

Baptism of the Lord

January 10, 2016

Is 42:1–4, 6–7 or Is 40:1–5, 9–11 ✦ Acts 10:34–38 or Ti 2:11–14; 3:4–7 ✦ Lk 3:15–16, 21–22

When we were growing up, my siblings and I would often ask our grandmother to tell us stories about our mother when she was young. We liked listening to our mother tell those same stories from her perspective. The stories varied in some details, but it always felt like a veil was lifted on the past and we had some sense of where we came from along with some insight about our mother's personality.

She, of course, did the same thing for my daughters, making them giggle at the story of my getting into her perfume bottle when I was three. Such stories connect us with the people we know. Old friends trade stories of shared experiences; young companions learn about the world from the stories of their elders and even from the stories their friends tell them about their lives.

In Acts, Peter appeals to his listeners by telling the story they know so well. He even appeals to their shared experience as he says, "You know..." (v. 36). Stories connect us to one another and open the door to understanding each other a little more and a little better. In his story, Peter marks the baptism of Jesus as the beginning of his ministry. Our story in the Christian community begins with baptism as well. Peter records that Jesus went on "doing good and healing all those oppressed by the devil, for God was with him" (v. 38). What would the story of our lives after baptism tell people about us? Would someone like Peter tell people that we went about doing good and loving God and neighbor?

MARY KATHARINE DEELEY
sundaybulletin@liguori.org



A Word From Pope Francis

"And from that day forward up until today, this has been an uninterrupted chain: they baptized their children, and their children their own, and those children... Such is the chain of faith!"

Homily on the feast of the Baptism of the Lord, January 12, 2015

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION CHURCH

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Rev. Msgr. John B. McCann Pastor
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 Parish Religious Education/CCD610 582-3880
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Immaculate Conception Academy.....610404-8645
 Academy Website.....www.icaberks.org
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BAPTISM OF THE LORD - JANUARY 10, 2016

★ ★ MASS INTENTIONS ★ ★

SAT	5:15 PM	FRANK JANISZEWSKI	THU	7:00 PM	CYNTHIA SWISHER SCHICKRAM
SUN	7:30 AM	JOHN BRADLEY	FRI	7:30 AM	BARBARA PEASE
	9:00 AM	DUANE MADRZYKOWSKI - 1 ST ANNIVERSARY		9:00 AM	ICA MASS - CHRISTINE GRITT
	11:00 AM	LIVING & DECEASED PARISHIONERS	SAT	5:15 PM	HENRY MAMMARELLA
MON	No MASS		SUN	7:30 AM	SALVATORE MONASTERO
TUE	7:00 PM	STELLA GILL		9:00 AM	THEONA KOZAK
WED	7:30 AM	MARY E. GAGNON		11:00 AM	LIVING & DECEASED PARISHIONERS

*The Sanctuary Lamp Burns In Memory of Frank Janiszewski and
 In Memory of Cynthia Swisher Schickram*

NEXT WEEK AT A GLANCE

SCRIP: Zubick 5:15pm Costanzo 7:30am Schwendt 9:00am Grieco 11:00am Hafer

<u>DAY</u>	<u>MASS</u>	<u>LECTOR</u>	<u>COMMENTATOR</u>	<u>ALTAR SERVERS</u>
SAT	5:15pm	Jennifer Stuart	Barbara Giordano	Leonard Cline, Sean and Stephen Hannon
SUN	7:30am	Jim Kaucher	Toni Kaucher	Alex and Madilynn Hocker, Chase Voelker
	9:00am	Josephine Hohl	Kevin Creamer	Meghan Grieco, Avery Lang, Olivia Ruff
	11:00am	John Peterson	Greg Shemanski	Michael DiScala, Will Gray, Tim Stewart

The second collection next week is for Debt Reduction

Immaculate Conception Academy and Early Education 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 Adele Reilly at adele.reilly@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 10/15/16 and 1st grade students aged 6 by 10/15/16. ICA offers a full day Kindergarten.

