

HOLY REDEEMER AND IMMACULATE CONCEPTION
COLLABORATIVE PARISHES

SERVING MERRIMAC, NEWBURY, NEWBURYPORT, AND WEST NEWBURY

Fourth Sunday of Lent

March 31, 2019



hricatholic.org

*“Father, I have
sinned against
heaven and
against you;
I no longer
deserve to be
called your
son.” (Lk 15:21)*

*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

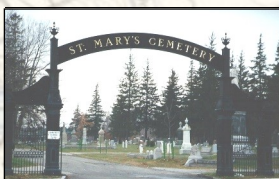
Church: 300 Main St., W. Newbury 01985
Rectory: 46 Maple St., W. Newbury 01985
Phone: 978-346-8604
Email: holyredeemer@verizon.net

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

Pastor

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

Parochial Vicar

Rev. George E. Morin,
978-462-2724 or 978-346-8604
gemorin1945@gmail.com

Weekend Assistant

Rev. James Broderick

Senior Priest in Residence

Rev. William McLaughlin

Permanent Deacon

Deacon Paul Dow
978-887-5350, pauldow49@gmail.com

Office Associates

Donald Alunni, Business Manager
978-462-2724 x 7351
dalunni@newburyportcatholic.org

Sheila Cruise, Receptionist
978-462-2724 x 7403 or 978-346-8604
scruise@newburyportcatholic.org or
holyredeemer@verizon.net

Karen Leff, Coordinator of Media Outreach
hricbulletin@gmail.com

Linda Temple, Administrative Assistant
978-462-2724 x7404
temple@newburyportcatholic.org

Music Ministry

Jennifer Acorn, Nativity Organist
jen.acorn@comcast.net

Drew Donahue, St. Ann Organist
drew.donahue@gmail.com

Michael Martin, IC Organist
fsteadman@aol.com

Donna Postle, IC Music Ministry Director
978-317-8903
donnapostle233@gmail.com

Tim Richard, IC organist
trichard23@gmail.com

Steve Swochak, IC Music Coordinator
978-462-2855
swochak@netzero.com

Religious Education

Melinda Burrell, IC Religious Ed.
978-462-2724 x 7420
burrell@newburyportcatholic.org

Marin Fortune, IC RCIA, 978-462-2724
fortune@newburyportcatholic.org

Doreen O'Leary, HR Religious Ed.
978-346-8604 x 7
reledhrp@gmail.com

Immaculate Conception School

Joan Sullivan, Principal, 978-465-7780
jsullivan@newburyportcatholic.org

Maintenance

Bud Kent, IC Building Maintenance
978-462-2724
bkent@newburyportcatholic.org

Eddie Martinez, IC Facilities Manager
978-462-2724
emartinez@newburyportcatholic.org

Cliff Vandenbulcke, IC School Custodian
978-465-7780
cvandenbulcke@newburyportcatholic.org


St. Vincent de Paul


Saint Vincent de Paul Society at
Holy Redeemer
978-346-8604 x 8
hsvdp300@gmail.com


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

St Mary's Cemetery

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

 [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)

Website: www.hriccatholic.org

COLLABORATIVE NEWS

Collaborative Mass Schedule

Saturday (3/30)

4:00pm **IC** *James Murphy, Laurel Wightman Ryti, Valentina Perry, Ida Cartledge, Carol Boguszewski, Alexander R. Szurpicki* (Fr. Harrison)

4:00pm **Nativity** *Gerard & Jean Roy* (Fr. McLaughlin)

Sunday (3/31)

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

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

9:00am **IC** *Patty Orlow, Hugh Underhill* (Fr. Harrison)

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

11:30am **IC** *Lorraine Sligh* (Fr. Harrison)

Monday (4/1)

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

Tuesday (4/2)

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

Wednesday (4/3)

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

Thursday (4/4)

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

Friday (4/5)

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

1:30pm **Avita** (Fr. McLaughlin)

Saturday (4/6)

4:00pm **IC** *Kevin Sullivan* (Fr. McLaughlin & Deacon Dow)

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

Sunday (4/7)

7:15am **IC** *Jack Stone, Patricia Kelly* (Fr. Harrison)

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

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

10:15am **St. Ann** (Fr. George)

11:30am **IC** *Bob Maguire* (Fr. Harrison)

In your prayers, please remember Patricia Kelly, Gerard Cody, Jean Lattime, Maureen Heaton, Thomas Quin, and all the faithful departed.

