

FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

MAY 15, 2022

† MASS INTENTIONS †

Sat.	5/14	4:00 PM	Lillian Strohl by Her Husband Oscar
Sun.	5/15	11:00 AM	Colleen Donlin by Her Parents and Brother
Mon.	5/16	7:00 PM	Thomas Kislan by the Leo Decowski Family
Tue.	5/17	7:00 AM	Helen Howanitz by Joseph and Darlene Wizda
Wed.	5/18	7:00 AM	Robert and Joseph Baran by Wife and Mother and Family
Thur.	5/19	7:00 AM	Deceased Members of the Dudinyak Family by Elizabeth and Richard Dudinyak
Fri.	5/20	7:00 AM	John B. Capozzelli by the Capozzelli Family
Sat.	5/21	4:00 PM	Michael Plaksa by the McDermott Family
Sun.	5/22	11:00 AM	Elaine Gazick by the Capozzelli Family

Last Weekend:



Sunday \$4,196.00; Loose \$278.00; Dues \$907.00; Care and Education of Priests \$195.00; Easter \$170.00; Ukraine \$5.00; Other \$41.00; Poor Box \$68.25

CANDLES ON THE ALTAR are in Memory of Robert and Joseph Baran by Wife and Mother and Family



OUR SANCTUARY LAMP is burning this week in Memory of Michael Plaksa by the McDermott Family



MANDATORY BAPTISMAL PREPARATION CLASS will be at 6:00 PM on Wednesday, July 20th, in the Saint Joseph Room of Good Shepherd Church. Please register by calling the Immaculate Conception Parish Office at 570-636-3035 or the Good Shepherd office at 570-788-3141. Please plan to attend the Baptismal Preparation Class well in advance of your baby's birth so that you are aware of all the information necessary to schedule your baby's baptism.

PARISH CASH BINGO will be held on **Thursday, June 16th**, in the parish center. Kitchen opens at 4:30 PM. Early Birds start at 5:30 PM. Regular Bingo starts at 6:00 PM. There will be 15 regular games with a pay-out of \$35 each, 3 Early Birds with a pay-out of \$10 each, 4 Specials with a pay-out of \$50 each, and one Last Special with a pay-out of \$100. Admission is \$10 for 15 games. Donations of Baked Goods and Tricky Trays are most welcome and appreciated.



PARISH CEMETERIES - Volunteers for the parish cemeteries ask parishioners to please remove all Christmas and Easter decorations as soon as possible from family plots in order to prepare for the upcoming Memorial Day and summer season. Please take all of your discarded items with you. Do not pile them up at the fences.



SINCERE THANKS to everyone who bought carnations from the Pennsylvanians for Human Life this past weekend. Your support is greatly appreciated.

A MESSAGE FROM FATHER MIKE:

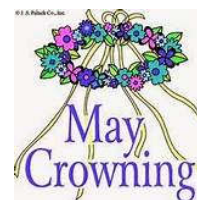


The author Leo Buscaglia, known as the Dr. of Love, wrote many books about the subject of Christian love. As a college professor, he encountered a student who later committed suicide. The suicide note said that no one loved her. It changed his life. He vowed never to let anyone leave his presence without hearing the phrase: "I love you." This weekend's Gospel gives a powerful and moving message from Jesus: "This is how all will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another." Jesus not only wanted His disciples to love others, He wanted them to SHOW them love. We just celebrated Mother's Day last weekend, and I'm sure many of you not only said, "I love you" to your moms, but also SHOWED them how much you love them. The challenge this week is to, of course say "I love you" to those you love, but also to SHOW them. For instance, if you love your pastor, you may want to make him carrot cake - LOL, just kidding - hint, hint. Love is more than just words, it is an action. BWT, I love you all!

A VIEW FROM THE PEW, "A SIMPLE PRAYER."



May is a busy time of the year, First Holy Communion, the May crowning, a month set aside to honor the Virgin Mary. Sitting in a pew watching all these holy events take place brings one back to his or her childhood and that sense of goodness that is so lacking in our world today. I found this quote from St. Teresa that I don't think I used before, but if I did, I think it is appropriate for the troubled times we live in today. "If you ever feel distressed during your day, call upon our Lady, just say this simple prayer: 'Mary, Mother of Jesus, please be a mother to me now.' I must admit, this prayer has never failed me."



PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL NOMINATION FORM: The parishes of Immaculate Conception and Good Shepherd operate a combined Parish Pastoral council to serve both parishes. This council guides and determines the direction of the parishes to fulfill the goals and mission of the Church. Would you consider sharing your gifts as a member of the Pastoral Council or do you know someone who would make a good member of the Council? The yellow insert in the entrances of the church is your invitation to nominate yourself and/or another parishioner to become a member of the Pastoral Council. Deadline for nominations is **May 23, 2022.**



TELL US WHAT YOU THINK

WE NEED YOUR FEEDBACK!

In August it will be three years since the parishes of Our Lady of the Immaculate Conception and Good Shepherd have been linked. It has also been a few years since our councils have been reorganized and Pastoral Plans have been implemented. Both parishes will be conducting a survey May 15th through the 31st asking for your opinions regarding our Pastoral plans, if we are accomplishing our goals, and your thoughts on the linkage between the two parishes. The survey is only five questions and will be available in the weekly bulletins and at the entrance of both churches. Completed surveys can be dropped in the collection baskets. The survey can also be completed online @ <https://forms.gle/26SBonaRH5iPlfMD6>. We encourage you to participate in this brief survey as the information will be used to continue to build successful & vibrant parishes. Thank you in advance for your participation! The survey is included as an insert in our bulletin.

❖ **Dear Deacon Jim,**

The first Beatitude states, "Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven." Who are the poor in spirit?

❖ **Response**

I believe the answer to your question is based on the spiritual meaning that Jesus taught during the Sermon on the Mount rather than on the literal meaning. It is based on the spiritual, divine meaning relating to a person's response to God's calling. This calling of God to the human being asks him/her to recognize their spiritual poverty before going to Him to be able to receive through faith the salvation He offers. This Beatitude asks the human being to recognize that God is God.

In this first Beatitude, when Jesus says, "*Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven,*" He is declaring that, before we can enter God's kingdom, we must first recognize the utter worthlessness of our spiritual poverty and the inability for our eternal salvation.

Regardless of one's earthly happiness or prosperity, to be poor in spirit is to recognize that you depend upon God and to recognize that you are nothing and God is all. To be poor in spirit is to empty oneself, that is say, to become nothingness and depend totally on God. The person who is poor in spirit recognizes his smallness in front of God and recognizes that God is everything in his life.

Deacon Jim