

HOLY REDEEMER AND IMMACULATE CONCEPTION COLLABORATIVE PARISHES

SERVING MERRIMAC, NEWBURY, NEWBURYPORT, AND WEST NEWBURY

Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe

November 20, 2016

All Are Welcome

hricatholic.org



Crucifixion scene in alabaster from a church in Salzburg, Austria

***“Amen, I say to you, today you will be with me
in Paradise.” (Lk 23:42)***

OUR COLLABORATIVE

Holy Redeemer Parish



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



Immaculate Conception

Parish, church, rectory, and offices:
42 Green St., Newburyport 01950

Office Hours: M-F 8:00 am-3:30 pm

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,
Mary Reardon, Principal, Phone: 978-465-7780,
Fax: 978-234-7331, www.icsnewburyport.com



Collaborative Staff

Pastor

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

Parochial Vicar

Rev. George E. Morin,
978-462-2724 or 978-346-8604
frgeorge@parishmail.com

Weekend Assistant

Rev. James Broderick

Senior Priest in Residence

Rev. William McLaughlin

Office Associates

Donald Alunni, Business Manager
978-462-2724 x 7351
dalunni@newburyportcatholic.org

Sheila Cruise, IC Receptionist
978-462-2724 x 7403
scruise@newburyportcatholic.org

Karen Leff, Coordinator of Media Outreach
hricbulletin@gmail.com

Sherry Pompei, HR Parish Secretary
978-346-8604, holyredeemer@verizon.net

Linda Temple, IC Administrative Assistant
978-462-2724 x7404
temple@newburyportcatholic.org

Music Ministry

Jennifer Acorn, Nativity Organist
jen.acorn@comcast.net

Drew Donahue, St. Ann Organist
drew.donahue@gmail.com

Michael Martin, IC Organist
fsteadman@aol.com

Donna Postle, IC Music Ministry Director,
978-317-8903, or 978-465-0978
donnaPostle233@gmail.com

Tim Richard, IC organist
trichard23@gmail.com

Steve Swochak, IC Music Coordinator
978-462-2855
swochak@netzero.com

Religious Education

Melinda Burrell IC Religious Ed. Secretary
978-462-2724 x 7420
burrell@newburyportcatholic.org

Marin Fortune, IC RCIA, 978-462-2724
fortune@newburyportcatholic.org

Dr. Margaret McKinnon, IC Religious Ed.
978-462-2724, x 7405
mmckinnon@newburyportcatholic.org

Doreen O'Leary, HR Religious Ed.
978-346-8604 x 7
reledhrp@gmail.com

Immaculate Conception School

Mary Reardon, Principal, 978-465-7780
reardon@newburyportcatholic.org

Maintenance

Bud Kent, IC Building Maintenance
978-462-2724
bkent@newburyportcatholic.org

Eddie Martinez, IC Facilities Manager
978-462-2724
emartinez@newburyportcatholic.org

Bob Nevins, HR Building Maintenance
978-346-8604

Cliff Vandenbulcke, IC School Custodian
978-465-7780
cvandenbulcke@newburyportcatholic.org

St. Vincent de Paul

Saint Vincent de Paul Society at Holy Redeemer, 978-346-8604 x 8
hrrsvdp300@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

COLLABORATIVE NEWS

Collaborative Mass Schedule

Saturday (11/19)

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

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

Sunday (11/20)

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

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

9:00am **IC Joseph F. Callery, Jr., Bob Auwerda**
(Fr. Broderick)

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

11:30am **IC Anne Yurkovich Sivik** (Fr. Harrison)

Monday (11/21)

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

Tuesday (11/22)

7:15am **IC Raymond & Hilda Hartnett, Lenny Currier, William & Ann DePippo** (Fr. McLaughlin)

Wednesday (11/23)

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

9:00am **IC School Liturgy Miguel Martinez**
(Fr. Morin)

Thursday (11/24) Thanksgiving Day

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

Friday (11/25)

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

Saturday (11/26)

4:00pm **IC Robert W. Cynewski, Audrey Eusko**
(Fr. Harrison)

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

Sunday (11/27)

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

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

9:00am **IC Alan Chu** (Fr. Harrison)

