

## Our Resurrection

The raising of Lazarus is a decisive miracle in Christ's public ministry. It leads to increased hostility and gives the Jewish leaders both an excuse and a motivation to actively seek the death of Jesus. This Gospel episode is so important that John dedicates an entire chapter to the story.

What is the most important message of this miracle? Without faith in Jesus, there is no resurrection. A fitting message for an artist painting in Europe right after World War II.

Looking at the painting of Annigoni, Mary is at the feet of Jesus while Martha is on her feet pouring out her heart. The artist evokes a landscape of death and destruction, one too often observed in postwar Europe. Colors of decay abound. Stones are piled up like rubble. The trees are burnt, scrawny, and twisted as if after an air raid. It is ugly, rugged, barren, and dry. A small group of people have gathered to weep at the tomb.

Jesus is the only source of color and life. After Martha affirms her faith in Jesus and the resurrection, he lifts up his hand and calls out. The onlookers peer inside, perhaps having heard the sounds of rustling coming from the cave.

The message of this artwork is clear to anyone struggling with the bondage of a destructive past. Jesus wants to speak words of life and raise us from the grips of death, war, and despair.

Believe in Jesus and he will raise you up!

—Fr. Mark Haydu, LC



Piece: *The Resurrection of Lazarus*, 1946

Artist: Pietro Annigoni

Location: Vatican Museums

### *For Reflection*

*How is your Lenten journey bringing you deeper in faith and closer to new life in Jesus? Has Jesus raised you from destruction or despair? How?*

*"If the Spirit of the one who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, the one who raised Christ from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also, through his Spirit that dwells in you" (Romans 8:11).*

# 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

## FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT – APRIL 2, 2017

*The Sanctuary Lamp Burns In Memory of Gerald H. Iezzi*

### ★ ★ MASS INTENTIONS ★ ★

SAT	5:15 PM	Stella Powaski	THURS	7:00 PM	Fr. Andrew Ulincy
SUN	7:30 AM	God's Blessings on Ron & Mary Schwendt 9 <sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary	FRI	7:30 AM	Philip Kubovcsak
	9:00 AM	Living & Deceased Parishioners	SAT	5:15 PM	Tom Hafer
	11:00 AM	Antonio Maccarone	SUN	7:30 AM	Living & Deceased Parishioners
MON	7:30 AM	Joseph Cuccaro, Sr.		9:00 AM	Maryanna Niemcyk
TUES	7:00 PM	Susan Brooks		11:00 AM	Iezzi Family
WED	7:30 AM	Jesse Brown			

### NEXT WEEK AT A GLANCE

SCRIP: Zubik    5:15pm Pisarek    7:30am Kasperowicz    9:00am Carvalho    11:00am Citrano

DAY	MASS	Lector	COMMENTATOR
SAT	5:15PM	Joe Bailey	Jason Mariano
SUN	7:30AM	Dan Sweeney	Toni Kaucher
	9:00AM	Josephine Hohl	Mary Gray
	11:00AM	Susan DiGuglielmo	Leonard Cline Jr.

**ALTAR SERVERS**  
 Beth Cote, Meghan Duffy, Elly Smithson  
 Nick Donnelly, Josh Piccarreta, Sean Purretta  
 Sarah Forkin, Will Gray, Sidney Wolf  
 Parker Davis, Carson Endy, Austin Lobaugh

*Second Collection Next Week is the Monthly Collection*

**Lenten Penance Service**  
**will be held on Monday,**  
**April 10<sup>th</sup> at 7pm. At that**  
**time, several priests will be**  
**available for the Sacrament**  
**of Reconciliation. Plan to**  
**attend and encounter our**  
**Merciful Savior Jesus**  
**Christ.**

