

# HOLY REDEEMER AND IMMACULATE CONCEPTION COLLABORATIVE PARISHES

SERVING MERRIMAC, NEWBURY, NEWBURYPORT, AND WEST NEWBURY

## Fourth Sunday of Lent

March 22, 2020

[hricatholic.org](http://hricatholic.org)



Photo: Fr. Lawrence Lew, O.P.

*When he had said this, he spat on the ground and made clay with the saliva, and smeared the clay on his eyes, and said to him, "Go wash in the Pool of Siloam" (which means Sent). So he went and washed, and came back able to see. Jn 9:6-7*

*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](mailto: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](mailto:holyredeemer@verizon.net)

## Immaculate Conception

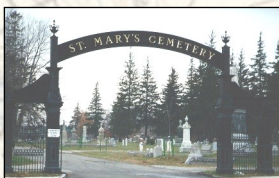
Parish, church, rectory, and offices:  
42 Green St., Newburyport 01950

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

**Phone: 978-462-2724**

Fax: 978-234-7399

Email: [info@newburyportcatholic.org](mailto: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](http://www.icsnewburyport.com)



## Collaborative Staff

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### St. Vincent de Paul


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](mailto:joeviel@comcast.net)

### Online

Website: [www.hriccatholic.org](http://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 (3/21)

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

### Sunday (3/22)

10:00am *David Sheaffer, Sarah Taylor Kennefick, Sr. Regina McAuley, For the intentions of Olivia D'Ambrosio, Maureen F. Heaton*

### Saturday (3/28)

4:00pm *Garry F. Doyle, Shirley Miller, Barbara Blaikie, Rita & Normand Rondeau, Maureen F. Heaton*

### Sunday (3/29)

10:00am *Ronald LaPierre, Irene & Robert Reeves, Janet Lamay, Philip Blanchette, Lauren Gagne Dwyre, Cris Carr Ammons, Maureen F. Heaton*

In your prayers please remember all the faithful departed.

**All Masses will be broadcast live through Facebook Live until further notice.**

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

## From the Pastor

Dear Parishioners,

I can remember a weeknight many years ago when my father let me stay up well past my bedtime to watch the movie *Midway* on TV because it was obvious that there wasn't going to be school the next day due to the raging snowstorm outside. What would eventually be known as the infamous "Blizzard of '78" dumped nearly 3 feet of snow on my suburban childhood home and shut down schools and businesses for more than a week afterwards. It was a surreal experience as a kid—opening the garage door the next morning to get ready for shoveling only to be confronted with a solid wall of snow that had drifted up against our house! There were only the vaguest outlines of mounded snow where the family cars had once been parked, their lone antennas sticking up defiantly from the icy depths....

Many of us who lived through the hardship of that experience have many memories of "camping out at home," navigating through snow tunnels, and taking a pause from our regular routines to be humbled by nature. Many, too, found this to be a time of great personal struggle and suffering as some communities were met with flooding and sadly, some lost their lives to raging winter weather.

I had flashbacks to 1978, and September of 2001 as well this past week, as ever-increasing alarm was raised about what measures needed to be taken to respond to the coronavirus threat that was now being proclaimed to be a global pandemic. This drama, played out on TV news conferences and in a seemingly endless stream of email alerts, has effectively shut down our community almost like a blizzard or sudden terrorist attack. I was stunned to learn



that the Archdiocese had suspended all parish Masses indefinitely, after having indicated just hours before that we would be continuing with services. As the reality began to sink in, it dawned on me how much has been lost.

Rather than simply looking at this in terms of personal freedom, of some outside authority telling me I can't go here or do this or that, the restrictions being placed on us all can cause us to grieve for what we can no longer experience—that something of our innocence has been taken from us, something we may never have back. Reflecting many years later on the September 11th terrorist attacks on our country from 2001, I have often craved the seeming simplicity of what life had to offer on September 10th and before. I would love to go back in time and live in that innocent reality once again, if it were possible.

Yet, here we are, facing a new challenge, a new reality in our nation and world, a new, as-yet-undefined "normal," that is unfolding on a daily basis. Just like in times-past, it is unwelcome, scary, and deeply unsettling. Whenever we are forced to go through these moments of change, it can cause us to question everything about our lives. That we have questions, even the deepest of them, is normal and healthy. We are meant to have questions. We are good at asking questions: Why would God allow such a horrid virus to wreck havoc on our world? Why doesn't God just wipe this whole thing out and make it go away? Will God protect those I love and the community I cherish? What will life be like in the weeks, months, and years ahead?

