

# Ordinary Time

June 19, 2016 ♦ Twelfth Sunday in Ordinary Time (C)

Zec 12:10–11; 13:1 ♦ Gal 3:26–29 ♦ Lk 9:18–24

A few years ago at the ice rink my daughters skated at, I picked up an ad for hockey gear. The pictures showed shoulder pads, shin guards, helmets, and chest pads. What caught my eye was the name of the company and the way they advertised. This was “Christian Protective Gear.” I immediately began chuckling to myself as I imagined the Apostle Paul calling on all of us to “put on the armor” of righteousness and wondering if this was what he had in mind (Ephesians 6:10–17). I think not, but the reading from Galatians reminded me of the ad: “you who were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ.” What does that mean for us today?

The Church teaches that we must show forth the love and mercy of God, especially with regard to the least and poorest among us. In a poem by St. Teresa of Ávila, we are reminded that “Christ has no body but yours, / No hands, no feet on earth but yours.” In today’s Gospel, Jesus says that to put on Christ is to follow in his footsteps, to take up our cross daily, and to lose our lives for his sake that we might find them forever. Most of us can get behind love, mercy, and compassion for others—at least in theory—but discipleship in its fullest is no easy task. Are we willing to live our lives as Christ even when it isn’t easy, when it requires denying ourselves and suffering? Only we can answer that, and with God’s help through grace and the sacraments, the answer can be “yes!”

MARY KATHARINE DEELEY  
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## A Word From Pope Francis

*“We can ask ourselves: Do I guard the treasure of grace? Do I protect the Holy Spirit’s presence within me?”*

—“How to rout the demon’s strategy,”  
Morning Meditation, October 11, 2013

# 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

## TWELFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – JUNE 19, 2016

### ★ ★ MASS INTENTIONS ★ ★

SAT	5:15 PM	JANET & CHARLES SCHMIDT – 50 <sup>TH</sup> WEDDING ANNIVERSARY	THU	7:00 PM	SPECIAL INTENTION
SUN	7:30 AM	LIVING & DECEASED PARISHIONERS	FRI	<u>No MASS</u>	
	9:00 AM	LIVING & DECEASED FATHERS OF THE PARISH	SAT	5:15 PM	HELEN JANISZEWSKI – 25 <sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY
	11:00 AM	LIVING & DECEASED FATHERS OF THE PARISH	SUN	7:30 AM	JOSEPH CUCCARO, SR. – 1 <sup>ST</sup> ANNIVERSARY
MON	<u>No MASS</u>				
TUE	7:00 PM	JOSEPH MATALONE		9:00 AM	LIVING & DECEASED PARISHIONERS
WED	<u>No MASS</u>				
				11:00 AM	THOMAS JOHN OKUNIEWSKI

*The Sanctuary Lamp Burns In Memory of Helen Janiszewski  
 And In Memory of Gloria Gill*

### NEXT WEEK AT A GLANCE

**SCRIP: Lukes 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	Shirley Wheeler	Adam and Carlina Davis, Luke Voelker
SUN	7:30am	Barbara Giordano	Pam Amos	Mason Cambria, Mike DiScala, Samantha Reitnour
	9:00am	Isabelita Santos	Brian Hannon	Marissa and Steven Tepper, Jordan Yerger
	11:00am	Becky Shemanski	Barbara Romig	Trey Bradfield, Anna and Matthew Lambert

### **Second collection next week is for Debt Reduction**

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

**VBS will be held this week,**  
 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! Registration forms are  
 available in the narthex, parish  
 office and the Academy. Contact  
 Mrs. O'Donnell at 610-582-3880  
 or ccd@icbvm.org with questions.

