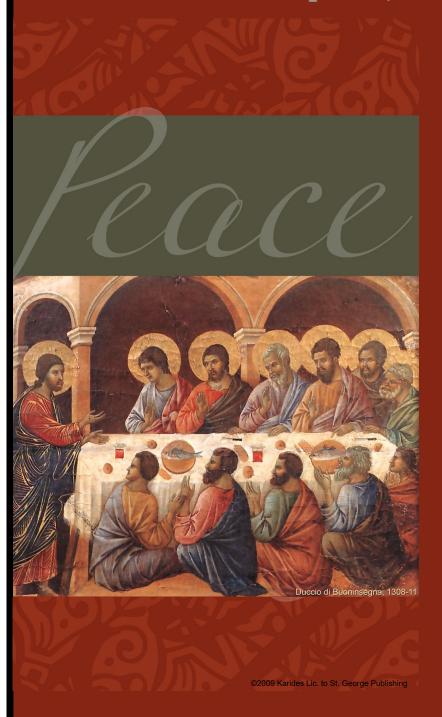
HOLY REDEEMER AND IMMACULATE CONCEPTION COLLABORATIVE PARISHES

SERVING MERRIMAC, NEWBURY, NEWBURYPORT, AND WEST NEWBURY

Third Sunday of Easter April 18, 2021



hriccatholic.org

While they were still speaking about this, he stood in their midst and said to them, "Peace be with you."

Lk 24:36

All Are Welcome



Holy Redeemer Immaculate Conception Collaborative

serving Merrimac, Newbury, Newburyport & West Newbury

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

St. Ann

Church: 300 Main St., W. Newbury 01985 Rectory: 46 Maple St., W. Newbury 01985

Phone: 978-346-8604
Email: holyredeemer@verizon.net

Nativity

Parish offices and church: 4 Green St., Merrimac 01860 Office Hours: By appointment

Phone: 978-346-8604

Email: holyredeemer@verizon.net

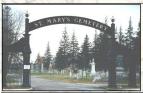
Immaculate Conception

Parish, church, rectory, and offices: 42 Green St., Newburyport 01950 Office Hours: M–F 9:00 a.m.–2:30 p.m.

Phone: 978-462-2724

Fax: 978-234-7399

Email: info@newburyportcatholic.org



St. Mary's Cemetery

36 Storey Avenue, Newburyport 01950

Immaculate Conception School

1 Washington Street, Newburyport 01950, K-grade 8, Mrs. Joan Sullivan, Principal, Phone: 978-465-7780, Fax: 978-234-7331, <u>www.icsnewburyport.com</u>



Pastor

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

Senior Priests in Residence

978-462-2724 or 978-346-8604 Rev. William H. McLaughlin Rev. George E. Morin Rev. Charles Stanley

Permanent Deacons

Deacon Paul Dow 978-887-5350, <u>pauldow49@gmail.com</u> Deacon John Moranski 978-432-1443, jmoranski51@gmail.com

St. Vincent de Paul

St. Vincent de Paul Society at Holy Redeemer 978-346-8604 x 8 hrsvdp300@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

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<u>@HRICCatholic</u>

hriccatholic



Holy Redeemer - Immaculate Conception Collaborative Parishes

Mass Schedule

Saturday (4/17)

4:00pm Live-Stream (Fr. Harrison & Deacon Dow)

Sunday (4/18)

8:00am Nativity (Fr. Morin & Deacon Moranski)

9:00am IC Barry Dill, Helen & Robert Lynch

(Fr. Harrison & Deacon Dow) 9:30am **St. Ann** (Fr. McLaughlin)

11:30am IC Louis & Lena Filomía, Gerald Volpone

(Fr. Stanley)

Monday (4/19)

9:00am IC (Fr. McLaughlin)

Tuesday (4/20)

9:00am IC (Fr. Harrison)

Wednesday (4/21)

9:00am IC (Fr. McLaughlin)

Thursday (4/22)

9:00am IC (Fr. Stanley)

Friday (4/23)

9:00am IC (Fr. Harrison)

Saturday (4/24)

4:00pm Live-Stream (Fr. McLaughlin & Deacon

Moranski) Sunday (4/25)

8:00am **Nativity** (Fr. Harrison & Deacon Dow)

9:00am IC Carol Gavin, Arthur Morris (Fr. Stanley)

9:30am St. Ann (Fr. Morin)

11:30am IC Leonard Montanari, Nicola, Angelina &

Francesco Maiello, Elizabeth J. Hanlon, May Carrier, Jessica Gill (Fr. McLaughlin & Deacon

Moranski)

In your prayers, please remember Virginia Hersey, John Wilson, and all the faithful departed.

