

HOLY REDEEMER AND IMMACULATE CONCEPTION COLLABORATIVE PARISHES

SERVING MERRIMAC, NEWBURY, NEWBURYPORT, AND WEST NEWBURY

Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

January 15, 2023

All Are Welcome

hriccatholic.org

*I will make you a light to the nations, that my salvation
may reach to the ends of the earth.*

(Is 49:6)





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: info@hriccatholic.org

Nativity

Parish offices and church:
4 Green St., Merrimac 01860

Office Hours: By appointment

Phone: 978-346-8604

Email: info@hriccatholic.org

Immaculate Conception

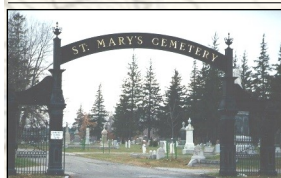
Parish, church, rectory, and offices:
42 Green St., Newburyport 01950

Office Hours: M-F 9:00 a.m.-3:30 p.m.

Phone: 978-462-2724

Fax: 978-234-7399

Email: info@hriccatholic.org



St. Mary's Cemetery

36 Storey Avenue,
Newburyport 01950

Immaculate Conception School

1 Washington Street, Newburyport 01950, K-grade 8,
Mrs. Joan Sullivan, 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@hriccatholic.org

Senior Priests in Residence

978-462-2724 or 978-346-8604

Rev. William H. McLaughlin

Rev. George E. Morin

Rev. Charles Stanley

Permanent Deacons

Deacon Paul Dow

978-887-5350, paulow49@gmail.com

Deacon John Moranski

978-432-1443, jmoranski51@gmail.com

St. Vincent de Paul

St. Vincent de Paul Society at

Holy Redeemer

978-346-8604 x 4

hsvdp300@gmail.com

St. Vincent de Paul Society at

Immaculate Conception

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St Mary's Cemetery

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Immaculate Conception School

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donnapostle233@gmail.com

Tim Richard, IC organist

trichard23@gmail.com

Steve Swochak, IC Music Coordinator

978-462-2855

swochak@netzero.com

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



 [hriccatholic](https://www.instagram.com/hriccatholic)



 Holy Redeemer - Immaculate
Conception Collaborative
Parishes



COLLABORATIVE NEWS

Mass Schedule

Saturday (1/14)

4:00pm **IC** John & Katherine Kelley (Fr. Morin)
4:00pm **Nativity** Madeline Brodie (Fr. Harrison & Deacon Moranski)

Sunday (1/15)

8:30am **Nativity** Marorgte & Ed Fredrych (Fr. Harrison)
9:00am **IC** (Fr. Stanley & Deacon Dow)
10:00am **St. Ann** (Fr. Harrison)
11:30am **IC** Angelo Maiello (Fr. Morin)

Monday (1/16)

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

Tuesday (1/17)

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

Wednesday (1/18)

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

Thursday (1/19)

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

Friday (1/20)

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

Saturday (1/21)

4:00pm **IC** Bruce L. Folsom, Maureen Waddell (Fr. Harrison & Deacon Dow)
4:00pm **Nativity** (Fr. Stanley & Deacon Moranski)

Sunday (1/22)

8:30am **Nativity** For the intentions of the Kardas family living and deceased (Fr. Morin)
9:00am **IC** (Fr. Harrison & Deacon Dow)
10:00am **St. Ann** (Fr. Stanley & Deacon Moranski)
11:30am **IC** Michael Aldrich, Laurine F. Sullivan (Fr. Harrison & Deacon Dow)

In your prayers please remember Elizabeth Waterhouse, Joseph R. Nelson, Mario Ragusa, and all of the faithful departed.

The priests' schedule is subject to change without notice.

IC—Immaculate Conception, Newburyport

Nativity—Merrimac

St. Ann—West Newbury

Saturday Vigil Mass is broadcast online through our website:

hriccatholic.org and on Facebook: ([Holy Redeemer - Immaculate Conception Collaborative Parishes](#)).

