



Jesus returned to Galilee
in the power of the
Spirit, and news of him
spread throughout the
whole region.

LUKE 4:14



The Stories of Our Lives

FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

Every family has stories of times past when unique and curious happenings gave color to family life. They are part of each family's lore, told again and again with as much gusto as when they were told for the first time. Though everyone has heard them countless times, telling these stories still reminds us of who we are as family, lest we forget. This is why the faith community, the family of the Church, tells stories from the Bible every time we gather. We've heard them before many times, but we tell them because they are part of our history, part of who we have been, and part of who we are as God's people, lest we forget.

The stories in sacred Scripture are not just stories of past lives; they are also stories of our own lives.

The story of Moses standing before the burning bush in awe of God's presence is also our story as we come upon nature's beauty or experience the birth of a child. The story of Joseph, the son of Jacob sold into slavery by his brothers, may also be our story of being betrayed by someone we love. Zacchaeus climbing a tree to see Jesus is our story of longing to see and know God in our lives and in our homes. The story of the good shepherd is the story of God seeking us out, forgiving us, and carrying us back to life. We recognize the stories of sacred Scripture as our stories. ●

Reflect

***What stories from Scripture comfort you,
and which ones challenge you?***

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION CHURCH

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Rev. Msgr. John B. McCannPastor	Immaculate Conception Academy.....610 404-8645..... www.icaberks.org
Deacon Paul J. Hiryak, Deacon James A. Bardi	Diocesan Victim Assistance Coordinator: Wendy S. Krisak, M.A. NC, LPC, 800-791-9209
Parish Office610 582-2411	Diocesan Safe Environment Coordinator: Pamela Russo, MSW, MS, 610-871-5200, Ext 2204
Parish Religious Education/CCD610 582-3880	Diocese of Allentown website..... www.allentowndiocese.org
Parish Preschool610 404-8645	Catholic Bishop Abuse Reporting Service: If you have an allegation of abuse against a bishop,
Parish Website..... www.icbvm.org	please contact the Catholic Bishop Abuse Reporting Service at www.ReportBishopAbuse.org
Confessions Saturday4:00 to 5:00PM	or by calling 800-276-1562

THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – JAN 26, 2025

The Sanctuary Lamp Burns in Memory of Deacon Charles Giordano

★ ★ MASS INTENTIONS ★ ★

SAT	5:15 PM	Sonny Motta	THUR	7:00PM	Crisostomo Chan
SUN	7:30 AM	Charles Wagner	FRI	7:30AM	Linda Bardi
	9:00 AM	Norma Crespo 4 th Anniversary		9:00AM	ICA MASS Theresa Althouse
	11:00 AM	Our Parishioners	SAT	5:15PM	Helen Schwendt 18 th Anniversary
MON		No Mass	SUN	7:30AM	Alice & Robert Arantowich
TUES	7:00 PM	Terry, Paul & Cynthia Swisher		9:00AM	Our Parishioners
WED	7:30AM	Joyce Mahon		11:00AM	David Mollura

The Second Collection Next Week is the Church Building & Parish Maintenance

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, 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 Kusznr, 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 & Tony Zampella.

Please pray for the recently deceased Barbara Stewart, Mary Jane Dearolf.

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

Hospital Visitations: If you or a member of your family is hospitalized, call the parish office at 610-582-2411.

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

Daily Mass Schedule: Please be advised that there will be no daily Mass on Monday, January 27, 2025. Thank you.

Come and be Spiritually Refreshed!

Our parish OCIA (Order of Christian Initiation for Adults) The Program for 2024-25 continues on Jan 27th 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.

First Friday Communion Calls: Please know that Monsignor McCann and Deacon Bardi bring Holy Communion to our parishioners who are sick and homebound on the First Friday of each month. If you or a member of your family is unable to attend Mass because of illness or infirmity, please call the parish office at 610-582-2411 and we will gladly bring Holy Communion to you.

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.

