

HOLY REDEEMER AND IMMACULATE CONCEPTION COLLABORATIVE PARISHES

SERVING MERRIMAC, NEWBURY, NEWBURYPORT, AND WEST NEWBURY

The Nativity of the Lord

December 25, 2016

All Are Welcome



Fresco of the Adoration of the Christ Child by the Shepherds from the Massimi Chapel of Trinità dei Monti Church at the top of the Spanish Steps in Rome.

"When the angels went away from them to heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go, then, to Bethlehem to see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us." So they went in haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the infant lying in the manger." (Lk 2:15-16)

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 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,
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

Website

www.hricatholic.org

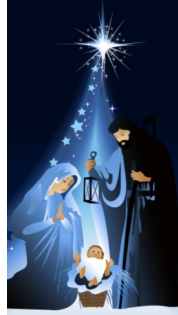


OUR COLLABORATIVE

Mass Schedule/Intentions

Saturday (12/24) Christmas Eve

4:00pm IC (Fr. Harrison)
 4:00pm IC School Gym (Fr. McLaughlin)
 4:00pm St. Ann (Fr. Christiansen)
 4:00pm Nativity (Fr. Morin)
 6:00pm IC (Fr. McLaughlin)
 6:00pm Nativity (Fr. Morin)



Sunday (12/25) Christmas Day

12:00 Midnight IC (Fr. Harrison)
 8:00am IC (Fr. Broderick)
 8:00am Nativity (Fr. Morin)
 10:00am IC (Fr. Harrison)
 10:15am St. Ann (Fr. Christiansen)

Monday (12/26)

9:00am St. Ann Alice Aldonis Pendergast
 (Fr. McLaughlin)

Tuesday (12/27)

7:15am IC (Fr. Harrison)

Wednesday (12/28)

7:15am IC Stephen Lynch (Fr. Morin)

Thursday (12/29)

7:15am IC Robert Kendall (Fr. Morin)

Friday (12/30)

9:00am Nativity (Fr. Harrison)

Saturday (12/31)

4:00pm IC John K. Herlihy, Hugh & Ruth Braley
 (Fr. Harrison)
 4:00pm St. Ann Julie Brousseau, Jack Gorski
 (Fr. Morin)

Sunday (1/1)

7:15am IC (Fr. Morin)
 8:00am Nativity (Fr. Harrison)
 9:00am IC (Fr. Broderick)
 10:15am St. Ann Blanche Pendergast,
 Mary McCann (Fr. Harrison)
 11:30am IC (Fr. McLaughlin)

In your prayers please remember Jane Welch Connor and all the faithful departed.

The priests' schedule is subject to change without notice.

IC—Immaculate Conception

Nativity—Merrimac

St. Ann—West Newbury

From the Pastor

Dear Friends in Christ,

It is a joy to welcome all of you to our annual celebration of the Birth of the Lord! Christmas is a magical time of the year when our hearts are rendered docile and we focus, maybe just for the moment, on the inherent goodness that God calls us to reflect back into our world. It is a time for both festivity and for savoring the simplicity that is found in the most important gifts we receive: the love of God expressed through family, friends, and community. Although as a child I salivated at the prospect of all the gifts being given and received at Christmas and cringed with anticipation at the sight of a Christmas Tree surrounded by presents; looking back, I remember what was in precious-few of the shiny packages that were exchanged on holidays past. What I do recall, with great fondness, are the gift-givers themselves: parents, my brother, grandparents, great grandparents, aunts and uncles, great aunts and great uncles, along with a wide extended family and many friends that gathered to mark this special day of the year. Ever so subtly, the gift of God's love was exchanged back and forth in these moments and still speaks to my heart today.

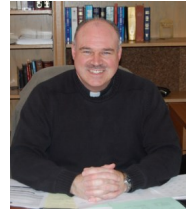
We give Christ at Christmas when we dare to love another in His name. Far from the pristine and serene scenes that adorn a multitude of Christmas cards resting on our mantles, real love is messy and awkward. It is imperfect in the very best of ways. It never fails to be misunderstood from time to time, to be underappreciated, over-extended, taken for granted, and overlooked. But because it has as its source the very author of love, it has the power to endure and change people's lives. Real love never fails.

