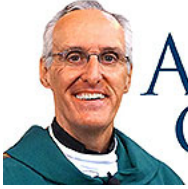


May 12, 2024 | The Ascension of the Lord



ALL
OF US

Fr. Larry's
Weekly Letter
#565



Happy Mother's Day to all the women who have been blessed with the vocation of motherhood. The real beauty of today is watching how families humbly show their love and appreciation for their mothers who provide so much for them. This is a prayerful and grace-filled day of recognition.

Flowers, cards or candy are the traditional token signs of gratitude on Mother's Day. But I suspect that what pleases a mom most of all is just a simple hug or a kiss and hearing the words, "I love you" from their kids. It's free and powerful. If you are a mom, I hope you are blessed with this gift today. Sons and daughters don't be shy about it, let your mom know the love that you have in your heart for her.

As a parish priest, it becomes more and more evident to me that mothers play an important role in the faith-life of their children. They, along with their husbands, are the primary educators of their children in the ways of faith, and are the ones needed to nurture the spiritual life of their children. It is an important responsibility that our Catholic faith is passed on from one generation to another. May God's blessings be upon all our moms and may God keep them strong.

We are grateful for Anna Marzano, Karen O'Malley, Lois Miller, and Elizabeth Donovan who will share their reflections on "Motherhood and Faith" at Mass this weekend. We appreciate their insight and wisdom.

NICE GUYS WITH FLOWERS

We are grateful for the generosity of the men from our Knights of Columbus who will be distributing flowers to our moms on Mother's Day. It is such a nice way to honor these special women.

PRAYING FOR SAFE TRAVELS

Priests are often asked to bless many things in their ministry ... cars, boats, houses, bibles, statues of the saints and various other religious articles.



For the past fifteen years, I have been asked to do a Saturday morning prayer service and blessing for a chapter of motorcycle riders at the Chi-Town Harley Davidson dealership in Tinley Park in May. It is always a pleasure for me to pray with those who seek God's protection and care as they travel the highways and byways this summer on their big "hogs."

I humbly admitted to the burley riders that I have a dinky Vespa scooter, that would be considered a little pea-shooter to their big bikes.

Of course, the priest is always the most clean-cut guy in this group. Behind the black leather jackets, the colorful tattoos, gray beards and braided pony-tails are actually grade school teachers, hospice nurses, accountants, grandfathers and God-fearing, every-Sunday-church-going believers.

**"THE BODY OF CHRIST...
AMEN!"**



Congratulations to all of our children who received the Eucharist for the first time at Mass last weekend with their family. It was a beautiful day for our parish. It was also great to see all the proud grandparents who attend the Mass. They were beaming with joy.

In my homily to the kids I reminded the kids that when we come to church, **"Jesus is our host"** who welcomes us into his house, his sacred home. But more than that, **"Jesus is in our host"** because his love is really present to us whenever we share in the Bread of Life.

PUT YOUR FAITH INTO ACTION

On Saturday, May 18th, we will have the opportunity to put our faith into action at our **Parish Service Day**. We need your hands, your feet, and generous spirit!

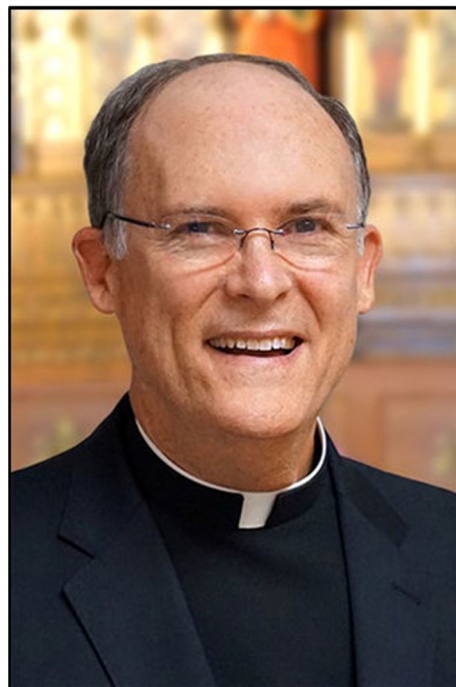
You can choose from four simple service projects that will take place in the morning. Do you have an hour or two to help package food for the poor, or visit the elderly, or help do some spring cleaning around our parish grounds? We need you!

Check out the **Parish Service Day** information that is provided in today's bulletin. Bring a friend, or participate as a family. You can make a huge difference. It is my hope and dream that we will have about 75 parishioners who can volunteer.

Make sure you register on-line so that you can be contacted ahead of time. Our organizers will fill you in on what will happen, where to go, and what you can bring. This is a wonderful way to meet other parishioners. You will be glad that you did!

WOW... 53 YEARS!

