

**HOLY REDEEMER AND IMMACULATE CONCEPTION
COLLABORATIVE PARISHES**

SERVING MERRIMAC, NEWBURY, NEWBURYPORT, AND WEST NEWBURY

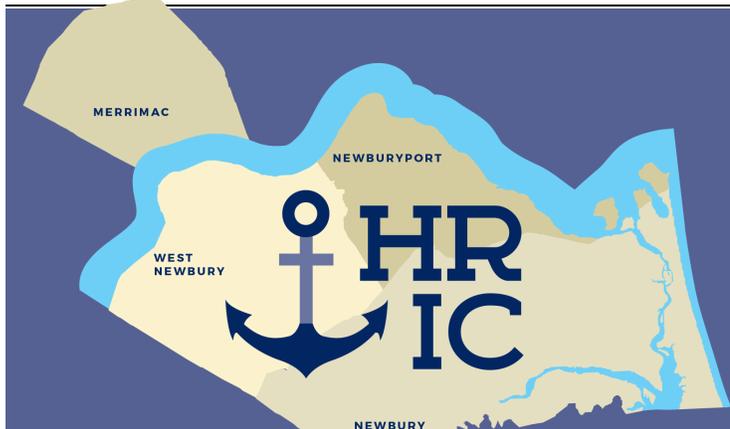
The Epiphany of the Lord

January 7, 2018

hricatholic.org



All Are Welcome



Holy Redeemer Immaculate Conception Collaborative

serving Merrimac, Newbury, Newburyport & West Newbury

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

St. Ann

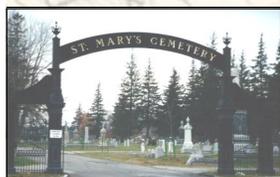
Church: 300 Main St., W. Newbury 01985
Rectory: 46 Maple St., W. Newbury 01985
Phone: 978-346-8604
Email: holyredeemer@verizon.net

Nativity

Parish offices and church:
4 Green St., Merrimac 01860
Office Hours: By appointment
Phone: 978-346-8604
Email: holyredeemer@verizon.net

Immaculate Conception

Parish, church, rectory, and offices:
42 Green St., Newburyport 01950
Office Hours: M-F 8:00 a.m.–3:30 p.m.
Phone: 978-462-2724
Fax: 978-234-7399
Email: info@newburyportcatholic.org



St. Mary's Cemetery

36 Storey Avenue,
Newburyport 01950

Immaculate Conception School

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



Collaborative Staff

Pastor

Rev. Timothy Harrison,
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Parochial Vicar

Rev. George E. Morin,
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Senior Priest in Residence

Rev. William McLaughlin

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St. Vincent de Paul

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

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

St Mary's Cemetery

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

www.hricatholic.org

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

COLLABORATIVE NEWS

Collaborative Mass Schedule

Saturday (1/6)

2:00pm **Atria** (Fr. Broderick)
 4:00pm **IC** *Stephen Bower, Jo Bridges, Betty Ann Perkins, For the intentions of Millie Herlihy on the occasion of her hundredth and first birthday* (Fr. Harrison)
 4:00pm **St. Ann** (Fr. McLaughlin)

Sunday (1/7)

7:15am **IC** (Fr. Harrison)
 8:00am **Nativity** (Fr. Morin)
 9:00am **IC** *Raymond H. Bardsley* (Fr. McLaughlin)
 10:15am **St. Ann** (Fr. Morin)
 11:30am **IC** *Joel Taplin, Diane Drake* (Fr. Broderick)

Monday (1/8)

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

Tuesday (1/9)

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

Wednesday (1/10)

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

Thursday (1/11)

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

Friday (1/12)

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

Saturday (1/13)

4:00pm **IC** *Richard & Mary Shachok, Rose Campiola* (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** Fr. McLaughlin)

In your prayers, please remember Kenneth Paulovic and all the faithful departed.

The priests' schedule is subject to change without notice.

IC—Immaculate Conception, Newburyport

Nativity—Merrimac

St. Ann—West Newbury

Collaborative 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.

