



May 7, 2017

Fourth Sunday of Easter (A)

Acts 2:14a, 36-41

1 Pt 2:20b-25

Jn 10:1-10

Our Shepherd's Voice

Saint Peter, the first pope, zealously preached the Sword of God, challenging the Romans and the Jews to believe. Astoundingly, on various occasions their hearts were moved and they asked, "What are we to do?" The answer from the apostles was often twofold: Be baptized and receive the Holy Spirit. Both are necessary first steps.

The same is true today: We receive baptism and confirmation. We keep cultivating this gift of faith and life in the Holy Spirit, listening to Jesus and the Spirit's promptings so they blossom and take over all of our life.

The Good Shepherd verses found in John 10 reveal that there are many messengers who promise fulfillment and happiness. Jesus warns that these others try to slip in the back door of our souls and trick us into following them. Initially their message is only slightly different than Jesus' message, but once they lead us out of his fold, we can end up in very distant fields, and it is a long, hard path back home.

How do we distinguish Jesus' voice from the others? Compare their words with the words of Jesus and his Church. If they don't align, beware. Another criterion is to see if there is an element of the cross and true peace. Jesus reminds us that the shepherd lays down his life for his sheep and leads them to pasture and rest. The cross, although not everything, is always a part of the shepherd's path.

—Fr. Mark Haydu, LC



Piece: *Christ the Good Shepherd*, circa third century
Artist: Unknown
Location: Pio Christian Collection, Vatican Museums

For Reflection

How often do I listen to the Good Shepherd over the other messages around me? How do I stay informed of what the pope and other shepherds of the Church are saying?

"For you had gone astray like sheep, but you have now returned to the shepherd and guardian of your souls" (1 Peter 2:25).

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION CHURCH

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FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER – MAY 7, 2017

*The Sanctuary Lamp Burns In Memory of Frank Janiszewski – 37th Anniversary
 And In Memory of Ken Barth*

★ ★ MASS INTENTIONS ★ ★

SAT	5:15 PM	Robert Hafer	THURS	7:00 PM	Sophia C. Lakatosh
SUN	7:30 AM	Living & Deceased Parishioners	FRI	7:30 AM	Paul & Cynthia Hiryak – 38 th Wedding Anniv.
	9:00 AM	Dec'd Members of Jesse Painter Family	SAT	5:15 PM	Living & Deceased Parishioners
	11:00 AM	Joan LeFosse	SUN	7:30 AM	Living & Deceased Mothers of the Parish
MON	7:30 AM	William P. Smith		9:00 AM	Living & Deceased Mothers of the Parish
TUES	7:00 PM	Frank Janiszewski – 37 th Anniversary		11:00 AM	Living & Deceased Mothers of the Parish
WED	7:30 AM	Fr. Joseph Reilly			

NEXT WEEK AT A GLANCE

SCRIP: Sponsor: Porambo 5:15 Pisarek 7:30 Collura 9:00 McCauley 11:00 DeFalco

DAY	MASS	Lector	COMMENTATOR	ALTAR SERVERS
SAT	5:15PM	Ann Marie Arbo	Sherry McCollum	Carina Cress, Anna and Daniel Schlegel
SUN	7:30AM	Amanda Marley	Michelle Marley	Sarah Forkin, Elly Smithson, Sidney Wolf
	9:00AM	Stephanie Myers	Josephine Hohl	Marissa and Steven Tepper, Mya Salaneck
	11:00AM	Mary Gray	Bob Newman	Michael DiScala, Carson Endy, Will Gray

Second Collection Next Week is the Monthly Collection

Immaculate Conception Academy currently has openings in its Full Day Kindergarten program for the 2017-18 school year!

In addition to providing a strong foundation in mathematics and language arts, our program features S.T.E.M. (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) education as well as art, music, and physical education. Before and after school care options are available.

