

HOLY REDEEMER AND IMMACULATE CONCEPTION
COLLABORATIVE PARISHES

SERVING MERRIMAC, NEWBURY, NEWBURYPORT, AND WEST NEWBURY

Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

February 14, 2021



hricatholic.org

*“Brothers and sisters,
Whether you eat or
drink, or whatever you
do, do everything for
the glory of God....Be
imitators of me, as I am
of Christ.”*

(I Cor 10:31, 11:1)

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

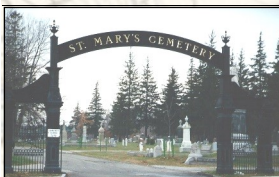
Church: 300 Main St., W. Newbury 01985
Rectory: 46 Maple St., W. Newbury 01985
Phone: 978-346-8604
Email: holyredeemer@verizon.net

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 9:00 a.m.-2:30 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, K-grade 8,
Mrs. Joan Sullivan, Principal, Phone: 978-465-7780,
Fax: 978-234-7331, www.icsnewburyport.com



Collaborative Staff

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Rev. George E. Morin
Rev. Charles Stanley
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Kathy Peavey, HR Vocalist
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Donna Postle, IC Music Ministry Director
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Tim Richard, IC organist
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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/HolyRedeemer-ImmaculateConceptionCollaborativeParishes)

COLLABORATIVE NEWS

Mass Schedule

Saturday (2/13)

4:00pm **IC Live-Stream** *Doris M. Evey, Michael & Lucia Lomdardo, For the intentions of Donald W. and Katherine Kelley Pearson on the occasion of their 50th Wedding Anniversary* (Fr. Harrison)

Sunday (2/14)

8:00am **Nativity** (Fr. Harrison & Deacon Moranski)
9:30am **St. Ann** (Fr. McLaughlin & Deacon Dow)
11:30am **IC** *John Donovan, Thomas F. Melican, Loretta Minalio* (Fr. Morin)

Monday (2/15) Presidents' Day

9:00am **IC** *Thomas Melican Jr.* (Fr. McLaughlin)

Tuesday (2/16)

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

Wednesday (2/17) Ash Wednesday

7:15am **IC Service** (Deacon Moranski)
9:00am **IC Mass & Live-Stream** (Fr. Harrison)
9:00am **St. Ann Service** (Fr. McLaughlin)
12:00noon **IC Service** (Deacon Dow)
7:00pm **IC Service** (Fr. Morin)
7:00pm **Nativity Service** (Fr. Stanley)

Thursday (2/18)

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

Friday (2/19)

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

Saturday (2/20)

4:00pm **IC Live-Stream** *Mary E. Lefebvre* (Fr. Morin and Deacon Moranski)

Sunday (2/21)

8:00am **Nativity** (Fr. McLaughlin)
9:30am **St. Ann** (Fr. Stanley)
11:30am **IC** *Ralph Filomia, Thomas F. Melican* (Fr. Harrison & Deacon Dow)

In your prayers, please remember all the faithful departed.

IC—Immaculate Conception, Newburyport

Nativity—Merrimac

St. Ann—West Newbury

Saturday Live-Stream Vigil Masses are broadcast online through [Facebook](#).

 Find us on Facebook: [Holy Redeemer - Immaculate Conception Collaborative Parishes](#)

Collaborative Baptisms

We rejoice with the families of our new brothers and sisters who received the Sacrament of Baptism in January.

**Ainsley Marie Adams • Grant Ryder Loree •
Lucy Elizabeth Whittemore**

Presidents' Day

Collaborative offices will be closed for the President's Day holiday on Monday, February 15. Offices will reopen at 9:00 a.m. on Tuesday.

