



IF YOU WISH TO COME AFTER ME
YOU MUST DENY YOURSELF,
TAKE UP YOUR CROSS,

and follow me.

MARK 8:34

Church of the Immaculate Conception

Pastor: Rev. James J. Ward

Rectory office: 9 a.m.-12 p.m., Mon-Fri, Closed Wed.
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Whole Community Catechesis (WCC): wccif@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.
✠ anytime upon request

HE SPOKE THIS OPENLY

Just as Isaiah prophesies the suffering of Jesus in rather specific terms—"I gave my back to those who beat me, my cheeks to those who plucked my beard; my face I did not shield from buffets and spitting"—Jesus, in speaking to his disciples, clearly reveals to them that he will suffer and die, which bewilders and shocks them. "The Son of Man must suffer greatly and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and rise after three days. He spoke this openly." They don't know what to do with this information, and they can't envision their beloved Lord suffering and dying in this way.

Jesus asks the disciples who the people say he is. Some say, "John the Baptist, others Elijah, still others one of the prophets." This odd answer shows that the disciples were beginning to form a rudimentary understanding that it was possible to rise from the dead. So it is puzzling that when Jesus says that he will "rise after three days," they would seemingly not quite comprehend this.

But when Jesus asks, "Who do you say that I am?" Peter speaks for the disciples: "You are the Christ." Moments later, the rather confused Peter objects to the Jesus' assertion that he will suffer and die. Jesus stunningly rebukes him for his objection, "Get behind me, Satan. You are thinking not as God does, but as human beings do."

Although Peter is beginning to form true faith in his declaration of belief in Christ, he still is thinking like a human, and has not yet begun to see the world through God's eyes. Peter's faith has not yet grown to its full stature, as it will after the Resurrection.

Our gift of faith sees and believes the suffering and death of Christ, but we still might not see the consequences of that faith. Our works arise out of our belief in and love for the Lord. Through our faith, we must not only believe, but help others as Christ would do. This is seeing the world through God's eyes.

TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY
IN ORDINARY TIME

September 16, 2018

Liturgical Schedule ~ Twenty-Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

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

Sat. Sept 15

8:00 am to 8:00 pm Churches open for Prayer, Adoration following Mass until 8pm

4:30 pm (@ ICC) **C. Virginia Llewellyn** (M/M Gene Binder)

6:30 pm (@ SJC) **Phyllis Steidle**, 1st anniv. (Family)

Sun. Sept. 16 Catechetical Sunday

8:00 am (@ SJC) **Kevin Cassidy**, birthday (Cathy) / **Living & Deceased Parishioners of SJC & ICC**

10:30 am (@ ICC) **All Catechist & Aides**

Mon. Sept. 17

8:00 am (@ SJC) **Mary Greek** (Michael Martino) / **Rolande Scarda** (Claire & Paul Yaich)

Tues. Sept. 18

8:00 am (@ ICC) **In Thanksgiving to the Virgin Mary** (Gedeon Family) / **Monica Martino** (Dave &

Judy Miller)

Wed. Sept. 19

8:00 am (@ SJC) **Anne Mitchell** (M/M Eugene Yacapsin) / **Joan Lesisko** (Terry & Carole Watto)

Thurs. Sept. 20

8:00 am (@ ICC) **Lucille Novak** (John & Diane Michalik) / **Harry Kershaw** (Terry Sawicki)

Fri. Sept. 21

8:00 am (@ SJC) **Joseph Cappzoli** (Regina M. & Regina Klein) / **Rev. James Burdess** (Louise Serfas)

25th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sat. Sept 22

4:30 pm (@ ICC) **John Bitsko** (John & Anne Marie Williams)

6:30 pm (@ SJC) **Louis R. Huber** (Joanne)

Sun. Sept. 23

8:00 am (@ SJC) **John Solski**, 61st Wedding anniv. (Jackie) / **Living & Deceased Parishioners**

10:30 am (@ ICC) **Mildred Snisky** (Peggy Sue & Family)



Take
up
your
cross

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Lay Ministers for the Weekend of Sept. 22/23		
Ministries:	Saturday 4:30 p.m.	Sunday 10:30 a.m.
Lector:	Daniel Lisella	Sophie McGinley
E.M.:	G Straubinger, J Nederostek, M & Dan Evans	G Lorenz, C McGinley, R Reese, J Novak
Altar Servers:	J & J Behrens	D & J Lorenz, B Goldberg

RESPONSORIAL PSALMS ~ I WILL WALK BEFORE THE LORD, IN THE LAND OF THE LIVING.

THE SECOND COLLECTION this weekend is for

St. Vincent de Paul.

Next week's 2nd collection is in support of the Cemetery.

PLEASE PRAY for the soul of **Reverend Michael E. Ahrensfield**, and the souls of all the Faithful departed.

WCC Question of the Week

Who do you say that Jesus is? Who is Jesus in your life?

