

HOLY REDEEMER AND IMMACULATE CONCEPTION  
COLLABORATIVE PARISHES

SERVING MERRIMAC, NEWBURY, NEWBURYPORT, AND WEST NEWBURY

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

August 26, 2018

*All Are Welcome*



TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

AS FOR ME AND MY HOUSEHOLD, WE WILL SERVE THE LORD.

JOSHUA 24:15

## Statement of Cardinal Seán P. O'Malley, OFM Cap Archbishop of Boston

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

Thursday, August 16, 2018

There are times when words fail us—when they do not capture the depth of overwhelming situations we sometimes face in life. For the Church in the United States this is one of those times.

The Pennsylvania Grand Jury's report and the first-hand expressions of horror and devastating pain experienced by survivors once again wrench our hearts with the unimaginable that tragically is all too real for those who carry this pain. Once again we hear each excruciating word they share. We remain shamed by these egregious failures to protect children and those who are vulnerable and affirm our commitment that these failures will never be repeated.

While many perpetrators have been held accountable in one way or another for their crimes, we have yet to establish clear and transparent systems of accountability and consequence for Church leadership whose failures have allowed these crimes to occur. The Church must embrace spiritual conversion and demand legal transparency and pastoral accountability for all who carry out its mission. This transformation is not easily achieved, but in all aspects it is imperative. The way we prepare priests, the way we exercise pastoral leadership and the way we cooperate with civil authorities; all these have to be consistently better than has been the case.

As I have stated previously, there are immediate actions that we can and must take. The clock is ticking for all of us in Church leadership, Catholics have lost patience with us and civil society has lost confidence in us. But I am not without hope and do not succumb to despondent acceptance that our failures cannot be corrected. As the Church we have the responsibility to help people not to lose hope, that was Jesus' message to all those he ministered to, especially in times of great trial. There is too much good in the Church and in our faith to lose hope. Often it is survivors who courageously teach us we cannot lose hope.

Although "zero tolerance" of sexual abuse has been declared and pursued and programs of advocacy and protection of children have been adopted in dioceses throughout country, the memory, the record, the burden carried by survivors and every other fact of sexual abuse stay with the Church. We can never become complacent, this is a life-long ongoing work that demands the highest levels of our constant awareness and attention.

The crisis we face is the product of clerical sins and clerical failures. As a Church, the conversion, transparency and accountability we need is only possible with the significant involvement and leadership of lay men and women in our Church, individuals who can bring their competence, experience and skills to the task we face. We need the help of the laity to address this scourge on our people and Church. If the Church proceeds with deep recognition of these realities the future can hold the opportunity to earn back trust, confidence and support from the community of Catholics and our society. We must proceed quickly and with purpose; there is no time to waste.

### **Archdiocese of Boston Office of Pastoral Support and Child Protection**

To survivors in the Archdiocese of Boston who struggle to process their pain and whose wounds are opened especially wide with the reports from Pennsylvania, please know that Vivian Soper, Director of the Archdiocese's Office of Pastoral Support and Child Protection and her colleagues stand ready to provide assistance. We encourage you to contact Vivian at 617-746-5985. To the survivors and their loved ones, we must again apologize and ask forgiveness. While much has been accomplished in the protection of children with the participation of the laity, there remains much more to be done. We are committed to the fulfillment of this responsibility as a continuing priority for the work of the Church.

# COLLABORATIVE NEWS

## Collaborative Mass Schedule

### Saturday (8/25)

4:00pm **IC** *Mary Flore Dubuc, Stanley Jancewicz, George Laite, Christopher Laite, Johnny Anderson, Stephen Masarro* (Fr. Harrison)

4:00pm **St. Ann** (Fr. McLaughlin)

### Sunday (8/26)

7:15am **IC** *Regina M. Stronge, Harry Kalashian* (Fr. McLaughlin)

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

9:00am **IC** *Ronald "Ronnie" Corbett* (Fr. McLaughlin)

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

11:00am **IC** (Fr. Morin)

### Monday (8/27)

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

### Tuesday (8/28)

7:15am **IC** *Judy Conway* (Fr. Harrison)

### Wednesday (8/29)

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

### Thursday (8/30)

7:15am **IC** *Lillian M. Foley* (Fr. Morin)

### Friday (8/31)

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

### Saturday (9/1)

4:00pm **IC** *Virginia Reardon, Mary Lou Gannon, Cori Lyn Harrington* (Fr. Morin)

