

**HOLY REDEEMER AND IMMACULATE CONCEPTION
COLLABORATIVE PARISHES**

SERVING MERRIMAC, NEWBURY, NEWBURYPORT, AND WEST NEWBURY

Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

January 14, 2018

hricatholic.org

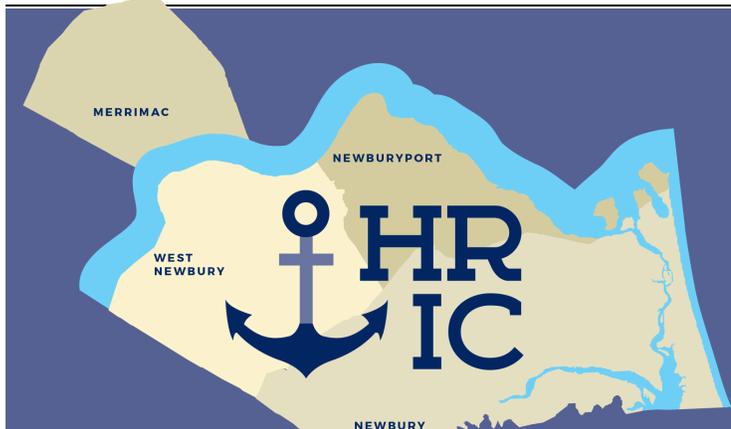


*Samuel answered,
"Speak, for your servant is listening."*

"When Samuel went to sleep in his place, the LORD came and revealed his presence, calling out as before, 'Samuel, Samuel!' Samuel answered, 'Speak, for your servant is listening.'"

(1Samuel 3:9-10)

*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

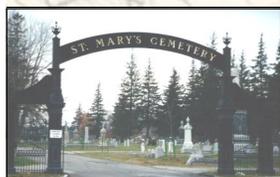
Church: 300 Main St., W. Newbury 01985
Rectory: 46 Maple St., W. Newbury 01985
Phone: 978-346-8604
Email: holyredeemer@verizon.net

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 Mary's Cemetery

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

www.hricatholic.org

 [Holy Redeemer - Immaculate Conception Collaborative Parishes](#)

COLLABORATIVE NEWS

Collaborative Mass Schedule

Saturday (1/13)

4:00pm **IC** *Richard & Mary Shachok, For the intentions of Stephen D'Ambrosio* (Fr. Morin)

4:00pm **St. Ann** (Fr. Harrison)

Sunday (1/14)

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

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

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

10:15am **St. Ann** *Daniel Lynch, Howard J. Shippen* (Fr. Harrison)

11:30am **IC** *Francesco Maiello* (Fr. McLaughlin)

Monday (1/15)

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

Tuesday (1/16)

7:15am **IC** *Ruth A. Braley* (Fr. Harrison)

Wednesday (1/17)

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

Thursday (1/18)

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

Friday (1/19)

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

10:30am **Port Rehab** (Fr. McLaughlin)

Saturday (1/20)

4:00pm **IC** *Josephine Bridges, Ruth Connors, Rose Campiola* (Fr. Broderick)

4:00pm **Nativity** *Madeline Brodie* (Fr. McLaughlin)

Sunday (1/21)

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

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

9:00am **IC** *Ruth Connors* (Fr. Broderick)

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

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

In your prayers, please remember Ruth Connors, Shirley Erhard and all the faithful departed.

The priests' schedule is subject to change without notice.

IC—Immaculate Conception, Newburyport

Nativity—Merrimac

St. Ann—West Newbury

Questions of the Week

Adult: In what ways do you experience being called by Jesus?

Child: What can you do this week to show that you are a follower of Jesus?

Archdiocese Web Site

Visit www.bostoncatholic.org for the latest news and information around the Archdiocese of Boston.

From the Pastor

Dear Parishioners,

An old phrase that I come across every once in a while is, "God gave us two ears and only one mouth for a reason." Another is, "Silence is the voice of God speaking to us." Both are about listening. This weekend's Scriptures invite us to learn how to hear, effectively, when God is speaking.

With young Samuel, it was not enough to simply respond to a voice that called him to do...what? Something? Come here? Go there? To effectively hear and understand what God was asking of him, Samuel needed to spend more time listening. He was to invite the Lord to speak to him further, promising an openness to hear more. It is that further willingness on Samuel's part to listen more that would ultimately guide him to be an effective proclaimer of God's Word.

