

# Easter

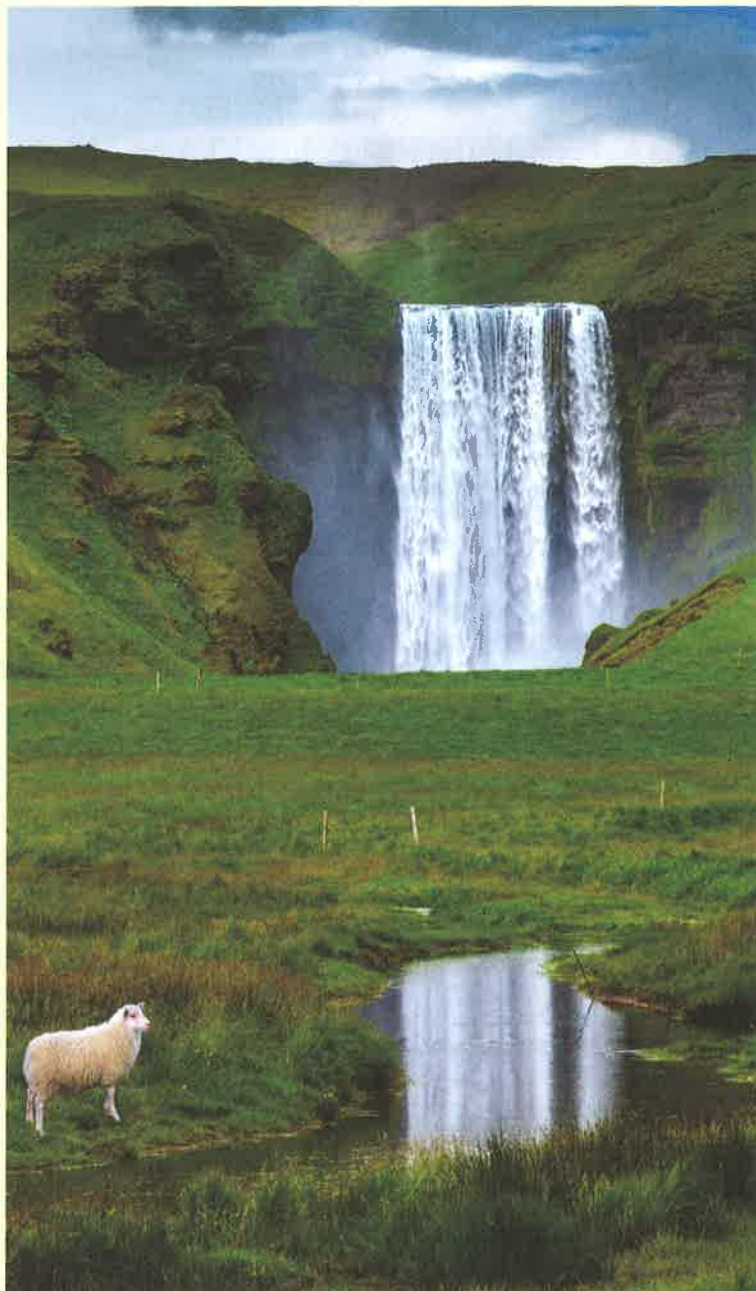
Fourth Sunday of Easter ♦ April 17, 2016

Acts 13:14, 43–52 ♦ Rv 7:9, 14b–17 ♦ Jn 10:27–30

I love the sound water makes when it is moving in a fast-flowing stream or curling up to the shore in waves. I am mesmerized particularly by waterfalls, small or large. My husband, who enjoys photography as a hobby, has taken pictures of many of the falls we have visited, and they decorate my office as a constant reminder of the power and beauty of God seen through all creation. I even have a crucifix that was designed to show the living water flowing from Christ—a waterfall tumbling down and over the foot of the cross. It is, for me anyway, one of the most powerful images of God that I can imagine.

Throughout the Easter season, the Scriptures present us with stories of resurrection and life. The preaching of the apostles, the abundance of fish caught in a net, the stirring of hearts in those who see and hear Jesus—they all show what it is like to live in “risen time,” in full knowledge and endless presence of the Lord. Today Jesus talks about God’s closeness, power, and promise. The Father has given the sheep to Jesus and no one can take them away. But in the reading from Revelation we have a clearer picture of our life with God: “The Lamb [will] lead them to springs of life-giving water.” In Jesus’ desert environment, this was a powerful image. In our world today it remains compelling. Jesus is the Living Water that brings life to our souls. Whether it flows as a gentle stream, restless wave, or waterfall from the throne of God, it is his gift to us.

