

Welcome to
Immaculate Conception Parish

A Catholic Community Inviting People to Follow Christ

June 11, 2023 - The Most Holy Body And Blood Of Christ (Corpus Christi)



Praise the Lord, Jerusalem.

IC Altar Servers

*"The bread that we break, is it not a participation in the body of Christ?
Because the loaf of bread is one, we, though many, are one body, for we all partake of the one loaf."
- 1 Corinthians 10:16-17*

Love God • Serve Others • Make Disciples

Contact Us

☎: 773.775.3833

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

✉: parishoffice@icchicago.org

Parish Office Summer Hours:
(effective as of June 12th)

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

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)

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.
(*Rosary Prayers & Chaplet of Mercy prayed after Weekday Masses*)

(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.

Scan the QR Code below:



Text-To-Give: Text “**Sunday**” to 773-915-0503



IC 4th & 5th Grade Students Visit The Naper Settlement

Our Fourth & Fifth Grade students were time travelers during their recent field trip to the *Naper Settlement* in Naperville, IL. as they visited this 19th century history museum that tells the story of how people lived during this time period in northern Illinois. The children explored a one-room schoolhouse, a post office, a chapel, a blacksmith, etc. and enjoyed this unique opportunity to travel back in time.





IC School Awards: 2022-2023 Academic Year



Parents Club

Scholarship:

Isabelle Cox
 Roxy DiBartolo
 Terence Forbes
 Olivia Magruder
 Madison Moorehouse

High School

Scholarships:

Notre Dame Scholars:

Sully McGrath
 Richard Riordan

Resurrection Block

Scholarship:

Roxy DiBartolo

St. Patrick:

Patrick Hulne, *Academic Merit Award*
 Patrick Beckman, *Legacy Award*
 Jack Koenig, *Legacy Award*

Norwood Park Chamber Of Commerce Certificate Of Scholarship:

Olivia Magruder

National Junior Honor Society Class of 2023:

Kailyn Bowers
 Phillip Chachaj
 Isabelle Cox
 Roxy DiBartolo
 Terence Jason Forbes
 Patrick Hulne
 Jack Koenig
 Kaylin Liebich
 Olivia Magruder
 Rocco McGee
 Sullivan McGrath
 Emily Miehlich
 Madison Moorehouse
 Sophia Negron
 Richard Riordan
 Peter Stefanec
 Aubrey Steurer
 Kara Yau

Don Moore Student Athlete Award:

TJ Forbes
 Kaylin Liebich

Spanish Awards:

Isabelle Cox
 Roxylana DiBartolo
 Olivia Magruder
 Sophia Negron
 Victor Petrenko
 Richard Riordan
 Katherine Wiesneth
 Kara Yau

House Prefects:

Anthony House:

Patrick Haugh
 Richard Riordan
 Kara Yau

Canterbury House:

Patrick Beckman
 Shannon Curry
 Mary Emerson

Gaelic House:

Vinny Cambria
 Sofia Maggio
 Natalia Nowicki

Jude House:

Patrick Beckman
 Shannon Curry
 Mary Emerson

Michael House:

Vinny Cambria
 Phillip Chachaj

William House:

Phillip Chachaj
 Olivia Hajdu
 Sophia Negron

Highest Grade Point Average (GPA):

Grade 1:

Elijah Carcellar
 Emma Escher
 Margaret Hughes
 Charlie Janner
 Riley Jennings
 Alex Martinez
 Elijah Pina
 Brooke Wickery

Grade 2:

Zeke Bautista
 Tyler Borkowski
 Eamon Brennan
 Mason Casal

Sophia Cerceja
 Evan Diaz
 Eloise Galeno
 Quinn Gillespie
 Leo Jendras
 Charlie Phillips
 Brady Quinn
 Kevin Quinn
 Autumn Reynolds
 Margaret Serb
 Reese Wickery

Grade 3:

Brigid Brezina
 Jack DeVito
 Timothy Egan
 Adriana Ehrhard
 Avery Geyer
 Savannah Haney
 Landon Labuz
 Elfie Repel
 Jude Malbrough
 Helen Serb
 Neva Talanian

Grade 4:

Luca Casal
 Madeline Conner
 Joseph Haugh
 Reagan Jennings
 Jonathan Nelson

Grade 5:

Caroline Egan
 Jordan Geyer
 Liv Haney
 Norah Malloy

Grade 6:

Thomas Cox
 Zoryana DiBartolo
 Isabella Galarza
 Isla Hammersmith
 Dean Rottman
 Mylee Tadin

Grade 7:

Mia Arreguin
 Caroline Beach
 Matthew Gallagher
 Natalie Malloy

Grade 8:

Isabelle Cox
 Roxylana DiBartolo
 Olivia Magruder
 Sullivan McGrath
 Emily Miehlich

Madison Moorehouse
 Sophia Negron
 Richard Riordan

Student Council

Officers:

Sully McGrath, *President*
 Madison Moorehouse, *Vice President*
 Isabelle Cox, *Secretary*
 Caroline Beach, *Treasurer*

Most Improved In Academics:

Grade 1:

Desmond Ryan
 Gabrielle Via

Grade 2:

Fiona Maguire
 Maggie McDonald

Grade 3:

Max Currie
 Anthony Pekic

Grade 4:

Joey Lite-DePasquale
 Geneva Stuber
 Edward Tague

Grade 5:

Connor Fleming
 Marino Gomez

Grade 6:

Alexis Davis
 Ryann Orlando

Grade 7:

Logan Traversa

Grade 8:

Angelina Kalou

Student Council Homeroom

Representatives:

Declan Brennan
 Madeline Conner
 Tommy Cox
 Caroline Egan
 Cody Forbes
 Matthew Gallagher
 Joseph Haugh
 Jack Koenig
 Luke LaFramboise

Sienna Lohman
 Rocco McGee
 Olivia Medina
 Brenna Mullane
 Maura Mullane
 Jonathan Nelson
 Oscar Polanco
 Katie Rahlfs
 Dean Rottman
 Mylee Tadin

Altar Servers:

Olivia Accardo
 Caroline Beach
 Patrick Beckman
 Kailyn Bowers
 Karly Bowers
 Ella Carroll
 Kaylin Catomer
 Isabelle Cox
 Tommy Cox
 Nora Eaglin
 Shannon Eaglin
 Joseph Galeno
 Matthew Gallagher
 Katelyn Giannola
 Danny Gillespie
 Shea Gillespie
 Ellie Hyland
 Lucas Love
 Isabella Luna
 Isabel Magruder
 Olivia Magruder
 Ashleigh McMahon
 Emily Miehlich
 Madison Moorehouse
 Jonathan Nelson
 Katie Rahlfs
 Nora Rahlfs
 Grant Reichle
 Eamonn Serb
 Caleb Villafane
 Brexton Yak
 Kara Yau

Chorister Of The Year Award:

Olivia Kostecki

(Cont...)



IC School Awards: 2022-2023 Academic Year

Band Awards:

Zachary Chakir –
Gold Medal
Isabelle Cox –
Perfect Score
Thomas Cox –
Perfect Score
Daniel Kostecki –
Silver Medal
Olivia Kostecki –
Gold Medal
Grace Kraushaar –
Gold Medal
Norah Malloy –
Gold Medal
Emily Miehlich –
Gold Medal
Sophia Negrón –
Gold Medal
Eamonn Serb –
Gold Medal

Matthew Stefanec –
Gold Medal
Aidan Tom –
Gold Medal

Outstanding Service Awards:

Logan Bock
Isabella Galarza
Giada Rocha
Lucia Rocha
Mylee Tadin

Drama Awards:

Silas Allbritton
Marvin Bonnstetter
Vinny Cambria
Isabelle Cox
Roxy DiBartolo
London Diblich
Mary Emerson