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

11:30am **IC Elizabeth Clark, Kristen T. McGinley, Louise & Charles MacLean, the Alice & George Currier Family, Stephen Oldak** (Fr. McLaughlin)

In your prayers, please remember Matthew "Matt" Eaton, Marie Coughlin, Charles McDonald, Robert O'Handley, William McCormick 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,

Having returned just a few days ago from the Footsteps of St. Paul Pilgrimage, I am still working to get my body back in the correct time zone. International travel is wonderful, but it wreaks havoc with one's sense of time and place. In some ways, this is a particularly Christian plight—to always be a bit out-of-sync with the world around us, as we are called to be continuously focused on the world yet-to-come.



In our journey to retrace many of St. Paul's travels and relive his preaching and teaching in a number of the ancient cities surrounding the Aegean Sea, one of the things that impressed me was his deep passion for spreading the Gospel message, no matter the obstacles in his way. Paul lived in the various cities and communities to which he went, but he also lived with a heart and mind that were fixed on the prize yet to come. He writes in his Letter to the Church he founded in Philippi:

"But our citizenship is in heaven, and from it we also await a savior, the Lord Jesus Christ. He will change our lowly body to conform with his glorified body by the power that enables him also to bring all things into subjection to himself." (Phil 3:20-21)

St. Paul cared so deeply about sharing his love for Christ with others, he embraced whatever methods were necessary or effective to make it happen. In Philippi, he connected with an upper middle class household that gave him access to a number of citizens who were receptive to the Gospel message and had the time to listen to his words. In Thessalonica, he labored day and night among working class tradesmen just to earn enough to live on, using every waking moment and every spare opportunity to share the Good News with whomever he met. In Athens, the seat of Greek wisdom and learning, he debated at the foot of the Acropolis with philosophers and scholars. In Corinth, he engaged the merchants and business owners involved in the vibrant trade of the region and spread his message there.

For all of his efforts, he was often ridiculed, manhandled, expelled from synagogue and the theatre alike, he was stripped naked in public, beaten with rods, flogged, shipwrecked, and ultimately beheaded for his fledgling witness to Christ. And yet, his words, because they were inspired by God and because the Love of God burned in his heart, echoed in the early Church and would go on to

(Continued on page 4)

RCIA

RCIA is a program for those over the age of 7 who wish to become Catholic. RCIA meets weekly at 10:15 in the Youth Ministry Room at the IC Parish Center. If you are interested in learning more about this program, contact Marin at 978-462-2724 ext. 7411 or fortune@newburyportcatholic.org.

Bulletin Information

Please supply bulletin information by Monday noon to the collaborative bulletin email: hricbulletin@gmail.com.

COLLABORATIVE NEWS

This Week in Our Collaborative

See our website calendar for more events and details.
www.hricatholic.org

Monday, November 21

AA 10:30am & 7:30pm, IC Nazareth Library Room 205
IC Religious Ed., Grades 1–6 6:00pm, IC Parish Center
Boy Scouts Troop 41 Meeting 7:00pm, Nativity Hall
Merrimac Cub Scouts Pack Mtg. 7:00pm, Nativity Lower Hall

Tuesday, November 22

Holy Redeemer Sandwich Program 9:00am, St. Ann Church
IC Knitting Ministry 1:00pm, IC Conference Room 209
Breaking Bread Meal 5:00pm, IC St. Louis Hall
IC St. Vincent de Paul 6:00pm, IC St. Louis Hall
HR Religious Ed., Grade 7 6:00pm, Nativity Hall
HR St. Vincent de Paul 7:00pm, Nativity Rectory

Wednesday, November 23

Collaborative Offices close at noon
Holy Quilters 3:00pm, Nativity Hall
IC Youth Choir Rehearsal 4:30pm, IC Church
IC Adult Choir Rehearsal, 7:00pm, IC Church

Thursday, November 24 Thanksgiving Day

Collaborative offices closed

Friday, November 25

Collaborative offices closed

Saturday, November 26

Holy Quilters 8:00am, Nativity Hall
Nativity Choir Rehearsal 3:30pm, Nativity Church

