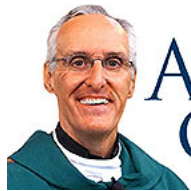


May 19, 2024 | Pentecost Sunday



ALL  
OF US

Fr. Larry's  
Weekly Letter  
#566

## "OKAY...NOBODY DROPS"

I once served in a parish that had a very active Catholic *Charismatic Group* that met every Monday night. The group consisted of about 30 very friendly and pious parishioners. They had their own personal chaplain who would faithfully come to the parish to hear their confessions and celebrate Mass for them.

In the middle of one cold winter, the group leader, Martha, called me frantically on a Monday morning. She told me that their priest was out sick with the flu, and asked if I could cover their evening Mass.

I checked my calendar. Luckily, I was free. I told Martha that I would be glad to fill-in. It would be a good opportunity to get to know the folks in the group.

I then mentioned to the Martha, "You know, I have to be honest. I never actually celebrated a 'Charismatic Mass' before. Can you tell me how it works? Is there something that I should know? Is there anything different?"

She said, "Well Father, it's just like a regular Mass. The only thing we do special is the healing service that takes place right after your homily."

"How does that work?" I asked Martha.

She said, "Everyone comes up to the altar, just like we do at communion time on Sunday, in a single-file line. As each person comes up, you place your hands on top of their head. Then you call down the Holy Spirit, to come upon them, and fill them with healing and peace."

"That sounds easy enough," I told Martha. Then I asked, "Do I have to say anything?"

She said, "No. This part is usually done in silence. There might be some music in the background."

Then Martha dropped the other shoe. She continued with, "Now Father, just to let you know we will have two 'catchers' available. So everyone will be safe."

"Catchers?" I asked.

"Yes. We have a couple of men assigned to catch anyone who might become 'slain' by the Spirit. Some people might begin speaking in tongues. Usually people get overwhelmed when the Holy Spirit descends upon them. Often, they begin to fall backwards.

The guys are really good at catching them. They gently lay them down on the ground in the sanctuary. They haven't missed anyone yet. When folks come back to their senses after a few minutes, the catchers help them back up and walk them to their pew."

"That's good to know," I said.

When I heard about the charismatic catchers, I got nervous, and uncomfortable. I said, "Martha, I have to be honest with you. I don't have that special gift. Nobody can drop when I place my hands on their heads. If they drop, then somebody will have to pick me up as well. If I see someone drop, I'm going to pass-out too. I'm not that strong. You will need someone to catch me?"

She laughed and said, "Don't worry Father, you will be okay. The Holy Spirit would never hurt you."

The good news is that I made it through the Mass with no one dropping on me. Thank God!

The bad news is that back then I was afraid that the Holy Spirit might show-up, and work through me like never before. I was not fully open to what God might do. I quickly erected guardrails so that I would stay in my lane, and the Holy Spirit would stay in its lane.

Ironically, it is the Holy Spirit that has the power to set us free. We just have to trust, believe and be not afraid. If not, we will be spiritually paralyzed, and very limited.

This Sunday we celebrate the Feast of Pentecost. We recall how the Holy Spirit descended upon the apostles, appearing as tongues of fire and with the sound of a driving wind. It's all very dramatic.

The disciples were resuscitated by the Holy Spirit. Remember that they were hiding out of fear for their lives, feeling sorrow and guilt of not only losing Jesus but having abandoned and betrayed him. They were locked up in their own misery.

It is the Holy Spirit that gives them new life. Their relationships are restored, and the community is healed. They overcame their fear and return to their ministry. They are now free to go forth. The Holy Spirit supports and sustains them, empowering them with gifts for the good of the Church.

The Spirit is present to us and continues to be poured out upon us, to heal our wounds and give us new strength. We may not end up fainting in Church, or speaking in tongues; but here are a few ways that we might experience the Holy Spirit at work.

- When we pray for guidance and you receive **WISDOM**, that is the gift of the Spirit.
- When you are tempted to do or say something rash and you resist by saying a quick Hail Mary, God's Spirit of **COUNSEL** is giving you restraint.
- When you are looking for credit for your accomplishments, the **FEAR OF THE LORD**, reminds you that all your talents come from God.
- When you are confused about what the Church teaches on moral issues and a homily gives you new insight, the Spirit is granting you **KNOWLEDGE** and **UNDERSTANDING**.
- When you are at the end of your rope, but keep persevering on faith, you are being filled with **FORTITUDE**.

- When you are feeling restless at Mass but a hymn fills you with a sense of God's love, the Spirit is giving you **PIETY**.

**On this Pentecost Sunday... what do you need the Holy Spirit to bring you?**

Be not afraid of what you just might get!



*F. X. Laury*



*Joseph Lawrence Nance  
Baptized Sunday, May 12th  
David and Kelly Nance*



***Brian Graziouse & Sarah Norman  
Married Saturday, May 11th  
St. Joseph Church  
Rev. Lawrence Lisowski presided***



***Daniel Rivera & Katie Zara  
Married Saturday, May 11th  
St. Joseph Church  
Rev. Lawrence Lisowski presided***



## 2024 Summer Organ Masses

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

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!



**This Weekend!**

# Larrypalooza!



## **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!**



# Making Mother's Day Special



We are grateful for the members of our **Knights of Columbus** who helped to make Mother's Day special in our parish.



They distributed flowers to all our women at Mass last Sunday. We grateful for their generosity, prayers and support.



ICSJ MUSIC MINISTRY PRESENTS

# BELIEVE IN THE BLESSINGS

A SPRING CONCERT

**JUNE 9, 2024**  
**1PM-2PM**  
**ST. JOSEPH CHURCH**  
**1107 N. ORLEANS ST.**

Featuring favorites like:  
The Lord Bless You and Keep You,  
Because You Believe, You Raise Me up,  
and many more!



