

**HOLY REDEEMER AND IMMACULATE CONCEPTION
COLLABORATIVE PARISHES**

SERVING MERRIMAC, NEWBURY, NEWBURYPORT, AND WEST NEWBURY

Second Sunday of Advent

December 5, 2021

hricatholic.org



*“The forests and every fragrant kind of tree have
overshadowed Israel at God’s command;
for God is leading Israel in joy
by the light of his glory,
with his mercy and justice for company.”*

(Bar 5:8-9)

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: info@hriccatholic.org

Nativity

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

Office Hours: By appointment

Phone: 978-346-8604

Email: info@hriccatholic.org

Immaculate Conception

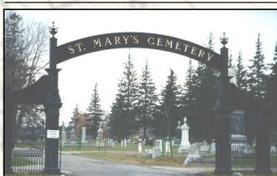
Parish, church, rectory, and offices:
42 Green St., Newburyport 01950

Office Hours: M-F 9:00 a.m.–2:30 p.m.

Phone: 978-462-2724

Fax: 978-234-7399

Email: info@hriccatholic.org



St. Mary's Cemetery

36 Storey Avenue,
Newburyport 01950

Immaculate Conception School

1 Washington Street, Newburyport 01950, K-grade 8,
Mrs. Joan Sullivan, Principal, Phone: 978-465-7780,
Fax: 978-234-7331, www.icsnewburyport.com



Collaborative Staff (Note new email addresses)

Pastor

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

info@hriccatholic.org

Senior Priests in Residence

978-462-2724 or 978-346-8604

Rev. William H. McLaughlin

Rev. George E. Morin

Rev. Charles Stanley

Permanent Deacons

Deacon Paul Dow

978-887-5350, pauldow49@gmail.com

Deacon John Moranski

978-432-1443, jmoranski51@gmail.com

St. Vincent de Paul

St. 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

Office Associates

Sheila Cruise, Receptionist

978-462-2724 x 7403 or 978-346-8604

scruise@hriccatholic.org

Dennis LaMalfa, Business Manager

978-462-2724 x 7351

dlamalfa@hriccatholic.org

Karen Leff, Coordinator of Media Outreach

hricbulletin@gmail.com

Linda Temple, Administrative Assistant

978-462-2724 x7404

temple@hriccatholic.org

Lifelong Faith Formation

Aaron Giard, Director of Lifelong Faith
Formation

978-462-2724 x 7405 or 978-346-8604

agiard@hriccatholic.org

Melinda Burrell, Administrative Assistant,
Lifelong Faith Formation

978-462-2724 x 7420

burrell@hriccatholic.org

Immaculate Conception School

Joan Sullivan, Principal, 978-465-7780

jsullivan@icsnewburyport.com

Maintenance

Bud Kent, IC Building Maintenance

978-462-2724

bkent@hriccatholic.org

Eddie Martinez, IC Facilities Manager

978-462-2724

emartinez@hriccatholic.org

Music Ministry

Jennifer Acorn, HR Organist

978-697-1082

jen.acorn@comcast.net

Kathy Peavey, HR Vocalist

kathypv@comcast.net

978-360-8756

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

Online:

Website: www.hriccatholic.org

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

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

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

COLLABORATIVE NEWS

Mass Schedule

Saturday (12/4)

4:00pm **IC** *Stephen M. Boy, Jeffrey Stone, Josephine Minalio* (Fr. Stanley & Deacon Dow)
4:00pm **St. Ann** (Fr. McLaughlin & Deacon Moranski)

Sunday (12/5)

8:30am **Nativity** (Fr. Harrison)
9:00am **IC** *George Pirri* (Fr. Morin)
10:00am **St. Ann** (Fr. McLaughlin & Deacon Moranski)
11:30am **IC** *Robert Merrill, Lena Filomia, Lena Charles* (Fr. Stanley & Deacon Dow)

Monday (12/6)

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

Tuesday (12/7)

