

HOLY REDEEMER AND IMMACULATE CONCEPTION  
COLLABORATIVE PARISHES

SERVING MERRIMAC, NEWBURY, NEWBURYPORT, AND WEST NEWBURY

Palm Sunday

April 14, 2019

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



*“I gave my back to those who beat me, my cheeks to those who plucked my beard; my face I did not shield from buffets and spitting. The Lord GOD is my help, therefore I am not disgraced; I have set my face like flint, knowing that I shall not be put to shame.” (Is 50:6-7)*

*All Are Welcome*



# The Paschal Triduum

## Holy Redeemer - Immaculate Conception Collaborative

Serving Merrimac, Newbury, Newburyport and West Newbury



### Holy Thursday

Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper

7:00 p.m.

Immaculate Conception Church

Come and enter into the sacred three days of **Triduum** by celebrating the Lord's simple command: *"as I have done for you, so you must do."* This beautifully simple celebration begins our holiest time of the year and is marked with a procession of the Holy Oils, an opportunity for everyone to participate in the Washing of Feet, a celebration of the Eucharist, and a Eucharistic Procession that leads to a time of adoration before the Blessed Sacrament.

### Good Friday

Solemn Celebration of the Lord's Passion

3:00 p.m.

at Immaculate Conception Church and  
St. Ann Church

Marked by a solemn proclamation of St. John's Passion account, this service is highlighted with the veneration of the Cross and an opportunity for Holy Communion.



Stations of the Cross  
at 7:00 p.m. at Nativity Church

### Easter

Solemn Celebration of the Lord's Resurrection

**The Easter Vigil** — gather at 7:45 p.m.

Immaculate Conception Church

Known as the "mother of all vigils" this sacred moment is the high point of our whole year! Beginning with a solemn candlelight procession from the new fire, this celebration continues with special readings and Psalms that tell the story of Salvation. Continuing with the Blessing of our Easter Font, the initiation of those preparing to enter the Church, the renewal of our own Baptismal Promises and ending with the Eucharist—this is one joyful event not to miss!



### Easter Sunday

Immaculate Conception Church:

7:30 a.m., 9:30 a.m. (Church and School Gym), & 11:30 a.m.

St. Ann Church:

8:45 a.m. and 10:15 a.m.

Nativity Church:

8:00 a.m. and 9:30 a.m.

Come and celebrate the Lord's Resurrection! Along with the joyful, sung Alleluia, festive decorations, and sacred stories of the Resurrection, everyone will be invited to renew their Baptismal Promises at all masses.



# COLLABORATIVE NEWS

## Collaborative Mass Schedule

### Saturday (4/13)

4:00pm **IC Jerry Cody, Laurie Freeman**  
(Fr. Harrison)

4:00pm **Nativity Cheryl Eastman** (Fr. Morin)

### Sunday (4/14) Palm Sunday

7:15am **IC Regina M. Stronge** (Fr. McLaughlin)

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

9:00am **IC Jerry Cody** (Fr. Harrison & Deacon Dow)

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

11:30am **IC Graciela Lamas, Patricia Kelly, Robert Lynch, Louis, Lena, & Ralph Filomia, Lillian Pecht, Jonathan Perez** (Fr. Morin)

### Monday (4/15)

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

### Tuesday (4/16)

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

### Wednesday (4/17)

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

### Thursday (4/18) Holy Thursday

7:00pm **IC** (Fr. Morin & Deacon Dow)

### Friday (4/19) Good Friday

4:00pm **IC The Passion of the Lord** (Fr. Morin)

4:00pm **St. Ann The Passion of the Lord**  
(Fr. Harrison & Deacon Dow)

7:00pm **Nativity The Stations of the Cross**

### Saturday (4/20) Holy Saturday

**IC Gather at 7:45pm** (Fr. Harrison & Deacon Dow)

### Sunday (4/21) Easter Sunday

7:30am **IC** (Fr. McLaughlin)

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

8:45am **St. Ann** (Bishop Hennessey)

9:30am **IC** (Fr. Harrison)

9:30am **IC Gym** (Fr. McLaughlin)

9:30am **Nativity** (Fr. George)

10:15am **St. Ann** (Bishop Hennessey)

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

In your prayers, please remember James Lysik, Mary O'Connor, Barbara Blaikie, Francis Noone, and all the faithful departed.

