Welcome to

Immaculate Conception Parish

A Catholic Community Inviting People to Follow Christ

March 6, 2022 - First Sunday Of Lent



"May the Queen of Peace preserve the world from the madness of war."
- Pope Francis

Love God • Serve Others • Make Disciples

Contact Us

]: 773.775.3833

: 7211 W. Talcott Avenue

Chicago, IL. 60631

⊠: parishoffice@icchicago.org

Parish Office Hours:

Monday-Friday: 9:00 A.M. - 5:00 P.M. 9:00 A.M. - 2:00 P.M. Saturday: 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



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 now optional. All are welcome!

Weekday Mass Schedule:

Online

Monday through Thursday @ 8:30 A.M. (Worship with us virtually on our Facebook Page or Twitch)

In-Person

Monday through Friday @ 8:30 A.M. 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:

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

Baptisms:

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

Adoration & Vespers:

1st & 3rd Saturdays of each month from 6:00-7:00 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.

The Season Of Lent As A Formational Period

Last week, after our 10:30 A.M. Mass, we hosted the first of three panel reflections from our seminarians in our new series entitled: "Fruitful Harvest," which allows us to learn from our seminarian's formation journey. Secondly, the purpose of this series is to reflect, talk, and learn from each other as a community. I was very pleased that approximately 25 - 30 people gathered together with our seminarians for our

discussion. If you were unable to attend our first session, I hope you can join us on **Sunday, March 27**th at **11:30 A.M.** as we focus on "*The Gift of Relationships.*"



The topic of our first session (on Feb 27th) was "The Gift of Formation." We selected this topic because we have now entered the season of Lent. Lent is a holy season in our Church which is partly *repentant*, i.e., it is especially good to make use of the sacrament of Reconciliation in this season. It is other parts *preparatory*, i.e., we reflect on the earthly ministry of Jesus which culminates in the Last Supper, Passion, and Death on the Cross. Lastly, it is partly *formational*.

Many people are familiar with the actions of Prayer, Fasting, and Almsgiving. What does it mean, however, for these things to be *formational*?

Formation, simply defined in our faith, is a process a believer and disciple enter so that they might grow closer to God. Formation does not seek to replace who we are — formation does not mean "breaking down" someone. Rather, formation stems from how God calls each of us closer to His heart — a 'vocation.' God loves each of us. From His goodness we were created and, as such, God loves us in ourselves. Sin in the world and our personal sins corrupt the image of God within us. We are deformed by sin. Yet it was precisely for sinners that Jesus died. "The healthy do not need a doctor, but the sick do." Hence, Jesus loves us, the sinner, but does not want us to remain in sin: "Go, and sin no more." He calls us, then, to a higher way of life.





The activities of Lent, first and foremost, have a specific purpose: remove sinfulness and vice from our lives. In our detachment from a worldly way of life, we make room in our hearts, minds, and souls for His grace. Formation may be seen in this way:

Who am I now? — What am I doing to grow? — How can I be generous with what I've learned? Consider these steps, based on the pattern above, for Lent:

- (1) Who am I now? Is my prayer life active and healthy? What does an active prayer life look like? Do I attend Mass weekly and if 'no,' why? Do I find myself frustrated and angry when I think about the world? What spiritual things do I invest in for myself, my family, and my community? Am I trapped in my current routines and habits and, if so, why?
- (2) What is being offered at our parish to help me pray, learn, and give? Am I making/sacrificing time to pursue these things? Do I read Scripture, the Gospels, or other spiritual readings to challenge my perspective of God? Am I willing to engage in spiritual conversations with fellow parishioners, family, and friends?
- (3) Did these practices help me change and grow? Did I learn something new about myself? Can I be more generous with who I am, what I have, and the talents God has blessed me with? Am I able to be generous without qualification or strings attached?

Let us reflect more on our Lenten practices as we go on, but in the meantime, please consider what IC offers this Lent, here in our bulletin, and at our Masses.

