

HOLY REDEEMER AND IMMACULATE CONCEPTION COLLABORATIVE PARISHES

SERVING MERRIMAC, NEWBURY, NEWBURYPORT, AND WEST NEWBURY

Third Sunday of Lent

March 15, 2020

hricatholic.org



Jesus answered and said to her, "Everyone who drinks this water will be thirsty again; but whoever drinks the water I shall give will never thirst; the water I shall give will become in him a spring of water welling up to eternal life." Jn 4:13-14

All Are Welcome



Holy Redeemer Immaculate Conception Collaborative

serving Merrimac, Newbury, Newburyport & West Newbury

“Come all you who are thirsty, come to the waters...”

St. Ann

Church: 300 Main St., W. Newbury 01985

Rectory: 46 Maple St., W. Newbury 01985

Phone: 978-346-8604

Email: holyredeemer@verizon.net

Nativity

Parish offices and church:

4 Green St., Merrimac 01860

Office Hours: By appointment

Phone: 978-346-8604

Email: holyredeemer@verizon.net

Immaculate Conception

Parish, church, rectory, and offices:

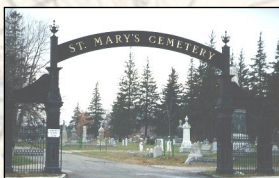
42 Green St., Newburyport 01950

Office Hours: M-F 8:00 a.m.-3:30 p.m.

Phone: 978-462-2724

Fax: 978-234-7399

Email: info@newburyportcatholic.org



St. Mary's Cemetery

36 Storey Avenue,
Newburyport 01950

Immaculate Conception School

1 Washington Street, Newburyport 01950, Pre K-grade 8,

Mrs. Joan Sullivan, Principal, Phone: 978-465-7780,

Fax: 978-234-7331, www.icsnewburyport.com



Collaborative Staff

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Saint Vincent de Paul Society at Holy Redeemer
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St. Vincent de Paul Society at Immaculate Conception
978-518-0728

St Mary's Cemetery


Joseph Viel, 978-208-0266
joeviel@comcast.net

Online

Website: www.hriccatholic.org

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

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

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

COLLABORATIVE NEWS

Collaborative Mass Schedule

Saturday (3/14)

4:00pm **IC** Fr. John Leonard, For the intentions of Dr. Kierstin Hageland (Fr. Morin)

4:00pm **Nativity** Peter Albano (Fr. Harrison)

Sunday (3/15)

7:15am **IC** Marsha Reilly Sullivan (Fr. McLaughlin)

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

9:00am **IC** Faris Abu-Jawdeh, Elaine Murphy (Fr. Morin)

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

11:30am **IC** Erin Mahon Crowther, Gael Mahon, Frederick & Margaret Harrington, Ida & Bud Cartledge, Carol & Michael Boguszewski, Arnold & Helen Bizeau, For the intentions of those recently married (Fr. McLaughlin)

Monday (3/16)

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

Tuesday (3/17)

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

Wednesday (3/18)

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

Thursday (3/19)

7:15am **IC** Florence R. Boschetti, Tricia Kelly (Fr. Morin)

Friday (3/20)

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

9:00am **IC School Liturgy** (Fr. Harrison & Deacon Dow)

10:30am **Port Rehab** (Fr. McLaughlin)

Saturday (3/21)

4:00pm **IC** Cliff S. Bonney, Regina Laite, Laurel Wightman Ryti, Valentina Perry

(Fr. Harrison & Deacon Dow)

4:00pm **Nativity** (Fr. McLaughlin)

Sunday (3/22)

7:15am **IC** (Fr. Harrison & Deacon Dow)

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

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

10:15am **St. Ann** Sarah Taylor Kennefick (Fr. Morin)

11:30am **IC** For the intentions of Olivia D'Ambrosio (Fr. Harrison & Deacon Dow)

In your prayers please remember Ronald LaPierre, Francis Cote, and all the faithful departed.

The priests' schedule is subject to change without notice.

IC—Immaculate Conception, Newburyport

Nativity—Merrimac

St. Ann—West Newbury

Prayers for the Sick

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

Priscilla Brown
Brett Burkinshaw
Eunice Campbell
Joe Messina

Ron Pagliaruto
Ruth Sullivan
Michael Tucker

Coronavirus, Church, and You!