# **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.

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

**SATURDAY, JUNE 15  
SATURDAY, JULY 13      SATURDAY, AUGUST 10**

Email  
[jstracek@icsjparish.org](mailto:jstracek@icsjparish.org)  
for more details.

Scan to sign-up



B E S T I L L

# God's Great Love

ICSJ Women's Retreat

june 20-23

A N D K N O W

SAVE THE DATE!

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

- colored pencils
- washable markers
- ballpoint pens
- highlighters
- crayons
- #2 pencils
- plastic folder
- blunt-tipped scissors
- combination locks
- backpacks
- rulers
- protractors
- loose leaf paper
- three ringed binder
- calculators
- glue/glue sticks
- index cards
- post-its
- erasers
- pencil cases
- notebooks

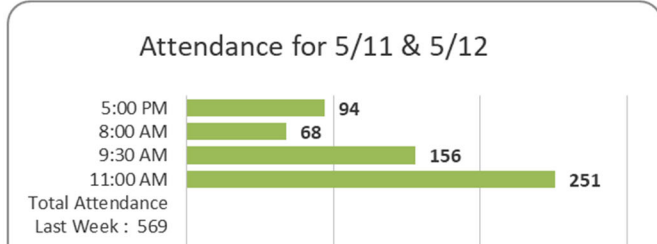
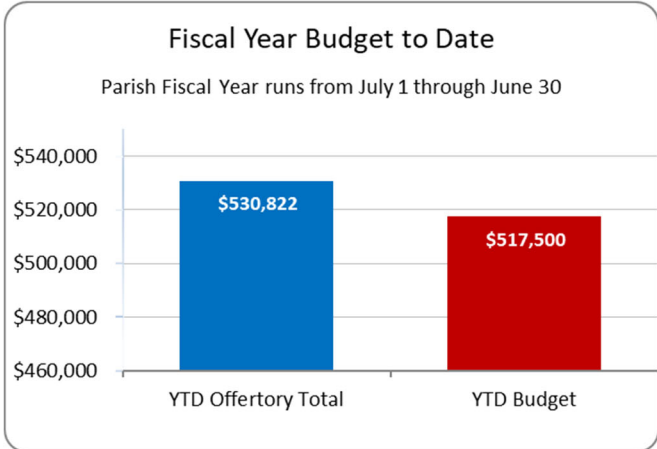
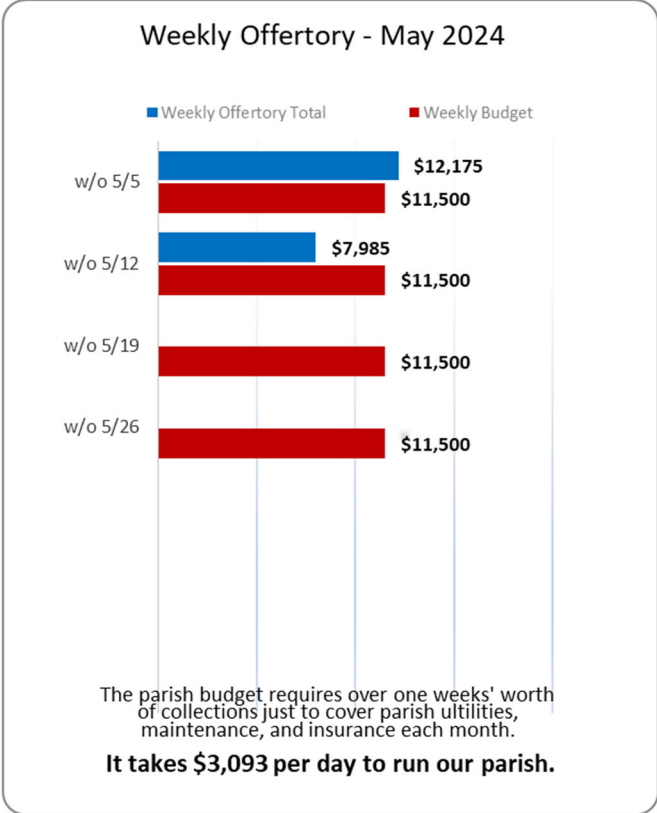


**STEWARDSHIP UPDATE**

Nancy Gies  
Parish Business Manager



# 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](#)**

# Mass Intentions

week of May 18-24

## Saturday, May 18

5pm at Immaculate Conception with

Fr. Larry McBrady:

**Alena Maria Pastore**

## Sunday, May 19

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

**Jim Lail**

## Sunday, May 19

9:30am Mass at Immaculate Conception with

Fr. Larry McBrady:

**For the healing of Natalie Davies**

**Angela Luckey**

**Pasquale Lopardo**

**Mildred Tortorello**

## Sunday, May 19

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

**Jim Lail**

**For Shan Abraham on his birthday**

**Mary Lou Spitzer**

**Alena Maria Pastore**

## Monday, May 20

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

**For the parishioners of our ICSJ parish community**

## Wednesday, May 22

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

**The Juandi and Martinez Family**

## Friday, May 24

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

**For the parishioners of our ICSJ parish community**

# 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.

## Follow ICSJ Parish on Social Media



@icsjparish (Parish)



@i.do.at.icsj (Weddings)



@icsjparish

## 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

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312-787-7174, ext. 7

### Sacramental Coordinator

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312-787-7174, ext. 2

### Director of Music

Kate Ryan  
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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  
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312-944-0304, ext. 4

### Maintenance Supervisor

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### Parish Coordinator, Bulletin Editor

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312-787-7174, ext. 1

### Director of Evangelization & Events

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312-787-7174, ext. 8

### Assistant to the Pastor

Elly Rodriguez  
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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