From the Pastor

Dear Parishioners,

I don't know if you've ever felt an inner restlessness, a feeling that something just is not complete or good enough...that there is more that can and should be done? Sometimes this is simply a reaction to the wide variety of imperfections that surround most of us on our life's journey. We see many ways that our relationships can improve or our jobs become better. We see chipped paint, occasional dust bunnies in the corner of a room, or that growing pile of stuff that we've been meaning to get to for months on-end. There are resolutions and recommendations, prescriptions and prohibitions that we've been intending to enact, that, well...we just haven't gotten around to yet. That exercise bike still sits in the corner unused.

Lest we become completely discouraged by our inaction, realize that God, too, embodies this unsatisfaction. From our First Reading this weekend, we hear Isaiah's voice express the inadequacy of simply lifting up Israel and Jacob and having a cherished relationship with them. "It is too little, the LORD says, for you to be my servant, to raise up the tribes of Jacob, and restore the survivors of Israel; I will make you a light to the nations, that my salvation may reach to the ends of the earth." (Is 49:5-6) Though God richly blessed these ancient tribes, He still wanted more. He saw their exalted status among the many peoples of the earth to be inadequate—God wanted something even greater for them! It is as if God was endlessly redecorating a room until it reached an absolute divine perfection worthy of His true majesty.

This "divine restlessness," if you will, has a name: Jesus. The ultimate and absolutely perfect response to any of the incompleteness we experience in this world and beyond is Jesus Christ. He is the beloved Son of the Father, the very best of the best gifts of our God to a fallen world. Upon Him God's great favor rests. And as an obedient and perfect Son, Christ will not rest until all is brought to a perfect completion in God's sight. All sins will be forgiven. All broken and corrupted relationships will be restored. All injustice will be eliminated. All war and famine will come to an end. All pain and suffering will be eliminated. All illness and disease will be healed. All loss will be restored. Every tear will be wiped away. Death itself will be destroyed and there will only be life as God created it to be, holy and righteous in His sight, for all eternity. God will not rest until

(Continued on page 4)

Questions of the Week



Adult: How would you explain Jesus to someone who knew nothing about Him?

Child: If you were going to tell someone what you thought was the most important thing to know about Jesus, what would that be?

Martin Luther King Jr. Day

Collaborative offices will be closed on Monday, January 16 for Martin Luther King Jr. Day. Offices will reopen on Tuesday, January 17 at 9:00 a.m.

Confessions



We offer Confessions Saturdays from **3:00–3:30 p.m.** at IC Church. No appointment needed. Confessions are also available at other times and places during the week by appointment only. For more information or to schedule a time for Confession, contact our Collaborative offices at (978) 346-8604 or (978) 462-2724.

COLLABORATIVE NEWS

This Week in Our Collaborative

Monday, January 16, MLK Jr. Day

Collaborative Offices Closed

Tuesday, January 17

Breaking Bread Takeout-Only Meal 4:30pm, IC St. Louis Hall

IC Choir Rehearsal 6:00pm, IC Church

Knights of Columbus Mtg. 7:00pm, IC Nazareth Library

Wednesday, January 18

Holy Jammers Practice 10:00am, IC Nazareth Library

IC Youth Choir Rehearsal 4:30pm, IC Church

Thursday, January 19

Adoration 7:00pm, IC Church

Social Action Committee Mtg. 7:00pm, IC St. Louis Hall

Friday, January 20

Adoration 9:30am, IC Church

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

Saturday, January 21

HR Quilters 8:30am, Nativity Hall

Confessions 3:00pm, IC Church

Sunday, January 22

RCIA Mtg. 9:15am, IC Parish Center Room G19

Coffee Social at Nativity 9:30am, Nativity Hall

Fr. Bill's Birthday Celebration 10:00, IC St. Louis Hall

RCIA Mtg. 10:00am, IC St. James Chapel

To schedule your group's in-person meeting, contact Collaborative offices at 978-462-2724 or 978-346-8604 to reserve your space.