9:00am **IC** *Marie A. Burke* (Fr. McLaughlin)
4:00pm **IC** (Fr. Stanley)
4:00pm **Nativity** (Fr. Harrison)

Wednesday (12/8) Immaculate Conception

9:00am **IC** (Fr. McLaughlin & Deacon Moranski)
9:00am **St. Ann** (Fr. Stanley)

Thursday (12/9)

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

Friday (12/10)

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

Saturday (12/11)

4:00pm **IC** *Liza Mataac Dodson* (Fr. Harrison)
4:00pm **St. Ann** (Fr. Stanley)

Sunday (12/12)

8:30am **Nativity** *For the intentions of Maria Kardas* (Fr. Stanley)
9:00am **IC** (Fr. Harrison)
10:00am **St. Ann** (Fr. McLaughlin)
11:30am **IC** *Lena Filomia, Lena Charles, For the intentions of Paul & Cecilia Healy* (Fr. Harrison)

In your prayers, please remember all the faithful departed.

The priests' schedule is subject to change without notice.

IC—Immaculate Conception, Newburyport

Nativity—Merrimac

St. Ann—West Newbury

f **Saturday Vigil Mass is broadcast online through Facebook:** ([Holy Redeemer - Immaculate Conception Collaborative Parishes](#))

From the Pastor

Dear Parishioners,

The Scriptures are rich in imagery that attends to the needs of the weary. These are earthy, human allusions that conjure up an inner desire for relief, comfort, and hope. God is attentive to the cry of His people and His voice echoes through the prophets and the Psalmist.

The notion of walking in the hot, beating sunshine is draining and exhausting. Would that there be some shade, just a little relief from the scorching heat? Baruch tells us that the Lord will provide an entire forest with its comforting shade and cool breezes to encompass us on our journey. Not only that, but the trees and plants shall be fragrant, painting us with their subtle sweetness. Anyone who has ever walked amidst the beauty of nature, only to discover the joy of its many wafting aromas, knows how uplifting that is to spirit and soul!

When we have suffered the loss of a loved-one, grief can encompass us like an overwhelming wave on the shore that crushes us and grinds our spirit into the sand. Powerless before the severity of emotions, we feel helpless and alone. It is impossible to go about life as usual. In times past, people used to symbolize this period of stifling grief by wearing a "robe of misery" or black funeral clothing so that others might know to give them some space and extra maneuvering room, when their own senses are weakened and imprisoned by loss. Baruch tells a still-mourning Jerusalem to shed this mantle of shame and anguish and to look with hope to the glory that God will bless the people of Israel. Led away from the holy city in chains and slavery, God will bring them back lifted-up as on royal caravans and golden thrones! God's joy will be complete. There will be no room for suffering or loss!

Even the rugged terrain will be smoothed into level pathways to welcome the Lord when He comes in vindication and power. Imagine whole mountains being pressed back into the earth and great canyons being filled-up to produce a fresh, level highway that is a clear and unobstructed route leading directly to the fulfillment of God's glory. Mercy and justice will be the clear street signs of this new Way of the Lord. People's hearts will soar with the knowledge that God has not forgotten them nor failed to

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Questions of the Week

Adult: In preparing for the coming of the Lord, what area in your life do you need to make straight?

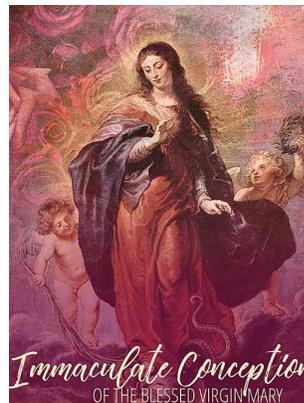
Child: How will you prepare for Jesus' coming during Advent?

Virtual Rosary



Join us for recitation of the rosary live on Facebook twice every week. Pray along with us and add your intentions in the comments on Facebook. www.facebook.com/hriccatholic/

Tuesdays and Thursdays 8:30 a.m.



Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Wednesday, December 8

Holy Day of Obligation

Masses in the Collaborative:

Tuesday, Dec. 7	Wednesday, Dec. 8
4:00pm, Nativity	9:00am, St. Ann
4:00pm, IC	9:00am, IC

COLLABORATIVE NEWS

This Week in Our Collaborative

Monday, December 6

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

Women at the Well Mtg. 6:30pm, IC Charity Dining Room

Tuesday, December 7

Breaking Bread Takeout-Only Meal 4:30pm, IC St. Louis Hall

HR Confirmation Prep, Year 2 6:45pm, Nativity Hall

IC Adult Choir Rehearsal 7:00pm, IC Church

Wednesday, December 8

Holy Jammers Practice 10:00am, IC Nazareth Library

Thursday, December 9

Adoration 7:00pm, IC Church

Friday, December 10

Adoration 9:30am, IC Church

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

Saturday, December 11

Confessions 3:00pm, IC Church

Sunday, December 12

RCIA 9:00am, IC Parish Center, Room G19

Advent/Christmas Family Festival 10:00am, IC Pastoral Center

IC Confirmation Prep, Year 1 3:30pm, IC Charity Dining Room

To schedule your group's in-person meeting, contact Collaborative offices at 978-462-2724 or 978-346-8604 to reserve your space.

(Continued from page 3)

hear their prayers.

Which one of us has not felt joy in our hearts when a fervent prayer has been answered? Which one of us has not been brought to tears when something we have earnestly prayed for, petitioned God day and night, pleaded with the Lord from the depths of our heart...finally has been made real and fully given to us? And in those moments, do we not glimpse something more—something beautiful and holy? Do we not see that God has a plan for us, for those we love, for our nation and our whole world? Can we not savor, just for a moment, that each of us in some small way play a part in that wholeness that is yet to be revealed in its fullness? Is there not more to life than what we see in the day to day? Do we not yearn in our very core for more?

Advent is a time when we connect these inner desires, hopes and dreams to the reality of what God is doing in Jesus Christ. John the Baptist came preaching repentance so that we might clearly hear and see this new offer of mercy and forgiveness from the Lord. Following his words, we turn away from sin so that we might experience the fulfillment of Isaiah's words, and in our flesh "see the salvation of God."

May this time of preparation for and anticipation of Christ's Coming be filled with many blessings and much joy.

Advent blessings to all,

Fr. Timothy Harrison, Pastor

women at the well

Do you ever feel like there must be something more than your day-to-day routine? Seeking 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 Women at the Well: A weekly Bible Study for women seeking to grow closer to God and cultivate community!

We meet every **Monday at 6:30 p.m.** If you can't make it to every meeting, please do not worry! This group is designed to allow you to drop in whenever you are able to join us, no pre-reading necessary from week to week.

In-person: IC Charity Dining Room

Zoom: Email hricwomenatthewell@gmail.com for the link.

Prayers for the Sick

May the comfort and healing of Christ embrace all in our Collaborative who are suffering from illness, especially:

Dan Bedard
Priscilla Brown
Fr. Drew Christiansen
Charmaine Haan
Hillar Haan
Joe Messina
Jerry Mullen
Vincent Oberhofer

Maureen Russell
Rob Schweitzer
Mary Shachok
Ruth Sullivan
Ron Sylvester
Michael Tucker
Jim Williamson

ADVENT & CHRISTMAS FAMILY FESTIVAL

DECEMBER 12

10:00-11:30 A.M. AT IC

ALL COLLABORATIVE FAMILIES WELCOME!



Join HRIC Faith Formation at IC Church and Pastoral Center on December 12 at 10:00am for our second Family Festival. We will have a Nativity play, crafts, treats, and games to play.

Bulletin Information

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

COLLABORATIVE NEWS

Christmas Flowers

We are taking monetary donations and memorials for the purchase of flowers for all churches for Christmas. Please do not have flowers delivered to the churches but allow us to purchase them. Place your flower donation envelope in the collection box at church or mail both HR and IC donations to the IC offices at 42 Green St., Newburyport, MA 01950.

