

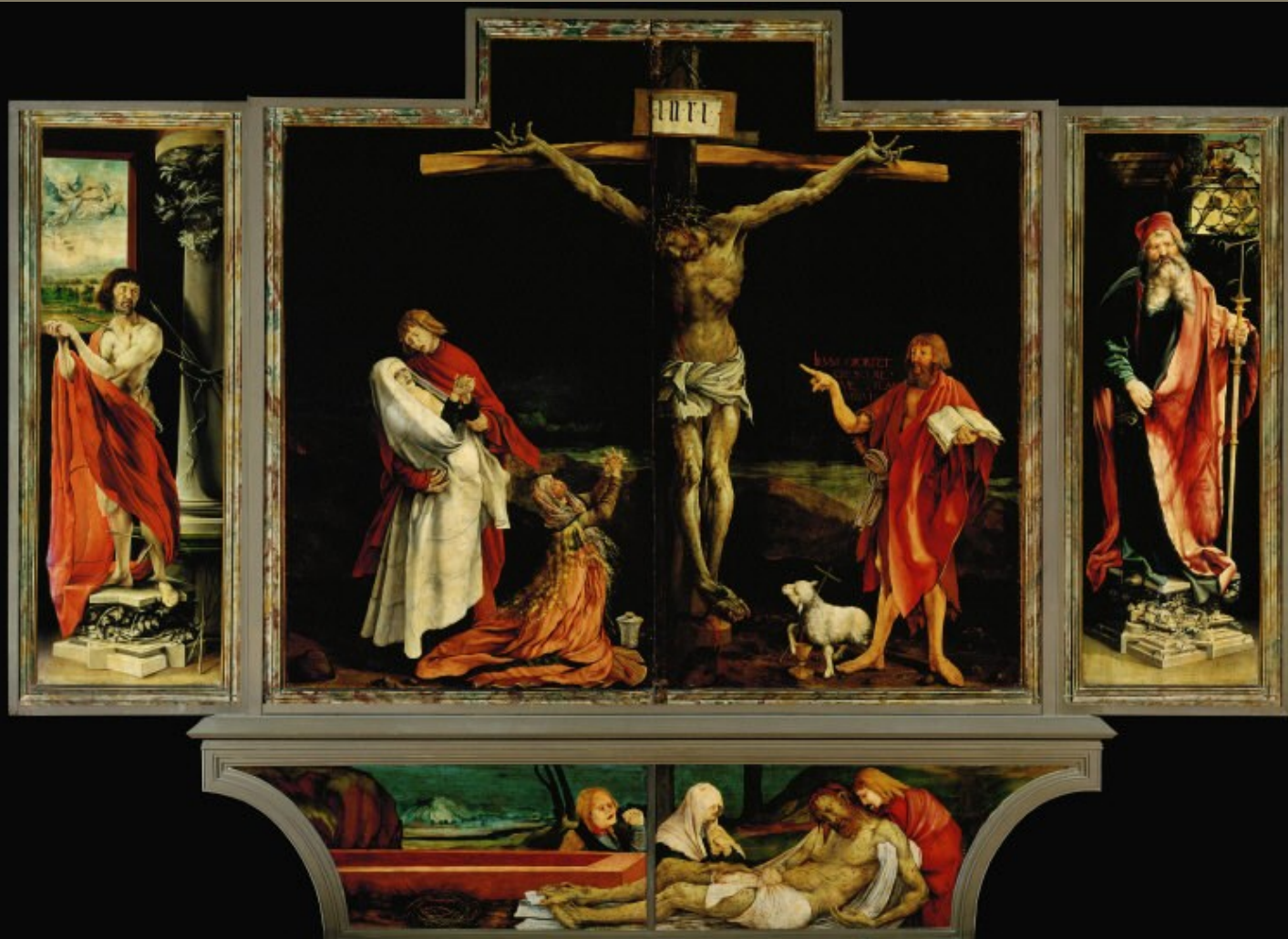
HOLY REDEEMER AND IMMACULATE CONCEPTION COLLABORATIVE PARISHES

SERVING MERRIMAC, NEWBURY, NEWBURYPORT, AND WEST NEWBURY

Twenty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time

August 28, 2016

hricatholic.org



Matthias Grunwald, The Isenheim Altarpiece (1512-1516).

