

Immaculate Conception Parish Bulletin

The Epiphany of the Lord January 7, 2024

Welcome

Very Reverend Thomas Paul, V. F. K.H.S., Pastor
Reverend Jeremy Leganski, Parochial Vicar



THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

©LPI

If you are new to our church or just visiting, please stop and introduce yourself. We are pleased to have you share in this celebration of the Eucharist. If you do not have a church home, or your church is not a home to you, we invite you to become part of our parish family. We are so glad you're here and hope you will come back again for Mass or become a parishioner.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE
75th Anniversary of the
Diocese of Joliet

2

Eucharistic Revival

2

The Epiphany of the Lord

3

Today's Readings &
Readings for the Week

4

Mass Intentions

4

Prayer Intentions

5

Upcoming Events

6

Christian Ministry

7

Grade School

8

High School

8

Religious Education

9

Youth Ministry

9

Staff Directory

11

Year End Giving

12

Christmas Flowers

13

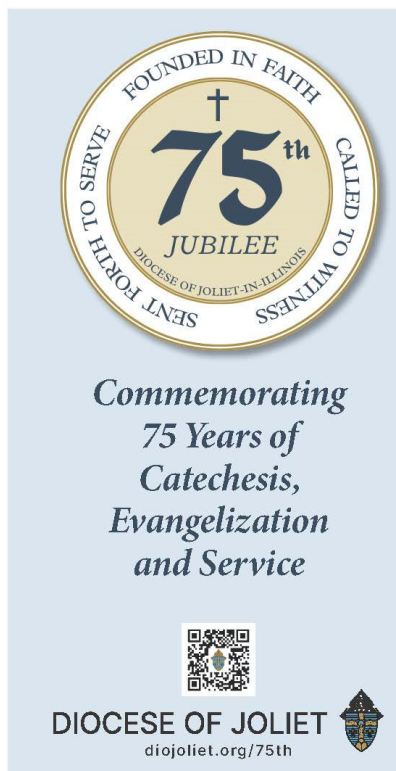


75th Anniversary Diocese of Joliet



The third episode of the 75th Anniversary of the Diocese of Joliet podcast series launched this month. Episodes will be released the first Monday of each month during the Jubilee celebration. Use the links below to watch or listen!

Watch: <https://bit.ly/47m1gDT>
Listen: <https://bit.ly/3QmkH8I>



75th Anniversary Prayer

All-knowing and loving God,
we give you thanks for your blessings upon
the Diocese of Joliet.

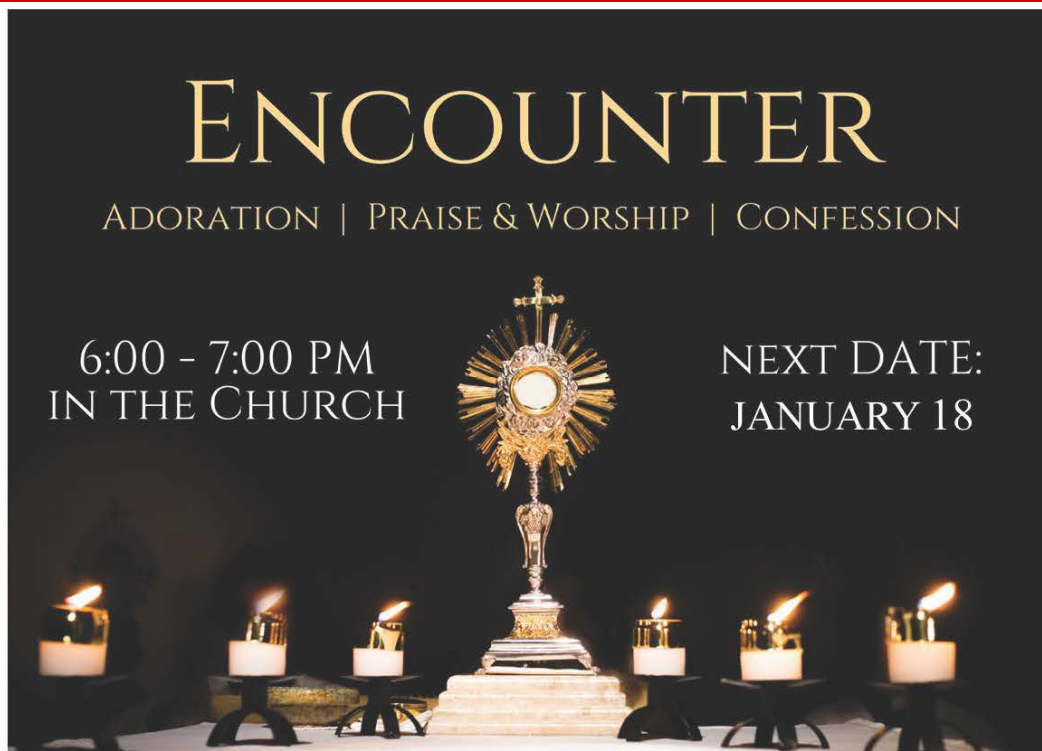
For 75 years, we have been
founded in faith,
called to witness, and
sent forth to serve.