**The priests' schedule is subject to change without notice.**

*IC—Immaculate Conception, Newburyport*

*Nativity—Merrimac*

*St. Ann—West Newbury*

## Collaborative Office Hours

Collaborative Offices will be closed on Monday, April 15 (Patriot's Day). The offices will close at 12:00 noon on Friday, April 19 (Good Friday) and will be closed on Monday, April 22 (Easter Monday).

## Confessions during Lent

Additional times for confessions during Lent will be as follows:

April 17: 6:30–8:00pm at IC, Newburyport



## From the Pastor

Dear Parishioners,

What is the worst thing that could ever happen to you? Death? A painful, slow nauseating death? Or maybe watching someone we love go through that kind of agony? Many multiples of all of the above?

We sometimes hear the phrase, "a fate worse than death." It hints at a set of values that go beyond the mere preservation of human life at all costs or at least a pain-free existence until the end.

In Jesus' time and place, honor was the core value above all others. Ultimately, the honor ascribed by God was the highest and "most bestest" thing one could aspire towards. If God bestowed honor on you, nobody and no-thing could take it away.

It is in this light, that we must view our Holy Week celebrations and, in particular, the Passion accounts of the Lord. Jesus was concerned about only one thing: fulfilling God's will, and thus preserving the honor given to Him by God as His beloved Son. Nothing else mattered.

Jesus is sometimes portrayed in various Gospel stories as filled with wisdom far beyond what human beings could muster. He walked through the midst of angry crowds, preached with seeming impunity in the middle of the Temple area and was able to create options and confound his opponents when traps were laid and snares were set. It might seem odd to us, then, that Jesus didn't find some way of avoiding the crucifixion.

This ancient form of capital punishment was reserved only for the very worst of criminals—murderers and insurrectionists. It was so awful, in fact, that Roman citizens were forbidden by law from being executed in this manner. There were other, brutal ways to kill them, of course. (St. Paul, proud of his Roman citizenship, was famously beheaded just outside of Rome.) But Jesus was not a Roman citizen. Crucifixion was a slow asphyxiation, hastened by the weakening of the body's limbs and their ability to push up or lift one's torso to simply breathe. This was made maddeningly more painful by the nails impaling the victim's hands and feet. Typical crucifixions might last for days. To hasten death, soldiers cruelly would break the leg bones of the condemned so they would suffocate faster. So that more could be executed. It was a macabre, efficient death machine meant to send a chilling message to the local populace: behave or else!

Contrary to how most crosses or crucifixes have been portrayed in Christian art over the centuries, crucifixion was often done in the nude, with the victim being stripped of every last shred of human dignity as they endured a most painful death. Shame, it seems, was part of the sentence. There were no heroic deaths here, no final glory for those to be martyred for their cause. It was just a brutal, pulverizing, macerating of any last shred of humanity into the oblivion that is death; final and complete.

One might wonder, then, why Jesus Christ would allow Himself to die in such a humiliating, publicly shameful way. If honor was the highest value, why embrace something so



(Continued on page 4)

# COLLABORATIVE NEWS

## This Week in Our Collaborative

### Monday, April 15

Easter Triduum Rehearsals 6:30pm, IC Church  
 HR Boy Scouts Troop 41 Meeting 7:00pm, Nativity Hall

### Tuesday, April 16

IC Knitting Ministry 1:00pm, IC Conference Room 209  
 Breaking Bread Meal 5:00pm, IC St. Louis Hall

### Wednesday, April 17

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  
 Reconciliation 6:30–8:00pm, IC Church  
 IC Adult Choir Rehearsal 7:00pm, IC Church

### Thursday, April 18, Holy Thursday

Care Packages Assembly 2:00pm, IC St. Louis Hall  
 Rosary for Life 6:30pm, IC St. James Chapel

### Friday, April 19, Good Friday

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 20, Holy Saturday

Nativity Church Decorating 10:00am, Nativity Church  
 Easter Vigil Rehearsal 1:15pm, IC Church