IC—Immaculate Conception, Newburyport

Nativity—Merrimac

St. Ann—West Newbury

Saturday Live-Stream Vigil Masses are broadcast online through <u>Facebook</u>.



Find us on Facebook: Holy Redeemer - Immaculate Conception Collaborative Parishes

Patriots' Day

Collaborative offices will be closed for the Patriots' Day holiday on Monday, April 19. Offices will reopen on Tuesday morning at 9:00.

Watch Mass on Facebook

To watch our Saturday live-stream Masses:

- Go to our Facebook page (https://www.facebook.com/hriccatholic/) at the appointed time. If you don't have a Facebook page, you can still watch the live stream from your computer, smartphone, or tablet using the above link.
- 2. Click the "videos" link on the page.
- 3. The **IVE** video should be the first one on the list.

Collaborative Pastoral Council

Invitation to Participate in the Collaborative Pastoral Council Meetings

In 2019 a Pastoral Council was formed in our Collaborative to assist the Pastor in his responsibilities as the leader of the Collaborative. They serve in a consultative role and there are members from both of our parishes. They have been meeting virtually on Zoom since mid-March of 2020 and are now meeting once a month, mostly on Saturday at 10:00 a.m. We would like to invite any of our Collaborative members to join our meetings on Zoom, giving you a chance to listen to our discussions and to comment or ask questions at certain points in the meeting.

Our next meeting is scheduled for **Tuesday, May 11 at 7:00 p.m.** If you are interested in joining the meeting on Zoom, please send an email to Jim Williamson at jimwilliamson35@gmail.com and he will send you the Zoom link before the meeting. If you have any concerns or questions about the work of the Council, you can reach out to Jim or contact any Council member.

Members of the Pastoral Council

Father Tim Harrison, Chair

Chris Eagan

Jim Williamson, Vice Chair Amy Friend Mary Bragg, Secretary Aaron Giard

Aaron Giard Paula Higgins

Kathy Betz
Sue Coppinger
Steve DiCamillo
Deacon Paul Dow

Deacon John Moranski
Lucia Parker
Carol Robertson
Jonathan Temple

Pat Temple

Bulletin Information

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

Register to Attend Mass

To register to attend an in-person Mass celebrated in our Collaborative go to the "Attend a Mass" section on our website: www.hriccatholic.org to link to the signup page. At this time **a reservation is required** to attend a live Mass for capacity limits and contact tracing purposes.

Call the offices at (978) 462-2724 for IC or (978) 346-8604 for HR if you have questions or need assistance making a reservation.

Confessions



We are offering face-to-face, individual Confessions by appointment only. These will take place outdoors. The weather must be amenable for the appointment; both priest and penitent **must wear a face mask** and practice proper social-distancing during the Confession.

For more information or to schedule a time for Confession, please contact our Collaborative Office at (978) 346-8604 or (978) 462-2724.

Evangelization Support Team

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

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

For most of us, this task seems daunting. However, with fellow disciples we can support and encourage one another. In our small group, we will be talking about what it means for us as Catholics to evangelize. We will support one another in this endeavor through prayer and sharing. Our first meeting will be **Tuesday**, **April 27 at 7:15 p.m.** via Zoom If you are interested, please contact Aaron Giard at aggiard@newburyportcatholic.org for more.

Sign up for FORMED

Enjoy a free subscription to FORMED The Catholic Faith. On Demand.

Enjoy thousands of books, videos, daily reflections, and talks at home or on the go. Find age-appropriate content for every family member. Over 4,000 titles available on almost any device including ROKU, Apple TV, Amazon Fire TV, mobile phones, and tablets. Offline playback is now available for your road trips and commutes.

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

- Visit 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

Daily Masses

We are now offering Daily Masses Monday–Friday at 9:00 a.m. at IC, Newburyport. No advanced signup required.