4:00pm **St. Ann** (Fr. McLaughlin)

### Sunday (9/2)

7:15am **IC** *Regina M. Stronge, Derek Hines* (Fr. Ray)

8:00am **Nativity** *Bob Nevins* (Fr. McLaughlin)

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

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

11:00am **IC** *Michael Filomia, Andrew Shakespeare* (Fr. Morin)

In your prayers, please remember Joyce A. Boland, Eileen M. Twomey, 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,



I guess I picked a tough weekend to be away from the parish! After my departure for some vacation time and just prior to this past weekend, I understand that the Archdiocese reached out to all parishes, asking that a letter from Cardinal O'Malley be read at all masses. In my absence, I was not able to ensure that this was made available to everyone, so the full text of Cardinal O'Malley's letter is being printed in this weekend's bulletin for those who didn't have the opportunity to hear his words last week. I apologize for any confusion or distress that this may have caused anyone. Additionally, we are printing the full text of Pope Francis' letter that was issued on Monday to Catholics worldwide on this same, vexing issue of clergy sexual abuse and the erosion of trust and confidence it has caused to the Church we love.

I would, in particular, invite you to focus your prayers and best thinking first on the victims and their respective families who have suffered over many decades. In addition to the lasting psychological effects of this abuse, many of our brothers and sisters who were harmed have struggled with addiction, disease, and some have been lost to despair and suicide. They need our prayers, support, understanding, compassion and look for our forthright resolve as a Church to eradicate this abuse from our midst. To that end, I would ask that you pray and think about how best to not only ensure that the young and vulnerable are always kept safe and protected in the life of the Church, but also how best to hold accountable those who enabled that abuse and, in some cases, actively covered it up. Even one act of abuse is horrid, but when it is multiplied many times over in multiple locations by a failure of administration and leadership, we all suffer from these grave wounds inflicted on the Body of Christ. In Christ's name, we can and must do better.

These are bitter things to bring to prayer, to talk about in church and outside, and it can be so demoralizing to once again be dealing with this same issue. Will it ever be properly dealt with? It is important that we do not lose hope. We must remember that Jesus Christ founded the Church and it is through his enduring presence in our midst that we will find a path forward from this scandal. That path will involve a change of heart, conversion, reform, transparency, accountability, commitment and a willingness to do the hard things necessary that the Gospel of Jesus Christ may continue to be heard in a world that so desperately needs its soothing balm. We must be the bearers of that hope. Let us go forward with confidence and trust in our Lord.

Fr. Timothy Harrison

Pastor

## Catholic TV

Visit [www.catholicstv.com](http://www.catholicstv.com) for a schedule of the latest program details on America's Catholic Television Network.

## COLLABORATIVE NEWS

### This Week in Our Collaborative

**Monday, August 27**

**AA Meeting** 10:30am *IC St. Louis Hall*

**Pastoral Plan Discipleship Priority Meeting** 7:00pm, *IC Charity Dining Room*

**Compassionate Friends** 7:30pm, *IC Conference Room 209*

**Tuesday, August 28**

**ICS Staff Spirituality—Renew & Rejoice** 8:00am, *IC St. Louis Hall*

**Reunion Prayer Group** 9:00am, *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*

**HR St. Vincent de Paul Meeting** 7:00pm, *Nativity Rectory*

**Wednesday, August 29**

**ICS Staff Meeting** 8:00am, *IC St. Louis Hall*

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

**Collaborative Offices Close at 12:00 noon**

**Holy Quilters** 1:00pm, *Nativity Hall*

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

**Centering Prayer** 6:00pm, *IC Conference Room 209*

**Thursday, August 30**

**ICS Staff Meeting** 8:00am, *IC St. Louis Hall*

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

**Friday, August 31**

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

**Voice of the Faithful Meeting** 12:30pm, *IC Conference Room 209*

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

**Saturday, September 1**

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

**Sunday, September 2**

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

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

### Collaborative Office Hours

The Collaborative offices will be closing at **noon** on **Wednesday, August 29** for a staff meeting. We will reopen on Thursday, August 30 at 8:00 a.m.

### Bulletin Information

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

### Questions of the Week



**Adult:** To whom do you go when you are looking for meaning or answers to life's questions?

**Child:** Who and what help you believe in Jesus?

### Scripture Readings 8/26–9/2

Praying with the Scriptures daily is one sure way to become a more intentional disciple of Christ.

