

## The Salvation He Offers

Once Peter is called “the rock” for his faith, he turns around and dissuades Jesus from the cross. Jesus responds sternly: “Get behind me, Satan!”

Jesus reveals two important things here. First, that Satan exists. Satan is very interested in going unnoticed, yet Jesus calls him out and makes Peter (and us) aware. The Bible is full of references to the devil. Popular culture also has focused on evil spirits—fascinated as it is with the occult, vampires, and the like. It seems to bear evil out more (and profit more from it) than some Catholics in the pews!

The second truth is that Satan can influence our thinking. I’m not referring to diabolical possession, which is a reality, but the more common temptations to lower our aspirations and to conform our thinking to a faithless perspective.

The painting *Satan Before the Lord* by Corrado Giaquinto, which depicts Satan asking and receiving permission to

tempt Job, focuses on this reality of evil. Satan knows our hearts and finds just the right strategy to lead us away from God. It usually involves one of the vices (lust, gluttony, greed, sloth, wrath, envy, or pride). Just like when Satan tempts Peter, he wants us to reject the demands of the cross, for he knows the cross is the instrument of his demise.

When God permits temptations to assail us or the effects of evil to touch our lives, we should respond humbly, as Job and Peter did. If God permits evil, it is only because he trusts us to love him sincerely—not just for the blessings he sends, but because of the salvation he offers.

—Fr. Mark Haydu, LC



Piece: *Satan Before the Lord*,  
mid-eighteenth century  
Artist: The Circle of Corrado Giaquinto  
Location: Pinacoteca, Room XV,  
Vatican Museums

### *For Reflection*

*How are you tempted by the enemy of your soul? Are you ever convinced you aren't being tempted at all? How can you approach those persons, places, or things that normally tempt you with humility to God?*

*“Get behind me, Satan! You are an obstacle to me. You are thinking not as God does, but as human beings do” (Matthew 16:23).*

# IMMACULATE CONCEPTION CHURCH

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 Rev. Leo S. Stajkowski.....In Residence  
 Deacon Paul J. Hiryak, Deacon James A. Bardi,  
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 Parish Religious Education/CCD ..610 582-3880  
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## TWENTY SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – SEPTEMBER 3, 2017

*The Sanctuary Lamp Burns In Memory of Henry Mammarella – 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary*

### ★ ★ MASS INTENTIONS ★ ★

SAT	5:15 PM	Catherine Alderman	THURS	7:00 PM	Henry Mammarella – 10 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary
SUN	7:30 AM	Dec'd Members of the Volpiccini Family	FRI	7:30 AM	Dec'd Members of the Grace Family
	9:00 AM	Frank & Sophie Kline		<u>9:00 AM</u>	ICA Mass – Nicolina Kennedy
	11:00 AM	Living & Deceased Parishioners	SAT	5:15 PM	Special Intention
MON	<u>9:00 AM</u>	Joseph Lewis Marks	SUN	7:30 AM	Living & Deceased Parishioners
TUES	7:00 PM	Raymond Davidheiser – 1 <sup>st</sup> Anniversary		9:00 AM	John & Theresa Husovsky
WED	7:30 AM	Betty Bascelli		11:00 am	Edward & Anna Maccarone

### NEXT WEEK AT A GLANCE

*SCRIP: Sponsor: Lukes 5:15 Zubik 7:30 Schwendt 9:00 Carvalho 11:00 Citrano*

DAY	MASS	Lector	COMMENTATOR	ALTAR SERVERS
SAT	5:15PM	Joseph Bailey	Jennifer Stuart	Caitlyn Bailey, Eliana and Simon Crew
SUN	7:30AM	Pam Amos	Dan Sweeney	Ande, Ethan and Lucien Kracycik
	9:00AM	Isabelita Santos	Josephine Hohl	Nicholas Donnelly, Ally and Jacob Santos
	11:00AM	Mary Ann Cotter	Jim Keaveney	Carson Endy, Vinny Ferrara, Andrew Kurtas

### *Second Collection Next Week is the Monthly Collection*

### ***You're Invited to see what a difference ICA makes!***

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 21<sup>st</sup> 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.***

To schedule a tour, please contact Adele Reilly, Advancement Director at 610-404-8645 or [adele.reilly@icaknights.org](mailto:adele.reilly@icaknights.org).