Donation deadline is **Monday, December 6 at 12:00 noon.**

Follow Us on Instagram

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



ENGAGE & FORMED

We have a treasure chest of online faith formation resources available free to all in the HRIC community. We encourage you to take full advantage of these resources.

To access the resources of Word on Fire's **ENGAGE**, register at flocknote.com/hriccollaborative or by texting "HRIC" to 84576.

To access **FORMED**, visit (formed.org), click "Sign up," then "I belong to a parish or organization" and type in "Holy Redeemer Immaculate Conception Collaborative" to log in.

Advent Study and Penance Services

During Advent, the Collaborative will be hosting a study of a cinematically beautiful, transformative video series on the Sacrament of Reconciliation. "FORGIVEN: The Transforming Power of Confession" by Augustine Institute offers a fresh perspective on God's mercy and this often misunderstood and frequently avoided Sacrament. Take the time this season to "prepare the way of the Lord!"

Choose one of two options (No RSVP necessary):

1. Watch and discuss the video series **in person** with fellow Collaborative members at IC St. Louis Hall, **10:00 a.m.–11:15 a.m.** during these **Sundays** of Advent: **Dec. 5, and Dec. 19**
2. Watch the series **at home** online <https://watch.formed.org/forgiven> using our Collaborative's subscription to FORMED.org (go to www.hriccatholic.org/formed to learn how to sign up):
 - a. Session 2 video on Dec. 5 (or week of)
 - b. Watch Session 3 video by Dec. 20

At the end of Advent, we will host two evening **Advent Penance Services** to celebrate this great Sacrament:

1. **Monday, December 20, 6:30–8:00 p.m., Immaculate Conception Church, Newburyport**
2. **Tuesday, December 21, 6:30–8:00 p.m., Church of the Nativity, Merrimac**

For more information or questions, contact Aaron Giard, Director of Lifelong Faith Formation: agiard@hriccatholic.org

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. During Advent please consider joining us weekly for Centering Prayer.

Please consider leaving the noise of the world and the busyness of your day behind for an hour on Wednesday evenings from 6:00–7:00 p.m. on Zoom.

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 and the Zoom link, contact Elizabeth McCarthy 978-462-7483.

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.

Donations can be made to:

"The Pelican Intervention Fund at ECCF"

Essex County Community Foundation, 175 Andover Street Danvers, MA 01923

Questions? Contact Kim Keene 978-430-1408 or visit www.pelicaninterventionfund.org to learn more.

Mass Scripture Readings

The Scripture passages read each day at Mass can be found on the United States Council of Catholic Bishops' website at [bible.usccb.org](https://www.bible.usccb.org). Praying with the Scriptures daily is a wonderful way to deepen our relationship with Our Lord and to discern how best to serve God as an intentional disciple of Christ.



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

Neighbors Helping Neighbors

If you are a parishioner in the Collaborative and want assistance with grocery store runs, prescription pick ups, meal deliveries, or just receiving a call or note from us to cheer your day, please call the Collaborative offices at **978-462-2724** or **978-346-8604 (ext. 1000)** and let us know how we can help.

COLLABORATIVE NEWS

At-Home Advent Personal Directed Retreat

Welcoming Jesus, The Light of the World

Pondering Jesus' Advent invitation to bring him the darkness of whatever separates you from God, and allowing Jesus, The Light of the World to overcome your darkness with the healing light of God's unconditional love to bring you joy.

During this Advent retreat let Jesus bring you God's light of love and be healed. Through time in prayer, reading, reflection, and spiritual direction you may come to name your personal darkness and be encouraged to bring the darkness of your sorrow, shame, fear, doubt, anger, anxiety, pride, or whatever separates you from God into the light of his unconditional love for healing and may open yourself to receive this gift and be made whole.

This retreat is designed to be affordable, convenient, and safe. You will receive 4 one-hour sessions of spiritual direction via Zoom, telephone, or in person on a convenient day and time. Provided retreat materials will support your journey through Scripture, poems, and spiritual writings.

