

Joshua said to all the people....,
"As for me and my household,
we will serve the LORD."

JOSHUA 24:2, 15C

Taking a Stand Matters

FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

One day I happened to be sitting and chatting with some teenagers. When the discussion turned to parents, expectations, and how they respond, I asked them, "What's really important to you? What do you value and try not to compromise on?" "Why do you want to know?" one asked. "Just wondering," I said. Silence. Then one said that being honest was really important to her, that she always tried to tell the truth. Another said "family." Another, respecting his body, said, "No drugs, no alcohol." More silence, and then one spoke of her faith and how it really mattered and made a difference in her life. Their conversation then moved on to other things, friends, movies, and what to do later that day.

In reality, I had another reason for asking my question, one beyond a simple inquiry. There is something good about saying aloud what is truly important to us, what we won't compromise on. Saying it out loud makes it more real, something we can stand for. Some of those teens didn't say anything, maybe because they had never thought about what their values were. Perhaps hearing others speak up inspired them to think about it, maybe for the first time in their lives. Saying aloud where we stand in life makes a difference.

Jesus reminds us that it is the spirit that gives life, that the flesh is of no avail. Some of those teens have already begun to realize this truth. ●

Reflect

What are some values that you do not forsake easily? Why?

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

TWENTY FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – AUG. 25, 2024

The Sanctuary Lamp Burns in Memory of Kenneth Sutton 3rd Anniversary

★★ MASS INTENTIONS★★

SAT	5:15 PM	Our Parishioners	THURS	7:00PM	Michael Bobb
SUN	7:30 AM	Edith & Joseph Banyas	FRI	7:30AM	Patrick Timothy Kozlowski
	9:00 AM	Kenneth Sutton 3 rd Anniversary	SAT	5:15PM	Tom Hafer
	11:00 AM	Wayne Goodwin	SUN	7:30AM	Bob Thomas, Jr.
MON	7:30 AM	God's Blessings on Jeanne Hostrander		9:00AM	Josephine Buchanan 4 th Anniversary
TUES	7:00 PM	Bill O'Brien		11:00AM	Our Parishioners
WED	7:30 AM	Copeland Family			

The Second Collection Next Week is the Church Bldg & Parish Maintenance 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 Kusznr, Joseph Ondo, Rose White, Karl Husbands, Magdalene Babiarz, Alex Lopacki, Angelina Swisher, Geraldine Christ, Rachel DiFrancesco, Millie Mattassa, Bill Pribanick, Rosemary Williamson, Tony Guilliams, Bob Warunek, Sharon Painter, Cletus McLaughlin, Edward Zawora, Linda Walleigh, Rose Kubovcsak & Lyn Weidenhammer..

Please pray for newly deceased Phyllis Villano

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-3 PM. 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 on October 7th at 7pm. 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 at 610-582-2411.

2024 Fall Sports Registration will close on Wednesday, August 28 at Midnight. Visit ICCYBERKS.ORG

Blessing of Backpacks
Will occur this 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:

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 are on sale now. \$35 (Beef & Beer) or \$25 (Food & Soft Drinks). Visit our Narthex display or the Parish website (www.icbvm.org) for more info. Sponsored by the Women's Society and Mary Queen of Peace Council #17145. Thanks for your support!

Mary Queen of Peace Council meets on the first Tuesday at 7:30pm in the social hall. Join us to learn more about our parish group

Our parish has a **GRIEF SHARING GROUP** that can help those who are dealing with a loved one's death. Our next meeting will be **Tues, Sept 3rd**. If you plan to attend please call/text Toni 610 404-1389.

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,

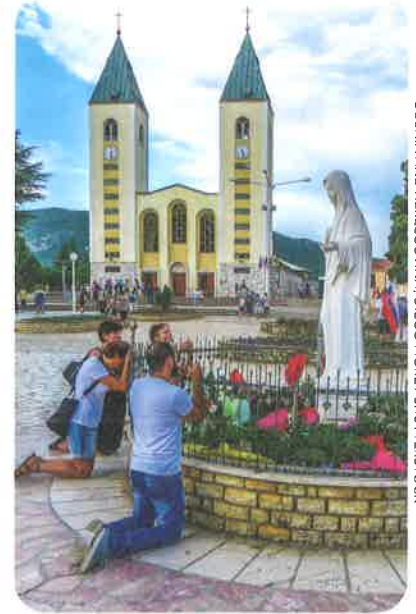
A friend claims that various saints have appeared to her. Is this something that really happens?

Your friend might be experiencing what are called “private” revelations. Many recognized saints experienced visions in which Jesus, Mary, or the disciples spoke to them. These revelations were sometimes the sparks that caused future saints to leave whatever they were doing and follow Jesus in a dynamic way.

Saint Francis of Assisi was a rich young man who had a vision of Christ that radically changed his life. After this private revelation, Francis embraced poverty and devoted himself to the care of the sick. He founded the Franciscans to carry on his mission. An example of recent private revelations are the apparitions at *Medjugorje*. Even though the Church has not formally recognized these revelations, many have discovered a deeper faith because of them.

The *Catechism of the Catholic Church* says this about private revelations: “Throughout the ages, there have been so-called “private” revelations, some of which have been recognized by the authority of the Church. They do not belong, however, to the deposit of faith. It is not their role to improve or complete Christ’s definitive Revelation, but to help live more fully by it in a certain period of history” (CCC 67).