John's disciples were listening, too. When John said, "Behold the Lamb of God," they heard it, but also knew that they needed to listen more to understand who this "Lamb of God" really was. So they asked if they could stay with this mysterious rabbi, Jesus. They didn't pepper him with questions, they assumed the posture of being learners, listeners.

These are good lessons for us to embrace today as well. This past weekend, members of the Adult Faith Formation Team offered an afternoon of retreat for those involved in the newly-formed Leadership Team for implementing our Local Pastoral Plan. Their approach was simple: spend some time in prayer. And that began with a time of silence.

Silence is something, I think, we often avoid. There are so many things that compete for our attention during any day: TV, smartphones, email, music, phone calls, text messages, social media updates and more. With all of these only an arms-length away at practically any given moment, it can take some effort to quiet-down, unplug and find a slice of genuine silence each day. But how important, essential is this to be able to respond properly to God's call!

In Assisi this past year, our pilgrims had a chance to celebrate mass in what is known as the "Porziuncola" – the third little field chapel that St. Francis rebuilt by hand, responding to the call he heard from Christ to go and "rebuild my church." Of course, when Francis spent more time listening to the Lord, he would soon realize that Christ was talking about the whole Church, not simply a building. He was to help rebuild the whole Church by embracing a life of poverty and giving witness to Christ's love for the poor. This was an action, more than a set of words.

(Continued on page 4)

Bulletin Information

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

COLLABORATIVE NEWS

This Week in Our Collaborative

See our calendar at hriccatholic.org for a complete listing of activities.

Monday, January 15, Martin Luther King Jr. Day

Collaborative Offices Closed

No Religious Ed.

Rome Reunion Gathering/Mass 4:00pm, *IC Charity Dining Room/St. James Chapel*

Tuesday, January 16

IC Knitting Ministry 1:00pm, *IC Conference Room 209*

Breaking Bread Meal 5:00pm, *IC St. Louis Hall*

Pastoral Plan Vocation Priority Meeting 7:00pm, *IC Conference Room 209*

Wednesday, January 17

Holy Quilters 2:00pm, *Nativity Hall*

IC Youth Choir Rehearsal 4:30pm, *IC Church*

Adoration 6:00pm, *IC St. James Chapel*

Centering Prayer 6:00pm, *IC Conference Room 209*

IC Adult Choir Rehearsal 7:00pm, *IC Church*

Thursday, January 18

Rosary for Life 6:30pm, *IC St. James Chapel*

Friday, January 19

Adoration 8:00am, *IC St. James Chapel*

AA Meeting 7:00pm, *IC St. Louis Hall*

Saturday, January 20

Holy Quilters 8:00am, *Nativity Hall*

HR Religious Ed., Grade 6 Activity Day 1:00pm, *Nativity Lower Hall*

Nativity Choir Rehearsal 3:30pm, *Nativity Church*

Sunday, January 21

Nativity Choir Rehearsal 7:45am, *Nativity Church*

HR Religious Ed., Grades 3–6 9:00am, *Nativity Hall*

St. Ann Choir Rehearsal 9:45am, *St. Ann Church*

IC Religious Ed., Grades K–8 10:05am, *IC Parish Center*

Fleece Scarf Making 11:15am, *IC St. Louis Hall*

Scripture Study 2:00pm, *IC Nazareth Library Room 205*

HR Religious Ed., Grade 9 6:00pm, *Nativity Hall*

Cor Unum Ministry

Cor Unum Meal Center, located in South Lawrence at St. Patrick Church, is in need of volunteers to serve meals to the poor.

Immaculate Conception and Holy Redeemer Parishes serve breakfast to the poor of Lawrence on the first Saturday of every month. Volunteers meet in the IC parking lot at 5:00am on Saturday morning. The Center serves breakfast from 6:00am to 8:00am. If you are able to give a few hours of your time serving this meal, please contact Larry Lambert at (978) 462-4842 for further information.

Just like Samuel and John's disciples, listening deepened Francis' ability to understand and respond to God when He called. It will help us be better disciples in this modern age as well. In the days and weeks ahead, let us find and make the quiet time in our daily lives to better hear God's voice. Through the investment of our time in listening, may we respond more passionately, accurately and lovingly to what is asked of us. Lives will be changed if we do.