Most of these questions will not be answered quickly or simply. However, if we look to what actually happened in the midst of the many struggles and challenges we have faced over the years, there are some amazing bright spots that have surfaced to remind us that goodness has not gone away, that God's mercies have not been spent. Following a blizzard, do we not take a moment and greet our neighbors? Do we not reach out and help those who may be struggling to clear snow? Do we not check in with neighbors and relatives to see if they are OK and need anything? Do we not look for ways to connect with one another in a time of grief?

After weathering the terrifying news reports during the day of September 11th and being confronted with the terrible grief of losing parishioners and friends, we simply opened the church building that evening and put the lights on for any who wanted to come and pray. That night we had an impromptu Mass for about 600 people who showed up, looking to make some sense of the unthinkable. There is great strength that comes from our shared faith in moments of uncertainty.

This time, however, we are unable to do what we instinctually would seek—to come together to pray, celebrate the Eucharist and draw strength, comfort, and support from our gathered presence.

To be clear—it is vitally important right now that we stay apart as much as possible to slow down the Coronavirus from spreading in our community too quickly—so that our hospitals and healthcare systems do not become overwhelmed and collapse. The government-mandated and

*(Continued on page 4)*

# COLLABORATIVE NEWS

(Continued from page 3)

self-imposed quarantine that we are all engaging in some way is the most effective means we have as a society to combat the nightmarish speed of this virus spreading and subduing our ability to resist it.

So, in what ways can we draw strength from our faith during this time of crisis?

This past weekend, utilizing the ubiquitous technology that is ever by our side, I was able to “livestream” a Mass on our Collaborative’s [Facebook page](#) several times. Though unplanned, it was one way to reclaim an ounce of normalcy in the midst of confusion. The feedback that I received from the dozens who were able to join us through their computers and devices was heartening. In his weekly address during the Angelus, Pope Francis offered the following encouragement for priests and people who were seeking new and creative ways to connect during this tumultuous time:

“In this situation of epidemic, in which we find ourselves more or less isolated, we are invited to rediscover and deepen in the value of the communion which unites all members of the Church....United to Christ we are never alone, but we form one body, of which he is the head,” he said, explaining that this unity is fed both by prayer and so-called spiritual communion of the Eucharist, which is an act of prayer made when Catholics are not able to take Communion physically.

Cardinal Sean O’Malley wrote to the priests of the Archdiocese this week: “When we announced that we would begin our Eucharistic year (*The Year of the Eucharist*) on Holy Thursday, I never imagined that that important event would be prefaced by the canceling of the public celebration of the Eucharist. I hope that this period of “fasting from the Eucharist” will increase in our hearts the hunger for the Bread of life, the Body and Blood of Christ.”

Going forward, we will be exploring new ways that technology might enable us to stay in better communication with one another as well as experience what virtual connects we can promote that our inner desire for being together in a time of crisis might lead us to that strength and confidence from the Lord’s presence that we crave.

Until we can safely gather again in our churches, please plan to join us for Mass online and look to our Collaborative website for other virtual events and resources. This past year, we subscribed to [FORMED](#)—a video service that offered a very substantial faith content that I would encourage everyone to take advantage of. Daily Mass is available live-streamed and recorded through [Boston Catholic Television](#) and The Eternal Word Television Network ([EWTN](#)). Links to these and other resources are available on our [website](#). We will continue to publish our bulletin weekly online, so please download your copy each week when it becomes available on Thursday for the coming weekend.

For now, our Collaborative office will remain open, but we ask you to “visit” by a phone call or email as much as possible.

AA and recovery meetings will continue in our facilities, subject to government restriction on numbers, and our

outreach through the Tuesday evening meal at IC will continue, though the Tuesday meals will be take-out only.

Please do not hesitate to reach out to myself or our Staff members if there is anything that we can do for you or if you are aware of any need within our communities. Despite the limitations imposed on us, we will do everything in our power to help and assist where we can.

