



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
tmcmlen1@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.



A MESSAGE FROM BISHOP PERSICO – The Bishop writes from Erie about the Catholic Education collection.

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

I ask for your support of the Catholic Education Collection being held the weekend of September 18-19.

This annual second collection supports lifelong education and faith formation opportunities throughout our diocese. Half of the funds raised from this collection remain in your parish to support your local education and faith formation programs. The other half provides funds for ministry and leadership training, technology support, creative projects in faith formation, as well as tuition assistance for families attending Catholic schools. A small portion also supports The Catholic University of America.

Thank you for your generous support of this collection. Contributions can be made directly at your parish or online at www.ErieRCD.org/Catholic-EducationCollection.html.

Be assured of my prayers for you and your family. With every best wish, I remain,

+ The Most Reverend Lawrence T. Persico, J.C.L.

Bishop of Erie

THERE IS AN ENVELOPE IN YOUR PACKET FOR THIS SPECIAL COLLECTION.

FOR GRANDPARENTS' DAY — From focus.blog by Emily Morita

For New Grandparents

"Sometimes the smallest things take up the most room in your heart." – A. A. Milne

"When a child is born, so is a grandparent."

"Grandchildren fill a space in your heart you didn't know was empty."

For Grandparents Multiple Times Over

"Some of our greatest blessings call me grandma and grandpa."

"A grandparent is a little bit a parent, a little bit a teacher, and a little bit a best friend."

"When you have a grandparent, you don't need a fairy godmother or godfather."

For Great-Grandparents

"Side by side or miles apart, great-grandkids are close to the heart."

"Great-grandparents, like heroes, are as necessary to a child's growth as vitamins."

For Grandchildren

"Grandparents are like stars. You don't always see them, but you know they're there."

"Grandparents are a delightful blend of laughter, caring deeds, wonderful stories, and love."

"You do not really understand something unless you can explain it to your grandmother."

"Grandparents are the best kind of grownups."

THE SEASON OF CREATION—Sept. 1 thru Oct. 4

This "time for creation" offers, in the words of Pope Francis, "individual believers and communities a fitting opportunity to reaffirm their personal vocation to be stewards of creation, to thank God for the wonderful handiwork which he has entrusted to our care, and to implore his help for the protection of creation as well as his pardon for the sins committed against the world in which we live." Below are some ways to live out these three dimensions of Pope Francis' call.

1. **Reaffirm Our Vocation as Stewards of Creation**
Counteract the "Throwaway Culture" — In *Laudato Si'*, Pope Francis brings attention to our "throwaway culture," which "quickly reduces things to rubbish" (no. 22). In your daily life, try to identify the ways in which you can choose reusables, rather than disposables, such as coffee mugs, reusable bags, or cloth napkins, and commit to making one change during this month.
2. **Thank God for His Wonderful Handiwork**
Meal Prayer — Before and after meals, say a short prayer of thanksgiving for the lifegiving food that sustains and nourishes us. Briefly consider how all nourishment ultimately comes from the earth, and give thanks for all the human hands that helped bring this food to your table. May we recognize, as *Laudato Si'* has taught us, that this "moment of blessing, however brief, reminds us of our dependence on God for life" (no. 227).
3. **Implore God's Help and Ask His Pardon**
Confession — In calling for a deep "ecological conversion," Pope Francis has emphasized the importance of examining one's own conscience, of recognizing one's sins against creation, however great or small. Seeing the interconnectedness of our world leads to an understanding that "[e]very violation of solidarity and civic friendship harms the environment" (*Caritas in Veritate*, no. 51). We invite you to bring these sins to confession and to perform a spiritual work of mercy for our common home, such as an act of "grateful contemplation of God's world" (*Laudato Si'*, no. 214).



THE 99 — When you become engaged with your faith, it changes everything. The 99 is a powerful tool to reach people where they are and invite them to engage in their faith. THE 99

Ministry draws you closer to Christ while helping others do the same. COME AND SEE! Monday, September 13, at 7:00 pm in Our Lady of Clarion Center. RSVP to Linda Summerville at linda.summerville62@gmail.com.



RADIO MASSES FOR 2021 — Keep in mind that you can remember your loved ones on the live broadcast of the Sunday, 8:30AM Mass on **Clarion Radio Station 94.1 FM**. The suggested donation for a radio Mass is \$45.00. Registered households may request as many radio Masses as they would like. If interested, please contact Theresa at the parish office (814-226-8433 Ext.100).



