

Ordinary Time

September 13, 2015 ♦ Twenty-fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

The undergraduate students with whom I work are part of a generation whose opportunities to serve others began in grade school. Regardless of religious affiliation, culture, or race, these students raised money, contributed to canned food drives, helped at food pantries, or built houses with their classmates or fellow club members. Now in college, they have hundreds of opportunities to help those less fortunate which are sponsored by this nonreligious institution alone, let alone the many more offered by their respective religious houses and communities. For the most part, they serve willingly, even eagerly. But I find that few of them sit down to reflect on the good work they do. They rarely consider the call to solidarity with the poor or the command of Christ to love one another. They just have a felt sense that they should.

For Catholics, as for all Christians, this felt sense has its roots in the faith we proclaim. If we truly believe that Christ is the Son of God and our Savior, our faith compels us to do what he did and to love as he loved. And it is more than that. Many people do service work because it's the right thing to do or because they want to give back. Those are good reasons. But we are called to be in a relationship of love with those we serve. We are challenged to see not only how we might serve them but to see the gifts they bring to us and how they shape our lives. We are called to accept them as our brothers and sisters.

MARY KATHARINE DEELEY
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IMMACULATE CONCEPTION CHURCH

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 Rev. Leo S. Stajkowski.....In Residence
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 Deacon Charles A. Giordano
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 Parish Religious Education/CCD610 582-3880
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 Parish Fax.....610 404-2609
 Parish Website.....www.icbvm.org

Immaculate Conception Academy.....610404-8645
 Academy Website.....www.icaberks.org
 Diocesan Victim Assistance Coordinator:
 Wendy S. Krisak, M.A. NC, LPC
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TWENTY FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – SEPTEMBER 13, 2015

★ ★ MASS INTENTIONS ★ ★

SAT	5:15 PM	HERBERT FECERA	THU	7:00 PM	BOB ELLISON
SUN	7:30 AM	RUTH MONASTERO	FRI	7:30 AM	STETINA FAMILY
	9:00 AM	LIVING & DECEASED PARISHIONERS		9:00 AM	ICA MASS – ANNA DEMARCELLO
	11:00 AM	JOSEPH J. LUKES	SAT	5:15 PM	LIVING & DECEASED PARISHIONERS
MON	NO MASS		SUN	7:30 AM	JOHN "BUDDY" PALKO
TUE	7:00 PM	IRENE BEDNOWICZ		9:00 AM	GREGORY WHITE
WED	7:30 AM	JOHN BRADLEY		11:00 AM	FLO HOOVER

*The Sanctuary Lamp Burns In Memory of the Rapposelli Family
 And also In Memory of the Giorgianni Family*

NEXT WEEK AT A GLANCE

SCRIP: Sponsor: Porambo 5:15 McNamara 7:30 Schwendt 9:00 Grieco 11:00 DeFalco

<u>DAY</u>	<u>MASS</u>	<u>LECTOR</u>	<u>COMMENTATOR</u>	<u>ALTAR SERVERS</u>
SAT	5:15pm	Ann Marie Arbo	Joseph Bailey	Lilia and Simon Crew, Michael DiScala
SUN	7:30am	Dennis Piontek	Sean Werner	Joey Cizmarik, Anna and Matthew Lambert
	9:00am	Stephanie Myers	Barbara Giordano	Trey Bradfield, Steven and Marissa Tepper
	11:00am	Bob Newman	Barbara Romig	Matthew Dugan, Aiden Reber, Tim Stewart

The second collection next week is for Debt Reduction

**Youth Group
 Welcome Back Picnic
 will be held on Friday,
 September 18th, 6-
 8pm in the social hall.
 All youth of the parish
 in grades 7-12 are
 invited and welcome
 to bring a friend.**

Remember in your prayers the sick of our parish: 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, Ann Schlott, Maryanna Niemczyk, Kathy Patrick, Doris Slater, Joseph & Susan McCorristin, Mary & Phil Morici, Joe Lukac, Margaret Maccarone, Father Joseph Campion, Dan Casciano, Rex Voelker, Linda Ritchie, Paul Geiger, David Herrera, Guiseppe Lubrano, Michael Girton and Dolores McCullough

Please welcome our new parishioner: Laura Gonzalez

Please congratulate the newly married: Julie C. Bihl & Michael R. Keating

HOSPITAL VISITATIONS: Monsignor McCann, Deacon Hiryak, Deacon Bardi and Deacon Giordano visit our parishioners who are hospitalized, in nursing homes or homebound regularly. If you or a member of your family is hospitalized, please call the parish office at 610-582-2411.