Jack Koenig
Claire Kristensen
Johnny LaFramboise
Olivia Magruder
Sully McGrath
Danny McGreevy
Madison Moorehouse
Natalia Nowicki
Eddie Stachura
Peter Stefanec
Katherine Wiesneth
Kara Yau

Battle Of The Books:

Team 1:
Olivia Accardo
Madeline Conner
Isabelle Cox
Maddie Davis
Norah Malloy
Sophia Marlega

Penelope Zambrano

Team 2:

Caroline Beach
Thomas Cox
Isabella Kotuk
Olivia Magruder
Nora Rahlfs

Team 3:

Bridie Hanley
Jack Koenig
Pherrin Magis
Samuel Paxson
Katie Rahlfs
Izzy Wielgus

Team 4:

Vince Cambria
Alexis Davis
Caroline Egan

Joseph Haugh
Isabel Magruder
Tommy Paxson
Carina Pol

Travel Team:

Olivia Accardo
Caroline Beach
Maddie Conner
Caroline Egan
Bridie Hanley
Joey Haugh
Pherrin Magis
Sophia Marlega
Carina Pol
Izzy Wielgus



Please join our parish family in prayer ...

For those who are sick;



Tom Altman
Paul Amandes
Amelia Aquino
Arnold B.
Robert Behrman
Sonia M. B.
Roberta Berger
Vince Caeti
Mary Cali
Donna Chaplin
Truman Collins
James Covello
Ronnie Cunningham
Paige Dicks
Margarita DiSalvo
Emily Divarco
Eric Dulce
Lilia Dulce
Ozzie D'Souza
Valerie Dziekonski
Richard Flanagan
Brooke Foreman
Patricia Furgat
Lila Gehner
Gloria Hernandez
Ofelia Hernandez
Mike Hickey
Judy Hull

Mary Ann Schmitt Hurtig
Kevin Jaburek
Vivian Jester
Stephanie Kamenicky
Wayne Kinzie, Sr.
Donna Kirk
Craig Kloss
Ronald Kogol
Lillian Kohut
Katherine Kreuser
Anthony LaPash
Dawn LaVeau
Sean Lucas
Nathan Maisel
Benny Martinez
Edwin Martinez
Frank Martinez
Elsa Mazzoni
Nikki Mendoza
Pat Miaso
Gerry Michalek, Jr.
Helen Michalek
Ledoina Monacelli
Marta Morales
Deacon Rick Moritz
Veronica Murillo
Mike Murphy
Timothy Murray

Brendan Nelson
Phillip Nuccio
Anne O'Brien
John O'Brien
Jackie O'Koniewski
David Olson
Ashton Peterson
Leo Pfest
Mary Potwora
Baby Fiona Prades
Bill Remblake
Joe Rispoli
Pia Rizza
David Rodriguez
Cindy Rupp
Gerri Schultz
Edward Stanczyk
Jack Stewart
Jill Swagler
Alma T.
Donna Tisdale
Beckie Tomala
Steven P. Trifilio
Mary Ellen Vanderman
Louis Ward
Miss Westhoff
Rita Zambon
***Newly Added**

For our faithful departed:

Lee Heinrich (Uncle of Fr. Matt)
Mary D. Quinn (Mother of John Quinn)
Fernando Gonzalez



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

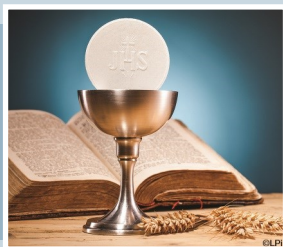


For those who serve our country:



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, Ensign Marina J. Monacelli
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 Wiczorek, LCpl Luis A. Corea

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, June 11th
through
Sunday, June 18th*

Sunday, June 11th – The Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ (Corpus Christi)

5:00 P.M. (Saturday) – †Marie Conway; †Dorothy Estrada (on her 19th Anniversary); †Elizabeth Serafin (on her 7th Anniversary); †Stanislaw Swiderski; †Amy Witz; and Tony & Geethi Kurian (on their Wedding Anniversary) (Living)

