

# SAINT ISAAC JOGUES PARISH

8149 Golf Road, Niles, IL 60714 " 847.967.1060 " Fax: 847.967.1070 " Website: <http://sij-parish.com>

*Mission: "A Catholic Parish sharing experiences of the Kingdom of God"*

**PASTOR:** Rev. Mario Pereira, S.F.X.

**ASSOCIATE PASTOR:** Rev. Carlos Pereira, S.F.X.

**Pastoral Staff:**

Deacon Paul M. Stanton (Dolores)  
Lori Ronczka, Business Manager  
Dolores Stanton, Director of Religious Education  
Lisa Hall, Director of Music

**Weekend Mass Celebrant:**

Rev. Bernard Kennedy, O.F.M.

**Eucharistic Masses:**

Monday - Saturday: 8:00 AM  
Saturday: - 5:00 PM  
Sunday: 8:00 AM, 10:00 AM & 12:00 PM

**Parish Office:** 8149 Golf Road, Niles, IL. 60714

Phone: 847-967-1060

Website: <http://sij-parish.com>

E-mail: [office@sij-parish.com](mailto:office@sij-parish.com)

Marlene Garber (A/R, Calendar Coordinator)

**Parish Office Hours:**

Mon. - Fri. 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Sat. 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Sunday - Closed

**Religious Education:** 847-966-1180

Email: [sjre2004@yahoo.com](mailto:sjre2004@yahoo.com)

**Parish School:** St. John Brebeuf School

847-966-3266 or [sjbschool.org](http://sjbschool.org)

**Sacrament of Reconciliation:**

Saturday, 11:00 - 12:00 Noon or anytime by request.

**Sacrament of Matrimony:** Must be registered for six months prior to setting the wedding date with an additional six months for necessary preparation.

Note: The following wedding times can be scheduled:

Friday at 5:00 p.m.

Saturday at 1:00 and 3:00 p.m.

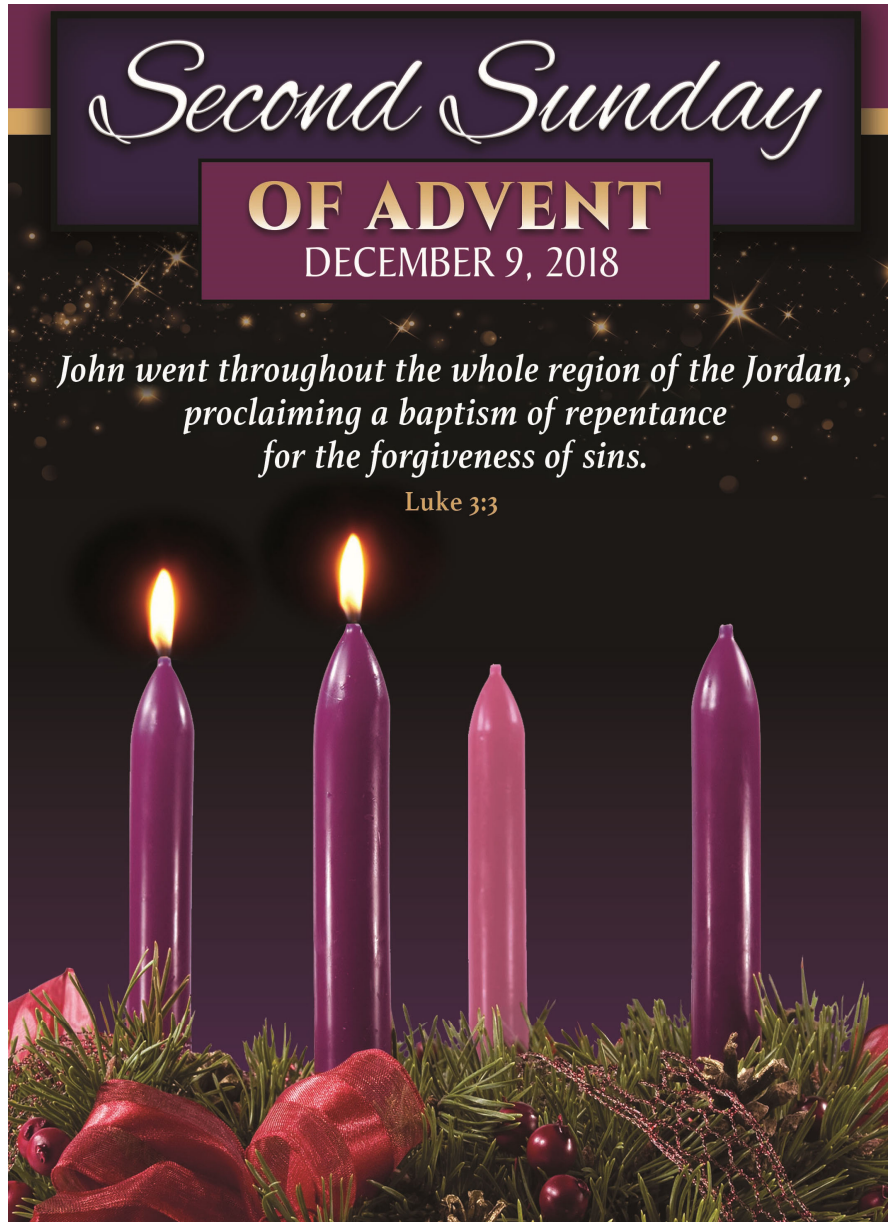
Sunday at 3:00 p.m. (Ceremony only)

