

**HOLY REDEEMER AND IMMACULATE CONCEPTION  
COLLABORATIVE PARISHES**

**SERVING MERRIMAC, NEWBURY, NEWBURYPORT, AND WEST NEWBURY**

**Thirty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time**

**November 12, 2017**

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



*“The bridegroom came and those who were ready went into the wedding feast with him.” (Mt. 25:10)*

*All Are Welcome*

# Holy Redeemer Holiday Fair

Saturday, November 18  
9:00 a.m.–2:00 p.m.

Nativity Church Hall  
4 Green Street, Merrimac



Get a jump on your Christmas shopping. We have themed gift baskets at great prices.

Visit our “Nearly New” section to find that item you have just been looking everywhere for.

Check out the silent auction items or purchase some raffle tickets for special items.

Come for lunch. We serve a variety of homemade soups. Then, visit the bake sale table for dessert.

Take a chance on one of our cash raffle prizes.  
*Winner need not be present to win.*

Everyone is welcome.  
*Admission is free.*

Invite your friends and neighbors.



# COLLABORATIVE NEWS

## Collaborative Mass Schedule

### Saturday (11/11)

4:00pm **IC Betty LaFlame** (Fr. McLaughlin)

4:00pm **Nativity David Stout** (Fr. Harrison)

### Sunday (11/12)

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

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

9:00am **IC Mary Jayne, Jeremiah Quill, Erin Janvrin** (Fr. McLaughlin)

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

11:30am **IC Andrew Filomia, Stanley Baikewicz, Francis Bogue, Stephen Bogue** (Fr. Harrison)

### Monday (11/13)

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

### Tuesday (11/14)

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

### Wednesday (11/15)

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

### Thursday (11/16)

7:15am **IC Paul F. Doyle** (Fr. Morin)

### Friday (11/17)

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

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

### Saturday (11/18)

4:00pm **IC Mass of Remembrance** (Fr. Broderick)

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

### Sunday (11/19)

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

8:00am **Nativity Anne Yurkovich Sivik** (Fr. Harrison)

9:00am **IC Carol F. Brennan** (Fr. Morin)

10:15am **St. Ann Anthony & Dorothea Gesamondo** (Fr. Harrison)

11:30am **IC For the intentions of Denise Altenburger** (Fr. Morin)

In your prayers, please remember Patricia Messinger, Joyce A. Valli, Alma I. Ordonez, Sandra M. Siemasko, Rita Dwyer and all the faithful departed.

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

*IC—Immaculate Conception, Newburyport*

*Nativity—Merrimac*

*St. Ann—West Newbury*

## From the Pastor

Dear Parishioners,

As our region begins to experience more seasonable weather, Daylight Saving Time has ended and most of the leaves have fallen...the bleakness of the upcoming New England winter becomes more evident. In many ways, our Scripture readings make this autumnal shift as well, pivoting from the vibrant parables of summer to the more dire warnings and cautions that speak of judgment and reckoning. This weekend's message is clear: be prepared! It is not enough to live well enough in the present, we must also be ready to go the extra distance, to endure the longer wait, to handle a greater burden than what we now face. The lessons of extended power outages fresh in our memories remind us of the need to think ahead.

The squirrels, too, can teach us a lesson! Watch any of these twitchy little fur balls for even a few moments, and you will see them scurrying around like mad this time of the year, collecting hoards and hoards of nuts for the long winter to come. They don't need all of this food right now, but they know a day will be coming soon, when it will be vastly harder to find food. Their inner instinct drives them to get ready for that time and to survive. We must do the same, if not in our own winter preparations, then for the spiritual readiness we are called to have for the coming "wedding feast," an analogy for the Kingdom of Heaven.

Now, in our present day, no groom in his right mind would intentionally lock out a bunch of bridesmaids from his wedding celebration. Usually chosen among close friends of his bride, that would make for a long, cold honeymoon, indeed! In ancient times, things, of course, were different. The task of bridesmaids in Jesus' era was to welcome the groom and enter fully into the celebration of this young couple's new life together. It was a festive gathering of extended family and friends. What is being critiqued here, specifically, is the lack of full commitment on the part of the "foolish virgins." The groom was long delayed, and all of them, wise and foolish, fell asleep waiting. That is not the rub. What is condemned is the foolish bridesmaids' lack of preparedness for the celebration. They showed up, but made no effort to really think about what their full participation in the feast would require. They gave nothing of themselves, and offered only their superficial presence. When pressed for a deeper commitment, they realized, too late, that there were essential things lacking that could not be easily acquired at the last minute.