With all of the media attention given to the recent outbreak of the Coronavirus (COVID-19), we might wonder about how all of this will affect our families, community, and the Church. Because this situation is evolving so rapidly, it is best to turn to online sources for the latest information and best-practices. Here are a few resources for up-to-date information from reputable authorities:

The Massachusetts Department of Public Health: www.mass.gov/guides/information-on-the-outbreak-of-2019-novel-coronavirus-covid-19

The Centers for Disease Control: www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/
Boston Children's Hospital: www.childrenshospital.org

Additionally, the Archdiocese of Boston will have updated information available as this situation affects our life together as a Church: www.bostoncatholic.org. We will endeavor to keep our Collaborative website www.hricatholic.org up-to-date as well.

This past weekend, officials from the Archdiocese asked parishes to drain the Holy Water fonts that parishioners customarily use to remind themselves of our Baptism as we enter and leave church. Many years ago, I took a sample of the holy water from one of these fonts and looked at it under a microscope—all I can say is that it's teeming with life! So, this is a very good precaution to embrace for the remainder of Lent. Also, we have already suspended the use of the common Communion Cup during Mass. This weekend we were asked to refrain from any physical contact with other parishioners by a handshake or kiss during the Sign of Peace or to simply skip the Sign of Peace altogether for the time being.

I would also underscore the encouragement we are all receiving from health officials to:

- stay home if you are sick
- wash your hands very frequently
- cover your mouth and nose with your elbow if you need to cough or sneeze.

Taken together, all of the above will help keep everyone as safe as possible during this time of concern. We will work to update our response as needed and required by those in authority. Please check the above websites for the latest information.

Please know that each of our churches and buildings within the Collaborative are being regularly treated with a hospital-grade disinfectant as a precaution against the spread of disease for your added protection.

May the Lord protect all of us, especially the most vulnerable and needy in our midst.

Fr. Timothy Harrison, Pastor

Bulletin Information

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

COLLABORATIVE NEWS

This Week in Our Collaborative

Monday, March 16

AA Meeting 10:30am, IC St. Louis Hall
IC Altar Server Training 3:00pm, IC Church
Women at the Well Prayer Group 6:00pm, IC Charity Dining Room
HR Boy Scouts Troop 41 Meeting 7:00pm, Nativity Hall

Tuesday, March 17

IC Knitting Ministry 1:00pm, IC Conference Room 209
Breaking Bread Meal 5:00pm, IC St. Louis Hall
Ireland Pilgrimage Reunion/Mass 6:00pm, IC Charity Dining Room/St. James Chapel

Wednesday, March 18

Holy Jammers Practice 9:00am, IC Conference Room 209
Welcoming Committee Meeting 10:00am, IC St. Louis Hall
Holy Quilters 1:00pm, Nativity Hall
IC Youth Choir Rehearsal 4:30pm, IC Church
Adoration 6:00pm, IC St. James Chapel
Centering Prayer 6:00pm, IC Conference Room 209
Confessions during Lent 6:30–8:00pm, IC Church
IC Choir Rehearsal 7:00pm, IC Church
HR Activities Committee Meeting 7:00pm, Nativity Hall

Thursday, March 19

Sharing Christ 6:30pm, IC Nazareth Library Room 205
Rosary for Life 6:30pm, IC St. James Chapel

Friday, March 20

Adoration 8:00am, IC St. James Chapel
Stations of the Cross 3:00pm, IC Church
Stations of the Cross 5:30pm, Nativity Church
AA Meeting 7:00pm, IC St. Louis Hall

Saturday, March 21

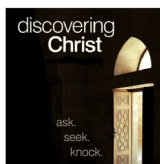
Cursillo Group Reunion 8:00am, St. Ann Church
HR First Eucharist Church Tour 10:00am, Nativity Church
Nativity Choir Rehearsal 3:30pm, Nativity Church

Sunday, March 22

Nativity Choir Rehearsal 7:45am, Nativity Church
HR Faith Formation 9:00am, Nativity Hall
St. Ann Choir Rehearsal 10:00am, St. Ann Church
HR Faith Formation 11:15am, St. Ann Hall

An Invitation to Enrich and Enliven your Faith

Discovering Christ



The Collaborative's "Forming Intentional Discipleship" team invites you to attend the **Discovering Christ** faith formation series this spring. This is the fourth time Discovering Christ will be offered in the Collaborative, with over 70 people having participated in the first three offerings. Every Thursday evening from April 16–May 28 from 6:00–8:30 p.m., a session of "**Discovering Christ**" will take place in the Immaculate Conception Parish Center. Each session starts with a meal followed by a video lesson and a table discussion. This is a wonderful experience of Christian fellowship, faith formation, and spiritual growth.