**Sacrament of Baptism:** Second and fourth Sunday

of each month at 1:30 PM. Baptism Preparation

Session must be completed before Baptism.

Contact the Parish Office as soon as possible for details.



ST ISAAC JOGUES - Parish Leaders				
Parish Pastoral Council			Finance Committee Advisors	
Ted Lenart, Chairperson	Kathy Denning	Gerry Zeller	Kathy Denning	Barbara Watson
Kathy Lord, Vice Chairperson	Lori Ronczka	Dolores Stanton	Gerry Zeller	
Debbie Dexter	Barbara Napravnik	Maria Swidzinski	Lori Ronczka	
John Kadiri	Fernando Bonto			
<b>Women's Club Chairperson</b> – Louella Preston				
<b>Men's Club Chairperson</b> – Deacon Paul Stanton				
<b>Fil-Am Chairperson</b> – Jelly Carandang (Interim)				



FROM THE  
Pastor's Desk

## PREPARE THE WAY OF THE LORD

This phrase from the scriptures captured my attention. "Prepare the way of the Lord." How are we to prepare? How does He want us to prepare so that He can come to us without any obstacles on the way? That was the mission entrusted to St. John the Baptist so that he could prepare the way of the Lord. What does it mean to prepare the way? It means to create a favorable environment or to make it easy for one to come to you and operate in your life. With the baptism of repentance carried on by John, Jesus acts as a cleaning agent to purify a person and sanctify him from all sin.

What exactly did he do? He preached repentance of sins and baptized people, getting them to turn from their sins with repentance. But why was the Baptist required? For us to understand this role given to John the Baptist precisely, we need to review the letter to Hebrews. In Chapter 12/14 it says "...holiness, without which no man shall see the Lord." John the Baptist himself lived an austere life living in the desert wearing clothing made from camel's hair and sustaining on locusts and wild honey.

John was calling the people to purify themselves by repentance. The Jews already had the ceremony of ritual bathing that purified ceremonial uncleanness. But John had a different idea -- that a person can become unclean from sin, not just ritual impurity. He was calling Jews to not lean on the fact that they were "sons of Abraham," but to repent of their sins, personally commit themselves to the covenant, and enthrone God over their lives, and to enter God's "Kingdom."

What we can derive from here is the fact that if there are unconfessed sins in our lives, they can hinder us from "seeing the Lord." By repentance of our sins, we prepare our way for Jesus to operate in our lives. St John tells us that if we confess our sins, we not only receive forgiveness for them (1John 1/9) but they are washed and cleansed from us by the blood of the Lamb (1 John 1/7). Simply acknowledging our sins is not enough as we see John clearly rebuke the Pharisees for not living up to their confessions in Mt 3/7-8. If we fail to acknowledge our sins, then we will not prosper (Proverbs 28/13) but he who confesses and forsakes them obtains mercy.

