

# HOLY REDEEMER AND IMMACULATE CONCEPTION COLLABORATIVE PARISHES

SERVING MERRIMAC, NEWBURY, NEWBURYPORT, AND WEST NEWBURY

## The Baptism of the Lord

January 12, 2020  
[hricatholic.org](http://hricatholic.org)



*All Are Welcome*

*Baptism of Christ*  
by Leonardo DaVinci





# Holy Redeemer Immaculate Conception Collaborative

serving Merrimac, Newbury, Newburyport & West Newbury

*“Come all you who are thirsty, come to the waters...”*

## St. Ann

Church: 300 Main St., W. Newbury 01985

Rectory: 46 Maple St., W. Newbury 01985

**Phone: 978-346-8604**

Email: [holyredeemer@verizon.net](mailto:holyredeemer@verizon.net)

## Nativity

Parish offices and church:

4 Green St., Merrimac 01860

Office Hours: By appointment

**Phone: 978-346-8604**

Email: [holyredeemer@verizon.net](mailto:holyredeemer@verizon.net)

## Immaculate Conception

Parish, church, rectory, and offices:

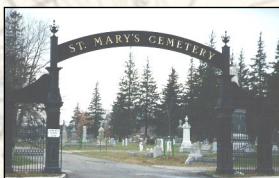
42 Green St., Newburyport 01950

Office Hours: M-F 8:00 a.m.-3:30 p.m.

**Phone: 978-462-2724**

Fax: 978-234-7399

Email: [info@newburyportcatholic.org](mailto:info@newburyportcatholic.org)



## St. Mary's Cemetery

36 Storey Avenue,  
Newburyport 01950

## Immaculate Conception School

1 Washington Street, Newburyport 01950, Pre K-grade 8,

Mrs. Joan Sullivan, Principal, Phone: 978-465-7780,

Fax: 978-234-7331, [www.icsnewburyport.com](http://www.icsnewburyport.com)



## Collaborative Staff

### Pastor

Rev. Timothy Harrison,  
978-462-2724 or 978-346-8604  
[info@newburyportcatholic.org](mailto:info@newburyportcatholic.org),  
[holyredeemer@verizon.net](mailto:holyredeemer@verizon.net)

### Senior Priests in Residence

Rev. William H. McLaughlin  
Rev. George E. Morin  
978-462-2724 or 978-346-8604

### Weekend Assistant

Rev. James Broderick

### Permanent Deacon

Deacon Paul Dow  
978-887-5350, [pauldow49@gmail.com](mailto:pauldow49@gmail.com)

### Office Associates

Donald Alunni, Business Manager  
978-462-2724 x 7351  
[dalunni@newburyportcatholic.org](mailto:dalunni@newburyportcatholic.org)  
Sheila Cruise, Receptionist  
978-462-2724 x 7403 or 978-346-8604  
[scruise@newburyportcatholic.org](mailto:scruise@newburyportcatholic.org) or  
[holyredeemer@verizon.net](mailto:holyredeemer@verizon.net)

Karen Leff, Coordinator of Media Outreach  
[hricbulletin@gmail.com](mailto:hricbulletin@gmail.com)

Linda Temple, Administrative Assistant  
978-462-2724 x7404  
[temple@newburyportcatholic.org](mailto:temple@newburyportcatholic.org)

### Music Ministry

Jennifer Acorn, Nativity Organist  
[jen.acorn@comcast.net](mailto:jen.acorn@comcast.net)  
Donna Postle, IC Music Ministry Director  
978-317-8903  
[donnapostle233@gmail.com](mailto:donnapostle233@gmail.com)  
Tim Richard, IC organist  
[trichard23@gmail.com](mailto:trichard23@gmail.com)  
Steve Swochak, IC Music Coordinator  
978-462-2855  
[swochak@netzero.com](mailto:swochak@netzero.com)

### Lifelong Faith Formation

Aaron Giard, Director of Lifelong Faith Formation  
978-462-2724 x 7405 or 978-346-8604  
[agiard@newburyportcatholic.org](mailto:agiard@newburyportcatholic.org)  
Melinda Burrell, Administrative Assistant to Lifelong Faith Formation  
978-462-2724 x 7420  
[burrell@newburyportcatholic.org](mailto:burrell@newburyportcatholic.org)  
Marin Fortune, RCIA, 978-462-2724  
[fortune@newburyportcatholic.org](mailto:fortune@newburyportcatholic.org)