We are happy for Fr. Larry McBrady who just celebrates his 53rd anniversary as a priest for the Archdiocese of Chicago on this Sunday, May 12th! May God bless him with health, happiness and peace as he continues to serve God's people. He is a true blessing for our parish!



Continued on the next page

CONGRATULATIONS ELLY!

Congratulations to Elly Rodriguez, (Assistant to the Pastor) who just completed her Masters in Pastoral Counseling at the Institute of Pastoral Counseling at Loyola University here in Chicago. This was a long journey that demanded a lot of hard work. Pictured with Elly is her mom, Beth and dad, Gabe.



*Caroline Elizabeth O'Toole
Baptized Sunday, May 5th
Matthew O'Toole and Ashley Barrient O'Toole*

I HOPE YOU CAN MAKE IT



I hear there is something called "LARRYPALOOZA" happening next Sunday. My priest friends have been kidding me. They told me, "Thank God this is not an annual event!" Hope you can make it.

Fx. Larry

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!

YOGA AT IC

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

June 8-Aug 10,
with no class July 6 and July 13
\$60 for 8-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



KEVIN'S CORNER

Kevin O'Connell • Sacramental Coordinator



ICSJ has a wonderful day celebrating Jesus as our School and Religious Education second graders received their First Holy Communion. How beautiful is our Lord.





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

NEXT WEEKEND'S SECOND COLLECTION
Show single moms
they are not alone
THIS MONTH, AND ALL YEAR LONG.



Being a mom today can be hard, especially when struggling to make ends meet. At Catholic Charities, we help mothers across Lake and Cook counties overcome challenges and find stability all year round so they—and their children—can thrive. Join us!



Donate to bring hope to moms today!

- **Give securely** at catholiccharities.net/donate
- **Mail a check** using your parish's Catholic Charities envelopes
- **Scan the QR code** to the left

catholiccharities.net

The background of the entire page is decorated with large, stylized balloons in gold and dark blue. Interspersed among the balloons are thin, wavy streamers in the same colors. The overall theme is festive and celebratory.

Next Weekend!

Larrypalooza!

A cartoon illustration of an elderly man with white hair, glasses, and a friendly smile. He is wearing a dark blue clerical collar. His head is positioned to the right of the word "Larrypalooza!", appearing as if he is peeking out from behind the letter 'a'.

Celebrating Fr. Larry's 40th Ordination Anniversary

Come together with friends and family for Larrypalooza!, an afternoon of fun, food, music and festivities celebrating Fr. Larry Lisowski's four decades of priestly service. All are warmly invited to share in this special occasion, immediately following our 11:00am Mass at St. Joseph Church.

Please join us and help make this a celebration to remember!

Sunday, May 19th • 12:00-2:00pm

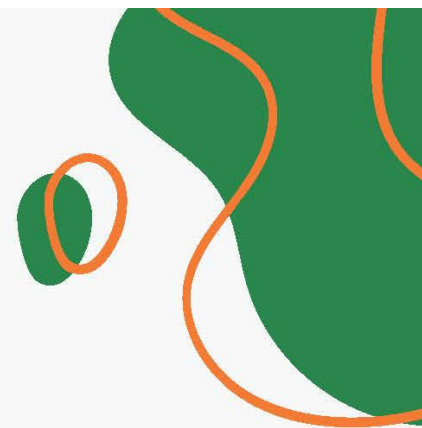
immediately following 11:00am Mass

ICSJ School Hill Street Gymnasium

363 W Hill Street across from St. Joseph Church

All are welcome!

May is Mental Health Awareness Month



We invite all as a community of faith to pray for those struggling with mental illness this month.

Pray the Rosary

We invite as many as possible to pray the rosary on May 15th, the Feast Day of St Dymphna, the patron saint of people with mental illnesses. Whether you pray as a group or individually on May 15th, we hope we can use that day as a show of solidarity and support for those who are experiencing mental health concerns and for their families.

Pray the Novena from the USCCB

We also invite you to say a novena in May for people with mental illnesses and their families developed by the US Bishops Conference last November. Each day of the Novena reflects on a theme related to mental health, or a particular population significantly affected by mental health challenges. The Novena can also be found QR code below or visit the commission website www.catholicmhm.org/prayer-resources



The Association of
Catholic Mental
Health Ministers



**For resources and information visit the
Association of Catholic Mental Health Ministers website at
www.catholicmhm.org**



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 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



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

Harrison Mellon Eagle Scout Project

Back-to-School kits for Children in Chicago's Shelters



Who am I?

- Harrison Mellon
- ICSJ alumni, 2022
- DePaul College Prep, Class of 2026(SOPHOMORE)
- Soccer player
 - Chicago Fire
 - Illinois ODP 07
- Life Scout, Troop 1



What I am doing:

I will be working through my local parish, Immaculate Conception St Joseph's to put together up to 150 (or more)back-to-school kits. I will be leading groups to help me collect, organize and assemble all my materials for the kits. I ask that you all help me by donating new or slightly used school materials throughout the end of school season and summ. Items that I will be accepting can be found below



When?

