

**HOLY REDEEMER AND IMMACULATE CONCEPTION
COLLABORATIVE PARISHES**

SERVING MERRIMAC, NEWBURY, NEWBURYPORT, AND WEST NEWBURY

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, And Joseph

December 29, 2019



hricatholic.org

*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

Pastor

Rev. Timothy Harrison,
978-462-2724 or 978-346-8604
info@newburyportcatholic.org,
holyredeemer@verizon.net

Parochial Vicar

Rev. George E. Morin,
978-462-2724 or 978-346-8604
gemorin1945@gmail.com

Weekend Assistant

Rev. James Broderick

Senior Priest in Residence

Rev. William McLaughlin

Permanent Deacon

Deacon Paul Dow
978-887-5350, pauldow49@gmail.com

Office Associates

Donald Alunni, Business Manager
978-462-2724 x 7351
dalunni@newburyportcatholic.org

Sheila Cruise, Receptionist
978-462-2724 x 7403 or 978-346-8604
scruise@newburyportcatholic.org or
holyredeemer@verizon.net

Karen Leff, Coordinator of Media Outreach
hricbulletin@gmail.com

Linda Temple, Administrative Assistant
978-462-2724 x7404
temple@newburyportcatholic.org

Music Ministry

Jennifer Acorn, Nativity Organist
jen.acorn@comcast.net

Donna Postle, IC Music Ministry Director
978-317-8903
donnapostle233@gmail.com

Tim Richard, IC organist
trichard23@gmail.com

Steve Swochak, IC Music Coordinator
978-462-2855
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

Melinda Burrell, Administrative Assistant to
Lifelong Faith Formation
978-462-2724 x 7420
burrell@newburyportcatholic.org

Marin Fortune, RCIA, 978-462-2724
fortune@newburyportcatholic.org

Immaculate Conception School

Joan Sullivan, Principal, 978-465-7780
jsullivan@newburyportcatholic.org

Maintenance

Bud Kent, IC Building Maintenance
978-462-2724
bkent@newburyportcatholic.org

Eddie Martinez, IC Facilities Manager
978-462-2724
emartinez@newburyportcatholic.org

Cliff Vandenbulcke, IC School Custodian
978-465-7780
cvandenbulcke@newburyportcatholic.org

St. Vincent de Paul

Saint Vincent de Paul Society at
Holy Redeemer
978-346-8604 x 8
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

Online

Website: www.hricatholic.org

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

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

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

COLLABORATIVE NEWS

Collaborative Mass Schedule

Saturday (12/28)

4:00pm **IC** *John K. Herlihy, William Herlihy, John & Katherine Kelley, Nancy Jones* (Fr. Morin)
 4:00pm **Nativity** (Fr. McLaughlin)

Sunday (12/29)

7:15am **IC** (Fr. Harrison & Deacon Dow)
 8:00am **Nativity** (Fr. Morin)
 9:00am **IC** (Fr. Harrison)
 10:15am **St. Ann** (Fr. Morin)
 11:30am **IC** (Fr. McLaughlin)

Monday (12/30)

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

Tuesday (12/31) New Year's Eve

4:00pm **IC** (Fr. Harrison)
 4:00pm **Nativity** *Jack Gorski* (Fr. McLaughlin)

Wednesday (1/1) Mary, Mother of God

9:00am **St. Ann** (Fr. Harrison)
 10:00am **IC** (Fr. Morin & Deacon Dow)

Thursday (1/2)

7:15am **IC** *Peter Charles Boschetti* (Fr. Morin)

Friday (1/3)

9:00am **Nativity** (Fr. Morin)
 1:30pm **Avita** (Fr. McLaughlin)

Saturday (1/4)

4:00pm **IC** *Carmella Herlihy, Ann Conway* (Fr. McLaughlin)
 4:00pm **Nativity** *Julie Brousseau* (Fr. Morin & Deacon Dow)

Sunday (1/5)

7:15am **IC** (Fr. Morin & Deacon Dow)
 8:00am **Nativity** (Fr. Harrison)
 9:00am **IC** (Fr. McLaughlin)
 10:15am **St. Ann** (Fr. Harrison)
 11:30am **IC** (Fr. Morin & Deacon Dow)

In your prayers please remember Clarence Lavalley and all the faithful departed.

