

**HOLY REDEEMER AND IMMACULATE CONCEPTION
COLLABORATIVE PARISHES**

SERVING MERRIMAC, NEWBURY, NEWBURYPORT, AND WEST NEWBURY

hricatholic.org

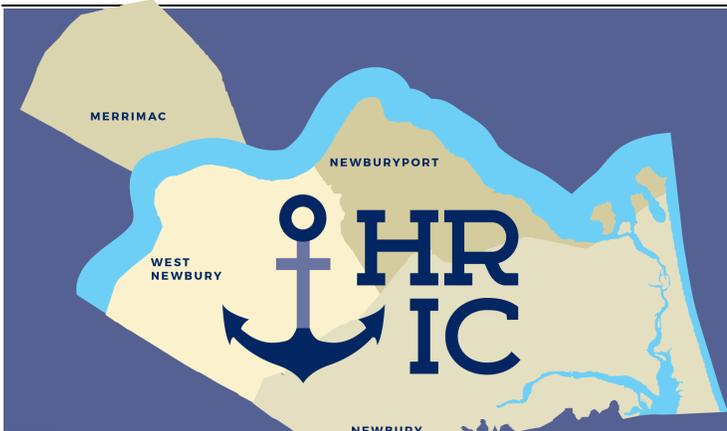
Third Sunday of Advent

December 15, 2019



*Be patient, therefore, brothers,
until the coming of the Lord. (James 5:7)*

All Are Welcome



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

Nativity

Parish offices and church:
4 Green St., Merrimac 01860

Office Hours: By appointment

Phone: 978-346-8604

Email: 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

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

Collaborative Staff

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info@newburyportcatholic.org,
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Senior Priest in Residence

Rev. William McLaughlin

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Saint Vincent de Paul Society at
Holy Redeemer
978-346-8604 x 8
hsvdp300@gmail.com

St. Vincent de Paul Society at
Immaculate Conception
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St Mary's Cemetery

Joseph Viel, 978-208-0266
joeviel@comcast.net

Online

Website: www.hricatholic.org

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

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

COLLABORATIVE NEWS

Collaborative Mass Schedule

Saturday (12/14)

4:00pm **IC Carmella Herlihy** (Fr. Morin)
4:00pm **Nativity** (Fr. Harrison)

Sunday (12/15)

7:15am **IC Ted LoPreste, Stephen Messina, Mary & Albert Salerno** (Fr. McLaughlin)
8:00am **Nativity** (Fr. Morin)
9:00am **IC Deacon Thomas Reilly, Marcello Angeloni, James Leonard** (Fr. Harrison)
10:15am **St. Ann Marie Matthias** (Fr. Morin)
11:30am **IC Lena Charles, For the intentions of those recently married** (Fr. Harrison)

Monday (12/16)

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

Tuesday (12/17)

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

Wednesday (12/18)

7:15am **IC Graciela Lamas, Ethel Upchurch** (Fr. Morin)

Thursday (12/19)

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

Friday (12/20)

9:00am **Nativity** (Fr. Harrison)
9:00am **IC School Liturgy** (Fr. Morin & Deacon Dow)
10:30am **Port Rehab** (Fr. McLaughlin)

Saturday (12/21)

4:00pm **IC Fr. Dick Messina, Angelo & Eleanor Messina, John & Katherine Kelley, Katherine Lombardo** (Fr. Harrison)
4:00pm **Nativity** (Fr. Morin & Deacon Dow)

Sunday (12/22)

7:15am **IC Regina M. Stronge, Normand Richard** (Fr. Morin)
8:00am **Nativity** (Fr. Harrison)
9:00am **IC Berj Terzian, Edward H. Grant** (Fr. McLaughlin)
10:15am **St. Ann** (Fr. Harrison)
11:30 am **IC Jeanne F. Baughn, Ellen Kelleher Guillette, Ethel Upchurch** (Fr. Morin)

In your prayers, please remember Edward Jones, Joan L. Flynn, Normand B. Richard, and all the faithful departed.

The priests' schedule is subject to change without notice.

IC—Immaculate Conception, Newburyport

Nativity—Merrimac

St. Ann—West Newbury

Christmas Mass Schedule for the Collaborative

Christmas Eve Masses

The 4:00pm Masses fill up quickly. Please arrive early.

4:00pm Immaculate Conception
4:00pm Immaculate Conception School Gym
4:00pm St. Ann
4:00pm Nativity
6:00pm Immaculate Conception
6:00pm Nativity

Christmas Day Masses

12:00 Midnight Immaculate Conception
8:00am Immaculate Conception
8:00am Nativity
10:00am Immaculate Conception
10:15am St. Ann



Advent Vespers Service



Give yourself the gift of an hour to slow down and reflect on Advent's message of anticipation. Engage in traditional Western antiphonal prayer in the presence of Eastern icons that illuminate the eye and expand the soul. A different theme than last week. All are welcome.

