



I have other sheep that do not belong to this fold. These also I must lead... and there will be one flock, one shepherd.

JOHN 10:16

## Living with Our Instincts

FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

**W**e live with a maze of instincts—some from the dark side and some from the light. In her book *Caste*, Isabel Wilkerson describes how cultures tend to consign certain individuals to the bottom of the social ladder. She specifically compares the caste system in India with how the Nazis sought to suppress and eliminate Jews and with the way blacks were oppressed by slavery and even in our own time. She describes the instinct in every society to relegate others to a lower class, always seeking to ensure that we are not at the bottom. This instinct can come from the dark side of people.

There is also an instinct for goodness to others, an instinct of light—to recognize everyone as brothers and sisters. As Saint John notes, “we are God’s children now”

(1 John 3:2). It is the voice of the Shepherd instilled in the human spirit that calls us into one fold, the voice of God urging us to healing goodness.

It is the dark side that nurtures white supremacy. It is the light that enables us to see beyond the color of our skin. It is the dark side that excludes those who seem different. It is the light that welcomes and offers hospitality. It is the dark side that succumbs to fear. It is the light of God’s love that confronts the wolves of hate and urges us to follow. There is always tension between darkness and light. ●

### Reflect

**How does the voice of the Good Shepherd call you to reject the dark and embrace the light?**

# IMMACULATE CONCEPTION CHURCH

905 Chestnut Street, Douglassville, PA 19518 [www.icbvm.org](http://www.icbvm.org) [secretary@icbvm.org](mailto:secretary@icbvm.org) [ccd@icbvm.org](mailto:ccd@icbvm.org)

Rev. Msgr. John B. McCann .....Pastor  
 Deacon Paul J. Hiryak, Deacon James A. Bardi  
 Parish Office .....610 582-2411  
 Parish Religious Education/CCD ....610 582-3880  
 Parish Preschool .....610 404-8645  
 Parish Website.....[www.icbvm.org](http://www.icbvm.org)

Immaculate Conception Academy.....610 404-8645.....[www.icaberks.org](http://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](http://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](http://www.ReportBishopAbuse.org) or  
 by calling 800-276-1562

## **FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER – APRIL 21, 2024**

### *The Sanctuary Lamp Burns in Memory of Anna & Joseph Lukes*

### ★★MASS INTENTIONS★★

<b>SAT</b>	<b>5:15 PM Paul Kakalecik</b>	<b>THUR</b>	<b>7:00 PM Anna Lukes</b>
<b>SUN</b>	<b>7:30 AM Irene &amp; John Palko</b>	<b>FRI</b>	<b>7:30 AM Kenneth Rumler</b>
	<b>9:00 AM Linda Estelle</b>	<b>SAT</b>	<b>5:15PM Leonard Kulikosky</b>
	<b>11:00AM Our Living &amp; Deceased Parishioners</b>	<b>SUN</b>	<b>7:30AM Rev Francis Straka, Rev Stephen Wetzel &amp; Rev. William Campbell</b>
<b>MON</b>	<b>7:30AM Mary Lopuski</b>		<b>9:00AM Frances Bambrick</b>
<b>TUES</b>	<b>7:00 PM Anna &amp; Joseph Lastochi &amp; Pasquale Apollonio</b>		<b>11:00AM Our Living &amp; Deceased Parishioners</b>
<b>WED</b>	<b>7:30 AM Pat Mitchell</b>		

**The Second Collection Next Week is the Religious Ministries 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](http://immaculateconceptionbvmc.flocknote.com)

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**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, Beppe McGee, David Mollura, Mary Louise Myers, Mary Ann Uivary, Michael Bobb, John Kusznir, Joseph Ondo, Rose White, Nova Puszczkowski, Karl Husbands, Magdalene Babiarz, Dante LaScala, Michael Gulla, Alex Lopacki, Angelina Swisher, Geraldine Christ, Rachel DiFrancesco & Millie Mattassa.  
 Please remember in your prayers recently deceased Stella Mallon

**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](http://www.icbvm.org)



OUR PARISH OFFICE IS OPEN WEDNESDAY,  
THURSDAY AND FRIDAY, 11 AM-3 PM. 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

**The Women's Society** will be sponsoring a  
**Bake Sale on April 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup>**. Choosing  
just one of the many homemade selections will  
be a challenge, so why not pick up a couple of  
your favorites or take this opportunity to try  
something new. **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 5<sup>th</sup>**

Thank you, Immaculate Conception Parish!  
Our 2024 Lenten Food Drive resulted in 1,301  
lbs. of food donations and \$1,500 in  
monetary gifts for St. Joseph's Food Pantry  
& Kennedy House Soup Kitchen. May God  
bless you for your kindness & generosity.  
The Knights of Mary Queen of Peace Council  
#17145.

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

Bishop Schlert will celebrate the 11:30 A.M. Mass on  
Pentecost Sunday, May 19<sup>th</sup>, 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.**

**The ICC Men's Group, Esto Vir,** will meet in the  
meeting room in the lower level of the office bldg. on  
**Saturday May 4th at 8:30 am.** The presentation will be  
the 12<sup>th</sup> in a series of 12 from the St Paul Center for  
Biblical Theology on the Bible from Genesis the Jesus.  
Coffee and donuts will be available starting at 8 am. The  
meeting will start at 8:30 am and will end at 10 am. A  
reminder that we will **clean the church starting at  
10:30 am** after the meeting. If you have the time and are  
physically able to help, it would be appreciated. We  
should be finished by around noon. If you can help  
please go to the church social hall after the meeting.

