

Ordinary Time

October 26, 2014 ♦ Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time (A)

Quickly, name the greatest law of the United States.

I think all of us would have to think about that. Some might name a precept like “All men are created equal.”

Others might talk about the Bill of Rights. But when it comes to the laws that embody these precepts, we might point to any number of them and disagree about which is the greatest.

Jesus has no such problem. When the Pharisees try to test him with a similar question about Jewish law, Jesus responds immediately with the great commandment from Deuteronomy (6:4) and pairs it with a law found in Leviticus (19:18).

The Pharisees knew both laws, but the first had been emphasized throughout Israelite tradition. The Jews were commanded to teach it to their children and to bind the words to their foreheads and wrists. The second, though, was one of a series of laws, seemingly no more or less important than the ones that surrounded it.

When Jesus lifted up the two of them, he made it very clear that our first love is always for God, to whom we give our entire being. Jesus is equally clear, though, that we cannot stop there. We must also love our neighbors as we love ourselves.

Indeed, our relationship with God and our relationship with one another are bound up in each other. When one is broken, so is the other. When one flourishes, so does the other. Loving God and neighbor draws us together as Church to praise and worship God and to reach out to the world.

Let us obey both these commandments with equal joy.

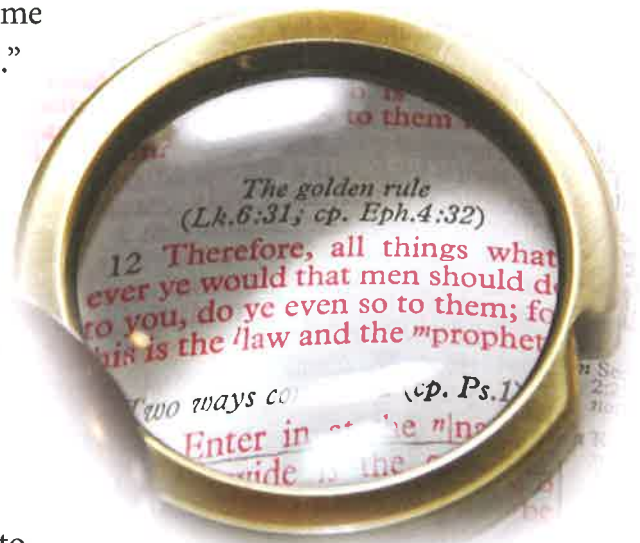
We must also love our neighbors as we love ourselves.

Today's Readings

Ex 22:20–26

1 Thes 1:5c–10

Mt 22:34–40



IMMACULATE CONCEPTION CHURCH

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 Parish Religious Education/CCD610 582-3880
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THIRTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - OCTOBER 26, 2014

★ ★ MASS INTENTIONS ★ ★

SAT 5:15 PM PETE BASCELLI
 SUN 7:30 AM DOROTHY ROMAN CLARK
 9:00 AM ANTONIO BARLETTA
 11:00 AM GUY KLANG
 MON 7:30 AM LOUIS GAGGIOTTI, JR
 TUE 7:00 PM FRANCES SCHATZ
 WED 7:30 AM IN HONOR OF SAINT JUDE
 THU 7:00 PM ROSE WITKOWSKI

FRI 7:30 AM VICTORIA ROGOSKY POSTER
9:00 AM ICA MASS – JENNIE CROSBY
 SAT 9:00 AM ROSE MARIE NOWOTARSKI
 5:15 PM LEON DONEY
 SUN 7:30 AM PARISH MEMORIAL SOCIETY
 9:00 AM LIVING & DECEASED PARISHIONERS
 11:00 AM PARISH MEMORIAL SOCIETY

*The Sanctuary Lamp Burns In Memory of Rita & Guy Klang
 And also In Memory of Leon Doney*

NEXT WEEK AT A GLANCE

SCRIP: Dowling 5:15pm Swanson 7:30am Schwendt 9:00am McCauley 11:00am DeFalco

<u>DAY</u>	<u>MASS</u>	<u>LECTOR</u>	<u>COMMENTATOR</u>	<u>ALTAR SERVERS</u>
SAT	5:15pm	Shirley Wheeler	Mary Jo Simon	Ethan Kraycik, Josh Piccarreta, Aiden Reber
SUN	7:30am	Sean Werner	Adelina Kieffer	Adam and Carlina Davis, Morgan Davis
	9:00am	Stephanie Myers	Josephine Hohl	Sadie Mangan, Marissa and Steven Tepper
	11:00am	Bob Newman	Steve Lukes	Abigail, Emily and Max Dlhopsky

The second collection next week is for Church Building & Parish Maintenance

The Solemnity of All Saints

Saturday, November 1st is the Solemnity of All Saints. The Holy Sacrifice of the Mass will be offered on All Saints Day at 9:00am.

(Because it falls on a Saturday, All Saints Day is not a Holy Day of Obligation this year).