So, go ahead and celebrate this feast with all its trappings. Have a Christmas cookie, sip some eggnog, linger under the mistletoe and indulge on a little fruitcake (c'mon, you know you want to!). Enjoy the presents that are offered and received. But just make sure to also savor the love that God has blessed us with and recall why we celebrate the birth of the Anointed One and the measure of love He came to share with our troubled world. It would be from the very heart of this love that Jesus would find the strength to offer His life on the Cross for our salvation. May it also give us the grace and courage to face our many challenges in the months ahead with confidence and hope.

Merry Christmas to all!

Fr. Tim Harrison

Pastor



Collaborative Online

Visit the Collaborative website, www.hriccatholic.org for meetings, religious ed., Mass times, the collaborative calendar, bulletins, links to other Catholic websites, and photos. So much is happening here.

January 1 Mass Schedule

The Mass schedule for the Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God on January 1, 2017 will follow our usual weekend schedule. See page 4 for Mass times.

WELCOME TO THE COLLABORATIVE

Christmas Office Hours

Collaborative offices will be closed on Monday, December 26 and on Monday, January 2.

Collaborative Mass Schedule

Saturdays

4:00pm **Immaculate Conception, Newburyport**
4:00pm **Holy Redeemer** (This Mass alternates between Nativity & St. Ann every 6 weeks. See the website calendar, www.hriccatholic.org, for details.

Sundays

7:15am **Immaculate Conception, Newburyport**
8:00am **Nativity, Merrimac**
9:00am **Immaculate Conception, Newburyport**
10:15am **St. Ann, West Newbury**
11:30am **Immaculate Conception, Newburyport**

Mondays

9:00am **St. Ann, West Newbury**

Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays

7:15am **Immaculate Conception, Newburyport**

Fridays

9:00am **Nativity, Merrimac**

Immaculate Conception, 42 Green Street, Newburyport

Nativity, 4 Green Street, Merrimac

St. Ann, 300 Main Street, West Newbury

Celebrating the Sacraments

Contact the Collaborative offices for more information
Baptism

We offer monthly baptism classes for new parents as well as monthly baptisms.

Reconciliation

IC: Saturdays: 3:00pm to 3:30pm or by appointment.

HR: Saturdays before the 4:00pm Mass or by appointment.

First Eucharist

Our second graders celebrate First Communion every spring. Contact the HR or IC Religious Ed. directors for more information.

Confirmation

Confirmation at IC is celebrated in the spring. Confirmation at HR is celebrated in the fall. Contact the HR or IC Religious Ed. directors for more information.

Marriage

Archdiocesan guidelines request that couples planning to marry in the Church contact your Parish office 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 the Parish offices if someone is in the hospital, so that we can visit the loved one and have the community pray for them.

Welcome Home We're Glad You're Here

Merry Christmas! Our expanded Christmas bulletin highlights many groups and events in the Collaborative. There are a variety of activities for all interests. What would you like to do? Come, share your gifts.

This Week in Our Collaborative

See our website calendar for more events and details on these and other happenings.

www.hriccatholic.org

Monday, December 26, Collaborative Offices Closed

Boy Scouts Troop 41 Meeting 7:00pm, Nativity Hall

Tuesday, December 27

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

Wednesday, December 28

HR Sandwich Program 9:00am, St. Ann Hall

Holy Quilters 3:00pm, Nativity Hall

IC Youth Choir Rehearsal 4:30pm, IC Church

Adoration 6:00pm, IC St. James Chapel

Centering Prayer 6:00pm, IC Charity Dining Room

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

Thursday, December 29

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

Friday, December 30

Adoration 8:00am, IC St. James Chapel

AA 7:00pm, IC Nazareth Library Room 205

Merrimac Cub Scouts Den Meeting 7:00pm, Nativity Lower Hall

Saturday, December 31

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

Sunday, January 1

Nativity Choir Rehearsal 7:45am, Nativity Church

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

Lenten Events

Mark your calendars for these Collaborative Lenten events.