From the Pastor

Dear Parishioners,

Last week I received my first COVID vaccination shot. After almost a year of living through this pandemic, with all of the sacrifices and heartache it has caused, I have to tell you that this long-anticipated moment was a bit of a let-down, it was anticlimactic...a disappointment, if you will. It's not that anything went wrong or that it was not done properly or anything like that...everyone at the vaccination site was perfectly professional and appropriate. It's just that, well, it was just a shot, over in about 5 seconds with no drama whatsoever. The needle was tiny and I barely felt it. My shoulder was slightly sore in the vaccination spot for maybe a day, if that. Nothing debilitating at all. I think I might have felt like I was coming down with a cold for a few hours later that day, maybe, but not really. And it all went away by the next morning when I awoke chipper, full of energy, and ready to meet the day.

I've had plenty of shots over the years. I get the flu shot every year and various and sorted updates for this and that. Again, little drama there. The worst shots I received in recent memory were about 10 years ago when I was getting ready to travel to Haiti. Nurse Diesel stuck me with everything she had that day! I was sore for weeks that followed in a variety of body parts. I think I could have drunk freely from a cesspool afterwards with no ill effects, so many plagues and diseases had I been inoculated from that day! May God bless the people of Haiti!

But with all the hype and anticipation, this one was a non-event. And at the same time, I am so grateful to have

(Continued on page 4)



2021 Catholic Appeal



In just a couple of weeks, we will be launching our parishes' annual Catholic Appeals. As you may know, the Catholic Appeal funds the 51 Central Ministries of the Archdiocese that support our parishes on a daily basis—especially as we continue to navigate the pandemic. You may have already received a letter from Cardinal Seán asking for your early support. If you are able, please consider responding to that request to help our parishes meet their Appeal goal early. You can offer your support by going online to [bostoncatholicappeal.org](https://www.bostoncatholicappeal.org) to make your gift at any time or scan the QR code. Thank you for your support!



Watch Mass on Facebook

To watch our Saturday live-stream Masses:

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.

COLLABORATIVE NEWS

Ash Wednesday

We will offer the following services for Ash Wednesday this year on our Collaborative:

- 7:15 a.m. Immaculate Conception Church—Liturgy of the Word
- 9:00 a.m. Immaculate Conception Church—**Mass + Live-streamed**
- 9:00 a.m. St. Ann Church—Liturgy of the Word
- 12 Noon Immaculate Conception Church—Liturgy of the Word
- 7:00 p.m. Immaculate Conception Church—Liturgy of the Word
- 7:00 p.m. Nativity Church—Liturgy of the Word



Ashes will be distributed at all liturgies.

There will be a few differences this year, however, due to COVID considerations: Most of the liturgies will be Services of the Word instead of Mass due to time and exposure considerations. It is safer for all involved to have shorter services. Also, ashes will be distributed via Q-tips to avoid direct contact between parishioners. A fresh Q-tip will be used for each person. The penitential call: "Turn away from sin and be faithful to the Gospel" will be spoken once, for the whole assembly, rather than individually for each person as they receive the mark of ashes. The 9:00 a.m. Mass will be live-streamed for those who cannot be with us in person, and the video will be available afterwards on our [website](#) and [Facebook](#) page.

Come and join us to celebrate the beginning of our Lenten Season with prayer!

Eucharistic Adoration and Benediction During Lent

Join us Thursdays during Lent at Immaculate Conception Church for **Adoration**.

1:00–1:45 p.m.* and 7:15–8:00 p.m.

**Eucharistic Adoration and Benediction will be offered only when clergy are present. There may be a couple afternoon times when no priest or deacon is present. All evening times will have a priest or deacon. In the event that there is no priest or deacon, the church will be open for silent prayer time.*

Lenten Activities

Visit our website for suggestions to fulfill the Lenten disciplines of fasting, prayer, and almsgiving. Click on the Lent 2021 tab on our website: hricatholic.org.

Questions of the Week

Adult: Who are the "untouchables" in our society today? How can we help them as Jesus would?



Child: God wants us to be like Jesus and make choices that help others. What could you do to help someone who was sick?

