

Ordinary Time

September 4, 2016 ♦ Twenty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time (C)

Wis 9:13–18b ♦ Phlm 9–10, 12–17 ♦ Lk 14:25–33

In my family, three members like to plan for what's ahead: What are we going to do? How will it get done? How are we going to get there? What will happen when we do? I can tolerate certain changes up until the day we leave, but after that, change is difficult for me. My daughter hates change at any point and does not rest until a revised plan is made. My husband lies somewhere in between. Our other daughter is a much more freewheeling spirit. "I never make plans that far in advance," she would say when I asked her what she was doing that evening. We would often just stare at each other in wonder. After thirty years, we have also rubbed off on each other in some ways.

Becoming a disciple of Christ takes both planning and flexibility. The planning comes in preparing ourselves

to let go of anything that gets in the way of our service to the Lord. For most of us, that will not be our parents, but it might be something or someone in our society or culture. Jesus' challenge comes in the realization that nothing can come between Christ and us—not even our parents—and if they did, we would need to turn from them in order to follow him. The flexibility comes in the understanding that we do not know what or who we might have to give up, or the moment and manner in which Christ will ask us to pick up our cross and follow in his footsteps. All we can do is pray for the grace and courage to do what he asks when he asks it.

MARY KATHARINE DEELEY
sundaybulletin@liguori.org



A Word From Pope Francis

"Help us to entrust ourselves fully to him and to believe in his love, especially at times of trial, beneath the shadow of the cross, when our faith is called to mature."

—Lumen Fidei, 60

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 Office610 582-2411
 Parish Religious Education/CCD610 582-3880
 Parish Preschool610 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

TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – SEPTEMBER 4, 2016

The Sanctuary Lamp Burns In Honor of Peg & Joe Shevenock – 50th Wedding Anniversary and In Memory of Henry Mammarella

★ ★ MASS INTENTIONS ★ ★

SAT	5:15 PM	CATHERINE ALDERMAN	THU	7:30 AM	HENRY WADE
SUN	7:30 AM	LIVING & DECEASED PARISHIONERS	FRI	7:30 AM	ROBERT MULDOWNNEY
	9:00 AM	MR. & MRS. FRANKLIN KLINE		9:00 AM	ICA MASS – MARY FERRANTE
	11:00 AM	EDWARD MACCARONE	SAT	5:15 PM	HENRY MAMMARELLA
MON	9:00 AM	TOM HAFER	SUN	7:30 AM	RUTH MONASTERO
TUE	7:00 PM	MATILDA KROUTCH		9:00 AM	LIVING & DECEASED PARISHIONERS
WED	7:30 AM	PATRICIA HAIGHT SHUSTER		11:00 AM	DEC'D MEMBERS OF RUBY, KUNDRAT & MYERS FAMILIES

NEXT WEEK AT A GLANCE

SCRIP: Dowling 5:15pm Costanzo 7:30am Schwendt 9:00am Grieco 11:00am Hafer

DAY	MASS	LECTOR	COMMENTATOR	ALTAR SERVERS
SAT	5:15pm	Jason Mariano	Jennifer Stuart	Parker Davis, John Dinnocenti, Vinny Ferrara
SUN	7:30am	Sherry McCollum	Pam Amos	Rachel Barnes, Beth Cote, Sadie Mangan
	9:00am	Gretchen Markel	Pat Fessler	Meghan Duffy, Isabella and Mia Pizzo
	11:00am	Len Cline Jr.	Mary Gray	Ethan and Lenny Cline, Logan Conlon

Second collection next week is the Monthly Collection

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 8th 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 1st 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 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, Mark McDonald, Rose Osorio, Raymond Davidheiser, Tony Guilliams, Joan Smith, Dolores McCullough, Steve Mammarella, Phil Kubovcsak, Gloria Richards, Jennifer Pinti, Jane Falcone, Fannie Hunter, Barbara Wright, Mavrick Laxton, Anthony Pucci, Virginia Marks, Andrew Martin, Father Donald Birch, The Ravert Family, Harry Wood, Mary Okuniewski, Paul Bringenberg and Ronald Kryman

