

**“Everyone serves good wine first,  
and then when people have drunk  
freely, an inferior one; but you have  
kept the good wine until now.”**

**JOHN 2:10**

## When Water Becomes Wine

FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

**F**or all of us, at one time or another, life seems to run out of wine. We look at our relationships and find ourselves saying, “There’s no more wine.” It may be a friendship of five years or a marriage of twenty-five years, but, for some, the wine runs out. For others, it is the job that loses its challenge. Or, one day, the foreman gathers everyone to announce that the plant is closing. In a moment, all has turned into vinegar; there is no more wine. For others still, it is when retirement suffocates the future, choking all that once gave meaning.

However, there are also those times when hope is reborn, when we feel “espoused” not only by life but also by God, when the ordinary turns extraordinary—and the water becomes wine. It is the phone call offering a new job after we have collected unemployment checks for months. It is falling in love when we have given up on the notion. It is conceiving a child after years of barren waiting. It is someone who listens, finally, when no one else would. It is at times like these—and many others as well—when we are caught off-balance and trip into God unwittingly, saved from drudgery and redeemed to live a life enriched, when water is turned into wine. It is a deeply felt joy that reveals God’s presence. ●

### Reflect

***Is there an area in your life where you need “new wine”?***

# IMMACULATE CONCEPTION CHURCH

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Rev. Msgr. John B. McCann .....Pastor	Immaculate Conception Academy.....610 404-8645..... <a href="http://www.icaberks.org">www.icaberks.org</a>
Deacon Paul J. Hiryak, Deacon James A. Bardi	Diocesan Victim Assistance Coordinator: Wendy S. Krisak, M.A. NC, LPC, 800-791-9209
Parish Office .....610 582-2411	Diocesan Safe Environment Coordinator: Pamela Russo, MSW, MS, 610-871-5200, Ext 2204
Parish Religious Education/CCD .....610 582-3880	Diocese of Allentown website..... <a href="http://www.allentowndiocese.org">www.allentowndiocese.org</a>
Parish Preschool .....610 404-8645	Catholic Bishop Abuse Reporting Service: If you have an allegation of abuse against a bishop,
Parish Website..... <a href="http://www.icbvm.org">www.icbvm.org</a>	please contact the Catholic Bishop Abuse Reporting Service at <a href="http://www.ReportBishopAbuse.org">www.ReportBishopAbuse.org</a>
Confessions Saturday .....4:00 to 5:00PM	or by calling 800-276-1562

## 2<sup>ND</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – JAN 19, 2025

*The Sanctuary Lamp Burns in Memory of Monsignor Richard Loeper*

★ ★ MASS INTENTIONS ★ ★

SAT	5:15 PM	Sybilla Miller	THUR	7:00PM	Geraldine Christ
SUN	7:30 AM	Edith and Joseph Banyas	FRI	7:30AM	Howard Lange
	9:00 AM	Our Parishioners			
	11:00 AM	Janet Quinones	SAT	5:15PM	Sonny Motta
MON		No Mass	SUN	7:30AM	Charles Wagner
TUES	7:00 PM	Thomas and Mildred Murray		9:00AM	Norma Crespo 4 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary
WED	7:30AM	Jeannette Burrell		11:00AM	Our Parishioners

*The Second Collection Next Week is the American Bishop's Overseas Appeal*

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)

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](http://flocknote.com/txt).

Remember in your prayers the sick of our parish: Madge Butto, Pat Fessler, 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, Lois Muldowney, Arlene Schaeffer, Shelly Weiler, Steven Blanyar, Jennifer Gruber, Shawn Kaeser, Catherine Mueller, Regina Marie Brown, Ralph Rapposelli, Joe Dantas, Debbie Simcock, Wanda Palmieri, Msgr. Nevin Klinger, Barbara Wright, Beppy McGee, Mary Louise Myers, Jerry Miscovich, John Kusznir, Joseph Ondo, Karl Husbands, Magdalene Babiarz, Clara Bailey, Jessica Bailey, Alex Lopacki, Angelina Swisher, Rachel DiFrancesco, Millie Mattassa, Bill Pribanick, Rosemary Williamson, Tony Guilliams, Bob Warunek, Sharon Painter, Cletus McLaughlin, Edward Zawora, Rose Kubovcsak, Lyn Weidenhammer, Caraline Herb, Henry Wade, Jr., Joe Bailey, Daniel McLaughlin & Ann Hay.

Please pray for the recently deceased: Karen A. Burke

*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 Women's Society will be sponsoring their annual January Soup Sale this weekend January 18-19<sup>th</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!

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A Novena for Life: Our parish family of the Immaculate Conception will be participating in the Novena for Life beginning this Sunday, January 19, 2025 through Monday, January 27, 2025. Everyone is cordially invited to join in these nine days of prayer affirming the sanctity of human life. The prayer booklet for the novena is available in today's bulletin. Please set aside five minutes each day to offer these prayers and to meditate on the beautiful reflection provided for each day of the novena. This endeavor is spearheaded by the Knights of Columbus of our parish.

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

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**Daily Mass Schedule: Please be advised that there will be no daily Mass on Monday, January 20, 2025. Thank you for your kind understanding in this regard.**

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**Come and be Spiritually Refreshed!**  
Our parish OCIA (Order of Christian Initiation for Adults) The Program for 2024-25 continues on Jan 20th at 7pm. We meet in the Lower Level Meeting Room in the office building. Visit the parish website (select Religious Education, then OCIA) or program registration info or contact the parish office at 610-582-2411.