THIS WEEK AT ICC:

Wed	09/16	6:30pm Women's Society Meeting
Thurs	09/17	12:30pm Prime Time
Fri	09/18	6pm YOUTH GROUP PICNIC
Sat	09/19	4-5pm Confession Women's Society Bake Sale

WHAT'S HAPPENING

Please be advised that on September 14th, there will be NO DAILY MASS.

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 8th grade.

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.

Do you have concerns about falling? Join us at the Prime Time meeting on September 17th, 12:30-2:30pm and this intro class will help you to reduce the fear of falling and increase your activity level. Stephanie Felke, the Injury Prevention/Outreach Coordinator from Reading Hospital Trauma Center will answer your questions and give you tips on how to cope with this fear. A light lunch will be served. Contact Kathleen at 610-469-0594 with questions.

Buy your **Bosco's Friends Helping Friends** shopping pass today in the narthex of the church to save \$\$\$ on October 20th, 9am till 11pm. This is truly a WIN, WIN opportunity. You save big money with a whopping 25% discount throughout the store with a few exceptions, and the church earns \$5 for each pass sold. Do some early Christmas shopping, buy some school clothes, or shop for home. Whatever it is you buy, you will save a lot of money. There will be refreshments, entertainment, and if you drop your stub in the box, you could win one of the \$100, or \$500 shopping sprees.

SUNDAY SCHOOL begins September 27th. It is held in the social hall during the 9am Mass. We welcome all children ages 3 through kindergarten. Registration Forms can be found in the narthex. For more details or any questions, please contact Mrs. O'Donnell at 610-582-3880.

RESORTS AC TRIP - September 18th - Leave Church Parking Lot at 9:30am, 6 hours in AC - Package Deal: Pay \$31 get \$25 back - Call Carol J. at 610-775-4447 if interested.

Designer Purse BINGO - October 18th, 1pm (Doors open at 11am) - ICC social hall - \$25 for 20 games - Bring Purina One chow for 3 free raffle tickets. Call Barbara at 610-582-1358 for tickets.

Thinking about becoming a Catholic? Looking for a "Faith Refresher?"

Join Msgr. McCann, Deacon Paul Hiryak and guest speakers on Monday evenings, beginning September 14th, to learn more about our Catholic faith. RCIA isn't just for persons interested in Catholicism, it's for everyone who desires a deeper understanding of what we believe and practice as Catholics. Classes are 7:30-9pm. You are welcome to attend as many sessions as your schedule permits. For more information or to register, contact the parish office at 610.582.2411.

Building a Culture of Vocations

WHAT IS SO SPECIAL ABOUT THE PRIESTHOOD? - The answer is the Real Presence of Christ in the Eucharist! Through it the priest offers the sublimest of sacrifices, that of God the Son to God the Father, applying the merits of Calvary to our lives today.

Berks Catholic High School Celebrates the Visit of Pope Francis. Please join us by celebrating MASS for FAMILIES on September 21st at 7pm in the Franco- Post Auditorium. For your convenience, both the Main school entrance and Franco Post entrance will be open. Please contact Father Eugene Ritz with any questions or if you require special accommodations at 610.374.8361 ext. 233.

Immaculate Conception Home School Organization will be holding our annual **Christmas Bazaar** in the social hall on November 21st, 9am-3pm. Vendor spaces are still available. If you would like more information on becoming a vendor, please email ICAXmas@gmail.com or stop in the parish office for an application.

Knights of Columbus Council 1192 will meet on September 20th at 11am at the council home in Stowe, PA. Men of the parish interested in joining the Knights call Jim Kaucher at 610-763-2016 or email kaucher1192@gmail.com.

