

HOLY REDEEMER AND IMMACULATE CONCEPTION COLLABORATIVE PARISHES

SERVING MERRIMAC, NEWBURY, NEWBURYPORT, AND WEST NEWBURY

Easter Sunday

The Resurrection of the Lord

April 1, 2018

hricatholic.org



An empty, First Century tomb in Israel

Do not be amazed! You seek Jesus of Nazareth, the crucified. He has been raised; he is not here. Behold, the place where they laid him. (Mk 16:6)

All Are Welcome



Holy Redeemer Immaculate Conception Collaborative

serving Merrimac, Newbury, Newburyport & West Newbury

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

St. Ann

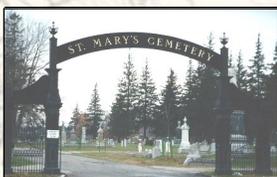
Church: 300 Main St., W. Newbury 01985
Rectory: 46 Maple St., W. Newbury 01985
Phone: 978-346-8604
Email: holyredeemer@verizon.net

Nativity

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

Immaculate Conception

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



St. Mary's Cemetery

36 Storey Avenue,
Newburyport 01950

Immaculate Conception School

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



Collaborative Staff

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St. Vincent de Paul Society at
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St Mary's Cemetery

Joseph Viel, 978-208-0266
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 [Holy Redeemer - Immaculate Conception
Collaborative Parishes](https://www.facebook.com/Holy-Redeemer-Immaculate-Conception-Collaborative-Parishes)

 [@HRICCatholic](https://twitter.com/HRICCatholic)

Website: www.hriccatholic.org

COLLABORATIVE NEWS

Mass Schedule/Intentions

Saturday (3/31) Holy Saturday

Gather at 7:30pm IC

Sunday (4/1) Easter Sunday

7:30am IC (Fr. Broderick)

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

8:45am **St. Ann** (Fr. Drew Christiansen)

9:30am **IC Church** (Fr. Morin)

9:30am **IC Gym** (Fr. McLaughlin)

9:30am **Nativity** (Fr. Harrison)

10:15am **St. Ann** (Fr. Drew Christiansen)

11:30am **IC** (Fr. Morin)

Monday (4/2)

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

Tuesday (4/3)

7:15am **IC Elizabeth Erickson Doyle** (Fr. Harrison)

Wednesday (4/4)

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

Thursday (4/5)

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

Friday (4/6)

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

1:30pm **Avita** (Fr. McLaughlin)

Saturday (4/7)

2:00pm **Atria** (Fr. Broderick)

4:00pm **IC Bill Lindquist, Thomas Burton, Ted LoPreste** (Fr. McLaughlin)

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

Sunday (4/8)

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

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

9:00am **IC For the intentions of John O'Connor & Family and Ellen Meade & Family** (Fr. Broderick)

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

11:30am **IC Nicola & Angelina Maiello, Lena Filomia, John "Jack" Kiggins & Jeffrey Bartlett Kiggins, Deacon Richard Siebert, Fred & Lorraine Cameron, Joseph Ford, John Abenante** (Fr. McLaughlin)

In your prayers, please remember Mary Bertolino, John "Jack" Marlow, and all the faithful departed.

The priests' schedule is subject to change without notice.

IC—Immaculate Conception, Newburyport

Nativity—Merrimac

St. Ann—West Newbury



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@HRICatholic

From the Pastor

Dear Parishioners,



In the Gospel passage we encounter for Easter Sunday, there is a curious line that reads, "For they did not yet understand the Scripture that he *had* to rise from the dead." (Jn 20:9). When we see the phrase, "had to do something," it implies that there was an obligation or compulsion. For example, I have to file my taxes by April 17th (an obligation...with apologies for the reminder!) or I had to stop and get something to eat because I was starving (a compulsion). We don't often think of Jesus as "having to do something." A quick look at the Gospel stories shows many instances where He was getting Himself in all kinds of trouble for failing to follow social norms and religious "obligations." He associated with those whom He was supposed to shun, cured people and performed miracles on days when any kind of work (including healing) was not supposed to happen, and He was often deft at maneuvering between two opposing obligations, satisfying neither. A great example of this is found in His dealings with "the woman caught in the very act of adultery." (See Jn 8:1-11)