May you have a blessed Lent - Fr. Matt



Confessions - Sundays @ 9:30 A.M.

Opportunities to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation will be offered each Sunday morning during Lent from 9:30 until 10:15 A.M. through April 10th (Palm Sunday). On Thursday, March 31st, we will also offer a Communal Reconciliation Service (featuring opportunities for private confession) from 7:30-8:30 P.M. following our Lenten Vespers Service that evening.

Ignatian Spirituality Series - Tuesdays @ 7:00 P.M

We invite you to join Fr. Robert (Carlton) on Tuesday evenings this Lent for our *Ignatian Spirituality Series* as we continue to examine the life of St. Ignatius and explore Ignatian Spirituality. Our Lenten series consists of 4 sessions which will be conducted at **7:00 P.M.** in our Rectory Assembly on the following dates:

March 15th - Recap of Advent Sessions on The Examen and Ignatian Contemplation

March 22nd - God In Ordinary Life

March 29th - Spiritual Meanings Of The Emotional Life

April 5th - Contemplatives In Action

The topics for our sessions listed above may be added to based upon the interests of those participating. A light soup dinner will be served from 6:30 P.M.-7:00 P.M. on the nights of the sessions. Free-will offerings will be gratefully accepted. Please contact Fr. Robert Carlton at rearlton@archchicago.org with any additional questions. If you are interested in attending our *Ignatian Spirituality Series*, please either complete our online registration form @ icchicago.org or contact our Parish Office (773.775.3833) to register.

Lenten Vespers Series - Thursdays @ 7:00 P.M.

Discipleship Group Study Series: Jesus' Passion: Story of Redemptive Suffering - Thursdays @ 7:30 P.M

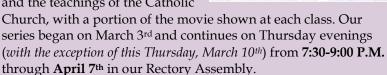


Experience Lenten Vespers @ IC on Thursday evenings @ 7:00 P.M. -March 10th through April 7th

Join us as we pause and reflect at the close of the day to bless God and one another in song, silence and prayer.



Our Lenten Discipleship Group Study Series: "Jesus' Passion: The Story of Redemptive Suffering" with Deacon Rick examines the Scriptural basis of Mel Gibson's film, The Passion of the Christ, and explores how this powerful portrayal of the suffering and death of Jesus relates to the Bible and the teachings of the Catholic



Stations of the Cross - Fridays @ 7:00 P.M.



The Way of the Cross will be prayed **every Friday evening of Lent** at 7:00 P.M. beginning on March 11th. On April 15th (*Good Friday*), our parish family will gather to pray the Stations of the Cross at 3:00 P.M. It is our traditional way of remembering

MY BONE

what our Lord endured for us and how we continue to carry the Cross of Christ today.



All for the

greater

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of God!

— St. Ionatius of Lov

News:

Mrs. Vitellaro's 4-Year Old Preschool Class

During the month of February, Room 20 was very busy learning all about love! We learned to express "I love you" in words and notes to each other. During religion, we discussed the many ways to show someone you

love them and how we can be kind to our friends. We have had so much fun decorating our classroom filled with hearts and reading many Valentine's Day themed stories. Some of our favorite stories have been, "Love Monster," "The Biggest Valentine Ever," and "Froggy's First Kiss!"

During this winter season, we have also been having fun learning all about snowmen, penguins, and bears! We melted a snowman in science, created snowy penguins, and we even created our own den in our classroom where our bears are hibernating! Although we sure do love our many winter activities, we are getting very excited for spring to come! Time is flying by and we are having so much fun!





Music Notes From Our Assistant Director of Music...

Our Immaculate Conception Music Ministry program has persevered throughout the pandemic, but our volunteer choir has been on hiatus for over two years. Earlier this fall, we started to gradually rebuild volunteer singing with *Jocelyn Lim* joining me at our Saturday 5:00 P.M. Mass. She is not only a talented Alto, but her ability to play piano and violin also make her a crack sight-reader. *Jim Jarosz*, whose family has made education and music their mission, was the next person to join our once-monthly musical

Elizabeth, Ed, Jocelyn, Jim, & Scott

service. Recently, *Ed Stanislawski* became our tenor, making it possible to have a full vocal quartet of mezzo soprano, alto, tenor and baritone.