(Continued from page 3)

all this is accomplished fully through Christ!

So, as we move further into our New Year, maybe staring down some earnest, but ill-conceived resolutions that never seem to bear any fruit, maybe a healthier approach instead is to tap into the divine restlessness that is carved into our very souls and enlist the help of the One who will not rest until "completeness" takes on an entirely new meaning. As St. Augustine wrote many centuries ago, "You have made us for yourself, O Lord, and our heart is restless until it rests in you." (from his *Confessions*) Maybe it is time that we all ask God what improvements He would have us make in our lives and world this coming year? We might just be surprised at how lofty and glorious an answer we may get!

New Year's blessings to all,

Fr. Timothy Harrison, Pastor

Fr. Bill's 80th Birthday

Come celebrate Fr. Bill's birthday

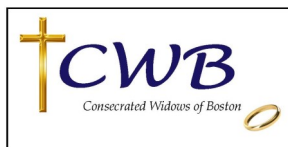
Join us at IC St. Louis Hall after the 9:00 Mass on **Sunday, January 22** to enjoy some refreshments and to wish Fr. Bill a happy birthday. All are welcome.

2nd Collection January 21-22

Next week's second collection supports the Church in Latin America (CLA). The CLA provides support for pastoral projects in financially poorer dioceses in Latin America and the Caribbean. CLA funds catechetical and lay leadership programs, youth ministry, evangelization programs, and formation programs for religious, priests, and deacons. CLA is making it possible for the Catholic faithful in the Western hemisphere to help each other. Please visit [Church in Latin America | USCCB](http://ChurchinLatinAmerica.USCCB) for more information.

Consecrated Widows

Are you a Catholic widow living in the Boston Archdiocese? Do you feel that you are being called to live the Evangelical Counsels in the lay world?



We are looking for like-minded women to follow what we believe are the promptings of the Holy Spirit to establish a group of Consecrated Widows in our Archdiocese.

For more information, please visit our website at consecratedwidows.org

IC Haiti

May the Lord continue to bless our ongoing efforts to support the people of Haiti. We thank Him for offering us a ministry of service to our brothers and sisters in Christ.

If you would like to contribute to IC Haiti, please mail checks to **IC Haiti, 42 Green Street, Newburyport, MA. 01950. Checks should be made out to "IC Haiti."**

Virtual Rosary



Join us for recitation of the rosary live on Facebook twice every week. Pray along with us and add your intentions in the comments on Facebook. www.facebook.com/hriccatholic/

Tuesdays and Thursdays 8:30 a.m.

Sign up for FORMED

FORMED The Catholic Faith. On Demand

Enjoy thousands of books, videos, daily reflections, and talks at home or on the go. Visit formed.org and click on "Sign up." Our organization name is "Holy Redeemer Immaculate Conception Collaborative" (or type in code JRNDGP) Follow the prompts to join and log in.

Centering Prayer/Lectio Divina

We welcome all members of our Collaborative community to join us each Wednesday 6:00–7:00 p.m. via Zoom for 30 minutes of Centering Prayer, silently resting in God and surrendering and assenting to God's presence and action in our lives, and 30 minutes of reading Sacred Scripture in group Lectio Divina. Both practices strengthen our faith and reliance on God and deepen our personal relationship with God. For more information, please call Elizabeth McCarthy, 978-462-7483.

COLLABORATIVE NEWS

Increase the Deductibility of Your Charitable Giving

Below is some information that was shared with me that may be helpful to you. People reaching 70½ years old must begin taking withdrawals from their individual retirement accounts (IRAs) under the rule for "required minimum distributions" or RMDs. Of course, the distribution means paying taxes on the withdrawn amount.

The Tax Cut and Jobs Act increased the standard deduction. Many individuals who itemized in the past may find that taking the now-higher standard deduction is a better federal tax strategy.

