

Easter

◆ March 27, 2016 ◆

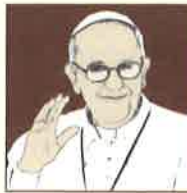
Acts 10:34a, 37–43 ◆ Col 3:1–4 or 1 Cor 5:6b–8 ◆ Jn 20:1–9 or Lk 24:1–12

My daughter was about four when we went to the local department store to do some shopping. I was looking over some item when I turned and realized that she wasn't beside me. It was not like her to wander away, and I spent a frantic fifteen minutes before I located her sitting on the floor playing with a doll from a display. I was at once relieved and angry, but more scared than anything else. What if something had happened?

When Mary Magdalene went to the tomb that early Sunday morning, she expected to find Jesus' body and mourn the loss of this man whom they all loved. Not finding him where she expected was an utter shock. I can only imagine there was some fear and anger: "Who took him? Where did he go? How could someone do this?" Her words tumbled out to Peter and the disciple Jesus loved. They, too, were astounded to find his burial cloth and though they believed, they did not understand what the empty tomb signified.

I can also imagine what they felt when they finally saw Jesus—surely relief and wonder, but there may have been a little anger that he had left them and fear for all that meant. Maybe that's how God feels about us when we wander away. We were lost, and God sent the prophets first and then his only Son to find us and lead us home. Out of love, Jesus gave his life and conquered death itself. In this Easter season, let us take great care neither to wander away nor to lose sight of the Lord. He is the source of our life. We belong to him.

MARY KATHARINE DEELEY
sundaybulletin@liguori.org



A Word From Pope Francis

"[God] does not like to lose what is his, and in order not to lose it, he goes out from himself, and ... searches for all those who are far from him... And how does he search? He searches to the very end."

—Morning meditation, November 7, 2013



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.....610 404-8645
 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.allentowndiocese.org

EASTER SUNDAY – MARCH 27, 2016

★ ★ MASS INTENTIONS ★ ★

SAT 8:00 PM EASTER VIGIL - OUR PARISHIONERS
 SUN 7:30 AM EASTER MEMORIAL ENVELOPES
 9:00 AM EASTER MEMORIAL ENVELOPES
 11:00 AM EASTER MEMORIAL ENVELOPES
 MON 7:30 AM WILLIAM T. HERFLICKER
 TUE 7:00 PM ANTHONY VOLPICCINI
 WED 7:30 AM JOSIE & GUS FREDRIKSEN

THU 7:00 PM HELEN & FRANK JANISZEWSKI
 FRI 7:30 AM STELLA POWASKI
 SAT 5:15 PM VOLPICCINI FAMILY
 SUN 7:30 AM MICHAEL KILARESKI
 9:00 AM LIVING & DECEASED PARISHIONERS
 11:00 AM MICHAEL DEWEY

The Sanctuary Lamp Burns In Memory of Josie & Gus Fredriksen

NEXT WEEK AT A GLANCE

SCRIP: Zubik 5:15pm Pisarek 7:30am Kasperowicz 9:00am Carvalho 11:00am Citrano

<u>DAY</u>	<u>MASS</u>	<u>LECTOR</u>	<u>COMMENTATOR</u>	<u>ALTAR SERVERS</u>
SAT	5:15pm	Shirley Wheeler	Jennifer Stuart	Rachel Barnes, Meghan Grieco, Avery Lang
SUN	7:30am	Dan Sweeney	Dennis Piontek	John and Nick Dinnocenti, Austin Lobaugh
	9:00am	Pam Amos	Pat Fessler	Michael DiScala, Will Gray, Chase Voelker
	11:00am	Karl Filachek	Bob Newman	Alex, Jason and Mark Carvalho

Second collection next week is for Church Building & Parish Maintenance

To all of our
 parishioners, friends and
 families, may you
 experience the joys and
 blessings of the
 Easter Season.
 Have a Blessed and
 Joyous Easter.

