

# HOLY REDEEMER AND IMMACULATE CONCEPTION COLLABORATIVE PARISHES

SERVING MERRIMAC, NEWBURY, NEWBURYPORT, AND WEST NEWBURY

## Fourth Sunday of Advent

December 23, 2018

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



Front façade of church at Ein Karim, in the hill country of Judea, Israel

*“Mary set out and traveled to the hill country in haste to a town of Judah, where she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth.” (Lk. 1:39-40)*

*All Are Welcome*





# Immaculate Conception School (IC)

**Teaching** children to be **good role models**  
is a **top priority**



Shopping buddies at  
the IC Christmas Store

**Kindness, caring and respectful behavior are reflected in every aspect of the learning environment at the IC... and that's what makes us such a special school!**

**OPEN  
HOUSE**

1 - 2 pm: Sunday, January 27 (Catholic Schools Week)

9 - 11 am: January 8 & 16 • February 7 • March 5

Call Kelley Pappalardo at (978) 465 - 7780 for a private tour

Immaculate Conception School is an affordable, private Catholic elementary school (pre-k – eighth grade), providing high-quality, faith-based education, preparing young people for life, spiritually, academically and socially.

One Washington Street, Newburyport, MA 01950 • (978) 465 - 7780 • [icsnewburyport.com](http://icsnewburyport.com)

# COLLABORATIVE NEWS

## Collaborative Mass Schedule

### Saturday (12/22)

4:00pm **IC** *Stanley Jancewicz, John K. Herlihy, John & Katherine Kelley, For the intentions of Stephen Paciulan* (Fr. McLaughlin)

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

### Sunday (12/23)

7:15am **IC** *Regina M. Stronge* (Fr. Harrison)

8:00am **Nativity** *Lee Morphett* (Fr. Morin)

9:00am **IC** (Fr. McLaughlin)

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

11:30am **IC** (Fr. Harrison)

### Monday (12/24) **Christmas Eve**

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

4:00pm **IC** School Gym (Fr. McLaughlin)

4:00pm **St. Ann** (Fr. Drew Christiansen)

4:00pm **Nativity** (Fr. Morin & Deacon Dow)

6:00pm **IC** (Fr. McLaughlin)

6:00pm **Nativity** (Fr. Morin)

### Tuesday (12/25) **Christmas Day**

12:00midnight **IC** (Fr. Harrison)

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

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

10:00am **IC** (Fr. Harrison & Deacon Dow)

10:15am **St. Ann** (Fr. Drew Christiansen)

### Wednesday (12/26)

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

### Thursday (12/27)

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

### Friday (12/28)

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

### Saturday (12/29)

4:00pm **IC** *John & Katherine Kelley* (Fr. Morin)

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

### Sunday (12/30)

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

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

9:00am **IC** (Fr. Morin)

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

11:30am **IC** (Fr. Morin)

In your prayers, please remember George Cooper, Lidwine Beevers, Ann Clancy, Olive Fitzgerald, Mary Louise Fowler, Thomas Murphy, and all the faithful departed.

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

*IC—Immaculate Conception, Newburyport*

*Nativity—Merrimac*

*St. Ann—West Newbury*

## From the Pastor

Dear Parishioners,

Very little is known about Elizabeth, wife of Zechariah and the mother of John the Baptist. We only know that she was of advanced age and thought to be unable to have children in a time and culture where a woman's worth was measured nearly entirely by her ability to give birth to many children and raise a family. Children were the ancients' social security system, and because of a very high rate of disease and infant mortality, it was necessary for a couple to bring many children into the world, in the hopes that at least some of them would make it to adulthood and be able to care for their parents in their elderly years. For most people, there really wasn't a "Plan B." That Zechariah and Elizabeth were elderly and without children meant that they were facing certain poverty and suffering at any moment, perhaps becoming a charity case for their village, at best.

Yet they never gave up hope that God would be faithful. Even in their old age, they longed for and prayed for a son, who might fulfill their dream of parenthood. Although beyond what was thought to be biologically possible, Elizabeth never despaired of God's goodness. Perhaps the greatest sign of her profound hope was to recognize and celebrate God's saving action in the life of her much younger cousin, Mary.

