

Welcome to
Immaculate Conception Parish

A Catholic Community Inviting People to Follow Christ

May 2, 2021 - Fifth Sunday Of Easter

I will praise you, Lord, in the assembly of your people.



*"I am the vine, you are the branches. Whoever remains in me and I in him
will bear much fruit, because without me you can do nothing."
- John 15:5*

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

Wednesdays @ 8:30 A.M. (School Mass)
(Worship with us virtually on our Facebook Page or Twitch)

In-Person

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & 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.-10:30 A.M. (offered on an every other week basis – effective as of **April 11th**)

(Special dates & times offered during Advent & Lent)

Baptisms:

Sundays @ Noon

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.

Catholic Pride

These past few weeks I have done everything from burials, funerals, teaching, baptizing, preparing for weddings, and house blessings. In many ways, priesthood allows one to see the whole spectrum of life even in a single day. It can certainly be an emotionally taxing experience, but also one which offers a lot of perspective.



One thing I see in varying degrees in our culture and community is what I call “*Catholic Pride.*” This can mean many things to different people but allow me to explain how I view it: Catholic Pride is an appreciation for both the heavenly and worldly aspects of our life. It is gratitude for what God has done for us – a Catholic ought to spend their life understanding the gift of redemption and, secondly, how they might contribute to the mission of Christ (i.e., the salvation of souls). It is gratitude for the worldly in that our ancestors, by blood and by faith, have given us the opportunities to flourish and succeed in this life. They often did so inspired by their faith.

All too often I see people proud of their own accomplishments, their own efforts, claiming what they or someone else has done. We should have some pride in the work of our hands, but the reality has always been that our accomplishments are the result of many people working together.

I consider, for example, that both of my grandfathers were orphaned as boys, but the Catholic orphanages and local parishes of Chicago supported them. They raised a family built on the foundation of the generosity of others who were inspired by God’s goodness.

I am reminded of the prophet Isaiah, whom we hear at the opening of each Lent:

“Is this not rather the fast I choose: ... Is it not sharing your bread with the hungry, bringing the afflicted and the homeless into your house; Clothing the naked when you see them, and not turning your back on your own flesh? Then your light shall break forth like the dawn, and your wound shall quickly be healed. ... Your people shall rebuild the ancient ruins; the foundations from ages past you shall raise up; “Repairer of the breach,” they shall call you, “Restorer of ruined dwellings.” (Is 58:6, 7-8, 12).

What I mean is this: this Easter is about gratitude and joy. Do we openly express our gratitude for our families and the real sacrifices *generations* have made to give us the life we have? Do we also openly express gratitude for our neighborhoods, the people and environments that make a good life possible? Do we openly express our gratitude for the Church and our faith, what has inspired great works of art and human achievement, but has likewise moved human hearts little by little to acts of love in every time, culture, and place? Do we openly live what we believe in faith? *“Glory in his holy name; let hearts that seek the Lord rejoice! Seek out the Lord and his might; constantly seek his face” (Ps 105: 3-4)*

When we begin to enumerate all the people, places, things, and love that have made us into the people we are, I think that this is a truer sense of pride than anything that we have done. In my view, that pride is expressed in gratitude and generosity. Do you, in *this* pride, give to your families, your neighborhood, your faith, your Church, and to God?

Fr. Matt

Become Involved @ IC! Our School Board Is Seeking New Members...



Parents and Parishioners:

The Immaculate Conception School Board is looking for new volunteers, both parents and parishioners, to replace outgoing members.

The School Board is comprised of three elected board positions:

- ◆President
- ◆Vice President
- ◆Secretary.

These elected roles require 4-6 hours per month, and leadership on one of the following Committees:

- ◆Maintenance
- ◆Board Constitution, Policy & Discipline
- ◆Finance/Future Planning
- ◆Public Relations/Marketing

If you wish to get involved but only have 1-2 hours a month to help, you could serve as a Committee member of the School Board (non-elected role). You get to see firsthand how the School Board operates, while “testing the waters” to fill a future elected board position vacancy. You would also have an opportunity to serve on one of the Committees outlined above.

Interested parents and parishioners should send their information to Theresa Borowski either via Fast Direct or via email at schoolboard@iccowboys.net.

Thank you and we look forward to hearing from you!

