

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION PARISH SEPTEMBER 8, 2024 TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Saturday, September 7, 2024

8:30 a.m. Mass at Seton

3:00 p.m. Harris/Miller Wedding

4:30 p.m. Colleen Scholl (Family)

Sunday, September 8, 2024

8:00 a.m. Paul Dirling (Kathleen)

10:00 a.m. Kathy Montrose (Paula Egnot)

11:30 a.m. Edwin & Elizabeth Burda (Kevin)

Monday, September 9, 2024

7:45 a.m. Patrick Lavelle (Annie)

Tuesday, September 10, 2024

7:45 a.m. Ron Zuback (Eizenhafer & Peta Families)

No Confessions Tuesday Sept. 10th

6:30 p.m. Our Parish Family *Faith Formation Mass*

Wednesday, September 11, 2024

7:45 a.m. Kathy Montrose (Family)

Thursday, September 12, 2024

7:45 a.m. Bob Brackney (Friends)

Friday, September 13, 2024

7:45 a.m. Bill Shiffler (Meg)

Saturday, September 14, 2024

8:00 a.m. Our Parish Family

3:00 p.m. Barnes/Crupie Wedding

4:30 p.m. Dennis Clipper (Lois)

Sunday, September 15, 2024

8:00 a.m. Jeff Cole (Mom & Dad)

10:00 a.m. Gloria Natale (Cheryl)

11:30 a.m. William Astley (Family)

Rev. Michael Crookston, Pastor

mcrookston@dioceseofgreensburg.org

Rev. Louiegene Arnold Valdez, Parochial Vicar

lvaldez@dioceseofgreensburg.org

Courtney Ruby, Business Manager

cruby@dioceseofgreensburg.org

Sharyn Gesmond, H.R./Event Coordinator

sgesmond@dioceseofgreensburg.org

Bridget Deveney, Director of Music Ministry

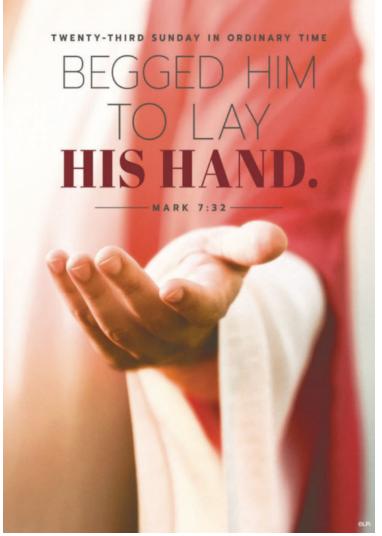
bdeveney@dioceseofgreensburg.org

Susan Cheplic, Director of Faith Formation

skcheplic@dioceseofgreensburg.org

Katelyn Waterhouse, Regional Director of Youth Ministry

kwaterhouse@dioceseofgreensburg.org



Queen of Angels Catholic School Jennifer Filak, *Principal* jfilak@queenofangelssch.org www.queenofangelssch.org

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Immaculate Conception Parish Office 308 Second Street Irwin, Pa 15642 Parish Office: 724-863-9550

Parish Office Hours:
Monday Sept. 9 - Friday Sept. 13
8 am to 1 pm

HAPPENINGS ON THE CORNER & AROUND THE DIOCESE

IMMACULATA MEN'S GROUP (IMG) & IMMACULATA WOMEN'S GROUP (IWG)

Our first sessions of the fall semester will start Saturday, September 7th for the men's group (IMG) and Sunday September 8th for the women's group (IWG) at 6:30am in Our Lady's Plaza. We will begin watching Season 4 of "The Chosen". All are welcome!



Christian Mothers/Women' Guild

Installation of Officers & New Members will be Tues. Sept. 17 at 6:30 pm Mass followed by refreshments in Our Lady's Plaza. New member applications need to be returned to parish office by Sept 15.



The Season of Creation

As part of our celebration of the **Season of Creation** (September 1st – October 4th) and of **Laudato Si, On Care for Our Common Home**,
Immaculate Conception Faith Formation and
Creation Care Teams we will have a "Creation
Tree". The tree will have leaves with a quote
on one side and an activity on the back. We'll
invite you to take a leaf, read the quote, and
spend a few minutes in quiet meditation. Then
you can participate in the Season of Creation
activity on the back of the leaf. Stay tuned for
more details in the bulletin and in Flocknotes!

"The heavens belong to the Lord, but he has given the earth to the children of Adam."

Psalms 115-16

Bible Study

Deacon Jeff is leading a Bible Study on Monday evenings starting on Monday September 16th at Seton in Mack Hall at 6:30 pm. We will be covering the Sunday readings. Our goal is to open God's word that has been given us by the inspired writers of the bible. Each meeting will be a stand alone meeting and they will run until Advent. All you will need is your bible. For more info or to let us know you are coming please email Deacon Jeff. jcieslewicz@dioceseofgreensburg.org



Join us next Sat. Sept. 14
for our Burger Bash
11 am to 1 pm
September Sponsors
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New Crescent Brewing Co.

