

Ordinary Time

November 13, 2016 ✦ Thirty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time (C)

Mal 3:19–20a ✦ 2 Thes 3:7–12 ✦ Lk 21:5–19



As we come to the close of the Church year, our readings turn more and more to the “end times.” These words are not easy to hear. Certainly, when we think about the persecution of Christians, the civil wars that seem far too frequent, and the number of people, nations, and even religious groups who claim to have the sole answer to everyone’s problems, we can find a striking resemblance to Jesus’ description of the coming days.

What our world is undergoing is not new. In every age people have been persecuted, wars have been fought, natural disasters have occurred, and many have claimed to be saviors. Jesus admits this openly and still tells us not to despair. He promises to walk with us and to give us the wisdom to speak even in the midst of great trouble. It’s tempting to follow the charismatic speakers and powerful leaders who claim

to have the truth or single solution to our human limitations and vulnerabilities. Jesus urges us not to do that, but to look to him alone for what we need.

Our imperfect and passing world will always have places and times of great suffering and strife. Jesus doesn’t promise to take it all away; he promises to lead us through it. God will never abandon us and will provide more than a temporary fix. If we doubt that, we have only to look to Jesus’ death and resurrection to see that he was willing to take the worst the world had to offer in order to offer us the very best.

MARY KATHARINE DEELEY
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A Word From Pope Francis

“Holy Mother Church teaches us to end [our days] with an examination of conscience, through which we review what has happened; we thank the Lord for every good... [and] think again of our failings.” —Homily, December 31, 2014

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION CHURCH

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 Rev. Leo S. Stajkowski.....In Residence
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 Parish Religious Education/CCD610 582-3880
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 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:
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THIRTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – NOVEMBER 13, 2016

The Sanctuary Lamp Burns In Memory of Josephine & Joseph Nanni

★ ★ MASS INTENTIONS ★ ★

SAT	5:15 PM	BARBARA PEASE – 1 ST ANNIVERSARY	THU	7:00 PM	DONALD LAKATOSH – 3 RD ANNIVERSARY
SUN	7:30 AM	LIVING & DECEASED PARISHIONERS	FRI	7:30 AM	FR. BERNARD LAMOND
	9:00 AM	PARISH MEMORIAL SOCIETY	SAT	5:15 PM	LOUISE SICA – 25 TH ANNIVERSARY
	11:00 AM	PARISH MEMORIAL SOCIETY	SUN	7:30 AM	LIVING & DECEASED PARISHIONERS
MON	7:30 AM	JOE CUCCARO		9:00 AM	PARISH MEMORIAL SOCIETY
TUE	7:00 PM	BEREAVEMENT MASS		11:00 AM	PARISH MEMORIAL SOCIETY
WED	7:30 AM	JESSE G. PAINTER			

NEXT WEEK AT A GLANCE

SCRIP: Dowling 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	Ann Marie Arbo	Joe Bailey	Taylor Moyer, Diego and Hannah Santos
SUN	7:30am	Adelina Kieffer	Pam Amos	Mason and Morgan Cambria, Samantha Reitnour
	9:00am	Brian Hannon	Barrie Pease	Trey Bradfield, Sean and Stephen Hannon
	11:00am	Jim Keaveney	Bob Newman	Beth Cote, Meghan Duffy, Danielle Passifione

Second collection next week is for Debt Reduction

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 have been 5 by 10/15/16 and 1st grade students aged 6 by 10/15/16.

Bishop's 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 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, Delores Woy, Alice Arantowicz, Yolanda Marino, Ann Schlott, Kathy Patrick, Joseph & Susan McCorristin, Mary & Phil Morici, Margaret Maccarone, Father Joseph Campion, Dan Casciano, Paisley Stout, Jake Maccarone, William Janda, Madge Butto, Roseann Malcom, Doris Slater, Joan Cronin, Rita Conrad, Rose Osorio, Tony Guilliams, Dolores McCullough, Steve Mammarella, Gloria Richards, Jennifer Pinti, Jane Falcone, Fannie Hunter, Mavrick Laxton, Anthony Pucci, Andrew Martin, The Ravert Family, Harry Wood, Mary Okuniewski, Paul Bringenberg, Joseph Kolenda, Kenneth Barth, Dominic Strock, Frank Bentz, Bob Hocker, Mike DiScala, Keith Kienle, Elizabeth Haynes, Tom Kirchner, Helen McDonald and Ronald Kryman

Welcome our new parishioners: Mr. & Mrs. William Grubb
 Congratulate the newly baptized: Wyatt Matthew Musselman and his family

THIS WEEK AT ICC:

Sun	11/13	Santa Breakfast Ticket Sales
Mon	11/14	7:30pm RCIA
Tues	11/15	7pm Bereavement Mass/Reception 7:30pm Bell Choir
Wed	11/16	7pm Women's Society Meeting
Thurs	11/17	7:30pm Adult Choir
Sat	11/19	4pm Thanksgiving Basket Drop-Off 4-5pm Confession

WHAT'S HAPPENING

Scholastic Book Fair - November 13th after 9 and 11 Masses and November 14 through 18 during school hours in the ICA library. This is a great opportunity to buy books for the holidays! Donations are also being accepted for "All for Books" which will help buy books for ICA teacher classrooms. Scholastic will match donations and help provide books to less fortunate children. Donations may be placed in the church collection baskets in an envelope marked "All for Books". **Make a purchase on November 13th and be entered into the drawing to win a StikBot Studio!**

On November 15th at 7pm, Immaculate Conception will celebrate a Bereavement Mass commemorating in our prayers all of our parishioners family members and friends who died over the course of the past year. We pray that God will receive into the arms of his mercy all of the faithful departed and that those who mourn may know consolation and peace in the promise of life everlasting. You are invited to attend this Mass. A reception will follow in the social hall.

All women of the parish are invited to join the members of the Women's Society for our Annual Christmas Luncheon on December 4th, 1pm at Stopper's. Entree choices are chicken parmesan (\$17), broiled center-cut pork chops (\$17), crab cakes (\$23) or Delmonico steak (\$23). Entrees include garden salad, baked potato, vegetable, bread, non-alcoholic beverage, and dessert. Please place your entrée choice along with payment (checks payable to Women's Society) in the collection basket in envelope marked Women's Society by November 28th. Questions, call Ann Marie (610.689.9124) or Lynda (610.689.4076). We hope to see you there!

Meeting Reminder - The Women's Society will meet November 16th at 7pm in the social hall. All members are requested to attend. Meeting will begin with recitation of the Rosary, followed by business meeting. Light refreshments will be offered. If you have never been to a meeting, please come and join us. All women of the parish are welcome to participate in any of our activities whether they are a member or not. Please call Geri at 610.586.5538 if you would like more information.

The Women's Society will host a bake sale November 19/20. Stop by the table and pick up a few goodies for your Thanksgiving Table (if you can wait that long to eat it!) We will be accepting donations of baked goods before all Masses. Even if you are not a member, if you love to bake and would like to make one of your family favorites, we will be most grateful for your donation.

Resorts AC Trip - November 21st - Leave church promptly at 9:30am - Package deal: Pay \$32, Get \$25 back - Call Carol J if interested at 610-775-4447

An Ecumenical Thanksgiving Eve Service sponsored by the churches of the Birdsboro area will be offered at St Mark's Lutheran Church, 5 Brooke Manor, Birdsboro, beginning at 7pm on Wednesday, November 23, 2016. Msgr. McCann will preach the sermon. Refreshments and fellowship will follow the worship. All of our parishioners are welcome to attend and bring a friend.

BREAKFAST WITH SANTA - ICA 8th grade is sponsoring our annual **Breakfast with Santa** on December 3rd! Seatings are 8am and 10am. Pancakes, eggs, sausage, fruit, juice, coffee/milk will be served. We will have face painting, cookie and ornament decorating, crafts and pictures with Santa! Tickets are \$8; age 2 and under free. Tickets sell out quickly so get yours today! Call 610-404-8645 for info.

Thanksgiving Baskets - We are most grateful to the many families from our parish of the Immaculate Conception who so graciously volunteered to provide a Thanksgiving Basket to families in need with children enrolled at Daniel Boone High School. Because of the outstanding response we received and the constraints of freezer and refrigerator space, as well as the need to transport the baskets to the high school within the designated timeframe, we cannot accept anymore baskets at this time. Thank you very much for your concern for those in need. We wish you and your family a very Happy Thanksgiving.

Parish Grief Sharing Bereavement Group will meet on November 22nd, 7-8pm Parish Office Building, lower level. Please enter from the back across from the playground. The group offers an opportunity to come together to work through the grieving process with the help and support of others who have experienced this difficult journey. We will discuss ways to get through the holidays when you've lost a loved one. For info call Pat at 610-775-1892 or Toni at 610-404-1389.

Today is Diocesan Disability Inclusion Awareness Sunday. Let us take to heart the words of the United States Catholic Bishops: "We must recognize and appreciate the contributions that persons with disabilities can make to the church's spiritual life and encourage them to do the Lord's work in the world according to their God-given talents and capacity".