### Immaculate Conception School

Joan Sullivan, Principal, 978-465-7780  
[jsullivan@newburyportcatholic.org](mailto:jsullivan@newburyportcatholic.org)

### Maintenance

Bud Kent, IC Building Maintenance  
978-462-2724  
[bkent@newburyportcatholic.org](mailto:bkent@newburyportcatholic.org)  
Eddie Martinez, IC Facilities Manager  
978-462-2724  
[emartinez@newburyportcatholic.org](mailto:emartinez@newburyportcatholic.org)  
Cliff Vandenbulcke, IC School Custodian  
978-465-7780  
[cvandenbulcke@newburyportcatholic.org](mailto:cvandenbulcke@newburyportcatholic.org)

### St. Vincent de Paul


Saint Vincent de Paul Society at Holy Redeemer  
978-346-8604 x 8  
[hsvdp300@gmail.com](mailto:hsvdp300@gmail.com)  
St. Vincent de Paul Society at Immaculate Conception  
978-518-0728

### St Mary's Cemetery


Joseph Viel, 978-208-0266  
[joeviel@comcast.net](mailto:joeviel@comcast.net)

### Online

Website: [www.hriccatholic.org](http://www.hriccatholic.org)

 [Holy Redeemer - Immaculate Conception Collaborative Parishes](https://www.facebook.com/Holy-Redeemer-Immaculate-Conception-Collaborative-Parishes)

 [@HRICcatholic](https://twitter.com/HRICcatholic)

 [hriccatholic](https://www.instagram.com/hriccatholic)

# COLLABORATIVE NEWS

## Collaborative Mass Schedule

### Saturday (1/11)

4:00pm **IC** *Martha Landers* (Fr. Harrison)

4:00pm **Nativity** *Madeline Brodie* (Fr. McLaughlin)

### Sunday (1/12)

7:15am **IC** (Fr. Harrison)

8:00am **Nativity** (Fr. McLaughlin)

9:00am **IC** *Normand Richard, Al Paciulan*  
(Fr. Harrison)

10:15am **St. Ann** (Fr. McLaughlin & Deacon Dow)

11:30am **IC** *Caroline McCarthy Doyle, Paul  
Michael Doyle* (Fr. O'Brien)

### Monday (1/13)

9:00am **St. Ann** (Fr. Harrison)

### Tuesday (1/14)

7:15am **IC** *For the intentions of Stephen  
D'Ambrosio* (Fr. Harrison)

### Wednesday (1/15)

7:15am **IC** (Fr. McLaughlin)

### Thursday (1/16)

**No Mass Scheduled**

### Friday (1/17)

9:00am **Nativity** (Fr. Harrison)

10:30am **Port Rehab** (Fr. McLaughlin)

### Saturday (1/18)

4:00pm **IC** *Richard & Mary Shachok, Ann Hickey,  
Ernest & Marion Bombard, Mr. & Mrs. Gerard  
Cody, Francis X. Babineau* (Fr. McLaughlin)

4:00pm **St. Ann** (Fr. Harrison & Deacon Paul)

### Sunday (1/19)

7:15am **IC** (Fr. McLaughlin)

8:00am **Nativity** (Fr. Harrison)

9:00am **IC** *Monique Cote, Robert Desepoli*  
(Fr. McLaughlin)

10:15am **St. Ann** (Fr. Harrison)

11:30am **IC** *For the intentions of those recently  
married* (Fr. O'Brien)

In your prayers please remember Joan F. Sullivan and all the faithful departed.

**The priests' schedule is subject to change without notice.**

*IC—Immaculate Conception, Newburyport*

*Nativity—Merrimac*

*St. Ann—West Newbury*



**Follow Us on Twitter**

@HRICatholic

## January 16 Daily Mass

Please note that there will be no daily Mass celebrated on Thursday, January 16 at Immaculate Conception Church.

Mass is celebrated on Thursdays at the following locations:

6:45am Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal, Hampton, NH

7:00am Sacred Hearts, Bradford

8:00am St. Luke, Newton, NH

8:00am All Saints, Haverhill

9:00am Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal, Hampton, NH

9:00am Holy Family, Amesbury

9:00am St. Patrick, Groveland

## From the Pastor

Dear Parishioners,

This past week, all of us in the rectory wished Fr. George a hearty congratulations on his official retirement from full-time active ministry on January 1<sup>st</sup>. Jokingly, I suggested that he would turn into a pumpkin at the stroke of midnight on New Year's Eve, but the sobering reality was that he was up on that Wednesday morning celebrating one of the Holy Day masses as he always did like the many decades that came before. Retirement and priesthood are often seen as mutually exclusive concepts...How are you retired, after all, if you keep doing the same things you did after as before? While the distinction between what is a vocation and a career is surely there, the reality of it all is unique to each priest and certainly evolves over times as different needs and situations suggest. Sometimes the difference can be subtle.

