

New Life

This fresco by Perugino, Michelangelo's art teacher, is found on the wall of the Sistine Chapel. Like the other frescoes in this sacred space, this panel contains multiple scenes. The central scene is the baptism of Jesus. The viewer clearly sees Jesus standing in the water, with John the Baptist next to him, pouring water over his head.

God the Father is above, ready to declare that this is his beloved Son. The Holy Spirit comes down upon Jesus in the form of a dove. It was the Spirit who helped John know that this was the Messiah, the one sent by God to baptize with the Holy Spirit.

After his baptism, Jesus is sent out to preach and teach. The fresco reveals that Perugino has read his Bible: the scene to the right Jesus is shown preaching to the multitudes. John the Baptist's mission changes, too. He goes from preparing for the coming of the Messiah to following and testifying about him. This is what the baptized do: the new life we are given calls and strengthens us to offer that new life to others.

At our baptism, we were sanctified, forgiven our sins, incorporated into the body of Christ, and given



Piece: *Baptism of Christ*, circa 1482
 Artist: Pietro Vannucci (Perugino)
 Location: Sistine Chapel

a mission to share this baptism with others. In fact, the last words of Jesus before his ascension were, "Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you" (Matthew 28:19-20).

—Fr. Mark Haydu, LC

For Reflection

How willing am I to share about Jesus and what he means to me? Do I have family or friends in doubt about baptizing their child? How can I kindly encourage them?

*"I saw the Spirit come down like a dove
 from the sky and remain upon him....
 Now I have seen and testified that he is the Son of God"
 (John 1:32, 34).*

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION CHURCH

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SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - JANUARY 15, 2017

The Sanctuary Lamp Burns with God's Blessings Upon Karl Kilachek

★ ★ MASS INTENTIONS ★ ★

SAT	5:15 PM	Duane Madrzykowski – 2 nd Anniversary	THURS	7:00 PM	Bernard Yemc
SUN	7:30 AM	Living & Deceased Parishioners	FRI	<u>No MASS</u>	
	9:00 AM	Catherine Truckley	SAT	5:15 PM	Rowena & Clyde Smith – 59 nd Wedding Anniversary
	11:00 AM	John Iezzi – 1 st Anniversary	SUN	7:30 AM	Living & Deceased Parishioners
MON	7:30 AM	Ken Umstead		9:00 AM	Bob Muldowney – 2 nd Anniversary
TUES	7:00 PM	Matilda Kroutch – 1 st Anniversary		11:00 AM	John Steigerwald
WED	<u>No MASS</u>				

NEXT WEEK AT A GLANCE

SCRIP: Porambo 5:15pm McNamara 7:30am Collura 9:00am McCauley 11:00am DeFalco

<u>DAY</u>	<u>MASS</u>	<u>LECTOR</u>	<u>COMMENTATOR</u>	<u>ALTAR SERVERS</u>
SAT	5:15 PM	Jennifer Stuart	Jason Marino	Nick Donnelly, Ande and Ethan Kraycik
SUN	7:30 AM	Toni Kaucher	Jim Kaucher	Sarah Forkin, Elly Smithson, Sidney Wolf
	9:00 AM	Mary Gray	Josephine Hohl	Joey Cizmarik, Ally and Jacob Santos
	11:00 AM	Karl Filachek	John Peterson	Lilia and Simon Crew, Matt Lambert

Second collection next week is for Religious Ministries

MARCH FOR LIFE

On Friday, January 27, 2017 our parish family of the Immaculate Conception is sponsoring a bus to the March for Life to be held in Washington D.C. The bus will depart the ICC parking lot at 8am arriving in Washington D.C. for the noon rally and 1pm March for Life. It is anticipated that the bus will return at approximately 9pm. The cost is \$30 per person. For additional information or to reserve a seat, please contact Angela Peterson at 610-582-6993 or by e-mail at arpeterson@windsteam.net.