Remember in your prayers the sick of our parish: Joe & Betty Cuccaro, Cecelia Potts, Arthur & Betty Erjavec, Marco Fiato, Bryan Fiato, John Kakas, William Kuehler, Maryanne Prentice, John & Joan LeFosse, Tracy Seasholtz, Aaron Gulla, John Iezzi, Delores Woy, Alice Arantowicz, Andrew Martin, Alice Smyk, Barbara Pease, Yolanda Marino, Robert Mariani, Marie Snyder, Irene Wade, Loretta Kozlowski, Patricia Reigel, Patricia Winkel, Ann Kretzman, Ann Schlott, Anthony Boraten, Gage Speece, Sharon Kirkpatrick, Julia McDonald, Patricia McDermott, Charles Reppert, Maryanna Niemczyk, Linda D'Alessandro and Eric Toth

Please congratulate the newly baptized: Fionn Nicholas Derrick, Sara Estella Tomlinson, Blake Elliott, Arleigh Marie Chafin and their families

Please pray for the recently departed: Elizabeth McGlory

HOSPITAL VISITATIONS: Monsignor McCann and Deacon Paul Hiryak visit our hospitalized parishioners regularly. If you or a member of your family is hospitalized, call the parish office at 610-582-2411.

THIS WEEK AT ICC:

Pick up your Apple Dumplings!

Sun	10/26	4pm Girl Scouts
Mon	10/27	7:30pm RCIA
Tues	10/28	7:30pm Bell Choir Rehearsal
Thurs	10/30	7:30 Adult Choir Rehearsal
Sat	11/01	All Saints Day <i>Not a Holy Day of Obligation</i> 4-5pm Confessions

WHAT'S HAPPENING

2014 Walk-A-Then for Catholic Education – Donations are being gratefully accepted. Please place it in an envelope marked "**ICA Walk-a-then**" and drop it in any Sunday collection basket or mail it to Immaculate Conception Academy, 903 Chestnut Street, Douglassville, PA 19518.

All donations are greatly appreciated.

Thanksgiving Baskets for Those in Need - To assist families in need, all of the churches in the Birdsboro and Douglassville area have agreed to adopt a particular school for the Thanksgiving holiday. Our parish family of the Immaculate Conception has adopted Daniel Boone High School and will provide Thanksgiving baskets to families in need with children enrolled in the high school. If your family would like to donate a Thanksgiving basket for a needy family, please call the parish office at 610-582-2411 to sign-up. We will provide you with a specific list of needed items and the date by which the basket must be brought to the parish office to ensure its timely delivery. Thank you for your concern for those in need.

Annual ICA-HSO Christmas Bazaar

November 15th, 9am to 3pm, Social Hall

Lots of great locally made crafts and stocking stuffers...wood crafts and toys, Christmas wreaths and ornaments, baked specialties and candies, home décor, candles, jewelry, photographs, handmade frames, gift baskets and so much more! We also will have chili, soups and other lunch items for purchase and a Bake Sale!

BREAKFAST WITH SANTA - ICA 8th grade is sponsoring our annual **Breakfast with Santa** on December 6th! There are seating's at 8am and 10am. Pancakes, eggs, sausage, fruit, juice, coffee/milk will be served. We will have face painting, cookie and ornament decorating, pictures with Santa and a Christmas Petting Zoo! Tickets are \$8, age 2 and under free. Call 610-404-8645 for more information!!!

Signups are underway for CYO winter sports. Visit www.iccyo.com for more information.

Thanksgiving Eve Ecumenical Worship

Our parish family of the Immaculate Conception will host the annual Thanksgiving Eve Ecumenical Prayer Service on Wednesday, November 26, 2014 at 7:00 p.m. In shared worship, let us witness to God who is at the center of all of our thanks giving. Designed as a worship to celebrate our common thanks in God, you are cordially invited and encouraged to join with your brothers and sisters in Christ from throughout our community. The Rev. Robert Kramer, Pastor of St. Mark's Lutheran Church, Birdsboro will be preaching, and delicious refreshments will follow in the Social hall. All are welcome! Please invite a friend or neighbor to accompany you.

Berks Catholic High School Students will be performing their fall show - **THREE INSTANCES OF INTRIGUE** on November 21/22, 7pm in the Franco Post Auditorium. This gripping theater production features three one-acts: *Sorry, Wrong Number, The New Margo, and Twitch*. Don't miss an exciting evening of mystery, murder and intrigue performed by Berks Catholic theater students. Tickets go on sale November 3rd for \$8 a person. For ticket info, please contact Judi Kane at (215) 651-2391 or pjkane102114@msn.com.

2015/2016 Registration for Berks Catholic High School is open. Visit our website www.berkscatholic.org for more information about the school. Contact Nicole Smith at nsmith@berkscatholic.org or 610.374.8361, ext244 to set up a personal tour, a shadow day or simply to answer any questions you may have. All inquires are confidential.