We are still looking for volunteers to help with Daily Mass for St. Ann and Nativity on Mondays and Fridays respectively. If you are able to help with any of these HR Masses, contact Sue Noyes susanjnoyes@gmail.com to learn more.

Year of St. Joseph



During the pandemic, Pope Francis has been reflecting on St. Joseph who quietly protected and cared for Mary and Jesus—just like so many of us have made unseen sacrifices during the pandemic to protect others.

"Each of us can discover in Joseph—the man who goes unnoticed, a daily, discreet

and hidden presence—an intercessor, a support and a guide in times of trouble," the Pope wrote. He also said he wanted to highlight St. Joseph's role as a father who served his family with charity and humility, adding, "Our world today needs fathers." (CNA, 12-10-20)

To learn more about the Year of St. Joseph and resources available to you, visit <u>bostoncatholic.org/yearofstjoseph</u>. There you can find many resources and links.

Eucharistic Adoration and Benediction During Easter

7:15-8:00 p.m. Thursdays, Immaculate Conception Church

Join us Thursdays during the Easter season for Adoration/ Benediction. All are welcome. No reservations needed. Seating is limited. All attending must wear a mask and practice social distancing.

Given the need for communal prayer and silence during these challenging times and the "Year of the Eucharist" that we are celebrating as an Archdiocese this year, we are opening the Immaculate Conception Church for prayer liturgies. Come for silent time with the Lord in the Eucharist to let Him speak into your hurts and joys, and heal and recharge you. For more on what to expect and what to do during this time of Adoration, visit https://bustedhalo.com/.../a-beginners-guide-to....

No experience necessary; just "Come and Be."

Centering Prayer and Lectio Divina

We welcome all members of our Collaborative community to join us each Wednesday 6:00–7:00 p.m. via Zoom for 30 minutes of Centering Prayer, silently resting in God and surrendering and assenting to God's presence and action in our lives. This ancient prayer practice opens our minds and hearts to hear God's words as we continue by reading Sacred Scripture in group Lectio Divina.

For the next 30 minutes we listen to God's words, ponder and share what we hear the Lord saying to us here and now, and contemplate God's message to us and let it guide our choices and actions. Both practices strengthen our faith and reliance on God and deepen our personal relationship with God. For more information, please call Elizabeth McCarthy, 978- 462-7483.

Care Packs for the Homeless

Thank you for your generosity!

Once again the generous hearts of our Collaborative responded to the need in our communities with a record number of the annual "care packs for the homeless" initiative.

Under the guidance of Life Long Faith Formation Director, Aaron Giard and volunteer Jonathan Temple, confirmation candidates were reminded of Scripture's calling to "love one another as I have loved you." During Lent, the confirmation classes were tasked with reaching out to friends and family to collect large sealable bags containing much needed personal care items.

Over 680 care packs were received and sorted by the team on Holy Saturday. They are now ready for distribution to the various agencies serving the most vulnerable populations in our area.

This is, by far, the largest collection at HRIC to date. Congratulations to the confirmation team who, in a time when community service hours are hard to come by, were able to achieve their goals in a safe and socially distant manner while helping their brothers and sisters.

In Hebrews 13:2, we are advised "...not to neglect hospitality to strangers, for, in doing so, some have entertained angels without knowing it." Blessings to all of you who gave of your time and treasure to offer help to those less fortunate.

Neighbors Helping Neighbors

How can we help you?

Some in our Collaborative may have challenges getting everyday needs accomplished during the pandemic.

Holy Redeemer-Immaculate Conception Collaborative



Neighbors Helping Neighbors Program can help those in need within our communities of Merrimac, Newbury, Newburyport, and West Newbury. The focus of the program is to comfort and nurture our parish community and send its faith, love, and generosity outward by offering meaningful

ways to love and serve our greater communities as this pandemic continues to pose a threat.

If you are a parishioner in the Collaborative and want assistance with fundamental needs such as grocery store runs, prescription pick ups, meal deliveries, etc., please call the Collaborative offices at 978-462-2724 or 978-346-8604 (ext. 1000) and let us know how we can help.

Are you feeling isolated & alone during the pandemic?

