

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.

**Masses: Saturday, 5PM
Sunday, 8AM & 10AM**

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

Phone: 847-967-1060

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

E-mail: office@sij-parish.com

Marlene Garber (A/R, Calendar Coordinator)

Parish Office Hours: Closed until further notice per Archdiocesan mandate

Religious Education: 847-966-1180

Email: sijre2004@yahoo.com

Parish School: St. John Brebeuf School

847-966-3266 or sjbschool.org

Sacrament of Reconciliation: Saturdays, 11AM - 12:30PM, BY RESERVATION

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.

January 3, 2021



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The Epiphany of the Lord

Magi from the east arrived in Jerusalem, saying,
“Where is the newborn king of the Jews?
We saw his star at its rising and
have come to do him homage.”

Matthew 2:1-2

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	Irene Baron
Debbie Dexter	Fernando Bonto	Maria Swidzinski	Lori Ronczka	
John Kadiri	Irene Baron			
Women’s Club Chairperson – Louella Preston				
Men’s Club Chairperson – Don Baron				
Fil-Am Chairperson – Jelly Carandang (Interim)				



FROM THE
Pastor's Desk

New Year, New Look

I am rather excited about launching into a New Year 2021 and I am sure the same is with many others. The reason may be that the year 2020 brought in an era of ambiguity due to the pandemic where people's lives are lost, others their jobs and many underwent pain and depression. To add to it the turmoil of political division, racism, shooting and innocent lives were lost in the process.

Therefore we look with eagerness for the dawn of a new year and we all hope it will bring in new and better things for all. We try to make new resolutions as the New Year approaches, in order to start the year well. Do we succeed in our resolutions or do they just stay on paper or in our thoughts? More than anything else what we need to do is to learn from our mistakes. Instead of dwelling on the wrong that you did last year; focus more on the lessons that you learned from it. It is said that "Failures are a stepping stone to success." We don't have to play a blame game but work on those areas to be a better and stronger person.

One needs to get his values right. You need to ask yourself why are you working so hard or why are you doing what you are doing? Is it on account of money? Or is it because of the family? We are all motivated by different things that drive us to perform and be at our best. It's our purpose and if you know your purpose in life, you can never go wrong. There are ups and downs in life and no one gets to the very top of it all of the time. There are struggles in life and we have to face trials and tribulations and no matter what happens, it is good to be on a positive note, in all given circumstances.

Well, the New Year 2021 is going to be a crucial one for the RMC groupings of Wave 4 parishes including our parish of St. Isaac Jogues and a lot has been said and debated over the last couple of months now. We would be notified by the Archbishop of Chicago on the grouping of our five parishes and the working of it in January of 2021. If we know our purpose as to why we come to worship God on Weekends and other days then we would be open to the decisions and continue to support the activities, no matter where we are placed in the grouping because I firmly believe our site of worship might be replaced but our God to be worshipped remains the same.

In this whole RMC process we need to understand the purpose of it. Times have changed. The environmental circumstances we are in and site structures of Churches have been deteriorating, there is a shortage of priests, cost factors have increased, we need renewal of faith to carry on such ministries and many more on faith formation require funds. We have to carry forward the mission of the church to go and make disciples, therefore steps have been taken to set things right. It may not sound to some others as the right thing to do as some faithful people who have been so associated with their particular church feel uncomfortable in such a situation. Well, there are ups and downs in life and one never remains in that position for long. We all need to be together shouldering the responsibility in order to offer a better future for the generations to come. Our ancestors did it for us let's do it for the ones coming after us.

Wish you "A Very Healthy & Happy New Year"

-Fr. Mario

FEAST OF FAITH

The Liturgy of Emmanuel

The assembly has gathered from near and far, on foot, by bus, by car, by subway, singly and by twos and threes: single people, couples, families. Now that movement is ritualized and made visible in the liturgy's entrance procession.

We are not alone on this journey; Christ is with us. The procession is led by the cross, with the image of Christ upon it. Candles, signs of a living presence, are carried around the cross. Candles also accompany the Book of the Gospels, another sign of Emmanuel, God-with-us. The priest presider is likewise a sign of Christ's presence in our assembly; he will act *in persona Christi*, in the person of Christ, who presides at every Eucharist.