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, Alice Smyk, Yolanda Marino, Marie Snyder, Ann Schlott, Maryanna Niemczyk, Kathy Patrick, Doris Slater, Joseph & Susan McCorristin, Mary & Phil Morici, Margaret Maccarone, Father Joseph Campion, Dan Casciano, Linda Ritchie, Paisley Stout, Jake Maccarone, Walter & Marjorie Hansen, Irene Wade, Linda Rathman, William Janda, Curt Miller, Stephen Thomkins, Carolyn Creech, Frances Bambrick, James Smith, Mike Kovach, William Reardon, Maryanne Emory, Marianne Whalen, Virginia Marks, Madge Butto, Rose Malcolm, Paul Milshaw, Dylan Spriggs and Joan Cronin

Please pray for the recently deceased: Irvin Bensinger

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:

Mon 01/11 7pm RCIA
Fri 01/15 7pm Senior High YOUTH GROUP
Sat 01/16 4-5pm Confession

WHAT'S HAPPENING

Please be advised that there will be no daily Mass on Monday, January 11, 2016. Thank you for your kind understanding in the regard.

CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK STARTS JANUARY 31ST

Love. Learning. Leadership.

Catholic Schools – Faith, Academics, Service

CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Sunday, January 31

9am Opening Mass (ICC Parish Family Welcome)

9:30am Kennedy House, Grades 7&8

3pm Candy Bar BINGO (ICC Parish Family Welcome)

(Bring candy bar for admission-ICC Social Hall)

7pm-8:30pm STEM Night for Parents and Students

7pm-8:30pm Science Fair Set-Up

Monday, February 1

Science Fair viewing and judging throughout the day

1:30pm 4th Grade Wax Museum (ICC Parish Family Welcome)

Tuesday, February 2

Brain Show Mania (10:00 grades 5-8/1:00 grades K-4)

6pm - Science Fair Awards

6:30pm Brain Show Mania (ICC Parish Family Welcome)

Wednesday, February 3

Make your own Sundaes at Lunch

Step-Up Day – Grades Pre-K through 7

Thursday, February 4

Sports dress down day and Prayer Partner activities

Teacher Luncheon (11:30-12:45 Homeroom Moms cover lunch)

Afternoon at the Movies

Friday, February 5

10:30am Mass (ICC Parish Family Welcome)

12pm – Early Dismissal

Please mark your calendars for all of the fun events we have scheduled for the week. We hope you can join us!

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

Kindergarten students must be aged 5 by 10/15/16 and 1st Grade students aged 6 by 10/15/16.

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 Adele Reilly at 610-404-8645.

Save the Date:

**Berks Catholic H.S. Open House/Registration
Sunday, January 31, 2016 2pm-4pm**

Open registration for new students and tours.

Please join us and feel the energy in our community!

**For info, call Nicole Smith, Director of Admissions, at
610-374-8361, x244 or nsmith@berkscatholic.org.**

Financial Aid and Transfer Grants are available.

Youth Group News

The Senior High School Youth Group will meet Friday, January 15th at 7pm. All of the high school students of our parish are invited attend and bring a friend for an evening of fun, food, game and prayer.

The Women's Society will meet Wednesday, January 20th at 7pm in the social hall. All members are requested to attend if possible. Meeting will begin with the recitation of the Rosary, followed by business meeting. Light refreshments will be offered. If you have never been to a meeting, please come and join us. All women of the parish are welcome to participate in any of our activities whether they are a member or not.

CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL SCHOLARSHIPS – Any 8th grade student in Catholic, public or private school who is registered in a parish of the Diocese of Allentown is eligible to apply for a one-year partial scholarship of \$1,000 to be applied to tuition at Berks Catholic High School. Scholarships are awarded on the basis of participation in activities, service to school and community, special honors, leadership positions, academic achievement and the recommendation of the pastor. For an application please contact Immaculate Conception Academy Principal: Mrs. Patricia Tarquinio at 610-404-8645 or Mrs. Dawn O'Donnell, Director of Religious Education at 610-582-3880. **Application Deadline is Friday, January 22, 2016.**

MARCH FOR LIFE

On Friday, January 22, 2016 our parish family of the Immaculate Conception is sponsoring a bus to the March for Life to be held in Washington D.C. The bus will depart the ICC parking lot at 8:00 a.m. arriving in Washington D.C. for the noon rally and 1:00pm March for Life. It is anticipated that the bus will return at approximately 9:00 p.m. The cost is \$33 for adults and \$16 for youth. For additional information or to reserve a seat, please contact Mrs. Angela Peterson at 610-582-6993 or e-mail at arpeterson@windsteam.net.

