

HOLY REDEEMER AND IMMACULATE CONCEPTION  
COLLABORATIVE PARISHES

SERVING MERRIMAC, NEWBURY, NEWBURYPORT, AND WEST NEWBURY

Fifth Sunday of Easter

April 29, 2018

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



*"I am the vine, you are the branches.  
Whoever remains in me and I in him will bear much fruit,  
because without me you can do nothing." (Jn 15:5)*

*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

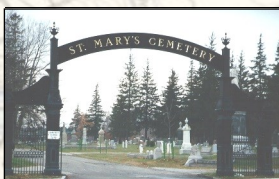
Church: 300 Main St., W. Newbury 01985  
Rectory: 46 Maple St., W. Newbury 01985  
**Phone: 978-346-8604**  
Email: [holyredeemer@verizon.net](mailto:holyredeemer@verizon.net)

## Nativity

Parish offices and church:  
4 Green St., Merrimac 01860  
Office Hours: By appointment  
**Phone: 978-346-8604**  
Email: [holyredeemer@verizon.net](mailto: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](mailto: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](http://www.icsnewburyport.com)



## Collaborative Staff

### Pastor

Rev. Timothy Harrison,  
978-462-2724 or 978-346-8604  
[info@newburyportcatholic.org](mailto:info@newburyportcatholic.org),  
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### Parochial Vicar

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### Weekend Assistant

Rev. James Broderick

### Senior Priest in Residence

Rev. William McLaughlin

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### St. Vincent de Paul

Saint Vincent de Paul Society at  
Holy Redeemer  
978-346-8604 x 8  
[hsvdp300@gmail.com](mailto:hsvdp300@gmail.com)

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

### St Mary's Cemetery

Joseph Viel, 978-208-0266  
[joeviel@comcast.net](mailto:joeviel@comcast.net)

 [Holy Redeemer - Immaculate Conception  
Collaborative Parishes](https://www.facebook.com/Holy-Redeemer-Immaculate-Conception-Collaborative-Parishes)

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

Website: [www.hricatholic.org](http://www.hricatholic.org)

# COLLABORATIVE NEWS

## Collaborative Mass Schedule

### Saturday (4/28)

4:00pm **IC** *Elizabeth J. Hanlon, Jedrey A. Connors, Charles M. Kelly, Lorri Hager* (Fr. McLaughlin)

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

### Sunday (4/29)

7:15am **IC**

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

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

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

11:30am **IC** *Robert Lynch, Janet Lamay* (Fr. McLaughlin)

### Monday (4/30)

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

### Tuesday (5/1)

7:15am **IC** *Regina M. Stronge, Jeffrey "Jeff" Baker* (Fr. Harrison)

### Wednesday (5/2)

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

### Thursday (5/3)

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

### Friday (5/4)

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

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

### Saturday (5/5)

11:00am **IC First Communion** (Fr. McLaughlin)

4:00pm **IC** *Dale Deveau, Jr.* (Fr. Harrison)

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

### Sunday (5/6)

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

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

9:00am **IC**

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

11:30am **IC** *Mary Razza, Lena Filomia, Luke Picillo* (Fr. Harrison)

In your prayers please remember Leonel "Lee" Gallant, John Herlihy, John Halloran 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,

Staying connected is such an obsession these days, isn't it? I can remember a time when I was compelled to drive a friend many miles out of our way while on vacation to the top of a high hill, just so he could get a signal on his cell phone and make a call. It is not unusual to see people lifting their phones in the air or moving them around a room, just to gain a few bars of signal strength. Wifi, once rarefied and limited to the home or office, is now "de rigueur" and ubiquitous. As the now-famous television ad once proclaimed: "Can you hear me now?" Heck, there is even a signal here in church! No wonder it is hard to get through most liturgies today without a beep, chirp, ding or dong going off somewhere. As human beings, we are more connected to one another and "what's going on" in our world than ever before. It is a bit scary at times.