We are very blessed to have now both Fr. George Morin and Fr. Bill McLaughlin as Senior Priests in Residence within our Collaborative. Both have been, and I anticipate will continue to be, very generous with their time and presence to our Collaborative's liturgies and a host of other pastoral activities. However, they have both made it clear: no meetings! In addition to enjoying a well-earned more relaxed schedule, each of them, of course, is free to engage in other pursuits or travel that may interest them. With a reduced schedule and a lifting of other pastoral responsibilities, they are empowered to simply be "priests," offering their time and help when and where they can.

That much being said, it is important for all of us to take note of some changes and realities that will affect our parishes in the months to come. To begin with, Fr. George is not going to be replaced by another full-time priest, at least not for the foreseeable future. The hard reality is that the number of full-time active priests serving in parishes across the Archdiocese continues to decline and will do so for the next 20 years or so before it settles to about 150 around the year 2040. Currently, there are 252 active priests serving in parishes within our Archdiocese. On average, we are losing approximately 13 priests a year right now due to retirement, illness, death, and occasional resignations from ministry. This is not unexpected, considering the significant demographic "bell-curve" of the large ordination classes from the 1950s and 1960s. (Fr. Bill was ordained in 1968, Fr. George in 1970). During that era, it was not uncommon to have 50 or more ordinations each year! By contrast, my ordination class of 1991 had only 13. Over the past 3 years, we have averaged 9 ordinations per year. All things being equal, there will come a time when the number of available priests will even out to a more consistent number, but not before we lose another 100 from our present ranks.

So what does all this mean for us in our Collaborative? I'd be filthy rich if I could accurately predict every twist and turn of the future (I'm not and I can't!), but here are a few challenges and realities that we will be facing and working



*(Continued on page 4)*

## COLLABORATIVE NEWS

*(Continued from page 3)*

on together in the months ahead:

First, a reduced availability for “emergency sacramental coverage.” To be honest, for quite some time now, most parishes have no longer been able to provide seamless “24-hour-a-day / 7-days-a-week / 365-days-a-year” emergency coverage. I’d say that actually ended more than a decade ago. In praxis, we have all been doing our best to respond as generously as we can, as often as we can...and that has enabled us to meet most needs in a reasonably, timely fashion. Most of the time. Going forward, however, while we will certainly continue to do everything that we can, there will be times when people will experience a substantially delayed response if they call at the last minute looking for a priest. It is not reasonable to expect retired priests to be responsible for covering after-hours or overnight emergencies. Since my time here within our Collaborative, the number of active priests available to cover Anna Jacques Hospital has been reduced from 6 in 2011 to 3 at present in 2020. Three of us simply cannot do what 6 used to do. So, what can be done? Interestingly, a number of things!

The very best and most helpful response to this situation is for parishioners not to wait until the last moment before inviting myself or another priest to come visit a loved-one who is ill and not doing well. While there will always be unexpected moments and tragedies that can’t be foreseen, in reality, most of the “emergency” calls we receive are for patients who have been sick for a long time and have been in the hospital or convalescent care for months, if not years. It would be such a joy to visit with them and offer the Sacrament of Anointing long before some medical extremus brings them to a point where they are “actively dying.” There is a great richness in the Sacraments of the Sick that often gets minimized when a priest is called in at the last minute. The Sacrament of Anointing, accompanied by Holy Communion and the opportunity for Confession are best celebrated when the person is alert and able to benefit the most from these moments of prayer, which often can be arranged within days on most weeks. When accompanied by the loving presence of family members, it can be an incredibly moving experience for all who are affected by the illness. Additionally, offering this sacrament more regularly at weekend liturgies will help those who may be anticipating hospitalization or surgery.

As we go forward the roles of Deacons and trained lay ministers will also be able to engage some of these needs. The official “last rites” of the Church include what is known as “Viaticum,” which features special prayers for the last time a person receives Holy Communion (if they are able) and also what is called “The Commendation of the Dying”—the final prayers before death. Any Deacon, Priest, or trained layperson may offer “The Last Rites” in a time of need.

