



Twenty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

September 5, 2021

HAPPY LABOR DAY!

SATURDAYS 5:00 PM
SUNDAYS 10:30AM MASS
Watch it live!!

JOIN US BY
CLICKING THE LINK:
<https://vimeo.com/icparish>

WEEKEND MASSES:
SATURDAYS AT 5PM
SUNDAYS AT 8AM & 10:30AM

DAILY MASSES:
MON, TUES, WED, * , FRI &
SAT AT 8AM

***COMMUNION SERVICE:**
THUR AT 8AM

RECONCILIATION:
SATURDAYS 3:30 - 4:30PM

HOLY HOUR:
WEDNESDAYS 6 - 7PM

**OUR PARISH MISSION
STATEMENT:**

**To be an inspired
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parish in today's
society.**

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www.icparish.org

OFFICE HOURS:
Mon-Thu: 9:00AM-3:00PM
*The office will be closed each day
from 11:30 am - 12:30 pm.*
Fri: 9:00AM - 12:00PM
Sat-Sun: Closed

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Donna Falzone
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MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, September 4

8:00am: Living & Deceased
 Parishioners of Immaculate
 Conception Parish

5:00pm: John DeRose
 Thomas Lecaros
 Mary Belmonti

Sunday, September 5

8:00am: Parishioners of Immaculate
 Conception Parish

10:30am: Anna Cortesi
 Anna & Mario Marsiglio

Monday, September 6

8:00am: Deceased Parishioners of
 Immaculate Conception Parish

Tuesday, September 7

8:00am: Liliana Lamberti

Wednesday, September 8

8:00am: Carmine DeRose

Thursday, September 9

8:00am: Maria Pia Guigli

Friday, September 10

8:00am: George Emmett Phoenix

Saturday, September 11

8:00am: Deceased Parishioners of
 Immaculate Conception Parish

5:00pm: Giorgio Santi
 Rosemary Casey Brundage

Sunday, September 12

8:00am: Margaret Vena
 10:30am: Parishioners of Immaculate
 Conception Parish

MASS	LECTOR
Saturday, September 11 5:00 PM	Cheryl O'Hare
Sunday, September 12 8:00 AM	Mary Roberts
Sunday, September 12 10:30 AM	Faith Griswold
Saturday, September 18 5:00 PM	Celeste Moresco
Sunday, September 19 8:00 AM	Angie Nutter
Sunday, September 19 10:30 AM	Kay Elli



Father Mike's Homiletter – September 5, 2021 Twenty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

Scripture: Isaiah 35:4-7a; Psalm 146:7-10; James 2:1-5; Mark 7:31-37

Labor Day – the unofficial end of summer. Many schools have resumed and most others will be starting in a few days. Our Prep program will be resuming in two weeks – for those who have not yet done so, it's time to register.

The holiday honors the work we do, especially the manual labor we do with our hands. For many years, manual labor was regarded as for those who could do no better. Yet who among us isn't desperate for the workman or woman who can repair the car, restart the furnace or air conditioning, unclog the drain or stop the leak, replace the roof or re-wire the switch, when any of those things does not work as expected? In this Covid year, we have gained a new appreciation of those who kept our grocery stores and hospitals open, our transportation systems operating, our other public services available. We have a shortage of trained people to do those jobs these days, and it is felt in the delays in getting projects started and "Now Hiring" signs in many business windows.

The Church teaches that all honest work is good, and our skills, however valuable and while part of who we are, do not change the fact that we are children of God. After all, God Himself, in the person of Jesus Christ, was a carpenter, a Nazorean tradesman. Jesus has brought honor to all honest labor, and we owe our brother-tradesmen respect for their skill and expertise, and the acknowledgement that no one is more valuable to God than they are. Tradespeople work hard, and are entitled to appropriate compensation which will allow them to live in dignity. St. James makes the point in saying we should not favor the affluent over the poor – God chose the poor to make many of His points on earth. At the time, wealth was seen as a sign of God's favor, and Jesus' approach – to share the life of the poor – was a challenge to received "wisdom."

Often the disparate treatment of others is a reflection of fear – sometimes obvious to us, sometimes subconscious. We act superior to others because we are afraid we are not – we're just ordinary mortals. Sometimes we fear we are in over our heads – so we bluster and bully our way through whatever is at issue. Sometimes the poor remind us too clearly of how uncertain life can be – a truth which is uncomfortable to face. We prefer to think of the hungry and homeless as lazy, unskilled, drug- or alcohol-addicted, mentally ill – it makes us feel safer to tell ourselves we are none of those things, so we will be "all right." Frequently, those who are in need are just like us – one bad decision or one bit of bad luck is all that put them on the road to trouble.