In thanksgiving
for your abiding presence among us,
and with gratitude for the life and service
of those who have gone before us,
we recommit ourselves
to carrying out this mission entrusted
to them, to us, and to future generations.

Relying on the intercession of our patron,
St. Francis Xavier,
may our diocese continue to be a source of hope
for the Church and all peoples,
now and in the years to come.

We pray this in the name
of Jesus, your Son
by the power of the Holy Spirit.
Amen

Eucharistic Revival



*Immaculate Conception hosts a monthly Holy Hour of Eucharistic Adoration. **Our next Holy Hour will be Thursday, January 18 from 6:00-7:00 PM in the Church. The Holy Hour will include silent adoration, praise and worship music, and the opportunity to go to confession.***

Celebrating the Epiphany in your Home



The blessing of the home on the Epiphany is an invitation to Jesus to be a daily guest in our lives and to bless all who come in and out of our home. There will be cards available to take home this weekend which include the following prayer to pray and chalk. The tradition is to write the numbers of the new year over your front door with the chalk. Pictured above are the numbers for 2024.

C+M+B are the cross and initials of the Magi:

Caspar, **M**elchior and **B**althazar.

They also abbreviate the Latin phrase

Christus Mansionem Benedicat (Christ bless this house).

Bless, O Lord God almighty, this home, that in it there may be health, purity, the strength of victory, humility, goodness and mercy, the fulfillment of Thy law, the thanksgiving to God the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit. And may this blessing remain upon this home and upon all who dwell herein. Through Christ our Lord.

We encourage you to participate in this activity.

THE PROCLAMATION OF EPIPHANY

Dear brothers and sisters,

The glory of the Lord has shone upon us, and shall ever be manifest among us, until the day of His return. Through the rhythms of times and seasons let us celebrate the mysteries of salvation. Let us recall the year's culmination, the Easter Triduum of the Lord: His last supper, His crucifixion, His burial, and His rising celebrated between the evening of the sixth of April and the evening of the ninth of April.

Each Easter – as on each Sunday – the Holy Church makes present the great and saving deed by which Christ has for ever conquered sin and death. From Easter are reckoned all the days we keep holy. Ash Wednesday, the beginning of Lent, will occur on the twenty-second of February. The Ascension of the Lord will be commemorated on the twenty-first of May.

Pentecost, the joyful conclusion of the season of Easter, will be celebrated on the twenty-eighth of May. This year, the First Sunday of Advent will be on the third of December.

Likewise, the pilgrim of Church proclaims the Passover of Christ in the feasts of the Holy Mother of God, in the feasts of the Apostles and Saints, and in the commemoration of the faithful departed.

To Jesus Christ, who was, who is, and who is to come, Lord of time and history be endless praise, for ever and ever.

Amen.



Worship

TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading: Your light has come, the glory of the Lord shines upon you. (Is 60:1)

Second Reading: It was not made known to people in other generations as it has now been revealed to his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit: that the Gentiles are coheirs, members of the same body, and copartners in the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel. (Eph 3:5-6)

Gospel: "Where is the newborn king of the Jews? We saw his star at its rising and have come to do him homage." (Mt 2:2)

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.
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READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Is 55:1-11/Is 12:2-3, 4bcd, 5-6 (3)/
1 Jn 5:1-9/Mk 1:7-11