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received it and can't wait to complete the regimen with my second shot in a week or so. COVID vaccinations are not and will not be a golden pass to throw away face masks and forgo social distancing. It's not magic. We still need to keep doing these things for the time being, but getting vaccinated, I believe, is the path forward to eventually reaching a healthier degree of public safety...and freedom. When the majority of people have been vaccinated or have achieved immunity from this disease, the virus will have nowhere to go, and will eventually fade from public view and concern. And that will be the light at the end of the tunnel that is not an oncoming train, but constitutes real hope and realized dreams.

To this end, I would encourage all of you who are able, to speak with your healthcare provider and consider getting vaccinated as soon as you can. That we even have this kind of medicine today is truly a wonder of modern science. I know that we've all heard stories about some people having various side effects from the vaccines. But I just wanted you to know that this was not my experience, nor the experience of most of the people I've talked with who have gotten their shots. Your mileage may vary, but even a few days of a flu-like reaction to the shots is far better than catching COVID itself, with all of the possible long-term health effects, provided, of course, that you survive. And at this point, I think we all have known someone who hasn't. I think that there is no better way to honor their memory than to fight back against this disease by our continued vigilance and embracing the opportunity to be vaccinated when it is our turn.

As of this writing, the State has announced a new call center designed to help residents age 75 and older who may be having difficulty navigating the online registration at www.mass.gov/covid-19-vaccine Just call 2-1-1 on your phone M–F from 8:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m. and a live person will assist our seniors in making an appointment to get vaccinated. Everyone is encouraged to use the website if at all possible, but it is good to know that there is help for those who need it. Also, if anyone is in need of a ride to get to a vaccination site once they have an appointment, please contact our office. We may be able to help with transportation.

Ultimately, Jesus is the source of healing for every disease and illness, every plague and pandemic. He is the complete cure for sin and death. In His name, may we seek health and protection always.

Fr. Timothy Harrison, Pastor

Stations of the Cross

We will have in-person **Stations of the Cross** on Fridays during Lent at 3:30 p.m. We will alternate the location among all three sites. We plan to live stream the service on our [Facebook](#) page each week.

Feb. 19 IC

Feb. 26 St. Ann

Mar. 5 Nativity

Mar. 12 IC

Mar. 19 St. Ann

Mar. 26 IC

Apr. 2 Nativity (Good Friday)

COLLABORATIVE NEWS

Centering Prayer for Lent

Our Lenten reflection on Jesus' words and works reveals Jesus' intimate relationship with his Father. We see the depth of Jesus' faith, trust and love for God. This relationship developed through prayer. Often we see Jesus withdraw from the crowds and even his apostles to pray alone in silence. Jesus 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). Through Centering Prayer you enter your private room.

Lent is a time to follow Jesus more closely and learn from the fully human Jesus how to pray by entering your secret room, spending time that places God at the center of your life, opening yourself to a loving Father, surrendering your will and in trust allowing God to transform you. This is how we pray as we Center in silence.

Through prayer, Jesus, strengthened and moved by his Father's love for him, could willingly surrender his human life for love and reveal our God to us. Through the Paschal Mystery, Jesus of Nazareth was transformed to become Jesus the Christ. We, too, can be transformed through prayer that unites us to God. Lent is the time to pray as Jesus taught us and enter into the Paschal Mystery, receiving new life in God through death to self.

Centering Prayer is an ancient Christian practice available to all who seek transformation through a more intimate relationship with God. This daily practice deepens our faith as we come to better know our God as one who loves us unconditionally just as we are and trust God has plans to give us a future of hope.

Centering Prayer helps us say to the Father, "Not my will but yours be done" (Lk. 22: 42). Please consider joining us for weekly group Centering Prayer and let God move you closer to him. We gather Wednesday evenings from 6:00 p.m.–7:00 p.m. via ZOOM for 30 minutes of Centering Prayer and 30 minutes of Lectio Divina. All are welcome. Please contact Elizabeth McCarthy, **978 462-7483**, if you are interested in learning more about this simple prayer of resting in God.

