

July 23, 2017

Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Wis 12:13, 16–19

Rom 8:26–27

Mt 13:24–43



Piece: *Virgin and Angels Imploring Christ Not to Punish Lust, Avarice and Pride*, circa seventeenth century
 Artist: Ippolito Scarsella
 Location: Pinacoteca, Vatican Museums

angels are shown pleading with Jesus to hold back his wrath against lust, avarice, and pride. Jesus is rearing back to launch arrows upon them, yet Mary begs him to withhold his judgment.

The Book of Wisdom praises God, for “he is master of might, but governs with lenience.” The fact is, he would be fully justified to reprimand every vice of his creatures, yet he chooses mercy. What a wonderful lesson for all persons in authority!

It’s enough to just look at the Gospel. The weeds are not immediately torn out or burned out of consideration of the wheat. Both are allowed to grow and develop to maturity

to insure the harvest. Permitting the good to struggle with evil allows the good to grow in perfection. It also gives the bad a chance to convert.

God gives every grace to those who love him so that we may not succumb to the challenges around us. His mercy gives the sinner every possible chance to repent and be saved. This is the heart we must have for one another and why we should never gloat about our goodness or despair of our weaknesses. While there is life, there is hope.

—Fr. Mark Haydu, LC

A Show of Mercy

One of the most important signs of true strength is the ability to show mercy. The Roman emperors understood this and were praised when they showed clemency toward a criminal. The one who has the power to condemn also has power to forgive.

The artist Ippolito Scarsella—in his painting *Virgin and Angels Imploring Christ Not to Punish Lust, Avarice and Pride*—depicts this mercy, as it applies to Jesus, in classic allegorical fashion. Mary and the

For Reflection:

*Do I more readily imitate God's judgment, justice, or mercy?
 How can I practice all three?*

“The Spirit...comes to the aid of our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought...” (Romans 8:26).

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/CCD ..610 582-3880
 Parish Preschool610 404-8645
 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
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 Diocese of Allentown...www.allentowndiocese.org

SIXTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – JULY 23, 2017

The Sanctuary Lamp Burns In Memory of Josephine, Peter & John Bogus

★ ★ MASS INTENTIONS ★ ★

SAT	5:15 PM	Jerome Setlock	THURS	7:00 PM	Anna Rapposelli
SUN	7:30 AM	Living & Deceased Parishioners	FRI		No Mass
	9:00 AM	MaryAnn & Joseph Gulla	SAT	5:15 PM	Catherine & Michael Truckley
	11:00 AM	Anthony Pugliese	SUN	7:30 AM	Josephine Bogus
MON		No Mass		9:00 AM	Anthony DiGuglielmo
TUES	7:00 PM	Thomas Grace, Sr.		11:00 AM	Living & Deceased Parishioners
WED		No Mass			

NEXT WEEK AT A GLANCE

SCRIP: Sponsor: Zubik 5:15 Costanzo 7:30 Kasperowicz 9:00 Carvalho 11:00 Citrano

DAY	MASS	Lector	COMMENTATOR	ALTAR SERVERS
SAT	5:15PM	Ann Marie Arbo	Jennifer Stuart	Avery Lang, Danni Passifione, Sidney Wolf
SUN	7:30AM	Adelina Kieffer	Dennis Piontek	Alex and Jason Carvalho, Joey Cizmarik
	9:00AM	Brian Hannon	Pat Fessler	Stephen Hannon, Isabella and Mia Pizzo
	11:00AM	Becky Shemanski	Mary Ann Cotter	Kathryn Krueger, Faith Ouimet, Elly Smithson

Second Collection Next Week is for Religious Ministries

Immaculate Conception Academy

How was your school year?

Is something missing from your child's education?

Immaculate Conception Academy is committed to providing students in preschool through grade 8 with an education that combines a strong foundation in the core subjects with 21st century learning. Our dedicated faculty strives to bring out the best in each student and challenges them to live our "Three L's":

Love. Learning. Leadership.

We invite you to come and see what a difference ICA makes.

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

Visit us at www.icaberks.org !