Do you want to prepare your heart for the Lord to dwell within you? Advent is a good time and these are some of the signs of repentance that you should have as the birth of Jesus draws near: - Feeling godly sorrow for sin, Confessing and forsaking sins, making amends where possible, for wrongs done, obeying the commandments & turning to the Lord and serving him.

Prophet Isaiah says in 40/3-5 "...Clear the way for the Lord...Make...a highway for our God...Then the glory of the Lord will be revealed..." we need to remove the obstacles and build a roadway for God so that He can draw near to His people freely, intensely, and without hindrance. Have a graceful advent !

-Fr. Mario

### ADVENT REFLECTION: CANTICLE OF ZECHARIAH

We remember that Zechariah, the husband of Elizabeth, was unable to speak because of his unbelief of the angel Gabriel's message to him while offering sacrifice in the Temple. In the Morning Prayer of the Liturgy of the Hours the Church proclaims the canticle Zechariah uttered (Luke 1:67-79) when his speech returns after the birth of his son and his naming him John. Referred to as the *Benedictus* for the first word of the canticle "blessed" it is a "poetic anticipation" of what John's significance in salvation history will be.

The first part of the canticle is a blessing (68-75) of God for the redemption he will give his people through a Savior. In his months of silence Zechariah had time to reflect on life and those things which seemingly weighed him and his wife Elizabeth down -- barrenness, age, Roman rule, political, moral and spiritual darkness. But the birth of John fulfills Gabriel's message and "signals light beginning to break through darkness." God has remembered his promise to Abraham so that the people with whom he has a covenant will be able to serve the Lord without fear. Pointing to Jesus, the Light that will never fade, will be the prophetic mission of John the Baptist. In the second part Zechariah sings a hymn celebrating the birth of his son and John's work as one who prepares the way of the Most High thus echoing the prophet Isaiah (40:3). He proclaims that the one whose coming John will announce will be the great dawn of mercy from God who has always been faithful to his promise of mercy. Let us, too, bless the Lord!

*Prayer: O God, ever-faithful and true to your promise of mercy, when we seem to sit in darkness or in the shadow of death, keep us mindful of the breaking dawn of your light, Jesus. In him, let us see the hand of your tender mercy that leads us forward in hope. Amen. From Rejoicing in Mercy by Fr. Louis Cameli, c2016, Archdiocese of Chicago)*

+**First Reconciliation** will be celebrated Monday at 6:50 p.m. in church. Parents and other family members are strongly encouraged to come. Grades 3 – 5 will also celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation that night in preparation for Christmas.

+**Mrs. Livorsi's 5<sup>th</sup> Grade class** is reminded to bring finger foods Monday for the First Reconciliation reception. Thank you!

+Confirmation Year II Candidates are to turn in Gifts of the Spirit Journal, Part I by Dec. 17.



### St. Isaac Jogues News

#### UPCOMING EVENTS

+Please note: Prayer Shawl Ministry is NOT meeting Thursday, 12/13

### ST ISAAC JOGUES MEN'S CLUB DECEMBER 19TH @ 6PM - CHURCH HALL

Join us for the annual Christmas meeting for a chicken dinner complete with all the extras. The cost for this meeting and the four remaining meetings for members will be \$35. The cost for this meeting is \$10. All men of the parish and friends are invited!

The Memorial Mass Joint Meeting with the Women's Club was a huge success! We're looking forward to more joint events.

### ST. ISAAC JOGUES PARISH CHRISTMAS 2018

#### SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

PARISH ADVENT RECONCILIATION SERVICE  
Saturday, December 22, 11:00 am

#### LITURGIES OF CHRISTMAS

CHRISTMAS EVE, MONDAY, DECEMBER 24  
4:00 pm (Carols at 3:45 pm)  
11:00 pm (Carols at 10:30 pm)

CHRISTMAS DAY, TUESDAY, DECEMBER 25  
8:00 am, 10:00 am, 12:00 pm

SOLEMNITY MARY, MOTHER OF GOD  
Monday, January 1, 2019  
8:00 am., 10:00 am.  
(Holy Day of obligation)

