

WHOEVER EATS MY FLESH
AND DRINKS MY BLOOD
HAS ETERNAL LIFE,
AND I WILL RAISE THEM
ON THE LAST DAY.

John 6:54



Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time

August 19, 2018

Church of the Immaculate Conception

Pastor: Rev. James J. Ward

Rectory office: 9 a.m.-12 p.m., Mon-Fri, Closed Wed.
570-325-2791 • iccjt@ptd.net • www.iccjimthorpe.org

Whole Community Catechesis (WCC): wccjt@ptd.net
St. Joseph Pre-School: 570-325-3186

Diocesan Victim Assistance Coordinator:
Wendy S. Krisak, MA, NCC, LPC Direct Phone: 800-791-9209

Diocesan Safe Environment Coordinator:
Sr. Meg Cole, SSJ, MS, LMFT Phone: 610-332-0442 ext. 19

Mass Schedule

Monday, Wednesday, Friday: 8:00 a.m. at St. Joseph Church
Tuesday and Thursday: 8:00 a.m. at Immaculate Conception Church

Saturday Vigil: 4:30 p.m. at Immaculate Conception Church
6:30 p.m. at St. Joseph Church

Sunday: 8:00 a.m. at St. Joseph Church
10:30 a.m. at Immaculate Conception Church

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION:

Saturdays: at ICC 3:45 p.m. to 4:15 p.m.; at St. Joseph: * 6:00 p.m. to 6:20 p.m.

**Note change*

TASTE AND SEE

Wisdom is often identified with Christ and with the Holy Spirit. Both are present in today's readings, one as a metaphor, the other as a doctrine. "To the one who lacks understanding, [Wisdom] says, Come, eat of my food, and drink of the wine I have mixed!" She urges us, "Forsake foolishness that you may live; advance in the way of understanding."

Jesus urges us to be united with him in an intimate way in his flesh and blood in the Eucharist. We are blessed with the quality of wisdom, if only we recognize this and welcome our Lord into our hearts.

"How can this man give us his flesh to eat?" In those days, before our understanding of the Eucharist, before the Last Supper when Jesus offered himself to his disciples in the bread and wine, this may have been a reasonable theological question, as well as a logical one. They did not understand. They did not have the wisdom to see the metaphor, or to know that further understanding would be forthcoming.

But to those who were open to Jesus' words, the bread of life was offered and accepted as the way to life eternal. They may not have understood that Jesus was speaking of eternal life, not our physical life on Earth, that would be given forever, but they were captivated by the metaphor and believed. "Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood has eternal life." It is possible to be puzzled and still believe.

So what does this mean for us today? Wisdom is something we sorely need in our world, and it is one of the gifts of the Holy Spirit. Partaking of the Body and Blood of the Lord is to gain wisdom as well as eternal life, to participate in the life of God, the Trinity, and of each other in love and caring. We must abandon our foolish ways and believe.

Liturgical Schedule ~ Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Special Prayer Intentions- these are the people for whom we will be praying at Mass:



Sat. Aug 18

4:30 pm (@ ICC) **Dan Rimsky** (Krista & Dani)

6:30 pm (@ SJC) **Mary Maliniak** (Stephanie)

Sun. Aug 19

8:00 am (@ SJC) **Aldo & Bernadette Donati** (Family)/ **Nathaniel Davis** (Mom & Dad)

10:30 am (@ ICC) **Our Lady Of Knock** (LAOH)

Mon. Aug 20

8:00 am (@ SJC) **Joseph Gillespie** (Thomas & Kathleen Straubinger)/**Bernice Brida** (Bob & Lisa Schaninger)

Tues. Aug 21

8:00 am (@ ICC) **Bernie "Dub" Gillespie** (Matt King)/**Michael O'Connor** (Jim McHugh)

Wed. Aug 22

8:00 am (@ SJC) **Bernadine Kattner** (Ed & Sally Kattner /**Mary Brown** (Jerome & Theresa Miranda)

Thurs. Aug 23

8:00 am (@ ICC) **Margaret Mulligan** (Bonnie McElmoyle)/**Richard & Rick Serfas** (Wife & Mother)

Fri. Aug 24

8:00 am (@ SJC) **Daniel Linares** (Angelo & Awilda Coveos)/**Carolyn Leffler** (Jerome & Theresa Miranda)

21st Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sat. Aug 25

4:30 pm (@ ICC) **Daniel J. "Pete" McGinley**, 15th Anniv. (McGinley Children)

6:30 pm (@ SJC) **Randy Smith** (Cathy Cassidy)

Sun. Aug 26

8:00 am (@ SJC) **Mary & Donald Regan** (Family)/ **Living & Deceased Parishioners**

10:30 am (@ ICC) **Virginia & Jake Llewellyn** (Family)

Lay Ministers for the Weekend of August 25/26		
Ministries:	Saturday 4:30 p.m.	Sunday 10:30 a.m.
Lector:	Jay Miller	Karen Sofranko
E.M.:	B Miller, J Nederostek, J Novak, G Strubinger	G Lorenz, L Whitehead, R Reese, K Merkel
Altar Servers:	J & J Behrens	J & D Lorenz, Z Zurn

RESPONSORIAL PSALMS ~TASTE AND SEE THE GOODNESS OF THE LORD.

WCC Question of the Week

Gospel: John 6:51-58

How do you imagine heaven?

FAMILY ACTIVITY: As a family draw or paint pictures of what you think heaven is like and then discuss the different drawings.

