

## We're the Supporting Cast

Life can make us think we are in control of our lives. We plan, think, execute, and succeed (or fail). Then along comes an illness, an accident, a job loss, or one of countless other things, and we realize we really aren't in control of much. This famous phrase sums it up: Man proposes, God disposes.

We can transfer this same false assumption into

our relationship with God and expect Mass, prayer, and liturgy to work for us, fill us, and entertain us. But liturgy and prayer are about giving God his glory above all else.

When we pray, and especially when we enter into communal liturgy, we are reminded once again that it is all about what God is doing. Isaiah says the Lord will provide for all people. God will provide! We might prepare, serve, or participate, but the director, producer, and main actor is God. We are the supporting cast. That is why liturgy is not so much about our planning, participation, or entertainment but about entering into harmony with God's action and praising him as he asks.

The same point can be found in the Gospel. The king sends out invitations for his son's wedding and prepares the feast. He adjusts to the unexpected lack of interest and invites others. The ones who arrive are the ones the master has invited.

It would be foolish for one of the invited guests to vaunt their importance. Their role is to humbly enjoy and gracefully help the king and the newlyweds to shine on their night!

—Fr. Mark Haydu, LC

Piece: *Still Life With Classical Elements*, 1600s-1700s

Artist: Pietro Navarra

Location: Vatican Museums



### *For Reflection*

*What attitudes do I regularly bring with me to Mass? Is Mass about my pleasure or God's glory? How often do I serve even when there's nothing in it for me? How can I commit to more unselfish service?*

*"I have the strength for everything through him who empowers me....My God will fully supply whatever you need, in accord with his glorious riches in Christ Jesus" (Philippians 4:13, 19).*

# 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 EIGHTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – OCTOBER 15, 2017

*The Sanctuary Lamp Burns In Memory of the Ruby-Kundrat Family  
 And In Memory of Jana Nieckoski*

### ★ ★ MASS INTENTIONS ★ ★

SAT	5:15 PM	Joseph Conrad	THURS	7:00 PM	Bob & Carol Sicheneder
SUN	7:30 AM	Living & Deceased Parishioners	FRI	7:30 AM	Ken Umstead
	9:00 AM	Kathleen Reppert		9:00 AM	ICA Mass- Jane D. McCann
	11:00 AM	Troy Egolf	SAT	5:15 PM	Eileen Auchenbach
MON	<b>No Mass</b>		SUN	7:30 AM	Mike Kilareski
TUES	7:00 PM	Margaret & Dr. Nicholas Christ		9:00 AM	Living & Deceased Parishioners
WED	7:30 AM	Pete Bascelli		11:00 AM	God's Blessings on Anne Hiryak

### NEXT WEEK AT A GLANCE

*SCRIP: Sponsor: Dowling 5:15 Zubik 7:30 Schwendt 9:00 Carvalho 11:00 Citrano*

DAY	MASS	LECTOR	COMMENTATOR	ALTAR SERVERS
SAT	5:15PM	Sherry McCollum	Ann Marie Arbo	Ande, Ethan and Lucien Kraycik
SUN	7:30AM	Michelle Marley	Dennis Piontek	Eliana and Simon Crew, Dante LaScala
	9:00AM	Brian Hannon	Pat Fessler	Joey Cizmarik, Stephen Hannon, Luke Voelker
	11:00AM	Becky Shemanski	Mary Ann Cotter	Nicholas Donnelly, Pierce and Will Gray

***Second Collection Next Week is World Mission Sunday***

### **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](http://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](mailto:adele.reilly@icaknights.org) with any questions!