#### ADDITIONAL CELEBRATIONS

SIMBANG GABI  
Thursday, December 20, 7:00 pm Mass & Reception  
MUSIC MINISTRY CHRISTMAS CONCERT  
Sunday January 6, 2019, 3:00 pm – Church  
SHARING OF OPLATKI (bilingual)  
Sunday, January 13, 2019, 1:00 pm  
Holy Family Room

#### CALLING ALL ALUMS (OR THEIR FAMILY MEMBERS)

We continue to gather names, addresses, phone numbers and/or emails, along with class year, from those who are **alums** of **SIJ School or SIJ Religious Education Program**. Contact Dee Stanton at [sijre2004@yahoo.com](mailto:sijre2004@yahoo.com), call her at the RE Office, 847/966-1180 or drop the info into the Sunday collection. We'd like to be in touch about all that's happening here at the parish and get a directory together.

### FY 2019 INCOME SUMMARY November 2018

	Actual	Budget	Difference	Actual	Last Yr.	Difference
1st Sunday	\$11,737	\$12,000	(\$263)	\$11,737	\$12,921	(\$1,184)
Holy Days	\$2,375	\$2,500	(\$125)	\$2,375	\$2,175	\$200
2nd Sunday	\$9,453	\$10,000	(\$547)	\$9,453	\$9,280	\$173
3rd Sunday	\$6,205	\$8,500	(\$2,295)	\$6,205	\$7,706	(\$1,501)
4th Sunday	\$6,591	\$8,000	(\$1,409)	\$6,591	\$8,236	(\$1,645)
Month to Date	\$36,361	\$41,000	(\$4,639)	\$36,361	\$40,318	(\$3,957)
Year to Date	\$196,634	\$201,000	(\$4,366)	\$196,634	\$200,124	(\$3,490)



### SIJ Outreach Ministry - GIVING TREE

#### Giving Tree Volunteers Needed!

We wish to remind our parishioners that we will be visiting our neighboring nursing homes this Tuesday, Dec. 11th. and we would appreciate some volunteers to help us deliver gifts songs and cheer to the nursing home residents. We will gather at the Holy Family room at 6:30 p.m. and receive some instructions and prayers and then we'll proceed to the Glenbridge and Niles Rehabilitation nursing homes by 7:00 p.m. If you like to sing Christmas carols and spread some cheer, this will be your chance. Bring a friend and/or family member. If you can't make it, please donate in the Giving Tree envelopes found at the back of the church ( i.e. if you haven't done so already).

Peace be with you always!

The SIJ Outreach Ministry



## ATTENTION COOKIE LOVERS!!! ST ISAAC JOGUES PARISH Homemade Cookies SALE and RAFFLE

**THIS WEEKEND AFTER ALL MASSES  
HOLY FAMILY ROOM**

**These delicious cookies and candies  
make great gifts!**

**WE LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU!!!**



### CHRISTMAS EVE STORYTELLERS

**We invite children of the parish, age 5 & older, to participate in the telling of the Christmas Story at the 4 p.m. Mass on Christmas Eve. Children need to be comfortable in front of a large group of people, able to follow directions with a little help if needed, come to practice in the church on Tuesday, December 18<sup>th</sup>, at 6:30 p.m. accompanied by a parent or guardian, and be present at the 4 p.m. Christmas Eve Mass. There are no lines for them to learn, just movement and gestures. Costumes are provided! Please sign up in the Holy Family Room or contact the RE office, 847/966-1180 or [sjre2004@yahoo.com](mailto:sjre2004@yahoo.com). We will be able to continue this longstanding tradition only if we have enough children to participate!**

We ❤️ having you  
as part of our Flock

*Keep in touch with us  
via email and text*

Text

**SIJ**

to the number

**84576**

Or sign up online at

**flocknote.com/sij2**



Text STOP to 84576 to stop txt notifications at any time. Text HELP for help. There is no charge for this service, but your carrier message and data rates may apply. View privacy policy & conditions at [www.flocknote.com/txt](http://www.flocknote.com/txt)



**CHRISTMAS DECORATING**

+The Christmas Tree in the Holy Family Room will need trimming on Saturday, Dec. 22, after the 8 a.m. Mass. (about 45 minutes)

