30 A.M. Mass, while 11:15 A.M. intentions will be transferred to our 10:30 A.M. Mass.) If you would prefer to select a different Mass time for your previously scheduled intentions, please contact our Parish Office and a member of our Parish Staff will be happy to accommodate your request. We apologize for any inconvenience that this scheduling change may cause.

We realize that change can be difficult (even under the best of circumstances.) Our decision to revise our Weekend Mass Schedule was made in consultation with both our Core Leadership Team as well as our Pastoral Council with the best interests of the future of our parish firmly in mind. For practical purposes (given our current circumstances), a modified Sunday Morning Mass schedule was required in order to allow ample time for the cleaning and sanitization of our Church in between each Mass, as we are truly committed to maintaining the health and safety of our parish community during this time. We are also trying to be mindful not to overburden our dedicated team of volunteers who have graciously committed to assist us with our reopening process (as required by our Archdiocese), despite many demands upon their time, including both work & family commitments. We truly would not be able to accomplish the reopening of our Church without their considerable efforts.

In the future, once life returns to some semblance of normalcy and the social-distancing restrictions have been lifted, our plan is to eventually offer our parish family hospitality opportunities at our Sunday Morning Masses as our Parish Leadership Team remains committed to improving our weekend experience going forward. In addition to the planned installation of our new Sound and Video System later this year, our new Sunday Morning Mass schedule will allow us the opportunity and flexibility to truly focus our energies and effectively channel our resources into offering the best of ourselves (musically-speaking, as well as hospitality-wise, etc.) as we strive to provide our parishioners and guests with a transformative Sunday experience in the near future.

We appreciate your continued patience and understanding as well as your commitment to our parish as we work together as a parish family to truly make IC, the place to be. As always, we encourage you to monitor our parish website for the latest details regarding our reopening as well as for additional updates to our schedule as they become available.





#### Dear Fr. Robert,

On behalf of the IC Parents Club, we would like to thank you for your dedication and support for all of our Parents Club endeavors through the years. We always appreciated the time you spent attending our Parents Club meetings and events. Your contributions to IC are numerous and we will always remember our time with you fondly. Best of luck on your new opportunity with the Archdiocese...they will be lucky to have you. You will be missed.

Sincerely, The Immaculate Conception Parents Club



#### Father Robert,

On behalf of the men of ICHNS, congratulations on your new position with the Archdiocese. We are grateful to have had you as our Pastor for the last three years. Thank you for your support and for everything that you have done for our Parish, School and Men's Club. We have accomplished a lot recently, because you always strive to make our community a better place to worship and learn. Thank you for shepherding us through this recent pandemic and unrest, keeping us together as a community even though we were physically apart. Peace be with you, Father Robert.

- Rob Lohman, Corresponding Secretary (IC Holy Name Men's Club)



#### Celebrating Our Freedom...

Heavenly Father, You have given us the gifts of life and liberty and entrust to Your people the duty to guard these gifts wherever they are threatened. Help us to protect the freedom of all to follow the Gospel of Your Son, Jesus Christ, and to bring His light and truth to the ends of the earth. Guide all who play a role in enacting legislation to uphold the freedom of conscience of all citizens. Send us Your Spirit to inspire in us the wisdom and courage needed to witness to the truth and to stand up for all whose religious liberty is endangered.

> We ask this through Christ, our Lord. Amen. Mary Immaculate, Patroness of our country, pray for us.





## PRAYER LIST FOR THE SICK

Concetta Bartucci Melissa Bednarz Celerina Behrman Robert Behrman Sonia M. B. Vince Caeti Jackie Campbell **Rita Castillo** James Covello Sherry Crocifisso Ronnie Cunningham Richard Flanagan Brooke Foreman Lila Gehner Irene Hand Ofelia Hernandez Nancy Kinzie Craig Kloss Lillian Kohut

Arlene Lacey-Beyna Richard Losik **Benny Martinez** Edwin Martinez Frank Martinez Jan Merino Veronica Murillo **Timothy Murray** Mae O'Donnell Jackie O'Koniewski Mary (Kores) Potwora Bill Remblake Sebastian L. Rivera David Rodriguez Elaine Schatz Edward Stanczyk Steven P. Trifilio John Varallo

#### Wedding Banns...

Please join our parish family in prayer as we prepare to celebrate the Wedding of:



Rachel Margaret Thanas and Matthew Robert Brill

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.

# Pope Tweet of the Week...

"Only those who see with the heart see things well, because they know how to "look into" each person: to see a brother or sister apart from his or her mistakes, hope amid difficulty. They see God everywhere."



## Eternal Rest Grant Unto Them...

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

Boguslawa "Bonnie" Kraus Marcia A. Karbowski (Wife of Daniel) Angeline N. Molfese



**Sunday:** Zec 9:9-10/Ps 145:1-2, 8-9, 10-11, 13-14 [cf. 1]/ Rom 8:9, 11-13/Mt 11:25-30

*Monday:* Hos 2:16, 17b-18, 21-22/Ps 145:2-3, 4-5, 6-7, 8-9 [8a]/Mt 9:18-26

*Tuesday*: Hos 8:4-7, 11-13/Ps 115:3-4, 5-6, 7ab-8, 9-10 [9a]/ Mt 9:32-38

**Wednesday:** Hos 10:1-3, 7-8, 12/Ps 105:2-3, 4-5, 6-7 [4b]/ Mt 10:1-7

*Thursday*: Hos 11:1-4, 8e-9/Ps 80:2ac and 3b, 15-16 [4b]/ Mt 10:7-15

*Friday*: Hos 14:2-10/Ps 51:3-4, 8-9, 12-13, 14 and 17 [17b]/ Mt 10:16-23

**Saturday:** Is 6:1-8/Ps 93:1ab, 1cd-2, 5 [1a]/Mt 10:24-33 **Next Sunday:** Is 55:10-11/Ps 65:10, 11, 12-13, 14 [Lk 8:8]/ Rom 8:18-23/Mt 13:1-23 or 13:1-9

