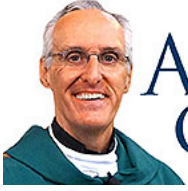


April 14, 2024 | Third Sunday of Easter



ALL  
OF US

Fr. Larry's  
Weekly Letter  
#561

## PEACE BE WITH YOU



This Sunday's gospel takes to the Upper Room where the disciples are all gathered after the death of Jesus. They are still hiding, and filled with fear and shame. They are embarrassed and paralyzed by their cowardice and betrayal. Jesus had died and they did nothing to protect him.

The two disciples who met Jesus on the road to Emmaus tell their companions the good news of Jesus' resurrection.

Then Jesus suddenly appears in their midst. The disciples think that they are seeing a ghost. He shows them the wounds from his crucifixion that serve as his identification card.

The disciples deserved his anger but he didn't criticize them or make them feel any worse than they already did. He didn't condemn them for being weak.

Instead, Jesus surprised them with a greeting of peace and a request for food. Their brokenness wasn't terminal. Jesus started the healing process.

Have you ever felt the way the disciples did? Maybe you are in the midst of a painful situation right now that has you feeling confused, betrayed or lost. Maybe a traumatic experience still haunts you. Or maybe the guilt of some past sin continues to weigh you down.

The disciples were very different people after meeting the post-resurrection Jesus. He offered them the possibility of a fresh start, and so they started to grow through their weakness. Their brokenness became something beautiful and a lasting example of healing and new beginnings.

Jesus's invitation to his disciples is also offered to us. Even with all our faults, failures and shortcomings Jesus can repair and make us even more beautiful.

Jesus longs to do for us today what he did for his disciples. He longs to open our mind to his mercy so that we can be set free from guilt or shame. He longs to reveal his love so that we can see past our painful past. He wants us to receive his mercy and compassion so that we can look into the future with hope and trust. He wants us to move on!

Quiet your heart today so that you can hear Jesus speak to you. Let him give you, his peace.

## IT IS NEVER TOO LATE

One of the Easter cards that I received this year had this beautiful and hopeful message.

***The resurrection tells us it is never too late. Every so often we will be surprised. We must believe that the stone will be rolled back, and we must be ready to... take off the linen bindings of death and walk free... breathing resurrection air.***

- Father Ron Rolheiser, O.M.I.

*Continued on the next page*

## THE HOLY SPIRIT AT WORK

Often as a pastor I look for little hints that tell me that parish life is going well. The most rewarding experiences for me as a priest is knowing that someone has been moved spiritually and that they are preserving in their Catholic faith.

It is great to know that these spiritual awakenings are happening in the hearts of those sitting in the pew on Sunday. It is precious to hear about these spiritual transformations taking place. It is a simple sign that the Holy Spirit is truly at work.

Here is nice email from one of our young adults, Mallory Paul, who shares what it was like for her to attend Mass last weekend at St. Joseph's.

***Fr. Larry, I just wanted to drop you a note of gratitude. The 11:00 a.m. Mass on Sundays has literally been a Godsend for me. It has brought me so much joy during hard times. Between you and the other Father Larry, Kate Ryan and the choir, and the whole community, going to Mass at ICSJ feels like a joyful homecoming. Today was especially beautiful. Know how much everyone's work matters. It connects and brings joy and light when it is desperately needed.***

***In today's homily Fr. McBrady reminded us all that no matter life's despairs, God loves us. It was a message I needed to hear. I just wanted all to you know and feel the impact you make.***

## STANDING ROOM ONLY



It was great to see our two churches full for Easter Sunday and reaching standing room only status. (This brings great joy to a pastor's heart.) Our total Mass attendance for the Easter weekend soared over 1,100! For our small parish, this is a great sign of our constant growth and vitality!

My priest friend, who is a pastor in Knoxville, Tennessee, on Easter Sunday made this joke at the beginning of his Mass. After he welcomed everyone to church, he said, "Now folks, I know some of you I have not see since Christmas. So, before we start... I just want to wish you a Happy New Year!"

## A FEW THINGS TO PRAY FOR


Are looking for something to pray for this week? If so, you can hold in your prayers the 31 women and men who are participating in our Spring session of Alpha. May the Holy Spirt enliven their hearts and deepen their faith in God's great love as they reflect upon the importance of their faith.