From the Pastor

Dear Parishioners,

As a kid, I was always fascinated by the night sky. Having received a telescope for my birthday one year, I spent many hours scanning the heavens looking at the Moon, the planets, star clusters, and even a few nearby galaxies. It is really amazing what is "up there," when we take the time to look. One of the easiest named-stars to locate is Polaris, or the North Star, because it is always in the same place. Mariners, soldiers, pioneers, and every kind of outdoor enthusiast from the earliest of times have used it as a point of reference to find their way home.

It should not surprise us at all that in Matthew's Gospel it was a star, twinkling in darkness, that first announced the birth of the King of Kings to a sleepy world. The Magi refer to it as "his star" and followed its light to encounter the newborn savior. In this way, Christ is now understood as the new point of reference to find our way to our true, heavenly home.

Our knowledge of the heavens reminds us, too, that it is from our own star, the Sun, that we receive the light and energy to enjoy the blessings of life here on Earth. From that perspective, we look at Christ as the new source of all that gives life, light, and hope. As the dawning of the day brings with it new promise, so also may the radiance of Christ's light in our troubled world bring the fulfillment of God's plan of salvation in our midst. As I reminded parishioners on recent pilgrimages, "Don't forget to look up!" Beyond any earthly glory, it is the Day Star, who is Christ Jesus, that beckons to us all!

Happy Epiphany!

Fr. Timothy Harrison, Pastor



Like Us on Facebook
 Holy Redeemer - Immaculate Conception
 Collaborative Parishes

Offertory Envelopes

You can attend Mass at any worship site in our Collaborative and use your usual offertory envelope. Drop it in the collection and we will deliver it to your home Parish.

Catholic TV

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

Questions of the Week

Adult: What events or people have guided you in your relationship with God?

Child: Who are some of the people and what are some of the signs that help you know God?

COLLABORATIVE NEWS

This Week in Our Collaborative

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

Monday, January 8

AA Meeting 10:30am & 7:30pm, IC St Louis Hall
IC Religious Ed., Grades 1–8 6:00pm, IC Parish Center
HR Boy Scouts Troop 41 7:00pm, Nativity Hall
Landings Epiphany Social 7:15pm, IC Charity Dining Room

Tuesday, January 9

IC Knitting Ministry 1:00pm, IC Conference Room 209
Breaking Bread Meal 5:00pm, IC St. Louis Hall
HR Religious Ed, Grade 8 6:00pm, Nativity Hall
IC St. Vincent de Paul Meeting 6:00pm, IC St. Louis Hall
IC-Haiti Board Meeting 7:00pm, IC Conference Room 209
Knights of Columbus 7:30pm, IC Nazareth Library Room 205

Wednesday, January 10

HR Sandwich Program 9:00am, St. Ann Hall
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
HR St. Vincent de Paul 7:00pm, Nativity Rectory

Thursday, January 11

Rosary for Life 6:30pm, IC St. James Chapel
Pastoral Plan Welcoming Priority Meeting 7:00pm, IC Charity Dining Room

Friday, January 12

Adoration 8:00am, IC St. James Chapel
Collaborative Staff Meeting 8:30am, IC Charity Dining Room
AA Meeting 7:00pm, IC St. Louis Hall

Saturday, January 13

St. Ann Choir Rehearsal 3:30pm, St. Ann Church

Sunday, January 14

No Religious Ed.
Nativity Choir Rehearsal 7:45am, Nativity Church
St. Ann Choir Rehearsal 9:45am, St. Ann Church
Baptisms 1:00pm, IC Church

Parish Membership

We welcome all newcomers to our Parish communities and hope you take an active part in parish life. Please introduce yourself and register in the parish. Forms are available online at www.hriccatholic.org or you can call the Parish offices.

Bulletin Information

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

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.

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.

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

COLLABORATIVE NEWS

Our Collaborative

Holy Redeemer: St. Ann, W. Newbury & Nativity, Merrimac



Immaculate Conception, Newburyport



Community Food Pantry

First Parish Church of Newbury Community Food Pantry, 20 High Road, Newbury, is open every Friday from 3:00pm–5:00pm for anyone in need in the Collaborative's towns as well as Georgetown, Rowley, and Salisbury. The volunteers are very welcoming and no one is made to feel uncomfortable when visiting. No registration or proof of residency required. Fresh fruit and vegetables, many types of frozen meats, pasta, and desserts, as well as an array of canned goods, toiletries, etc. are available.

