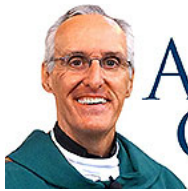


March 3, 2024 | Third Sunday of Lent



Lent2024

Listen to the Lord and
Live In
God's Light



ALL
OF US

Fr. Larry's
Weekly Letter
#555

SO.... HOW IS YOUR LENT GOING?

Here we are... right in the middle of Lent. We have reached the half-way point in our journey to Easter.

This is a good time to pause and do a quick check on how are we doing with the Lenten promises that we established for ourselves back on Ash Wednesday? Have our Lenten commitments slowly faded away like some of our New Year's resolutions?

It's okay if we need to once again embrace the Lenten opportunities for prayer, fasting, and charitable giving. There is still plenty of "sacred time" left in Lent to grow spiritually and deepen our relationship with God.

If you need, here are a couple of really good possibilities to help you "kick-start" your Lenten journey.

Attend Mass During the Week
9:00 a.m. M-W-F
St. Joseph Church

Contribute to our Lenten Food Drive

Make a Meal for a Migrant Family

Download the Hallow App on your Smart Phone

Go To Confession

Pray the Stations of the Cross

Journal Your Spiritual Thoughts

BE NOT AFRAID



This Lent, consider taking advantage of the opportunity to celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Even if it has been years since your last confession.

Continued on the next page

Going to confession offers us the wonderful gift of healing and peace that our loving God longs for us to have. It is a great way to relieve the heaviness that we feel deep in our hearts when we know that we hurt the ones we love by our sins.

It's because of Jesus's love for us that he desires for us to "go forth and sin no more." The Good news is that God's compassion and mercy is always there for us.

Our Parish Lenten Confessions will be held on:

Saturday, March 16th.

12:00 noon at St. Joseph Church

4:00 p.m. at Immaculate Conception Church

You can also schedule an individual confession. Feel free to contact me at pastor@icsjparish.org, or Fr. Larry McBrady at lmcbrady@yahoo.com to set-up an appointment.

If you feel awkward coming to Fr. McBrady or myself, our neighboring Catholic parishes have the following Reconciliation Schedules for Lent.

Holy Name Cathedral
(Chicago Avenue and State Street)
Saturday, 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon

St. Michael's in Old Town
(1633 N. Cleveland)
Monday-Friday 11:30 a.m.
Tuesdays, 8:30 a.m.
Saturdays, 4:15 p.m. to 4:45 p.m.

It's okay to say hi to me if you see me standing in line for confession. My friends always ask me, "Why were you in there so long?"

LET'S DO LUNCH

Let's do lunch, next **Sunday, March 10th**. Save the date, as we celebrate the Feast of St. Joseph this month. Our annual St. Joseph's Table begins at **12:00 noon in our School Gym** located on Hill Street, just behind the firehouse.



Many of our great local restaurants are donating some of their best dishes from their menus for the feast. This is our biggest parish gathering of the whole year. You don't want to miss it!

Fr. Larry



Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are obligatory days of fasting and abstinence for Catholics. In addition, Fridays during Lent are obligatory days of abstinence.

For members of the Latin Catholic Church, the norms on fasting are obligatory from age 18 until age 59. When fasting, a person is permitted to eat one full meal, as well as two smaller meals that together are not equal to a full meal. The norms concerning abstinence from meat are binding upon members of the Latin Catholic Church from age 14 onwards.



ICSU Lent 2024

Reflection Guide

Until we take the time to be quiet, we will not hear God. God cannot be heard in noise, restlessness, or distraction. God will speak to us if we give God a chance, if we listen, if we will be quiet. 'Be still' the psalmist wrote, "and know that I am God" (Psalm 46:10).

Sometimes we may feel like we are too mentally or emotionally weary and tired to connect with God in our hearts. We just aren't there! The good news is that even during these times of trouble, we can turn our tired heart to God. Don't try to make the agenda for your prayer time. *Just sit and "Listen to the Lord!"*

During Lent we will use the questions below at our Sunday Masses to help us hear what God is trying to tell us. May our Lenten gospels lead us away from the darkness we face in life and enable us to live in the light of God's love.

