HOLY REDEEMER AND IMMACULATE CONCEPTION COLLABORATIVE PARISHES

SERVING MERRIMAC, NEWBURY, NEWBURYPORT, AND WEST NEWBURY

Twenty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

September 10, 2017

hriccatholic.org



"For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them." (Mt. 18:20)

All Are Welcome



Holy Redeemer Immaculate Conception Collaborative

serving Merrimac, Newbury, Newburyport & West Newbury

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

St. Ann

Church: 300 Main St., W. Newbury 01985 Rectory: 46 Maple St., W. Newbury 01985

Phone: 978-346-8604
Email: holyredeemer@verizon.net

Nativity

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

Email: holyredeemer@verizon.net

Immaculate Conception

Parish, church, rectory, and offices: 42 Green St., Newburyport 01950

Office Hours: M–F 8:00 a.m.–3:30 p.m. Phone: 978-462-2724

Fax: 978-234-7399

Email: info@newburyportcatholic.org



St. Mary's Cemetery

36 Storey Avenue, Newburyport 01950

Immaculate Conception School

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



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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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

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www.hriccatholic.org



Holy Redeemer - Immaculate Conception
Collaborative Parishes

Collaborative Mass Schedule

Saturday (9/9)

4:00pm IC (Fr. Morin)

4:00pm Nativity (Fr. McLaughlin)

Sunday (9/10)

7:15am IC (Fr. Harrison)

8:00am Nativity (Fr. Morin)

9:00am IC Mildred Beeler (Fr. McLaughlin)

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

11:30am IC John M. Deneumoustier,

James E. Doyle

Monday (9/11)

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

Tuesday (9/12)

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

Wednesday (9/13)

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

Thursday (9/14)

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

Friday (9/15)

9:00am Nativity (Fr. Harrison)

10:30am Port Rehab (Fr. McLaughlin)

Saturday (9/16)

4:00pm **IC** Jack Graham, William Moore, Lillian C. Toomey, For the intentions of John O'Connor (Er. Horrison)

(Fr. Harrison)

4:00pm **St. Ann** (Bishop Robert Hennessey)

Sunday (9/17)

7:15am IC

8:00am **Nativity** *Catherine Lorenzo* (Bishop Robert Hennessey)

9:00am **IC** Barbara F. & William J. Griffin (Fr. Morin)

10:15am **St. Ann** (Bishop Robert Hennessey)

11:30am IC Raymond S. Mitchell, Fred H. Mitchell, Michael Twomey (Fr. McLaughlin)

In your prayers, please remember Robert S. Nevins and all the faithful departed.

The priests' schedule is subject to change without notice.

IC—Immaculate Conception, Newburyport

Nativity—Merrimac

St. Ann—West Newbury



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Holy Redeemer - Immaculate Conception Collaborative Parishes

Bulletin Information

Email all bulletin submissions to hricbulletin@gmail.com.

From the Pastor

Dear Parishioners.

These past number of days have been filled with a kaleidoscope of images flowing out of the Texas and Louisiana coasts. Flooded roadways, stranded families, dramatic rescues



and the suffering of so many in the face of great loss paint a bleak picture. The magnitude of the devastation is hard to comprehend. One of the most heart-breaking images I saw came from inside a flooded nursing home where residents were still in their wheelchairs, chest-deep in rising flood waters, waiting their turn to be taken to safety. Another story that tore at my heart was that of a mother who drowned while (successfully) saving her young child from the torrents of water that whisked them away. Our human frailty and vulnerability doesn't get exposed much more blatantly than this.

Yet, in the midst of this great drama of human need and suffering also came the inevitable bright spots of heroism, sacrifice, and the depth of human love. One of the things that makes our nation truly great is the way that neighbors and strangers alike care for each other when tragedy and disaster strike. Just as compelling as the graphic stories of destruction and loss are those of human kindness and love that rise above the darkness and invite all of us to look beyond ourselves with compassion and see in the needs of others the face of Christ. Families who were fortunate enough to not lose their homes quickly opened their doors to soaked, homeless strangers who had nowhere else to go. Volunteers poured in by the thousands. Canned goods, blankets, cots, pillows, diapers, and a vast amount of emergency supplies arrived on pallets by the ton. Donations were and are being made to helping agencies through billions of dollars worth of contributions. People have really stepped-up to help one another. Although the road to recovery will be long and difficult, there is hope.