- **2nd Annual Lenten Series & Fellowship Meals**

Thursdays, 6:30–8:00 p.m., March 2, 9, 16, 23, 30 at Nativity

Fridays, noon–1:30 p.m., March, 3, 10, 17, 24, 31 at IC

Presented by the Adult Faith Formation Team

- **Annual Lenten Mission**

Sunday–Wednesday, April 2, 3, 5, 6, 7:00–8:00 p.m., at IC

Presented by former pastors & priests of our Collaborative

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN THE COLLABORATIVE

Christmas Collections

The 614 diocesan priests in our Archdiocese are there for us, sharing Christ's good news, performing good works, and building strong communities of good faith. Remember priests such as Rev. James Broderick, Rev. John Leonard, Rev. Paul Bérubé, Rev. Bill McLaughlin, and Rev. Louis DuFour who have made a meaningful difference in your life, and consider honoring them with a generous gift to the Christmas collection. Also, remember to find the Trust on Facebook by searching "@ClergyTrust." Thank you for your prayers and generous support.

Youth Masses

Youth Masses are celebrated as a collaborative. Students take part in the ministries during the Mass. Folk music, with guitar, is featured.

For each Youth Mass, a charity is chosen for donations. Please watch the bulletin for details about that month's charity. All ages are welcome to this lively celebration.

The Youth Masses (5:00 p.m.) for 2017 are:

- January 22 Holy Redeemer, Church of the Nativity
- March 12 Immaculate Conception
- April 2 Holy Redeemer, Church of the Nativity
- May 7 Immaculate Conception



Youth making shawls for the Pregnancy Care Center after the December Youth Mass.

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 Chanel 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.

Scripture for the Week

- 25 Sun Vigil: Is 62:1-5/Acts 13:16-17, 22-25/Mt 1:1-25 or 1:18-25, Night: Is 9:1-6/Ti 2:11-14/Lk 2:1-14, Dawn: Is 62:11-12/Ti 3:4-7/Lk 2:15-20, Day: Is 52:7-10/Heb 1:1-6/Jn 1:1-18 or 1:1-5, 9-14
- 26 Mon Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59/Mt 10:17-22
- 27 Tue 1 Jn 1:1-4/Jn 20:1a, 2-8
- 28 Wed 1 Jn 1:5—2:2/Mt 2:13-18
- 29 Thu 1 Jn 2:3-11/Lk 2:22-35
- 30 Fri Sir 3:2-6, 12-14 or Col 3:12-21 or 3:12-17/Mt 2:13-15, 19-23
- 31 Sat 1 Jn 2:18-21/Jn 1:1-18

Collaborative Book Discussion

Save the dates: February 1, 8, 15, & 22

The Collaborative of Holy Redeemer and Immaculate Conception will host a book discussion on Wednesday evenings during February from 7:00 p.m. –8:30 p.m. in the IC Charity Dining Room. The book discussion will be Christopher Pramuck's *Hope Sings So Beautiful: Graced Encounters across the Color Line*. Christopher Pramuck offers a mosaic of images and sketches for thinking and praying through difficult questions about race. The reader will encounter the perspectives of artists, poets, and theologians from many different ethnic and racial communities. All are welcome. Contacts: Dr. Art Ledoux, ledoux@merrimack.edu, Nancy Ledoux 978-270-5488, nancyledoux@comcast.net, Dr. Mag McKinnon, mmckinnon@newburyprotcatholic.org.



Cursillo & Ultreya

A **Cursillo** retreat is a three-day weekend of intensive spiritual reflection and exploration at St. Basils, Methuen, that offers us the opportunity to deepen our relationship with Christ. 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.

