

# Easter

Fifth Sunday of Easter ♦ April 24, 2016

Acts 14:21–27 ♦ Rv 21:1–5a ♦ Jn 13:31–33a, 34–35

I was fortunate to do my hospital chaplaincy rotation with a young seminarian who was ordained about three years after our summer experience. Tom and I became good friends. He came to my wedding and I went to his ordination. My children forever referred to him as young Fr. Tom. He has been a blessing to me and my family.

When he was ordained, I tried my hand at writing a song as a gift for him. He was so eager and willing to preach the Gospel wherever he was sent that I wanted to mark that in some way. One lyric I wrote went like this: “Finding our homes where we can share your word, only to leave again when it’s been heard...to be your people.” Fr. Tom serves in Africa now, training other seminarians, and I often think of him and of that song because I have come to realize that we are all called to share God’s word whether we are in a comfortable place or a strange one. Perhaps part of our challenge is to leave the areas where we are comfortable and welcomed for those where the path is rougher and less clear, but the need for the Good News is all the greater.



Today our models are Paul and his companions, who travel from place to place to preach the Gospel and move on when they have done what they can. They follow Jesus’ command to love and find the glory of the Lord in that work and in whom they serve. If we are to be God’s people, we, too, must spread the hope of God’s love to all we meet, even if we have to travel far to do so.

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#### A Word From Pope Francis

*“Every Christian is called to go out to meet others, to dialogue with those who do not think as we do, with those who have another faith or who have no faith. To encounter all, because for what we all share in common is that we were created in the image and likeness of God.”*

—Address to Pontifical Council for Promoting the New Evangelization, October 14, 2013

# IMMACULATE CONCEPTION CHURCH

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 Rev. Leo S. Stajkowski.....In Residence  
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## FIFTH SUNDAY IN EASTER - APRIL 24, 2016

### ★ ★ MASS INTENTIONS ★ ★

SAT	8:00 PM	RALPH BASCELLI	THU	7:00 PM	THOMAS HAIGHT, JR.
SUN	7:30 AM	FLORENCE & ORLANDO LEBRESCO	FRI	7:30 AM	ROBERT WELLMAN
	9:00 AM	BARBARA PEASE	SAT	5:15 PM	LIVING & DECEASED PARISHIONERS
	11:00 AM	JOHN STEIGERWALD	SUN	7:30 AM	RUTH & SAL MONASTERO
MON	<b>No MASS</b>			9:00 AM	DEC'D MEMBERS OF JESSE PAINTER FAMILY
TUE	7:00 PM	ANNA T. LUKES		11:00 AM	ROBERT MULDOWNNEY
WED	7:30 AM	A. ELIZABETH & WILLIAM WAGNER			

*The Sanctuary Lamp Burns In Memory of the Villano Family  
 Also In Honor of Deacon Jim Bardi, 1<sup>st</sup> Deaconate Anniversary*

### NEXT WEEK AT A GLANCE

**SCRIP: Porambo 5:15pm McNamara 7:30am Collura 9:00am McCauley 11:00am DeFalco**

<u>DAY</u>	<u>MASS</u>	<u>LECTOR</u>	<u>COMMENTATOR</u>	<u>ALTAR SERVERS</u>
SAT	5:15pm	Barbara Giordano	Jennifer Stuart	Parker Davis, Nick Donnelly, Aiden Reber
SUN	7:30am	Dan Sweeney	Sean Werner	Sarah Forkin, Danielle Walter, Jordan Yerger
	9:00am	Pat Fessler	Brian Hannon	Michael Beitz, Andela and Ethan Kraycik
	11:00am	Jim Keaveney	Rhonda Ouimet	Carson Endy, Aaron Gulla, Faith Ouimet