One curious story that came out of the deluge of media reports was that of a Companions of Christ (a religious order) priest, Fr. David Bergeron. Stranded by rising flood waters and forced to spend an overnight in his pickup truck on an overpass while trying to get home, the next day he broke out his kayak, and proceeded to reach out to isolated strangers and neighbors, reminding them that God had not abandoned them, reassuring them that they had not been forgotten. He cheerfully reflected on the whole situation in a later interview, "I was thinking that there are some psalms where we pray for the Lord's mercy and the outpouring of his water to cleanse us from our sins. By

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Mass Schedule

Beginning this weekend, September 10, the Sunday Mass schedule at Immaculate Conception will change as follows: Sunday 7:15am

9:00am

11:30am (note time change)

This Week in Our Collaborative

Monday, September 11

AA Meeting 10:30am & 7:30pm, IC Nazareth Library Room 205 Rome Pilgrimage Mass & Meeting 6:30pm, IC St. James Chapel HR Boy Scouts Troop 41 7:00pm, Nativity Hall

Tuesday, September 12

IC Knitting Ministry 1:00pm, IC Conference Room 209
Breaking Bread Meal 5:00pm, IC St. Louis Hall
IC St. Vincent de Paul Meeting 6:00pm, IC St Louis Hall
Virtus Training 7:00pm, IC Charity Dining Room
Knights of Columbus 7:30pm, IC Nazareth Library Room 205

Wednesday, September 13

Holy Redeemer Sandwich Program 9:00am, St. Ann Hall Holy Quilters 2:30pm, Nativity Hall Adoration 6:00pm, IC St. James Chapel

Centering Prayer 6:00pm, IC Nazareth Library Room 205 IC Adult Choir Rehearsal 7:00pm, IC Church

Thursday, September 14

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

Friday, September 15

Adoration 8:00am, IC St. James Chapel Staff Meeting 12:00noon, IC Charity Dining Room AA Meeting 7:00pm, IC Nazareth Library, Room 205

Saturday, September 16

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

Sunday, September 17, Catechetical Sunday
Nativity Choir Rehearsal 7:45am, Nativity Church
HR Religious Ed., Gr. 2 Student + Adult 9:00am, Nativity
Church

HR Religious Ed., Gr. 3–6 9:00am, Nativity Hall
St. Ann Choir Rehearsal 9:45am, St. Ann Church
IC Religious Ed., Gr. K–8 10:05am, IC Parish Center
Baptisms 1:00pm, IC Church
Scripture Study 2:00pm, IC Nazareth Library Room 205
HR Religious Ed., Gr. 9 Student + Adult 6:00pm, Nativity Hall

Youth Masses

Youth Masses are celebrated as a collaborative. Students take part in the ministries during the Mass. Folk music, with guitar, is featured. Youth Masses begin at 5:00pm. All ages are welcome to this lively celebration.

Youth Mass Schedule

September 24 at Nativity, Merrimac
October 29 at Immaculate Conception, Newburyport
December 10 at Immaculate Conception, Newburyport
January 28, 2018 at Nativity, Merrimac
March 4, 2018 at Immaculate Conception, Newburyport
March 25, 2018 at Nativity, Merrimac
May 20, 2018 at Immaculate Conception, Newburyport

(Continued from page 3)

now, however, I don't think there's much left to repent for, and we need to ask for the Lord's mercy in not sending his waters anymore and give us some dry weather!" It was a poignant living-out of today's Gospel where Christ reminds us that He is present whenever even only two or three gather in His name. (It makes me wonder, too, if I should be pricing-out kayaks in the weeks ahead?!)

This weekend, in addition to offering your much needed and appreciated contributions to our local Catholic communities through the Offertory collection, Cardinal Sean O'Malley is inviting each of us to also make a sacrificial contribution in our second collection to Catholic Charities for its Hurricane Harvey relief efforts. Although writing a check can seem impersonal, it is precisely through our collective efforts to help that we can provide the needed relief that will be so important in the weeks and months ahead.