Remember in your prayers the sick of our parish: Marco Fiato, 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, Virginia Marks, Ken Rumler, Mark Vignone, Justine Mattassa, TJ Doyle, Harry Wood, Tony Guilliams, Fannie Hunter, John LeFosse, Robert Thomas, Theresa Lynch, Anne Hiryak, Mark McDonald, William Reardon, Frances Bambrick and Anthony Cossa

Pray for the deceased: John Kakas, Leo Joseph Munley

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:**

<b>Sun</b>	<b>10/15</b>	<b>Apple Dumpling Pick-Up</b>
<b>Mon</b>	<b>10/16</b>	<b>7pm Bereavement Support Group</b> <b>7:30pm RCIA</b>
<b>Wed</b>	<b>10/18</b>	<b>7pm Women's Society</b>
<b>Thurs</b>	<b>10/19</b>	<b>7:30pm Adult Choir</b>
<b>Sat</b>	<b>10/21</b>	<b>4-5pm Confessions</b>

## **WHAT'S HAPPENING**

Please note there will be no Mass on Monday, October 16<sup>th</sup>. Thank you for your kind understanding in this regard.

### **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.

The **YOUTH GROUP** is hosting a Pancake Breakfast on **October 22<sup>nd</sup>, 8am-noon**. \$6 at the door includes pancakes, eggs, bacon, juice, and coffee/tea.

**Bereavement Support Group** - October 16<sup>th</sup>, 7pm in the Church, using side door first room on the right. We welcome anyone who is grieving the loss of a loved one. Call Pat at 610-775-1892 or Toni at 610-404-1389.

**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 Christmas Bazaar** - November 4<sup>th</sup>, 9am-3pm. Vendor spaces are still available. Stop in the parish office or email ICAXmas@gmail.com for a vendor application.

### **Apple Dumpling Pick-Up in the social hall.**

Thanks so much to everyone who helped make the Apple Dumpling Sale a resounding success. We hope everyone enjoys the dough wrapped "fruits of our labor".

**DON'T DELAY! Buy your Boscov's Friends Helping Friends shopping pass today in the narthex of the church to save \$\$\$ this Tuesday, October 17<sup>th</sup>, 9am-11pm.** The shopping pass is only \$5 (100% of the proceeds go to the church). Enjoy a whopping 25% off your purchases throughout the store (exceptions listed on the pass). Enjoy refreshments, entertainment, and a chance at some valuable prizes. Don't forget to drop your stub off at one of the collection boxes throughout the store for your chance to win one of the \$100 or \$500 shopping sprees.

**Meeting Reminder - The Women's Society meets October 18<sup>th</sup> at 7pm** in the Social Hall. All members are requested to attend if able. Meeting will begin with recitation of the Rosary, followed by business meeting. Light refreshments will be offered. If you have never been to a meeting, please come and join us. **All women of the parish are welcome to participate in any of our activities whether they are a member or not.** Please call Marsha at 610.385.6319 if you would like more information.

**RESORTS AC TRIP** - Friday, October 20, 2017 - LEAVE the Church promptly @ 9:30am - Package Deal: Pay \$32 get \$25 Back - Call Carol J. if interested @ 610-775-4447

Discover/Rediscover Catholicism - Join us on Monday evenings for a better understanding of our Catholic Faith. This week's topic will be "The Mass, Part I: Liturgy of the Word." Msgr. McCann will lead this initial look at the "Source and Summit" of our Catholic Faith. Class begins at 7:30pm in the office building lower level meeting room. All are welcome. Contact the office with questions at 610-582-2411.

**Congratulations to ICA Middle School Students** who participated in Kitchen Kapers. These young chefs cooked and baked their way right into our hearts. The winners include: Emily Berkhammer, Gabriella Fontana, Owen Reber, Lauren Yerger, Sean Reilly, Lauren Wethey, John Battistelli, Abby Wolf, Leah Shepsko, Samantha Weidner, Mya Salanek, Dylan Sutton, Gabby Femino, John Babiec, Paige Munley

**Spirit 2017 - "Lord, to Whom Shall We Go?"** Diocesan Men's Conference-11/4, 9am-5pm at De Sales University. Keynote addresses, exhibits and a vigil Mass with Bishop Alfred Schlert. Fee: \$40 and \$10 for high school/college students. Breakfast and lunch included. For info and to register, visit [www.cmfdia.org](http://www.cmfdia.org). Questions? 610-289-8900x2028. Brochures are in the narthex.

**Make your good marriage great!** Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend-11/17-19 at Our Lady of Czestochowa in Doylestown. To apply visit [www.wmme-philly.org](http://www.wmme-philly.org) or contact Al & Mary Liz Heumann at 610-449-1859.