Tuesday: 1 Sm 1:9-20/1 Sm 2:1, 4-5, 6-7, 8abcd/
Mk 1:21-28

Wednesday: 1 Sm 3:1-10, 19-20/Ps 40:2 and 5, 7-8a,
8b-9, 10/Mk 1:29-39

Thursday: 1 Sm 4:1-11/Ps 44:10-11, 14-15, 24-25/
Mk 1:40-45

Friday: 1 Sm 8:4-7, 10-22a/Ps 89:16-17, 18-19/
Mk 2:1-12

Saturday: 1 Sm 9:1-4, 17-19; 10:1a/Ps 21:2-3, 4-5,
6-7/Mk 2:13-17

Next Sunday: 1 Sm 3:3b-10, 19/Ps 40:2, 4 7-8, 8-9,
10 (8a, 9a)/1 Cor 6:13c-15a, 17-20/ Jn 1:35-42

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Sunday: The Epiphany of the Lord

Monday: The Baptism of the Lord

Saturday: St. Hilary

Next Sunday: 2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time



Magi from the east arrived

MASS INTENTIONS

MONDAY, JANUARY 8

6:15AM

†Gwen & Tom Eddington & Family

7:30AM

†Dalia Lukas / Barbara & Christopher
Lukas

*Ann McMullen / Adam Joslin

TUESDAY, JANUARY 9

6:15AM

†Ed Burke / Burke Family

7:30AM

†Porter Hay / Barb & Don Betley

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 10

6:15AM

In Thanksgiving / Olivia Gow

7:30AM

†Thomas Moran / The Wood Family

THURSDAY, JANUARY 11

6:15AM

†Ed Burke / Judy Finch

7:30AM

†Joseph Barney / Grace Barney

FRIDAY, JANUARY 12

6:15AM

†Presentation de Asis / Jill Gabato

8:15AM

†Lilah Madding / ICGS

SATURDAY, JANUARY 13

8:00AM

†Bill Cello / Amanda Borho

4:30PM

†David Wisbrock / Bert Wisbrock

SUNDAY, JANUARY 14

7:30AM

†Parish Family

9:00AM

†Rita Hanrahan / Diane Dolan

†Thomas Moran / McNamara Family

†Pat Hill / Ahern Family

†Sandee Guiheen / Cathleen Loch

11:30AM

†Christopher Suyama

*Zayn Alshaikh

7:00PM

†Helditha Pedrosa / Jill Gabato

†Denotes deceased

*Living Intention

You can follow the readings for Mass each day by visiting <http://usccb.org/> and selecting the date on the calendar on the right.



You can visit the parish office to have a candle lit in honor of a living or deceased loved one at the Shrine of Saint Peregrine or the Sacred Heart Shrine. Each intention will be for a full week.

Week of January 8-14

Sacred Heart Candle: +Maria Thu Tran

Stewardship of Our Prayer for...



We pray for those suffering from illness. Loving God, give strength and protection to all who struggle with illness of any kind. Calm their fears and uncertainties. Provide them with loving and tender care. Grant them courage when they are afraid and comfort when they are in pain.

- | | |
|-----------------|--------------------|
| Adkins, Finley | Koch, Susan |
| Bloc, Michael | Kuzlik, Therese |
| Bohn, Rob | Livorsi, Tom |
| Burke, Debbie | Lucchesi, Jim |
| Campbell, Donna | McCann, Mary |
| Devin | Pacurek, Michelle |
| Durgan, Bob | Quinn, Jack |
| Durgan, Lindsey | Reedy, Barbara |
| Durgan, Terri | Schramm, Colleen |
| Earnisse, Diane | Stella, Dawn |
| Earnisse, Dick | Teruel, Ellen |
| Ericksen, Kim | Toepfer, Al |
| Gow, Olivia | Vogel, Renee Moran |
| Kaprelian, Jean | Wilki, Carl |

Please remember recently deceased family, friends and parishioners in your prayers. Grant them eternal rest and may your light shine on them forever.

“HEAVENLY FATHER, ACCEPT OUR PRAYERS WHICH WE OFFER FOR THEM”

We pray for the newly baptized babies in our church. May their journey of faith be one that is close to Jesus. We pray for their Godparents and parents as they bring Christ to the lives of the next generation of Catholics.