Winter blessings,

Fr. Timothy Harrison, Pastor

From the Parochial Vicar

“Well done good and faithful servant.”

Sincere thanks to everyone who accepted a “talent” of \$5.00 on the Sunday before Thanksgiving. Using the talent creatively, 80 parishioners/families/young and older were able to realize a significant increase for the benefit of the Saint Vincent de Paul Societies of our Collaborative. As of January 3, 2018, **\$8,567.36** has been realized! This is amazing. This amount includes a very generous donation of \$3,000.00 from a couple from one of our Parishes. I have kept all the letters describing the various projects. These will make a beautiful collage which will be displayed so that you can see and read for yourself all the many wonderful things accomplished by members of our Parishes. A big **Thank You** to everyone who participated!

–Fr. George

Martin Luther King Jr. Day

Please note all Collaborative offices will be closed on Monday, January 15 for Martin Luther King, Jr. Day.

Youth Masses

Youth Masses are celebrated as a collaborative. Students take part in the ministries during the Mass. Folk music, with guitar, is featured. Youth Masses begin at 5:00pm. All ages are welcome to this lively celebration.

For each Youth Mass, a charity is chosen for donations. Please watch the bulletin for details about that month's charity. The charity for January is Merrimack Valley Hope Mission. Donation suggestions: Winter hats, gloves, scarves, heavy socks, gently worn jackets, and travel-size toiletries.

Youth Mass Schedule

January 28 at Nativity, Merrimac

March 4 at Immaculate Conception, Newburyport

March 25 at Nativity, Merrimac

May 20 at Immaculate Conception, Newburyport

EWTN: Catholic News

EWTN News: Your Online Catholic News Resource.

<http://www.ewtnnews.com/>

COLLABORATIVE NEWS

Scripture Study

Scripture Study will meet on January 21

Father Broderick's Scripture Study, which was cancelled on January 7 due to frigid weather conditions, will meet on the regular scheduled third Sunday of the month, January 21, at 2:00 p.m. in the IC Parish Center.

This would be an ideal time for interested members of the Collaborative to join the study group as we begin reading St. Paul's *Epistle to the Romans*. This letter was probably written in Corinth several years prior to Paul's actual arduous voyage to Rome as a prisoner. This is Paul's longest letter and widely considered to be his masterpiece. We will read and discuss Chapters 1–3.

Our beloved teacher, Father Broderick, not only explains the meaning of the Scripture passages, but also presents rich description of the period and places cited, as well as the culture and practices of the people involved. He connects the events in the New Testament to Old Testament prophecies and events, as well as to our own time. This is a worthwhile way to spend an hour and fifteen minutes on a Sunday afternoon. All are invited to attend these sessions and grow in knowledge and faith.

Landings

If you are a Catholic who has been away from the Church, we invite you to be an active part of us again.

LANDINGS is an eight-week program that offers "a safe place to land," a place for listening and for being heard, a place for asking questions and for reconnecting with the faith as an adult. During the **LANDINGS** program, a small group of active Catholics, some of them "returnees" themselves, meets with a small group of inactive or returning Catholics to share and explore their faith together.

Landings for Returning Catholics will begin a new session on Tuesdays from 7:30–9:15pm at Church of the Nativity, Merrimac beginning January 30. If you know of anyone interested, please contact Dr. Mag McKinnon, 978-462-2724 or Ms. Doreen O'Leary, 978-346-8604 for more information.



Centering Prayer

Centering Prayer, resting silently in God, facilitates the process of inner transformation. Our prayer without words is one of intention to surrender to God's presence and action in our lives and desire for a closer relationship with God. Join us on Wednesdays, 6:00pm–7:00pm, in the IC Conference Room 209. Join us as we pray in this ancient Christian tradition and together deepen our understanding of this prayer in our own spiritual journey. For information please contact Elizabeth McCarthy, 978-462-7483.

RCIA

The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults is a program for those considering becoming Catholic as adults or youth that have not received the sacraments in the traditional years. Have you been considering it? Please contact Marin Fortune, 978-462-2724 or fortune@newburyportcatholic.org if you would like to learn more about this program.