Remember in your prayers the sick of our parish: Marco Fiato, Bryan Fiato, John & Margaret Kakas, Maryanne Prentice, Delores Woy, Alice Arantowicz, Yolanda Marino, Ann Schlott, Kathy Patrick, Joseph & Susan McCorristin, Mary & Phil Morici, Margaret Maccarone, Dan Casciano, Paisley Stout, Jake Maccarone, William Janda, Madge Butto, Roseann Malcom, Doris Slater, Joan Cronin, Rita Conrad, Rose Osorio, Tony Guilliams, Steve Mammarella, Gloria Richards, Jane Falcone, Fannie Hunter, Andrew Martin, Mary Okuniewski, Paul Bringenberg, Joseph Kolenda, Kenneth Barth, Dominic Strock, Bob Hocker, Mike DiScala, Keith Kienle, Ralph Gullo, Nancy Iezzi, Sonny Motta, Mildred Mattassa, Deb Petras, Paul Milshaw, Ronald Kryman, Anna Swiezak, Margarie & Walter Hansen, Arlene Shirley, Mark McDonald, Roger Wolf, John Shirk, Jr., Robert Thomas and Helen McDonald

Pray for the recently departed: Dolores McCullough, Edward G. Chieffo, Regina Ford

Welcome our new parishioners: Mr. & Mrs. Louis Berardi

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:

Sun	01/15	Women's Society Soup Sale
Mon	01/16	7:30pm RCIA
Tues	01/17	7:30pm Bell Choir
Wed	01/18	7pm Women's Society Meeting
Thurs	01/19	4pm Youth Choir Practice
Sat	01/21	4-5pm Confession

WHAT'S HAPPENING

Please be advised that there will be no daily Mass on Wednesday, January 18th and Friday, January 20th. Thank you for your kind understanding in the regard.

Women's Society Soup Sale, January 14/15 - It's that wonderful time of the year again! Soup will be sold by the quart for \$6. Choosing from the wide variety of homemade favorites will be a challenge. We have always been blessed with an abundance of delicious soup donations. Stop by and pick up a couple of your favorites.

A note of thanks to all those who attended the Epiphany Concert last Sunday evening and to the musicians including Sandy Bach, The Bella Musica String Quartet, Pat DeWald and Jaylynn Ritter who shared their musical talents to make the evening so special. Because of the generosity of those in attendance \$700 was sent to benefit the Soup Kitchen at Kennedy House in Reading.

CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL SCHOLARSHIPS - Any 8th grade student in Catholic, public or private school who is registered in a parish of the Diocese of Allentown is eligible to apply for a one-year partial scholarship of \$1,000 to be applied to tuition at Berks Catholic High School. Scholarships are awarded on the basis of participation in activities, service to school and community, special honors, leadership positions, academic achievement and the recommendation of the pastor. For an application please contact Immaculate Conception Academy Principal, Mrs. Patricia Tarquinio at 610-404-8645 or Mrs. Dawn O'Donnell, Director of Religious Education at 610-582-3880. **Application Deadline is Friday, January 20, 2017.**

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. Call Laura DeFalco at 610-463-8157.

The Women's Society's meets on January 18th at 7pm in the social hall. If you are interested in serving your church in the company of other women of faith and dedication, this is the group for you! If you are not a member and would like to see what the Women's Society is all about, you are invited to attend any meeting, or join in any of our activities for the benefit of our church. You will be warmly welcomed.

The **Knights of Columbus** cordially invite you to an **Oldies Dance** on Saturday, January 21st, 6:30-11pm at the Knights Council Hall, 675 Constitution Ave, Pottstown. Tickets will be sold at the door and are \$15 per person. Tickets include a home cooked meal. Cash bar available. Our DJ is sure to get you up and moving so you'll forget all about the cold weather outside. Proceeds directly benefit the KoC charitable works in this and our other member parishes.

Bulletin Deadline - Wednesday at Noon - bulletin@icbvm.org

CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK STARTS JANUARY 31ST

Love. Learning. Leadership.