Monsignor John B. McCann

Remember in your prayers the sick of our parish: Marco Fiato, Bryan Fiato, John & Margaret Kakas, Maryanne Prentice, Tracy Seasholtz, Aaron Gulla, Delores Woy, Alice Arantowicz, Alice Smyk, Yolanda Marino, Marjorie & Walter Hansen, Marie Snyder, Ann Schlott, Maryanna Niemczyk, Kathy Patrick, Joseph & Susan McCorristin, Mary & Phil Morici, Margaret Maccarone, Father Joseph Campion, Dan Casciano, Paisley Stout, Jake Maccarone, Linda Rathman, William Janda, Curt Miller, Frances Bambrick, James Smith, Mike Kovach, William Reardon, Maryanne Emory, Madge Butto, Rose Malcolm, Dylan Spriggs, Doris Slater, Henry Wade, Jr., Joan Cronin, Rita Conrad, Vicki Barletta, Sara Norris, Ryan Curley, Brendan Carr, Paul Geiger, Helen McDonald, Mark McDonald, Angeline Erjavec, Barbara Wright, Dolores McCullough, Giuseppe Lubrano, Patricia Schotz and Sophie Crossman

Congratulate the newly baptized: Emma Rose Roy and John-Reid Michael Ulrich

Welcome our new parishioners: Mr. & Mrs. Chad Mayer

THIS WEEK AT ICC:

Mon 03/28 7:30pm RCIA
Fri 04/01 7pm Junior High Youth Group
Sat 04/02 4-5pm Confession

WHAT'S HAPPENING

Please be advised the Parish Office will be closed on Monday, March 28th. Thank you for your kind understanding in this regard.

YOUTH GROUP NEWS The Junior High School Youth Group will meet on April 1st, 7-9pm. All teenagers in our parish in grades 7 and 8 are welcome to attend for an evening of fun, food and prayer. You are welcome to bring a friend!

The students of Immaculate Conception Academy extend a warm-hearted thank you to all who came to pray with us as we celebrated The Presentation of the Living Stations. We hope you enjoyed our Lenten offering to you. May you have a blessed and peaceful Easter with family and friends.

SPORTS & SPIRITUALITY WORKSHOP - All CYO coaches, personnel and clergy are invited and encouraged to attend the workshop, *Growing in Grace: The Integration of Sports & Spirituality*, on April 9th, 10am. This workshop features national, regional, and local speakers, including Mike Patin, Jim Rogers, Bill Hess, and Fr. Gene Ritz. This unique workshop will offer CYO personnel insight and practical ways on how to integrate sports/coaching and faith. There is no cost associated with this workshop, but all coaches and personnel must register no later than April 1st at www.allentowndiocese.org/spirituality. Any questions, please contact OYYAM at 610-289-8900, ext. 23.

STAND WITH US FOR LIFE! Mark your calendars for the Berks March for Life on April 24th, 2pm at Berks Catholic High School. At 3pm we will walk from Berks Catholic to Holy Rosary Church at 3rd & Franklin Sts. where buses will transport us back to BC. For additional information, contact Marygrace Ewart 610-929-5260.

Our Lady's Missionaries of the Eucharist Invite You To: Divine Mercy Sunday, April 3, 11am-2pm - Principal Celebrant for Holy Mass and Homilist: The Most Reverend Barres, Bishop of Allentown - Conference Presenter: Sister Joan Noreen Divine Mercy Sunday will include Conference, Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, Divine Mercy Devotions, Sacrament of Reconciliation, Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament, and Holy Sacrifice of the Mass. To register, contact Our Lady's Missionaries of the Eucharist, 640 E. Main St., Birdsboro olme@olme.org ♦ 610-582-3333 ♦ www.olme.org

Nacel Open Door is looking for host families for several international students who would like to attend Berks Catholic High School for the upcoming school year. These F-1 visa students speak English, are fully insured, and have their own pocket money for personal expenses. Host families provide room and board and receive a generous monthly hosting stipend. If you have room in your heart and home, and for more information, please contact Angela Gable 610-698-2647