Visit us at [www.icaberks.org](http://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, Steve Mammarella, Joseph Kolenda, Dominic Strock, Bob Hocker, Mike DiScala, Mildred Mattassa, Deb Petras, Ronald Kryman, Anna Swiezak, Margarie & Walter Hansen, Rita Dougherty, Lou Franco, Lucille Schiel, John Fritz, Lucy Doney, Mary Okuniewski, Mark McDonald, Virginia Marks, Ken Rumler, Mark Vignone, Justine Mattassa, TJ Doyle, Harry Wood, Tony Guilliams, Fannie Hunter, Jacob Hafer, John LeFosse, Jennifer Quinter, Edward Woznicki, James Weikel, Robert Thomas, Theresa Lynch, Anne Hiryak and Anthony Cossa
- Pray for the recently departed: Reverend Monsignor Richard J. Loeper, Raymond E. Emery, Gloria Zampelli
- Congratulate the newly baptized: Anthony James Neishloss and Grady Thomas Neishloss
- Welcome our new parishioners: Mr. & Mrs. Luis Nunez, Ms. Stephanie Ramsey, Mr. & Mrs. Craig Tranovich

**THIS WEEK AT ICC:**

**Tues 09/05 7:30pm Baptism Class**

**Sat 09/09 4-5pm Confessions**

**WHAT'S HAPPENING**

**On Labor Day, September 4<sup>th</sup>, the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass will be offered at 9am. You are cordially invited to join with us in praying for God's blessing upon our nation and for His blessing upon all human labor. We invite you also to pray for all those who are currently unemployed; that they may soon find meaningful work so as to provide for themselves and their families.**

**Immaculate Conception Academy  
Positions Available**

Immaculate Conception Academy is accepting applications for classroom aids 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 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.

**CCD Registration Ending Soon!** Register now! Contact Mrs. O'Donnell at 610-582-3880.

**CCD Teachers Needed** - CCD Volunteers are always welcome! Teaching positions are available on Thursdays from 4:15pm to 5:30pm. Please consider giving an hour of your time to bring the Good News of God's great love for us to the children of our parish. If interested, please contact Mrs. O'Donnell at 610-582-3880 or email at [ccd@icbvm.org](mailto:ccd@icbvm.org).

**Sunday School** begins September 24<sup>th</sup>. Registration is now open for children ages 3 to 5. Forms are available in the Narthex and parish office. If you would like to volunteer, please call Mrs. O'Donnell at 610-582-3880 or email at [ccd@icbvm.org](mailto:ccd@icbvm.org).

*Our parish family of the Immaculate Conception proudly congratulates and thanks the young men and women of our church who have volunteered to serve at God's holy altar. Our new Altar Servers are: John Babiec, Caitlyn Bailey, Andrew Kurtas, Marielle Davis, Rachel Forkin, Pearce Gray, Delaney Hyer, Avery Kelly, Lucien Kraycik, Dante LaScala, Daniel Montowski, Bridget Ottinger, Owen Reber, Angela Serpico*

Come along and enjoy the last days of summer by the Jersey Shore and join us for the **RESORTS AC TRIP** - September 22<sup>nd</sup> - leave ICC promptly at 9:30am - Package Deal: Pay \$32 get \$25 back - Call Carol J at 610-775-4447

In every Catholic Church across the United States a special collection will be taken up next weekend, September 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup>, to benefit the people of Texas and the Gulf Coast where lives have been so adversely effected by the extreme devastation and flooding caused by Hurricane Harvey.

You are invited to place your donation in the second collection next weekend. Please place your gift in an envelope marked "Texas Relief". Thank you in advance for your generosity and please continue to pray for those who have lost so much and for the emergency responders who have gone to their aid.

**Discover/Rediscover Catholicism** - Starting September 11<sup>th</sup>, 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!

Immaculate Conception Academy's Home & School Organization Annual Christmas Bazaar - Immaculate Conception Church - November 4<sup>th</sup>, 9am-3pm. **Vendor spaces are still available.** For more information on becoming a vendor please email [ICAXmas@gmail.com](mailto:ICAXmas@gmail.com) or stop in the parish office for an application.