**Sunday, August 26:** Joshua 24:1-2a, 15-17, 18b; Ephesians 5:21-32, John 6:60-69

**Monday, August 27:** 2 Thessalonians 1:1-5, 11-12; Matthew 23:13-22

**Tuesday, August 28:** 2 Thess. 2:1-3a, 14-17; Matthew 23:23-36

**Wednesday, August 29:** 2 Thess. 3:6-10, 16-18; Matthew 6:17-29

**Thursday, August 30:** 1 Corinthians 1:1-9; Matthew 24:42-51

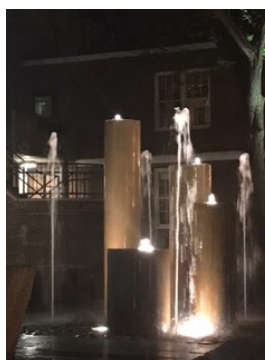
**Friday, August 31:** 1 Corinthians 1:17-25; Matthew 25:1-13

**Saturday, Sept. 1:** 1 Corinthians 1:26-31; Matthew 25:14-30

**Sunday, Sept. 2:** Deuteronomy 4:1-2, 6-8; James 1:17-18, 21b-22, 27; Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23

### Ask A Priest

#### "Ask A Priest" 2018 Inn Street Finale

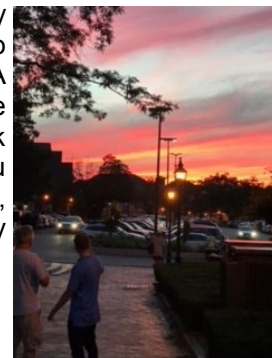


Fr. Ray Richard joined Fr. George Morin and 12 of the Team after the squalls left downtown. Traffic was light, but the children played in the fountain which, when lit at sundown, reminded us that we are called to be the Light of Christ.

Thank you to Fr. Tim Harrison and to Fr. John Kiley and to all who joined "Ask A Priest" on one

or all of our 5 nights at the Boardwalk and 5 nights on Inn Street. See you again next summer! And meanwhile, let us all be ambassadors for the Joy of the Gospel!

[Sponsored by Adult Faith Formation Team]



### Centering Prayer

Centering Prayer, resting silently in God, facilitates the process of inner transformation. Our prayer without words is one of intention to surrender to God's presence and action in our lives and desire for a closer relationship with God. Join us on Wednesdays, 6:00pm–7:00pm, in the IC 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.

## LETTER OF HIS HOLINESS POPE FRANCIS TO THE PEOPLE OF GOD

If one member suffers, all suffer together with it" (1 Cor 12:26). These words of Saint Paul forcefully echo in my heart as I acknowledge once more the suffering endured by many minors due to sexual abuse, the abuse of power and the abuse of conscience perpetrated by a significant number of clerics and consecrated persons. Crimes that inflict deep wounds of pain and powerlessness, primarily among the victims, but also in their family members and in the larger community of believers and nonbelievers alike. Looking back to the past, no effort to beg pardon and to seek to repair the harm done will ever be sufficient. Looking ahead to the future, no effort must be spared to create a culture able to prevent such situations from happening, but also to prevent the possibility of their being covered up and perpetuated. The pain of the victims and their families is also our pain, and so it is urgent that we once more reaffirm our commitment to ensure the protection of minors and of vulnerable adults.

### 1. If one member suffers...

In recent days, a report was made public which detailed the experiences of at least a thousand survivors, victims of sexual abuse, the abuse of power and of conscience at the hands of priests over a period of approximately seventy years. Even though it can be said that most of these cases belong to the past, nonetheless as time goes on we have come to know the pain of many of the victims. We have realized that these wounds never disappear and that they require us forcefully to condemn these atrocities and join forces in uprooting this culture of death; these wounds never go away. The heart-wrenching pain of these victims, which cries out to heaven, was long ignored, kept quiet or silenced. But their outcry was more powerful than all the measures meant to silence it, or sought even to resolve it by decisions that increased its gravity by falling into complicity. The Lord heard that cry and once again showed us on which side he stands. Mary's song is not mistaken and continues quietly to echo throughout history. For the Lord remembers the promise he made to our fathers: "he has scattered the proud in their conceit; he has cast down the mighty from their thrones and lifted up the lowly; he has filled the hungry with good things, and the rich he has sent away empty" (Lk 1:51-53). We feel shame when we realize that our style of life has denied, and continues to deny, the words we recite.