From the earliest moments of the Church, we have been waiting for the return of the groom, that is, Christ. Jesus promised that he would return one day to bring all things to completion. We often refer to this moment as the parousia or "Last Judgment." There is a whole branch of theology called eschatology that is devoted to the study of the "last things" or what we call Heaven and Hell. Whether we are



## Scripture for the Week

**12 Sun** Wis 6:12-16/1 Thes 4:13-18 or 4:13-14/Mt 25:1-13

**13 Mon** Wis 1:1-7/Lk 17:1-6

**14 Tue** Wis 2:23—3:9/Lk 17:7-10

**15 Wed** Wis 6:1-11/Lk 17:11-19

**16 Thu** Wis 7:22b—8:1/Lk 17:20-25

**17 Fri** Wis 13:1-9/Lk 17:26-37

**18 Sat** Wis 18:14-16; 19:6-9/Lk 18:1-8

*(Continued on page 4)*

## COLLABORATIVE NEWS

### This Week in Our Collaborative

Visit our website for a full list of activities and Masses

[www.hriccatholic.org](http://www.hriccatholic.org)

#### Monday, November 13

**AA Meeting** 10:30am & 7:30pm, IC Nazareth Library Room 205

**IC Religious Ed., Grades 1–8** 6:00pm, IC Parish Center

**HR Boy Scouts Troop 41** 7:00pm, Nativity Hall

**Landings** 7:15pm, IC Charity Dining Room

#### Tuesday, November 14

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

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

**IC St. Vincent de Paul Meeting** 6:00pm, IC St. Louis Hall

**Knights of Columbus Meeting** 7:30pm, IC Nazareth Library, Rm 205

#### Wednesday, November 15

**Holy Quilters** 2:30pm, Nativity Hall

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

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

**Centering Prayer** 6:00pm, IC Nazareth Library Room 205

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

**HR Boy Scouts Merit Badge Project** 7:00pm, St. Ann Hall

#### Thursday, November 16

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

#### Friday, November 17

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

**Staff Meeting** 12:00noon, IC Charity Dining Room

**AA Meeting** 7:00pm, IC Nazareth Library, Room 205

#### Saturday, November 18

**Holy Redeemer Holiday Fair** 9:00–2:00, Nativity Hall

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

#### Sunday, November 19

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

**HR Religious Ed., Grade 2 Parent + Student** 9:00am, 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

**IC Religious Ed., Confirmation 1 & 2** 1:00pm, IC Church

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

### 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 Nazareth Library**. 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.

*(Continued from page 3)*

living at the time this happens or have died and are awaiting the Resurrection, it will be a day of settling accounts for all. Those found worthy of entering into the great wedding feast will rejoice, and those found lacking may well find themselves outside and unable to participate.

So, how do we stay prepared and ready? It's not that we will always have to be alert and awake like over-caffeinated religious zombies. Life can weary us. Our bodies are frail and sometimes need rest. God is not asking us to be more than we are. But the challenge is to be all that we can be! Are we creatively engaging the present moment? Are we using our God-given gifts and talents to their fullest? Do we embrace each and every moment as an opportunity to share the love of Christ with others? Do we do our best to love and respect the people whom God places in our path each day? Do we see our own connection with others both locally and abroad? Can we find new and innovative ways to engage the struggles of our time and place? Does prayer permeate all that we are and do?

This week, we have seen once again, the terrible results of violence erupting among innocent people gathered in peace. This time it took place in a church in Texas. Last week it was on a crowded bicycle path in New York. A month ago it was at a concert in Las Vegas. Because of the presence of sin and its effects in our world, there will be another. Do we find ourselves paralyzed with fear or overwhelmed by a sense of helplessness? Do we believe that God is bigger and more powerful than these moments of madness? Do we see that love is more powerful than hate? What does being prepared to greet the bridegroom mean in the midst of these moments of suffering?

