



The Wisdom Meal

FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

Common sense and wisdom are two different realities, similar but not the same. Common sense can be taught, and it tends to be black and white, rather obvious. For the most part, parents teach their children common sense. *Don't run with a knife in your hands. Look both ways before you cross the street. Wash your hands before you eat.* Wisdom, on the other hand, tends to be more nuanced. It has a depth to it that cannot be taught. Rather, it is learned by experience and is more obscure than obvious. Sometimes, wisdom may not even seem to make sense. *One finds life by losing it. We find meaning not by focusing on ourselves but rather upon others and their needs. Less is more. Might does not make right.* Wisdom is the home of God.

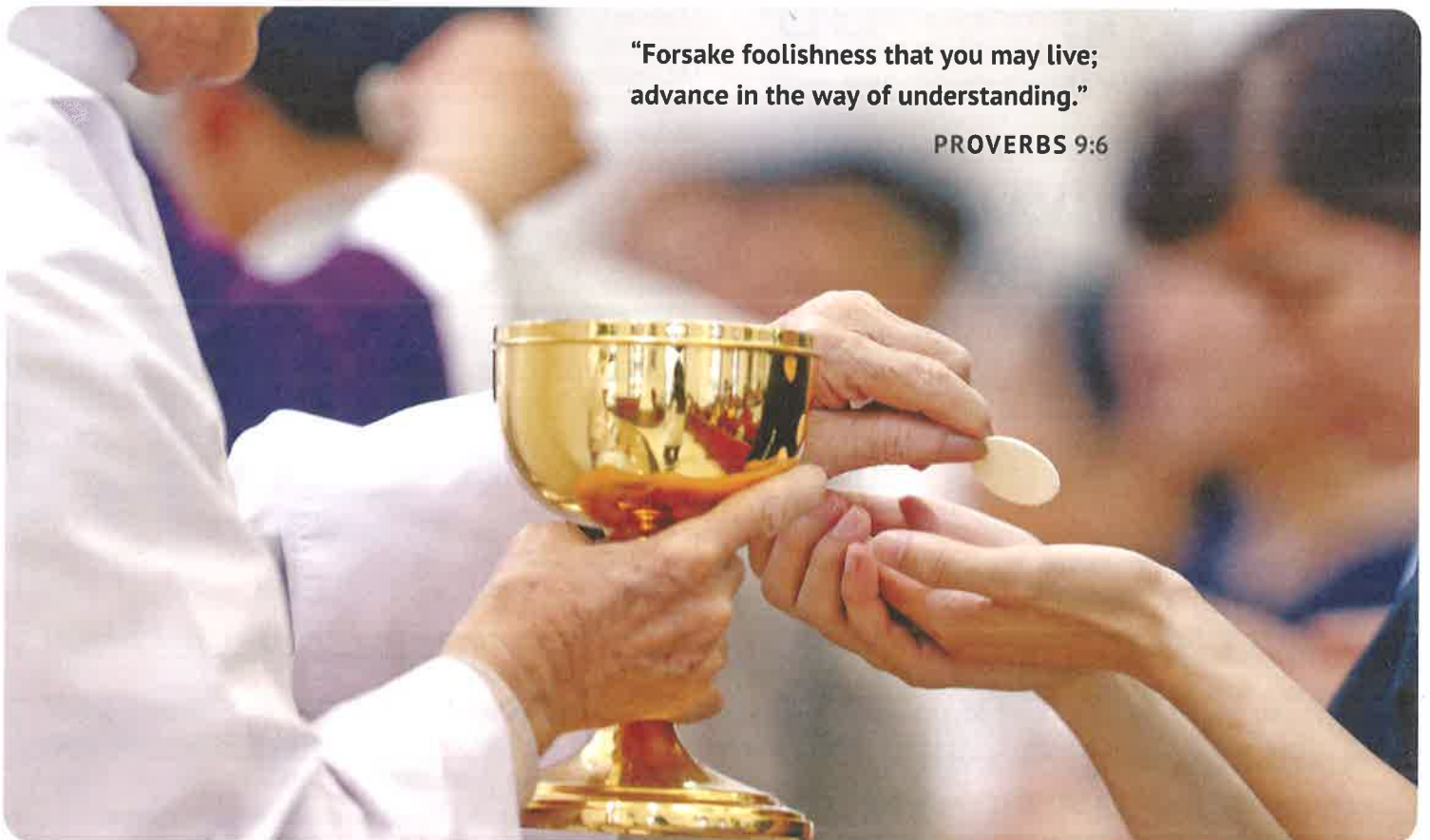
Throughout Scripture, the virtue of wisdom is often personified as Lady Wisdom. She is thought to have been present with God even before creation and with God at creation (Proverbs 8:22-31). Wisdom has spread her table before us and invites us: "Come, eat of my food, / and drink of the wine I have mixed!... / advance in the way of understanding" (Proverbs 9:5-6). Jesus is the wisdom of God made flesh. To feast on Jesus' Body and Blood through the Eucharist is to feast on the wisdom of God. There, at his table, we begin to look at life the way God does. ●

Reflect

When faced with difficulties, do you stop and pray for wisdom—to see as God sees?