If you would like to donate, nonperishable goods, personal hygiene products, and/or pet food may be dropped off on Sunday mornings from 9:30–11:30am. Grocery store gift cards as well as cash/checks (made out to "First Parish" and write "food pantry" in the memo) are always welcome.

Catholic Radio

Listen to Catholic Radio for Boston and New England on your radio at 1060 AM. Listen online at 1060Catholic.org. Download the app: iCatholic Radio in the iTunes or Google Play store.

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.

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 Study

Scripture Study will meet on January 7, 2018

Father Broderick's Scripture Study will resume its regular schedule on January 7, 2018 at 2:00pm 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.

COLLABORATIVE NEWS



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).

All Care Hospice

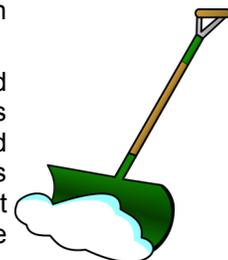
Looking for Ways to Give Back this Season? If so, All Care Hospice needs you! All Care Hospice is currently seeking caring, compassionate people to offer comfort and support to our patients and families through companionship. As part of the care team, volunteers serve a vital role in affecting the quality of our patients' lives. All Care Hospice serves the North Shore, Merrimack Valley and Greater Boston. Volunteer opportunities available close to home. For more information or to enroll in a training, please contact our Volunteer Coordinator, Maureen Burge at 781-244-1129.

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.



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.

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, January 9** at 7:30pm in the IC Nazareth Library, Room 205.

Christmas Flowers



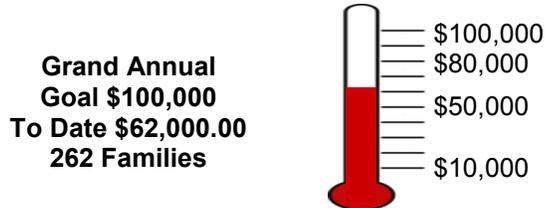
Donations from/in memory of: The parents of Peter & Elizabeth Mann, Robert Thumser, Harry Thumser, Anne & Dan Hayes, Hal & Rosemary O'Connor, Carolyn Stanwood, Marion & Rudy Villani, Clara & Louis DiSanti, Elaine's Ma & Pa, Bob's Ma & Pa, Jack, Gig & Jo Brislin, Elaine's sisters, all grandparents & friends, The Murray family, Jim & Lillian Carrier, John Murray, Seamus Murray, Anna & Ernie Crall, James & Mary Murray, Virginia Mueskes, Theresa Gray.

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION PARISH

Offertory Collection

December 16–17	\$11,443.00
IC Haiti	\$ 8,888.00
Dec. 23–24, 4th Sunday of Advent	\$11,148.00
December 25, Clergy Benefit Trust	\$18,199.00
December 30–31, Holy Family	\$ 9,174.00
Jan. 1, Solemnity of Mary	\$ 801.00

The second collection this weekend is Restoration/Renovation. The second collection next weekend is the Monthly.



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.

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.

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

IC Haiti Financial Report and Thank You

The Board of Directors for IC Haiti is happy to make this financial report to the parish. In 2017 the generous supporters of our parish mission to Haiti raised over \$83,000. In December we collected \$20,083. Through your generosity we were able to pay all expenses related to our primary mission to the Fr. Marc Piché Immaculate Conception School as well as to support the health services offered through the St. Boniface Haiti Foundation. Those expenses totaled \$66,369, with an additional \$362 spent to cover administrative costs (less than 0.5% of our total expenditures.) IC Haiti is in good financial shape as we begin the new year. Thank the Lord! And thank you for continuing to support our Haitian brothers and sisters in Christ through IC Haiti.

Adoration

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

Immaculate Conception School



The IC gymnasium is more beautiful than ever—after receiving several upgrades over the Christmas break. A scheduled maintenance of the floor provided the opportunity to update some visual features that enhance the entire space. New conference banners, an updated Pelican logo, and a spiritual phrase from Colossians adorn the freshly painted gym walls.