All Are Welcome

OUR COLLABORATIVE

Holy Redeemer Parish



St. Ann

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



Nativity

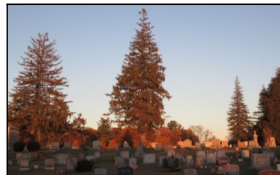
Parish offices and church:
4 Green St., Merrimac 01860
Office Hours: By appointment
Phone: 978-346-8604
Email: holyredeemer@verizon.net

Immaculate Conception Parish



Immaculate Conception

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



St. Mary's Cemetery

36 Storey Avenue,
Newburyport 01950

Immaculate Conception School

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



Collaborative Staff

Pastor

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

Parochial Vicar

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

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Rev. James Broderick

Senior Priest in Residence

Rev. William McLaughlin

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jen.acorn@comcast.net

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St. Vincent de Paul

Saint Vincent de Paul Society at Holy Redeemer, 978-346-8604 x 8
hrsvdp300@gmail.com

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

St Mary's Cemetery

Joseph Viel, 978-208-0266
joeviel@comcast.net

COLLABORATIVE NEWS

Collaborative Mass Schedule

Saturday (8/27)

4:00pm **IC** *Noreen Driscoll & Parents, Frank Ventura, Angela F. Tormey, Frances Ashe, Larry Howard* (Fr. McLaughlin)

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

Sunday (8/28)

7:15am **IC** *Henry Szymura* (Fr. Harrison)

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

9:00am **IC** *Adrice Arseneau, Brian Noone* (Fr. Broderick)

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

11:00am **IC** *George Sr. & Christopher Laite, Richard T. Curran* (Fr. Harrison)

Monday (8/29)

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

Tuesday (8/30)

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

Wednesday (8/30)

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

Thursday (9/1)

7:15am **IC** *Derek Hines, William Foley* (Fr. Harrison)

Friday (9/2)

9:00am **Nativity** *Regina M Stronge, For the special intention for Dorothy & Ralph Franzese* (Fr. Harrison)

Saturday (9/3)

4:00pm **IC** *Henry Szymura* (Fr. Harrison)

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

Sunday (9/4)

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

8:00am **Nativity** *Rosemarie Fosillo & Louis Ciavarro* (Fr. Harrison)

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

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

11:00am **IC** *Michael Filomia* (Fr. Broderick)

In your prayers, please remember Larry Howard, Marc Lucas, and all the faithful departed.

The priests' schedule is subject to change without notice.

IC—Immaculate Conception, Newburyport

Nativity—Merrimac

St. Ann—West Newbury

Mass Schedule Change

Beginning September 10/11 the Mass schedule at Immaculate Conception Church is:

Saturday, 4:00 p.m.

Sunday, 7:15 a.m., 9:00 a.m., **11:30 a.m.**

Collaborative Website

Visit the Holy Redeemer/Immaculate Conception website at www.hricatholic.org

From the Parochial Vicar

Father Matt Malone, S.J., editor of *America Magazine*, (the previous editor of *America Magazine* was Father Drew Christiansen, S.J. who is well known by many in these parts through his ministry at Saint Ann's, West Newbury) describes in his weekly column, "Of Many Things" (August 15–22, 2016) the painful ordeal of losing his ability to hear, suffering a sudden and irreversible attack of tinnitus. The doctors described what happened as "idiopathic sudden sensorineural hearing loss," which he says was "a fancy way of saying I went deaf abruptly and no one really knows why." Father Matt's article really resonated with me because I too suffer with hearing loss. Unlike Father Matt, my hearing loss was gradual over many years. I was in my mid-forties when I found it necessary to begin wearing a hearing aid. And although many people have far greater physical challenges than I have, being hard of hearing, I believe, presents its own unique issues. Among these challenges are, where to sit at table, where to sit in a theatre or auditorium, are there background noises, volume controls, talking on the phone, restaurants that are loud with a lot of TVs all on, occasions where everyone is speaking at the same time, etc. etc. When you don't hear something you may ask the person to repeat. No need to shout! For me so often it is not a matter of volume as it is a matter of clarity of sound. "Garbled" and "muffled" I don't do well with. Most are understanding, but occasionally you might get, "Forget about it!" It's happened to me. As Father Matt offers, "If I may, a piece of unsolicited advice: 'Forget about it' is just about the most offensive thing you can say to someone with a hearing loss. If it was important enough to say in the first place, then say it again. It's not our fault that we didn't hear you."