But under the surface of all of this seeming disregard of Jesus for laws, customs, and obligations lies a profound reverence and respect for His Father's will. Jesus lives, breathes, and is completely about following His Father's will in everything and at every moment of His life. It led Him to cut across social norms, confront religious and civil authorities, and even cast out demons. It called Him to walk on water, move through an angry mob unharmed, and prompted Him to travel from desert to city again and again, sometimes for reasons that were known only to God. No one could quite figure it out. Following His Father's will defied mere human reason. In John's account of the raising of Lazarus, He said to his disciples, "Let us go back to Judea." The disciples said to him, "Rabbi, the Jews were just trying to stone you, and you want to go back there? (Jn 11:7-8). But no human protestations would deter Him from doing what He believed was His Father's will, not even embracing the agony of the Cross. Recall the scene from what is known as the "agony in the garden:" "Father, if you are willing, take this cup away from me; still, not my will but yours be done." (Lk 22:42)

Was Jesus forced to do His Father's will? Was it something that He had no choice in? No. In His humanity, like all of

(Continued on page 4)

Easter Collections

The Easter Collection supports the retirement, medical and financial needs of priests of the Archdiocese of Boston. These priests have given their lives to faithfully serve Christ, the Church, and you. Please be generous to this important collection. For more information, please visit www.clergyfunds.org

COLLABORATIVE NEWS

Welcome Home

Happy Easter! We're glad you're here. Our expanded Easter bulletin highlights many groups and events in the Collaborative. There is a variety of activities for all interests. What would you like to do?



Come, share your gifts.
Make sure to take a look at our Collaborative brochure today.



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.hricatholic.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**

Collaborative Office Hours

The Collaborative offices will be closed on Monday, April 2. We will reopen Tuesday, April 3 at 8:00 a.m.

What is a Collaborative?

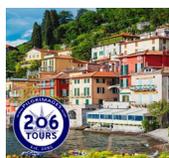
"A collaborative is a grouping of one, two, or three parishes that work together for the goal of evangelization.

"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." (*Learn more about Collaboratives at the DIM website, disciplesinmission.com.)*

Italy 2 Pilgrimage

Join Fr. Tim for *Italy 2*, a Pilgrimage to Northern Italy. Enjoy 12 amazing days in Italy touring Lake Como, Milan, Padua (St. Anthony), Venice, Florence, Siena, and Assisi (St. Francis). The dates are October 21–November 1. Cost is \$4,799 from Boston.

Visit www.pilgrimages.com/fathertim-hric to learn more.



(Continued from page 3)

us, Jesus had perfect and complete free will. He could freely choose to follow what God was asking of Him, or He could have said no and done something else. But He didn't. Like eating, sleeping, and breathing, Jesus felt passionately compelled to follow His Father's will because doing so allowed Him to truly live. He couldn't have imagined doing otherwise. He was so focused on pleasing His Father in all things, it was the most life-giving obsession anyone could ever have. Because just as following His Father's will led Him to sacrifice His life on the cross, His Father's will also was that He should rise from the dead. So, He "had to" rise from the dead as a fulfillment of everything that came before. Resurrection was the absolute mandate of the Father's will. Jesus would not have stayed dead, even if He wanted to. The Father's will was for Him to rise and live.

And this is where the Easter joy comes in for all of us. Jesus died and rose from the dead not simply for His own sake, but because the Father willed that through the sacrifice of His only Son, we, too, should have hope for our own resurrection. Because of what Jesus Christ has done in perfect obedience to the Father, we "have to" rise from the dead as well. It is not an option. We can't stay dead, even if we want to. Resurrection is our absolute destiny in Christ. We rise to be judged—to enter into the Father's joy if we have been faithful, or we rise to be condemned if we have utterly turned our hearts away from His love. But we will rise! And we have been assured of God's mercy and compassion. So, we rise to meet a loving Father in hope and confidence that what God has seen and loved in Christ, God will see and love in us as well. Viewed in this light, all of our earthly obligations take on a new perspective: how do we follow our Heavenly Father's will through them? What do we "have to do" today to be faithful disciples of the Lord, to effectively share God's love and mercy with others?

