

# Easter

Sixth Sunday of Easter ♦ May 1, 2016 ♦

Acts 15:1–2, 22–29 ♦ Rv 21:10–14, 22–23 ♦ Jn 14:23–29

For many Catholics, Vatican Council II was a watershed moment in Church history. I remember the nuns in our school turning on the radio to listen to reports. They shared what Pope St. John XXIII said at the start of the council. The media still follow large Church events, but it's easy to forget that Church leaders have been gathering to talk about the issues of the day since the first century.

In the first reading, we hear (in fairly abbreviated form) about the Council of Jerusalem. The apostles and other leaders of the Church came together to discuss whether Gentiles had to be circumcised (a tenet of Jewish Law) before they were baptized. There were legitimate claims on both sides. Remarkably, the leaders prayed, talked, and prayed some more. They spoke from their experience and their faith. They assumed that all the assembled were people of faith, and so they wrestled together to find the answer most in keeping with the commands of Jesus.

In the end, when they decided to admit Gentiles without circumcising them, the whole community recognized that the Holy Spirit was at work, and the letter sent to the various churches began, "It is the decision of the Holy Spirit and of us..." The Council of Jerusalem gives us a model for resolving our differences: pray, dialogue, and pray some more. This week, read all of Acts 15 to see what happens when we trust the Spirit to guide us rightly: arguments fall silent, and we find delight, strength, and peace (see 15:12, 31–32; John 14:27).

MARY KATHARINE DEELEY  
sundaybulletin@liguori.org



Meeting with Brazil's  
leaders of society,  
July 27, 2013

## A Word From Pope Francis

*"Leadership also means making the most just decision after having considered all the options from the standpoint of personal responsibility and concern for the common good..."*

*When leaders in various fields ask me for advice, my response is always the same: dialogue, dialogue, dialogue."*

# IMMACULATE CONCEPTION CHURCH

905 Chestnut Street, Douglassville, PA 19518 secretary@icbvm.org ccd@icbvm.org bulletin@icbvm.org

Rev. Msgr. John B. McCann ..... Pastor  
 Rev. Leo S. Stajkowski.....In Residence  
 Deacon Paul J. Hiryak, Deacon James A. Bardi,  
 Deacon Charles A. Giordano  
 Parish Office .....610 582-2411  
 Parish Religious Education/CCD .....610 582-3880  
 Parish Preschool .....610 404-8645  
 Parish Fax.....610 404-2609  
 Parish Website.....www.icbvm.org

Immaculate Conception Academy.....610 404-8645  
 Academy Website.....www.icaberks.org  
 Diocesan Victim Assistance Coordinator:  
 Wendy S. Krisak, M.A. NC, LPC  
Direct Telephone 800 791-9209  
 Diocesan Safe Environment Coordinator:  
 Sister Meg Cole, S.S.J., M.S., LMFT  
 Telephone 610 332-0442, Ext. 19  
 Diocese of Allentown.....www.allentowndiocese.org

## SIXTH SUNDAY IN EASTER – MAY 1, 2016

### ★ ★ MASS INTENTIONS ★ ★

SAT	8:00 PM	LIVING & DECEASED PARISHIONERS	THU	7:30 AM	LIVING & DECEASED PARISHIONERS
SUN	7:30 AM	RUTH & SAL MONASTERO		9:30 AM	ICA MASS – KIM TWADDELL & SOPHIE PAOLUCCI
	9:00 AM	DEC'D MEMBERS OF JESSE PAINTER FAMILY		7:00 PM	VERONICA DREXLER
	11:00 AM	ROBERT MULDOWNNEY	FRI	7:30 AM	<u>UMSTEAD FAMILY</u>
MON	<b>No Mass</b>		SAT	5:15 PM	MARY BUTLER
TUE	7:00 PM	BETTY ERJAVEC	SUN	7:30 AM	OUR PARISHIONERS
WED	7:30 AM	THOMAS HAIGHT, SR.		9:00 AM	MOTHERS OF THE PARISH
	7:00 PM	KEITH MELIGAN		11:00 AM	MOTHERS OF THE PARISH

*The Sanctuary Lamp Burns In Memory of John Butler*

*Also In Honor of St. Anthony*

### NEXT WEEK AT A GLANCE

**SCRIP:** Porambo 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	Mary Schwendt	Mike Austrevich	Rachel Barnes, Olivia Ruff, Elly Smithson
SUN	7:30am	Jim Kaucher	Toni Kaucher	Alex, Jason and Mark Carvalho
	9:00am	Isabelita Santos	Stephanie Myers	John and Nick Dinnocenti, Austin Lobaugh
	11:00am	Bob Newman	Mary Ann Cotter	Meghan Grieco, Avery Lang, Sadie Mangan

### **Second collection next week is the Monthly Collection**

**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 Snyk, 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, Ryan Curley, Paul Geiger, Helen McDonald, Mark McDonald, Cindy Barnes, Rose Osorio, Raymond Davidheiser, Anthony Mattassa, Sr., Patty Atkinson, Jim & Nancy Guilliams, Tony Guilliams, Dolores McCullough, Ed Woznicki, Steve Mammarella, Evelyn Segner, Shawn Staneruck, Fanny Hunter, Phil Kubovcsak and Barbara Wright

Pray for the recently departed: June Runler

## THIS WEEK AT ICC:

<u>Sun</u>	<u>5/1</u>	Social Sunday <b>YOUTH GROUP CAR WASH</b>
<u>Tues</u>	<u>5/3</u>	7:30pm Baptism Class
<u>Thurs</u>	<u>5/5</u>	Ascension Thursday
<u>Sat</u>	<u>5/7</u>	First Holy Communion 4-5pm Confession

## ✠ WHAT'S HAPPENING ✠

Please be advised there will be NO MASS on Monday, May 2<sup>nd</sup>. Thank you for your kind understanding in this regard.

