



Peace, the Marker of Faith

FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

Spiritual writers tell us that a sure sign of life lived with faith in God is peace, the inner kind of peace that enables you to rest in it with no worry or anxiety. When the risen Lord appears in the midst of the disciples just back from Emmaus and says to them first off, “Peace be with you,” that’s the sort of peace he’s talking about and wishing for them.

Such peace doesn’t seem to be something easy to come by, something that simply plops into the lap of your soul. More than anything it seems to be the fruit of prayerfulness—sometimes praying the rosary or other traditional prayers and sometimes just simply sitting in the quiet, in the midst of love without having to say any words.

There is something about surrendering to God’s love

over the course of many lived days that eventually brings us to that sort of trusting peace.

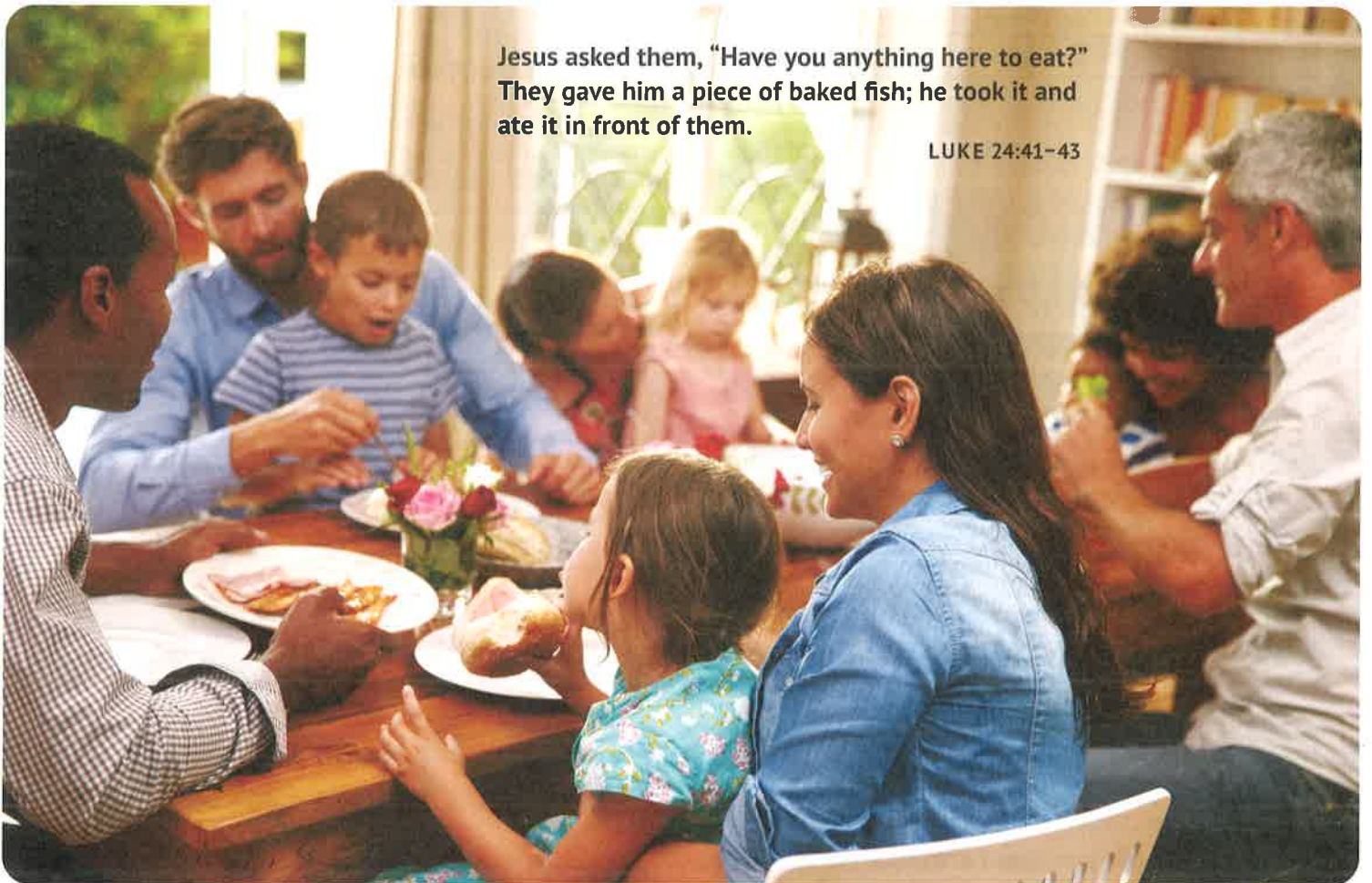
The thing about such peace is that only you know if it’s genuine. When you feel peace when life turns topsy-turvy, that’s God peace. When life is progressing smoothly, it’s not easy to know if that’s God’s peace or just a life without turbulence. But if you’re at peace when everything else around you is not, that’s when you know it’s the presence of God that has you all wrapped up in worry-free wonder. ☺