Baptized at Immaculate Conception in December:

- ◆ Michael Jude Mocchi
- ◆ Arabella Lee Dian
- ◆ Liam Michael Conran

2024 ENGAGED COUPLES

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|------|
| Madison Brown & TC Malík | 5/11 |
| Gianna Grollo & Matthew Mihic | 6/1 |
| Abigail Geislinger & John Enochs | 6/28 |
| Alyssa Dorning & John Shipman | 6/29 |
| Jolanta Hyc & Jake Gora | 7/27 |
| Luaren Fisher & Michael Buck | 8/10 |
| Lexi Olson & Peter Karahalios | 8/16 |
| Melissa Brunke & Matt Kearney | 8/24 |
| Alyssa Menolascino & Tim Hipskind | 8/31 |
| Abigail Dronen & Daniel McDaid | 9/6 |

Lord, hold our troops in your loving hands. Protect them as they protect us. Bless them and their families for the selfless acts they perform for us in our time of need. Give us peace. I ask this in the name of Jesus.

- Maj. Joe Doyle**, US Army, Son of Deb and Tom Doyle
1st Lt. Ryan Kenny, USMC, Son of Mary Beth Kenny
Pvt. Jeffery Crones, US Army, Grandson of Joan Leyden
Specialist Jonathan M. Pichler, US Army
 Son of Ginny & Mark Gronek
 Grandson of Catherine Young
- Sgt. Vincent Joseph Genthe**, USMC Son of Denise Genthe
Capt. Jeffrey Robbins, USMC, Son of Barb & Larry Robbins, Grandson of Georgiana Ryan
- Maj. Kevin Mott**, US Army
Lt. Col. Andrew Tyson USMC
SGM Bill Benesi, US Army
 Nephews of Greg & Mary Pat Vanderlaan
- Paul Hornstra**, USMC, ICHS Class of '09
 Son of Paul and Dawn Hornstra
- Cpl. Brittney Young**, US Army,
 Cousin of Denise and John Doherty
- Lt. Joe Shannon**, US Navy
 Son of John & Maria Shannon
- SSgt. Ethan Zielinski**, USMC
 Son of Michele & Dolph Zielinski
- Capt. Christopher Bertucci**, USMC,
 Nephew of Mary Anne & Greg Luczak
- Lt. Andrea Bertucci**, US Navy
 Niece of Mary Anne Luczak
- Cpl. Joseph Fischer**, USMC
 Son of George & Sharon Fischer
- Capt. Kathleen M. Donofrio**, US Army Reserves,
 Daughter of Tom & Marge Donofrio
- Cpl. Cavan Sullivan**, US Army
 Grandsons of Mary Sullivan
- Capt. Samuel Westhoff**, US Army
 Nephew of Tom and Sue Westhoff
- 1st Lt Matthew Kizys**, US Army, son of Marky and Nancy Tinsley
- Chf. Warrant Officer John Dal Pino**, US Army
 Son of Joe and Valerie Dal Pino
- 1st Lt. Francesca Cervone**, US Army, ICCP Class of '15,
 Daughter of Jeanmarie Cervone,
 Granddaughter of Cay Calcagno
- Capt. Molly Manion, EOD** US Army,
 ICCP Class of '15,
 Daughter of Tom & Nancy Manion
 Granddaughter of Rita Manion
- MAJ Thomas Gildea**, US Army, Husband of Karina,
 Father of Enya, Grace, and Ignacio
- 1st Lt. Kyle Koch**, 1st Cavalry Division US Army, ICCP Class of '15, son of Laura & Paul Koch
- Capt. Carla A. Schuit**, US Army Reserves,
 Daughter of Lisa Schuit
- 1st. Lt. Grayson Becker**, US Army
Lt. Keith Wolfe, CHC, US Navy



Spiritual Classics

St. Alphonsus Liguori was the founder of the Redemptorist Order which focuses on imitating the life and virtues of Christ. His writings are practical and emphasize the love and mercy of God. These writings are so popular that he has become one of the best selling authors of all time. For our discussion we will use the short book, *Talking with God*, which includes four of his treatises on the Interior Life, ISBN 978061556370. Our discussion will begin on Sunday, Jan. 7, 2024 from 10:15 – 11:15 in the Dyer Center, and will continue for 10 sessions. For more information, please call Len Hohbein at 708-544-7928.



JOHN PAUL II HEALING CENTER PRESENTS 

HEALING THE WHOLE PERSON WEEKEND

Dr. Bob Schuchts and Sr. Miriam James return to SIJ and welcome you to join them for a three-day experience of God's healing love, personal reflection, Adoration and the Sacraments.

