

Ordinary Time

September 11, 2016 ♦ Twenty-fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time (C)

Ex 32:7-11, 13-14 ♦ 1 Tm 1:12-17 ♦ Lk 15:1-32 or 15:1-10

A preacher at a prayer service read the story of the Prodigal Son. The story was so familiar, I tuned out until he reached the part about the reaction of the elder son complaining about his brother's treatment. The preacher continued, "So the father responded, 'You are absolutely right: Let's send him away again.'" The congregation looked startled as this unfamiliar version rang in our ears. The preacher said, "That's the way I always thought the story should have gone." He continued to reflect on the passage and our all-too-human reaction to a father who seems to spoil his youngest kid rotten. The more he talked, the

more I realized that there is a little of the eldest son in all of us. We want to be rewarded and we want those who are wrong to be punished.

I think today's Exodus account is written from that perspective. God, as we understand him, wants to strike down all those who made the golden calf—and rightfully so. But Moses reminds God of his promise to Abraham, a memory of love so powerful that God cannot destroy his children regardless of his anger. We don't see how the Prodigal's father responded when his younger son first left. Maybe he was angry or disappointed as we might have been. Rather, we

do see that his love was so powerful, the son is welcomed back and falls to his knees in relief and contrition.

"It's pure grace that the father didn't react as we might have," said the preacher, "Thank God." And he read the rest of the passage as it had been written.

MARY KATHARINE DEELEY
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A Word From Pope Francis

"What is God's plan? It is to make of us all a single family of his children, in which each person feels that God is close and feels loved by him."

— General Audience, May 29, 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
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 Diocese of Allentown.....www.allentowndiocese.org

TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – SEPTEMBER 11, 2016

The Sanctuary Lamp Burns In Memory of the Victims of 9/11

☆☆ MASS INTENTIONS ☆☆

SAT	5:15 PM	HENRY MAMMARELLA	THU	7:00 PM	GEORGE DYSON
SUN	7:30 AM	RUTH MONASTERO	FRI	7:30 AM	JOHN BRADLEY
	9:00 AM	LIVING & DECEASED PARISHIONERS	SAT	5:15 PM	MARY BUTLER
	11:00 AM	DEC'D MEMBERS OF RUBY, KUNDRAT & MYERS FAMILIES	SUN	7:30 AM	JOHN "BUDDY" PALKO
MON	7:30 AM	FATHER JOHN BAMBRICK		9:00 AM	LIVING & DECEASED PARISHIONERS
TUE	7:00 PM	JOSEPH J. LUKES		11:00 AM	ROBERT ELLISON
WED	7:30 AM	GEORGE L. SMITH FAMILY			

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	Tim Stewart	Kevin Creamer	Nick Donnelly, Ryan Ferrante, Zach Whalen
SUN	7:30am	Toni Kaucher	Jim Kaucher	Amanda Marley, Anna and Daniel Schlegel
	9:00am	Brian Hannon	Barrie Pease	Marissa and Steven Tepper, Sidney Wolf
	11:00am	Becky Shemanski	Rhonda Ouimet	Kathryn Krueger, Faith Ouimet, Mya Salaneck

Second collection next week is for Debt Reduction

Youth Group Welcome Back Picnic

**will be held on Friday,
September 23rd, 6-8pm in
the social hall.**

**All youth of the parish in
grades 7-12 are invited and
welcome to bring a friend.**

***If you want, you can bring a
snack or dessert to share.***

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 Campion, Dan Casciano, Paisley Stout, Jake Maccarone, William Janda, James Smith, Madge Butto, Roseann Malcolm, Doris Slater, Joan Cronin, Rita Conrad, Mark McDonald, Rose Osorio, Tony Guilliams, Joan Smith, Dolores McCullough, Steve Mammarella, Phil Kubovcsak, Gloria Richards, Jennifer Pinti, Jane Falcone, Fannie Hunter, Barbara Wright, Mavrick Laxton, Anthony Pucci, Virginia Marks, Andrew Martin, Father Donald Birch, The Ravert Family, Harry Wood, Mary Okuniewski, Paul Bringenberg, Joseph Kolenda, Kenneth Barth and Ronald Kryman

Welcome our new parishioners: Ms. Jennifer Volz

Pray for the recently deceased: Raymond Davidheiser, Josephine Stianche and Albert Androkites

THIS WEEK AT ICC:

Mon 09/12 7:30pm RCIA
Tues 09/13 7:30pm Bell Choir
Thurs 09/15 7:30pm Adult Choir
Sat 09/17 4-5pm Confession

WHAT'S HAPPENING

IT'S NOT TOO LATE!

