

Say “Yes” and Go Out

We can really relate to God when he repeats the people’s blame and accusations at him for not being fair. In moments of suffering or injustice, it’s easy to pass judgment and blame it all on God. It’s especially difficult when innocent and good people (ourselves included) suffer. We’re tempted to ask, “Aren’t you supposed to treat your friends better?”

We only need to look at Marco Palmezzano’s painting *Christ Bearing the Cross* to reconsider our complaints. How have we treated God?

Jesus was and is the most innocent of souls; no other being was or is as good as Jesus. No one was asked to suffer like him, and he suffered not to gain for himself but to pay our debt. Relating it to today’s Gospel lesson, Jesus is the son who, when asked to work in his Father’s vineyard, promptly said “yes” and went. Always obedient, always docile, always loving.

Watching Jesus, we hear the echo of St. Paul’s letter. Jesus humbly regarded his brothers and sisters as more than himself and was willing to go to the cross and win them back for the Father. Keep in mind, those siblings had destroyed family

unity, squandered away their inheritance, sold their birthright, sold him into slavery with their sin, and very often refused his love. Yet “God proves his love for us in that while we were still sinners Christ died for us” (Romans 5:8).

God knows his merciful justice well and can kindly and provokingly ask in Ezekiel 18:25, “Is it my way that is unfair? Are not your ways unfair?”

—Fr. Mark Haydu, LC

Piece: *Christ Bearing the Cross*, circa 1535

Artist: Marco Palmezzano

Location: Vatican Museums



For Reflection

Am I fair to God by giving him thanksgiving, adoration, and obedience for his love? Am I fair to others by offering them gratitude and humble kindness?

“Do nothing out of selfishness or out of vainglory; rather, humbly regard others as more important than yourselves” (Philippians 2:3).

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. Bardj,
 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
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TWENTY SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – OCTOBER 1, 2017

*The Sanctuary Lamp Burns In Honor of Rita & Joe Koren – 50th Wedding Anniversary
 And In Honor of Linda & Deacon Jim Bardi – 45th Wedding Anniversary*

★ ★ MASS INTENTIONS ★ ★

SAT	5:15 PM	Fr. Joseph Reilly – 5 th Anniversary	THURS	7:00 PM	Margaret & Anthony Mohr
SUN	7:30 AM	Fr. Joseph Barnes	FRI	7:30 AM	Dec'd Members of Ruby, Kundrat, Hill & Myers Family
	9:00 AM	Living & Deceased Parishioners		9:00AM	ICA Mass – Lloyd Wolf, Jr.
	11:00 AM	Leon Doney	SAT	5:15 PM	Gloria Gill
MON		No Mass	SUN	7:30 AM	Bruce Ketterer
TUES	7:00 PM	Louise Shaaber		9:00 AM	God's Blessings on Rita & Joe Koren – 50 th Wedding Ann.
WED	7:30 AM	Paul Vignone		11:00 AM	Dec'd Members of the MacDougall Family

NEXT WEEK AT A GLANCE

SCRIP: Sponsor: Zubik 5:15 Pisarek 7:30 Kasperowicz 9:00 McCauley 11:00 DeFalco

DAY	MASS	Lector	COMMENTATOR	ALTAR SERVERS
SAT	5:15PM	Kevin Creamer	Joseph Bailey	Caitlyn Bailey, Mike DiScala, Lyndsay Surkosky
SUN	7:30AM	Dennis Piontek	Adelina Kieffer	Mason and Morgan Cambria, Samantha Reitnour
	9:00AM	Pat Fessler	Pam Amos	Alex and Jason Carvalho, Andrew Kurtas
	11:00AM	Susan DiGuglielmo	Mary Jo Simon	John Dinnocenti, Aiden and Owen Reber

Second Collection Next Week is the Monthly Collection

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 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.

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, Morris Motta, Ann Schlott, Joseph & Susan McCorristin, Mary & Phil Morici, Dan Casciano, Jake Maccarone, Madge Butto, Joan Cronin, 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, John Fritz, Lucy Doney, Mary Okuniewski, Mark McDonald, Virginia Marks, Ken Rumler, Mark Vignone, Justine Mattassa, TJ Doyle, Harry Wood, Tony Williams, Fannie Hunter, Jacob Hafer, John LeFosse, Edward Woznicki, James Weikel, Robert Thomas, Theresa Lynch, Anne Hiryak, Helen McDonald and Anthony Cossa

Congratulate the newlyweds: Melissa Regina Rowan and Thomas Joseph Doyle, Jr.