As always, joining our voices with so many others, we pray for our brothers and sisters in the Texas and Louisiana coastal communities that were hit hardest by Hurricane Harvey and ask the Lord not only for mercifully better weather, but also for healing, strength, and peace as they begin to rebuild their lives in the months ahead. May each of us find a way to be part of that gift of hope to those who need it the most.

Fr. Timothy Harrison, Pastor

Help Us to Help Others

The St. Vincent de Paul Societies of Holy Redeemer and Immaculate Conception assist many people throughout the year and we need *your help to continue*. We are only able to assist others because *you* help to support our combined annual fundraiser.

The "Friends of the Poor Walk" 3K (or a shorter 1K route) will be held on Saturday, September 30. Please join us **or** donate to our cause. To **register to walk** or **donate** online go to www.FOPWalk.org and search for Immaculate Conception's Event. If you are from HR be sure to make Holy Redeemer the beneficiary of your donation and/or registration to walk.

If you would like an official SVdP Walk sheet to collect donations for your walk, call Kathie @ 978-992-6450 or Linda at 978-500-9245.

All funds remain locally with our organizations and there are no administrative fees. We are a completely volunteer organizations not supported by either church's budgets.

You may also register at the event. Registration begins at 8:30am and the walk starts at 9:00am in the IC Church parking on Court Street, Newburyport.

Questions of the Week



Adult: How do you help those close to you grow in their faith?

Child: How do you show others what it means to follow Jesus?

San Marcos Coffee

Coffee Sale September 16-17

Father Ray Richard is back in Honduras after his annual summer visit to this area. He is a Newburyport native who has spent the past 40 years as a Franciscan Capuchin in Honduras. "Padre Ramon" was the originator of the San Marcos Coffee Project over 10 years ago to bring a fair wage to the people of his former parish so that their hard work and top quality coffee could bring them a better standard of living.

On September 16–17 you can buy this specialty Honduran dark-roasted coffee for \$10 per pound (whole bean or ground) after all collaborative Masses. The farmers of San Marcos say "Muchas Gracias and Paz de Cristo!" Also we are looking for a volunteer to help sell coffee after the HR Saturday 4:00pm Mass at St. Ann.

Please call Karen Finnegan to learn more: 978-465-4173.

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 Nazareth Library. 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 www.hriccatholic.org.

Landings

The Collaborative of Holy Redeemer and Immaculate Conception has started LANDINGS, a welcome program for returning Catholics. LANDINGS invites returning Catholics to return to a more active practice of their faith. We ask for your support in finding both active Catholic parishioners who would be willing to work in this ministry and potential returning Catholics who would benefit from it.

LANDINGS is a lay ministry that has operated successfully in faith communities in the United States and around the world since 1989. Based on small groups, the LANDINGS program offers "a safe place to land," a place for listening and for being heard, a place for asking questions and for reconnecting with the faith as an adult. During the eightweek program, a small group of active Catholics, some of them "returnees" themselves, meets with a small group of returning Catholics to share and explore their faith together.

Questions? Contact Ms. Doreen O'Leary, DRE, Holy Redeemer: reledhrp@gmail.com or 978-346-8604, ext 7 or Dr. Mag McKinnon, DRE Immaculate Conception: mmckinnon@newburyportcatholic.org or 978-462-2724 ext 7405.

Women's Evening of Prayer



The next Women's Evening of Prayer will be Wednesday, September 27, at 7:00 pm in St. Ann Church, West Newbury. All women are welcome.

Hurricane Harvey Relief

Cardinal Seán has authorized a special collection, to be taken the weekend of September 9–10 in all parishes in the Archdiocese of Boston, in support of the relief efforts to those areas devastated by Hurricane Harvey. There has been loss of life, property, and livelihoods.

The funds collected in this one-time special appeal will be used to support the humanitarian and recovery efforts of Catholic Charities USA, the official domestic relief of the U.S. Catholic Church, and will provide pastoral and rebuilding support to dioceses in those areas impacted by Hurricane Harvey. The hurricane has affected southeast Texas, including the Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston, and also Louisiana.