As the procession begins, we stand and sing together in our first act as a community. The joining of our voices begins to turn many into one. The songs we sing range from ancient chants to contemporary hymns, but they have the same purpose, to foster our unity and turn our thoughts to the mysteries we gather to celebrate. We may feel that we can't sing well, but "Christ always invites us to enter into song, to rise above our own preoccupations, and to give our entire selves to the hymn of his Paschal Sacrifice" (USCCB, *Sing to the Lord*, 14).

St. Isaac Jogues This Week

*Novena of Our Lady of Perpetual Help, Wednesday, after 8 a.m. Mass.

*Holy Hour & Benediction, Friday, after 8 a.m. Mass.

PROMISE FULFILLED

Isaiah reminds the people of God that the land shall be restored to their possession, they shall rejoice to see their people return from the bondage of exile, and they shall be a light to the nations. In other words, through the people of Israel, the Savior shall come to all people who seek God with a sincere heart. This brings joy and the radiance of God's glory to all the world and to all people everywhere. Through the fidelity of the people of God, and through God's fidelity to them, all people shall become God's children and rejoice in the fulfillment of God's promise to Israel.

TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

Before long, people will be throwing Mardi Gras beads in the streets of New Orleans—purple, gold, and green. A few will be in on the secret: the colors of the beads are derived from the gifts of the magi. Gold for wealth, purple for power, green for good health. The gifts are also a key to the identity of the Christ Child: the incense for God; the gold for a king; the myrrh, fragrant burial ointment for one who comes to die.

Centuries ago, today's feast bore the heavy burden of celebrating all the manifestations of Christ's identity: the birth of Jesus, the coming of the magi, the baptism of the Lord, the wedding feast at Cana. It was too much for one day. Fortunately the one day has blossomed into a whole season of grateful celebration, stretching behind us into Advent, and ahead of us into the Baptism of the Lord and to Christ's coming again in glory. Tonight, be sure to light the Christmas lights, and gather at the crèche for a favorite carol and a prayer.



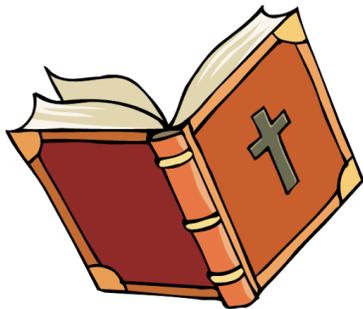
Religious Education

+Material pick up for all RE families is Monday, 5:00 – 6:30 p.m. at the RE Office (before the Family Event begins at 7 p.m.). Drive up to the door, give your name and we'll bring out what your family needs (including books for Confirmation and First Communion, supplies for class and service projects, etc.) Please contact Mrs. Stanton with questions, 847-966-1180 or sijre2004@yahoo.com.

+RE online sessions will resume Monday with a Family Event Night at 7 p.m.

The link will have been sent. Check for any handouts for the event please.

+First Communion Preparation Meeting for Ms. Bello's Class (Parents/guardians/children) will be on Tuesday, January 12th, 7 p.m. on Zoom. The link will be sent out later this week.



Are you interested in participating in an online Bible Study in the morning and/or evening? If yes, please contact Dee Stanton to discuss the possibility, 847-966-1180 or sijre2004@yahoo.com, this week.



St. Isaac Jogues Outreach Ministry

The following items would be helpful as we assist those coming to our doors for food: canned vegetables (corn, peas, carrots), pork and beans (or other like kidney beans, black beans) canned fruit or applesauce, oatmeal, cereal, peanut butter, jelly, soups, stews, chili, hash, laundry detergent. You may bring your donations when you come for weekday or weekend Masses or call the Rectory, 847/967-1060, M - F, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. to set up a time to drop them off. Thanks!

SIJOM SENDS THANKS & BLESSINGS!

ACT OF SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

Even if we are unable to physically receive Holy Communion at times we can enter into spiritual Communion with the Lord by praying:

"My Jesus, I believe that You are truly present in the Most Blessed Sacrament. I love You above all things, and I desire

to possess You within my soul. I am sorry for ever having offended You. Since I am unable now to receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as being already there, and unite myself wholly to You. Never, never permit me to be separated from You.

Amen."



Altar Flowers

Altar flowers are a lovely way to remember a loved one or a special occasion. Flower arrangements are \$55 each and two can be purchased each weekend before Lent and again after Pentecost. Your intention and name will be placed in the bulletin each weekend. If you would like to purchase an arrangement, please call the rectory. Available dates go quickly, so you may want to reserve your date soon.