Immaculate Conception Youth Choir is now accepting new members from grades three and up. If you would like to be a part of the youth choir, *you must attend one of the two auditioning dates with a parent*; Wednesday, January 13 or Wednesday, January 20, 4-5:30pm in the choir loft of the church. Please come prepared to sing at least one verse of a song of your choice. For more information please contact Mr. Kasperowicz at 215-499-1641 or email at JohnPaul@single-hearted.com.

The students of Immaculate Conception Academy would like to thank all those who helped support our hot chocolate and candy canes sales for Operation Nine Reindeer. Because of your generous support, Immaculate Conception Students were able to purchase SCRIP gift cards this Christmas Season for many families. Immaculate Conception Academy students have supported Operation Nine Reindeer Families since its inception in 2012. Thank you for your continued support as we help spread Christmas cheer to those families suffering from terminal illness, unemployment, and other financial burdens. For information about Operation Nine Reindeer <http://www.operationninereindeer.com.businesscatalyst.com> Thank you for all you do.

January 10, 2016

dear Padre

Long-distance godparenting



My two-year-old goddaughter's mom has taken a job in another city. I'm heartbroken. How can I be a good godparent when I'm 2,000 miles away?

There's never been a better time to be a long-distance godparent.

Inexpensive mobile and data plans, email, social networking, and camera phones make keeping in touch easy.

Your goddaughter is very young, so when you can't visit in person, regular video chats are your best bet for making sure she knows who you are. Keep them short; forcing her to sit still too long will make your time together an ordeal. And don't be hurt if she'd rather be doing something else. Just say hello, tell her you love her, and let her go.

You can also send a picture of yourself to display and a box of preaddressed, stamped envelopes so her parents can send you her artwork. If they do, hold it up to the camera and admire it. And don't forget to celebrate her baptismal birthday or patron saint's feast with a card or gift

of Christian books, stickers, and other activities.

As your goddaughter gets older, you'll communicate in more sophisticated ways—phone conversations, handwritten letters, emails, texts, and whatever else has been invented by that time. But the important thing isn't how you keep in touch. It's that you keep in touch regularly and build a faith-filled relationship that will last a lifetime.

FR. RICK POTTS, CSSR
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Join your children in adding regular prayer moments to your family's days together. Gather over breakfast or on the way to school for a brief morning offering. Bless your meals and end your busy days with quiet bedtime prayers that recall the day and seek God's protection through the night.

—From *Family, the Church, and the Real World*, a Redemptorist Pastoral Publication

Call us at 800-325-9521, or visit Liguori.org. To see sample pages from this book, type the title or 826207 in the search bar, and click on the book.



Monday
JANUARY 11
Weekday
1 Sm 1:1–8
Mk 1:14–20

Tuesday
JANUARY 12
Weekday
1 Sm 1:9–20
Mk 1:21–28

Wednesday
JANUARY 13
Weekday
1 Sm 3:1–10, 19–20
Mk 1:29–39

Thursday
JANUARY 14
Weekday
1 Sm 4:1–11
Mk 1:40–45

Friday
JANUARY 15
Weekday
1 Sm 8:4–7, 10–22a
Mk 2:1–12

Saturday
JANUARY 16
Weekday
1 Sm 9:1–4, 17–19; 10:1a
Mk 2:13–17

Sunday
JANUARY 17
*Second Sunday
in Ordinary Time*
Is 62:1–5
1 Cor 12:4–11
Jn 2:1–11

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