It is important to note whether the private revelation is contrary to the faith or the morals of the Church, and whether a particular revelation brings one closer to God. ●



PRAYING IN FRONT OF THE STATUE OF OUR LADY MARY, MEDJUGORJE, BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA. DIEGO FIORE / SHUTTERSTOCK

The Redemptorists / DearPadre.org

Monday

August 26

Weekday

2 Thes 1:1–5,
11–12

Mt 23:13–22

Tuesday

August 27

St. Monica

2 Thes 2:1–3a,
14–17

Mt 23:23–26

Wednesday

August 28

St. Augustine,

Bishop and

Doctor of the

Church

2 Thes 3:6–10,
16–18

Mt 23:27–32

Thursday

August 29

Passion of St.

John the Baptist

1 Cor 1:1–9

Mk 6:17–29

Friday

August 30

Weekday

1 Cor 1:17–25

Mt 25:1–13

Saturday

August 31

Weekday

1 Cor 1:26–31

Mt 25:14–30

Sunday

September 1

Twenty-second

Sunday in

Ordinary Time

Dt 4:1–2, 6–8

Jas 1:17–18,
21b–22, 27

Mk 7:1–8, 14–15,
21–23



STEVE LOVEGROVE / SHUTTERSTOCK

A WORD FROM POPE FRANCIS

The Lord asks the disciples the decisive question: “But who do you— you!—say that I am?” Who am I for you, now? Jesus does not want to be a key figure from the past; He wants to be an important person for you today, for me today.... Jesus wants to be the God who is close to us!

ANGELUS, ROME, AUGUST 27, 2023

This Section is for Office Use Only

Registration Date: _____
Ck. #: _____ /Amount: _____ /Cash: _____ /SCRIP Used: _____ /Volunteer: Yes No

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION CHURCH
Religious Education Enrollment Form
2024 – 2025

2024-2025 CCD Grade Level: _____
Day Preference: (circle one) Wednesdays 5:15pm - 6:30 pm (Grades 1-6)
Thursdays 4:15pm - 5:30pm (Grades 3 and 4 only)
Wednesdays 7:00pm - 8:30pm (7th and 8th grades ONLY)
Home School

Please Print.

Student's Name _____ Sex: M _____ F _____
First Middle Last

Address _____
House Number Street City State Zip

PLEASE NOTE: If child has attended CCD at another parish prior to this year, please attach proof of attendance to this form.

Student resides with: Both Parents _____ Guardians _____ Mother _____ Father _____
Other (please explain) _____

Registered at Immaculate Conception Church: Yes _____ No _____ Family must register in the parish before enrolling in CCD classes.

Phone: Home _____ Best Contact Number _____ Cell _____

Father's Name _____ Religion _____

Mother's Name _____ Maiden Name _____ Religion _____

Best Email address for parents: _____

School District _____ 2024-2025 School Grade _____

Emergency Contact: _____
Name Best Contact Number

Student Sacramental Information:

Date of Birth _____ Place of Birth _____
City/State

Baptism Date _____ Church _____ Address _____
City/State

PLEASE NOTE: If not Baptized at Immaculate Conception, please attach a copy of the Baptismal Certificate to this form.

Communion Date _____ Church _____ Address _____
City/State

Please list any information or condition of which we should be aware to provide a proper educational environment for your child (allergies, learning disabilities, home problems, etc.). All information will remain confidential. Please note that we are not professionally trained to handle all situations; however, should a problem arise, we will certainly contact you regarding it.

Parent Signature _____ Date _____

ONE FORM PER CHILD PLEASE

Registration Fee: grades 1, 4, 5, 6, and 7— **\$105.00 PER CHILD**
Registration and Sacramental Fee: grades 2, 3, & 8 - **\$115.00 PER CHILD**

SIBLINGS

Please list siblings in CCD classes and grade levels below.

Name _____ Grade _____

Name _____ Grade _____

Name _____ Grade _____

EMERGENCY CONTACT INFORMATION

The use of *ICC Alerts and Messages* is a vital communication tool which enables us to contact you quickly regarding emergency information and schedule changes due to weather and other unforeseen events. It is also used for friendly reminders of meetings, practices, retreats, Masses, etc... To register for *ICC Alerts and Messages* simply text the code @kbd8ke to the number 81010. It is that easy! Your personal contact information will not be shared with other members or organizations. **Please be advised that this will be the primary emergency contact source for the program.**

Please indicate your current status below.

_____ I have signed up for *ICC Alerts and Messages* so that I may be contacted regarding emergency information and schedule changes.

_____ I have NOT signed up for *ICC Alerts and Message*, but will do so soon.

_____ I do not have access to a computer or a cell phone and require another format for emergency contact information.

PICK-UP AUTHORIZATION

Please list the name of any person authorized to pick your child up from CCD. Children will only be released to people whose names appear on this form. Please list all that apply. All children must be escorted by an adult. No child will be allowed to leave the building alone.

Name _____

Best Contact Number _____

Name _____

Best Contact Number _____

I have read the policy, outlined in the CCD handbook regarding traffic/safety procedures during drop off and pick up times, and the safety procedures. I understand that if I violate these procedures, I am responsible for any accidents or injuries to myself, my children, or others. I will not hold Immaculate Conception Church, The Diocese of Allentown, Msgr. McCann, Mrs. O'Donnell, or any staff member or volunteer responsible. I further understand that the best way to prevent accidents or injuries is to follow the procedures and policies that are a part of the CCD program. **By signing this form, I understand and agree to these conditions.**

Parent Signature: _____ Date _____