Ultreya, the Spanish word for "onward" or "to persevere," is a gathering that unites us in prayer and fellowship. It is a reunion of those who have experienced a Cursillo retreat, but all are welcome to attend Ultreya meetings on the Friday of each Cursillo weekend. Questions about Cursillo or Ultreya? Contact Pat Forbes (978-462-1258) or Jonathan Temple (978-809-9337).

2017 Ultreya / Cursillo Calendar

Ultreya	Cursillo Weekend
January 6	January 5-8 (Women)
February 3	February 9-12 (Men)
February 24	March 4-6 (Women)
March 3	April 6-9 (Men)
April 28	May 4-6 (Women)
June 2	June 1-4 (Women)

OUR COLLABORATIVE

What is a Collaborative?

"A collaborative is a grouping of one, two, or three parishes that work together for the goal of evangelization.

A collaborative has one pastor, one set of assigned priests and deacons, and one Pastoral Team (including Pastoral Associates, Religious Education and Faith Formation leaders, Finance and Operations specialists, and administrative and facilities personnel). All of these work together for all of the parishes of the collaborative. The collaborative has one Pastoral Council, and one Local Pastoral Plan for evangelization. The collaborative does not share money or bank accounts." (To learn more about Collaboratives and Disciples in Mission, visit the DIM website at disciplesinmission.com/general-questions)

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
pcharlie@comcast.net

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.

Fr. Broderick's Scripture Study



Join us on the first and third Sunday of the month at 2:00 p.m. in the IC Parish Center for Scripture Study. Our next meeting is January 8 at 2:00 p.m. See the Collaborative calendar, www.hricatholic.org for other meeting dates.

A gifted teacher, Fr. Broderick explains the meaning of the Scripture passages, and presents rich description of the period and places cited, as well as the culture and practices of the people involved. Come, grow in knowledge and faith. Visit our website or contact Eleanora Paciulan, emlpac@comcast.net, for more information.

Liturgical Ministries

Ministries during Mass

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion: Men and women serve at Mass by distributing the Eucharist. They also take the Eucharist to homebound parishioners and to those in the hospitals and nursing homes.

Lectors: Parish women or men (including youth) who proclaim the Word of God at Mass.

Altar Servers: assist the priests and deacon at Mass. Altar servers may begin in the fourth grade and continue through high school.

Music Ministry: There are many opportunities for people with varying experience and of differing ages to share their musical talents.

You can read more about these ministries and how to join by visiting our website, www.hricatholic.org.

St. Vincent de Paul Society

St. Vincent de Paul Society is a Catholic lay organization that leads women and men to join together to grow spiritually by offering person-to-person service to those who are needy and suffering. Both Holy Redeemer and Immaculate Conception parishes have active programs.



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 of desire for a closer relationship with God. Join us on Wednesdays, 6:00 p.m.–7:00 p.m., in the IC Charity Dining Room. For information please contact Elizabeth McCarthy, 978-462-7483 or see our website for times and dates, www.hricatholic.org.

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.



HOLY REDEEMER PARISH

Welcome to Holy Redeemer

Holy Redeemer is comprised of two churches: Church of the Nativity in Merrimac and St. Ann's Church in West Newbury. We are part of the Holy Redeemer/Immaculate Conception Collaborative. Please visit our website at www.hriccatholic.org for our Mass schedule as well as more information on how to get involved in our vibrant community.

HR St. Vincent de Paul Society



The Holy Redeemer St. Vincent de Paul conference thanks you for purchasing the Market Basket and gasoline gift cards that we requested. These Christmas donations will help us to provide for our clients during 2017.

Without your help, we would be unable to assist our many clients. Please be aware that the Society is always interested in learning about used automobiles that you are getting rid of and might wish to donate; several of our clients are looking for used automobiles, as their autos have reached the end of their useful lives. Thank you for your consideration.

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

Have a Blessed Christmas and a happy and healthy New Year.

