

Ordinary Time

October 25, 2015 ♦ Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time

When my mother was alive and Thanksgiving rolled around, my siblings and I would pack up our respective families and travel home for the traditional holiday dinner. There was something so right and satisfying about seeing one another, sharing what had happened since we saw each other last and eating the good food that was part of the feast. Of course as we got older, we helped out with the cooking, serving, and cleaning up, and with entertaining the frequent guests that showed up. On that day we were all family.

The year my mother died, my brother, sisters, and I were not sure what to do. Her house had been sold, and we were scattered to different parts of the country. Thanksgiving was a very different feast

that year, as it often is when matriarchs and patriarch pass. We talked about what we missed and wanted, and now we celebrate Thanksgiving at my house with all who can make it. The tradition has become ours, and we look forward to it every year.

Imagine being unable to celebrate any of your traditions for forty years. That's what the Jews faced during their long exile. They were unable to gather as a family and worship God in their own way. Jeremiah's vision of their joyful return holds out the hope that God will once again gather them up and bring them

home. There, God will restore them to wholeness just as Jesus restored Bartimaeus, who courageously called out to him and asked for what he most desired.

MARY KATHARINE DEELEY
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Today's Readings

Jer 31:7-9
Heb 5:1-6
Mk 10:46-52



IMMACULATE CONCEPTION CHURCH

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Rev. Msgr. John B. McCann Pastor
 Rev. Leo S. Stajkowski.....In Residence
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 Parish Office610 582-2411
 Parish Religious Education/CCD610 582-3880
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Immaculate Conception Academy.....6104048645
 Academy Website.....www.icaberks.org
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THIRTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – OCTOBER 25, 2015

★ ★ MASS INTENTIONS ★ ★

SAT	5:15 PM	GUY KLANG – 10 TH ANNIVERSARY	THU	7:00 PM	ANDREW & SOPHIA LAKATOSH
SUN	7:30 AM	JOHN PALKO	FRI	7:30 AM	KERI GRACE
	9:00 AM	LIVING & DECEASED PARISHIONERS	SAT	5:15 PM	ANNA MACCARONE
	11:00 AM	JOAN LEFOSSE	SUN	7:30 AM	LIVING & DECEASED PARISHIONERS
MON		NO MASS		9:00 AM	PARISH MEMORIAL SOCIETY
TUE	7:00 PM	ANTHONY & MARGARET MOHR		11:00 AM	PARISH MEMORIAL SOCIETY
WED	7:30 AM	MEGHAN EVES BAILEY			

The Sanctuary Lamp Burns In Memory of Guy & Rita Klang

NEXT WEEK AT A GLANCE

SCRIP: Sponsor: Zubik 5:15 McNamara 7:30 Collura 9:00 Grieco 11:00 DeFalco

<u>DAY</u>	<u>MASS</u>	<u>LECTOR</u>	<u>COMMENTATOR</u>	<u>ALTAR SERVERS</u>
SAT	5:15pm	Barbara Giordano	Joseph Bailey	Anna and Matthew Lambert, Sidney Wolf
SUN	7:30am	Dennis Piontek	Sean Werner	Michael Beitz, Matthew Dugan, Gage Speece
	9:00am	Kevin Creamer	Pat Fessler	Aiden Reber, Steven and Marissa Tepper
	11:00am	Betty Effinger	Mary Ann Cotter	Lilia and Simon Crew, Carson Endy

The second collection next week is for All Saints Day

Thinking about becoming a Catholic? Looking for a "Faith Refresher?"

Join Msgr. McCann, Deacon Paul Hiryak and guest speakers on Monday evenings 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. Classes are 7:30-9pm. You are welcome to attend as many sessions as your schedule permits. For information, contact the parish office at 610.582.2411.

