

## Right Judgment

Often when we think of a judge, we think of severity or cold justice. Courtroom and criminal-justice dramas—even some news coverage of major crimes and scandals—love depicting the offender as receiving his or her just rewards, with the judge or prosecutor smugly reflecting or sighing in relief.

But in the scriptural sense, a judge is much more. A good judge is an educator, teacher, and parent. Good judges promote wise living and respect for authority and the law. Their tools are sometimes mercy, sometimes penance, but always prompted by love.

A better image to understand the judge's role is a parent educating his or her child. Sometimes education means letting something slide; sometimes it means holding the child accountable. Both can be expressions of love.

Today's readings caution us against selfish passions that prompt us to judge. One who has been forgiven much but is then harsh with others will be severely punished—or as Sirach puts it, God “remembers their sins in detail.”

Mercy toward others is key to the Gospel message. Some think they are good Christians because they don't steal and haven't killed anyone. They may even be active in their parish but are highly critical of others.

Remember, as Jesus said: “The measure with which you measure will be measured out to you” (Matthew



Piece: *Christ the Judge*, 1507–08

Artist: Perugino

Location: Stanza dell'Incendio, Vatican Museums

7:2). And, “So will my heavenly Father do to you, unless each of you forgives his brother from his heart.”

—Fr. Mark Haydu, LC

### *For Reflection*

*How kind, patient, and forgiving am I on a regular basis? How kind, patient, and forgiving would others say I am?*

*“I say to you, not seven times but seventy-seven times”  
(Matthew 18:22).*

# 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.....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

## TWENTY FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – SEPTEMBER 17, 2017

*The Sanctuary Lamp Burns In Memory of Gregory White and  
 In Honor of Terry & Paul Swisher – 65<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary*

### ★ ★ MASS INTENTIONS ★ ★

SAT	5:15 PM	Mary Butler	THURS	7:00 PM	John Downs
SUN	7:30 AM	John "Buddy" Palko	FRI	7:30 AM	Dolores McCullough
	9:00 AM	Living & Deceased Parishioners		9:00 AM	ICA Mass – Victoria Barletta
	11:00 AM	Robert Ellison	SAT	5:15 PM	Philip Kubovcsak
MON		<b>No Mass</b>	SUN	7:30 AM	Living & Deceased Parishioners
TUES	7:00 PM	Joseph Sipe		9:00 AM	John Bradley
WED	7:30 AM	Gregory White		11:00 AM	Dec'd Members of Ruby, Kundrat, Hill & Myers Fams.

### NEXT WEEK AT A GLANCE

*SCRIP: Sponsor: Gulla 5:15 Costanzo 7:30 Collura 9:00 Grieco 11:00 Hafer*

DAY	MASS	Lector	COMMENTATOR	ALTAR SERVERS
SAT	5:15PM	Ann Marie Arbo	Jason Mariano	Joe Cizmarik, Anna and Daniel Schlegel
SUN	7:30AM	Sean Werner	Sherry McCollum	Amanda Marley, Bridget Ottinger, Angela Serpico
	9:00AM	Stephanie Myers	Gretchen Markel	Michael Beitz, Daniel Montowski, Josh Piccarreta
	11:00AM	Bob Newman	John Peterson	Delaney Hyer, Avery Kelly, Kathryn Krueger

### *Second Collection Next Week is Religious Ministries*

## **Youth Group**

## **Welcome Back Picnic**

will be held on Friday,  
 September 22<sup>nd</sup>, 6-8pm in  
 the social hall.

All youth of the parish in  
 grades 7-12 are invited  
 and welcome to bring a  
 friend!

