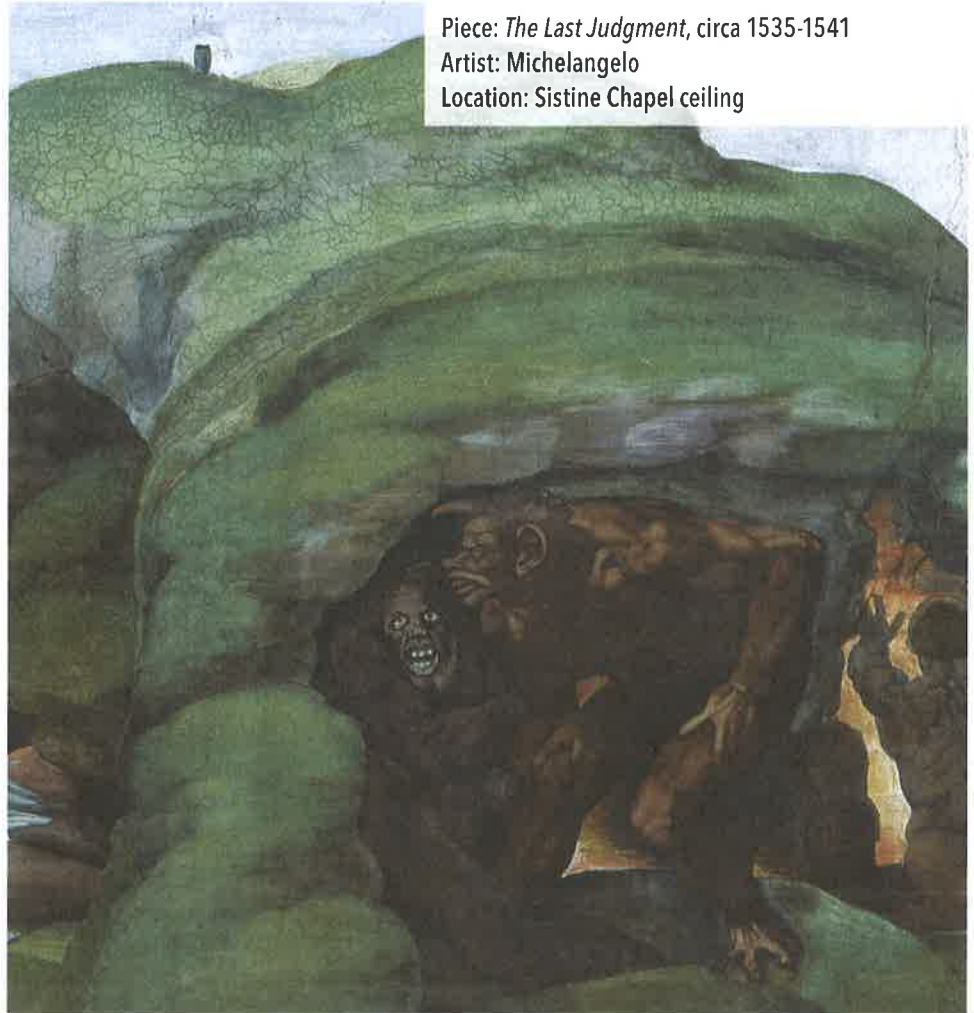


## Progress Isn't Always Easy

Jesus' miracles and preaching were part of what convinced people that he was the Son of God. He spoke like no other and then backed up his words with amazing and wonderful actions. For example, he confronted evil spirits and cast them out. The people were amazed and saw this as evidence of his divinity, because no one had absolute power over evil—except God himself. This is a power the Church continues to practice today through the ministry of healing and exorcism.

Jesus did not want to see people suffer under the power of Satan but rather wanted them to live full and happy lives. "I came that they might have life and have it abundantly," Jesus said in John 10:10. This strong desire of Jesus to heal and save drove him to tirelessly preach and do good. And because of this combination of goodness and power in his person, his fame spread. Yet the message he preached was challenging and demanding. Eventually many preferred to silence that good, powerful, but demanding voice.

