

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: Cancelled until further notice

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:

Mon. - Fri. 9 a.m. to Noon

Saturday & Sunday - Closed

Religious Education: 847-966-1180

Email: sijre2004@yahoo.com

Parish School: St. John Brebeuf School

847-966-3266 or sjschool.org

Sacrament of Reconciliation: Saturday, 11:00 - Noon
 or by appointment. Please call the rectory to schedule.

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.

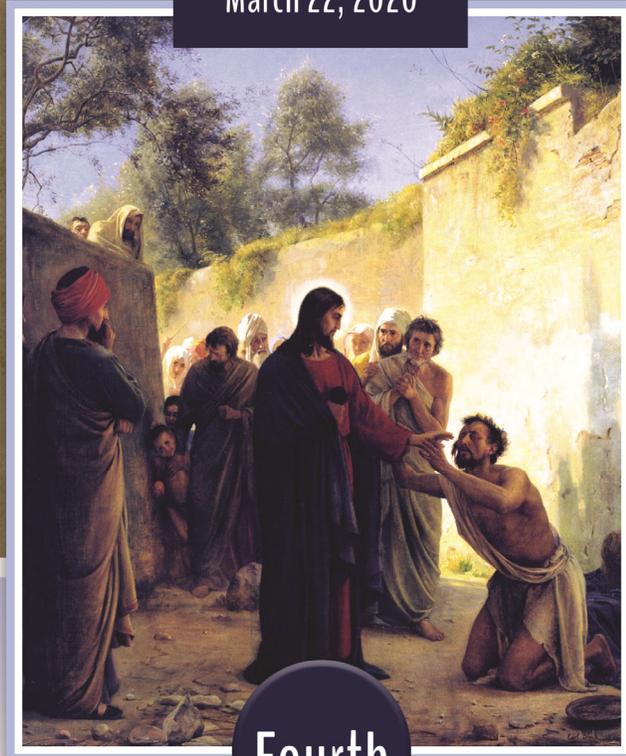
Sunday at 3:00 p.m. (Ceremony only)

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.

March 22, 2020



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Fourth

Sunday of Lent

Jesus said, "I came into this world for judgment,
 so that those who do not see might see,
 and those who do see might become blind."

John 9:39

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	Concy Mesquita
John Kadiri	Irene Baron			
Women's Club Chairperson – Louella Preston				
Men's Club Chairperson – Chuck Napravnik				
Fil-Am Chairperson – Jelly Carandang (Interim)				



FROM THE
Pastor's Desk

Be not Afraid!

As I write my Pastors column a number of things come to mind due to the spread of COVID-19. It has not only affected people and countries over the world; but we are now gripped with fear seeing the death toll rising day by day. The virus COVID-19 makes its entry anywhere and people who are affected by it may not be aware that they are carriers of such a virus, as a result, fear creeps into our minds and we don't know what to expect next.

President Franklin Roosevelt once asserted, "*The only thing we have to fear is fear itself.*" I think he was right: Fear of fear probably causes more problems in our lives than fear itself. Once you allow fear to overpower you then you will be lean into it. So before fear takes hold of you, act quickly so that you are not lead by it. So how would we define fear? A simple and useful definition of fear is: *An anxious feeling, caused by our anticipation of some imagined event or experience.*

Fear, like all other emotions, is basically information. It offers knowledge and understanding provided we choose to accept it. For many people, worry, anxiety and fear are constant companions. We have a number of fears and to name some like fear of death, fear of danger, fear of disease. Too often, these fears are crippling, keeping us from the life God has called us to live. But it doesn't have to be that way, says Dr. David Jeremiah. As Christians, we have been given all we need in order to face down even the most frightening, unexpected and overwhelming obstacles in life.

In the Scriptures we come across how Jacob cheated his brother Esau and got the blessing for himself instead. Later in the story Jacob is fearful of meeting Esau and it teaches us that when fear grips you, rely on God's provision, not on your plans.

That reminds me of my own experience last weekend as I came to Church on Sunday morning much before 8.00am and seeing the empty pews made me very sad. Sitting quietly alone with God; I began thinking *how long Lord it is going to be this way.* As I began my Church prayer, I came across a Scripture text from the book of prophet Nehemiah (8:9-10) which read "This day is holy to the Lord your God: do not mourn or weep. For this day is holy to our Lord: and do not be grieved, for the joy of the Lord is your strength. I felt so consoled by these words that my own fears disappeared since the Lord spoke to me through his word. So trust in the Lord at all times as He is the one in command. So do not be afraid take all your cares, fears and worries unto to him.

Due to COVID -19 our liturgical celebrations have been suspended but not our expenses or paying of bills. Don't forget your contributions to the church are important as we count on you to make ends meet. Further instructions are given how to comply. Please be considerate to mail your contributions. Let's pray for one another and all those affected by this virus and those who attend to them, first Responders, Doctors & Nurses that their lives may be safe.

I would recommend that everyone use this Spiritual Communion Prayer on the next page which is very fruitful for our spiritual life.

