

# Ordinary Time

August 14, 2016 ✦ Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time (C)

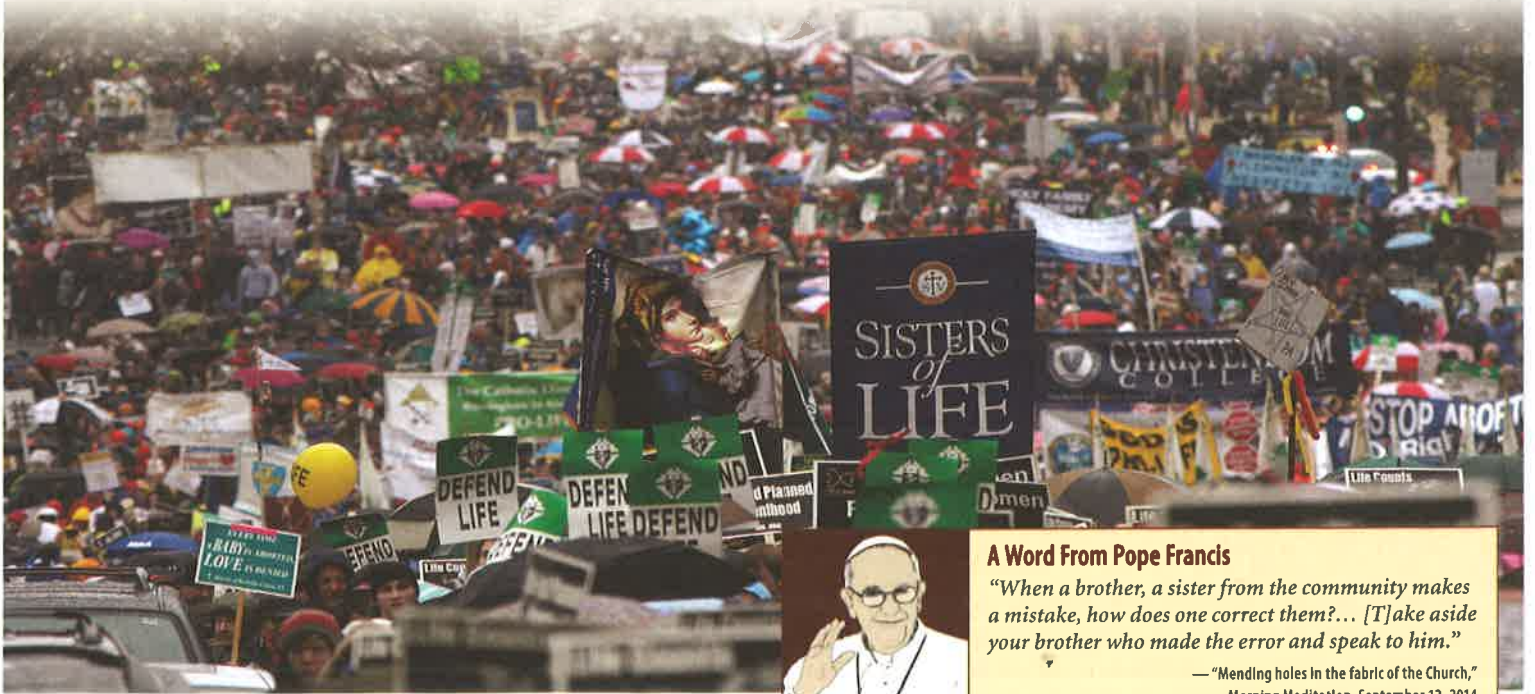
Jer 38:4-6, 8-10 ✦ Heb 12:1-4 ✦ Lk 12:49-53

When I was young, one of my favorite pictures of Jesus was one of his blessing little children. How calm and peaceful Jesus seemed, and his eyes were full of love. In later years, I have been drawn to other images and art of Jesus holding, healing, and granting mercy to his beloved children. That image of Jesus is so comforting that I tend to forget that Jesus also disturbed the peace, questioned authority, and demanded complete obedience and loyalty. For first-century Christians, following Jesus often meant leaving family and friends, civil disobedience (not considering Caesar as a god), and reimagining religious traditions.