"Mary, Mother of Mercy – Gathering the Embers, Rekindling the Flame of the New Evangelization" workshop hosted by the Allentown Diocese Charismatic Renewal Committee, will be held at St. Elizabeth's of Hungary in Whitehall on April 2nd, 8am-3pm. Keynote speaker: Fr. Ed Essig, a day of celebration and contemporary worship, Adoration, Praise and Worship Band. Donation: Adult \$20, Student \$10, includes lunch. Registration at the door. Information: song4thejourney@gmail.com

SAVE THE DATE!

**Immaculate Conception Academy
Spring Open House
Sunday, April 10, 2016 10am-1pm.**
Please join us for preschool story times,
STEM Lab family projects, teacher meet
and greets and school tours!

Immaculate Conception Academy offers a 21st century education for students in preschool through grade 8, including a full day Kindergarten program. Kindergarten students must be aged 5 by 10/15/16 and 1st grade students aged 6 by 10/15/16.

Bishop's Tuition Transfer Grant is available for any public, private or charter school student who transfers into Immaculate Conception Academy grades 1-7. The grant is **\$1,500 over two years** (\$1,000 for the first year; \$500 for the second).

Find out what an ICA education can do for your student!

Can't join us? Please contact Adele Reilly, Advancement Director at 610-404-4645 or adele.reilly@icaknights.org to arrange a tour.

**ICA HSO Invites You to The Roaring Twenties
2016 Adult Social Fundraiser - April 23rd, 6pm**

\$40 per person includes

6pm Wine/Beer with Cold Hors d'Oeuvres, Silent Auction, Raffle & Wine Pull Begin

7pm Carving Station, Hot Hors d'Oeuvres & Popcorn Bar

8:30pm Dessert & Coffee Bar

RSVP by April 12. Dress: Ladies, as festive as you wish...Gentlemen, jackets please.

Proceeds benefit Immaculate Conception Academy's Technology and Art Departments.

Tickets can be purchased online by visiting <https://sites.google.com/site/icahso/Adult-Social> or send check made payable to ICA HSO' to the Academy 903 Chestnut St, Douglassville 19518.

ICA 5K and 1 Mile FUN Run: Daniel Boone Homestead Saturday, May 21, 2016 Registration 7am
8am 5K, 8:45am Fun Run, 9:30am Awards
Pre-register for the event by visiting

<http://www.alphaandomegasports.com/race-calendar.html>
Registration cost is \$20 for the 5K by April 26th and includes an event t-shirt. After that (including race day), the cost is \$25. Registration cost for the 1 mile Fun Run is \$5 by April 26th and an additional \$10 for a T-shirt if desired. After that (including race day), the cost is \$10.

SPONSORS ARE NEEDED at various levels.

For more information or to sponsor the event please contact Sandy at Jordan.sandra14@yahoo.com

**Daniel Boone Optimist Club Spring Craft Show -
April 2nd, 9am-3pm - Daniel Boone Middle School**

March 27, 2016

dear Padre



ADAM VILIMEK / SHUTTERSTOCK

Why aren't heaven's gates open to all of humanity?



If God loves everyone, why aren't all of us saved?

When we picture heaven, we imagine a place where everyone is happy, loving, and at peace. If this is perfect bliss, then why wouldn't the Lord send everyone there? It is certainly a loving attitude to desire that all of our friends, family, and community enjoy the victory of union with the Trinity. When Jesus died and rose, he opened the door for all of humanity to enter eternal life. If we want everyone to be saved, and God wants everyone to be saved, what could possibly keep a person outside the Pearly Gates?

The answer lies in the very nature of God's love for us. Not everyone is saved because God wants us to choose salvation freely. While a person who

loves God and willingly obeys his commands will find the kingdom blissful, a person choosing pride or selfishness would not. Would heaven really be paradise if people could choose to be bullies, murderers, or abusers? If I reject God's love because I don't want anyone telling me what to do, I would not freely submit myself to the Lord's authority. God has given us free will, and that means we are free to reject him and his kingdom. For heaven to be heaven, everyone there must be submissive to God's will and each other. Jesus loves us too much to force us to be saved.