WIN \$10,000 CASH!! The Berks Catholic High School Extravaganza Cash Raffle tickets are now available. Only 350 tickets will be sold. The drawing will be held October 9th during the Extravaganza 2015 event. Donation of \$100. To buy raffle tickets, please send your check with return address and phone number to: Berks Catholic Extravaganza, 955 E. Wyomissing Blvd, Reading, 19611. If you would like to receive an invitation to attend, please call the Extravaganza Office at 610-374-1695.

ICCYO Fall Registrations: Sign-ups for Girls Volleyball (5th-8th) and Cross-Country (Boys and Girls: Kindergarten-8th) are available on our website: www.ICCYO.com

ICCYO Cross Country Invitational Meet: September 20th - If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Matt at 484-363-9914 or iccyo2003@gmail.com.

Catholic Charities, Diocese of Allentown will be conducting a series of "Caregiver Gatherings" at St. Ignatius Loyola Parish Education Center, 10am-noon on September 19th, October 17th and November 21st. If you are interested in attending one (or all) sessions, contact Cindy by September 10th at 610-435-1541, ext. 341 or email cpiripavel@allentowndiocese.org.



September 13, 2015

dear Padre

Monday
SEPTEMBER 14
The Exaltation of the Holy Cross
Nm 21:4b-9
Phil 2:6-11
Jn 3:13-17

Tuesday
SEPTEMBER 15
Our Lady of Sorrows
1 Tm 3:1-13
Jn 19:25-27
or Lk 2:33-35

Wednesday
SEPTEMBER 16
Sts. Cornelius, Pope, and Cyprian, Bishop, Martyrs
1 Tm 3:14-16
Lk 7:31-35

Thursday
SEPTEMBER 17
Weekday
1 Tm 4:12-16
Lk 7:36-50

Friday
SEPTEMBER 18
Weekday
1 Tm 6:2c-12
Lk 8:1-3

Saturday
SEPTEMBER 19
St. Dominic, Priest
1 Tm 6:13-16
Lk 8:4-15

Sunday
SEPTEMBER 20
Twenty-fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time
Wis 2:12, 17-20
Jas 3:16-4:3
Mk 9:30-37

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“I have asked but have not received. Why?”



John 14:13 states, “Whatever you ask in my name, I will do....” Matthew 7:7 says, “Ask and it will be given to you.” Well, I’ve been asking, and I haven’t received. Did Jesus lie?

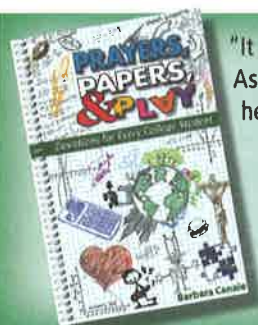
When reading sacred Scripture, it is always important to avoid interpreting the text too literally and to bear in mind the larger context of the passage. The purpose of both Gospel verses you mention is to remind us that God, our heavenly Father, is well aware of our wants and needs and abundantly generous at all times and in all



things. However, as with any good parent, God also knows the difference between our wants and our truest, greatest needs. Most parents will not give their children everything they ask for simply because they say they want it, even when they ask nicely and say please.

Our requests of God may well reflect legitimate needs, but we must allow for the fact that God is not just considering our will in the request, but his will as well. We are all, after all, part of a plan that is much bigger than any individual person or need. So did Jesus lie? I assure you that he did not. God benefits from knowing the “big picture,” from a complete knowledge and wisdom. By submitting ourselves in faith to this mystery, we benefit as well.

FR. SCOTT KATZENBERGER, CSSR
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“It can be unnerving to step outside of your comfort zone into campus life. On the feast of the Assumption of Mary, recall the difficulties she experienced with transitions. God watched over her just as he will safeguard you, guiding and protecting you as you begin school.”

—From *Prayers, Papers, and Play: Devotions for Every College Student* (821547)

God has a magnificent plan in store for every college student. Encourage your student to pray daily for the grace to trust in his guidance and protection.

To order *Prayers, Papers, and Play*, please visit Liguori.org, type the title or 821547 in the search bar, and click on the book.