Saturday Vigil Masses at Holy Redeemer

Our Saturday vigil Masses at Holy Redeemer alternate every six weeks between St. Ann and Nativity. Our website calendar at www.hriccatholic.org lists the Mass schedule for 2017. Please visit the website for the locations and dates.

The Saturday 4:00 p.m. Mass will move to **St. Ann** in West Newbury on **December 31**.

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, Connie Cormier 978-363-2020, or Terry Duhamel 978-384-8099 for a shawl or more information.



We would love for you to join us. We meet on the first Thursday of every month at Nativity Hall, Merrimac at 1:00 p.m. Don't know how to knit or crochet? We will teach you to knit or crochet and give you yarn. Our next meeting is January 5.

Sanctuary Light

The Sanctuary Light at Nativity, Merrimac, the week of December 25 is donated for a special intention.



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. Thanks to all for your support this past year.

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 **9:00 a.m.** on the second and fourth Wednesday of the month. The next sandwich delivery date is **Wednesday, December 28**. Please see the Collaborative calendar at www.hriccatholic.org for the schedule or contact Dotty Carr at 978-363-2909 with questions.

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.

hriccatholic.org News Feed

Visit www.hriccatholic.org for the latest Catholic news feeds including catholic.org, the Vatican, the Archdiocese of Boston, The Pilot, and United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB). Just click on the News tab on our homepage.

Boy Scouts

Scouting builds more than just campfires. Scouting builds character, values, community, and family. Holy Redeemer charts Boy Scout Troop 41. The troop meets Monday evenings in Nativity Hall, Merrimac from 7:00-8:30 p.m. If anyone is interested in learning more about the troop or joining, contact the scoutmaster, Mark Friend at msf4087@gmail.com. All faiths welcome. Please see the Parish website calendar for meeting dates, www.hriccatholic.org.

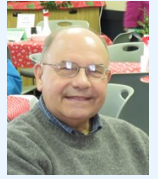


Questions of the Week

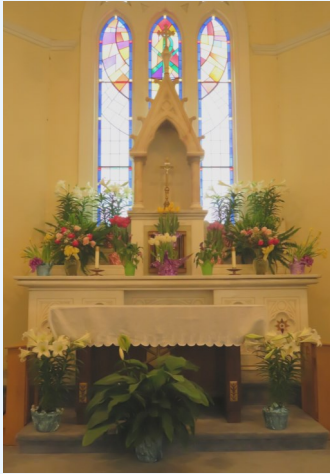
Adult: In your household, how do you protect and take care of each other especially in times of danger or sadness?

Child: How do you and other members of your family take care of one another?

WHAT'S HAPPENING



IN THE COLLABORATIVE



HOLY REDEEMER PARISH

HR Religious Education

Blessed Christmas season to all!

Saturday, January 7:

Grade 2 Parent & Student meeting, St. Ann, West Newbury, 3:00 p.m. Students will receive their new books. We will attend the 4:00 p.m. Mass together.

Sunday, January 8:

Grades 3–6 classes, Nativity, Merrimac, following the 8:00 a.m. Mass (9:00 a.m.–10:00 a.m.)

Grade 9 class, Nativity, Merrimac, 6:00–7:30 p.m.

Tuesday, January 10:

Grade 7 class, Nativity, Merrimac. 6:00–7:30 p.m.

Youth Mass

Mark your calendars now: Our next Collaborative Youth Mass is Sunday, January 22 at Church of the Nativity, Merrimac at 5:00 p.m. Guest Speaker will be Kim Keene of the Pelican Intervention Fund. All ages welcome.

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.

Holy Redeemer Activities Group

The **HR Activities Group** organizes events and socials for the parishioners of Holy Redeemer Parish. Contact Cindy Quinn at 978-346-0072 or cynwinquinn@aol.com if you would like to be involved in this group or in any of our annual events. Some of our annual events include *the Holiday Fair, Raffle Night, and the Parish Picnic/Outdoor Mass*.