The Christ who sows division is uncomfortable, but Christians in every century have had to speak

out against evil and sin, especially when their culture's or country's practices lead people away from rather than toward God. Even here in the United States, Catholics have found themselves defending the dignity of all human life and economic and social justice for the poor, even when it meant challenging the prevailing culture and political climate. It's rarely easy to speak truth to power or popularity, and we have to guard against those who think they are always right or somehow above God. Jesus himself recognized that he would not always be popular, so he lifted up the two great commandments to love God and neighbor as the measure of how we should act even when those actions divide us.

MARY KATHARINE DEELEY  
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## A Word From Pope Francis

*"When a brother, a sister from the community makes a mistake, how does one correct them?... [T]ake aside your brother who made the error and speak to him."*

— "Mending holes in the fabric of the Church,"  
Morning Meditation, September 12, 2014

# 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.allentowndioocese.org

## TWENTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – AUGUST 14, 2016

*The Sanctuary Lamp Burns In Memory of Agnes Bascelli and  
 In Honor of Teri & Don Lynch – 56<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary*

### ★ ★ MASS INTENTIONS ★ ★

SAT	5:15 PM	VOLPICCINI FAMILY	THU	7:00 PM	JOHN BUTLER
SUN	7:30 AM	NICOLINA KENNEDY	FRI	7:30 AM	FLORENCE & ORLANDO LEBRESCO
	9:00 AM	LIVING & DECEASED PARISHIONERS	SAT	5:15 PM	STELLA GILL
	11:00 AM	ANTONIO BARLETTA	SUN	7:30 AM	LIVING & DECEASED PARISHIONERS
MON	<u>7:00 PM</u>	AGNES BASCELLI		9:00 AM	IRENE & LEONARD BEDNOWICZ
TUE	7:00 PM	ANDREW J. LAKATOSH		11:00 AM	MATT MANEGOLD
WED	7:30 AM	MATILDA KROUTCH			

### 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	Jennifer Stuart	Ann Marie Arbo	RachelBarnes,SadieMangan,VeronicaMcClelland
SUN	7:30am	Adelina Kieffer	Sean Werner	Meghan Grieco, Amanda Marley, Elly Smithson
	9:00am	Barrie Pease	Stephanie Myers	Sean and Stephen Hannon, Michael Beitz
	11:00am	Jim Keaveney	Bob Newman	Carson Endy, Aiden Reber, Tim Stewart

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

#### **IT'S NOT TOO LATE!**

***Immaculate Conception Academy is still enrolling for the 2016-17 school year!***

If you have a student in Kindergarten through 8<sup>th</sup> grade, we welcome you to visit and see what an Immaculate Conception Academy education can do for your child!

**ICA offers a full day Kindergarten Program.**

Kindergarten students must be 5 by 10/15/16 and 1<sup>st</sup> grade students aged 6 by 10/15/16. **Bishop's Transfer**

**Grants** are available for any public, or 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 and \$500 for the second). **Aftercare is available.**

**Please contact Adele Reilly, Advancement Director at 610-404-8645 or [adele.reilly@icaknights.org](mailto:adele.reilly@icaknights.org) for more information or to schedule a tour!**

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, William Janda, James Smith, Madge Butto, Roseann Malcolm, Doris Slater, Joan Cronin, Rita Conrad, Paul Geiger, Helen McDonald, Mark McDonald, Rose Osorio, Raymond Davidheiser, Mildred & Anthony Mattassa, Sr., Tony Guilliams, Dolores McCullough, Steve Mammarella, Shawn Staneruck, Phil Kubovcsak, Gloria Richards, Jennifer Pinti, Lori Tomkins, Jane Falcone, Fannie Hunter, Barbara Wright, Mavrick Laxton, Maria Houck, Anthony Pucci, Sharon Madrzykowski, Virginia Marks, Andrew Martin and Ronald Kryman