**Remember in your prayers the sick of our parish:**  
 Marco 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, Jake  
 Maccarone, Madge Butto, Joan Cronin, Rita Conrad, Rose  
 Osorio, Tony Guilliams, Steve Mammarella, Joseph  
 Kolenda, Dominic Strock, Bob Hocker, Mike DiScala,  
 Mildred Mattassa, Deb Petras, Ronald Kryman, Anna  
 Swiezak, Margarie & Walter Hansen, Arlene Shirley,  
 Robert Thomas, Madison Rhoads, Rita Dougherty, Norma  
 Nanni, Lou Franco, Lucille Schiel, Helen McDonald, John  
 Fritz, Maria Houck, Lucy Doney, Evelyn Segneri, Mary  
 Okuniewski, Katie Davis, Joe Weyand, Craig Mammarella,  
 John T. LeFosse, Diane Edwards and TJ Doyle

**Pray for the recently departed:** Irene Tringl, Kenneth  
 Barth, Anna Rapposelli, William Smith and Monsignor  
 Raymond Merman

## **THIS WEEK AT ICC:**

### ***Social Sunday***

**Mon 04/03 7:30pm RCIA**  
**Tues 04/04 7:30pm Baptism Class**  
**Wed 04/05 7-9pm Eucharistic Adoration**  
**Fri 04/07 10am Living Stations of the Cross**  
**7pm Stations of the Cross**  
**Junior High Youth Group**  
**Sat 04/08 4-5pm Confession**

## **WHAT'S HAPPENING**

### ***LIVING STATIONS OF THE CROSS***

**April 7<sup>th</sup> at 10am**

**Palm Sunday, April 9<sup>th</sup> at 4pm**

*Children from Immaculate Conception Academy will present the Living Stations of the Cross. Everyone is cordially invited to participate in the beautiful reenactment of the events of Calvary. Please come to celebrate with us, and witness this beautiful Lenten Prayer lovingly offered to you by Immaculate Conception Academy students.*

Follow in the footsteps of Jesus as he carried the cross for our salvation.

Living Stations of the Cross is Friday, April 7<sup>th</sup> at 10am with the children of Immaculate Conception Academy.  
Stations of the Cross is Friday, April 7<sup>th</sup> at 7:00pm.

**YOUTH GROUP NEWS** The Junior High School Youth Group will meet on April 7<sup>th</sup>, 7-9pm. All teenagers in our parish in grades 7 and 8 are welcome to attend for an evening of fun, food and prayer. Bring a friend!

On Tuesday evening, March 28<sup>th</sup>, the Youth Group of Immaculate Conception hosted the community Table at the Birdsboro-Union Fire Department. A special note of thanks is expressed to all those who contributed food, supplies and hot casseroles. The Youth Group members are most grateful to the Women's Society for their wonderful help with this endeavor to benefit those in need in our community.

### **Be a "Knight for a Day" at ICA**

**April 25, 26, 27, 2017 - 9am- 1pm**

Students interested in grades 2-7 are invited to spend the morning shadowing a current ICA student and enjoy lunch and recess with their future classmates.

School tours for families interested in Preschool-Grade 8 will be available!

Please contact Mrs. Adele Reilly, Advancement Director at 610-404-8645 or [adele.reilly@icaknights.org](mailto:adele.reilly@icaknights.org) to RSVP. Students interested in shadowing please RSVP by Friday, April 21<sup>st</sup> to assist our staff in planning your student's day, as drop in shadow visits will be difficult to accommodate.

**Join us and see what an ICA education can do for your student!**

## **HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE**

### ***Palm Sunday***

Saturday, April 8<sup>th</sup>, 5:15pm  
Sunday, April 9<sup>th</sup>, 7:30am, 9am and 11am  
Blessing of Palms at all Masses  
Solemn Blessing of Palms and Procession at 11am  
Living Stations of the Cross at 4pm

### ***Penance Service***

Monday, April 10<sup>th</sup>, 7pm

### ***Holy Thursday***

Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper, 7pm  
Family Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament  
After evening Mass until 10pm  
(Come, "Watch One Hour" with Jesus)