Sunday, November 27

Nativity Choir Rehearsal 7:45am, Nativity Church
RCIA Rite of Acceptance 9:00am, IC Church
St. Ann Choir Rehearsal 9:45am, St. Ann Church
New England Tenors Concert 2:00pm, IC Church



Fr. George Morin and 43 members of our collaborative gather at the Holy Door of the Cathedral of the Holy Cross—the door designated by Pope Francis for the duration of the Holy Year of Mercy.

impassion countless millions throughout the millennia that would follow. So much so, that our Church today reveres Paul as one of our greatest apostles and saints. None of what is so familiar to us in our faith and our Church would be the same without his tireless witness to what he knew was true: that Jesus Christ is Lord.

This week, as we embrace the comfort and intimacy of our own Thanksgiving celebrations, let us recall with grateful hearts the timeless witness of those saints who, like Paul, have helped us to see beyond the limits of this world and have given us a vision of the Kingdom yet to come. What we have received as a gift, we must give as a gift, remembering that it has the power to change the world. Our faith is truly something to give thanks for.

Thanksgiving blessings to you and your families,
Fr. Tim Harrison,
Pastor

Collaborative Office Hours

All Collaborative offices will close at noon on Wednesday, November 23. There will be no office hours on Thursday, November 24 or Friday, November 25 for the Thanksgiving holiday.

Cursillo/Ultreya

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. The next Cursillo weekend is December 1–4 (men).

All are welcome. The next Ultreya is December 2 at 6:30 at IC St. Louis Hall. If you have questions, feel free to contact either Pat Forbes (978-462-1258) or Jonathan Temple (978-809-9337).

Collaborative Pilgrimage

Mass, a Holy Hour, passing through the Holy Door, and veneration of a relic of the True Cross were the highlights of the Saturday, November 12 pilgrimage. Following was a guided tour of the cathedral, which we found out was dedicated on the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of Mary, the Mother of God on December 8, 1875.

Once back at IC, everyone was invited to a coffee and dessert social hosted by AFFT (Adult Faith Formation Team) at the IC Parish Center. Thank you to all who made the journey to our Mother Church in Boston.

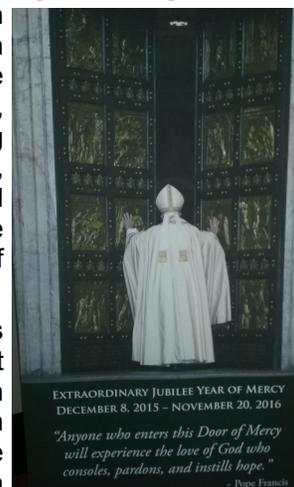


Photo of Pope Francis hangs near the Holy Door at the Cathedral of the Holy Cross, Boston.

COLLABORATIVE NEWS

Youth Mass

Our next Youth Mass is **Sunday, December 11 at 5:00pm** at Immaculate Conception Parish, Newburyport. Everyone is invited. **Donations at this Mass** will benefit the Pregnancy Care Center, Haverhill.

Suggested Donations (Cash donations welcome also)

Onesies (sizes S, M, & L)
 Blanket sleepers (sizes NB–24 mos.)
 New outfits (sizes 0–24 mos.)
 Children's socks (infant–24 mos.)
 Stretch sleeper/PJs (sizes NB–24 mos.)
 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
 Toiletries (toothpaste, toothbrushes, baby bath/shampoo, lotion, adult shampoo & conditioner, bar soap (regular size)
 Formula (Similac—Powdered)
 Baby food/juices
 Baby bottles
 Infant toys & books
 XL baby gift bags

Office Supplies

Staples or Walmart gift cards
 Copy paper (8 1/2 x 11 size, white, asst'd.)
 White address labels (size 1/2 x 2 5/8")
 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 pkg)
 Light bulbs (75/100 watt & 3 way)

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.

Fr. Broderick's Scripture Study

Scripture Study will meet on November 20

Father Broderick's Scripture Study will meet on its regular third Sunday of the month on November 20 at 2:00pm in the IC Parish Center. We will be reading and discussing Chapters 60 through 66 in Part III in *The Book of Isaiah*. Part III, Return of the First Captives, contains oracles composed by disciples from a later period who continued the work of the great prophet.