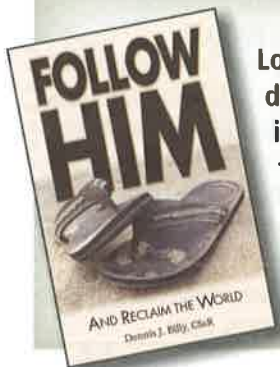
FR. MATTHEW BONK, CSSR
sundaybulletin@liguori.org

FOLLOW HIM

Lord, your love is stronger than death. Rather than the end of existence, death is a passageway to a new life, one that transforms us and carries us into the presence of our Father in heaven. Your paschal mystery reveals our future hope. You took our humanity with you so that we might one day join you in this resurrection.

—From *Follow Him and Reclaim the World* by Dennis J. Billy, CSsR (826504)

To see sample pages from this book, visit Liguori.org and type the title or 826504 in the search bar, or call us at 800-325-9521.



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Monday

MARCH 28

Octave of Easter

Acts 2:14, 22–33

Mt 28:8–15

Tuesday

MARCH 29

Octave of Easter

Acts 2:36–41

Jn 20:11–18

Wednesday

MARCH 30

Octave of Easter

Acts 3:1–10

Lk 24:13–35

Thursday

MARCH 31

Octave of Easter

Acts 3:11–26

Lk 24:35–48

Friday

APRIL 1

Octave of Easter

Acts 4:1–12

Jn 21:1–14

Saturday

APRIL 2

Octave of Easter

Acts 4:13–21

Mk 16:9–15

Sunday

APRIL 3

Second Sunday

of Easter

Sunday of

Divine Mercy

Acts 5:12–16

Rv 1:9–11a, 12–13, 17–19

Jn 20:19–31

Liguori.org



Immaculate Conception Academy

Open House - Sunday, April 10, 2016

10am-1pm



Please join us for family fun and find out about all that Immaculate Conception Academy has to offer!

- **Preschool Story Times 10:30am and 12:30pm**
- **Family STEM Lab Activities**
- **Teacher Meet and Greet**
- **School tours**

.....and more!



Can't join us? Please contact Adele Reilly, Advancement Director at 610-404-8645 or adele.reilly@icaknights.org to schedule a tour!

610-404-8645



www.icaberks.org



Immaculate Conception
Academy

Immaculate Conception Academy is now enrolling for the 2016-17 school year!

Why choose Catholic education?

Catholic schools offer academic excellence and faith-filled education for students nationwide. National test scores, high school graduation rates, college attendance and other data show that Catholic schools frequently outperform schools in both the public and private sector.

Why choose Immaculate Conception Academy?

Immaculate Conception Academy offers:

- A competitive 21st century education for students in preschool through 8th grade, including a full day academic kindergarten
- Academically enriched curriculum, featuring STEM education for Kindergarten through 8th grade
- A 1-1 mobile initiative which gives students in grades 5-8 Chromebooks to enhance classroom learning and code writing classes for students in grades 4-8. Students in grades Pre-K to 4 have access to iPads for instruction, review of concepts and creative projects.
- Nurturing, supportive faculty dedicated to preparing students to be lifelong learners
- Safe, protective environment

Please join us on Sunday, April 10 from 10am-1 pm to find out more about what a Catholic education at Immaculate Conception Academy can do for your child!

Can't attend our Open House? Please contact Adele Reilly, Advancement Director at 610-404-8645 or adele.reilly@jcaknights.org to schedule a tour!

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION ACADEMY

Monsignor John B. McCann, *Pastor*
Mrs. Patricia M. Tarquinio, *Principal*
Adele Reilly, *Admissions*
adele.reilly@icaknights.org
610-404-8645
www.icaberks.org

REGISTER
NOW!
FINANCIAL AID
AVAILABLE!

