HOLY REDEEMER AND IMMACULATE CONCEPTION COLLABORATIVE PARISHES

SERVING MERRIMAC, NEWBURY, NEWBURYPORT, AND WEST NEWBURY

Second Sunday of Lent February 28, 2021 hriccatholic.org

All Are Welcome

"I will bless you abundantly and make your descendants as countless as the stars of the sky and the sands of the seashore..."

(Gn 22:17)



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



Pastor

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

Senior Priests in Residence

Rev. William H. McLaughlin Rev. George E. Morin Rev. Charles Stanley 978-462-2724 or 978-346-8604

Permanent Deacons

Deacon Paul Dow 978-887-5350, <u>pauldow49@gmail.com</u> 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 hrsvdp300@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

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Donna Postle, IC Music Ministry Director 978-317-8903

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hriccatholic



Holy Redeemer - Immaculate Conception
Collaborative Parishes

Mass Schedule

Saturday (2/27)

4:00pm Live-Stream (Fr. Stanley)

Sunday (2/28)

8:00am Nativity (Fr. Harrison & Deacon Moranski) 9:30am St. Ann (Fr. Morin & Deacon Dow) 11:30am IC Thomas F. Melican, Paul Vincent, Louis Della Gatta, Josef Javor, Faris Jawdeh

(Fr. McLaughlin)

Monday (3/1)

9:00am IC (Fr. Harrison)

Tuesday (3/2)

9:00am IC (Fr. Harrison)

Wednesday (3/3)

9:00am IC (Fr. McLaughlin)

Thursday (3/4)

9:00am IC (Fr. Morin)

Friday (3/5)

9:00am IC (Fr. Harrison)

Saturday (3/6)

4:00pm Live-Stream (Fr. McLaughlin)

Sunday (3/7)

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

9:00am IC Dianne Lucey (Fr. Stanley and Deacon

Dow)

9:30 am St. Ann (Fr. Harrison)

11:30am IC Thomas F. Melican

(Fr. Morin & Deacon Moranski)

In your prayers, please remember David McFarlane and all the faithful departed.

IC—Immaculate Conception, Newburyport

Nativity—Merrimac

St. Ann—West Newbury

Saturday Live-Stream Vigil Masses are broadcast online through <u>Facebook</u>.

Find us on Facebook: <u>Holy Redeemer - Immaculate</u> Conception Collaborative Parishes

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.

Collaborative Baptisms

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

James Daniel Comosa • Colin George O'Keefe • Hunter Bryce Teal

From the Pastor

Dear Parishioners,

On a perfectly clear night far from any city lights and in the middle of a very large, flat field, you might be able to see about 2500 stars with the naked eye. That's a lot, and nearly impossible to actually count if you even tried. Of



course, there are many, many more stars than that. Conservative estimates put the real number of stars in our universe at about 1,000,000,000,000,000,000,000...that is 1 billion trillion of them. And that's just an estimate based on what we can observe with the sharpest of telescopes and the most powerful computers to analyze the data. Considering things more terrestrial, a very rough estimate of the number of grains of sand on earth (beaches and deserts combined) nets you about 7,500,000,000,000,000,000 grains of sand, or seven quintillion, five hundred quadrillion grains. Combining these mind-bogglingly-massive numbers gives you, well..., a very, very big number!

The point from our passage from the Book of Genesis is very simple and impossible to ignore: God's blessing on Abraham will be infinite. Because of his faithfulness in holding nothing back from the Lord, not even the most precious life of his own son, Isaac, God will hold nothing back from Abraham. God will not be outdone by mere human gestures, as incredible as they might be.

This is something to ponder as we consider the things of God. Even if we could somehow count the uncountable and come up with a real number of stars and grains of sand, this would fall short of everything that God will do for those who are faithful and trust in the Lord's goodness. If there ever was a really, really good reason to be close to God, here it is!

(Continued on page 4)

Additional in-Person Mass

Beginning Sunday, March 7, 9:00 a.m. at IC

We have added an additional in-person Mass time Sundays at 9:00 a.m. at Immaculate Conception beginning March 7.

As with all live, in-person Masses, you must register to attend the Mass. You can find the registration link on our website: hriccatholic.org or you can call the offices to register: IC: (978) 462-2724, HR: (978) 346-8604. COVID protocol, including social distancing and mask-wearing will be followed at all in-person events.

Watch Mass on Facebook

To watch our Saturday live-stream Masses:

- Go to our Facebook page (https://www.facebook.com/hriccatholic/) 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.
- Click the "videos" link on the page.
- 3. The **IVE** video should be the first one on the list.

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.

Questions of the Week



Adult: Who or what are the Isaacs in your life that you would find very hard to surrender to God if asked?

Child: How does knowing who Jesus is make your life better?

Neighbors Helping Neighbors

Are you feeling isolated or 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 time for everyone, particularly 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.

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.HRICcatholic.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.)

