

**HOLY REDEEMER AND IMMACULATE CONCEPTION
COLLABORATIVE PARISHES**

SERVING MERRIMAC, NEWBURY, NEWBURYPORT, AND WEST NEWBURY

Sixth Sunday of Easter

May 17, 2020

hriccatholic.org



*“On that day you will realize that I am in my
Father and you are in me and I in you.” (Jn 14:20)*

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:

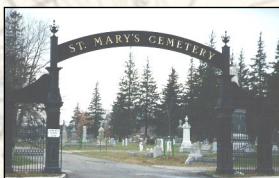
42 Green St., Newburyport 01950

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

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St. Vincent de Paul


Saint Vincent de Paul Society at Holy Redeemer
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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

Online

Website: www.hriccatholic.org

 [Holy Redeemer - Immaculate Conception Collaborative Parishes](https://www.facebook.com/Holy-Redeemer-Immaculate-Conception-Collaborative-Parishes)

 [@HRICcatholic](https://twitter.com/HRICcatholic)

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

COLLABORATIVE NEWS

Online-Only Mass Schedule

Saturday (5/16)

4:00pm Mabel Kalashian, Adolf Benca Jr.

Sunday (5/17)

10:00am Jesus Datu, Robert Filomia, Lucy Maiello,
For the intentions of those recently married

Saturday (5/23)

4:00pm Lubica Benca, Stanley Jancewicz,
Mr. & Mrs. Nicholas and Ruth Chiaramonte

Sunday (5/24)

10:00am

In your prayers please remember Vivian LeBlanc and all the faithful departed.

All Masses will be broadcast live through [Facebook Live](#) until further notice.



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

Visit our **Collaborative website**, www.hricatholic.org for up-to-date information on what is happening in the Collaborative during these changing times. You can also find links to our [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), and [Twitter](#) pages.

Learn about the Mass

Aaron Giard, our Director of Lifelong Faith Formation, will be offering a walk-through teaching on the Mass during the 30 minutes before Mass on Sundays.

Tune in on Sundays at 9:30 a.m. via [Facebook Live](#) to learn more about the beauty of Mass and the whys behind the words and gestures we perform each week.

From the Pastor

Dear Parishioners,

More than a few times, I have seen people's faces glaze over with numbness when this Gospel passage is proclaimed: "On that day you will realize that I am in my Father and you are in me and I in you." (Jn 14:20) Part of what is known as Jesus' "high priestly prayer" or his final discourse, this line and those that follow can have our heads spinning—"I in you, you in me, the Father in us..." What?!

Seriously, what in the world is Jesus talking about? It all seems so ethereal on the surface—poetic, yet inaccessible. Nonetheless, the opposite is exactly what Jesus is trying to convey—simply put, that although He is ascending to His Heavenly Father, He will remain close to us through an inner intimacy that is not found elsewhere in the world. This will be sealed or founded by the outpouring of the Holy Spirit, the Advocate, who will counsel and guide us in all things, just as if Jesus Himself were right here with us. Sounds too good to be true, doesn't it? Yet a little exploration of Hebrew cosmology throws some light on this prayer.



Online Mass this past weekend from St. James Chapel.
Tune in Saturdays at 4:00 p.m. and Sundays at 10:00 a.m.

Watch Mass on Facebook Live

To watch our live stream Masses:

1. Go to our Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/hricatholic/>) at the appointed time.
2. Click the "videos" link on the page.
3. The LIVE video should be the first one on the list.

90 Days Now—For Your Parish

"90 Days Now—For Your Parish" is a new, three-month campaign created by a member of the laity to help support our parishes while we are temporarily closed. The funds raised go *directly* to your parish. Please visit our website at hricatholic.org to read Fr. Tim's letter to the Collaborative to learn more about this project.

"90 Days Now" link:

<https://bcatholic.sites.bostoncatholic.org/90DaysYourParish>

In ancient times, the Hebrew view of the world consisted of the earth being a flat disc that was supported from underneath by great pillars. Below was hades, or the abode of the dead. Above the earth was the dome of the sky that held the sun and clouds, the moon and the stars. Above that dome were the waters of the heavens that occasionally rained down on the earth below through great floodgates in the dome of the sky. And, above that...was Heaven, where God and the angels live. In this model of the universe, God was completely inaccessible by humans. God could "come down from Heaven" if He wanted to, but there was no way for humans to access anything above the dome of the sky. This was the whole folly of the Tower of Babel—humans thinking they could become like God if they built a tower high enough to raise them into the sky and thus have access to Heaven. We all know how that one ended!