With shame and repentance, we acknowledge as an ecclesial community that we were not where we should have been, that we did not act in a timely manner, realizing the magnitude and the gravity of the damage done to so many lives. We showed no care for the little ones; we abandoned them. I make my own the words of the then Cardinal Ratzinger when, during the Way of the Cross composed for Good Friday 2005, he identified with the cry of pain of so many victims and exclaimed: "How much filth there is in the Church, and even among those who, in the priesthood, ought to belong entirely to [Christ]! How much pride, how much self-complacency! Christ's betrayal by his disciples, their unworthy reception of his body and blood, is certainly the greatest suffering endured by the Redeemer; it pierces his heart. We can only call to him from the depths of our hearts: *Kyrie eleison*—Lord, save us! (cf. Mt 8:25)" (Ninth Station).

### 2. ... all suffer together with it

The extent and the gravity of all that has happened requires coming to grips with this reality in a comprehensive and communal way. While it is important and necessary on every journey of conversion to acknowledge the truth of what has happened, in itself this is not enough. Today we are challenged as the People of God to take on the pain of our brothers and sisters wounded in their flesh and in their spirit. If, in the past, the response was one of omission, today we want solidarity, in the deepest and most challenging sense, to become our way of forging present and future history. And this in an environment where conflicts, tensions and above all the victims of every type of abuse can encounter an outstretched hand to protect them and rescue them from their pain (cf. *Evangelii Gaudium*, 228). Such solidarity demands that we in turn condemn whatever endangers the integrity of any person. A solidarity that summons us to fight all forms of corruption, especially spiritual corruption. The latter is "a comfortable and self-satisfied form of blindness. Everything then appears acceptable: deception, slander, egotism and other subtle forms of self-centeredness, for 'even Satan disguises himself as an angel of light' (2 Cor 11:14)" (*Gaudete et Exsultate*, 165). Saint Paul's exhortation to suffer with those who suffer is the best antidote against all our attempts to repeat the words of Cain: "Am I my brother's keeper?" (*Gen 4:9*).

I am conscious of the effort and work being carried out in various parts of the world to come up with the necessary means to ensure the safety and protection of the integrity of children and of vulnerable adults, as well as implementing zero tolerance and ways of making all those who perpetrate or cover up these crimes accountable. We have delayed in applying these actions and sanctions that are so necessary, yet I am confident that they will help to guarantee a greater culture of care in the present and future.

Together with those efforts, every one of the baptized should feel involved in the ecclesial and social change that we so greatly need. This change calls for a personal and communal conversion that makes us see things as the Lord does. For

*(Continued on page 6)*

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as Saint John Paul II liked to say: “If we have truly started out anew from the contemplation of Christ, we must learn to see him especially in the faces of those with whom he wished to be identified” (*Novo Millennio Ineunte*, 49). To see things as the Lord does, to be where the Lord wants us to be, to experience a conversion of heart in his presence. To do so, prayer and penance will help. I invite the entire holy faithful People of God to a *penitential exercise of prayer and fasting*, following the Lord’s command.[1] This can awaken our conscience and arouse our solidarity and commitment to a culture of care that says “never again” to every form of abuse.

It is impossible to think of a conversion of our activity as a Church that does not include the active participation of all the members of God’s People. Indeed, whenever we have tried to replace, or silence, or ignore, or reduce the People of God to small elites, we end up creating communities, projects, theological approaches, spiritualities and structures without roots, without memory, without faces, without bodies and ultimately, without lives.[2] This is clearly seen in a peculiar way of understanding the Church’s authority, one common in many communities where sexual abuse and the abuse of power and conscience have occurred. Such is the case with clericalism, an approach that “not only nullifies the character of Christians, but also tends to diminish and undervalue the baptismal grace that the Holy Spirit has placed in the heart of our people”.[3] Clericalism, whether fostered by priests themselves or by lay persons, leads to an excision in the ecclesial body that supports and helps to perpetuate many of the evils that we are condemning today. To say “no” to abuse is to say an emphatic “no” to all forms of clericalism.