By the way, I am offering a "Prayer of Thanksgiving" this week. Thank you, Jesus... for helping me win my NCAA brackets this year. Alleluia!!!

*Fr. Larry*




***Harper Lilly Guengerich  
Baptized Saturday, April 6  
Richard Guengerich amd Suzanne Sprague***



**KEVIN'S CORNER**

Kevin O'Connell  
Sacramental Coordinator



Do you want to help make one of the most important days in people's lives so special? Looking to give back to our church? If the answer is yes, then think about being a Wedding Co-Sacristan.

You will not regret playing such a beautiful role. Each wedding necessitates just a two hour commitment, mostly on Saturday afternoon.

Come join the team and sign-up as you are available. Our parish hosts about 40 weddings a year and this is a major ministry at ICSJ. It's fun, easy, and so meaningful. This is a great opportunity to experience love and hope in our world. Please contact Kevin for more information:  
[koconnell@icsjparish.org](mailto:koconnell@icsjparish.org)




*blossoms of hope*  
brunch

Benefiting the  
Loving Outreach to Survivors of Suicide  
(LOSS) Program



Sunday, April 28, 2024  
11:00am-2:00pm

**NEW LOCATION!**  
Westin Chicago Lombard  
70 Yorktown Center | Lombard, IL



CATHOLIC CHARITIES  
Archdiocese of Chicago

[catholiccharities.net/events/blossoms-of-hope-brunch-2024](https://catholiccharities.net/events/blossoms-of-hope-brunch-2024)

# 2024 Summer Organ Masses

8am - St. Joseph Church | 1107 N. Orleans St.

- MAY 5, 2024
- JUNE 2, 2024
- JULY 7, 2024
- AUGUST 4, 2024

Join us for a reflective Mass featuring hit tunes and hymns played on our historic organ. We hope you will join us for a refreshing Mass experience!



# evening mass & reception



Sunday, April 21st at 5PM at  
Immaculate Conception Church

ICSJ's young adult community, **FORMED**, invites you to join us at a special evening mass and reception to meet fellow young people in our parish!

*formed*  
icsj young adults

## OUR BURUNDI REFUGEE FAMILY IS HAVING A

# BABY GIRL!

Please help us support them by purchasing items from [this Amazon Registry](#) or searching Baby Arakaza on Amazon's Find a Registry

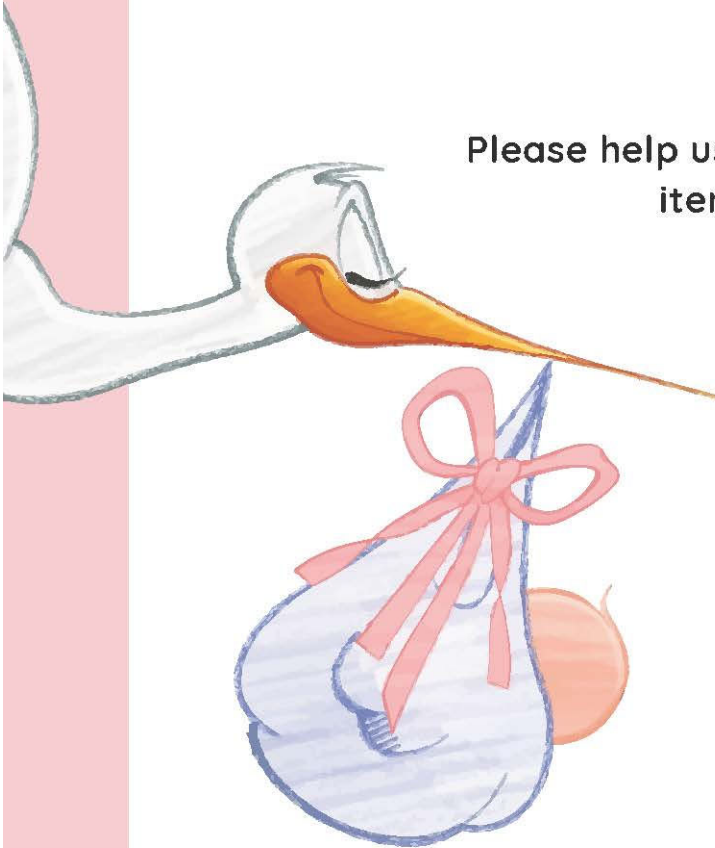
This family is composed of a mom & dad, a 13 year old boy who is wheelchair bound due to cerebral palsy, and a 2 year old girl.