Ash Wednesday

"Turn away from sin, and be faithful to the gospel"

- What is your attitude as you enter Lent this year?
- What do you hope will happen this Lent?
- What would you like to do this Lent to make it more meaningful for you and your family?

Fourth Sunday of Lent

"For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son"

- What difference does Jesus make in your life?
- What was it like to find light in the darkness?
- How has God's love for you opened your eyes and heart?

First Sunday of Lent

"Jesus is tempted in the desert by the Satan"

- What is one temptation that you may experience this week and what will you do resist it?
- Jesus was called into the quiet of the desert so he could better hear the calling of his Father. Where is a quiet place that you can go in order to better listen to your heart?

Fifth Sunday of Lent

"The hour has come for the Son of Man to be gloried"

- How do you identify yourself?
- What parts of your identity do you usually share with others (nationality, race, religion, gender, occupation or others)?
- How do you live out your identity as a child of God?

Second Sunday of Lent

"Jesus is transfigured on the mountain"

- When, where, and how do you recognize Jesus when you encounter him?
- What was your last experience of awe?
- How were you changed by this event?
- What is God trying to tell me through this encounter?

Palm Sunday

"Jesus dies on the cross"

- How do you identify with in this great story about love and sacrifice?
- Which person, or group of people in the Passion story, stands out the most for you? Why?
- Are there similarities in your life?

Third Sunday of Lent

"Jesus cleanses the temple area"

- Where are places you experience the presence of God?
- What are the things within us that we need Jesus to overturn and drive out in order to live in God's light?
- Jesus was angry at times. When is your anger a good thing? When is it not?

"For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him might not perish but might have eternal life."

John 3:16

PRAYING FROM THE HEART

DEAR JESUS, ♥

.....
.....
.....
.....



Thank you for...

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.....
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I am worried about...

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I need...

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PEOPLE I AM PRAYING FOR TODAY...

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.....
.....
.....
.....



Other things on my heart that I want to share with you...

.....
.....
.....
.....



Thank you
for hearing
my prayers.

Amen.

C.L.O.W. DURING LENT



Children's Liturgy of the Word 4 y/o to 3rd Grade

During the beginning of Mass, Children will hear the Word of God, pray with friends, and do a small craft related to the Gospel. Children return to their parents' pews after the Prayers of the Faithful.

At 9:30 Mass at Immaculate Conception:

Kendra Yocom Feb. 18 & March 10

Mimi Leritz March 3, 17 & 24

There will be no session on Feb. 25th



KEVIN'S CORNER

Kevin O'Connell · Sacramental Coordinator



After the beautiful blessing that was received on February 18th at the 11am St Joseph Mass, the R.C.I.A. group traveled down the road to Holy Name Cathedral for the Rite of Election. There, our wonderful catechumens (the to-be baptized) and the candidates (baptized but not in full communion with the Church) officially entered into their final phase of this spiritual formation.

Let us increase our prayers for our gang of eight. What a blessing we are to one another.