As part of the program, there will also be a Holy Spirit retreat day on Saturday, May 16, from 10:00 a.m.–2:30 p.m. at Nativity Hall in Merrimac. All are invited to participate in the program by registering at the Collaborative website www.hriccatholic.org or by contacting John Leary at 978-462-2053. There is no cost to attend the Discovering Christ series.

Your social schedule for the spring will begin to fill up soon, so save the dates and register now. Those who have already taken part in the **Discovering Christ** program look forward to welcoming you into our Collaborative's growing community of intentional disciples. *(Should the coronavirus force us to cancel the spring offering, we will reschedule for the fall.)*

Calling All Cooks



The Discovering Christ Hospitality Team is setting up volunteers to provide meals for the weekly meetings of **Discovering Christ** on Thursday evenings from April 16–May 28. We will provide volunteer cooks with: one 9x13 foil casserole pan, one easy to follow recipe card, and a reminder phone call or email. We're asking our volunteer cooks to provide: the time required to prepare one casserole dish, the cost of the ingredients, and delivery of the hot casserole to IC's St. Louis Hall, Newburyport, at 5:30 p.m. on their designated Thursday. Volunteer for as many weeks as you like. Thank you for sharing in this ministry effort

Sign up at the Discovering Christ volunteer link on hriccatholic.org or contact Mary Bragg: 978-465-8779.

Follow Us on Instagram

HRICcatholic



Questions of the Week



Adult: What thirst of yours is satisfied by Christ?

Child: How does knowing Jesus make you happy?



Follow Us on Twitter

@HRICcatholic

Lift Worship Night

Join us for an evening of worship, message, adoration with speaker Fr. Michael Zimmerman from the Archdiocese of Boston Vocation Office. Visit www.liftedhigher.com for more information. Free to attend. Open to all ages.

When: Friday, March 20, 7–9 p.m.

Where: Our Lady of Hope Church, 1 Pineswamp Road, Ipswich.

COLLABORATIVE NEWS

FORMED This Lent

FORMED offers many topics for Lent including

- Lenten reflections
- Home study sessions
- Lenten study on prayer
- Bishop Robert Barron meditations
- Stations of the Cross



Visit formed.org to log in or sign up (search for "Holy Redeemer Immaculate Conception Collaborative" or type in code JRNDGP to sign up). It's free!

Look for the FORMED posters in our churches this Lent.

Helping Our Homeless

*Whoever is generous to the poor lends to the Lord,
and he will repay him for his deed.*

In an effort to ease the suffering of our homeless and as a Collaborative-wide Lenten observance, we again will be collecting "Homeless Care Packs" in all three churches. A Homeless Care Pack is a one-gallon Ziploc bag filled with personal care items for men and women. They will be distributed to local agencies serving our homeless, including Pelican Intervention Fund, St. Vincent de Paul, Pettengill House, Salvation Army, YWCA, Community Service, and others.

Travel-size personal care items are the best size and can be found in most pharmacies in the area. There will be a collection box at the entrance of each church. For more information or to help, please contact Jonathan Temple, 978-809-9337. Thank you for your generosity and compassion.

Items needed:

Shampoo	Cough drops	Feminine hygiene
Toothbrush	Protein bars	products (Women)
Toothpaste	Soap	Umbrellas
Deodorant	Life Savers candy	Antiseptic Wipes
Razor	Disposable face	
Socks	cloths	No mouthwash or
Gloves	Kleenex packs	loose items
Shaving Cream	Hand sanitizer	please

Lent in the Collaborative

Visit our website hriccatholic.org and click on the Lent tab for more information and activities for Lent.

Holy Chrism Mass

Holy Family/Star of the Sea Parishes invites anyone who would like to attend the annual Holy Chrism Mass at the Cathedral of the Holy Cross, 1400 Washington St., Boston, on Tuesday, April 7, at 11:00 a.m. The cost is \$18.00 per person which covers the cost of the bus and the driver's tip.