The priests' schedule is subject to change without notice.

IC—Immaculate Conception, Newburyport

Nativity—Merrimac

St. Ann—West Newbury

From the Pastor

Dear Parishioners,

Now that we are cresting midway through our Lenten journey, I have to ask the question: How is it going?! For many of us Lent has always been a time of giving up something, spending some extra time praying, doing the Stations of the Cross, making extra donations to charity, etc.... The list is long and time-honored! I wonder, however, how many of us take the opportunity during this special time of the year to do a little assessment and reconnecting?



If the purpose of Lent is purify, strengthen, and reaffirm our relationship with God so that at Easter we will be ready to renew our Baptismal promises, then perhaps a good use of this sacred season is to look at our relationships with the people that walk life's journey with us and take a good look at how those are going. One of the primary ways that we experience God's love and presence is through the people who make up our family and friends, neighbors and acquaintances. A great place to get a snapshot of all of these individuals at once is to look at our address books—whether they are printed and bound or electronic and virtual.

Scroll through the list of your contacts. See who is there. Ask yourself, "When was the last time I spoke with that person?" Do I see them often? Do I think of them and pray for them regularly? Is there anything that I can do to help them? What would it mean if I were to call them or reach out in some way? Might God bless that conversation, if it were to happen?

Assessment is all about taking account of who's there and how it's going. It is normal for people to walk part of life's journey with us for a while and then, due to a wide variety of circumstances, to move away or lose contact. Sometimes that is OK. Sometimes it is not. Lent is a time to get a read on where all of that is at. Even those we may not be in communication with deserve our prayers.

It can be a joy, too, to reconnect with an old friend. Do we ever consider that Lent is about celebrating the joy of God's enduring presence in our lives? We don't have to wait until Easter to do that! Reconnecting with someone who has fallen off our regular contact list could be an awesome way for the Lord to stir our hearts and deepen our experience of His love and mercy.

Think about it: What do I need to do for Lent? It's not too late to make some adjustments or try something new. Assessing our relationships and reconnecting with a few lost contacts might just be the thing we need to get ready for the Paschal Festivities later in April.

May God bless us all richly in the days ahead.

Fr. Timothy Harrison
Pastor

Have you signed up for

FORMED yet?

Enjoy a free subscription to **FORMED**—an incredible online gateway to the best Catholic content.

FORMED provides amazing content 24/7.

It's **free** and **easy** to register:

- Go to hricatholic.formed.org
- Click "Register" and enter your name, email address, and your desired password
- You're ready to access the inspiring and engaging content on FORMED

COLLABORATIVE NEWS

This Week in Our Collaborative

Monday, April 1

AA Meeting 10:30am, IC St. Louis Hall
Altar Server Training 3:30pm, IC Church
HR Boy Scouts Troop 41 Meeting 7:00pm, Nativity Hall
IC PFC Meeting 7:00pm, IC Charity Dining Room

Tuesday, April 2

IC Knitting Ministry 1:00pm, IC Conference Room 209
Breaking Bread Meal 5:00pm, IC St. Louis Hall
HR Religious Ed., Grades 7&8 (last class) 6:00pm, Nativity Hall
Discipleship Priority Meeting 6:30pm, IC Charity Dining Room

Wednesday, April 3

IC PTO Meeting 8:30am, IC St. Louis Hall
Holy Jammers Practice 9:00am, IC Conference Room 209
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
IC Adult Choir Rehearsal 7:00pm, IC Church
IC PTO Meeting 7:00pm, IC St. Louis Hall

Thursday, April 4

HR Prayer Shawl 1:00pm Nativity Hall
ICS Faculty Meeting 2:40pm, IC St. Louis Hall
Rosary for Life 6:30pm, IC St. James Chapel
Lenten Soup & Spirit Lecture 7:00pm, Nativity Hall