### **Second collection next week is for Church Building & Parish Maintenance**

***Immaculate Conception Academy and Early Education Program is currently enrolling for the 2016-17 School Year!***  
 We welcome everyone to join us if you have a student entering preschool (age 3) through 8<sup>th</sup> grade. **ICA offers a full day Kindergarten Program.**  
 Kindergarten students must be aged 5 by 10/15/16 and 1<sup>st</sup> grade students aged 6 by 10/15/16. **Bishop's Tuition Transfer Grants** are available for any public, private or charter school student who transfers into Immaculate Conception Academy grades 1-7. These grants are **\$1,500 over two years** (\$1,000 for the first year; \$500 for the second).  
 Please contact **Adele Reilly at 610-404-8645 or adele.reilly@icaknights.org for more information or to schedule a tour!**  
**\*\*\*Now offering Sunday tours after 9am and 11am Masses by appointment\*\*\***

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, Marjorie & Walter Hansen, Marie Snyder, Ann Schlott, Maryanna Niemczyk, Kathy Patrick, Joseph & Susan McCorristin, Mary & Phil Morici, Margaret Maccarone, Father Joseph Campion, Dan Casciano, Paisley Stout, Jake Maccarone, Linda Rathman, William Janda, James Smith, Maryanne Emory, Madge Butto, Roseann Malcolm, Dylan Spriggs, Doris Slater, Joan Cronin, Rita Conrad, Vicki Barletta, Sara Norris, Ryan Curley, Brendan Carr, Paul Geiger, Helen McDonald, Mark McDonald, Cindy Barnes, Rose Osorio, Raymond Davidheiser, Anthony Mattassa, Sr., Patty Atkinson, Jim Williams, Tony Williams, Dolores McCullough, Ed Woznicki, Steve Mammarella, Evelyn Segnere, Shawn Staneruck, Fanny Hunter, Grady Neishloss and Barbara Wright  
 Congratulate the newly baptized: Brayden Thomas Grebe, Colin Benzi Hansen and families  
 Welcome our new parishioners: Mr. & Mrs. Randy Grebe  
 Pray for the recently departed: William Clement, Joseph Christopher Cuesta

## **THIS WEEK AT ICC:**

Sat 04/30 4-5pm Confession

## **WHAT'S HAPPENING**

Please be advised there will be NO MASS on Monday, April 25<sup>th</sup>. Thank you for your kind understanding in this regard.

**BISHOP'S ANNUAL APPEAL** - Many thanks to those who have made a pledge to the Bishop's Annual Appeal. Making a six month pledge to the Appeal allows you to maximize the amount that you may give by making monthly payments. For example, a \$120 gift to the Appeal may be setup with six \$20 installments. Remember, every gift counts, no matter how small. Your generosity funds the annual budget for important Diocesan ministries in our area. You can make your gift online at [FaithHopeCharityGives.org](http://FaithHopeCharityGives.org).

**STAND WITH US FOR LIFE!** Mark your calendars for the Berks March for Life on April 24<sup>th</sup>, 2pm at Berks Catholic High School. At 3pm we will walk from Berks Catholic to Holy Rosary Church at 3rd & Franklin Sts. where buses will transport us back to BC. For info, contact Marygrace at 610-929-5260.

**All women of the parish are invited** to join the Women's Society for our annual visit to Camilla Hall. Please save the date of Wednesday, May 4<sup>th</sup>. We will meet at the church at 10am. We spend time in prayer with the Sisters, have time for lunch, and then offer a fun afternoon of Bingo for the retired/infirm Sisters of Camilla. Prizes for the bingo game (i.e. envelopes with some money, stamps and cards etc) will be most welcome along with some sweet pick up treats for the ladies. Join us in giving back to these women who have spent their lives serving others. Please call Geri at 610-286-5538 for more information or to reserve your spot.

**The Women's Society will host Social Sunday on Sunday, May 1<sup>st</sup>.** If you are able to help out for any of the Masses, please let Geri know by calling 610-286-5538.