Catholic Charities USA and their member agencies respond to immediate emergency needs for such necessities as shelter, clean water, food, and medical care as well as to the long term need to rebuild and recover after widespread destruction, and to the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops for pastoral and reconstruction needs of the Church. All monies collected will be distributed by the USCCB to Catholic Charities USA.

Please make your check payable to either "Immaculate Conception Parish" or "Holy Redeemer Parish" but put "Hurricane Harvey Collection" in the memo line. One aggregate check from each parish will be sent to the Archdiocese and forwarded to Catholic Charities for this cause.

Scripture Study

Scripture Study will meet on September 17

Father Broderick's Scripture Study will meet on September 17 at 2:00 p.m. in the IC Nazareth Library, Room 205.

Interested members of the Collaborative are invited to join the study group as we read and discuss *The Acts of the Apostles*, Chapter 16, verse 11–Chapter 19. In this second book, written between 80 and 90 A.D., Luke continues the



story of Christianity in the first century. These chapters describe the expansion of the Church to include Gentiles and communities beyond Jerusalem. These chapters move beyond the leadership of St. Peter and the Church in Jerusalem to St. Paul's leadership in expanding the Church to the Gentiles of places beyond as he outreached from Antioch.

Our beloved teacher, Father Broderick, not only explains the meaning of the Scripture passages, but also presents rich description of the period and places cited, as well as the culture and practices of the people involved. He connects the events in the New Testament to Old Testament prophecies and events, as well as to our own time. This is a worthwhile way to spend an hour and fifteen minutes on a Sunday afternoon. All are invited to attend these sessions and grow in knowledge and faith.

Pilgrimage to Rome & Assisi



Join Fr. Tim on a pilgrimage to Rome and Assisi on October 8–17, 2017. During the 10-day tour, we will visit Rome where we will attend a Papal audience and tour St. Peter's as well as other sites in Rome. The trip includes two days in Assisi also.

To reserve your space or for more information, please visit www.pilgrimages.com/FatherTim_RomeAssisi2017 or call 206 Tours at 800-206-8687, and ask for Amanda or Bika.

Volunteers

All church volunteers 18 years old and above are required to fill out a new CORI every year. Anyone who helps in service, in any way, with their time and talent is required to complete a CORI form each fiscal year. Once completed. the form needs to be reviewed and your license verified by a staff member. If you are not able to come to the office please provide a copy of your license and once the information is verified the copy will be shredded. In addition, you need to sign a "Code of Conduct" form (good for the duration of your time and talent). Also, you must attend the "Protecting God's Children Program" (VIRTUS). If you have not attended this program, please visit www.virtus.org to register for a class. Click on First Time Registrant and then View a List of Sessions. The next class that is scheduled at Immaculate Conception is Tuesday, September 12 in the Charity Dining Room at 7:00pm. Forms are to be returned by October 1. The next class at Holy Redeemer is October 18 in the Merrimac Hall at 6:30pm. We thank you for your gifts of time and talent and appreciate your cooperation as we work to remain compliant. All questions please contact Linda Temple at 978-462-2724 or temple@newburyportcatholic.org or Doreen O'Leary at reledhrp@gmail.com.

Virtus: Protecting God's Children

Now is the time to reserve a place in one of the upcoming Virtus classes in the Archdiocese.

Local classes are listed below. To register for any of these classes or to see a list of other locations, visit www.virtus.org. Click on "First Time Registrant" and then "View a List of Sessions."