(Continued from page 3)

Our human minds cannot comprehend the infinite or stay long in the realm of heavenly things. No wonder Peter "hardly knew what to say" as they were all terrified at the infinite glory that was glimpsed in Jesus' Transfiguration. What human words could ever add anything to that magnificence or convey even a small slice of the vast beauty of who Jesus truly is before the Father? We sometimes gloss over the Christmas title given to Jesusthe Word made Flesh, and fail to realize all that it entails. That the Eternal Word, who was present before the creation of the universe, took on our humble human form and dwelt among us in the person of Jesus Christ. It is through this Incarnation that God accomplished the redemption of the human race and all of creation, fulfilling every promise made to Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, and all their descendants...and all of ours, too!

So, we have a call to holiness—to turn away from sin and believe in this awesome promise from an infinite God. God asks so incredibly little from us in comparison to the eternity to be gained. In fact, God has already given all of it to us in our Baptism. We are simply called not to let it go or surrender it to sin. This Lent, then, how do we cling more tightly to the gift of faith? How do we more faithfully celebrate the awesomeness that is God's presence in our lives? How do we open our hearts with even greater gratitude to what God has completely done for us in Christ?

Maybe we start by squinting at the night sky or sifting through a handful of sand and realize just how loved we always have been...and then, (take a deep breath...) live our lives accordingly.

Lenten Blessings,

Fr. Timothy Harrison, Pastor

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

San Marcos Coffee March 7



We will have plenty of freshly-roasted Honduran coffee available for purchase after all collaborative Masses on Sunday, March 7.

If you are not attending in person, we still need your coffee order and will

arrange a drop-off or pick-up. You can order by leaving a voice or text message for Karen on 978-270-0183. \$10 per pound for this specialty coffee (whole bean or ground).

Gracias from Honduras!

Celebrating Black History Month

On this final weekend of Black History Month we want to share some prayers for you to read and keep in your heart through the coming year.

Prayer to Overcome Racism

Mary, friend and mother to all, through your Son, God has found a way to unite himself to every human being, called to be one people, sisters and brothers to each other.

We ask for your help in calling on your Son, seeking forgiveness for the times when we have failed to love and respect one another.

We ask for your help in obtaining from your Son the grace we need to overcome the evil of racism and to build a just society.

We ask for your help in following your Son, so that prejudice and animosity will no longer infect our minds or hearts but will be replaced with a love that respects the dignity of each person.

Mother of the Church, the Spirit of your Son Jesus warms our hearts: pray for us. Amen.



(www.usccb.org/racism)

Wake Me Up Lord

Wake me up Lord, so that the evil of racism finds no home within me.

Keep watch over my heart Lord,

and remove from me any barriers to your grace, that may oppress and offend my brothers and sisters.

Fill my spirit Lord, so that I may give services of justice and peace.

Clear my mind Lord, and use it for your glory.

And finally, remind us Lord that you said, "blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called children of God."

Amen

<u>USCCB: A Prayer Service</u> for Racial Healing in Our Land

Bulletin Information

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

2021 Catholic Appeal



Next weekend, parishes across the Archdiocese will launch the annual Catholic Appeal, which provides necessary funding for the more than 50 ministries that serve our parishes, schools, and communities, helping us all live our faith together. This is our Church, and when you

support the Catholic Appeal, you are directly supporting our parishes and all those who turn to our Church for assistance.

Visit <u>bostoncatholicappeal.org</u> to learn more or to make a donation. To give now, scan the QR code. Thank you for your support!

Prayer for Racial Healing

God of justice, In your wisdom you create all people in your image, without exception. Through your goodness, open our eyes to see the dignity, beauty, and worth of every human being. Open our minds to understand that all your children are brothers and sisters in the same human family. Open our hearts to repent of racist attitudes, behaviors, and speech which demean others.

Open our ears to hear the cries of those wounded by racial discrimination, and their passionate appeals for change. Strengthen our resolve to make amends for past injustices and to right the wrongs of history.

And fill us with courage that we might seek to heal wounds, build bridges, forgive and be forgiven, and establish peace and equality for all in our communities.

In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

-Catholic Charities USA

Like Us on Facebook

Holy Redeemer - Immaculate Conception Collaborative Parishes



Collaborative Pastoral Council

The Pastoral Council for the Holy Redeemer - Immaculate Conception Collaborative serves in an advisory capacity to the Pastor on matters of importance to the Collaborative.

All parishioners are invited to join our monthly Parish Pastoral Council meetings via Zoom. Watch the bulletin for information on how to join in. Our next meeting is Saturday, March 30 at 10:00 a.m.

Members of the Pastoral Council

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

Kathy Betz Beth Brennan Sue Coppinger Steve DiCamillo Deacon Paul Dow Chris Eagan Amy Friend Aaron Giard Paula Higgins Deacon John Moranski Lucia Parker Carol Robertson Jonathan Temple Pat Temple

LENT IN THE COLLABORATIVE

Centering Prayer for Lent

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.