Immaculate Conception St Joseph

and St Michael

2024 Confirmation

Gianna "Genevieve" Angelo

Francesca "Jude" Besztery

Grant "Denis" Bonnell

Georgiana "Emily" Boryk

Stella "Elizabeth Ann" Boylan

Christian "Michael" Brouder

Truman "Francis" Cheronis

Galilea "Lucy" Cirillo

Aiden "Albert" Cronert

Nicholas "Vincent" Cucinotta

Sarah "Philip" Czerwik

Norma Angelee "Francis" Dorantes

Brook "Patrick" Eugenio

Ezekiel "Francis" Garcia

Konrad "Michael" Grum

Sophia "John" Hawkins

Dalonte "Sebastian" Henry

James "George" Harbin

Reid "Michael" Hites

Lawson "Lawrence" Hubbard

Rahaell "Clare" James

Eliza "Jeanne" Katz

Julian "Sebastian" Koos

Zachary "Tomas" Kotecki

Kinley "Elizabeth" Lazare

Michael "Michael" Linehan

Madison "Valentina" Luzza

Maxwell "Francis" Militante

Francesca "Sebastian" Mora

McKenna "Catherine" Mueller

Jack "Michael" Murino

Adriana "Lorenzo" Parial

Brenton "Vincent" Robinson

Gabriel "Augustine" Ronquillo

Ryan "John" Saines

Grace "Cecelia" Schilling

Fallon "Zita" Stevens

Julian "Patrick" Stump

Sydney "Genevieve" Tole

Heidi "Wendreda" Warden

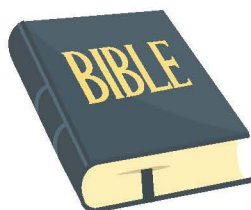
William "Francis" Wegner

Quinn "Michael" Wiedelman

Looking to *grow* your faith? Feeling called to *serve*?

Answer the Call

Become an ICSJ Liturgical Minister



Lector

Proclaim the
Word of God



Eucharistic Minister

Distribute
Holy Communion
at Mass



Usher

Welcome the
Community

Are you looking to grow in your faith and share your talents with ICSJ on Sundays? Join us for our upcoming Liturgical Ministry Training on Saturday, September 16th to receive formation as a lector, eucharistic minister, and/or usher. Belong to our growing community of ministers that help make our Sunday liturgies a vibrant service for all! **Please RSVP to Elly at erodriguez@icsjparish.org if you plan to attend.**

Liturgical Minister Training

Saturday, March 16th • 9:00-11:00 a.m. • St. Joseph Church



IMMACULATE CONCEPTION
AND ST. JOSEPH PARISH

A family of families

Join ICSJ's *Wedding Ministry*

Save the date for our annual
Easter Morning of Reflection
with Fr. McBrady and Elly Rodriguez
on Saturday, April 13th
from 8:30-11AM at Immaculate
Conception Church



Join our team of Wedding Sacristans!

A wedding sacristan serves at the wedding rehearsal and helps behind the scenes on the day of the wedding. They help with setting-up so that things run smoothly, and bring a sense of welcome and hospitality, especially to our visitors and guests.

Our parish has a reputation for making the whole wedding process a meaningful and positive experience for the bride, groom, and their family.

This is a truly a fun and rewarding ministry. Please give it some thought. We certainly could use your help!

If you are interested in joining this ministry, please contact Kevin O'Connell, our Parish Wedding Coordinator
koconnell@icsjparish.org



YOGA AT IC

Saturdays 9:30a.m. - 10:15 a.m. in the Parish Hall
at Immaculate Conception Church

March 16- May 11,
with no class March 30 and April 6
\$50 for 7-class series

All welcome! Join Jennifer Kim of The Peace School in this popular beginner level class. Each class includes stretches, basic yoga postures, breathing meditation and relaxation for a complete sense of well being. Pay on your first day of class by cash or check payable to The Peace School, and consider a donation to the Church for offering the space as a service to the community. Please bring your own mat. Make Saturdays your day to relax, refresh and rejuvenate through Peace Yoga!

To register or for more information: email Jennifer at info@peaceschool.org.

Growing *in Grace*



Gratitude *and* Forgiveness

Paul of Tarsus, when writing to the feisty & feuding earliest Christians, repeatedly spoke of gratitude & forgiveness. It's a spiritual path, easy to remember. Join us with **Fr. Ken Simpson** on this 2-part journey as we reflect, discuss, & practice these two pillars of faith.

March 2 - Gratitude

Let us give thanks to the Lord. It is right and just. It IS truly right and just, our duty and salvation, always and everywhere, to give thanks.

-Preface dialogue at Mass

The root of joy is gratefulness. It is not joy that makes us grateful; it is gratitude that makes us joyful.

- Br. David Steindl-Rast

March 9 - Forgiveness

Consider the advantages and disadvantages of forgiveness... then decide.

- a Zen Koan

The heart of God is Mercy.

- Francis

REGISTER
TODAY!



clement.org/growingingrace

SATURDAYS, MARCH 2 & 9

9:30 a.m. *hospitality*

10:00-11:30 a.m. *program*

Saint Clement Parish Chapel



Saint Clement Parish | 642 W. Deming Place | Chicago, IL 60614 | 773-281-0371 | clement.org

NEXT SUNDAY!