It is always helpful to remember that “in salvation history, the Lord saved one people. We are never completely ourselves unless we belong to a people. That is why no one is saved alone, as an isolated individual. Rather, God draws us to himself, taking into account the complex fabric of interpersonal relationships present in the human community. God wanted to enter into the life and history of a people” (*Gaudete et Exsultate*, 6). Consequently, the only way that we have to respond to this evil that has darkened so many lives is to experience it as a task regarding all of us as the People of God. This awareness of being part of a people and a shared history will enable us to acknowledge our past sins and mistakes with a penitential openness that can allow us to be renewed from within. Without the active participation of all the Church’s members, everything being done to uproot the culture of abuse in our communities will not be successful in generating the necessary dynamics for sound and realistic change. The penitential dimension of fasting and prayer will help us as God’s People to come before the Lord and our wounded brothers and sisters as sinners imploring forgiveness and the grace of shame and conversion. In this way, we will come up with actions that can generate resources attuned to the Gospel. For “whenever we make the effort to return to the source and to recover the original freshness of the Gospel, new avenues arise, new paths of creativity open up, with different forms of expression, more eloquent signs and words with new meaning for today’s world” (*Evangelii Gaudium*, 11).

It is essential that we, as a Church, be able to acknowledge and condemn, with sorrow and shame, the atrocities perpetrated by consecrated persons, clerics, and all those entrusted with the mission of watching over and caring for those most vulnerable. Let us beg forgiveness for our own sins and the sins of others. An awareness of sin helps us to acknowledge the errors, the crimes and the wounds caused in the past and allows us, in the present, to be more open and committed along a journey of renewed conversion.

Likewise, penance and prayer will help us to open our eyes and our hearts to other people’s sufferings and to overcome the thirst for power and possessions that are so often the root of those evils. May fasting and prayer open our ears to the hushed pain felt by children, young people and the disabled. A fasting that can make us hunger and thirst for justice and impel us to walk in the truth, supporting all the judicial measures that may be necessary. A fasting that shakes us up and leads us to be committed in truth and charity with all men and women of good will, and with society in general, to combatting all forms of the abuse of power, sexual abuse and the abuse of conscience.

In this way, we can show clearly our calling to be “a sign and instrument of communion with God and of the unity of the entire human race” (*Lumen Gentium*, 1).

“If one member suffers, all suffer together with it”, said Saint Paul. By an attitude of prayer and penance, we will become attuned as individuals and as a community to this exhortation, so that we may grow in the gift of compassion, in justice, prevention and reparation. Mary chose to stand at the foot of her Son’s cross. She did so unhesitatingly, standing firmly by Jesus’ side. In this way, she reveals the way she lived her entire life. When we experience the desolation caused by these ecclesial wounds, we will do well, with Mary, “to insist more upon prayer”, seeking to grow all the more in love and fidelity to the Church (SAINT IGNATIUS OF LOYOLA, *Spiritual Exercises*, 319). She, the first of the disciples, teaches all of us as disciples how we are to halt before the sufferings of the innocent, without excuses or cowardice. To look to Mary is to discover the model of a true follower of Christ.

May the Holy Spirit grant us the grace of conversion and the interior anointing needed to express before these crimes of abuse our compunction and our resolve courageously to combat them.

FRANCIS

Vatican City, 20 August 2018

# HOLY REDEEMER PARISH

## HR Offertory Collection

Offertory, August 18–19      \$2,834.00  
Assumption                      \$ 456.00



## Catholic Appeal

Goal \$22,862.00  
To Date \$19,935.00



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

We are pleased to share that Holy Redeemer has raised \$19,935.00 toward the parish goal of \$22,862.00. Thank you to all who have already pledged support. If you have yet to give, we need your help! Please give today to help us reach our goal. Gifts can be made online at [bostoncatholicappeal.org](http://bostoncatholicappeal.org) or by completing a pledge form available in the backs of the churches.

## Eagle Scout Bake Sale

This weekend after all HR Masses



Ryan Hankins from Merrimac Boy Scout Troop 41 will be having a Bake Sale after all three Holy Redeemer Masses in Merrimac and West Newbury this weekend to raise funds for his Eagle Scout Project. His project will involve yard renovations at the St. Ann's Rectory in West Newbury.

Thank you for your support.

## 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.

## 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, September 6.**

## HR Religious Education

Rel. Ed. Families, all class schedules and registration forms are now online: [hricatholic.org](http://hricatholic.org). Click the Faith Formation tab, then Holy Redeemer tab. Please submit registration forms to the Holy Redeemer office, Attn: Doreen O'Leary.