Mass Scripture Readings

The Scripture passages read each day at Mass can be found online at bible.usccb.org the site of the United States Council of Catholic Bishops. There you will find the daily readings, be able to listen to them on podcast, and have the opportunity to watch a short reflection piece on the readings offered by a Catholic priest, deacon, religious, or lay person.

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. Please access the HRIC webpage to learn about Lectio Divina as a way of praying the Scriptures. Go to www.HRICatholic.org; click on HRIC Pastoral Plan; and then click on Lectio Divina.

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

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 **in-person classes** 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.

At-Home Lenten Retreat

Jesus the Christ, our wounded healer, calls to us in this time of suffering. Following Jesus through our Lenten retreat we will stay awake with Jesus as he is wounded and suffers for us. We will give thanks for his great love and salvific suffering as we explore our own suffering and its transforming power. Responding to his love, we may allow Jesus to enter through our own wounds, heal us with his saving love, and be transformed.

Retreat packet materials will support learning through Scripture and offer teachings of Richard Rhor, Cynthia Bourgeault, Marcus Borg, Joan Chittister, Paul Coutinho SJ, Carlo Charrette, St. Ignatius of Loyola, Julien of Norwich, Henri Nouwen, Pope John Paul II, and others as well as poems, prayers, and questions for reflection.

Connecting with the Christ's many forms of suffering through prayer, reading, reflection, group sharing, and individual spiritual direction you will be aided to name and explore your own experiences of suffering and desire for healing. You will have opportunities for three individual one-hour sessions of spiritual direction by phone or zoom.

This retreat is designed to be affordable, convenient, and safe. It will begin with a group Zoom meeting to discuss the retreat's theme and prepare you for our Lenten journey. The fourth week Zoom meeting will include teaching and time to share reflections and responses to material read and support each other as the retreat continues. The closing session will provide an opportunity for you to share the fruits of retreat, continued desires, and questions.

Opening Session: (held twice) Tuesday, February 23, 6:00–7:00 p.m. OR Friday February 26, 6:00–7:00 p.m.

4th and 6th week's Sessions: Dates determined by group

Spiritual Director: Elizabeth McCarthy, Certified Spiritual Director. Call (978) 462-7483 to register or for additional information. **Suggested Donation:** \$90.00

COLLABORATIVE NEWS

Celebrating Black History Month

St. Josephine Bakhita, whose feast day we celebrated on February 8, was born in Sudan, kidnapped at age 7 and sold into slavery. Spending some time in Italy, she felt drawn to the Catholic Church and was baptized. As slavery is not legal in Italy, Josephine remained in Italy as a free citizen and joined the Institute of St. Magdalene of Canossa in 1893.

St. Benedict the Moor was the son of African slave parents. In Sicily, he was invited to join a group of Franciscan hermits after he was insulted because of his color. He eventually became their leader. He is most known for his ability to read people's minds.



Learn more about these saints and other black Catholic saints and martyrs on The National Black Catholic Congress's website: <https://www.nbccongress.org/black-saints-and-martyrs.html>.

Register to Attend Mass

To register to attend an in-person Mass celebrated in our Collaborative, go to the "Attend a Mass" section on our website: www.hriccatholic.org to link to the signup page. At this time a **reservation is required** to attend a live Mass for capacity limits and contact tracing purposes.

Call the offices at (978) 462-2724 for IC or (978) 346-8604 for HR if you have questions or need assistance making a reservation.

Rosary Rally

Join your brothers and sisters in Christ outdoors on Sunday, February 21, for a Rosary Rally in Merrimac Square.

This rally is in honor of Saints Jacinta and Francisco whom Our Lady appeared to as small children in 1917.

The Fatima children would seize every opportunity to offer prayers and make sacrifices for poor sinners that without these sacrifices would go to Hell.

After this example of these small children, will you honor these saints?

Will you brave the cold and pray for sinners in imitation of the sacrifices of Jacinta and Francisco?

Join us **Sunday, February 21, 1:00 p.m.** in Merrimac Square, Merrimac.