Life presents each of us with challenges and I believe it is the challenges that we are presented with that offer us the opportunities to grow in self-knowledge, in the love and understanding of our brothers and sisters, and ultimately of our love and understanding of God.

One of the works of art that I used in our "Rediscover Catholicism" series earlier this summer (see cover) was a "one of a kind" "nothing like it in the world" masterpiece by

(Continued on page 4)

Online Bulletin

Visit our **Collaborative Web site**, www.hricatholic.org and click on the bulletin picture on the home page to view the bulletin online.

Also, you can visit www.TheBostonPilot.com/bcd to view the bulletin online and to sign up to have the bulletin delivered to your email inbox every week. Just find your parish in the alphabetical list of parishes on the site. There you can download the bulletin and sign up to have the bulletin delivered to your email inbox.

COLLABORATIVE NEWS

This Week in Our Collaborative

Monday, August 29

AA 10:30am and 7:30pm, IC Nazareth Library, Room 205

Professional Development, IC School Faculty 8:30am,
IC St. Louis Hall

Boy Scout Troop 41 7:00pm, Nativity Church Hall

Tuesday, August 30

Professional Development, IC School Faculty 8:30am,
IC St. Louis Hall

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

Prayers of the Faithful Writing Team 7:00pm, IC Charity
Dining Room

Wednesday, August 31

Holy Quilters 3:00pm, Nativity Church Hall

Adoration 6:00pm, IC St. James Chapel

Centering Prayer 6:00pm, IC Charity Dining Room

Thursday, September 1

HR Prayer Shawl 1:00pm, Nativity Church Hall

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

Friday, September 2

Adoration 8:00am, IC St. James Chapel

AA 7:00pm, IC Nazareth Library Room 205

Sunday, September 4

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

Boy Scouts Troop 21 5:30pm, IC School Cafeteria

Questions of the Week

Adult: Who or what are your priorities and to whom or what are you committed?

Child: When or where does God fit in your life?

Preparing for Mass

Are you looking for a helpful way to prepare for Sunday Mass? Follow the link below to find the weekend's Scripture Readings, historical and theological commentaries, and prayerful reflections. It is a great way to get ready to hear and respond to God's Word. <http://liturgy.slu.edu>

hricatholic.org News Feed

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

(Continued from page 3)

Matthias Grunwald, *The Isenheim Altarpiece* (1512–1516). Matthias painted this work for the Chapel of the Monastery of Saint Anthony in Isenheim near Colmar, which specialized in hospital work. The Antonine monks of the monastery were noted for their care of plague sufferers as well as their treatment of skin diseases such as ergotism, also known as Saint Anthony's Fire. Saint Anthony's Fire was a disease contracted by the eating of bread contaminated with ergot fungus, causing the sensation of being on fire, hallucinations, constriction of blood vessels, gangrenous extremities, resulting in death. The image Matthias Grunwald painted of the crucified Christ is pitted with plague-type sores and ergot symptoms, showing patients that Jesus understood and shared their afflictions. He is one who shared in all they were suffering.

Whatever our challenges may be, Jesus invites us to "Come to me, all you who labor and are burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am meek and humble of heart; and you will find rest for yourselves. For my yoke is easy, and my burden light."

Have a Blessed Week,
Fr. George

Walk 4 the Poor

Save the Date: September 24, 2016



Please join us for the **Walk 4 the Poor**, a St. Vincent de Paul annual fundraiser, September 24, 2016. Registration begins at: 8:00 a.m. The start of the walk is 8:30 at the IC parking lot, Court Street, Newburyport.

To register online: log on to www.fopwalk.org, website of Friends of the Poor Walk 2016. At the site: click on "find a walk," choose Massachusetts, then "show me the events," scroll down to Immaculate Conception, Newburyport and click "register to walk." Fill in the form as directed. Beneficiary is either Immaculate Conception or Holy Redeemer. After you register, e-mail your friends and family to sponsor you in the walk. You may also register the day of the walk at the registration tables. Please pick up a sponsor sheet in the back of church to raise as much you can. Money must be turned in the day of the walk. If you are unable to join the walk on Sept. 24, you can sponsor one of the other Registered Walkers, such as Fr. Broderick, Fr. George, Fr. Tim, or another friend. They would be grateful. Checks (payable to "Society of St. Vincent de Paul—WALK") can be added to any collection basket at any Mass through the end of September. Walkers with \$60 in paid pledges earn a free T-shirt. Additional T-shirts are available the day of the walk for \$10 each. Please be a Friend of the Poor and wear your T-shirt with great pride. Please show up at IC on Saturday, September 24 to walk the walk. We hope that this event will be an opportunity for our Collaborative members to grow closer as a community in Christ. *Thank you for helping us help others.*