### Sunday, April 21 Easter Sunday

Please see pages 2 and 3 of this bulletin for Mass schedule

## Join the *Discovering Christ* Series

All are invited to join fellow seekers and disciples on an eight-week journey to explore, nourish, or deepen your relationship with the Lord in the supportive environment of others on this journey to *Discovering Christ*. Enjoy a free and delicious meal prepared by caring parishioners; listen to a dynamic video teaching; and participate in a small group discussion about the meaning of our life in Christ. The program will run every Sunday evening 5:30–8 p.m. at Nativity Hall in Merrimac from April 28–June 16. You need not be present at each session. There is no cost, but only 60 seats are available so register as soon as possible as **the last day to register is April 15**, a day on which you can render unto Caesar what is Caesar's and to God what is God's. **Register online at [hriccatholic.org](http://hriccatholic.org).**

## Holy Week Services

Please see page 2 of this bulletin for a detailed listing of Holy Week services from Holy Thursday through Easter Sunday.



(Continued from page 3)

absolutely shameful? The answer, of course, lies in the difference between God and mere humanity, between Creator and the created. We are told over and over again in the Scriptures that God's ways are not our ways, nor God's thoughts our thoughts. The honor that mere human beings might recognize or cling to pales in comparison to the permanent and eternal honor that God bestows on those whom He loves and favors. And God very directly has told us that He is well-pleased with His beloved Son.

Therefore preserving God's honor that has been given to Him, Jesus Christ—as innocent as a lamb—embraced the worst that the world could offer, that He might overcome death itself. As we are reminded by St. Paul, "For our sake he made him to be sin who did not know sin so that we might become the righteousness of God in him." (2 Cor 5:21) Honoring God, then, meant a total obedience to the will of His Father, even to death, death upon a cross.

In Jesus Christ, we are given the breathtaking vision of the God of the living triumphing over death precisely through the paradox of the cross. Nothing was held back in offering His Son for the life of the world. Nothing will be withheld from us, if only we are faithful in believing in Him.

As our Lenten journey comes to a close this week, I warmly invite you to our Triduum services celebrating this awesome gift of new life in Jesus Christ. Experiencing the Risen Christ and the true joy of Easter is the very best thing that any of us could ever hope for.

Happy Holy Week,  
 Fr. Timothy Harrison, Pastor

## Disciples in Mission Survey

In the weeks ahead, parishioners will be invited to participate in a brief, online survey to gauge the effectiveness and understanding of the Archdiocesan initiative called, "Disciples in Mission." This is the overall guiding document that was introduced in 2012 and has produced the system of collaboratives (or pairing of parishes) that the entire Archdiocese is in the process of being reorganized into. The entire text of "Disciples in Mission" as well as the online survey may be found at: <http://www.disciplesinmission.com>.

## Greeters for Easter Masses

We plan to have greeters at the Easter Vigil and on Easter Sunday to welcome everyone as they arrive for Mass. We would love to have you greet with us. If you would like to be an Easter greeter or have any questions, please contact Mary Fitzsimmons, Welcoming Priority, at 978-465-2904.

Easter Mass times are:

### Easter Vigil Mass, April 20

7:45 pm, gather at IC

### Easter Sunday, April 21

7:30 am, IC  
 8:00 am, Nativity  
 8:45 am, St. Ann  
 9:30 am, IC

9:30 am, IC School Gym  
 9:30 am, Nativity  
 10:15 am, St. Ann  
 11:30 am, IC

# COLLABORATIVE NEWS

## Chrism Mass

Every year priests and people gather during Holy Week at the Cathedral of the Holy Cross in Boston to celebrate what is known as the "Chrism Mass." During this Mass, the priests of the Archdiocese are invited to renew their priestly commitment to serve the Church and together with the Archbishop, will bless and consecrate the special holy oils that are used in the Sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation, the Anointing of the Sick, and Holy Orders. This year, the Cathedral of the Holy Cross has undergone a special restoration and this will be one of the first liturgies in the newly-renovated space. It is not to be missed!

Fr. Scott Euvrard from Holy Family Parish in Amesbury has organized a bus to take interested parishioners into the Cathedral from St. Joseph Church's parking lot. The cost for the bus to the Chrism Mass **on Tuesday, April 16** is \$23. (\$21 for bus and \$2 to cover the tip for the driver). If you are making out a check, please make it payable to Holy Family and have Chrism Mass Bus on memo.