MARY KATHARINE DEELEY  
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## A Word From Pope Francis

*“Let us...rediscover the importance and the sense of our Christian life, initiated in Baptism and, like the Samaritan woman, to witness to our brothers [that] every encounter with Jesus also fills us with joy.”*

—Angelus, March 23, 2014

# IMMACULATE CONCEPTION CHURCH

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 Rev. Leo S. Stajkowski.....In Residence  
 Deacon Paul J. Hiryak, Deacon James A. Bardi,  
 Deacon Charles A. Giordano  
 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  
 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

## FOURTH SUNDAY IN EASTER - APRIL 17, 2016

### ★ ★ MASS INTENTIONS ★ ★

SAT	8:00 PM	LINDA ESTELLE	THU	7:00 PM	AUDREY MCWILLIAMS
SUN	7:30 AM	LIVING & DECEASED PARISHIONERS	FRI	7:30 AM	PAUL KAKALECIK
	9:00 AM	HELEN MARINELLI	SAT	5:15 PM	RALPH BASCELLI
	11:00 AM	RON WALP	SUN	7:30 AM	FLORENCE & ORLANDO LEBRESCO
MON		<b>No MASS</b>		9:00 AM	BARBARA PEASE
TUE	7:00 PM	SOPHIA LAKATOSH		11:00 AM	JOHN STEIGERWALD
WED	7:30 AM	VERNA SCHWARTZ			

*The Sanctuary Lamp Burns In Memory of Ralph Bascelli*

### NEXT WEEK AT A GLANCE

**SCRIP:** Gulla 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	Kevin Creamer	Shirley Wheeler	Joey Cizmarik, Lilia and Simon Crew
SUN	7:30am	Adelina Kieffer	Pam Amos	Amanda and Lauren Marley, Mya Salaneck
	9:00am	Stephanie Myers	Barrie Pease	Ryan Ferrante, Sean and Stephen Hannon
	11:00am	Greg Shemanski	Barbara Romig	Sean Purretta, Ally Santos, Jacob Santos

### **Second collection next week is for Religious Ministries**

*Can't make it to the ICA HSO Social?  
 You can still win some great raffle items!!!*

The ICA HSO Adult Social Fundraiser will hold a **Preview Night on April 22<sup>nd</sup>, 6pm to 8pm** in the Social Hall. **All are welcome** to join us to preview the Raffle and Auction items, including children, and there is no charge for the event. Visitors will be able to buy raffle tickets for such items as an American Girl Doll, Star Wars Lego Basket, Bus Trip to the Beach, Golf Baskets, Blair Vineyards Private Tasting for 8, lots of giftcards and a Basket of Cheer. Visitors will also be able to place bids on our Silent Auction items including reserved parking for 9 and 11 o'clock Masses. There will also be a short preview time on April 23<sup>rd</sup>, 4:30pm to 5:15pm. Please come and help support our Academy!  
 Hope to see you there!

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, James Smith,  
 • William Reardon, Maryanne Emory, Madge Butto,  
 • Roseann Malcolm, Dylan Spriggs, Doris Slater, Joan  
 • Cronin, Rita Conrad, Vicki Barletta, Sara Norris,  
 • Ryan Curley, Brendan Carr, Paul Geiger, Helen  
 • McDonald, Mark McDonald, Andrew Martin,  
 • Giuseppe Lubrano, Patricia Schotz, Cindy Barnes,  
 • Rose Osorio, Raymond Davidheiser, Anthony  
 • Mattassa, Sr., Patty Atkinson, Jim Guilliams, Tony  
 • Guilliams, Delores McCullough, Ed Woznicki and  
 • Barbara Wright  
 • Pray for the recently departed: Eleanor Dickinson,  
 • John Flannery IV

## **THIS WEEK AT ICC:**

**Sat 04/16 4-5pm Confession**  
**Women's Society Hoagie Sale**  
**6pm ICA HSO Social**

## **WHAT'S HAPPENING**

Please be advised there will be **NO MASS** on Monday, April 18<sup>th</sup>. Thank you for your kind understanding in this regard.