COLLABORATIVE NEWS

Scripture for the Week

- 28 Sun Sir 3:17-18, 20, 28-29/Heb 12:18-19, 22-24a/Lk 14:1, 7-14
- 29 Mon 1 Cor 2:1-5/Mk 6:17-29
- 30 Tue 1 Cor 2:10b-16/Lk 4:31-37
- 31 Wed 1 Cor 3:1-9/Lk 4:38-44
- 1 Thu 1 Cor 3:18-23/Lk 5:1-11
- 2 Fri 1 Cor 4:1-5/Lk 5:33-39
- 3 Sat 1 Cor 4:6b-15/Lk 6:1-5
- 4 Sun Wis 9:13-18b/Phlm 9-10, 12-17/Lk 14:25-33

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

Call the Parish Office if someone in your family is ill and you feel the grace and power of the Sacrament would be helpful. 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.

RCIA

The RCIA program will begin on Sunday, September 18, 2016.

What is RCIA and who comes?

RCIA is a program for those over the age of 7 who wish to become Catholic.

The catechumens have not been baptized and will receive the sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation, and Holy Eucharist at the Easter Vigil.

Candidates who have already been baptized in the Catholic Church or another Christian Church will be confirmed and receive Holy Eucharist at the Easter Vigil as well.

Those who already have been baptized and only need Confirmation should call Marin at 978-462-2724 ext. 7411 or email me at fortune@newburyportcatholic.org and we will make arrangements for that to happen.

Bulletin Information

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

The Pelican Intervention Fund

Join the Pelican Intervention Fund at Upcoming Events

The Pelican Intervention Fund invites you to support our mission to provide funding for residential Twelve Step-based programs for economically challenged men and women struggling with heroin and other addictive substances and living within the Greater Newburyport area.



Please plan to share a meal at **Not Your Average Joe's in Newburyport** where we will receive 15% of the cost of your meal on Tuesdays August 2, 9, 16, 23, and 30 when you mention The Pelican Intervention Fund or bring the flyer found on our Facebook page. We continue to be blessed by the community's generosity and support of our mission and we are most grateful.

Learn more about The Pelican Intervention Fund at: www.facebook.com/PelicanInterventionFund or at: Essex County Community Foundation at www.eccf.org
 For questions or information please contact:
 Elizabeth McCarthy, 978-462-7483 or
 Kim Keene, 978-430-1408

Cursillo

A new season of Cursillo is upon us and we are looking forward to another year of community. 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.



2016-2017 Ultreya / Cursillo Calendar

Ultreya	Cursillo Weekend
September 30	October 6-9 (Men)
October 28	November 3-6 (Women)
December 2	December 1-4 (Men)
December 30	January 5-8 (Women)
February 3	February 9-12 (Men)
February 24	March 4-6 (Women)
March 3	April 6-9 (Men)
April 28	May 4-6 (Women)
June 2	June 1-4 (Women)

All are welcome. Our first Ultreya will be September 30 in the St. James Chapel in the IC Parish Center at 7:00 p.m. If you have questions please feel free to contact either Pat Forbes (978-462-1258) or Jonathan Temple (978-809-9337).

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION PARISH

Offertory Collection

Offertory August 20–21	\$9,822.00
Restoration	\$1,906.00

The **second collection this weekend** is for Fr. Ray Richard. We thank Fr. Ray for spending time with us. We look forward to his arrival each year and we want to support our local missionary in his efforts to minister to the people of Honduras. We will take up a special collection for his parishes this weekend and continue to support him with our prayers and best wishes. Please make checks payable to **Immaculate Conception Parish**. Thank you for your continued generosity.

The **second collection next weekend** supports The Catholic University of America (CUA) and its scholarship fund for needy students. CUA, located in Washington, D.C., is the national university of the Catholic Church. Many priests and professional lay ministers throughout the US obtain their education from CUA. For more information, please visit www.cua.edu.



