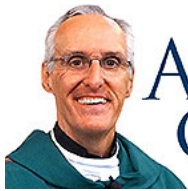


March 24, 2024 | The Sixth Sunday of Lent



ALL OF US

Fr. Larry's
Weekly Letter
#558

WELCOME TO HOLY WEEK!



Welcome to Holy Week! For Christians around the world, this is our most important week of the whole year as we profess our faith in the life, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

Church is the place to be during Holy Week. This is our main event! It's our March Madness of the liturgical year! This tournament of devotion is why we have been praying, fasting and doing works of charity for the past 40 days of Lent.

days here at Immaculate Conception and St. Joseph Parish. Our Pastoral Staff, liturgical ministers and musicians have been working hard to prepare for these solemn events that are the wonderful expressions of our worship and prayer.

These days are packed with inspirational rituals and powerful symbols of our Catholic faith that speak volumes to what we believe as followers of Jesus. They are guaranteed to inspire us and fill us with hope.

Every Catholic should at least once in their lifetime experience all that the Triduum —meaning the three days of Holy Thursday, Good Friday and the Easter Vigil — has to offer. To experience them in their entirety is a unique spiritual experience.

Maybe this is the year you can make it happen? I promise that if you do, you will gain a whole new understanding and appreciation of Holy Week having made the prayerful journey through these three consecutive days.

DINE WITH JESUS ON HOLY THURSDAY

Join us on Thursday night as we recall the events of the Last Supper and the sacred gift of the Eucharist that Jesus gave to his disciples and to us. Be present to the real presence that Christ offers to us in Holy Communion.

Continued on the next page

Holy Thursday is one of those few times in the year when we as a parish family can actually gather around the table of the Lord. It is a time to be united in our faith, with all the diversity that is very much a part of our parish.

Holy Thursday allows us to appreciate the gift of faith that enables us to carry on the mission and ministry of Jesus. At the Last Supper, Jesus gave us the Great Commandment to love and serve one another. Today we are his disciples on a mission, called to do what he did for us long ago.

STEP INTO A CHURCH ON GOOD FRIDAY

On Good Friday, make sure that you step into a church, even if it's just for five minutes for a quick prayer. If you are out of town traveling on the road with your family this Good Friday, find a church to visit. Say a prayer together and remember what happened on the cross.

When a loved one dies in our family, we are compelled to go to their wake and pay our respects. We wouldn't think of missing it.

Well, the same is true with the death of Jesus. Good Friday is our day to pay our respects to Jesus, who gave His life for us on the cross. That is why we venerate the cross on Good Friday. It reminds us that he loved us to death.

The big question that is always raised on Good Friday is, "Were you there when they crucified my Lord?" This Friday, may our response be, "Yes, Lord, here I am!"

CHECK OUT THE LIGHTS ON HOLY SATURDAY

The Easter Vigil on Holy Saturday evening has it all... fire, lights, fresh water, joyful alleluias, the best scripture stories from our ancestors, those being received into the Catholic faith through Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist, and the renewal of our own baptismal promises.

If you come to the Easter Vigil, you certainly won't be bored. In fact, you will be in awe of all that takes place. The liturgy, even though it is longer than our typical Sunday Mass, is filled with so much that represents the heart and soul of our Catholic faith. Come and enjoy the Easter Vigil. It's a great night to be Catholic!

We are blessed this year to have 8 adults who will be fully initiated into the Catholic church at the Easter Vigil. They have been part of the RCIA program (the *Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults*) since September, and they have been learning each week about the beliefs and practices of our Catholic faith.

Daniel Chen and James P'Pool will be baptized at the Easter Vigil. Charlie Chmelik, Anna Harlow and Meghan Ryan were already baptized in another Christian denomination and will publicly convert to the Catholic faith. Kathy Wong Saines, Tabitha Schein and Nicholas McCullough are already baptized Catholic and will receive, with the newly baptized and converts, the sacraments of Confirmation and Holy Communion.

We are so happy and proud of these men and women. What a great addition to our **"Family of Families!"**

EASTER HOSPITALITY

Let us together intentionally make our Easter Sunday celebrations a joyful and rewarding experience for all, especially for those who may be returning to Church after a long absence. Let us help all our brothers and sisters feel right at home, and let them know how glad we are to have them join us this Easter.

Today's bulletin and our parish website contains all of the events that will take place, day by day, and practically hour by hour, during Holy Week. Please refer to them often and continue to pray for one another as we journey through these sacred days.

Continued on the next page

**THANK YOU
FOR YOUR LENTEN DONATIONS**



Thank you to all who donated to the various charities that were part of your alms-giving during Lent. There was a huge response to our recent Lenten Food Drive last weekend. Thank you to the Knights of Columbus who helped collect all the bags of food.