May this Advent Retreat help you see God's great light of love for you, welcome it as it dawns each time you seek God and allow it to heal you and bring you joy. This is the true gift of Christmas available every day of your life. Welcome Jesus, The Light of the World as you prepare a place for him in your life and your heart this Christmas. Walk with Jesus in the light and share this light of love with the world as he did.

Spiritual Director: Elizabeth McCarthy, Certified Spiritual Director.

Call [\(978\) 462-7483](tel:9784627483) or email emccarthy1028@hotmail.com to register and for additional information.

Suggested donation: \$90.00

Adoration:

Be Surprised By Jesus' Love!



It's a new liturgical year, so celebrate this Advent in a posture of praise, of quiet waiting, of attentive listening. Seek Him! Ask for a sign! Hear your heart expand in gratitude for His Incarnation! God is with us in the Monstrance!

Thursdays in IC Church: 7:00–8:00 p.m.

Fridays in IC Church: 9:30 a.m.–noon*

*preempted when a funeral is posted in HRIC online calendar. The calendar link can be found on our website: hricatholic.org.

Facebook Mass

To watch our **Saturday 4:00 p.m. live-stream Mass:**

1. Go to our Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/hricatholic/>) at the appointed time. If you don't have a Facebook page, you can still watch the live stream from your computer, smartphone, or tablet using the above link.
2. Click the "videos" link on the page.
3. The **LIVE** video should be the first one on the list.

Christmas Mass Schedule

No registration required.

Christmas Eve Masses

- 3 p.m. Immaculate Conception Church
- 3 p.m. Nativity (Live streamed on Facebook)
- 4 p.m. St. Ann
- 5 p.m. Nativity
- 5 p.m. Immaculate Conception Church
- 6 p.m. St. Ann
- 7 p.m. Immaculate Conception Church

Christmas Day Masses

- 8 a.m. Immaculate Conception Church
- 9 a.m. Nativity
- 10 a.m. St. Ann
- 10 a.m. Immaculate Conception Church (Live streamed)



Cocoa & Caroling!

Friday December 10th | 4-6pm
Waterfront Trust Parking Lot

Come Join the Knights for Cocoa and sing a chorus or two!

FOR MORE INFO:

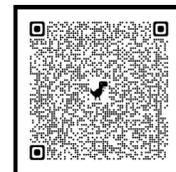
Mike Coletti | 508.962.7851 | kofc231@gmail.com



Join the Knights!

Second Tuesdays at 7pm
IC Parish Center Library

For More Info:
Matt Blanchette
978.697.5135
kofc231@gmail.com



Consecration to Mary Commencement

12/7/21 | 4pm Vigil | Main Church
Commencement to follow liturgy

Thank you to all of those who have joined us in this 5 week long personal retreat. Please join us at the Vigil mass for the Immaculate Conception. Commencement ceremony to follow.

For More Info call Chris Eagan c. 617.592.5907

Collaborative Pastoral Council

Our next meeting is a Zoom meeting on **Saturday, December 11 at 10:00 a.m.** If you would like to join the meeting or have any concerns or questions about the Council, reach out to Jim at Jimwilliamson35@gmail.com.

HOLY REDEEMER PARISH

HR Offertory Collection

HR Offertory, Nov. 20–21	\$1,716.00
Retired Religious Sisters, Nov. 20–21	\$ 634.00
Mailed In Offertory, week ending Nov. 19	\$ 640.00
HR Offertory, Nov. 27–28	\$1,705.00
Mailed in Offertory, week ending Nov. 26	\$ 210.00
Catholic Appeal	\$18,565.00

The second collection this weekend (Dec. 5) is Ongoing Church Maintenance. The second collection next weekend (Dec. 12) is the Monthly.

If you would like to mail in your collections, send them to

Holy Redeemer Parish, 4 Green Street, Merrimac, MA 01860

You can also sign up for online giving. Visit our website to learn more: hricatholic.org/hr-online-giving.