Youth SNOWCAMPS

SNOWCAMPS is a high-energy, activity-filled, spiritual growth experience weekend designed specifically for 7–8 graders and is held at Camp Brookwoods, Alton, NH. Get ready for lots of fun, friendships, music, games, and faith sharing witness talks by teens and adults. Sign up soon for the best weekend of your life! Join the fun with the 100+ junior high kids from several different parishes throughout the Archdiocese. There are two SNOWCAMPS weekends: February 23–25 or March 2–4. Cost for the weekend is \$183. To learn more or to download an application, visit www.snowcampsparty.com. Contact Fr. George with questions, 978-462-2724.



Scripture for the Week

14 Sun	1 Sm 3:3b-10, 19/1 Cor 6:13c-15a, 17-20/Jn 1:35-42
15 Mon	1 Sm 15:16-23/Mk 2:18-22
16 Tue	1 Sm 16:1-13/Mk 2:23-28
17 Wed	1 Sm 17:32-33,37,40-51/Mk 3:1-6
18 Thu	1 Sm 18:6-9; 19:1-7/Mk 3:7-12
19 Fri	1 Sm 24:3-21/Mk 3:13-19
20 Sat	2 Sm 1:1-4,11-2,19,23-27/Mk 3:20-21
21 Sun	Jon 3:1-5, 10/1 Cor 7:29-31/Mk 1:14-20

Volunteers Needed for Avita of Newburyport

Every Sunday, Avita of Newburyport Assisted Living brings residents to Mass at Holy Redeemer. They are in need of volunteers to escort residents from Avita to church and back on the Avita bus at 9:30 Sunday mornings. Please contact Debra Shapiro at deb@avitaofnewburyport.com or 978-225-7000.

Collaborative Website

Visit our **Collaborative Website**, www.hriccatholic.org for up-to-date information on groups, meetings, religious ed., Mass times, and current events. Link to our calendar, view our current and archived bulletins, find other Catholic websites, or check out the photos section. We have so much happening in our Collaborative.

COLLABORATIVE NEWS

Cursillo

Cursillo is an invitation for you to experience the love of Jesus Christ on a personal level and to bring this love and joy into your daily life.

2017–2018 Calendar

Ultreya	Cursillo Weekend
February 2	February 8–11 (Men)
February 23	March 1–4 (Women)
April 6	April 5–8 (Men)
April 27	May 3–6 (Women)
June 1	June 7–10 (Women)

Ultreya is held in the St. James Chapel in the IC Parish Center at 7:00 p.m. If you have questions, please feel free to contact Pat Forbes (978-462-1258) or Jonathan Temple (978-809-9337).

Winter Weather Mass Cancellations

Due to the hazards of travel and the safety of priests and parishioners alike, this winter daily Mass within the Collaborative will be cancelled if either Pentucket Regional or Newburyport Public schools are cancelled because of inclement weather. Any Religious Education classes will also be cancelled on such days. WBZ Channel 4 will have the updated school cancellation information. It is also available on their website at boston.cbslocal.com.

In severe situations, it may also be necessary for safety reasons to cancel weekend Masses. Please watch WBZ or consult their website for cancellation information.

Thank you for your patience and understanding. In all things, God gave us the gifts of wisdom, reason, and prudence. Let's use them wisely this winter and exercise sound judgment when considering going out in severe weather.



Celebrating the Sacraments

Reconciliation

IC: Saturdays: 3:00pm to 3:30pm or by appointment.
HR: Saturdays before the 4:00pm Mass or by appointment.

Baptism

Call the Parish office for information and to register.

Marriage

Archdiocesan guidelines request that couples planning to marry in the Church contact the church at least six months prior to the wedding date.

Sacrament of the Sick

This Sacrament should not be seen as only administered when there is danger of death. Please call us if someone is in the hospital, so that we can visit the loved one and have the community pray for them.

Local Free Meals for Those Seeking Assistance

Please call ahead for details and/or possible restrictions.

Monday Meals

9 am Coffee and Danish, The Salvation Army, Newburyport
11 am Lunch, Greek Orthodox Church, Newburyport
5–6 pm Dinner, St. Paul's Church, Newburyport

Tuesday Meals

9 am Coffee and Danish, The Salvation Army, Newburyport
11 am–12:30 pm Lunch, St. Paul's Church, Newburyport
5 pm Dinner, Immaculate Conception Church, Newburyport

Wednesday Meals

9 am Coffee and Danish, The Salvation Army, Newburyport
11 am Lunch, The Salvation Army, Newburyport
4–6 pm, Main Street Congregational Church, Amesbury