When you take the standard deduction, there is a strict limitation on what you can also deduct for charitable giving. But there is a way for some seniors to still get an increased deduction for their giving, thereby reducing their taxable income even if they don't itemize.

A qualified charitable distribution (QCD) can satisfy all or part of the amount of your required minimum distribution from your IRA.

If you directly transfer funds from the IRA to a qualified charity, those dollars count toward the RMD for the year, but are not counted as income. You can effectively claim a tax deduction for increased charitable giving without itemizing deductions.

Be aware that a QCD is available only to IRA owners 70½ years or older. And the maximum annual exclusion for QCDs is \$100,000. If you file a joint return, your spouse also can have a QCD and exclude up to \$100,000. For more details read IRS 590-B "Distributions from Individual Retirement Arrangements (IRAs)." **Always check with your financial advisor or tax preparer before making tax or financial decisions.**

Thank you for considering your parish as part of your charitable giving and estate planning.

Fr. Timothy Harrison, Pastor

Community Service of Newburyport



COMMUNITY SERVICE
OF NEWBURYPORT
since 1912

The HRIC Collaborative is teaming up with Community Service of Newburyport and their **Making it Personal** program to help our neighbors in need. Please purchase new dish soap and laundry detergent (**small bottles please**) and bring them to church during the weekends of January 22 and 29. There will be collection bins in all three churches to receive your donation.

Community Service of Newburyport serves those in need in all HRIC communities and will distribute these items to our neighbors.

If you have any questions please send an e-mail to hricshare@gmail.com. God bless you for your generosity.

Winter Weather Mass Cancellations



Due to the hazards of travel and the safety of priests and parishioners alike, this winter, daily Mass within the Collaborative will be cancelled if either Pentucket Regional or Newburyport Public schools are cancelled because of inclement weather. Any Faith Formation classes will also be cancelled on such days. WBZ Chanel 4 will have the updated school cancellation information. It is also available on their website at boston.cbslocal.com.

In severe situations, it may also be necessary for safety reasons to cancel weekend Masses. Please watch WBZ or consult their website for cancellation information.

Thank you for your patience and understanding. In all things, God gave us the gifts of wisdom, reason, and prudence. Let's use them wisely this winter and exercise sound judgment when considering going out in severe weather.

AED and First Aid Kits

Before COVID, a safety committee was forming to address many different aspects of our parish gatherings. One of the needs that was discussed was the placement of AED's or Automated External Defibrillators in our worship spaces and parish halls. Recently, we had a medical situation in one of our spaces where one of these devices might have been helpful prior to Emergency Medical Services arriving. Although we enjoy a very rapid response from the first responders in our area, it was time that we add these devices along with "stop-bleed" kits and updated first-aid kits to each of our gathering spaces.

You may notice that the kits have been installed, but we still would like to invite parishioners who are able to consider making a donation to pay for these potentially life-saving kits.

We have placed them in the following locations:

Nativity Church foyer	IC Church foyer
Nativity hall kitchen	IC Church sacristy
St. Ann Church foyer	IC Pastoral Center St. Louis Hall
St. Ann Church hall	IC Pastoral Center Charity Dining Room kitchen

The cost for each of these complete kits (AED, stop-bleed, and first aid) with their respective cabinets and required supplies is \$1,768.00. Full or partial donations for these sets are welcome and appreciated for both parishes. Additionally, we have multiple offers from parishioners who are familiar with how to use these devices to do an informal training after weekend Masses once they are installed. Plus, we hope to also offer certification in CPR and basic first aid for anyone who might be interested in going through the training. Stay tuned for more information about where and when. Please contact Dennis LaMalfa in our business office for more information. Thank you for your generosity in the care of others!

