



## Why Doesn't God Do Something?

FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

**I**t is said that we never grow up until both parents have died, when we can no longer go home. Yet, for each of us, there may also be a symbolic moment that moves us from childhood into adulthood. It may be achieving financial independence, graduating from school, or moving out on our own. Whatever it may be, we say to ourselves, “I am now grown up.” Whenever such moments occur, we feel empowered to shape our lives and our future.

The feast of the Ascension is that sort of marker: God has empowered us to shape the world in the image of Jesus. Just as our parents empower us into an adulthood that contributes to life, it is now God who empowers us with the very same power by which he raised Jesus from the dead. It is a power and a presence by which God makes the world new through us.

There are those who say they no longer believe in God, because if there is a good God, then he would not allow violence, the death of children before their time, and all sorts of evil that mars human life. Perhaps the greater question is not “Why doesn't God do something?” but rather “Why do we not do something?” To pass on the responsibility to God is to abdicate our own responsibility and deny the fact that God continues to empower us as adults and expects us to utilize that power and presence to make all things new. ●

### Reflect

***In what ways do I act like an adult?  
How is the world a better place because of me?***

[Jesus said,] “You will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, throughout Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.”

ACTS 1:8



# IMMACULATE CONCEPTION CHURCH

905 Chestnut Street, Douglassville, PA 19518 [www.icbvm.org](http://www.icbvm.org) [secretary@icbvm.org](mailto:secretary@icbvm.org) [ccd@icbvm.org](mailto:ccd@icbvm.org)

Rev. Msgr. John B. McCann .....Pastor  
Deacon Paul J. Hiryak, Deacon James A. Bardi  
Parish Office .....610 582-2411  
Parish Religious Education/CCD .....610 582-3880  
Parish Preschool .....610 404-8645  
Parish Website.....[www.icbvm.org](http://www.icbvm.org)  
Confessions Saturday .....4:00 to 5:00PM

Immaculate Conception Academy.....610 404-8645.....[www.icaberks.org](http://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](http://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](http://www.ReportBishopAbuse.org) or by calling 800-276-1562

## SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER JUNE 1, 2025

### *The Sanctuary Lamp Burns in Memory of Gus Fredriksen*

SAT 5:15 PM Paul Hiryak, Sr. - 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary  
SUN 7:30 AM Birthday Blessings on Deacon Paul Hiryak  
9:00 AM Our Parishioners  
11:00 AM Living Members of the Women's Society  
MON 7:30AM No Mass  
7:00PM Graduation Mass  
TUES 7:30AM Ron Schwendt

WED 7:30AM Kenneth Rumler  
THUR 7:00PM Gus Fredriksen  
FRI 7:30AM Paul Swisher  
9:00AM ICA MASS - Neil McCauley  
SAT 5:15PM Sybilla & Francis Miller  
SUN 7:30AM Our Parishioners  
9:00AM Frances & Joseph Bambrick  
11:00AM Ruby, Hill & Kundrat Families

*The Second Collection Next Week is the Monthly 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](http://immaculateconceptionbvmc.flocknote.com)

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Remember in your prayers the sick: Msgr. Nevin J. Klinger, Msgr. Edward Domin, Madge Butto, 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 Gazda Gruber, Catherine Mueller, Regina Marie Brown, Ralph Rapposelli, Joe Dantas, Debbie Simcock, Wanda Palmieri, Barbara Wright, Beppy McGee, Jerry Miscovich, John Kusznir, Joseph Ondo, Karl Husbands, Magdalene Babiarz, Clara Bailey, Jessica Bailey, Alex Lopacki, Angelina Swisher, Rachel DiFrancesco, Millie Mattassa, Bill Pribanich, Rosemary Williamson, Nancy Guilliams, Tony Guilliams, 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, Eileen Filachek, Irene Hughes, Hugh Chow Lin, Aileen Galazin & Father Leo Stajkowski.  
Congratulate the newly Baptized Henry Edward Hoppe.  
Please welcome our new Parishioners: The Fleagle 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](http://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 Morning Mass on Monday, June 2<sup>nd</sup> due to the Graduation Mass at 7:00pm. On Tuesday June 3<sup>rd</sup> Mass will be at 7:30am. Thank you for your kind understanding in this regard

**A Farewell Reception will be held for Monsignor McCann on Sunday, June 8th from 2:00 to 4:00pm in the Social Hall. You are invited to attend.**

#### **Panis Angelicus**

An original Art work on embossed copper by Sophia Manidis, a parishioner of Immaculate Conception Church and a student at DeSales University, is on display in the Narthex of our parish church.

Taking inspiration from medieval stained glass and cathedral architecture, this triptych unites traditional Eucharistic symbols with the ancient art of metal embossing. This hand-embossed piece was exhibited in the 2024 "Do This in Memory of Me" National Sacred Art Exhibit in New Haven, CT, and now travels on exhibition. "A thousand years of enjoying human glory is not worth even an hour spent sweetly communing with Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament." - St Pio of Pietrelcina.

