

## Our Divine Mark

Have you ever wondered why so many ancient busts of emperors and gods still exist? In any major museum around the world, you'll see rows of these masterful sculptures. The Vatican Museums have one of the best of these collections. The photo was taken in one of the galleries.

Thousands of busts and statues of the emperors and gods were produced for civil use in ancient times. Just like the American president's portrait is in every US embassy, so Caesar's sculpted form was all over the Roman Empire. For example, a bust would be placed in the town squares of the outlying territories to indicate that a border population belonged to the Roman Empire. The sculptures of Roman gods were also set up in public places around town so that a certain religious unity was preserved. Being within the empire obliged citizens to pay tributes and taxes,

and it assured them of protection. Once the Caesars declared themselves divine, their statue also required sacrifice and worship.

The image of the Caesar marked what belonged to him: from land, to money, to people, to prayer. If you were under his image, you belonged to him.

We also carry the mark of a divine image that indicates to whom we belong. Each human being is made in the image of God, to be his reflection. We are sculpted and formed to reflect the artist who made us. God gives humans dignity because we are an eternal reflection of God's free, intelligent, artful, and beautiful nature. Our inalienable rights, rooted in our spiritual and rational nature, come from our Creator, as do our duties. No government or individual can give or take them away.

### *For Reflection*

*Do I realize my dignity and value doesn't come from others' opinions or even my opinion, but from God's gift?*

*Do I render to God what he deserves for all he has given me?*

It is proper to render unto Caesar what is his, but both Caesar and his subjects must render to God what belongs to God. —Fr. Mark Haydu, LC



Pieces: Roman busts and statues

Artists: Various

Location: Chiaramonti Museum-Braccio Nuovo Gallery, Vatican Museums

*He said to them, "Whose image is this and whose inscription?" They replied, "Caesar's." At that he said to them, "Then repay to Caesar what belongs to Caesar and to God what belongs to God" (Matthew 22:20-21).*

# IMMACULATE CONCEPTION CHURCH

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Rev. Msgr. John B. McCann ..... Pastor  
 Rev. Leo S. Stajkowski.....In Residence  
 Deacon Paul J. Hiryak, Deacon James A. Bardi,  
 Deacon Charles A. Giordano  
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 Parish Religious Education/CCD ..610 582-3880  
 Parish Preschool .....610 404-8645  
 Parish Website.....www.icbvm.org

Immaculate Conception Academy.....610 404-8645.....www.icaberks.org  
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## TWENTY NINTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – OCTOBER 22, 2017

### *The Sanctuary Lamp Burns In Memory of the Rita & Guy Klang*

### ★ ★ MASS INTENTIONS ★ ★

SAT	5:15 PM	Eileen Auchenbach	THURS	<u>7:30 AM</u>	Annette Brennan
SUN	7:30 AM	Mike Kilareski	FRI	7:30 AM	Thomas Grace, Sr.
	9:00 AM	Living & Deceased Parishioners	SAT	5:15 PM	Guy Klang
	11:00 AM	God's Blessings on Anne Hiryak	SUN	7:30 AM	John Palko
MON	7:30 AM	Carolyn Corbett – 10 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary		9:00 AM	Mary & Lawrence DelGrosso
TUES	<u>4:30 PM</u>	<b>Confirmation Mass</b>		11:00 AM	Living & Deceased Parishioners
WED	7:30 AM	Suzanne Metzker			

### NEXT WEEK AT A GLANCE

*SCRIP: Sponsor: Gulla 5:15 Pisarek 7:30 Kasperowicz 9:00 McCauley 11:00 DeFalco*

DAY	MASS	Lector	COMMENTATOR	ALTAR SERVERS
SAT	5:15PM	Shirley Wheeler	Barbara Giordano	Carson Endy, Austin Lobaugh, Daniel Montowski
SUN	7:30AM	Adelina Kieffer	Sean Werner	Vinny Ferrara, Anna and Daniel Schlegel
	9:00AM	Pam Amos	Josephine Hohl	Taylor Moyer, Hannah Santos, Angela Serpico
	11:00AM	Jim Keaveney	Leonard Cline	Michael Beitz, Ethan Cline, Sean Purretta

### *Second Collection Next Week is Religious Ministries*

### **Be an Immaculate Conception Academy Corporate Sponsor**

Immaculate Conception Academy is currently seeking corporate sponsors for the 2017-18 school year. In the past, we have been generously supported by our parish families and friends who are also part of our local business community. This support has been critical in our mission to bring out the best in each of our students.