*Feel free to bring a  
 snack or dessert to share!*

Remember in your prayers the sick of our parish: Marco Fiato, John & Margaret Kakas, Delores Woy, Alice Arantowicz, Yolanda Marino, Morris Motta, Ann Schlott, 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, Anthony Mattassa Sr, Deb Petras, Ronald Kryman, Anna Swiezak, Margarie & Walter Hansen, Rita Dougherty, Lou Franco, Lucille Schiel, John Fritz, Lucy Doney, Mary Okuniewski, Mark McDonald, Virginia Marks, Ken Rumler, Mark Vignone, Justine Mattassa, TJ Doyle, Harry Wood, Tony Guilliams, Fannie Hunter, Jacob Hafer, John LeFosse, Edward Woznicki, James Weikel, Robert Thomas, Theresa Lynch, Anne Hiryak and Anthony Cossa  
 Welcome our new parishioners: Mr. & Mrs. Brandon Chapa, Mr. & Mrs. Jeffrey Duce, Ms. Tina Gibson  
 Congratulate the newly baptized: Ronald Joseph Astle  
 Congratulate the newly married: Lauren Grace Bobb & Thomas John Didyoung  
 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:**

**Mon 09/18 7pm Bereavement Support Group**  
**7:30pm RCIA**

**Wed 09/20 6:30pm Women's Society**

**Sat 09/23 4-5pm Confessions**



## **WHAT'S HAPPENING**

Please note there will be no Mass on Monday, September 18<sup>th</sup>. Thank you for your kind understanding in this regard.

### ***You're Invited to see what a difference ICA makes!***

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 21<sup>st</sup> 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.***

To schedule a tour, please contact Adele Reilly, Advancement Director at 610-404-8645 or [adele.reilly@icaknights.org](mailto:adele.reilly@icaknights.org). Visit us at [www.icaberks.org](http://www.icaberks.org) !



### **Immaculate Conception Academy** **Positions Available**

Immaculate Conception Academy is accepting applications for classroom aides 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 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.

**CCD Registration Ending Soon!** Register now! Contact Dawn O'Donnell at 610-582-3880.

**BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT GROUP** will meet on September 18<sup>th</sup>, 7pm in the church. Using the side door, it's the first room on the right. We welcome anyone who is grieving the loss of a loved one, even if not a recent loss. Call Toni 610-404-1389 or Pat 610-775-1892.

**Sunday School** begins September 24<sup>th</sup>. Registration is open for children ages 3 to 5. Forms are available in the Narthex and parish office. If you would like to volunteer, please call Dawn O'Donnell at 610-582-3880.

**RESORTS AC TRIP** – September 22<sup>nd</sup> – leave ICC promptly at 9:30am – Package Deal: Pay \$32 get \$25 back – Call Carol J at 610-775-4447

**Discover/Rediscover Catholicism - Join us** on Mondays 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 at 610-582-2411. We hope to see you!

**25% OFF AND EXTENDED SHOPPING HOURS** for the Boscov's "one day only" **Friends Helping Friends** October 17<sup>th</sup>, **9am-11pm**. Finish up your school clothes shopping, do some early Christmas shopping, or spruce up your home for the upcoming holiday season and **save 25%** (exceptions listed on passes). Buy your shopping pass in the narthex for \$5 (100% of the proceeds go to the parish), and enjoy free refreshments while you shop, entertainment, and chances to win fabulous door prizes including a \$500 shopping spree.

**It's Apple Dumpling Time** – those big juicy apples are just waiting to be baked into our wonderful dumplings. Order sheets are in the narthex. Tentatively, the Apple Dumplings will be distributed October 14/15. Please pre-pay and order by October 8<sup>th</sup> to make sure you get your dumplings. If you are interested in helping make the apple dumplings, please join us in the social hall on October 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup>, from 9am to ???. We also need helpers to help press (not to make) the dough on October 12<sup>th</sup> at 9am. You don't have to be a member to join in the fun. No experience necessary it is light, easy work, but we need many hands.

**YOU'RE INVITED!** – The Women's Society is very excited to welcome all women of the parish and our members to the **Annual Covered Dish Social - September 20<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm in the social hall**. We are anxious to get underway for the 2017/2018 season. We begin each year with the Covered Dish Social with each of us bringing a favorite dish to share with everyone. The year's events will be outlined and discussed, and anyone thinking of joining the society will have an opportunity to meet other women of the parish and get a good overview of what The Women's Society is all about. Members are asked to attend if able. Don't forget to invite a friend, or the woman sitting next to you at church.