Another helpful response in addressing this new reality is to better utilize the Collaborative’s office staff during scheduled business hours. Most weeks, Monday through Friday from 8 until 3:30 p.m., our very dedicated, experienced staff are in the Pastoral Center Office building and ready to help anyone who calls. They are amazing at

arranging all sorts of help for parishioners who are in need, including scheduling priestly visitation, appointments, connecting people to available resources, etc....But all that ends once the office is closed for the day. While it is still possible most days (but not necessarily all) to reach a priest through our answering service after-hours, I am considerably more limited in what I can accomplish without the staff present. So, as much as humanly possible, I urge you to anticipate what needs might be there for you and your family and plan ahead to work through our wonderful staff when they are present.

Yet another aspect of priestly retirement and a reduction in the number of assigned priests in our Collaborative will be simply how many Masses we will be able to offer on given days. So far, we have been working very hard to maintain the weekend schedule as we have become accustomed to it, but there will be moments due to illness or vacation periods when we will not be able to schedule mass every day within our Collaborative. This might even require a reduced weekend schedule in the future, but we are not “there” yet. It is important to keep this in mind when considering some of these possible changes—that just before we formed our Collaborative in 2015, Immaculate Conception and Holy Redeemer parishes enjoyed, collectively, the services of 3 full-time priests, a Permanent Deacon and two retired priests in-residence. Now we have 1 full-time priest, a Permanent Deacon and two retired priests in-residence. I am actively working to see if a third retired priest might be able to come live with us in the near future as well as working with the Archdiocese to try and bring a second Permanent Deacon to serve our Collaborative. If successful in both of these endeavors, they will be a tremendous help to us all as well as providing for a “deeper bench” for those moments when an illness or emergency comes up. As one priest recently said over dinner, “We are just one bad cold or slip and fall away from a priest-less Sunday” in one of our area parishes.

So, I want you to know that these things are being discussed and considered among the priests, our staff, and will be part of upcoming conversations at Collaborative Pastoral Council meetings as well. I am hopeful that we will discover graceful and substantial solutions to these and other issues we will face in the years to come. After all, it is Christ’s Church, and the Lord has promised to remain with us until the end of time, no matter how many priests are wandering the streets at any given moment. So, there is great hope to be had by all! Our continued prayers for vocations are also essential, that anyone who might be considering priesthood or religious life will find the support and encouragement from all of us to properly discern what path in life that God has opened for them.

As always, I would certainly welcome your thoughts and ideas. Let us keep one another in prayer and please know that I, along with all who serve the people of our parishes are committed in ministry to doing everything we can to share the Gospel and the Lord’s Saving Presence with you and your families in both times of joy and sorrow. May God bless the good work we have begun and bring it to completion according to His will.

Fr. Timothy Harrison, Pastor



# COLLABORATIVE NEWS

## This Week in Our Collaborative

### Monday, January 13

**AA Meeting** 10:30am, IC St. Louis Hall

**Women at the Well Prayer Group** 6:00pm, IC St. Louis Hall

**Boy Scouts Troop 41 Meeting** 7:00pm, Nativity Hall

### Tuesday, January 14

**IC Knitting Ministry** 1:00pm, IC Conference Room 209

**Breaking Bread Meal** 5:00pm, IC St. Louis Hall

**IC St. Vincent de Paul Meeting** 6:00pm, IC St. Louis Hall

**HR Confirmation 1 Class** 6:30pm, Nativity Hall

**HR St. Vincent de Paul Meeting** 7:00pm, Nativity Rectory

**Knights of Columbus Meeting** 7:30pm, IC Nazareth Library

### Wednesday, January 15

**Holy Jammers Practice** 9:00am, IC Conference Room 209

**Holy Quilters** 1:00pm, Nativity Hall

**IC Youth Choir Rehearsal** 4:30pm, IC Church

**Adoration** 6:00pm, IC St James Chapel

**Centering Prayer** 6:00pm, IC Conference Room 209

**IC Choir Rehearsal** 7:00pm, IC Church

### Thursday, January 16

**Rosary for Life** 6:30pm, IC St. James Chapel

### Friday, January 17

**Adoration** 8:00am, IC St. James Chapel

**AA Meeting** 7:00pm, IC St. Louis Hall

### Saturday, January 18

**Cursillo Group Reunion** 8:00am, St. Ann Church

**St. Ann Choir Rehearsal** 3:30pm, St. Ann Church

### Sunday, January 19

**Nativity Choir Rehearsal** 7:45am, Nativity Church

**St. Ann Choir Rehearsal** 10:00am, St. Ann Church



Fr. George enjoys a little retirement festivity at the rectory last week.