**BISHOP'S ANNUAL APPEAL** - We are grateful to our parishioners who have already made a pledge to the Bishop's Annual Appeal. Making a six-month pledge to the Appeal allows you to maximize the amount that you may give by making monthly payments. For example, a \$300 gift to the Appeal may be setup with six \$50 installments. Your sacrifice and generosity to those who are less fortunate will allow the ministries of our diocese to offer services to those who need our assistance. You can pick up a pledge form at the back of the church or make your gift online at [FaithHopeCharityGives.org](http://FaithHopeCharityGives.org).

**RESORTS AC TRIP** - April 18<sup>th</sup> - Leave ICC promptly at 9:30 am  
**Package Deal - Pay \$32, Get \$25 - Call Carol 610-775-4447**

**STAND WITH US FOR LIFE!** Mark your calendars for the Berks March for Life on April 24<sup>th</sup>, 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 info, contact Marygrace at 610-929-5260.

The Women's Society will meet in the social hall of the church at 7pm on April 20<sup>th</sup>. All women of the parish are welcome to join us at the meeting. You will be warmly welcomed. The Women's Society is a wonderful group of faith filled women who support the church, parish community, and each other. This is a great way to get to know some of the women you see in church each week. Please consider joining us.

The Women's Society will host our last Bake Sale of the season before and after all Masses on April 23/24. Please stop by the table and pick one or two of the many delicious offerings. If you would like to make a baked goods donation, please drop it off before one of the Masses. Thanks in advance for your kind donations.

All women of the parish are invited to join the Women's Society for our annual visit to **Camilla Hall**. Please save the date of May 4<sup>th</sup>. We will meet at the church at 10am. We spend time in prayer with the Sisters, have time for lunch, and then offer a fun afternoon of Bingo for the retired/infirm Sisters of Camilla. Prizes for the bingo game (i.e. envelopes with some money, stamps and cards etc) will be most welcome along with some sweet treats for the ladies. Join us in giving back to these women who have spent their lives serving others. Please call Geri at 610-286-5538 for more info or to reserve your spot.

The Women's Society will host Social Sunday on Sunday, May 1<sup>st</sup>. If you are able to help out for any of the Masses, please call Geri at 610-286-5538.

**Designer Purse BINGO** - April 17, 1pm - doors open 11am - ICC social hall - \$25/20 games, \$30 at the door if available. Raffles, special games, food. Bring Purina One dog/cat puppy/kitten chow for 3 free raffle tickets. Benefits Catworks - Call Sandy for tickets 610-207-7065.

**Scholastic Buy One/Get One (BOGO) Book Fair at ICA** in Academy library. We are open Sunday, May 22<sup>nd</sup> after 9am and 11am Masses and May 23 through 27 during school hours. Also, please consider making a donation to "All for Books". These donations help our teachers build their classroom libraries. In addition, Scholastic Book Fairs will match monetary donations with a donation of up to one million books to national, non-profit organizations. Checks can be made out to ICA HSO in an envelope marked "All for Books" and placed in the church collection basket. Donations are being accepted through May 22<sup>nd</sup>. Thank you for your support and we hope to see you at the book fair!

### **Immaculate Conception Academy and Early Education Program is currently enrolling for the 2016-17 School Year!**

We welcome everyone to join us if you have a student entering preschool (age 3) through 8<sup>th</sup> grade. **ICA offers a full day Kindergarten Program.** Kindergarten students must be aged 5 by 10/15/16 and 1<sup>st</sup> grade students aged 6 by 10/15/16. **Bishop's Tuition Transfer Grants** are available for any public, private or charter school student who transfers into Immaculate Conception Academy grades 1-7. These grants are **\$1,500 over two years** (\$1,000 for the first year; \$500 for the second). Please contact **Adele Reilly at 610-404-8645 or [adele.reilly@icaknights.org](mailto:adele.reilly@icaknights.org)** for more information or to schedule a tour!

**Youth Group Car Wash - May 1<sup>st</sup> - Before or After Mass** - Mark your calendar to have your car washed by our enthusiastic Youth Group members! Proceeds from the car wash benefit the Youth Group Summer Mission Trip to Kentucky and the trip to the Franciscan University of Steubenville for the Catholic Youth Conference. Our Youth Group members thank you for your support.

**2016 Vacation Bible School - "Jesse Tree Journey"**  
VBS will be held the week of June 20 through June 24 from 9:00am to noon. VBS is open to all ICC parishioners ages 5 to 11. The cost is \$35 per child. Adult and teen volunteers are always welcome. Come along for the journey! Contact Mrs. O'Donnell at 610-582-3880 or [ccd@icbvm.org](mailto:ccd@icbvm.org).