Academic Success!
Catholic Values!



Catholic Schools provide a superior academic experience... **Faith, Service and Academic Excellence**

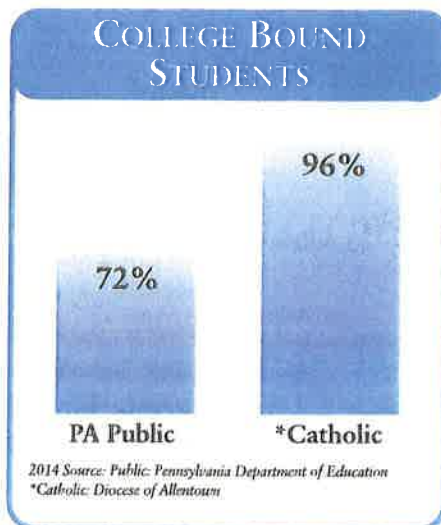
Help your child reach their full potential, enroll today!

Catholic schools believe in the potential of each child. For generations, Catholic schools have provided the educational foundation that children need to succeed from pre-k through college. Catholic school graduates have attended some of the finest colleges and universities in our nation.

Powerful academic results include that **96% of our diocesan Catholic high school graduates attend a 2 or 4 year college/university.** That is dramatically higher than many other schools. For additional information, visit the Pennsylvania Department of Education website at <http://www.pde.state.pa.us>

If you are not happy with your child's academic success, help your child reach their full potential, enroll them into a Catholic school! Catholic schools provide individualized attention and more extracurricular, athletic and leadership opportunities.

To learn more about what Catholic schools have to offer, contact your local Catholic elementary or high school.



TRANSFER GRANTS UP TO \$3,000

Any public, private or charter school student who transfers into a participating Diocesan Catholic school is eligible to receive a Bishop's Tuition Transfer Grant.

Elementary students in grades 1-7, receive \$1,500 in grants (\$1,000 in year 1 and \$500 in year 2). High school transfers in grades 10 and 11 will receive \$3,000 in grants (\$2,000 in year 1 and \$1,000 in year 2). Restrictions apply. For details, contact a Catholic school.

* Subject to PIAA rules & regulations, for information, visit www.allentowndiocese.org



For additional Transfer Grant information, scan this QR code with your smartphone.

Transfer Students Welcome!

HEROES

PARENTS

Parents sacrifice to send their children to a Catholic school, because they recognize how important academics and Catholic lifelong values are to their child's success in college and in life.



TEACHERS

Catholic school teachers are talented, caring and dedicated to the lifelong success of each student. The Diocese of Allentown requires teachers to be certified by the State of Pennsylvania and to continue their own education to improve their knowledge and skills.



PRIESTS/ RELIGIOUS

Our priests and religious are present in our schools as administrators, chaplains and teachers in our classrooms. Their dedication to the Catholic faith is passed on to our students.



FINANCIAL AID

- The Eastern Pennsylvania Scholarship Foundation has awarded over \$26 million in financial assistance.
- Most Catholic schools also award additional financial assistance to families, based on need and available resources.
- All families receive financial support from the school or diocese.

\$20,000

IN COLLEGE GRANTS!!!

Diocese of Allentown Catholic high school graduates qualify for \$20,000 in extra college grants from DeSales and Alvernia Universities.

THAT'S LIKE GETTING 70% OF YOUR HIGH SCHOOL TUITION FOR FREE!

www.desales.edu • www.alvernia.edu



Catholic schools provide more extracurricular, athletic and leadership opportunities for your child.

Register now at your local Catholic elementary or high school!

Transfers Welcome • All Faiths Welcome
Financial Aid Available



Catholic education is critical to the New Evangelization. As Bishop, I am committed to strengthening the academic excellence and Catholic formation that is at the heart of Catholic education in the Diocese of Allentown.

Bishop John O. Barres, D.D.,
Bishop of Allentown