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, Ann Schlott, 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, Paul Geiger, Helen McDonald, Mark McDonald, Rose Osorio, Raymond Davidheiser, Anthony Mattassa, Sr., Tony Williams, Dolores McCullough, Steve Mammarella, Shawn Staneruck, Phil Kubovcsak, Dominic Strock, Lori Tomkins, Jane Falcone and Barbara Wright

Pray for the recently departed: Mary Ferrante and Carl Kubitz

**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:**

### ***Vacation Bible School***

# **WHAT'S HAPPENING**

### ***DAILY MASS SCHEDULE***

Please note that the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass will be offered on Tuesday, June 21<sup>st</sup> at 7pm and on Thursday, June 23<sup>rd</sup> at 7pm. There will be no morning Masses this week. Thank you for your kind understanding in the regard.



### ***IMMACULATE CONCEPTION CHURCH***

**Summer Office Hours:** Tuesday through Friday, 9:30am to 4:30pm

### ***IMMACULATE CONCEPTION ACADEMY***

**Summer Office Hours:** Tuesday through Thursday, 9am to 1pm

### ***Immaculate Conception Academy is now 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](mailto:adele.reilly@icaknights.org)** for more information or to schedule a tour!

**\*\*\*Now offering Sunday tours after 9am and 11am Masses by appointment\*\*\***

#### ***Did you know?***

This year, 3 members of the Immaculate Conception Academy Class of 2016 were awarded the prestigious Bishop's Scholarship for students attending Berks Catholic High School. Congratulations to Alyssa Fontana, Hope Schreiber, Jordan Yerger and all of the members of the Class of 2016!

### ***Early Education Programs now enrolling for the 2016-17 School Year!***

Immaculate Conception offers **quality Preschool and Pre-Kindergarten programs** aimed at preparing students socially, emotionally, and cognitively for Kindergarten and beyond. Our dedicated, caring teachers strive to make each student's first school experience a joyous one and set them on the path to becoming lifelong learners.

For more information, or to schedule a tour, contact Adele Reilly at 610-404-8645 or [adele.reilly@icaknights.org](mailto:adele.reilly@icaknights.org)  
Sunday tours available by appointment.

**Register now for 2016-2017 CCD!** Forms are available on [www.icbvmccd.org](http://www.icbvmccd.org) under forms and at the Office of Religious Education. Classes are filling up so register now! **Volunteers are always welcome!** If you would like to volunteer an hour of your time once a week to bring the Good News of Christ to the children of our parish by educating or by example of service, call (610) 582-3880.

Throughout the course of this week, I invite you to pray for the young people of our parish, members of our high school Youth Group, who will be travelling on Friday to the Franciscan University of Steubenville to participate in the Catholic Youth Conference. Together with high school youth from across the United States they will have an extraordinary opportunity to have their faith awakened and their hearts set on fire through a personal encounter with Jesus. Did you know that this summer over 54,000 teenagers and their leaders will be part of this movement of grace at one of the 23 conferences being sponsored by the Franciscan university of Steubenville nationwide? Pray for all the young men and women of our parish. They are the future hope of our Church and the world.

Monsignor John McCann

*I wish to thank the parishioners of Immaculate Conception Church for your prayerful best wishes on the occasion of the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of my Ordination to the Priesthood. I am very grateful to you for your prayerful support and encouragement. I assure you of my prayers for each of you and your families. God Bless You. Father Leo Stajkowski*

**RESORTS AC TRIP – Hey Retirees!** Want to have some fun?! Join us on June 27<sup>th</sup> – Leave church promptly at 9:30am. Package Deal – Pay \$32/Get \$25. Call Carol J. 610-775-4447.

**BISHOP'S ANNUAL APPEAL** - In this year of Mercy, Pope Francis has reminded us to act on our faith and show God's mercy to individuals, families, and communities who are struggling with pressing human needs. By supporting the Bishop's Annual Appeal, you can help those in need experience the merciful presence of Christ through the many services and outreach programs provided across our Diocese. Some examples of the services and programs funded by the Bishop's Annual Appeal include our Special Learning Centers (including our own John Paul II Center in Berks County), where students with disabilities develop their talents and reach their God-given potential; food and clothing for the impoverished in our neighborhoods at our Soup Kitchens and Food Pantries; care for our retired and infirmed priests; education of our seminarians; scholarships for our schools; and Catholic Charities, which provides health and human services to those in need.