FAMILY ACTIVITY: As a family take a look at the crucifix or cross that you have in your home. If not at home look at one in Church. Talk about the size and dimensions of the cross and how hard it would have been for Jesus to carry it. Talk about some of the hardships your family or friends may have and how hard it is for everyone to "carry their cross".

TODAY IS OUR PARISH PICNIC!

12 noon until 5pm at Memorial Park. Irish Dancers will perform approx. 1:30-2pm, and the cake walk will be at 3pm.

Please Note: Food take-out orders will not be sold until after 4pm.

PICNIC SHIRTS & APRONS: The Parish Picnic committee will be selling shirts and aprons -Shirts are \$10 and aprons are \$15.



PRAYER FOR CATECHISTS

O God, our Heavenly Father, you have given us the gift of these catechists to be heralds of the Gospel to our parish family.

We lift them up to you in thanksgiving and intercede for them concerning their hopes and needs.

May we be attentive to the presence of your Word in them, a Word that lifts up and affirms, calls forth and challenges, is compassionate and consoles.

We pray that our parish family will always be blessed with those who have responded to the call to share in Christ's prophetic mission as catechists. May we too be open to the universal call to service that Christ addresses to all of his disciples, contributing our gifts to the communion of faith, the Church.

We ask this in Jesus' name.

Amen.

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PLEASE NOTE: The 2019 Mass book at both ICC and SJC are not open yet. We will not be taking any requests for 2019 at this time. Notice will be posted in the Bulletin when the 2019 Mass books opens in the Fall.

AS A CHURCH COMMUNITY, we are working hard to correct and prevent future clergy sexual abuse. Zero Tolerance is the guidance & the goal. It is also necessary for us to do reparation for the great harm done to the Church, the Body of Christ. Bishop Schlert has asked that we renew our observance of the traditional Ember Days in September. All the faithful are asked to offer fasting and abstinence on the days that follow the Feast of the Triumph of the Cross (Wed. Sept. 19th, Fri. Sept. 21st, Sat. Sept. 22nd). These can be days of partial abstinence from meat (only at the principal meal) and fasting (one principal meal and two smaller meals.)

QUESTIONS FOR THE BISHOP: As Bishop Alfred Schlert has been visiting parishes around the Diocese in the weeks following the release of the Grand Jury Report, many people have stayed to ask him questions. Now we're giving you the same opportunity, anyone with questions about the clergy sexual abuse issue is invited to e-mail them to abusequestions@allentowndiocese.org. The Diocese will edit questions for clarity, length and appropriateness. Please include your name and hometown. On the website, we will identify questioners by their first name and hometown, unless you want that information withheld. We will not reveal your e-mail address or last name.



THERE WILL BE A WOMEN'S CLUB MEETING on Thursday, Sept. 20, at 7pm. in McGinley Hall. New members are welcome!

HALLOWEEN BALL - NEW LOCATION! Mark your calendars & make sure to save this date: The Parish Halloween Ball, sponsored by the Women's Club will be held on **Sunday, Oct 21st** at Dean Anthony's. Tickets will be pre-sale only-no tickets will be available at the door this year!! Watch the bulletin for more details and ticket sales!!



PRIEST, PROPHET, KING: The Archangels and the Masculine Spirit – The Diocesan Commission for Men is offering a men's morning of reflection on Sat., Sept. 29, at Queenship of Mary in Northampton. An optional Holy Mass will be offered at 8am followed by refreshments. Presentations by Msgr. Martin, Rev. Lamb, & Rev. Ritz will begin at 9:15am. To register for this free offering visit allentowndiocese.org/cfm-spirituality

MCHS ENDOWMENT & PLANNED GIVING EVENT: Sun., Sept 23rd, Marian Catholic will be hosting an Endowment & Planned Giving event. Registration is at 11:30am & lunch will be served. A tour of Marian's brand new STEM labs will be given. The event will be highlighted by Leo Marzen, CFA, CPA, Joseph Ustynowski, esq., & Daniel Miscavage, esq. MCHS new Advancement Director, Michele Palko, is excited to host this first-time event to help assist the longevity of the school. "The spirit of philanthropy will secure Marian Catholic's future for generations to come," Palko said. A mass will conclude the day's event with Fr. Brian Miller serving as the celebrant. For more info, call 570-467-0641, or e-mail mpalko@mariancatholicchs.org.

SPIRITUAL COMBAT-ARMED WITH THE SPIRIT: This year's Diocesan Men's Conference will be held on Sat. Nov. 3 from 9am to 5pm at DeSales Univ. The day will include keynote speakers, exhibits, & Vigil Mass with Bishop Schlert. Continental breakfast & lunch included. General Admission is \$40 & Student rate is \$15. For more info and to register, visit allentowndiocese.org/mens-conference.

MASS OF HEALING for those who have experienced trauma, 6:30pm, Mon., Sept. 24th at St. Clare of Assisi Parish, 250 E. Hancock Street, St. Clair. Bishop Schlert will be Celebrant and Homilist followed by a Holy Hour of Prayer before the Blessed Sacrament concluding with Benediction at 8:30pm. Confessions will be available.