

# Easter

FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER (B) ♦ April 26, 2015

My mother lived for a time on a ranch in Texas. The ranch had cattle and sheep. My mother told me that sheep are pretty dumb and need a lot of care. She had great respect for the ranch hands who patiently got them out to pasture and then rounded them up when it was time to come in. Left to their own devices, she said, sheep would be easy prey for coyotes, foxes, and bobcats that roam the hill country.

Sheep were important for many families living in first-century Palestine as well. They provided food, clothing, milk, and a source of income.

A good shepherd was worth his weight in gold, because he spent his days with the sheep, leading them to pasture, protecting them from harm, and finding them when they got lost.

Shepherds may not have had a high social status, but it would have been hard to live without them.

Jesus, the Good Shepherd, does all these things for his flock, and then goes even further: “I came so that they might have life and have it more abundantly. I am the good shepherd. A good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep.”

The ranch hands my mother talked about would have grieved over a dead sheep but wouldn't have died trying to save it. They made sure the sheep were watered and fed, but they didn't make the sheep's lives more abundant.

But *we* have abundant life because Jesus laid down his life for us. He is our Good Shepherd. Can we ask anything more?

MARY KATHARINE DEELEY  
[sundaybulletin@liguori.org](mailto:sundaybulletin@liguori.org)

## Today's Readings

Acts 4:8–12  
1 Jn 3:1–2  
Jn 10:11–18

# IMMACULATE CONCEPTION CHURCH

905 Chestnut Street, Douglassville, PA 19518 secretary@icbvm.org; ccd@icbvm.org; bulletin@icbvm.org; newsletter@icbvm.org

Rev. Msgr. John B. McCann ..... Pastor  
 Deacon Paul J. Hiryak  
 Victim Assistance: Wendy S. Krisak, 1-800-791-9209  
 Safe Environment: Sister Meg Cole, 610-332-0442, ext 19  
 Diocese of Allentown.....www.allentowndiocese.org

Parish Office .....610 582-2411  
 Parish Religious Education/CCD .....610 582-3880  
 Parish Preschool .....610 404-8645  
 Parish Fax.....610 404-2609  
 Parish Website..... www.icbvm.org  
 Immaculate Conception Academy..... 610 404-8645

## FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER – APRIL 26, 2015

### ★ ★ MASS INTENTIONS ★ ★

SAT	5:15 PM FLORENCE ORLANDO LEBRESCO	THU	7:00 PM HENRY WADE
SUN	7:30 AM LIVING & DECEASED PARISHIONERS	FRI	7:30 AM MARY TERRINONI
	9:00 AM THOMAS HAIGHT, JR.	SAT	5:15 PM WARREN READINGER – 10 <sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY
	11:00 AM CLAUDINE & ETZIO BARDI AND MARY & JOHN HORGAS	SUN	7:30 AM LIVING & DECEASED PARISHIONERS
MON	<b>No MASS</b>		9:00 AM FRED DEL GRASSO & ELVIRA MESSNER
TUE	7:00 PM ANNA LUKES		11:00 AM THOMAS HAIGHT, SR.
WED	7:30 AM MARIAN E. SLAWECKI		

*The Sanctuary Lamp Burns In Memory of Paul Powaski and  
 Also In Memory of Etzio & Claudine Bardi and John & Mary Horgas*

### NEXT WEEK AT A GLANCE

**SCRIP:** Sponsor: Zubik 5:15 Pisarek 7:30 Collura 9:00 McCauley 11:00 Citrano

<u>DAY</u>	<u>MASS</u>	<u>LECTOR</u>	<u>COMMENTATOR</u>	<u>ALTAR SERVERS</u>
SAT	5:15pm	Jennifer Stuart	Joseph Bailey	Morgan DeCray, K. Eichenberg, Meghan Grieco
SUN	7:30am	Adelina Kieffer	Pam Amos	Jessica Kritschil, Faith Ouimet, Danielle Walter
	9:00am	Brian Hannon	Barrie Pease	Alex and Madilynn Hocker, Beply McGee
	11:00am	Mike Bobb	Mary Ann Cotter	Lilia and Simon Crew, Olivia Ruff

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

#### **Immaculate Conception Academy and Early Education 2015-2016**

#### **Registrations**

We welcome everyone to join us if you have a student entering preschool (age 3) through 8<sup>th</sup> grade. Open House and Academy Tours are available by contacting Shannon Villa at shannon.villa@icaknights.org or 610-404-8645. Please bring a copy of the child's birth certificate, social security card and immunization record to registration.

Kindergarten students must be aged 5 by 10/15/15 and 1st Grade students aged 6 by 10/15/15.

