



As [Jesus] rode along, the people were spreading their cloaks on the road.... They proclaimed: “Blessed is the king who comes in the name of the Lord. Peace in heaven and glory in the highest.”

LUKE 19:36, 38

The Emptying Process

FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

We like to fill life with good things—good friends, good times, good jobs, good memories. They are all graced moments of life. Life is also marked by an emptying process. Friends move away, good times come to an end, jobs become boring. Saint Teresa of Kolkata (Mother Teresa) once noted how even God can't fill what is already full. The emptying process may very well be the action of God in our lives, emptying us to make room for God's gift of resurrection and life in its fullest.

Holy Week is the story of such a process—one long saga that begins with Palm Sunday as it focuses on how Jesus willingly emptied himself even unto death. The story moves on to Holy Thursday and the gift of the Eucharist to sustain us in the emptying. On to Good Friday, where, once more, a narration in stark liturgical strokes tell of the emptying of Jesus. Finally, the Easter Vigil and the Feast of the Resurrection, the culmination of a journey through death into life. We tell this weeklong story because the story of Jesus is also our story—more of God working in us rather than our own doing. The Jesuit theologian Karl Rahner once noted that one of the tasks of life is to learn how to die well. Our willingness to learn that lesson, again and again, is how we begin to share in the resurrection, even as we live our lives today. ●

Reflect

How does my faith help me through times of emptiness?

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
Confessions Saturday4:00 to 5:00PM

Immaculate Conception Academy.....610 404-8645.....www.icaberks.org
Diocesan Victim Assistance Coordinator: Wendy S. Krisak, M.A. NC, LPC, 800-791-920
Diocesan Safe Environment Coordinator: Pamela Russo, MSW, MS, 610-871-5200, Ext 2
Diocese of Allentown website.....www.allentowndiocese.org
Catholic Bishop Abuse Reporting Service: If you have an allegation of abuse against a bis
please contact the Catholic Bishop Abuse Reporting Service at www.ReportBishopAbuse
or by calling 800-276-1562

PALM SUNDAY

APRIL 13, 2025

The Sanctuary Lamp Burns in Memory of Josie and Gus Fredriksen

SAT 5:15 PM Wanda Matuszak
SUN 7:30 AM Helen & Frank Janiszewski
9:00 AM Josephine Uivary
11:00 AM Stanley Pinkos
MON 7:30AM Our Parishioners
TUES 7:30AM Mary & John Butler
WED 7:30AM Anthony Volpiccini

WED 9:00AM ICA Mass Kathy Patrick
Rev Joseph Barnes, Msgr Richard Loeper,
THUR 7:00PM Msgr Thomas Birch, Rev Joseph Campion
& Rev Francis Straka
FRI 3:00PM Commemoration of the Lord's Passion
SAT 8:00PM Easter Vigil Our Parishioners
SUN 7:30AM Easter Memorial Envelopes
9:00AM Easter Memorial Envelopes
11:00AM Easter Memorial Envelopes

The Second Collection Next Week is the Weekly 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: Pope Francis, Msgr.
Nevin J. Klinger, Msgr. Edward Domin, Madge Butto, Pat
Fessler, Curt Miller, Loretta Hitchens, Dante Stetina,
Barbara Ruby, Kara Morrison, Arlene Shirley, 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, Catherine Mueller, Regina Marie Brown, Ralph
Rapposelli, Joe Dantas, Debbie Simcock, Wanda Palmieri,
Barbara Wright, Beppy McGee, Jerry Mischovich, John
Kusznir, Joseph Ondo, Karl Husbands, Magdalene
Babiarz, Clara Bailey, Jessica Bailey, Alex Lopacki,
Angelina Swisher, Rachel DiFrancesco, Millie Mattassa,
Bill Prihanick, Rosemary Williamson, Nancy Guilleams,
Tony Guilleams, Bob Warunek, Sharon Painter, Cletus
McLaughlin, Carole Zawora, Rose Kubovcsak, Lyn
Weidenhammer, Caraline Herb, Henry Wade, Jr., Joe
Bailey, Daniel McLaughlin, Ann Hay, Geri Barth,
Kathleen Grady, Jeff Stetina, Larry Palmer, Chris Owens,
Donna Casper, Jeffrey Painter & Shirley Giordano.

***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, IT
WILL BE CLOSED ON HOLY THURSDAY, GOOD
FRIDAY AND EASTER MONDAY.

HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE 2025

PALM SUNDAY

Saturday evening Mass at 5:15PM

Sunday Masses at 7:30AM, 9:00AM, 11:00 AM

Blessing of Palms at all Masses

Living Stations at 4PM

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

LENTEN CONFESSIONS

Tuesday, April 15, 2025 7-8PM

Wednesday, April 16, 2025 7-8PM

MONDAY

Mass at 7:30 AM

TUESDAY

Mass at 7:30 AM

WEDNESDAY

Mass at 7:30 AM

ICA Mass at 9:00AM

7 to 9PM Eucharistic Adoration

HOLY THURSDAY

7:00 PM Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper

Family Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

(Come, "Watch One Hour" with Jesus)

After Evening Mass to 10:00 PM

GOOD FRIDAY

3:00 PM Commemoration of the Lord's Passion

Confessions following until 5:00 PM

Day of Fast and Abstinence

HOLY SATURDAY

Noon - Blessing of Food

Confessions from 12:30 to 1:30 PM

8:00 PM - The Easter Vigil Mass

EASTER SUNDAY

Masses: 7:30 AM, 9:00 AM, and 11:00 AM

*Blessing of the children's Easter Baskets at 9:00 and
11:00 AM*

LIVING STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Palm Sunday, April 13th at 4pm

Children from Immaculate Conception Academy will present the Living Stations of the Cross. Everyone is cordially invited to participate in the beautiful reenactment of the events of Calvary. Please come to celebrate with us and witness this beautiful Lenten Prayer lovingly offered to you by Immaculate Conception Academy students.

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!

Eucharistic Adoration

During the 40 days of Lent our church is open every Wednesday, 7-9pm for Eucharistic Adoration. The Blessed Sacrament is exposed in the monstrance on the altar. You are welcome to come & spend some quiet time with the Lord Jesus. You may bring your own prayer books, use any of the books in our parish library, read the Bible, pray the Rosary, or just sit and relax and enjoy the peace that comes from simply being in the presence of God

The Women's Society will meet on Wednesday, April 16 at 7:00 PM in the social hall. All women of the parish are invited to attend. Meeting will begin with the recitation of the rosary, followed by a short business meeting. Light refreshments will be offered.

The KoC Lenten Food Drive - Please drop your non-perishable, canned and boxed food donations into the collection bin located in the narthex. Monetary donations are also accepted. All food donations are given to the St. Joseph Pantry of Reading. Monetary donations are presented to the Kennedy House



EGG HUNT for our parish children age 12 and younger on April 19th at 11am in the social hall. We are collecting bags of small individually wrapped candy and cash. A donation box is in the narthex of the church. Thank you for your support

Dear Padre,

I'm thinking about going to the Easter Vigil, but why does it have to be so long?

When an event seems long, it may have to do with our expectations. If we go to the Easter Vigil and expect it to be like a Sunday Mass, then it will seem long. The typical parish Easter Vigil lasts two to three hours. There are some communities who vigil all night. Why does it have to be so long? Because this is one night of the year when we Catholics tell our whole story.

There are four parts of the Vigil. Part One is the *Lucernarium* (Light) when we gather around the paschal fire from which the paschal candle is lit. Then follows the passing of the light to members of the congregation, who are holding candles. By candlelight, we hear the Exsultet—the Easter Proclamation, sung only on this night. Part Two is the Liturgy of the Word, when we take our time listening to readings, singing psalms, and reflecting on salvation history. Part Three is the Sacraments of Initiation, when new members are welcomed into the Church, baptized, and confirmed, and all renew their baptismal promises. And Part Four is the Liturgy of the Eucharist, when new members receive holy Communion for the first time. The Easter Vigil is rich with meaning, solemn as well as joyful, and to fully experience it, we must take our time. ●



The Redemptorists / DearPadre.org



A WORD FROM POPE FRANCIS

We are preparing to celebrate the victory of the Lord Jesus Christ over sin and death.... But today, there is a war.... Christ bore his cross to free us from the dominion of evil. He died so that life, love, peace may reign.... What victory is there in planting a flag on a pile of rubble?

ANGELUS, ROME, APRIL 10, 2022

Monday

April 14
Monday of Holy Week
Is 42:1–7
Jn 12:1–11

Tuesday

April 15
Tuesday of Holy Week
Is 49:1–6
Jn 13:21–33, 36–38

Wednesday

April 16
Wednesday of Holy Week
Is 50:4–9a
Mt 26:14–25

Thursday

April 17
Thursday of Holy Week
(Holy Thursday)
Chrism Mass:
Is 61:1–3a, 6a, 8b–9
Rv 1:5–8
Lk 4:16–21
Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper:
Ex 12:1–8, 11–14
1 Cor 11:23–26
Jn 13:1–15

Friday

April 18
Friday of the Passion of the Lord
(Good Friday)
Is 52:13–53:12
Heb 4:14–16; 5:7–9
Jn 18:1–19:42

Saturday

April 19
Holy Saturday
(Easter Vigil)
Gn 1:1–2:2 or 1:1, 26–31a
Gn 22:1–18 or 22:1–2, 9a, 10–13, 15–18
Ex 14:15–15:1
Is 54:5–14
Is 55:1–11
Bar 3:9–15, 32–4:4
Ez 36:16–17a, 18–28
Rom 6:3–11
Lk 24:1–12

Sunday

April 20
Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord
Acts 10:34a, 37–43
Col 3:1–4 or 1 Cor 5:6b–8
Jn 20:1–9

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 4th**.

Pick up will be in the **Social Hall** on **Saturday May 17th**
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

Name:

Phone:

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

#_____ RED

#_____ PINK

#_____ White