For more information or to schedule a tour, please contact Adele Reilly, Advancement Director at 610-404-8645 or adele.reilly@icaknights.org

****Openings are still available in Preschool, Pre-K and grades 1-8 as well! Contact us today!!! Space is limited in some classes****

Remember in your prayers the sick of our parish:
 Marco Fiato, John & Margaret Kakas, Maryanne Prentice, Delores Woy, Alice Arantowicz, Yolanda Marino, Ann Schlott, Kathy Patrick, Joseph & Susan McCorristin, Mary & Phil Morici, Margaret Maccarone, Dan Casciano, Jake Maccarone, Madge Butto, Joan Cronin, Rita Conrad, Rose Osorio, Tony Guilliams, Steve Mammarella, Joseph Kolenda, Dominic Strock, Bob Hocker, Mike DiScala, Mildred Mattassa, Deb Petras, Ronald Kryman, Anna Swiezak, Margarie & Walter Hansen, Robert Thomas, Rita Dougherty, Norma Nanni, Lou Franco, Lucille Schiel, John Fritz, Maria Houck, Lucy Doney, Evelyn Segneri, Mary Okuniewski, Katie Davis, Joe Weyand, Anna Radwanski, John T. LeFosse, Mark McDonald, Diane Edwards, Stephen Spitko, Sharon Painter and TJ Doyle

Pray for the recently departed: Carlo DeFrancesco

THIS WEEK AT ICC:

Sun 05/07 Youth Group Car Wash
Fri 05/12 Youth Group Picnic
Sat 05/13 4-5pm Confession

WHAT'S HAPPENING

YOUTH GROUP NEWS

Friday, May 12th will be our end of the year picnic for both Junior and Senior High Youth Groups. We will meet at the social hall from 7 to 9 pm for hamburgers and hot dogs, games and praise.

Today, Sunday, May 7th, 8-12:30 - 5th Annual Car Wash

We will be in front of ICA and washing cars before and after all Masses. The cost for a wash will be a free will offering. Proceeds from the car wash will benefit the Youth Group Mission Trip to Kentucky and the trip to the Catholic Youth Conference to be held at the Franciscan University of Steubenville.

Immaculate Conception Early Education Program

is now enrolling for its new Pre-Kindergarten Program, which now features an option to attend five full days or five half days or a combination as needed from 8:30am – 2:45pm or 8:30am to Noon.

This program will prepare students to enter our full day Kindergarten both academically and socially. The curriculum will include weekly art, music and library visits, as well as age appropriate physical education experiences. Before care options are available for all students and after care options for full day students.

For more information please contact Adele Reilly, Advancement Director at 610-404-8645 or adele.reilly@icaknights.org.

Scholastic BOGO Book Fair will be in the ICA Library May 15 - 19 during regular school hours. This is the perfect time for parents and grandparents to stop by and purchase summer reading books. If you are unable to attend the book fair please consider making a donation to "All for Books". Scholastic will match monetary donations. Please make checks payable to ICA and place in an envelope marked "All for Books" and place in the church collection basket. Contact manuela.werley@icaknights.org with any questions. We hope you can stop in!

ICA 5K/10K and 1 Mile FUN Run

Daniel Boone Homestead - May 20th - Registration 7am - 8am 5K & 10K, 8:45am Fun Run, 10am Awards
Pre-register for the event by visiting

<http://www.alphaandomegasports.com/race-calendar.html>
Registration cost is \$25 for the 5K and \$35 for the 10K and includes an event t-shirt. Registration cost for the 1 mile Fun Run is \$10 and an additional \$10 for a T-shirt if desired. For info, contact Sandy at Jordan.sandra14@yahoo.com

RESORTS AC TRIP - Monday, May 15th

Leave church promptly at 9:30am – package deal: pay \$32, get \$25 back – Call Carol J at 610-775-4447

Dear Friends,

This weekend we kickoff the **2017 Bishop's Annual Appeal (BAA)**. I am so grateful for your continued generosity to this important diocesan fundraising initiative. The Bishop's Annual Appeal funds the annual budget that offers vital services like Catholic Charities, care for our retired and infirmed priests, education of Seminarians, Catholic schools and support for our centers for special learning. I encourage you to join me in making your gift to the BAA and support these important ministries. Together we will make a difference in the lives of many people. Remember, every gift counts, no matter how small. To make your gift, please return the pledge form that you will receive in the mail or visit www.FaithHopeCharityGives.org or call the Appeal Office at 800-831-4443.