Holy Redeemer Holiday Fair

The **Holiday Fair** has been a long-running tradition in Holy Redeemer Parish. It is held the Saturday before



Thanksgiving in the Nativity Parish Hall (4 Green Street, Merrimac). The 2017 Fair is November 18 from 9:00 a.m.–2:00 p.m.

Parishioners donate themed gift baskets to sell, homemade baked goods, silent auction items, nearly new items, and homemade soups for lunch. A grand raffle is held also. It is an annual event with the families of our parish. Planning starts in June. Visit the photos page on the website

(www.hriccatholic.org) to see last year's event.

Holy Redeemer Raffle Night

Raffle Night is a parish social/fundraiser held in the Spring, at the Nativity Parish Hall (4 Green Street, Merrimac). This parish social helps everyone emerge from the winter. Those attending the evening buy raffle tickets to win a variety of items. Homemade dinners are available to purchase. Planning starts in January. Visit the photos page on the website (www.hriccatholic.org) to see last year's event. The 2017 Raffle night is tentatively planned for Saturday, April 29 from 5:00–9:00 p.m.

Holy Redeemer Parish Picnic and Outdoor Mass

Holy Redeemer Parish holds a summertime outdoor Mass and picnic. This year's event took place on a beautiful June Sunday at St. Ann's Rectory lawn. Mass was celebrated, followed by a lunch of hamburgers and hot dogs. Guests bring lawn chairs, a side dish or dessert, and a big appetite. All are invited to attend this event.



IMMACULATE CONCEPTION PARISH

The Compassionate Friends



The Compassionate Friends (TCF) 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 the IC Parish Center Room 209 at 7:30–9:00 p.m. on the fourth Monday of the month.

The Parish Center is closed for holidays on December 26. The TCF chapter meeting will be held at Chapter Leader's home: Barbara Hopkinson, 64 Northern Blvd, Newbury. We meet February 27 and March 27 in the IC Parish Center Room 209. 978-697-1349 or barhop@comcast.net.

Knights of Columbus



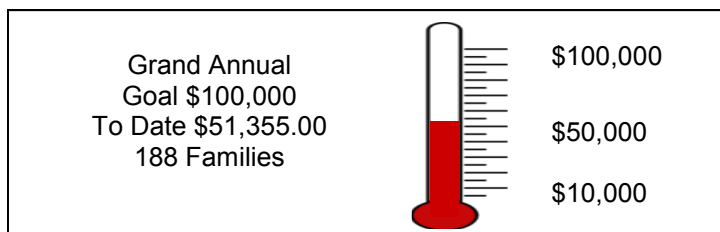
The Knights of Columbus Newburyport Council 231 was founded in 1897. We welcome new members to this long standing group of Catholic men. If you are interested in helping those in need, serving our parish, growing in faith, obtaining exclusive access to top-rated insurance protections for you or your 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.

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION PARISH

Welcome to Immaculate Conception Parish

Immaculate Conception Parish is located in Newburyport and serves the towns of Newbury and Newburyport and is part of the Immaculate Conception/Holy Redeemer Collaborative. Visit our website at www.hriccatholic.org for our Mass schedule as well as more information on how to get involved in our active community.



St. Vincent de Paul's Breaking Bread Program

At Immaculate Conception, once a week, St. Vincent de Paul members join in "Breaking Bread" by preparing and serving dinner at the IC Parish Center to neighbors in need. Please share a little of your time and talents to prepare and cook for our guests on a Tuesday of your choice. A seasoned chef will work with in our kitchen. Contact Bunny Chiasson, sandbunnyc@yahoo.com to volunteer.

The Pelican Intervention Fund

The Pelican Intervention Fund is dedicated to supporting men and women on their journey from addiction to recovery. The Pelican Intervention Fund offers hope for sustained recovery for adults who live in the communities of Amesbury, Byfield, Groveland, Merrimac, Newbury, West Newbury, Newburyport, Rowley, and Salisbury. Visit our website, www.pelicaninterventionfund.org to learn more.

