



What more could be
done for my vineyard
that I did not do?

ISAIAH 5:4

When God Daydreamed Us

FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

At the end of the Broadway musical *Camelot*, King Arthur finds himself confronted by the fact that his dream of the Round Table and justice for all has died without having borne the fruit he had hoped. A young boy, Tom of Warwick, comes up to him asking if he might be dubbed a knight. Arthur does so, and then commissions him to go forth and tell the story of Camelot to everyone he meets, all with the hope that someone someday will dare to try again to create a world with equal justice for all.

We all live with dreams of what we might be, of what life might be. They seldom turn out the way we had imagined, yet what would life be without such dreams. They push us into new futures. They create hope and new possibilities. They bring meaning to our lives.

The parable of the landowner and his vineyard is really a story of God and the dream God has for us. It is a story of how God withholds nothing from caring for his vineyard that it might bear fruit, that is, from trying to make his dream for us a reality, even to the point of giving his Son over to that dream.

Dreams never come easy. If they did, they would not be dreams. It was so for those who founded this nation in 1776. It is so for parents with dreams for their children. It is so as well for God, who dreams dreams for us in Jesus. ●

Reflect

Do the dreams you have for your life and the lives of your children reflect God's dreams for you?

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-SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME—OCTOBER 8, 2023

The Sanctuary Lamp Burns in Memory of Lew Del Grosse

★ ★ MASS INTENTIONS ★ ★

SAT	5:15 PM	Ruby, Kundrat, Hill & Hansen Families	THURS	7:00 PM	Pete Bascelli
SUN	7:30 AM	Living & Deceased Parishioners	FRI	7:30 AM	Elvira Messner & Fred Del Grosse
	9:00 AM	Philip Kubovcsak - 7 th Anniversary		9:00 AM	ICA Mass - Francis Rispoli
	11:00 AM	Lew Del Grosse	SAT	5:15 PM	Rita Dougherty
MON	7:30 AM	Jack Owens	SUN	7:30 AM	Michael T. Kilareski
TUES	7:30 AM	Dr. Nicholas & Margaret Christ		9:00 AM	Living & Deceased Parishioners
	4:30 PM	CONFIRMATION		11:00 AM	Greg & George White
WED	7:30 AM	Bruce Ketterer			

Second Collection Next Week is for Debt Reduction

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 when the money is withdrawn; weekly or monthly
- † Use your Credit/Debit card or your own checking account
- † At any time, you can see your year-to-date contributions
- † 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!

Remember in your prayers the sick of our parish: Madge Butto, Deb Petras, Fannie Hunter, Pat Fessler, Rita Ferry, Sonny Motta, Curt Miller, Loretta Hitchens, Baby Lucas, Linda Domergue, Dante Stetina, Arlene Shirley, George Ruby, Harriet Yeager, Marjorie Hansen, Mark Vignone, Jason Leman, Ann Washko, Geri Barth, Brianna, Dominic Stroock, Anthony Scaglione, Aaron Gulla, Maryanne Emery, Pam Amos, Norma Nanni, Miriam Leman, Marianne Sutton, John Mingione, Henry J. Wade, Lois Muldowney, Terry Swisher, Arlene Schaeffer, Shelly Weiler, Christopher Shirk, Joe Nowotarski, Stephen Blanyar, Dianne Marie Longwell, Jennifer Gazda Gruber, Adele Nieckoski, Alex Lopacki, Shawn Kaeser, Gene Raser, Sharon Rozenberg, Catherine Mueller, Regina Marie Brown, Tanya Sanders, Louis & Renee Cutillo, Ralph Rapposelli, Marguerite Smolen, Leslie Della Croce, Joe Dantas, Debbie Watson Simcock, Judy Jones, Wanda Palmieri, Msgr. Nevin Klinger, Barbara Wright, Bill Palmer, Baby Thomas Joseph Hafer, Charlotte Glacken, Beply McGee, David Mollura, Edith Ellison, Mary Louise Myers, Mary Ann Uivary, Michael Bobb, Richard McCann, John Kusznr, Nancy Guilliams, Monsignor Aloysius Callaghan, Joseph Ondo, Andrea Hassler, Rose White, Barbara Ruby

Pray for the deceased: James McCoy

Welcome parishioners: Mr. & Mrs. Michael Tosco

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. You may access the live-streaming Mass from our parish website at www.icbvm.org.