Friday, April 5

Adoration 8:00am, IC St. James Chapel
Lenten Soup & Spirit Lecture 12:00noon, IC St. Louis Hall
Stations of the Cross 3:30pm, IC Church
Lenten Simple Supper 6:00pm, Nativity Hall
Stations of the Cross 7:00pm, Nativity Church
AA Meeting 7:00pm, IC St. Louis Hall

Saturday, April 6

Ukrainian Egg Workshop 9:30am, IC St. Louis Hall
Nativity Choir Rehearsal 3:30pm, Nativity Church

Sunday, April 7

Nativity Choir Rehearsal 7:45am, Nativity Church
St. Ann Choir Rehearsal 9:45am, St. Ann Church
IC Religious Ed. 10:00am, IC Parish Center
HR Religious Ed., Grade 9 6:00pm, Nativity Hall

Join the *Discovering Christ* Series

Come join fellow parishioners from Holy Redeemer and Immaculate Conception on an eight-week journey to discover how Our Lord Jesus Christ is inviting us to a deeper relationship with Him. Enjoy a free meal; listen to dynamic teaching; and discuss our call to discipleship with others who want to make this journey with you. The program will run every Sunday evening 5:30–8:00 p.m. at Nativity Hall in Merrimac from April 28–June 16. There is no cost, but only 60 seats are available so register as soon as possible online at the Collaborative website hriccatholic.org.

This is a unique opportunity to grow in your faith relationship to the Lord and to your fellow parishioners. Please take advantage of this graceful experience.

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. The next Cursillo weekends are April 4 (men) and May 2 (women).

Each month, we gather for an “Ultreya” (onward!) evening of Liturgy, sharing, food and fellowship at 7pm in St. James Chapel to continue the Cursillo spirit. The next Ultreya is April 26. All are welcome. Please join us! For more information, contact Jonathan Temple 978-809-9337 or Pat Forbes 617-899-0424.

Confessions during Lent

Additional times for confessions during Lent will be as follows:

April 3: 6:30–8:00pm at St. Ann, W. Newbury
April 10: 6:30–8:00pm at Nativity, Merrimac
April 17: 6:30–8:00pm at IC, Newburyport

Calling All Cooks

The ChristLife Hospitality Team is setting up a team of volunteers to provide meals for the weekly meetings of **Discovering Christ** on Sunday afternoons from April 28–June 16. 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 meal to church at 4:30 p.m. on their designated Sunday(s). There’s no need to volunteer every week. One week will be deeply appreciated as will any more our volunteers choose to cook. Would you be able to help us?

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

Questions of the Week



Adult: How have you or your family welcomed a family member who has been distant and/or absent from you?

Child: Who is the one person you most need to say “I’m sorry” to in your family?

COLLABORATIVE NEWS

Mass Scripture Readings: March 31–April 7, 2019

In praying with the Scriptures, we have the opportunity to deepen our relationship with the Lord while discerning His ever-gracious invitation to love as He loves us. Please refer to the HRIC webpage to learn about Lectio Divina as a way of praying the Scriptures. Go to <http://www.hriccatholic.org/blog/lectio-divina> or to www.HRICcatholic.org and click on HRIC Pastoral Plan and then click on Lectio Divina.

- Sunday, March 31: Joshua 5:9a, 10-12; Psalm 34; 2 Corinthians 5:17-21; Luke 15:1-3, 11-32
- Monday, April 1: Isaiah 65:17-21; Psalm 30; John: 4:43-54
- Tuesday, April 2: Ezekiel 47:1-9, 12; Psalm 46; John 5:1-16
- Wednesday, April 3: Isaiah 49:8-15; Psalm 145; John 5:17-30
- Thursday, April 4: Exodus 32:7-14; Psalm 106; John 5:31-47
- Friday, April 5: Wisdom 2:1a, 12-22; Psalm 34; John 7:1-2, 10, 25-30
- Saturday, April 6: Jeremiah 11:18-20; Psalm 7; John 7:40-53
- Sunday, April 7: Isaiah 43:16-21; Psalm 126; Philippians 3:8-14; John 8:1-11

Chrism Mass

Holy Family Parish invites anyone who would like to attend the annual Holy Chrism Mass at the Cathedral of the Holy Cross, on **Tuesday, April 16**, 11:00 am. The cost is \$23.00 each. This covers the cost for the bus and the driver's tip. If you are making out a check, please make it payable to Holy Family and have Chrism Mass Bus in memo.