So, with Jesus using all this intimate language in describing how close He is to God the Father, and thus how close we are as well through Him...well, it requires a serious re-thinking of the whole world order—the universe, really.

What is being revealed is that Heaven isn't so much a place "up there" somewhere, out beyond the realm of the stars and planets, but that Heaven is first and foremost about a relationship that is so close and intimate, that no

(Continued on page 4)

COLLABORATIVE NEWS

(Continued from page 3)

one need look beyond their own friendship with Jesus Christ to experience the fullness of it. Jesus' farewell words to His closest friends are meant to comfort them and all of us who would follow by reminding everyone of how tightly bonded we have become with God through Jesus' sacrifice that He was about to offer on the Cross. That one, singular act of perfect, selfless love united Heaven and earth in a relationship that transcends death and leads only to new life. And just in case our minds and hearts can't quite get a grasp on the whole thing and keep the big picture in focus, God will send the Holy Spirit to remind us of what Jesus taught and to gently (OK, sometime NOT so gently!) nudge us in making the right decisions as disciples.

So, to be close to God we don't have to climb a mountain or build a tower, we don't have to squeeze our way through some aerial floodgates or dodge the swirling sun and stars...we only have to cling to our deep friendship with Jesus Christ. He modeled for us what it means to live a truly human life—full of love, mercy, compassion, honesty and joy. Our response to the Lord is thus a human one—we are attracted to that pure, selfless love that conquers all things. Our inner bond with the Lord is thus cemented first in our hearts where the fire of His love makes a claim. To have that experience, even a little, is to glimpse the eternal—to see the Father's love for us all. Because God held nothing back in sending His own Son to die for us, Jesus Christ held nothing back in freely offering His life on the Cross...all so that we might live in this inner intimacy to which we have been privileged to be invited.

Comforting news when we are all stuck at home and self-isolating these days., eh?! You don't have to go anywhere to experience the Eternal Now of our triune God. You can do that right from the comfort of your own home, from your own couch if you like. Jesus comes to us in the midst of where we are. We don't have to go find Him somewhere, as if He were missing. The true beauty of this Gospel passage is that God has always been right here in our presence, closer than even any family member or friend. The joy is opening our minds and hearts to see and recognize the most awesome of gifts which has always been profoundly close to us, if often unseen and unacknowledged.

It's OK to glaze over every once in a while, when we human beings start tripping over our own words in trying to describe the indescribable. Just remember that all the theology in the world cannot begin to scratch the surface of who God is or just how much God loves us or how close God wants to be with us.

It's a "wicked lot..." and I'll just leave it at that.

Continued Spring blessings to all,

Fr. Timothy Harrison

Pastor

Bulletin Information

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

The Ascension of the Lord

This coming Thursday, May 21, is the Solemnity of the Ascension of the Lord—a holy day in the life of the Church.

Although not an obligation day this year because of the COVID-19 pandemic, we will nonetheless offer a special live-streamed Mass for the Immaculate Conception School Community at 10:00 a.m. All parishioners are welcome to join us online for this Mass, which will be live-streamed on our [Collaborative Facebook page](#). You do not need to be a member of Facebook or have an account to watch the Mass. Just simply follow the link on our web page, www.hriccatholic.org to join us for this event. Let us honor the Lord's Ascension into Heaven with great joy and gladness!



Confessions



Now that the weather is improving, we will begin to offer face-to-face, individual Confessions by appointment in the weeks ahead. These will take place by an individual appointment with one of our priests and will be held outside in the fresh air. 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.

Virtual Rosary

Join Aaron Giard, our Faith Formation director, for recitation of the rosary live on Facebook during our stay-at-home time. Pray along with us and add your intentions in the comments on Facebook.

www.facebook.com/hriccatholic/

Tuesdays 8:30 a.m.

Thursdays 7:00 p.m.



Questions of the Week



Adult: In today's second reading, Peter speaks of "a reason for your hope." How would you answer what gives you hope?

Child: Jesus sent us a helper in the form of the Holy Spirit. How do you experience the Holy Spirit?