HR Grand Annual
Goal \$25,000
To Date \$13,320.00



Greeters Needed

We are looking for friendly, welcoming folks to greet people at Masses at Holy Redeemer. One greeter is needed for each Mass.

There is a **particular need** for greeters at the 10:00 a.m. (Sunday) Mass at St. Ann, but we could also use more greeters at the 4:00 p.m. Masses at both St. Ann and Nativity.

Would you like to serve in this role? Please contact Sue Noyes at susanjnoyes@gmail.com

HR Christmas Giving 2021

Please visit Nativity's Giving Tree for more ideas. Due to tight space, St. Ann will not have a physical Giving Tree.

Emmaus House will continue with their arrangement with Target online. Go to Target.com/gift-registry/gift/emmaus2021registry. There will be items of different values. Items will be sent directly to Emmaus House. They would also like \$25.00 gift cards from Target, WalMart, and Amazon. Mail cards to Denise Arnold, Volunteer & Gifts-in-Kind Manager, D'Youville Center for Social Justice, 101 Winter Street, Haverhill MA 01830

HR St. Vincent de Paul is asking for monetary donations and \$25.00 Market Basket gift cards, which may be left in the metal boxes at the doors of the churches.

Merrimac Holiday Helpers is looking for pajamas for school aged children, including adult sizes for older students. There will be a box at each church for these.

Fostering Care of West Newbury is hoping to support 70 teenagers this holiday season. That's \$100 x 70 kids. That's a big goal. If you want to help, please know:

1. All amounts of donations are very appreciated.
2. 100% of any donation you send will go directly to a local kid in the Merrimack Valley. We take zero for overhead.
3. Donations received after **Dec. 1** will still go to teens in foster care but may not be included in the gift bags.

Cards should be sent to Fostering Care, 524 Main Street, West Newbury, MA 01985

All items need to be dropped off or sent by December 5 unless otherwise noted. The agencies are still dealing with covid restrictions and need as much time as we can give them. Thank you all in advance for your generosity and thoughtfulness at this time!

Invitation to Holy Redeemer from IC Haiti

Since 2009, IC Haiti has been a 501 c 3 incorporated, tax-exempt, non-profit organization. Through it, parishioners of the Immaculate Conception parish and other kind donors built and have continued to support the Fr. Marc Piché elementary school in the town of Puit Chacha, Haiti.

Now IC Haiti would like to invite you, the parishioners of Holy Redeemer parish, to join in this worthy ministry in Haiti. IC Haiti is the sole financial support for the school in Puit Chacha which provides education to approximately 200 children from kindergarten to 6th grade. As you are well aware Haiti is the poorest country in the Americas; and since 2009, whenever Haiti has suffered a devastating natural disaster such as an earthquake or hurricane, IC Haiti has responded with emergency medical relief funding through Health Equity International, formerly known as St. Boniface Haiti Foundation, and its hospital complex a few miles north of Puit Chacha.

This year alone our expenses to run the school along with its hot lunch and dental care programs and to provide medical care to hurricane victims amounted to \$83,000. Our yearlong administrative costs amounted to less than 2 tenths of one percent of our total expenditures. We do our best to be good stewards of the donations people make to support IC Haiti's ministry to the people we have been called to serve.

The final quarterly collection of 2021 for IC Haiti will be taken up the weekend of December 18–19. On the Sunday prior to the collection, a member of the Board of Directors for IC Haiti will make a direct appeal for your generosity and provide a brief update on our ministry to the people and school community of Puit Chacha, Haiti.

Should you choose to donate to IC Haiti, please **make out checks to "IC Haiti."** You may put your donation into the second collection boxes around the churches or mail them anytime: **IC Haiti, 42 Green Street, Newburyport, MA 01950.**

Thank you. And, please keep our Haitian brothers and sisters in Christ in your prayers.