Theresa Borowski, *Vice President*

Immaculate Conception School Board



Margarita DiSalvo Katherine Kreuser Matthew Smolic

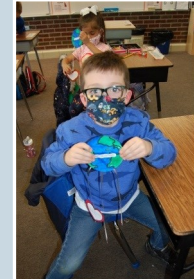
Mark & Amy Guess and their sons Liam & Ryan

Todd & Monica Burkoth and their son Clayton

Anthony & Katie O'Neill-Rice and their daughter Madeline



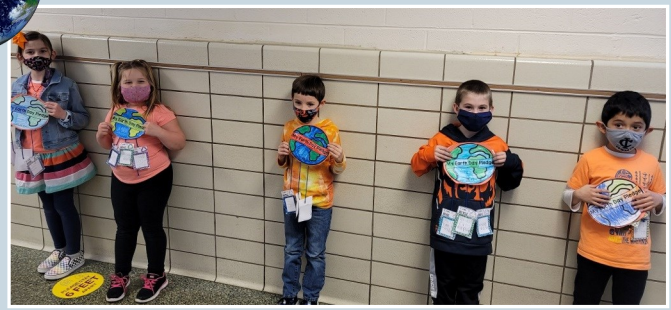
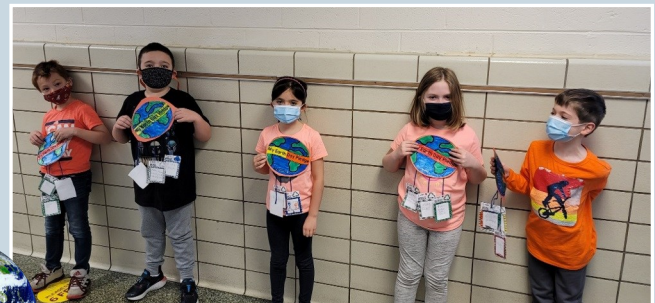
School News...



Our Kindergarten Students in Room 23 have been busy learning about Planet Earth. They learned about the ways to help the Earth by recycling, using less water, and donating toys they don't play with anymore. They created an Earth Day mobile that incorporated their learning. Students worked hard reading, writing, cutting, coloring and assembling their finished project. Look at their beautiful Earth Day projects!



Our First Grade students in Mrs. Mahoney's class have been learning about Earth Day this week. They learned the importance of taking care of all the wonderful things God has created. As a class we read about the *Three R's* of taking care of our planet: *Reduce, Reuse, and Recycle*. Each student made a mobile, stating how they can *Reduce, Reuse, and Recycle* to keep our planet healthy!



Please join our parish family in prayer ...

For those who are sick;



Tom Altman
Melissa Bednarz
Baby Melanie Behren
Robert Behrman
Sonia M. B.
Michael Breslin
Vince Caeti
Jackie Campbell
Rita Castillo
Donna Chaplin
James Covello
Sherry Crocifisso
Ronnie Cunningham
Paige Dicks
Ozzie D'Souza
Christina Dziekonski
Richard Flanagan
Brooke Foreman
Lila Gehner

Ofelia Hernandez
Dennis M. Jaburek
Helga Jarosz
Erma Kinzie
Wayne Kinzie
Craig Kloss
Lillian Kohut
Marcia Mally
Benny Martinez
Edwin Martinez
Frank Martinez
Sam Milazzo
Veronica Murillo
Timothy Murray
Judith Nosko
Mary Beth O'Grady
Jackie O'Koniewski
David Olson
Mary Potwora

Helen Rasmussen
Bill Remblake
David Rodriguez
Elaine Schatz
Jennie Sekula
Don Skorey
Dennis Slater
Edward Stanczyk
Marion Szumski
Donna Tisdale
Steven P. Trifilio
John F. Vargo
Henry Wagener

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:

Anacleta Mendoza (Mother of Begelita Marquez)
Kenneth Hoffman (Father of Keith)
John Devine (Brother of Gerri Felke)
Laura Miraglia (Mother of Leonard Cerniglia)



*"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, May 2nd
through
Sunday, May 9th*

Sunday, May 2nd - Fifth Sunday of Easter

5:00 P.M. (Saturday) - †Mae Nelson (Birthday Remembrance)

8:30 A.M. — †Carmencita Gonzalez (Birthday Remembrance);

†Stefania Komorek; and †Anacleto Mendoza

10:30 A.M. — †Joseph J. Lykowski; †Tommy Fuller; †Stanislaw Swiderski; †Christopher Janicki; †Francis & Moira Cross; Marc Jordan (Living); and The People of the Parish

Monday, May 3rd - Saints Philip and James, Apostles

8:30 A.M. — †Tom Anna (Birthday Remembrance)

Tuesday, May 4th - Easter Weekday

8:30 A.M. — †Leonardo Positano; †Rino Positano; and †Frankie Positano

Wednesday, May 5th - Easter Weekday

8:30 A.M. (Virtual Mass) — †Mary Agnes Hegarty (Birthday Remembrance)

