



Our Parish COMMUNITY

May 14, 2017

Fifth Sunday of Easter (A)

Acts 6:1-7

1 Pt 2:4-9

Jn 14:1-12

The Roman amphitheater of Amiternum was the main amphitheater of the ancient Sabine city of Amiternum, whose archaeological remains are located near the village of San Vittorino in the Aquila.



MASSIMILIANO MARINO SHUTTERSTOCK

Rely on the Cornerstone

One of the greatest accomplishments of Roman construction was the arch. It enabled them to span larger distances and make bigger buildings without sacrificing strength. Just think of the Roman aqueducts, basilicas, and coliseums standing today.

The key to the Roman arch is that each stone is well cut. Additionally, the cornerstone takes all the stress and stabilizes the whole. Saint Peter uses these construction images as a metaphor for the Church. We are all living stones, built into a spiritual house founded on the cornerstone, Jesus Christ. Like the deacons in the early Church, we each have a role to play.

What is asked of a stone in a building structure? Every stone needs to be strong. It needs to be formed and shaped. Accepting and seeking formation in faith is key to finding our place in life and in God's house.

A stone needs to be connected to the stones alongside it. Finally, the stone needs to accept where the master builder places it. If a stone could move itself from one place to another, there would be chaos.

Our active participation in God's plan and the Church is important. We must build on the one sure foundation and follow the plan of the master builder and those who represent him. Jesus has prepared a place for each of us in the Church and in heaven. Jesus is the way. Follow him and he will lead you to your place.

—Fr. Mark Haydu, LC

For Reflection

Have I sought out a place to serve and build up the Church in my local area? What spiritual means do I use to discern Jesus' plan for me?

*"Come to him, a living stone...and, like living stones,
let yourselves be built into a spiritual house"
(1 Peter 2:4-5).*

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION CHURCH

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Rev. Msgr. John B. McCann Pastor
 Rev. Leo S. Stajkowski.....In Residence
 Deacon Paul J. Hiryak, Deacon James A. Bardi,
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 Parish Office610 582-2411
 Parish Religious Education/CCD ..610 582-3880
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 Parish Fax.....610 404-2609
 Parish Website.....www.icbvm.org

Immaculate Conception Academy.....610 404-8645
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 Diocesan Victim Assistance Coordinator:
 Wendy S. Krisak, M.A. NC, LPC
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FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER – MAY 14, 2017

*The Sanctuary Lamp Burns In Memory of Sophia Lakatosh
 And In Honor of Pat & Curt Miller – 50th Wedding Anniversary*

★ ★ MASS INTENTIONS ★ ★

SAT	5:15 PM	Living & Deceased Parishioners	THURS	7:00 PM	Carol Ann McDevitt
SUN	7:30 AM	Living & Deceased Mothers of the Parish	FRI	7:30 AM	Mary Dolan
	9:00 AM	Living & Deceased Mothers of the Parish	SAT	5:15 PM	Living & Deceased Parishioners
	11:00 AM	Living & Deceased Mothers of the Parish	SUN	7:30 AM	Fr. Christopher Gibney – 42 nd Anniversary
MON	No Mass			9:00 AM	Duane Madrzykowski
TUES	7:00 PM	Patty Bastik – 1 st Anniversary		11:00 AM	Cristina Maccarone
WED	7:30 AM	Philip Kubovcsak			

NEXT WEEK AT A GLANCE

SCRIP: Sponsor: Zubik 5:15 McNamara 7:30 Schwendt 9:00 Grieco 11:00 Hafer

DAY	MASS	Lector	COMMENTATOR	ALTAR SERVERS
SAT	5:15PM	Jason Mariano	Joe Bailey	Joey and Logan Conlon, Nicholas Donnelly
SUN	7:30AM	Adelina Kieffer	Dan Sweeney	Parker Davis, Ryan Ferrante, Austin Lobaugh
	9:00AM	Barbara Giordano	Pat Fessler	Meghan Duffy, Ande and Ethan Kraycik
	11:00AM	Jim Keaveney	Greg Shemanski	Beth Cote, Isabella and Mia Pizzo

Second Collection Next Week is Debt Reduction

Immaculate Conception Academy has openings in its Full Day Kindergarten program for the 2017-18 school year!