Isaiah says we should "fear not" – God is present with us. St. Julian of Norwich assures us that "all manner of things will be well." Isaiah paints a picture of the ideal kingdom – one which turns our usual perceptions upside down – water in the desert indeed. Our Gospel describes Jesus' cure of a deaf man with a speech defect in Gentile territory. He tells the people who brought the man to him not to talk about the cure, but of course, they do. They are astonished at His power, grateful to have it among them, but I wonder if there isn't some fear underneath the wonder. As to the man who was cured, imagine his sense of freedom – unable to hear or speak, he was locked inside himself. Suddenly, he's free and can participate in the life before him. How grateful he must have been to this itinerant tradesman.

Fear often gets in the way of our efforts to be our best selves. Fear that we won't get what we want, won't be successful, or won't be well thought of can drive us to be harsh, competitive, arrogant, condescending. Isaiah is on the right track – fear not! As we face uncertainty or challenge, we can place them at the foot of the Cross. Jesus trusted in the Father that His death would serve a purpose. We too can trust in the Father: our difficulties can serve a purpose. Our job is to look for the hand of God in them, place our hand in His, and join our brothers and sisters on the road to the kingdom awaiting us.

Peace!

Father Mike

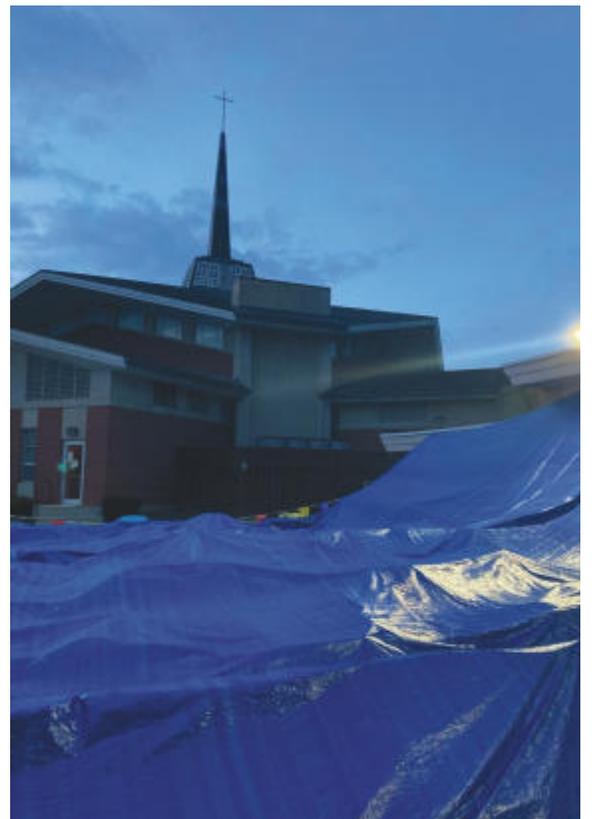
RUMMAGE SALE THANK YOU

Special thanks to all those who helped with this year's rummage sale – whether as donors, sorters, staffers, cashiers, or in other roles. Operating effectively and safely this year presented unique challenges and we are very grateful to all who helped present a successful sale. Our Gross Sales exceeded \$21,000!!!

Many hands make light work!



RUMMAGE SALE THANK YOU





CATECHISTS VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Sunday mornings 9:00-10:15
Wednesday evenings 6:30-8:00

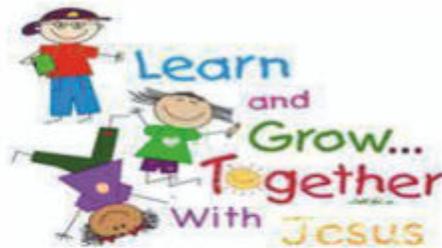
Please contact Barb at Prepoffice@icparish.org if you are interested and available in joining our team by serving as a catechist or substitute.

THANK YOU!

For all our current and past religious education students and students everywhere, please know you're in our thoughts and prayers as you begin your new academic school year! Whether you're in grade school, high school, college or beyond, YOU'VE GOT THIS!



- Barb Cegielski,
Director of Religious Education



IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

PREP

REGISTRATION IS OPEN!