*"Blessed are you who believed that what was spoken to you by the Lord would be fulfilled."*  
(Lk. 1:45)

Her words are a lesson for us today, to never give up hope in God's saving plan for us. This Christmas, we are called once again to believe in something and some One greater than ourselves. Maybe we are experiencing many obstacles, detours, and our own set of "impossibilities" along the way. Maybe we see dead ends and lost causes when it comes to what we thought God would be doing for us in our lives, Church, and world. It can be powerfully tempting to think that God's blessings are only a thing of

*(Continued on page 4)*

## Christmas Collections

### Clergy Health and Retirement Trust

This Christmas, please consider contributing to a **special diocesan-wide Christmas collection for the health and well-being of the 580 active and senior priests in good standing** in our Archdiocese. Amid these difficult times for our Church, our hardworking priests need your support now more than ever. Please take this opportunity to say thank you to all the priests, including our senior priests, who have devoted their lives to our Church. . . and to all of us. To donate online, please visit [clergytrust.org](http://clergytrust.org) or text the word PRIEST25 to 20222 to donate \$25. *Msg. and data rates may apply.*



## COLLABORATIVE NEWS

### This Week in Our Collaborative

**Monday, December 24, Christmas Eve**

**Collaborative Offices Closed**

**Tuesday, December 25, Christmas Day**

**Collaborative Offices Closed**

**Wednesday, December 26**

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

**Thursday, December 27**

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

**Friday, December 28**

**Collaborative Offices Close at Noon**

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

**Saturday, December 29**

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

**Sunday, December 30**

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

**St. Ann Choir Rehearsal** 9:45am, St. Ann Church

**Holy Family Open House** 1:00pm, Nativity Hall

### Online Christmas Bulletin

Watch for our online-only Christmas edition of the bulletin. It will be packed full of news and photos from the Collaborative. Look for the bulletin on December 24 on our website: [hriccatholic.org](http://hriccatholic.org), on Facebook: [Holy Redeemer - Immaculate Conception Collaborative Parishes](https://www.facebook.com/HolyRedeemer-ImmaculateConceptionCollaborativeParishes), on Twitter: [@HRICatholic](https://twitter.com/HRICatholic), and on Instagram: [hriccatholic](https://www.instagram.com/hriccatholic).

### Celebrating the Sacraments

#### Reconciliation

IC: Saturdays: 3:00pm to 3:30pm or by appointment.

HR: Saturdays before the 4:00pm Mass or by appointment.

#### Baptism

Call the Parish offices for information and to register.

#### Marriage

Archdiocesan guidelines request that couples planning to marry in the Church contact the church at least six months prior to the wedding date.

#### Sacrament of the Sick

This Sacrament should not be seen as only administered when there is danger of death. Please call us if someone is in the hospital, so that we can visit the loved one and have the community pray for them.

*(Continued from page 3)*

the past, a once-cherished history lesson that fades more and more with time.

But nothing could be further from the truth.

If our faith journey tells us anything, it is precisely at our lowest moments that God acts most powerfully to raise up new life in our midst and call us to greater holiness. Bethlehem was just about the most unimportant place in the world, barely on any map and hardly of significance to anyone at the time. And yet God chose this sleepy little hamlet to be the place where our Savior would be born into time. He chose the simplest of people, the most humble of circumstances to put into motion the grandest of all actions: the salvation of the human race and the redemption of all creation. He didn't do all that for it to simply fade away, to become irrelevant, or only a distant memory, perhaps fondly recalled occasionally.

God sent His only Son to be our Savior out of a deep and passionate love for each one of us through the end of time. That love is as undiminished today as it was two millennia ago. It is real, present to us at every moment of every day, and as life-giving as it has ever been. We experience that love in moments of forgiveness, compassion, mercy, and charity. We find it in neighbor and stranger, amidst family and friends. It is alive in our communities, our schools, places of work, and play. We encounter it in throngs of crowds and the quietest of secluded personal moments. Be honest: look! It is there! But, like Elizabeth and Mary and all those holy ones who have rejoiced in God's love, to benefit from this we have to open our hearts and believe that what has been promised to us in Jesus Christ, will be fulfilled... even if we have no remote idea how that will happen. St. Matthew reminds us:

*"Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you. For everyone who asks, receives; and the one who seeks, finds; and to the one who knocks, the door will be opened." (Mt. 7:7-8)*

We must trust that his prayer will be answered richly! May we open our hearts to receive this gift of God's saving love, as Elizabeth and Mary once did so joyfully long ago.