Catholic Schools - Faith, Academics, Service

CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Sunday, January 29

ICC Parish Family welcome to all of today's activities

9am Opening Mass

Science Fair Set-Up after all Masses

1-3pm ICA Open House

1-3pm Family STEM Activities (student must be with parent)

3-5pm Candy Bar BINGO (Bring candy bar for admission-ICC Social Hall)

Monday, January 30

9am Science Fair viewing and judging

1:30pm 4th Grade Wax Museum (**ICC Parish Family Welcome**)

Tuesday, January 31

Brain Show Mania (12:45 grades 5-8/1:45 grades K-4)

6pm - Science Fair Awards

6:30pm Brain Show Mania, Family Edition (**ICC Parish Family Welcome**)

Wednesday, February 1

Make your own Sundaes at Lunch

Step-Up Day - Grades Pre-K through 7

Thursday, February 2

Spirit dress down day

Teacher Luncheon (11:30-12:45 Homeroom Moms cover lunch)

Afternoon at the Movies

Friday, February 3

ICC Parish Family welcome to all of today's activities

8:30-10am Coffee for our Special People, ICA Café

Please join us for light refreshments prior to Mass

School Tours will be available

10:30am Mass

12pm - Early Dismissal

Please mark your calendars for all of the fun events we have scheduled for the week. We hope you can join us!

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For registration information, please contact Adele Reilly at 610-404-8645 or adele.reilly@icaknights.org.

Kindergarten students must be aged 5 by 10/15/17 and 1st Grade students aged 6 by 10/15/17.

TRANSFER GRANTS: Any public, private, or charter school student who transfers into Immaculate Conception Academy, grades 1 through 7, will receive a Bishop's Tuition Transfer Grant of \$1,500 over two school years (\$1,000 the first year; \$500 the second). Call Adele Reilly at 610-404-8645.

Rediscover the Love in Your Marriage! Life can be difficult, and so can the challenges you face in marriage. **Retrouvaille** can help and offers hope for a better relationship. Retrouvaille is a peer ministry of volunteer couples that can help you learn the tools of healthy communication, build intimacy and heal, just as they have done in their own marriages. Retrouvaille is Christian-based, and Catholic in origin, but welcomes couples of all faiths as well as non-religious couples. The next program begins on the weekend of February 10 at the Family Life Center in Malvern, PA. Additional weekends will be held in April and August. For information, call 1-800-470-2230. All inquiries are kept strictly confidential.

Calendar

Monday

January 16

Weekday

Heb 5:1–10

Mk 2:18–22

Tuesday

January 17

St. Anthony,
Abbot

Heb 6:10–20

Mk 2:23–28

Wednesday

January 18

Weekday

Heb 7:1–3, 15–17

Mk 3:1–6

Thursday

January 19

Weekday

Heb 7:25–8:6

Mk 3:7–12

Friday

January 20

Weekday

Heb 8:6–13

Mk 3:13–19

Saturday

January 21

St. Agnes,
Virgin and Martyr

Heb 9:2–3, 11–14

Mk 3:20–21

Sunday

January 22

Third Sunday

in Ordinary Time

Is 8:23–9:3

1 Cor 1:10–13, 17

Mt 4:12–23 or 4:12–17

Dear Padre,

This semester, my class adopted “the fruit(s) of the Spirit” as its theme. I have read Galatians 5:16–26 but am not sure what St. Paul means. How does the theme relate to daily life?

In that passage, notice how Paul distinguishes between the “flesh” and the “Spirit” and says they are opposed to each other. Here, “flesh” does not refer merely to the human body nor to impure desires but rather to the state of unredeemed human nature in its earthly or secular condition. The term “spirit” refers to the “new self” brought about by Christ’s redemption and governed by the Holy Spirit (Ephesians 4:24; Colossians 3:10).

You can tell the difference between these two by looking at their results—their “fruits.”

The flesh gives rise to immorality, impurity, rivalry, selfishness, and so on (Galatians 5:19–21). The Spirit gives rise to love, peace, kindness, self-control, and the like (Galatians 5:22–23). These fruits emerge from good works, manifest God’s presence in the person doing them, and edify those who observe them. In other words, they are the visible ways in which the Holy Spirit guides and directs us and through which the Spirit touches others.

The *Catechism* defines the fruits of the Spirit as “perfections,” “the first fruits of eternal glory” (CCC 1832). The more we renounce ourselves, our “flesh,” in imitation of Christ, the more we can bear good fruit (CCC 736; see also John 15).



BERNARDO RAMON FAIR-SHUTTERSTOCK

Fr. Daniel L. Lowery, CSsR
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A Word From Pope Francis

“The lay faithful, in virtue of their Baptism, are protagonists in the work of evangelization and human advancement. Incorporated into the Church, every member of the People of God is an inseparable disciple and missionary.”

—Message, March 7, 2014