Please be at Holy Family's parking lot by 9:00 a.m. The bus will leave promptly at 9:15 a.m. If you would you like to sign up, please contact Sue Greaney to reserve a place on the bus as soon as possible at 978-388-0330 or email at administrativeassistant@livingwatercatholic.org.

Please make checks payable to Holy Family Parish.

L'Arche "As I Am" Lenten Event

*Exploring the Dignity of People
with Developmental Disabilities*

Join our neighbors/fellow parishioners in the L'Arche Boston North community for simple *soup and bread dinner*, followed by a video presentation and discussion about the dignity and gifts of people with developmental disabilities.

When: Friday, March 27 at 6:00 p.m.

Where: Church of the Nativity Hall, Merrimac

L'Arche (French for "the Ark") Boston North is a member of an international community of people with and without developmental disabilities growing through mutually transformative relationship. Based out of Haverhill and with a home in Merrimac, L'Arche Boston North is ecumenical, faith based, with roots in the Catholic faith.

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. 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 allowing God to transform you. This is how we pray as we Center in silence.

Centering Prayer, an ancient Christian practice, is 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. Consider joining us for weekly group Centering Prayer on Wednesdays from 6:00–7:00 pm in IC Conference Room 209 for 30 minutes of Centering Prayer and 30 minutes of Lectio Divina. All are welcome. Contact Elizabeth McCarthy, 978-462-7483, if you are interested in learning more about this simple prayer of resting in God.

Reconciliation during Lent

Individual Confession time will be available during Lent. Confessions will be from 6:30–8:00 p.m. on these dates:

Wednesday, March 18: IC
Wednesday, March 25: Nativity
Wednesday, April 1: St. Ann

We are also offering a **Penance Service** with the opportunity for individual Confessions at IC on Tuesday, April 7 from 7:00–8:00 p.m.

Stations of the Cross



Stations of the Cross will be held on Fridays during Lent. All are invited to attend.

3:00 p.m. at IC Church, Newburyport
5:30 p.m. at Nativity Church, Merrimac

COLLABORATIVE NEWS

Mass Scripture Readings

March 15–22, 2020

Praying with the Scriptures during Lent is a compassionate way to accompany the Lord on his way to the cross. Set aside fifteen minutes each day, in the same place, and at the same time. What do each day's Scripture passages reveal to me about our loving Father, our Lord Jesus, and the Holy Spirit? What do the passages reveal about me? What am I being called upon to do, to be? Please access the HRIC webpage to learn about Lectio Divina as a way of praying the Scriptures. Go to www.HRICcatholic.org and click on HRIC Pastoral Plan and then click on Lectio Divina.

- Sunday, March 15: Exodus 17:3-7; Psalm 95; Romans 5:1-2, 5-8; John 4:5-42
- Monday, March 16: 2 Kings 5:1-15b; Psalm 95; Luke 4:24-30
- Tuesday, March 17: Daniel 3:25, 34-43; Psalm 25; Matthew 18:21-35
- Wednesday, March 18: Deuteronomy 4:1, 5-9; Psalm 147; Matthew 5:17-19
- Thursday, March 19: 2 Samuel 7:4-5a, 12-14a, 16; Psalm 89; Romans 4:13, 16-18, 22; Matthew 1:16, 18-21, 24a
- Friday, March 20: Hosea 14:2-10; Psalm 81; Mark 12:28-34
- Saturday, March 21: Hosea 6:1-6; Psalm 51; Luke 18:9-14
- Sunday, March 22: 1 Samuel 16:1b, 6-7, 10-13a; Psalm 23; Ephesians 5:8-14; John 9:1-41

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



All Care Hospice

Did you know that All Care Hospice provides free grief support services to the community and volunteer opportunities to support our hospice program? To learn more about our grief groups and workshops, please contact our Bereavement Coordinator at 781-244-1198. Registration is mandatory for all programs. To learn more about volunteer opportunities in our office providing administrative support or with our patients and families providing companionship, please contact our Volunteer Coordinator at 781-244-1129. Opportunities available close to home! Visit our website, allcare.org to download a volunteer form.

Cursillo and Ultreya

The Cursillo weekend is an invitation for you to experience the love of Jesus Christ on a personal level and to bring this love into your daily life. Many of your HRIC brothers and sisters have experienced this "short course in Christianity" at St. Basil's Salvatorian Center in Methuen, MA and we invite you to include Cursillo as part of your faith journey.