FEBRUARY 8-10, 2024
ST. ISAAC JOGUES PARISH
HINSDALE, IL

REGISTRATION IS OPEN!

Weekend Schedule:
 Thursday & Friday evening
 Saturday 8:00 am to 3:00 pm

Visit jpiihealingcenter.org for registration & additional information.

Morning of Reflection

Saturday, January 6, 2024

8:00 - 11:30 am

Marian Room in Parish Administration Center



Are you missing the light of Christ in your life? After the bustle of the holidays, do something for yourself and your relationship with Jesus Christ. Spend a Morning of Reflection with other women contemplating the light of Christ in our lives and how we reflect it to others.

We will begin with 8:00 Mass, followed by breakfast and fellowship.

A guest speaker from Mayslake Ministries and a small group discussion will help us gain perspective on the light of Christ in our lives.

RSVP preferred by January 1st to Donna Campbell at donnacampbell@att.net or 630-805-0935. Or contact Donna for more information. Walk-ins welcome!



PARISH MISSION STATEMENT

We the people of Immaculate Conception Parish are Christians who worship and glorify God as a sign of our faith. Empowered by the Holy Spirit, we proclaim our faith to the world through prayer, education, concern, and service to our community. By participating in the sacraments and giving of our time, talent and treasure, we help to make Christ present and share God's love in our community and the world around us.

Christian Ministry

Immaculate Conception Daybreak Transitional Housing for the Homeless 2023 Annual Appeal



For nearly 30 years, **Immaculate Conception Daybreak of Elmhurst** has rented apartments to house homeless families. This is a self-supporting ministry, funded solely through personal donations.

IC Daybreak commits to pay rent and utilities every month for the **FIVE** units it provides to those in need. Mentors meet with these families on a weekly basis to teach budgeting and life skills. Families transition out of these apartments within a two-year period. Since inception, **IC Daybreak has helped 90 families transition from homelessness to self-sufficiency.**

We currently have two families in Daybreak and just interviewed two new prospective families. We are extremely proud of our families' accomplishments. Your generosity in providing them safe shelter when it was needed, and our mentors' guidance has literally changed their lives. It is a privilege to work with those who want to change their lives. Our families all have unique stories, but they share in the same struggle to have a place to call "home" and learn the skills necessary to become and remain self-sufficient.

CAN YOU:

**FUND A FAMILY FOR A YEAR (\$12,000)? FUND A FAMILY FOR A MONTH (\$1,025)?
FUND A FAMILY FOR A WEEK (\$250) HELP IN ANY AMOUNT?**

Please prayerfully consider responding to the needs of the homeless within our community. **100%** of your donation is used for rent and utilities. **We need your financial support to continue this important outreach to homeless families. We are enormously grateful to those individuals and families who continue to support us year-after-year.**

Do you have questions about our program? Contact Dan Doherty at 630-292-8670

Please remit donations to IC Daybreak of Elmhurst, P. O. Box 2033, Elmhurst, IL 60126



Navajo Nation

Information Meeting

January 17, 2024

Mission Trip

June 1 to 14, 2024



The Diocese of Joliet will return to Navajo Nation for a two-week mission focused on construction and outreach from June 1 to 14, 2024.

The Diocese of Joliet has been putting faith into action—through intentional service and solidarity with the poor—in Chinle, Arizona, for 20 years.

The Office of Mission is seeking parishioners (18+) willing to help local area families with light construction work. No experience is necessary, but a heart willing to serve is required! Missionaries stay on the campus of Our Lady of Fatima, and the trip will include a pilgrimage to New Mexico's Loretto Chapel and its "miraculous staircase."

An informational meeting on the mission trip will be held at 7 p.m. on Wednesday, January 17, 2024, at the Blanchette Catholic Center in Crest Hill (16555 Weber Road).

Questions?

Alex Buldak
Mission Lead
abuldak@dioceseofjoliet.org
(815) 221-6256



**IMMACULATE CONCEPTION
GRADE SCHOOL**
630.530.3490

**FAITH. FAMILY.
ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE**



Catholic Schools

United in Faith and Community

Catholic Schools week is January 28th-February 3rd. The theme this year is "Catholic Schools: United in Faith and Community" Join us for a Special Open House on Sunday January 28th immediately following the 9am Mass.