Today, like Jesus, the Church still longs for nothing less than humanity's complete health and happiness. Yet, at times, the path to that human progress is not the easiest. Like temperamental children are chided by loving parents to eat healthy food rather than just what they like, so the good and powerful voice and



Piece: *The Last Judgment*, circa 1535-1541

Artist: Michelangelo

Location: Sistine Chapel ceiling

actions of the Church are challenged.

We find our full flourishing as human beings and as Catholics by embracing Jesus' words and desires for us.

—Fr. Mark Haydu, LC

### *For Reflection*

*Am I letting myself be tricked into eating any moral junk food that isn't healthy for my long-term spiritual and moral flourishing?*

*Jesus...said, "Quiet! Come out of him!" ....  
He commands even the unclean spirits and they obey him.  
(Mark 1:25, 27)*

# 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

## FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – JANUARY 28, 2018

*The Sanctuary Lamp Burns In Honor of Students and Faculty of  
 Immaculate Conception Academy*

### ★ ★ MASS INTENTIONS ★ ★

SAT	5:15 PM	Louis Lanza	THURS	7:00 PM	Victoria Barletta
SUN	7:30 AM	Living & Deceased Parishioners	FRI	7:30 AM	Helen Schwendt
	9:00 AM	Clyde & Rowena Smith – 60 <sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary		9:00 AM	ICA Mass – Roberta Sarro
	11:00 AM	John Steigerwalt	SAT	5:15 PM	Eleanor Angelo
MON	<b>No Mass</b>		SUN	7:30 AM	Living & Deceased Parishioners
TUES	7:00 PM	Richard D. Paoline		9:00 AM	Barbara Pease
WED	7:30 AM	Elizabeth Kneis		11:00 AM	Tom Hafer

### NEXT WEEK AT A GLANCE

**SCRIP: Zubik 5:15pm Pisarek 7:30am Kasperowicz 9:00am McCauley 11:00am DeFalco**

DAY	MASS	LECTOR	COMMENTATOR	ALTAR SERVERS
SAT	5:15PM	Kevin Creamer	Barbara Giordano	Carson Endy, Dante LaScala, Austin Lobaugh
SUN	7:30AM	Dennis Piontek	Amanda Marley	Ande, Ethan and Lucien Kraycik
	9:00AM	Victor González	Pam Amos	Brianna González, Bridget Ottinger, Mya Salaneck
	11:00AM	Mary Jo Simon	Susan DiGuglielmo	John Babiec, John Dinnocenti, Luke Voelker

**Second Collection Next Week is for Church Building and Parish Maintenance**

## **Immaculate Conception Academy Open House**

**Sunday, January 28<sup>th</sup>  
 9am- 1pm**

Please join us to see what a difference  
 ICA makes!

For more information about Immaculate  
 Conception Academy, contact Mrs. 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)!  
 Follow us on Facebook/Immaculate  
 Conception Academy

Remember in your prayers the sick of our parish: Marco  
 Fiato, Delores Woy, Bob & Alice Arantowicz, Yolanda  
 Marino, Ann Schlott, Joseph & Susan McCorristin, Mary &  
 Phil Morici, Jake Maccarone, Madge Butto, Joan Cronin, Rose  
 Osorio, Steve Mammarella, Dominic Strock, Bob Hocker,  
 Mike DiScala, Deb Petras, Ronald Kryman, Anna Swiezak,  
 Margarie & Walter Hansen, Rita Dougherty, Virginia Marks,  
 Ken Runler, Harry Wood, Tony Williams, Fannie Hunter,  
 John LeFosse, Robert Thomas, Theresa Lynch, Mark  
 McDonald, Dante Stetina, Nancy Iezzi, Charles Reppert,  
 Helen McDonald, Joanne Iannotti, Karen Dougherty,  
 Nicholas Dellaquila, Pat and Curt Miller, Anne Hiryak, Alice  
 Smyk  
 Pray for the departed: Mary Ann Selinsky, Marge Lonergan  
**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 01/28 CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK BEGINS**