The parents both work alternating shifts in order to care for their children. In addition to supporting them via this registry, if you know of any affordable two bedroom apartments for rent please let me know; they are currently in a one bedroom and struggling to find something that is both affordable and wheelchair accessible.

Please contact Allie at [aklazura@icsjparish.org](mailto:aklazura@icsjparish.org) if you have any gently used items you see listed on registry that you'd like to donate or with apartment leads!

**MARK YOUR CALENDAR FOR SUNDAY, MAY 5TH AT 12PM**

**We will host a small reception/shower to present these gifts in the St. Joe's basement following 11am Mass!**





# **SUMMER** *Volunteer Choir*

Join us for our summer volunteer choir opportunity. Rehearse before Mass at Immaculate Conception Church on any of the dates you are available. Sign-up below to receive an email reminder and PDF ahead of time for practice. Email [jstracek@icsjparish.org](mailto:jstracek@icsjparish.org) for more details.

**2ND SATURDAY MAY THROUGH AUGUST  
5PM MASS AT IMMACULATE CONCEPTION CHURCH**

**SATURDAY, MAY 10  
SATURDAY, JUNE 15**

**SATURDAY, JULY 13  
SATURDAY, AUGUST 10**

Scan to  
sign-up





**SAVE THE DATE!**  
**Sunday, May 19th**

# Larrypalooza!



**Join us for Larrypalooza!, celebrating Fr. Larry's  
40th Ordination Anniversary**

Come together with friends and family for an afternoon of fun, food,  
and festivities as we celebrate Fr. Larry's four decades of priestly service.

Save the date and let's make this celebration one to remember!

**Sunday, May 19th • 12-2pm**  
**ICSJ School Hill Street Gymnasium**

**More details to come!**

BE STILL

# God's Great Love

ICSJ Women's Retreat

june 20-23

AND KNOW

SAVE THE DATE!

For more information contact  
Elly at [erodriguez@icsjparish.org](mailto:erodriguez@icsjparish.org)





# DOLPHIN DAYS

NEWS FROM IMMACULATE CONCEPTION - ST. JOSEPH



## A FEW OF THE THINGS THAT MAKE ICSJ SCHOOL SO SPECIAL...

**Our Unique Co-Teaching Model** – 2 Certified teachers in each PreK3 – 3rd Grade Classroom

**Faith Based Curriculum** – Daily Religion class period, plus Catholic principles integrated throughout the day

**Average Student to Teacher Ratios** – PreK3 - Kindergarten 10:1, Primary Grades 12:1, and Middle School 20:1

**Higher Standards** – Since 2005, ICSJ’s Early Childhood Program has consistently earned NAEYC accreditation

**Exemplar Academic Results** – Students across all tested grade levels (K-8) regularly in the top 10-15% on iReady Tests

**High School Placement** – Graduates are prepared for and earn spots at the top high schools in Chicago (95% 1st choice)

**Athletics and Extracurriculars** – League Sports Teams offered from 4th - 8th and dozens of clubs and enrichment offerings

**Specials / Practical Fine Arts at All grade Levels** – Art, Music, STEM, Spanish and Physical Education from PrK3 - 8th

**Extended School Day Program** – Before and After School Care taught by ICSJ teachers available at both campuses

 IMMACULATE CONCEPTION  
ST. JOSEPH SCHOOL

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](http://www.ICSJSchool.org)  
or, by scanning  
the QR code -->




 IMMACULATE CONCEPTION  
ST. JOSEPH SCHOOL

**TOT  
PROGRAM**

**Tuesdays & Thursdays**  
9:30 - 11 AM

For Toddlers &  
Their Caregivers

Final 8-week Session  
begins April 9!