KNIT. CROCHET. PRAY.

While not meeting together our Prayer Shawl Ministry has continued to knit and crochet shawls and lap blankets, all while praying for those who will receive them. If you or someone you know would benefit from being wrapped in a shawl stitched with love and prayers, please contact the RE Office, 847/966-1180 or sjre2004@yahoo.com. There is no charge for the shawl or lap blanket, but if you would like to give a donation it will assist the ministry's materials and/or the parish.

FROM A SERMON BY SAINT LEO THE GREAT, POPE

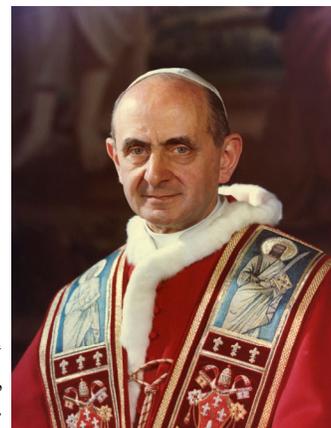
“The loving providence of God determined that in the last days he would aid the world, set on its course to destruction. He decreed that all nations should be saved in Christ. A promise had been made to the holy patriarch Abraham in regard to these nations. He was to have a countless progeny, born not from his body but from the seed of faith. His descendants are therefore compared with the array of the stars. The father of all nations was to hope not in an earthly progeny but in a progeny from above.

“Let the full number of the nations now take their place in the family of the patriarchs. Let the children of the promise now receive the blessing in the seed of Abraham, the blessing renounced by the children of his flesh. In the persons of the Magi let all people adore the Creator of the universe; let God be known, not in Judea only, but in the whole world, so that *his name may be great in all Israel*. Dear friends, now that we have received instruction in this revelation of God's grace, let us celebrate with spiritual joy the day of our first harvesting, of the first calling of the Gentiles. Let us give thanks to the merciful God, *who has made us worthy*, in the words of the Apostle, *to share the position of the saints in light; who has rescued us from the power of darkness, and brought us into the kingdom of his beloved Son*. As Isaiah prophesied: *The people of the Gentiles, who sat in darkness, have seen a great light, and for those who dwelt in the region of the shadow of death a light has dawned*. He spoke of them to the Lord: *The Gentiles, who do not know you, will invoke you, and the peoples, who knew you not, will take refuge in you*.

“This is *the day that Abraham saw, and rejoiced to see*, when he knew that the sons born of his faith would be blessed in his seed, that is, in Christ. Believing that he would be the father of the nations, he looked into the future, *giving glory to God, in full awareness that God is able to do what he has promised*. This is the day that David prophesied in the psalms, when he said: *All the nations that you have brought into being will come and fall down in adoration in your presence, Lord, and glorify your name*. Again, *the Lord has made known his salvation; in the sight of the nations he has revealed his justice*.

“This came to be fulfilled, as we know, from the time when the star beckoned the three wise men out of their distant country and led them to recognize and adore the King of heaven and earth. The obedience of the star calls us to imitate its humble service: to be servants, as best we can, of the grace that invites all men to find Christ.

“Dear friends, you must have the same zeal to be of help to one another; then, in the kingdom of God, to which faith and good works are the way, you will shine as children of the light: through our Lord Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with God the Father and the Holy Spirit for ever and ever. Amen.”





Pray for

KERMIT TURNER	MARY JANE PIKULA
MICHAEL NOBLE	TONY LIVORSI
JULIE HIGGINS	JOHN ROMANO
CARL AFFATATI	AUDREY JANS
RICHARD VAIL	DAVID FORST
BETTY LANDON	CHRISTINA WALD
EMILY SITKOWSKI	KIMBERLY KNOX
CYNTHIA MELNICK	DIANE BAUER
MICHAEL FOLISI	NONA YOAKUM
DOROTHY BEZDON	KATHY EGLOFF
MATTHEW PONDER	ROBERT STEPHENSON
FELICITA BAYANI	LAURA HALL - SCHORDJE
EMILY CABRERA	HENRIETTA SAGARIO
LORNA ALBA	MARY SUNSHINE PONDER
SUSAN ARENDT	JUDY CABRERA
CINDY NOLAN	YUL VENTURA
FR. BERNARD KENNEDY	MARY LERPS
MARTHA DEMKO	SHARON KILIKEVICE
ANNE MARRAZZO	PELAGIA SAJULGA
LAURA MORA	JOHN OLDERSHAW
TIM DENDOR	COLLEEN KING
ALEXANDRA LAQUAGWA	PATTY ZEMAN
	ROSE LUZ
	STAN JEZIOR
	REMEDIOS MAGPANTAY

Thank you, Lord, for the courage and selfless service of our troops and first responders. May our loved ones and all who serve around the world turn to you for safety and protection. Help them to not be afraid and to trust that you hold them securely at all times. Amen.