God Bless,
Fr. Mario

St. Isaac Jogues News

"My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the most Blessed Sacrament.

I love you above all things and I desire to receive You into my soul.

Since I cannot now receive You sacramentally,
Come at least spiritually into my heart.

I embrace You as if You were already there,
And unite myself wholly to You.
Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.



+The parish bulletin will be online each week with updates, prayers, etc.

+The church is open for personal prayer every day of the week, 8 a.m. - 12 Noon.

+Fathers Mario and Carlos are fulfilling Mass intentions each day.

+The Parish Office is open Monday - Friday, 9 a.m. - 12 Noon. It will not be open on the weekend.

+The Sacrament of Reconciliation is still being offered Saturdays, 11 a.m. - Noon. Please sit in the main aisles of the church and you will be directed into the Reconciliation Room.

+In this time of uncertainty your Sunday donations are critically important for ordinary expenses of the church. Kindly send your contributions by mail, hand it to a staff member you see, drop them in the Rectory mail slot or use Give Central. Every gift is needed and appreciated.

+Funerals will be held as necessary but will be limited to the number of people able to attend.

+If you are in need of the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick or the Staff can be of other assistance to you, please call the Rectory or Religious Education Office.

**+Pray for one another and for all the world.
Trust in the Lord and be not afraid!**

PRAYER DURING THESE ANXIOUS TIMES

May we who are merely inconvenienced remember those whose lives are at stake. May we who have no risk factors remember those most vulnerable. May we who have the luxury of working from home remember those who must choose between preserving their health or making their rent. May we who have the flexibility to care for our children when their schools close remember those who have no options. May we who have to cancel our trips remember those that have no place to go. May we who are losing our margin money in the tumult of the economic market remember those who have no margin at all. May we who settle in for a quarantine at home remember those who have no home. During this time when we cannot physically wrap our arms around each other, let us yet find ways to be the loving embrace of God to our neighbors. We ask this through Christ the Healer. Amen. (Author: Historic St. Paul Catholic Church, Lexington Ky.)

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(Historic St. Paul Catholic Church, Lexington, KY)



Religious Education

+RE Catechists will contact families each week with what the class is to work on during the week to continue their faith formation and/or sacrament preparation.

+Please remember to watch and participate in Sunday Mass via TV (Sunday Mass at Mercy Home, 9:30 a.m. Sunday, WGN) or internet (archchicago.org for Mass from Cathedral)

+Participate in the Sacrament of Reconciliation in preparation for Easter.

+Read the Gospel for the day and talk about it with family or friends (in person or call them), and/or pray the Rosary or the Divine Mercy Chaplet or the Stations of the Cross



St. Isaac Jogues would like to welcome our new Parishioners to the Parish.

Evelyn Carissa



SAVE THE DATE...JUST IN CASE

Mark your calendar for the annual Pasta Dinner, co-sponsored by the Women's and Men's Clubs, on Saturday, April 25th, at 6 p.m. in the Holy Family Room. At this time we are not sure it will be able to take place, but in case it can, we want you to be ready for a fun evening of delicious food and great company. Watch for more information!



ALMSGIVING

We continue to collect monetary donations for our Lenten alms recipients. Next weekend's alms recipient is Sunday Mass at Mercy Home, which airs each Sunday at 9:30 a.m. on WGN Chicago. At the request of Cardinal Bernardin Mercy Home began its televised Mass in 1992 that now allows 60,000 faithful viewers to share in the Eucharist each Sunday morning. It is a source of spiritual nourishment for those who are unable to leave their homes because of age or ailment (or the current COVID-19 restrictions) to attend Mass.

LENTEN PRAYER, REFLECTION AND ACTION FOR THE WEEK

Pray: O Jesus, come and waken us from our apathy and renew in us your gift of hope. Bring me into your presence, that I may listen to your voice, which is the source of all wisdom, and watch your face forever. “ St. Bede

Reflect: Read the Gospel of the Man Born Blind (John 9:1-41) What blinds you from recognizing Jesus as the Light of your life (pride, self-centeredness, fear)? Who shared the importance of Jesus in their life that opened you up to a new understanding of His importance in yours? How have you helped another “see” Jesus more clearly? Other than praying the Creed at Mass each week, when is the last time you have told Jesus that you believe in Him and all that He promises?

Act: One evening turn off all or most of the lights in a room and light a candle. Watch the flame burn brighter and the light expand in the room. Pray for those who seek light, truth and meaning in their lives and ask Jesus to draw them to His Light. Write a prayer telling Jesus that you do believe in Him and why you believe in Him. Pray it each day this week. Write a general note to the residents of local senior living or nursing facilities and let them know they are being thought of and prayed for at this time. Many feel isolated and lonely because no one can come into the facilities. Stop by the church and light a candle for someone whom you are trying to “see” in a new and better light. Ask for the grace you need to do so.



In these uncertain times, caring for those who need help becomes even apparent. There's still time for your donation to our Annual Catholic Appeal. The Archdiocese of Chicago uses your donations to help dozens of educational and charity foundations who are dependent on our help.