Engaging and honestly wrestling with all of these questions (and many more like them) will ensure that our flasks of oil will be sufficiently full for that moment when the bridegroom arrives to call us to the festival of the holy city, the new Jerusalem. These November days, let us embrace the wisdom of an honest and active engagement of our faith in the world.

Fr. Timothy Harrison, Pastor

### New England Tenors



The Society of St. Vincent de Paul of Immaculate Conception will sponsor the New England Tenors in concert. They will perform at Immaculate Conception Church on Sunday, November 26 at 2:00pm. Come enjoy an afternoon of wonderful music to begin the Advent and Christmas season.

Tickets are \$20 for adults and \$12 for children under 12 and will be on sale after Masses beginning November 12. For more information, email [sandbunny@yahoo.com](mailto:sandbunny@yahoo.com).



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**Holy Redeemer - Immaculate Conception Collaborative Parishes**

# COLLABORATIVE NEWS

## Collaborative Contacts

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Karen Leff, Collaborative Media Outreach Coordinator,  
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Sherry Pompei, HR Parish Secretary,  
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Linda Temple, IC Administrative Assistant,  
978-462-2724, temple@newburyportcatholic.org

## 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 Ultreya/Cursillo Calendar

Ultreya	Cursillo Weekend
December 1	December 7–10 (Men)
December 29	January 4–7 (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 either Pat Forbes (978-462-1258) or Jonathan Temple (978-809-9337).

## 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.

Our next Youth Mass is December 10 at IC, Newburyport

### December's Charity: Pregnancy Care Center

For a full list of suggestions, visit our website  
[www.hriccatholic.org/Youth-Ministry](http://www.hriccatholic.org/Youth-Ministry).

Some items needed include:

#### Baby Gifts (New):

onesies (sizes small, medium, & large) • blanket sleepers: sizes NB to 24 months • new outfits: sizes 0 to 24 months • children's socks: infant to 24 months • stretch sleeper/PJs: sizes NB to 24 months • diapers/Pampers: sizes 1, 3, 4, 5 (no size 2 please) • hooded bath towels & washcloths • crib sheets • baby blankets & receiving blankets • baby wipes & Desitin ointment • baby bath/shampoo • lotion • formula: Similac, powdered • baby food, juices • baby bottles • infant toys and books • XL baby gift bags

#### Toiletries:

toothpaste • toothbrushes • adult shampoo, conditioner • bar soap, regular sizes

#### Office Supplies:

Staples/Walmart gift cards • copy paper, 8½ x 11, white & asst'd. colors • white address labels (size ½" x 2½") • cover/card stock • postage stamps (forever and postcard)

#### Bathroom/Kitchen Needs:

liquid hand soap • paper towels/toilet paper/tissues • lg. garbage bags • Ziploc bags, gallon & quart sizes • kitchen-size trash bags • cans of coffee—regular • bottled water • animal crackers—large containers or snack size • snack crackers: Cheez-Its & Wheat Thins—snack size pkgs. • light bulbs, 75 & 100 watt & 3 way • Wal-Mart gift cards

**Gift Cards & Cash Donations Always Welcome!**

## Women's Evening of Prayer

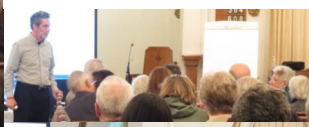


The next Women's Evening of Prayer will be Wednesday, December 6 at 7:00 p.m. at St. Ann Church, West Newbury. The theme this month will be Mary—Mother of God.

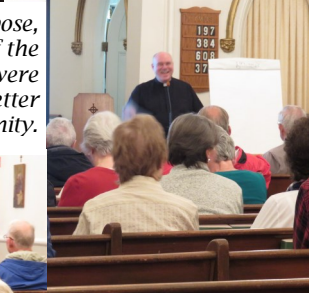
All women of the Collaborative are welcome to this wonderful evening of reflection through prayer and music.



We had a great turnout at the HRIC Pastoral Plan Information Night this week.