Our current sound system and streaming set-up requires fearlessness in singing into a microphone, reliable pitch and good sight-reading skills. Our vocal quartet sings the hymns, Mass parts, Psalm Response and Gospel Acclamation, but it is the Post-Communion piece that allows us to shine as a small group. We have been singing newer selections such as "Wonderful Merciful Savior," "My Heart Is Filled With Thankfulness," "One Small Child" and "Christ In Me Arise," but we hope to add some well-loved older hymns, too. If you have a favorite that you would like to hear, please let us know.

For now, our group will provide music at our 5:00 P.M. Mass on the first Saturday of the month. We hope to grow in frequency of appearances and membership, but we have made an auspicious beginning. — *Elizabeth*

Please join our parish family in prayer...



Tom Altman Robert Behrman Sonia M. B. Roberta Berger John Bozek Mark Broler Vince Caeti Zita Castro Donna Chaplin Marie Conway James Covello Ronnie Cunningham Paige Dicks Paula Drew Ozzie D'Souza Dorothy D'Souza Richard Flanagan Brooke Foreman Patricia Furgat Lila Gehner Bonnie Jean Gorski Deacon Ron Gronek Ofelia Hernandez

For those who are sick:

Kevin Jaburek Wayne Kinzie, Sr. Craig Kloss Lillian Kohut Katherine Kreuser Anthony Lapash Benny Martinez Edwin Martinez Frank Martinez Gerry Michalek, Jr. Helen Moore Molly Morris Veronica Murillo Timothy Murray Brendan Nelson Fr. Ronan Newbold, C.P. **Judith Nosko** Anne O'Brien

John O'Brien

David Olson

Mary Potwora

Jackie O'Koniewski

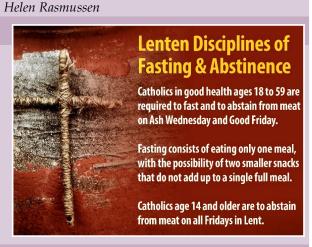
Rosaleen Reilly Bill Remblake Joe Rispoli Pia Rizza David Rodriguez Elaine Schatz Jennie Sekula Don Skorey Edward Stanczyk Donna Tisdale Camilla Trevino Steven P. Trifilio Peter Vandenbergh Mary Ellen Vanderman Henry Wagener Rita Zambon

For our faithful departed:

Beverley Ann Janisch (Grandmother of Angela Knudsen) Georgia Ann Fallon (Grandmother of Amy O'Brien) Dorris L. Grau (Grandmother of Stephanie Argamaso)



"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, 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 - Sean Gronset, 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, March 6th through Sunday, March 13th

Sunday, March 6th- First Sunday of Lent

5:00 P.M. (Saturday) - †Charles Villasenor; †Michael Kelly; and †Pat & Barbara McDonagh & their son Patrick

8:30 A.M. — *Gaetana "Donna" Bova; and The Romero Family (Living)

10:30 A.M.—†Charles Grayzeck; †Tommy Fuller; †Katharina Kraemer (on her 16th Anniversary); †Linda Kowal; †Hugh Masterson; †Jessica Lynn Bryar (Birthday Remembrance); †Edward Daly; †Malachy Byrne; †Michael Byrne; †Noreen Nolan; †Francis & Moira Cross; and The People of the Parish

Monday, March 7th - Saints Perpetua and Felicity, Martyrs 8:30 A.M. — †Dolores Capra (on her 7th Anniversary)

Tuesday, March 8th - Saint John of God, Religious 8:30 A.M. — [†]Ann Dosek

Wednesday, March 9th - Saint Frances of Rome, Religious 8:30 A.M. - †Walter Nowak

