

**HOLY REDEEMER AND IMMACULATE CONCEPTION
COLLABORATIVE PARISHES**

SERVING MERRIMAC, NEWBURY, NEWBURYPORT, AND WEST NEWBURY

Fifth Sunday of Lent

March 21, 2021

hricatholic.org



“Amen, amen, I say to you, unless a grain of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it remains just a grain of wheat; but if it dies, it produces much fruit.” (Jn 12:24)

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

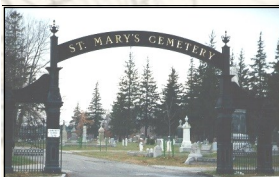
Church: 300 Main St., W. Newbury 01985
Rectory: 46 Maple St., W. Newbury 01985
Phone: 978-346-8604
Email: holyredeemer@verizon.net

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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info@newburyportcatholic.org,
holyredeemer@verizon.net

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Rev. George E. Morin
Rev. Charles Stanley

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Deacon John Moranski
978-432-1443, jmoranski51@gmail.com

St. Vincent de Paul

St. Vincent de Paul Society at
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jen.acorn@comcast.net

Kathy Peavey, HR Vocalist
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donnapostle233@gmail.com

Tim Richard, IC organist
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Steve Swochak, IC Music Coordinator
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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 (3/20)

4:00pm **Live-Stream Maureen Heaton** (Fr. Morin & Deacon Moranski)

Sunday (3/21)

8:00am **Nativity Carol Sowick** (Fr. McLaughlin)
 9:00am **IC Kathleen McDermott, Ellie Bauer** (Fr. Morin & Deacon Moranski)
 9:30am **St. Ann Maureen Heaton** (Fr. Harrison)
 11:30am **IC Erin Mahon Crowther, Frederick & Margaret Harrington, Thomas & Gael Mahon, Elaine Murphy, Florence R. Boschetti** (Fr. Stanley & Deacon Dow)

Monday (3/22)

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

Tuesday (3/23)

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

Wednesday (3/24)

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

Thursday (3/25)

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

Friday (3/26)

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

Saturday (3/27)

4:00pm **Live-Stream Garry F. Doyle** (Fr. Harrison)

Sunday (3/28) Palm Sunday

8:00am **Nativity** (Fr. Morin & Deacon Moranski)
 9:00am **IC Ted LoPreste, Angelo & Eleanor Messina, Rita Croteau** (Fr. Harrison & Deacon Dow)
 9:30am **St. Ann** (Fr. Stanley)
 11:30am **IC** (Fr. McLaughlin)

In your prayers, please remember John-Paul Brian Kehoe and 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](#)

Follow Us on Twitter

@HRICatholic



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.

From the Pastor

Dear Parishioners,

A number of years ago, I was asked in a clergy meeting on evangelization to describe what it was like to meet Jesus for the first time. "What was your first encounter with the Lord like?," was the question at-hand. I recall sitting there for more than a few moments, trying to think back to the first time that I encountered Jesus in my life. After much consternation, I had to admit that I couldn't do it, because I realized that I always knew the Lord, that Jesus was always present in my life, in the same way that my parents and family were. Just as they were always part of my life growing up, so was my experience with God.



We went to church as a family. We prayed in our home, even if it were just a simple moment of grace before dinner. I had a children's Bible that I read often. . . . OK, I liked the many pictures that went with the stories. I was coached to say my prayers every night before going to bed. "Now I lay me down to sleep, I pray the Lord my soul to keep . . ." Church holidays and seasons like Christmas and Easter, Advent and Lent were something that we celebrated in our home as much as at Mass. We had Advent calendars marking the days leading up to Christmas pinned to our closet doors. An Advent Wreath adorned our dinner table, its gently increasing candlelight mimicking our anticipation of the birth of the Savior. We carefully gave up sweets (usually chocolate!) during Lent and ate tuna fish and macaroni and cheese on Fridays before Easter, trying to enter into the sacrifice that Jesus made. Easter baskets filled with candy and eggs celebrated the resurrection as much as the Alleluias at church. First Communion and later, Confirmation, were celebrated with festivity. Catholic School awaited me when I entered high school, so that faith and religion would be as much a part of my coursework as English, biology and chemistry. Honestly, I just can't think of a time before I knew the Lord. I grew up knowing Jesus as part of my family life. The images of Him as the Good Shepherd, seeking out those who got lost, healing those who hurt, blessing those who were sad and welcoming us children were ubiquitous. The love that Jesus offered to us

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Easter Collections

Clergy Trust

Every Easter, our collection benefits Clergy Trust which cares for the health and well-being of our priests in good standing. By supporting the collection, you can show your appreciation and support for the priests who have made and continue to make a difference in your life, the lives of our parishes, and the lives of countless others in our communities.