COLLABORATIVE NEWS

HRIC Neighbors Helping Neighbors Program

As the challenges of COVID-19 continue to evolve, Holy Redeemer-Immaculate Conception Collaborative is formalizing its *"Neighbors Helping Neighbors Program"* to respond to 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 unfolds.

The program is designed to respond to requests received by the Collaborative parishes for assistance with fundamental needs such as grocery store runs, prescription pick ups, and meal deliveries. Phone calls to the homebound and creation of cards to console or comfort are also ways in which we can support our neighbors during this difficult time.

The link below describes the program in detail and provides a form for those interested in volunteering to help this effort. Volunteers will be contacted only by members of the *Neighbors Helping Neighbors* team to determine availability to respond to a particular request.

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1cou0I5DOFLP_rhhBqDaMAQZ-Z4ED9-WpxRGBWc9XMi0

Please join in helping our Collaborative show the face of Jesus to our parishioners and our communities. God bless you.

"Carry each other's burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ." Galatians 6:2

Prayers for the Sick

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

Priscilla Brown
Brett Burkinshaw
Eunice Campbell
Joe Messina

Ron Pagliaruto
Ruth Sullivan
Michael Tucker

Act of Spiritual Communion

We cannot receive Communion right now but we are all encouraged to make an act of Spiritual Communion.

*My Jesus,
I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament.
I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul.*

*Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally,
come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to You.
Never permit me to be separated from You.*

Amen.

Virtual Meetings

Attention Collaborative Groups

During the stay-at-home order, you are probably missing meetings with your groups and committees.

We would like to see if there is an interest from groups and committees to meet virtually (using ZOOM, Google Meet, etc.). If you are interested in starting to meet virtually, please contact us at hricbulletin@gmail.com to learn more.

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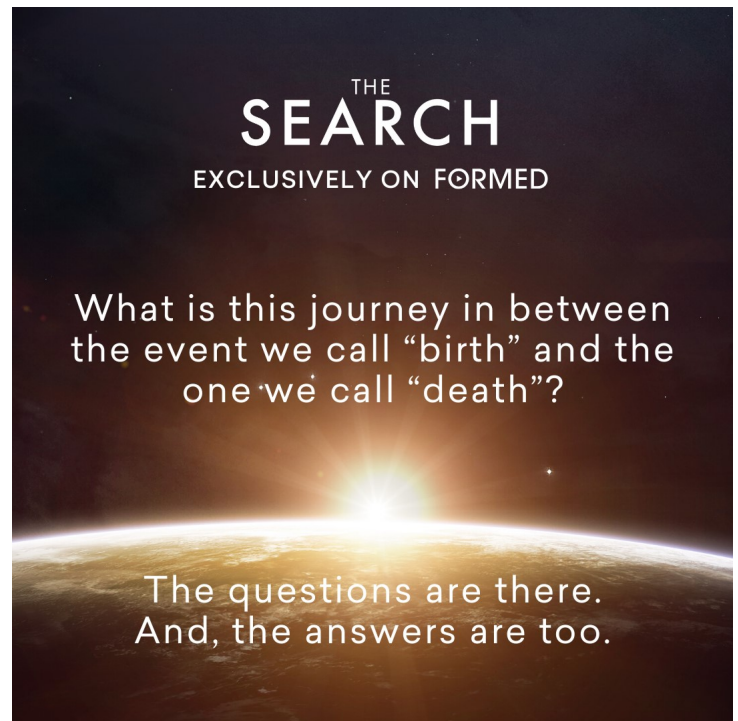
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- Visit formed.org
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- Click "I belong to a parish or organization" and type in "Holy Redeemer Immaculate Conception Collaborative" (or type in code JRNDGP) and tap "next"
- Add your name and email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



To view *The Search*, go to <https://watch.formed.org/products>

EWTN: Catholic News

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

COLLABORATIVE NEWS

Virtual Resources

During our stay-at-home time, we offer some suggestions for you to continue to connect with and learn about your faith.