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CCD/Religious Education Inclement Weather Procedures: Please be advised that if the Daniel Boone Area School District is closed or dismisses early due to inclement weather our CCD (Religious Education) classes that day are also cancelled.

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Church Reminders: SCRIP is available for Redners, Boscovs, Giant, Kohls, Boyers & Weis. SCRIP can be purchased in the church office, Wed. to Fri. & after the Sat. 5:15 pm & Sun. 7:30am Masses. Remember to save your Redner's tapes and place in the box in the Narthex or drop off at the church office.

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Berks Catholic High School has openings in grades 9-11 for the 2<sup>nd</sup> semester 2024-2025 school year. Call for info on how Berks Catholic High School prepares young men and ladies to be college ready & life ready. Berks Catholic is accepting applications for 2025-2026 School year. call with questions to schedule a shadow day. 610.374.8361 ext. 244 or [nsmith@berkscatholic.org](mailto:nsmith@berkscatholic.org) Please join us for an Open House on, Thursday, Jan. 30, 2025 from 5:30-7:30 p.m.

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A Volunteer Fair will be held on Monday, January 20, 2025 (Martin Luther King Day) from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at Saint Paul's Lutheran Church, Route 662, Douglassville. Match your interests with many local organizations that rely on volunteers to thrive. View the full list of organizations at [www.stpaulsdouglassville.com](http://www.stpaulsdouglassville.com)

*A Request for Prayers: Please keep parishioners Shawn and Michol Kaeser and their family in your thoughts and prayers. Shawn is in end stage kidney failure and is in need of a transplant. Shawn is currently receiving dialysis and is on the transplant list. Please pray that a donor may soon be found. If anyone is interested in learning more about organ donation, please call Shawn at 610-906-2833 or contact him by e-mail at [skaeser1969@icloud.com](mailto:skaeser1969@icloud.com). The Kaeser family thanks you for your prayers and support. For additional information about becoming a living donor, please call 610-402-8506 or visit [www.lvhn.org/livingdonor](http://www.lvhn.org/livingdonor)*

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.

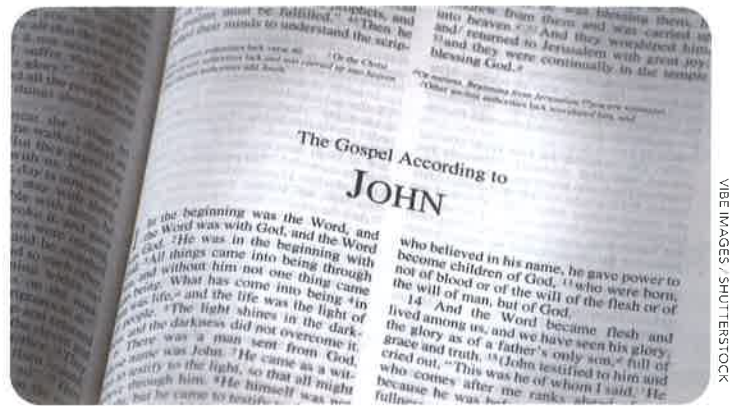
*Your generosity to Immaculate Conception is greatly appreciated!*

# Dear Padre,

*Is there a year of John? I know we're now in the year of Luke, next year will be the year of Matthew, and the following year will be the year of Mark. Then the cycle starts over with Luke. Why doesn't John have a year?*

Matthew, Mark, and Luke, collectively known as the synoptic gospels, are narrative gospels. Together, they tell the story of Jesus of Nazareth. Although in some ways they might be understood synoptically, "the same," each narrative is unique in its emphasis. The Church desires that we hear these narratives and be nourished through the proclamation of the early memories of the Christian community.

John's Gospel, on the other hand, is not primarily a narrative, but is best understood as theological. As such, it is highly dependent on the use of symbolic representations to make the point it intends. For example, "I am the light of the world.



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Whoever follows me...will have the light of life" (John 8:12). The interplay between light and darkness illustrates the point. John's Gospel is intended to be experienced and engaged in as "bigger than life," proposing and celebrating Christian themes that are life-giving and inviting. Therefore, we hear John's Gospel when the Church celebrates the mystery of the saving life and resurrection of Jesus. For this reason, the Gospel of John is proclaimed on Good Friday, during the Easter season, and on other major feasts.

**Fr. Thomas M. Santa, CSSR / DearPadre.org**

## Do you have a question for the Padre?

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

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
January 20	January 21	January 22	January 23	January 24	January 25	January 26
Weekday	St. Agnes, Virgin and Martyr	Day of Prayer for the Legal Protection of Unborn Children	Weekday	St. Francis de Sales, Bishop and Doctor of the Church	The Conversion of St. Paul the Apostle	Third Sunday in Ordinary Time
Heb 5:1-10 Mk 2:18-22	Heb 6:10-20 Mk 2:23-28	Heb 7:1-3, 15-17 Mk 3:1-6	Heb 7:25-8:6 Mk 3:7-12	Heb 8:6-13 Mk 3:13-19	Acts 22:3-16 or 9:1-22 Mk 16:15-18	Neh 8:2-4a, 5-6, 8-10 1 Cor 12:12-30 or 12:12-14, 27 Lk 1:1-4; 4:14-21



## A WORD FROM POPE FRANCIS

*I suggest an exercise.... Let us think about that difficult moment in which God let me experience his love.... And let us ask ourselves: with which discrete and loving signs did he let me feel his tenderness? When did I feel the Lord nearer? When did I feel his tenderness and his compassion?*

ANGELUS, ROME, JANUARY 16, 2022

LOVE YOU STOCK / SHUTTERSTOCK