Remember in your prayers the sick of our parish: Marco Fiato, John & Margaret Kakas, Delores Woy, Alice Arantowicz, Yolanda Marino, Ann Schlott, Joseph & Susan McCorristin, Mary & Phil Morici, Dan Casciano, Jake Maccarone, Madge Butto, Joan Cronin, Rita Conrad, Rose Osorio, Mary Loeb, 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, Lou Franco, Lucille Schiel, John Fritz, Lucy Doney, Mary Okuniewski, Mark McDonald, Virginia Marks, Ken Rumler, Mark Vignone, Justine Mattassa, Maria Houck, Barbara Reznick, Darlene Strock, TJ Doyle, Irene Wade, Harry Wood, Tony Guilliams, Fannie Hunter, Jacob Hafer, John LeFosse, Loretta Davidson, Jim Smith and Anthony Cossa

Welcome our new parishioners: Mr. & Mrs. Thomas Callahan

Pray for the recently departed: Vernon L. Kulp, Jr. and Bill Simcik

HOSPITAL VISITATIONS: Monsignor McCann, Deacon Hiryak, Deacon Bardi and Deacon Giordano visit our parishioners who are hospitalized, in nursing homes or homebound regularly. If you or a member of your family is hospitalized, please call the parish office at 610-582-2411.

WHAT'S HAPPENING

Summer Office Hours

Immaculate Conception Church

Tuesday through Friday, 9:30am to 4:30pm

Immaculate Conception Academy

Tuesday through Thursday, 9:00am to 1:00pm

Please be advised that the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass will be offered this week on Tuesday and Thursday evenings at 7pm. There will be no Mass on Monday, Wednesday or Friday. Thank you for your kind understanding in the regard.



Immaculate Conception Academy Positions Available

Immaculate Conception Academy is accepting applications for Middle School teachers, a Music teacher and Substitute teachers for the 2017-18 school year. Teacher candidates must hold or be eligible for PA certification. Please send letter of interest, resume, copies of certification and transcripts, along with clearances and references to Mrs. Christine Foley, 903 Chestnut Street, Douglassville, 19518.

Love. Learning. Leadership.

Immaculate Conception Academy Transfer Grants

Any public, private, or charter school student who transfers into Immaculate Conception Academy, grades 1 through 7, will receive a Bishop's Tuition Transfer Grant of \$1,500 over two school years (\$1,000 the first year; \$500 the second). Call Adele Reilly at 610-404-8645.

Kentucky Mission Trip: Please pray for the members of our parish Youth Group who are departing today for their Mission Trip to Kentucky. Accompany them with your prayers for a safe journey as they will be travelling over 500 miles to reach their destination. Pray too that God will bless them with a good experience as they put their faith into action by using their talents and gifts to serve the poor and those most vulnerable. While at the Father Beiting Appalachian Mission Center in Louisa, Kentucky our youth group members will engage in home repairs including tarring and sealing a porch roof, repairing sub-flooring and joists in a kitchen and on a porch. They will also be working in a food pantry and visiting families in need. Throughout their week in Kentucky our teenagers will be working alongside of college students and seminarians who are spending the entire summer at the Mission Center as interns. Thank you for your generous support of the Mission Trip through your patronage of the Spaghetti Dinner, Pancake Breakfast and Car Wash sponsored by the Youth Group. Our young people also wish to thank the Knights of Columbus for their generous support of the Mission Trip.

Immaculate Conception is collecting cleaning products to assist in meeting the needs of the Food Pantry, called "Community Table". The Collection Bin is in the Narthex.

Discover/Rediscover Catholicism - Starting September 11th, join us on Monday evenings at 7:30pm for a better understanding of our Catholic faith. The Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults (RCIA) isn't just for those wishing to become a Catholic. It's for anyone seeking a better understanding of the beliefs, teachings and traditions of Catholicism. If interested or curious, contact Deacon Paul Hiryak or Msgr. McCann by calling the parish office at 610-582-2411. We hope to see you!