Departure from HFP parking lot will be promptly **at 9:45am, please arrive by 9:30am**. Fr. Scott would like to stop for lunch on the way back somewhere along Route 1 and be back in Amesbury between **3:00-3:30pm**.

To reserve a seat on the bus, contact Suzanne Greaney, Administrative Assistant at 978-388-0330 / 978-465-3334.

## Helping Our Homeless

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

Palm Sunday weekend is the final weekend for collections. Please join us on **Holy Thursday afternoon at 2:00** at IC's St. Louis Hall for sorting and distribution. For more information or to help, please contact Jonathan Temple, 978-809-9337. Thank you for your generosity and compassion.

## Centering Prayer for Lent

Our Lenten reflection on Jesus' words and works reveals Jesus' intimate relationship with his Father. This developed through prayer. 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. We 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. Consider joining us for Centering Prayer on 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.

## Lenten Guidelines

**Good Friday** is a day of fasting and abstinence.

**Fasting** is to be observed by all 18 years of age and older, who have not yet celebrated their 59th birthday. When fasting, a person is permitted to eat one full meal. Two smaller meals may also be taken, but not to equal a full meal. Eating between meals is not permitted, but liquids, including milk and juices, are allowed.

**Abstinence** is observed by all 14 years of age and older. On days of abstinence, no meat is allowed. Note that when health or ability to work would be seriously affected, the law does not oblige. When in doubt concerning fast and abstinence, the parish priest should be consulted.

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.

## Questions of the Week

**Adult:** What part of the Passion story most touches your life this year?

**Child:** Name one thing that you will do each day this week to remind you that Jesus died and rose to new life for you.

## AFFT'S 1st Annual Ukrainian Egg-Painting Workshop

Thanks to Liz Wkya, Maria Saxe, & Germaine Koomen for co-planning and leading a 2½ hour event that was inspiring, creative, and memorable for the 26 participants—many using kistky, fire, beeswax, and potent dyes for the first time! The artwork was amazingly original & colorful. The food was delicious. The fellowship was priceless. A special thanks to our **anonymous** underwriter for this workshop!

2nd Annual Psyanky Party:  
Lent 2020!



## Parish Membership

We welcome all newcomers to our Parish communities and hope you take an active part in parish life. Please introduce yourself and register in the parish. Forms are available online at [www.hricatholic.org](http://www.hricatholic.org) or you can call the Parish offices.



## COLLABORATIVE NEWS

### Collaborative Contacts

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

### AFFT's 4th Annual Soup & Spirit Series Thank You

Thanks to the soupmakers for Nativity Hall: Cindy Quinn, Mary Ellen LaPointe, John Mulvaney, Michael Rossi, Pat Sena, and Vicki Splaine. Thanks to Bunny Chiasson, Mary Bragg, and Maryann Lawler for the St. Louis Hall sessions. You all fed us with superb cuisine! Bravo!

### Sign up for FORMED

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 [hriccatholic.formed.org](http://hriccatholic.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

### 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 in Methuen, and we invite you to include Cursillo as part of your faith journey. The next Cursillo is 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. All are welcome. Our next Ultreya is April 26. For information, contact Jonathan Temple 978-809-9337 or Pat Forbes 617-899-0424.

### 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](http://hriccatholic.org) or contact: Mary Bragg: 978-465-8779.**

### Ecumenical Taizé

To prayerfully enter Holy Week, Groveland Congregational Church cordially invites the community to a candlelight meditation service modeled on the services held at the Taizé community in France. This service will take place on Sunday, April 14 at 7:30pm at the church which is located at 4 King St., corner of King St. and Main St. in Groveland. Our theme will be Jesus' passion, with a special emphasis on forgiveness.

This ecumenical service is open to all in the community. What a fitting way to enter the holiest week of the year. Give yourself the gift of quiet and prayer; you'll be glad you did! The service lasts approximately 30 minutes. For further information, contact Groveland Congregational Church at 978-372-3463 or visit [www.grovelanducc.org](http://www.grovelanducc.org).

### Mass Scripture Readings: April 14–21, 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](http://www.HRICcatholic.org) and click on HRIC Pastoral Plan and then click on Lectio Divina.