IMMACULATE CONCEPTION SCHOOL'S ANNUAL HIGH SCHOOL NIGHT

Join us Thursday, September 29, 2016
6:30 – 8:00 p.m.
ICS Gymnasium

For more information call 978-465-7780

Representatives from Public High Schools, Catholic High Schools, and Prep Schools all over New England will be in attendance to meet with parents and students in grades 6, 7 & 8.

Mass Schedule Change

Beginning September 10/11 the Mass schedule at Immaculate Conception Church is:

Saturday, 4:00 p.m.

Sunday, 7:15 a.m., 9:00 a.m., **11:30 a.m.**

Online Giving

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



The Saint Vincent de Paul Society

Poor Box	\$ 174.00
Collection	\$ 25.00
Total	\$ 199.00

Breaking Bread

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

Community Service of Newburyport Back to School Collection

Immaculate Conception Parish is now collecting new "back to school" socks and underwear. They will be donated to the Community Service of Newburyport for children in need. There will be containers at the entrances of the church for these items.

Thank you for your generosity.



Altar Server Training Sessions

Youth in grades 4–12 are invited to attend the fall training sessions. We will offer 3 training sessions. Please select the dates that best work with your schedule.

- **Training Session 1** 3:30–4:30pm in the IC Church: Monday, September 19, Tuesday, September 20, or Thursday September 22.
- **Training Session 2** 3:30–4:30pm in the IC Church: Monday, September 26, Tuesday September 27, or Thursday, September 29.
- **Training Session 3** with Fr. Tim 3:30–4:30pm in the IC Church: Tuesday, October 4.

Please sign up with the IC Religious Education Office: Dr. Mag, mmckinnon@newburyportcatholic.org or 978-462-2724 ext. 7405.

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION PARISH

IC Knitting Ministry

The Immaculate Conception Knitting Ministry is enjoying our summer hiatus and trying to find a cool spot to enjoy the beautiful summer weather. We have a lovely collection of prayer shawls waiting to console a person in need of prayer and comfort from an illness or a caregiver who would need some support. Please call Frances Ronan at 978-462-4972 or Julia O'Connor at 978-465-3350. We will resume our meetings in September at the IC Parish Center. Come and join us in the fall if you would like to help us knit shawls, hats, mittens, or scarfs. Watch the Church bulletin for our beginning date.



IC Videographers Needed



We are in need of new videographers to record our weekend Masses. The commitment is on average once a month. See weblink for position duties: <http://www.hricatholic.org/Liturgical-Ministries-at-Immaculate-Conception>. Training will be provided.

Please contact: Dr. Mag McKinnon:
mmckinnon@newburyportcatholic.org or
978-462-2724 ext. 7405.

Consolers Circle Meal

The IC community is pleased to offer a light meal to families who have lost a loved one. The meal is provided by volunteers and is held in St. Louis Hall following the funeral Mass. Our hall holds up to 75 people, and there is no charge for this service. Donations are accepted if you wish to do that. Please let the funeral director know that you request this service when making arrangements.

The Compassionate Friends



The Compassionate Friends was established in the United States and incorporated in 1978. Today TCF has about 660 chapters serving all 50 states plus Washington D.C., Puerto Rico, and Guam offering friendship, understanding, and hope to bereaved parents, siblings, grandparents, and other family members during the natural grieving process after a child has died. Around the world more than 30 countries have a Compassionate Friends presence, encircling the globe with support so desperately needed when the worst has happened. Our local chapter meets on the 4th Monday of the month at 7:30pm in room 209 of the IC Parish Center. For more information, please contact Barbara Hopkinson at barhop@comcast.net or 978-697-1349.

TCF of Greater Newburyport is a non-profit organization, donations (to PO Box 872, Newburyport, MA 01950) are tax deductible. National website:

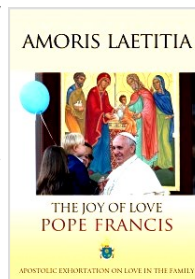
www.compassionatefriends.org

IC Religious Education

Amoris Laetitia...Pope Francis

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

In #44—Families, in particular, suffer from problems related to work, where young people have few possibilities and job offers are very selective and insecure. Workdays are long and oftentimes made more burdensome by extended periods away from home. This situation does not help family members to gather together or parents to be with their children in such a way as to nurture their relationships each day.