First Responders - Shane Long, Brad Markovich, Greg Zalewski

United States Air Force - Joshua Aujero
Mason Janzen

United States Army - Brian Caplin, Gale Renner,
Jordan Irving, Violet Ennis

U.S. Army Reserves - Christopher Dexter

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

United States Navy - David Perez,
Paul Matthew Ledesma

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.



JUST A PHONE CALL AWAY...

If you need assistance with picking up groceries or meds, etc., please call the Rectory, 847/967-1060. If we are not here, calls are forwarded 9 a.m. – 5 p.m. Monday – Saturday. Messages are also picked up usually once a day. We will contact you as quickly as possible.



TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading — Those who honor their parents will be greatly blessed and will atone for sins (Sirach 3:2-6,12-14) or *Genesis 15:1-6; 21:1-3*.

Psalm — Blessed are those who fear the Lord and walk in his ways (Psalm 128) or *Psalm 105*.

Second Reading — Be thankful; do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus (Colossians 3:12-21 [12-17]) or *Hebrews 11:8, 11-12, 17-19*.

Gospel — The child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom (Luke 2:22-40 [22, 39-40]).

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

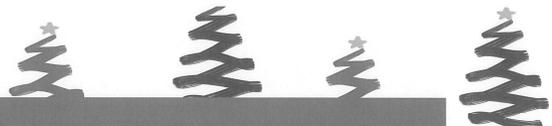
Monday: 1 Jn 1:5 — 2:2; Ps 124:2-5, 7b-8; Mt:13-18
 Tuesday: 1 Jn 2:3-11; Ps 96:1-3, 5b-6; Lk 2:22-35
 Wednesday: 1 Jn 2:12-17; Ps 96:7-10; Lk 2:36-40
 Thursday: 1 Jn 2:18-21; Ps 96:1-2, 11-13; Jn 1:1-18
 Friday: Nm 6:22-27; Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8; Gal 4:4-7; Lk 2:16-21
 Saturday: 1 Jn 2:22-28; Ps 98:1-4; Jn 1:19-28
 Sunday: Is 60:1-6; Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-13; Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6; Mt 2:1-12

Mass Intentions

Sunday - January 3, 2021	
8:00 a.m.	Living & Deceased Members of SIJ Al Casacchia
10:00 a.m.	Marie De Meo
12:00 p.m.	Joseph De Sario
Monday - January 4, 2021	
8:00 a.m.	Purgatorial Society Cheryl Klein
Tuesday - January 5, 2021	
8:00 a.m.	Rosa Di Franco Romeo Luz
Wednesday - January 6, 2021	
8:00 a.m.	The Bello Family
Thursday - January 7, 2021	
8:00 a.m.	Inge Zajac
Friday - January 8, 2021	
8:00 a.m.	Michael Mac Donald
Saturday - January 9, 2021	
8:00 a.m.	Luke & Philomena Moran
5:00 p.m.	Michael Mac Donald
Sunday - January 10, 2021	
8:00 a.m.	Thomas & Richard Banner Jones Augustin - Spec. Intention Maria & Waldemar Tolpkowski
10:00 a.m.	Living & Deceased Members of SIJ Purificacion Rodriguez Eduardo Rodrituez
12:00 p.m.	Marie De Meo

Liturgy Next Weekend January 9th & 10th

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





Holiday Mass times, weather cancellations, ministry updates, & more delivered to your phone

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In our crazy Covid world you can safely make your parish donations electronically by logging into givecentral.org - register today!

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Lori

SOFTWARE
MS Publisher 2003
Adobe Acrobat 8.0
Windows XP Professional

PRINTER
Canon IR 3035

NUMBER OF PAGES SENT
1 through 8

SUNDAY DATE OF PUBLICATION
January 3, 2021

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS

THANK YOU!

Please only print 100 copies until further notice. Thank you