Each month, we gather for an "Ultreya" (onward!) evening of Liturgy, sharing, food, and fellowship at 7:00 p.m. in IC St. James Chapel and Charity Dining Room to continue the Cursillo spirit. All are welcome. For more information, contact Dave & Kelly Colby at davecolby724@gmail.com.

Cursillo Weekends

April 2	Men
April 30	Women
June 4	Women

Ultreya Evenings

March 27
April 24
May 29

Women at the Well Catholic Women's Group

Do you ever feel like there must be something more than your day-to-day routine? Looking for a way to connect to other faith-centered women in the midst of a busy work, social or parenting life? Or maybe you're just searching for a new way to regularly meet and connect with Jesus.

WELCOME TO A COMMUNITY FULL OF

women just like you

Wherever you are in your faith journey, join us as we meet weekly for *Blessed Is She* bible study, community and friendship as we grow together in Christ.

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION
PASTORAL CENTER
42 GREEN STREET
NEWBURYPORT, MA

MONDAY NIGHTS, WEEKLY
6PM-7:30PM
ALL ARE WELCOME!

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

The Pelican Intervention Fund

"Celebration of Hope"

Recovery is possible by living the 12 steps



Free and open to the public.

Hear testimonials of participants who have found hope and sobriety through 12-step recovery programs.

When: Sunday, March 22, 2020, 2:00–4:00 p.m.

Where: Carry Out Café, 155 State Street, Newburyport

Come for: Information on support resources for families and individuals, refreshments, music by John R. Tavano.

Medjugorje Pilgrimage

Join Shirley and Jim Noonan on a pilgrimage to Medjugorje, October 3–10, 2020. Our group will be staying with the visionary Mirjana Soldo. Mirjana is one of the visionaries and she will interact with the group during the week at mealtime, and also give a private talk to our group. The total cost of the pilgrimage will be \$2,194 which covers plane fare, taxes, housing, and two full meals each day. Lunch and tips are not included. To sign up, go to <https://medjugorje.org/resn.php> For further information, please call Shirley or Jim 978-465-8495.

HOLY REDEEMER PARISH

HR Offertory Collection

Offertory, March 7–8	\$ 2,903.00
Monthly	\$ 1,922.00
Grand Annual	\$22,835.00

Catholic Appeal

Goal \$21,790.00
To Date \$7,670.00



Activities Committee Meeting

The Activities Committee will be meeting Wednesday, March 18 at 7:00 p.m. in the Nativity Hall, Merrimac.

We will be discussing future activities, along with **Raffle Night** scheduled for Saturday, May 30. All are welcome to attend!

HR SVdP Mite Boxes

During Lent, there is an emphasis on fasting, prayer, and almsgiving. Please support our SVdP work by taking a mite box and filling it with donations throughout the Lenten season. No donation is too small and all of the money goes directly to support our Merrimac and West Newbury neighbors in need. Boxes are at the rear of both churches.

Reid Landry Garrant Foundation Raffle Tickets

Raffle tickets for a number of incredible prizes will be on sale after the 4:00 p.m. Mass at Nativity on **March 21** and after the 10:15 a.m. Mass at St. Ann Church on **March 22**. Tickets are \$10 each or 3 for \$20. Winners will be drawn at the 4th Annual Shamrock Shootout Hockey Tournament on March 28–29 at the Veterans Memorial Rink, Haverhill.

Proceeds from the event and the raffle will go to the Reid Landry Garrant Foundation, a 501(c)(3) organization that raises money for leukemia research and support for families dealing with this disease. Visit ReidsRebels.com for more information.

Contact Ted Xenakis at 978-373-5493 for more information. Make checks payable to Reid Landry Garrant Foundation, Inc. or you can pay by Venmo at 9788731492 or PayPal.

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 basket 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 30 so that the names can be included in our Easter bulletin.

HR Faith Formation

School Year Programs

The weeks have flown by and school year programs will be wrapping up soon. Until then we hope that you will make every effort to join us.

Summer Programs at IC

We are looking forward to the HRIC Summer Program which will take place on the IC campus the week of **July 13–17** for those children entering grades 3–6 in September, and **July 27–31** for students entering grades 7–9.

Please contact the Faith Formation office to request a registration form and/or to have more information sent to you.