- Sunday, April 14: Luke 19:28-40 (Palms); Isaiah 50:4-7; Psalm 22; Philippians 2:6-11, Luke 22:14 – 23:56 (Passion)
- Monday, April 15: Isaiah 42:1-7; Psalm 27; John: 12:1-11
- Tuesday, April 16: Isaiah 49:1-6; Psalm 71; John 13:21-33, 36-38
- Wednesday, April 17: Isaiah 50:4-9a; Psalm 69; Matthew 26:14-25
- Thursday, April 18: Exodus 12:1-8, 11-14; Psalm 116; 1 Corinthians 11:23-26; John 13:1-15
- Friday, April 19: Isaiah 52:13 - 53:12; Psalm 31; Hebrews 4:14-16 + 5:7-9; John 18:1 – 19:42
- Saturday, April 20: Ezekiel 36:16-17a, 18-28; Romans 6: 3-11; Psalm 42-43; Luke 24:1-12
- Sunday, April 21: Acts 10:34a, 37-43; Psalm 118; Colossians 3:1-4; John 20:1-9

# HOLY REDEEMER PARISH

## HR Offertory Collection

Offertory, April 6-7                      \$ 3,605.00  
 HR Grand Annual                         \$20,335.00

The **Holy Thursday** Collection is for both HR and IC St. Vincent de Paul Societies. **Please make checks payable to HR St. Vincent de Paul Society.**

The **Good Friday** collection supports the sacred places and the educational, charitable, and peace-seeking ministries of the Church in the Holy Land.

The **Easter** collection is the Clergy Benefit Trust.

## Catholic Appeal

Goal \$22,183.00  
 To Date \$17,325.00  
 78% of goal



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

## Lenten Food Drive

We will be having a food drive during Lent to benefit the senior centers. We will collect donations 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

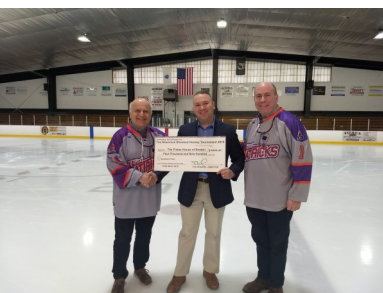


Do you know of any woman, man, or child who needs comfort and could use a Blessed Prayer Shawl or Lap Blanket? Please call Helen Kelley 978-771-4673 or Terry Duhamel 978-384-8099 for a shawl or more information.

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, May 2.**

## Raffle Ticket Thank You

A big thank you to everyone who participated by purchasing raffle tickets for sports memorabilia to benefit the Fisher House of Boston, a 501(c)(3) organization that helps disabled veterans and their families in need of medical treatment. We raised \$4,900.00 for the Fisher House.



*Check presentation to the Fisher House.*

## HR Religious Education

**Thurs., 4/25**    **Grade 10 Sandwich Making**, for Merrimack Valley Hope Mission, at 6:00 p.m. at St. Ann, West Newbury.

**Sun., 4/28**      **at the 10:15 Mass at St. Ann First Communion Mass** for our second graders. Please pray for the youngsters and their families!

**Sun., May 5**    **Youth Mass and Pot Luck** at Nativity Church for Grades 9 and 10 with their families. Mass begins at 5:00 p.m. with Fr. George presiding; pot luck will follow in the hall at 6:00 p.m. **If you haven't signed up yet as to what you are bringing, email Doreen asap and thank you!**

## 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 **April 14.** It's a great time to catch up with your parish family or maybe meet a new friend!

## 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.

## Easter Decorating

Nativity church decorating for Easter will be done on Saturday, April 20 at 10:00am. Everyone is invited to come lend a hand in preparing our church for Easter Sunday. Any questions, call Cindy Quinn 978-346-0072

## 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.

The Holy Thursday collection at Immaculate Conception will benefit both parishes' St. Vincent de Paul Societies. If you are writing a check for us, please write the check to HR Saint Vincent de Paul to help expedite our banking.



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HRICatholic

# IMMACULATE CONCEPTION PARISH

## IC Offertory Collection

Offertory, April 6–7                      \$11,130.00  
 IC Grand Annual                            \$77,180.00

The second collection **this** weekend is Restoration/Renovation.

