

Leave the Mountain

Our walk with Jesus is full of contrasts: human and divine, grace and nature, sin and mercy. *The Transfiguration* by Raphael Sanzio, like the Scripture that inspires it, is also full of contrasts. The composition is in two registers. Up above we have the heavenly glory of Christ enveloped in a fantastic aura of divine light symbolizing his divine Sonship. The power of the experience leaves the disciples prostrate while the two Old Testament figures of Moses and Elijah float in suspended adoration. Down below, we have the other apostles, dealing ineffectively with a possessed boy. There is obvious chaos, with fingers pointing everywhere and faces turning in all directions. There is the serenity of heavenly white against the diabolic and earthly darkness.



Piece: *The Transfiguration*, circa 1518
Artist: Raphael Sanzio
Location: Pinacoteca, Vatican Museums

This contrast is present in our own lives. We feel a call to the beauty of God's life, we want it wholeheartedly, and we resolve to make that beauty a reality. But we also know that when we come down the mountain and into our daily lives, we struggle with confusion, temptation, and earthly concerns. It is easy in Christ's glorious presence, but when we get into traffic, our offices, or the trials of raising toddlers or teenagers, it isn't so simple.

Here is where we need the power of God's mercy and love. Peter wanted to stay in Christ's presence and enjoy it, soak it up, remain, and never go down the mountain again. He heard the Father's voice, knew he should listen to the Son, and was resolved to do so! Although

he wants to stay, listen, and learn, Christ touches him and tells him to not fear, get up, and get going. We need to go down the mountain and into our lives. That is where the faith and love we learn from Jesus in prayer is needed. He lets us see his glory so we can go down and bring that glory into a needy world.

—Fr. Mark Haydu, LC

For Reflection Do you spend enough time in prayer to face your daily activities with serenity? Are there days when you would rather stay in prayer than face your earthly commitments?

“This is my Son, my beloved, with whom I am well pleased.’ We ourselves heard this voice come from heaven while we were with him on the holy mountain” (2 Peter 1:17–18).

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. Barði,
 Deacon Charles A. Giordano
 Parish Office610 582-2411
 Parish Religious Education/CCD ..610 582-3880
 Parish Preschool610 404-8645
 Parish Website.....www.icbvm.org

Immaculate Conception Academy.....610 404-8645.....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. 2019
 Diocese of Allentown...www.allentowndiocese.org

TRANSFIGURATION OF THE LORD – AUGUST 6, 2017

The Sanctuary Lamp Burns In Memory of Josie & Gus Fredriksen

★ ★ MASS INTENTIONS ★ ★

SAT	5:15 PM	Living & Deceased Parishioners	THURS	7:00 PM	Dolores T. Koren
SUN	7:30 AM	Mike Kilareski	FRI		No Mass
	9:00 AM	Regina Kelley	SAT	5:15 PM	Eileen Achenbach
	11:00 AM	Donald Wheeler	SUN	7:30 AM	Nicolena Kennedy
MON		No Mass		9:00 AM	Julia & Carmen Bascelli
TUES	7:00 PM	Dec'd Members of the Kusznr Family		11:00 AM	Living & Deceased Parishioners
WED		No Mass			

NEXT WEEK AT A GLANCE

SCRIP: Sponsor: Dowling 5:15 Pisarek 7:30 Collura 9:00 Grieco 11:00 Hafer

DAY	MASS	Lector	COMMENTATOR	ALTAR SERVERS
SAT	5:15PM	Sherry McCollum	Joe Bailey	Beth Cote, Nick Donnelly, Carson Endy
SUN	7:30AM	Dan Sweeney	Amanda Marley	Ande and Ethan Kraycik, Sean Purretta
	9:00AM	Pat Fessler	Stephanie Myers	Sarah Forkin, Anna and Daniel Schlegel
	11:00AM	Mary Gray	Bob Newman	Carina Cress, Taylor Moyer, Austin Lobaugh

Second Collection Next Week is the Monthly Collection

Immaculate Conception Academy

How was your school year?

Is something missing from your child's education?

Immaculate Conception Academy is committed to providing students in preschool through grade 8 with an education that combines a strong foundation in the core subjects with 21st century learning. Our dedicated faculty strives to bring out the best in each student and challenges them to live our "Three L's":

Love. Learning. Leadership.