Participants discussed the Purpose, Values, Vision, and Priorities of the Collaborative. Many ideas were introduced on ways to better serve this vibrant community.



Watch the bulletin for details on our next meeting, December 4. All are invited.

## 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](http://www.hriccatholic.org) or you can call the Parish offices.

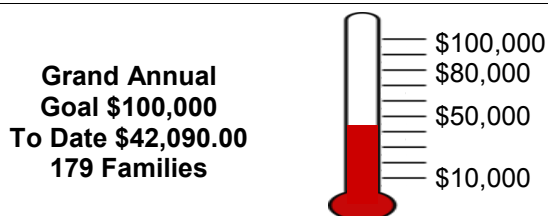
# IMMACULATE CONCEPTION PARISH

## Offertory Collection

November 4–5 **\$11,441.00**  
**Campaign for Human Development \$ 1,575.00**

This weekend's second collection is the Monthly.

Next weekend's second collection is for Retired Sisters. Since 1988, the collection has provided needed financial support for religious communities who have served the Archdiocese of Boston as educators and health care and social service providers. Please give generously in recognition of the Sisters' years of dedicated service. For more information, please contact Sister Marian Batho, CSJ, Delegate for Religious at [Sr\\_Marian\\_Batho@rcab.org](mailto:Sr_Marian_Batho@rcab.org) or 617-746-5637.



## 2017 Grand Annual

If you did not bring your pledge card with you to Mass this weekend, please mail it back to the parish office or place it in the collection next weekend.

Thank you for your support.

## The Saint Vincent de Paul Society



Collection	\$ 36.00
Poor Box	\$318.00
Total	\$354.00

## Memorials

Since it is the custom in the Church to remember the dead during the month of November, any parishioner who wishes to include a picture of a loved one on our memorial altar is invited to place it next to our baptismal font any time after Mass through the end of the month. Each picture should be no larger than 2" X 3". All pictures should be removed after the Thanksgiving weekend.

## Pre-Planning/At-Need Burial Space

Immaculate Conception Parish owns and operates a private cemetery located on Storey Avenue. St. Mary Cemetery is a 35-acre cemetery with consecrated grounds that provides tranquility and peacefulness at those difficult times that we all are faced with. Please visit the parish cemetery and you will find the cemetery to be well-managed and maintained. Cemetery plots are available for full-body and cremated remains burials in any denomination. Call Joseph Viel, Superintendent at 978-208-0266 to schedule an appointment.

## Immaculate Conception School



The PTO recently presented a gift of 30 Chromebooks to the IC, made possible by the astonishing fundraising efforts from September's Fun Run. The PTO's gift adds to the inventory of iPads to enable all Junior High students to use a device at the same time.

This will greatly improve the scheduling of MAP Growth Testing, administered three times a year, but will also optimize day in and day out options for collaborative learning. Technology will continue to be a supportive tool for teachers and students while offering options for visual and auditory learners. The IC will continue to expand the inventory of student devices. The PTO's gift is representative of their endless support of our students' education, and will benefit the children in every classroom. We are incredibly grateful to the PTO for their generosity.

*PTO President Kerry Davis presents 30 Chromebooks to Principal Sullivan and several 8th grade students.*



## IC North Pole Express

There are a limited number of additional tickets for the IC North Pole Express which will be made available for purchase through our website <http://www.icnorthpoleexpress.com> on Saturday, November 18 at 7:00am. Approximately 300–350 tickets will be available:

- 100 tickets for the 11:35am and the 7:30pm trains
- 40–50 tickets each for the 1:15pm, 3:15pm, and 5:30pm trains

We expect these to sell out quickly. We have done our best to make the ticket sales process fair to all interested parties, and as we move forward, this remains a priority. We regret that we are unable to fully meet the demand for tickets and the disappointment this causes. We very much appreciate the interest in the IC North Pole Express.

## Christmas Flower Envelopes

We are taking monetary donations and memorials for the purchase of flowers for the church for Christmas. You can find the flower envelope in your envelope packet or in the back of the church. It is helpful if you do not have flowers delivered to the church but allow us to purchase them. The deadline for donations is December 11 at noon.