A CALL FOR SCIENCE FAIR JUDGES

The ICGS Science Fair will be held on Wednesday, January 24, 2024 here in Plunkett Hall. We have seventh grade students that need their projects judged. Projects are independently judged against a set of objective scientific criteria. We are looking for volunteers to judge projects in the areas of consumer science, biology, chemistry, physics, behavioral health, etc. The fair begins at 2:45 pm and will run until approximately 5:30 pm.

For more information, please call the school office at 630-530-3490 or email Barb Repking at brepking@icgradeschoolelmhurst.org. Thank you in advance for helping provide this opportunity for our students!

ICGS Distinguished Graduate Award Nominations Being Accepted!

Do you know an ICGS alum (graduated 10+ years ago) who has made a significant impact on the Catholic Church or American Life?

Nominate them for this special award!

Email nominations to:
development@icgradeschoolelmhurst.org

ICCP
IC CATHOLIC PREP

LEARN. LEAD. SERVE.

Save
THE
Date

FEBRUARY 24, 2024



ANNUAL KNIGHT OF JEWELS GALA
Saturday, February 24, 2024
The Drake Oak Brook
2301 York Road
Oak Brook, IL

COACHES VS. CANCER EVENT

ALL BASKETBALL LEVELS WILL PLAY
ON SATURDAY 1/20

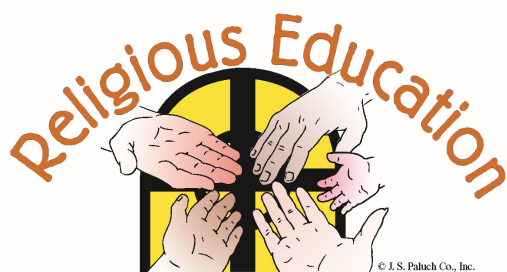
BOYS BASKETBALL WILL TAKE
ON CHICAGO HOPE ACADEMY

GIRLS BASKETBALL WILL TAKE
ON TIMOTHY CHRISTIAN

MASS at 4:30PM



Have an ICGS Alumni update? Email us at
development@icgradeschoolelmhurst.org



<u>Children's Church</u>	<u>Sunday RE</u>	<u>Wednesday RE</u>
January 7	January 21	January 10
February 4	February 4	January 17
February 25	February 11	January 24

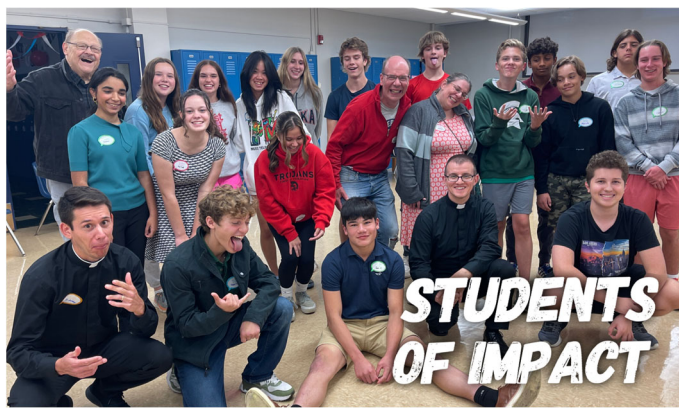
Wednesday evening RE Sessions return on January 10. Due to MLK holiday weekend, Sunday morning RE will not resume until January 21. Please review your RE calendar for class meeting dates.

2nd Graders and parents are reminded to review the materials for 1st Reconciliation as received at the November 12th Meeting. 1st Reconciliation will be celebrated on February 5th and 6th.

My God, I am sorry for my sins with all my heart. In choosing to do wrong and failing to do good, I have sinned against You whom I should love above all things. I firmly intend, with Your help, to do penance, sin no more, and to avoid whatever led me to sin. Amen

RE Grade 4 students are scheduled for the Sacrament of Reconciliation on Sunday, January 21st and Wednesday, January 24th during the regularly scheduled RE class time.

Youth Ministry



The Student's of Impact Youth Nights are really engaging & meaningful!

High school students from a variety of schools and grades really enjoy the yummy food, friendly leaders and teens, and appreciate the activities & discussions!