Jesus was consumed and compelled by His love for His Father. May we also be so obsessed!

Happy Easter to all,

Fr. Timothy Harrison, Pastor

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 5:00 p.m. All ages are welcome to this lively celebration. Our next youth Mass is Sunday, **May 20** at Immaculate Conception, Newburyport. For each youth Mass, a charity is chosen for donations. The May charity is the St. Vincent de Paul Society. For more information, see the bulletin's Religious Ed. sections or on the web: hricatholic.org/Youth-Ministry.

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.hricatholic.org or you can call the Parish offices.

COLLABORATIVE NEWS

This Week in Our Collaborative

See our calendar at hriccatholic.org for more activities.

Monday, April 2

Collaborative Offices Closed

Tuesday, April 3

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

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

Wednesday, April 4

PTO Meeting 8:00am, IC St. Louis Hall

Holy Jammers Practice 9:00am, IC Conference Room 209

Holy Quilters 1:00pm, Nativity Hall

IC Youth Choir Rehearsal 4:30pm, IC Church

Adoration 6:00pm, IC St. James Chapel

Centering Prayer 6:00pm, IC Conference Room 209

IC Choir Rehearsal 7:00pm, IC Church

Thursday, April 5

HR Prayer Shawl 1:00pm, Nativity Hall

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

Friday, April 6

Adoration 8:00am, IC St. James Chapel

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

Ultreya 7:00pm, IC St. James Chapel/Charity Dining Room

Saturday, April 7

Holy Quilters 8:00am, Nativity Hall

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

Sunday, April 8

Nativity Choir Rehearsal 7:45am, Nativity Church

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

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

Baptism Class 1:00pm, IC Charity Dining Room

HR First Communion 1:00pm, Nativity Church

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

Centering Prayer

Welcome All Members of Our Collaborative Family

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. As God moves us closer to him, through our daily discipline of silent prayer, we find our focus turns from self to God and we are blessed with the fruits of Centering Prayer.

Join us on Wednesdays, 6:00pm-7:00pm, in the IC Conference Room 209. Join us as we pray in this ancient Christian tradition and together deepen our understanding of this prayer in our own spiritual journey. For information please contact Elizabeth McCarthy, 978-462-7483 or visit our website at <http://www.hriccatholic.org/Get-Involved>.

Questions of the Week



Adult: What impact does the Resurrection of Jesus have on your world view?

Child: Name one way that you will celebrate the new life of Easter this week.

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.

Learn more about these ministries and other volunteer opportunities at our website, www.hriccatholic.org.

Fr. Broderick's Scripture Study

Scripture Study Meets April 8 Note Schedule Change



Father Broderick's Scripture Study will **not** meet on the regular scheduled first Sunday of the month, Easter Sunday, but will meet on Sunday, April 8, at 2:00pm in the IC Nazareth Library Room 205. This would be an ideal time for members of the Collaborative to join the study group as we will read and discuss Chapters 5-8 in St. Paul's *Epistle to the Romans*. This letter was probably written in Corinth several years prior to Paul's arduous actual voyage to Rome as a prisoner. This is Paul's longest letter and is widely considered to be his masterpiece.

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.



The Holy Jammers is an impromptu group of musicians that meet on Wednesdays in the IC Pastoral Center, second floor, at 9:00am. Everyone is welcome. Bring your instrument.

COLLABORATIVE/ARCHDIOCESE NEWS

Community Food Pantry

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

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

The Pelican Intervention Fund

Updates and Events



The Pelican Intervention Fund invites all our friends and faithful supporters to join us for the following event:

The Pelican Intervention Fund's 3rd annual Celebration of Hope will be Sunday, April 29 from 1:00–3:00pm at the Senior Center in Newburyport. The event is free. Come hear testimonials of funded recipients who are in recovery and other speakers.