The **Holy Thursday** Collection is for both IC and HR St. Vincent de Paul Societies. **Please make checks payable to St. Vincent de Paul.**

The **Good Friday** collection supports the sacred places and the educational, charitable, and peace-seeking ministries of the Church in the Holy Land.

The **Easter** collection is the Clergy Benefit Trust.

**Due to a printing error, we are scheduling the Pastor's Charity Account Collection for May 19, 2019. Please save your envelopes until this date.**

## Catholic Appeal

Goal \$55,614.00  
 To Date \$34,230.00  
 62% of goal



\$55,614  
 \$40,000  
 \$25,000  
 \$10,000

## The Saint Vincent de Paul Society



Collection	\$ 15.00
Poor Box	\$183.00
Total	\$198.00

## Our Neighbors' Table

Our Neighbors' Table would like to announce that we've opened a new market in Newburyport—so come and shop with us for free.

The ONT Newburyport Market is open Thursdays from 11:00 a.m.–2:00 p.m. We are located at Community Service of Newburyport, 35 Summer Street, in the lower level of St. Paul's Church. For your convenience we have several saved on-street parking spots in front of the market. Each ONT location offers a beautiful, modern market where fresh, healthy food is made available to anyone in need—at no charge! There are no income requirements, just bring an ID with you.

We look forward to showing you around our Newburyport Market. If you have any further questions call Our Neighbors' Table at 978-388-1907.

## 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.

## Immaculate Conception School



The New Hampshire SPCA visited the IC last week to teach the Pre-K and Kindergarten students about respect and care for animals. The children heard a true story about a dog whose life was changed for the better through the help of the SPCA. They also learned about guinea pigs. Establishing community connections is a component of the enrichment experiences that the PTO plans and provides for the students. The NHSPCA visit was a great opportunity for the children to “give back” with donations of dog and cat food, pet toys, and grooming supplies—service-learning at its best! Thank you to the IC PTO!



## 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.

## Choral Society Concert

**Newburyport Choral Society to Perform “Voices of America” Concert**

Saturday, May 4 at 8:00 p.m. and Sunday May 5 at 4:00 p.m., at Belleville Congregational Church, 300 High St. Newburyport. (Pre-concert lecture begins 90 minutes before each performance).

The NCS Spring Concert “Voices of America” will feature Leonard Bernstein's *Chichester Psalms*, Aaron Copland's *Old American Songs*, and the New England premiere of a new work by contemporary composer Andrew Maxfield. Through these inspiring works, audiences will be connected to different dimensions of the best of the American spirit. For information: [www.newburyportchoralsociety.org](http://www.newburyportchoralsociety.org).



# IMMACULATE CONCEPTION PARISH

## IC Religious Education

Religious Ed. Office: 978-462-2724

### School Year Programs

The School Year program for Grades K-8 has finished for this academic year.

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

Watch the bulletin for updates.

### Grades 1–8 Summer Program

**Depending upon the availability of volunteers to teach and assist**, we anticipate offering a week of Religious Education for those students **entering** Grades 1–8 in September of 2019. This will be held **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. Perhaps you could co-teach with a friend. 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

Rehearsals for First Eucharist will begin the last week of April. If you are not sure of your rehearsal time, please check with the Religious Ed. Office.

### 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. Information regarding the retreat and rehearsal times will be made available as soon as possible. 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.

## The Compassionate Friends

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

Our next monthly support meeting is April 22 and will be held this month at Barbara's home, 64 Northern Blvd., Plum Island, Newbury from 7:30–9:00 p.m. Contact Barbara with questions: [barbarajhopkinson@gmail.com](mailto:barbarajhopkinson@gmail.com).



*Grades K & 1 presented an assembly last weekend for the IC Religious Ed. classes .... "He Is Risen."*



## Knights of Columbus

The next monthly meeting of the Knights of Columbus will be held on **Tuesday, May 14** 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](mailto:membership@kofc231.org), (978) 572-0231.

Local Knights are encouraged to ensure email addresses are on file so volunteer opportunities can be communicated. Please contact us at [membership@kofc231.org](mailto:membership@kofc231.org).