Fr. Timothy Harrison

COLLABORATIVE NEWS

Prayers for the Sick

May the comfort and healing of Christ embrace all in our Collaborative who are suffering from illness, especially:

Priscilla Brown	Jay Hanslig
Baby Boyle	Terence Healey
Cindy Calcina	Sam Kitchen
Pat Connolly	Lee Preble
Bill Crounse	Maureen Russell
Kristen D'Entremont	Rob Schweizer
Carol Ann Doyle	Yvonne Sloban
Ann-Margaret Ferrante	Tom Tribble
Jack Flynn	Michael Tucker
Jeanine Ebacher Fowler	Laurent Vincent
Charmaine Haan	Lorraine Zollo
Hillar Haan	

Contact the Collaborative offices to add someone to or remove someone from our prayer list: 978-462-2724 or 978-346-8604.

The Sacrament of the Sick

The **Anointing of the Sick** is one of the seven Sacraments of our Church and is administered by a priest for healing and inner wholeness. Those who are seriously ill, elderly, or are entering the hospital can request to be anointed. Due to varied schedules and availability, it may not always be possible for a priest to come on short notice to offer the Sacrament, therefore it is strongly recommended that you request the Anointing of the Sick **before going in for a hospital stay, upon entering a nursing home, or at the beginning of hospice care.** Please call Collaborative offices at 978-462-2724 or 978-346-8604 to learn more.

The Pelican Intervention Fund



We provide funding for non-profit, 12-step residential sober homes for economically challenged men and women struggling with addiction. Questions? Contact Kim Keene 978-430-1408 or visit www.pelicaninterventionfund.org

to learn more. Donations can be made to **"The Pelican Intervention Fund at ECCF"**

Essex County Community Foundation, 175 Andover Street, Danvers, MA 01923

Social Action Committee

Holy Redeemer and Immaculate Conception Parishes are looking to form a Social Action Committee for our Collaborative. The purpose of the committee will be to aid those in need in our local communities as well as in the poorer areas of the world.

If you or a member of your family are interested in becoming involved, please attend the formation meeting to be held on **Thursday, January 19 at 7:00 p.m.** in St. Louis Hall in the IC Pastoral Center. We are particularly interested in getting younger parish members involved, so if your son or daughter has a community service requirement, this would be the perfect opportunity to satisfy it. For more information or if you have suggestions, please contact Greg Jablonski: gjabbe@gmail.com.

Snow Removal Volunteers

We are looking for **volunteers to assist with snow removal** at all 3 churches, the rectories, and the IC school this winter. If you are interested in helping us out, please call Collaborative offices at 978-462-2724 or 978-346-8604 to learn more.

Collaborative Faith Formation

All Faith Formation schedules and registration forms are posted on our website at www.hriccatholic.org/Faith-Formation.

School Year Programs (Grades K-10)

School year Faith Formation and Sacramental preparation schedules and registration forms are available on the website at (hriccatholic.org/Faith-Formation). Please contact the Faith Formation office (978-462-2724 x405) with any questions or reach out via email to Aaron (aqiard@hriccatholic.org) or Melinda (burrell@hriccatholic.org).

Baptism

We have resumed our schedule of celebrating this sacrament the second Sunday of each month at 1:30 p.m. at the IC Church. Please call the Collaborative offices (978-462-2724 or 978-346-8604) for more information.

Bulletin Information

Email all bulletin submissions by Monday at noon to hricbulletin@gmail.com.

Adoration: The Game Changer



When pain or loss sear your soul from self-sufficiency, experience the salve of sacred silence at Adoration that can re-purpose your vulnerability. Jesus hears a beggar's cry! Allow Him to realign your spiritual poverty with the world's poor until your prayer of petition becomes prayer of praise.

Place: IC Church

Time: Thursdays: 7 p.m.–8 p.m.