Summer Program Volunteers

We are once again asking for assistance in making our Summer Program a reality.

Many families depend on this week of formation for their children, but it cannot happen without you. We are in need of **catechists** and **classroom assistants** for all grade levels. Please contact the office of Faith Formation (978-462-2724) for further information.

First Reconciliation/First Eucharist

The **Tour of the Church** (Church of the Nativity) is planned for **Saturday, March 21** from 10:00 a.m. to approximately 11:30 a.m.

The second **Parent Meeting** for Eucharist will take place on **Thursday, April 2** at 6:30 p.m. in the Nativity Church Hall. Please mark your calendars.

Baptism Dates to Remember

The sacrament of Baptism is not scheduled during the Lenten season. Therefore, our next Baptism class will be held **Sunday, May 3** at 1:00 p.m. in the Charity Dining Room located in the IC Pastoral Center. Please call the Collaborative offices (978-462-2724) for further information.

Confirmation Prep Classes

Year 2 (Grade 10) class is scheduled to meet on Sunday, April 5, from 6:00–7:30 in the Nativity Church Hall.

EWTN: Catholic News

Your Online Catholic Resource. <http://www.ewtnnews.com/>

HR Prayer Shawl



Do you know of any woman, man, or child who needs comfort and could use a Blessed Prayer Shawl or Lap Blanket? Please call Helen Kelley 978-771-4673 or Terry Duhamel 978-384-8099 for a shawl or more information.

Come join us. Don't know how? We will teach you to knit or crochet and give you yarn. We meet on the first Thursday of every month at Nativity Hall, Merrimac at 1:00pm. Our next meeting is **Thursday, April 2**.

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION PARISH

IC Offertory Collection

Offertory, March 7-8	\$ 8,151.00
Monthly	\$ 1,505.00
Grand Annual	\$85,639.00

This week's second collection is **Ongoing Church Maintenance**.

Next week's second collection is IC Haiti. **Please make checks payable to IC Haiti.**

Catholic Appeal

Goal \$53,541.00
To Date \$10,350.00



The Saint Vincent de Paul Society



Collection	\$ 210.00
Poor Box	\$ 149.00
Total	\$ 359.00

IC Haiti's Lenten Collection

The second collection on the weekend of March 21-22 will be taken up for IC Haiti. In this season of Lent when all of us are encouraged to include prayer, fasting, and almsgiving as part of our Lenten observances, let us prayerfully consider our outreach mission to the poor in Haiti.

Our parish has been generously supportive of IC Haiti since its inception in 2009. Despite ongoing political turmoil in the capital, our continued financial contributions have allowed the faculty and staff of the Fr. Marc Piché Elementary School in Puit Chacha, Haiti, to educate over 200 students each school year and to provide a breakfast and lunch program each school day. For the past two school years, IC Haiti has provided funding for graduates of the Fr. Marc school to continue their education at the closest secondary school. In addition, in conjunction with Health Equity International (*formerly the Saint Boniface Haiti Foundation*), health and dental care services have been made available to the school community.

This Lent, as intentional disciples of Christ, let us pray for our brothers and sisters in Haiti; let us choose a specific time during the week to fast on their behalf; and let us continue to support IC Haiti's efforts through generous almsgiving.

IC Knitting Ministry



The Knitting Ministry meets Tuesdays at 1:00 p.m. in Room 209 in the IC Parish Center. We knit/crochet prayer shawls, hats, mittens, and scarves for charity. Come join this friendly group.

New people, ideas, and patterns are always welcome. For more information call Julia O'Connor 978-465-3350 or Frances Ronan 978-462-4972.

Immaculate Conception School



Immaculate Conception School is prepared for distance learning should classroom instruction be interrupted due to COVID-19. Google G Suite for Education, which the IC has been using for 3 years, is an ideal tool to enable IC students to continue learning from home, should it become necessary. The IC's middle school students currently use Google tools on a daily basis and the school's younger students are becoming more versed in the various tools that the school subscribes to. Pre-K and Kindergarten students would also have an appropriately modified learning model that would take into account their ability and skill level. To further support students, all families were contacted to assist with a plan for utilizing technology at home and teachers have digital lesson plans prepared. The IC faculty also have the ability to create interactive lessons in real time, should distance learning occur. Lastly, the school has a full time Technology Coordinator to assist with the implementation of this plan. The steps we have taken to integrate the use of technology into everyday learning will help our students to continue to learn during this unpredictable time.