Immaculate Conception Academy and Early Education Program is still enrolling for 2016-17!

If you have a student in PreSchool, Pre-K or Kindergarten through 8th grade, we welcome you to visit and see what an Immaculate Conception Academy education can do for your child! ***Please contact Adele Reilly, Advancement Director at 610-404-8645 or adele.reilly@icaknights.org for more information or to schedule a tour!***

Immaculate Conception Academy Positions

Classroom Aide position for Grades 1 and 2. Please contact Patricia Tarquinio at 610-404-8645.

Aftercare is looking for someone willing to work several hours per week from 3pm-6pm. Call Laura DeFalco at 610-463-8157.

All positions require completion of "Protecting God's Children" and obtain required background checks and clearances.

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

Thinking about becoming a Catholic? Are you looking to for a "Faith Refresher?" Join Msgr. McCann, Deacon Paul Hiryak and guest speakers 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 Mondays, 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.

Immaculate Conception sponsors Youth Groups for both our Junior and Senior High School students. Activities include monthly meetings, service projects, a mission trip, retreat opportunities and other activities. We are currently seeking adults who would be willing to assist in leadership roles with our Youth Groups. We are looking for individuals willing to witness to their faith and to help organize, plan and supervise activities. If you are willing to assist or would like more information, please contact Monsignor McCann at 610-582-2411. All volunteers must attend a Protecting God's Children Workshop and complete the background checks required by our Safe Environment protocols.

Grief is our internal dealing with the death of a loved one. We know we will experience it but we also want to see an end to it. When will that be? Come to our parish **GRIEF SHARING GROUP** on September 20th in the lower level of the Admin Office (enter across from the playground). A presentation will be given 1:30-2:30pm and then repeated 7:30-8:30pm. If you have questions or just want to talk please call Pat Fessler at 610 775-1892 or Toni Kaucher at 610 404-1389.

RESORTS AC TRIP - COME ALONG AND ENJOY THE LAST DAYS OF SUMMER BY THE OCEAN AT THE JERSEY SHORE - September 23rd - LEAVE the Church promptly at 9:30am- Package Deal: Pay \$32 get \$25 Back Call Carol J. if interested @ 610-775-4447

Special Collection for Louisiana Flood Victims: The Bishops of the United States have requested a collection be taken up to aid those whose homes and livelihoods have been destroyed by this disaster. If you would like to aid those in need by contributing to this special collection, please place your gift in an envelope marked "Flood Victims" and place it in the collection basket the weekend of September 17-18. Thank you for your generosity.

This year marks the 15th anniversary of the terrorist attacks upon our nation in 2001. Churches in the Southeast Berks Ministerium are coming together on September 11th at 4pm Alice Focht Memorial United Methodist Church, 422 E. 1st St., Birdsboro, to remember those who lost their lives that day and to pray for our nation and our world. Everyone's welcome.

Visiting Missionary - This weekend, we welcome Fr. Joseph J. Arackal V.C., a Vincentian Missionary Priest from India. He is preaching at the Masses to make an appeal on behalf of the Vincentian Missions. The Vincentian Missionaries, all natives of India, need our help to carry out their many missionary, educational and charitable activities. They need our special financial support for the training of young men studying for priesthood. There will be special mission collection to help the Vincentian Missionaries. Please be generous in your offering.

25% OFF AND EXTENDED SHOPPING HOURS for the Boscov's "one day only" Friends Helping Friends - October 18th, 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.

It's Apple Dumpling Time! Those big juicy apples are just waiting to be baked into our wonderful dumplings. Look for the order sheets in the narthex and bulletin. We will be distributing the Apple Dumplings on October 15th and 16th. Please pre-pay and order by October 1st to make sure you get your dumplings. If you would be interested in helping to make the dumplings, please join us in the Social Hall on October 14th and 15th at 9am until ?. We also need helpers to prepare the dough on October 12th at 9am. No experience necessary it is light, easy work, but we need many hands.

YOU'RE INVITED! - The Women's Society is very excited to welcome all women of the parish and our members to the **Annual Covered Dish Social on September 21st at 6:30pm** in the social hall. We are anxious to get underway for the 2016/2017 season. We begin each year with the Covered Dish Social each bringing a favorite dish to share with everyone. The year's events will be outlined and discussed, and anyone thinking of joining the society will have an opportunity to meet other women of the parish and get a good overview of what The Women's Society is all about. Members are asked to attend if able. Don't forget to invite a friend, or the woman sitting next to you at church.