Also: Fridays 9:30 a.m.–12 noon

Note: If a Friday funeral is scheduled, or in the absence of a presider, IC Church will remain open for "Sacred Silence" only. Check the HRIC calendar online for updated information

women at the well

We invite all women to come join us at any time, no matter where you may be in your relationship with God. The new study, *Keeping in Balance from Walking with Purpose*, is all about managing life's pace and pressure while living with calm and steadiness rooted in Christ. We meet Mondays at 6:30 p.m. in person at the IC Parish Center and virtually on Zoom. If you have any questions, or would like to join via Zoom, please email hricwomenatthewell@gmail.com for the link.

If you are unable to make it to every meeting, please do not worry! This group is designed to allow you to drop in whenever you are able to join us, no pre-reading necessary from week to week.

COLLABORATIVE NEWS

HRIC Pastoral Council

Invitation to Participate in the Collaborative Pastoral Council Meetings

In 2019 a Pastoral Council was formed in our Collaborative to assist the Pastor in his responsibilities as the leader of the Collaborative. They serve in a consultative role and there are members from both of our parishes. We are now meeting on Zoom once a month, on Saturday at 10:00 a.m. We are meeting virtually during the winter to make it easier for everyone.

We would like to invite any of our Collaborative members to join our meetings, giving you a chance to listen to our discussions and to comment or ask questions at certain points in the meeting. Our next meeting is scheduled for **Saturday, January 21 at 10:00 a.m.** If you are interested in listening in, please let Jim Williamson know and he will forward the link to you. If you have any concerns or questions about the work of the Council, you can reach out to Jim at Jimwilliamson35@gmail.com.

Pastoral Council Members 2022–23

Fr. Tim Harrison (Chair)

IC

Chris Bergin
Ann Jaronecyk
Jim Williamson (Vice-Chair)
Jonathan Temple
Cory Beaver
Lucia Parker
Patty Olds
Rich Ryan
Alan McEmber

HR

Greg Jablonski
Steve DiCamillo
Sue Coppinger
Veronica Laite

Ex-Officio

Deacon Paul Dow
Deacon John Moranski
Aaron Giard

The God Minute

Every morning a small group of priests, nuns, and lay people start their day in prayer. Soft music, sacred scripture, and a thoughtful reflection are weaved into a 10-minute prayer called *The God Minute*. It's then uploaded for you to access and pray along with us on your own time. And it's free.

Listen with your coffee in the morning, while driving to work or taking a walk. See how easy and beautiful prayer can be. www.thegodminute.org



SCAN ME

Short-Term Rental Needed for Afghan Refugee Family

While continuing to pursue permanent housing solutions for Newburyport's Afghan refugee families, one in particular would benefit greatly from a short-term rental. Do you have or know of a winter rental, or something available for up to six months? Partnering with you to care for this family could make a valuable difference—reach out if you can help. Contact St. Paul's Episcopal Church at 978-465-5351, or rector@stpaulsnewburyport.org.

IC PARISH

Wanted: Smiling Faces to Welcome People to Our Church

After the last 2 years, we want to create a warm, welcoming experience for all our parishioners and visitors. First impressions matter.

We are seeking individuals, couples, or families willing to come to Mass 15 minutes early and warmly welcome parishioners to that day's celebration. You can select the Mass you usually attend and how often you would like to serve.

If this ministry interests you, please email Kathie Williamson: Kathie108a@gmail.com and indicate which Mass you will attend.

Consolers Circle Meal

The IC community offers 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. Please let the funeral director know that you request this service when making arrangements.

St. Mary's Cemetery

Immaculate Conception Parish owns and operates a private cemetery located on Storey Avenue. St. Mary's Cemetery is a 35-acre cemetery with consecrated grounds that provides tranquility and peacefulness at those difficult times that we all are faced with. Please visit the parish cemetery and you will find the cemetery to be well-managed and maintained. Cemetery plots are available for full-body and cremated remains burials in any denomination. Call Joseph Viel, Superintendent, at 978-208-0266 to schedule an appointment.