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!

Let Us Hear From You



Disciples in Mission
Archdiocese of Boston

- How can we foster a welcoming community?
- How do we form disciples eager to share their love of Christ?
- How can we assist in the growth of vocations?
- How can we better serve our communities and our Collaborative?

Please Join the Conversation. Contact Our Pastoral Plan Writing Team. We welcome your ideas and participation.

Disciples in Mission Pastoral Plan Writing Team Contacts

Pat Forbes
 617-899-0424
pbfnbpt@comcast.net

Jonathan Temple
 978-809-9337
jntemple@comcast.net

Alex Hasapis
 978-376-6100
alexh464@comcast.net

Dr. Margaret M. McKinnon (Dr. Mag)
 978-462-2724 EXT 7405
Mmckinnon@newburyportcatholic.org

Rich Ryan
 978-314-1094
rgryan@comcast.net

Charlotte Vincent
 978-462-9817
picharlie@comcast.net

Archdiocese Web Site

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

COLLABORATIVE NEWS

DIM Resources of Interest

For further information on Disciples in Mission:

The New Evangelization:

www.disciplesinmission.com

Helping Catholic leaders build amazing parishes:

www.amazingparish.org

Four Signs of the Dynamic Catholic:

Author Matthew Kelly



Available at the back of each Church:

- Disciples in Mission - Frequently Asked Questions
- Evangelizing Parishes
- Forming Disciples in Mission: workshop schedule and locations
- The Pilot is available on our website - hricatholic.org

Preparing for Mass

Visit <http://liturgy.slu.edu> to read this weekend's Scripture, historical and theological commentaries, and prayerful reflections. It is a great way to get ready to hear and respond to God's Word.

March for Life

The March for Life will be held in Washington DC on Friday, January 27, 2017. If you are interested in taking part in the March, contact Steve Swochak, (978) 270-4924, swochak@netzero.net. More details will follow in the weeks to come.



Scripture for the Week

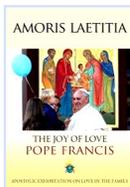
20 Sun	2 Sm 5:1-3/Col 1:12-20/Lk 23:35-43
21 Mon	Rv 14:1-3, 4b-5/Lk 21:1-4
22 Tue	Rv 14:14-19/Lk 21:5-11
23 Wed	Rv 15:1-4/Lk 21:12-19
24 Thu	Rv 18:1-2, 21-23; 19:1-3, 9a/Lk 21:20-28
25 Fri	Rv 20:1-4, 11—21:2/Lk 21:29-33
26 Sat	Rv 22:1-7/Lk 21:34-36
27 Sun	Is 2:1-5/Rom 13:11-14/Mt 24:37-44

Happy Thanksgiving

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION PARISH

IC Religious Education

Amoris Laetitia...Pope Francis



Pope Francis released the Exhortation on the Family. In the weeks to come, you will be introduced to various statements from the Holy Father.

Jesus Restores and Fulfills God's Plan—In #65—The incarnation of the Word in a human family, in Nazareth, by its very newness changed the history of the world. We need to enter into the mystery of Jesus' birth, into that 'yes' given by Mary to the message of the angel, when the Word was conceived in her womb, as well as the 'yes' of Joseph, who gave a name to Jesus and watched over Mary. We need to contemplate the joy of the shepherds before the manger, the adoration of the Magi and the flight into Egypt, in which Jesus shares his people's experience of exile, persecution and humiliation. We need to contemplate the religious expectation of Zechariah and his joy at the birth of John the Baptist, the fulfilment of the promise made known to Simeon and Anna in the Temple and the marvel of the teachers of the Law who listened to the wisdom of the child Jesus. We then need to peer into those thirty long years when Jesus earned his keep by the work of his hands, reciting the traditional prayers and expressions of his people's faith and coming to know that ancestral faith until he made it bear fruit in the mystery of the Kingdom. This is the mystery of Christmas and the secret of Nazareth, exuding the beauty of family life! It was this that so fascinated Francis of Assisi, Theresa of the Child Jesus, and Charles de Foucauld, and continues to fill Christian families with hope and joy.