**ICA HSO's Annual Christmas Bazaar - Immaculate Conception Church - November 4<sup>th</sup>, 9am-3pm. Vendor spaces are still available.** For more information on becoming a vendor please email [ICAXmas@gmail.com](mailto:ICAXmas@gmail.com) or stop in the parish office for an application.

**Golf Outing to Benefit St. Gabriel RCC, Stowe - September 22<sup>nd</sup> - Blackwood Golf Course, 11am - \$85 per golfer includes lunch, golf, post-play banquet and prizes - guest \$20 for banquet.** Call Kathy at 610-326-5217 for info or to register.

**Craft Fair - 9/22 - 5-9pm, 9/23-24 9am-6pm**  
Birdsboro/Union Fire Company, 214 W. First St, Birdsboro  
All proceeds benefit the local food pantry in Birdsboro, Hopewell Love, and the needs of the community.



## Calendar

### Monday

September 18

Weekday

1 Tm 2:1–8

Lk 7:1–10

### Tuesday

September 19

Weekday

1 Tm 3:1–13

Lk 7:11–17

### Wednesday

September 20

*Sts. Andrew Kim Tae-gön,  
Priest, and Paul Chông  
Ha-sang, and Companions,  
Martyrs*

1 Tm 3:14–16

Lk 7:31–35

### Thursday

September 21

*St. Matthew,  
Apostle and Evangelist*

Eph 4:1–7, 11–13

Mt 9:9–13

### Friday

September 22

Weekday

1 Tm 6:2c–12

Lk 8:1–3

### Saturday

September 23

*St. Pius of Pietrelcina,  
Priest*

1 Tm 6:13–16

Lk 8:4–15

### Sunday

September 24

*Twenty-Fifth Sunday  
in Ordinary Time*

Is 55:6–9

Phil 1:20c–24, 27a

Mt 20:1–16a

# Dear Padre,

**Pope Francis said, “Who am I to judge?” But aren’t we supposed to hold each other to a higher standard of living and judge actions as moral or sinful?**

Pope Francis is not the only one to warn about judging. He is likely drawing his guidance from Jesus in Matthew 7:1–2. Both the Lord and the pope warn us about judging others and looking down upon those we consider “more sinful.” That sort of comparison can easily lead us to arrogance and hypocrisy.

The Lord teaches us there will be a final (or particular) judgment each of us will have to face. We will all have to stand before God and give an account of our

actions. This teaches us that God is the only one qualified to fully know a person’s heart and intentions. If we begin to act as a judge of people, then we are playing God.

However, your question also implies that among believers we are to hold one another accountable in our Christian community. This is correct (Matthew 18:15–17). In the body of Christ, there is a responsibility to help and encourage

each other to follow Jesus. Among the baptized, there should be the sharing of virtues and some accountability to the Church. We call one another higher, not through accusation, but through love and service. It is my duty to help fellow believers in their discipleship, as it is their duty to help me with mine. I find that I appreciate those who care enough about me to want to help me be a better Catholic, priest, or person. In community, we should build up in fellowship, not tear down in judgment.

Fr. Matthew Bonk, CSsR | [Sundaybulletin@Liguori.org](mailto:Sundaybulletin@Liguori.org)

CNS PHOTO/GREGORY A. SHERMITZ



## A Word From Pope Francis

*“We must not grow weary, then, of keeping watch over our thoughts and our attitudes, in order that we may be given even now a foretaste of the warmth and splendor of God’s Face—and this will be beautiful—which in eternal life we shall contemplate in all its fullness. Forward, thinking of this judgment which begins now, which has already begun. Forward, doing so in such a way that our hearts open to Jesus and to his salvation; forward without fear, for Jesus’ love is greater and if we ask forgiveness for our sins he will forgive us. This is what Jesus is like. Forward then with this certainly, which will bring us to the glory of heaven!”*

—General audience, St. Peter’s Square, December 11, 2013

**Dear Women of Immaculate Conception Church:**

As the Women's Society embark on our 81<sup>st</sup> year of service to the parish, I would like to take the opportunity to invite each of you to attend the **Annual Covered Dish Social** being held Wednesday, September 20, 2017, at 6:30 PM in the Social Hall. Bring a dish you would like to share. The annual dues of \$10.00 for the 2017/2018 year are now being collected, and may be paid to Carol Janiszewski.

