

Ordinary Time

August 21, 2016 ♦ Twenty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time (C)

Is 66:18–21 ♦ Heb 12:5–7, 11–13 ♦ Lk 13:22–30

Several years ago, a mother dropped her son off at the university's Catholic Center with the words, "Don't forget where you come from." I remember thinking how profound those words were. They spoke not only of a place but also of an experience of family. She was reminding him of his roots.

In the first years of college, students can easily lose their way. They experiment with different behaviors and identities. They strive to figure out how to manage their responsibilities. Their religious practice may lapse or change. With a strong foundation, however, most will settle down to the business of becoming Catholic and Christian adults, which happens in small and large steps.

The people in today's parable had changed so much that the master didn't even recognize them: "I do not know where you are from." Maybe they had forgotten themselves or had rejected the promises that the master (who is God) had given them. In any case, Jesus gives them a glimpse of what's behind the narrow gate of salvation—as well as the alternative—and urges them to "strive to enter" it. Our baptism is a personal invitation to this narrow gate. The path of discipleship requires God's grace and a desire to serve. If our lives don't reflect this call, we run the risk of forgetting who we are, where we are from, and what we are promised. Reflect today on your identity as a child of God and hear God say to your heart, "Don't forget where you come from."

MARY KATHARINE DEELEY
sundaybulletin@liguori.org



A Word From Pope Francis

"When we say 'home' we mean a place of hospitality, a dwelling, a pleasant human environment where one stays readily, finds oneself, feels inserted into a territory, in a community."

— Address at the Homeless Shelter 'Dono di Maria' with the Missionaries of Charity, May 21, 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.allentowndioocese.org

TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – AUGUST 21, 2016

The Sanctuary Lamp Burns In Memory of Paul Kakalecik

★ ★ MASS INTENTIONS ★ ★

SAT 5:15 PM STELLA GILL
 SUN 7:30 AM LIVING & DECEASED PARISHIONERS
 9:00 AM IRENE & LEONARD BEDNOWICZ
 11:00 AM MATT MANEGOLD
 MON **No Mass**
 TUE 7:00 PM KIM TWADDELL – 7TH ANNIVERSARY
 WED 7:30 AM PAUL KAKALECIK – 3RD ANNIVERSARY

THU 7:00 PM GEORGE & GREGORY WHITE
 FRI 7:30 AM THE GRACE FAMILY
 SAT 5:15 PM LIVING & DECEASED PARISHIONERS
 SUN 7:30 AM EDITH & JOSEPH BANYAS
 9:00 AM JESSE G. PAINTER – 51ST ANNIVERSARY
 11:00 AM ROBERT MULDOWNNEY

NEXT WEEK AT A GLANCE

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

DAY	MASS	LECTOR	COMMENTATOR	ALTAR SERVERS
SAT	5:15pm	Joe Bailey	Barbara Giordano	Diego and Hannah Santos, Taylor Moyer
SUN	7:30am	Dennis Piontek	Toni Kaucher	Anna and Matthew Lambert, Luke Voelker
	9:00am	Isabelita Santos	Pam Amos	Trey Bradfield, Michael DiScala, Austin Lobaugh
	11:00am	Susan DiGuglielmo	John Peterson	Joey Cizmarik, Aaron Gulla, Josh Piccarreta

Second collection next week is for Religious Ministries

IT'S NOT TOO LATE!

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

If you have a student in Kindergarten through 8th grade, we welcome you to visit and see what an Immaculate Conception Academy education can do for your child!

ICA offers a full day Kindergarten Program.

Kindergarten students must be 5 by 10/15/16 and 1st grade students aged 6 by 10/15/16. **Bishop's Transfer**

Grants are available for any public, or 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 and \$500 for the second). **Aftercare is available.**

Please contact Adele Reilly, Advancement Director at 610-404-8645 or

adele.reilly@icaknights.org for more information or to schedule a tour!

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, Ann Schlott, Kathy Patrick, Joseph & Susan McCorristin, Mary & Phil Morici, Margaret Maccarone, Father Joseph Champion, Dan Casciano, Paisley Stout, Jake Maccarone, William Janda, James Smith, Madge Butto, Roseann Malcolm, Doris Slater, Joan Cronin, Rita Conrad, Paul Geiger, Helen McDonald, Mark McDonald, Rose Osorio, Raymond Davidheiser, Tony Guilliams, Dolores McCullough, Steve Mammarella, Shawn Staneruck, Phil Kubovcsak, Gloria Richards, Jennifer Pinti, Lori Tomkins, Jane Falcone, Fannie Hunter, Barbara Wright, Mavrick Laxton, Maria Houck, Anthony Pucci, Sharon Madrzykowski, Virginia Marks, Andrew Martin, Father Donald Birch, The Ravert Family, and Ronald Kryman

Please Congratulate: Andrew Jonathan Bihl and Carolyn Rose Lesser on their recent marriage.