### ***Good Friday***

Commemoration of the Lord's Passion, 3pm  
Confessions following until 5:30pm  
Day of Fast and Abstinence

### ***Holy Saturday***

Blessing of Food at Noon  
Confessions from 12:30pm to 2pm  
Easter Vigil Mass, 8pm  
Reception of RCIA Candidates

### ***Easter Sunday***

Masses at 7:30am, 9am and 11am  
Blessing of the Children's Easter Baskets at 9am, 11am

**Eucharistic Adoration:** During the forty days of Lent our church will be open every Wednesday, 7-9pm for Eucharistic Adoration. The Blessed Sacrament will be exposed in the monstrance on the altar. When you come, bring to the Lord your hopes and desires, your dreams and aspirations, your fears and anxieties and entrust all them all to God.

**A Lenten Endeavor: Operation Rice Bowl** – Fast and pray with your family and make a sacrificial offering to Operation Rice Bowl located in the church near the baptismal font.

Immaculate Conception is participating with local churches in meeting the needs of the Food Pantry, called "Community Table" at the Birdsboro-Union Fire Department. We are collecting **Cleaning Products**. The Collection Bin is in the Narthex.

**Annual Lenten Food Drive** local charities. Non-perishable food items and cash can be placed in the basket and cash canister in the narthex. Collecting through Palm Sunday. Questions contact Deacon Jim at 610-385-3666.

**Don't Give Up Chocolate For Lent!** Join Dynamic Catholic for *Best Lent Ever*, a FREE email program designed to help you have a life changing Lent. This program is based on Matthew Kelly's "Resisting Happiness". Visit [BestLentEver.com](http://BestLentEver.com) to sign up and receive daily emails. Discover how to open your hearts to God and do more than just give up chocolate for Lent...leading to your best Lent ever.

**EASTER EGG HUNT** for our parish children age 12 and younger on April 15<sup>th</sup> at 11am in the social hall. We are collecting bags of small individually wrapped candy and cash. A donation box is in the narthex of the church. Thanks! Calling all weekend warriors! Did you know that parishioners from ICC play in an adult softball rec league? We play other area churches on most Sunday nights from late April to late July. The league is co-ed and all skill levels are invited. If you want to relive part of your youth and have fun with fellow parishioners, email Steven at [steventepper@comcast.net](mailto:steventepper@comcast.net).



## Calendar

### Monday

April 3

Lenten Weekday

Dn 13:1-9, 15-17,

19-30, 33-62

Jn 8:1-11

### Tuesday

April 4

Lenten Weekday

Nm 21:4-9

Jn 8:21-30

### Wednesday

April 5

Lenten Weekday

Dn 3:14-20, 91-92, 95

Jn 8:31-42

### Thursday

April 6

Lenten Weekday

Gn 17:3-9

Jn 8:51-59

### Friday

April 7

Lenten Weekday

Jer 20:10-13

Jn 10:31-42

### Saturday

April 8

Lenten Weekday

Ez 37:21-28

Jn 11:45-56

### Sunday

April 9

Palm Sunday

Is 50:4-7

Phil 2:6-11

Mt 26:14-27:66

# Dear Padre,

**What happened to “hellfire and brimstone” preaching, like I remember from parish missions in my younger years?**

**H**ellfire and brimstone recalls Genesis 19:24: “The LORD rained down sulfur upon Sodom and Gomorrah, fire from the LORD out of heaven.” It refers to a harsh preaching style and “doom and gloom” content focused on God’s wrath, punishment, and hell. Puritans—those English Calvinists who colonized Massachusetts in the 1600s—adhered strongly to their belief in eternal damnation, innate sin, and diabolical power. Likewise, American Baptists were known to “out-Calvin Calvin” in their preaching.