**Save the date!!** The Sixth Annual Diocesan Men's Conference will be held on Saturday, November 4<sup>th</sup> at DeSales University. Watch the bulletin for additional information. Last year a large number of men from our parish of the Immaculate Conception attended the conference and found it most worthwhile

**Swing Fore the Saints 7th Annual Golf Outing** - September 15<sup>th</sup> - Golden Oaks Golf Club - 8am & 1pm shotgun starts - 4-person scramble - \$125 per golfer includes greens fees, cart, prizes, scoring & buffet lunch or dinner - Sponsorships starting at \$100 - Join alumni, parents and friends of Berks Catholic for this fun event. Pre-registration is required. For info, to register or for a sponsorship packet, please contact Betsy at 610-374-8361, x231.

**Team Scramble Golf Outing** - September 24<sup>th</sup> - Reading Country Club - Benefits Birdsboro-Union Fire Dept New Truck Fund - \$125 per golfer includes lunch, golf, dinner and prizes. Details at [www.BUFD7.org](http://www.BUFD7.org) or 610-582-0058.

**Fall and Winter Craft Fair** - Thousands of items! Wooden, Textiles, Jewelry, Candles, Holiday Decorations and Gifts September 22 - 5-9pm, September 23/24 9am-6pm Birdsboro/Union Fire Company, 214 W. First St, Birdsboro All proceeds benefit the local food pantry in Birdsboro, Hopewell Love, and the needs of the community. For more information please contact 610-582-4377



## Calendar

### Monday

September 4

Weekday

1 Thes 4:13–18

Lk 4:16–30

### Tuesday

September 5

Weekday

1 Thes 5:1–6, 9–11

Lk 4:31–37

### Wednesday

September 6

Weekday

Col 1:1–8

Lk 4:38–44

### Thursday

September 7

Weekday

Col 1:9–14

Lk 5:1–11

### Friday

September 8

*Nativity of the  
Blessed Virgin Mary*

Mi 5:1–4a or

Rom 8:28–30

Mt 1:1–16, 18–23 or

1:18–23

### Saturday

September 9

*St. Peter Claver,  
Priest*

Col 1:21–23

Lk 6:1–5

### Sunday

September 10

*Twenty-Third Sunday  
in Ordinary Time*

Ez 33:7–9

Rom 13:8–10

Mt 18:15–20

# Dear Padre,

**A family member engages in sinful behavior. I know I should say something, but I'm afraid it'll damage my relationship with him. How can I respond with love without accepting his lifestyle?**

**O**f the many ways to invite others to conversion, “admonishing the sinner” is often the most challenging. This spiritual work of mercy requires proper motives, humility, respect, and diplomacy.

**Motivation:** Read Jesús' story of the Pharisee and tax collector in the Temple (Luke 18:9–14). Your desire to “respond with love” is far better than that of a self-righteous accuser. Christ found condemnation less effective for conversion than invitation; he knew his Father's mercy was greater than sinful behavior. Therefore, condemn the behavior, not the person. Try to understand what motivated his behavior as well.

**Humility and Respect:** We often possess a limited view on matters, so your dialogue is an attempt to arrive at authenticity in a respectful partnership; both of your perceptions may be altered in the sacred process!

**Diplomacy:** Your established relationship with this family member is advantageous to your mission. Still, pick and choose your admonitions carefully. Avoid fraternal correction for trivial, isolated incidents. Gain strength from the Letter of James, which states that “if anyone among you should stray from the truth and someone bring him back, he should know that whoever brings back a sinner from the error of his way will save his soul from death and will cover a multitude of sins” (James 5:19–20).

Fr. Byron Miller, CSSR  
Sundaybulletin@Liguori.org



GIJUNOV/SHUTTERSTOCK



## A Word From Pope Francis

*The devil...to divert Jesus from the way of the cross, sets before him false messianic hopes: economic well-being...a dramatic and miraculous style...; and lastly, a shortcut to power and dominion, in exchange for an act of adoration to Satan....Note well how Jesus responds. He does not dialogue with Satan...Jesus is well aware that there can be no dialogue with Satan, for he is cunning. That is why Jesus...chooses to take refuge in the Word of God and responds with the power of this Word.*

—Angelus, St. Peter's Square, March 9, 2014