Stuart Meurer, *President of the IC Haiti Board of Directors*

HR PARISH

Nativity & St. Ann Christmas Decorating

We will be decorating **St Ann Church** for Christmas on Sunday, December 19 directly after the 10:00 a.m. Mass. **All are welcome. Many hands makes light the work.**

We will be decorating **Nativity Church** for Christmas on Wednesday, December 22 at 1:00 p.m. **All are invited and needed to come help prepare the church for Christmas!** Please call Cindy Quinn (978-346-0072) with questions.

HR Grand Raffle

We are having a Grand Raffle! In hopes of bringing joy and anticipation for the holiday season, the Activities Committee is holding a raffle with cash prizes totaling \$2,500.

We hope you will support us by purchasing raffle tickets as well as asking your friends and neighbors in our community to support our efforts.

The winning raffle tickets will be drawn on Wednesday, December 8. First prize is \$1,000. There will be two \$500 winners and two \$250 winners. Raffle tickets are \$1.00 each or 6 for \$5.00. One sheet of raffle tickets is 12 for \$10.00. We have mailed raffle tickets to all registered parishioners. Additional tickets are available in the backs of both churches.

HR Prayer Shawl

If you know of anyone who needs a prayer shawl, please give their name to Helen hvktax@aol.com or 978-771-4673. If you know the address that we can deliver to, maybe a favorite color, that would be helpful but not necessary. We will not intrude at this difficult time but simply leave it at their door.

IC PARISH

IC St. Vincent de Paul



If you know someone living in Newbury/Newburyport who needs assistance, please suggest that they call our **help line 978-518-0728**. We are ready to assist.

To donate, you can visit our website to donate online at www.svdpnwburyport.org, or drop your donation (checks payable to "SVdP of Newburyport") into the collection box at Mass, or mail it to the parish office at 42 Green Street, Newburyport, MA 01950.

Breaking Bread to-go Meal

Tuesday evenings **takeout only meals** 4:30–5:30 p. m. at the entrance to the IC Parish Center. All are welcome!

Win Cash!

IC school annual holiday calendars are now available. For over 20 years, IC School has run a holiday calendar fundraiser. Each \$10 calendar gives individuals 40 chances to win a grand total of \$5,000 in cash prizes. A winner is drawn each day from January 8–February 15 to receive a cash prize of \$100, \$200, \$300, or \$400.

Calendars are available at IC School, IC Church lobby, and the IC Parish Center.

To enter, fill out the buyer's name and contact information in the space at the bottom of the calendar. Cut it off and return both the ticket stub and the money to the school office or to the Parish Center office.

Check payments should be made out to Immaculate Conception School or cash is accepted.

Good luck!

HR & IC FAITH FORMATION

All Faith Formation schedules and registration forms are posted on our website at www.hriccatholic.org/Faith-Formation.

Faith Formation classes have started for all grades. If you have not yet registered your family, class schedules and registration forms can be found on the parish website at hriccatholic.org.

School Year Programs

Information regarding the fall 2021 schedule for those children entering Grades K–8 has been posted on the Collaborative website: hriccatholic.org. Registration forms are also available. Please contact the Faith Formation office (978-462-2724 x7405) with any questions or reach out via email to Aaron at agiard@hriccatholic.org or Melinda at burrell@hriccatholic.org.

First Reconciliation/First Eucharist

Registration forms as well as schedules for those children who will be preparing for the Sacraments of Reconciliation and Eucharist have been posted to the Collaborative website: hriccatholic.org. Please contact the Faith Formation office (978-462-2724 x7405) with any questions or reach out via email to Aaron at agiard@hriccatholic.org or Melinda at burrell@hriccatholic.org.

Baptism

We will celebrate the Sacrament of Baptism at IC on Sunday, December 12 at 1:30 p.m. Please call the Collaborative offices (978-462-2724) for information.

Confirmation

Information regarding the fall 2021 Confirmation Prep schedule for grades 9 & 10 has been posted along with registration forms on the Collaborative website: hriccatholic.org. Please contact the Faith Formation office (978-462-2724 x7405) with questions or email Aaron agiard@hriccatholic.org or Melinda burrell@hriccatholic.org.