### Confirmation

Incoming 11th graders who have completed grade 9 and 10 classes: your **Retreat Day** is scheduled for Sunday, Sept. 16 at the hall in Merrimac from 11:00 a.m.–3:30 p.m. (lunch is included). Please bring cash or check in the amount of \$25.00 made out to Holy Redeemer for the robe rental fee. The robes are worn during the Confirmation Mass.

**Confirmation Rehearsal** is Wednesday, September 26 at St. Ann Church in West Newbury at 7:00 p.m. Please attend with your sponsor, if possible, or a parent.

**Confirmation Mass(es)** are at St. Ann Church at 1:00 p.m. and a smaller group at the 4:00 p.m. Mass on **Saturday, September 29, 2018.** Bishop Hennessey will be presiding at both celebrations. If any candidates, sponsors, or parents would like to serve during the Mass, let me know on Retreat Day. Attendance for all of the above is mandatory.

**Contact Info: Office of Religious Education**

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

## HR St. Vincent de Paul Society



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.

## Activities Committee Meeting

The HR Activities Committee will hold an organizational/planning meeting for the upcoming year on **Sunday, August 26 at 7:30 p.m.** at Nativity Hall. All are welcome. Please plan on attending and bring some ideas for future activities for all members of Holy Redeemer Parish...and our surrounding community.

## 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/)

# IMMACULATE CONCEPTION PARISH

## IC Offertory Collection

Offertory, August 18–19	\$10,837.00
Restoration/Renovation	\$ 1,700.00
Assumption	\$ 983.00

The second collection this weekend is **Fr. Ray**.

## The Saint Vincent de Paul Society



Collection	\$ 20.00
Poor Box	\$ 211.00
Total	\$ 231.00

## 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. Visit our website at [tcfnewburyport.org](http://tcfnewburyport.org).

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. Our next meeting is **August 27**.

Barbara J. Hopkinson is founder and chapter leader. Contact Barbara for questions on either TCF or ABJ at [barbarajhopkinson@gmail.com](mailto:barbarajhopkinson@gmail.com).

## IC Annual Back-to-School New Socks and Underwear Drive

Our Annual Sock and Underwear drive is underway. Bins for your donations are at the doors of the IC Church. Please donate socks and underwear for school children ages 5–18 years old. Packages collected will go to the Community Service Center and will be distributed to those in need. Thanks so much for your generosity.



## Archdiocese Web Site

Visit [www.bostoncatholic.org](http://www.bostoncatholic.org) for the latest news and information around the Archdiocese of Boston.

## 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



We are just a week away from the start of the school year! Our building looks more beautiful than ever both inside and out.

Heartfelt thanks to our maintenance team for their tireless efforts in preparing the building for our September 4 opening. Moving all furniture and materials out of the upper classrooms to accommodate the construction was a huge task that was added to the regular summer maintenance list. Our entire school community thanks **Ed Martinez, Cliff Vandenbulcke, and Bud Kent** for all they do for our students and the IC!



## Immaculate Conception Parking

In the weeks ahead, there will be several challenges to parking in the vicinity of Immaculate Conception Church due to construction and community events in the immediate area of the church.

On **Saturday, September 1**, the free Riverfest Concert featuring a number of popular bands will take place from Noon to about 7:00 p.m. down at the waterfront. City officials are estimating crowds in excess of 20,000 for this event. Every effort will be made by parish staff to close-off the IC parking lot and to reserve it for 4:00 p.m. mass-goers, but parishioners should anticipate that side streets in the general area will be unavailable for parking. To avoid the crowds and inevitable parking headaches, everyone is urged to consider attending one of our Sunday masses that weekend.

Also, please be aware that as construction begins downtown on the new parking garage, there will be parking restrictions during weekdays on certain side streets. In the IC parking lot along Court Street there will be spaces reserved for city and police vehicles while this construction takes place down on Titcomb Street. To our knowledge, weekend parking in the IC lot will be unaffected. We anticipate these weekday parking restrictions to begin around **September 5** and last through the end of September. Thank you in advance for your understanding and patience.



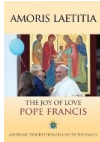
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# IMMACULATE CONCEPTION PARISH

## 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.

*Casting light on crises, worries and difficulties:* In #231: A word should also be said about those whose love, like a fine wine, has come into its own. Just as a good wine begins to “breathe” with time, so too the daily experience of fidelity gives married life richness and “body.” Fidelity has to do with patience and expectation. Its joys and sacrifices bear fruit as the years go by and the couple rejoices to see their children’s children.