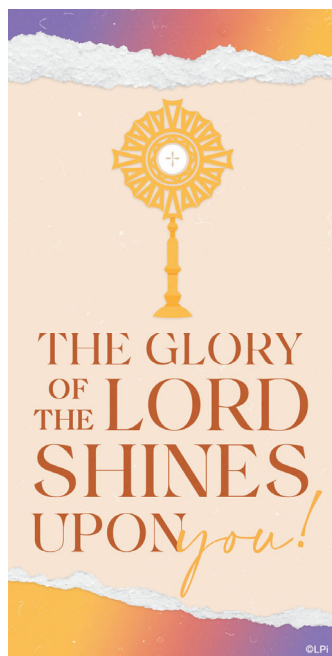
Here are some of the anonymous questions high school students wrote out at one of our gatherings:

- What are God's limits, if he has any?
- Why does God let terrible things happen to people?
- What's the best Sacrament?
- What do you think Heaven looks like?
- What do you think the meaning of life is?

Why did God kill the dinosaurs?

We'll be discussing topics like this all year long! (But first, we play games to build community, get to know each other and eat yummy food!!!)

All high school students (from any school or church) are welcome to participate on Sunday, January 21st from 5:30-7 pm at ICCP in Costello Hall. □ The January topic is Thriving Relationships!



The start of a new liturgical year, beginning with the first Sunday of Advent, also marks the transition from one lectionary cycle (A, B, or C) to the next. These cycles are a result of the Second Vatican Council, which ordered a change in the Sunday readings at Mass so that Catholics would become more familiar with the text of the Bible. As a result we now have a three-year cycle of readings built around readings from the three synoptic Gospels—Matthew, Mark, and Luke.

2024 is Cycle B when most of our readings will come from the Gospel of Mark.

The Church year consists of six liturgical seasons: Advent, Christmas, Ordinary Time after Epiphany, Lent, Easter, and Ordinary Time after Pentecost. Seasons begin or end based on a movable feast and so some seasons vary in length from year to year, and vary as to the calendar dates.

If you or a loved one are in the hospital, please let us know. The priests of the Eastern DuPage deanery, and specifically priests from IC, Visitation, and Mary Queen of Heaven visit Elmhurst Hospital on most days. Call the office at 630-530-8515 or email us at info@icelmhurst.org so that we can make sure you're visited and that we can pray for you.



Calling or texting 988 will connect you with mental health professionals 24/7.



**Parish Office Hours: Monday—Thursday 8:30 a.m. ~ 4:30 p.m.
Friday: 8:30 a.m. ~ Noon**

Phone: 530-8515 Website: icelmhurst.org

Eastern DuPage Deanery: easterndupagedeanery.org

Facebook @ICElMhurst

NEW PARISHIONERS, WELCOME!

Please click on "New to IC?" on our parish website homepage or call the office at 530-8515 for more information.

Mass Times: Monday-Friday 6:15am and 7:30am

Saturday 8:00am and 4:30pm

Sunday 7:30am, 9:00am, 11:30am, and 7:00pm

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION: Saturdays after 4:30pm Mass until 6pm

First Fridays after 6:15am Mass & First Saturdays after 8am Mass

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION PARISH

134 Arthur St.
Elmhurst, IL 60126

Please visit our website at
www.icelmhurst.org

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PARISH OFFICE

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Rev. Jeremy Leganski, Parochial Vicar
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530-3497 Director of Christian Ministry

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Director of Music Ministry

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

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530-3480 RE Director Grades K-5
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Mrs. Christine Brazeau, cbrazeau@icelmhurst.org
530-8981 Administrative Assistant
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Mrs. Jenny Krumdrick Youth Ministry
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IC CATHOLIC PREP

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Director of Alumni Relations & Special Events
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Mrs. Jenna Goworowski Director of Student Activities
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BAPTISMS: Please call for information (530-8515).

MARRIAGES: Please call Catey Cohen at least 6 months in advance (530-8991).



Year End Giving

Advent is a time of preparation. The days ahead will seem to go by quickly as we decorate our homes, go shopping and attend the many gatherings that come with the holiday season. Yet, we encourage everyone to carve out time for quiet prayer and create a special place to welcome Jesus at Christmas.