*Mark your calendar! Thursday, May 5<sup>th</sup> is the Solemnity of the Ascension of Our Lord Jesus Christ into Heaven, a holy day of obligation. The Holy sacrifice of the Mass will be offered on Wednesday evening, May 4<sup>th</sup> at 7pm and on Ascension Thursday at 7:30am, 9:00am with the children of Immaculate Conception Academy and 7:00pm.*

### 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.

**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).

**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 treats for the ladies. The sisters will provide a lunch for us. There will be a cost of \$8 to cover the luncheon. 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.

**Resorts AC Trip** - May 23<sup>rd</sup> - Leave ICC promptly at 9:30am  
Package Deal Pay \$32/Get \$25 - Call Carol J. at 610-775-4447

## 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 1K Fun Run, 9:30am Awards

Pre-register for the event by visiting

<http://www.alphaandomegasports.com/race-calendar.html>  
Registration is \$25 for the 5K. Registration is \$10 for the 1K.

**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)

**Congratulations Sister Daniel!** Our parish family of the Immaculate Conception extends heartfelt congratulations and prayerful best wishes to Sister Daniel Marie Liddy on the occasion of the 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of her religious profession as a Sister, Servant of the Immaculate Heart of Mary. We pray, that on this wonderful occasion God will bless Sister Daniel with much joy and happiness and lasting good health. We give thanks also for her faithful service to the Church over the course of the past sixty years and, in particular, we acknowledge with gratitude her years of service here at Immaculate Conception Church. If you would like to send a congratulatory note to Sister Daniel you may mail it to her at Camilla Hall, 1145 W. King Road, Box 100 Immaculata, PA 19355

*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. Columkill 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.*

**REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN!** June 11<sup>th</sup>, the Commission for Women will host a retreat day for women at the McGlenn Conference Center in Reading, 9am-5pm. Cost is \$25 and includes a Continental Breakfast and Lunch. Come spend the day with our Mother and women of the diocese while reflecting on her mantle of mercy. Directing our retreat will be Rev. Ronald Bowman. For more details and to register, visit [www.allentowndiocese.org/cfw-spirituality](http://www.allentowndiocese.org/cfw-spirituality). For questions, contact [cfw@allentowndiocese.org](mailto:cfw@allentowndiocese.org) or call 917-406-4879.

### Golf Tournaments

Knights of Columbus Pro-Life - May 6<sup>th</sup>, Twin Ponds  
Gold Course - Call Mark at 610-754-7185

Polish American Heritage Association - May 14<sup>th</sup>,  
Manor Club - Call Toni at 484-333-2838

Boone Football - June 17<sup>th</sup>, Blackwood Golf Course -  
Call Bill at 610-226-5120



May 1, 2016

# Dear Padre



KENNETH SPONSLER / SHUTTERSTOCK

## Spiritual direction vs. advice



What is spiritual direction? How does it differ from counseling and simply asking for religious advice?

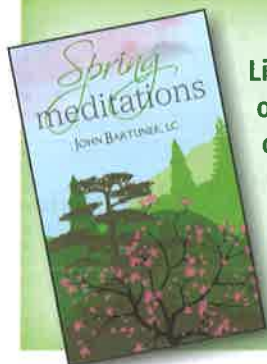
**In spiritual direction,** a person is guided in a process of reflection, self-discovery, and recognition of God's presence in human experience; the primary focus is on this individual's relationship with God. Thus, in one sense, it is the Lord himself who is the "director" in all spiritual direction.

In counseling, a person is also guided in a process of reflection and self-discovery; but the primary focus is on human growth and development. Counseling does not presuppose a person's faith or relationship with God; spiritual direction cannot be complete without it.

Both spiritual direction and counseling share the same expectations of openness and honesty in the process;

they share the same standards of confidentiality and professional conduct. Moreover, spiritual direction is similar to counseling in its aim toward human growth and development; but it further aims toward holiness and "toward ever more intimate union with Christ" (*Catechism of the Catholic Church* 2014). That union is twofold: a personal relationship with Christ and one with Christ's Church. "This union is called 'mystical' because it participates in the mystery of Christ through the sacraments" (CCC 2014). "All Christians in any state or walk of life are called to the fullness of Christian life and to the perfection of charity. All are called to holiness: Be perfect, as your heavenly Father is perfect" (CCC 2013).

FR. BYRON MILLER, CSSR  
[sundaybulletin@liguori.org](mailto:sundaybulletin@liguori.org)



### A MEDITATION FOR SPRING

Like spring, we, too, can begin again. Failure is never final in this life or on this beautiful, God-given earth. We can always have a fresh start. The circumstances will be different. The losses from what passed before are real, and we can't ignore them. The damage from winter is true damage. But even so, we can always begin again.

—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.



### Monday

MAY 2

*St. Athanasius, Bishop and Doctor of the Church*  
Acts 16:11–15  
Jn 15:26—16:4a

### Tuesday

MAY 3

*Sts. Philip and James, Apostles*  
1 Cor 15:1–8  
Jn 14:6–14

### Wednesday

MAY 4

*Easter Weekday*  
Acts 17:15, 22—18:1  
Jn 16:12–15

### Thursday

MAY 5

*Easter Weekday*  
Acts 18:1–8  
Jn 16:16–20

### Friday

MAY 6

*Easter Weekday*  
Acts 18:9–18  
Jn 16:20–23

### Saturday

MAY 7

*Easter Weekday*  
Acts 18:23–28  
Jn 16:23b–28

### Sunday

MAY 8

*Ascension of the Lord*  
Acts 1:1–11  
Eph 1:17–23  
Lk 24:46–53

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