Religious Education Classes

School Year Registration is ongoing. Classes begin September 18–19—see our website:

Grades K-1:

<http://www.hricatholic.org/IC-Children-s-Religious-Education>

Grades 7-8:

<http://www.hricatholic.org/IC-Youth-Religious-Education>

Baptism

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

Sept. 11 Parent Class-Charity Dining Room
1:00pm

Sept. 18 Group Baptism—Church 1:00pm

Confirmation

HS youth: Parent only Orientation-Sunday, September 11 at 1:00pm in the Church. Sessions begin in October. School year Confirmation information:

<http://www.hricatholic.org/Confirmation--Immaculate-Conception-Parish>

Pope Francis: Year of Mercy

In this Jubilee Year, may the Church echo the word of God that resounds strong and clear as a message and a sign of pardon, strength, aid, and love. May she never tire of extending mercy, and be ever patient in offering compassion and comfort. May the church become the voice of every man and woman, and repeat confidently without end: "Be mindful of your mercy, O Lord, and your steadfast love, for they have been from of old" (Ps 25: 6). (*Beautiful Mercy: Experiencing God's Unconditional Love so we can share it with Others*, Dynamic Catholic, p. 18).



Catholic Radio

Listen to Catholic Radio for Boston and New England on your radio at 1060 AM. Listen online at 1060Catholic.org. Download the app: iCatholic Radio in the iTunes or Google Play store.

HOLY REDEEMER PARISH

Offertory Collection

Offertory August 20–21 \$2,921.00
Roofing Expenses as of 8-21 \$8,414.05

Next weekend's second collection is the Monthly.

The Catholic University of America (CUA) and its scholarship fund collection is for needy students. CUA, located in Washington, D.C., is the national university of the Catholic Church. Many priests and professional lay ministers throughout the US obtain their education from CUA. For more information, please visit www.cua.edu.

Holy Redeemer Holiday Fair

Save the Date—Saturday, November 19, 2016

Would you like to help get this year's Fair started? We are always looking for new ideas and *new faces*. Please come to the **Fair Meeting** Thursday, **September 22** at 7:00pm at the Nativity Hall. Call Cindy Quinn with any questions or if you would like to help: 978-346-0072 or cynwinnquinn@aol.com.



Repair/Repaint Day

Come help repair and repaint the outdoor Nativity figurines at Merrimac. Anyone wanting to help can join us on Friday, September 23 at 10:00am in the Merrimac Hall.

HR Prayer Shawl



Do you know of any woman, man, or child who needs comfort and could use a Blessed Prayer Shawl or Lap Blanket? Please call Helen Kelley 978-771-4673, Connie Cormier 978-363-2020, or Terry Duhamel 978-384-8099 for a shawl or more information.

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 1**.

Sanctuary Light

The Sanctuary Light at Nativity, Merrimac, the week of August 28 is donated for a special intention.

The Sanctuary Light at St. Ann, West Newbury, the week of September 11 is donated for the special intention for Dorothy & Ralph Franzese.



HR St. Vincent de Paul



The HR Saint Vincent de Paul Society thanks you for your continuous generosity. Without your help, we would be unable to assist our many clients. If you are writing a check for us, please write the check to HR Saint Vincent de Paul. That will help expedite our banking.

HR Religious Education

Registration forms are now due for religious education classes.

Download the form and schedule from our website: (<http://www.hricatholic.org/Holy-Redeemer-Religious-Education>).

Teachers/Adult Helpers Needed

A 5th Grade teacher is needed for Sunday morning classes following the 8:00am Mass at Nativity. Please contact Doreen if you are interested.

Note: anyone 18 years of age and older must complete a CORI form and attend **one** Virtus training course in order to serve our youngsters. Keeping our children safe in all parish activities is most important.

Website News: hricatholic.org

Visit our Collaborative website and click on Faith Formation then the tab for Holy Redeemer Religious Education, to find the dates for classes and the syllabus for grades 1-8.

Reminder: Registration forms for our Religious Education families are now due. Thanks for your cooperation.

Confirmation

Confirmation Candidates need to compose the letter to Bishop Hennessey as **soon as possible** and send it by mail to me at 4 Green St., Merrimac, MA 01860, or email it as an attachment to: reledhrp@verizon.net. If you need the "how to write the letter" form, email Mrs. O'Leary and I'll email it to you or it is available for download on our web site under "Sacraments/Confirmation, Holy Redeemer Parish."