Merry Christmas to all!

Fr. Timothy Harrison, Pastor

### Holiday Office Hours

Collaborative offices will be closed on Christmas Eve, December 24, and Christmas Day, December 25. Offices will reopen on Wednesday, December 26 at 8:00am.

Collaborative offices will close on Friday, December 28 at 12:00 noon. Offices will be closed on New Year's Eve, December 31, and New Year's Day, January 1. Offices will reopen on Wednesday, January 2 at 8:00am.

Fourth Sunday  of Advent

# COLLABORATIVE NEWS

## Mass Scripture Readings: Dec. 23–Dec. 30, 2018

In praying with the Scriptures, we have the opportunity to deepen our relationship with the Lord while discerning His ever-gracious invitation to love as He loves us. Please refer to the HRIC webpage to learn about Lectio Divina as a way of praying the Scriptures. Go to <http://www.hriccatholic.org/blog/lectio-divina> or to [www.HRICcatholic.org](http://www.HRICcatholic.org) and click on HRIC Pastoral Plan and then click on Lectio Divina.

- Sunday, Dec 23: Micah 5:1-4a; Psalm 80; Hebrews 10:5-10; Luke 1:39-45
- Monday, Dec 24: 2 Samuel 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16; Psalm 89; Luke 1:67-79
- Tuesday, Dec 25: Isaiah 9:1-6; Psalm 96; Titus 2:11-14; Luke 2:1-14
- Wednesday, Dec 26: Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59; Psalm 31; Matthew 10:17-22
- Thursday, Dec 27: 1 John 1:1-4; Psalm 97; John 20:1a, 2-8
- Friday, Dec 28: 1 John 1:5 – 2:2; Psalm 124; Matthew 2:13-18
- Saturday, Dec 29: 1 John 2:3-11; Psalm 96; Luke 2:22-35
- Sunday, Dec 30: Sirach 3:2-6, 12-14; Psalm 128; Colossians 3:12-21; Luke 2:41-52

## Questions of the Week



**Adult:** Can you describe a time when you felt the presence of the Holy Spirit?

**Child:** Tell about a time when you felt great joy.

## 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.



## 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

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



## Pilgrimage to Ireland

Join us for an enriching journey through the Emerald Isle in 2019! We depart May 13, 2019 for a memorable pilgrimage through various sites of unparalleled beauty, historic significance, and religious importance. Our tour will include visits to Dublin, Galway, the Dingle Peninsula, Kilarney, the Ring of Kerry, Clonmacnoise, Knock, and more.

For more information, visit: [www.pilgrimages.com/fathertim-hric](http://www.pilgrimages.com/fathertim-hric) or contact Paul Blanchette at (978) 500-5661. Come on a Faith Journey with us!

## Bulletin Information

Email all bulletin submissions by Monday at noon to [hricbulletin@gmail.com](mailto:hricbulletin@gmail.com).

## Collaborative Contacts

Rev. Timothy Harrison, Pastor,  
978-462-2724 or 978-346-8604

[info@newburyportcatholic.org](mailto:info@newburyportcatholic.org),  
[holyredeemer@verizon.net](mailto:holyredeemer@verizon.net)

Rev. George E. Morin, Parochial Vicar,  
978-462-2724 or 978-346-8604

[gemorin1945@gmail.com](mailto:gemorin1945@gmail.com)

Deacon Paul Dow, Permanent Deacon,  
978-887-5350, [paul Dow49@gmail.com](mailto:paul Dow49@gmail.com)

Donald Alunni, Business Manager,  
978-462-2724 [dalunni@newburyportcatholic.org](mailto:dalunni@newburyportcatholic.org)