Immaculate Conception (Charity Dining Room) Tuesday, September 12, 7:00–9:00pm

Sacred Hearts Church Hall (Bradford/Haverhill) Tuesday, September 19, 6:00–8:00pm

Thursday, September 28, 9:30–11:30am

St. Lucy (Methuen)

Thursday, October 12, 6:30-9:30pm

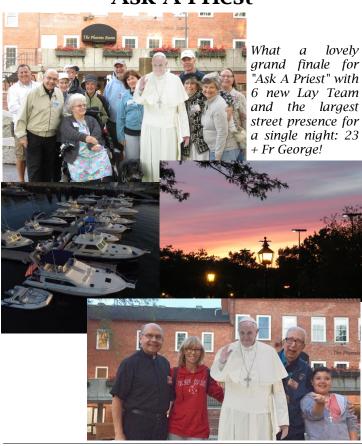
Holy Redeemer, Nativity (Merrimac Hall)

Wednesday, October 18, 6:30pm

John Michael Talbot in Concert

K of C Council 202 and All Saints Catholic Church, Haverhill are sponsoring John Michael Talbot in concert on September 14, 7:30pm, at All Saints Church, 120 Bellevue Ave., Haverhill. Tickets are \$30 each and can be ordered online at www.JohnMichaelTalbot.com or by calling Deacon Tom Anthony, 978-973-0437.

Ask A Priest



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.

2017 Ultreya/Cursillo Calendar

Ultreya	Cursillo Weekend
September 29	October 5–8 (Men)
October 27	Nov. 2–5 (Women)
December 1	December 7–10 (Men)

All are welcome! 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 either Pat Forbes (978-462-1258) or Jonathan Temple (978-809-9337).

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION PARISH

Offertory Collection

September 2-3 \$11.720.00 **Catholic University of America** \$ 1.126.00

The second collection this weekend is Hurricane Harvey relief. See page 5 for details.

Anyone wishing to make an offering to the "Monthly Collection" which was previously scheduled for the weekend of 9/10 may simply include it in the first, or Offertory, collection. Your generosity is most appreciated.

The second collection next weekend is Clergy Benefit Trust.

Offertory Renewal Program

Thank you to all those participating in our recent Increased Offertory Renewal Appeal. The results are extremely positive with many families participating by returning a Commitment Card. It is not too late to participate. There are additional materials in the church. Please return your "Commitment Card" as soon as possible by mail or place it in the collection at Mass next weekend. Your participation in this effort helps our parish meet our growing financial obligations. Please consider a new giving level that is best suited to your circumstances. This will allow our parish to plan accurately for the future.

Baptisms

We rejoice with the families of our new brothers and sisters who received the Sacrament of Baptism in August:

Sienna Marine Fawcett • Sebastian James Francouer Evan Anderson Kater • Damien Seaborne Pearson Lucia Ann Picucci • Callen Guy Whittaker

IC Knitting Ministry

Meeting September 12

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.

RCIA

The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults is a program for those considering becoming Catholic as adults or youth that have not received the sacraments in the traditional years. Have you been considering it? Please contact Marin Fortune, 978-462-2724 or fortune@newburyportcatholic.org if you would like to learn more about this program.

Immaculate Conception School

Promoting School Community



Gathering together as a school community always creates energy and excitement, which is a great way to start the day. Every morning, we begin as a school family, joining together in the gym for Morning Assembly. In addition to prayer, we share the Sign of Peace,

offering a hand shake or gentle fist pump to those within reach, and a wave to those who are at a distance. We recite our school mission statement, say the Pledge of Allegiance, and announce student birthdays. This is also a time for teachers to continue their support of students who have graduated from their class, and students to foster relationships with the adults in the building that they feel connected to. It is incredibly important for children to know and feel that they are surrounded by loving, caring adults.

Beginning our day as a school family is one way we support our students and foster a sense of community at the IC.

Fowler Joan Sullivan. Principal



First day of school 2017



ICS High School Fair

Are you exploring options for a High School? Parents and students from all communities are invited to take advantage of this great opportunity. Join us Thursday, September 28, 6:30-8:00 p.m. in the ICS Gymnasium, One Washington Street, Newburyport. Representatives from Public High Schools, Catholic High Schools, and Prep Schools all over the North Shore and Seacoast will be in attendance to meet with parents and students in grades 6, 7, and 8. For more information call 978-465-7780.

The Saint Vincent de Paul Society

Collection \$ 5.00 Poor Box \$122.00 Total \$127.00

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.

In #116: Panta elpízei. Love does not despair of the future. Following upon what has just been said, this phrase speaks of the hope of one who knows that others can change, mature and radiate unexpected beauty and untold potential. This does not mean that everything will change in this life. It does involve realizing that, though things may not always turn out as we wish, God may well make crooked lines straight and draw some good from the evil we endure in this world.