To date the Pelican Intervention Fund has raised over \$175,000 and placed 23 local men and women in 12-step-based programs. Five of these individuals have come from Essex County Correctional Facility.

We have been very blessed by the generous and continued support of individuals and organizations in the communities we serve and our Collaborative. Thank you.

If you have any questions please contact Kim Keene 978-430-1408 or Elizabeth McCarthy 978-462-7483.

Cursillo & Ultreya

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

Ultreya, the Spanish word for "onward", is a gathering that unites us in prayer and fellowship. It is a reunion of those who have experienced a Cursillo, but all are welcome to 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).

Spring 2018 Ultreya / Cursillo Calendar

Ultreya	Cursillo Weekend
April 6	April 5–8 (Men)
April 27	May 3-6 (Women)
June 1	June 7-10 (Women)

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.

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 your Parish office if someone is in the hospital, so that we can visit the loved one and have the community pray for them.

Collaborative Website

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

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. Barbara J. Hopkinson is founder and chapter leader. **Our next meeting is April 23.** Contact Barbara for questions on either TCF or ABJ at (617) 410-6309 or info@abutterflysjourney.org.

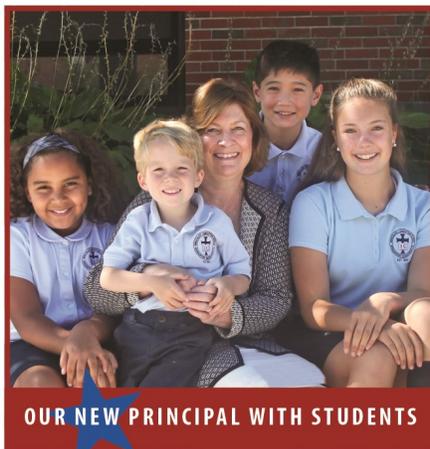


DISCOVER WHAT'S NEW Immaculate Conception School

Celebrating 135 Years 1882 - 2017



OUR NEW PRE-K TEACHER WITH HER CLASS



OUR NEW PRINCIPAL WITH STUDENTS

Pre-Kindergarten through Eighth Grade

Immaculate Conception School is an affordable, private Catholic elementary school, providing high-quality, faith-based education, preparing young people for life, spiritually, academically and socially.

OPEN HOUSES (9-10 am)

Wednesday, April 11 and Thursday, May 3

or call for a private tour.

SO MUCH IS HAPPENING



*Join us.
All Are Welcome.*



IN THE COLLABORATIVE



HOLY REDEEMER PARISH

Welcome to Holy Redeemer

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

Offertory Collection

The Easter collection, our only collection, will be the Clergy Benefit Trust to support the retirement, medical and financial needs of priests of the Archdiocese of Boston.

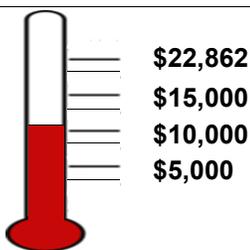


Catholic Appeal

Goal \$22,862.00

To Date \$11,985.00

54 Donors



The 2018 Catholic Appeal campaign is well underway at Holy Redeemer. So far, we have raised \$11,985.00 toward our parish goal of \$22,862.00. Thank you to all who have already participated. Your generosity will benefit hundreds of pastoral, charitable, and educational programs at work within the Archdiocese of Boston. If you have yet to participate in this year's Catholic Appeal, please pledge online at bostoncatholicappeal.org or complete a pledge form available in the back of the churches.

Saturday 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.hricatholic.org lists the Mass schedule. Please visit the website for the locations and dates.

The Saturday 4:00 p.m. Mass will move to **Nativity** in Merrimac on **April 21**.

Church Cleanups Planned

Spring Church Yards Cleanup at Both Sites

Saturday, May 19, 9:00. Contact Cindy 978-346-0072.