Welcome our new parishioners: Mrs. Alissa Malcolm and Family.

THIS WEEK AT ICC:

Sat 08/27 4-5pm Confession

WHAT'S HAPPENING

DAILY MASS

Please be advised there will be NO MASS on Monday, August 22nd. Thank you for your kind understanding in this regard.



IMMACULATE CONCEPTION CHURCH

Summer Office Hours: Tuesday through Friday, 9:30am to 4:30pm

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION ACADEMY

Summer Office Hours: Tuesday through Thursday, 9am to 1pm

Immaculate Conception Early Education Program is pleased to announce the expansion of our Preschool Program

*Parents will now have the opportunity to choose from **THREE** programs to meet their individual family needs:*

Tuesday/Thursday Morning: 8:45am- 11:15am

Tuesday/Thursday Extended Day: 8:45am-1:15am

Tuesday/Thursday Full Day: 8:45-2:30pm

Children in the Extended and Full Day programs will bring a packed lunch. The Full Day program will include rest time as well as the addition of a special class once a week (i.e. Art, Music, Library or Computer). Because this is a pilot program, special tuition rates are being offered for the 2016-17 school year.

The Early Education Program is open 8am to 3pm; with classes starting at 8:45am. Aftercare is available.

Enrollment is ongoing in our Morning and Full Day Pre-Kindergarten Programs as well!

For more information and tuition rates, please contact Adele Reilly, Advancement Director at adele.reilly@icaknights.org or 610-404-8645 during summer hours Tues-Thurs, 9am-1pm.

Immaculate Conception Academy Aftercare is looking for someone willing to work several hours per week from 3pm to 6pm. Must have completed "Protecting God's Children" and obtain required background checks and clearances. Call Laura DeFalco at 610-463-8157.

Immaculate Conception will be hosting two Protecting God's Children workshops in the social hall on August 28th and September 18th, 1-4pm. Call 610-582-3880 to register.

Register now for 2016-2017 CCDI Forms are available on www.icbvmccd.org under forms and at the Office of Religious Education. Classes are filling up so register now! Volunteers are always welcome! If you'd like to volunteer an hour of your time once a week to bring the Good News of Christ to the children of our parish, call (610) 582-3880.

Thinking about becoming a Catholic? Are you looking to for a "Faith Refresher?" Join Msgr. McCann, Deacon Paul Hiryak and guest speakers on Monday evenings, starting September 12th, 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. Sessions are 7:30-9pm. You are welcome to attend as many as your schedule permits. For info or to register, call the office at 610.582.2411. Look for program information on www.icbvm.org beginning in mid-August.

RESORTS AC TRIP - COME ALONG AND ENJOY A DAY OF OCEAN BREEZE AND FUN AT THE JERSEY

SHORE - Friday, August 26th, LEAVE the Church promptly @ 9:30am - Package Deal: Pay \$32 get \$25 Back - Call Carol J. if interested @ 610-775-4447

*Immaculate Conception Parish has been asked to participate with other local Churches in meeting the needs of the Food Pantry, called "Community Table" at the Birdsboro Community Center. Each Church is taking one specific item that is needed. We have taken **Cleaning Products**. We are collecting items such as bathroom, window and kitchen cleaners; laundry soap items and paper towel/wipes. The Collection Bin is in the Narthex. If you have any questions, please email Deacon Chuck at catgio@comcast.net*

The Annual Diocesan Anniversary Mass Celebration is September 18th at the Cathedral of St. Catharine of Siena, 1875 West Turner St., Allentown, 18104. Bishop Barres will begin the celebration at 3pm. We cordially invite couples celebrating five, twenty-five, forty, fifty, sixty or sixty plus years of marriage to this special event. Visit www.allentowndiocese.org/anniversarymass or request a form through email at MFLF@allentowndiocese.org. The form must be completed and returned to the Office of Marriage & Family Life Formation, Attn: Anniversary Mass, 2145 Madison Ave., Bethlehem, 18017. Registration deadline is September 9th.