If interested in going, please contact Sue Greaney to reserve a place on the bus as soon as possible at 978-388-0330.

Please be at Holy Family's parking lot, Sparhawk Street, Amesbury by **9:30am**. The bus will leave promptly at 9:45am and be back in Amesbury between 3:00–3:30pm.

Altar Server Training

Altar Servers are needed for all Masses

Collaborative Altar Server training for Grades 4 and up will be held at Immaculate Conception Church on the following Mondays:

- Mon., April 1** 3:30–4:30pm Session 2 w/Jim Noonan
Mon., April 8 3:30–4:30pm Session 3 w/Father Tim

To sign up, call the office at (978) 462-2724.

If you have any questions, feel free to contact us.

4th Annual Lenten Soup & Spirit Lecture Series

Join the Adult Faith Formation Team for a DVD/live lecture series on traditional Catholic moral teaching that refutes modern moral confusion. Ponder presentations on the 7 Deadly Sins and their contrasting 7 Virtues. Enjoy simple food, fellowship, and food for thought.

Each of the presentations will be offered twice: Thursday evenings at Nativity Hall, Merrimac (7:00–8:30pm) and repeated Fridays at IC's St. Louis Hall, Newburyport (noon–1:30pm).

April 4 & 5: Sloth/Zeal and Greed/Generosity

April 11 & 12: Gluttony/Asceticism and Lust/Chastity

Together let's make this HRIC's best Lent ever: clear teaching + practical advice + honest dialogue = conversion of heart and mind!

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 our own Pelican Intervention Fund, St. Vincent de Paul, Pettengill House, Salvation Army, YWCA, and Community Service, as well as distributed by our youth attending the annual 30-hour famine. 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 products (Women)
Toothbrush	Protein bars	Umbrellas
Toothpaste	Soap	Antiseptic Wipes
Deodorant	Life Savers candy	
Razor	Disposable face cloths	No mouthwash or loose items please
Socks	Kleenex packs	
Gloves	Hand sanitizer	
Shaving Cream		

San Marcos Coffee Sale

Our next batch of San Marcos specialty coffee will be freshly roasted and available for \$10/pound after most Masses in our Collaborative this weekend, **March 30–31**.

Your purchase will help the poor coffee farmers in Honduras to earn a fair wage for their labor. Call Karen Finnegan at 978-465-4173 with any questions about this project.

COLLABORATIVE NEWS



Immaculate Conception School

Teaching children to be
good role models
is a **top priority**



Grade 4 and
Kindergarten
Reading Buddies

Kindness, caring and respectful behavior are reflected in every aspect of the learning environment at the IC... and that's what makes us such a special school!

See if Immaculate Conception School is the right choice for your family, visit us!

OPEN HOUSE

Tuesday, April 2 • Thursday, April 25
Thursday, May 9 • Wednesday, May 22

9 - 11 AM

Call Kelley Pappalardo (978) 465-7780
for a private tour

One Washington Street, Newburyport, MA 01950 • icsnewburyport.com

Holy Week Services

Holy Thursday, April 18

7:00pm, IC

Good Friday, April 19

The Passion of the Lord

3:00pm, IC

3:00pm, St. Ann

Stations of the Cross

7:00pm, Nativity

Easter Vigil, April 20

We will gather at 7:45pm, IC

Easter Sunday, April 21

7:30am, IC

8:00am, Nativity

8:45am, St. Ann

9:30am, IC

9:30am, IC School Gym

9:30am, Nativity

10:15am, St. Ann

11:30am, IC



Lenten Guidelines

All **Fridays** during Lent are days of abstinence. **Good Friday** is a day of fasting and abstinence.

Fasting, almsgiving, and prayer are the three traditional disciplines of Lent. The faithful and catechumens should take these practices seriously in a spirit of penance and of preparation for baptism or of renewal of baptism at Easter.