Welcome our new parishioners: Mr. & Mrs. Daniel Wolfrom

Pray for the deceased: Rita Conrad, Jana Nieckoski

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:

Sun	10/01	Social Sunday 1pm Blessing of the Animals
Mon	10/02	7:30pm RCIA
Tues	10/03	7:30pm Baptism Class
Fri	10/06	7pm Junior High Youth Group
Sat	10/07	4-5pm Confessions



WHAT'S HAPPENING

Please note there will be no Mass on October 2nd. Thank you for your kind understanding in this regard.

In honor of St. Francis of Assisi, the Blessing of Animals will occur on October 1st at 1pm in the piazza in front of the church. Please bring your pets leashed or caged for their safety.

Immaculate Conception Academy - Position Available

Immaculate Conception Academy is offering part time employment for a music teacher. Please send resume and clearances christine.foley@icaknights.org.

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.

Be an Immaculate Conception Academy Corporate Sponsor

Immaculate Conception Academy is currently seeking corporate sponsors for the 2017-18 school year. In the past, we have been generously supported by our parish families and friends who are also part of our local business community. This support has been critical in our mission to bring out the best in each of our students.

If you are interested in becoming a corporate sponsor, please visit www.icaberks.org for more information!

Information packets can also be found in the wooden kiosk by the door in the Narthex. Please contact Adele Reilly, ICA Advancement Director at 610-404-8645 or adele.reilly@icaknights.org with any questions!

The **JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH GROUP** will meet on October 6th, 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!

The **YOUTH GROUP** will be holding a Pancake Breakfast on October 22nd. Breakfast will be served after all Masses. Look for details in next week's bulletin.

Sunday School - Ages 3-5 Registration forms are available in the Narthex and parish office. If you would like to volunteer, please call Dawn O'Donnell at 610-582-3880.

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

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

It's Apple Dumpling Time - Order sheets are in the narthex. Apple Dumplings will be distributed on October 14th/15th. **Please order and pre-pay by October 8th.** If you would be interested in helping to make the dumplings, please join us in the social hall on October 13th and 14th, 9am-???. We also need helpers to press the dough on October 12th at 9am. No experience necessary. It's light, easy work, but we need many hands.

Consecration of the Diocese of Allentown to Our Lady of Fatima - In honor of the 100th Anniversary of the Apparitions of Our Lady of Fatima, Portugal, Bishop Alfred A. Schlert will consecrate the Diocese of Allentown to Our Lady of Fatima on October 15th at the Noon Mass at the Cathedral of St. Catharine, Allentown. All clergy, religious, and lay faithful are invited to this historic event in the life of our Church.

Spirit 2017 - "Lord, to Whom Shall We Go?" The Annual Diocesan Men's Conference is Nov. 4, 9am-5pm at De Sales University. The day will include keynote addresses, exhibits and a vigil Mass with Bishop Alfred Schlert. Breakfast and lunch is included. Registration fee is \$40 and \$10 for high school/college students. For info and to register, visit www.cmfd.org. Questions call 610-289-8900, x2028. Brochures about the Men's Conference are available in the narthex of the church.

Make your good marriage great! Upcoming Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekends in this area are October 6-8 and November 17-19 at Our Lady of Czestochowa in Doylestown. To apply visit www.wmme-philly.org or contact Al & Mary Liz Heumann at 610-449-1859.

The Board of Governors of the Society of the Saint Thomas More Society invites your family to join us for the RED MASS, Oct 8th at noon at St. Catharine Parish, 4975 Boyertown Pike, Reading. Homilist - Most Rev William Francis Murphy, Bishop Emeritus of the Diocese of Rockville Centre. Judges, lawyers and government officials will be present. Reception and light refreshments will follow in the social hall.