Reflect

Have you ever felt at peace even when there is conflict or fear?

Jesus asked them, “Have you anything here to eat?” They gave him a piece of baked fish; he took it and ate it in front of them.

LUKE 24:41–43



IMMACULATE CONCEPTION CHURCH

905 Chestnut Street, Douglassville, PA 19518 www.icbvm.org secretary@icbvm.org ccd@icbvm.org

Rev. Msgr. John B. McCannPastor
 Deacon Paul J. Hiryak, Deacon James A. Bardi
 Parish Office610 582-2411
 Parish Religious Education/CCD610 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, 800-791-9209
 Diocesan Safe Environment Coordinator: Pamela Russo, MSW, MS, 610-871-5200, Ext 2204
 Diocese of Allentown website.....www.allentowndiocese.org
 Catholic Bishop Abuse Reporting Service: If you have an allegation of abuse against a bishop, please contact the Catholic Bishop Abuse Reporting Service at www.ReportBishopAbuse.org or by calling 800-276-1562

THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER – APRIL 14, 2024

The Sanctuary Lamp Burns in Memory of Sophia Lakatosh

★ ★ MASS INTENTIONS ★ ★

SAT 5:15 PM *Our Living & Deceased Parishioners*
SUN 7:30 AM *Schleifenheimer Family*
 9:00 AM *Deceased of the Bambrick Family*
 11:00AM *Joseph & Mary Ruby & Family*
MON No Mass
TUES 7:00 PM *Raymond Peterson*
WED 7:30 AM *Cynthia Schichram*

THUR 7:00 PM *Sophia Lakatosh*
FRI 7:30 AM *Jim Guilliams*
SAT 5:15PM *Paul Kakalecic*
SUN 7:30AM *Irene & John Palko*
 9:00AM *Linda Estelle*
 11:00AM *Our Living & Deceased Parishioners*

The Second Collection Next Week is the Debt Reduction Collection

WE LOVE HAVING YOU AS
**a part of our
 Flock!**



Keep in touch with us via email and text!



**TEXT
 ICBVM
 TO 84576**



or connect with us online at

immaculateconceptionbvmc.flocknote.com

Text STOP to 84576 to stop text notifications at any time. Text HELP for help. There is no charge for this service, but your carrier message and data rates may apply. View full privacy policy & terms at flocknote.com/txt.

Remember in your prayers the sick of our parish: Madge Butto, Deb Petras, Pat Fessler, Rita Ferry, Sunny Motta, Curt Miller, Loretta Hitchens, Dante Stetina, Barbara Ruby, Kara Morrison, Arlene Shirley, George Ruby, Harriet Yeager, Marjorie Hansen, Jason Leman, Ann Washko, Geri Barth, Dominic Strock, Anthony Scaglione, Aaron Gulla, Maryanne Emery, Pam Amos, Miriam Leman, Marianne Sutton, John Mingione, Henry J. Wade, Lois Muldowney, Terry Swisher, Arlene Schaeffer, Shelly Weiler, Christopher Shirk, Joe Nowotarski, Steven Blanyar, Jennifer Gazda Gruber, Adele Nieckoski, Shawn Kaeser, Catherine Mueller, Regina Marie Brown, Tanya Sanders, Louis & Renee Cutillo, Ralph Rapposelli, Joe Dantas, Debbie Watson Simcock, Judy Jones, Wanda Palmieri, Msgr. Nevin Klinger, Barbara Wright, Charlotte Glacken, Beppy McGee, David Mollura, Mary Louise Myers, Mary Ann Uivary, Michael Bobb, John Kuszniir, Joseph Ondo, Rose White, Nova Puszczkowski, Karl Husbands, Magdalene Babiarz, Dante LaScala, Michael Gulla, Alex Lopacki, Angelina Swisher, & Geraldine Christ.