The Archdiocese of Boston offers many online resources:

- Archdiocese of Boston [website](#)
- Archdiocese of Boston [Facebook](#)
- Archdiocese of Boston [Twitter](#)
- Archdiocese of Boston [Instagram](#)
- Archdiocese of Boston [Virtual Evangelization](#)
- Cardinal Sean's [Twitter account](#)
- The Boston Pilot newspaper [website](#)
- The Pilot newspaper [Facebook](#)
- The Pilot newspaper [Twitter](#)
- Catholic TV [website](#)
- Catholic TV [Facebook](#)
- Catholic TV [Twitter](#)
- Archdiocese of Boston [YouTube channel](#)
- Evangelize Boston [YouTube channel](#)
- Ideas for [remote Mass at home](#)

Greater NBPT COVID-19 Nourish MacPhee Design & Friends have created a directory app for the Newburyport area to help support local restaurants and nourish the community during the Covid-19 outbreak. The app is available for free at <https://covid-19.macpheedesign.com/> and accessible by your mobile device. Read more at www.macpheedesign.com/insights/greater-nbpt-covid-19-nourish-app-supports-local-restaurants-and-community-food-services

Collaborative Pastoral Council

At the request of the Archdiocese of Boston, all Collaboratives are forming Pastoral Councils (PPC) to assist the pastor in his leadership role with the planning, coordinating, and initiating of all programs and service activities within a Collaborative.

The pastor serves as the Chair of the PPC and the membership is comprised of volunteers who have been nominated by their fellow parishioners. Given the need to redirect our efforts due to the COVID 19 pandemic, the role of the PPC has become increasingly important.

Our Council has been meeting virtually to discuss the needs of the Collaborative community during this difficult time. While we were only recently formed, this group has been meeting in an advisory capacity on important matters facing our Collaborative.

Our Council members are here to help and welcome your questions, input, and concerns. Most importantly, we ask for your prayers as we embark on this important journey responding to the implications of the pandemic on our spiritual community and our communities at large.

Chair: Father Tim Harrison
Vice Chair: Jim Williamson
Secretary: Mary Bragg

Council Members

Kathy Betz	Marin Fortune	Lucia Parker
Sue Coppinger	Amy Friend	Mary Schmidt
Deacon Paul Dow	Aaron Giard	Jonathan Temple
Chris Eagan	Tom Hankins	Pat Temple

Mass Scripture Readings

May 17–May 24, 2020

Praying with the Scriptures during this Easter season while we are all socially distancing ourselves for the common good can bring us into a more intimate relationship with the Lord and with the Communion of Saints here and in heaven. What do each day's Scripture passages reveal about our loving Father, our saving Lord Jesus, and the empowering Holy Spirit? What do they reveal about our vocation as a Church community to become ever more intentional disciples of Christ? Please access the HRIC webpage to learn about Lectio Divina as a way of praying the Scriptures. Go to www.HRICcatholic.org and click on HRIC Pastoral Plan and then click on Lectio Divina.

- Sunday, May 17: Acts 8:5-8, 14-17; Psalm 66; 1 Peter 3:15-18; John 14:15-21
- Monday, May 18: Acts 16:11-15; Psalms 149; John 15:26-16:4a
- Tuesday, May 19: Acts 16:22-34; Psalm 138; John 16:5-11
- Wednesday, May 20: Acts 17:15, 22-18:1; Psalm 148; John 16:12-15
- Thursday, May 21: Acts 1:1-11; Psalm 47; Ephesians 1:17-23; Matthew 28:16-20
- Friday, May 22: Acts 18:9-18; Psalm 47; John 16:20-23
- Saturday, May 23: Acts 18:23-28; Psalm 47; John 16:23b-28
- Sunday, May 24: Acts 1:12-14; Psalm 27; 1 Peter 4:13-16; John 17:1-11a

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



Women at the Well Bible Study

We Are Meeting Virtually

We will be meeting virtually until further notice. All are welcome to join in, whether you are a new face or have come before.

Please email HRICWomenAtTheWell@gmail.com to join us.

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

WELCOME TO A COMMUNITY FULL OF

women just like you

Wherever you are in your faith journey, join us as we meet weekly for *Blessed is She* bible study, community and friendship as we grow together in Christ.

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

Music for Weekend Liturgy

The music program for this weekend's Liturgy will be added to our website. Please visit hriccatholic.org to download and sing along!