Welcome our new parishioners: Mr. & Mrs. Eric Owens, Mr. & Mrs. Matthew Specht, Mr. & Mrs. Michael Hoppe, Mr. & Mrs. Paul Parrott

Congratulate the recently baptized: Addison Grace Brander

Pray for the recently deceased: Sister Margaret Held, Sister Paula Merrill, Lori Tomkins and Tristram Consoli

THIS WEEK AT ICC:

Tues 09/06 7:30pm Baptism Class

Sat 09/10 4-5pm Confession

WHAT'S HAPPENING

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION CHURCH

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

DAILY MASS

On Labor Day, September 5th, the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass will be offered at 9:00am. You are cordially invited to join with us in praying for God's blessing upon our nation and for His blessing upon all human labor. We invite you also to pray for all those who are currently unemployed; that they may soon find meaningful work so as to provide for themselves and their families.



Please note that on September 8th, the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass will be offered at 7:30am as opposed to the usual time in the evening. Thank you for your kind understanding in this regard.

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-1:15pm

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 information and tuition rates, please contact Adele Reilly, Advancement Director at adele.reilly@icaknights.org or 610-404-8645.

Immaculate Conception Academy Positions

Classroom Aide position for Grades 1 and 2. Please contact Patricia Tarquinio at 610-404-8645.

Aftercare is looking for someone willing to work several hours per week from 3pm-6pm. Call Laura DeFalco at 610-463-8157.

All positions require completion of "Protecting God's Children" and obtain required background checks and clearances.

Immaculate Conception will be hosting a Protecting God's Children workshop in the social hall on September 18th, 1-4pm. Call 610-582-3880 to register.

Register now for 2016-2017 CCD! Forms are available on 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 THE LAST DAYS OF SUMMER BY THE OCEAN AT THE JERSEY SHORE - September 23rd - **LEAVE the Church promptly at 9:30am- Package Deal: Pay \$31 get \$25 Back**
Call Carol J. if interested @ 610-775-4447

Our parish **GRIEF SHARING GROUP** will meet this month on September 20th in the lower level of the Parish Office (enter across from the playground). A presentation will be given 1:30-2:30pm and then repeated 7:30-8:30pm. Grieving takes many forms and just when we think we are coming to terms with a death we find that we are struggling again. Come join us on the 21st. If you have questions or just want to talk, call Pat at 610-775-1892 or Toni 610-404-1389.

Special Collection for Louisiana Flood Victims: Having witnessed the extreme devastation resulting from the flooding in Louisiana, the Bishops of the United States have requested that a special collection be taken up in every parish in the country to aid those whose homes and livelihoods have been destroyed by this most unfortunate natural disaster. Our parish family of the Immaculate Conception will take part in this endeavor the weekend of September 17-18, 2016. If you would like to aid those in need by contributing to this special collection, please place your gift in an envelope marked "Flood Victims" and place it in the collection basket that weekend. Thank you very much for your generosity. Please continue to pray for those who lost their homes and all of their belongings in the flood waters. May God be their refuge and their strength.

Sunday School registration now open for children ages 3 to 5. Forms are available in the narthex and parish office. Anyone interested in volunteering must meet all diocesan requirements and have all state mandated clearances. If you would like to volunteer, please call 610-582-3880.

Sunday, September 11th marks the 15th anniversary of the terrorist attacks upon our nation in 2001. Churches in the Southeast Berks Ministerium plan to come together at 4pm, September 11th at Alice Focht Memorial United Methodist Church, 422 E. 1st St., Birdsboro, to remember those who lost their lives that day and to pray for our nation and our world. Many special elements are being planned; a bagpiper at the beginning of the service, a bugler playing taps at the end of the service, and a message given by Retired Army Chaplain, Pastor Nick Camacho. There will be a cantata, *In God We Trust*, to be sung by a combined choir. Local 1st Responders (fire companies, fire police, police, and EMTs) are all being invited to attend and a reception will follow the service. It is estimated that the service will be an hour and 13 minutes long, which is the time that lapsed on September 11, 2001 between the attack on the two towers of the World Trade Center. Everyone is welcome.