It is important to stay focused on the Lord in the midst of the turbulence we are experiencing. If we recall the Gospel story of Jesus walking on the water in the midst of the storm, Peter tried to follow him and walk on the water himself and was actually successful until he took his eyes off of Jesus and looked at the waves and wind that were swirling around him. Then, he started to sink, only to be rescued by the Lord and chastised for his lack of faith. In the middle of our own storm, we, too, must keep our hearts locked on the Lord and trust in His mercy. As our faith has constantly informed us: only in Jesus Christ do we find salvation.

May the Lord bless and protect us in the days ahead and through God’s steadfast mercy may we be delivered from the ravages of all illness and disease.

Fr. Timothy Harrison

Pastor

## Mass Scripture Readings

**March 22–29, 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](http://www.HRICcatholic.org) and click on HRIC Pastoral Plan and then click on Lectio Divina.

- Sunday, March 22: 1 Samuel 16:1b, 6-7, 10-13a; Psalm 23; Ephesians 5:8-14; John 9:1-41
- Monday, March 23: Isaiah 65:17-21; Psalm 30; John 4:43-54
- Tuesday, March 24: Ezekiel 47:1-9, 12; Psalm 46; John 5:1-16
- Wednesday, March 25: Isaiah 7:10-14; 8:10; Psalm 40; Hebrews 10:4-10; Luke 1:26-38
- Thursday, March 26 Exodus 32:7-14; Psalm 106; John 5:31-47
- Friday, March 27: Wisdom 2:1a, 12-22; Psalm 34; John 7:1-2, 10, 25-30
- Saturday, March 28: Jeremiah 11:18-20; Psalm 7; John 7:40-53
- Sunday, March 29: Ezekiel 37:12-14; Psalm 130; Romans 8:8-11; John 11:1-45

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



# 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



Over 4,000 titles available on almost any device including Roku, Amazon fire TV, Apple TV, Android, and IOS.

**FORMED** provides amazing content 24/7. It's **free** and **easy** to register:

- Visit [formed.org](http://formed.org)
- Click "Sign up"
- Click "I belong to a parish or organization" and type in "Holy Redeemer Immaculate Conception Collaborative" (or type in code JRNDGP) and tap "next"
- Add your name and email and click "sign up"
- You will receive an email that links you to the site

## 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" from 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 in the lobby of the IC Parish Center for the care packs. 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	<b>No mouthwash or</b>
Gloves	Kleenex packs	<b>loose items</b>
Shaving Cream	Hand sanitizer	<b>please</b>

## Prayers for the Sick

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

Priscilla Brown	Ron Pagliaruto
Brett Burkinshaw	Ruth Sullivan
Eunice Campbell	Michael Tucker
Joe Messina	

## L'Arche "As I Am" Lenten Event

*Exploring the Dignity of People  
with Developmental Disabilities*

This event has been cancelled.

*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.*

## Bulletin Information

Email all bulletin submissions by Monday at noon to [hricbulletin@gmail.com](mailto:hricbulletin@gmail.com).

## Community Service of Newburyport Donations

In addition to the Helping Our Homeless Care Pack program this Lent, we are piloting something new at IC. Community Service of Newburyport operates a pantry that provides household essentials like toilet paper, paper towels, toothpaste, toothbrushes, soap, shampoo, conditioner, body lotion, deodorant, laundry detergent, and dish detergent for people in need. Many people in our community, and in particular clients of our St. Vincent de Paul Society, rely on Community Service to make ends meet. When you shop for these items yourself, please consider picking up an extra and drop it off at church. Unlike the care packs these should be full size items.

You can find more information about Community Service at [communityserviceofnewburyport.com](http://communityserviceofnewburyport.com). There is a bin in the IC Parish Center Lobby. Alternatively you may consider dropping things off at Community Service of Newburyport directly. They're located behind St. Paul's Church just a few doors down the street from the IC Church. If you do so please mention you're from Immaculate Conception Parish.

## Collaborative Website

Visit our **Collaborative Website**, [www.hriccatholic.org](http://www.hriccatholic.org) for up-to-date information on what is happening in the Collaborative during these changing times. You can also find links to our calendar, Facebook, Instagram, and twitter pages.

We will also post our weekly bulletins on the website for you to view electronically.

## The Pelican Intervention Fund

**"Celebration of Hope"**

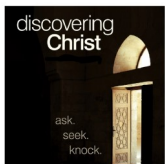
*Recovery is possible by living the 12 steps*



The PIF fundraiser at the Carry Out Café on March 22 has been cancelled.