Come and serve...at the Kennedy House, 532 Spruce Street, Reading, August 5th/6th, approximately 8:45am to 1pm. Between 300 and 450 meals will be prepared and served. Serving so many is no easy task, and we need lots of hands to get it done. No cooking involved. We need help buttering bread, plating desserts and fruit, pouring drinks, wrapping utensils, cleanup etc. Parents and children 10 and up are encouraged to experience the joy of serving others together. Please contact Marsha: mgazz615@icloud.com or 610-385-6319 to volunteer or for information. There will also be a sign-up sheet in the narthex at the SCRIP table. Please make sure you indicate which day/days you will be helping along with your phone number. ***We will be getting together on August 2nd at 9am in the social hall of the church to prepare part of the meal for the weekend. If you are interested in helping out in that way, you will be most warmly welcomed.***

The Annual Diocesan Anniversary Mass Celebration will be held on September 17th at the Cathedral of St. Catharine of Siena, 1875 West Turner St., Allentown, 18104 at 3pm. We cordially invite couples celebrating five, twenty-five, forty, fifty, sixty or sixty plus years of marriage to this special event. Please refer to the A.D. Times for a registration form, register at www.allentowndiocese.org/anniversarymass, request a form at MFLF@allentowndiocese.org, or by calling 610-289-8900 ext. 2028. The form must be completed and returned to the Office of Marriage & Natural Family Planning, 2121 Madison Avenue, Bethlehem, 18017 by September 8.

ICC Altar Server Clinic

Friday, August 18th, 9:30am-12pm in the church

Any parish child in grades 6 through 12 can become an altar server. To enroll, please complete the form below and return to Msgr. McCann by August 17th.

Child's Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

Home Phone: _____

Parent's Phone: _____

Grade for 2017/2018 School Year: _____

Calendar

Monday

July 24

Weekday

Ex 14:5-18

Mt 12:38-42

Tuesday

July 25

St. James,

Apostle

2 Cor 4:7-15

Mt 20:20-28

Wednesday

July 26

Sts. Joachim and Anne,
Parents of

the Blessed Virgin Mary

Ex 16:1-5, 9-15

Mt 13:1-9

Thursday

July 27

Weekday

Ex 19:1-2, 9-11, 16-20b

Mt 13:10-17

Friday

July 28

Weekday

Ex 20:1-17

Mt 13:18-23

Saturday

July 29

St. Martha

Ex 24:3-8

Mt 13:24-30

Sunday

July 30

Seventeenth Sunday in

Ordinary Time

1 Kgs 3:5, 7-12

Rom 8:28-30

Mt 13:44-52 or 13:44-46

Dear Padre,

If I'm late for Mass, can I receive the Eucharist?

There is no hard-and-fast rule on how "late" one can be for Mass and still receive Communion. Holy Communion is offered outside of Mass at times, so theoretically you could come during the Communion rite and still receive Communion.

But there is more to be considered with this question. If you are going to go Mass, you should be there from the beginning to the end. You should be there before the entrance procession begins and you should stay until the last verse of the final song is sung. Things happen, like an unexpected train on the way to Mass or a sick child who needs attention and care. However, if you find yourself always coming late to Mass, you may need to make a change in your routine.

I remember cleaning out a closet of a church I was stationed at, and I found a sign with ropes attached to it. It stated, "Mass has begun, the next Mass begins at..." and there was a place where you could list the time of the next Mass. I was told the ropes were tied across the entrance so you couldn't come into Mass late.

Those days are gone, though. It's up to you to follow your conscience. It is important to participate in the entire celebration, but if on the rare occasion you come late to Mass, ask yourself, "*Can I prepare myself to worthily receive Communion at this moment?*" If you can answer "yes" to that question, then I would say it would be OK to receive Communion.

Fr. Patrick Keyes, CSSR
Sundaybulletin@Liguori.org



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A Word From Pope Francis

"With our eyes fixed on Jesus and his merciful gaze, we experience the love of the Most Holy Trinity. The mission Jesus received from the Father was that of revealing the mystery of divine love in its fullness. 'God is love' (1 John 4:8, 16), John affirms for the first and only time in all of Holy Scripture. This love has now been made visible and tangible in Jesus' entire life. His person is nothing but love, a love given gratuitously. The relationships he forms with the people who approach him manifest something entirely unique and unrepeatable. The signs he works, especially in favor of sinners, the poor, the marginalized, the sick, and the suffering, are all meant to teach mercy. Everything in him speaks of mercy. Nothing in him is devoid of compassion."

—*Misericordiae Vultus*, April 11, 2015