8:30 A.M. – †Marie Frances Hagarty

10:30 A.M. – †Donna Marie Haywood; †Carmen & Irene Covello; †Virgilio Ayala (Death Anniversary); †Francis & Moira Cross; †Lee Heinrich; Philip & Tran Abraham (on their 1st Wedding Anniversary) (Living); and The People of the Parish

Monday, June 12th – Weekday (Tenth Week In Ordinary Time)

8:30 A.M. – †Amy Witz; and All Priests (Living)

Tuesday, June 13th – Saint Anthony of Padua, Priest and Doctor of the Church

8:30 A.M. – Abigail Gonsalves (Living); The Medrano Family (In Thanksgiving) (Living); and Marlene Pagnucci (Living)

Wednesday, June 14th – Weekday

8:30 A.M. – †Steven Saccomonto; †John Sexton; and †Marie Hagarty

Thursday, June 15th – Weekday

8:30 A.M. – †Leon Lacey, Sr.; and †Mary S. Alvarez

Friday, June 16th – The Most Sacred Heart of Jesus

8:30 A.M. – †Poor Souls In Purgatory

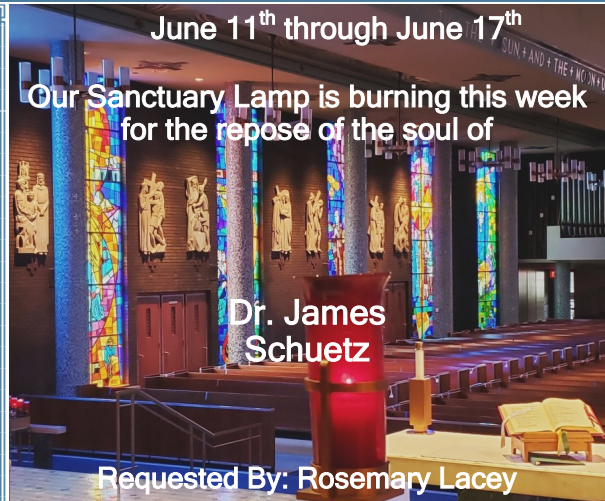
Saturday, June 17th – The Immaculate Heart of The Blessed Virgin Mary

5:00 P.M. – †Marie Frances Hagarty; †John J. Joyce; †Henry Kilian (on his 3rd Anniversary); and †Stanislaw Swiderski

Sunday, June 18th – Eleventh Sunday In Ordinary Time (Father's Day)

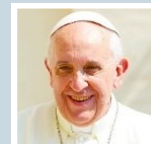
8:30 A.M. – †Vicente B. Daylo (Birthday Remembrance); †Walenty Poniecki; †Kazimierz Jurka; †Edward A. Mazur; †Frank Pesce; †John Plantago; and †Michael Connolly

10:30 A.M. – †John Plantago; †Frank Pesce; †Frank & Margherita Martino; †Anna & Nicola Chiusolo; †Paul Kokalj; †Manuel Mendoza; †Arthur J. O'Koniewski; †Arthur E. O'Koniewski; †Ted Wojcik; †Ed Mazur; †Ben Opiela; †Lib & Marie Allocco; †Harriet Schronski; †Virgilio Ayala; †Brendan Hagarty, Sr.; †Joseph Pavone; †Leonardo Positano; †Michael Pavone; †Vito Positano; †Francis & Moira Cross; †Tom Anna; †Edwin Sikorski, Sr.; †Lee Heinrich; and The People of the Parish



Pope Tweet of the Week...

"Dear parents, never tire of talking about your faith to your children: may you always have the strength to be mediators of the faith you received from your parents."



This Weekend @ IC: Second Collection - Priests' Health & Retirement Fund

Parish Office Summer Hours

ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO
PRIESTS' HEALTH
& RETIREMENT



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AND RETIREMENT
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Priests' Health and Retirement/PRMAA
1400 South Wolf Road | Building 3, Floor 2 | Hillside, IL 60162 | 708.449.8026 | prmaa.org

Beginning **this Monday, June 12th** (and continuing throughout the Summer until School resumes in August), our Parish Office will be open to serve you from **9:00 A.M. until 2:00 P.M. Monday through Saturday**. As always, our office will be closed on Sundays. Please plan accordingly.