## Centering Prayer

If you are searching for the peace the world cannot give please consider joining us at Centering Prayer. Daily periods of silent prayer shift focus from self to God. As God becomes the center of our being the vicissitudes and storms of life affect us less. Consider leaving the noise of the world and the busyness of your day behind for an hour on Wednesday evenings, 6:00–7:00 p.m. in IC Conference Room 209. Following Centering Prayer, Lectio Divina enriches and instructs us as we listen to and reflect on the words of scripture. Contact Elizabeth McCarthy, 978-462-7483 if you are interested in learning more or joining us.

## Cursillo and Ultreya

The Cursillo weekend is an invitation for you to experience the love of Jesus Christ on a personal level and to bring this love into your daily life. Many of your HRIC brothers and sisters have experienced this “short course in Christianity” at St. Basil’s Salvatorian Center in Methuen, MA and we invite you to include Cursillo as part of your faith journey.

Each month, we gather for an “Ultreya” (onward!) evening of Liturgy, sharing, food, and fellowship at 7:00 p.m. in IC St. James Chapel and Charity Dining Room to continue the Cursillo spirit. All are welcome. For more information, contact Dave & Kelly Colby.

### Cursillo Weekends

February 6	Men
March 5	Women
April 2	Men
April 30	Women
June 4	Women

### Ultreya Evenings

January 31
February 28
March 27
April 24
May 29

## Women at the Well Catholic Women’s Group

women at the well  
catholic women's group

*Do you ever feel like there must be something more than your day-to-day routine?  
Looking for a way to connect to other faith-centered women in the midst of a busy work, social or parenting life?  
Or maybe you're just searching for a new way to regularly meet and connect with Jesus.*

WELCOME TO A COMMUNITY FULL OF

women just like you

Wherever you are in your faith journey, join us as we meet weekly for *Blessed Is She* bible study, community and friendship as we grow together in Christ.

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION PARISH  
PASTORAL CENTER  
42 GREEN STREET  
NEWBURYPORT, MA

MONDAY NIGHTS, WEEKLY  
STARTING JAN 6TH  
6PM-7:30PM  
ALL ARE WELCOME!

*please email HRICWomenAtTheWell@gmail.com if you have any questions*

# COLLABORATIVE NEWS

## Winter Weather Mass Cancellations

Due to the hazards of travel and the safety of priests and parishioners alike, this winter daily Mass within the Collaborative will be cancelled if Immaculate Conception School, Pentucket Regional, or Newburyport Public Schools, are cancelled or delayed because of inclement weather. WBZ Channel 4 will have the updated school cancellation information. It is also available on their website at [boston.cbslocal.com](http://boston.cbslocal.com) and we will make every effort to keep our own website and social media updated as well.



In severe situations, it may also be necessary for safety reasons to cancel weekend Masses. Again, please watch WBZ or consult the websites and/or social media for cancellation information.

Thank you for your patience and understanding. In all things, God gave us the gifts of wisdom, reason, and prudence. Let's use them wisely this winter and exercise sound judgment when considering going out in severe weather.

## Questions of the Week



**Adult:** What does your Baptism mean in your own life? How does it change you?

**Child:** Name one way that being a Christian changes your everyday life.

## Mass Scripture Readings

January 12–January 19, 2020

Consider praying with the Scriptures daily for the remainder of the Christmas season. How about a New Year's resolution that's good for your heart and soul: praying with the Scriptures? You're encouraged to access the HRIC webpage to learn about Lectio Divina as a way of praying the Scriptures. Go to [www.HRICcatholic.org](http://www.HRICcatholic.org) and click on HRIC Pastoral Plan and then click on Lectio Divina.

- Sunday, Jan 12: Isaiah 42:1-4, 6-7; Psalm 29; Acts 10:34-38; Matthew 3:13-17
- Monday, Jan 13: 1 Samuel 1:1-8; Psalm 116; Mark 1:14-20
- Tuesday, Jan 14: 1 Samuel 1:9-20; 1 Samuel 2:1, 4-5, 6-7, 8abcd; Mark 1:21-28
- Wednesday, Jan 15: 1 Samuel 3:1-10, 19-20; Psalm 40; Mark 1:29-39
- Thursday, Jan 16: 1 Samuel 4:1-11; Psalm 44; Mark 1:40-45
- Friday, Jan 17: 1 Samuel 8:4-7, 10-22a; Psalm 89; Mark 2:1-12
- Saturday, Jan 18: 1 Samuel 9:1-4, 17-19; 10:1a; Psalm 21; Mark 2:13-17
- Sunday, Jan 19: Isaiah 49:3, 5-6; Psalm 40; 1 Corinthians 1:1-3; John 1:29-34

(The free App "Laudate" allows you to access the daily Scripture readings on your cell phone.)