Visit clergytrust.org to learn more or for ways to make your gift today or scan the QR code to make your gift now. This year more than ever, your support is needed and appreciated. Thank you in advance for your generosity to this collection.



COLLABORATIVE NEWS

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

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.

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

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
Bridie Hubley
Joe Messina

Vincent Oberhofer
Mary Shachok
Ruth Sullivan
Ron Sylvester
Michael Tucker

Watch Mass on Facebook

To watch our Saturday live-stream Masses:

1. 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.
2. Click the "videos" link on the page.
3. The **LIVE** video should be the first one on the list.

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.)

(Continued from page 3)

all was echoed in a myriad of smaller ways throughout my growing up. It was all just so. . . "normal."

I guess the words of Jeremiah the prophet had come true in my life, "No longer will they have need to teach their friends and relatives how to know the LORD. All, from least to greatest, shall know me, says the LORD." (Jer 31:34) This isn't to say, of course, that I didn't have my ups and downs in this relationship, or that I always felt close to Jesus. It certainly didn't mean that I ever fully understood what God was doing through my relationship with Christ. But I cannot say it wasn't there in some fashion or other. I wrestled with this relationship as I grew through High School. I agonized over it on a whole new level as I entered the College-level Seminary and began my studies for the priesthood. As an adult, a day doesn't go by when I am not challenged to live this relationship better. But through it all, I have just felt drawn forward in my life by this One who was truly human and truly divine. On my prayer card that was printed as a memento for my ordination, I chose one of the lines from John's Gospel that we heard this weekend: "Whoever serves me must follow me, and where I am, there also will my servant be." (Jn 12:26) I guess that may be the defining characteristic of my relationship with Jesus Christ—that wherever I have found myself being called to go, He was already there, waiting for me, indeed—ready to walk the journey ahead with me.

I hope that this Lenten season has been fruitful for you. I hope and pray that in some way, these days of penance and reflection have been an opportunity for you to get to know the Lord in a deeper and more personal way. I sincerely hope that you are able to experience Jesus Christ alive and present in your life, travelling with you through life's adventures. Wherever you may go, may you see and experience the Risen Lord in your midst! His invitation to follow Him and His promise to draw all people to Himself remain the same for us today as for those who preceded us in faith, millennia before.

So, what was it like the first time you met the Lord Jesus. . . or have you always known Him as an integral part of your family?

Lenten Blessings,

Fr. Timothy Harrison, Pastor

Questions of the Week

Adult: Name one area in your life that you need to let go of (to die to) in order to rise with new life.

Child: Name one thing that you can begin to do or can stop doing that will help you to be better friends with Jesus.

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.

COLLABORATIVE NEWS

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.

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.*

Evangelization Support Team

Are you looking to grow as a missionary disciple, helping others come to the hope-filled and joyful realization of God's awesome plan for their lives? Beginning during the Easter season, we will be starting a new small group to support one another in the task of bringing the Good News out into our everyday interactions.

After His Resurrection, Jesus said to His Apostles "go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations" (Matt. 28:19), thereby giving us all a solemn duty to bring the message of God's love out into the darkness and messiness of the world. Clearly "evangelization" needs to be reclaimed as a word in our vocabulary from negative associations of an intrusive imposing of belief and fiery judgment. We need images of Jesus' fiery LOVE and freeing truth, urgently shining into a world in darkness and confusion that gives light and hope beyond hope, images of everyday acts of radical love, and invitations to prayer and trust in Jesus.

For most of us, this task seems daunting. However, with fellow disciples we can support and encourage one another. In our small group, we will be talking about what it means for us as Catholics to evangelize. We will support one another in this endeavor through prayer and sharing. If you are interested, please contact Aaron Giard at agiard@newburyportcatholic.org for more.

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.

Collaborative Pastoral Council

Invitation to Participate in the Collaborative Pastoral Council Meetings

The Pastoral Council for the Holy Redeemer - Immaculate Conception Collaborative assists 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 meet once a month, mostly on 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, April 17 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.

Members of the Pastoral Council

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

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.