### **YOUTH GROUP NEWS**

**Sunday, May 1<sup>st</sup>, 7:45-12:30 - 4th Annual Car Wash**

We will be in front of ICA and washing cars before and after all Masses. The cost for a wash will be a free will offering. *Proceeds from the car wash will benefit the Youth Group Mission Trip to Kentucky and the trip to the Catholic Youth Conference to be held at the Franciscan University of Steubenville.*

**Friday, May 13<sup>th</sup> will be our end of the year picnic for both Junior and Senior High Youth Groups.** We will meet at the social hall from 7 to 9 pm for hamburgers and hot dogs, games and praise.

### **Scholastic Buy One/Get One (BOGO) Book Fair at ICA**

in Academy library. We are open Sunday, May 22<sup>nd</sup> after 9am and 11am Masses and May 23 through 27 during school hours. Also, please consider making a donation to "All for Books". These donations help our teachers build their classroom libraries. In addition, Scholastic Book Fairs will match monetary donations with a donation of up to one million books to national, non-profit organizations. Checks can be made out to ICA HSO in an envelope marked "All for Books" and placed in the church collection basket. Donations are being accepted through May 22<sup>nd</sup>. Thank you for your support and we hope to see you at the book fair!

## **ICA 5K and 1 Mile FUN Run**

Daniel Boone Homestead

Saturday, May 21, 2016 Registration 7am  
8am 5K, 8:45am Fun Run, 9:30am Awards

Pre-register for the event by visiting

<http://www.alphaandomegasports.com/race-calendar.html>  
Registration cost is \$20 for the 5K by April 26<sup>th</sup> and includes an event t-shirt. After that (including race day), the cost is \$25. Registration cost for the 1 mile Fun Run is \$5 by April 26<sup>th</sup> and an additional \$10 for a T-shirt if desired. After that (including race day), the cost is \$10.

**SPONSORS ARE NEEDED** at various levels. For more information or to sponsor the event please contact Sandy at [Jordan.sandra14@yahoo.com](mailto:Jordan.sandra14@yahoo.com)

Experience The Francis Factor at Alvernia University! "REFLECTIONS ON A PILGRIM FROM THE PERIPHERY" with William L. Portier, Ph.D. Chair of Catholic Theology at the University of Dayton - April 26, 7 pm, McGlenn Center The Francis Factor is Alvernia's new lecture series that explores Pope Francis and the ways he is influencing the embrace of the Gospel in the Church and wider world. Visit: [alvernia.edu/arts-culture](http://alvernia.edu/arts-culture)

*On Monday, May 9<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm there will be a **Mass of Healing** for those individuals who have experienced trauma. All are invited to join in prayer at this Mass with Bishop John O. Barres as Celebrant and Msgr. Walter Scheaffer as homilist at the **St. Columbkil Parish, 200 Indian Spring Road, Boyertown.** Following Mass there will be a Holy Hour of prayer before the Blessed Sacrament and the opportunity for confession. The evening will conclude with Benediction at 8:30pm.*

### **2016 Vacation Bible School - "Jesse Tree Journey"**

VBS will be held the week of June 20 through June 24 from 9:00am to noon. VBS is open to all ICC parishioners ages 5 to 11. The cost is \$35 per child. Adult and teen volunteers are always welcome. Come along for the journey! Contact Mrs. O'Donnell at 610-582-3880 or [ccd@icbvm.org](mailto:ccd@icbvm.org).

**Berks Catholic is accepting applications for the 2016-2017 school year.** Berks Catholic High School is centered on the four pillars of God, Family, Academics and Fun. As a vibrant Christ centered community, the administration, faculty and staff are dedicated to providing a challenging academic environment for a diverse population of young men and women. For information about how to join our 21<sup>st</sup> century learning community, contact Nicky 610.374.8361 x244.