Thursday, May 6th - Easter Weekday (National Day of Prayer)

8:30 A.M. — †Concetta Bartucci

Friday, May 7th - Easter Weekday

8:30 A.M. — †Poor Souls In Purgatory

5:30 P.M. — †Ellen "Nellie" Gavin; †Patricia P. Dunleavy; †Anna Felix; and Deacon Rick Moritz (on his 21st Anniversary of Ordination) (Living)

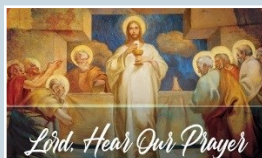
Saturday, May 8th - Easter Weekday

5:00 P.M. - †Walter Nowak; and †Mary Boksa

Sunday, May 9th - Sixth Sunday of Easter (Mother's Day)

8:30 A.M.- †Elsie Smith; †Anita Castillo; †Rosemary Eichberger; †Marilyn Martin; †Filomena Pavone; †Raffaela Positano; †Sophie Sikorski; †Diane Sprincz; and †Anacleto Mendoza

10:30 A.M. — †Frank & Margherita Martino; †Anna & Nicola Chiusolo; †Francesca & Agostino Chiamonte; †Antoinette Svoboda; †Mary Kokalj; †Sophie Oleksy; †Eileen Mascha; †Bernice Wojcik; †Winifred O'Koniewski; †Stanislaw Swiderski; †Len Basinski & †Marilyn Skaja (Birthday Remembrance); †Christopher Janicki; †Francis & Moira Cross; and The People of the Parish



May 2nd through May 8th

Our Sanctuary Lamp is burning this week for the repose of the soul of

Tom Anna
(Birthday Remembrance)



May 2nd through May 7th

Our Blessed Mother Votive is burning this week for the prayer intentions of

Deacon Rick Moritz
(on his 21st Anniversary of Ordination)



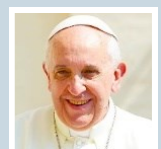
May 2nd through May 7th

Our St. Joseph Votive is burning this week for the prayer intentions of

Deacon Ron Gronck
(on his 25th Anniversary of Ordination)

Pope Tweet of the Week...

"God does not give up. You are close to His heart, you who do not yet know the beauty of His love, you who have not yet welcomed Jesus as the center of your life, you who cannot overcome your sin."





WITH JOYFUL HEARTS,
WE WELCOME OUR
NEWLY BAPTIZED.



Abigail Ronnie O'Malley
Child of Kevin John & Carrie Maria (Kornfeind) O'Malley



Madelyn Anne O'Brien
Child of Matthew James & Theresa Ann (Dexl) O'Brien



Jack Daniel Ryan
Child of Daniel Walter & Elizabeth Jane (Elwood) Ryan



*Readings For
The Week of
May 2nd*

Sunday: Acts 9:26-31/Ps 22:26-27, 28, 30, 31-32 [26a]/1 Jn 3:18-24/Jn 15:1-8

Monday: 1 Cor 15:1-8/Ps 19:2-3, 4-5 [5]/Jn 14:6-14

Tuesday: Acts 14:19-28/Ps 145:10-11, 12-13ab, 21 [cf. 12]/Jn 14:27-31a

Wednesday: Acts 15:1-6/Ps 122:1-2, 3-4ab, 4cd-5 [cf. 1]/Jn 15:1-8

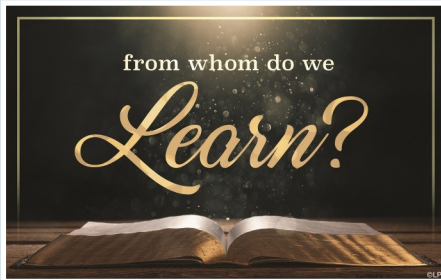
Thursday: Acts 15:7-21/Ps 96:1-2a, 2b-3, 10 [3]/Jn 15:9-11

Friday: Acts 15:22-31/Ps 57:8-9, 10 and 12 [10a]/Jn 15:12-17

Saturday: Acts 16:1-10/Ps 100:1b-2, 3, 5/Jn 15:18-21

Next Sunday: Acts 10:25-26, 34-35, 44-48/Ps 98:1, 2-3, 3-4 [cf. 2b]/1 Jn 4:7-10/Jn 15:9-17

Gospel Meditation - Encourage a Deeper Understanding of Scripture



"Spiraling out of control," is a phrase that can easily describe the current display of human existence. In addition to the violence, unrest, uneasiness and turmoil that are common elements of our daily news, other essential pieces are misplaced or missing. Many lack an objective center around which to order and structure their lives or a clear set of definable goals or mores to act as guideposts and life directives. It appears that *"feelings"* have become a *"new god"* and traditional structures and ideals set aside. It is almost as if history only shows that we got this whole thing wrong and many are determined to finally set

things right. The real truth, however, is that while wrongs and errors are certainly a part of our often-checked past, it is hardly the case that all was wrong. It is not our task to rewrite the history of our lives, but to learn from mistakes that were made, and preserve the perennial wisdom at the root of our successes. Learning is an essential part of being human.