# COLLABORATIVE NEWS

## Discovering Christ Series Postponed



Due to the threat of the coronavirus, the need for social distancing, and the directives of our Pastor Fr. Tim and the Archdiocese, the Discovering Christ series scheduled for April and May has been postponed to a later date. We pray all of you will continue to trust in the Lord's love and mercy during this critical period of both health threats and economic upheaval. Although we will not be able to gather together in our collaborative churches for some time, let us pray for one another, remembering especially those who are the most vulnerable among us. Below is a prayer recommended by a friend during this time of the coronavirus pandemic:

*May we who are merely inconvenienced remember those whose lives are at stake.  
 May we who have no risk factors remember those most vulnerable.  
 May we who have the luxury of working from home remember those who must choose between preserving their health or making their rent.  
 May we who have the flexibility to care for our children when their schools close remember those who have no options.  
 May we who have to cancel our trips remember those that have no place to go.  
 May we who are losing our margin money in the tumult of the economic market remember those who have no margin at all.  
 May we who settle in for a quarantine at home remember those who have no home.  
 During this time when we cannot physically wrap our arms around each other, let us yet find ways to be the loving embrace of God to our neighbors.*

(The Forming Intentional Discipleship Team)

## Women at the Well Catholic Women's Group

The Women at the Well meetings have been cancelled until further notice.

## Cursillo and Ultreya

Cursillo weekends have been cancelled through June. Ultreya meetings are cancelled until further notice.

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.



Immaculate Conception School

## Celebrating Music



Learning the ukulele is fun!



Musical stories intrigue young minds.

Music is what makes Immaculate Conception School so special! Students K-8 enjoy learning the ukulele, strings and other band Instruments.

**OPEN HOUSE (9-11 am):** Tues, April 7 • Wed, May 13

**PRIVATE TOUR:** Call Kelley Pappalardo (978) 465-7780 for a private tour or for more info

### Pre-K Through 8th Grade

- **Pre-K Program** offers children ages three and four a flexible schedule of 2, 3, 4 or 5 days per week
- **Full Day Kindergarten**
- Before care starts at 7 am • After care until 5:30 pm

One Washington Street, Newburyport, MA 01950 • [icsnewburyport.com](http://icsnewburyport.com)

# HOLY REDEEMER PARISH



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# HOLY REDEEMER PARISH

## Catholic Appeal

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



## HR Sandwich Program



Due to the coronavirus outbreak, Good Shepherd will only be doing "to go" meals. We will be bringing **only sandwiches and snacks, such as individual applesauce, fruit cups, and packages of fruit snacks.**

Remember to **wrap or bag sandwiches individually** and place them back in bread wrappers. Our next drop-off date is Wednesday, **March 25**.

If you are not comfortable making sandwiches at this time, please enjoy a well-earned rest. Thank you all for your help. We will keep you updated.

If you have any questions, please contact Dottie Carr at 978-363-2919 or Marie Pierce at 978-518-0898.

See the Collaborative calendar at

[www.hriccatholic.org](http://www.hriccatholic.org) for the schedule.

## HR Sandwich Program Update

We received a call from Good Shepherd and they are not allowed to take things made off site at this time per order of the CDC. We will not be delivering until further notice.

They could use some financial help if you would like to donate: [lazurushouse.org/donate/](http://lazurushouse.org/donate/)

## Reid Landry Garrant Foundation Raffle Tickets

This event has been cancelled. We will be sure to add any updates as they become available.

## EWTN: Catholic News

Want the latest Catholic News? EWTN News has got you covered. Check this link daily for news about the Catholic Church, and the latest issues in Catholicism. EWTN News: Your Online Catholic Resource.

[www.ewtnnews.com/](http://www.ewtnnews.com/)

## HR Easter Flowers



We are now taking donations and memorials toward the purchase of Easter flowers. Simply mail in an envelope 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

As the school year sessions come to a close, we want to thank everyone who has volunteered their time to help in any way. We could not do it without you!

### 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 second **Parent Meeting** for Eucharist scheduled for Thursday, April 2 has been **cancelled**.

Families will be notified of any future changes as we continue to follow the recommendations of the Archdiocese.

Meanwhile, please don't forget a copy of your child's baptismal certificate **if baptized outside of our Collaborative** must be submitted prior to reception of the sacrament if you have not already done so.

