

Ordinary Time

September 20, 2015 ♦ Twenty-fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time (B)

When I get engrossed in a book, I try to read it through without stopping. Sometimes I can't help myself and I peek at the last few pages to see where the author is taking me. It is satisfying to let a story unfold and allow ourselves to be surprised, but there is also a secret delight in glimpsing the end of our journey and wondering how the storyteller will get us there. Looking ahead to the end of the story is what the Book of Wisdom wants to do when it says, "Let us see whether his words be true....Let us condemn him to a shameful death; for according to his own words, God will take care of him." The author knows that the end of the story will reveal the truth.

Jesus picks up the story when he gives the second prediction of his passion. He offers the disciples a glimpse of what is yet to come. The disciples, as usual, miss the point. Instead they argue about how they wanted the story to go—with one of them as the greatest over all. Like a good storyteller, Jesus takes them in a different direction. The ending he has in mind does not come close to defining greatness as they think about it—a prize for being the best. Rather, Jesus points to a child, and we suddenly realize that greatness has nothing to do with power or ability, but with innocence and openness to the unfolding tale. The story Jesus tells and the life he lives will include death and resurrection for him and his followers. Let's participate in it fully because we do know how it ends.

MARY KATHARINE DEELEY
sundaybulletin@liguori.org



IMMACULATE CONCEPTION CHURCH

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

Rev. Msgr. John B. McCann Pastor
 Rev. Leo S. Stajkowski.....In Residence
 Deacon Paul J. Hiryak, Deacon James A. Bardi,
 Deacon Charles A. Giordano
 Parish Office610 582-2411
 Parish Religious Education/CCD610 582-3880
 Parish Preschool610 404-8645
 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
Direct Telephone 800 791-9209
 Diocesan Safe Environment Coordinator:
 Sister Meg Cole, S.S.J., M.S., LMFT
 Telephone 610 332-0442, Ext. 19
 Diocese of Allentown.....www.allentowndioocese.org

TWENTY FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – SEPTEMBER 20, 2015

★ ★ MASS INTENTIONS ★ ★

SAT	5:15 PM	LIVING & DECEASED PARISHIONERS	THU	7:00 PM	LEON DONEY
SUN	7:30 AM	JOHN "BUDDY" PALKO	FRI	7:30 AM	STETINA FAMILY
	9:00 AM	GREGORY WHITE	SAT	5:15 PM	LIVING & DECEASED PARISHIONERS
	11:00 AM	FLO HOOVER	SUN	7:30 AM	GLORIA GILL
MON		NO MASS		9:00 AM	ELI IEZZI
TUE	7:00 PM	MARGARET & DR. NICHOLAS CHRIST		11:00 AM	DOMINIC & SOPHIE PAOLUCCI
WED	7:30 AM	DEC'D MEMBERS OF THE GEORGE L. SMITH FAMILY			

The Sanctuary Lamp Burns In Memory of Gregory White

NEXT WEEK AT A GLANCE

SCRIP: Sponsor: Zubik 5:15 Costanzo 7:30 Kasperowicz 9:00 Carvalho 11:00 Hafer

<u>DAY</u>	<u>MASS</u>	<u>LECTOR</u>	<u>COMMENTATOR</u>	<u>ALTAR SERVERS</u>
SAT	5:15pm	Jennifer Stuart	Shirley Wheeler	Carson Endy, Sean Purretta, Gage Speece
SUN	7:30am	Toni Kaucher	Jim Kaucher	Amanda and Lauren Marley, Danielle Walter
	9:00am	Josephine Hohl	Pam Amos	Michael Beitz, Adam and Carlina Davis
	11:00am	Steve Lukes	Mary Jo Simon	Gina Galm, Meghan Grieco, Olivia Ruff

The second collection next week is for Religious Ministries

Thinking about becoming a Catholic?

Looking for a "Faith Refresher?"

Join Msgr. McCann, Deacon Paul Hiryak and guest speakers on Monday evenings 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.

Remember in your prayers the sick of our parish: Marco Fiato, Bryan Fiato, John Kakas, Maryanne Prentice, Tracy Seasholtz, Aaron Gulla, John Iezzi, Dolores 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, Michael Girton, Shirley Koch, Paisley Stout and Dolores McCullough

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:

Mon 09/21 7:30pm RCIA
Sat 09/26 4-5pm Confession

WHAT'S HAPPENING

Please be advised that on September 21st, 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.

The Women's Society and Exeter Dairy Queen will be hosting a Pancake Breakfast on October 3rd, 8-11am at the Exeter Dairy Queen. Our members will serve you a breakfast of pancakes, bacon, coffee, hot chocolate, juice and smoothies. 100% of the ticket proceeds benefit our church. Adult tickets are \$7 each and children under 12 are \$5. Your ticket includes \$4 in money saving coupons toward future purchases at either Exeter Dairy Queen or Kenhorst Dairy Queen. Tickets will be sold in the narthex of the church. What a tasty way to support our church!

The Women's Society will sponsor a bake sale after all Masses on September 26th/27th. Stop by the table and check out the wonderful selection of homemade treats. Pick your favorites or try something new. Donations of baked goods will be gratefully accepted before all Masses.