Scripture for the Week

- | | | |
|---|-----|---|
| 1 | Sun | Acts 10:34a, 37-43/Col 3:1-4 or 1 Cor 5:6b-8/Jn 20:1-9 or Mk 16:1-7 |
| 2 | Mon | Acts 2:14, 22-33/Mt 28:8-15 |
| 3 | Tue | Acts 2:36-41/Jn 20:11-18 |
| 4 | Wed | Acts 3:1-10/Lk 24:13-35 |
| 5 | Thu | Acts 3:11-26/Lk 24:35-48 |
| 6 | Fri | Acts 4:1-12/Jn 21:1-14 |
| 7 | Sat | Acts 4:13-21/Mk 16:9-15 |

HR Religious Education

Have a blessed Easter everyone!

Please keep in your prayers our students who will be receiving their **First Holy Communion** on Sunday, April 8 at 1:00 p.m. at Church of the Nativity, Merrimac.

The May 20 **Youth Mass** is at 5:00pm is at IC. For each youth Mass, a charity is chosen for donations. The May charity is the St. Vincent de Paul Society. Suggested donations: toiletries, lotions, shampoo, toothbrushes, and toothpaste. Prior to Mass, a beach clean up day is scheduled from 2:00–4:00pm at the North End of Plum Island. Please bring trash bags and disposable gloves. This activity is open to families. A permission form is required for any teens not accompanied by an adult. Form to be posted to the website under Youth Ministry: hricatholic.org/Youth-Ministry.

HR Sandwich Program

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



We are always in need of more sandwich donations. To help, please make sandwiches by using 1 loaf of bread and sandwich meat (**No condiments added**), individually wrap the sandwiches and place them back into the bread bag. Deliver the bread bag to St. Ann Church, West Newbury, by **9:00 a.m.** on the second and fourth Wednesday of the month. The next sandwich delivery date is **Wednesday, April 11**. Please see the Collaborative calendar at www.hricatholic.org for the schedule or contact Dotty Carr at 978-363-2909 with questions.

Holy Redeemer Raffle Night

Holy Redeemer's *Annual Raffle Night Social* will be held Saturday, April 28 at Nativity Parish Hall. Doors open at 5:00 p.m. for a buffet supper—meatballs and sauce, mac and cheese, pulled pork, "company casserole" and more. \$8.00 for dinner includes main choice, Caesar salad, roll, and drinks. Homemade desserts served at intermission. Raffle tickets are \$1.00 each and the raffles will be drawn starting at 6:00 p.m.

Everyone is invited to come to our **organizational meeting** on **Tuesday, April 17** at 6:45 p.m. at St. Ann Hall.

Raffle Donations Needed

We are asking for donations for our raffle night. Anything new—any size, any shape, any type. Gift cards and gift certificates are welcome. Donations may be left in the back of either church. Please mark donation with "Raffle." We need the donations by Sunday, April 22. Contact Cindy Quinn, cynwinquinn@aol.com, 978-346-0072 with questions.

HOLY REDEEMER PARISH

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 cynwinnquinn@aol.com if you would like to be involved in this group or in any of our annual events. Some of our events include *the Holiday Fair, Raffle Night, Wine Tasting, and Ham Supper.*

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.