CLASSROOM AIDES: St. Joseph Pre-School is looking for aides in the classrooms. You must be 18 years of age or older, pass all Diocesan and state background clearances to work with children. The position will be 10-28 hours per week. Email Kathleen Merkel at stjospreschooljt@gmail.com or call 570-325-3186.

SAVE THE DATE! Our Parish Picnic will be held on Sunday, Sept. 16th!

A PICNIC PLANNING

MEETING will be held on Wed. Aug 22, at 6:30pm in McGinley Hall. All are welcome to attend and help plan the event!



LEGAL PROTECTION OF HUMAN LIFE:-

NATIONWIDE NOVENA: The U.S. bishops urge our participation each Friday in a nationwide Novena for the Legal Protection of Human Life, August 3-September 28. Participants will receive weekly email or text reminders to pray and fast, along with little-known facts about Roe v. Wade to share with others. Sign up at usccb.org/pray!

PARISH PHOTO DIRECTORIES: Extra Photo Directories are available in the Rectory (for a small fee). Call or stop by during regular business hours if interested!

PROTECTING GOD'S CHILDREN is an education program for adults who work with children, about the harms of sexual abuse & what they can do to prevent it. All catechists, youth ministers, and parish workers who deal with children are required to complete this program. It will be offered in St Peter the Fisherman Church on Mon., Aug. 20th from 5:30pm-8:30pm. There is no charge for this program. Please call St. Peter Fisherman Rectory to register at 570-722-2034 or email stpeter@ptd.net or call Denise Wettstein with questions at 570-579-5119.

ST. JEROME REGIONAL CYO is offering 2 fall sports this year. Students at St. Jerome Regional School or students who attend CCD/Prep classes in any of the school's feeder parishes are eligible to participate in CYO. Cross Country is new and open to boys and girls in grades K-8. Girls Volleyball is for grades 5-8. Registration forms are available on the St. Jerome Regional website sjrschool.com on the Resources page under "CYO Fall Form". Completed forms should be sent to the school and interested students will be contacted with more information. Practices will begin the week of August 20.

INTERESTED IN HELPING OUR CYO PLAYERS have fun while learning their sport and practicing Christian values and good sportsmanship? Please consider coaching Cross Country or helping with Volleyball. Email Amy at am.day@hotmail.com to complete the necessary clearances.

CYO BOARD- St. Jerome Regional is putting together a CYO Board and is looking for interested individuals for the roles of Secretary, Athletic Director and District Representative. To learn more, contact Fr. Hoffa at frhoffasjpv@gmail.com

2018 DIOCESAN FAMILY FESTIVAL: Join us for a family event for all ages at Steelstacks! Sun., Sept. 30, 11am-3pm. Outdoor Mass with Bishop Alfred Schlert & Diocesan Choir. Parish food specialties: Tacos, Cabbage & noodles, Potato Pancakes, Chicken Fingers, Desserts & More! Carnival Games and Activities, Live Music by Island Time Band, Catholic School Alumni Celebration, Petting Zoo, Specialty Craft Vendors & so much more. Bring a lawn chair! No Reservations needed. Just show up and bring your family and friends!

DIVINE MERCY SOCIETY OF ST. JOSEPH CHURCH: Offers assistance to those in our community experiencing personal emergencies for basic needs. If you, or someone you know, is in need of some assistance, contact the Parish Office at 570-325-3731 to setup a meeting with members of the Divine Mercy Society and to initiate a confidential review of their personal situation

RED, WHITE, & BLUE MASS: All Police, Firefighters, First Responders, Legal Professionals, Health Care Workers, & their Families are invited to join Bishop Schlert as he celebrates the First Red, White, & Blue Mass Tues, Sept. 11, at 6:30pm, Cathedral of Saint Catharine of Siena. Please wear your uniforms Reception to follow in the Parish Activities Center RSVP: rwbmass@gmail.com

WISE FOOLS: When we were in high school, we learned that the word sophomore came from Greek words meaning "wise fools." The idea was that the second year student thinks he knows it all now, but still has a lot to learn. The first two readings invite us to a banquet of wisdom. Jesus says he himself is the way to understanding God's will; he gives himself as food and drink for eternal life. So how will we accept these invitations to partake of the Wisdom of God?

One way is to read the scriptures every day, taking time to think and pray about what you read. Don't do all the talking; let God have his chance to be heard. The gospels are especially good "food" because of all the examples Jesus gave in his sermons and parables.

Listen to the readings and homily at Mass. The Pastor may have some insights that make you think. Receive communion often to be fed with the living Bread. The Church has always taught that we are fed with both the word and the Eucharist.

If we want to grow in God's wisdom, we have to exercise our faith. If you have a friend or relative who is a good example of faith, talk with that person about how you experience God or your lack of experiences. You could offer to be a sponsor for someone in the RCIA, and help someone else's faith to grow. Your parish or diocese may also have on-line resources or discussions. God never forces himself on anyone. To grow in his Wisdom, we have to accept it. Ask him for real food and you won't be disappointed. But be patient, God only gives what we are ready to receive.

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GOLF OUTING: St. Joseph Church will be holding their 2nd annual Golf Outing on Sun, Oct. 14 at Mahoning Valley Country Club. 8am Registration, 9am Shot Gun Start/Scramble, 1pm Picnic & Prizes. Single Golfer \$85 (\$50 MVCC Members). (\$80 if paid by Sept. 23). Looking for sponsors and golfers to make our 2nd Annual Golf Tournament a huge success! Register with SJC by Sept 23!!