However, the floor is the real showstopper! A two-tone varnish creates a stunning contrast to the golden hues of the wood planks. A well-defined key painted in IC blue, and graphics at either end of the court add a cool vibe to our school spirit and Pelican Pride! We are proud to have such a lovely space to gather as a community and to showcase to all who visit our beautiful school.

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.

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 #139: Keep an open mind. Don't get bogged down in your own limited ideas and opinions, but be prepared to change or expand them. The combination of two different ways of thinking can lead to a synthesis that enriches both. The unity that we seek is not uniformity, but a "unity in diversity," or "reconciled diversity." Fraternal communion is enriched by respect and appreciation for differences within an overall perspective that advances the common good. We need to free ourselves from feeling that we all have to be alike. A certain astuteness is also needed to prevent the appearance of "static" that can interfere with the process of dialogue. For example, if hard feelings start to emerge, they should be dealt with sensitively, lest they interrupt the dynamic of dialogue. The ability to say what one is thinking without offending the other person is important. Words should be carefully chosen so as not to offend, especially when discussing difficult issues. Making a point should never involve venting anger and inflicting hurt. A patronizing tone only serves to hurt, ridicule, accuse and offend others. Many disagreements between couples are not about important things. Mostly they are about trivial matters. What alters the mood, however, is the way things are said or the attitude with which they are said.

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>

Next Classes: January 7 and 8.

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.

Jan. 7	Parent Class—Charity Dining Room	1:00pm
Jan. 14	Group Baptism—Church	1:00pm

Confirmation

Confirmation monthly session is Sunday, January 28 at 1:00-3:00pm in the IC 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, January 7 1:00-3:00pm Tour of the Church. (Snow date: Sunday January 21, same time and place.)

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.

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/60B0F4CAA72EAAFF2-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.

Spiritual Adoption Program

Everyone loves the beauty and innocence of a baby. As an expression of that love, Immaculate Conception Church's Religious Ed. announces a spiritual adoption program for young and old alike.

The members of the IC parish family 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. It is these babies you are being asked 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.

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 has given you.

HOLY REDEEMER PARISH

Offertory Collection

December 16–17	\$4,755.00
Dec. 23–24, 4th Sunday of Advent	\$2,731.25
December 25 Clergy Benefit Trust	\$6,479.00
December 30–31, Holy Family	\$4,891.25

The second collection next weekend is the monthly.

2017 Grand Annual

The Holy Redeemer Grand Annual collection has raised \$10,180 to date.

If you did not bring your pledge card to Mass with you this weekend please bring it next weekend or mail it to the parish office this week. Your participation in the Grand Annual Collection is sincerely appreciated.

HR St. Vincent de Paul Society



We received over \$800 in gasoline and Market Basket gift cards from the Giving Tree project. We will use these cards to help our clients in Merrimac and West Newbury with some financial assistance with their daily needs.

Thank you for your caring and willingness to support our organization.

Thanks also go out to Father George and people who took on the Talents Project. Thus far, our conference has received over \$2,000, all of which will go directly to assist needy families in our district during 2018.

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.

Archdiocese Web Site

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

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

Sunday, Jan. 7 **Grade 2 Class**, Nativity Church, 9:00 a.m.
Students will receive their new books to prepare for First Communion.

Grade 10 Class, Nativity Hall, 6:00–7:30 p.m. Guest Speaker: Fr. Tim Harrison.

Tuesday, Jan. 9 **Grade 8 Class**, Nativity Hall, 6:00–7:30 p.m.

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)

HR Sandwich Program

The Holy Redeemer Sandwich Program delivers soup/salad and sandwiches to the Lazarus House Ministry twice a month, on the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of every month. The sandwiches go to the Good Shepherd Center on Park Street in Lawrence. 200 sandwiches are needed each day to feed the hungry.



We are always in need of more sandwich donations. To help, please make sandwiches by using 1 loaf of bread and sandwich meat (**No condiments added**), individually wrap the sandwiches and place them back into the bread bag. Deliver the bread bag to St. Ann Church, West Newbury, by **9:00 a.m.** on the second and fourth Wednesday of the month. The next sandwich delivery date is **Wednesday, January 10.**

See the Collaborative calendar at www.hriccatholic.org for the schedule or contact Dotty Carr at 978-363-2909 with questions.