IC Religious Education Classes

School Year Registration is ongoing. Class: Nov. 20, 21.

No class on Nov. 27—Thanksgiving holiday weekend.

Grades K–6: Next classes: 12/4 and 12/5.

Grades 7–8: Next class: 12/4.

Baptism

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

Dec. 4 Parent Class-Charity Dining Room 1:00pm

Dec. 11 Group Baptism—Church 1:00pm

Confirmation

The next Confirmation session is Sunday, November 20 from 3:00–5:00pm in the Church for Years 1 and 2. The candidate and his/her sponsor, parent or another adult are to attend the session.

Bear Wrongs Patiently

"Finally, all of you, have unity of spirit, sympathy, love of the brethren, a tender heart and a humble mind. Do not return evil for evil or reviling for reviling; but on the contrary bless, for to this you have been called, that you may obtain a blessing" (1 Peter 3: 8-9).

On earth, did Jesus act out of a sense of fairness? No, he acted out of love. For love to endure it must be patient, especially in the face of injustice.

Matt Fradd...Prevailing Mercy

Regardless of where you have been or what you have done, be at peace. The same God who forgave Moses the murderer, Rahab the prostitute, David the adulterer, and Peter the denier will forgive you also. All you have to do is seek that forgiveness with a contrite heart. The only sin God won't forgive is the one you will not ask forgiveness for. (*Beautiful Mercy: Experiencing God's Unconditional Love so we can share it with Others*, Dynamic Catholic, pp. 145, 149).

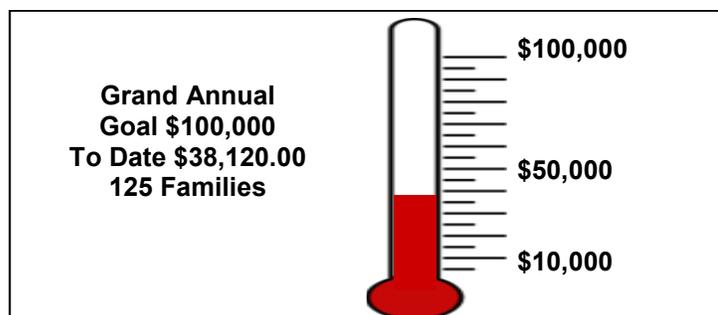
IMMACULATE CONCEPTION PARISH

Offertory Collection

Offertory November 12–13 **\$10,037.00**
Monthly **\$ 1,874.00**

Today's second collection is used to assist religious communities to provide for the retirement and health care needs of Sisters who have served in the Archdiocese. Please take this opportunity to say thank you to the Sisters who have served the Church of Boston so generously for so many years. Your contribution does make a difference. For more information, please contact Sister Marian Batho, CSJ, Delegate for Religious at 617-746-5637 or Sr_Marian_Batho@rcab.org.

The Thanksgiving collection is St. Vincent de Paul. Please make checks payable to **St. Vincent de Paul**. The second collection next weekend is the Restoration/Renovation.



The Saint Vincent de Paul Society



Poor Box	\$ 146.00
Collection	\$ 5.00
Total	\$ 151.00

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 7:30–9:00pm on the fourth Monday of the month. The next meeting is November 28.

We host an Annual Memorial Candle Lighting on the second Sunday of December. This year it will be Sunday, December 11 from 7:00–8:00pm, followed by refreshments and an optional discussion. The candle lighting event will be held at TCF chapter leader Barbara Hopkinson's home, 64 Northern Blvd, Plum Island, Newbury. 978-697-1349 or barhop@comcast.net for questions.

Communion Calls

If you or a loved one is homebound, in the hospital, or have transitioned to a rehab/nursing facility and wish to receive Holy Communion, please contact Sandy @ 978-462-4842 to arrange a home visit.

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 Charity Dining Room. For information please contact Elizabeth McCarthy, 978-462-7483 or see our website.

Knights of Columbus

Did you know that the Knights of Columbus Newburyport Council 231 was founded in 1897? We are looking to 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 obtaining exclusive access to top-rated insurance protections for you or your family, or just connecting with other Catholic men then the Knights of Columbus is the organization for you. 