**ICA offers a full day Kindergarten**

**TRANSFER GRANTS:** Any public, private or charter school student who transfers into Immaculate Conception Academy, grades 1 through 7, will receive a Bishop's Tuition Transfer Grant of \$1,500 over two school years (\$1,000 for the first year; \$500 for the second). Call Shannon at 610-404-8645.

Remember in your prayers the sick of our parish: Joe Cuccaro, Marco Fiato, Bryan Fiato, John Kakas, Maryanne Prentice, Tracy Seasholtz, Aaron Gulla, John Iezzi, Delores Woy, Alice Arantowicz, Andrew Martin, Alice Smyk, Barbara Pease, Yolanda Marino, Robert Mariani, Marie Snyder, Irene Wade, Patricia Winkel, Ann Schlott, Maryanna Niemczyk, Linda D'Alessandro, Mary Pender, Jo Ann Hofer, Roger Villano, Sharon Kirkpatrick, Kathy Patrick, Doris Slater, Alan Mammarella, Stella Powaski, Joseph & Susan McCorristin, Bartholomew Magliocchetti, Mary McCullough, Curt Miller, Bob Hocker, Ronald Readinger, Hilary Clatch, Dan Casciano and Tom Hafer

Please pray for the recently departed: Jamie Lynn Kotas

Please congratulate the newly baptized: Sarah Susan Bell and her family

**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:***

**Mon 04/27 7:30pm RCIA**  
**Sat 05/02 9am 1<sup>st</sup> Holy Communion – CCD**  
**12pm 1<sup>st</sup> Holy Communion – ICA**  
**4-5pm Confessions**

## **WHAT'S HAPPENING**

**Please be advised that there will be no daily Mass Monday, April 27, 2015. Thank you for your kind understanding in this regard.**

### **CCD Registration for 2015-2016 is Now Open**

Registrations for the CCD 2015-2016 school year are being accepted now through May. Registration forms can be found online at [www.icbvmccd.org](http://www.icbvmccd.org) under forms and are also available at the Office of Religious Education located in the Academy. Register now to insure your preference of day and time. Classes fill-up quickly. Volunteers are always welcome. If you would like to volunteer an hour of your time once a week to bring the Good News of Christ to the children of our parish by educating or by example of service, please contact Mrs. O'Donnell at (610) 582-3880.

### **ICA 5K and 1 Mile FUN Run/Walk**

(Behind Tim's Ugly Mug) Birdsboro, PA

**Saturday, May 16, 2015** Registration 8:30AM  
10am 5K, 10:45am Fun Run/Walk, 11:15am Awards

#### **All ages are welcome!**

Pre-register for the event by visiting [pretzelcitysports.com](http://pretzelcitysports.com)  
Pre-registration cost for the 5K is \$15 and includes an event t-shirt. Pre-registration cost for the 1 Mile Fun Run is \$5, an additional \$10 for a T-shirt if desired, while supplies last. For more information or to sponsor the event please visit <https://sites.google.com/site/ica/ica-5k>  
Proceeds benefit the students of ICA.

The Women's Society will be making our annual visit to Camilla Hall on Wednesday, May 6<sup>th</sup>. This wonderful day includes a lunch prepared for us by the Sisters, followed by BINGO which we offer for the entertainment of the retired Sisters residing at Camilla Hall. They so look forward to our visit each year. We will leave the church at 10:30am. There is a \$7 donation for the luncheon prepared by the Sisters. We would like to ask for donations of cash, stamps, stationary, cards etc. to be used for BINGO prizes. We are also asking donations of cookies, brownies, and other sweets for the Sisters. If you would like to attend, need more information or would like to make a donation for this wonderful cause, you must contact Betty at 610-326-7017 by Sunday, May 3<sup>rd</sup>.

Host families are needed for several Nacel Open Door international students who would like to attend Berks Catholic for the upcoming school year. These F-1 visa students speak English, are fully insured, and have their own pocket money for personal expenses. Students will be provided busing to and from school. Host families provide room and board and receive a generous monthly hosting stipend. For more information please contact Angela Gable at 610-698-2647, or [agableNOD@gmail.com](mailto:agableNOD@gmail.com).

Dear Friends,

This weekend we kick off the 2015 Bishop's Annual Appeal (BAA). I am so grateful for your continued generosity to this important diocesan fundraising initiative. The Bishop's Annual Appeal offers vital services like Catholic Charities, care for our retired and confirmed priests, education of Seminarians and support for our Special Learning Centers. I encourage you to join me in making your gift to the BAA and support these important ministries. Together we will make a difference in the lives of many people. Remember, every gift counts, no matter how small. To make your gift, please return the pledge form that you will receive in the mail, visit the Appeal's website at [www.2015baa.org](http://www.2015baa.org) or call the Appeal's office at 800-831-4443.