In 117. Here hope comes most fully into its own, for it embraces the certainty of life after death. Each person, with all his or her failings, is called to the fullness of life in heaven. There, fully transformed by Christ's resurrection, every weakness, darkness and infirmity will pass away. There the person's true being will shine forth in all its goodness and beauty. This realization helps us, amid the aggravations of this present life, to see each person from a supernatural perspective, in the light of hope, and await the fullness that he or she will receive in the heavenly kingdom, even if it is not yet visible.

IC Annual Back to School New Socks and Underwear Drive

Please support our efforts. Bins for your donations will be at the doors of the IC Church. Donations will support children up to 14 years of age. Thank you for your generosity.



Knights of Columbus



We welcome new members to this long-standing group of Catholic men. For more information, contact us at membership@kofc231.org, or (978)

572-0231.

The next meeting of the Knights of Columbus is **Tuesday**, **September 12** at 7:30pm in the IC Nazareth Library, Room 205.

The Compassionate Friends



The Compassionate Friends of Greater Newburyport provides support for bereaved families after the loss of a child, grandchild, or sibling—any age, any cause.

Our monthly support meetings are held in Room 209 of the IC Parish Center at 7:30 to 9:00pm on the fourth Monday of the month. Barbara J. Hopkinson is founder and chapter leader. Please note our September 25 meeting will be held at TCF Chapter leader Barbara Hopkinson's home, 64 Northern Blvd., Plum Island, Newbury.

Contact Barbara for questions on either TCF or ABJ at (617) 410-6309 or info@abutterflysjourney.org.

School Year IC Religious Education Classes

Registration for the School Year Religious Education Class is ongoing. Registration form:

http://www.hriccatholic.org/IC-Children-s-Religious-Education

If you have missed our deadline of September 8, please complete your registration form as soon as possible. You are welcome to register late but will need to wait to begin class on Sunday, September 24 or Monday, September 25. Make up materials from the first class will be provided for you by the catechist to review at home.

Catechists are needed for the Sunday and Monday programs.

First class:

- Sunday, September 17 10:05–11:05am for Gr K–8
- Monday, September 18 6:00–7:10pm for Gr 1–8.

Note: We have added grades 7–8 to our Sunday and Monday programs.

Catechist Meeting for grades K–8: Sunday, September 10, 10:15–11:15am in St. Louis Hall.

Baptism

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

Please pre-register for the class.

Sep. 10 Parent Class—Charity Dining Room 1:00pm Sep. 17 Group Baptism—Church 1:00pm

Confirmation

Confirmation Parent Orientation is for Year 1 candidates and new Year 2 candidates and Year 2 Parents of Catholic School candidates: Sunday, September 10 at 1:00pm in the church. The meeting is for both the summer and school year processes.

School Year Confirmation monthly sessions begin Sunday, October 22 at 1:00–3:00pm in the IC church. Reminder: candidate and adult (sponsor, parent, or another adult) to attend each session.

For information and registration go online:

http://www.hriccatholic.org/Confirmation--Immaculate-Conception-Parish

First Eucharist

Information/registrations for 2017–2018 First Reconciliation and Eucharist is posted on the website: http://www.hriccatholic.org/
First-Eucharist--First-Reconciliation--Immaculate-Conception-Parish.

Please register by Friday, September 29.

Youth Mass—Sunday, September 24, 2017

Our next Youth Mass is Sept. 24 at Nativity, Merrimac at 5:00pm. Collection: Children's Pajamas and bedtime books for Emmaus House, Haverhill. Details to follow.

Catechetical Sunday

This year, the Church will celebrate **Catechetical Sunday on September 17**. The 2017 theme will be "Living as Missionary Disciples." 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. Catechists will be commissioned at the Sunday, September 17 9:00am Liturgy.

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.

HOLY REDEEMER PARISH

Offertory Collection

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Anyone wishing to make an offering to the "Monthly Collection" which was previously scheduled for the weekend of 9/10, may simply include it in the first, or Offertory, collection. Your generosity is most appreciated.