Centering Prayer for Lent

Our Lenten reflection on Jesus' words and works reveals Jesus' intimate relationship with his Father. This relationship developed through prayer. Often we see Jesus withdraw from the crowds and even his apostles to pray alone in silence. Jesus tells us "When you pray, go into your private room, shut yourself in, and pray to your Father who is in that secret place, and your Father who sees all that is done in secret will reward you" (Matt 6:6). In Centering Prayer you enter your private room.

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. Please consider joining us for weekly group Centering Prayer and let God move you closer to him. We gather Wednesdays from 6-7pm in IC Conference Room 209 for 30 minutes of Centering Prayer and 30 minutes of Lectio Divina. Contact Elizabeth McCarthy (978-462-7483) to learn more.

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION PARISH

IC Offertory Collection

Offertory, March 23–24	\$ 9,626.00
IC Haiti	\$ 6,421.00
IC Grand Annual	\$76,880.00

Catholic Appeal

Goal \$55,614.00
To Date \$17,805.00
32% of goal



The Saint Vincent de Paul Society



Collection	\$ 0.00
Poor Box	\$210.00
Total	\$210.00

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, April 8** so that the names can be included in our Easter bulletin.

VOTF Lecture Announced

“The Sacraments, Yesterday, Today, and Tomorrow, Signs of Hope and Dismay”

Speaker: Fr. John Baldwin, SJ, Professor of Historical and Liturgical Theology at Boston College

When: Sunday, April 7, 2019 from 2–4 p.m.

Where: Our Lady of Hope, Ipswich, MA

What: Lecture sponsored by Voice of the Faithful (VOTF), Northshore and Seacoast Affiliate. Everyone is invited. Free will offering appreciated. Refreshments served. For further info. call John and Barbara Gould: 978-535-2321.

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 School

Stepping into Service



Serving the community is a practice that we foster and encourage in our students at Immaculate Conception School. Four talented IC students, who study Irish Step Dancing, recently performed at area Saint Patrick's Day celebrations. Pictured below are sisters Bree and Marta, and Ciara and Maeve, who took to the stage for the IC school community before heading off to 17 area nursing homes, hospitals, pubs, and restaurants to dance for residents and patrons. The girls performed a variety of traditional Irish dances with precision, grace, and endurance. Their dedication to serving by sharing their talents is a great example of how IC students make a difference for others.



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.

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 Tuesday, April 16, 2019.

Consolers Circle Meal

The IC community offers a light meal to families who have lost a loved one. The meal is held in St. Louis Hall following the funeral Mass. Our hall holds up to 75 people. There is no charge (donations accepted). Inform the funeral director that you request this service when making arrangements.

Knights of Columbus

The next monthly meeting of the Knights of Columbus will be held on **Tuesday, April 9** at 7:30pm in the IC Nazareth Library, Room 205. We welcome new members to this long-standing group of Catholic men. For more information, contact us at membership@kofc231.org, (978) 572-0231.

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION PARISH

IC Religious Education

Religious Ed. Office: 978-462-2724

School Year Programs

Classes for Grades K–8 are held Sunday mornings from 10:05–11:05.

Registration forms for the school year beginning September, 2019 will be available in June. Watch the bulletin for updates.

Grades 1–8 Summer Program

At this time, we anticipate offering a week of Religious Education for those students **entering** Grades 1–8 in September of 2019 **dependent on the availability of volunteers to teach and assist.**

There will only be (1) session this summer on the week of **June 24–28** for this age group.

Registration forms are available. If you have not yet received one or you are able to volunteer, please contact the Religious Ed. office.

Summer Volunteers

We are once again asking for assistance in making our Summer Program a reality. Registration forms are being submitted, but there is still a huge need for catechists/assistants. Many families depend on this week of Faith Formation as classes during the school year are not feasible for them.

Please consider offering your time the week of June 24.

For more information as to what this would entail please contact the Religious Ed. office.

Reconciliation / First Eucharist

Mini-retreat for those preparing for First Eucharist is scheduled for this **Sunday, March 31** at 1:00 p.m. Hope everyone involved made note of the date.

Baptism Dates to Remember

Please keep in mind that there are no Baptism classes scheduled until after the celebration of Easter which is April 21 this year. Please call the Parish office for information regarding the next **Baptism class** scheduled for **Sunday, May 5** with the sacrament scheduled to be celebrated on May 12.