With gratitude,  
Monsignor McCann

**STAND WITH US FOR LIFE!** Mark your calendars for the 5th Annual March for Life in Reading on April 26, 2015. The March will start at 2pm at Berks Catholic High School Auditorium. At 3pm we will walk from Berks Catholic to Holy Rosary Church at 3rd & Franklin Sts. where buses will transport us back to BC. Baby items are also being requested and will be distributed to the Crisis Pregnancy Centers throughout the area. Helen MacMinn at 610-582-1075.

**An Afternoon Tea for Mothers & Daughters** on May 3<sup>rd</sup>, 1-5pm. The Diocese of Allentown Marriage and Family Life Office is sponsoring a presentation by Generation Life to mothers and daughters, ages 10 to 13. The presentation will be in the Franciscan Room at St. Joseph Medical Center in Reading which is co-sponsoring the event. Clare Daly, an energetic young speaker from Generation Life, will offer practical and empowering tips on modesty, virtues and responsibility. Registration is \$25 per family or host a table of 6 for \$60. Includes presentation, drinks, snacks, door prizes, and book. Call 610-289-8900 ext. 238 by April 26<sup>th</sup>.

### ***Building a Culture of Vocations***

*What is a Sister?* A Sister lives in a religious community that follows a constantly renewed tradition, patterned on the life and teaching of the founder of the community. The work she generally does will depend upon the ministries of that community as influenced by the needs of the Church and its people – for example: teaching, social work, administration, nursing, peace and justice ministry, etc. If the lifestyle of a Sister sounds attractive to you contact the diocesan vocation office for more information.

**Birdsboro Street Fair & Duck Derby** – May 2<sup>nd</sup>, 11am-5pm, in Main Bird Park – Crafts, Games, Entertainment & Food

**Knights of Columbus 8<sup>th</sup> Annual Golf Tournament**, May 8<sup>th</sup> at Twin Ponds Golf Course. \$100 per Golfer. Call Gary at 610-972-0356 for more information.





April 26, 2015

# Dear Padre

## Is it OK to sit in the presence of the Eucharist?



I was taught that we should never sit when the consecrated host is present, so I kneel until I go to Communion. But other people sit until it's time to get up. What's the rule?

At this point in the Mass, according to the *General Instruction of the Roman Missal (GIRM)*, paragraph 43, the congregation should be kneeling. The faithful should kneel after the *Agnus Dei* unless the diocesan bishop has determined otherwise. During the period of sacred silence after Communion, the congregation may sit or kneel.

Someone might sit because she can't kneel or stand. To allow for this possibility is an act of charity.

Uniformity in gestures and postures express and foster the proper

intention and spiritual attitude of the congregation. However, exceptions do exist. Reasonable causes for not kneeling include ill health, lack of space, and a large number of people present.

But, outside of the reasonable exceptions, it's important that everyone use the same gestures and postures during Mass. Ask your pastor to clarify the instructions for the parish so you and your fellow parishioners can maintain uniformity in accordance with *GIRM* guidelines.

FR. DON KIRCHNER, CSSR  
[sundaybulletin@liguori.org](mailto:sundaybulletin@liguori.org)

### Monday April 27

Easter Weekday  
Acts 11:1–18  
Jn 10:1–10

### Tuesday April 28

Easter Weekday  
Acts 11:19–26  
Jn 10:22–30

### Wednesday April 29

St. Catherine of Siena, Virgin and Doctor of the Church  
Acts 12:24—13:5a  
Jn 12:44–50

### Thursday April 30

Easter Weekday  
Acts 13:13–25  
Jn 13:16–20

### Friday May 1

Easter Weekday  
Acts 13:26–33  
Jn 14:1–6

### Saturday May 2

St. Athanasius, Bishop and Doctor of the Church  
Acts 13:44–52  
Jn 14:7–14

### Sunday May 3

Fifth Sunday of Easter  
Acts 9:26–31  
1 Jn 3:18–24  
Jn 15:1–8

[Liguori.org](http://Liguori.org)



#### FREE E-BOOK!

Give a new grad—or yourself—the confidence to start a new chapter of life with inspiration from the saints. In the ebook *Letting Go, Letting God: 21 Centuries of Faith* (868269), Sr. Kathleen Atkinson reflects on saints and holy people who took risks and stepped forward in response to God's call. Visit [Liguori.org](http://Liguori.org) and use special-offer code **15562** when you check out. This free offer ends June 30, 2015.