**Boys' Basketball, Cheerleading, and Dance Camps** - Berks Catholic will be hosting Saints Boys' Basketball, Cheerleading, and Dance Camps for grades 1-8, June 20<sup>th</sup>-24<sup>th</sup>. For info contact Tony Balistrere at 610-374-8361,x224

**Girls' Basketball Camp** - 6/27-30, 9am-12:30, grades 2-9  
**Football Camp** - 8/2,3,4, Grades K-8.

*For registration forms go to [www.berkscatholic.org](http://www.berkscatholic.org)*

The **Relay for Life of Daniel Boone** is an organized 18 hour overnight community fundraising event for The American Cancer Society. If you are not yet involved and would like to be or would like more information, please contact Melissa Spalding (610-310-4904) or Darlene Canning (610-781-7293). **Relay for Life of Daniel Boone** starts at noon on **May 21<sup>st</sup>** at the Daniel Boone HS Stadium. It is open to the public until 10pm. Events and activities run all day long. Great music, great food, for a great cause. All proceeds go to the American Cancer Society.



April 24, 2016

# Dear Padre

## Monday

APRIL 25  
St. Mark,  
Evangelist  
1 Pt 5:5b-14  
Mk 16:15-20

## Tuesday

APRIL 26  
Easter Weekday  
Acts 14:19-28  
Jn 14:27-31a

## Wednesday

APRIL 27  
Easter Weekday  
Acts 15:1-6  
Jn 15:1-8

## Thursday

APRIL 28  
Easter Weekday  
Acts 15:7-21  
Jn 15:9-11

## Friday

APRIL 29  
St. Catherine of Siena,  
Virgin and Doctor  
of the Church  
Acts 15:22-31  
Jn 15:12-17

## Saturday

APRIL 30  
Easter Weekday  
Acts 16:1-10  
Jn 15:18-21

## Sunday

MAY 1  
Sixth Sunday  
of Easter  
Acts 15:1-2, 22-29  
Rv 21:10-14, 22-23  
Jn 14:23-29

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## Use wine wisely



My evangelical friends don't drink and even use grape juice for communion. Catholics use wine and drink all the time. Isn't the Church condoning alcoholism?

**The abuse of** alcohol is a serious vice, and it has caused untold damage. When we celebrate the Eucharist we are commemorating the Last Supper, at which Jesus offered wine and unleavened bread according to the Jewish Passover tradition, changed it into his Body and Blood, and gave us this command: "This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.' For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the death of the Lord until he comes" (1 Corinthians 11:25-26).

While the properties of wine remain, including alcohol content, the substance becomes the Precious Blood

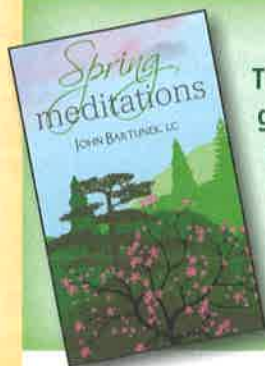
of Christ. Therefore, the ingestion of a sip or two seems trivial compared to the divine presence received therein. Those with medical or psychological reasons for abstaining should discuss those matters with their pastor and specialist(s).

Jesus turned water into wine at the wedding in Cana (John 2:1-11), but he obviously doesn't condone alcoholism. God has given us many things to enjoy: food, love, and leisure to mention a few. As Catholics we are called to rightly use these gifts for the greater and common good. To abuse them is sinful; to use them as they are intended is a way to give thanks.



PETR JILEK / SHUTTERSTOCK

FR. PATRICK KEYES, CSSR  
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### A MEDITATION FOR SPRING

True love is reaching out to the wider world and pouring into it whatever goodness we can find within ourselves, just like a spring blossom opens its petals as wide as it can and pours out its fragrance and its color and its promise of new life. This is true love, forgetting oneself and simply giving. And this is beautiful.

—From *Spring Meditations* by Fr. John Bartunek, LC (825613)

To see sample pages from this book, call us at 800-325-9521 or visit [Liguori.org](http://Liguori.org) and type the title or 825613 in the search bar.