Materials are available in the Holy Family Room or at the Rectory. Please prayerfully consider your assistance.

As always, every dollar over our goal comes back to the parish - which too will be extremely grateful!



Start with the letter in the shaded square. Draw a path from letter to letter to complete the Biblical statement. Move one square at a time, up, down, right, left and diagonally until all letters are used once. Ignore any black squares.

Jesus said to his disciples, “I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have ...”

	E	F	T
L	I	H	E
L	I	T	H
F	O	G	

T _ _ _ _ _ .”

Answer: See pg. 6



Pray for

KERMIT TURNER	GLORIA CABACUNGAN
MICHAEL NOBLE	TONY LIVORSI
JULIE HIGGINS	JOHN ROMANO
CARL AFFATATI	AUDREY JANS
RICHARD VAIL	DAVID FORST
KATIE KIRWAN	CHRISTINA WALD
BETTY LANDON	KIMBERLY KNOX
EMILY SITKOWSKI	DIANE BAUER
CYNTHIA MELNICK	NONA YOAKUM
MACI BAPPLE	KATHY EGLOFF
NANCY LISOWSKI	ROBERT STEPHENSON
	MAREQUINA CARDOZO
	SUE TUREK
	LAURA HALL - SCHORDJE
	HENRIETTA SAGARIO



Almighty and everlasting God, grant our loved ones, troops, reservists, and first responders, the strength to carry out their duties. Give them courage and endurance each day as they use their skills to overcome challenges and obstacles. May they ever place their trust in you, 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,
Jordan Irving

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 - Timothy Kelly, 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.



TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading — As the prophet Samuel anointed David with oil, the spirit of the LORD rushed upon David (1 Samuel 16:1b, 6-7, 10-13a).

Psalm — The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want (Psalm 23).

Second Reading — You who were once darkness are now light in the Lord (Ephesians 5:8-14).

Gospel — The man who had been blind from birth proclaimed: The one called Jesus made clay with his saliva, anointed my eyes with it, and told me to wash (John 9:1-41 [1, 6-9, 13-17, 34-38]).

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Is 65:17-21; Ps 30:2, 4-6, 11-13b;
Jn 4:43-54

Tuesday: Ez 47:1-9, 12; Ps 46:2-3, 5-6, 8-9;
Jn 5:1-16

Wednesday: Is 7:10-14, 8:10; Ps 40:7-11;
Heb 10:4-10; Lk 1:26-38

Thursday: Ex 32:7-14; Ps 106:19-23; Jn 5:31-47

Friday: Wis 2:1a, 12-22; Ps 34:17-21, 23;
Jn 7:1-2, 10, 25-30

Saturday: Jer 11:18-20; Ps 7:2-3, 9bc-12; Jn 7:40-53

Sunday: Ez 37:12-14; Ps 130:1-8; Rom 8:8-11;
Jn 11:1-45 [3-7, 17, 20-27, 33b-45]



Sacristans
Theresa Noble, Francis Martel,
Arlene Turek, Louise Burdi

Puzzle answer: the light of life

Mass Intentions

Sunday, March 22, 2020	
8:00 a.m.	Lisowski Family
10:00 a.m.	Soura Kadapparamban
12:00 p.m.	Cipriana Ramos-Chua Xavier Pallivathukal
Monday - March 23, 2020	
8:00 a.m.	Purgatorial Society Annamma Chacko
Tuesday - March 24, 2020	
8:00 a.m.	Frank Schmidt
Wednesday - March 25, 2020	
8:00 a.m.	Joseph and Edith Lukas
Thursday - March 26, 2020	
8:00 a.m.	John Affatati, Sr.
Friday - March 27, 2020	
8:00 a.m.	Jadwiga Rutkowska Adolfa Ostrega
Saturday - March 28, 2020	
8:00 a.m.	Pietro Di Franco
5:00 p.m.	John Areno Ester Luz Pam Lodal Dawn Napravnik
Sunday, March 29, 2020	
8:00 a.m.	Deceased Members of SIJ Helene Kowalik
10:00 a.m.	John Affatati
12:00 p.m.	Lydia Luz

LIGHT

“Awake, O sleeper, and arise from the dead, and Christ will give you light” (Ephesians 5:14). We are at the midpoint of our Lenten journey of conversion. As always, God never gives up on us, especially those who have “fallen asleep” along the road to conversion. The most powerful stories of conversion are proclaimed during these final weeks of Lent. They have the power to shake us out of our sleep. Today’s Gospel story of the healing of the man born blind exposes the real blindness in the time of Christ—the blindness of the self-righteous religious leaders. In a few weeks, at the Easter Vigil, the Church will proclaim “Christ our Light” as the paschal candle is carried into darkened churches throughout the world. May the darkness of sin that still pervades our lives, communities, and world, be dispelled by the Christ who comes to bring sight to the blind and light to the world.



Log in to
givecentral.org and
register today!

give
central



ST. PATRICK DINNER FUNDRAISER...
was cancelled and refunds have been sent to those
who bought tickets. Please be looking for the mailing.

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Lori

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SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS

THANK YOU!