Thursday Meals

9 am Coffee and Danish, The Salvation Army, Newburyport
5 pm Dinner, The Salvation Army, Newburyport

Friday Meals

9 am Coffee and Danish, The Salvation Army, Newburyport
11 am–12:30 pm Lunch, St. Paul's Church, Newburyport

Saturday Meals

8–10 am Breakfast, Central Congregational Church, Nbpt.
Dinner Delivery for Pettengill Clients (once/month)

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION PARISH

The Compassionate Friends

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

Our monthly support meetings are held in Room 209 of the IC Parish Center at 7:30 to 9:00pm on the fourth Monday of the month. Barbara J. Hopkinson is founder and chapter leader. **Our next meeting is January 22.** Contact Barbara for questions on either TCF or ABJ at (617) 410-6309 or info@abutterflysjourney.org.

Knights of Columbus

We welcome new members to this long-standing group of Catholic men. If you are interested in helping those in need, serving our parish, growing in faith, or just connecting with other Catholic men, then the Knights of Columbus is the organization for you. For more information, contact us at (978) 572-0231, membership@kofc231.org.

The next monthly meeting of the Knights of Columbus will be held on **Tuesday, February 13** at 7:30pm in the IC Nazareth Library, Room 205.

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION PARISH

Offertory Collection

January 5–6 **\$9,330.00**
Restoration/Renovation **\$1,502.00**

The second collection this weekend is the Monthly.

Next week's second collection will support Assistance for Urban Parishes to support the mission of our inner city parishes in the Archdiocese of Boston.

The Archdiocese of Boston currently provides financial assistance to urban parishes in particular geographic areas that historically have had a strong Catholic presence. Many of these urban parishes have a high population of newcomers to our country, are in areas of higher socio-economical risk and are deemed critical to the mission of the Church. This collection will help continue this support to urban parishes to provide resources for mission and ministry in these parishes and for the people in the communities they serve. Assistance is needed for such parishes experiencing financial hardship and who struggle to sustain their mission and meet their financial obligations.

Your support is needed to maintain a Catholic presence in areas where the economic realities of the parishioner base cannot fully support the expenses of a parish. This collection will help bridge the funding gap. We all share responsibility to proclaim God's Good News of Jesus Christ with all the people of the Archdiocese of Boston regardless of the parish's ability to pay. Your generous response to this collection will help sustain the vital work that occurs each day in these parishes.

Please visit BostonCatholic.org for information on parishes throughout the Archdiocese.

Grand Annual Goal \$100,000
To Date \$68,335.00
293 Families



IC Religious Ed. Fleece Project

We will be hosting another fleece-making project making scarves for the homeless that are served by Merrimack Valley Hope Mission on Sunday, January 21 from 11:15am –1:00pm. Pizza will be provided at the end of the program. You can sign up via this weblink: www.SignUpGenius.com/go/60B0F4CAA72EAFF2-making

At our 5:00pm Youth Mass on Sunday, January 28 at Nativity, Merrimac, we will be donating our scarves and collecting items for the Hope Valley Mission. Thank you for your generosity to those in need.



Like Us on Facebook
Holy Redeemer - Immaculate Conception Collaborative Parishes

Immaculate Conception School



The IC has eighteen beautiful new computers in our Computer Lab, thanks to a very generous school family. The 24-inch touchscreen Acer Chromebases meet the developmental needs of even our youngest students. Within seconds of powering up the devices, students are logged on and ready to work. Students will complete assignments and collaborate with each other through Google's G Suite for Education which offers a vast array of digital tools suited specifically for learning. What is most impactful about offering students a learning experience on a computer is that visual and auditory needs are addressed. Just one example is the "voice to text" capability within Google Docs, which can assist reluctant writers to express themselves more easily. I invite you to visit our new Computer Lab on Sunday, January 28 during our Catholic Schools Week Open House from 12:30–2:00 p.m.



Pre-K students navigate our school neighborhood on Google Earth.

Consolers Circle Meal

The IC community offers a light meal to families who have lost a loved one. The meal, provided by volunteers, is held in St. Louis Hall following the funeral Mass. Our hall holds up to 75 people, and there is no charge for this service. Donations are accepted. Inform the funeral director that you request this service when making arrangements.

