

Ordinary Time

February 7, 2016 ♦ Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Is 6:1-2a, 3-8 ♦ 1 Cor 15:1-11 or 15:3-8, 11 ♦ Lk 5:1-11

In her later years, my mother lived on a lake in Wisconsin, not far from our home. There, our daughters learned to swim and fish. One day, when our younger daughter was about eight, we went to the end of the pier to fish quietly. She had learned to cast her rod after a fashion and was happily doing that when I looked out to where I expected to see the bobber on her line and realized it wasn't there. Just as I started to ask about it, she gave a little yell as her line suddenly took off and she grabbed her rod to hang on. She saw the foot-long bass jump out of the water a little distance away and her eyes widened. With some help, she got the fish to the pier, where my husband netted it. The amazement of a child who had never caught more than small fish was evident, and she proudly helped clean it for the evening meal.

I can only imagine what the apostles, who were seasoned fishermen, felt that day on the Sea of Galilee, the subject of today's Gospel. Likely it was amazement at this stranger who apparently knew more about fishing than they did, but there was also a glimpse of an abundance they didn't know was possible and a sense that Jesus meant life for them. Peter drops to his knees, suddenly aware of his doubts and sins. Jesus simply tells him not to be afraid, shows him what he can do with God's help, and waits for him to follow. Let's approach the life God calls us to with the same amazement and humility.

MARY KATHARINE DEELEY
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A Word From Pope Francis

"God lets himself be brought home. He awakens in us a desire to keep him and his life in our homes, in our hearts...Mission is born precisely from this divine allure, by this amazement born of encounter."

—Meeting with the bishops of Brazil for World Youth Day, July 28, 2013



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FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - FEBRUARY 7, 2016

★ ★ MASS INTENTIONS ★ ★

SAT	5:15 PM	TOM HAFER	THU	7:00 PM	BOB ELLISON
SUN	7:30 AM	LIVING & DECEASED PARISHIONERS	FRI	7:30 AM	ANTHONY VOLPICCINI - 26 TH ANNIVERSARY
	9:00 AM	ELI IEZZI	SAT	5:15 PM	LIVING & DECEASED PARISHIONERS
	11:00 AM	JOANN HOFER	SUN	7:30 AM	PAUL VIGNONE
MON		No Mass		9:00 AM	STELLA GILL
TUE	7:00 PM	EMILY WISNIEWSKI		11:00 AM	LOUISE BECK - 1 ST ANNIVERSARY
WED	7:30 AM	BROTHER WILLIAM I. SUDZINA, SJ			
	9:00 AM	ICA MASS - WILLIAM COLLOM, III			
	7:00 PM	CYNTHIA SWISHER SCHICKRAM			

The Sanctuary Lamp Burns In Memory of Anthony Volpiccini

NEXT WEEK AT A GLANCE

SCRIP: Porambo **5:15pm** Pisarek **7:30am** Kasperowicz **9:00am** Carvalho **11:00am** Citrano

<u>DAY</u>	<u>MASS</u>	<u>LECTOR</u>	<u>COMMENTATOR</u>	<u>ALTAR SERVERS</u>
SAT	5:15pm	Mary Schwendt	Mike Austrevich	Nicholas Donnelly, Carson Endy, Aiden Reber
SUN	7:30am	Pam Amos	Dan Sweeney	Amanda and Lauren Marley, Danielle Walter
	9:00am	Josephine Hohl	Pat Fessler	Lilia and Simon Crew, Sarah Forkin
	11:00am	Karl Filachek	John Peterson	Parker Davis, Ethan and Andela Kraycik

Second collection next week is Catholic Home Missions/Black & Indian Missions

On Ash Wednesday, February 10th, the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass will be offered at 7:30am, 9:00am with the children of Immaculate Conception Academy and 7:00pm.

Ashes will be distributed at all the Masses. Mark your calendar now and begin the forty days of Lent with a fervent desire for God's pardon and peace.

Remember in your prayers the sick of our parish: Marco Fiato, Bryan Fiato, John & Margaret Kakas, Maryanne Prentice, Tracy Seasholtz, Aaron Gulla, 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, Rose Osorio, Linnford Bittner, Henry Wade, Jr., Bob Hocker, Nicole Susanne MaGee and Joan Cronin

Please pray for the recently deceased: Albina Kozak, Elizabeth Konowal
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:

Sun	02/07	Social Sunday Women's Society Bake Sale Spaghetti Dinner Ticket Sales
Mon	02/08	7:30pm RCIA
Wed	02/10	ASH WEDNESDAY
Thurs	02/11	4:15pm Youth Choir
Fri	02/12	7pm Stations of the Cross 7pm SENIOR HIGH YOUTH GROUP
Sat	02/13	4-5pm Confession Spaghetti Dinner Ticket Sales

WHAT'S HAPPENING

Please be advised that there will be no daily Mass on Monday, February 8th. Thank you for your kind understanding in the regard.

Youth Group Spaghetti Dinner- February 20th, 4:30-7:30pm, social hall. Mark your calendar and plan to attend. Includes spaghetti, meatballs, salad, bread, dessert and beverage. Adults \$9 purchased in advance, \$10 at the door. Children 4-10, \$4. Take out is available. Tickets will be sold at Social Sunday on February 7th, after all Masses February 13/14 and at the door. Call Liz at 610-404-4425 for more information. Proceeds benefit the Youth Group Trip to the Catholic Youth Conference and the Mission Trip to Kentucky.

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.

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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.