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
Brett Burkinshaw
Joe Messina
Vincent Oberhofer

Mary Shachok
Ruth Sullivan
Ron Sylvester
Michael Tucker

Collaborative Pastoral Council

Invitation to participate in the Collaborative Pastoral Council Meetings

In 2019 a Pastoral Council was formed in our Collaborative to assist the Pastor in his responsibilities as the leader of the Collaborative. They serve in a consultative role and there are members from both of our parishes. They have been meeting virtually on Zoom since mid-March of 2020 and are now meeting once a month, alternating between a Tuesday evening at 7:00 p.m. and Saturday at 10:00 a.m.

We would like to invite any of our Collaborative members to join our meetings on Zoom, giving you a chance to listen to our discussions and to comment or ask questions at certain points in the meeting. Our next meeting is scheduled for **Saturday, February 20 at 10:00 a.m.** If you are interested in joining the meeting on Zoom please send an email to Jim Williamson at jimwilliamson35@gmail.com and he will send you the Zoom link before the meeting.

Included on the agenda for this meeting are a discussion of future Mass schedules; how will we get people back to Mass after the pandemic ends; and how can we better communicate with all our parishioners. Our educational segment will be a discussion on the Vatican II Document on the Church. If you have any concerns or questions about the work of the Council, you can reach out to Jim or contact any Council member (listed below).

Father Tim Harrison, Chair
Jim Williamson, Vice Chair
Mary Bragg, Secretary

Chris Eagan
Amy Friend
Aaron Giard
Paula Higgins
Deacon John Moranski
Lucia Parker
Carol Robertson
Jonathan Temple
Pat Temple

Kathy Betz
Beth Brennan
Sue Coppinger
Steve DiCamillo
Deacon Paul Dow

Daily Masses

We are now offering Daily Masses Monday–Friday at 9:00 a.m. at IC, Newburyport. No advanced signup required.

We are still in need of volunteers to help with Daily Mass for St. Ann and Nativity on Mondays and Fridays respectively. Until we gather more volunteers to help with these churches, we cannot offer Daily Mass there. If you are able to help with any of these HR Masses, please contact Sue Noyes susanjnoyes@gmail.com to learn more.

Neighbors Helping Neighbors

Are you feeling isolated and alone during the pandemic?

Neighbors Helping Neighbors volunteers would love to give you a call to chat or send you a note. We know that this is a difficult period for everyone, particularly to those who live alone. Let us help brighten your day! If you would be interested in receiving a call or note, please call the HRIC offices at 978-462-2724 or 978-346-8604 and leave your name, address, and phone number and we will reach out to you.



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HOLY REDEEMER PARISH

HR Offertory Collection

HR Offertory, Feb. 7 **\$ 505.00**
Mailed-in Offertory, week ending Feb. 5 **\$2,370.00**

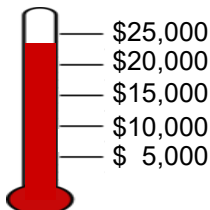
If you would like to mail in your envelopes, send them to

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 **\$24,030.00**

*We are so close
to our goal!*



HR Online Giving

Holy Redeemer now provides Online Giving—a convenient and safe way to make a one-time or a recurring (weekly or monthly) donation.



Getting started is easy—you need to be a registered member of Holy Redeemer Parish community. Parish registration forms are available on the website or contact the parish office.

Once you register with the parish, or if you are already a registered parishioner, visit our website, hricatholic.org and click the “Links” tab, then click on “HR Parish Online Giving” to get to the site. There are three different funds you can contribute to: Offertory, Monthly, and Grand Annual.

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.

Questions? Contact Linda Temple, HRIC Administrative Assistant at 978-462-2724 x7404.

EWTN: Catholic News

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

HR Prayer Shawl



We would like to drop off prayer shawls or lap blankets to anyone you know who needs comfort in our Holy Redeemer Parish family—there is no cost, it is free.

If you know of anyone, 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.