Contact us at (978) 572-0231, membership@kofc231.org, or membership@kofcnewburyport.org

Baptisms

We rejoice with the families of our new brothers and sisters who received the Sacrament of Baptism in October:

Miles Williams Biagioni • Claire May Loughlin •
 Gina Marie McManus • Abigail Mae Kennedy

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. Registration forms are available in the foyer of the church or at the parish office. Once you register, visit our website, hriccatholic.org and click the Online Giving picture at the bottom of our home page to get to the site. There are four different funds you can choose 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 is pleased to offer a light meal to families who have lost a loved one. The meal is provided by volunteers and 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 if you wish to do that. Please let the funeral director know that you request this service when making arrangements.

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION PARISH

Community Service of Newburyport

During the month of November, Immaculate Conception Church is collecting food for the pantry at Community Service. Any non-perishable food and personal care products would be greatly appreciated. They especially need spaghetti sauce, cereal, peanut butter, jelly, coffee, cookies, and crackers. Please check the expiration dates on these products. Personal care products that are needed include shampoo, toothpaste, deodorant, soap, and toilet paper. Please leave the items in the church foyer. Thank you for your generosity.

New England Tenors

The Society of St. Vincent de Paul of Immaculate Conception will sponsor an upcoming concert. The New England Tenors will be performing at IC Church on Sunday, November 27 at 2:00pm. Don't miss these talented tenors. As in past years, they will be sharing the program with some of our IC choirs. Hopefully we will have some surprise guests joining the choirs.



Tickets will be on sale after all IC Masses this weekend or at the door the day of the concert. Make plans to begin the Advent and Christmas season with joyful harmony.

Breaking Bread

St. Vincent de Paul's Breaking Bread dinner program at Immaculate Conception is hoping you will share a little of your time and talents as we need a team of two volunteers to prepare and cook for our guests on a Tuesday of your choice. A seasoned volunteer chef will work with you as you gain experience in our kitchen. This is a truly wonderful experience that you will share with a great team of volunteers. Contact Bunny Chiasson, 978-465-5810 or sandbunnyc@yahoo.com.

IC Knitting Ministry

We meet every Tuesday from 1:00–3:00pm at the IC Parish Center, Room 209 to knit prayer shawls, hats, mittens, and scarves. We bring prayers and hope to people who are sick and their caregivers and to celebrate happy occasions. We have made and distributed hats and scarves to the hundreds of homeless children in our area. Please come and help us to keep these boys and girls warm this winter and to send joy to our friends who are experiencing illness at this time. We are happy to help you brush up on your knitting or we can teach you to knit or crochet. 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 School



Dear Friends,

With Thanksgiving just around the corner, it's time for all of us to be grateful for our many gifts and blessings. We can all be especially thankful for the peace and joy of Christ in our lives.

The freedom to practice our faith is one gift we should never take for granted. We live in a country where we can embrace our religion and our faith openly, and proudly pass this privilege on to our children. As the principal of the Immaculate Conception School (IC), I am so very thankful to our faculty who provide our students with a faith-based education.

A faith-based education is very special at the Immaculate Conception School. Students from pre-kindergarten through eighth grade and faculty come together every morning in our auditorium to pray and thank God for all of his blessings. We recite the Pledge of Allegiance and then we go on with our day. Each month, joined by parents, grandparents, and the community, we attend a liturgy in the Immaculate Conception Church. I highly recommend coming to one of these Masses. See all of the students—the younger ones with the older students or “church buddies” being helped to their seat, and getting prepared for Mass. Listen to the talented eighth grade choir, joined by all the students, singing hymns. We teach religion and learn about God, on a daily basis.

The influence of the faith-based learning environment at IC is seen always in the kindness, love, and empathy in the interaction of the students throughout the school day. Parents are thankful their children are being educated in a school where they are being prepared for the future spiritually, academically, and socially.

I thank God for the entire IC family—students, faculty, our Pastor, priests, coaches, parents, alumni, the community and all of the people who come together to make our school a wonderful place to receive an education—a place where students feel good about themselves, their school and their faith in God. Happy Thanksgiving to you all!