Sheila Cruise, Receptionist,  
978-462-2724, [scruise@newburyportcatholic.org](mailto:scruise@newburyportcatholic.org) or  
978-346-8604, [holyredeemer@verizon.net](mailto:holyredeemer@verizon.net)

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

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

# COLLABORATIVE NEWS

## Greeters for Christmas Masses

Please join us to greet parishioners and guests at one of the Christmas Masses in our collaborative community. Christmas Mass times are:

### Christmas Eve, Dec. 24

4:00pm IC Church  
4:00pm IC School Gym  
4:00pm St. Ann  
4:00pm Nativity  
6:00pm IC  
6:00pm Nativity

### Christmas Day

12:00midnight IC  
8:00am IC  
8:00am Nativity  
10:00am IC  
10:15am St. Ann

We are hoping to have greeters at all the Masses to welcome everyone as they arrive for services on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day. We would love to have you greet with us. If interested, please contact Sherry Robbins at 978-502-3798 or [srobbinsesq@comcast.net](mailto:srobbinsesq@comcast.net).

## 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.

## "Open House"

### Feast of the Holy Family



*Manger scenes from families across the Collaborative and from around the world will be displayed by their owners.*

Give your family the gift of an **experience** with the Holy Family as seen in 35 manger scenes!

**Free** stocking stuffer invitations (miniature scrolls) at all 3 churches (while supplies last).

**Free** door prizes.

**Free** three-hour self-directed Nativity Hall tour of nativities presented by the parishioners who own them.

**Free** inspiration: the Holy Family depicted in terra cotta, wood, ceramic, crystal, paper, resin, plaster, or wool!

**Date:** Sunday, December 30 from 1pm–4pm

**Place:** Nativity Hall, Merrimac

**Questions?** Contact: Mary Schmidt: 978-462-6191 or [maryschmidt@homepro@hotmail.com](mailto:maryschmidt@homepro@hotmail.com).

{Hosted by the Adult Faith Formation Team}

## 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 7pm in St. James Chapel to continue the Cursillo spirit. All are welcome. Please join us! For more information, contact Jonathan Temple 978-809-9337 or Pat Forbes 617-899-0424.

### Cursillo weekends 2019

January 3	Women
February 7	Men
March 7	Women
April 4	Men
May 2	Women
June 6	Women
October 3	Men
November 7	Women

### Ultreya Evenings

January 4	February 1
March 1	March 29
April 26	May 31

## 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 please consider joining us for Centering Prayer. As we enter the silence of God's love we assent to God's presence and action within us. We say "Yes" to His invitation to be transformed into people of true hope. Simply resting in God in silence, we surrender and come to know in our hearts God's unmerited, unconditional love for us and transformed by this grace we can share His love in daily life.

All are welcome as we pray in this ancient Christian tradition and together prepare this Advent to welcome the Savior into our hearts and our lives.

The Centering Prayer group meets every Wednesday evening from 6:00pm–7:00pm in the IC Parish Center.

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



# IMMACULATE CONCEPTION PARISH

## IC Offertory Collection

The Christmas collection benefits Clergy Health and Retirement Trust. See bulletin page 3 for more information.

IC Grand Annual  
Goal \$100,000  
To Date \$56,705.00



## Fr. Broderick's Address

For anyone who would like to send a Christmas greeting to Fr. Broderick, his address at Regina Cleri is:  
60 William Cardinal O'Connell Way  
Boston, MA 02114

## 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.

## Florida Hurricane Relief

The family in Panama City whom we have been helping has finally been able to return to their home, although they still face many repairs and challenges going forward as they attempt to rebuild their lives. At this point, the best way to continue to help them is through the GoFundMe page:

<https://www.gofundme.com/gxv84-hurricane-michael-relief>

Thank you so much for your generosity! We will keep you updated as to their progress. Please continue to keep them and all those affected by Hurricane Michael in your thoughts and prayers.

## IC Knitting Ministry



The Prayer Shawl Knitting Group meets Tuesdays at 1:00pm in room 209 in the IC Parish Center. We knit/crochet prayer shawls, hats, mittens, scarves for charity.

Come join us; we meet every Tuesday at 1:00pm. Everyone is welcome! For more information, call Julia O'Connor 978-465-3350 or Frances Ronan 978-462-4972.