**"Forsake foolishness that you may live;
advance in the way of understanding."**

PROVERBS 9:6



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

TWENTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – AUG. 18, 2024

The Sanctuary Lamp Burns in Memory of Nicholas Volpiccini

★★ MASS INTENTIONS★★

SAT	5:15 PM	Paul Kakalecek 11 th Anniversary	THURS	7:00PM	Rose Mary Rapak
SUN	7:30 AM	Joseph L. Marks	FRI	7:30AM	Mass of Thanksgiving
	9:00 AM	Kim Twaddell 15 th Anniversary	SAT	5:15PM	Our Parishioners
	11:00 AM	Dec'd Members of the Volpiccini Family	SUN	7:30AM	Edith & Joseph Banyas
MON	7:30 AM	Our Parishioners		9:00AM	Kenneth Sutton
TUES	7:00 PM	Teri Lynch		11:00AM	Wayne Goodwin
WED	7:30 AM	Linda Domergue			

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

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, Pat Fessler, Sunny Motta, Curt Miller, Loretta Hitchens, Dante Stetina, Barbara Ruby, Kara Morrison, Arlene Shirley, George Ruby, Harriet Yeager, Marjorie Hansen, Jason Leman, Ann Washko, Anthony Scaglione, Maryanne Emery, Pam Amos, Marianne Sutton, John Mingione, Henry J. Wade, Lois Muldowney, Arlene Schaeffer, Shelly Weiler, Steven Blanyar, Jennifer Gruber, Adele Nieckoski, Shawn Kaeser, Catherine Mueller, Regina Marie Brown, Ralph Rapposelli, Joe Dantas, Debbie Simcock, Wanda Palmieri, Msgr. Nevin Klinger, Barbara Wright, Charlotte Glacken, Beppy McGee, David Mollura, Mary Louise Myers, Mary Ann Uivary, John Kuszniur, Joseph Ondo, Rose White, Karl Husbands, Magdalene Babiarez, Alex Lopacki, Angelina Swisher, Geraldine Christ, Rachel DiFrancesco, Millie Mattassa, Bill Pribanick, Rosemary Williamson, Tony Guilliams Phyllis Villano, Bob Warunek, Sharon Painter, Cletus McLaughlin, Edward Zawora, Linda Walleigh, Kelly Eichenberg, Rose Kubovcsak & Lyn Weidenhammer..

Please welcome the Peck/Paziora Family

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, 11 AM-3PM. IF YOU CALL THE PARISH OFFICE AND NO ONE IS AVAILABLE TO ANSWER YOUR CALL, PLEASE LEAVE A DETAILED MESSAGE AND YOUR CALL WILL BE RETURNED IN A TIMELY FASHION. 610-582-2411

Come and be Spiritually Refreshed! Our parish OCIA (Order of Christian Initiation for Adults) Program for 2024-25 will begin in early October. This year's theme is "Come to the Living Water" from Isaiah 55:1 and John 4:14. The program is open to Catholics and non-Catholics who want to learn more about the Catholic Faith. Visit the parish website (select Religious Education, then OCIA) for program and registration information or contact the parish office.

2024 Fall Sports Registration is now open.
Visit ICCYOBERKS.ORG

Blessing of Backpacks
Will occur on Sunday, August 25, 2024 at the 9:00 Mass

Annual Diocesan Wedding Anniversary Mass Married couples from across the Diocese are invited to renew their vows and thank God for the gift of the Sacrament of Marriage during the Annual Diocesan Wedding Anniversary Mass. The Mass, celebrated by Bishop Alfred Schlert, will take place in the Cathedral of St. Catharine of Siena on **Sunday, September 22, 2024**. Doors open at 2 p.m. Please visit the following link to register and for more info:

<https://www.allentowndiocese.org/anniversarymass> Contact Rhady Tulloch, Director of Marriage and Family Life, rtulloch@allentowndiocese.org.