Congratulate the newly Baptized Clara Scutti

Our parish church is open each day of the week from 8am to 3pm for private prayer and visits to the Blessed Sacrament.

Each Sunday, the 11am Mass is live-streamed on our Facebook page for those who are sick and homebound. Access the live-streaming Mass from our parish website at www.icbvm.org

OUR PARISH OFFICE IS OPEN WEDNESDAY,
THURSDAY AND FRIDAY, 11AM-3PM. IF YOU CALL
THE PARISH OFFICE AND NO ONE ANSWERS YOUR
CALL, PLEASE LEAVE A DETAILED MESSAGE AND YOUR
CALL WILL BE RETURNED 610-582-2411

Daily Mass Schedule: Please be advised
that there will be no daily Mass on
Monday, April 15th. Thank you for your
kind understanding in this regard.

The Women's Society will meet Wed., April 17th
at 7:00 p.m. in the social hall. Meeting will begin
with recitation of the Rosary, followed by a
business meeting.

The Women's Society is sponsoring a raffle,
\$1500 in cash prizes. Tickets are \$5 each or 5 for
\$20. The drawing will be held on Sunday, May 5th
Mary Queen of Peace Council meets on the 1st
Tuesday at 7:30pm in the social hall. Join us to learn
about the Knights of Columbus & our parish group.

**Adult Confirmation at the Cathedral on
Pentecost Sunday**

Bishop Schlert will celebrate the 11:30 A.M. Mass on
Pentecost Sunday, May 19th, 2024 at the Cathedral of
Saint Catharine of Siena, Allentown, wherein he will
confirm adults of our Diocese. *Those to be confirmed
are those adults who were baptized in the Roman
Catholic Church, received their First Holy
Communion, are catechized, but never confirmed.*

Please contact Msgr. McCann to discuss the details.

**Immediate Help Needed at John Paul II Center
for Special Learning, Shillington**

Substitute Nurse

The John Paul II Center for Special Learning is in
immediate need of a substitute nurse to assist with
school related responsibilities and to administer daily
medications. This is a part time position three to four
days per week from 9 to 2:30. Looking for an
immediate start date and continue through June 6,
2024. LPN or RN with time, dates and salary
negotiable.

Direct Support Professionals

The John Paul II Center for Special Learning is
looking for individuals to join our staff as Direct
Support Professionals for the Center's Adult
Program. This is a perfect job for retired teachers,
empty nesters and recent graduates looking for a
vocation to serve the Lord through service to others.
Hours are 8:00 to 3:00, Monday Through Friday, year
round.

Speech and Language Therapist

needed for 2024-2025 school year. John Paul II Center
for Special Learning is looking to hire a full or part
time Speech Language Therapist to provide
speech/language therapy for our school age students
with Intellectual Disabilities. Perfect opportunity for
recently retired SLP, recent graduates or an SLP
looking for a fresh start in a small, family oriented,
caring, Christian community. For more information
and to request an interview call 610-777-0605

Amity Township Crime Watch is holding the
annual **shredding event on Sat, April 20, 2024**

Parish  Giving

SIGN UP FOR ELECTRONIC GIVING

Through Parish Giving, you are able to make
your Sunday Offering, along with special
diocesan and other contributions online!

*Thank you for your commitment to our parish
family and its Mission to proclaim the good news
of the Gospel!*

Won't you join us? It's easy, safe and secure. And
YOU have control over your online account. *How?*

- † You determine a monthly or weekly withdrawal
- † Use your Credit/Debit card or your checking account
- † See your year-to-date contributions at any time
- † Best of all, you don't have to worry about missing a
Sunday Collection even if you are away for any reason!

Go to www.icbvm.org and click the Parish Giving
link on the lower left-hand side of the home page.

Your generosity to Immaculate Conception is greatly appreciated!

Rosary Prayer Group – Tuesdays, 6:30pm - When
we pray together, we amplify the power of our
prayers. Please join us in praying for our church's
prayer intentions. If you have an intention you
would like the group to remember, please place
your intentions in the Rosary Prayer Box in the
narthex.

