

HOLY REDEEMER AND IMMACULATE CONCEPTION COLLABORATIVE PARISHES

SERVING MERRIMAC, NEWBURY, NEWBURYPORT, AND WEST NEWBURY

Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

January 21, 2024

All Are Welcome

hriccatholic.org



*Jesus said to them,
“Come after me, and I will make you fishers of men.”
Then they abandoned their nets and followed him.*

(Mk 1:17–18)



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

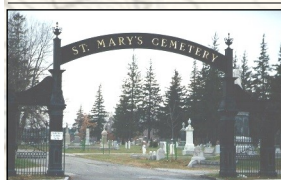
Immaculate Conception

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

Deacon John Moranski

978-432-1443

St. Vincent de Paul

St. Vincent de Paul Society at
Holy Redeemer

978-346-8604 x 4

hrrvdp300@gmail.com

St. Vincent de Paul Society at
Immaculate Conception

978-518-0728

St Mary's Cemetery

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Immaculate Conception School

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Bud Kent, IC Building Maintenance

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bkent@hriccatholic.org

Eddie Martinez, IC Facilities Manager

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emartinez@hriccatholic.org

Music Ministry

Jennifer Acorn, HR Organist

978-697-1082

Kathy Peavey, HR Vocalist

978-360-8756

Donna Postle, IC Music Ministry Director
978-317-8903

Tim Richard, IC organist

Steve Swochak, IC Music Coordinator

978-270-4924

Confessions

Saturdays 3:00-3:30 p.m., IC Church
Or by appointment. (Call Collaborative
offices to schedule.)



COLLABORATIVE NEWS

Mass Schedule

Saturday (1/20)

4:00pm **IC** *Shiela Ramkatawan, Penny Tobias Deschamps* (Fr. Stanley & Deacon Moranski)
4:00pm **Nativity** (Fr. Harrison)

Sunday (1/21)

8:30am **Nativity** (Fr. Harrison)
9:00am **IC** (Fr. McLaughlin & Deacon Dow)
10:00am **St. Ann** (Fr. Harrison)
11:30am **IC** *Robert Daley, Jr., Donald TeBeau* (Fr. Stanley & Deacon Moranski)

Monday (1/22)

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

Tuesday (1/23)

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

Wednesday (1/24)

9:00am **IC** *John Bowen, Frank McQuaid* (Fr. Stanley)

Thursday (1/25)

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

Friday (1/26)

9:00am **IC** *For the intentions of Peter D'Ambrosio* (Fr. Harrison)

Saturday (1/27)

4:00pm **IC** *Eugene & Cheryl Mulgrew, Mary Goode* (Fr. Harrison)
4:00pm **Nativity** (Fr. McLaughlin)

Sunday (1/28)

8:30am **Nativity** (Fr. McLaughlin & Deacon Moranski)
9:00am **IC** *Joyce Donahue* (Fr. Harrison)
10:00am **St. Ann** (Fr. Stanley)
11:30am **IC** *Jerry Majocha* (Fr. Harrison & Deacon Dow)

In your prayers please remember 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 live-streamed online through our website: hriccatholic.org.

Adoration Opens the Door of the Heart



Jesus knocks at the door of your heart. Can you open to Him that He might enter? It's fine to have hesitation—Jesus knows how to be gentle. If you are willing, He will allow you to see His Sacred Heart.

Try Adoration at IC Church. He's there in

His House to welcome you. You don't even need to knock! His expectancy is greater than your hesitancy.

Place: IC Church (*enter at Green Street door only*)

Time: Thursdays 7:00–8:00 p.m.

Fridays 9:30 a.m.

From the Pastor

Dear Parishioners,

Why do some people respond more quickly to God's Word than others? Or, from our limited perspectives, even at all? The Story of Jonah, which we have in its most watered-down and truncated form in this weekend's First Reading, is a most perplexing one. Meant in extreme hyperbole to emphasize the amazing power of God's Word, it illustrates that even with the most reluctant of prophets offering the most meager of preaching, the worst of sinners can be converted—whole and entire—by the sheer power of God's Word. No fancy rhetoric, no flashy message, no clever marketing...just God's Word—which in this case was "repent or you will be obliterated" and people not only listened, but took to heart the call to repentance and were saved.



Sometimes, for the sake of brevity, essential elements of a story are left unspoken, but presumed to be in place, a "secret knowledge" that the hearer of the story understands, but are not evident on the surface, perhaps as a way to draw one deeper into the story. Nineveh's wickedness was well-known, their evil deeds rising up to the Lord. It is one thing for God to know of the sin of others, and quite another for the sinner him or herself to be aware of their iniquity. It will often take a mountain of preaching and landslide of persuasion for even the mildest of us wrongdoers to consider our own misdeeds and contemplate a path of repentance. How, then, an entire city of the most egregious of offenders? While the Bible story, again, is meant to underscore the power of God's Word without mere human embellishment, I think there are some other, unspoken or overlooked elements that contribute to their collective conversion.