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 note that on Tuesday, October 10th, the daily Mass will be offered at 7:30am due to Confirmation in the evening. Thank you very much for your kind understanding in this regard.



Annual Rosary Rally - October 8th, 3pm

Our Lady's Missionaries of the Eucharist, 640 E. Main St., Birdsboro - This is a national event to pray for our Country and Church. Please consider joining us. Lasts about 45 minutes.

Order for Christian Initiation (OCIA - formerly RCIA) is designed to help us learn more about the Catholic Faith. Contact Msgr. McCann or Deacon Hiryak if interested at 610-582-2411 or secretary@icbvm.org.

October 9 - Welcome and Introduction

Church Office Lower Level Meeting Room at 7pm

Confirmation: We invite you to pray for the young men and women of our parish family of the Immaculate Conception who will receive the Sacrament of Confirmation on Tuesday, October 10th. Confirmation will begin at 4:30pm. On that occasion, our children will be anointed with Sacred Chrism by Bishop Schlert and sealed with the gifts of the Holy Spirit. Pray that our young people may be faithful and courageous witnesses to the love of God in the world. Please join us for this celebration.

Boscov's Friends Helping Friends - The Women's Society are selling shopping passes in the narthex. This annual shopping event is October 18th, 8am-11pm. Pass is \$5 with 100% of the proceeds to the parish and you receive 25% off the lowest sale prices. Shop in-store only. Enjoy refreshments, entertainment, and a chance at some valuable prizes.

Check out our website at www.icbvm.org for up-to-date information about activities and Mass times.

Also, if you are leaving the parish, please contact the office at 610-582-2411.

Please continue to remember Monsignor Callaghan in your prayers. While he remains hospitalized, he is steadily improving. If you would like to send a card with the assurance of your prayers and best wishes you can mail it to him at the following address...

Monsignor Aloysius Callaghan
St. Timothy Church
8 Oak Ave. N.
Maple Lake, MN 55358

Please join the Saint John Vianney Center on October 20th for a Day of Prayer for the Health and Wellness of our Clergy and Men and Women Religious. The main event for the day will be a Live-Stream Mass at 11am. We invite you to unite in support and gratitude for the selfless service of our Church Ministers. Learn more and register more by visiting www.sjvcenter.org/dayofprayer

Scam Alert: Please be advised of a SCAM that occurred at several parishes across the Diocese of Allentown including Immaculate Conception. Individuals have reported receiving text messages and emails from their pastor. The scamming individual pretended to be the Pastor and requested that the receiver respond by text regarding an urgent matter. The fraudulent text or email message often requests the receiver to purchase gift cards. Please exercise caution in this regard as these messages are fraudulent.

Berks Catholic High School News...

*Homecoming and Partner School Night and BIG tailgate is October 13th at our Home Football game. All Partner and PREP students admitted free with BC or their school spirit wear. Game time is 7pm.

*Berks Catholic High School is accepting applications for the 2024-2025 school year. To learn more about how Berks Catholic prepares students to be college and life ready, contact Mrs. Smith at nsmith@berkscatholic.org or 610.374.8361 ext. 244. All inquiries are confidential

Mary Queen of Peace Council meets on the first Tuesday at 7:30pm in the social hall. Join us to learn more about the Knights of Columbus and our parish group. Contact jimkaucher@gmail.com.

Handbell Choir meets Tuesdays 7:30-9:00pm

Adult Vocal Choir meets Thursdays 7:30-9:00 pm

Rosary Prayer Group - Tuesdays, 6:30pm - When we pray together, we amplify the power of our prayers. Please join us in praying for our church's prayer intentions. If you have an intention you would like the group to remember, please place your intentions in the Rosary Prayer Box in the narthex. For information call Angela Peterson 610.610.6993.