San Marcos Coffee Sells Out

Thanks to all who purchased coffee.

Once again our coffee sale was a huge success. We are grateful for your purchases of the 180 pounds of Honduran coffee, and the Honduran farmers are grateful for the improved standard of living now available to their families because of The Coffee Project. Our sincere apologies to those who were not given the opportunity to buy the coffee before we sold out. Our next sale will be after IC Masses in March 2017. Feliz Navidad!

IC Haiti

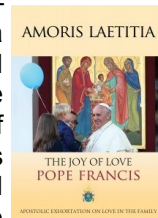
IC Haiti is proud to fund healthcare and education projects in Haiti. Our most recent project is the construction of an elementary school in Puit Chacha, Haiti, a remote hamlet within the catchment of Fond des Blanc, but without access to the schools available in the main village. Please visit our website, ICHaiti.org, to learn more or donate to IC Haiti.

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.

The Sacrament of Matrimony—In #71—“Scripture and Tradition give us access to a knowledge of the Trinity, which is revealed with the features of a family. The family is the image of God, who is a communion of persons. At Christ’s baptism, the Father’s voice was heard, calling Jesus his beloved Son, and in this love we can recognize the Holy Spirit (cf. Mk 1: 10-11). Jesus, who reconciled all things in himself and redeemed us from sin, not only returned marriage and the family to their original form, but also raised marriage to the sacramental sign of his love for the Church (cf. Mt 19: 1-12; Mk 10: 1-12; Eph 5: 21-32). In the human family, gathered by Christ, ‘the image and likeness’ of the Most Holy Trinity (cf. Gen 1: 26) has been restored, the mystery from which all true love flows. Through the Church, marriage and the family receive the grace of the Holy Spirit from Christ, in order to bear witness to the Gospel of God’s love.”



Religious Education Classes

School Year Registration is ongoing. Class: 1/8 and 1/9.

No Classes: MLK weekend: 1/15 and 1/16.

Grades K–6: Next classes: 1/22 and 1/23.

Grades 7–8: Next class 1/8.

Baptism

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

Jan. 8 Parent Class—Charity Dining Room 1:00 p.m.

Jan. 15 Group Baptism—Church 1:00 p.m.

Confirmation

The next Confirmation session is Sunday, January 29 from 3:00–5:00 p.m. in the Church for Years 1 and 2. The candidate and his/her sponsor, parent, or another adult are to attend the session together.

First Reconciliation

Our First Reconciliation Prayer Service and retreat is Saturday, January 7 at 11:00 a.m. Candidates and their families will be celebrating the gift of God’s merciful love given to us through Jesus Christ. Please pray for our candidates. (Snow date: January 21 at 11:00 a.m.).

Youth Mass—January 22

Our next Youth Mass is Sunday, January 22 at Holy Redeemer, Church of the Nativity, Merrimac. All are welcome. Guest Speaker: Kim Keene of the Pelican Intervention Fund. This weekend we will begin selling Mardi Gras dinner tickets to benefit the Pelican Intervention Fund. \$12/adult and \$5/ for children. Ages 5 and under are free.

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION PARISH

Rose Window Update



Burnham Laroche Studio has begun the Rose window repair project. Initially, you will see a staging erected in the choir loft, over the organ, which will remain in place until the project is completed. The window and frame will be sent off-site to Burnham Studio for repair. The project is expected to take three months to complete. We will provide you with more information and updates as the project progresses.

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Please join us for Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and Adoration in IC's St. James Chapel in the Parish Center on Fridays from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon.

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 provide 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 remain burials in any denomination. Call Joseph Viel, Superintendent at 978-208-0266 to schedule an appointment.

IC Knitting Ministry

We meet every Tuesday at 1:00 p.m. from September–June at the IC Parish Center, Room 209. We knit prayer 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 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.

Mardi Gras Celebration

Join us Monday, February 27 as we celebrate Mardi Gras. There will be two seatings—4:00 and 6:00 p.m. Tickets on sale soon. All are welcome. Watch the bulletin for details.