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



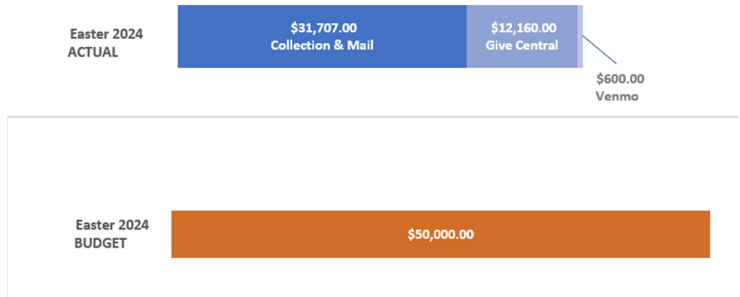
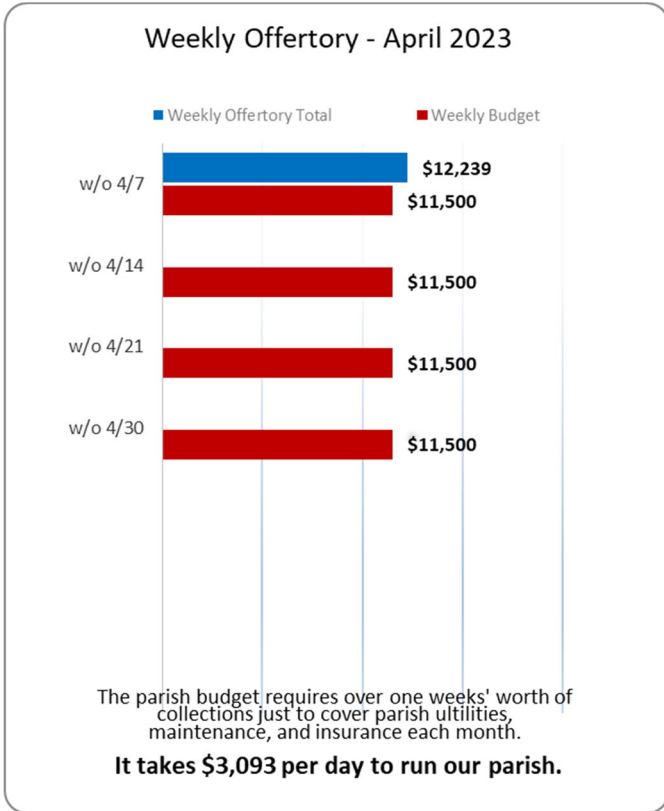
**TRY A FREE CLASS!**  
Contact Jodi at  
312-944-0304 Ext. 312

Learn more about Immaculate Conception-St. Joseph School at [www.icsjschool.org](http://www.icsjschool.org)!



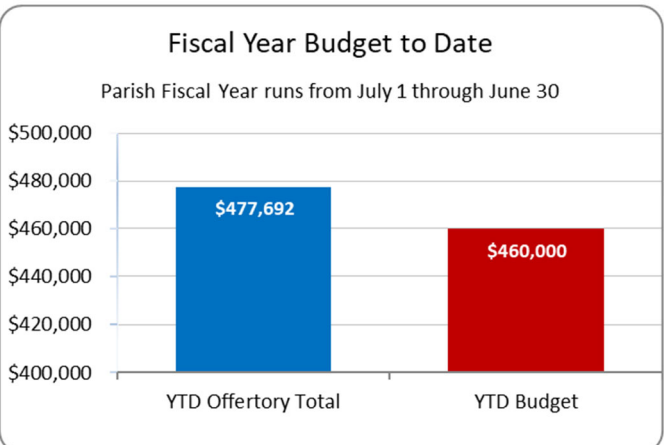
# 2024 EASTER COLLECTION

ICSJ Easter Collection 2024 Actual \$44,467 vs Budget \$50,000



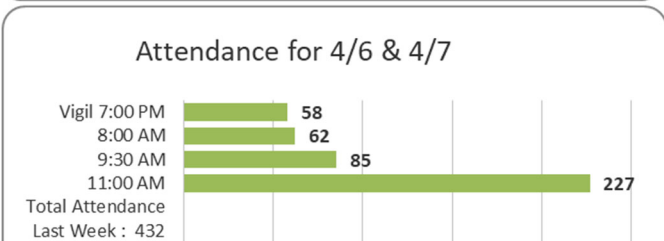
Thank you to all who made an Easter donation to our parish. Your contribution basically goes directly to helping us make our payroll and pay our monthly bills.