# WHAT'S HAPPENING AT 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.

**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 5th through Sunday, July 12th

Sunday, July 5 - Fourteenth Sunday In Ordinary Time 5:00 P.M. (Saturday) - <sup>†</sup>Nick Demczuk; and <sup>†</sup>Erin Sampey (on her 9th Anniversary) 8:30 A.M.— <sup>†</sup>Martha Petramala; and <sup>†</sup>Medard Schronski 10:30 A.M.— <sup>†</sup>Pietro Biancorosso; <sup>†</sup>Serafina Nocito; <sup>†</sup>Francis & Moira Cross; <sup>†</sup>Julia Stirling; and <sup>†</sup>Krystyna Sadowska 6:00 P.M. - <sup>†</sup>Tommy Fuller

Monday, July 6 – Saint Maria Goretti, Virgin and Martyr 8:30 A.M.— <sup>+</sup>Greg Nastaly

**Tuesday, July 7 - Weekday** 8:30 A.M.— Fr. Robert Fedek (on his Birthday) (Living)

Wednesday, July 8 - Weekday 8:30 A.M.— Melissa Bednarz (Living)

Thursday, July 9 – Saint Augustine Zhao Rong, Priest and Companions, Martyrs 8:30 A.M. — <sup>†</sup>Genevieve Maurer

Friday, July 10 - Weekday 8:30 A.M.— <sup>†</sup>Elizabeth Serafin

Saturday, July 11 - Saint Benedict, Abbot 5:00 P.M. - <sup>†</sup>Nora & John Joyce & Families

Sunday, July 12 – *Fifteenth Sunday In Ordinary Time* 8:30 A.M.– <sup>†</sup>Henry Kilian; <sup>†</sup>Barbara Sanders; <sup>†</sup>Giuseppe Di Maria (on his 22nd Anniversary); <sup>†</sup>Francis & Moira Cross; <sup>†</sup>Doris Kech; <sup>†</sup>Giovanni & Rosalia Porcelli; and <sup>†</sup>Krystyna Sadowska 10:30 A.M.– <sup>†</sup>Irene Covello 6:00 P.M. – The People of the Parish



# PRAY FOR OUR MILITARY

<u>U.S. Army</u> - 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



We are all familiar with the refrain, "You have put on Christ. In him you have been baptized. Alleluia, alleluia!" In Baptism, we "put on" Christ. In putting on Christ, we put on all that Christ is and represents: hope, faith, and love. We are no longer bound to the sins and failures of the flesh, that part of us that resists God and relies exclusively on human means. It also means that we are not in debt to our past, complete with its sins, failures, regrets, fears, and unfulfilled dreams. There is always hope. In putting on Christ,

we put on God's vision for the world, for all of His children and for us. We have been given a road map to guide our paths and a blueprint to follow for our life's journey.

There is no need for regret, and we are not tethered to our past. Is there anything in your past that you regret? Any decision or memory that continues to haunt you? We have all made mistakes, and we have this uncanny ability to continue beating ourselves up over things we can no longer do anything about, except learn from them. To put on Christ means that I can now bring God's unconditional love to my hurtful memories and sinful choices. With each new moment and every new choice, I can start clean and live in freedom.

Imagine adults when the disciples were preaching and baptizing. They came to baptism not really knowing who they were, with pasts that were broken, seeking to live the joy of the Gospel they heard spoken to them and wanting the love they saw witnessed in the lives of those who believed. What tremendous celebrations their baptisms must have been! They could now have the support of a community, full participation in the sacraments of the church, focus for their disordered lives, consolation, healing, and an understanding of what life is really all about.

Our lives are meant to be celebrations of the Spirit we have received in Baptism. How does that joy get expressed in and through you? When we truly understand that we have put on Christ, our burdens can become much lighter. It is odd that so many Christians look like they are carrying the weight of the world on their shoulders. Wouldn't it be wonderful if those weights could be lifted and joy experienced!

©LPi

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

#### Faith Like a Child...

If you Google Search recommendations on how to raise generous children, almost every list of ideas begins with — or at least contains — the directive for adults to be good models of generosity themselves. Our children learn from our actions much more than from our words. Of course, when I think back over the years while my children were growing up, I think I may have learned as much from them as they learned from me. There is a time between early childhood and middle school where a child seems to be freer to give and share than at any other time in life. It is around the age of First Communion when the cries of "mine" turn to laughter and smiles, and the urge to be a part of something bigger than oneself leads to sharing. Before you know it, the child hits the pre-teen years, and once again, he or she becomes the center of the universe.



I believe that the previous paragraph is all true, however, the stages described seem to repeat themselves throughout adulthood. Don't you agree? Sometimes we fall into seeing ourselves as the center of the universe, or we become consumed by our state in life or with what we have acquired. Also, we at times are generous and loving people. It is sin that draws us back into ourselves and away from any meaningful life of stewardship and generosity. In order to be freed for love, we need role models to help us see what really matters. We need to reflect on the example of many of our brothers and sisters in Christ. And, yes, we need to look to children who may be at the point in their lives where sharing is fun, and love is something in abundance.

– Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS ©LPi