First, while God and the rest of the known world are aware of Nineveh's sinful reputation, it seems that the Ninevites, themselves, were also aware of how bad they were. After all, if we are to look ahead in the Bible to the (very effective) preaching of John the Baptist, the number one pre-requisite for a conversion of heart to make way for the Messiah was to admit that you had sinned and were in need of God's mercy. Big sins, little ones, "little white lies," whatever... in some shape or form, you had turned away from God and done things that you ought not have done, or failed to do things that you know you should have. End of story. For Jonah's most meager of preaching to have had any effect at all, it would seem that the Ninevites were aware that they were plagued with something that they didn't know how to get rid of. Sin had infected them in their minds and hearts, in their thoughts and actions, in their relationships and dealings with others. It was pervasive and they must have on some level felt themselves powerless to overcome it on their own. Not that this was something that they publicly admitted to, or something that was part of their polite conversations among themselves. But it must have echoed in their hearts on some level, beginning with the king.

And here is where the story takes on an interesting note.

(Continued on page 4)

COLLABORATIVE NEWS

(Continued from page 3)

Although edited from this weekend's short passage, it was the king of Nineveh who was among the first to offer a robust response to Jonah's preaching—it was he who ultimately ordered man and beast alike to don sackcloth and ashes and beg for God's mercy. Sometimes, it only takes one person—the right person—to respond to God's Word for it to take off like wildfire across people's hearts.

It is interesting that the internet is filled these days with so many professional "influencers," who make fortunes over recommending certain products over others. Their well-honed "opinions" and convincing narratives are listened to and followed sometimes by millions...all the way to the bank! Get one of them to recommend your product or service, and business can be quite good!

It would seem, that the king of Nineveh, for whatever his own sins were, was the sort of person that others instinctually listened to. And it was not just on the whole "royal authority level" (obey or lose your head!), but he seemed to be genuinely well-liked and respected by the people. Jonah's half-hearted preaching of God's Word somehow reached his heart and the truth of God's Word resonated with the unspoken awareness that something had to change—within him, among his people and for the sake of his city. Whether he believed that destruction was imminent or not, there was certainly an opportunity to use this preaching of Jonah as an occasion for change and a new direction.

So...a couple subtle take-aways from the First Reading:

1. There are many levels to a Sacred Story that can provide a variety of different insights into the ways of God.
2. What is unspoken (or unwritten) is sometimes just as important as what is actually spelled out.
3. God's methodology is sometimes opportunistic and asymmetrical in as much as a conversion of heart and repentance don't have to take hold in everyone at the same time for it to be effective for many. A few, well-placed, influential penitents can go a long way to bringing many others to contrition and atonement.

What does this mean for us today? Faithfully proclaim God's Word, even if it kills you to do so or is so repulsive to you personally that you earnestly hope it fails (as it was for Jonah). Mary's words at the Wedding at Cana come to us from the Gospel: "Do whatever He tells you," even if it doesn't make any sense or seems to be a complete waste of time. God will bless the Word and every effort to proclaim it if it is in accordance with God's Will. While we may not always know who will respond to God's Word or when that will occur, we must be open to seeing things happen "sideways" and from places unexpected. Not all will have their hearts stirred immediately by the Word, but many can be brought to conversion and holiness through the right influence of certain others—others perhaps known only to God. Never underestimate the power of the Holy Spirit to speak to people's hearts through their conscience, no matter how dulled by sin it may be. From the outside, people may appear to be steeped in sin, but inside, their hearts may be longing for a way out, for a path of reconciliation and peace. The right connection at the right moment and in the right way could make all the difference.

Jonah was humbled before God in his call to be a prophet for the Lord. Through our own Baptism, we, too, have been called to that same prophetic role of proclaiming the Good News of salvation in Christ. In humility and trust, may we faithfully offer God's Word to others in word, prayer, and action this day. You never know who might be longing to hear and see it!