Neighbors Helping Neighbors volunteers would love to give you a call to chat or send you a note. We know that this is a difficult period for everyone, particularly to those who live alone. Let us help brighten your day! If you would be interested in receiving a call or note, please call the HRIC offices at 978-462-2724 or 978-346-8604 (ext. 1000) and leave your name, address and phone number and we will reach out to you.

Prayers for the Sick

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

Dan Bedard Priscilla Brown **Brett Burkinshaw Bridie Hubley** Joe Messina

Vincent Oberhofer Mary Shachok Ruth Sullivan Ron Sylvester Michael Tucker

Virtual Rosary



Join us for recitation of the rosary live on Facebook twice every week. Pray along with us and add your intentions in the comments on Facebook. www.facebook.com/hriccatholic/

Tuesdays and Thursdays 8:30 a.m.

Word On Fire Engage

Everyone in our Collaborative now has free access to the entire Word on Fire digital video library.

You can watch any of Bishop Barron's films or study programs WORDonFIRE whenever you want, on any device!

ENGAGE

To access the resources of Word on Fire's ENGAGE, please register at flocknote.com/ hriccollaborative or by texting HRIC to 84576. Once you register, you will have access to ENGAGE.

We are excited to bring ENGAGE to you. Along with FORMED (formed.org), we now have a treasure chest of



online faith formation resources available free to all in the HRIC community. We encourage you to take full advantage of these resources.

Women at the Well Bible Study

We Are Meeting Virtually

Please email HRICWomenAtTheWell@gmail.com to join us.

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

WELCOME TO A COMMUNITY FULL OF

Wherever you are in your faith journey, join us as we meet weekly for Blessed Is She

bible study, community and friendship as we grow together in Christ.

WE ARE MEETING VIRTUALLY DURING THE PANDEMIC EMAIL US TO JOIN!

MONDAY NIGHTS 6:30PM-8PM ALL ARE WELCOME!

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

Islam's Holy Month of Ramadan

The recent historic visit by Pope Francis to the home of Abraham at Ur in southern Iraq brought into focus the connection between the three Abrahamic faiths observed by over 60% of the world's population—Judaism, Christianity and Islam.

As Judaism's Passover festival ended, and Christianity's Easter season began, the Islamic faith entered into its holy month of Ramadan which began at sundown on April 12 and will end at sundown on May 11. For millions of Muslims across the world, this is a holy time of reflection that includes fasting, almsgiving, and prayer similar to Christianity's three pillars of Lent.

Ramadan celebrates the creation of the Quran, the holy book of Islam that contains God's direct revelations to the prophet Mohammad. The Quran defines Ramadan as the "the month in which the Quran was revealed as guidance for mankind."

Fasting is one of the five pillars of Islam defining how its followers are to live their lives. Fasting is a way to cleanse the soul, grow closer to God, and develop empathy and a sense of duty to help the poor and needy. Each day during Ramadan, Muslims fast from food and drink during daylight

Ramadan is also a time for spiritual reflection and introspection as well as a call to almsgiving. Practicing Muslims make special efforts to connect with their communities and reach out to people in need.

This holy month is a time of prayer and worship. Islamic practices include reading of the Quran, reciting special prayers, and worshiping at the mosque.

Islam allows believers to break the day's fast with a predawn meal known as the "suhoor" and an evening meal known as the iftar immediately after sunset. Families and friends gather for the iftar meal that traditionally begins with dates and water.

During Ramadan, Muslims turn to God and ask for forgiveness, blessings, and a fresh start. The "festival of the breaking of the fast," Eid al-Fitr, marks the end of Ramadan and celebrates Ramadan's blessings of hope, renewal, and rejuvenation.

EWTN: Catholic News

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

Ouestions of the Week



Adult: In the Gospel, Jesus offers the Apostles the gift of peace. How can you be an instrument of peace to others in your life?

Child: Mass ends with the words "Go in peace to love and serve the Lord; Thanks be to God." What are some ways you can do that?

Islam's Festival of the **Breaking of the Fast**

Islam marks the end of Ramadan with a two day festival called Eid al-Fitr-the "Festival of the Breaking of the Fast." Families, friends, and communities gather to celebrate blessings and thank Allah. This year, Muslims around the globe will celebrate this major Islamic holiday from sundown May 12 to sundown May 13.