IC Knitting Ministry



We meet Tuesdays at 1:00pm in the IC Parish Center, Room 209. We knit shawls, hats, mittens, and scarves and bring prayers and hope to people who are sick and to their caregivers and to celebrate happy occasions. We also distribute hats and scarves to homeless children. Our membership is open to all. Please join us for knitting, fellowship, and tea (and goodies).

If you know anyone who needs a prayer shawl or for more information please call Frances Ronan 978-462-4972 or Julia O'Connor at 978-465-3350.

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION PARISH

IC Religious Education

Amoris Laetitia...Pope Francis

Pope Francis released the Exhortation on the Family. We continue to review the various statements from the Holy Father.

Dialogue: In #140: Show affection and concern for the other person. Love surmounts even the worst barriers. When we love someone, or when we feel loved by them, we can better understand what they are trying to communicate. Fearing the other person as a kind of “rival” is a sign of weakness and needs to be overcome. It is very important to base one’s position on solid choices, beliefs or values, and not on the need to win an argument or to be proved right.

School Year IC Religious Education Classes

Registration for the School Year Religious Education Class is ongoing. Registration form:

<http://www.hricatholic.org/IC-Children-s-Religious-Education>

No Classes: January 14 and 15—holiday

Next Classes:

- Gr. K–8 Sunday, January 21 10:05–11:05am.
- Gr. 1–8 Monday, January 22 6:00–7:10pm.

Baptism

Baptism info.: <http://www.hricatholic.org/Baptism>

Please pre-register for the class.

Feb. 4 Parent Class—Charity Dining Room 1:00pm

Jan. 14 & Feb 11 Group Baptism—Church 1:00pm

Confirmation

Confirmation monthly session is Sunday, January 28 at 1:00–3:00pm in the church. Reminder: candidate and adult sponsor, parent, or another adult) to attend each session.

Catholic School candidates and adults—next session Sunday, February 4 at 1:00pm in the Charity Dining Room, Room 114.

For information and registration go online:

<http://www.hricatholic.org/Confirmation-Immaculate-Conception-Parish>.

First Eucharist

Information/registration for 2017–2018 First Reconciliation and Eucharist is posted on our website: <http://www.hricatholic.org/First-Eucharist-First-Reconciliation-Immaculate-Conception-Parish>. Our next 1st Eucharist session for candidates and parents is Sunday, March 4 1:00–3:00pm Walk through the Mass with Fr. George in the church.

Landings

Landings for Returning Catholics will begin a new session on Tuesdays 7:30–9:15pm at Church of the Nativity, Merrimac beginning Tuesday, January 30. If you know of anyone interested, please contact Dr. Mag McKinnon for more information 978-462-2724.

Youth Mass—January 28

Our next Youth Mass is Sunday, January 28 at Church of the Nativity, Merrimac at 5:00pm. Charity: Merrimack Valley Hope Mission. Donations: Winter hats, gloves, scarves, heavy socks, gently worn jackets, and travel-size toiletries.

Mardi Gras Celebration

Save the Date

Our Mardi Gras Celebration and Dinner will be held on Monday, February 12, 2018. Tickets will be on sale at the end of January and early February.



Raffle Items

We are looking for donations for our Raffle. If you have any items, gift cards, services, etc. that you would like to donate to the raffle, it would be greatly appreciated. Contact Dr. Mag McKinnon, DRE, mmckinnon@newburyportcatholic.org or Melinda Burrell burrell@newburyportcatholic.org 978-462-2724. Proceeds for the dinner and raffle to benefit IC Haiti and IC Religious Education. Come join us for the fun, food, and fellowship.

Spiritual Adoption Program

Everyone loves the beauty and innocence of a baby. As an expression of that love, the Collaborative of Holy Redeemer and Immaculate Conception Religious Education programs announce a spiritual adoption program for young and old alike.

The members of the Collaborative will have the opportunity to “spiritually” adopt a child who is newly conceived this month. Not all newly conceived babies are allowed to be born. In fact, more than 4,000 babies lose their lives to abortion each day. We are praying for all babies and in particular babies in danger of death. We invite you to “adopt” and pray for God’s special protection of them.

You may “adopt” a child individually or as a family by signing up during the weekend of Sunday, January 22 and Monday January 23 as part of Religious Education classes. You will be asked to name the child for whom you will be praying, thereby giving the baby the humanity he or she deserves. You will be asked to pray for your unborn child and for all unborn children, for the power of prayer is great. Pledge cards with feet pins will be at the entrances of the church for you to sign up for the program. Pledge cards can be left at the church office and will be displayed on the Spiritual Adoption Board.