FOLLOW IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF JESUS AS HE CARRIED THE CROSS FOR OUR SALVATION. STATIONS OF THE CROSS WILL BE HELD THIS WEEK ON FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 12TH AT 1:45PM WITH THE CHILDREN OF IMMACULATE CONCEPTION ACADEMY AND AT 7:00PM

A Lenten Endeavor: Operation Rice Bowl – Fast and pray with your family and make a sacrificial offering to Operation Rice Bowl so as to help those who live with hunger and poverty both at home and abroad. The Rice Bowl is located in the rear of the church near the baptismal font.

Dear Parishioners,

I am most grateful to all of our parishioners who not only contributed to today's collection but who also brought their sacrificial offering from the weekend of January 24, 2016 when attendance at Mass was impeded because of the blizzard conditions. The weekly offering is so vitally important because it sustains our ministries, our parish programs and our daily operations. Your dedication to our faith community of the Immaculate Conception and the level of financial support you provide is a great source of encouragement to me and a blessing to our parish family. Thank you for your goodness in this regard and as always be assured of my continued prayers and best wishes for you and your family.

God Bless you!

Monsignor John McCann

Senior High School Youth Group will meet on February 12th, 7pm-9pm for an evening of fun, food, games, prayer and praise. All senior high students of our parish are welcome to attend and bring a friend!

ICCYO Spring Registrations for Boy's Baseball - Boys: 6th-8th - are available on our website www.ICCYO.com

2015 CONTRIBUTION STATEMENTS are now available. If you would like a 2015 Contribution Statement, please contact 610-582-2411.

EASTER EGG HUNT - Join us for an egg hunt for our parish children age 12 and younger on March 26th at 11am in the social hall. We are collecting bags of small individually wrapped candy and cash. A donation box will be in the narthex of the church. Thanks for your support!

BERKS CATHOLIC YOUTH FOOTBALL & CHEERLEADING will be holding registrations for the upcoming 2016 fall season on **March 10th and March 22nd, 6-8pm in the main lobby of Berks Catholic HS.** For more information, go to our website, www.leaguelineup.com/bcyfac or call Danielle Fowler at 610-374-1695. You can also get to our website by going to the high school website-- www.berkscatholic.org — Athletics — BC Youth Football and Cheerleading.

The National 40 Days for Life Campaign and Prayer Vigil is February 10th through March 20th. A daily prayer vigil will be held in front of Reading Planned Parenthood, 4th and Franklin Sts, Reading, 7am-4pm, Mondays through Saturdays. Please join with others in your parish to pray to end abortion.

To celebrate the 50th anniversary of DeSales University, the Salesian Center for Faith and Culture is offering a Massive Open Online Course on the *Everyday Spirituality of St. Francis de Sales*. During Lent - from **February 10 through March 23, 2016** - join folks from all over the world to explore the wisdom of this sacred tradition. Discover the keys to happiness from this Doctor of the Church at your own pace and with the ease of online learning. All the materials for this enriching experience are provided to you for FREE! Visit www.desales.edu/salesianMOOC for info.



February 7, 2016

Dear Padre

Monday

FEBRUARY 8

Weekday

1 Kgs 8:1-7, 9-13

Mk 6:53-56

Tuesday

FEBRUARY 9

Weekday

1 Kgs 8:22-23, 27-30

Mk 7:1-13

Wednesday

FEBRUARY 10

Ash Wednesday

Jl 2:12-18

2 Cor 5:20-6:2

Mt 6:1-6, 16-18

Thursday

FEBRUARY 11

Thursday After

Ash Wednesday

Dt 30:15-20

Lk 9:22-25

Friday

FEBRUARY 12

Friday After

Ash Wednesday

Is 58:1-9a

Mt 9:14-15

Saturday

FEBRUARY 13

Saturday After

Ash Wednesday

Is 58:9b-14

Lk 5:27-32

Sunday

FEBRUARY 14

First Sunday of Lent

Dt 26:4-10

Rom 10:8-13

Lk 4:1-13

What is Church teaching on fasting and abstaining?



With Lent so early [Ash Wednesday is on February 10], I want to be prepared. Could you clarify the Church's teaching on fasting and abstinence?

Lent, the most prominent period of penitential practice, is not the only time when penance and/or self-denial are encouraged. For example, every Friday is a day to perform a penance, sacrifice, or mortification in memory of Christ's death.

The *Code of Canon Law* (1249-53) cites the meaning of fasting and abstinence. It explains that penance is a human response to divine law. Christians have a responsibility to practice penance. And observing "the days of fasting and abstinence" is a Church precept (*Catechism of the Catholic Church* 2043).

Abstinence from meat is required on all Fridays of Lent for those who have completed their fourteenth birthday.

Abstinence and fasting are required on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. Fasting is binding on adults from age eighteen until fifty-nine. The exact meaning of fasting is not explained by the code, and this has led to varying degrees of emphasis and attention to detail as well as some unusual and extreme practices. The United States Conference of Catholic Bishops states: "When fasting, a person is permitted to eat one full meal. Two smaller meals may also be taken, but not to equal a full meal."

I praise you for approaching these traditions as a means of growth and improvement rather than a burden.



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At the heart of good citizenship is love. Love for the people to which we are bound by birth and by choice. This is not a blind love, which ignores failings, but a love that wills and strives for the best for ourselves and our country. In this light, it becomes easier to see why the best thing we can do as Americans is to become the best and most faithful Catholics.

—From *Red, White, Blue, and Catholic* by Stephen P. White

To see sample pages from this book, call us at 800-325-9521, or visit Liguori.org and type the title or 826450 in the search bar.