Calendar

Monday

October 2

*The Holy
Guardian Angels*

Zec 8:1-8

Mt 18:1-5, 10

Tuesday

October 3

Weekday

Zec 8:20-23

Lk 9:51-56

Wednesday

October 4

St. Francis of Assisi

Neh 2:1-8

Lk 9:57-62

Thursday

October 5

Weekday

Neh 8:1-4a, 5-6,
7b-12

Lk 10:1-12

Friday

October 6

Weekday

Bar 1:15-22

Lk 10:13-16

Saturday

October 7

*Our Lady
of the Rosary*

Bar 4:5-12, 27-29

Lk 10:17-24

Sunday

October 8

*Twenty-Seventh Sunday
in Ordinary Time*

Is 5:1-7

Phil 4:6-9

Mt 21:33-43

Dear Padre,

Why do we offer Mass for a specific intention? Aren't Masses offered for the intentions of all present?

The Eucharist makes present, in this moment, the memorial sacrifice of Christ; the source of the Church's life and the focus of the Church's prayer (see the Constitution on the Sacred Liturgy [*Sacrosanctum Concilium*], 10). Mass always includes the intentions of a local community as well as the needs of all people throughout the world. In the eucharistic prayer, we pray for the community and those "scattered throughout the world."

What does a renewed liturgical practice mean for specific Mass intentions? Canon law speaks of applying the Mass for anyone living and dead (see Canon 901). The practice also has roots in history, especially during medieval times, when participation at Mass was at a low. Asking the priest to remember an intention kept people active and connected their needs to those of the wider Church. Vatican II stressed active participation in its liturgical renewal, so asking specific intentions needs a renewed understanding.



ISTOCK

Special intentions provide a value—we become aware of others' needs and troubles. If we are aware of how these troubles affect a member of our parish, we can not only pray for that person but reach out and help. However, the Eucharist does not give grace only to those named in special intentions. The grace God gives through the Eucharist is meant for the whole Church. God's grace builds us up in holiness. Since people find special intentions important, the response from pastors is important in helping people understand how God's grace affects everyone.

Fr. John Schmidt, CSsR | Sundaybulletin@Liguori.org

A Word From Pope Francis



"Priestly joy is a joy which is sister to obedience. An obedience to the Church in the hierarchy which gives us not simply the external framework for our obedience...but also union with God the Father, the source of all fatherhood. It is likewise an obedience to the Church in service....The availability of her priests makes the Church a house with open doors, a refuge for sinners, a home for people living on the streets, a place of loving care for the sick, a camp for the young....Wherever God's people have desires or needs, there is the priest, who knows how to listen and feels a loving mandate from Christ who sends him to relieve that need with mercy."

—Homily, Holy Thursday, April 17, 2014

It's Apple Dumpling Time



It's that wonderful season when all the local orchard's trees are dripping with beautiful fresh apples.

What could be better on a crisp fall day than a warm Apple Dumpling with ice cream, milk, or whipped cream.

The Women's Society is baking up these sweet, juicy dumplings for your enjoyment. Just warm them up if you like, and serve.....yummy

*Dumplings are **\$4.50** each and should be ordered and prepaid using the order form below. We may have some extras, but why take a chance on missing out on these wonderful treats. Place your order today. Place your order **by October 8th** by placing order sheet and payment in the collection basket, or by dropping at the Administration Building. You may also mail to church at 905 Chestnut Street, Douglassville, PA 19518. Checks should be made payable to **"The Women's Society"**. Dumplings may be picked up after Mass on **Saturday, October 14th**, or after **Sunday Masses, October 15th** in the social hall. Please indicate when ordering which day you would like to pick them up.*

Apple Dumpling Order Form

Name _____

Phone Number _____

Quantity _____

Amount Enclosed _____

Pick up date (circle one) Sat. Oct.14 Sun. Oct 15

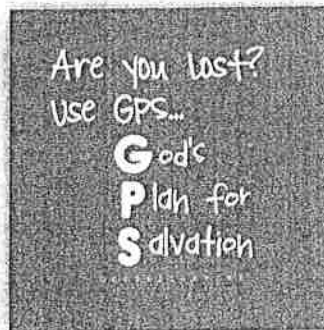
Immaculate Conception Parish Men's Group
Esto Vir - Be a Man
Better Man, Better husband, Better Father



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, 7th 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