The priests' schedule is subject to change without notice.

*IC—Immaculate Conception, Newburyport
 Nativity—Merrimac
 St. Ann—West Newbury*

Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God

Wednesday, January 1 is the Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God and is a Holy Day of Obligation. Mass times in the Collaborative are listed below.

Tuesday, December 31, 4:00pm, IC Church
 Tuesday, December 31, 4:00pm, Nativity Church
 Wednesday, January 1, 9:00am, St. Ann Church
 Wednesday, January 1, 10:00am, IC Church

Holiday Office Hours

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

Come to the Open House

See the Holy Family in 50 unique arrangements—mangers from 16 different 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**. This event is a must-see.

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 or email.



{Hosted by the Adult Faith Formation Team}

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.



COLLABORATIVE NEWS

This Week in Our Collaborative

Monday, December 30

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

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

Tuesday, December 31, New Year's Eve

Collaborative Offices Close at 12:00 noon

Wednesday, January 1, New Year's Day

Collaborative Offices Closed

Thursday, January 2

HR Prayer Shawl 1:00pm, Nativity Hall

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

Welcoming & Ministry Teams Meeting 7:00pm, IC Charity Dining Room

Friday, January 3

Adoration 8:00am, IC St. James Chapel

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

Ultreya 7:00pm, IC St. James Chapel/Charity Dining Room

Saturday, January 4

Catechist Morning Prayer 8:00am, IC Charity Dining Room

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

Holy Quilters 8:00am, Nativity Hall

Nativity Choir Rehearsal 3:30pm, Nativity Church

Sunday, January 5

Nativity Choir Rehearsal 7:45am, Nativity Church

IC Faith Formation 10:00am, IC Parish Center

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

HR Grade 2 Faith Formation 11:45am, Nativity Hall

Baptism Class 1:00pm, IC Charity Dining Room

IC Confirmation Year 1 Class 1:00pm, IC St. Louis Hall

HR Confirmation 2 Class 6:00pm, Nativity Hall

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.

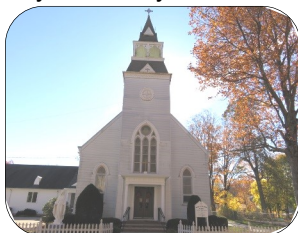
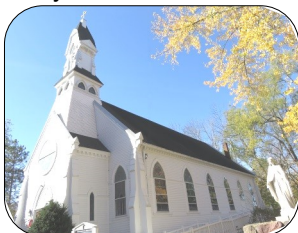
Community Food Pantry

First Parish Church of Newbury Community Food Pantry, 20 High Road, Newbury, is open every Friday from 3:00pm–5:00pm for anyone in need in the Collaborative's towns as well as Georgetown, Rowley, and Salisbury. The volunteers are very welcoming and no one is made to feel uncomfortable when visiting. No registration or proof of residency required. Fresh fruit and vegetables, many types of frozen meats, pasta, and desserts, as well as an array of canned goods, toiletries, etc. are available.

If you would like to donate, nonperishable goods, personal hygiene products, and/or pet food may be dropped off on Sunday mornings from 9:30–11:30am. Grocery store gift cards as well as cash/checks (made out to "First Parish" and write "food pantry" in the memo) are always welcome.

Our Collaborative

Holy Redeemer: St. Ann, W. Newbury & Nativity, Merrimac



Immaculate Conception, Newburyport



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
January 31
February 28
March 27
April 24
May 29

COLLABORATIVE NEWS

Mass Scripture Readings

December 29, 2019–January 5, 2020

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.HRICcatholic.org and click on HRIC Pastoral Plan and then click on Lectio Divina.