HR Faith Formation

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

School Year Programs

Program information for those students entering Grades K–8 can be found on our parish website. **Registration forms are also available.** As always, please contact the Faith Formation office (978-462-2724 ext. 7405) or email agiard@newburyportcatholic.org should you have any questions.

First Reconciliation/First Eucharist

Dates have been set for the Sacraments of Reconciliation and First Eucharist. Please be aware that we **are not yet** accepting registrations as COVID restrictions keep us in flux. As always, please reach out to the Faith Formation Office with any questions you might have.

First Reconciliation:

IC: Friday, April 30, 3:00 p.m.
Friday, May 7, 3:00 p.m.
Saturday, May 8, 11:00 a.m.

Nativity: Saturday, May 1, 11:00 a.m.

First Eucharist:

IC: Monday, June 7, 6:00 p.m.
Saturday, June 12, 11:00 a.m.
Monday, June 14, 6:00 p.m.
Saturday, June 19, 1:00 p.m.

Nativity: Saturday, June 5, 11:00 a.m.

For those families whose child was prepared for First Eucharist last spring, but has yet to receive the sacrament, arrangements can still be made for your family. We would be happy to help you with this.

Baptism

Please call the Collaborative offices (978-462-2724) for further information regarding the celebration of the sacrament.

Confirmation

Confirmation prep classes for both Grades 9 and 10 have begun. Information regarding these sessions can be found on the Collaborative website: hricatholic.org along with registration forms. Should you have any questions, please contact the Faith Formation office.

HR St. Vincent de Paul



We have ongoing requests for help with rent and utilities. Please consider donating and making a difference. All donations are used to benefit people living in West Newbury and Merrimac.

Donations can be put in the poor boxes at both churches or mail your donation. Please write checks to “HR St. Vincent de Paul” to help expedite our banking. If mailing a donation, please send it to

HR St. Vincent de Paul
4 Green St.
Merrimac, MA 01860

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IC Offertory, Feb. 7 **\$1,660.00**
Mailed-in Offertory, week ending Feb. 5 **\$4,113.00**

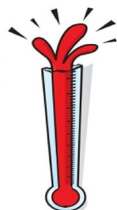
If you would like to mail in your envelopes, send them to

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 Grand Annual Goal \$85,000
To Date \$103,075.00

Contributions are still being accepted.



\$85,000
\$50,000
\$30,000
\$10,000

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. Parish registration forms are available in the foyer of the church or at the parish office.

Once you register with the parish, or if you are already a registered parishioner, visit our website, hriccatholic.org and click the “Links” tab, then click on “IC Parish 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.

Follow Us on Instagram

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



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 still ready to assist.

To donate, visit our website and donate online at www.svdpnewburyport.org, 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 • **take out only** • 4:30 p. m. at the entrance to the IC Parish Center. All are welcome!

IC Faith Formation

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

School Year Programs

Program information for those students entering Grades K–8 can be found on our parish website. **Registration forms are also available.** As always, please contact the Faith Formation office (978-462-2724 ext. 7405) or email agiard@newburyportcatholic.org should you have any questions.

Confirmation

Confirmation prep classes for both Grades 9 and 10 have begun. Information regarding these sessions can be found on the Collaborative website: hriccatholic.org along with registration forms. Should you have any questions, please contact the Faith Formation office.

Baptism

Please call the Collaborative Offices (978-462-2724) for further information regarding the celebration of the sacrament.

First Reconciliation/First Eucharist

Dates have been set for the Sacraments of Reconciliation and First Eucharist. Please be aware that we **are not yet** accepting registrations as COVID restrictions keep us in flux. As always, please reach out to the Faith Formation Office with any questions you might have.

First Reconciliation:

IC: Friday, April 30, 3:00 p.m.
Friday, May 7, 3:00 p.m.
Saturday, May 8, 11:00 a.m.

Nativity: Saturday, May 1, 11:00 a.m.

First Eucharist:

IC: Monday, June 7, 6:00 p.m.
Saturday, June 12, 11:00 a.m.
Monday, June 14, 6:00 p.m.
Saturday, June 19, 1:00 p.m.