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. Contact Elizabeth McCarthy, **978 462-7483**, if interested.

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.

Eucharistic Adoration and Benediction During Lent

Join us Thursdays during Lent at Immaculate Conception Church for **Adoration**. All are welcome. No reservations needed. Seating is limited. All attending must wear a mask and practice social distancing.

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.

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. The service will be live-streamed on our Facebook page. Please follow COVID protocol.

Mar. 5 Nativity

Mar. 12 IC Mar. 19 St. Ann Mar. 26 IC

Apr. 2 Nativity (Good Friday)

At-Home Lenten Retreat

An Individual Lenten Retreat, Jesus Wounded Healer

Another option for a Lenten Retreat has arisen as evening group Zoom meetings are not desirable for many, especially for those who work all day on Zoom. Here is the option:

- Receive a Retreat Packet and contact Spiritual Director to schedule review of the material.
- Read and reflect and schedule your first Spiritual Direction session by phone or Zoom. (weekend sessions are available).
- Continue reading, pondering, and praying and schedule your two additional Spiritual Direction sessions during Lent by phone or Zoom as you are ready.
- Schedule all meetings at your convenience and if needed reschedule as there would be no group meetings.

Jesus the Christ, our wounded healer, calls to us in this time of suffering. Following Jesus though 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, 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.

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

Confessions

We are offering face-to-face, individual Confessions by appointment only. These will take place outdoors. The weather must be amenable for the appointment; both priest and penitent **must wear a face mask** and practice proper social-distancing during the Confession.

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

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: hriccatholic.org.

Year of St. Joseph

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

"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 humility, adding, "Our world todav 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.

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.

Knights of Columbus



MCGIVNEY2020.

Fr. Michael J. McGivney, our founder, was beatified on October 31, 2020. Be a part of this new chapter and his legacy by becoming a Knight of Columbus today.

Free online memberships through June 30, 2021. Visit kofc.org/joinus and enter code

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.

WELCOME TO A COMMUNITY FULL OF

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.

WE ARE MEETING VIRTUALLY DURING THE PANDEMIC EMAIL US TO JOIN!

MONDAY NIGHTS 6:30PM-8PM ALL ARE WELCOME!

please email HRICWomenAtTheWell@gmail.com if you have any questions

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.



Come see the IC difference! 978-465-7780

www.icsnewburyport.com

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

Archdiocese Web Site

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

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION PARISH

IC Offertory Collection

IC Offertory, Feb. 21 \$1,295.00 Mailed-in Offertory, week ending Feb. 19 \$2,015.00 Ash Wednesday, Catholic Charities, Feb. 17 \$1,055.00

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 \$103,960.00

Contributions are still being accepted.



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, hricatholic.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



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 <u>parish website</u>. **Registration forms are also available.** As always, please contact the Faith Formation office (978-462-2724 ext. 7405) or email <u>agiard@newburyportcatholic.org</u> 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 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 <u>Faith Formation</u> 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.

EWTN: Catholic News

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

IC Easter Flowers

We are now taking donations and memorials toward the purchase of Easter flowers. Simply mail in or place an envelope in the offertory box with the names of those you wish to be remembered or make a donation for the flowers. Please make sure your gift is received by **noon on Monday, March 22** so that the names can be included in our Easter bulletin



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"He has risen." Matt 28:6







MMACULATE CONCEPTION PARISH COMMUNITY

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"God is Love" 1 John 4:8

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2ND SUNDAY OF LENT FEBRUARY 28, 2021

HOLY REDEEMER PARISH

HR Offertory Collection

HR Offertory, Feb. 21 \$ 413.00 Ash Wednesday, Catholic Charities, Feb. 17 \$ 495.00 Mailed-in Offertory, week ending Feb. 19 \$1,725.00

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: hriccatholic.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, hriccatholic.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.

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 Easter Flowers

We are now taking donations and memorials toward the purchase of Easter flowers. Simply mail in or place an envelope in the offertory box with the names of those you wish to be remembered or make a donation for the flowers. Please make sure your gift is received by **noon on Monday, March 22** so that the names can be included in our Easter bulletin

HR 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 <u>parish website</u>. **Registration forms are also available.** As always, please contact the Faith Formation office (978-462-2724 ext. 7405) or email <u>agiard@newburyportcatholic.org</u> 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 <u>Faith Formation</u> 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 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: hriccatholic.org along with registration forms. Should you have any questions, please contact the Faith Formation office.

HR St. Vincent de Paul



Due to the pandemic, we will not be distributing mite boxes this year during Lent. We are encouraging fasting, prayer, and charity and we ask you to remember those less fortunate during these difficult times.

Please consider donating to SVdP as part of your Lenten almsgiving. Checks can be made out to HR SVdP. Cash and checks can be placed in the poor boxes at the churches or mail your donations to:

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



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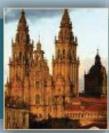
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