SAVE THE DATE: Parish AYCE Beef 'N Beer Event on **Sunday, September 8th** from 2:00 - 6:00 PM. Tickets will go on sale in August and are \$35 (Beef & Beer) or \$25 (Food & Soft Drinks). Visit our Narthex display or the Parish website (www.icbvm.org) for more information. Sponsored by the Women's Society and Mary Queen of Peace Council #17145. Thanks for your support!

Rosary Prayer Group – Tuesdays, 6:30pm - Please join us in praying for our church's prayer intentions. If you have an intention you would like the group to remember, place your intentions in the box in the narthex

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!

Our parish family of the Immaculate Conception will celebrate the **Blessing and Dedication of the newly erected Celtic Cross in the Saint Paul Mission Chapel Cemetery** located on Route 724 in Douglassville on **Saturday, September 7, 2024**. On that occasion, the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass will be offered in our parish church at 10:00 a.m. for all the faithful departed who are buried in the Mission Cemetery. Immediately following the Mass, those in attendance will travel to the Mission Cemetery for the Blessing and Dedication of the Cross. We anticipate the Rite of Blessing at the cemetery to begin at approximately 11:30 a.m. Because there is no parking available at the Mission Cemetery, a shuttle bus will transport everyone in attendance from our parish church to the Mission Cemetery and back. Everyone is welcome to join us on this occasion to celebrate together the Holy Eucharist and to witness the Blessing of the Cross in the Mission Cemetery

It's Officially a Five-Peat! Our parish Knights of Columbus, Mary Queen of Peace Council #17145, has received its fifth consecutive "Star Council Award" for excellence in programs, membership growth and insurance benefits. Become part of the world's largest Catholic men's organization and help us help others in need within our community. For more information, visit the parish website at <http://www.icbvm.org> (select organizations tab, then KofC) or contact Jim Kaucher at jimkaucher@gmail.com

WIN \$10,000 CASH!! The Berks Catholic High School Extravaganza Cash Raffle tickets are now available. The drawing will be held on **FRIDAY, October 11th** during the Extravaganza 2024 event. Donation \$100. To buy raffle tickets, please e-mail at Extravaganza@BerksCatholic.org

Dear Padre,

Are naked statues, like Michelangelo's David, really appropriate for public viewing?

It is helpful to consider if the artwork depicts the body to heighten transcendence, or to objectify the body to satisfy basic instincts. Art is admittedly subjective, and the interpretation of nudity in true art is in the eye of the beholder. Nudity can evoke feelings of shame for some; for others, the nude body in art can be an aesthetic experience of illuminated grace in humanity, and ultimately in the glory of our Maker for all his gifts—including the gift of Christ's resurrection that restored us to the original image and likeness intended by our Creator.

Since ancient times, the nude human form was a common subject in art. The intention is to draw the viewer to a better appreciation of the human body's natural beauty. However, nudity is often associated with sexuality, and for some, sexuality is equated with sin.

In his series of addresses about the theology of the body, St. John Paul II expounded on original nakedness that was referred to in Scripture: "Man tries to cover the real origin of fear with the shame of his own nakedness" (Genesis 3:10). "In the state of original innocence nakedness did not express a lack. Rather, it represented full acceptance of the body..." (*Real Significance of Original Nakedness*, 1980).

So to answer the question, assuming the purpose of the artist is to inspire, and the atmosphere in which the statue is viewed is conducive to such inspiration, yes, such a public display is appropriate. ●

Fr. Byron Miller, CSsR / DearPadre.org



Monday

August 19
Weekday
Ez 24:15-23
Mt 19:16-22

Tuesday

August 20
St. Bernard,
Abbot and
Doctor of the
Church
Ez 28:1-10
Mt 19:23-30

Wednesday

August 21
St. Pius X, Pope
Ez 34:1-11
Mt 20:1-16

Thursday

August 22
Queenship of
the Blessed
Virgin Mary
Ez 36:23-28
Mt 22:1-14

Friday

August 23
Weekday
Ez 37:1-14
Mt 22:34-40

Saturday

August 24
St. Bartholomew,
Apostle
Rv 21:9b-14
Jn 1:45-51

Sunday

August 25
Twenty-first
Sunday in
Ordinary Time
Jos 24:1-2a,
15-17, 18b
Eph 5:21-32
or 5:2a, 25-32
Jn 6:60-69



A WORD FROM POPE FRANCIS

Around the altar we find what spiritually feeds us and quenches our thirst today and for eternity.... The Eucharist shapes us so that we live not only for ourselves but for the Lord and for our brothers and sisters. Life's happiness and eternity depend on our ability to render fruitful the evangelical love we receive in the Eucharist.

ANGELUS, ROME, AUGUST 19, 2018