Long before the invention of microprocessors and the taming of the electromagnetic spectrum of radio waves, Jesus challenged the early disciples to remain connected to Him as their very source of life. "I am the vine, you are the branches. Whoever remains in me and I in him will bear much fruit, because without me you can do nothing." (Jn 15:5) Just as a branch off of a vine will wither and fade if it becomes separated from its source of water and nutrients through the vine, so will we as followers of the Lord dry up and perish without the life-giving spirit of Christ.

Don't try this at home, but if you were to take an average teenager and seal them in a room without Wifi or a broadband signal, you would soon see modern-day agony from the isolation and withering would take on new meaning! OK, a little melodramatic there, but you get the point: we human beings need connectivity today to thrive.

*(Continued on page 4)*



## Italy 2 Pilgrimage

**It's not too late!**

We are in the process of putting together our **Pilgrimage to Northern Italy** for the fall. The "**Early Bird Discount**" has been extended, so if you are interested, please contact Paul Blanchette at (978) 500-5661 as soon as possible so as not to miss out on this important opportunity. Religious travel is a wonderful way to see the world and deepen your faith experience along the way. Join us for what will be a memorable and unforgettable journey!



*Assisi at night*

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

# COLLABORATIVE NEWS

## This Week in Our Collaborative

See our calendar at [hriccatholic.org](http://hriccatholic.org) for more activities.

### Monday, April 30

**AA Meetings** 10:30am & 7:30pm, IC St. Louis Hall

**IC First Eucharist Rehearsal (for May 5, 11:00am)** 4:30pm,  
IC Church

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

**Landings Meeting** 7:30pm, IC Charity Dining Room

### Tuesday, May 1

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

**IC First Eucharist Rehearsal (for May 5, 4:00pm)** 4:30pm,  
IC Church

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

### Wednesday, May 2

**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, May 3

**HR Prayer Shawl** 1:00pm, Nativity Hall

**IC First Eucharist Rehearsal (for May 6, 11:30am)** 4:30pm,  
IC Church

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

### Friday, May 4

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

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

### Saturday, May 5

**Holy Quilters** 8:00am, Nativity Hall

**Nativity Choir Rehearsal** 3:30pm, Nativity Church

### Sunday, May 6

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

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

**Baptism Class** 1:00pm, IC Charity Dining Room

*(Continued from page 3)*

In reality, we always have. Although social media and the Internet are the latest expressions of our nature to stay connected, most of humanity, through most of history, has gone to great lengths to bridge the gaps between us and share our life together.

In the early Church, this was found in two significant ways: common prayer, which led to common action. The Eucharist was the source and summit of their prayer-life together. Jesus' command to eat and drink and "do this in memory of me" was found to bring them into such a close communion with the Risen Christ that it emboldened them for their common mission of spreading the Good News to a sometimes hostile or indifferent world. In this weekend's second reading, we hear these words: "Those who keep his commandments remain in him, and he in them, and the way we know that he remains in us is from the Spirit he gave us." (1 Jn. 3:24) The Christian life, then, is about praying together and from the fruit of that prayer being faithful in following God's commandments, especially that of loving one another. We are connected for a purpose!

Our connections are found in many different ways. We are bonded together by our relationships with one another. We are involved in communal works of mercy. How many of us, for example, this Lent put together care packs for the homeless or made sacrifices through a St. Vincent DePaul mite box? Maybe we help-out at the Tuesday evening meal or make sandwiches for the hungry every other Wednesday. Maybe we help prepare or serve a meal at Cor Unum in Lawrence. Perhaps our service has been focused internationally, maybe helping those in need through the IC Haiti project? Or maybe we have been involved more locally with addiction recovery efforts, like those who have supported the Pelican Fund. We are constantly called to support the missionary efforts of the Church. We give generously to the many charitable collections our parishes sponsor throughout the year. Doing so helps keep us connected to the larger body of believers and the wider mission of Christ. God wants everyone to experience the depth of His love for us in Christ. Sometimes God works precisely through our own personal holiness and faithfulness to His Word.

What is one way that I might better share that with someone else today? It is what staying connected is all about!

