

# IMMACULATE CONCEPTION PARISH



Inviting—Uniting—Igniting

720 Liberty Street  
Clarion, Pennsylvania 16214

### Mass Schedule

Saturday Evening - 4:00 p.m.

Sunday Morning - 8:30 and 11:00 a.m.

Holy Days - 8:30 a.m. and 7:00 p.m.

Weekdays - Consult the bulletin or phone the parish office

**Church & School: 814-226-8433**

#### Parish Staff

The Very Reverend  
B. LaMounte Sayers, VF  
Pastor  
montysayers@hotmail.com

Kim Kroh  
Business Manager  
KimKroh@comcast.net

Theresa McMillen  
Parish Liturgical Coordinator  
tmcmillen1@comcast.net

Teresa Frederick  
Faith Formation Director  
tdfrederick@comcast.net

Linda Summerville  
Adult Faith Formation Director  
linda.summerville62@gmail.com

Lori Cratty  
Principal  
lcratty@clarionichawks.net

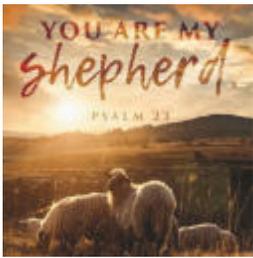
Connie Eisenman  
Office Coordinator  
ceisenman@clarionichawks.net

#### Parish Membership

Membership includes active participation in the sacramental life of the Church, involvement in the activities of the faith community and financial support of the parish.

New members are welcome to register by calling the parish office.





**EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP —  
RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR  
ORDINARY MOMENTS**

*The Steward's Work Is Never Done*

Woe to the shepherds who mislead and scatter the flock! When you hear these strong words from the Old Testament, you're probably thinking, thank goodness I don't have any sheep — dodged that bullet. Nobody misled here! No flock scattered on my watch! However, we are all shepherds of a kind, called to tend our own sheep: our families, our parishes, our communities.

But it's exhausting. Don't we all sometimes just want to take a break from being a steward? The excuses are so familiar: we're tired, we've done enough, we've given all we can, what more does the parish (or my spouse, or my kids, or my boss, or my friends, or my community) want? We give ourselves permission to be selfish. So, what if the flock scatters just a little?

Jesus gets that. We can just imagine him weary with exhaustion, can't we? We see him on his boat, attempting to sneak away for a quick break — maybe just a chance to eat a bite of food in peace. He is God, but he was still human, after all. Even the most dedicated shepherds need to sleep. But people couldn't leave him alone. They were hungry for him. They needed what he could offer, and they needed it now.

As tough as it is, that's the example we are tasked with imitating. Everyday Stewardship demands accountability. It demands our showing up even when we are tired. It demands that we look at our lives, our time, our energies, our talents, our hearts, our bank accounts and think: where do I still have more to give?

Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

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**QUESTIONS OF THE WEEK FOR FAITH SHARING**

**Key Passage:** The apostles gathered around Jesus, and told him all that they had done and taught. He said to them, "Come away to a deserted place all by yourselves and rest a while." (Mark 6:30–31a)

**Question for Adults:** What do you do to rest so that you can return to work refreshed?

**Question for Kids:** When will you take time to stop and pray this week?



**BECOMING CATHOLIC -**

Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults

Have you been thinking about becoming a member of the Catholic Church? Do you know someone who has expressed an interest in becoming Catholic?

Inquiry sessions will begin Sunday, August 1, from 9:30 to 10:45 am. Bi-weekly sessions are planned.

On August 1, we will provide an overview of the program and answer your questions.

For more information, email Linda Summerville at [linda.summerville62@gmail.com](mailto:linda.summerville62@gmail.com).

**A MESSAGE FROM FATHER MONTY –**

**Year of Saint Joseph: A Creatively Courageous Father**

In *Patrus Corde* (With a Father's Love: December 2020), Pope Francis writes: "If the first stage of all true interior healing is to accept our personal history and embrace even the things in life that we did not choose, we must now add another important element: creative courage. This emerges especially in the way we deal with difficulties. In the face of difficulty, we can either give up and walk away, or somehow engage with it. At times, difficulties bring out resources we did not even think we had...God acted by trusting in Joseph's creative courage. Arriving in Bethlehem and finding no lodging where Mary could give birth, Joseph took a stable and, as best he could, turned it into a welcoming home for the Son of God come into the world (cf. Lk 2:6-7). Faced with imminent danger from Herod, who wanted to kill the child, Joseph was warned once again in a dream to protect the child, and rose in the middle of the night to prepare the flight into Egypt (cf. Mt 2:13-14)...God always finds a way to carry out his saving plan. So too, our lives may at times seem to be at the mercy of the powerful, but the Gospel shows us what counts. God always finds a way to save us, provided we show the same creative courage as the carpenter of Nazareth, who was able to turn a problem into a possibility by trusting always in divine providence.

If at times God seems not to help us, surely this does not mean that we have been abandoned, but instead are being trusted to plan, to be creative, and to find solutions ourselves" [5].

**DIOCESE INTRODUCES RE-MEMBERING OUR SUNDAY STORY -**

The Faith Formation and Communications offices of the Diocese of Erie have spent months coordinating an initiative to ensure that people feel welcome as they return to public worship. Over the next six months, *Re-Membering Our Sunday Story* will provide parishes with an array of resources, from prayer cards and bulletin announcements to social media posts and a pastoral letter from Bishop Lawrence Persico. All materials are part of an effort to make sure the return to parish life is transformative. A story about the effort can be found at: [www.nwpaCatholic.com](http://www.nwpaCatholic.com)

**THE FLOWERS AT THE ALTAR** this Sunday are given to the Glory of God and in memory of deceased loved ones by Pat and Regis Walters on this, their Fiftieth Wedding Anniversary.