25% OFF AND EXTENDED SHOPPING HOURS for the Boscov's Friends Helping Friends - October 2nd, 9am-11pm. Finish up your school clothes shopping, do some early Christmas shopping, or spruce up your home for the fast approaching holiday season while saving 25% throughout the store (exceptions listed on passes). Buy your shopping pass in the narthex for \$5 (100% of the proceeds go to the parish). Enjoy free refreshments while you shop, entertainment, and chances to win fabulous door prizes including a \$500 shopping spree.

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.

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.

McTeacher's Night - Tuesday, September 22nd, 4-8pm, Douglassville McDonald's, 1188 W Ben Franklin Hwy. Enjoy a great night out of food, fun and community! The ICA Faculty and Staff will take a turn behind the registers to take your orders. A portion of the proceeds from that night will benefit the ICA HSO. Email ica.hso@gmail.com with questions.

Have you been throwing your dimes in the trash?? You did if you have not been saving the Box Tops for Education coupons which are found on participating products you use every day. Think of these Box Tops as "dimes" we collect to raise money for Immaculate Conception Academy. You can find Box Tops on hundreds of products from cereal and granola to tissues and cleaning products. Each Box Top is worth 10 cents - some Bonus Box Tops can be worth even more!! Just cut the Box Top from the participating product and place the Box Top in the designated box in the Narthex of church. Every Box Top adds up! Think about what that "FREE" money could do for our school and our students!! Contact Jessica at jmbailey727@yahoo.com with any questions.

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.

The National 40 Days for Life Campaign and Prayer Vigil: September 23rd to November 1st. Daily prayer vigil in front of Reading Planned Parenthood, 4th and Franklin Streets, 7am-4pm, Monday to Saturday. Please come out to pray and help end abortion. 610-375-3395.

John Paul II Center has two positions open for a caring and dedicated teacher assistant to work with adults and students with intellectual and developmental disabilities. Work 25-29 hours per week in a rewarding environment. Experience with special needs population and bilingual a plus. Email your resume to madams@johnpauliicenter.org.

Fall and Winter Craft Fair - Birdsboro Community Memorial Center, 201 E. Main St., Birdsboro - September 25-5-9pm and September 26/27-9am-6pm. Wooden, textiles, jewelry, candles and more. Call 610-582-3631 for info. Proceeds benefit the local food pantry and the community center.

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.

The Knights of Columbus will be distributing "Roses for Life" after each of the masses on October 3rd/4th. The money collected from your generosity will be used to support Birthright, A Baby's Breath and the Southeastern PA Pro-Life Coalition. Please help us save the life of an unborn child.

Bulletin Deadline - Wednesday at Noon

September 20, 2015

dear Padre

Why do we call priests "father?"

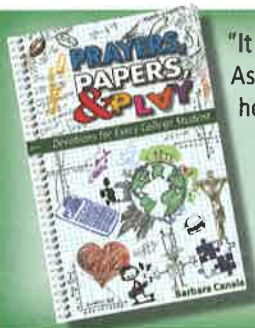


Matthew 23:9 says, "Call no one on earth your father; you have but one Father in heaven." So why do we call priests "father?" And should we not be calling our male parents "father?"

When we look at the larger context of this passage, we find Jesus teaching his disciples about the virtue of humility, the importance of practicing what they preach, and not doing things just for show. When it comes to titles, we must remember that they do serve a legitimate function for distinguishing roles, showing respect, and fostering good manners. Jesus' point is not that we shouldn't call our own fathers or priests by the title "father," but that we should realize that God has definite primacy in the role of father because he is our heavenly Father. In fact, our earthly fathers, whether biological, familial, or spiritual, exercise their role in imitation of the Father's love. Their authority is something they have only because God has given it to them, not by their own right.

As God's own children, we were all given as a gift to those who minister to us with parental care. Using "father" in association with priests recognizes their role and function as spiritual leaders and fathers in the Church. By no means does this detract from God's role and primacy. Consider the priests' role as an extension of God's love and care for us, as we are all God's instruments in the world.

FR. SCOTT KATZENBERGER, CSSR
sundaybulletin@liguori.org



"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."

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Monday
SEPTEMBER 21

St. Matthew, Apostle and Evangelist
Eph 4:1-7, 11-13
Mt 9:9-13

Tuesday
SEPTEMBER 22

Weekday
Ezr 6:7-8, 12b, 14-20
Lk 8:19-21

Wednesday
SEPTEMBER 23

St. Pius of Pietrelcina, Priest
Ezr 9:5-9
Lk 9:1-6

Thursday
SEPTEMBER 24

Weekday
Hg 1:1-8
Lk 9:7-9

Friday
SEPTEMBER 25

Weekday
Hg 2:1-9
Lk 9:18-22

Saturday
SEPTEMBER 26

Weekday
Zec 2:5-9, 14-15a
Lk 9:43b-45

Sunday
SEPTEMBER 27

Twenty-sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time
Nm 11:25-29
Jas 5:1-6
Mk 9:38-43, 45, 47-48

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