Date: Tuesday, December 17

Presenters: Rev. George E. Morin and Mary Schmidt

Place: St. Ann Church, Route 113, West Newbury

Time: 7:00 p.m.—8:00 p.m.

Admission: Free

{Hosted by the Adult Faith Formation Team}

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 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.

Additional Times for Reconciliation during Advent

Additional times for Confessions are available for you during Advent. What a wonderful way to prepare for the coming of our Lord at Christmas.

IC on Wednesday, December 18, 6:00–7:30 p.m.

Nativity on Thursday December 19, 6:00–7:30 p.m.



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Holy Redeemer - Immaculate Conception
Collaborative Parishes

COLLABORATIVE NEWS

This Week in Our Collaborative

Monday, December 16

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

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

Tuesday, December 17

IC Knitting Ministry 1:00pm, IC Conference Rm. 209

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

HR Confirmation 1 6:30pm, Nativity Hall

Advent Vespers 7:00pm, St. Ann Church

Wednesday, December 18

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

ICS Pre K and K Christmas Coffee 10:00am, IC St. Louis Hall

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

Reconciliation Time During Advent 6:00–7:30pm, IC Church

IC Choir Rehearsal 7:00pm, IC Church

Thursday, December 19

Reconciliation Time During Advent 6:00–7:30pm, Nativity Church

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

Friday, December 20

Adoration 8:00am, IC St. James Chapel

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

Saturday, December 21

Cursillo Group Reunion 8:00am St. Ann Church

Hibernians Meeting 9:00am IC Nazareth Library Rm. 205

Nativity Choir Rehearsal 3:30pm, Nativity Church

Sunday, December 22

Nativity Choir Rehearsal 7:45am, Nativity Church

HR Coffee & Donuts Social 9:00am, Nativity Hall

Nativity Church Christmas Decorating 10:00am, Nativity Church

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

St. Ann Church Christmas Decorating 11:15am, St. Ann Church

Christmas Collections

Clergy Health & Retirement Trust

At all our Christmas Masses, our only collection will be to support the retirement, medical, and financial needs of priests of the Archdiocese of Boston. On behalf of all of our priests, thank you in advance for your generosity. For more information, please visit clergyfunds.org.

San Marcos Christmas Coffee

December 14–15

We will have a large order of freshly-roasted Honduran coffee available for purchase after all collaborative Masses on December 14–15. Perhaps there is a coffee lover on your Christmas list who would enjoy this as a gift, and at the same time you will be helping to support the poor farmers of Honduras. \$10 per pound for this specialty whole bean or ground coffee. Call Karen Finnegan with questions 978-465-4173.

CORI Update

Have you filled out your CORI for 2020?

The Archdiocese of Boston requires all parish volunteers to fill out a CORI every year, even if you filled out one last year. Now is the time to fill out your CORI for 2020. If you have not filled out your 2020 CORI yet, look for Deacon Paul or Maureen after Mass and they can help you fill it out right then. All you need is your ID and they will help you take care of the rest.



Look for Deacon Paul and Maureen after Masses.

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

January 9	Women
February 6	Men
March 5	Women
April 2	Men
April 30	Women
June 4	Women

Ultreya Evenings

January 3	March 27
January 31	April 24
February 28	May 29

Sign up for FORMED

Enjoy a free subscription to **FORMED**

The Catholic Faith. On Demand.

FORMED provides amazing content 24/7. It's **free** and **easy** to register:

- Visit formed.org
- Click “Sign up”
- Click “I belong to a parish or organization” and type in “Holy Redeemer Immaculate Conception Collaborative” (or type in code JRNDGP) and tap “next”
- Add your name and email and click “sign up”
- You will receive an email that links you to the site

COLLABORATIVE NEWS

Mass Scripture Readings

December 15–22, 2019

All of us are encouraged to start or end our day praying with the Scriptures. Please access the HRIC webpage to learn about Lectio Divina as a way of praying the Scriptures. Go to www.HRICatholic.org and click on HRIC Pastoral Plan and then click on Lectio Divina.