Fr. Timothy Harrison, Pastor

## Questions of the Week



**Adult:** What does the image of the Vine and Branches say to you about your spiritual life?

**Child:** When we live in Jesus, we do good things. Name a good deed that you will do for someone this week.

## Bulletin Information

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

## Online Resources

Visit our **Collaborative Website**, [www.hriccatholic.org](http://www.hriccatholic.org) for up-to-date information on groups, meetings, religious ed., Mass times, registration forms, and current events. Link to our **calendar**, **Twitter**, and **Facebook** pages, view our current and archived bulletins, find other Catholic websites, see our Get Involved tab to see how your talents can be utilized, or check out the photos section. We have so much happening in our Collaborative.

## COLLABORATIVE NEWS

### The Pelican Intervention Fund

#### Updates and Events

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 29 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* is an invitation for you to experience the love of Jesus Christ on a personal level and to bring this love and joy into your daily life.

#### 2017–2018 Calendar

Ultreya	Cursillo Weekend
	May 3–6 (Women)
June 1	June 7–10 (Women)

*Ultreya* is held in the St. James Chapel in the IC Parish Center at 7:00 p.m. If you have questions, please feel free to contact Pat Forbes (978-462-1258) or Jonathan Temple (978-809-9337).

### Cor Unum Ministry

Cor Unum Meal Center, located in South Lawrence at St. Patrick Church, is in need of volunteers to serve meals to the poor.

Immaculate Conception and Holy Redeemer Parishes serve breakfast to the poor of Lawrence on the first Saturday of every month. Volunteers meet in the IC parking lot at 5:00am on Saturday morning. The Center serves breakfast from 6:00am to 8:00am. If you are able to give a few hours of your time serving this meal, please contact Larry Lambert at (978) 462-4842 for further information.



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Holy Redeemer - Immaculate Conception  
Collaborative Parishes



### Palliative Care, Advance Care Planning Seminar

#### The Seminar is Postponed

The Palliative Care, Advance Care Planning Seminar scheduled for this weekend, Sunday, April 29 in the Nativity Hall has been postponed until fall 2018. Please watch the bulletin for rescheduling.

### Newburyport Choral Society Spring Concert

Please join the 150-voice Newburyport Choral Society on Saturday, May 5 at 8:00 p.m., or Sunday, May 6 at 4:00 p.m. for their Spring Concert entitled "Harmony," featuring Mozart's majestic and beautiful *Requiem*. Concerts, which include an orchestra and professional vocal soloists, will be performed at Belleville Church. For tickets and information, visit [newburyportchoralsociety.org](http://newburyportchoralsociety.org) or call 978-462-0650.

### Volunteers Needed for Avita of Newburyport

Every Sunday, Avita of Newburyport Assisted Living brings residents to Mass at Holy Redeemer. They are in need of volunteers to escort residents from Avita to church and back on the Avita bus at 9:30 Sunday mornings. Please contact Debra Shapiro at [deb@avitaofnewburyport.com](mailto:deb@avitaofnewburyport.com) or 978-225-7000.

### 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.

### Community Food Pantry

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

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

# COLLABORATIVE NEWS

## Save the Date

**Celebrate Fr. Bill McLaughlin's 50th Anniversary of Ordination to the Priesthood.**

Sunday, June 3, 2018, the Feast of Corpus Christi

Mass at Immaculate Conception Church @ 11:00 a.m.

Reception @ IC St. Louis Hall (Parish Center) immediately following Liturgy. All are invited.

## 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

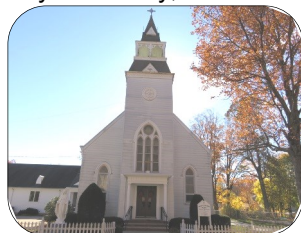
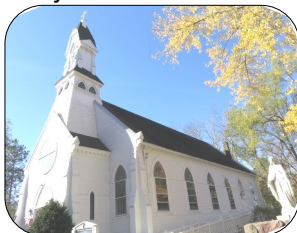
Archdiocesan guidelines request that couples planning to marry in the Church contact the church at least six months prior to the wedding date.