Remember in your prayers the sick of our parish: Marco Fiato, Bryan Fiato, John & Margaret Kakas, Maryanne Prentice, Tracy Seasholtz, Aaron Gulla, John Iezzi, Delores Woy, Alice Arantowicz, Andrew Martin, Alice Smyk, Barbara Pease, Yolanda Marino, Robert Mariani, Marie Snyder, Ann Schlott, Maryanna Niemczyk, Kathy Patrick, Doris Slater, Joseph & Susan McCorristin, Mary & Phil Morici, Margaret Maccarone, Father Joseph Campion, Dan Casciano, Rex Voelker, Linda Ritchie, Shirley Koch, Paisley Stout, Jake Maccarone, Walter & Marjorie Hansen, Betty Erjavec, Christine Flanagan, Joann Gilbert, Ronald Readinger, Bill Strock, Sr., Joseph Butto, Thomas Kirchner, Guisepppe Lubrano and Dolores McCullough

Welcome our new parishioners: Mr. & Mrs. David Panzarella, Mr. James Neebling, Mr. & Mrs. Patrick Rider

Pray for the recently departed: Mary Levengood, Joseph Conrad, Michael Anthony Nicolas

THIS WEEK AT ICC:

Mon 10/26 7:30pm RCIA
Tues 10/27 7:30pm Bell Choir
Thurs 10/29 7:30pm Adult Choir
Sat 10/31 4-5pm Confession

WHAT'S HAPPENING

Please be advised that there will be no daily Mass Monday, October 26th. Thank you for your kind understanding in this regard.

Immaculate Conception Academy and Early Education 2015-2016 Registrations

We welcome everyone to join us if you have a student entering preschool (age 3) through 8th grade. Academy Tours are available by contacting Shannon Villa at shannon.villa@icaknights.org or 610-404-8645. Please bring a copy of the child's birth certificate, social security card and immunization record to registration.

Kindergarten students must be aged 5 by 10/15/15 and 1st Grade students aged 6 by 10/15/15.

ICA offers a full day Kindergarten

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 for the first year; \$500 for the second). Call Shannon at 610-404-8645.

ICC CYO Winter Registrations for Boys/Girls Basketball (3rd through 8th) and Cheerleading (Girls: 4th-8th) are available on our website: www.ICCYO.com

It's Apple Dumpling Time! Those big juicy apples are just waiting to be baked into our wonderful dumplings. Please look for the order sheets in the narthex, bulletin and newsletter. Get your order in early. We will be distributing the Apple Dumplings on November 7/8. Please pre-pay and order if you want to make sure you get your dumplings. If you would be interested in helping to make the apple dumplings, please join us in the Social Hall on November 6th at 9am or November 7th at 9am. No experience necessary. It is light, easy work, but we need many hands.

Junior High Youth Group: students in grades 7 and 8 are welcome to join our youth group on November 6th at 7pm for our first "Punkin Chunkin" and "Smashing Punkins" competitions. We will provide the slingshot and the sledgehammer. But if you have a better idea on how to fling a pumpkin, please feel free to bring it. There will be prizes. As always, please feel free to bring a friend!

OPEN REGISTRATION- Berks Catholic is accepting applications for the 2016-2017 school year. Please contact Nicole Smith to find out all the great opportunities a Berks Catholic education offers. Call 610.374.8361 or email nsmith@berkscatholic.org.

Gethsemane Cemetery's All Souls Commemoration - Sunday, November 8th, 2015 at 3:00 P.M. in Chapel Resurrection - Everyone is Welcome.

Bulletin Deadline - Wednesday at Noon
bulletin@icbvm.org

ICA-HSO Christmas Bazaar

November 21st, 9am to 3pm, Social Hall

Lots of great locally made crafts and stocking stuffers...wood crafts and toys, Christmas wreaths and ornaments, baked specialties and candies, home décor, candles, jewelry, handmade frames, gift baskets and so much more! We also will have soups and other lunch items for purchase and a Bake Sale!

ICC is hosting a Miller Keystone blood drive during the ICA-HSO Christmas Bazaar from 8am to 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, search for sponsor code 4543.

2015 Walk-A-Thon for Catholic Education

Donations are being gratefully accepted. Please place in an envelope marked "**ICA Walk-a-Thon**" and mail to Immaculate Conception Academy, 903 Chestnut Street, Douglassville 19518 or drop in any Sunday collection basket.

All donations are greatly appreciated.