If you are interested in becoming a corporate sponsor, please visit [www.icaberks.org](http://www.icaberks.org) for more information! Information packets can also be found in the wooden kiosk by the door in the Narthex. Please contact Adele Reilly, ICA Advancement Director at 610-404-8645 or [adele.reilly@icaknights.org](mailto:adele.reilly@icaknights.org) with any questions!

Remember in your prayers the sick of our parish: Marco Fiato, Margaret Kakas, Delores Woy, Alice Arantowicz, Yolanda Marino, Morris Motta, Ann Schlott, Joseph & Susan McCorristin, Mary & Phil Morici, Dan Casciano, Jake Maccarone, Madge Butto, Joan Cronin, Rose Osorio, Steve Mannarella, Joseph Kolenda, Dominic Strock, Bob Hocker, Mike DiScala, Anthony Mattassa Sr, Deb Petras, Ronald Kryman, Anna Swiezak, Margarie & Walter Hansen, Rita Dougherty, Lou Franco, John Fritz, Lucy Doney, Mary Okuniewski, Virginia Marks, Ken Rumler, Mark Vignone, Justine Mattassa, TJ Doyle, Harry Wood, Tony Guilliams, Fannie Hunter, John LeFosse, Robert Thomas, Theresa Lynch, Anne Hiryak, Mark McDonald, William Reardon, Frances Bambrick, Roseann Malcolm, Joe Shevenock and Anthony Cossa

Pray for the deceased: John Kakas, Leo Joseph Munley  
 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.

## **THIS WEEK AT ICC:**

<b>Sun</b>	<b>10/22</b>	<b>PANCAKE BREAKFAST</b>
<b>Mon</b>	<b>10/23</b>	<b>7:30pm RCIA</b>
<b>Tues</b>	<b>10/24</b>	<b>4:30pm Confirmation Mass</b>
<b>Thurs</b>	<b>10/26</b>	<b>7:30pm Adult Choir</b>
<b>Sat</b>	<b>10/28</b>	<b>4-5pm Confessions</b>



## **WHAT'S HAPPENING**



### **Daily Mass Schedule** - Please note on Tuesday,

October 24<sup>th</sup>, the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass will be offered at 4:30pm at which time Bishop Alfred Schlert will administer the Sacrament of Confirmation to the children of our parish family of the Immaculate Conception. Everyone is welcome to attend.

On Thursday, October 26<sup>th</sup>, the daily Mass will be offered at 7:30am as opposed to the usual evening time.

### **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 Academy is now on**

**Facebook!** Please "Like" us for news, event

information and to see what a difference ICA makes!

**Bereavement Support Group** - October 16<sup>th</sup>, 7pm in the Church, using side door first room on the right. We welcome anyone who is grieving the loss of a loved one. Call Pat at 610-775-1892 or Toni at 610-404-1389.

**Sunday School** - Ages 3-5 Registration forms are available in the Narthex and parish office. If you would like to volunteer, please call Dawn O'Donnell at 610-582-3880.

**ICA HSO's Christmas Bazaar** - November 4<sup>th</sup>, 9am - 3pm, Social Hall - Please join us for a day of shopping, crafts, raffles, baked goods, soups, good food and good fun. This is a wonderful opportunity to support our school and local businesses. Get a sneak peek at our vendors and delicious breakfast and lunch menu on our Facebook page - *Immaculate Conception Christmas Bazaar*. If you have any questions, please email [icaxmas@gmail.com](mailto:icaxmas@gmail.com).