With Gratitude,

Monsignor McCann

The Women's Society will be visiting Camilla Hall May 10th. This wonderful day includes a lunch prepared by the Sisters, followed by a Bingo Game which we offer for the entertainment of the retired Sisters residing at Camilla Hall. They so look forward to our visit each year. We will meet at the church at 9am. There is a \$8 donation for the luncheon. We are asking for donations of cash, stamps, stationary, cards etc. to be used for the Bingo prizes. We are also asking donations of cookies, brownies, and other sweets for the Sisters. **If you would like to attend, need more information, or would like to make a donation for this wonderful cause, you must contact Marsha at 610-385-6319 by May 7th.**

BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT GROUP - May 15th at 7pm in the Lower Level meeting room of the church office building. Call Pat at 610-775-1892 for more information.

All women of the parish are invited to join the members of the Women's Society for our Year End Luncheon on June 4th at 1pm at Stopper's Restaurant. The meal includes your choice: chicken parmesan (\$17), broiled center-cut pork chops (\$17), crab cakes (\$23) or Delmonico steak (\$23). All entrees include garden salad, baked potato, vegetable, bread, non-alcoholic beverage, and dessert. Please place your reservation in the collection basket and label the envelope **Women's Society** by May 28th. Make checks payable to Immaculate Conception Women's Society. Call Ann Marie (610.689.9124) with questions. We hope to see you there!

THE COMMISSION FOR WOMEN IS SPONSORING A WOMENS' DAY OF SPIRITUALITY - June 10th, 9am – 3pm - St. Thomas More Family Center, 1040 Flexer Ave, Allentown. Reflections by Rev. Richard Brensinger "Blessed Is She" St. Elizabeth Mother of St. John the Baptist - Open to All Women of the Diocese – Visit www.allentowndiocese.org/CFW-spirituality to register - Cost \$20 – Call Joanne 917-406-4879.

Trout Rodeo – May 13th – 8am-1pm – K-5th grade – Free event with prizes and food at the South Birdsboro Archery Rod and Gun Club on Geigertown Road. Contact Maryann at 610-385-4953 with questions.

Calendar

Monday

May 8

Easter Weekday

Acts 11:1–18

Jn 10:11–18

Tuesday

May 9

Easter Weekday

Acts 11:19–26

Jn 10:22–30

Wednesday

May 10

Easter Weekday

Acts 12:24–13:5a

Jn 12:44–50

Thursday

May 11

Easter Weekday

Acts 13:13–25

Jn 13:16–20

Friday

May 12

Easter Weekday

Acts 13:26–33

Jn 14:1–6

Saturday

May 13

Easter Weekday

Acts 13:44–52

Jn 14:7–14

Sunday

May 14

Fifth Sunday of Easter

Acts 6:1–7

1 Pt 2:4–9

Jn 14:1–12

Dear Padre,

If I still attend Mass, may I work or shop on Sundays?

When I lived in Brazil, everything was closed on Sunday except a few restaurants. As a result, it was a day families could spend together. Even in our own country, some places have shortened hours on Sundays or are closed altogether, like banks and car dealerships.

For many of us, shopping is a way of resting. We go to the store and browse, stop at the mall, or see a movie. The *Catechism* doesn't go so far as to say we can't shop on Sundays. It tells us, "On Sundays and other holy days of obligation, the faithful are to refrain from engaging in work or activities that hinder the worship owed to God, the joy proper to the Lord's Day, the performance of the works of mercy, and the appropriate relaxation of mind and body" (CCC 2185).

However, many people have to work on Sundays. Even if we are resting by shopping or going out on Sundays, we are forcing other people to work. If we all made the choice to not shop or go out on Sundays, with the exception of emergency needs, Sundays could truly become a day of rest for all people, as it is intended to be.

So yes, you may shop on a Sunday, but I would encourage you to spend the day doing things that keep the whole day holy, not just the hour you're at Mass.



Fr. Patrick Keyes, CSSr
Sundaybulletin@Liguori.org



A Word From Pope Francis

"[The] people followed Jesus because he was the good shepherd. He wasn't a casuistic and moralistic Pharisee... nor a contemplative from a monastery. He was a shepherd. [He] spoke the language of his people, he made himself understood, he spoke the truth, the matters of God."

—Morning meditation, June 26, 2015