Mother Daughter Tea: Exploring God's Gift of
Fertility. For Girls ages 9-13. Sun. April 28, 1-4 PM,
St. Francis of Assisi Hall, 1046 W. Cedar St.,
Allentown. Light lunch provided. \$25/family. For
more info & to register:

<https://allentowndiocese.flocknote.com/signup/1>

52407

10TH ANNUAL SPRING BAZAAR

KEYSTONE VILLA

1180 Ben Franklin Highway East

Saturday, April 27th

9:00-2:00pm

For info call 610-385-5006

Vendors/Crafters Wanted

St. Gabriel's First Annual Artisan Pop-up and Attic
Treasures Sale

Date- April 27, 2024 Time- setup begins at 6am

Sale time is 8am until 1 pm

Please email Florence Mano (flomano@verizon.net)
with your space requests.

*SCRIP can be purchased in the church office,
Wednesday to Friday. Also please remember to
save your Redner's tapes and place in the box in
the Narthex or drop off at the church office.*

Dear Padre,

What is a “covenant,” and how are marriage and covenant related?

“Covenant” is the word the Church employs to define and describe the sacrament of matrimony. It is clearly based on the idea of “covenant” contained in Scripture. In contrast, society uses the related word “contract,” as in the “marriage contract.” However, these two words do not mean the same thing.

The meaning of “contract” is too limited to contain the full commitment of Christian marriage. When you sign a contract, you are legally bound only to its terms. You need not do more or less than what is stipulated in its wording. Warmth and concern for the well-being of one party for the other are not stipulated in a contract.

A covenant, on the other hand, is different. Although it may contain some aspects of contract, it establishes a personal relationship of closeness, affection, and warmth, and it locks the couple into a mutual commitment to each other’s well-being.

As God freely chose Israel from all the nations possible, so do two people choose each other from all other people. As God declared, “I will take you as my people, and I will be your God” (Exodus 6:7). In the same way, a husband and wife pledge total commitment to each other.

Christian marriage bears the same characteristics of covenant commitment—the personal relationship of caring, loyalty, intimacy, exclusivity, permanency, and, above all, love; hence the use of “covenant” to define Christian marriage. ●

The Redemptorists / DearPadre.org



ANDRES SONNE / SHUTTERSTOCK

Do you have a question for the Padre?

Go to [DearPadre.org](https://dearpadre.org) to send your question and to learn more about *Dear Padre*.

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
April 15	April 16	April 17	April 18	April 19	April 20	April 21
<i>Easter Weekday</i>	<i>Easter Weekday</i>	<i>Easter Weekday</i>	<i>Easter Weekday</i>	<i>Easter Weekday</i>	<i>Easter Weekday</i>	<i>Fourth Sunday of Easter</i>
Acts 6:8–15	Acts 7:51–8:1a	Acts 8:1b–8	Acts 8:26–40	Acts 9:1–20	Acts 9:31–42	Acts 4:8–12
Jn 6:22–29	Jn 6:30–35	Jn 6:35–40	Jn 6:44–51	Jn 6:52–59	Jn 6:60–69	1 Jn 3:1–2
						Jn 10:11–18



GIOVANNI CARDILLO / SHUTTERSTOCK

A WORD FROM POPE FRANCIS

Eating, when we do so together, among family or friends, also becomes an expression of love, an expression of communion, of celebration. How often the Gospels present us with Jesus experiencing this convivial dimension! Even as the Risen One, with his disciples. To the point that the Eucharistic Banquet has become the emblematic sign of the Christian community.

REGINA CAELI, ROME, APRIL 18, 2021

Spring Raffle 2024

Sponsored by the Immaculate Conception Women's Society

Cash Prizes

1st Prize \$500

2nd Prize \$350

3rd Prize \$250

4th & 5th Prize \$100

6th – 9th Prize \$50

Why not take a chance?

\$5.00 each or 5 for \$20

Cash or checks made out to ICC Women's Society

Tickets will be available in the narthex (Saturday & Sunday), in the church office (Wednesday – Friday during regular business hours), or by contacting Gina Maicher @ 610-223-5088.

Drawing to be held on Sunday, May 5th, 2024

Good Luck!

Winners need not be present to be eligible.

Thank you for supporting our fundraising efforts.

100% of the proceeds go back to our church.