Welcome our new parishioners: Ms. Ashley Brennan

**THIS WEEK AT ICC:**

**Fri 08/19 9:30am Altar Server Clinic**  
**Sat 08/20 4-5pm Confession**

**WHAT'S HAPPENING**

**THE ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY**

*On Monday, August 15<sup>th</sup>, the Church universal will celebrate the Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary into Heaven. The Catechism of the Catholic Church teaches us that "the Most Blessed Virgin Mary, when the course of her earthly life was completed, was taken up body and soul in the glory of heaven, where she already shares in the glory of her Son's Resurrection, anticipating the resurrection of all members of his Body." The Holy Sacrifice of the Mass will be offered at 7:00pm. Because the Holy Day falls on a Monday in 2016, it is not a Holy Day of Obligation.*



**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 Early Education Program is pleased to announce the expansion of our Preschool Program**

*Parents will now have the opportunity to choose from **THREE** programs to meet their individual family needs:*

**Tuesday/Thursday Morning: 8:45am- 11:15am**

**Tuesday/Thursday Extended Day: 8:45am-1:15am**

**Tuesday/Thursday Full Day: 8:45-2:30pm**

Children in the Extended and Full Day programs will bring a packed lunch. The Full Day program will include rest time as well as the addition of a special class once a week (i.e. Art, Music, Library or Computer). Because this is a pilot program, special tuition rates are being offered for the 2016-17 school year.

**The Early Education Program is open 8am to 3pm; with classes starting at 8:45am. Aftercare is available.**

**Enrollment is ongoing in our Morning and Full Day Pre-Kindergarten Programs as well!**

For more information and tuition rates, please contact Adele Reilly, Advancement Director at [adele.reilly@icaknights.org](mailto:adele.reilly@icaknights.org) or 610-404-8645 during summer hours Tues-Thurs, 9am-1pm.

**ICC Altar Server Clinic**

**Friday, August 19<sup>th</sup>, 9:30am-12pm in the church**

Any parish child in grades 6 through 12 can become an altar server. To enroll, please complete the form below and return to Msgr. McCann by August 17<sup>th</sup>.

Child's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent's Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Grade for 2016/2017 School Year: \_\_\_\_\_

School: \_\_\_\_\_

**Immaculate Conception Academy Aftercare** is looking for someone willing to work several hours per week from 3pm to 6pm. Must have completed "Protecting God's Children" and obtain required background checks and clearances. Please call Laura DeFalco at 610-463-8157.

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'd like to volunteer an hour of your time once a week to bring the Good News of Christ to the children of our parish, call (610) 582-3880.

**RESORTS AC TRIP - COME ALONG AND ENJOY A DAY OF OCEAN BREEZE AND FUN AT THE JERSEY SHORE** - Friday, August 25<sup>th</sup>, LEAVE the Church promptly @ 9:30am - Package Deal: Pay \$32 get \$25 Back - Call Carol J. if interested @ 610-775-4447

**Immaculate Conception will be hosting two Protecting God's Children workshops in the social hall on August 28<sup>th</sup> and September 18<sup>th</sup>, 1-4pm. Call 610-582-3880 to register.**

**Thinking about becoming a Catholic? Are you looking to for a "Faith Refresher?"** Join Msgr. McCann, Deacon Paul Hiryak and guest speakers on Monday evenings, starting September 12<sup>th</sup>, to learn more about our Catholic faith. RCIA isn't just for persons interested in Catholicism. It's for everyone who desires a deeper understanding of what we believe and practice as Catholics. Sessions are 7:30-9pm. You are welcome to attend as many as your schedule permits. For info or to register, call the office at 610.582.2411. Look for program information on [www.icbvm.org](http://www.icbvm.org) beginning in mid-August.

The **Annual Diocesan Anniversary Mass Celebration** is September 18<sup>th</sup> at the Cathedral of St. Catharine of Siena, 1875 West Turner St., Allentown, 18104. Bishop Barres will begin the celebration at 3pm. We cordially invite couples celebrating five, twenty-five, forty, fifty, sixty or sixty plus years of marriage to this special event. Visit [www.allentowndiocese.org/anniversarymass](http://www.allentowndiocese.org/anniversarymass) or request a form through email at [MFLF@allentowndiocese.org](mailto:MFLF@allentowndiocese.org). The form must be completed and returned to the Office of Marriage & Family Life Formation, Attn: Anniversary Mass, 2145 Madison Ave., Bethlehem, 18017. Registration deadline is September 9<sup>th</sup>.