Mark your calendar and plan to join your fellow parishioners for "**Social Sunday**" on October 2, 2016. Coffee, juice and donuts will be available for your enjoyment after the 7:30, 9:00 and 11:00 a.m. Masses that Sunday. Our thanks to our parish CYO for hosting Social Sunday in October.

September 11, 2016

dear Padre



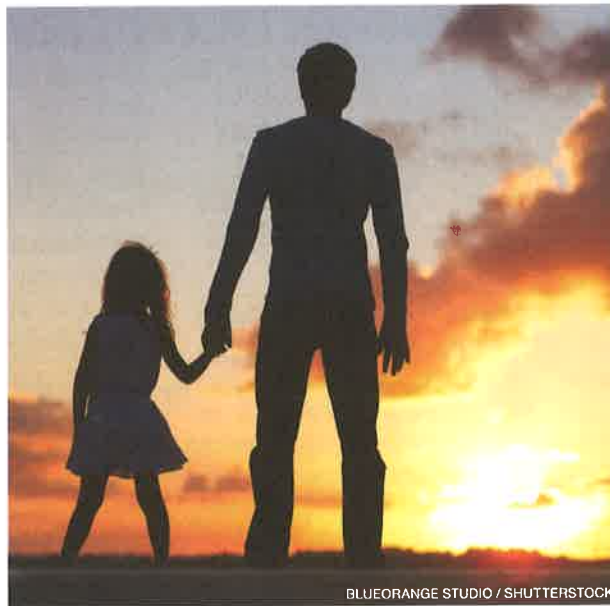
An "acting" godparent

P Is it possible to replace a godfather? Since my daughter's baptism, my brother-in-law has divorced his wife and abandoned his children. I no longer want to associate with him.

I can understand your feelings toward your brother-in-law, given his behavior toward his own family. However, at the time of your daughter's baptism, he was accepted as her godfather and his name was placed in the official baptismal register. I don't see how that official document could be changed.

Although this loss may seem significant, it's important to remember that your daughter—and you—are not alone. She seems to have two parents, a godmother, a pastor and parish, and other adults and mentors who will walk with her and assist you as she grows in faith: "For the grace of Baptism to unfold, the parents' help is important. So too is the role of the *godfather* and *godmother*....The whole ecclesial community bears some responsibility for the development and safeguarding of the grace given at Baptism" (CCC 1255).

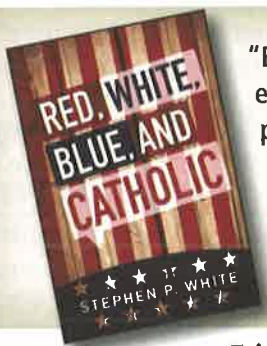
What I have recommended in similar situations is that you now choose and



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ask a person whom you know and trust to be your daughter's "acting" godfather." As your daughter gets older you could explain to her that this person really cares about her and will be like a godfather to her. I think this might be a good family solution.

FR. DANIEL L. LOWERY, CSSR
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"Be a saint!" That certainly falls into the category of things that are easier said than done. But we must not sell ourselves short. More to the point, we must never sell God short! With him, all things are possible, even making a saint out of a sinner like me.

—From *Red, White, Blue, and Catholic*
by Stephen P. White (826450)

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

Monday
SEPTEMBER 12
Weekday
1 Cor 11:17–26, 33
Lk 7:1–10

Tuesday
SEPTEMBER 13
St. John Chrysostom,
Bishop and
Doctor of the Church
1 Cor 12:12–14, 27–31a
Lk 7:11–17

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

Thursday
SEPTEMBER 15
Our Lady of Sorrows
1 Cor 15:1–11
Jn 19:25–27
Lk 2:33–35

Friday
SEPTEMBER 16
Sts. Cornelius, Pope,
and Cyprian, Bishop,
Martyrs
1 Cor 15:12–20
Lk 8:1–3

Saturday
SEPTEMBER 17
Weekday
1 Cor 15:35–37, 42–49
Lk 8:4–15

Sunday
SEPTEMBER 18
Twenty-fifth Sunday
in Ordinary Time
Am 8:4–7
1 Tm 2:1–8
Lk 16:1–13 or 16:10–13

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