We invite you to come and see what a difference ICA makes.

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

Visit us at www.icaberks.org !

Remember in your prayers the sick of our parish: Marco Fiato, John & Margaret Kakas, Delores Woy, Alice Arantowicz, Yolanda Marino, Ann Schlott, Joseph & Susan McCorristin, Mary & Phil Morici, Dan Casciano, Jake Maccarone, Madge Butto, Joan Cronin, Rita Conrad, Rose Osorio, Steve Mammarella, Mary Loeb, Joseph Kolenda, Dominic Strock, Bob Hocker, Mike DiScala, Mildred Mattassa, Deb Petras, Ronald Kryman, Anna Swiezak, Margarie & Walter Hansen, Robert Thomas, Rita Dougherty, Lou Franco, Lucille Schiel, John Fritz, Lucy Doney, Mary Okuniewski, Mark McDonald, Virginia Marks, Ken Rumler, Mark Vignone, Justine Mattassa, Barbara Reznick, TJ Doyle, Harry Wood, Tony Guilliams, Fannie Hunter, Jacob Hafer, John LeFosse, Anna Harner, Loretta Davidson, Jim & Joan Smith, Jennifer Quinter and Anthony Cossa

Welcome our new parishioners: Mr. & Mrs. Vincent Delia

Congratulate the newly baptized: Jaxon Nathan Romig and his family

Pray for the recently departed: Maria Houck

THIS WEEK AT ICC:

Wed 08/09 7pm Women's Society

Sat 08/12 4-5pm Confession



WHAT'S HAPPENING



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

Please be advised that the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass will be offered this week on Tuesday and Thursday at 7pm. There will be no daily Mass on Monday, Wednesday or Friday. Thank you for your kind understanding in this regard.



**Immaculate Conception Academy
Positions Available**

Immaculate Conception Academy is accepting applications for Middle School teachers, a Music teacher and Substitute teachers for the 2017-18 school year. Teacher candidates must hold or be eligible for PA certification. Please send letter of interest, resume, copies of certification and transcripts, along with clearances and references to Mrs. Christine Foley, 903 Chestnut Street, Douglassville, 19518.

Love. Learning. Leadership.

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.

Confirmation Date Announced: Our newly ordained Bishop Aldred A. Schlert will Administor the Sacrement of Confirmation at Immaculate Conception on Tuesday, October 24th at 4:30pm. Please ray for the young men and women of our parish who will receive the Gifts of the Holy Spirit on the occasion.

ICC Altar Server Clinic

Friday, August 18th, 9:30am-12pm in the church

Any parish child in grades 6 through 12 can become an altar server. To enroll, please complete the form below and return to Msgr. McCann by August 17th.

Child's Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

Home Phone: _____

Parent's Phone: _____

Grade for 2017/2018 School Year: _____

Discover/Rediscover Catholicism - Starting September 11th, join us on Monday evenings at 7:30pm for a better understanding of our Catholic faith. The Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults (RCIA) isn't just for those wishing to become a Catholic. It's for anyone seeking a better understanding of the beliefs, teachings and traditions of Catholicism. If interested or curious, contact Deacon Paul Hiryak or Msgr. McCann by calling the parish office at 610-582-2411. We hope to see you!

The Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary into Heaven – Tuesday, August 15th is the Solemnity of the Assumption, a Holy Day of Obligation. The Holy Sacrifice of the Mass will be offered on Monday evening, August 14th at 7pm and on August 15th at 7:30am and 7pm.

RESORTS AC TRIP - August 25th - Leave church promptly at 9:30am - Package Deal...Pay \$32, get \$25 - Call Carol J if interested 610-775-4447

Girls Volleyball - girls in grades 4th thru 8th that are interested in playing volleyball fall should contact Coach Geary at 610-334-5745 or gearycmc@ptd.net. Starting on August 14th, practices will be Monday thru Thursday, 6:15pm to 8:00pm.

CCD Registration Forms are available in the Narthex, on 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

Saint Catharine of Siena School, Reading is accepting applications for a computer teacher/library media specialist. Please send letter of interest, resume, letters of recommendation and all clearances to Mrs. Marcella Kraycik, principal at Mkraycikscs@gmail.com or Saint Catharine of Siena School, 2330 Perkiomen Avenue, Reading PA 19606.