+Decorating of the church will take place after the Noon Mass on Sunday, Dec. 23<sup>rd</sup>. (an hour or two, whatever you can spare)

If you are available to help out, it would be greatly appreciated. Please contact the RE Office this week, 847/966-1180 or [sijre2004@yahoo.com](mailto:sijre2004@yahoo.com)



**Food Pantry  
Donations Needed**

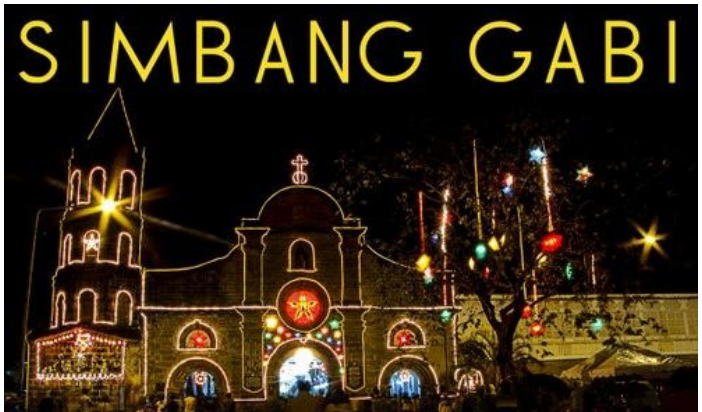
Thanks to all of the very generous supporters who donated food items for the Thanksgiving food baskets distributed to our most needy families.

Your donations helped to feed many less fortunate adults and children.

**But, now** there a few items we need to restock our shelves to continue our ministry of caring for those who need our help. Please consider the following:

- peanut butter & jelly
- can soup
- coffee & tea
- can fish & chicken
- rice & potatoes
- toothpaste, tooth brushes, shampoo, soap

**SIJ OUTREACH MINISTRY**



**St. Isaac Jogues celebrates  
Simbang Gabi  
Thursday, December 20th  
Mass at 7PM**

**Reception immediately following  
Join us for this traditional Philippine  
cultural and religious tradition  
during advent.**

**All are welcome!**

**Additional Celebrations  
St. Catherine Laboure - 12/21 @ 7PM  
St. Martha - 12/21 @ 7PM  
St. John Brebeuf - 12/22 @ 5PM**

**TODAY'S READINGS**

**First Reading** — Take off your robe of mourning and misery; put on the splendor of glory from God (Baruch 5:1-9).

**Psalm** — The Lord has done great things for us; we are filled with joy (Psalm 126).

**Second Reading** — I am confident that the one who began a good work in you will continue to complete it until the day of Christ Jesus (Philippians 1:4-6, 8-11).

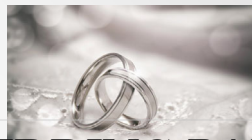
**Gospel** — The winding roads shall be made straight, and the rough ways made smooth (Luke 3:1-6).

**JESSE TREE**

The Jesse Tree is located near the statue of St. Isaac Jogues this year. Each week a few ornaments with symbols on them are added to the tree. The symbols represent people and events of our story of salvation from Adam and Eve to Mary and Joseph. Be sure to stop by and look at the ornaments. See if you can figure out the story or person they represent. Take some quiet time this week to read some of your favorite stories of the Old Testament (Hebrew Scriptures) – Adam and Eve, Noah, Moses, Isaiah, the giving of the Ten Commandments, King David to name a few. Give thanks in prayer for our ancestors and for the many ways God acted on their behalf long ago and how he acts on our behalf today.