Chosen, Blessed, Shared - Please take advantage of the opportunity to offer support to the retired priests of our Diocese by helping provide for their care in retirement! Your donation will help serve those who have faithfully served us. Brochures and giving envelopes are available in the narthex, and you will be receiving a request letter in the mail within the next few days. You may return your gift in the mail or drop it in the collection basket at Mass. Thank you for your generous support.

Faith and Spirits — A New Way to Be Human: Living a Life in Christ — Join us on November 14th, 6:30pm at PJ Whelihan's Pub and Restaurant in Reading, PA as Fr. Allen Hoffa explores what it means to live as a Christian. Am I my brother's keeper? Why does the Church impose all of these rules on us? Can't I decide what is right for me? These questions and more will be discussed. There is no cost to attend and no registration is required. PJ's is located at 1101 Rocky Road, Reading and they will have menus available for ordering food and drink at your expense.



November 13, 2016

dear Padre

An ecclesiastical funeral gives proper honor to the body



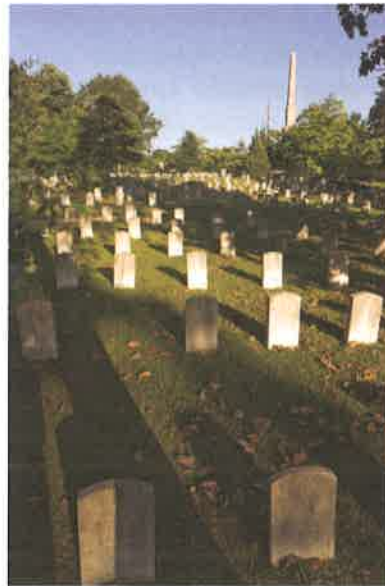
My husband is buried in a public cemetery, which is not consecrated ground. Am I permitted to be buried next to him, and can the priest bless and consecrate our final resting place?

I commend your care in this matter. The *Catechism* stresses that “the bodies of the dead must be treated with respect and charity, in faith and hope of the Resurrection. The burial of the dead is a corporal work of mercy” (CCC 2300). However, it makes no reference to the place of burial—only the manner in which our bodies are treated after death (that is, conditions for autopsy, organ donation, and cremation).

Canon law “earnestly recommends that the pious custom of burying the bodies of the deceased be observed”; by doing so properly and receiving an ecclesiastical funeral, you honor your body,

witness to our belief in the resurrection of the body, and bring “the solace of hope to the living” (*Canon* 1176). It later specifies that “where possible, the Church is to have its own cemeteries or at least areas in civil cemeteries that are designated for the deceased members of

the faithful and properly blessed. If this cannot be achieved, however, then individual graves are to be properly blessed” (*Canon* 1240). Given this, it would seem that there is no objection to your being buried in the grave next to your husband or any difficulty in requesting that the priest bless your final resting place.



CHRISTOPHER BOSWELL / SHUTTERSTOCK

FR. TOM SANTA, CSSR
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Monday
NOVEMBER 14
Weekday
Rv 1:1–4; 2:1–5
Lk 18:35–43

Tuesday
NOVEMBER 15
Weekday
Rv 3:1–6, 14–22
Lk 19:1–10

Wednesday
NOVEMBER 16
Weekday
Rv 4:1–11
Lk 19:11–28

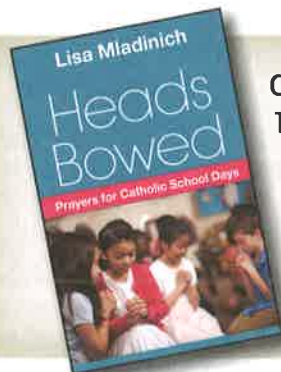
Thursday
NOVEMBER 17
St. Elizabeth of Hungary, Religious
Rv 5:1–10
Lk 19:41–44

Friday
NOVEMBER 18
Weekday
Rv 10:8–11
Lk 19:45–48

Saturday
NOVEMBER 19
Weekday
Rv 11:4–12
Lk 20:27–40

Sunday
NOVEMBER 20
Our Lord Jesus Christ King of the Universe
2 Sm 5:1–3
Col 1:12–20
Lk 23:35–43

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Come, Holy Spirit, refresh our souls when we are tired and discouraged. This world will one day pass away, and all of your children will live together in heaven forever. Brighten our hearts and send us human friendships that bring out the best in us. Give us companions full of your peace, joy, and kindness, so that we can learn from them and grow in holiness. Amen.

—From *Heads Bowed: Prayers for Catholic School Days* by Lisa Mladinich (826443)

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