### 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.

## Our Collaborative

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



Immaculate Conception, Newburyport



## Scripture for the Week

- 29 Sun Acts 9:26-31/1 Jn 3:18-24/Jn 15:1-8
- 30 Mon Acts 14:5-18/Jn 14:21-26
- 1 Tue Acts 14:19-28/Jn 14:27-31a
- 2 Wed Acts 15:1-6/Jn 15:1-8
- 3 Thu 1 Cor 15:1-8/Jn 14:6-14
- 4 Fri Acts 15:22-31/Jn 15:12-17
- 5 Sat Acts 16:1-10/Jn 15:18-21
- 6 Sun Acts 10:25-26, 34-35, 44-48/1 Jn 4:7-10/  
Jn 15:9-17

## Lectio Divina: An Invitation to Scripture-based Prayer

As part of the Collaborative Pastoral Plan, we have committed ourselves to becoming ever more intentional disciples of Christ. As a first step toward making this goal a reality, we are inviting you to join your fellow parishioners in making Scripture-based prayer a more integral part of our Collaborative's faith life and journey. To this purpose, we have chosen a method of prayer known as Lectio Divina to introduce to all parishioners throughout the Collaborative. A general information sheet about Lectio Divina can be found as an insert accompanying this bulletin. Please accept this invitation to participate in a Lectio Divina prayer experience at one of the following times and places. We can assure you that your faith life and that of the parishes will be enriched and enlivened by this Scripture-based prayer.

	St Ann	Nativity	Immaculate Conception
<b>Mornings:</b>	Mon. May 14 at 9:35 in Church	Fri. May 11 at 9:35 in Church	Tues. May 8 at 7:50 in Church
<b>Evenings:</b>	Wed. May 16 at 7:00 in Church	Mon. May 7 at 7:00 in Church	Wed. May 9 at 7:15 in St. James Chapel

## 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 [www.hriccatholic.org/Get-Involved](http://www.hriccatholic.org/Get-Involved).

## EWTN: Catholic News

Want the latest Catholic News? EWTN News has got you covered. Check this link daily for news about the Catholic Church, and the latest issues in Catholicism. EWTN News: Your Online Catholic Resource.

[www.ewtnnews.com/](http://www.ewtnnews.com/)

# HOLY REDEEMER PARISH

## HR Offertory Collection

Offertory April 14–15	\$ 2,645.00
Offertory April 21–22	\$ 3,700.00
Monthly April 21–22	\$ 1,769.00
Grand Annual	\$16,755.00



## Catholic Appeal

Goal \$22,862.00  
To Date \$16,010.00  
67 Donors



\$22,862  
\$15,000  
\$10,000  
\$5,000

The 2018 Catholic Appeal campaign is underway at Holy Redeemer. So far, we have raised \$16,010.00 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](http://bostoncatholicappeal.org) or complete a pledge form available in the backs of the churches.

## Church Cleanups Planned



**Spring Church Yards Clean up:** Saturday, May 19, 9:00. This is a great opportunity for community service.

Questions? Contact: Cindy Quinn 978-346-0072.

## HR 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](mailto:msf4087@gmail.com). All faiths welcome. Please see the Parish website calendar for meeting dates, [www.hricatholic.org](http://www.hricatholic.org).

## HR Prayer Shawl



Do you know of any woman, man, or child who needs comfort and could use a Blessed Prayer Shawl or Lap Blanket? Please call Helen Kelley 978-771-4673 or Terry Duhamel 978-384-8099 for a shawl or more information.

Come join us. Don't know how? We will teach you to knit or crochet and give you yarn. We meet on the first Thursday of every month at Nativity Hall, Merrimac at 1:00pm. Our next meeting is **Thursday, May 3**.

## HR Religious Education

### Religious Ed. Registrations

Online registrations for the fall will be available soon. Watch the bulletin for details.

### Youth Mass

Our next youth Mass is Sunday, May 20 at IC at 5:00pm.

The May charity is St. Vincent de Paul Society: Donation suggestions: 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 in Youth Mass section of page: [hricatholic.org/Youth-Ministry](http://hricatholic.org/Youth-Ministry).

### Contact Info: Office of Religious Education

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

## 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 [www.newburyport.com/newburyport-vip/](http://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:

[www.newburyport.com/holy-redeemer-parish/](http://www.newburyport.com/holy-redeemer-parish/).