### 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

Families will be notified of the status of this class for Year 2 (Grade 10) scheduled to meet on Sunday, April 5 as we continue to follow Archdiocesan guidelines.

## Follow Us on Instagram

HRICatholic



## HR SVdP Mite Boxes

During Lent, there is an emphasis on fasting, prayer, and almsgiving. Please support our SVdP work by continuing to fill your mite box 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.



# HOLY REDEEMER PARISH



## Online Bulletin Delivery



Parish Bulletin



To your inbox

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Receive your Parish Bulletin in your inbox every week.

617-779-3770 // [www.pilotbulletins.net](http://www.pilotbulletins.net)

### Informational Open House for Prospective Students

Thursday, March 26, 2020, 7:00 p.m.  
Pastoral Center  
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## 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. 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](http://hriccatholic.org) and click the “Links” tab, then click on “Online Giving” to get to the site. Or the Online Giving link on our homepage. 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.

## Catholic Appeal

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



\$53,541  
\$40,000  
\$25,000  
\$10,000

## Immaculate Conception St. Vincent de Paul Thank You

We again gratefully thank the parish faithful for contributions in the February 16 collection. Through your kindness and generosity, our Society of St. Vincent de Paul will be able to continue to reach out to many residents as they request assistance in rent, utilities, food, gas and medical issues. We pray for these needy families as their basic life needs are sometimes so overwhelming. **You** have made a difference for so many less fortunate people in our community. **Blessings to you.**

*The Society of St. Vincent de Paul, Immaculate Conception Parish*



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Visit [www.bostoncatholic.org](http://www.bostoncatholic.org) for the latest news and information around the Archdiocese of Boston.

## Catholic TV

Visit [www.catholicstv.com](http://www.catholicstv.com) for a schedule of the latest program details on America's Catholic Television Network.

## Immaculate Conception School



Immaculate Conception School has implemented distance learning for all students due to the school closure from 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. The IC's middle school students have used Google tools on a daily basis throughout the school year for all subjects. The school's younger students are familiar with various tools for creating personalized digital portfolios. Pre-K and Kindergarten students have an appropriately modified learning model that takes into account their ability and skill level. The teachers have the ability to create interactive lessons in real time, as well as video recorded lessons or interactive slide decks that are accessed by the students. Although they are at home, our youngest students can still sing along with the teacher through apps such as SeeSaw. The IC Technology Coordinator has been working with the administration and faculty for the past 3 weeks to implement a plan that would be manageable for families while familiar to students. The faculty has approached the recent school closure as an opportunity to grow, learn and adopt new teaching tools and strategies. Although this is an unpredictable time, the IC is a stronger school community because of COVID-19.



## Mary A. Kelly Scholarship

Applications are now being accepted for the Mary A. Kelly Scholarship Fund. Email your request for an application to [maryakscholarship@gmail.com](mailto:maryakscholarship@gmail.com).

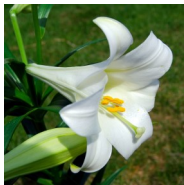
Scholarship eligibility:

- 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 15, 2020.

# IMMACULATE CONCEPTION PARISH

## IC Easter Flowers



We are taking donations and memorials toward the purchase of Easter flowers. Simply mail in an envelope 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.

## IC Faith Formation

### School Year Programs

As the school year session comes to a close, we want to take this time to thank all of our volunteers who have contributed in any way to the success of this program. We could not do it without you!

### 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 classes** for both Year 1 (Grade 9) and Year 2 (Grade 10) which were scheduled for Sunday, March 29 and Tuesday, March 31 respectively have been **cancelled**.

As we continue to receive guidelines from the Archdiocese, we will keep families informed of any future scheduling changes.

### 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 scheduled for this Tuesday, March 24 has been **cancelled**. Please call the Faith Formation Office with any questions you may have.

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

## 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.

## 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 [cfnewburyport.org](http://cfnewburyport.org). Barbara J. Hopkinson is founder and chapter leader.



Our monthly support meetings at IC have been cancelled until further notice. Contact Barbara for questions on either TCF or ABJ at [barbarajhopkinson@gmail.com](mailto:barbarajhopkinson@gmail.com).

## 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](http://www.pelicaninterventionfund.org) to learn more.

## Questions of the Week



**Adult:** What things does seeing with “eyes of faith” keep you from being blind to?

**Child:** What good things does Jesus help you to see in yourself or others?



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