2021-2022 classes begin for students in grades K-8 on 9/19/21 at 9 a.m.
Please use the link below to register and view the class calendar.

<https://www.icparish.org/Prep-Registration>

Any questions, please contact Barb via email at PREPOffice@icparish.org

We are excited to see all our new and returning families this fall!



In observance of
Labor Day
Our offices will be closed
Monday, September 6

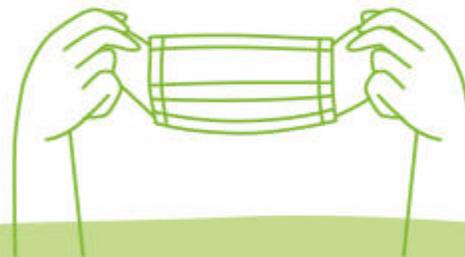


Food for Thought...

The past must be abandoned to God's mercy, the present to our fidelity, the future to divine providence.

-St. Francis de Sales

Please Use Face Masks Indoors Regardless of Vaccination Status



Lake County is currently experiencing high or substantial community transmission of COVID-19. As recommended by the CDC, everyone should wear face masks indoors, regardless of vaccination status.

- ✓ Masks should be worn by employees and customers over age 2.
- ✓ Masks should fit snugly over the nose and mouth.

City of Highland Park

cityhpil.com/covid-19

PRAYER SHAWLS

A Prayer Shawl is a shawl that has been crocheted or knitted in different patterns. It is around 24" by 62" with some being narrower or longer. They can be requested for, or by, anyone experiencing a medical or physical need. They can be blessed and come with a prayer to help comfort and ease any suffering. There is no cost, however, donations can be made to purchase more yarn to continue this ministry.



If you would like a Prayer Shawl, arrangements can be made for delivery or pickup. Please contact Mary Roberts at 847-445-7483.



Archdiocese of Chicago, Vicariate 1 DEF

Fall 2021 – Training for New Ministers of Care

This program is designed for persons to be commissioned and mandated as Ministers of Care, in their respective parishes. Ministers will visit and take the Eucharist to those who are hospitalized, in nursing homes or confined to private homes. Full participation in all sessions will fulfill Archdiocesan requirements for mandating. No walk-ins can be accepted.

Reservations: You **MUST** contact the **Ministry of Care Coordinator at your parish prior to registering** for this workshop at www.vic1chicago.org. Questions? Dcn. Joe Yannotta at JYANNOTTA@STEDNA.ORG or DYANNOTTA@COMCAST.NET

When: Sat., Sept. 18 and Sept. 25, 2021 - Attendance on both Saturdays is **required**

Location: St. Edna Church, 2525 N. Arlington Heights Rd, Arlington Heights, IL 60004

Gathering: 8:30 a.m. each Saturday. Personnel will be there to direct you to the sessions.

Please bring your own **brown bag lunch** each Saturday, coffee and water will be provided. Please bring this notice as your agenda. Also bring a note pad and pen to take any personal notes you wish to make.

Program Agenda

Saturday, Sept 18th	9:00 to 10:45	Spirituality of the Ministry – Marlene Sweeney
	Break	
	11:00 to 12:15	The Experience of Suffering – Andrea Hug
	Lunch	
	1:00 to 2:30	Ministerial Procedures – Diane Yannotta
	2:45 to 3:00	Wrap-up, Closing prayer
Saturday, Sept 25th	9:00 to 10:30	Pastoral Communication Skills – Amy Florian
	Break	
	10:45 to 12:15	Prayer in Care Ministry – Sr. Mary Barbara Hassler
	Lunch	
	1:00 to 2:30	Theology of the Eucharist – Fr. Jeremy Thomas
	2:45 to 3:15	Closing Ceremony and Certificates

Ministry Contacts: Deacon Joseph Yannotta and Diane Yannotta



Get the **COVID-19 VACCINE**

Cardinal Cupich and Pope Francis encourage you to get vaccinated against the COVID-19 virus.

Pope Francis, Pope Emeritus Benedict and Cardinal Cupich have already been vaccinated. The vaccines are morally permissible and offer a ray of hope that the world will unite in our common humanity to bring about health and healing.

Get vaccinated as soon as possible – for your own health, for your loved ones and for the common good. Share on social media: #IWillDoIt4.

To put your name on a vaccine registry or get more information, visit your local health department's vaccination website:

- City of Chicago
- Cook County
- Lake County

Links to these sites and other helpful information can be found at [archchicago.org/coronavirus](https://www.archchicago.org/coronavirus).

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