The Diocese of Allentown is conducting an annual fund called "Chosen, Blessed, Shared" to support the Endowment for the Care of Retired Priests. All gifts received will be used to support the rising costs of retirement care for those priests in good standing who have faithfully served, and the many who, though retired continue to serve, in our Diocese. Please consider making a donation as part of your yearly giving.

**Theology of the Body Seminar** - This seminar will discuss God's original plan for us and the gifts he bestowed on us. 10/21, 9:30-11:30, St. Mary Parish Center in Kutztown. Register today for \$20 at [www.allentowndiocese.org/icf](http://www.allentowndiocese.org/icf).

**A Call Within a Call: Finding God's Will in the Mundane** - 10/19, 7-9pm at the McGlenn Conference and Spirituality Center as Rev. Frank Kaminski, S.J. helps us to uncover the mystery of finding God's will in our everyday lives and decisions. Register at [www.allentowndiocese.org/aff](http://www.allentowndiocese.org/aff).

**5K Color Run - 11/4 - Amity Community Park, 9-12**, <https://runsignup.com/Race/PA/Dougllassville/Troop1797> ColorRun

**The Family Fully Alive: 100 Years of Fatima**-10/22, 4-7pm. The Office of Youth, Young Adult and Family Ministry of the Diocese of Allentown invites you to come together as a family to celebrate the 100 year anniversary of Our Lady's appearance at Fatima and learn about what Our Lady told the world at that time! Events will include a family holy hour, Fatima related crafts and activities, and a family meal (pasta, salad, rolls). Holy Guardian Angels, 3121 Kutztown Rd., Reading. Registration \$10/family. For questions, contact Alexa Doncsecz at [adoncsecz@allentowndiocese.org](mailto:adoncsecz@allentowndiocese.org).

## Calendar

### Monday

October 16

Weekday

Rom 1:1-7

Lk 11:29-32

### Tuesday

October 17

St. Ignatius of Antioch,  
Bishop and M<sup>artyr</sup>

Rom 1:16-25

Lk 11:37-41

### Wednesday

October 18

St. Luke,  
Evangelist

2 Tm 4:10-17b

Lk 10:1-9

### Thursday

October 19

Sts. John de Brébeuf and  
Isaac Jogues, Priests, and  
Companions, Martyrs

Rom 3:21-30

Lk 11:47-54

### Friday

October 20

Weekday

Rom 4:1-8

Lk 12:1-7

### Saturday

October 21

Weekday

Rom 4:13, 16-18

Lk 12:8-12

### Sunday

October 22

Twenty-Ninth Sunday  
in Ordinary Time

Is 45:1, 4-6

1 Thes 1:1-5b

Mt 22:15-21

# Dear Padre,

**I try my best to live as God asks, but I make a lot of mistakes and I don't always feel God's presence. How can I know that God loves me?**

Most people, at one time or another, find themselves asking this very question. There comes a time in any developing spirituality and awareness of God when it is necessary to ask the question and then come to a faith conviction that we are, indeed, loved.

When we ask ourselves the question, "Does God love me?" we are also

asking ourselves, "Do I love me?" It is very hard for the average person to answer that question, but for those who have a tendency to dwell on every mistake, even after receiving forgiveness through the sacrament of reconciliation or who hold themselves to a standard of perfection, it can be even more difficult. They may find themselves asking, "How can God love me when I have all of

these thoughts and these feelings? Surely my life is displeasing to God."

God loved you first. God's love started everything off. Because God first loved you, he gave you life. God does love you, no matter what you have done, and he offers forgiveness and mercy through reconciliation when you are truly sorry. There is nothing you can possibly do to make God stop loving you. When God loves, he loves for keeps. He will not change. He will always be faithful in his love for you. That is why the Bible tells us: "God is love."

Adapted from *Understanding Scrupulosity* by Fr. Thomas Santa, CSsR  
Sundaybulletin@Liguori.org



YURY ZAPISHUTTERSTOCK

## A Word From Pope Francis



"Man takes control of everything, he believes he is God, he believes he is king. And wars...they do not exactly help to sow the seed of life but to destroy. It is an industry of destruction. It is also a system, also of life, that when things cannot be fixed they are discarded: we discard children, we discard the old, we discard unemployed youth.