While Catholics also adhere strongly to our belief in the possibility of eternal damnation, innate sin, and evil forces, we believe in the grace of baptism to remove original sin, the outpouring of God’s grace to strengthen our weakness due to original sin, and in the extraordinary power of conversion to prevent everlasting damnation. To that end, parish missions and revivals strengthen the spiritual life of the faithful and welcome lapsed Catholics.

Preaching orders have been conducting missions since their earliest days in America. Saint Alphonsus encouraged his Redemptorist missionaries to be lions in the pulpit and lambs in the confessional. One preacher in the 1850s described the fires of hell with such intensity that the nearby fire engine crew was mistakenly dispatched to the church to extinguish the conflagration. Yet the fire most desirable during a mission is the one in people’s hearts for God. “Fear of God” means a dread for God’s judgment, but it can also mean a reverential marvel for God. Many preachers today prefer to instill that awe for God’s inviting mercy instead of a paralyzing fear of God’s anger.

Fr. Byron Miller, CSSR  
sundaybulletin@liguori.org



POPTIKA/SHUTTERSTOCK



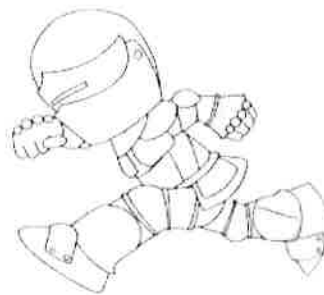
## *A Word From Pope Francis*

*“Whoever experiences [the joy of the Resurrection] becomes a witness of the Resurrection....He or she is then capable of carrying a ‘ray’ of light of the Risen One into various situations,...bringing serenity and hope.”*

—Regina Caeli, St. Peter’s Square, April 21, 2014



Immaculate Conception Academy  
Love. Learning. Leadership



# ICA 5K/10K AND 1 MILE FUN RUN/WALK

**Saturday, May 20, 2017**

**8:00AM 5K/ 10k and 8:45 Fun Run/ Walk**

**WHO:** Runners of all ages. Gather your family, friends and co-workers. Walkers are also invited to participate using the same course.

**WHAT:** The ICA 5K/10K is a fundraiser hosted by the Immaculate Conception Academy Home and School Organization. The proceeds will benefit the students of Immaculate Conception Academy with funding for new technology equipment and fitness and sports equipment.

**WHERE:** The race and fun run/walk will be held at the historic Daniel Boone Homestead (400 Daniel Boone Road, Birdsboro PA 19508). Both the 5K/10K and 1 mile fun run course will be out-and-back.

**WHEN:** Saturday, May 20, 2017

7:00 a.m. – Registration begins

8:00 a.m. – 5K and 10K run begins

8:45 a.m. – 1 mile Fun Run/Walk begins

10:00 a.m. – Awards presentation at finish line

**REGISTRATION:** Pre-register for the event by visiting <http://www.alphaandomegasports.com/race-calendar.html> or by completing and submitting the below form. Pre-registration cost for the 5K/10K is \$20 and \$30 respectively and includes an event t-shirt. Registration after 4/30/2017 is \$25 and \$35 (including the day of the race) and a t-shirt while supplies last (not guaranteed). Pre-registration cost for the 1 Mile Fun Run is \$5, an additional \$10 for a T-shirt if desired. Registration for the 1 Mile Fun Run after 4/30/2017 is \$10 (including the day of the race). T-shirts may also be available for purchase on race day (while supplies last). Participants can register at the event.

**RESULTS:** Finish line and timing service by Alpha and Omega Sports. Race results will also be posted on their website.

**AWARDS:** Medals for the 5K and 10K will be presented to Overall Male and Female Champion. Medals presented to top three (3) Male and three (3) Female finishers in each of the following age brackets: 9 and under, 10-14 years, 15-19 years, 20-29 years, 30-39 years, 40-49 years, 50-59 years, 60+ years.

**REGISTRATION: ICA 5K/10K** Online registration is preferred. To register by mail, complete this portion and mail with fee to Immaculate Conception Academy, ATTN ICA 5K/10K, 903 Chestnut St, Douglassville, PA 19518. Checks payable to ICA HSO.