IMMACULATE CONCEPTION
AND ST. JOSEPH PARISH

Presents our Annual

ST. JOSEPH *Table*

A Luncheon Feast in Honor of our Patron Saint



Sunday, March 10th

12:00-2:00 p.m. • ICSJ Hill Street Campus

Join us for St. Joseph Table, ICSJ's annual celebration in honor of our patron saint!

This complimentary lunchtime feast features delicious Italian selections from area restaurants, pot-luck dishes, wine, beer, soft drinks—and more! Gluten free options will also be available. All are invited!

View participating restaurants at icsjparish.org/sjtable

still
Volunteers needed,
sign up here! ➔



➔ Share your favorite
pot-luck dish!

Questions? Contact Jutta at jkeenan@icsjparish.org or 312-787-7174 x2 or visit icsjparish.org/sjtable

ICSJ PARISH & SCHOOL WITH THE
KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

Lenten Food Drive

9AM -12PM | MARCH 23, 2024

IC CHURCH PARKING LOT || 1431 N NORTH PARK AVE

This year's Lenten Drive will be supporting Blessed Maria Gabriella Church, Union Baptist Missionary Church, and the food pantries & programs of our LPOT Parish Grouping. We will be collecting the following items:

- peanut butter & jelly
- cereal & oatmeal
- canned meats/nonperishable entrees
- Maruchan single serve chicken or beef dry ramen (in cups!)
- multigrain bars (like NutriGrain or similar, not harder granola-type bars)
- snack size chips & cereal
- bottled water & juice boxes
- hearty soups

For more information please contact Allie Klazura at aklazura@icsjparish.org



Are you curious?
A believer?
Still seeking?

**Join a conversation
about life, faith
and purpose**

Alpha



Learn more



DOLPHIN DAYS

NEWS FROM IMMACULATE CONCEPTION - ST. JOSEPH



Join us for an upcoming ADMISSIONS TOUR

Friday, March 22 | 9 AM

Thursday, April 18 | 9 AM

RSVP on our school website at
www.icsjschool.org
or, by scanning
the QR code -->



IMMACULATE CONCEPTION
ST. JOSEPH SCHOOL

TOT PROGRAM

**TRY A
FREE CLASS!**
Contact Jodi at
312-944-0304
Ext. 312

Tuesdays & Thursdays
9:30 - 11 AM

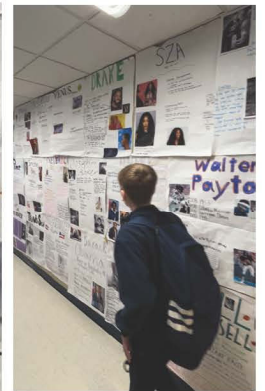
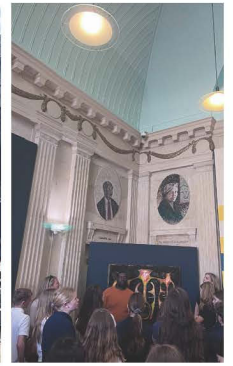
8-week sessions

Toddler and Caregiver

[www.icsjschool.org/
apps/pages/totprogram](http://www.icsjschool.org/apps/pages/totprogram)



Black History Month 2024 Projects & Celebrations



Learn more about Immaculate Conception-St. Joseph School at www.icsjschool.org!



STEWARDSHIP UPDATE

Nancy Gies
Parish Business Manager



Have you considered a Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD)?

A QCD gift (a.k.a. IRA charitable rollover) allows individuals age 70½ or older to authorize their IRA administrator to make a direct transfer of funds from their IRA to qualified charities, tax-free. This way of giving does not generate taxable income, which may lower your annual income level. If you are age 72 or older, the amount you transfer may count towards your required minimum distribution.

If you would like more information on how to make a QCD gift to Immaculate Conception and St. Joseph Parish please contact: Nancy Gies at ngies@icsiparish.org or (312) 787-7174 ext 7.