Immaculate Conception School

Greetings Friends,

Christmas is the most special day of the year. On this day, we join Christians around the world in celebrating the birth of our Savior, Jesus Christ. At the Immaculate Conception School (IC), this is the culmination of a wonderful and joyful Christmas season.



Looking ahead, 2017 will be a very special year for the IC as it marks the school's 135th anniversary. I am inviting all of you to join us in a celebration of 135 years of educating and inspiring confident, caring, and productive students. They are all our loving ambassadors to the world, and we can show the world how proud we are of them. The IC is hosting several wonderful events to celebrate this important milestone.

On Sunday, January 29, from 12:30–2:00 p.m., the IC is hosting its annual Open House. It's the start of Catholic Schools Week, and after a special 11:30 a.m. mass, everyone is invited to enjoy refreshments in the gym and tour the classrooms. This is always a fun and rewarding event for students, faculty, parents, and visitors new to the school, who will learn about the IC on tours escorted by middle school students. (See ad on the next page).

On Sunday, March 5, from 1:00–3:00 p.m., the IC will host the inaugural "IC Fashion Show," featuring students, alumni, and teachers modeling fashions from local retailers. Raffles will be held for some of the fashions being modeled, and for some fabulous vacations. The event will raise funds for the school.

On Friday, May 19, 2017, from 7:00–1:00 p.m., the IC will host the "135th Anniversary Gala." We invite alumni, parents, friends, and members of the community to gather to celebrate and honor the rich legacy IC has brought to this region. Celebrants will socialize over drinks and hors d'oeuvres, tour the classrooms, and view memorabilia. The evening includes a short live auction. What a great way to bring everyone together and to do some fundraising for the school.

Our school was founded in 1882, and since then thousands of graduates of the IC have gone on to make their mark in the world and to make the world a better place to live. I'd like to believe that the character, fortitude, and ideals that the graduates carry with them for their entire lives are the natural outcome of their education at the Immaculate Conception School.

Although the world we all live in has changed dramatically over the years, the vision of the IC has remained the same—one that sees our graduates making a positive faith-based contribution to society. Today, the IC continues this powerful tradition by serving our students' academic, social, and spiritual needs. We accomplish this with an experienced devoted faculty and a faith-based school culture which is safe, nurturing, and empowering.

Merry Christmas,
Mary Reardon, Principal



Immaculate Conception School

Celebrating 135 Years 1882 - 2017

OPEN HOUSE

Sunday, January 29, 2017 • 12:30 - 2 pm



Tour our school, escorted by one of our middle school students. Hear a student's perspective and learn about his or her daily routine.

Visit our modern, state-of-the-art classrooms and our newly renovated gymnasium/auditorium and cafeteria.

Learn about our special subject areas including art, computer, music and Spanish, and our extracurricular activities including basketball, cross-country, ski & snowboard program, band, theater and more.

Meet with current families and learn about the community involvement that makes our school so special.

Enjoy a refreshment and have a conversation with our dedicated principal, faculty and staff.

Talk one-on-one with Mrs. Kelley Pappalardo our Admissions Office Director, to answer any questions you may have, and register for Fall 2017.

See if Immaculate Conception School is the right choice for your family. Come to our Open House, Tuesday Tours (9 am - 11 am, Jan 10, Feb 14, March 14 and April 11) or schedule a visit at your convenience. Call today!



SAVE THE DATES ~ ALL INVITED!

- **IC Fashion Show** ~ Sunday, March 5 (1 - 3 pm)
- **135th Anniversary Gala** ~ Friday, May 19 (7 - 10 pm)

Tickets and info: www.icsnewburyport.com

One Washington Street, Newburyport, MA 01950 • (978) 465 - 7780 • www.icsnewburyport.com

Immaculate Conception School is a private Catholic elementary school (pre-kindergarten through eighth grade), providing high-quality, faith-based education, preparing young people for life, spiritually, academically and socially.