**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

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](http://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!*

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 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 retired SLP,  
recent graduates or an SLP looking for a fresh start in  
a small, family oriented, caring, Christian  
community. For more info or to request an interview  
call 610-777-0605

**MARRIED COUPLES –**

When's the last time you gave your marriage a  
tune-up? Keep your engines running by getting  
away together on a **Worldwide Marriage  
Encounter Weekend!** The next in-person  
experiences are **July 12-14** at Our Lady of  
Czestochowa, Doylestown. For more information  
visit: <https://www.wvme-philly.org>

**10<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL SPRING BAZAAR**

**KEYSTONE VILLA**

1180 Ben Franklin Highway East  
**Saturday, April 27<sup>th</sup> 9:00-2:00pm**

For info call 610-385-5006 Vendors/Crafters Wanted  
St. Gabriel's Episcopal Church

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 Contact Florence  
([flomano@verizon.net](mailto:flomano@verizon.net)) for more information.

Join the St. Raymond Nonnatus Foundation for a  
half-day retreat at the Daylesford Abbey in Paoli,  
for a special **retreat for Catholics wounded by  
divorce/separation. Sat, June 15, 2024,**

<https://www.nonnatus.org/divorce-retreat.html>

Questions: email [director.srnf@gmail.com](mailto:director.srnf@gmail.com)

# Dear Padre,

***My son was raised Catholic and still claims he is Catholic, but he and his wife go to a Protestant church. How should I deal with my frustration?***

Many parents and grandparents today share your frustration. They raised their children Catholic, maybe even sent them to Catholic schools, but the children have grown up and chosen not to continue to be faithful Catholics. A recent survey showed that nine out of ten people say they believe in God, but often they are not committed to a single religion or house of worship. About

half of the people questioned attend religious services less than once a month, or never. The loyalty to one Church that was evident in our own lives, or in our parents' and grandparents' lives, is lacking in today's people under age fifty-five.

What can one do about this situation? Certainly pray for your children and continue to give a good example through your own loyalty to the Catholic Church and attendance at Sunday Mass. Invite your son and his wife to attend with you when they visit. As your children age, they may become more interested in your family's history and traditions, and the religion of their childhood may again appear attractive. Try to be patient and continue to pray that your children will return to the Church of their roots. ●



M-PRODUCTION / SHUTTERSTOCK

**The Redemptorists / DearPadre.org**

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
April 22	April 23	April 24	April 25	April 26	April 27	April 28
Easter Weekday	Easter Weekday	Easter Weekday	St. Mark, Evangelist	Easter Weekday	Easter Weekday	Fifth Sunday of Easter
Acts 11:1-18 Jn 10:1-10	Acts 11:19-26 Jn 10:22-30	Acts 12:24-13:5a Jn 12:44-50	1 Pt 5:5b-14 Mk 16:15-20	Acts 13:26-33 Jn 14:1-6	Acts 13:44-52 Jn 14:7-14	Acts 9:26-31 1 Jn 3:18-24 Jn 15:1-8



## A WORD FROM POPE FRANCIS

***Christ's love is not selective; it embraces everyone.... He is everyone's shepherd. Jesus wants everyone to be able to receive the Father's love and encounter God....The Father entrusts everyone to Jesus the Good Shepherd, who gave his life for everyone. Brothers and sisters, Jesus defends, knows and loves all of us.***

REGINA CAELI, ROME, APRIL 25, 2021

ZVONIMIR ATLETIC / SHUTTERSTOCK

### Timely Topics Viewed with a Catholic Perspective

**Catholic Update** explores contemporary issues through the lens of Catholic teaching and traditions.

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**The ICC Women's Society**  
**will be sponsoring a**  
**Spring Garden Geranium Sale**  
**4" pot for \$5**



All orders **must** be in NO later than May 5<sup>th</sup>.  
Pick up will be in the **Social Hall** on **Saturday May 18<sup>th</sup>**  
**between 9AM – 12 noon.**

Please return the below order form with your payment (made out to ICC Women's Society) in an envelope marked Women's Society in the **collection basket** or give it to any member of the **Women's Society**.

Any questions call Gina Maicher at (610) 223-5088

Cut here

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**Name:**

**Phone:**

We will be offering the following colors (please check all that apply with the quantity of each:

#\_\_\_\_\_ RED

#\_\_\_\_\_ PINK

#\_\_\_\_\_ White



# Spring Raffle 2024

Sponsored by the Immaculate Conception Women's Society

## Cash Prizes

1 <sup>st</sup> Prize	\$500
2 <sup>nd</sup> Prize	\$350
3 <sup>rd</sup> Prize	\$250
4 <sup>th</sup> & 5 <sup>th</sup> Prize	\$100
6 <sup>th</sup> – 9 <sup>th</sup> 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 5<sup>th</sup>, 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.