Boxes will be at Immaculate Conception and St. Joseph Churches beginning May 18th through July 28th - please bring your donations before or after Mass times. We ask that you donate new or slightly used school materials. A list of materials we will be accepting can be found below.

Materials:

- coloredpencils
- washablemarkers
- ballpointpens
- highlighters
- crayons
- #2pencils
- plastic folder
- blunt-tippedscissors
- combinationlocks
- backpacks
- rulers
- protractors
- looseleafpaper
- three ringed binder
- calculators
- glue/gluesticks
- indexcards
- post-its
- erasers
- pencilcases
- notebooks



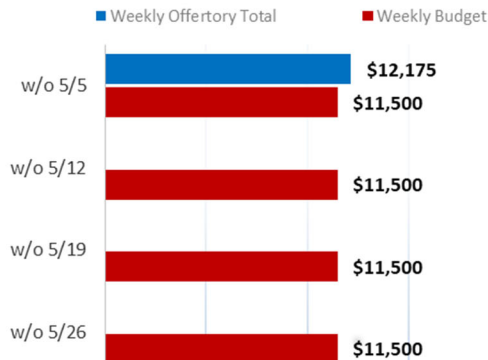
Why Register at a Parish?

- It is a **sign of commitment and support to the life of a parish community** and indicates willingness to **belong to our parish family**.
- Our Parish Staff will have the basic information needed to **communicate with individual families, especially in times of emergency**.
- Every Catholic needs to have their **sacramental information documented**. Copies of one's Baptismal, First Communion, Confirmation, and Marriage records are required at various times in our life.
- Families that enroll their children in **our Parish School or Religious Education Program** should be registered and active in the parish, especially if they intend to have their children receive the Sacraments.
- Families are able to receive **important information about the parish** that often comes through direct mailing.
- For **Godparents**, it is required to provide information stating active parish registration, practice of faith and ongoing support to the overall life of the parish.

Parish Mailing list is **only used for church purposes and never shared with businesses or other organizations.

Click Here to Register

Weekly Offertory - May 2024

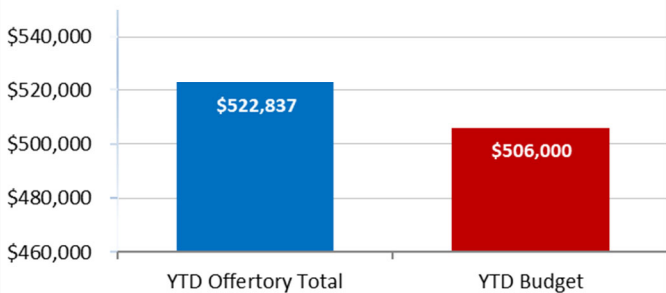


The parish budget requires over one weeks' worth of collections just to cover parish utilities, maintenance, and insurance each month.

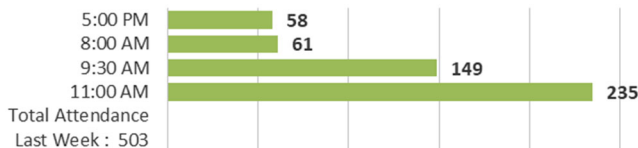
It takes \$3,093 per day to run our parish.

Fiscal Year Budget to Date

Parish Fiscal Year runs from July 1 through June 30



Attendance for 5/4 & 5/5



Mass Intentions

week of May 11-17

Saturday, May 11

5pm at Immaculate Conception with

Fr. Larry Lisowski:

For the well-being of Mary Ahern

Sunday, May 12

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

Raffaella Pastore

Sunday, May 12

9:30am Mass at Immaculate Conception with

Fr. Larry Lisowski:

Marianne Anheuser

For the healing of Natalie Davies

Vincenzina Lopardo

Dr. Elsa Gran

Mildred Tortorello

Antoinette Moceri

Sunday, May 12

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

Robert Weglarz

Monday, May 13

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

Peter Way

Wednesday, May 15

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

Angela Gillespie

Friday, May 17

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

Joan Fogarty

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

Senior Priest

Rev. Larry McBrady
312-787-7174

Deacon

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nrogers@icsjparish.org
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312-787-7174, ext. 7

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ICSJ School Co-Principal

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Maintenance Supervisor

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Director of Evangelization & Events

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Assistant to the Pastor

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Outreach Ministries Coordinator

Allie Klazura
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312-787-7174, ext. 3

Assistant to the Director of Music

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312-787-7174

Evening/Weekend Receptionist

Sherrine Manning
312-787-7174, ext. 0