Gethsemane Cemetery Fall Clean Up - Cemetery personnel will be cleaning the cemetery November 17th. By this date, please take all plants, containers, flowers, etc. that you would like to keep. Please refrain from bringing any new decorations until after November 21st. Thank you!

Berks Catholic Ice Hockey Program offers Learn to Skate and Learn to Play hockey for boys and girls of all ages. Session 1 starts November 1st for 9 Saturdays, 7:30-8:30am at Body Zone. Call Britt at 484-256-1782 for more info.

Registration for **Berks Catholic Youth Lacrosse** for boys and girls in grades K-8 will be held November 9th, 6-7pm at Berks Catholic High School. rthanley@comcast.net or MDuddy@world-electronics.com.

SCRIP is a great church fundraiser and you can benefit too! Basically you are buying gift certificates. There is no additional cost and a percentage of what we spend at specific stores comes back to our church and to you in the form of Tuition Credit for School and CCD. Stop by the SCRIP table after Mass and check it out. SCRIP is also available at our Parish Office. SCRIP that is currently available: Boscovs, Kohls, Redners, Applebees, Giant, Red Lobster/Olive Garden/Bahama Breeze/LongHorn Steakhouse/Season 52 and Flynn & O'Hara.

ICC is hosting a Miller Keystone Blood Drive during the Christmas Bazaar on November 15th, 8am-1pm. Please sign up to donate and save a life. Schedule your donation time with Liz at thestewarts@dejazzd.com or 610-404-4425.

The **National 40 Days for Life Campaign and Prayer Vigil** is through November 2nd. Daily prayer vigil in front of Reading Planned Parenthood, 4th and Franklin Streets, 7am-4pm. Visit 40daysforlife.com/Reading.

St. Benedict's Catholic Church invites you to a special presentation entitled "Love Respect and Responsibility: An Explanation of the Christianity's Traditional Teaching on Artificial Contraception" with Dr. Trevor Martenson on November 2nd at 12:30pm. Call 610-856-1006 for info.

Knights of Columbus Big Breakfast – November 2nd, 8-11:30am at Knights of Columbus in Stowe. Pancakes, eggs, sausage, bacon. Adults \$7 and Children \$4. Public welcome -ramped access.

BULLETIN DEADLINE: WEDNESDAY AT NOON



October 26, 2014

dear Padre

Monday
OCTOBER 27
Weekday
Eph 4:32—5:8
Lk 13:10–17

Tuesday
OCTOBER 28
Sts. Simon and
Jude, Apostles
Eph 2:19–22
Lk 6:12–16

Wednesday
OCTOBER 29
Weekday
Eph 6:1–9
Lk 13:22–30

Thursday
OCTOBER 30
Weekday
Eph 6:10–20
Lk 13:31–35

Friday
OCTOBER 31
Weekday
Phil 1:1–11
Lk 14:1–6

Saturday
NOVEMBER 1
All Saints
Rv 7:2–4, 9–14
1 Jn 3:1–3
Mt 5:1–12a

Sunday
NOVEMBER 2
All Souls' Day
Wis 3:1–9
Rom 5:5–11 or
6:3–9
Jn 6:37–40



What is palliative care?

Q My aunt has terminal cancer. Her doctors have advised her to stop chemotherapy and begin palliative care, but she says that's equivalent to assisted suicide. Is that what the Church thinks?

Palliative care doesn't prolong life, but neither does it cause life to end. The bishops are quite clear that palliative care is neither euthanasia nor assisted suicide, which are always sinful.

The *Catechism of the Catholic Church* says treating or not treating a patient in a way that will cause death is always murder (2277). However, a patient's choice to discontinue "burdensome, dangerous, extraordinary [emphasis added]" treatment "can be legitimate" when it's done not to cause death, but in recognition of "one's inability to impede it" (2278). But even when death seems to be close, "ordinary care" that would be given to any sick person cannot be interrupted (2279).

Palliative care doesn't cause death. It simply gives terminally ill people spiritual support and relief from their physical symptoms. An excellent resource on this topic, "Killing the Pain, Not the Patient: Palliative Care vs. Assisted Suicide," is available at usccb.org.

The *Catechism* says palliative care "should be encouraged" (2279). It helps the dying person and the family focus on the gift of life and the blessing each person is. The patient who legitimately chooses palliative care is not waiting to die, but rather living those last moments to the fullest and as comfortably as possible.

FR. PATRICK KEYES, CSSR
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Liguori wants to give you a free eBook!

Advent Meditations With Fulton J. Sheen (863899)

Let Blessed Fulton J. Sheen, the unforgettable preacher who used television to touch millions of lives, lead you through Advent with eloquent reflections and beautiful Scriptures. Simply visit Liguori.org/Sheen and use **special discount-code 15555** when you check out. Offer expires Dec. 5, 2014. Thank you for letting us walk with you on your spiritual journey.