



Piece: *The Holy Family With St. Joachim and Anne, 1516*  
Artist: Unknown  
Location: Chapel of the Governatorato, Vatican City

## To Live With Christ

A priest friend of mine visited a family with several sons thinking about the priestly vocation. During his visit he celebrated Mass for them at the local parish. The Gospel reading was the same as today: “Whoever loves father or mother more than me is not worthy of me...” My friend thought twice before reading it, afraid that the father who wasn’t open to his sons’ vocations would think he picked this passage on purpose. He read it anyway and, yes, got the reaction he suspected he’d get.

Most words in the Gospels are challenging. Jesus calls us to love him above all things. This means he has to come first, and sometimes other loves, as good as they are, cannot be the ultimate criteria. He tells us to “lose our life” to find it, and sometimes that loss is real and painful.

He demands this because he himself experienced its truth. In his public ministry, he put his mission and love of souls ahead of spending more time with family and friends. When religious leaders, government officials, and others criticized and persecuted him, he didn’t back down,

even if it affected his loved ones. He was faithful in charity. He didn’t look for problems, but he didn’t run from them, either. He avoided unnecessary conflict when he could, but he completely obeyed God’s will and embraced the hardships of loving until the end.

This kind of sacrifice brings great joy if endured with acceptance. As Romans tells us, “If, then, we have died with Christ, ...we shall also live with him.”

—Fr. Mark Haydu, LC

### *For Reflection*

*How can I live my life as though nothing is more important than Jesus?  
Do I regularly witness to my love for Jesus, using words when necessary?*

*“...Whoever does not take up his cross and follow after me is not worthy of me” (Matthew 10:37).*

# 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 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  
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 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

## THIRTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – JULY 2, 2017

*The Sanctuary Lamp Burns In Memory of Adeline Villano*

### ★ ★ MASS INTENTIONS ★ ★

SAT	5:15 PM	Angelo Bascelli Family	THURS	7:00 PM	Donald Wheeler
SUN	7:30 AM	Living & Deceased Parishioners	FRI	7:30 AM	Paul Kakalecik
	9:00 AM	Eleanor Painter – 16 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary	SAT	5:15 PM	Living & Deceased Parishioners
	11:00 AM	Joseph, Mary, Kathleen & Rosalie Ruby	SUN	7:30 AM	John Bogus
MON	<b>No Mass</b>			9:00 AM	Annette & Raymond Brennan
TUES	9:00 AM	Daniela Serpico		11:00 AM	Bill Flanagan
WED	7:30 AM	Lois Wingle – 4 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary			

### NEXT WEEK AT A GLANCE

*SCRIP: Sponsor: Dowling 5:15 Costanzo 7:30 Kasperowicz 9:00 Carvalho 11:00 Citrano*

DAY	MASS	Lector	COMMENTATOR	ALTAR SERVERS
SAT	5:15PM	Jason Mariano	Ann Marie Arbo	Vinny Ferrara, Aiden Reber, Luke Voelker
SUN	7:30AM	Jim Kaucher	Toni Kaucher	Mason and Morgan Cambria, Samantha Reitnour
	9:00AM	Isabelita Santos	Gretchen Markel	Adam and Carlina Davis, Ally Santos
	11:00AM	Bob Newman	Mary Jo Simon	Lilia and Simon Crew, Sidney Wolf

***Second Collection Next Week is Monthly Collection***

## 2017 Vacation Bible School

### "Mission Discovery"

*July 17 through July 21, 6-8pm*

*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.*

Remember in your prayers the sick of our parish: Marco Fiato, John & Margaret Kakas, Delores Woy, Alice Arantowicz, Yolanda Marino, Ann Schlott, Kathy Patrick, Joseph & Susan McCorristin, Mary & Phil Morici, Dan Casciano, Jake Maccarone, Madge Butto, Joan Cronin, Rita Conrad, Rose Osorio, 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, Lucy Doney, Mary Okuniewski, Joe Weyand, Mark McDonald, Stephen Spitko, Virginia Marks, Ken Rumler, Helen McDonald, Mark Vignone, George Sohn, Justine Marie Mattassa, Paul Milshaw, Maria Houck, Barbara Reznick, Darlene Strock, Irene Wade, Harry Wood, Tony Guilliams, Fannie Hunter, Jacob Hafer, John LeFosse, Eileen Ridall, Lucia Scotto, Anthony Cossa and TJ Doyle

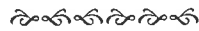
Pray for the recently departed: Maryanne Prentice

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.



**WHAT'S HAPPENING**

On Independence Day, Tuesday, July 4, 2017, the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass will be offered at 9am. We invite you to pray for our nation and for peace and justice throughout the world.