Confirmation

For those students who anticipate receiving the sacrament this fall, please note that Confirmation will take place on **Sunday, September 22** here at IC. Any questions please contact the Religious Education office.

Confirmation Summer Program

A summer session will be held the week of July 15 for those students **entering** Grade 9 in September.

For those students **entering** Grade 10 in September, classes will be held the week of July 22.

These classes will be held in the evenings from 5:30–8pm. Registration forms are available. If you have not yet received one, please contact the Religious Ed. office.

IC Knitting Ministry



The Prayer Shawl Knitting Group meets Tuesdays at 1:00pm in Room 209 in the IC Parish Center. We knit/crochet prayer shawls, hats, mittens, and scarves for charity.

Come join us; we meet every Tuesday at 1:00pm. Everyone is welcome! For more information, call Julia O'Connor 978-465-3350 or Frances Ronan 978-462-4972.

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.

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 Liturgical Ministers

All liturgical ministers must fill out a CORI every year for us to submit to the Archdiocese. We are still missing some minister's CORIs. If you have not yet filled out your CORI, please complete and submit the form to the Parish Office as soon as possible as they are past due. Forms are available in the church sacristy.

Also, be aware that the Archdiocese **will not** accept copies so please submit your form in person or by mail.

Remember when submitting your CORI form by mail, a **picture ID** must also be submitted for verification purposes.

Adoration

Join us for Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament in IC's St. James Chapel on Fridays from 8:00am–12:00noon.

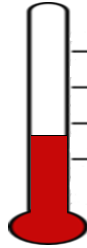
HOLY REDEEMER PARISH

HR Offertory Collection

Offertory, March 16–17	\$ 3,340.00
Offertory, March 23–24	\$ 2,950.00
HR Grand Annual	\$20,265.00

Catholic Appeal

Goal \$22,183.00.00
To Date \$8,540.00
38% of goal



\$22,183
\$15,000
\$10,000
\$ 5,000

Coffee After Mass



You are invited to join us for **coffee, muffins, and coffee cake** at our next **coffee hour** after the 8:00 Mass in the Nativity Church Hall on **March 31**. It's a great time to catch up with your parish family or maybe meet a new friend!

Lenten Food Drive

We will be having a food drive during Lent to benefit the senior centers. We will start collecting donations from Ash Wednesday until Palm Sunday. We will be collecting nonperishable dry goods, canned goods (Please check expiration dates.), and gift certificates to local markets. Donations may be left in the backs of both churches.

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 4**.



Follow Us on Instagram

HRICatholic

HR St. Vincent de Paul Society

During Lent, we pray, fast, and give alms. Please consider using our SVdP mite boxes for your Lenten donations. All of the money received goes to help our Merrimac and West Newbury neighbors. There are mite boxes for the taking at the backs of both churches. Thank you for your consideration.

If you are writing a check for us, please write the check to HR Saint Vincent de Paul to help expedite our banking.

HR Religious Education

Sun., 3/31 **Grade 10 class** at Nativity Hall, 6–7:30 p.m.

Tues., 4/2 **Grades 7 & 8 classes** at Nativity Hall, 6–7:30 p.m., (Last classes! Please bring snacks to share for our party.)

Sandwich Making: Please note: any students in grades 7–10, there is one more **sandwich making** opportunity for the Merrimack Valley Hope Mission on **Thursday evening, April 25 at St. Ann Church beginning at 6:00 p.m.** A SignUpGenius will be made available to registered students.

Stations of the Cross Every Friday, including April 12, at Church of the Nativity beginning at 7:00 p.m. We share a “simple supper” at 6:30 p.m. All are welcome.



Pictured: HR volunteers serving lunches to those in need at GAR Park on March 22. There is another opportunity for anyone to participate on April 25. See above for details.

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, April 8** so that the names can be included in our Easter bulletin.

Stations of the Cross & Simple Supper

Join us at Nativity Hall on Fridays during Lent for a simple meal (6:00–6:45 p.m.) followed by Stations of the Cross in Nativity Church at 7:00 p.m. All ages are welcome.