## Immaculate Conception School

*The students and staff at Immaculate Conception School wish you a very Merry Christmas!*



## Newburyport VIP Card

Pick up a **free 2018 Newburyport VIP Card** and a discounts list from the table in the back of the church. The VIP Card helps raise money for Immaculate Conception Church and gives you discounts at 180 Greater Newburyport restaurants and retailers. Use the 2018 card for free until the end of the year and if you are interested in purchasing 2019 Cards for yourself or as a gifts, **place an order** at: <https://www.newburyport.com/immaculate-conception-church/>  
**Questions:** [VIPcard@Newburyport.com](mailto:VIPcard@Newburyport.com)

## Boy Scout Blood Drive



Boy Scout Troop 21 of Newburyport and the American Red Cross are teaming up to boost blood supply. Please continue supporting your family, friends, neighbors, and coworkers by donating blood on **Thursday, December 27** at the Newburyport Elks Club Function Hall, 25 Low Street, Newburyport. Donor hours are 10:00 a.m.–3:00 p.m.

It takes about an hour of time—and one small pinch—to become a hero and give the “Gift of Life” 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 1-800-733-2767 or visit [www.redcrossblood.org](http://www.redcrossblood.org).

## Parish Membership

We welcome all newcomers to our Parish communities and hope you take an active part in parish life. Please introduce yourself and register in the parish. Forms are available online at [www.hricatholic.org](http://www.hricatholic.org) or you can call the Parish offices.



## Like Us on Facebook

Holy Redeemer - Immaculate Conception  
Collaborative Parishes

# IMMACULATE CONCEPTION PARISH

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## IC Religious Education

Religious Ed. Office: 978-462-2724

### School Year Programs

Classes for Grades K–8 are held Sunday mornings from 10:05–11:05. We are always happy to enroll new students. For more information contact the Religious Ed. Office.

**Substitutes** Please consider helping us in this capacity should one of our catechists not be available. Perhaps you and another parent could co-teach?

**Classes will *not* be held this Sunday, December 23 or the following Sunday, December 30.**

**Classes will resume on Sunday, January 6.**

### Confirmation

Registrations are still being accepted for those students who wish to prepare for Confirmation. Please call the Religious Ed. Office for more information.

**Our next class is scheduled for January 27.**

### Baptism Dates to Remember

Please call the Parish Office for information regarding what is needed to **pre-register** for the next Baptism class scheduled for Sunday, January 6 at 1:00 p.m.

Our group Baptism will be celebrated on January 13.

### Reconciliation / First Eucharist

Our group Reconciliation will take place **Saturday, January 5 at 11:00am** for those students preparing for the reception of this sacrament.

Please contact the Religious Ed Office for more information.

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## EWTN: Catholic News

Want the latest Catholic News? EWTN News has you covered. EWTN News: Your Online Catholic Resource.

<http://www.ewtnnews.com/>

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## 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](http://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.

## IC Liturgical Ministers

The signup sheet for those wishing to serve at one of the Christmas Liturgies and for New Year’s Day is available in the sacristy. If you know what Mass you will be attending, please don’t wait to secure a spot!

We are still missing CORIs. Please complete and submit this form to the Parish Office as soon as possible as they are past due. Forms are available in the sacristy.

Also, be aware that the Archdiocese **will not** accept copies so please submit your form in person or by mail.

Remember when submitting your CORI form by mail, a **picture ID** must also be submitted for verification purposes.

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## St. Vincent de Paul Advent Project

There is an Advent project displayed in the main entry of the Immaculate Conception Church. During the weeks leading up to Christmas, parishioners are invited to take tags from the display. The tags are for gift cards that can be purchased from food stores, pharmacies, gas stations, and department stores. Please return the gift cards to the church by placing them in the collection basket at any Mass during Advent. The cards will be used by the Society of St. Vincent de Paul in response to requests for help from our local neighbors in need. We thank you for helping us to help others.

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## 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.

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## Knights of Columbus

The next monthly meeting of the Knights of Columbus will be held on **Tuesday, January 8** at 7:30pm in the IC Nazareth Library, Room 205. We welcome new members to this long-standing group of Catholic men. For more information, contact us at [membership@kofc231.org](mailto:membership@kofc231.org), (978) 572-0231.