Nativity: Saturday, June 5, 11:00 a.m.

For those families whose child was prepared for First Eucharist last spring, but has yet to receive the sacrament, arrangements can still be made for your family. We would be happy to help you with this.

St. Mary's Cemetery

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

IC PARISH

Immaculate Conception School



Immaculate Conception School is accepting applications for new students for the 2021–22 school year. A Catholic education, whether remote or in-person, is infused daily with leadership opportunities, academic excellence, and collaborative learning to develop 21st century skills. Coupled with moral and ethical teachings and an expectation of being the best you can be, IC students achieve personal and academic success moment by moment, day by day. Community and a sense of family means everything to us, especially during this challenging time.



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Applications are being accepted for grades Kindergarten to 8th. Learning environments include in-person, hybrid, and remote learning for all grades.

IC Haiti

If you would like to contribute to IC Haiti, please mail checks to **IC Haiti, 42 Green Street, Newburyport, MA. 01950. Checks should be made out to "IC Haiti."**

We are grateful for your continued generosity during the pandemic. May the Lord continue to bless our ongoing efforts to support the people of Haiti.

We thank Him for offering us a ministry of service to our brothers and sisters in Christ.

VIRTUAL INSPIRATION

Year of St. Joseph

Pope Francis said that during the coronavirus pandemic he has been reflecting on St. Joseph who, just like so many of us have made unseen sacrifices during the pandemic to protect others, St. Joseph quietly protected and cared for Mary and Jesus.

"Each of us can discover in Joseph—the man who goes unnoticed, a daily, discreet and hidden presence—an intercessor, a support and a guide in times of trouble," the pope wrote. He also said he wanted to highlight St. Joseph's role as a father who served his family with charity and humility, adding, "Our world today needs fathers." (CNA, 12-10-20)

To learn more about the Year of St. Joseph and resources available to you, visit bostoncatholic.org/yearofstjoseph. There you can find many resources and links.

The Bible in a Year



The Bible in a Year podcast, hosted by Fr. Mike Schmitz, walks you through the entire Bible in 365 episodes, providing commentary, reflection, and prayer along the way. It is currently the top podcast in the country on Apple Podcasts.

With this podcast, you will read the Bible in a year, learn how all the pieces of the Bible fit together to tell an amazing story, become more confident in your understanding of Scripture, experience the power of God's Word in your daily routine, and begin to see the world through the lens of Scripture. Each daily episode is about 20 minutes long.

Don't worry if you haven't started yet, you can jump in anytime and even listen to past episodes. Visit online at <https://media.ascensionpress.com/all-bible-in-a-year-episodes/> to learn more or search for "The Bible in a Year" in Spotify, Apple Podcasts, Stitcher, Google Podcasts, or Amazon Podcasts.

Women at the Well Bible Study

We Are Meeting Virtually

Please email HRICWomenAtTheWell@gmail.com to join us.

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.

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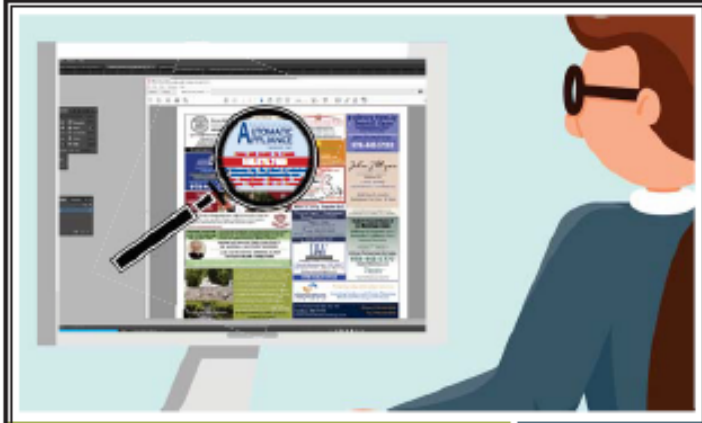
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