**WORLD DAY FOR GRANDPARENTS AND ELDERLY -**

Pope Francis has established the World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly, to be held each year on the fourth Sunday of July. This date was chosen because it is close to the feast day of Ss. Joachim and Anne, the grandparents of Jesus. In 2021, the first World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly is Sunday, July 25.



Here's an easy word search puzzle for the kids!

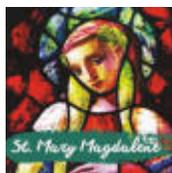


Find and circle these words from today's Gospel:

PLACE APOSTLES ALONE	GOING BOAT CROWD	SHEPHERD PEOPLE TEACHING
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F	T	G	E	R	T	H	A	O	S	P
E	A	L	O	N	E	L	R	T	U	E
R	P	N	D	I	T	O	J	S	H	O
B	O	A	T	O	N	L	D	I	M	P
E	S	V	R	T	I	G	T	H	Y	L
P	T	H	A	D	O	N	G	A	C	E
N	L	U	G	T	B	U	T	S	R	M
T	E	A	C	H	I	N	G	Y	O	A
P	S	O	C	L	W	C	O	I	W	N
G	A	S	H	E	P	H	E	R	D	T



**ST. MARY MAGDALENE** — She was the first recorded witness to the resurrection of Jesus, His most ardent and loving follower. She had stood with Mary at the foot of the Cross on that brutal Good Friday afternoon and had been by the side of Mary during these difficult hours. On Easter morning, she went with the other women to the tomb and it was there, in the garden near the tomb, that Jesus appeared to her. It was she who brought the news of the Resurrection to the Apostles, and Peter and John raced to the tomb to see what had happened. She was from Magadala, a small fishing town on the Sea of Galilee, between Capernaum and Tiberias. She was known to be a "great sinner," a woman of the streets who heard Jesus speak of the mercy and forgiveness of God and changed her life completely. Her matter-of-fact witness to the Resurrection moved Peter and John to go and see for themselves: "I have seen the Lord and these things he said to me." Jesus had chosen her to bring the news to them and she simply told them what had happened. She has always been the example of great love and great forgiveness, one of those close to Jesus who grasped the truth of God's love for human beings and spent her life bearing witness to that love.

Excerpted from *The One Year Book of Saints* by Rev. Clifford Stevens

**THE KINDERGARTENER**

A Kindergarten teacher was observing her classroom as the children drew pictures. The teacher would occasionally walk around and see each child's artwork. As she approached one little girl who was working especially hard, she asked what the drawing was.

The little girl told her: "I'm drawing God!"

"But sweetie," the teacher replied, "no one actually knows what God looks like."

Automatically, the little girl continued drawing and said, "well, they certainly will in a minute!"



**Monday, July 19 through Thursday, July 22**

NO DAILY MASS

**Friday, July 23 - Saint Bridget**

**Saint Mary Magdalene (Observed)**

8:30 a.m. Peach Clark (Jeanette Ellis)

**Saturday, July 24 - Saint Sharbel Makhluf**

4:00 p.m. Dennis and Dawn Kidney (Maribeth Kidney)

**Sunday, July 25 -**

**Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

8:30 a.m. For the People

8:30 a.m. RADIO MASS—John and Helen Stahlman (Estate)

**Readings for the week of July 18, 2021**

**Monday:** Ex 14:5-18/Ex 15:1bc,-2, 3-4, 5-6 [1b] /Mt 12:38-42

**Tuesday:** Ex 14:21—15:1/Ex 15:8-9, 10 and 12, 17 [1b] /Mt 12:46-50

**Wednesday:** Ex 16:1-5, 9-15/Ps 78:18-19, 23-24, 25-26, 27-28 [24b]/Mt 13:1-9

**Thursday:** Sg 3:1-4b or 2 Cor 5:14-17/Ps 63:2, 3-4, 5-6, 8-9 [2]/Jn 20:1-2, 11-18

**Friday:** Ex 20:1-17/Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 11 [cf. Jn 6:68c] /Mt 13:18-23

**Saturday:** Ex 24:3-8/Ps 50:1b-2, 5-6, 14-15 [14a] /Mt 13:24-30

**Next Sunday:** 2 Kgs 4:42-44/Ps 145:10-11, 15-16, 17-18 [cf. 16]/Eph 4:1-6/Jn 6:1-15



**AUTUMN LEAF FESTIVAL** — Immaculate Conception will once again host the annual ALF Craft Show on October 8<sup>th</sup>. If you are interested in being a vendor at the show or have any questions, email Jason and Amanda Lewis at [jasonfloydlewis@hotmail.com](mailto:jasonfloydlewis@hotmail.com) or Sara Patton at [sjsp112@gmail.com](mailto:sjsp112@gmail.com). You can print a copy of the vendor contract from the parish website.

	Additions to the Prayer List: Dave MacKinlay Virginia Conrad	
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**MONEY COUNTERS** — Teams will begin counting on Monday, August 9, starting with Team 1.

Offertory	July 3 - 4, 2021	July 7 - 18, 2021
Envelopes	\$ 8,872.00	\$ 5,902.00
Loose	296.00	342.00
Monthly	2,975.00	615.00
Peter's Pence		117.50
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 12,143.00</b>	<b>\$ 6,976.50</b>

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