Easter Offering

As we approach Easter Sunday, please be mindful that our Easter collection is a significant part of our parish income that goes directly to paying our monthly bills. **It actually costs \$3,093 a day to run our parish.** Your financial support helps us to do the good things that we do.

God has blessed us in many ways. How fortunate we are to be able to share these blessings so that the mission and ministry of Jesus continues on – in and through us.

I hope you have a great Holy Week. You, and your family, are in my prayers. See you in church!

Fx. Lacey



*Remi Elizabeth Rohling
Baptized Sunday, March 17th
John and Maggie Rohling*

ICSJ'S DAILY ROSARY

Come as you are and join us
in praying the Holy Rosary every...
Monday through Friday 12:30pm
Saturday and Sunday at 7:30am

****No experience needed. We will guide you.****

Pick up a card in the back of church that looks like this page for the zoom meeting ID and password or email Angela at agore@icsjparish.org or call (312)787-7174 ext 1



ICSJ PARISH

Second Collection Schedule

As Catholics, we are part of a universal Church that extends beyond our own parish boundaries. Special collections combine our resources to support important causes that carry out the mission of the Church. Please mark you calendar with the dates listed below and thank you for your generosity!

Collection for the Church in Latin America	January 28
Annual Catholic Appeal	February 3-4, February 10-11, February 17-18
Aid for the Church in Central & Eastern Europe	February 14
Little Sisters of the Poor	February 25
Sharing Parish: Mother of the Americas*	Palm Sunday – March 24
Holy Land	Good Friday – March 29
Catholic Charities	Mother’s Day – May 12
Priests’ Health & Retirement	June 9
Peter’s Pence	June 30
Missionary Co-Op	A Sunday in July/August TBD
Sharing Parish: Mother of the Americas*	ICSJ Taco Fiesta Sunday – July 28
Seminarian Education	September 22
World Mission Sunday	October 20
Catholic Campaign for Human Development	November 17
Retirement Fund for Religious	December 8
Sharing Parish: Mother of the Americas*	Feast of the Holy Family – December 29



Contributions may be made in at our Masses or on our website at [icsjparish.org/second-collections](https://www.icsjparish.org/second-collections)

* for the benefit of ICSJ's Sharing Parish, Mother of the Americas Parish



IMMACULATE CONCEPTION
AND ST. JOSEPH PARISH

2024 Holy Week Schedule

PALM SUNDAY

SUNDAY, MARCH 24TH ~ MASS OF THE LORD'S PASSION

(Saturday) 5:00 p.m. at Immaculate Conception Church *(Fr. Larry McBrady)*

8:00 a.m. at St. Joseph Church *(Fr. Larry Lisowski)*

9:30 a.m. at Immaculate Conception Church *(Fr. Larry McBrady)*

11:00 a.m. at St. Joseph Church *(Fr. Larry Lisowski)*

HOLY THURSDAY

THURSDAY, MARCH 28TH ~ MASS OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

7:00 p.m. at Immaculate Conception Church *(Fr. Larry Lisowski)*

Adoration until 9:00 p.m.

GOOD FRIDAY

FRIDAY, MARCH 29TH ~ SERVICE OF THE LORD'S PASSION AND DEATH

3:00 p.m. at Immaculate Conception Church *(Fr. Larry McBrady)*

7:00 p.m. at St. Joseph Church *(Fr. Larry McBrady)*

Holy Communion will be distributed at these services

HOLY SATURDAY

SATURDAY, MARCH 30TH

Blessing of the Food Baskets: 12:00 p.m. at St. Joseph Church

Easter Vigil Mass: 7:00 p.m. at St. Joseph Church *(Fr. Larry Lisowski)*

Fulfills Sunday Obligation

EASTER SUNDAY

SUNDAY, MARCH 31ST

8:00 a.m. at St. Joseph Church *(Fr. Larry McBrady)*

9:30 a.m. at Immaculate Conception Church *(Fr. Larry Lisowski)*

11:00 a.m. at St. Joseph Church *(Fr. Larry McBrady)*



Your Continued Giving is Important

Your Easter donation helps us pay our bills (over 90% of our operating budget comes from your donations) and continue to do the good work that we do. We offer three easy ways to give:

GIVE BY VENMO

Send payments to
venmo@icsjparish.org or the
username ICSJ-Chicago

GIVE ONLINE

Make one-time or recurring
contributions on our GiveCentral page at
www.rebrand.ly/GiveToday-to-ICSJ

GIVE BY MAIL

ICSJ Parish
1107 N Orleans Street
Chicago, IL 60610



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, ♥

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Thank you for...