On the first morning of Eid, the family gathers for prayers at dawn. Afterwards, as prescribed by Islamic law, is the ritual washing of the whole body so it is purified for worship. Families enjoy a breakfast of dates and sweets and then make their way to the local mosque for Eid greetings and prayers.

The traditional Eid greeting is "Eid Mubarak" meaning "Blessed Feast/Festival." The customary response is "Khair Mubarak" meaning "Bless you too."

Prayers include *Takbir*, the repetitious chanting of "Allah (God) is the greatest" and "Salat al-Eid" prayers celebrating the festival along with the sermon or "Khutba." The congregation then prays in supplication for Allah's forgiveness, mercy, peace, and blessings for all living beings across the world.

Almsgiving or "Zakat" is one of the five pillars of Islam. Charitable donations of food, clothes, or money to those less fortunate must be made before the Eid prayer commences so that everyone can take part in the Eid festivities.

Specialty foods abound throughout the festival including sweet milk drinks; Tajine or slow-cooked stews with vegetables, sauces, and meats; bread with sugar and yogurt toppings; shortbread cookies with pistachio topping; date-filled cookies; and honey almond pastries.

After a full month of fasting and dedication to Allah, Eid al-Fitr is a time to come together with family and loved ones to celebrate and to give thanks for all of life's blessings.

Mass Scripture Readings

The Scripture passages read each day at Mass can be found online at bible.usccb.org, the site of the United States Council of Catholic Bishops. There you will find the daily readings, be able to listen to them on podcast, and have the opportunity to watch a short reflection piece on the readings offered by a Catholic priest, deacon, religious, or lay person.

Praying with the Scriptures daily is a wonderful way to deepen our relationship with Our Lord and to discern how best to serve God as an intentional disciple of Christ. Please access the HRIC webpage to learn about Lectio Divina as a way of praying the Scriptures. Go to www.HRICcatholic.org; click on HRIC Pastoral Plan; and then click on Lectio Divina.



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



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Pilot Bulletins

Immaculate Conception, Newburyport, MA

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION PARISH

IC Offertory Collection

\$2,498.00 IC Offertory, April 11 **Ongoing Church Maintenance** \$ 264.00 Mailed-in Offertory, week ending April 9 \$4,355.00 **Grand Annual** \$104,360.00

If you would like to mail in your envelopes, send them to **Immaculate Conception Parish** 42 Green Street Newburyport, MA 01950

You can also sign up for online giving. Visit our website to learn more: hriccatholic.org/IC-Online-Giving.

Catholic Appeal

Goal \$53,820.00 To Date \$25,315.00

Visit bostoncatholicappeal.org To learn more.



The Bible in a Year



The Bible in a Year podcast, hosted by Fr. Mike Schmitz, walks you through the entire Bible in 365 episodes, providing commentary, reflection, and prayer along the way.

NAYEAR With this podcast, you will read the Bible in a year, learn how all the pieces of the Bible fit

together to tell an amazing story, become more confident in your understanding of Scripture, experience the power of God's Word in your daily routine, and begin to see the world through the lens of Scripture. Each daily episode is about 20 minutes long.

Don't worry if you haven't started yet, you can jump in anytime and even listen to past episodes. Visit online at https://media.ascensionpress.com/all-bible-in-a-yearepisodes/ to learn more or search for "The Bible in a Year" in Spotify, Apple Podcasts, Stitcher, Google Podcasts, or Amazon Podcasts.

Catholic TV

Visit www.catholictv.com for a schedule of the latest program details on America's Catholic Television Network.

The Pelican Intervention Fund



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

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

IC Online Giving

Immaculate Conception Parish provides Online Giving—a convenient and safe way to make a one-time or a recurring (weekly) donation.

Getting started is easy-you need to be a registered member of Immaculate Conception Parish community. Parish registration forms are available in the fover of the church or at the parish office.

Once you register with the parish, or if you are already a registered parishioner, visit our website, hriccatholic.org and click the "Links" tab, then click on "IC Parish Online Giving" to get to the site. There are four different funds you can choose to contribute to.