ATTENTION FAITH FORMATION FAMILIES

ALL Grades are invited to the Faith Formation Welcome Mass and Open House Tuesday, Sept. 10th at 6:30 pm Mass. Following Mass there will be an Open House for grades 1-6 in the Administration Building, and mandatory parent and child meetings in the church for grades 7 and 8. If you need more information or haven't registered yet please contact Susan Cheplic skcheplic@dioceseofgreensburg.org



4:12 High School Ministry Mass & Open-House

SEPTEMBER 15, 2024

All 9th-12th graders, their friends, and families are invited to join us!

6:00pm for MASS (meets the Sunday obligation) in the Oueen of Angels Auditorium.

Following Mass is a parent meeting, and fun games in the gym and a tour of the youth ministry building.

Regional Special Needs Class

Our Journey to Scripture class for special needs teens and adults meets every first and third Wednesday of the month from 7:00pm-8:30pm. We meet in Our Lady's Plaza which is located on the lower level in the Administration Building across the parking lot from Immaculate Conception Church in Irwin. We pray, sing, listen to Scripture or view the Gospel story on the TV monitor.

The first class meets on Wednesday, Sept. 18. If you would like to join, please contact Bernie Cymbor, 724-864-0936.



SAVE THE DATE! Our next CASH BASH is Sat. Nov. 2 at Seton's Mack Hall. Tickets go on sale after Masses Sept. 28/29.

PASTOR'S NOTES

Find Strength in God's Loving Presence

Because of what we hear at our liturgy this week our thoughts turn to what it is we fear in life and more importantly, what we are to do about them. In the first reading Isaiah presents us with a poem that he delivered to the people of Israel right before the Assyrians threatened an attack in Jerusalem. The people feared this foreign power and this fear was used as an advantage of the Assyrians to weaken the people. Isaiah tells them as he tells us: "Be strong, fear not! Here is your God…" When we realize and believe that the power of God is within us, we have nothing to fear.

Fear has a way of presenting itself in the most clandestine of ways. This week marks the anniversary of the attacks on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon. Our thoughts are carried back to that day when all of America as well as the world watched with fear and a feeling of helplessness as terrorism paralyzed us. As a nation we value power and materialism, to watch that being destroyed left our nation with a feeling of fear and helplessness. As we look back to that fateful day, the question we must ask ourselves is: what have we learned? How have our lives and values changed since that day?

Fear can be a powerful tool in controlling and manipulating how we live and think. We react from fear without much thought and it moves us into actions which might not be who we really are. We have many fears in life, and because of fear, societies break themselves into various class systems. We find ourselves in a certain station in life and that is, sad to say, where we often stay. St. James in the second reading reminds all of us that there should be no separations of people in our society. We should look at, and treat all people the same regardless of what their particular station in life might be, or how different they think or believe.

When we live out of fear we are often deaf and mute to the wrongs that are around us. We are afraid to speak out for fear that we might not be heard or worse, no one really cares to hear what we have to say. Jesus makes the man in the gospel well again. He went from living a life of fear from the darkness and isolation in his life to a world that became full of sounds and sight. He was given a rare opportunity to take a better look at life and what life has to offer.

We too have been given that same opportunity. With the salvation that Jesus brings to our world we are also made well. We should be able to look around and hear the wonderful creation God has given us. We should all have the courage to speak up for the many injustices we encounter on a daily basis. We should never permit fear to keep us from action. Jesus brings a new reality to our world. He makes real that creative power of God to each of us. We need to live out our lives in such a way that we stop being blind, deaf and mute to the many injustices of life. We need to start looking at life and the people in it as all being equal in God's creative power. We are all being well advised to heed the words of Isaiah and not be frightened, rather be strong because our God is with us!

- Father Mike

CANDLES

Sanctuary Candle:

In Memory of Dennis Clipper (Lois)

Divine Mercy:

Special Intentions for Rose Hilinski (Judy & Marylyn)

St. Peregrine Candle:

In Memory of Robert Fichtner (Family)

Easter Flame Candle:

In Memory of Bob & Grace Wise & Edwin & Elizabeth Burda (Kevin)

St. Joseph's Candle:

Month's Mind

Altar Candles for the Month of September:

In Memory of Jack & Helen Smith (Family)

If you would like to have a candle lit in memory of your loved one, please call the parish office. We will be glad to help you. 724-863-9550



Please pray for the families of John Sherbondy and Jim Armstrong and all of our faithful departed.

Eternal rest grant unto them O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them.