Another way to prepare for the end of the year is through charitable giving. When we look back at the countless blessings many of us have received throughout the year, we hope that you will consider special ways to give back to the Lord for all He has given us. Please remember your spiritual home, Immaculate Conception, as well as our We are IC! Capital Campaign, as you discern your year-end gifts. For traditional monetary donations, contributions may be deductible for tax purposes. Whether you are using offertory envelopes or taking advantage of the safe and convenient Online Giving program, proper credit will be reflected on your Parishioner statement. As a reminder, you can access the Online Giving program on the IC Parish website by clicking the orange "Donate Online" button on the left.

Following are a few alternatives to traditional donations for your consideration. Please know that any form of donation is humbly and greatly appreciated.

Qualified Charitable Distributions

These typically include contributions from Donor Advised Funds, Required Minimum Distributions (RMD), or annuities. If you have an established Donor Advisor Fund or are contemplating creating one, please consider including Immaculate Conception as a charitable recipient of a donation from the fund. A Donor Advised Fund is administered by a third party for the primary purpose of managing contributions to charitable organizations, such as Immaculate Conception Parish.

Additionally, if you are age 70 ½ or older, you can contact your IRA Fund Administrator and arrange for a tax-free direct transfer of your RMD to Immaculate Conception as a charitable donation. By doing a direct transfer from your IRA, the donation may satisfy your required distribution yet may not increase your adjusted gross income for tax purposes.

Stock Donation

For those who may own stocks, a review of your stock portfolio before year end is possibly advantageous. For example, if you have stock(s) that have decreased in value over the past years, you may want to consider donating this stock to Immaculate Conception Parish. The donation could be eligible for a charitable contribution tax deduction, but also may offset capital gains for this year. If stock has increased in value, you may be able to claim a deduction for the full fair market value and eliminate any tax on the appreciation.

Employer Matching Gifts

Companies frequently match their employee's monetary contributions. If your employer has this type of program, please consider utilizing it on behalf of our Immaculate Conception Grade School or High School. Many corporations offer employee matching gift programs for educational institutions.

Charitable Gifts from Your Will or Trust

An easy way to make a gift to Immaculate Conception is to include a bequest in your will or trust. You can give a specific sum, a percentage of your gross estate or your residuary estate. The diocese has partnered with FreeWill to make planned giving easier than ever. Visit freewill.com/diocesefojoliet to write a will at no personal cost, and include the necessary language to support Immaculate Conception with a gift in your plans. FreeWill's online will writing tools allow you to make a lasting gift to IC quickly and easily.

If you have any questions relative to year end giving options, please contact Colleen Lewandowski at 630-530-8848 or at clewandowski@icelmhurst.org.

Thank you for your continued support. We are I.C.!

Stewardship of Treasure

Due to holiday deadlines, the presider schedule and weekly sharing were not available at the time of print for this bulletin.

Stewardship of Time

If you are interested in becoming a Eucharistic Minister, Altar Server, Lector, or Greeter, please contact Marianne Sajn at msajn@icelmhurst.org We appreciate your help!

The 2024 Catholic Ministries Annual Appeal has begun!

As the Diocese of Joliet launches the 2024 Catholic Ministries Annual Appeal (CMAA), we are humbly asking all parishioners to pledge their support for this important effort, as together we can make a profound difference. This year's CMAA theme is *For the Glory of God*. Through our support, we ensure that the mission and ministries of Christ's Church are available to everyone. Together, we can help provide safe shelter for the homeless, feed the physical and social needs of those who are hungry, inspire those discerning a life of vocation, and aid in the education of our next generation of Catholics. Our parish could not accomplish all of this on its own, but together through the appeal we can do so much more.

Our parish's goal for the 2024 CMAA is \$114,500, and 70 percent of any amount we raise over our goal will be returned to us and used fruitfully within our own parish. Please review the materials you receive in the mail from the Diocese of Joliet this month and prayerfully reflect on your gift to this year's annual appeal.

If you do not receive a CMAA mailing, please contact the parish office. Thank you!



Christmas Memorial Flowers



This year, we are giving our parishioners the opportunity to remember their deceased family members by donating flowers in their memory. The many beautiful Christmas plants that will adorn our Church and Chapel can be given in memory of loved ones. A list of those remembered will be included in the bulletin at a later date.

A flower envelope was included in your envelope packets - they are also available in the Narthex. You can also fill out the form below and place it in the collection basket or return it to the Parish Office.

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PLEASE PRINT ALL INFORMATION

In Loving Memory of: _____

Donated by: _____

Amount Donated: \$ _____ (Suggested donation is \$20 per plant)