The Knights of Columbus Council 1192 will hold its annual family picnic on September 18<sup>th</sup> at 1pm in the Council grove. It is an old fashion family picnic with burgers, hot dogs and soda provided free, just bring a covered dish. There will be games and face painting. Parish members who are not Knights of Columbus are invited. Call Gary at 610-972-0356 to make a reservation.

**DIOCESAN FAMILY FESTIVAL - September 25<sup>th</sup>, 11 am - 5pm at SteelStacks, 101 Founders Way, Bethlehem.** The day begins with an **outdoor Multi-Cultural Mass celebrated by Bishop Barres at 11:00am (bring a lawn chair).** Games and activities for all ages, inflatable obstacle course, scavenger hunt, bounce house, face painting, team events, etc. Delicious ethnic foods – bleenies, kiffles, haluski, porketta sandwiches, tacos and empanadas, pierogies, apple dumplings and more. Music provided by "Island Time" on the patio and by our talented high school, college, and special learning center students on the Levitt Pavilion. Pre-order your 2016 Family Festival T-Shirts at [www.allentowndiocese.org/familyfestival](http://www.allentowndiocese.org/familyfestival) by August 24<sup>th</sup>.



August 14, 2016

# Dear Padre



Lightspring / Shutterstock

## The Gospel rises above crass political posturing



Who says the Church isn't political? Don't they endorse bills and candidates all the time?

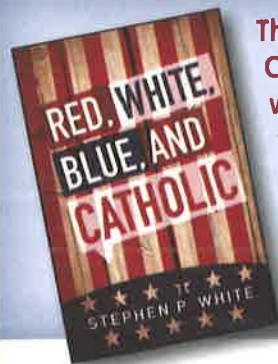
**I'm not sure** that anyone has ever claimed that the Church is not political. As long as there are moral implications to political decisions, the Church will always give guidance to voters and politicians. I believe that the quality the Church is looking for is to be non-partisan. We cannot wed ourselves to party platforms or individual candidates. The Gospel rises above crass political posturing. Whenever the Gospel supports or corrects the politics of the day, we must be faithful to the teachings of Jesus and call all in power to account.

In fact it is supremely sad that some moral issues are even politically controversial. When the Church speaks

up for the unborn or the poor, when we try to protect the environment or the freedom of religion, it is tragic that there is any political opposition at all.

The Church is a prophetic voice to our society and has been historically in many societies. The goal of influencing elections and supporting candidates is far too small for the disciples of Christ. Our hopes are to evangelize voters, leaders, and all people in Gospel values. As a priest I am not allowed to endorse candidates from the pulpit, but I am required by the Church to faithfully preach our values, even if they are political or unpopular.

FR. MATTHEW BONK, CSSR  
[sundaybulletin@liguori.org](mailto:sundaybulletin@liguori.org)



The Church teaches us lessons that no human law ever could. Who but the Church can teach us to love God and neighbor as we ought? Where else will we learn civilizing lessons like the last shall be first, the strong must protect the weak, or that our dignity is rooted in the majesty of our divine Creator? All of these are things the Church does to shape citizens, to make us the kind of men and women capable of living our freedom well.

—From *Red, White, Blue, and Catholic* by Stephen P. White (826450)

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

**Monday**  
AUGUST 15  
*Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary*  
Rv 11:19a;  
12:1–6a, 10ab  
1 Cor 15:20–27  
Lk 1:39–56

**Tuesday**  
AUGUST 16  
*Weekday*  
Ez 28:1–10  
Mt 19:23–30

**Wednesday**  
AUGUST 17  
*Weekday*  
Ez 34:1–11  
Mt 20:1–16

**Thursday**  
AUGUST 18  
*Weekday*  
Ez 36:23–28  
Mt 22:1–14

**Friday**  
AUGUST 19  
*Weekday*  
Ez 37:1–14  
Mt 22:34–40

**Saturday**  
AUGUST 20  
*St. Bernard, Abbot and Doctor of the Church*  
Ez 43:1–7a  
Mt 23:1–12

**Sunday**  
AUGUST 21  
*Twenty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time*  
Is 66:18–21  
Heb 12:5–7, 11–13  
Lk 13:22–30

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