Faith Formation Families

- **9th Grade Student and Parent Meeting**
Sunday, September 12th
10:00 in OLCC followed by
Bible Presentation at the 11:00 Mass
- **11th & 12th Grade Confirmation Retreat**
Sunday, September 12th
- **Grades 9, 10 and 11 Faith Formation Class**
Sunday, September 26th
9:30-11:00 OLCC

GOSPEL MEDITATION - We need to get our bearings straight and properly lay life's cornerstone. Otherwise, the rest of our journey will be skewed, and our judgment clouded. We can recall Jesus' famous rebuke of Peter, "You are thinking not as God does, but as human beings do." Even he, as one of Jesus' closest friends struggles with understanding things and grasping the big picture. Pierre Teilhard de Chardin (1881-1955) a renowned and learned French Jesuit priest often has these words attributed to him: "We are not human beings having a spiritual experience. We are spiritual beings having a human experience." Whether they were actually from his lips, they certainly mimic his thought. These wise words orient us and capture the essence of who we really are.

Many people consider spirituality an option. It is no wonder that they come to this conclusion when they predominantly define themselves using human terms and concepts. Immersed in this world view, they struggle finding any semblance of God because God does not work according to human expectations! This is especially true when suffering and death enter life's picture. If we are only human beings having a spiritual experience, then we wrongly expect our spirituality to serve us as we desire. The human expectation is that my spiritual life is something that is useful in avoiding pain, hardship, and death, not something that gives the courage to live through it!

So, when we protest and get upset with God because our journey is becoming difficult, painful, treacherous, disappointing, and even pointing us toward death, Jesus rebukes us as he did Peter and gently reminds us how to see. It is God who inspires and opens hearts to see truth and beauty. In God, the true meaning of things is understood, and we receive a depth of insight and understanding that is not found following purely human paths. It is not our task to understand God, as God is beyond human understanding. Ours is the joyful privilege of simply resting in God's presence simply because God is God and we are who we are. As spiritual beings having an exciting and adventurous human experience, it is in our DNA to do so. Through prayer we can let go and let be. This is how we lose our lives but then save them.

©LPi



Monday, September 13 - Saint John Chrysostom

12:10 p.m. Butch Callen (Madelon Callen)

Tuesday, September 14 - The Exaltation of the Holy Cross

8:30 a.m. Martha and Jim Kerle (Kim and Clay Kroh)

Wednesday, September 15 - Our Lady of Sorrows

— NO MASS —

Thursday, September 16 - Saints Cornelius and Cyprian

8:30 a.m. Deceased Members of
Marie Mauersberg's Family

Friday, September 17 - Saint Robert Bellarmine

8:30 a.m. Deceased Members of
Vickie Judy's Family

Saturday, September 18

4:00 p.m. Albert and Gertrude Hartle
(Jim and Judy Hartle)

Sunday, September 19 - Twenty-fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time (Catechetical Sunday)

8:30 a.m. For the People

8:30 a.m. RADIO MASS—Deceased
Knights of Columbus Council #7549

11:00 a.m. Mary Schierberl
(Dick Stevenson and Family)

Readings for the week of September 12, 2021

Monday: 1 Tm 2:1-8/Ps 40:7-8a, 8b-9, 10,
17 [1Cor 11:26b]/Lk 7:1-10

Tuesday: Nm 21:4b-9/Ps 78:1bc-2, 34-35, 36-37,
38 [cf. 7b]/Phil 2:6-11/Jn 3:13-17

Wednesday: 1 Tm 3:14-16/Ps 111:1-2, 3-4, 5-6 [2]
/Jn 19:25-27 or Lk 2:33-35

Thursday: 1 Tm 4:12-16/Ps 111:7-8, 9, 10 [2]/Lk 7:36-50

Friday: 1 Tm 6:2c-12/Ps 49:6-7, 8-10, 17-18, 19-20
/Lk 8:1-3

Saturday: 1 Tm 6:13-16/Ps 100:1b-2, 3, 4, 5 [2]
/Lk 8:4-15

Next Sunday: Wis 2:12, 17-20/Ps 54:3-4, 5, 6-8 [6b]
/Jas 3:16—4:3/Mk 9:30-37



THE SACRAMENT OF PENANCE -
is scheduled for Saturday, September 18
from 3:00 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.

QUESTIONS OF THE WEEK FOR FAITH SHARING

Key Passage: Faith by itself, if it has no works, is dead. But someone will say, "You have faith and I have works." Show me your faith apart from your works, and I by my works will show you my faith. (James 2:17-18)

Question for Adults: Why should faith always lead to good works?

Question for Kids: What good works can you do to show your faith in Jesus?

Money Counters: Monday, September 13, Team 1

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