In addition to providing a strong foundation in mathematics and language arts, our program features S.T.E.M. (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) education as well as art, music, and physical education. Before and after school care options are available.

For more information or to schedule a tour, please contact Adele Reilly, Advancement Director at 610-404-8645 or adele.reilly@icaknights.org.

****Openings are still available in Preschool, Pre-K and grades 1-8 as well! Contact us today!!! Space is limited in some classes****

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, Robert Thomas, Rita Dougherty, Norma Nanni, Lou Franco, Lucille Schiel, John Fritz, Maria Houck, Lucy Doney, Evelyn Segneri, Mary Okuniewski, Joe Weyand, Mark McDonald, Diane Edwards, Stephen Spitko, Anthony Boraton, Virginia Marks and TJ Doyle

Congratulate the newly baptized: Rylie Jo Lynn Stout, Paisley Rae Stout, Thomas Patrick Coffey, Myles Edward Deem

Pray for the recently departed: Lawanna Mena, Harvey C. Hocker, Dorothy Burkholder, Bernice Grey, Anna Radwanski, Jim E. Heilmann and Ralph Valletta

THIS WEEK AT ICC:

Mon 05/15 7pm Bereavement Support Group
Wed 05/17 7pm Women's Society Meeting
Sat 05/20 4-5pm Confession

WHAT'S HAPPENING

Please be advised that there will be no daily Mass Monday, May 15th. Thank you for your kind understanding in this regard.

Immaculate Conception Early Education Program

is now enrolling for its new Pre-Kindergarten Program, which now features an option to attend five full days or five half days or a combination as needed from 8:30am – 2:45pm or 8:30am to Noon.

This program will prepare students to enter our full day Kindergarten both academically and socially. The curriculum will include weekly art, music and library visits, as well as age appropriate physical education experiences. Before care options are available for all students and after care options for full day students.

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

Scholastic BOGO Book Fair will be in the ICA Library **May 15 - 19 during regular school hours.**

This is the perfect time to stop by and purchase summer reading books. If you are unable to attend the book fair please consider making a donation to "All for Books" and Scholastic will match your monetary donation. Make checks payable to ICA, put in an envelope marked "All for Books" and place in the church collection basket. Contact manuela.werley@icaknights.org with any questions.

BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT GROUP - May 15th, 7pm in the Lower Level meeting room of the church office building. Call Pat at 610-775-1892 for information.

ICA 5K/10K and 1 Mile FUN Run

Daniel Boone Homestead - May 20th - Registration 7am - 8am 5K & 10K, 8:45am Fun Run, 10am Awards
Pre-register for the event by visiting

<http://www.alphaandomegasports.com/race-calendar.html>
Registration cost is \$25 for the 5K and \$35 for the 10K and includes an event t-shirt. Registration cost for the 1 mile Fun Run is \$10 and an additional \$10 for a T-shirt if desired. For info, contact Sandy at Jordan.sandra14@yahoo.com

2017 Bishop's Annual Appeal We are grateful to our parishioners who have already made a pledge to the Bishop's Annual Appeal. Making a six-month pledge to the Appeal allows you to maximize the amount that you may give by making monthly payments. For example, a \$300 gift to the Appeal may be setup with six \$50 installments. Your sacrifice and generosity to those who are less fortunate will allow the ministries of our diocese to offer services to those who need our assistance. Visit FaithHopeCharityGives.org to make your gift online, pick up a pledge form at the back of the church or call the Appeal office at 800-831-4443.

2017: Centennial Celebration of the Apparitions of Our

Lady of Fatima.

Our parish family of the Immaculate Conception joyfully thanks God for the great gift of Our Lady's apparitions in Fatima, Portugal. The closeness of Our Lady to us and her call to return to the Gospel through prayer, sacrifice and conversion are as important for us today as they were in 1917.

"The Most Holy Virgin in these last times in which we live has given a new efficacy to the recitation of the Rosary to such an extent that there is no problem, no matter how difficult it is, whether temporal or above all spiritual, in the personal life of each one of us, of our families...of the life of peoples and nations that cannot be solved by the Rosary. There is no problem, I tell you, no matter how difficult it is, that we cannot resolve by the prayer of the Holy Rosary."