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“WHOEVER DOES NOT LOVE DOES NOT KNOW GOD, BECAUSE GOD IS LOVE.” 1 JOHN 4:18

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"Jesus Wept." John 11:35

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HOLY REDEEMER PARISH

HR Offertory Collection

Mailed-in offertory, week ending May 8 \$3,040.00

90 Days for Now Campaign update:
through May 4 \$ 84.00
(See page 3 for details about this campaign)

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

Holy Redeemer Parish
4 Green Street
Merrimac MA 01860

HR St. Vincent de Paul



The current pandemic impacts all of us but even more so those living at the margins of society economically. We at the HR St. Vincent de Paul conference remind you that our needs to help those people continue in earnest during these extraordinary times.

Our poor boxes are empty. Please continue to find ways to donate to support our efforts. Sending your Mite Box donations in the form of a check perhaps? **Please send your donations to HR St. Vincent de Paul, 4 Green St., Merrimac, MA 01860.** Please write the check to "HR Saint Vincent de Paul" to help expedite our banking. We assure you that the mail is checked regularly and your funds will be promptly put to use.

In these times we turn to St. Teresa of Avila:
"Let nothing disturb you, nothing frighten you, all things are passing, God is unchanging. Patience gains all; nothing is lacking to those who have God: God alone is sufficient."

HR Scholarship for High School Seniors

Holy Redeemer's Activities Committee is offering a scholarship. Graduating seniors, who plan on furthering their education after high school, were confirmed with Mrs. O'Leary through Holy Redeemer's Religious Education program, and submit an essay will be considered. An essay, "**How I Live a Catholic Life as a Member of Holy Redeemer Parish**" should be submitted to the Activities Committee by **12:00 noon on Sunday, June 14.** Please send all essays to:

HR Activities Committee
c/o Cynthia Quinn
12 Little Pond Road
Merrimac, MA 01860

(Please do not mail to the church address.)

EWTN: Catholic News

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

HR Faith Formation

School Year Programs

At this time we wish to thank all of our volunteers who have contributed in any way to the success of the school year program. We could not do it without you!

Please watch for future announcements regarding Fall 2020.

Summer Programs at IC

We are looking forward to the HRIC Summer Program which will take place on the IC campus the week of **July 13-17** for those children entering grades 3-6 in September, and **July 27-31** for students entering grades 7-9.

Please contact the Faith Formation office to request a registration form and/or to have more information sent to you.

Summer Program Volunteers

We are once again asking for assistance in making our Summer Program a reality.

Many families depend on this week of formation for their children, but it cannot happen without you. We are in need of **catechists** and **classroom assistants** for all grade levels. Please contact the office of Faith Formation (978-462-2724) for further information.

First Reconciliation/First Eucharist

Please don't hesitate to contact the Faith Formation Office should you have any questions or concerns regarding the postponement of our First Eucharist celebrations.

Baptism Dates to Remember

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

Confirmation Prep Classes

As we continue to receive guidelines from the Archdiocese, we will keep families informed of any pertinent information.



Like Us on Facebook

Holy Redeemer - Immaculate Conception Collaborative Parishes

Catholic TV

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

HR Sandwich Program Update



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

Please consider making a financial donation at <https://lazarushouse.org/ways-to-give/#donate-financially>.



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www.CatholicCruisesandTours.com

Watch the Mass on CatholicTV

During this difficult time, CatholicTV wants to ensure that all Catholics have access to the Mass and other vital prayer resources. You can watch daily and Sunday Masses on **WatchtheMass.com**, and you can find other prayers like the Divine Office, the Rosary, and more on **CatholicTV.com**.



IMMACULATE CONCEPTION PARISH

IC Offertory Collection

Mailed-in offertory, week ending May 8 **\$5,999.00**
90 Days for Now Campaign update:
 through May 4 **\$1,042.50**
 (See page 3 for details about this campaign)

If you would like to mail in your envelopes, send them to
Immaculate Conception Parish
42 Green Street
Newburyport MA 01950
 Or read below to sign up for online giving.

IC Online Giving

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

Getting started is easy—you need to be a registered member of Immaculate Conception Parish community. (At this time, Online Giving is available for only IC members.) Parish registration forms are available in the foyer of the church or at the parish office.

Once you register with the parish, or if you are already a registered parishioner, visit our website, hriccatholic.org and click the “Links” tab or the Online Giving link on our homepage, 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 St. Vincent de Paul



The Society of St. Vincent de Paul is here to help. So many people are experiencing hardship now and will continue to struggle during the months ahead as we recover from the impact of COVID-19. Residents of Newburyport and

Newbury can call the Society of St. Vincent de Paul for help with food, clothing, rent, utilities, gas, and other necessities. Call 978-518-0728 and let us know how we can help you get back on your feet again.