If you manage your other bills online, why not give to your Church online? It is safe and secure and you get to decide exactly when and to where your gift will be made.

questions? Contact Temple, **HRIC** Any Linda Administrative Assistant 978-462-2724 x7404.

IC Haiti

If you would like to contribute to IC Haiti, please mail checks to IC Haiti, 42 Green Street, Newburyport, MA. 01950. Checks should be made out to "IC Haiti."

We are grateful for your continued generosity during the pandemic. May the Lord continue to bless our ongoing efforts to support the people of Haiti.

We thank Him for offering us a ministry of service to our brothers and sisters in Christ.

Knights of Columbus



The Knights of Columbus Newburyport Council 231 was founded in 1897. If you are interested in helping those in need, serving our parish, growing in faith, obtaining exclusive access to top-rated

insurance protections for you or your family, or just connecting with other Catholic men, then the Knights of Columbus is the organization for you.

We welcome new members to this long-standing group of Catholic men. Nationally, the Knights of Columbus have recently moved from in-person initiation to an online only membership process. Please visit kofc.org to become a member today.

The Compassionate Friends



Compassionate Friends Newburyport provides support for bereaved families after the loss of a child, grandchild, or sibling—any age, any cause. Our monthly support

meetings are being held online (due to coronavirus) 7:30-9:00 p.m. on the 4th Monday of the month. Barbara J. Hopkinson is founder and chapter leader. Our next meeting is April 26. Join our free online meeting by going to http:// zoom.us, click on "Join a Meeting," enter Meeting ID: 952-104-4920.

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION PARISH

IC Faith Formation

All Faith Formation schedules and registration forms are posted on our website at www.hriccatholic.org/Faith-Formation.

School Year Programs

Program information for those students entering Grades K–8 can be found on our <u>parish website</u>. Registration forms are also available. As always, please contact the Faith Formation office (978-462-2724 ext. 7405) or email <u>agiard@newburyportcatholic.org</u> should you have any questions.

Confirmation

Confirmation prep classes for both Grades 9 and 10 are ongoing. Information regarding the sacrament can be found on the Collaborative website: hriccatholic.org. Should you have any questions, please contact the Faith Formation office.

Baptism

Please call the Collaborative Offices (978-462-2724) for information regarding the celebration of the sacrament.

First Reconciliation/First Eucharist

Dates have been set for the Sacraments of Reconciliation and First Eucharist. Please be aware that we **are not yet** accepting registrations as COVID restrictions keep us in flux. As always, please reach out to the <u>Faith Formation</u> Office with any questions you might have.

First Reconciliation:

IC: Friday, April 30, 4:00 p.m.

Friday, May 7, 4:00 p.m. Saturday, May 8, 11:00 a.m.

Nativity: Saturday, May 1, 11:00 a.m.

First Eucharist:

IC: Monday, June 7, 6:00 p.m.

Saturday, June 12, 11:00 a.m. Monday, June 14, 6:00 p.m. Saturday, June 19, 1:00 p.m.

Nativity: Saturday, June 5, 11:00 a.m.

Families whose child was prepared for First Eucharist last Spring but has yet to receive the sacrament are also welcome. Please reach out to the <u>Faith Formation Office</u> to let us know you wish to take part.

St. Mary's Cemetery

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.

Immaculate Conception School

Stations of the Cross



On Good Friday, the students of Immaculate Conception School gathered outside to pray the Stations of the Cross. Each grade worked collaboratively to create a poster that depicted one of the Stations. Members of the Leadership Team lined the edges of the

school parking lot, holding the posters to serve as the stations. Music Ministry director Steve Swochak sang between Stations which added warmth to the event on the chilly morning.

Leadership Team members read about



each station and lead the school children in reflective responses at the

responses at the end of each reading. The 1st grade children also held crosses that they had decorated to look like stained glass windows. These were reminders of the sacrifices they had made throughout Lent. Some students joined the prayer gathering remotely, as the event was live streamed for the

children who were at home.

The IC has gathered outside for prayer several times throughout the school year which is a safe alternative under covid protocols. We hope you and your family had a very Blessed Easter!



IC St. Vincent de Paul



We recently launched our new website: www.svdpnewburyport.org where you can make an online donation.

If you know someone living in Newbury/Newburyport who needs assistance, please suggest that they call our **help line 978-518-0728**. We are still ready to assist.