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## Adoration

Join us for Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament in IC’s St. James Chapel on Fridays from 8:00am–12:00noon.



# HOLY REDEEMER PARISH

## HR Offertory Collection

Offertory, December 15–16

\$3,442.00

The Christmas collection benefits Clergy Health and Retirement Trust. See bulletin page 3 for more information.

**HR Grand Annual  
Goal \$25,000  
To Date \$14,945.00**



## 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 3**.

## Coffee After Mass

Please join us for a coffee social on Sunday, December 23 after the 8:00 Mass in the Nativity Church Hall. A great time to catch up with your parish family or maybe meet a new friend!



## HR Christmas Decorating

All are invited to come help decorate our **Nativity** Church for Christmas! Please plan on joining us on **Sunday, December 23** at 10:00am (after the coffee hour).

## Activities Committee Meeting

The Activities Committee will meet at Nativity Hall on **Thursday, January 24** at 6:45pm. All are welcome.



## Holy Redeemer Christmas Flowers



Wilfred A. Vaillancourt • Joanne Crounse • Stephen Crounse • Deceased Members of The Ross and Garozzo Families • Mr. & Mrs. Walter Dunn • John Gorski • Gerard Routhier • The Gallant Family • The Gorski Family • The Lynch & Quinn Families • Hannelore Petry • A. Henry Duhamel • Paula Wolfe • Irene Fedorowicz • Miguel Muñoz • Angela Galvez • Helen Clark • Arthur Clark • Thomas O'Callaghan • The Pendergast and The DiResta Families • The Somma Family • Jack Kirwan • Michael Kirwan • Lloyd Hayes, Sr. • Wilhelmina Hayes • Tracey Reynold Sheehan • Patsy Hanlon • Kenneth Lumsden • Bob Hansen • Leonel Gallant • The Murphy Family • John Joseph Downs • Eric Warne • Yvonne Desaulniers • Sarah Coddington • Raoul Desaulniers • Robert & Edith deLyon • Charles & Katherine Friel • Ruth Leo • John & Mary Leo • Jo, Lou, Johnny, Francis J. Smith • Olga Tiska • Maman, Joseph Burak • Merleen Hickey • Helen & Frank Perry • Evelyn & Joe Hickey • Delpha & Chas. Brown • Margaret & Felix O'Neil • Deceased Members of The Pontorno/Heaton Family • The Myers & Proposki Family • Mary Drouin • William McGurn • Eugene J. Wood • Paul M. Wood • Peter J. Wood • Barbara Harrison • The Sullivan Family • The Bradley Family • Pat Leahy • Maureen Curley • Ruth & Frederick Johnston • Henry & Victoria Duchemin • Alfred & Henry J. Duchemin • Robert & Ronald Johnston • John H. Thumser • and Robert M. Thumser

## HR Religious Education

*Blessed Christmas season to all!*

All families can find registration forms, class schedules, and calendar events online at: [hricatholic.org](http://hricatholic.org). Click on *Faith Formation*, then *Holy Redeemer* tab. Collaborative bulletins can be found on this site, too.

**Contact Info: Office of Religious Education**

Doreen O'Leary (Rel. Ed. email: [reledhrp@gmail.com](mailto:reledhrp@gmail.com))

## 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 delivering sandwiches on the fourth Wednesday of December. Hope you all have a Merry Christmas.**

See the Collaborative calendar at [www.hricatholic.org](http://www.hricatholic.org) for the schedule. Contact Dotty Carr at 978-363-2909 with questions.

## HR St. Vincent de Paul Society

The Conference wants to thank you for the gift card donations that were received in response to our giving tree requests. These cards will go directly to our clients who live in West Newbury and Merrimac. We would be unable to help the needy without your assistance and we wish you a blessed Christmas.

If you are writing a check for us, please write the check to HR Saint Vincent de Paul to help expedite our banking.

## Saturday Mass at Nativity

Please remember that our Saturday 4:00pm Mass will move to **Nativity, Merrimac** on **December 29**.