Join Our Parish Family



*Sean & Melissa Brice
and their daughter Amelia*

*Donald & Kelly Lupo
and their children Jake, Alora, & Raeah*

Welcome to all visitors and guests!
Interested in joining
our IC Parish family?
Register @ icchicago.org

IC Holy Name Society Annual Chicago White Sox Baseball Outing - Monday, June 19th

Hello IC parishioners and families,

It is time again for the annual **ICHNS Chicago White Sox** outing! Please invite all of your family and friends to join us this year for a Sox Game! This year's event details are as follows:

When: Monday, June 19th @ 7:10 P.M. (Sox vs. Texas Rangers)

Where:

5:00 P.M. - *Jet's Bar* (6148 N. Milwaukee Ave, Chicago, IL 60646)

6:00 P.M. - Coach bus leaves *Jet's Bar* to take us to the game at *Guaranteed Rate Field*

7:10 P.M. - Game starts

Game ends - Coach bus brings back everyone to *Jet's Bar*.

Details: There will be a small dinner at *Jet's*, and coolers of beer/pop/water on the bus. The price includes a ticket to the game, the bus, food and soft drinks at *Jet's*, and drinks on the bus.

Price: \$65 for adults \$50 for kids

Please **RSVP** to:

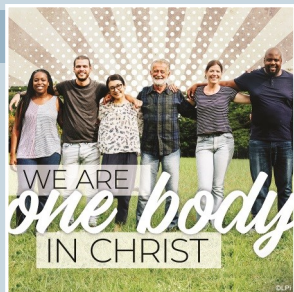
Nick Eaglin

neaglin@yahoo.com

773.386.7988

Hope everyone can make it regardless of your fan affiliation! - Nick





Gospel Meditation - Encourage a Deeper Understanding of Scripture

Years ago, a woman at daily Mass approached me in the communion procession. She had her arms crossed, indicating she wanted a blessing instead of the Sacred Host. She had tears in her eyes. I gave her a little blessing. She returned the next day. And the next. The same thing repeated. After a few weeks, I asked her why she didn't receive Holy Communion. She said she wasn't Catholic yet and was preparing to become so. I asked her why she wanted to be Catholic. She said, "Because I long to be in a real communion with Christ and with everyone I love." That, I submit, is a darn good reason. A few months later, she became

Catholic and received the Body and Blood of Christ with unspeakably great joy and still does to this day.

Saint Paul says of the Eucharistic bread, "Is it not a participation in the body of Christ?" For Paul, the answer is obvious. Yes, it is exactly that. Which is why he can say, "we, though many, are one body." Jesus is truly, really, and substantially present in the Holy Eucharist. This is no magic trick, but a mystery of our salvation. He feeds us with the Sacrament of his body so that our communion with him — and with the other members of his body — is built up and becomes mature. That's why the Eucharist quenches our deep thirst for love and communion. The Body and Blood of Christ is the best reason to be Catholic. It's our participation of love in the one we love. — *Father John Muir* ©LPi



Attention: Immaculate Conception School Graduating Class of 1963



We are exploring the possibility of getting the old gang together again in September 2023. Yes, it has been 60 years since we graduated from Immaculate Conception School. Out of a class of 122 students, we are hoping there are enough of us still around

to participate in this get together. Quite a few of you were at the 35th reunion, and a great time was had by all. We realize many members of this class have moved from the area. However, we are asking that any family and friends still in the parish advise them of this reunion or possibly pass on their contact information.

Please contact -

Karen Lund: catbirder813@gmail.com

Paulette (Fabianski) Stith: ps5349@hotmail.com

Carolyn (Ferenzi) Schweitzer: crschwetz@yahoo.com

Cindy (Czarnecki) Shields: cjshields14@aol.com



Our *Immaculate Conception School Extended Care Program* is seeking part-time help for the 2023-2024 School Year. Responsibilities would consist of caring for and supervising students in grades Preschool through 8th grade during indoor free play and activities such as coloring and homework.