The Knights of Columbus Council 1192 will hold its annual family picnic on September 18th at 1pm in the Council grove. It is an old fashion family picnic with burgers, hot dogs and soda provided free, just bring a covered dish. There will be games and face painting. Parish members who are not Knights of Columbus are invited. Call Gary at 610-972-0356 to make a reservation.

DIOCESAN FAMILY FESTIVAL - September 25th, 11 am - 5pm at SteelStacks, 101 Founders Way, Bethlehem. The day begins with an **outdoor Multi-Cultural Mass celebrated by Bishop Barres at 11:00am (bring a lawn chair)**. Games and activities for all ages, inflatable obstacle course, scavenger hunt, bounce house, face painting, team events, etc. Delicious ethnic foods — bleenies, kiffles, haluski, porketta sandwiches, tacos and empanadas, pierogies, apple dumplings and more. Music provided by "Island Time" on the patio and by our talented high school, college, and special learning center students on the Levitt Pavilion. Order your Family Festival Tee by 8/24 at www.allentowndiocese.org/familyfestival.

Attention All CYO Coaches: Register online for the 2016-2017 CYO Coaches Clinics. The first clinic will be held **August 27th** at the Cathedral of St. Catharine of Siena, Allentown. Future clinics will be held in October, November and March. The cost for each clinic is \$25/person and coaches can register by visiting www.allentowndiocese.org/coaches and clicking on the selected date. **NO WALK INS WILL BE PERMITTED.** Contact Dan Jones at djones@allentowndiocese.org with registration questions.

MOVING OUT OF THE AREA? Please call 610-582-2411 so we can say goodbye and update our records.



August 21, 2016

dear Padre

Monday

AUGUST 22

Queenship of the Blessed Virgin Mary

2 Thes 1:1–5, 11–12

Mt 23:13–22

Tuesday

AUGUST 23

Weekday

2 Thes 2:1–3a, 14–17

Mt 23:23–26

Wednesday

AUGUST 24

St. Bartholomew, Apostle

Rv 21:9b–14

Jn 1:45–51

Thursday

AUGUST 25

Weekday

1 Cor 1:1–9

Mt 24:42–51

Friday

AUGUST 26

Weekday

1 Cor 1:17–25

Mt 25:1–13

Saturday

AUGUST 27

St. Monica

1 Cor 1:26–31

Mt 25:14–30

Sunday

AUGUST 28

Twenty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sir 3:17–18, 20, 28–29

Heb 12:18–19, 22–24a

Lk 14:1, 7–14

Why did Jesus make his points with parables?



Eric Isselee / Wikipedia



Why did Jesus always speak in parables? Why didn't he give us more clear-cut answers?

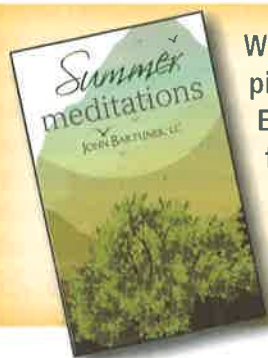
Parables are short, relatable stories. Their simple images or comparisons convey a moral or religious lesson and put us in touch with the mystery of God and ourselves. Thus, parables confront the hearer or reader with a radical choice to enter God's kingdom: "One must enter the kingdom, that is, become a disciple of Christ, in order to 'know the secrets of the kingdom of heaven.' For those who stay 'outside,' everything remains enigmatic" (CCC 546).

About a third of Jesus' recorded teachings are in parable form. After the Pharisees rejected Jesus (Matthew 12:14), he immediately changed his straightforward preaching to parables. This fulfilled what was spoken by the

prophet: "I will open my mouth in parables, I will announce what has lain hidden from the foundation [of the world]" (Matthew 13:35; see Psalm 78:2).

For example, the three parables of mercy in Luke 15—the lost sheep, lost coin, and lost son—reveal as much about God as they do about us. As John Shea writes in *Stories of God*: "God not only loves to hear our stories, God loves to tell stories. And, quite simply, we are the story God tells." In the telling, we ourselves are told. The timeless, universal stories of Jesus speak to us at different stages of life and provide multiple levels of meaning to the openhearted.

FR. BYRON MILLER, CSSR
sundaybulletin@liguori.org



We are wounded, multiple times, as we make our way through this earthly pilgrimage. Tragedies arrive uninvited. Loved ones abandon or betray us. Expectations arise only to be shattered. And yet God's grace can always find a way into those wounds, giving us a season of new growth, reshaping us in unforeseen and beautiful ways.

— From *Summer Meditations*
by John Bartunek, LC, SThD (825620)

To learn more, visit Liguori.org or call 800-325-9521.

Liguori.org