Annual Diocesan Anniversary Mass Celebration - Cathedral of St. Catharine of Siena, 1875 West Turner St., Allentown, 18104 September 17th at 3pm. We invite couples celebrating 5, 25, 40, 50, or 60+ years of marriage to this event. Please refer to the A.D. Times for a registration form, register at www.allentowndiocese.org/anniversarymass, request a form at MFLF@allentowndiocese.org, or by calling 610-289-8900 ext. 2028. The form must be completed and returned to the Office of Marriage & Natural Family Planning, 2121 Madison Avenue, Bethlehem, 18017 by September 8.

Immaculate Conception is collecting cleaning products to assist in meeting the needs of the Food Pantry, called "Community Table". The Collection Bin is in the Narthex.

Traveling this summer?

Visit www.masstimes.org for Mass schedules

Calendar

Monday

August 7

Weekday

Nm 11:4b–15

Mt 14:13–21

Tuesday

August 8

St. Dominic,

Priest

Nm 12:1–13

Mt 14:22–36 or

15:1–2, 10–14

Wednesday

August 9

Weekday

Nm 13:1–2, 25–14:1,

26–29a, 34–35

Mt 15:21–28

Thursday

August 10

St. Lawrence,
Deacon and Martyr

2 Cor 9:6–10

Jn 12:24–26

Friday

August 11

St. Clare,

Virgin

Dt 4:32–40

Mt 16:24–28

Saturday

August 12

Weekday

Dt 6:4–13

Mt 17:14–20

Sunday

August 13

Nineteenth Sunday
in Ordinary Time

1 Kgs 19:9a, 11–13a

Rom 9:1–5

Mt 14:22–33

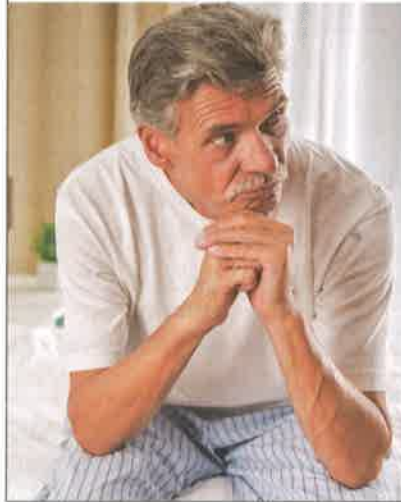
Dear Padre,

Now that I'm retired and my kids are grown I'm feeling directionless. Even my faith life doesn't feel like it used to. How can I recapture a feeling of purposefulness in my faith?

People may long for liberation from their job and for an “empty nest” at home; yet, when some find it, they lose a clear sense of identity, purpose, or fulfillment. This loss can lead to depression, but many people are unable to name it or cope with these life-changing realities.

Is getting through the day more exhausting than a full day's work before your retirement? Do you prefer to live in the past? Are you burdened with lingering feelings of guilt or regret that need healing? Do you feel like a burden? What are your reasons for living?

Faith and spirituality are connected to the physical, mental, and emotional dimensions of our life. It is often easier to recapture vitality in faith when we



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recapture a purpose in other dimensions of life. Volunteer for a worthy cause. Balance your active outreach with introspection. Go on a retreat and reflect on what you're grateful for. Your relationship with the Lord in prayer may be affected by your lack of direction and purpose, but even a persistent emptiness in prayer can be an opportunity to have God fill the void—by focusing more on God than on what's presently lacking in your life.

Fr. Byron Miller, CSSR
Sundaybulletin@Liguori.org

A Word From Pope Francis



“By [Jesus’] Transfiguration he invites us to gaze at him. And looking at Jesus purifies our eyes and prepares them for eternal life, for the vision of heaven. Perhaps our eyes are a little sick because we see so many things that are not of Jesus, things that are even against Jesus: worldly things, things that do not benefit the light of the soul. And in this way, this light is slowly extinguished, and without knowing it, we end up in interior darkness, in spiritual darkness, in a darkened faith: darkness, because we are unaccustomed to looking and imagining the things of Jesus.”

—Homily, second Sunday of Lent, March 16, 2014