Also, service sheets are due from all of our Confirmation Students (Grades 9 and 10). You can drop them off at the white "mailbox" by the double doors in Merrimac.

Pancake Breakfast

Join us on Sunday, September 11 **after** the 8:00 Mass in Merrimac until 11:00am. The breakfast is complimentary *but* we will happily accept donations for *The Pelican Intervention Fund* (supporting Twelve Step-based programs for men and women living within the Greater Newburyport area who are struggling with addictive substances). This coordinates with HR Religious Ed. "Book Pick-Up." Please plan on staying for breakfast after you pick up your books.



Backpack Collection for Emmaus House

Please consider picking up extra supplies when you're back-to-school shopping. Last year we collected 25 filled backpacks for the Emmaus House in Haverhill. Containers will be placed inside the doors of St. Ann and Nativity churches. If you would like items picked up, please call Roberta Homan at 978-346-9448. Let's collect 35 this year!



AROUND THE ARCHDIOCESE



Truth & Life App

Download the Truth & Life app for your iPhone or Android to listen to a dramatized reading of the RSV-CE (Revised Standard Version, Catholic Edition) translation of the Gospel of Mark. (You can purchase the entire New Testament for \$19.99, but Mark's Gospel is free.) The dramatized reading is worth a listen.

The app's additional features include outlines, study questions, daily Mass readings, the Word on Fire blog, and EWTN link, among other extras.

Centering Prayer

Welcome All Members of Our Collaborative Family

The Centering Prayer group invites and encourages all members of our Collaborative family to join us on Wednesdays, 6:00pm–7:00pm, at Immaculate Conception Parish Center Charity Dining Room to learn more about this simple yet powerful prayer practice.

The daily practice of 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.

These gifts are not often apparent immediately and may be first noticed by others. Receiving these gifts is not the goal of Centering Prayer. We bring no expectations to this daily prayer as we surrender our whole self to God and trust in his love for us. The gift of God's love is our transformation to become the persons he created us to be. Through the grace of this silent shared time with God we may become more open minded, less prone to judge others, aware of what really matters and able to let go of what doesn't, accepting of our own basic goodness, and filled with inner freedom to act for God.

Please consider joining 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.

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 hricatholic.org.

Daily Masses in the Area

Monday

7:00am Sacred Hearts, Bradford
8:00am St. Mary's, Rowley
9:00am St. Ann, West Newbury
9:00am Star of the Sea, Salisbury

Tuesday

7:00am Sacred Hearts, Bradford
7:15am Immaculate Conception, Newburyport
8:00am St. Mary's, Rowley
9:00am Holy Family, Amesbury

Wednesday

7:00am Sacred Hearts, Bradford
7:15am Immaculate Conception, Newburyport
8:00am St. Mary's, Rowley
9:00am Star of the Sea, Salisbury

Thursday

7:00am Sacred Hearts, Bradford
7:15am Immaculate Conception, Newburyport
9:00am Holy Family, Amesbury

Friday

7:00am Sacred Hearts, Bradford
9:00am Nativity, Merrimac
9:00am Star of the Sea, Salisbury
9:00am St. Mary's, Georgetown

Saturday

8:00am Sacred Hearts, Bradford
9:00am St. Mary's, Georgetown
Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal in Hampton, NH has a daily Mass at 6:45am & 9:00am Mon.–Fri.

Worldwide Marriage Encounter



Jesus wants us to put others first and to treat them with kindness, respect, love and compassion. Allow Jesus to transform your marriage and show you how to truly love your spouse. The next Worldwide Marriage Encounter

Weekends are on September 17–18 and October 21–23. For more information call Steve and Michelle O'Leary at 1-800-710-WWME, visit our webpage at www.wwme.org, or at <https://www.facebook.com/Wwmema>

LIFT Ministries

All are invited to attend LIFT worship nights. Visit www.liftedhigher.com for more information. Worship nights include worship, message, adoration and are free to attend and are open to all ages. The next Lift worship night is on Tuesday, September 20 at Our Lady of Hope Church, 1 Pineswamp Road, Ipswich, MA, from 7:00–9:00 p.m.

EWTN: Catholic News

EWTN News: Your Online Catholic Resource.
<http://www.ewtnnews.com/>