**ICC is hosting a Miller Keystone blood drive during the Christmas Bazaar** on November 4<sup>th</sup>, 8am - 1pm. Schedule your donation time by signing up on the form located in the narthex of the church or on the donor portal at [www.GiveaPint.org](http://www.GiveaPint.org).

**Congratulations to the students of ICA for their wonderful Dance-A-Thon participation. Sabrina Swanson won our Limbo Contest and Mr. Mangan and Mrs. Reber tied for the best teacher dancers. A fun time was had by all! Contributions can be mailed to ICA, 903 Chestnut Street, Douglassville, 19518**

**Make your good marriage great!** Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend-11/17-19 at Our Lady of Czestochowa in Doylestown. To apply visit [www.wwme-philly.org](http://www.wwme-philly.org) or contact Al & Mary Liz Heumann at 610-449-1859.

Discover/Rediscover Catholicism - Join us on Monday evenings for a better understanding of our Catholic Faith. This week's topic will be "The Mass, Part II: Liturgy of the Eucharist." Class begins at 7:30pm in the office building lower level meeting room. All are welcome. Contact the office with questions at 610-582-2411.

### **Thanksgiving Baskets for Those in Need**

To assist families in need, all of the churches in the Birdsboro and Douglassville area have agreed to adopt a particular school for the Thanksgiving holiday. Immaculate Conception has adopted Daniel Boone High School and will provide Thanksgiving baskets to families in need with children enrolled in the high school. If your family would like to donate a Thanksgiving basket for a needy family, please call the parish office at 610-582-2411 to sign-up. We will provide you with a specific list of needed items and the date by which the basket must be brought to the parish office to ensure its timely delivery.

Thank you for your concern for those in need.

Berks Catholic High School is accepting Applications for the 2018-2019 School Year. Please contact Nicky Smith to schedule a personal tour, receive an Application packet or to schedule a "Saint for a Day" visit. All inquiries are confidential. [nsmith@berkscatholic.org](mailto:nsmith@berkscatholic.org) or 610.374.8361x244

**Spirit 2017** - "Lord, to Whom Shall We Go?" Diocesan Men's Conference-11/4, 9am-5pm at De Sales University. Keynote addresses, exhibits and a vigil Mass with Bishop Alfred Schlert. Fee: \$40 and \$10 for high school/college students. Breakfast and lunch included. For info and to register, visit [www.cmfda.org](http://www.cmfda.org). Questions? 610-289-8900x2028. Brochures are in the narthex.

**Chosen, Blessed, Shared** - Please take advantage of the opportunity to offer support to the retired priests of our Diocese by helping provide for their care in retirement! Your donation will help serve those who have faithfully served us. Brochures and giving envelopes are available in the narthex, and you will be receiving a request letter in the mail within the next few days. You may return your gift in the mail or drop it in the collection basket at Mass. Thank you for your generous support.

**St. Peter's Bazaar (Marciano Hall, 326 S. 5<sup>th</sup> St, Reading) - 10/28, 8am-2pm 10/29, 9am-2pm- Christmas decorations, kitchenware, antiques, lamps, clothes, shoes, toys, furniture - ethnic cultural food, free coffee - 610-372-9652**

**5K Color Run - 11/4 - Amity Community Park, 9-12, <https://runsignup.com/Race/PA/Douglassville/Troop1797> ColorRun**

**3<sup>rd</sup> Annual - 11/4 - "Sean Wertman Memorial 3vs.3 Basketball Tournament"**. Help to end addiction "One Basket" at a time...while having fun and displaying good sportsmanship! Exeter Senior High School gym for boys and girls in 5<sup>th</sup>/6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup>/8<sup>th</sup> grades. The purpose is to increase awareness of DXM (cough syrup) abuse and a fundraiser for Teen Challenge Rehab. \$60 per team entrance fee. Contact Roger or Valerie Wertman at 610-779-8943 or [rogerwertman@yahoo.com](mailto:rogerwertman@yahoo.com). Please help this important cause. Team sponsors and donations are welcome!