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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...

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



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

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



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 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!



**Are you curious?
A believer?
Still seeking?**

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

Alpha



Learn more

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





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
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!

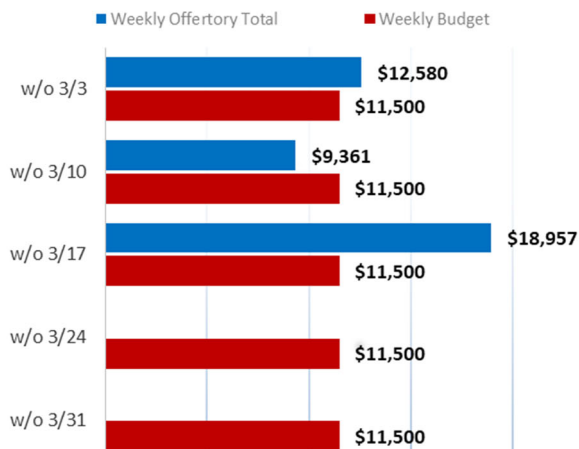


STEWARDSHIP UPDATE



Nancy Gies
Parish Business Manager

Weekly Offertory - March 2023

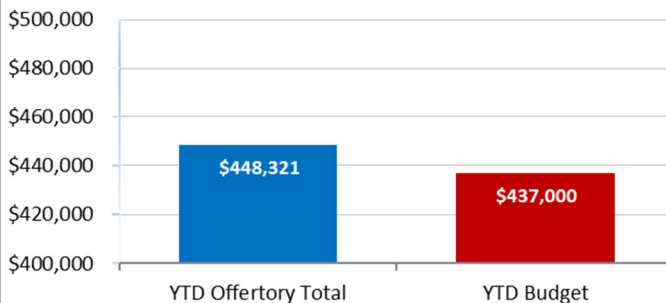


The parish budget requires over one weeks' worth of collections just to cover parish utilities, maintenance, and insurance each month.

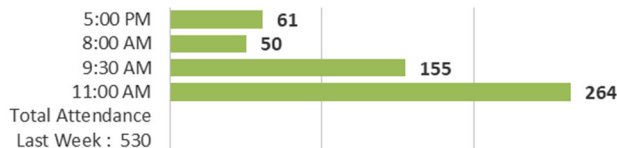
It takes \$3,093 per day to run our parish.

Fiscal Year Budget to Date

Parish Fiscal Year runs from July 1 through June 30



Attendance for 3/16 & 3/17



IMMACULATE CONCEPTION
AND ST. JOSEPH PARISH

A family of families

Your giving is important.

Your Easter donation helps us pay our bills (*over 90% of our operating budget comes from your donations*) and continue to do the good work that we do. We offer three easy ways to give:

1. Online

You can make one-time or recurring contributions on our GiveCentral page by using this QR code or by visiting



www.rebrand.ly/GiveToday-To-ICSJ

2. Venmo

Send your payments to either venmo@icsjparish.org or the username **ICSJ-Chicago**

3. By Mail

Mail your checks to
ICSJ Parish
1107 N. Orleans Street
Chicago, IL 60610

Thank you for your loyalty and support!

Mass Intentions

week of March 23-29

Saturday, March 23

5pm at Immaculate Conception with Fr. Larry McBrady:
For the parishioners of our ICSJ parish community

Sunday, March 24

8am at St. Joseph with Fr. Larry Lisowski:
Fr. Dan Fallon

Sunday, March 24

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

Sunday, March 24

11am Mass at St. Joseph with Fr. Larry Lisowski:
For the parishioners of our ICSJ parish community
Ralph Iacono
Clementina Gamboa
Jeanette Kinsella

Monday, March 25

9am Mass at St. Joseph Fr. Larry Lisowski:
Bill Bartholomay
Charles Salvo

Wednesday, March 27

9am Mass at St. Joseph with Fr. Larry Lisowski:
For the well-being of Ross Remein

Holy Thursday, March 28

7pm Mass at Immaculate Conception with
Fr. Larry Lisowski:
For the parishioners of our ICSJ parish community

Good Friday, March 29

3pm Mass at Immaculate Conception with
Fr. Larry McBrady:
For the R.C.I.A. Candidates and Catechumens
7pm Mass at St. Joseph with Fr. Larry McBrady:
For the R.C.I.A. Candidates and Catechumens

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.

Follow ICSJ Parish on Social Media



@icsjparish (Parish)



@i.do.at.icsj (Weddings)



@icsjparish

Staff Directory

Pastor

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

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312-787-7174

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