- Sunday, Dec 15: Isaiah 35:1-6, 10; Psalm 146; James 5:7-10; Matthew 11:2-11
- Monday, Dec 16: Numbers 24:2-7, 15-17a; Psalm 25; Matthew 21:23-27
- Tuesday, Dec 17: Genesis 49:2, 8-10; Psalm 72; Matthew 1:1-17
- Wednesday, Dec 18: Jeremiah 23:5-8; Psalm 72; Matthew 1:18-25
- Thursday, Dec 19: Judges 13:2-7, 24-25a; Psalm 71; Luke 1:5-25
- Friday, Dec 20: Isaiah 7:10-14; Psalm 24; Luke 1:26-38
- Saturday, Dec 21: Song of Songs 2:8-14; Psalm 33; Luke 1:39-45
- Sunday, Dec. 22: Isaiah 7:10-14; Psalm 24; Romans 1:1-7; Matthew 1:18-24

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



Centering Prayer for Advent

As the days shorten and we enter the darkest season of the year we light advent candles and anticipate the coming of our Savior, Jesus, the light of the world. In the busyness of preparing for Christmas we may miss the gifts of Advent. Waiting with trust in God's promise of love that saves, deepens our faith and we become people of true hope who loved by God are able to love.

During Advent consider joining us weekly for Centering Prayer. As we enter the silence of God's love we assent to God's presence and action within us. Centering prayer is a practice and a discipline. Please consider leaving the noise of world and the busyness of your day behind for an hour on Wednesday from 6:00–7:00 p.m. in Conference Room 209 of the IC Parish Center. Following Centering Prayer, Lectio Divina enriches and instructs us as we listen to and share reflections on the words of scripture.

All are welcome to join us as we pray in these ancient Christian traditions and together prepare this Advent to welcome God's gift of His son Immanuel, *God with us*, into our hearts and our lives.

For more information please contact Elizabeth McCarthy 978 462-7483.

Questions of the Week

Adult: If Jesus were talking about you and your life, what could He say that would show that you were His follower?



Child: What are the things you do every day that show others you are a follower of Jesus?



Immaculate Conception School

Give your child/grandchild
the greatest gift:

A Catholic Education



Catholic school students develop confidence, build meaningful relationships, and contribute to a strong sense of community.

At the IC your child/grandchild will benefit from:

- High academic standards to prepare for future success
- A safe and disciplined classroom with the freedom to learn
- High-quality teachers, dedicated to fostering the potential and individuality in every student
- A faith-filled, value-based education with lifelong impact

Pre-K Program offers children ages 3 and 4 a flexible schedule of 2, 3, 4 or 5 days per week.

OPEN HOUSE: January 7 & 16 (9-11 am)
Sunday, January 26 (1-2 pm Catholic Schools Week)

PRIVATE TOUR: Call Kelley Pappalardo at (978) 465-7780 for a private tour or more info

One Washington Street, Newburyport, MA 01950 • icsnewburyport.com

COLLABORATIVE NEWS

Come to the Open House

See the Holy Family in 50 unique tableaux--mangers from 16 countries. New this year are scenes from Bangladesh, Panama, Alaska and Russia. Visit a few favorites from 2018 and many not displayed before.

Date: Sunday, December 29

Place: Nativity Hall, Church of the Nativity, Green St., Merrimac

Time: 1:00–4:00 p.m.

Find the cat, a buffalo, a barefoot Blessed Mother, the angel sitting on a gourd, and more.



Door prizes, religious boutique & book treasures, treats—all **free**. Inspiration? Most definitely.

If you would like us to save a spot for you to **showcase your manger**, make your **reservation** so that we can prepare your space for you. Please call 978-462-6191.

{Hosted by the Adult Faith Formation Team}

Follow Us on Instagram

HRICatholic



Catholic TV

Visit www.catholictv.com for a schedule of the latest program details on America's Catholic Television Network.

Open House Wish Stars

The Star shone over the manger where Jesus lay. Write your prayer asking Jesus where you most wish His light to shine on the world today. Cut out the star and bring it to the Holy Family Open House on December 29 to decorate Nativity Hall with prayers.



HR PARISH

Cookies for Okinawa



Thanks to everyone who donated time, postage, and cookies to our Cookies for Okinawa. We packed 10 boxes!

HR Holiday Fair Roundup

The Holy Redeemer Holiday Fair is all wrapped up for 2019 and the Activities Committee is happy to report we made over \$10,000.00 at this year's fair. **Thank you!**



We are happy to say Carol and Tony Sokolowski, who organized the **silent auction**, earned over \$3,000.00.

Our **basket table** had 141 gift baskets to sell; thank you to all that donated! The **bake table** was stocked, although we ran out of pies early in the day. (Next year we could use **more** pie donations). Our **nearly new table**, with the added two weeks to prepare, earned over \$1,800.00 for the parish. The **kitchen** served 159 lunches.