You will receive monthly reports through the parish bulletin and website describing your baby’s development and your child will be born in October 2018. We will celebrate with a Baby Shower for Pregnancy Care Center’s new moms and infants.

There are millions of unborn babies desperately in need of your prayers. Won’t you please “spiritually adopt” one and share the love for life that God have given you.?

Our Lady of Guadalupe, patroness of the unborn, pray for us.

Adoration

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

HOLY REDEEMER PARISH

Offertory Collection

January 1, Solemnity of Mary \$ 188.00

January 6–7 \$2,600.00

The second collection this weekend is the Monthly.

Next week's second collection will support Assistance for Urban Parishes to support the mission of our inner city parishes in the Archdiocese of Boston.

The Archdiocese of Boston currently provides financial assistance to urban parishes in particular geographic areas that historically have had a strong Catholic presence. Many of these urban parishes have a high population of newcomers to our country, are in areas of higher socio-economical risk and are deemed critical to the mission of the Church. This collection will help continue this support to urban parishes to provide resources for mission and ministry in these parishes and for the people in the communities they serve. Assistance is needed for such parishes experiencing financial hardship and who struggle to sustain their mission and meet their financial obligations.

Your support is needed to maintain a Catholic presence in areas where the economic realities of the parishioner base cannot fully support the expenses of a parish. This collection will help bridge the funding gap. We all share responsibility to proclaim God's Good News of Jesus Christ with all the people of the Archdiocese of Boston regardless of the parish's ability to pay. Your generous response to this collection will help sustain the vital work that occurs each day in these parishes.

Please visit BostonCatholic.org for information on parishes throughout the Archdiocese.

2017 Grand Annual

The Holy Redeemer Grand Annual collection has raised **\$13,080.00** to date.

It is not too late to return your pledge card. Bring it to Mass next weekend or mail it to the parish office. Your participation in the Grand Annual Collection is sincerely appreciated.

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, February 1.**

IC Online Giving

Please note that Online Giving via our website is available to only Immaculate Conception parishioners at this time.

HR Religious Education

Please note: No classes the weekend of Jan. 14, Martin Luther King observance.

Sunday, Jan. 21, Grades 3–6 Classes, Nativity Hall, 9:00–10:00 a.m.

Tuesday, Jan. 23, Grade 7 Class, Nativity Hall 6:00–7:30 p.m.

Thursday, Jan. 25, Grade 9 Sandwich Making, Nativity Hall, 6:30 p.m.

Sunday, Jan. 28, Grades 3–6 Classes, Nativity Hall, 9:00–10:00 a.m.

Grade 2 Class, Nativity Church, 9:00–10:00 a.m.

Youth Mass, Nativity Church, 5:00 p.m.

Youth Mass

At our 5:00pm Youth Mass on **Sunday, January 28** at Nativity, Merrimac, we will be donating our scarves and collecting items for the Merrimack Valley Hope Mission. Other items that can be donated include: Winter hats, gloves and heavy socks, gently worn jackets, travel-size toiletries. Thank you for your generosity to those in need.

Contact info: Office of Religious Education

Doreen O'Leary (Rel. Ed. email: reledhrp@gmail.com)

Youth Mass—January 28

Our next Youth Mass is Sunday, January 28 at Church of the Nativity, Merrimac at 5:00pm. Charity: Merrimack Valley Hope Mission. Donations: Winter hats, gloves, scarves, heavy socks, gently worn jackets, and travel-size toiletries.

Spiritual Adoption Program

The members of the Collaborative will have the opportunity to "spiritually" adopt a child who is newly conceived this month. Sign up during the weekend of Sunday, January 22

See page 8 of this bulletin for more details.

Saturday Mass at Nativity

Please remember that our Saturday 4:00pm Mass will move to **Nativity** in Merrimac on **January 20.**

HR St. Vincent de Paul Society



There is a wonderful way to honor someone who has requested "No gifts, please." You can send a check to Holy Redeemer Saint Vincent de Paul at 4 Green Street in Merrimac. Your donation will honor someone's celebration and will also help those in need. A note will be sent to let that someone know about the donor's meaningful gift. Donations can be made to celebrate birthdays, anniversaries, and other significant occasions.

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