Thursday, March 10th – *Lenten Weekday* 8:30 A.M. – †Sr. Mary Pat Cummings, S.P. (Birthday Remembrance); †Elizabeth Serafin; and Dominic Rubino (Living)

Friday, March 11th - *Lenten Weekday* 8:30 *A.M.* – [†]Charles Villasenor

Saturday, March 12th - *Lenten Weekday* 5:00 P.M.— †Joanna Rice (Birthday Remembrance); and The Romero Family (Living)

Sunday, March 13th – *Second Sunday of Lent* 8:30 A.M.- †Joseph Kula; and Diana Szyszkiewicz (Living – For Good Health)

10:30 A.M. — †Louis & Frances Allocco; †Milagros Bernardita San Juan (on her 9th Anniversary); †Benedict Schronski; †James Byrne; †Patrick Byrne; †Eleanor A. Kolecki; †Norma Collins; †Sue McGrath; †Francis & Moira Cross; †Irene Kmiecik; †Scott Joseph Tedesco; and The People of the Parish





Pope Tweet of the Week...

"Jesus taught us that diabolical senseless violence is answered with God's weapons, with prayer and fasting. May the Queen of Peace preserve the world from the madness of war."

#PrayTogether#Ukraine









Oskar Alekşander Kobeszko Child of Jerry Mark & Stephanie Patricia (McCann) Kobeszko



Lenten Food Drive For Catholic Charities - Des Plaines (March 5th Through April 10th)

Throughout the Lenten Season, we will be hosting a Parish Food Drive to benefit the Catholic Charities Food Pantry in Des Plaines (located at 1717 Rand Road.) Both food and monetary donations will be gratefully accepted. Our collection will officially begin **this** weekend, March 5th & 6th and will continue each weekend thereafter **through April 9**th &

10th. The items currently most in need are as follows: Cereal; Rice; Beans; Dry Packaged Goods; and Pasta & Sauce.

If you are donating food items, please be certain to check expiration dates prior to doing so as we cannot accept expired food or opened packages/containers (**please note**: all donated food items must have the factory-seal intact.) Please deposit all food donations in the collection boxes located in the Vestibule of our Church. Food donations will also be accepted in our Parish Office during the week between the hours of 9:00 A.M. until 5:00 P.M. If you prefer to contribute electronically, monetary donations will also be accepted via Give Central at <u>givecentral.org/location/349/event/32488</u> or scan the following QR Code with your phone to donate:



Ioin The Saints In Honorina St. Ioseph



IC St. Joseph Table – Saturday, March 19th 12:00 P.M. – 4:00 P.M. Rectory Assembly

Please consider bringing a dish/dessert to share with our community (10:00 A.M.-3:00 P.M.) If you are interested in volunteering to serve or cook, please contact **Deacon Mike**:

847.361.9766 / MABednarz@ArchChicago.org

Gospel Meditation - Encourage a Deeper Understanding of Scripture



One of the greatest temptations human beings face is leaving the truth of who they are, where they came from and who created them in pursuit of more personal satisfactions. When we consider all that desires our attention in a given day, there are many lures that attract us to illusions about ourselves. We can easily find ourselves distracted or tired, preoccupied with preserving our status in life, social relationships, current trends, and corporate demands, and intrigued by pursuing what we perceive to be the "path of least resistance." The daily concerns of life can quickly take our eyes off of our truth, making the empty promises of worldly accomplishments and ideologies seem so

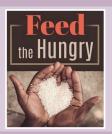
attractive. What is at risk in giving into this temptation?

We cease giving thanks to and worshipping our Creator as we pursue our own self-sufficiency, power, and prestige. We replace the true God with a "pet" one. While many do not totally dismiss the idea of God and pretend to remain at least remotely connected, they do not invest themselves heart, mind, and soul in the relationship either. That is why we are so easily swayed. If something attractive comes along, we lunge for it. After all, having a position above and over everyone else is a good thing, isn't it? In more honest moments, many have to admit that they believe this to be true. The Evil One is very convincing. But he can only gain control if we allow him to.