"With One Voice" Capital Campaign

Our capital campaign is off to a great start with many families pledging their support. Please place your "Commitment Envelope" in the regular collection at Mass. If you forgot to bring your pledge envelope to Mass this weekend, please mail it to the parish office. or bring it with you to Mass next weekend. Brochures and pledge envelopes are available at the entrances to the churches.

HR St. Vincent de Paul Society

The St. Vincent de Paul Society will be sponsoring bake sales this weekend (September 9–10) after all Masses at Nativity and St. Ann. Stop by and purchase something sweet and help our clients. Thank you for your support and generosity. If you are writing a check for us, please write the check to HR Saint Vincent de Paul to help expedite our banking.

HR Sandwich Program

The HR Sandwich Program delivers soup/salad and sandwiches to the Lazarus House Ministry twice a month. The sandwiches go to the Good Shepherd Center on Park Street in Lawrence. 200 sandwiches are needed each day to feed the hungry.

We are always in need of more sandwich donations. To help, please make sandwiches by using 1 loaf of bread and sandwich meat (**No condiments added**), individually wrap the sandwiches and place them back into the bread bag. Deliver the bread bag to St. Ann's Church, West Newbury, by **9:00 a.m.** on the second and fourth Wednesday of the month. The next sandwich delivery date is **Wednesday**, **September 13**. Contact Dotty Carr at 978-363-2909 with questions.

Wine Tasting Social



Join us for the HR Wine Tasting Social on Saturday, September 30 from 6:30pm—9:30pm in the Nativity Hall. 25 different wines, appetizers (sample creations from Five Daughters Catering, a new business in Merrimac), and desserts will be served.

Tickets will be sold at the door **but also after Masses in September**. Invite your friends. Tell your neighbors. Tickets are \$20 per person. You must be 21 or older to attend. The Social is in partnership with West Newbury Food Mart.

HR Religious Education

Saturday, 9/9, **Grade 1** Parent and Student Meeting, Merrimac Lower Hall, 3:00pm

Sunday, 9/10: **Book Pick Up for Grades 3–6** for **registered families**, Merrimac Hall, 9–10am

Grade 10, Year II class, Merrimac Hall, 6-7:30pm (An adult must attend w/student: parent or sponsor)

Tuesday, 9/19 The **Grade 7** parent and student meeting has been moved to the following week (with the 8th Gr.) because of a scheduling conflict with a Middle School event). New meeting date: 9/19, Merrimac Hall, 6–7:30pm

Sunday, 9/17: **Grades 3–6** classes, Merrimac Hall, 9:00am

Grade 2 class, Church of the Nativity, 9:00am

Grade 9, Year I, class, Merrimac Hall, 6:00pm, Parents invited

Tuesday, 9/19: **Grades 7 & 8** Parent/Student Meeting, Merrimac Hall, 6:00pm

Confirmation Retreat

All candidates receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation on Saturday, October 28, **must** attend our **Retreat Day** on Sunday, September 24 beginning at 11:00am in Merrimac Hall. Our retreat day ends with the **Youth Mass** at Church of the Nativity at 5:00pm (all parishioners of the collaborative invited).

VIRTUS training at Holy Redeemer

Virtus training will be held on October 18 at Merrimac beginning at 6:30pm.

Holy Redeemer Holiday Fair

Empty Baskets Needed

If anyone has empty baskets that are in good condition to be used for the fair, please leave in the back of either church no later than Sunday, September 17. That will give the committee time to spray paint baskets "outside" with matching colors!



Get Creative: we will be looking for donated gift baskets for our fair. Now is a good time to start picking up those "special items" to create your own themed baskets.

Saturday Mass at St. Ann

Please remember that our Saturday 4:00pm Mass will move to **St. Ann** in W. Newbury on **September 16.**

HR Prayer Shawl

We would love for you to join us. We meet on the first Thursday of every month at Nativity Hall at 1:00pm. Our next meeting is Thursday, October 5 at 1:00 p.m.

Please call Helen Kelley 978-771-4673 or Terry Duhamel 978-384-8099 for a shawl or more information.