## Holy Family Open House

Closing Out 2019 with a Great Open House

Thanks to HRIC parishioners who loaned the 82 treasured family manger scenes! Behind-the-scenes, unsung workers deserve mention also:

**Thanks to Team Greeters / Bell Ringers:** Vicki Splaine, Lynne Follansbee, Betty Harrington, Marcia Cece, and



Diane Lehner who offered smiles to friends and visitors (the farthest: Kathy from England), free raffle tickets, a "Seek & Find" game, and bells rung 5 times for 5 great door prizes.

**Thanks to Team Bakers:** Mary Bragg, Vicki, Lynne, Betty and Marcia; Hannah who baked gluten-free treats; and Liz Wyka for homemade dip and Christmas-colored chips.

**Special thanks to the laser-focused Tableaux Set-Up Team:**

Fr. George, Vicki Splaine, Linda Reardon, Vanessa Isola, and Dennis Gonzales. Thanks to Vicki and Dennis for feeding us and Mary Bragg for fragrant, live greenery.

**Thanks to the Clean-Up Team :** Beth and Mike Brennan, Vicki Splaine, Tom Grella, and Marcia Cece. Not a quick feat.



**Thanks to all who attended.** Your "star" prayers, enthusiastic comments, and goodwill donations could encourage AFFT to host an encore Open House in 2020! Visit our website at <https://www.hriccatholic.org/photos> for more photos.



Sincerely, *The Adult Faith Formation Team*





# HOLY REDEEMER PARISH

## HR Offertory Collection

Offertory Dec. 28–29

\$2,719.00

The second collection **this** weekend is the Monthly.

HR Grand Annual  
Goal \$25,000  
To Date \$19,725.00



## HR Prayer Shawl

Do you know of any woman, man, or child who needs comfort and could use a Blessed Prayer Shawl or Lap Blanket? Please call Helen Kelley 978-771-4673 or Terry Duhamel 978-384-8099 for a shawl or more information.

Come join us. Don't know how? We will teach you to knit or crochet and give you yarn. We meet on the first Thursday of every month at Nativity Hall, Merrimac at 1:00pm. Our next meeting is **Thursday, February 6.**



*Congratulations to Ryan Hankins on his recent Eagle Scout Award! Ryan's Eagle Scout project included much landscaping work at the West Newbury rectory including tree stump grinding, tree and brush removal, as well the restoration of the old well pump and installation of a new sign on the front yard. Well done, Ryan!*

## HR St. Vincent de Paul Society

We received a total of \$510 in Market Basket gift cards and \$200 in gas cards from our Christmas giving tree requests. Our clients will benefit from your generosity. With no overhead, donations go directly to our clients. Thank you.

## Activities Committee Meeting

The Activities Committee will be meeting on Tuesday, January 28 at 6:30 p.m. in St. Ann Hall, W. Newbury, to organize the up coming BINGO Dinner planned for Saturday, February 29.

Please join our group and consider helping out, joining in, and serving your parish!

## HR Faith Formation

### School Year Programs

School year programs continue for all grades. If you have yet to register it is not too late! Forms as well as a class schedule can be found on our website ([hriccatholic.org](http://hriccatholic.org)) or call the Faith Formation office (978-462-2724 x7420) for information to be sent to you.

### First Reconciliation/First Eucharist

Sacramental Prep classes for those children anticipating the reception of the Sacraments of Reconciliation and Eucharist continue to take place.

Parent meetings will be held prior to each sacrament. Please note the meeting for both parents and children regarding Reconciliation is scheduled for **Tuesday, January 28** at 6:30. The sacrament will be celebrated at the Church of the Nativity on **Saturday, February 1**. More information will be distributed as the date gets closer but please mark your calendars now.

### Baptism Dates to Remember

Please call the Collaborative offices (978-462-2724) for information regarding the next **Baptism class** which is scheduled for **Sunday, February 2** at 1:00 p.m. in the Charity Dining Room located in the IC Pastoral Center.

### Confirmation Prep Classes

The next class for **Year 1 (Grade 9)** is scheduled for Tuesday, January 14 in the Nativity Church Hall beginning at 6:30.

**Year 2 (Grade 10)** class will meet again on Sunday, February 9, from 6:00–7:30 also in the Nativity Church Hall.

Please remember an adult does need to accompany the candidate.