Winter Blessings to all,

Fr. Timothy Harrison, Pastor

This Week in Our Collaborative

See our online calendar for more listings. Link on our website: hricCatholic.org

Monday, January 22

AA Mtg. 10:30am, IC St. Louis Hall

Holy Hour for Life 6:30pm, IC Church *(See p. 5 for details)*

Women at the Well 6:30pm, IC Charity Dining Room

Scout Troop 41 7:00pm, Nativity Hall

Compassionate Friends Mtg. 7:30pm, IC Conference Room 209

Tuesday, January 23

Women's AA Mtg. 7:00am, St. Ann Hall

Faith Formation, Grade 2 3:30pm, IC Nazareth Library

Breaking Bread Meal 4:45pm, IC St. Louis Hall

IC St. Vincent de Paul Society Mtg. 6:15pm IC St. Louis Hall

IC Adult Choir Rehearsal 6:30pm, IC Church

Wednesday, January 24

HRIC Soup & Sandwich Program 7:00pm, St. Ann Hall

Holy Jammers Practice 10:00am, IC Nazareth Library

IC Youth Choir Rehearsal 4:15pm, IC Church

Ministry Committee Mtg. 6:00pm, IC St. Louis Hall

Thursday, January 25

Adoration 7:00pm, IC Church

Friday, January 26

Adoration 9:30am, IC Church

Bible Study 9:45am, IC Conference Room 209

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

Saturday, January 27

Confessions 3:00pm, IC Church

Sunday, January 28

Faith Formation, K-8 10:00am, IC Parish Center

Collection for the Church in Latin America

January 28

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 <https://www.usccb.org/committees/church-latin-america> for more information.

COLLABORATIVE NEWS

Prayers for the Sick

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

Patricia Baikewicz	Ann-Margaret	Joseph Palumbo
Kathy P. Brodeur	Ferrante	Joanne Pesa
Priscilla Brown	Ed Hardy	Lee Preble
Vasfije Buhali	Jane Harney	Donika Pulake
Martha Collins	Chloe Hequet	Maureen Russell
Autumn Rose	Rosemarie Hines	Rob Schweizer
Coulombe	Linda Hofferty	Frank Siderio
Bill Crounse	Armand Hyatt	Yvonne Sloban
Drew Daubach	Michael Juralewicz	Gary Smith
Kristen	Arthur LaPointe	Arlene Stoddard
D'Entremont	Helen McCance	Tom Tribble
Deb Downie	Patricia Carey	Michael Tucker
Jeanine Ebacher	McCarthy	Maddie Villers
Fowler	Carol O'Neal	Laurent Vincent
Jay Hanslig	Eleanora Paciulan	

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

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.

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

Our next meeting is Thursday, February 1 at Nativity Hall, Merrimac at 2:00 p.m.

HRIC Soup & Sandwich Program

Next delivery is Wednesday, January 24

The HRIC Soup & Sandwich Program thanks all who generously donated their time to making sandwiches, casseroles, and soups. (Disposable gallon containers can be picked up at St. Ann basement on those days. Any soup is appreciated.) We will be continuing to collect these items the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of each month for the Lazarus House Ministry. The kitchen has also requested powered drink mix if that is something you would like to contribute to.

Sandwiches, wrapped individually and cut then bagged, then returned to the original bread loaf sleeve, and if you can label what sandwiches are in there, then please do. Cold cuts, cheese, and peanut butter and jelly are appreciated. No condiments on the sandwiches please.

The **casseroles** are greatly appreciated so we are also keeping those going. Disposable pans are available for those as well in the basement at St. Ann on Wednesdays or you can use a disposable pan of your own.

Drop off is at St. Ann Church, West Newbury from **7:00–9:00 am**.

Questions? Contact hricsandwichprogram@gmail.com.

Holy Hour for Life

Our Collaborative Prays For Life
Monday, January 22, 6:30–7:30 p.m., IC Church



Photo credit: <https://bostoncatholic.org/holy-hour-for-life>

The Collaborative will hold a Holy Hour for Life on the Day of Prayer for the Legal Protection of Unborn Children at **6:30 p.m. on January 22, 2024** in Immaculate Conception Church. Deacon Dow will lead the evening of Adoration and Benediction while we pray for all those affected by abortion.

The purpose of the Holy Hours is to bring Catholics together in prayerful solidarity for:

- increased respect for the dignity of human life from conception to natural death
- forgiveness and healing for all those wounded by abortion
- peace for those facing death and terminal illness, and
- holiness within the Church to transform the culture

The Holy Hour for Life, Forgiveness, and Healing is organized by Boston Deacons for Life in collaboration with the Office of Diaconal Life and Ministry & the Pro Life Office of the Archdiocese of Boston. Please join us; all are welcome. Invite your friends.

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 the Collaborative offices at 978-462-2724 or 978-346-8604 to learn more.

Questions of the Week



Adult: When have you experienced being called by God?

Child: How do you follow Jesus?

COLLABORATIVE NEWS

Confessions During Lent

Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, February 14. We have scheduled some extra times for Confession in Lent. All times are 6:30–8:00 p.m. Please join us.

Wednesdays at HR: February 28 (Nativity), March 6 (St. Ann), March 13 (Nativity), March 20 (St. Ann)

Thursdays at IC: February 29, March 7, 14, 21 (During the Eucharistic Revival).

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.

For those of you who are unfamiliar with our ministry to the Father Marc Piché school community in south-central Haiti, there is an eight-part historical overview at our website: ichaiti.org. 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."