**Grief Support Group** meets monthly, and you will find understanding and guidance as you strive to live without your loved one. Next meeting: **Tuesday, June 3, 7pm** in the Church. If planning to come, call/text Toni at 610 404-1389

The Esto Vir group will meet in the Lower Level Meeting Room in the church office on **Saturday June 7th at 8:30 am**. The presentation will be the fourth (Inspiration and Authority) in a series of 12 from "The Bible and the Church Fathers" by the St. Paul Center for Biblical Theology. Coffee and donuts will be available starting at 8 am. The meeting will start at 8:30 am and will end at 10 am. A reminder that we will be cleaning the church starting at 10:30 am after the meeting. If you have the time and are physically able to help, it would be appreciated. We should be finished cleaning by around noon. If you can help, please go to the church social hall after the meeting.

## **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!*

The **Women's Society** would like to thank all who contributed to the Spring Raffle and helped make it a success. Congratulations to the winners.

1<sup>st</sup> Bev Thomas

2<sup>nd</sup> C. Muellen

3<sup>rd</sup> Rhea Santos

4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> Shirley D & Alicia Nelson

6 – 9<sup>th</sup> Grace Koller, Sandy & Dave Walsh, Marianne Sutton, Amy Beth Gulla

#### **BECOME A MEMBER TODAY**

#### **CATHOLIC WOMEN'S SOCIETY OF GIVING**

Join a community of like-minded women who are committed to raising awareness & funds to aid non-profit ministries with the Diocese of Allentown in imitation of the life of St. Catharine of Siena. The Catholic Women's Society of Giving seeks to promote philanthropy that empowers women, compels action, & glorifies God. For more info visit

<https://www.allentowndiocese.org/womensgiving> or call Ginny Downey at 610-871-5200 x2244.

**BERKS CATHOLIC YOUTH FOOTBALL AND CHEERLEADING- 2025 Season Registration is now open-** This year you can register online by going to

- <https://go.teamsnap.com/forms/475623> This program is open to girls and boys enrolled in Berks County Parochial Schools. Some age and grade restrictions do apply. FOR MORE INFO AND COST:

[WWW.LEAGUELINEUP.COM/BCYFAC](http://WWW.LEAGUELINEUP.COM/BCYFAC)

We also invite you to join us at our **MEET & GREET on JUNE 5TH @ BCHS from 6-7:30PM**. You can also follow us on Facebook by going to: Berks Catholic Youth Football and Cheer-2020 and Beyond. For info call Danielle Fowler 610-374-1695 or email [DFOWLER@BERKSCATHOLIC.ORG](mailto:DFOWLER@BERKSCATHOLIC.ORG)

# Dear Padre,

## What does the Catholic Church teach about miracles?

Miracles are extraordinary occurrences without natural explanation that manifest the presence and power of God. We believe in miracles “because of the authority of God himself who reveals them, who can neither deceive nor be deceived” (*Catechism of the Catholic Church*, 156).

Christ’s multiplication of the loaves is the only miracle recorded by all four evangelists. He performed many other natural miracles—calming the storm, walking on water—and numerous healings as well—curing the deaf and mute, the woman with a hemorrhage. These signs attest that the Father sent Jesus and “they invite belief in him” (CCC, 548). Moreover, Jesus’ miracles “also confirm that the kingdom has already arrived on earth...” (“Dogmatic Constitution on the Church,” 5).

Today, God still manifests his presence in the Church through miracles. For example, potential medical healings are rigorously investigated by the Vatican for sainthood causes. Other supernatural occurrences—such as apparitions and eucharistic phenomena—are likewise thoroughly and prudently investigated with caution to maintain the Church’s credibility and prevent confusion among the faithful.

To that end, in May 2024, the Vatican updated its guidelines for assessing apparitions, visions, and alleged revelations, and reaffirmed that a bishop cannot rule on the validity of a particular case before the pope formally deems it to be “supernatural” for pastoral value. (Search “Norms for Proceeding in the Discernment of Alleged Supernatural Phenomena” at [Vatican.va](http://Vatican.va).) ●



VECTOR / SHUTTERSTOCK

Fr. Byron Miller, CSsR / [DearPadre.org](http://DearPadre.org)



CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

## A WORD FROM POPE FRANCIS

***Do we know how to make ourselves intercessors for others, that is, do we know how to pray for them and bless their lives?... Let us learn this: intercessory prayer, interceding for the hopes and sufferings of the world, interceding for peace. And let us bless with our eyes and our words those we meet every day!***

REGINA CAELI, ROME, MAY 29, 2022

### Monday

June 2  
*Easter Weekday*  
Acts 19:1–8  
Jn 16:29–33

### Tuesday

June 3  
*St. Charles Lwanga and Companions, Martyrs*  
Acts 20:17–27  
Jn 17:1–11a

### Wednesday

June 4  
*Easter Weekday*  
Acts 20:28–38  
Jn 17:11b–19

### Thursday

June 5  
*St. Boniface, Bishop and Martyr*  
Acts 22:30; 23:6–11  
Jn 17:20–26

### Friday

June 6  
*Easter Weekday*  
Acts 25:13b–21  
Jn 21:15–19

### Saturday

June 7  
*Easter Weekday*  
Acts 28:16–20, 30–31  
Jn 21:20–25

### Sunday

June 8  
*Pentecost*  
Acts 2:1–11  
1 Cor 12:3b–7, 12–13  
or Rom 8:8–17  
Jn 20:19–23 or  
Jn 14:15–16, 23b–26