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

Berks Catholic High School Open House
Thursday, January 30th 5:30-7:30pm.

Come feel the energy of our community! Open registration for new students, activity fair, tours, opportunity to speak with teachers and administrators.! Please RSVP here:

<https://forms.gle/VjBULL4E1CDM3fd78>

For more information about Berks Catholic High School or to schedule a Shadow Day, please contact the Admissions Office at 610.374.8361 ext.244. Partner School and PREP School Night at Berks Catholic- Thursday, January 30th- Girls Basketball. JV starts at 6. All Partner and PREP students admitted for free. Wear your school or BC spirit wear.

Our parish **Grief Support Group** meets monthly, and you will find understanding and guidance as you strive to live without your loved one. Next meeting: **Tues Feb 4 at 2pm** in the Church. Il/text Toni 610 404-1389 for more info.

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!

If you are a coach, or interested in coaching for the CYO, the last coaches clinic for the 24/25 school year will be held on **Saturday March 1st** at our own Immaculate Conception Church. It is a one-time requirement for all rostered coaches, to be completed within the first year of coaching. Please register at <https://tinyurl.com/y228r5fn>

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

A Simple Act of Care for 2025

As we pause and reflect on our blessings after the holidays and a busy winter season ahead, the Diocese of Allentown invites you to show simple act of care to yourself, your loved ones, and even [Parish]: **creating**

your will. In thanks for your support, we partner with **FreeWill** so you can make a will and find peace of mind. It's completely free to use. Please scan the QR code or visit



<https://allentowndiocese.mygiftlegacy.org/> to get started

Dear Padre,

At Mass, I see people on their cell phones, and I'm really distracted and irritated. Isn't this wrong?

Would it help if you thought of good reasons for someone to use a cell phone at Mass? Cell phones are the new pagers. People whose work requires them to be on call, those who care for an elder, or parents of teenagers, for example, may need to check their phones. Many people use their phones to follow along with the readings on the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops' website—uscbb.org. It's easier for some to enlarge and read the print on a phone instead of following along in a missal. And, while this is relatively new, many hearing aids can be controlled by cell phone apps, so a person might use his or her phone to make adjustments to hear better. Perhaps if you imagine one of these reasons, your irritation will lessen, and you won't be so distracted.



HOT CHEESE MEDIA / SHUTTERSTOCK

Now, a word to those who are using a cell phone at Mass. If you are scrolling, checking your email or social media, think about giving yourself one hour when you will turn off your phone and put it aside. This is very difficult for some, and not just for young people. Checking one's phone is habitual—some might say addictive. Surely you deserve an hour when you are not tethered to your phone. A cell phone is a marvelous tool. Just make sure that it is the tool, and you are the master—not the other way around. ●

The Redemptorists / DearPadre.org

Do you have a question for the Padre?

Go to DearPadre.org to send your question and to learn more about *Dear Padre*.

Monday

January 27
Weekday
Heb 9:15,
24–28
Mk 3:22–30

Tuesday

January 28
St. Thomas
Aquinas, Priest
and Doctor of
the Church
Heb 10:1–10
Mk 3:31–35

Wednesday

January 29
Weekday
Heb 10:11–18
Mk 4:1–20

Thursday

January 30
Weekday
Heb 10:19–25
Mk 4:21–25

Friday

January 31
St. John Bosco,
Priest
Heb 10:32–39
Mk 4:26–34

Saturday

February 1
Weekday
Heb 11:1–2,
8–19
Mk 4:35–41

Sunday

February 2
The Presentation
of the Lord
Mal 3:1–4
Heb 2:14–18
Lk 2:22–40 or
2:22–32



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A WORD FROM POPE FRANCIS

[Jesus] has descended to the streets of our world in order to encounter our wounded humanity, to caress faces furrowed by suffering, to bind up broken hearts, and to set us free from chains that imprison the soul. In this way, he shows us the worship most pleasing to God: caring for our neighbor.

HOMILY, ROME, JANUARY 23, 2022