## HR St. Vincent de Paul Society



Thank you for returning your mite boxes. All of the monies collected will go toward helping local folks in need.

There is a wonderful way to honor someone who has requested "No gifts, please." You can send a check to Holy Redeemer Saint Vincent de Paul at 4 Green Street in Merrimac. Your donation will honor someone's celebration and will also help those in need. A note will be sent to let that someone know about the donor's meaningful gift. Donations can be made to celebrate birthdays, anniversaries, and other significant occasions.

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

# IMMACULATE CONCEPTION PARISH

## IC Offertory Collection

April 21–22	\$10,245.00
Monthly	\$ 1,784.00
Grand Annual	\$75,840.00

The second collection **next** weekend is the Restoration/Renovation.



### Catholic Appeal

Goal \$52,231.00

To Date \$49,228.00

203 Donors



\$52,231

\$45,000

\$30,000

\$15,000

The Immaculate Conception 2018 Catholic Appeal campaign is off to a wonderful start with \$49,228.00 already pledged! The 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](http://bostoncatholicappeal.org). Thank you for your prayers and support.

## Knights of Columbus

The next monthly meeting of the Knights of Columbus will be held on **Tuesday, May 8** at 7:30pm in the IC Nazareth Library, Room 205. We welcome new members to this long-standing group of Catholic men. For more information, contact us at [membership@kofc231.org](mailto:membership@kofc231.org), (978) 572-0231.

## Breaking Bread

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 needs 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](mailto: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.

## Immaculate Conception School



Spring is an especially exciting time for our youngest students. As the weather warms, interesting bugs emerge, baby birds begin to chirp, budding trees and blossoming flowers stimulate the senses. The beauty of nature provides lessons about the life cycle, weather patterns, how plant roots drink, honey bees, hatching eggs and baby animals, and the joy of picking flowers to give to a loved one. Springtime in our Pre-K and Kindergarten classrooms is always enlightening, because the children take such delight in the smallest details of the beautiful creations that God has provided.



## Boy Scout Troop 21 Yard Sale

Boy Scout Troop 21 invites the Greater Newburyport community to shop their Boy Scout Yard Sale & Coffee Fundraiser from **8–11 a.m., April 28** at **Bartlet Mall** in Newburyport.

This event helps to fund the Troop’s Eagle Scout Court of Honor. The Eagle Scout status is awarded to Scouts who have completed an Eagle Scout Project for their community. Eagle Scout projects involve a lengthy planning process and are an opportunity for a Boy Scout to demonstrate leadership of others while performing a project for the benefit of his community. Eagle Scout projects require a detailed written proposal and formal agreements from the Boy Scouts of America Council, the Scout, Scoutmaster and leadership of the project’s benefactor.

Scouts have worked to complete a variety of community projects recently, which include the rebuilding of park benches throughout the Landmark School’s Beverly campus, repainting several rooms at Opportunity Works, creating a small animal shed at Spencer Pierce Little Farm, restoring the Maudslay State Park’s Longtrail and rockery staircase, preparing homeless shelter packages and hosting a Red Cross Blood Drive.

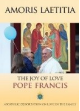
The yard sale fundraiser represents Scout values of repurposing, reusing, and reselling to the Greater Newburyport area. Sale items will include furniture, sports equipment, tools, toys, home décor, lights, kitchenware, linens, books, shoes, plants, yard equipment, bikes, costumes, video games, and more.



# IMMACULATE CONCEPTION PARISH

## IC Religious Education

### Amoris Laetitia...Pope Francis



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

*An Expanding Fruitfulness:* In #184: By their witness as well as their words, families speak to others of Jesus. They pass on the faith, they arouse a desire for God and they reflect the beauty of the Gospel and its way of life. Christian marriages thus enliven society by their witness of fraternity, their social concern, their outspokenness on behalf of the underprivileged, their luminous faith and their active hope. Their fruitfulness expands and in countless ways makes God's love present in society.