## Bulletin Information

Email all bulletin submissions by Monday at noon to [hricbulletin@gmail.com](mailto:hricbulletin@gmail.com).

# IMMACULATE CONCEPTION PARISH

## 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.

## Knights of Columbus

We welcome new members to this long-standing group of Catholic men. For more information, contact us at (978) 572-0231 or [membership@kofc231.org](mailto:membership@kofc231.org).



The Knights of Columbus meet the second Tuesday of every month. The next meeting is **Tuesday, November 14** at 7:30pm in the IC Nazareth Library, Room 205.

## 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.) Registration forms are available in the foyer of the church or at the parish office. Once you register, visit our website, [hriccatholic.org](http://hriccatholic.org) and click the “Links” tab, 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.

## 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 Religious Ed. Assembly



Religious Education will host prayer celebrations of St. Kateri Tekakwitha, first Native American saint, Lily of the Mohawks, and Patron of ecology and the environment, in the IC Parish Hall on Sunday, November 19 10:50am and Monday, November 20 at 6:50pm.

## 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.

**Marrying for Love:** In #131: I would like to say to young people that none of this is jeopardized when their love finds expression in marriage. Their union encounters in this institution the means to ensure that their love truly will endure and grow. Naturally, love is much more than an outward consent or a contract, yet it is nonetheless true that choosing to give marriage a visible form in society by undertaking certain commitments shows how important it is. It manifests the seriousness of each person's identification with the other and their firm decision to leave adolescent individualism behind and to belong to one another. Marriage is a means of expressing that we have truly left the security of the home in which we grew up in order to build other strong ties and to take on a new responsibility for another person. This is much more meaningful than a mere spontaneous association for mutual gratification, which would turn marriage into a purely private affair. As a social institution, marriage protects and shapes a shared commitment to deeper growth in love and commitment to one another, for the good of society as a whole. That is why marriage is more than a fleeting fashion; it is of enduring importance. Its essence derives from our human nature and social character. It involves a series of obligations born of love itself, a love so serious and generous that it is ready to face any risk.

### School Year IC Religious Education Classes

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

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

No Class on Sunday, November 12—holiday

Next Classes:

- Gr. K–8 Sunday, November 19 10:05–11:05am.
- Gr. 1–8 Monday, November 13 6:00–7:10pm.

### Baptism

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

Please pre-register for the class.

Dec. 3 Parent Class—Charity Dining Room 1:00pm

Nov. 12 Group Baptism—Church 1:00pm

### Confirmation

**Confirmation monthly session** is Sunday, November 19 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, December 17 at 1:00pm in the Charity Dining room 114. For information and registration go online:

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

### First Eucharist

Information/registration for 2017–2018 First Reconciliation and Eucharist is posted on our website: <http://www.hriccatholic.org/First-Eucharist-First-Reconciliation-Immaculate-Conception-Parish>. Make up for Parents session for Oct. 29 on the Rite Explained is on **Sunday, Nov 19 at 10:05am** followed by our monthly rel. ed. assembly on St Kateri Tekakwitha at 10:50am in the hall.

Make up for Parents session for Nov. 5 on **The Mass** will happen **Sunday, Dec. 3 at 10:05am** in the hall.

Make up class for candidates on **The Mass** is on Sunday, Dec 10 at 10:15am and Monday, Dec 11 at 6:15pm.

Our next gathering is for **First Reconciliation Celebration** on **Saturday, December 9 at 11:0am** in the church.

### Landings

Landings session for Returning Catholics: Next session is on Eucharist and the Liturgy on Monday, November 13 from 7:15–9:00pm in the Charity Dining Room, Room 114.

# HOLY REDEEMER PARISH

## Offertory Collection

This weekend's second collection is the Monthly.

Next weekend's second collection is for Retired Sisters. Since 1988, the collection has provided needed financial support for religious communities who have served the Archdiocese of Boston as educators and health care and social service providers. Please give generously in recognition of the Sisters' years of dedicated service. For more information, please contact Sister Marian Batho, CSJ, Delegate for Religious at [Sr\\_Marian\\_Batho@rcab.org](mailto:Sr_Marian_Batho@rcab.org) or 617-746-5637.