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 **Thursday, April 5.**

HR Easter Flowers

In honor/memory of: Merleen Hickey, Frank & Helen Perry, Joe & Evelyn Hickey, Peter McCarron & Family, Marguerite Pendergast, Michaelina & James DiResta, Nancy P. Niday, Jack Gorski, Gerard Routhier, Fred & Margaret Gallant, John & Theresa Gorski, A. Henry Duhamel, Paula Wolfe, Patricia & Lynn Jones, Wilfred Vaillancourt, Joanne Crouse, Stephen Crouse, Bob Nevins, Vincent Higgins, Kenneth Lumsden, Francis J. Smith, Olga Tiska, Helen Clark, Arthur Clark, Thomas O'Callaghan, Deceased Members of Heaton & Pontorno Families, Robert & Edith deLyon, Charles & Katherine Friel, John M. Thumser, Robert M. Thumser, Ann Somma, Bob Murdock, Deceased Family Members: French, Bouffard, Brown & O'Leary, Wesley & Regina Carpenter, Louise Robbins, Paul Frederick, Jeffrey Robbins, Robert Miller, Malcolm Homan, Joseph Burak, John & Ruth Gonsalves, Paula Perry, Armand Cormier, Julie Brousseau, Our Parents, Lee Morphet, Claire Colbert, Carl Mann, Michael Kirwan, Sheila Kirwan, Lloyd Hayes, Wilhelmina Hayes, Tracey Sheehan, The Myers Family, The Proposki Family, Family & Friends of Anthony Leo, Brenda Ritter, The Pepin Family, The Hobitz Family, John Carpino, Nan Theriault, Rosalia Montalbano, Sandy Cipolla, Kent Smith, Jane Blanco, Mary Carpino, Kenneth Lumsden, Deceased Members of The Hansen Family, Deceased Members of The McGlade Family.

Find Us on Facebook

Holy Redeemer - Immaculate Conception Collaborative Parishes



HR St. Vincent de Paul Society



St. Vincent de Paul Society is a Catholic lay organization that offers person-to-person service to those who are needy and suffering.

Thank you for your generosity during this Lenten season. Your mite box donations will be used to help those who live in Merrimac and West Newbury. Have a blessed Easter.

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

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, Merrimac. The 2018 Fair is November 17 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 website photos page, www.hricatholic.org to see photos of past events.



Newburyport VIP Card

Help Support Holy Redeemer Parish

We encourage folks to spend a few minutes to familiarize themselves with the 180 local businesses in Newburyport and surrounding towns that offer discounts through the Newburyport App/VIP Card Program. This is a great way to save money **every time** you visit participating businesses and it is a simplistic fundraising opportunity for our parish. If you decide to make a purchase we ask that you please support Holy Redeemer. View discounts at <https://www.newburyport.com/newburyport-vip/> or you can download the Newburyport App, and select "VIP Discounts." You can purchase one card for \$25 or two for \$40, and \$10 of your purchase is donated to **Holy Redeemer Parish**. Use the following link to make your purchase:

<https://www.newburyport.com/holy-redeemer-parish/>.

HR Boy Scouts

Scouting builds more than just campfires. Scouting builds character, values, community, and family. Holy Redeemer charters 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.hricatholic.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.

Offertory Collection

The Easter collection, our only collection, will be the Clergy Benefit Trust to support the retirement, medical and financial needs of priests of the Archdiocese of Boston.

Next week's second collection is Restoration/Renovation.

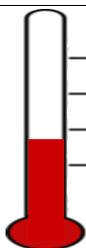


Catholic Appeal

Goal \$52,231.00

To Date \$28,460.00

90 Donors



\$52,231

\$45,000

\$30,000

\$15,000

The Immaculate Conception 2018 Catholic Appeal campaign is off to a wonderful start with \$28,460.00 already pledged! The early outpouring of support from so many helps sustain the important ministries that make IC a vibrant place of worship. If you have yet to give, please pick up a pledge form at the back of the church or visit bostoncatholicappeal.org.

St. Vincent de Paul's Breaking Bread Program

The Breaking Bread dinner program is in need of a dedicated volunteer to help in the kitchen once or twice per month. We serve every Tuesday at 5:00 p.m. The time commitment would be no more than 2 hours. Cooks and servers are doing well, but the very small group that keeps the kitchen sink area clean and organized need help.

We are a "family" of happy and caring volunteers. You would be blessed to be a part of our group. We always leave the Parish Center happy to be a part of such a wonderful group of "kitchen angels." Please join us.

Contact: "Bunny" Chiasson, Co-ordinator for the St. Vincent de Paul Breaking Bread dinner 978-465-5810 or sandbunnyc@yahoo.com.