Those who volunteered, we are truly grateful for your efforts. Although we were short handed at times, our Fair was a huge success. The people just kept coming through the doors!! Please consider joining the **Activities Committee** next year. It is exhausting, but fun!! You won't regret it.

HR Youth Choir



Calling all singers and bell players! St. Ann is forming a youth choir (grades K–8) to play the bells and sing at the 4:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Mass. Contact Robin Plisinski if your child is interested.

HOLY REDEEMER PARISH

HR Offertory Collection

Offertory Nov. 30–Dec. 1	\$2,968.00
Offertory Dec. 7–8	\$3,034.50
Monthly	\$1,475.00

HR Grand Annual
Goal \$25,000
To Date \$18,865.00



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, January 2**.

HR Sandwich Program

The Holy Redeemer Sandwich Program delivers soup/salad and sandwiches to the Lazarus House Ministry twice a month, on the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of every month.



We will not be doing our regular delivery the week of December 25.

See the Collaborative calendar at www.hricatholic.org for the schedule. If you have questions please contact Dottie Carr at 978-363-2909.

HR Altar Server Training

Additional Altar Servers are needed for Nativity and St. Ann Masses. Training will be provided for Grades 4 and up. If you are interested or have any questions, please contact Tracy Blais.

HR Christmas Decorating

St. Ann

We will be decorating St. Ann Church for Christmas on Sunday, December 22 immediately after the 10:15 Mass.

All are welcome to help. Many hands makes light the work.

Nativity

We are looking for **help!** Our small group of volunteers who decorate the church for Christmas are asking for assistance in hanging wreaths, fluffing bows, moving the giving tree and decorating it, setting up chairs in the hall for Christmas Eve, placing the Nativity sets, decorating the choir loft, setting out flowers and more.

Please come help. We will start decorating after our coffee and donuts on Sunday, December 22 (about 10:00am).

HR Faith Formation

School Year Programs

School year programs for all grades are taking place. If you have yet to register it is not too late. Forms as well as class schedule can be found on our website (hricatholic.org) or call the Faith Formation office (978-462-2724 x7420) to request information be sent to you.

First Reconciliation/First Eucharist

Sacramental Prep classes for those children anticipating the reception of the Sacraments of Reconciliation and Eucharist have begun.

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, January 5** 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, December 17 in the Nativity Church Hall beginning at 6:30 (6:30–8:00).

Year 2 (Grade 10) class will meet again on Sunday, January 5 from 6–7:30 also in the Nativity Church Hall.

Registration forms can be brought to class if you have not yet registered. Please remember an adult does need to accompany the candidate.

Coffee After Mass



Join us for **coffee and donuts** after the 8:00 a.m. Mass in the Nativity Church Hall on Sunday, **December 22**. Come join us in wishing everyone a Merry Christmas!

Holy Redeemer Giving Trees

The Giving Trees are placed in the churches at the beginning of Advent to help us aid area programs for people in need during the Christmas season. We are currently giving to five programs: Emmaus, Inc. in Haverhill, The Holiday Helper Program for the Pentucket Area, Pregnancy Care Center in Haverhill and Newburyport areas, Lazarus House Ministries in Lawrence, and our St. Vincent de Paul Society. Some of the tags on the trees are for specific items that the groups are requesting, including toys and clothing. Please return the **unwrapped** gifts with the tags to the churches **by the weekend of December 15**. This allows time for us to deliver them to the programs for distribution in time for Christmas. We would ask if you take a tag and can't find the specific item that you either return the tag as soon as possible or consider getting a gift card. Thank you for all your generosity in the past, present, and future! If you have any questions, please call Dottie Carr 978-363-2909.

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION PARISH

IC Offertory Collection

Offertory Dec. 7-8 **\$10,500.00**
 Monthly **\$ 1,557.00**

The second collection this weekend is IC-Haiti. **Please make checks payable to IC-Haiti.**

IC Grand Annual
 Goal **\$100,000**
 To Date **\$53,718.00**



The Saint Vincent de Paul Society



Collection	\$ 37.00
Poor Box	\$802.00
Total	\$839.00

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.

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.

Troop 21 Boy Scout Blood Drive

Scout Troop 21 of Newburyport, MA and the American Red Cross are teaming up to boost blood supply. We want to help ensure that a safe and adequate blood supply is available when needed. Please donate blood on **Thursday, December 26** at the Newburyport Elks Club/Function Hall, 25 Low Street, Newburyport. Donor hours are 10:00 a.m.–3:00 p.m.