**RACE SELECTION (SELECT ONE):**

Prior to 4/30/2017: 5K with T-shirt - \$20 / 10K with T-shirt - \$30 / 1 Mile FUN Run only - \$5 / 1 Mile FUN Run with T-shirt - \$15

After 4/30/2017: 5K - \$25 / 10K - \$35 / 1 Mile FUN Run - \$10

**SHIRT SIZE (SELECT ONE IF APPLICABLE):** YS / YM / YL/ AS / AM / AL / AXL / AXXL

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

*Please print*

City State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail address: \_\_\_\_\_ Age (on Race Day): \_\_\_\_\_ Male \_\_\_\_\_ Female \_\_\_\_\_

**WAIVER/RELEASE:** I agree on behalf of myself ( or my child or guard) to waive all claims against and agree to protect, defend, hold harmless and fully indemnify the race director, race officials and volunteers, any and all sponsors including, but not limited to Immaculate Conception Parish & Academy, the Diocese of Allentown, its employees and agents, chaperones, or representatives associated with the event, Union Township and those in their employ, the County of Berks, and all their representatives and successors from any injury or liability I might suffer in this event, regardless of negligence. I attest that the participant is physically fit and prepared for this event. I assume all risks associated with running in this event including, but not limited to: falls; contact with other participants; the effects of the weather, including high heat and/or humidity; and the condition of the road; all such risks being known and appreciated by me. I grant full permission for organizers to use my name and or pictures in legitimate accounts and promotions of this event.

Signature X \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_ *(Parent or guardian's signature if less than 18 years of age.)*

For more information, please contact Sandy Jordan, Race Director at [Jordan.sandra14@yahoo.com](mailto:Jordan.sandra14@yahoo.com)



**DATE:** Saturday, May 20, 2017

**TIME:** 7:00 AM Registration/ 8:00 AM Race Start

**LOCATION:** Daniel Boone Homestead: 400 Daniel Boone Road, Birdsboro PA 19508

# Sponsor Form

The ICA 5K/10K is a fundraiser hosted by the Immaculate Conception Academy's Home and School Organization. Proceeds from this event will benefit various programs within Immaculate Conception Academy. ICA will use the proceeds towards:

- Technology improvements and maintenance
- Fitness/sports equipment for gym and recess
- Playground equipment maintenance

## SPONSORSHIP LEVELS

### Gold: \$200

- Name on race t-shirt
- Recognition in church bulletin and web page
- A banner (provided by your company) to be displayed at the race
- Complimentary race t-shirt
- Complimentary race registration

### Silver: \$150

- Name on race t-shirt
- Recognition in church bulletin and web page
- Complimentary race t-shirt

### Bronze: \$100

- Name on race t-shirt
- Complimentary race t-shirt

### Refreshment Sponsor/Family Sponsor

All donations enthusiastically welcomed and appreciated!! Please contact Race Director to discuss in further detail

## CONTRIBUTOR FORM (please complete)

- Gold (\$200)
- Silver (\$150)
- Bronze (\$100)
- Refreshment Sponsor/Family Sponsor

Company Name: \_\_\_\_\_

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

Contact Name: \_\_\_\_\_

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

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Shirt Size: \_\_\_\_\_

Refreshment/Family Donation: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Contact race director for drop-off information)

For more information or to make a donation, please contact Sandy Jordan, Race Director at [jordan.sandra14@yahoo.com](mailto:jordan.sandra14@yahoo.com).

On-line race registration –  
<http://www.alphaandomegasports.com/race-calendar.html>.

Please make checks payable to ICA HSO and mail payment and sponsor sheet by 4/30/2017 to:

Immaculate Conception Academy  
ATTN: HSO 5K  
903 Chestnut Street, Douglassville, PA 19518

**Share the News!** Please share with your customers and/or patrons information about our race!