- Sunday, Dec 29: Sirach 3:2-6, 12-14; Psalm 128; Colossians 3:12-21; Matthew 2:13-15, 19-23
- Monday, Dec 30: 1 John 2:12-17; Psalm 96; Luke 2:36-40
- Tuesday, Dec 31: 1 John 2:18-21; Psalm 96; John 1:1-18
- Wednesday, Jan 1: Numbers 6:22-27; Psalm 67; Galatians 4:4-7; Luke 2:16-21
- Thursday, Jan 2: 1 John 2:22-28; Psalm 98; John 1:19-28
- Friday, Jan 3: 1 John 2:29-3:6; Psalm 98; John 1:29-34
- Saturday, Jan 4: 1 John 3:7-10; Psalm 98; John 1:35-42
- Sunday, Jan 5: Isaiah 60:1-6; Psalm 72; Ephesians 3:2-3a, 5-6; Matthew 2:1-12

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



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

Questions of the Week



Adult: In your household, how do you protect and take care of each other especially in times of danger or sadness?

Child: How do you and other members of your family take care of one another?

Happy New Year

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.

Centering Prayer

If you are searching for the peace the world cannot give please consider joining us at Centering Prayer. Silently resting in God we assent to the Holy Spirit's presence and action in our lives. This act of faith and surrender opens our hearts and minds to God. As we continue to pray, the Holy Spirit moves in the activities and interactions of our daily lives and within us and over time we are transformed.

In Centering Prayer we pray as Jesus prayed. He tells us: "When you pray, go into your private room, shut yourself in, and pray to your Father who is in that secret place, and your Father who sees all that is done in secret will reward you" (Matt 6:6). In Centering Prayer each person enters their private room where God is waiting with love.

How often in scripture have we seen Jesus leaving the crowds for the desert or mountain where he can be in communion with his Father in silent prayer. Strengthened and nourished by this time with the Father, Jesus continues to live as his Father wills. Centering Prayer helps us also to say to the Father, "Not my will but yours be done" (Lk. 22: 42).

Centering prayer is a practice and a discipline. 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. Living out of God as our Center we experience the peace the world cannot give.

Please consider leaving the noise of world and the busyness of your day behind for an hour on Wednesday evenings 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 reflect on the words of scripture.

Contact Elizabeth McCarthy, 978-462-7483 if you are interested in learning more or joining us. All are welcome.

COLLABORATIVE NEWS

Collaborative Website

Visit our **Collaborative Website**, www.hriccatholic.org for up-to-date information on groups, meetings, faith formation, Mass times, registration forms, and current events. Link to our calendar, Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter pages; view our current and archived bulletins; find other Catholic websites; or check out the photos section. We have so much happening in our Collaborative.

Bulletin Information

Email all bulletin submissions by Monday at noon to hricbulletin@gmail.com.

The Pelican Intervention Fund



The Pelican Intervention Fund is dedicated to supporting men and women on their journey from addiction to recovery. The Pelican Intervention Fund offers hope for sustained recovery for adults who live in the communities of Amesbury, Byfield, Georgetown, Groveland, Ipswich, Merrimac, Newbury, West Newbury, Newburyport, Rowley, and Salisbury. If you have any questions contact Kim Keene 978-430-1408 or visit www.pelicaninterventionfund.org to learn more.

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The Catholic Faith. On Demand.

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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



The Holy Jammers is an impromptu group of musicians that meet on Wednesdays in the IC Pastoral Center, second floor, at 9:00am. Anyone is welcome. Bring your instrument.

Coffee Sale Success!

Thanks to all who purchased San Marcos coffee (and those who made donations to the project) on December 14–15 weekend. Our apologies to the folks who were not able to buy any of the 300 pounds before we sold out. Some of you got your bag of coffee from Fr. Ray himself since we put him to work selling coffee during his visit. Feliz Navidad and Muchas Gracias from the Honduran farmers and Fr. Ray!



Fr Ray Richard and Joseph Patchett selling Honduran coffee in the IC narthex.

Parish Membership

Welcome! We are pleased you joined us today and we invite you to become a member of our Parish communities. Please introduce yourself and register in the parish. Forms are available online at www.hriccatholic.org or you can call the Parish offices at 978-462-2724 to register.