It only takes about an hour of time—and one small pinch—to become a hero to someone in need. Anyone 17 years of age or older, weighing 110 pounds or more, and feeling in good health may be eligible to donate blood. To make an appointment to donate blood call 800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767) or visit www.redcrossblood.org.

Immaculate Conception School



The 19th Annual North Pole Express on December 7 was once again a glorious event! A dusting of new-fallen snow sparkled in the sunlight as families dressed in matching pajamas arrived to board the train. There were many places within the Polar Village for families

to take photos with Christmas characters, Mrs. Claus, and the elves. Delicious homemade treats were aplenty at Mrs. Claus' Bakery as well as light up toys and Christmas story books on sale in the Village Mercantile. Each North Pole Express passenger enjoyed a cup of hot cocoa and cookies as they wrote out their Christmas list for Santa. Santa talked to each child on the train as his elves gave each a beautiful silver bell with a red ribbon. The North Pole Express requires a tremendous volunteer effort from school families. The creative talents and tireless dedication from parents came together last Saturday in an amazing way, making all of us proud to part of the IC school family.



Pictured, the Pre-K children enjoy pajama day and a special toy train demonstration to add the excitement of the North Pole Express fundraiser.



Follow Us on Twitter
 @HRICCatholic

The Compassionate Friends

The Compassionate Friends (TCF) of Greater Newburyport provides support for bereaved families after the loss of a child, grandchild, or sibling—any age, any cause. Visit our website at tcfnewburyport.org.

Our monthly support meetings are held in the IC Parish Center, Room 209 at 7:30–9:00 p.m. on the fourth Monday of the month. Our next meeting is **December 23**.

Barbara J. Hopkinson is founder and chapter leader. Contact Barbara for questions on either TCF or ABJ.

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION PARISH

IC Faith Formation

School Year Programs

School year programs for all grade levels are taking place. If you have not yet registered it is not too late. Forms and the class schedule can be found on our website (hriccatholic.org) or call the Faith Formation office for information.

The next class for Grades K–8 will be Sunday, January 5.

Confirmation

The next Confirmation Prep class for **Year 1** (Grade 9) will be held Sunday, January 5 from 1:00–2:30 p.m.

Class for **Year 2** (Grade 10) will meet again on Tuesday, January 7 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, January 5** with the sacrament scheduled to be celebrated on January 12.

First Reconciliation/First Eucharist

If your child was not able to participate in the Group Reconciliation service held here at IC, please contact the Faith Formation office.

Beginning in January, 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.

Pre-Planning/At-Need Burial Space

Immaculate Conception Parish owns and operates a private cemetery located on Storey Avenue. St. Mary's Cemetery is a 35-acre cemetery with consecrated grounds that provides tranquility and peacefulness at those difficult times that we all are faced with. Please visit the parish cemetery and you will find the cemetery to be well-managed and maintained. Cemetery plots are available for full-body and cremated remains burials in any denomination. Call Joseph Viel, Superintendent, at 978-208-0266 to schedule an appointment.

IC St. Vincent de Paul

The St. Vincent de Paul of I.C. humbly gives thanks to all that donated to the Thanksgiving special collection. We are a small group of members, but a very active group that gives our time and resources to many of the area residents. The requests for assistance in rent, food, transportation, and sometimes medical issues are taken under consideration and problems solved with kindness and respect.

We send you our prayers and blessings at the holy season of Christmas.

The St. Vincent de Paul members of IC

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.

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.

IC Online Giving

Immaculate Conception Parish provides Online Giving—a convenient and safe way to make a one-time or a recurring (weekly) donation. Getting started is easy—you need to be a registered member of Immaculate Conception Parish community. (At this time, Online Giving is available for only IC members.) Registration forms are available in the foyer of the church or at the parish office. Once you register, visit our website, hriccatholic.org and click the "Links" tab, then click on "Online Giving" to get to the site. There are four different funds you can choose to contribute to. If you manage your other bills online, why not give to your Church online? It is safe and secure and you get to decide exactly when and to where your gift will be made. Any questions? Contact Linda Temple, IC Administrative Assistant 978-462-2724 x7404.

SVdP Advent Project

At this time of year we thank God for his many blessings. We do the best we can to take care of one another, and we look forward to opportunities to help those in need, especially at the holidays. During Advent, the Society of St. Vincent de Paul is grateful to receive donated gift cards from parishioners. The gift cards (from grocery stores, gas stations, pharmacies, and clothing/houseware stores) are used during the year to help people in Newbury and Newburyport who contact the Society of St. Vincent de Paul for help. Please visit the Advent display in the front of the church. Donate gift cards by placing them in the collection basket at any Mass. Thank you for helping us to help others.