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION PARISH

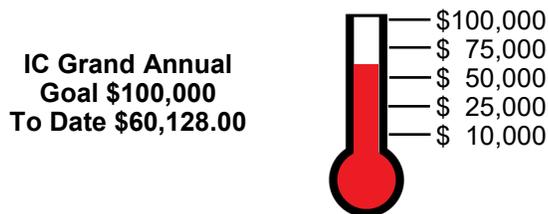
IC Offertory Collection

IC Offertory, Nov. 20–21	\$3,540.00
Retired Religious Sisters, Nov. 20–21	\$1,765.00
Mailed In Offertory, week ending Nov. 19	\$2,125.00
IC Offertory, Nov 27–28	\$4,341.00
Mission Appeal, Nov 27–28	\$2,620.00
Mailed In Offertory, week ending Nov. 26	\$2,010.00
Catholic Appeal	\$50,275.00

The second collection this weekend (Dec. 5) is Ongoing Church Maintenance. The second collection next weekend (Dec. 12) is the Monthly.

If you would like to mail in your envelopes, send them to **Immaculate Conception Parish, 42 Green Street, Newburyport, MA 01950**

You can also sign up for online giving. Visit our website to learn more: hriccatholic.org/IC-Online-Giving.



IC Haiti Appeal

The final quarterly collection of 2021 for IC Haiti will be taken up on the weekend of December 18–19. On the Sunday prior to the collection, a member of the Board of Directors for IC Haiti will make a direct appeal for your generosity and provide a brief update on our ministry to the people and school community of Puit Chacha, Haiti.

During the upcoming season of Advent, all of us are encouraged to deepen our relationship with Our Lord Jesus Christ through prayer and acts of mercy. Although we are thousands of miles away from Haiti, we have been invited since 2009 to see our Haitian brothers and sisters with the eyes of Christ. Let us continue to support them with our prayers and almsgiving.

Please use the special IC Haiti envelopes and **make out checks to "IC Haiti."** You may put your envelopes into the collection boxes around the church or send them to: **IC Haiti, 42 Green Street, Newburyport, MA 01950.**

IC SVdP Giving Tree

Please pick a gift card tag from the SVdP Giving Tree in the vestibule of IC Church. Once you purchase the gift card noted on the tag, return it via the collection boxes at the church. These gift cards are given to help those in need throughout the entire year. Thank you.

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Immaculate Conception School



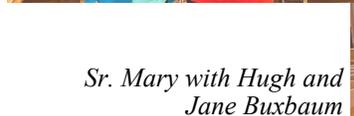
The Immaculate Conception School children honored Sr. Mary Braley on her 80th birthday, November 24, at a Thanksgiving prayer service. Sr. Mary has dedicated her entire adult life to Immaculate Conception School and is a most valued member of our community! The children presented her with hand-made birthday cards and a lovely floral arrangement. Sr. Mary was delighted to greet students, parents, and teachers. We were so happy that she could join us in prayer on her special day.

Happy birthday Sr. Mary - WE LOVE YOU!!



Sr. Mary and IC 2nd grade teacher Marybeth O'Keefe.

Marybeth decided to become a teacher when she was a student in Sr. Mary's 2nd grade class.



Sr. Mary with Hugh and Jane Buxbaum



Sr. Mary chats with 8th Grade students.

Confessions

We now offer Saturday afternoon confessions from **3:00–3:30 p.m.** at Immaculate Conception Church. No appointment necessary. These will be held in the main body of the church at the discretion of the priest.

Confessions continue to be available at other times and places during the week by appointment only.

For more information or to schedule a time for Confession, please contact our Collaborative offices at (978) 346-8604 or (978) 462-2724.

Consolers Circle Meal

The IC community offers a light meal to families who have lost a loved one. The meal is provided by volunteers and 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. Please let the funeral director know that you request this service when making arrangements.



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Matt 28:6

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