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 Education

Amoris Laetitia...Pope Francis

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

The love of a mother and a father: In #177: God sets the father in the family so that by the gifts of his masculinity he can be "close to his wife and share everything, joy and sorrow, hope and hardship. And to be close to his children as they grow—when they play and when they work, when they are carefree and when they are distressed, when they are talkative and when they are silent, when they are daring and when they are afraid, when they stray and when they get back on the right path. To be a father who is always present. When I say 'present,' I do not mean 'controlling.' Fathers who are too controlling overshadow their children, they don't let them develop." Some fathers feel they are useless or unnecessary, but the fact is that "children need to find a father waiting for them when they return home with their problems. They may try hard not to admit it, not to show it, but they need it." It is not good for children to lack a father and to grow up before they are ready.

School Year Religious Education Classes

No Classes: April 1 and 2—Easter break.

Next Classes: Our monthly **assembly is on Divine Mercy**—come join us for prayer on Sun. 10:15 a.m. or Mon. 6:15 p.m. in the church. Prayer service begins our last class.

- Gr. K–8 Sunday, April 8 10:05–11:05 a.m.
- Gr.1–8 Monday, April 9 6:00–7:10 p.m.

Summer Programs

Religious Education is coming this summer. Once schools decide on the last day of school, we will be publishing the registration information to our website. We are currently looking at the last week of June.

We will also host our **Collaborative MS Mission week** for grades 7–8 on the week of July 16–20. This is an alternative Religious Education experience for IC youth.

Baptism

Baptism info: www.hriccatholic.org/Baptism

Please pre-register for the class.

Apr. 8 Parent Class—Charity Dining Room 1:00 p.m.
Apr. 15 Group Baptism—Church 1:00 p.m.

Confirmation

Confirmation Years 1 and 2: Please be working on your service activities. You need 24 hours over a two-year period.

Summer Confirmation Sessions for Years 1 and 2 is scheduled for July 9–12 from 5:30–8:00 p.m. Registration information will be posted to the website soon.

Landings

Landings meets on Monday, April 9 from 7:30–9:00 in the IC Charity Dining Room 114. To find out more about Landings, please contact: Dr. Mag McKinnon, 978-462-2724 ext. 7405, mmckinnon@newburyportcatholic.org.

Youth Mass—May 20, 2018, 5:00pm

Prior to Mass, a beach clean up is scheduled from 2:00–4:00pm at the North End of Plum Island. Please bring trash bags and disposable gloves. This activity is open to families. A permission form is required for any teens not accompanied by an adult. Form to be posted to the website in Youth section: hriccatholic.org/Youth-Ministry. Our next Youth Mass Charity is St. Vincent de Paul. Donations: toiletries, lotions, shampoo, toothbrushes, toothpaste.

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION PARISH

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.

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.—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. 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 also have made and distributed hats and scarves to the hundreds of homeless children in our area.

Our membership is open to all—you can brush up on your knitting or crocheting or we can teach you how. 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.

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 IC Parish. (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 and click the “Links” tab, and click on “Online Giving” to get to the site. There are four different funds you can choose to contribute to. 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.

Immaculate Conception School



Our school family begins each day with prayer. We gather together in the gym, with the students arranged by class, to enjoy a faith-centered start to our day. Members of the Leadership Team lead the prayers and announcements, and enrich our knowledge of the saints with a presentation every Friday. We

acknowledge birthdays and celebrate the accomplishments of our teams and individual students. Our time together also strengthens our sense of community as teachers and students converse and catch up on family. We are grateful that we have a central gathering place in our beautiful gym, and cherish our prayer time together. The students, faculty, and staff wish you a very Happy Easter!

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Mary A. Kelly Scholarship

Applications are now being accepted for the Mary A. Kelly Scholarship Fund. Email your request for an application to maryakscholarship@gmail.com. Scholarship eligibility:

- Young man or woman parishioner of IC Parish
- High school graduate in pursuit of a scientific education

Completed applications must be postmarked and returned to the Trustees no later than Monday, April 16, 2018.

Knights of Columbus



We welcome new members to this long-standing group of Catholic men. If you are interested in helping those in need, serving our parish, growing in faith, 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. Our next meeting is April 10 in the IC Nazareth Library, Room 205.

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