The Officers serving for the next two years are:

Marsha Gazzillo (President)

Ann Marie Arbo (Vice President)

Margie Pratt (Secretary)

Theresa Gaumer (Treasurer)

I have included (on the reverse side) this year's Meeting Schedule, and our events for the 2017/2018 calendar year.

The Women's Society has played a vital role in meeting the social and economic needs of the church. We can only continue to do so with your participation and support.

If you are currently a member but have not regularly attended the meetings in the past, please try to do so. All women of the parish are encouraged to join the Women's Society, and to join in our activities or meetings. A true sense of belonging is gained and lifelong friendships are formed while working and praying side by side for each other and our parish family.

You have been most gracious and supportive in the past, and we are looking forward to another successful season.

Again, thank you for your continued support. I am always in awe of your joyful dedication to our parish family and look forward to serving as an officer.

May God Bless each of you.

Your fellow servant in Christ,

Marsha Gazzillo

# Immaculate Conception B.V.M. Church

A Roman Catholic Community • Serving the Birdsboro and Douglassville Areas

## Women's Society 2017-2018 Calendar

Wednesday, September 20, 6:30 p.m.	Covered Dish/Meeting
Saturday, September 23/Sunday, September 24	Bake Sale
Thursday, October 12, 9:00 a.m.	Apple dumpling dough pressing
Friday, October 13, 9:00 a.m.	Apple dumpling making and baking
Saturday, October 14, 9:00 a.m.	Apple dumpling making and baking
Tuesday, October 17	Friends Helping Friends at Boscov's
Wednesday, October 18, 7:00 p.m.	Meeting
Saturday, November 4,	ICC Bazaar
Wednesday, November 15, 7:00 p.m.	Meeting
Saturday, November 18/Sunday, November 19	Bake Sale
Sunday, December 3, 11:00 a.m. Mass	Mass for Deceased Members
Sunday, December 3, 1:00 p.m.	Christmas Luncheon, Place TBD
Saturday, December 9/Sunday, December 10	Christmas Cookie Sale
Wednesday, January 17, 7:00 p.m.	Meeting
Saturday, January 20/Sunday, January 21	Soup Sale
Saturday, February 3/Sunday, February 4	Super Bowl Bake Sale
Wednesday, February 21, 7:00 p.m.	Meeting
Saturday, March 10/Sunday, March 11	Candy Sale
Wednesday, March 21, 6:30 p.m.	Agape Service/Meeting
Wednesday, April 18, 7:00 p.m.	Meeting
Saturday, April 21/Sunday, April 22	Bake Sale
Wednesday, May 9, <i>tentative date</i>	Camilla Hall Visit
Wednesday, May 16, 7:00 p.m.	Meeting
Sunday, June 3, 11:00 a.m. Mass	Mass for Living Members
Sunday, June 3, 1:00 p.m.	Year-End Luncheon, Place TBD

Please note that all meetings (highlighted above) are held in the Social Hall.

The dates for the Community Table and Kennedy House have yet to be determined. Dates for these events, as well as any other events, will be provided in the bulletin.

We follow the Daniel Boone School District inclement weather policy. If the school closes or closes early, then we will have no meeting or event (including the Community Table.)



*Immaculate Conception Parish Men's Group*  
*Esto Vir - Be a Man*  
*Better Man, Better husband, Better Father*



Married and single men come join us to discover how rewarding it is to live our vocational calling by God.



We will explore the pitfalls and obstacles that society puts in our paths, and we will discover the help available to "Be a Man" as we are called to be.



On Saturday October, 7<sup>th</sup> 2017 at 9 AM in the Immaculate Conception social hall, listen to a stimulating presentation, by men of our parish, on their journey to understanding God's plan for their happiness. There will be a light breakfast starting at 8:30 AM.

Visit us on Facebook at  
<http://fb.me/EstoVirCMG>



Sign up for the event at  
[www.EstoVirCMG.org](http://www.EstoVirCMG.org)