## Calendar

### Monday

October 23

Weekday

Rom 4:20–25

Lk 12:13–21

### Tuesday

October 24

Weekday

Rom 5:12, 15b,

17–19, 20b–21

Lk 12:35–38

### Wednesday

October 25

Weekday

Rom 6:12–18

Lk 12:39–48

### Thursday

October 26

Weekday

Rom 6:19–23

Lk 12:49–53

### Friday

October 27

Weekday

Rom 7:18–25a

Lk 12:54–59

### Saturday

October 28

*Sts. Simon and Jude,*

*Apostles*

Eph 2:19–22

Lk 6:12–16

### Sunday

October 29

*Thirtieth Sunday  
in Ordinary Time*

Ex 22:20–26

1 Thes 1:5c–10

Mt 22:34–40

# Dear Padre,

**Would you kindly address the issue of donating to charities? I'm sure others receive requests for money from many different organizations. I feel guilty discarding letters with pictures of starving children, when I eat well.**

I have the same dilemma. I live in the richest country in the world. I could live much more simply and dispose of all the income I don't need. But to do so would require a substantial change in lifestyle and would undoubtedly be viewed by many as irresponsible.

Some are called to live a life of radical giving and radical poverty. Others—most of us—are called to live simply according to our circumstances and needs. We're called to be generous, but we're also expected to plan for the future, provide for our families, and seriously accept the other responsibilities before us.

It is not necessary to respond to every particular need for which you receive an appeal, no matter

how needy or worthy it may be. Choose a representative sampling of charities that you feel you can support, and discard the other appeals. Do so in good conscience. If, in the future, you find yourself to be in a situation where you can be even more generous, then by all means choose to do so.

Adapted from *Understanding Scrupulosity: Questions and Encouragement*, by Fr. Thomas Santa, CSsR, © 2017 Liguori Publications, [Sundaybulletin@liguori.org](mailto:Sundaybulletin@liguori.org)



PINKOMELE/SHUTTERSTOCK



## *A Word From Pope Francis*

*Profit and capital are not a good over and above the human person; they are at the service of the common good. When the common good is used only at the service of profit and capital, this has a name: it is called exclusion, and through it the throwaway culture gets stronger and stronger.*

—Homily in Ciudad Juárez, Mexico, February 17, 2016

Immaculate Conception,

# CHRISTMAS

BAZAAR

905 Chestnut Street  
Douglassville

November 4th  
9am-3pm



GIFTS  
CRAFTS  
SOUP



[ICAHSO.org](http://ICAHSO.org)

# THE ENDOWMENT FOR THE CARE OF RETIRED PRIESTS



*Dear Friends,*

Each year, the Diocese of Allentown conducts our *Chosen, Blessed, Shared* appeal to support those retired priests who have spent a lifetime living out the words of St. Paul, “*It is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me.*”

As part of their lifetime of service, our priests have built schools, parishes, Catholic Charities, family ministries, and more in cities, towns, and neighborhoods throughout the five counties served by the Diocese of Allentown. More importantly, our priests lead us in prayer and in worship. Quite simply, they make it possible to live our lives in communion with Christ.

As you’ll see in the brochure, the Diocese of Allentown is committed to caring for those priests who care for us. With your help, the Endowment for the Care of Retired Priests can grow so that it will fully support the health and long-term care for our elderly and infirmed priests in good standing, who, as you probably know, generally continue in their service to our families, to our Diocese, and to the Lord well past any kind of ordinary retirement age.

This year, I hope you will respond to this appeal and support The Endowment for the Care of Retired Priests with a personal contribution. Together, we can continue to keep our promise to care for those who care for us.

Thank you for your kindness, remembrance, and recognition of our priests’ long tradition of prayerful service within the Diocese of Allentown.

*Gratefully in Christ,*

*Paul Acampora*

*Secretary for Stewardship & Development*