Pre-Planning/At-Need Burial Space

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

Free Hair Cuts



Donna Koen, a parishioner and licensed hairdresser of over 30 years, is offering free hair cuts to anyone in need. She is willing to travel to your home. Her number is (978) 998-9219.

This is a service she has been offering for years for the Newburyport Housing Authority, Salvation Army, and the Sisters of Notre Dame.

She is happy to help our parishioners who are in need.

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION PARISH

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 basket with the names of those you wish to be remembered or make a donation for the flowers. We have provided envelopes for you at the entrances to the Church.

Please make sure your gift is received by noon on Monday, March 30 so that the names can be included in our Easter bulletin.

Adoration & Rosary

Please join us for Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and Adoration in IC's St. James Chapel in the Parish Center.

- **Wednesdays** from 6:00–6:30 p.m.
- **Thursdays** from 6:30–7:00 p.m., including recitation of the Rosary for Life.
- **Fridays** drop in any time from 8:00 a.m.–noon. During the last hour we pray the Divine Mercy chaplet and conclude with Benediction.

No prior experience necessary. Come and learn how powerful it is to pray before the Real Presence of our Lord.

Consolers Circle Meal

The IC community offers a light meal to families who have lost a loved one. The meal, provided by volunteers, is held in St. Louis Hall following the funeral Mass. Our hall holds up to 75 people, and there is no charge for this service. Donations are accepted. Inform the funeral director that you request this service when making arrangements.



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Holy Redeemer - Immaculate Conception
Collaborative Parishes

IC Online Giving

Immaculate Conception Parish provides Online Giving—a convenient and safe way to make a one-time or a recurring (weekly) donation. Getting started is easy—you need to be a registered member of Immaculate Conception Parish community. (At this time, Online Giving is available for only IC members.) Registration forms are available in the foyer of the church or at the parish office. Once you register, visit our website, hriccatholic.org and click the “Links” tab, then click on “Online Giving” to get to the site. There are four different funds you can choose to contribute to. If you manage your other bills online, why not give to your Church online? It is safe and secure and you get to decide exactly when and to where your gift will be made. Any questions? Contact Linda Temple, IC Administrative Assistant 978-462-2724 x7404.

IC Faith Formation

School Year Programs

The school year programs will be finishing soon. Our catechists still have a lot to cover so please make every effort to join us.

Summer Programs

We are looking forward to the HRIC Summer Program which will take place the week of **July 13–17** for those children entering grades 3–6 in September, and **July 27–31** for students entering grades 7–9.

Please contact the Faith Formation office to request a registration form and/or to have more information sent to you.

Summer Program Volunteers

We are once again asking for assistance in making our Summer Program a reality. Many families depend on this week of faith formation for their children and it cannot take place without you!

There is a great need for **catechists** and **classroom assistants** at all grade levels. Please contact the office of Faith Formation for further information.

Confirmation

Confirmation Prep class for Year 1 (Grade 9) is scheduled for Sunday, March 29 from 1:00–2:30.

Class for Year 2 (Grade 10) will meet Tuesday, March 31 from 6:30–8:00.

Baptism Dates to Remember

The sacrament of Baptism is not scheduled during the Lenten Season. Therefore, our next Baptism class will be held **Sunday, May 3** with the sacrament celebrated on **Sunday, May 17**.

Please call the Collaborative Offices (978-462-2724) for further information.

First Reconciliation/First Eucharist

The second **Parent Meeting** regarding First Eucharist is scheduled for **Tuesday, March 24** at 6:30 p.m. Please make every effort to attend.

Don't forget (if you have not already done so) a copy of your child's Baptismal certificate **if baptized outside of our parish** must be submitted prior to reception of the sacrament.

The Compassionate Friends

The Compassionate Friends (TCF) of Greater Newburyport provides support for bereaved families after the loss of a child, grandchild, or sibling—any age, any cause. Visit our website at tcfnewburyport.org.

Our monthly support meetings are held in the IC Parish Center, Room 209 at 7:30–9:00 p.m. on the fourth Monday of the month. Our next meeting is **March 23**.

Barbara J. Hopkinson is founder and chapter leader. Contact Barbara for questions on either TCF or ABJ.