– Sister Maria Lucía of Fatima

To mark the 100th Anniversary of the Fatima apparitions, our parish family of the Immaculate Conception will host an Evening of Prayer on Tuesday, June 13, 2017. The Blessed Sacrament will be exposed on the altar for a Holy Hour beginning at 6:00 pm. During the Holy Hour, at 6:30 pm the Rosary and Fatima Litany will be prayed. The Holy Hour will conclude at 7:00 pm with Benediction of the Most Blessed Sacrament followed by Mass. Confessions will be heard throughout the Holy Hour. Everyone is welcome to attend.

CCD Registration Forms are available in the Narthex, on www.icbvmccd.org, at the parish office, and at the Office of Religious Education. Classes are filling up so register now! Volunteers are always welcome! If you would like to volunteer an hour of your time once a week to bring the Good News of Christ to the children of our parish by educating, or by example of service, please contact Mrs. O'Donnell at (610) 582-3880.

2017 Vacation Bible School - "Mission Discovery"

VBS will be held July 17 through July 21, 6pm to 8pm. VBS is open to children ages 5 to 11. Adult and teen volunteers are always welcome. Join the mission to discover what God is calling you to do with your life! Contact Mrs. O'Donnell at 610-582-3880 or ccd@icbvm.org with questions.

All women of the parish are invited to join the Women's Society for our Year End Luncheon on June 4th at 1pm at Stopper's Restaurant. Choose 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 payment in an envelope marked Women's Society in the collection basket by **May 28th**. Call Ann Marie (610.689.9124) with questions. We hope to see you there!

THE COMMISSION FOR WOMEN IS SPONSORING A WOMEN'S DAY OF SPIRITUALITY - June 10th, 9am – 3pm - St. Thomas More Family Center, 1040 Flexer Ave, Allentown. Reflections by Rev. Richard Brensinger "Blessed Is She" St. Elizabeth Mother of St. John the Baptist - Open to All Women of the Diocese – Visit www.allentowndiocese.org/CFW-spirituality to register - Cost \$20 – Call Joanne 917-406-4879.

Calendar

Monday

May 15

Easter Weekday

Acts 14:5–18

Jn 14:21–26

Tuesday

May 16

Easter Weekday

Acts 14:19–28

Jn 14:27–31a

Wednesday

May 17

Easter Weekday

Acts 15:1–6

Jn 15:1–8

Thursday

May 18

Easter Weekday

Acts 15:7–21

Jn 15:9–11

Friday

May 19

Easter Weekday

Acts 15:22–31

Jn 15:12–17

Saturday

May 20

Easter Weekday

Acts 16:1–10

Jn 15:18–21

Sunday

May 21

Sixth Sunday
of Easter

Acts 8:5–8, 14–17

1 Pt 3:15–18

Jn 14:15–21

Dear Padre,

Are we required to disobey or break an evil law?

According to St. Thomas Aquinas, a just law has four characteristics. It must be (1) an ordinance of reason, (2) for the common good, (3) properly promulgated, (4) by a legitimate authority. If one of these elements is lacking, then the law is an unjust law and need not be followed.

According to St. Augustine, evil is a lack of something that should be there. When applied to law, if one of the four characteristics is missing, the law lacks something that should be there and is evil. An unjust law, in other words, is an evil law.

As Christians, we are generally encouraged to obey the laws of the state. As the Apostle Paul states, “Let every person be subordinate to the higher authorities, for there is no authority except from God” (Romans 13:1). At the same time, we also have the responsibility of forming our consciences according to God’s revelation in Scripture and Tradition as interpreted by the divinely ordained teaching authority of the Church.

Although we are not bound to follow an unjust law, the degree to which we should actively disobey it depends on the level of evil the law promotes. Because of its serious nature, a law promoting abortion, for example, should be actively resisted through peaceful protests and appropriate legal and civil activism.

Laws that promote lesser evils need to be carefully evaluated by Church authorities and our own well-informed consciences.

Fr. Dennis J. Billy, CSsR
Sundaybulletin@Liguori.org



CNS/GREGORY L. TRACY



A Word From Pope Francis

“[When] the Apostle Peter speaks of the Church, he speaks of a temple made of living stones, which are us...the opposite of the other temple of arrogance, which is the Tower of Babel. This temple leads to unity.... Building the unity of the Church, constructing the Church, this temple, this unity of the Church, is the task of every Christian, of each one of us.”

—Morning meditation, October 24, 2014