Our parish family of the Immaculate Conception is blessed with many active groups and organizations. So as to ensure that everyone can utilize the facilities of our parish including the social hall and meeting rooms, it is imperative that group leaders contact the parish office at 610-582-2411 or secretary@icbvm.org to schedule events and reserve spaces. The times to be reserved not only pertain to the event itself but also any time needed for set-up and/or clean-up of the event.

Holy Rosary Church 9th Annual Spaghetti Dinner

October 11th, 4:30-7pm, includes Spaghetti, Meatballs, Salad, Bread & Butter - Tickets \$12 - Take out available
Victor Emmanuel, 311 Hazel St. Reading - For tickets call Christine 610-373-5579 or Linette 610-202-9846

Immaculate Conception B.V.M. Church

A Roman Catholic Community • Serving the Birdsboro and Douglassville Areas

Women's Society



Help support Immaculate Conception Church by buying 25% off coupons for Boscov's "Friends Helping Friends" fundraiser for \$5 each to be used on **Wednesday, October 18, 2023**.

Here's how it works:

See Carol Janiszewski in the Narthex before or after all masses from September 2 through October 15 to purchase tickets. Cost is \$5 each.

On October 18th, use your coupon to shop at any Boscov's location.

It's as simple as that! You will enjoy awesome in-store discounts, free refreshments, and have the chance to win a \$100 gift card. **The best part is 100% of the proceeds will benefit our Church.** The Women's Society would like to thank you for your support to raising money for our Church.

Immaculate Conception B.V.M. Church
905 Chestnut Street
Douglassville, PA 19518

Dear Padre,

How is an icon different from a regular painting of a saint?

Generally, *icon* means a symbol or image. In the Church, it refers to an image depicting Bible stories or holy people. “Icons express in images the same Gospel message that Scripture communicates by words” (*Catechism of the Catholic Church*, 1160).

Even though an icon is an image created with paints, icons are written, not painted. Icon writing, called iconography, is a vocation as well as a talent. The difference between a painter and an iconographer is that iconographers follow strict rules and standards set forth in Eastern Church canon law and Christian tradition. Rooted in God’s word, icons are rich in symbolism. The colors, gestures, and shapes speak spiritually to invite us to pray and worship.

Icons can be written on almost any surface, but historically most were written on wood and had a gold-leaf background. One example of this type of icon is Our Mother of Perpetual Help, which is believed to have been written in the fifteenth century. Pope Pius IX gave it to the Redemptorists in 1865, telling the order to “make her known throughout the world.” It now hangs in the Church of Sant’ Alfonso in Rome.



To see the original icon in real time and learn more about icons, please visit omphicon.org. ●

The Redemptorists / DearPadre.org

A WORD FROM POPE FRANCIS

Discernment...involves hard work....We do not find set before us, prepackaged, the life we are to live. No! We have to decide it all the time, according to the reality that comes. God invites us to evaluate and choose: He created us free and wants us to exercise our freedom. Therefore, discerning is demanding.

GENERAL AUDIENCE, ROME, AUGUST 31, 2022



CATHOLIC NEWS AGENCY / VATICAN MEDIA

MONDAY

October 9
Weekday
Jon 1:1–2:2, 11
Lk 10:25–37

TUESDAY

October 10
Weekday
Jon 3:1–10
Lk 10:38–42

WEDNESDAY

October 11
Weekday
Jon 4:1–11
Lk 11:1–4

THURSDAY

October 12
Weekday
Mal 3:13–20b
Lk 11:5–13

FRIDAY

October 13
Weekday
Jl 1:13–15; 2:1–2
Lk 11:15–26

SATURDAY

October 14
Weekday
Jl 4:12–21
Lk 11:27–28

SUNDAY

October 15
Twenty-eighth Sunday
in Ordinary Time
Is 25:6–10a
Phil 4:12–14, 19–20
Mt 22:1–14 or 22:1–10

Know Someone Overly Anxious About Sin?

Since 1964, the Redemptorists’ *Scrupulous Anonymous* free monthly newsletter has ministered compassionately to those struggling with scrupulosity. To subscribe, visit ScrupulousAnonymous.org.