Sincerely, Mary Reardon, Principal

Upcoming Events

Tuesday Tours ~ IC school tours, including classroom visits, second Tuesday of each month, 9:00–11:00 a.m. Call Mrs. Kelley Pappalardo at (978) 465-7780.

Open House ~ Sunday, January 29, 12:30–2:00 p.m.

Fashion Show ~ Sunday, March 5, 2:00–4:00 p.m.

135th Gala ~ Friday, May 19, 7:00–10:00 p.m.

Questions of the Week

Adult: What sacrifices are you prepared to make in order to become closer to God?

Child: How can you show God's love to others?

HOLY REDEEMER PARISH

Offertory Collection

Offertory, November 12–13 \$3,531.00
 Monthly \$2,211.00

Today's second collection is used to assist religious communities to provide for the retirement and health care needs of Sisters who have served in the Archdiocese. Please take this opportunity to say thank you to the Sisters who have served the Church of Boston so generously for so many years. Your contribution does make a difference. For more information, please contact Sister Marian Batho, CSJ, Delegate for Religious at 617-746-5637 or Sr_Marian_Batho@rcab.org.

HR Sandwich Program

The Sandwich Program is on Tuesday this week

The Holy Redeemer Sandwich Program delivers soup/salad and sandwiches to the Lazarus House Ministry twice a 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's Church, West Newbury, by **9:00am on Tuesday, November 22**. Contact Dotty Carr at 978-363-2909 with questions or delivery date schedule.

Outdoor Nativity Figurines Update



We are happy to say all but three **outdoor** Nativity figurines were picked off the boards to be donated by our families of Holy Redeemer. **But**, only three figurine pictures and checks have been returned so far. We can't order the figurines or arrange installations at the churches until we know we can pay for them! We are concerned that we will not receive the Nativity sets by Christmas. Please, if you took a picture of a figurine, return the picture and your check ASAP. Drop the envelope with the picture and your check in the collection basket, hand it to Father, mail to 4 Green St., Merrimac 01860 or call Cindy Quinn 978-346-0072.

HR St. Vincent de Paul

The Conference received \$313.28 in donations over the past two weeks. Once again, thank you for your support.

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



HR Religious Education

Sunday, November 20

Grades 3–6 classes, 9–10:00am, Nativity

Tuesday, November 22

Grade 7 class 6–7:30pm, Nativity

Tuesday, November 29

Grade 8 class 6–7:30pm, Nativity

Blessings to all of our students and families over our Thanksgiving break.

New Email Address

The Office of Religious Education at Holy Redeemer has a new email address. Please change it in your contacts: reledhrp@gmail.com.

HR Prayer Shawl

Would you like to help those in need this winter without it costing you anything? Come join us at 1:00pm on **Thursday, December 1**, at Nativity Hall in Merrimac. We will knit/crochet hats, scarves, and mittens for Merrimack Valley Hope Mission, the group supported by our Parish youth. We will provide yarn, knitting needles and crochet hooks, and patterns. We can even teach you to knit/crochet. Can't make it on December 1? Gather your own group at a time convenient for you, give us a call, and we'll provide you with everything you'll need.



If you need information or a blessed prayer shawl, they are free, please call Helen Kelley, 978-771-4673, Connie Cormier, 978-363-2020, Terry Duhamel 978-384-8099.

Holy Redeemer Giving Trees

The Giving Trees, which will be placed in both churches at the beginning of Advent, help us aid area programs for people in need during the Christmas season. We are currently giving to five programs: Emmaus, Inc., Haverhill, The Holiday Helper Program for the Pentucket Area, Pregnancy Care Center, Haverhill and Newburyport areas, Lazarus House Ministries, Lawrence, and our St. Vincent de Paul Society. Some of the tags on the trees are for specific items that the groups are requesting, including toys, clothing, and food pantry items. Please return the unwrapped gifts with the tags to the churches by the weekend of December 10–11. This allows time for us to deliver them to the programs to be distributed in time for Christmas. We ask if you take a tag and can't find the specific item, that you either return the tag to the tree as soon as possible or consider a gift card. Thank you for all your generosity in the past, present, and future. Please call Dottie Carr 978-363-2909 with questions.

EWTN: Catholic News

EWTN News: Your Online Catholic Resource.

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