### Summer Religious Programs

Religious Education is coming this summer. The weeks of June 25–29 and July 23–27. Monday–Thursday, 9:00am–3:00pm and Friday 9:00am–2:00pm. Cost: \$175/person. Parent letter and registration online:

[hriccatholic.org/IC-Children-s-Religious-Education](http://hriccatholic.org/IC-Children-s-Religious-Education)

We will also host our Collaborative MS Mission week for grades 7–8 the week of July 16–20 from 9:00am–4:00pm. Time will flex with visits to different agencies. This is an alternative Religious Education experience for IC youth.

[hriccatholic.org/IC-Youth-Religious-Education](http://hriccatholic.org/IC-Youth-Religious-Education)

### Baptism

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

Please pre-register for the class.

May 6 Parent Class—Charity Dining Room 1:00pm

May 13 Group Baptism—Church 2:00pm

**Note: change of Group Baptism time for May only from 1:00pm to 2:00pm due to 1st Eucharist Mass.**

### 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 5:30–8:00pm. Registration information is found online: [hriccatholic.org/Confirmation--Immaculate-Conception-Parish](http://hriccatholic.org/Confirmation--Immaculate-Conception-Parish)

### Landings

Our last session of Landings meets on Monday, May 7 from 7:00–8:30 in the IC Charity Dining Room 114. We will have another series in the Fall 2018. To find out more about Landings, please contact: Dr. Mag McKinnon 978-462-2724 ext. 7405, [mmckinnon@newburyportcatholic.org](mailto:mmckinnon@newburyportcatholic.org)

### Youth Mass and Beach Cleanup

Our next Youth Mass is Sunday, May 20 at IC at 5:00pm. Charity: St. Vincent de Paul Society: Donations: toiletries, lotions, shampoo, toothbrushes, 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 in Youth Mass section of page: [hriccatholic.org/Youth-Ministry](http://hriccatholic.org/Youth-Ministry).

## Cookies for Haiti

### Bake Sale April 28–29 after every IC Mass

Margot Anderson-Song, now a 7th grader at Immaculate Conception School, is once again urging everyone to participate in Cookies for Haiti. This is the fifth annual event to raise important money for the Father Marc Piché School and the children of Puit Chacha.

In Margot's own words: "IC Haiti has been a part of my life since I was 8 years old, in the third grade. Understanding what some kids who are less fortunate than I am are going through, is humbling and inspiring, and that is the message that I would like to get across to everybody. What makes my bake sale successful each year are the generous donations made by members of the church. From baking to buying—anything helps. Thank you so much for all your support every year!"

Please help this wonderful cause which has become a crucial part of the annual budget for IC Haiti. This money goes directly toward the food for student lunches, teacher salaries, and supplies that allow the Father Marc Piché School to continue to feed and educate the children of Puit Chacha.

We take for granted our beautiful school next door which nurtures our children every day. Please help us to extend this vital service to children who are not very far away or at all different than our own!

Buy cookies! Bake cookies! If you would like to support this wonderful cause please be sure to give generously for those cookies. They will be sold after every mass at Immaculate Conception the weekend of **April 28–29**.

## IC Knitting Ministry

We meet Tuesdays at 1:00pm in the IC Parish Center, Room 209. We knit shawls, hats, mittens, and scarves and bring prayers and hope to people who are sick and to their caregivers and to celebrate happy occasions. We also distribute hats and scarves to homeless children. Our membership is open to all. Please join us for knitting, fellowship, and tea (and goodies).

If you know anyone who needs a prayer shawl or for more information please call Frances Ronan 978-462-4972 or Julia O'Connor at 978-465-3350.



## IC First Eucharist Rehearsals

Our 1st Eucharist Rehearsals are at 4:30pm in the church as follows:

- Monday, April 30 for May 5, 11:00am Mass.
- Tuesday, May 1 for May 5, 4:00pm Mass.
- Thursday, May 3 for May 6, 11:30am Mass.
- Monday, May 7 for May 12, 11:00am Mass.
- Tuesday, May 8 for May 12, 4:00pm Mass.
- Thursday, May 10 for May 13, 11:30am Mass.

Please pray for our candidates as they prepare for their reception of Jesus in the Holy Eucharist.