## Saturday Mass at St. Ann

Please remember that our Saturday 4:00pm Mass will move to **St. Ann, W. Newbury** on **January 18.**

## Holy Redeemer Parish Prays For Life

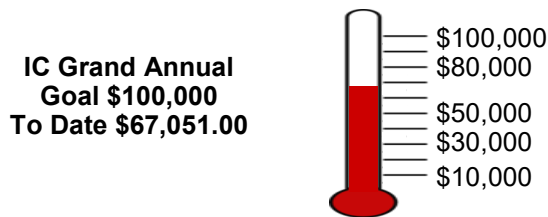
A *Holy Hour for Life* will be held on **Thursday, January 23, 2020 from 6:00 to 7:00 pm at The Nativity Church.** This is part of the Archdiocesan observance of the National Day of Prayer and Penance marking the anniversary of the U.S. Supreme Court's decision legalizing abortion on demand. A Holy Hour will be held at parishes throughout the Archdiocese to pray for safe travel and a successful pilgrimage to Washington DC for all those attending the annual March for Life. Led by Deacon Paul Dow, we will pray together for those who have been wounded by abortion, for respect for the dignity of human life from conception to natural death, and that those who govern us may be guided by justice, truth, and a love for the gift of life. The *Holy Hour for Life* is organized by Boston Deacons for Life in collaboration with the Pro Life Office of the Archdiocese of Boston. Please join us, all are welcome.

# IMMACULATE CONCEPTION PARISH

## IC Offertory Collection

Offertory Dec. 28–29	\$10,021.00
Mary, Mother of God, Jan. 1	\$ 1,722.00
Offertory Jan. 4–5	\$10,662.00
Ongoing Church Maintenance	\$ 1,525.00

The second collection **this** weekend is the Monthly.



## The Saint Vincent de Paul Society



Collection	\$ 105.00
Poor Box	\$1335.00
Total	\$1440.00

## Immaculate Conception Parish Prays For Life

A *Holy Hour for Life* will be held on **Wednesday, January 22, 2020 from 6:00–7:00 p.m. in the Parish Center, St. James Chapel.** This is part of the Archdiocesan observance of the National Day of Prayer and Penance. We do this to mark the anniversary of the U.S. Supreme Court's decision legalizing abortion on demand. A Holy Hour will be held at parishes throughout the Archdiocese to pray for safe travel and a successful pilgrimage to Washington DC for all those attending the annual March for Life. The Holy Hour, led by Deacon Paul Dow, we will pray together for those who have been wounded by abortion, for respect for the dignity of human life from conception to natural death, and that those who govern us may be guided by justice, truth, and a love for the gift of life. The *Holy Hour for Life* is organized by Boston Deacons for Life in collaboration with the Pro Life Office of the Archdiocese of Boston. Please join us, all are welcome.

## Knights of Columbus

The Knights of Columbus Newburyport Council 231 was founded in 1897. If you are interested in helping those in need, serving our parish, growing in faith, obtaining exclusive access to top-rated insurance protections for you or your family, or just connecting with other Catholic men, then the Knights of Columbus is the organization for you.

We welcome new members to this long-standing group of Catholic men. For more information, contact us at (978) 572-0231, [membership@kofc231.org](mailto:membership@kofc231.org).

The next monthly meeting of the Knights of Columbus will be held on **Tuesday, January 14** at 7:30pm in the IC Nazareth Library, Room 205.

## Immaculate Conception School



The basketball season is finally here! The beautiful gym at the IC is the perfect place for students to learn new athletic skills and be part of a team. With the support of countless volunteer parents, all IC students have the opportunity to learn and play basketball. Over 60% of our students participate in basketball programs for grades 1–8. Our younger students learn ball handling and shooting skills on Saturday mornings. Students in grades 4–8 play against teams in area North Shore and Catholic leagues. Every season brings new accomplishments for our teams as well as individual players. Successes on and off the court contribute to important experiences that encompass an education at Immaculate Conception School.



## Cemetery Restorations



Recent restoration work is in its final stages for the historic iron gate at St. Mary's Cemetery on Storey Avenue. The latest work included the new metal arch bearing the Cemetery's name. The old one had reached the end of its usefulness, and, surprisingly, had been made out of plywood and plastic. The new one is all metal, which should last for generations to come.



Final plate work and touch-up painting will be completed this spring. Many thanks to all who contributed to help make this possible.