Prayer for Grandparents Dear Lord,

What a beloved idea you had with grandparents, relationships of care and support that bridge generations. Bless those in this role today, biological or beyond, all those who care for little ones with patience, wisdom, and love. St. Anne and St. Joachim pray for us! Amen.



Patriot Day - Wednesday September 11

Heavenly Father, Creator of All, You have created the human person as good. You have placed us in the world as one human family, as sisters and brothers. We pray today for all victims of violence across the world, for the healing of their mind and body, for their mourning family members, for the repose of their souls. Jesus, You have told us to love our enemies, and to pray for those who persecute us. Give us the strength and courage to forgive. Remove all lingering desire for revenge. Holy Spirit, reveal to us the mercy of God. Give us the gift of Your peace that surpasses all understanding. Amen.

SACRAMENTS

Anointing of the Sick

The sacrament is available during Confession hour and after each Mass per request.

Matrimony

Couples wishing to celebrate the Sacrament of Matrimony must contact the parish office one year in advance of the Wedding.

Baptism

Families of our parish who wish to have their child baptized please email Susan Cheplic at skcheplic@dioceseofgreensburg.org to register for Baptism Preparation.

Confession

Tuesday 5:15 - 6:15 p.m. & Saturday 9-10 a.m. (except for the first Saturday of the month)

Divine Mercy

Join us for the Divine Mercy Chaplet Monday through Friday at 3:00 pm in the church.



Eucharistic Adoration on Tues.
Sept 10 will be after 7:45 am
Mass & continuing until 5:30
pm. Due to Faith Formation
Mass at 6:30 pm

Sunday Offertory Sept. 1 - not available by bulletin deadline

Online Giving August 26-Sept. 1- \$4,670.45

Thank you for your generosity!

Immaculate Conception Parish offers
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If you decide to switch to online giving and would like to discontinue your envelopes please contact the parish office. Thank you!

Homebound Ministry

If you know of any family, neighbors, or fellow parishioners who are homebound and would like to have a Homebound Minister bring them Holy Communion, please call the Parish Office 724.863.9550

ANGELS CORNER—QUEEN OF ANGEL CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Solution Join Our CYO Co-ed Flag Football Program!

Queen of Angels is now accepting registrations for our CYO Co-ed Flag Football Program for students in 1st-8th grade!

The season runs from August to November, with games held on Saturdays.

Season: August - November

Games: Saturdays **Registration Fee:** \$75

Eligibility: Must be an active parishioner or attend Queen of Angels Catholic School Don't miss this fantastic opportunity for your child to stay active, learn teamwork, and have fun in a supportive environment.

Register now at Queen of Angels website.

For more information, please contact Joanne Mastalerz at jmastalerz@queenofangelssch.org.

See you on the field!

Fall Music Ministry

The music ministry at Immaculate Conception offers opportunities for involvement at all ages and ability levels, please consider joining one of our groups and contributing to our liturgies. New members are always welcome! As St. Augustine said, "those who sing pray twice!"

Parish Choir

- First Rehearsal and Ice Cream Social: Wednesday, September 11th, 7-8:30 PM in the Administration Building
- Open to all voice parts and abilities
- The parish choir sings at most 10AM Masses and Holy Day Masses

Children's Choir

- First Rehearsal: Wednesday, September 11th, 5:45-6:30 in the Administration Building
- Grades 2-8
- Sings once a month at 10 AM Mass

Cantors

- Leads congregation in song during Mass
- Most needed: Cantors for Saturday 4:30 PM and Sunday 8:00 AM
- Light audition required

For more information about any of our music ministry offerings please reach out to Bridget Deveney, Director of Music at bdeveney@dioceseofgreensburg.org or by calling the parish office!



St. Vincent DePaul Society

In today's Gospel we hear how Jesus "makes the deaf hear and the mute speak!" In living the gospel, we must open our ears to hear and recognize all the everyday opportunities for making God's presence known especially to our neighbors in need and the suffering. On September 9, the Church also celebrates the feast of Blessed Frederic Ozanam, the founder of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul. Frederic heard the call of Jesus to love and serve those who are suffering. Through your generosity,

almost \$6,900 was distributed to our neighbors in need during the month of July. Calls received included assistance with utilities, rent, and gas allotments. The average distribution of funds per request was \$265. Your donation, whether big or small, supports vital services to feed, clothe, house, and heal our neighbors in need across our community. Thank you for your continued prayers and caring commitment to help.