Annual Covered Dish Social - All Women of the parish are invited to join us in the social hall September 21st 6:30pm. Bring a favorite dish to share. All members are asked to attend if possible and invite a friend or two. If you have been wondering how you can get to know other women of the parish or serve the church in some way, The Women's Society is the perfect way to do both. It does not involve a huge commitment of time. We meet the third Wednesday of the month normally around 7pm in the social hall from September through May (no meeting in December). *****Thank You, Thank you** to everyone who helped shop for, prepare and serve over 300 meals at the Kennedy House. We were overwhelmed by the number of parishioners who answered our request for volunteers. Thank you for taking this opportunity to serve with us. Those who enjoyed the meals were certainly most grateful.

September 4, 2016

Dear Padre



ROCKETCLIPS, INC. / SHUTTERSTOCK



What if a child doesn't want to make health decisions for parent?

Q My mother has appointed me to make health-care decisions on her behalf if and when she is unable to do so for herself. I have prayed and thought about this, and for many reasons I don't want to do this. I feel guilty and fear that by refusing I would show a lack of respect for her wishes. Do you have any advice?

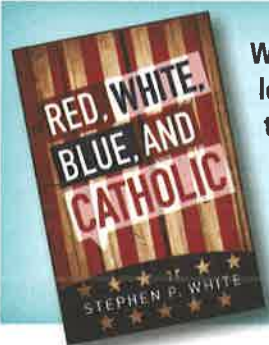
I will respond by making two points. First, you are free to decline your mother's request. You have no intrinsic or moral obligation to assume this responsibility. If you don't feel you could fulfill the duties of that role properly, tell your mother and ask her to choose someone else.

I would also like to point out that you may be making more out of this responsibility than is warranted. Your duties as a medical or health-care *power of attorney* are called upon only "if and when" your mother becomes

incapacitated. If she hasn't already, your mother would fill out and sign an *advance directive* that indicates her intentions and preferences concerning the use of any extraordinary means of health care. You would not have to make independent decisions; you would only have to follow through on decisions she has already made. Finally, you would have your family and the medical team to guide you. All your mother asks is that you, rather than a stranger, oversee the implementation of her directives.

FR. DANIEL L. LOWERY, CSSR
sundaybulletin@liguori.org

- Monday**
SEPTEMBER 5
Weekday
1 Cor 5:1-8
Lk 6:6-11
- Tuesday**
SEPTEMBER 6
Weekday
1 Cor 6:1-11
Lk 6:12-19
- Wednesday**
SEPTEMBER 7
Weekday
1 Cor 7:25-31
Lk 6:20-26
- Thursday**
SEPTEMBER 8
Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary
Mi 5:1-4a or Rom 8:28-30
Mt 1:1-16, 18-23 or 1:18-23
- Friday**
SEPTEMBER 9
St. Peter Claver, Priest
1 Cor 9:16-19, 22b-27
Lk 6:39-42
- Saturday**
SEPTEMBER 10
Weekday
1 Cor 10:14-22
Lk 6:43-49
- Sunday**
SEPTEMBER 11
Twenty-fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time
Ex 32:7-11, 13-14
1 Tm 1:12-17
Lk 15:1-32 or 15:1-10



We have more material wealth than almost any society in history. We live longer, eat better (or at least more), and dwell more comfortable. Amid all this incredible stuff, it's easy to lose sight of the things that really matter, which are mostly not things.

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

To learn more, visit Liguori.org or call 800-325-9521.

Liguori.org