Donations made to the Society of St. Vincent de Paul will be used immediately in response to the calls for help that are received. **Please send checks payable to “Society of St. Vincent de Paul” to Immaculate Conception Church, 42 Green Street, Newburyport MA 01950.**

Thank you for helping us to help others!

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Immaculate Conception School



Although everything about the school year has changed with children learning from home, our school mission has not changed in the least! Service projects continue to strengthen our sense of community and ground us in our Catholic faith. Since mid-April, IC students have been making “thank you” cards for the nurses and doctors treating COVID-19 patients at local hospitals.



This school-wide service project was the idea of 8th grader Caroline Gray, *pictured*. She approached Principal Sullivan as the April vacation neared, knowing that many families would appreciate having a meaningful project to do over the “staycation.” Caroline placed a basket on her front porch for families to deliver their beautifully decorated cards while practicing proper social distancing. As cards filled the basket, Caroline tied them in bundles with a pretty bow, and delivered them to people she knew who worked at Anna Jaques Hospital and Mass General in Boston.

The staff at Anna Jaques decorated a glass wall with the beautiful cards containing heartfelt messages of “thanks and appreciation” from IC students, *pictured*.



Caroline’s passion for helping others has been the driving force behind several all-school service projects over the last three years.

She loves to do art projects, and has worked with disabled

adults as a volunteer in helping them create original artwork of their own. Caroline has been a wonderful role model for our younger students through her support of our mission to serve.

Caroline is just a few weeks away from her IC 8th grade graduation. She’s been an active student since kindergarten and looks forward to attending Pingree in September. In her words, “I will always be a Pelican!”

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION PARISH

IC Haiti News

These are unprecedented times in our world. People across the globe, including Haiti and the United States, are addressing the spread of the highly contagious and deadly virus, COVID-19. Our foundation partner, Health Equity International, has asked IC Haiti for a special donation to support the building of a new COVID-19 triage center in Fond-des-Blanc along with the added cost for the operations to address the pandemic. The spread of the COVID-19 virus around Haiti and its effect on our secluded community in the southern peninsula could be catastrophic.

Although the schools are closed and the crossover of residents between villages should be minimized, the Ministry of Health has advised everyone in the country with symptoms of COVID-19 to go to the St. Boniface Hospital in Fond-des-Blanc. This will bring a high concentration of the disease to the neighboring town of our school. Therefore, the spread of the virus to our community has a high potential and the impacts would be devastating.

In response to Health Equity International's request for a special donation as described above, the Board of Directors for IC Haiti voted to approve a \$20,000 donation in the name of the generous people of Immaculate Conception Parish.

The Board is also happy to report that despite parishioners not being able to congregate for Sunday liturgies, people sent in donations to IC Haiti totaling \$4,467 in the first quarter of 2020. We are grateful for this surprising level of generosity given that no collection was actually taken up due to the pandemic. Our next collection will take place the weekend of May 23–24 if we are back together for Masses.

May Our Lord continue to bless our efforts to support the people of Puit Chacha, Haiti. We thank Him for offering us this 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.

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. 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 Faith Formation

School Year Programs

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

Please watch for future announcements regarding Fall 2020.

Summer Programs

We are looking forward to the HRIC Summer Program which will take place the week of **July 13–17** for those children entering grades 3–6 in September, and **July 27–31** for students entering grades 7–9.

Please contact the Faith Formation office to request a registration form and/or to have more information sent to you.

Summer Program Volunteers

We are once again asking for assistance in making our Summer Program a reality. Many families depend on this week of faith formation for their children and it cannot take place without you!

There is a great need for **catechists** and **classroom assistants** at all grade levels. Please contact the office of Faith Formation for further information.

Confirmation

As we continue to receive guidelines from the Archdiocese, we will keep families informed of any pertinent information.

Please feel free to call or email the Faith Formation Office with any questions or concerns you might have. We will respond as soon as possible.

Baptism Dates to Remember

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

First Reconciliation/First Eucharist

Please don't hesitate to call or contact the Faith Formation Office should you have any questions or concerns regarding the postponement of our First Eucharist celebrations.

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.



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