Sign up for eGiving

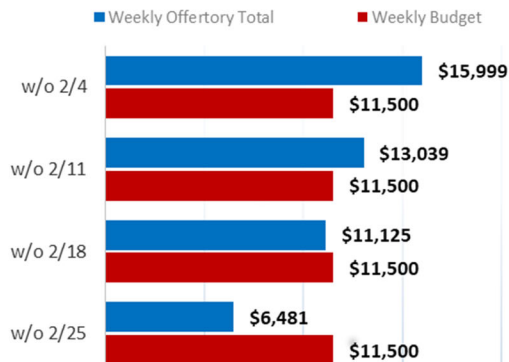
eGiving is a secure and convenient way of giving to Immaculate Conception and St. Joseph parish. It is eco-friendly and cost-saving. Just click **HERE** and to make your one-time, weekly, or monthly donation.

To all our faithful parishioners who give their time, talent and treasure— thank you for your generosity!

Get Involved

Check out all the opportunities here at ICSJ parish, click **HERE**. Or let's set up a coffee so we can get to know each other, your talents and strengths and where they might be used best here at ICSJ. Contact Elly Rodriguez at erodriguez@icsjparish.org or (312)787-7174 ext 4.

Weekly Offertory - February 2023

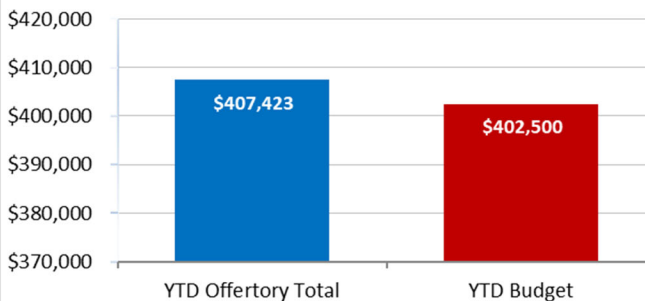


The parish budget requires over one weeks' worth of collections just to cover parish utilities, maintenance, and insurance each month.

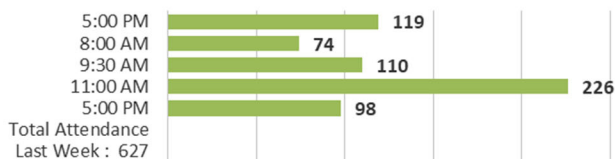
It takes \$3,093 per day to run our parish.

Fiscal Year Budget to Date

Parish Fiscal Year runs from July 1 through June 30



Attendance for 2/24 & 2/25



Mass Intentions

week of March 2-7

Saturday, March 2

5pm at Immaculate Conception with
Fr. Larry McBrady:

David Fisher

James Mattingly

Sunday, March 3

8am at St. Joseph with Fr. Larry Lisowski:
For peace for Melissa Stucky and family

Sunday, March 3

9:30am Mass at Immaculate Conception with
Fr. Larry McBrady:

Mary Ann Sullivan

Sunday, March 3

11am Mass at St. Joseph with Fr. Larry Lisowski:
For the healing of Jesse Scutchfield

Monday, March 4

9am Mass at St. Joseph Fr. Larry Lisowski:

Vincenzina Lopardo

Wednesday, March 6

9am Mass at St. Joseph with Fr. Larry McBrady:

Thomas McVicker

Friday, March 8

9am Mass at St. Joseph with Fr. Larry McBrady:

For the intentions of Colleen Lyons

What is a Mass Intention?

Immaculate Conception and St. Joseph parish offers the possibility for you to request that a Mass be celebrated for a particular intention. Requesting a Mass intention means that you are asking that the grace of Christ's sacrifice in his death and resurrection be applied for a particular purpose, for example, for a deceased person or a living person who is ill or in thanksgiving for a favor received. An intention can also be made for an occasion of a birthday, anniversary or special need, or it can be directed to a cause, such as an increase of vocations or respect for life. Usually, a single intention is attached to a given Mass. But it is also possible to gather several intentions in one Mass with exactly the same effect.

To request a Mass Intention, please visit www.icsjparish.org/mass-intentions or call Angela at the parish office (312)787-7174 ext 1.

Prayer Request

Every month, we receive dozens of prayer requests on our website. No matter where you live in the world, you are invited to share your needs with those who have committed to pray on your behalf. Please visit www.icsjparish.org/the-prayer-connection to submit a prayer Request. To join our ICSJ prayer ministry, email Angela at agore@icsjparish.org

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Consider taking advantage of celebrating the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Going to confession is great for one's soul. Receive the wonderful gift of healing and peace that our God longs for us to have in our life.