About temptation, St. Basil remarks, "As the pilot of a vessel is tried in the storm, as the wrestler is tried in the ring, the soldier in the battle and the hero in adversity, so is the Christian tried in temptation." And here is found the reason for Lent. It is a wonderful opportunity to get a handle on the attractive lures of illusion that easily captivate us and bring us off track. It is also a time for some honest reflection rooted in prayer, fasting, and selfless giving that can bring us to temptation's remedy: love. Love of his Father gave Jesus resistance. It can do the same for us. ©LPi



Volunteers needed! Please join us as we will be making sandwiches on behalf of *The Port Ministries (theportministries.org)* this Thursday, March 10th at 6:00 P.M. in our Rectory Assembly. Please extend an invitation to any others that might be interested in participating. Lunch meat and bread donations will be gratefully accepted and deeply appreciated! Any students in need of service hours are also welcome to join us. Any questions, please call or text Nancy @ 773.805.3254. Thank you!



Ministry Schedules: Saturday, March 12th & Sunday, March 13th

	Saturday 5:00 P.M.	Sunday 8:30 A.M.	Sunday 10:30 A.M. Girl Scout Mass
Presiders	Fr. Robert Fedek	Fr. Robert Carlton	Fr. Robert Carlton
Lectors	L. Christy/N. Kremer	N. Kremer/L. Beckman	Youth Lector (Girl Scouts)
Cantors	E. Doyle	Vocal Quintet &Violin	Vocal Quintet
Extraordinary Ministers	S. Serb	D. Sebastian	E. Niewinski
Altar Servers	J. Losik; L. Love; C. Villafane	A. Callinan; M. Gallagher; I. Luna	N. Eaglin; K. Giannola; E. Peters

<u>Lectors</u>: 2022 Lector Workbooks are available for pick up in our Sacristy as well as in our Parish Office. If you have not already received your copy, please remember to pick one up at your earliest convenience.



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 Bednarz

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

Anthony Vitali, Maintenance

Our School Staff:

Sue Canzoneri, Principal

Tina Fitzgerald, Assistant Principal

Julie Szwedo, Religious Education Coordinator

Lisa Kessler, School Accountant

Mary Haley, School Secretary

What's Happening @ IC...

Monday, March 7th -

3:10-4:30 P.M. – Jr. Ringers Rehearsal; CH

7:00-8:30 P.M. – Alpha Winter Session; RA

7:00-8:30 P.M. - Overtones Rehearsal; CH

Tuesday, March 8th-

7:30-9:00 P.M. - Baptismal Preparation Session; RA

7:30-9:00 P.M. – St. Joseph Table Planning Comm. Mtg.; Café

Wednesday, March 9th -

2:00-3:30 P.M. - Choristers Rehearsal; CH

4:00-5:00 P.M. - Religious Education Program Class; Zoom

7:30-9:30 P.M. – Parents Club Mtg.; NWCR

Thursday, March 10th -

6:00-7:00 P.M. - IC Outreach (Sandwiches For The Port Ministries); RA

7:00-7:30 P.M. - Lenten Vespers Service; CH

Friday, March 11th -

7:00 P.M. - Stations Of The Cross; CH

8:15-10:00 P.M. - Men's Basketball; PC

Saturday, March 12th-

All Day – Winter Alpha Weekend Retreat @ Marytown

Sunday, March 13th - Second Sunday of Lent

9:30-10:15 A.M. - Lenten Confessions; CH

10:30 A.M. - Girl Scout Mass; CH

(Hospitality Reception to follow in Church Vestibule)



fr.matt@icchicago.org rcarlton@archchicago.org

rmoritz@icchicago.org

mabednarz@archchicago.org vkennedy@icchicago.org swill@icchicago.org m.anna@icchicago.org parishbulletin@icchicago.org

parishoffice@icchicago.org

canzoneri@iccowboys.net fitzgerald@iccowboys.net szwedo@iccowboys.net kessler@iccowboys.net haley@iccowboys.net

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