Free Hair Cuts

Donna Koen, an IC parishioner and licensed hairdresser for over 30 years, is offering free hair cuts to anyone in need. She is willing to travel to your home. Her number is (978) 998-9219. This is a service she has been offering for years for the Newburyport Housing Authority, Salvation Army, and the Sisters of Notre Dame.

She is happy to help our parishioners who are in need.

The Compassionate Friends



The Compassionate Friends provides support for bereaved families after the loss of a child, grandchild, or sibling—any age, any cause. Visit our website tcfnewburyport.org.

Our next monthly support meeting is **January 23** in the IC Parish Center, Room 209 from 7:30–9:00 p.m. Contact Barbara with questions: 978-697-1349 or 617-410-6309, or barbarajhopkinson@gmail.com.

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION PARISH

IC Offertory Collection

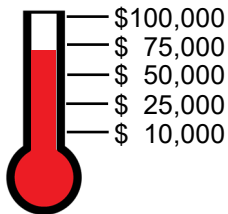
IC Offertory, Jan. 7–8	\$4,926.00
Monthly	\$1,624.00
Mailed in Offertory, week ending Jan. 6	\$6,041.00
Weekly Online Offertory Giving	\$3,907.59

No second collection this weekend (Jan. 15). The second collection next weekend (Jan. 22) is the Church in Latin America. (See page 4 of this bulletin for details.) Unless otherwise indicated, make out checks to Immaculate Conception Parish with the second collection noted in the memo.

If you would like to mail in your envelopes, send them to **Immaculate Conception Parish, 42 Green Street, Newburyport, MA 01950.**

You can also sign up for online giving. Visit our website to learn more: hricatholic.org/IC-Online-Giving.

IC Grand Annual
Goal \$100,000
To Date \$72,085.00



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. Parish registration forms are available in the foyer of the church or at the parish office.

Once you register with the parish, or if you are already a registered parishioner, visit our website, hricatholic.org and click the “Links” tab, then click on “IC Parish 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.

Questions? Contact Christine Breslow at 978-462-2724 x 402

SVdP Advent Project Thank You

Thank you for your generous response to the St. Vincent de Paul Advent Project! Dozens of gift cards were donated at the Immaculate Conception church during the weeks leading up to Christmas. The cards will be used to help local residents obtain food, gasoline, supplies from pharmacies, and home goods. Having the gift cards available is one way the Society of St. Vincent de Paul is able to respond quickly to the many requests for help received each month. The ongoing support of the Immaculate Conception community is very important and greatly appreciated. Thank you for helping us to help others!

Immaculate Conception School

Cultivating friendships among varied ages of students is purposeful at Immaculate Conception School. Planned projects, events and celebrations as “Buddy Activities” fosters meaningful moments and memories that contribute to a sense of community.



Pictured, the Pre-K students get ready to celebrate New Year's with their 8th grade Buddies. Dressed in their party outfits, with self-decorated 2023 crowns on, our youngest students counted down to 12:00 noon, shouted “Happy New Year!” and released pom-pom confetti into the classroom. It was a fun celebration for everyone, and will be a fond memory for our soon-to-be graduates of the class of 2023.



IC St. Vincent de Paul



If you know someone living in Newbury/ Newburyport who needs assistance, please suggest that they call our **help line 978-518-0728**. We are ready to assist.

You can now make online donations on our website: www.svdnewburyport.org. If you would like to mail in your donation, please make your check payable to “**SVdP of Newburyport**” and drop it into the collection box at Mass or mail it to the parish office at 42 Green Street, Newburyport, MA 01950.

Breaking Bread to-go Meal

We serve our weekly Breaking Bread meal on Tuesday evenings. It is a hot, nourishing, 3-course dinner which is currently **take out only** and is distributed at the entrance to the IC Parish Center from 4:30–5:30 p.m. All are welcome!

Substitute Custodians

IC Parish is looking for substitute Custodians to work on an as-needed basis. Duties would include cleaning, event setup, and snow removal. If you are interested in becoming a substitute custodian, please contact Christine or Melinda in the IC offices, 978-462-2724.