**SEE SCHEDULE BELOW FOR PARISH FAMILY EVENTS**

**Mon 01/29 7:30pm RCIA**  
**Tues 01/30 7:30pm Bell Choir**  
**Thurs 02/01 7:30pm Adult Choir**  
**Fri 02/02 7-9pm JUNIOR HIGH YOUTH GROUP**  
**Sat 02/03 9am Men's Group "Esto Vir"**  
**9-12 Lector Training**  
**4-5pm Confessions**  
**Women's Society Bake Sale**



## **WHAT'S HAPPENING**



**Please note there will be no Mass on  
January 29<sup>th</sup>.**

### **CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK**

Love. Learning. Leadership.

Catholic Schools – Faith, Academics, Service

### **CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK SCHEDULE OF EVENTS**

#### **Sunday, January 28**

**Parish Family is welcome to all of today's activities**

9am Opening Mass

9am-1pm ICA Open House

10am-1pm Science Fair Set-Up

Candy Bar BINGO Doors Open at 1pm, Games start 2pm

(Bring candy bar for admission-ICC Social Hall)

#### **Monday, January 29**

**Parish Family is welcome to all of today's activities**

9am-3pm Science Fair judging

1:30-2:30pm 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Wax Museum

#### **Tuesday, January 30**

Academy Tours 9-11am and 1-2:30pm

9-11am Science Fair Tours

Brain Show Mania (12-1pm gr. 4-8/1:15 gr. K-3)

6:15pm - Science Fair Awards

**6:30pm Brain Show Mania for all Parish Families**

#### **Wednesday, January 31**

Make your own Sundaes at Lunch

Step-Up Day

#### **Thursday, February 1**

Sports Dress Down Day - Prayer Partner Game Day

Teacher Luncheon

Afternoon at the Movies

#### **Friday, February 2**

**Parish Family is welcome to all of today's activities**

9am Special Person Mass - Please join us for light refreshments  
after Mass

10:30am – Band Concert at ICA

12pm – Early Dismissal

*Please mark your calendars for all of the fun events we have  
scheduled for the week. We hope you can join us!*

☪☪☪☪☪☪☪☪

For registration information, please contact Adele Reilly  
at 610-404-8645 or [adele.reilly@icaknights.org](mailto:adele.reilly@icaknights.org).

Kindergarten students must be aged 5 by 10/15/18 and  
1st Grade students aged 6 by 10/15/18.

Discover/Rediscover Catholicism - Join us on  
Monday evenings for a better understanding of our  
Catholic Faith This week's topic is "The Sacraments of  
Vocation: Matrimony and Holy Orders." Deacon Paul  
Hiryak is the presenter. Class begins at 7:30pm in the  
office building lower level meeting room. Contact the  
office with questions at 610-582-2411.

**JUNIOR HIGH YOUTH GROUP NEWS** will meet on Friday,  
February 2<sup>nd</sup>, 7-9pm. All students in our parish in grades  
7 and 8 are welcome to attend for an evening of fun,  
food and prayer. You are welcome to bring a friend!

**Lector Training Session** - February 3<sup>rd</sup>, 9-12 in the  
church. If you love to read and live the Word of God and  
feel called to this very important ministry, this is a  
wonderful opportunity to share this gift with the  
members of our parish. To register, call the parish office  
at 610-582-2411 or email [secretary@icbvm.org](mailto:secretary@icbvm.org)

The Women's Society will host **The Big Game Bake Sale**  
February 3<sup>rd</sup>/4<sup>th</sup>. Stop by the table and pick up a few goodies  
to enjoy while you are watching The Big Game! We will be  
accepting donations of baked goods before all Masses. Even  
if you are not a member, if you love to bake and would like to  
make one of your family favorites, we will be most grateful  
for your donation. We'd also like to thank all those who both  
made and bought the delicious array of soups last weekend. It  
was a great success with all profits going to the Church.