The love present from the beginning becomes more conscious, settled and mature as the couple discover each other anew day after day, year after year. Saint John of the Cross tells us that “old lovers are tried and true.” They “are outwardly no longer afire with powerful emotions and impulses, but now taste the sweetness of the wine of love, well-aged and stored deep within their hearts.” Such couples have successfully overcome crises and hardships without fleeing from challenges or concealing problems.

### Fall Religious Programs

**Fall Registration** is available now. [www.hriccatholic.org/IC-Children-s-Religious-Education](http://www.hriccatholic.org/IC-Children-s-Religious-Education).

Classes begin Sunday, September 16, 10:05–11:05am and Monday, September 17, 5:30–6:30pm.

### Baptism

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

Please pre-register for the class.

Sept. 9 Parent Class—Charity Dining Room 1:00pm

Sept. 16 Group Baptism—Church 1:00pm

### Confirmation

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

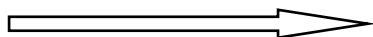
**Confirmation Junior—Grade 11** will have their retreats on Saturday, September 8 from 10:00am–2:00pm and Sunday, September 9 from 1:00–5:00pm at Immaculate Conception Church. Please keep them in prayer.

**Note: We have added a Confirmation Mass.** Candidates will celebrate their Confirmation on Sunday, September 23 at the 11:30am Mass or the 2:30pm Mass with Bishop Hennessey. Candidates are to confirm their Mass preference time with the Religious Education office and number of guests.

**Confirmation Orientation for parents only** on Sunday, September 16 at 2:00pm in the Church. This meeting is for parents with candidates in Year 1, catholic school candidates in Year 2, and any family that is new to Confirmation at IC.

**Confirmation session** is October 28 at 1:00pm in the Church for Years 1 and 2.

**IC Parish Boosters:**

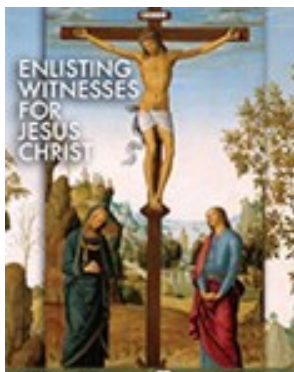


## IC Online Giving

Immaculate Conception Parish provides Online Giving—a convenient and safe way to make a one-time or a recurring (weekly) donation. Getting started is easy—you need to be a registered member of Immaculate Conception Parish community. (At this time, Online Giving is available for only IC members.) Registration forms are available in the foyer of the church or at the parish office. Once you register, visit our website, [hriccatholic.org](http://hriccatholic.org) and click the “Links” tab, then click on “Online Giving” to get to the site. There are four different funds you can choose to contribute to. If you manage your other bills online, why not give to your Church online? It is safe and secure and you get to decide exactly when and to where your gift will be made. Any questions? Contact Linda Temple, IC Administrative Assistant 978-462-2724 x7404.

## Catechetical Sunday

This year, the Church will celebrate **Catechetical Sunday** on September 16. The 2018 theme will be “Enlisting Witnesses for Jesus Christ.” Those who the Community has designated to serve as catechists will be called forth to be commissioned for their ministry. Catechetical Sunday is



a wonderful opportunity to reflect on the role that each person plays, by virtue of Baptism, in handing on the faith and being a witness to the Gospel.

Catechetical Sunday is an opportunity for all to rededicate themselves to this mission as a community of faith.

We will celebrate the blessing of catechists on Sunday, September 16 at the 9:00am liturgy.

## Adoration

Join us for Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament in IC’s St. James Chapel on Fridays from 8:00am–12:00noon.

## IC Parish Boosters

Consider becoming an ICP Booster! Our mission is to be an extra support of funding for our parish ministries as well as provide community spirit.

Two big events are being planned:

Saturday, September 29—Yard Sale and Saturday, December 1—Christmas Fair

Contacts: Phone: 978-462-2724 or email:

Mag McKinnon [mmckinnon@newburyportcatholic.org](mailto:mmckinnon@newburyportcatholic.org) or Melinda Burrell [burrell@newburyportcatholic.org](mailto:burrell@newburyportcatholic.org)