HOLY REDEEMER PARISH

HR Offertory Collection

HR Offertory, Jan. 7-8	\$1,361.00
Monthly	\$1,252.00
Mailed in Offertory, week ending Jan. 6	\$1,165.00
Weekly Online Offertory Giving	\$ 975.00

No second collection this weekend (Jan. 15). The second collection next weekend (Jan. 22) is the Church in Latin America. (See page 4 of this bulletin for details.) Unless otherwise indicated, make out checks to Holy Redeemer Parish with the second collection noted in the memo.

If you would like to mail in your collections, send them to **Holy Redeemer Parish, 4 Green Street, Merrimac, MA 01860**

You can also sign up for online giving. Visit our website to learn more: hricatholic.org/hr-online-giving.

HR Grand Annual
Goal \$25,000
To Date \$18,285.00



Communion to the Homebound

We would like to offer our Holy Redeemer parishioners the opportunity to receive the Eucharist if you are homebound or unable to attend Mass on a regular basis. If any parishioner knows of someone who might be interested in receiving the Eucharist, please also let us know. This could be a one-time occasion, or a regular schedule could be arranged. Please call Melinda Burrell at 978-462-2724 to schedule a visit.

Coffee Social at Nativity

Join us for a coffee social after the 8:30 Mass on **January 22**. Start the new year off by meeting some new friends over a cup of coffee! All are welcome.

Greeters Needed

We could still use a few more greeters. High school students and adults are welcome. In particular, we need greeters at the 4:00 p.m. Masses at both Nativity and St. Ann. This little task simply involves smiling and saying hello, handing out bulletins, or perhaps giving directions to the restroom or the ramp.

Would you like to help? Please contact Sue Noyes at susanjnoyes@gmail.com.

Holiday Fair Baskets for 2023

We will be collecting baskets for next year's fair. Please consider donating your empty wicker baskets by leaving them in the back of either church.

HR St. Vincent de Paul

A special thanks to all of you who answered our call for donations at Christmas. The season brings many requests for help from our St. Vincent DePaul conference and these needs continue throughout the year.



Please consider the words of St Teresa of Avila who devoted her life in service to the poor:

Christ has no body now but mine. He prays in me, works in me, looks through my eyes, speaks through my words, works through my hands, walks with my feet and loves with me here.

As disciples of Christ, we all are called to help those in need. Please let the HR conference help you to become the eyes, feet, and hands of Jesus.

There are envelopes in the pews at both St. Ann and Nativity churches, or simply use the poor boxes. Make checks out to **HR SVDP**. Market Basket gift cards are much appreciated.

If you know of someone who needs help, please have them call our hotline at 978-346-8604 X4.

Please give what you can so that we can continue to *make a difference in the lives of the poor around us. Please give generously.*

Shawls and Lapghans



Shawls and lapghans are given freely as a gift, to offer comfort and joy! We would be happy to deliver to anyone. Or if you personally would like to give one to a friend, relative or neighbor, please contact Helen at 978-771-4673 or hvktax@aol.com.

Come join us. Don't know how to knit or crochet? We will teach you! We meet on the first Thursday of every month at Nativity Hall in Merrimac at 2:00 p.m. **Our next meeting is Thursday, February 2. All are welcome!**

HR Online Giving

Holy Redeemer now provides Online Giving—a convenient and safe way to make a one-time or a recurring (weekly or monthly) donation. Getting started is easy—you need to be a registered member of Holy Redeemer Parish community. Parish registration forms are available on the website or contact the parish office.

Once you register with the parish, or if you are already a registered parishioner, visit our website, hricatholic.org and click the "Links" tab, then on "HR Parish Online Giving" to get to the site. There are three different funds you can contribute to: Offertory, Monthly, and Grand Annual.

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.

Questions? Contact Christine Breslow at 978-462-2724 x 402

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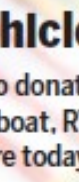
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