This devastation has created the culture of waste....May the Lord help us and give us the grace of this hope, but also the grace of courage to emerge from all this destruction...to walk in the hope of finding ourselves one day face-to-face with Him."

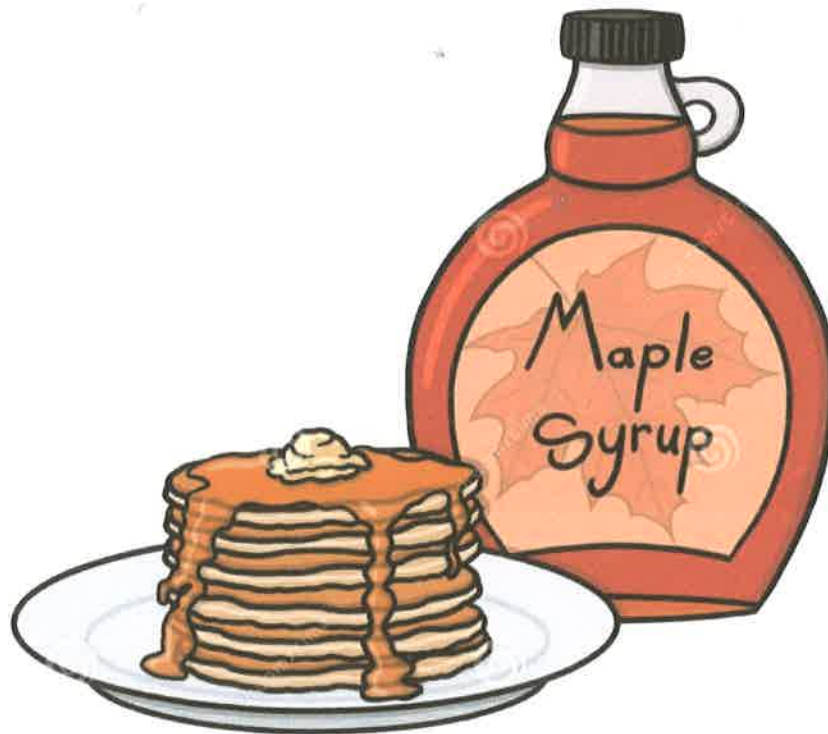
—Homily, Solemnity of All Saints, November 1, 2014

# Pancake Breakfast



*Join us for breakfast: All you can eat includes pancakes, eggs, bacon, juice, and coffee/tea.*

**October 22 from 8am to 12pm  
ICC Social Hall**



**Benefits Youth Group Mission Trip and Youth Conference**

Immaculate Conception,

# CHRISTMAS

BAZAAR

905 Chestnut Street  
Douglassville

November 4th  
9am-3pm

GIFTS  
CRAFTS  
SOUP



[ICAHSO.org](http://ICAHSO.org)



*All pies are  
\$15*

ICA HSO PRESENTS

WEAVERS ORCHARD PIE SALE

*Get a jump on your holiday  
entertaining with delicious real  
fruit, bake at home pies.*



CHOICE OF

*Apple Lattice Top , Apple Caramel Walnut, Dutch  
Apple Crumb, Lattice Top Blackberry, Strawberry  
Rhubarb, Peach, Pumpkin*

ORDERS OF 5 OR MORE PIES CAN BE PICKED UP

FRIDAY, NOV 3 - 3PM-4PM

FRIDAY, NOV 3 - 6PM-8PM

ORDERS OF 4 OR FEWER PIES CAN BE PICKED UP AT THE  
CHRISTMAS BAZAAR.

SATURDAY, NOV 4 - 9:30AM-2:30PM

*Please make checks payable to ICA HSO.*

*Orders are due by October 20 and can be placed in the  
collection plate during mass, sent in to school or  
mailed to*

*ICA HSO 903 Chestnut St, Douglassville PA, 19518.*

PROCEEDS SUPPORT IC ACADEMY