**Berks Catholic is accepting applications for the 2016-2017 school year.** Berks Catholic High School is centered on the four pillars of God, Family, Academics and Fun. As a vibrant Christ centered community, the administration, faculty and staff are dedicated to providing a challenging academic environment for a diverse population of young men and women. For more information about how to join our 21<sup>st</sup> century learning community, contact Nicky 610.374.8361 x244.

**Boys' Basketball, Cheerleading, and Dance Camps** - Berks Catholic will be hosting Saints Boys' Basketball, Cheerleading, and Dance Camps for grades 1-8, June 20<sup>th</sup>-24<sup>th</sup>. For more information contact Tony Balistrere at 610-374-8361 x224 or [tbalistrere@berkscatholic.org](mailto:tbalistrere@berkscatholic.org).

**Girls' Basketball Camp** - 6/27-30, 9am-12:30, grades 2-9  
**Football Camp** - 8/2,3,4, Grades K-8.

For registration forms go to [www.berkscatholic.org](http://www.berkscatholic.org) or [bhess@berkscatholic.org](mailto:bhess@berkscatholic.org).

**Seniors Protect Yourself from Internet Scams - April 21<sup>st</sup>, 7:30pm at St. Paul's Lutheran Church, 548 Old Swede Road - Speaker Officer Tom Gauby**



April 17, 2016

# dear Padre



## What do we do with sacramentals?



Is it sacrilegious to throw a sacramental away?

**“Sacramentals do not** confer the grace of the Holy Spirit in the way that the sacraments do, but by the Church’s prayer, they prepare us to receive and dispose us to cooperate with it” (CCC 1670). Therefore, sacramentals confer grace through the Church’s power of prayer and, if blessed, should not be thrown away but burned and/or buried. If the object has not been blessed, it can be discarded; however, it could also be donated to a Catholic ministry (school, prison, hospital, etc.) that would benefit from its distribution. (If a religious object was included in an unsolicited appeal letter from a charitable organization, it is safe to assume that it was not blessed.)

If the object is worn or broken, it should be substantially altered so that it loses its form as a sacramental and then returned to the earthly elements. For example, a worn scapular should be burned and the ashes buried; a damaged statue should be further



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broken into smaller fragments and buried. A European tradition on the Vigil of the Nativity of St. John the Baptist (June 23) is to burn old sacramentals in bonfires and bury the ashes. Burning and/or burial respects the sacred nature once held by these items and prevents their adaptation for trivial use. Reverence and discretion are proper for whatever method of disposal.

FR. BYRON MILLER, CSSR  
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**Monday**  
APRIL 18  
Easter Weekday  
Acts 11:1–18  
Jn 10:1–10

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

**Wednesday**  
APRIL 20  
Easter Weekday  
Acts 12:24—13:5a  
Jn 12:44–50

**Thursday**  
APRIL 21  
Easter Weekday  
Acts 13:13–25  
Jn 13:16–20

**Friday**  
APRIL 22  
Easter Weekday  
Acts 13:26–33  
Jn 14:1–6

**Saturday**  
APRIL 23  
Easter Weekday  
Acts 13:44–52  
Jn 14:7–14

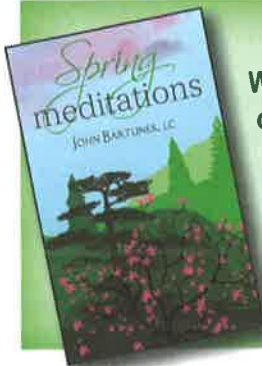
**Sunday**  
APRIL 24  
Fifth Sunday  
of Easter  
Acts 14:21–27  
Rv 21:1–5a  
Jn 13:31–33a, 34–35

### A MEDITATION FOR SPRING

What happens to the tree when its blossoms spread and pour themselves out? Fruitfulness, growth, expansion, multiplication. Only by giving does the tree become fertile and produce fruit. Just so, we can only grow and produce spiritual fruit in our lives when we open and give of ourselves.

–From *Spring Meditations* by Fr. John Bartunek, LC (825613)

To see sample pages from this book, visit [Liguori.org](http://Liguori.org) and type the title or 825613 in the search bar, or call us at 800-325-9521.



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