**Holy Communion and Celiac Sprue Disease** – In recent years there has been an increasing awareness of the significant affects of Celiac Sprue Disease on people's lives. The digestive system of those with this condition is considerably compromised by the consumption of gluten, one of the major ingredients in wheat flour. This is a particular challenge to Catholics, who believe that the celebration of the Holy Eucharist and the reception of Holy Communion are the very source and summit of the Christian life. Catholics with Celiac Sprue Disease may receive Holy Communion by receiving the Precious Blood from the chalice or by use of a low gluten host which is perfectly safe for sufferers of Celiac Sprue Disease. If you or a member of your family has been refraining from receiving Holy Communion because of this condition, please contact Monsignor McCann at 610-582-2411 so that we can accommodate your needs.



June 19, 2016

# dear Padre



## What if we can't conceive?



How far is OK to go when dealing with infertility?

**Catholic teaching** holds that procreation, along with the love expressed between spouses in the sexual act, is one of the principal ends of marriage. The act itself is holy within that context, and the resulting children are a fruit of that love and a gift—not a right of every couple. Most of us know couples who are unable to conceive. Sometimes a technique or medication can help, but not always.

The *Catechism of the Catholic Church* states that, “techniques that entail the dissociation of husband and wife, by the intrusion of a person other than the couple (donation of sperm or ovum, surrogate uterus), are gravely immoral....Techniques involving only the married couple (homologous artificial insemination and fertilization) are perhaps less reprehensible, yet remain morally unacceptable....Only respect for the link between the meanings of the conjugal act and respect for the



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unity of the human being make possible procreation in conformity with the dignity of the person” (CCC 2376–77, see also *Donum vitae*).

Infertility treatments such as *in vitro* fertilization (IVF) not only depersonalize the sexual act but also carry the greater problem of the disposal of the fertilized but unused embryos, which are real human beings. When judging an act, we must consider our intentions and the act’s nature and ramifications. Most situations involve many issues, so I suggest you discuss yours further with a competent spiritual advisor.

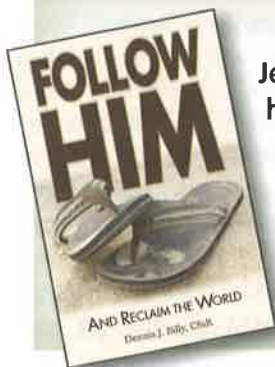
FR. RICHARD BOEVER, CSSR  
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### FOLLOW HIM

Jesus’ identity as the Son of God gives us an important key to understanding his life and mission. He lived and acted with a purpose hidden in the depths of his relationship with the Father. This relationship influenced his conscious thoughts and unconscious desires and lay behind his life in Nazareth, his ministry in Galilee and Judea, and his sacrifice on Golgotha.

–From *Follow Him and Reclaim the World* by Dennis J. Billy, CSsR (826504)

To learn more, visit [Liguori.org](http://Liguori.org) or call 800-325-9521.



- Monday**  
JUNE 20  
Weekday  
2 Kgs 17:5–8, 13–15a, 18  
Mt 7:1–5
- Tuesday**  
JUNE 21  
St. Aloysius Gonzaga,  
Religious  
2 Kgs 19:9b–11, 14–21,  
31–35a, 36  
Mt 7:6, 12–14
- Wednesday**  
JUNE 22  
Weekday  
2 Kgs 22:8–13; 23:1–3  
Mt 7:15–20
- Thursday**  
JUNE 23  
Weekday  
2 Kgs 24:8–17  
Mt 7:21–29
- Friday**  
JUNE 24  
Nativity of  
St. John the Baptist  
Is 49:1–6  
Acts 13:22–26  
Lk 1:57–66, 80
- Saturday**  
JUNE 25  
Weekday  
Lam 2:2, 10–14, 18–19  
Mt 8:5–17
- Sunday**  
JUNE 26  
Thirteenth Sunday  
in Ordinary Time  
1 Kgs 19:16b, 19–21  
Gal 5:1, 13–18  
Lk 9:51–62

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