We are looking for two candidates to cover five shifts during the week:

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & Friday
from 3:00-6:00 P.M. and **Wednesday** from 2:00 P.M.-6:00 P.M.

Interested candidates must love children and are required to be VIRTUS trained. Please email *Marcia Kusinski* at: kusinski@iccowboys.net to schedule an interview.

Ministry Schedules: Saturday, June 17th & Sunday, June 18th

	Saturday 5:00 P.M. Mass	Sunday 8:30 A.M. Mass	Sunday 10:30 A.M. Mass
Presiders	Fr. Ron Kalas	Fr. Robert Fedek	Fr. Robert Fedek
Lectors	N. Kremer	G. Abraham	M. Carroll
Cantors	E. Doyle	Vocal Trio & Violin	Vocal Trio
Extraordinary Ministers	R. Altman	M. Dosek & C. Mulligan	J. Campbell & R. Siciliano
Altar Servers	M. Gallagher; S. Gillespie; E. Hyland	A. McMahon; G. Reichle; C. Villafane	E. Carroll; K. Giannola; J. Nelson



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



fr.matt@icchicago.org
 rmoritz@icchicago.org
 jmjdeaon@aol.com
 vkennedy@icchicago.org
 swill@icchicago.org
 m.anna@icchicago.org
 parishbulletin@icchicago.org
 parishoffice@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, June 12th – Parish Office Summer Hours Begin
 8:00 A.M.-6:00 P.M. – IC Summer Camp Begins; PC

Tuesday, June 13th –
 8:00 A.M.-6:00 P.M. – IC Summer Camp; PC

Wednesday, June 14th –
 8:00 A.M.-6:00 P.M. – IC Summer Camp; PC
 7:00-8:30 P.M. – Alpha Alumni Connect Group
 Session; RA

Thursday, June 15th –
 8:00 A.M.-6:00 P.M. – IC Summer Camp; PC

Friday, June 16th –
 8:00 A.M.-6:00 P.M. – IC Summer Camp; PC
 8:00 P.M. – Men's Basketball; PC



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



Stay Connected @ IC:

Subscribe to our bimonthly email newsletter (featuring updates on parish events & projects, school activities, community highlights & service opportunities): icchicago.org/register/constantcontact.cfm

(Practicing) Catholic: Recognize God In Your Ordinary Moments...

The Priesthood and The Eucharist...

"These two Sacraments were born together," wrote St. John Paul II of the priesthood and the Eucharist, "and their destiny is indissolubly linked until the end of the world."

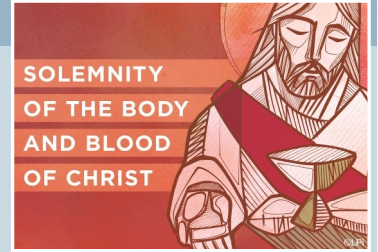
The Eucharist is such a beautiful example of how God, conscious of our limitations, bends to meet us. He once came to us cloaked in the flesh, that we might recognize Him. Now He comes as the very means by which we nourish ourselves: food and drink, the most familiar and comforting thing in the world to us. How easy He makes it to fulfill his command that we become one with Him. How generous He is to make such a sacred thing also accessible.

We can say the same of the priesthood, and of the men He calls to its number. How generous of Him to make such an accessible thing — our sons, our brothers, our uncles, our cousins — sacred. How generous of Him to allow these human creations — who share in our own faults — to be the means through which He comes to us in the Eucharist.

Without the Eucharist, we would have no eternal life. Without priests, we would have no Eucharist. On this, the Solemnity of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ, let's give thanks for our priests, and redouble our prayers that God will send us good and holy ones — manna from Heaven in our wandering exile.

"Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood has eternal life, and I will raise him on the last day." — John 6:54

- Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman © LPi



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