Palm Sunday Ecumenical Taizé

On Palm Sunday, March 28 at 7:30 p.m., you are cordially invited to attend an Ecumenical Taizé candlelight meditation service at Groveland Congregational Church, 4 King St., Groveland. The service will also be live-streamed on the church's Facebook page, and available afterward for viewing. The program will also be available for printing on the Facebook page.

As we enter into Holy Week, we reflect on Jesus' great love as he takes up the cross for us. The service is modeled after those held at the Taizé community in France, with prayer, song, scripture, petitions and silence.

Taizé prayer is a simple form of ecumenical Christian prayer centered on scripture, silence and song. It involves singing and listening to the word of God in an atmosphere of silence and peace.

Why not enter into Holy Week with these few moments of prayer and reflection!

COLLABORATIVE NEWS

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 6:00–7:00 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.

Bulletin Information

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

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" at 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 and in the lobby of the IC Parish Center, or you can contact a member of our Confirmation classes. For more information or to help, contact Aaron Giard at agiard@newburyportcatholic.org, or Jonathan Temple at jntemple@comcast.net. Thank you for your generosity and compassion. **Items needed:**

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

Women's History Month

During March, we will highlight some Catholic women who have become doctors of the church. A Doctor of the Church is a title given to a saint whose works—including their writings and teachings—have contributed to the theology and philosophy of the Church, who is a tremendously holy person, and who has a great insight of Church doctrine. There are only 36 Doctors of the Church.

St. Therese of Lisieux



Possibly the most famous female Doctor of the Church is St. Therese of Lisieux (the little flower), entered life as a religious sister at age 15 and died at the young age of 24. Her writings, in particular her autobiography, *Story of a Soul*, have been read by many.

Content source: <https://blessedishe.net/blog/female-doctors-church/>

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. 26 IC

Apr. 2 Nativity (Good Friday)

Neighbors Helping Neighbors

How can we help you?

Some in our Collaborative may have challenges getting everyday needs accomplished during the COVID-19 emergency.

Holy Redeemer-Immaculate Conception Collaborative *Neighbors Helping Neighbors Program* can help those in need within our communities of Merrimac, Newbury, Newburyport, and West Newbury. The focus of the program is to comfort and nurture our parish community and send its faith, love, and generosity outward by offering meaningful ways to love and serve our greater communities as this pandemic continues to pose a threat.

If you are a parishioner in the Collaborative and want assistance with fundamental needs such as grocery store runs, prescription pick ups, meal deliveries, etc., please call the Collaborative offices at **978-462-2724** or **978-346-8604** and let us know how we can help.

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.

HOLY REDEEMER PARISH

HR Offertory Collection

HR Offertory, March 14	\$ 458.00
Monthly, March 14	\$ 711.00
Mailed-in Offertory, week ending March 12	\$1,085.00
Grand Annual	\$24,145.00

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

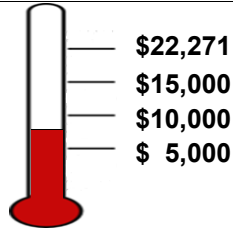
Holy Redeemer Parish, 4 Green Street, Merrimac, MA 01860 You can also sign up for online giving. Visit our website to learn more: hricatholic.org/hr-online-giving.

Catholic Appeal

Goal \$22,271.00

To Date \$8,655.00

Visit bostoncatholicappeal.org
To learn more.



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.

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 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 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



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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 113 Low Street, Newburyport, MA (978) 462-7373 www.whittierhealth.com

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 www.journey.com

MK Sullivan Insurance Agency Inc.
Mary Ellen Sullivan 978-346-7200
 Maryellen@mksullivaninsurance.com
 30 Grove Street, Merrimac
 www.mksullivaninsurance.com

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IC Offertory Collection

IC Offertory, March 14	\$1,436.00
Monthly, March 14	\$ 218.00
Mailed-in Offertory, week ending March 12	\$4,104.00
Grand Annual	\$104,360.00

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.

Catholic Appeal

Goal \$53,820.00
 To Date \$20,795.00

Visit bostoncatholicappeal.org
 To learn more.



IC Haiti Appeal

The first quarterly collection for IC Haiti will be taken up on **Palm Sunday weekend (March 27–28)**. Once again, we appeal to your care for, and generosity toward, the children and school community of Puit Chacha, Haiti.