ICA HSO is collecting gently used (or new) Halloween costumes. All donations will be distributed to children at Berks Women in Crisis, the Opportunity House and the Boys & Girls Club. Emptying your closets will allow kids in our area to be princesses, superheroes, and everything in between this season! Please drop off at ICA during school hours or at the church office by October 22nd.

Have you been throwing your dimes in the trash?? You did if you have not been saving the **Box Tops for Education** coupons which are found on participating products you use every day. Think of these Box Tops as "dimes" we collect to raise money for Immaculate Conception Academy. You can find Box Tops on hundreds of products from cereal and granola to tissues and cleaning products. Each Box Top is worth 10 cents - some Bonus Box Tops can be worth even more!! Just cut the Box Top from the participating product and place the Box Top in the designated box in the Narthex of church. Every Box Top adds up! Think about what that "FREE" money could do for our school and our students!! Contact Jessica at jmbailey727@yahoo.com with any questions.

The National 40 Days for Life Campaign and Prayer Vigil goes through November 1st. Daily prayer vigil in front of Reading Planned Parenthood, 4th and Franklin Streets, 7am-4pm, Monday to Saturday. 610-375-3395.

Mark your calendars! There will be a special concert held here on November 16th at 7:30pm given by John Paul Kasperowicz (and family) and The Ministry of the Single-hearted. This event is open to everyone as there will be a little something for all ages. This is a free event, however a free will offering will be taken up and a portion of the proceeds given to the Hope Rescue Mission in Reading.

Sacred Heart Villa is looking for volunteers for activities. They are needed any time Monday through Friday. Contact Marlene at 610-929-5751, ext 237.

Holiday Craft Show - Birdsboro Union Fire Department - November 7th, 8am-2pm

Daniel Boone Optimist 34th Annual Craft Show - December 5th/6th, 9am-3pm at the Daniel Boone Middle School - Over 120 crafters - www.danielbooneoptimist.com



October 25, 2015

dear Padre

Monday
OCTOBER 26
Weekday
Rom 8:12-17
Lk 13:10-17

Tuesday
OCTOBER 27
Weekday
Rom 8:18-25
Lk 13:18-21

Wednesday
OCTOBER 28
Sts. Simon and Jude,
Apostles
Eph 2:19-22
Lk 6:12-16

Thursday
OCTOBER 29
Weekday
Rom 8:31b-39
Lk 13:31-35

Friday
OCTOBER 30
Weekday
Rom 9:1-5
Lk 14:1-6

Saturday
OCTOBER 31
Weekday
Rom 11:1-2a, 11-12,
25-29
Lk 14:1, 7-11

Sunday
NOVEMBER 1
All Saints
Rv 7:2-4, 9-14
1 Jn 3:1-3
Mt 5:1-12a

Liguori.org



May I come home?

Q I became a member of the Catholic Church in 1961 when I married a Catholic man. I divorced him and left the Church in 2007. Now I am a member of the United Methodist Church. Is it possible for me to rejoin the Catholic Church, and if so, what are the requirements? I miss “the church of my heart,” the Catholic Church.

It certainly is possible for you to come back, and now is the time to do it. Simply return to your local parish and begin attending Mass regularly. Before you receive the Eucharist again, you should make an appointment to celebrate the sacrament of reconciliation. If you are not quite ready to do that, at least begin with coming to church regularly. Introduce yourself to the priest and tell him that you would like to celebrate the sacrament of reconciliation because you have been away from the Church for a number of years. The priest might encourage you to come to confession at a regularly scheduled time or perhaps make an appointment so you can spend more time together. It is not necessary to go to classes or to rejoin the RCIA, but there may be some adult faith formation classes you could participate in. Again, your priest or parish could guide you.

That tug you are feeling is nothing less than the Holy Spirit. Welcome Home!

FR. PATRICK KEYES, CSSR
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By listening to and imitating Mary’s question to God’s messenger (“How can this be?”), we can learn to ask the Lord for the information needed to serve him better. As we learn to imitate our Lady, we’ll be less concerned with the potential consequences and more focused on what God wants us to do.

—From *Listen to Your Blessed Mother: Mary’s Words in Scripture* by Gary E. Zimak

To read sample pages from *Listen to Your Blessed Mother*, visit Liguori.org, type the title or **823756** in the search bar, and click on the book.