**"With One Voice"**  
**Capital Campaign**  
**Goal \$350,000**  
**To Date \$254,231.00**  
**71 Families**

*All pledges and one-time donations are welcomed and greatly appreciated.*



## "With One Voice" Capital Campaign

*Thank you for your pledge of support!* Our capital campaign is off to a great start with many families pledging their support. **To date, we have raised over \$250,000.** While the support has been tremendous, we will not reach our goal without your support.

### Would you please consider supporting this effort?

As you are aware, our hope is to raise \$350,000 to complete needed updates to our parish facilities. Both St. Ann Church and The Church of the Nativity have several deferred maintenance issues that need our immediate attention.

Please place your "Commitment Envelope" in the regular collection at Mass. If you forgot to bring your pledge envelope to Mass this weekend, please mail it to the parish office this week or bring it with you to Mass next weekend. Additional brochures and pledge envelopes are available at the entrances to the churches.

## Christmas Flower Envelopes

Please use the flower envelope from your envelope packet to make a donation for Christmas flowers. Just drop the envelope in the collection basket any weekend.

## Holy Quilters



Do you like to sew? Join the Holy Quilters! We make quilts, pillowcases, hats, blankets, and so much more. We create and donate to many charitable organizations such as The Salem Pantry Backpack Program, Boys and Girls Club, Merrimack Valley Hope Mission, and many others. We meet in the Nativity Church Hall every Wednesday at 2:30 p.m. and also one Saturday a month at 8:00 a.m. Our next Saturday meeting is December 2. Bring your sewing machine and join us. All are welcome.

## HR Religious Education

**Sunday, Nov. 19: Grades 3–6 classes** at Nativity Hall, 9:00–10:00 a.m.

**Grade 2 class** Student + Parent at Nativity Church, 9:00 a.m.

**Tuesday, Nov. 21: Grade 7 class** at Nativity Hall, 6:00–7:30 p.m.

### Congratulations to Our Newly Confirmed!

The following students were confirmed in our Catholic faith on Saturday, October 28:

**1 p.m. Mass:** Steven Armao, Timothy Beech, Allison Brookhart, David Caires, Peter D'Agostino, Lauren DeBoyes, Anna Dixon, Elizabeth Dobson, Kathryn Dobson, Rachael Dobson, Sean Glass, Olivia Gretz, Ryan Hankins, Cameron Hegarty, Allyson Jones, Jenna Labadini, Mikayla Lawless, Madeline Mailhot, Kalyn Markuns, MacKenzie Markuns, Jake Messier, Emma Milne, Sabrina Paolino, Anna Polcari, Anna Powell, Colby Pratt, Julia Reading, Hailey Simes, Daniel Wesley, and Brian Yacubacci

**4 p.m. Mass:** Eliza Fahey, Audra Foster, Jessica Freeman, Cali Mikson, Clara Petry, and Elizabeth Sutton.

### Community Service

Volunteer opportunities for Parish/community service are often available as sign-up sheets in Nativity Hall. Please check out the need and give of your time and talents! Current service opportunities for the Holiday Fair include baked goods, soup, silent auction, baskets, and clean up.

### Contact info: Office of Religious Education

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

## 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, December 7.**

## Campaign Pledge Reminders

Pledge reminders will be mailed to parishioners who pledged to the capital campaign. Monthly reminders will be mailed by the middle of each month. Quarterly reminders will be sent each January, April, July, and October. Semi-Annual will be sent January and July. Annual reminders will be mailed each December (allowing for year-end gifts). You may also make payments at your convenience or on the anniversary of your pledge.

Please be sure to include your payment coupon along with your check to ensure proper credit to the capital campaign. If there is an error with your statement, please make a note of it and your account will be updated.



# HOLY REDEEMER PARISH

## Raffle Tickets Now on Sale

Raffle Tickets for the Holiday Fair will be available after all Masses through November 12. Don't forget to stop by.

## HR St. Vincent de Paul Society



The Society of Saint Vincent de Paul, a Catholic lay organization, helps men and women to grow spiritually through providing person-to-person charitable services to those in need. Our Conference members visit and assist clients in Merrimac and West Newbury.