**OPLATKI**

*Packets of blessed oplatki, the traditional Christmas Wafer, are available in the Holy Family Room after Masses or during the week at the rectory. Donations appreciated*



**WEDDING BANS**

**I**

*Congratulations to  
Thomas Mathai & Sophia Florian on  
their upcoming wedding in India*

*January 5, 2019*

**Pray for**

- |                      |                       |
|----------------------|-----------------------|
| TONY KOZA            | FELIX DOSPIL          |
| MICHAEL NOBLE        | AUDREY JANS           |
| JULIE HIGGINS        | DEAN & GERI JOHANSEN  |
| JOSEPH WHITE         | HAN YI ZAHN           |
| STAN ZABOROWSKI      | MARCY SANTIAGO        |
| PATRICIA CRESSY      | BERNARD KENNEDY, SR   |
| JIM MC CABE          | JAMES MAXWELL PASCALE |
| MARIA LADD           | JIMMY RANCICH         |
| BRENDA AFFATATI      | DIANE & GENE KUFFEL   |
| LENNY MINELLI        | STACI VINCENT         |
| TED SCANLON          | WILLIAM PARRILLO      |
| NINA YOAKUM          | MICHAEL BEIL          |
| REV. BERNARD KENNEDY | ANN LINDSTROM         |
|                      | JULIA HESS            |
|                      | AVA MIDURI            |
|                      | OM THAKRAL            |
|                      | FRANCES MARTEL        |

O God, our help and our hope, bless and protect our loved ones and all others who serve our communities and our nation in the Armed Forces and as First Responders. Watch over them and their families through Christ our Lord. Amen

**First Responders** - Shane Long, Brad Markovich, Greg Zalewski

**United States Air Force** - Joshua Aujero  
Mason Janzen

**United States Army** - Brian Caplin, Gale Renner

**U.S. Army Reserves** - Christopher Dexter

**United States Marines** - Patrick Edward Echavez  
Joseph John Zimmerman III  
Lance Renner  
Gian Patrick Reyes

**United States Navy** - Timothy Kelly,  
David Perez,  
Paul Matthew Ledesma

**U.S. Navy Reserves** - William B. Dexter

**Illinois National Guard** - Nathaniel Janzen

To add a name to the prayer list please contact the RE Office at 847/966-1180 or sijre2004@yahoo.com.



## Mass Intentions

Sunday - December 9, 2018

8:00a.m.	Arlene Forneck
10:00 a.m.	Andrzej Mlynarczyk
12:00 p.m.	Pedro Tamondong Sr. Living & Deceased Members of SIJ

Monday - December 10, 2018

8:00 a.m.	Jack Cressy Purgatorial Society
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Tuesday - December 11, 2018

8:00 a.m.	Cleopatra Pactol
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Wednesday - December 12, 2018

8:00 a.m.	Kurian Esthappan
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Thursday - December 13, 2018

8:00 a.m.	Mary Dijitha
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Friday - December 14, 2018

8:00 a.m.	George Putherickal
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Saturday - December 15, 2018

8:00 a.m.	Stephen Grant
5:00 p.m.	Pascual & Julia Pimentel Ostrega Family - Special Intention

Sunday - December 16, 2018

8:00 a.m.	Richard Banner Thomas Banner Joe DeSario Aurora C. Villanueva
10:00 a.m.	Carlo Galassini
12:00 p.m.	Living & Deceased Members of SIJ

## Liturgy Next Weekend December 15th & 16th

Confessions - 11:00 a.m.	Fr. Mario
5:00 p.m.	Fr. Mario
8:00 a.m.	Fr. Carlos/Deacon Paul
10:00 a.m.	Fr. Carlos/Deacon Paul
12:00 p.m.	Fr. Mario



5:00 p.m.	Khayla Santiago Lawrence Escarez Kristine Roque
8:00 a.m.	Trisha Bonto Jonathan Magboo, Jr. Matthew Bonto
10:00 a.m.	Mark Magno Rafael Cedric Ortin Jr. Steve Livingston
12:00 p.m.	Alec Sayson Abby Sayson Shaydon Pinto

**Your Prayer Shawl Ministry is in need of more yarn to continue their work making lap blankets and shawls for the sick and needy. Please check your closets and drawers. All donations will be greatly appreciated. For more information, please call Barbara Napravnik at 847 699-7445**



Log in to  
[givecentral.org](http://givecentral.org) and  
register today!

**give  
Central**



**Give Central is available for your "Assure Our Future" Pledge Campaign, Annual Catholic Appeal and your parish donations! Any questions, feel free to call the rectory office.**

CHURCH NAME AND ADDRESS

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Lori

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SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS

THANK YOU!