Last year, despite a reduction in our collection totals, we were able to keep the school up and running during the pandemic. We were also able to provide funding for the construction of a Covid-care building for those who were unable to be attended to properly at home or at the hospital complex in Fond des Blanc.

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

Please use the special IC Haiti envelopes and make out checks to "IC Haiti."

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.svdpnnewburyport.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](http://parishwebsite). **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 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.

Follow Us on Instagram

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



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

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION PARISH

Mary A. Kelly Scholarship

Scientific Education for IC Parish Students

Applications are now being accepted for the Mary A. Kelly Scholarship Fund. Email your request for an application to maryakkscholarship@gmail.com.

Scholarship eligibility:

- Young man or woman parishioner of IC Parish
- High school graduate in pursuit of a scientific education

Completed applications must be postmarked and returned to the Trustees no later than **Wednesday, April 14, 2021**.

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.

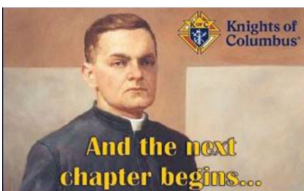
The Pelican Intervention Fund



The Pelican Intervention Fund is dedicated to supporting men and women on their journey from addiction to recovery. The Pelican Intervention Fund offers hope for sustained recovery for adults who live in the communities of Amesbury, Byfield, Georgetown, Groveland, Ipswich, Merrimac,

Newbury, West Newbury, Newburyport, Rowley, and Salisbury. If you have any questions contact Kim Keene 978-430-1408 or visit www.pelicaninterventionfund.org to learn more.

Knights of Columbus



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 now through June 30, 2021. Visit kofc.org/joinus and enter code MCGIVNEY2020.

Immaculate Conception School



This past week marked a year since COVID took over our lives—remembering back to the plans we designed to navigate what we thought would be two long weeks of remote learning—two long weeks away from our students. Two weeks seemed like an eternity at the time. Here we are a year later—still navigating—but with reason to celebrate. The IC school community has truly come together over the last year—to support the teachers and to keep our school family healthy. Families have the flexibility to keep their children home to learn remotely on any given day either by choice or by need, which encourages playing it safe if a child or someone in the family is not feeling well. School-wide observance of protocols for hand washing, wearing of masks, and daily building-wide disinfecting, combined with proper ventilation and HEPA air purifiers in every classroom has prevented sickness within our school. We have helped each other to be safe and stay healthy. Additionally, the care and love that we have shown each other has lifted our spirits and has been a much needed support over the last twelve months. Bouquets of flowers, supportive emails and cards, delicious lunches and recently, a morning visit by a local donut truck has really made a difference for our faculty. The Immaculate Conception School PTO has done an amazing job at



organizing and promoting a steady stream of positivity that has showered the faculty and staff since September. Small gestures of appreciation and thanks have



gone a long way to brighten and lighten our days.



Thank you PTO and IC families!


Archdiocese Web Site

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

The Compassionate Friends




The Compassionate Friends of Greater Newburyport provides support for bereaved families after the loss of a child, grandchild, or sibling—any age, any cause. Our monthly support meetings are being held online (due to coronavirus) 7:30–9:00 p.m. on the 4th Monday of the month. Barbara J. Hopkinson is founder and chapter leader. Our next meeting is **March 22**. Join our free online meeting by going to <http://zoom.us>, click on “Join a Meeting,” enter Meeting ID: 952-104-4920.



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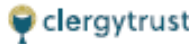
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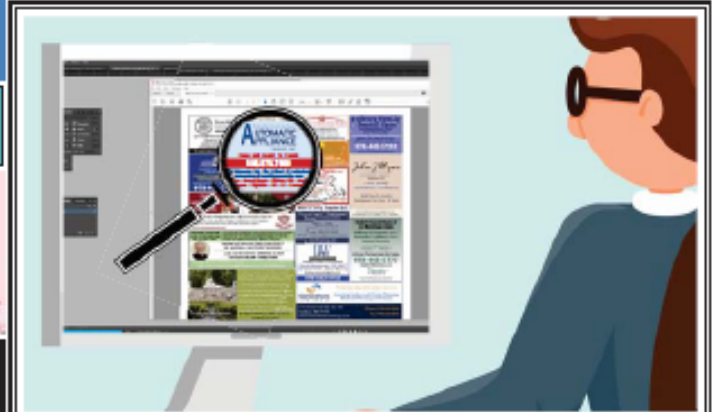


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