We are looking for new members and encourage all of you to ponder how you might become better Christians by practicing the virtue of charity. No special expertise is needed to join, although social service, medical, and legal knowledge can be put to good use. We meet twice a month on Tuesdays at 7:00 p.m. in Merrimac at the Rectory.

For additional information, please contact Linda Friel at 978-500-9245.

## Coffee after Mass at Nativity



Stop by for coffee after the 8:00 Mass at Nativity on **Sunday, November 12**. Relax with a cup of coffee and friends. You can also return your raffle tickets that you received in the Parish Mailing!

## Fair Basket Donations and Bake Sale Items

Please drop off your Holiday Fair basket table and bake sale table items at the Nativity Hall on Friday, November 17 from 12:00noon-8:00pm. Thank you.

## Merrimac Santa Parade

Holy Redeemer will be represented this year in Merrimac's Santa Parade on Sunday, December 3. The Activities Committee is organizing a float. Our float will feature the Nativity Scene. Anyone, young or old, interested in riding on the float may sign up and choose their "character." Costumes will be provided.



We have 2 kings signed up, we need 1 more! Plus, we need Mary and Joseph. A few shepherds and angels too!

The sign-up sheet is available after all Religious Ed. classes and can be found in the Merrimac Hall for any parishioners or other family members who want to be on the float. Please discuss at home to volunteer. (3 hours of community service) We do not want to cancel! Questions? Contact Cindy Quinn, 978-346-0072.

**Deadline to commit** to the parade is **Sunday, November 19**.

## Holy Redeemer Holiday Fair

**Saturday, November 18**



The Holy Redeemer Holiday Fair will be held this year at Nativity Hall on November 18 from 9:00-2:00. Everyone is welcome. Admission is free. All money raised at the Fair will go towards "With one Voice" capital campaign fund.

Please contact the coordinators if you can help the Parish:

**Roberta Homan** ([rhoman1980@aol.com](mailto:rhoman1980@aol.com)) **Themed Gift Baskets:** new donated items grouped together in decorative baskets. Bring in your donations to the hall on Friday, November 19 between noon and 8:00pm.

**Pauline Duhamel** ([pduhamel2@yahoo.com](mailto:pduhamel2@yahoo.com)) **Bake Table:** homemade goodies of all types. Bring in your donations to the hall on Friday, November 19 between noon and 8:00pm.

**Carole Sokolowski** ([carole.sokolowski@merrimack.edu](mailto:carole.sokolowski@merrimack.edu)) **Silent Auction Items:** anything of value that would interest bidders

**Barbara Boucher** ([babsnboo1@verizon.net](mailto:babsnboo1@verizon.net)) **Raffle Tickets:** selling tickets for our \$ raffles

**Maryellen LaPointe** ([LaPointeMel7@gmail.com](mailto:LaPointeMel7@gmail.com)) **Nearly New:** any item that is clean and in working order

**Marie Greeley** ([regr3@outlook.com](mailto:regr3@outlook.com)) **Soups:** homemade soups, delivered hot the morning of the fair in a crock pot, to serve for lunch

**Cindy Quinn** (978-346-0072) Fair "coordinator"

### Soup Donations Needed

We are in need of 7 people to make a homemade soup. Please contact Marie Greeley with your soup type so we can print in our menu.

### Baked Goods Needed

We are looking for baked goods for our bake sale table. **No one has signed up to bring baked goods. Please bring your donations to Nativity Hall on Friday, November 17 between 12:00noon-8:00pm.**

### Raffle Tickets

We recently mailed out our announcement for our annual holiday fair. This mailing also included 3 books of raffle tickets. These raffle tickets are a big supporter of our earnings with the fair. You may return the raffle tickets by placing them in the collection basket (in the provided envelope) or handing them to a "Fair member." If you did not receive a letter from the parish mailing, you are not in our database or on the mailing list. Please contact the parish office to be added and included.

### Fair Set Up

Help is needed the week prior to the fair to set up and organize our tables. Any parishioner who is willing to help please come to the Nativity Hall Tuesday, November 14 and Wednesday, November 15 at 10:00 a.m.