Like Us on Facebook
Holy Redeemer - Immaculate Conception
Collaborative Parishes

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION PARISH

IC Offertory Collection

The second collection **next** weekend is Ongoing Church Maintenance.

**IC Grand Annual
Goal \$100,000
To Date \$61,751.00**



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.

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.

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.

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



Call for Coats! The Immaculate Conception School Leadership Team is hosting its annual coat drive this winter. The IC will be collecting gently used coats for all ages through January 10. The coats will be dry cleaned and delivered to those in need in mid-January. A collection box can be found in the office of the Immaculate Conception School. If you would like to donate a coat, please stop by the school office during regular school hours. Happy New Year!



Archdiocese Web Site

Visit www.bostoncatholic.org for the latest news and information around the Archdiocese of Boston.

Our Neighbors’ Table

The Our Neighbors’ Table Newburyport Market is open Thursdays from 11:00 a.m.–2:00 p.m. We are located at Community Service of Newburyport, 35 Summer Street, in the lower level of St. Paul’s Church. For your convenience we have several saved on-street parking spots in front of the market.

Each ONT location offers a beautiful, modern market where fresh, healthy food is made available to anyone in need—at no charge! There are no income requirements, just bring an ID with you.

We look forward to showing you around our Newburyport Market. If you have any further questions call Our Neighbors’ Table at 978-388-1907.

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, sandbunnyc@yahoo.com or 978-465-5810.

EWTN: Catholic News

Want the latest Catholic News? EWTN News has you covered. EWTN News: Your Online Catholic Resource.
<http://www.ewtnnews.com/>

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.

Faith Formation Family Activity Day

We are planning two **Family Activity Days** geared towards those students who are being home schooled this year as well as for those students who took part in the IC summer program this past summer.

The first day will be held at IC on **Saturday, January 11** followed by another gathering on **Saturday, March 7** at the Church of the Nativity.

Please mark your calendars to join with us as we gather for some fun, prayer and learning about the Faith.

Both "days" will begin with a light breakfast at 8:30am and will conclude at 12:00pm. If interested please RSVP to the Faith Formation Office.

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 (hricatholic.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.



Follow Us on Twitter
@HRICatholic

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.

HOLY REDEEMER PARISH

HR Offertory Collection

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**.

Faith Formation Family Activity Day

We are planning two **Family Activity Days** geared towards those students who are being home schooled this year as well as for those students who took part in the IC summer program this past summer.

The first day will be held at IC on **Saturday, January 11** followed by another gathering on **Saturday, March 7** at the Church of the Nativity.

Please mark your calendars to join with us as we gather for some fun, prayer and learning about the Faith.

Both "days" will begin with a light breakfast at 8:30am and will conclude at 12:00pm. If interested please RSVP to the Faith Formation Office.

Follow Us on Instagram

HRICatholic



Catholic Apps



iBreviary—a Catholic app that has everything you need: texts of the Missal, readings from Mass, a vast number of prayers, and a spiritual diary that you can create.



Laudate—This app features daily Mass readings, Bible (NAB), Rosary and Chaplet of Divine Mercy, Stations of the Cross, prayers, podcasts for daily meditations, the Catechism of the Catholic Church, Confession apps, Vatican documents, Daily Mass live video stream, and more.



Mass Times for Travel—This is the official app of masstimes.org, this app helps you find churches and worship times worldwide. It is one of the most comprehensive databases of Catholic churches and worship times.

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 a class schedule can be found on our website (hriccatholic.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, January 14 in the Nativity Church Hall beginning at 6:30.

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

Please remember an adult does need to accompany the candidate.

HR St. Vincent de Paul Society

There is a wonderful way to honor someone who has requested "No gifts, please." You can send a check to Holy Redeemer Saint Vincent de Paul at 4 Green Street in Merrimac. Your donation will honor someone's celebration and will also help those in need. A note will be sent to let that someone know about the donor's meaningful gift. Donations can be made to celebrate birthdays, anniversaries, and other significant occasions.

We are always looking for new members. If you are interested in becoming part of a wonderful organization, contact Dave Olds.

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

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.