If you choose to mail in your donation, please make your check payable to "SVdP of Newburyport." You may drop it into the collection box at Mass, or mail it to the parish office at 42 Green Street, Newburyport, MA 01950, or use our Newly established website and donate online at www.svdpnewburyport.org.

Breaking Bread to-go Meal

Our weekly Immaculate Conception Breaking Bread meal has transitioned to a to-go only meal format. We continue to serve our weekly meal on Tuesday evenings. It is a hot, nourishing, 3-course dinner which is currently **take out only** and is distributed at 4:30 p. m. at the entrance to the IC Parish Center. All are welcome!



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Holy Redeemer now provides Online Giving—a convenient and safe way to make a one-time or a recurring (weekly or monthly) donation. Getting started is easy—you need to be a registered member of Holy Redeemer Parish community. Parish registration forms are available on the website or contact the parish office.

Once you register with the parish, or if you are already a registered parishioner, visit our website, hriccatholic.org and click the "Links" tab, then click on "HR Parish Online Giving" to get to the site. There are three different funds you can contribute to: Offertory, Monthly, and Grand Annual.

If you manage your other bills online, why not give to your Church online? It is safe and secure and you get to decide exactly when and to where your gift will be made.

Questions? Contact Linda Temple, HRIC Administrative Assistant at 978-462-2724 x7404.

HR Prayer Shawl



In the past, we have waited for requests for a prayer shawl or lap blanket and given it to the person requesting it. It can be for anyone, anywhere—there is no cost, it is free.

We will continue to do this! We want to do more. We would like to drop off prayer shawls or a lap blanket to anyone you know who needs comfort in our Holy Redeemer Parish family. So, if you know of anyone, please give their name to Helen 978-771-4673 or hvktax@aol.com.

If you know the address that we can deliver to, maybe a favorite color, that would be helpful but not necessary.

We will not intrude at this difficult time but simply leave it at their door.

Yours Truly, Holy Redeemer Prayer Shawl Ladies

HR Faith Formation

All Faith Formation schedules and registration forms are posted on our website at www.hriccatholic.org/Faith-Formation.

School Year Programs

Program information for those students entering Grades K–8 can be found on our <u>parish website</u>. Registration forms are also available. As always, please contact the Faith Formation office (978-462-2724 ext. 7405) or email <u>agiard@newburyportcatholic.org</u> should you have any questions.

First Reconciliation/First Eucharist

Dates have been set for the Sacraments of Reconciliation and First Eucharist. Please be aware that we **are not yet** accepting registrations as COVID restrictions keep us in flux. As always, please reach out to the <u>Faith Formation Office</u> with any questions you might have.

First Reconciliation:

IC: Friday, April 30, 4:00 p.m.

Friday, May 7, 4:00 p.m. Saturday, May 8, 11:00 a.m.

Nativity: Saturday, May 1, 11:00 a.m.

First Eucharist:

IC: Monday, June 7, 6:00 p.m.

Saturday, June 12, 11:00 a.m. Monday, June 14, 6:00 p.m. Saturday, June 19, 1:00 p.m.

Nativity: Saturday, June 5, 11:00 a.m.

Families whose child was prepared for First Eucharist last Spring but has yet to receive the sacrament are also welcome. Please reach out to the <u>Faith Formation Office</u> to let us know you wish to take part.

Baptism

Please call the Collaborative offices (978-462-2724) for information regarding the celebration of the sacrament.

Confirmation

Confirmation prep classes for both Grades 9 and 10 are ongoing. Information regarding the sacrament can be found on the Collaborative website: hriccatholic.org. Should you have any questions, please contact the Faith Formation office.

HR St. Vincent de Paul



The HR Conference has continued to help those in need during this difficult time. The majority of requests have been for assistance with rent and utilities; we have also distributed Market Basket gift cards.

Thank you for your generous contributions and willingness to meet the ever-changing needs of those in Merrimac and West Newbury.

Checks should be made out to HR SVdP and mailed to 4 Green Street, Merrimac, MA 01860 or placed in the poor boxes at the back of each church. The boxes are emptied on a regular basis.

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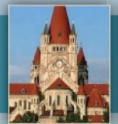
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