## IC Knitting Ministry

The Knitting Ministry meets Tuesdays at 1:00 p.m. in Room 209 in the IC Parish Center. We knit/crochet prayer shawls, hats, mittens, and scarves for charity. Come join this friendly group. New people, ideas, and patterns are always welcome. For more information call Julia O'Connor 978-465-3350 or Frances Ronan 978-462-4972.



# IMMACULATE CONCEPTION PARISH

## Adoration & Rosary

Please join us for Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and Adoration in IC's St. James Chapel in the Parish Center.

- **Wednesdays** from 6:00–6:30 p.m.
- **Thursdays** from 6:30–7:00 p.m., including recitation of the Rosary for Life.
- **Fridays** drop in any time from 8:00 a.m.–noon. During the last hour we pray the Divine Mercy chaplet and conclude with Benediction. No prior experience necessary. Come and learn how powerful it is to pray before the Real Presence of our Lord.

## Wanted: Cooks

The St. Vincent de Paul dinner held each Tuesday at the IC Parish Center is in need of help for one evening each month. The team of two chefs would be assisted by experienced volunteers helping prepare the meal in the Parish Center kitchen. We are a welcoming group! Please visit our kitchen and observe the process of preparing and serving a free meal to a group of appreciative guests. We gather late afternoon on Tuesdays and serve at 5:00 p.m.

Contact: Bunny Chiasson, 978-465-5810.

## Call for Eucharistic Ministers and Lectors

We are seeking additional Lay Ministers to assist at Mass

What is an **Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion**? Often referred to as simply a "Eucharistic Minister" an EM is a lay person who assists the priest in distributing Holy Communion at Mass. While the priest or deacon is viewed by the Church as the "ordinary minister of Holy Communion," because of the large number of people attending Mass, it would be impractical or impossible for the clergy alone to offer Communion to so many. EMs are trained to help for precisely this reason. At most Masses at IC, we usually need 4 or 5 trained EMs to allow our Communion procession to go smoothly. It is an important role. EMs may also volunteer to take the Blessed Sacrament to those who are ill or otherwise unable to attend Mass i.e., nursing homes, hospital, in home, etc.

What is a **Lector**? A Lector is a lay person who assists at Mass by reading passages from the Old and New Testament and leading the Universal Prayer or "Prayers of the Faithful" at Sunday Mass when the Deacon is not present.

Both Lectors and EMs are baptized, confirmed, practicing Catholics in good standing with the Church and living a life of prayer and service within our community.

If you or someone you know might be interested in serving in either of these two ministries or have any questions about what it means to serve, please contact Mary Zerigian or Mary Ann Lawler. Training will be provided.

## IC Faith Formation

### School Year Programs

School year programs continue to take place for all grade levels. If you have not yet registered it is not too late. Forms and the class schedule can be found on our website ([hricatholic.org](http://hricatholic.org)) or call the Faith Formation office for information.

### Confirmation

The next Confirmation Prep class for **Year 1** (Grade 9) will be held Sunday, January 26, from 1:00–2:30.

Class for **Year 2** (Grade 10) will meet again on Tuesday, February 4 from 6:30–8:00 p.m.

Please remember an adult does need to accompany the candidate to class.

### Baptism Dates to Remember

Please call the Collaborative offices (978-462-2724) for information regarding the next **Baptism class** which is scheduled for **Sunday, February 2** with the sacrament scheduled to be celebrated on February 9.

### First Reconciliation/First Eucharist

Beginning this month, the children's classes will focus on preparing them for their First Eucharist. Please mark your calendars now for the first **parent meeting** scheduled for **Tuesday, February 25** at 6:30. Please also remember to complete and submit the **First Eucharist registration form** if you have not already done so.

## Coffee Hour



Come make a new friend or renew an acquaintance. Join us for coffee and homemade baked goods after the **9:00 Mass on January 12** at St. Louis Hall.

## Free Hair Cuts



Donna Koen, a parishioner and licensed hairdresser of over 30 years, is offering free hair cuts to anyone in need. She is willing to travel to your home. Her number is (978) 998-9219.

This is a service she has been offering for years for the Newburyport Housing Authority, Salvation Army, and the Sisters of Notre Dame.

She is happy to help our parishioners who are in need.

## Consolers Circle Meal

The IC community offers a light meal to families who have lost a loved one. The meal, provided by volunteers, is held in St. Louis Hall following the funeral Mass. Our hall holds up to 75 people, and there is no charge for this service. Donations are accepted. Inform the funeral director that you request this service when making arrangements.

Follow Us on Instagram  
HRICatholic