The question becomes, however, from whom do we learn? Some have such a hard time placing God in that position, but that is precisely where God needs to be. God is the Master Teacher from whom all of humanity learns and gets its cues. It is in and through this relationship with the Gardener of Life that we are fashioned and pruned into the people we are intended to be and can be. It is only in God that we are able to find our best selves. Sadly, many think that religion too, as well as history in general, has also gotten all this wrong. Yet, our resurrection faith tells us differently. We are reminded, today especially, that we are meant to remain in Christ as Christ remains in us. We are also reminded that Jesus, the Incarnate God, is the vine upon which we grow, the branches that flow from the source of God's life.

Giving up our will to God's can be a painful endeavor. It is not easy to set our own desires and wants aside and allow God to step in and direct and guide our growth. But this is the only way to prevent deadly weeds from overtaking us and bringing us to a place of self-destruction. God's commandments are the very guideposts and benchmarks we need, yet many seek to remove them from all public view because they appear to limit self-expression and suppress what is considered by many to be "human freedom." They are the only way we can find freedom, however. And, until we learn this fundamental lesson, we will continue to spiral out of control, never really knowing who we are, what our potential can be or how life really can be lived. We will not know peace. ©LPi

Everyday Stewardship - Recognize God in your Ordinary Moments

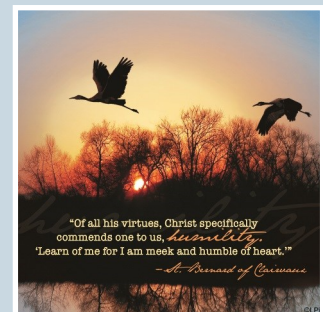
Branching Out Isn't Always What It's Cracked Up to Be...

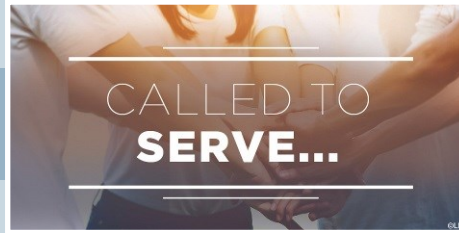
"That's a really beautiful tree branch. Man, would you look at the bark on that thing? The others are real duds, but that low-hanging branch has really got it all together."

I've never heard anyone say this. Maybe I just need to hang out with more arborists, but I can't recall ever hearing someone admire the particular beauty of a single branch. When someone comments on a tree, it's usually the whole tree — perhaps a visual element of it, like the color of the leaves or its height. But people don't usually zero in on one branch. Maybe that's because usually, if one branch is looking a little weak, chances are every other branch is, too.

The Bible tells us that when we bear fruit as good everyday stewards, it is for the Father's glory. We are the branch on His magnificent tree. What we have is from Him, and what we do likewise points back to Him. We also tend to reflect how well the other branches around us are incorporating the nutrients coming their way. That's all fine and good in theory. In practice, it can be an arduous exercise in humility.

When I do something virtuous or charitable or kind, there is a part of me that wants to stand out for it. I think that's true for all of us. We've given of ourselves in some way or overcome some human temptation to accomplish a little bit of good in this world, and even though we know God sees us, we'd really love for everyone else to see it, too. It's a struggle, for sure. But we need to remember that our fruit belongs to the whole tree. — 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
 rcarlton@archchicago.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, May 3rd –
 8:30 A.M. – Weekday Mass; Church

Tuesday, May 4th -
 8:30 A.M. – Weekday Mass; Church

Wednesday, May 5th -
 8:30 A.M. – School Mass (May Crowning); Church

Thursday, May 6th –
 8:30 A.M. – Weekday Mass; Church
 8:00-9:30 P.M. – Holy Name Men’s Club Mtg.; RA/Zoom

Friday, May 7th –
 8:30 A.M. – Weekday Mass; Church
 5:30 P.M. – First Friday Mass; Church
 6:00-7:00 P.M. – First Friday Nocturnal Eucharistic Adoration; Church

Sunday, May 9th –
 9:30-10:30 A.M. – Confessions; Church



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.)