You will notice in the above graphic that we are short about **\$5,533** in our budget for our **2024 Easter Collection**, that was targeted for **\$50,000**. If you have not made your Easter donation, please prayerfully consider a contribution that will help us to continue to do the good things that we do.



A number of parishioners are now making their donation electronically, either through GiveCentral, or by using their Venmo app. You can set-up an electronic account with our parish on our parish website: [www.icsjparish.org](http://www.icsjparish.org).

If you need further assistance, contact Nancy Gies, our Business Manager at: [ngies@icsjparish.org](mailto:ngies@icsjparish.org) and she will gladly help you to set up an account.



Many parishioners who have established an account have mentioned that they appreciate the fact that that now their weekly donations are automatic. It is one less thing to have to remember.

# Mass Intentions

week of April 13-19

## Saturday, April 13

5pm at Immaculate Conception with

Fr. Larry Lisowski:

**Dick Hyland**

**Pat Hyland Waldron**

## Sunday, April 14

8am at St. Joseph with Fr. Larry McBrady:

**Michael Lopardo**

## Sunday, April 14

9:30am Mass at Immaculate Conception with

Fr. Larry Lisowski:

**Marianne Anheuser**

**Thomas Farrell**

**Pasquale & Vincenzina Lopardo**

## Sunday, April 14

11am Mass at St. Joseph with Fr. Larry McBrady:

**Marion Hurley**

**Suzanne Connor**

## Monday, April 15

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

**Angela Lopardo**

## Wednesday, April 17

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

**The continued healing of Brad**

## Friday, April 19

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

**Rick Mahoney**

# 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](http://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](http://www.icsjparish.org/the-prayer-connection) to submit a prayer Request. To join our ICSJ prayer ministry, email Angela at [agore@icsjparish.org](mailto: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](mailto: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](http://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](http://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](mailto:pastor@icsjparish.org)  
312-787-7174, ext. 5

### Senior Priest

Rev. Larry McBrady  
312-787-7174

### Deacon

Neil Rogers  
[nrogers@icsjparish.org](mailto:nrogers@icsjparish.org)  
312-787-7174, ext. 6

### Business Manager

Nancy Gies  
[ngies@icsjparish.org](mailto:ngies@icsjparish.org)  
312-787-7174, ext. 7

### Sacramental Coordinator

Kevin O'Connell  
[koconnell@icsjparish.org](mailto:koconnell@icsjparish.org)  
312-787-7174, ext. 2

### Director of Music

Kate Ryan  
[kryan@icsjparish.org](mailto:kryan@icsjparish.org)  
312-787-7174, ext. 9

### ICSJ School Co-Principal

Katie Sullivan  
[ksullivan@icsjschool.org](mailto:ksullivan@icsjschool.org)  
312-944-0304, ext. 3

### ICSJ School Co-Principal

Heather Lux  
[hlux@icsjschool.org](mailto:hlux@icsjschool.org)  
312-944-0304, ext. 4

### Maintenance Supervisor

Colm Murphy  
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312-787-7174

### Parish Coordinator, Bulletin Editor

Angela Gore  
[agore@icsjparish.org](mailto:agore@icsjparish.org)  
312-787-7174, ext. 1

### Director of Evangelization & Events

Jutta Keenan  
[jkeen@icsjparish.org](mailto:jkeen@icsjparish.org)  
312-787-7174, ext. 8

### Assistant to the Pastor

Elly Rodriguez  
[erodriguez@icsjparish.org](mailto:erodriguez@icsjparish.org)  
312-787-7174, ext. 4

### Outreach Ministries Coordinator

Allie Klazura  
[aklazura@icsjparish.org](mailto:aklazura@icsjparish.org)  
312-787-7174, ext. 3

### Assistant to the Director of Music

Josephine Stracek  
[jstracek@icsjparish.org](mailto: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