Please join members of the Women's Society on February  
22<sup>nd</sup>, 9am in the social hall to help prepare meatballs for the  
Youth Group's Spaghetti Dinner. We always have a great time  
working together in supporting the wonderful youth of our  
parish. The spaghetti dinner is not only delicious, but it gives  
the parish community a wonderful opportunity to gather  
together. Don't miss it!

**Coach Bingo - February 10<sup>th</sup>, 6pm** – Social Hall. Doors  
open 5pm. You must be 21 to attend and it is BYOB and  
BYOS. Tickets: \$30 each or \$240 a table. Buy tickets  
at <https://icahsoknights.wixsite.com/store/coach-bingo>

### **Immaculate Conception Academy would like to congratulate the winners and participants of the 2018 GeoBee and the 2018 Spelling Bee!**

GeoBee Champion- John Babiec

Runner up- Lucien Kraycik

Participants: Aidan Curley, Declan Hyer, Emma Linderman,  
Devyn Rhoads, Alyssa Uhlman, Bridget Ottinger, Sabrina  
Knipe and Anna Schlegel

Spelling Bee Champion: Gabriella Femino

Runner up: Rebecca Adams

Participants: Aidan Curley, Frankie Serpico, Liam Ottinger, RJ  
Petras, Charlotte Dolena, Anthony Repko, Zach Jordan and  
Sabrina Knipe

*1<sup>st</sup> Annual Wine & Food Tasting Fundraiser sponsored Sts.  
Joseph and John Education Foundation - Sacred Heart Villa  
Rec Hall, 51 Seminary Ave, Reading - 3/5/18, 6:30-9:30pm -  
\$30 donation - RSVP by 2/14/18 - Gary 610-698-2531*

## Calendar

### Monday

January 29

Weekday

2 Sm 15:13-14, 30;  
16:5-13  
Mk 5:1-20

### Tuesday

January 30

Weekday

2 Sm 18:9-10, 14b,  
24-25a, 30-19:3  
Mk 5:21-43

### Wednesday

January 31

St. John Bosco,  
Priest

2 Sm 24:2, 9-17  
Mk 6:1-6

### Thursday

February 1

Weekday

1 Kgs 2:1-4, 10-12  
Mk 6:7-13

### Friday

February 2

Presentation of the Lord

Mal 3:1-4  
Heb 2:14-18  
Lk 2:22-40 or 2:22-32

### Saturday

February 3

Weekday

1 Kgs 3:4-13  
Mk 6:30-34

### Sunday

February 4

Fifth Sunday in  
Ordinary Time

Jb 7:1-4, 6-7  
1 Cor 9:16-19, 22-23  
Mk 1:29-39

# Dear Padre,

**Every year, someone with a cold wants to shake my hand at the sign of peace, and sick people drink from the Communion cup. Can't parishes ban the cup and the sign of peace during flu season?**

**M**any people share your concern. As a priest, I am hugged by an entire congregation throughout flu season. If I'm sick, I warn people as they approach, but some people want a hug anyway. For many, community fellowship wins out over prudence.

Of course it would be best if those who are sick don't drink from the cup containing the precious Blood. But even if they do, receiving the precious Blood is more important to me than the slight risk of illness.

However, if it bothers you that much, there's nothing wrong with electing not to receive the precious Blood. And instead of shaking hands and hugging at the sign of peace, try nodding and waving. If people don't understand and push for more, simply say, "Don't want to pass on the flu." That should stop them.

In today's society, far too many things keep us physically apart. I refuse to casually surrender anything that brings us together in love and fellowship except in dire circumstances, and for me, a normal flu season doesn't qualify.

Fr. Rick Potts, CSsR  
Sundaybulletin@Liguori.org



PEXELS



## *A Word From Pope Francis*

*What an illusion it is when people today shut their eyes in the face of sickness and disability! They fail to understand the real meaning of life....The world does not become better because only apparently "perfect" people live there...but when human solidarity, mutual acceptance, and respect increase.*

—Jubilee for the Sick and Persons With Disabilities, June 12, 2016