**Summer Office Hours**

**Immaculate Conception Church**

Tuesday through Friday, 9:30am to 4:30pm

**Immaculate Conception Academy**

Tuesday through Thursday, 9:00am to 1:00pm

**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](mailto: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\*\***

*Mission Trip: Please pray for two of our young parishioners Aubrey and Faith Ouimet who departed on Friday for a Mission Trip to Antigua and Guatemala where they will participate in a variety of service activities including building homes for families who are in desperate need and distributing food and clothing. Through your generosity to our Charity Fund Collection, our parish family has contributed to this most worthwhile endeavor. Please accompany Aubrey and Faith with your prayers this week. "With a profound sense of gratitude for God's many gifts, we would like to thank Monsignor McCann and the parish of Immaculate Conception for their prayers and support for our mission trip to Guatemala. The thoughtful donations provided by our parish will help us serve those in need in Guatemala to provide food and clothing as well as improved housing. Thank you for your generosity to help us bring God's love to those less fortunate. We are blessed to be a part of this loving and generous parish.*

**Resorts AC Trip – Come along and enjoy the fabulous Jersey ocean! Friday, July 21<sup>st</sup> – leave church promptly at 9:30am. Package deal – Pay \$32, get \$25 back. Call Carol J if interested at 610-775-4447**

Immaculate Conception Academy (Grades K-8), Douglassville, PA is seeking a dynamic and innovative educational leader with a strong commitment to academic excellence and Catholic values to serve as Principal. The ideal candidate must be experienced in and committed to the mission of Catholic education. Candidates should possess the acumen and experience to work effectively with academic and student affairs, the application of instructional technology, strategic planning, enrollment management, institutional advancement and fiscal management. Applicants should possess excellent oral and written communication skills and a collaborative leadership style capable of working with a Board of Limited Jurisdiction.

Those interested in the position should submit their letter of interest, resume, background clearances, and appropriate certifications with personal and professional references to ICA Search Committee at [resumes.icabvm@gmail.com](mailto:resumes.icabvm@gmail.com) or by mail to ICA Search Committee c/o 310 Washington Street, Birdsboro, PA 19508. The Diocesan application packet may be obtained by calling 610-866-0581, ext. 3032.

**Application deadline:** July 10, 2017

No phone calls please.

Immaculate Conception Academy is an alumni school of the Healey Education Foundation. EOE.

**Love, Learning, Leadership**

**Immaculate Conception Academy Positions Available**

Immaculate Conception Academy is accepting applications for teacher and classroom aide openings, including a part time music teacher for the 2017-18 school year. Teacher candidates must hold or be eligible for PA certification. Teaching candidates, please send letter of interest, resume, copies of certification and transcripts, along with clearances and references. Classroom aide candidates, please send letter of interest and resume to Mrs. Christine Foley, 903 Chestnut Street, Douglassville, PA 19518.

**Immaculate Conception Academy 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.

**CCD Registration Forms** are available in the Narthex, on [icbvmccd.org](http://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, please call Mrs. O'Donnell at (610) 582-3880.



## Calendar

### Monday

July 3

St. Thomas, Apostle

Eph 2:19–22

Jn 20:24–29

### Tuesday

July 4

Weekday

Gn 19:15–29

Mt 8:23–27

### Wednesday

July 5

Weekday

Gn 21:5, 8–20a

Mt 8:28–34

### Thursday

July 6

Weekday

Gn 22:1b–19

Mt 9:1–8

### Friday

July 7

Weekday

Gn 23:1–4, 19;

24:1–8, 62–67

Mt 9:9–13

### Saturday

July 8

Weekday

Gn 27:1–5, 15–29

Mt 9:14–17

### Sunday

July 9

Fourteenth Sunday in

Ordinary Time

Zec 9:9–10

Rom 8:9, 11–13

Mt 11:25–30

# Dear Padre,

## If my fiancé and I abstain from sex, why can't we live together before we get married?

It seems to me there are two reasons living with your future spouse before marriage is not a good idea.

One is that you are setting each other up for some serious temptations, or an “occasion of sin.” It would be similar to putting a bottle of gin on the desk of an alcoholic or a carton of cigarettes in front of someone who has succeeded in giving up smoking. I’m not saying you have some sort of addiction, but the natural pull of sex is going to be particularly strong, especially when you’re young, in love, and ready to commit to marriage.

You will be free and even encouraged in marriage to pursue the greatest intimacy. But for the moment, it is asking too much to put you both in the same circumstances now that you will be in after you wed.

The second reason for not living together before marriage is that the living situation could give scandal to others. If you are active in your church and vocal about practicing your Catholic faith but then start living with your future spouse before marriage, it can raise questions (and eyebrows) about what you really believe and how you’re living your faith.

There may be some good-sounding reasons for living together. You can cut down on costs, get to know your future spouse better, and so on. But these reasons aren’t worth the risk.

My advice is that you help each other live a virtuous life now, by sacrificing the convenience of living together outside of marriage, as the best practice for your life together in the sacrament of matrimony.

Fr. Gary Lauenstein, CSSR  
Sundaybulletin@Liguori.org



### A Word From Pope Francis

*“Commitment to mission is not something added on to the Christian life as a kind of decoration, but is instead an essential element of faith itself. A relationship with the Lord entails being sent out into the world as prophets of his word and witnesses of his love. Even if at times we are conscious of our weaknesses and tempted to discouragement, we need to turn with God with confidence. We must overcome a sense of our own inadequacy and not yield to pessimism, which merely turns us into passive spectators of a dreary and monotonous life. There is no room for fear! God himself comes to cleanse our ‘unclean lips’ and equip us for the mission.”*

—Message, Fifty-fourth World Day of Prayer for Vocations, November 27, 2016