Contact Fr. Larry, at pastor@icsjparish.org, to schedule a time to meet.



IMMACULATE CONCEPTION
AND ST. JOSEPH PARISH

A family of families

OUR VISION

WHERE DO WE WANT TO GO?

Inspired by God's great love,
we are called to be the
face of Jesus in today's world,
welcoming all to
our Family of Families,
and walking as disciples
through our works of
compassion and mercy.

OUR MISSION

HOW DO WE GET THERE?

We will be
disciples on a joyful mission,
constantly committed
anew to praying,
serving, growing, sharing
and belonging
in Jesus' name.

Be the
Face of Jesus
and change
the world!



PRAY

Imagine having a deep, rich prayer life
which brings clarity, comfort, hope and joy
into your life and to others!



GROW

Imagine feeling really close with God,
who loves you always!



SERVE

Imagine being God's hands and feet in
this world, that desperately needs
help and healing!



SHARE

Imagine brimming with faith and God's love
so that it spills over into every relationship
and aspect of your life!



BELONG

Imagine creating a diverse, loving community
where everyone is welcomed and
appreciated for who they are!

Visit icsjparish.org/mission
for ideas on taking the next step!



Welcome

Inspired by God's great love, we are called to be the face of Jesus in today's world, welcoming all to our Family of Families, and walking as disciples through our works of compassion and mercy.

Our Two Places of Worship



Immaculate Conception Church

1431 N. North Park Avenue, Chicago, IL 60610



Free parking available in church parking lot; street parking also available.

St. Joseph Church

1107 N. Orleans Street, Chicago, IL 60610



Street parking available; free parking available across the street at ICSJ School, 363 W. Hill St.

Mass Schedule

Sunday

8:00 a.m. – St. Joseph Church

9:30 a.m. – Immaculate Conception Church

11:00 a.m. – St. Joseph Church

Saturday

5:00 p.m. – Immaculate Conception Church

Monday • Wednesday • Friday

9:00 a.m. – St. Joseph Church

Contact Us

Parish Office: 312-787-7174 • Visit Us Online: www.icsjparish.org

Main Office

1107 N. Orleans Street, Chicago, IL 60610

Main Office Hours

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday
9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. (closed Thursday)

North Park Office

1431 N. North Park Ave, Chicago, IL 60610

North Park Office Hours

Tuesday, Wednesday 4:00-8:00 p.m.,
Saturday 9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.

For questions regarding Weddings, Registration, Mass Intentions, Baptisms, Giving, volunteering, and other general information, please visit our website or call the Parish Office.

Staff Directory

Pastor

Rev. Lawrence Lisowski
pastor@icsjparish.org
312-787-7174, ext. 5

Senior Priest

Rev. Larry McBrady
312-787-7174

Deacon

Neil Rogers
nrogers@icsjparish.org
312-787-7174, ext. 6

Business Manager

Nancy Gies
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312-787-7174, ext. 7

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312-787-7174, ext. 2

Director of Music

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312-787-7174, ext. 9

ICSJ School Co-Principal

Katie Sullivan
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312-944-0304, ext. 3

ICSJ School Co-Principal

Heather Lux
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312-944-0304, ext. 4

Maintenance Supervisor

Colm Murphy
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312-787-7174

Parish Coordinator, Bulletin Editor

Angela Gore
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312-787-7174, ext. 1

Director of Evangelization & Events

Jutta Keenan
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312-787-7174, ext. 8

Assistant to the Pastor

Elly Rodriguez
erodriguez@icsjparish.org
312-787-7174, ext. 4

Outreach Ministries Coordinator

Allie Klazura
aklazura@icsjparish.org
312-787-7174, ext. 3

Assistant to the Director of Music

Josephine Stracek
jstracek@icsjparish.org
312-787-7174

Evening/Weekend Receptionist

Sherrine Manning
312-787-7174, ext. 0

Follow ICSJ Parish on Social Media



@icsjparish (Parish)



@i.do.at.icsj (Weddings)



@icsjparish