IMMACULATE CONCEPTION PARISH

Irwin, Pennsylvania

Office of Liturgical Music Ministry

THE TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

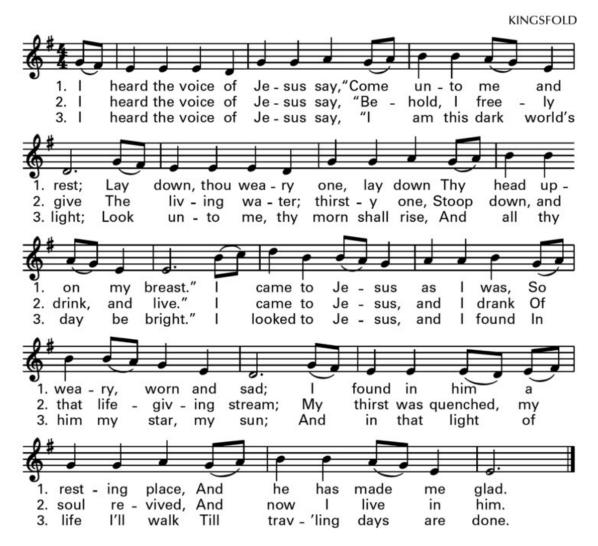
September 8, 2024 - Order of the Mass

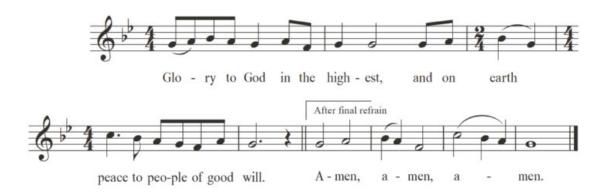
VOCATIONS PRAYER

Lord Jesus, raise up from our homes those called by the Father: courageous and humble men to the Priesthood, generous servants to the Permanent Diaconate, faithful people to Consecrated Life, and holy men and women to the Sacrament of Marriage. Holy Spirit, help us to live our universal vocation to holiness by listening to the Father's voice and responding with a sacrificial love. Holy Mary, Model of vocations, pray for us.

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say





THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

FIRST READING

Isaiah 35:4-7a

Thus says the LORD: Say to those whose hearts are frightened: Be strong, fear not! Here is your God, he comes with vindication; with divine recompense he comes to save you. Then will the eyes of the blind be opened, the ears of the deaf be cleared; then will the lame leap like a stag, then the tongue of the mute will sing. Streams will burst forth in the desert, and rivers in the steppe. The burning sands will become pools, and the thirsty ground, springs of water.

The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 146

Michel Guimont

Praise the Lord, my soul! Praise the Lord!

SECOND READING James 2:1-5

My brothers and sisters, show no partiality as you adhere to the faith in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ. For if a man with gold rings and fine clothes comes into your assembly, and a poor person in shabby clothes also comes in, and you pay attention to the one wearing the fine clothes and say, "Sit here, please," while you say to the poor one, "Stand there," or "Sit at my feet," have you not made

distinctions among yourselves and become judges with evil designs? Listen, my beloved brothers and sisters. Did not God choose those who are poor in the world to be rich in faith and heirs of the kingdom that he promised to those who love him?

The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL READING

Mark 7:31-37

Again Jesus left the district of Tyre and went by way of Sidon to the Sea of Galilee, into the district of the Decapolis. And people brought to him a deaf man who had a speech impediment and begged him to lav his hand on him. He took him off by himself away from the crowd. He put his finger into the man's ears and, spitting, touched his tongue; then he looked up to heaven and groaned, and said to him, "Ephphatha!"—that is, "Be opened!"— And immediately the man's ears were opened, his speech impediment was removed, and he spoke plainly. He ordered them not to tell anyone. But the more he ordered them not to, the more they proclaimed it. They were exceedingly astonished and they said, "He has done all things well. He makes the deaf hear and the mute speak."

The Gospel of the Lord. Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

CREED

I believe in one God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible. I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ, the Only Begotten Son of God, born of the Father before all ages. God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father; through him all things were made. For us men and for our salvation he came down from heaven, and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary, and became man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate, he suffered death and was buried, and rose again on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead and his kingdom will have no end. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is adored and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church. I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead and life of the world to come. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL

THE LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

PREPARATION OF GIFTS

Lord of All Hopefulness



Text: 10 11 11 12; 'Lord of all hopefulness', words by Jan Struther, 1901–1953; fr. Enlarged Songs of Praise, 1931.
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Music: Trad. Irish melody; adapt. fr. The Church Hymnary, 1927.



Text: Based on Psalm 34:2–3, 18–19a, 19b–20, 4.
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RECESSIONAL HYMN

Your Hands, O Lord, in Days of Old



Text: Matthew 14:35–36; Edward H. Plumptre, 1821–1891, alt., © 1986, GIA Publications, Inc. Tune: MOZART, CMD; adapt. from Wolfgang A. Mozart, 1756–1791











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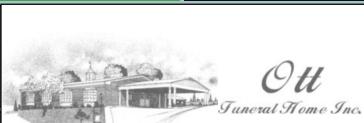
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