Individual Directed Lenten Retreat

"Who Do You Say I Am?" Mt 16:15

Jesus' question to the apostles, "Who do you say I am?" is one he asks each of us to answer. How will you answer him as you prepare to follow Jesus to the Cross? This Lenten retreat will focus on your coming to know who Jesus is in your heart and in your life.

Through readings and scripture, Lectio Divina, prayer, and pondering the life of Christ we will explore Jesus' human emotions, his temptations, his motivation for his actions, and his relationship to his Father. As you share the fruits of your retreat work in four spiritual direction sessions the Holy Spirit will guide our sharing to his purpose, aid you to answer Jesus' question and follow him to the cross and each day.

Additional Offerings

Explore a different Lenten theme or simply focus on where God is present and acting in your life this Lent. I will provide appropriate material for reading and reflection and meet with you for four spiritual direction sessions. As we open ourselves to the wisdom of Holy Spirit, I will listen as you share and together, we allow the Holy Spirit to move us and bless and guide our sharing.

Retreat opens February 12 and closes: March 27. However, you may begin your retreat any time during Lent.

Four one-hour Spiritual Direction sessions scheduled at your convenience and at your pace. You may schedule direction sessions throughout the retreat. We will meet via telephone or Zoom on a day and time convenient for you. This offering is designed to provide an affordable, convenient, safe retreat and create an intimate space for you to share yourself deeply with the Holy Spirit's guidance.

Spiritual Director: Elizabeth McCarthy, Certified Spiritual Director, MA Pastoral Counseling. Call (978) 462-7483 to register or for additional information. Suggested donation: \$90.00

Bible Study

The first gathering of the new Bible study group will be Friday, January 26 after the 9:00 morning Mass at IC Conference Room 209.

If you would like to learn more, come to the first meeting or contact Melinda at 978-462-2724.

Community Service of Newburyport



During the Month of January, we will be collecting boxes of tissues (full size), liquid laundry detergent (36 oz or less) and paper towels to restock the shelves at Community Service of Newburyport (CSN).

The mission of CSN is to improve the quality of life by providing economic and social support for the residents of Newbury, Newburyport, and West Newbury.

Collection bins are in all three churches and in the lobby of the Immaculate Conception Parish Center. Personal care products cannot be purchased with federal assistance benefits (SNAP and WIC), and are often sacrificed to buy food. Thank you for your support of this important work. For more information about CSN please visit www.csn1912.org.

Collaborative Faith Formation

School Year Programs (K–10, Including Sacramental Prep.

Faith Formation schedules and registration forms for the 2023–24 school year are available on our website at www.hriccatholic.org/Faith-Formation.

Baptism

We celebrate this sacrament the second Sunday of each month at IC Church. Please call the Collaborative offices (978-462-2724 or 978-346-8604) for more information.

Winter Weather Mass Cancellations

Due to the hazards of travel and the safety of priests and parishioners alike, this winter, daily Mass will be cancelled if Newburyport Public schools are cancelled because of inclement weather. Any Faith Formation classes will also be cancelled on such days. WBZ Channel 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.

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION PARISH

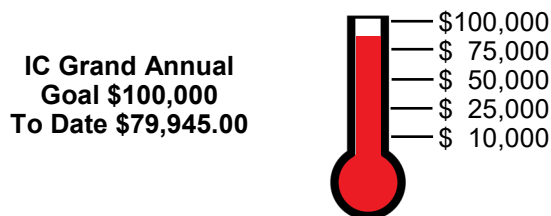
IC Offertory Collection

IC Offertory, Jan. 13–14	\$4,754.00
IC Mailed-in Offertory, Week Ending Jan 12	\$1,875.00
IC Weekly Online Offertory Giving	\$3,607.59
Total Weekly Offertory, Jan. 13–14	\$10,236.59
Monthly, Jan. 13–14	\$1,266.00

No second collection this weekend (Jan. 21). The second collection next weekend (Jan. 28) is the Church in Latin America. See page 4 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: hriccatholic.org/IC-Online-Giving.



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.svdpnnewburyport.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 Meal

We serve our weekly Breaking Bread meal on Tuesday evenings. It is a hot, nourishing, 3-course dinner. Supper is served from 4:45–5:30. Those who prefer to continue "Grab & Go" can pick up at 5:30 p.m. All are welcome!

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 tcfnnewburyport.org.

Our next monthly support meeting is Monday, **January 22** in the IC Parish Center, Room 209 from 7:30–9:00 p.m. Contact Mel Yell, 978-764-2547 or Heidi Damiano, 978-360-7525 with questions.

Parish Membership

We welcome all newcomers to our Collaborative and hope you take an active part in parish life. Registration forms are available online at hriccatholic.org or you can call the Collaborative offices to register.

Immaculate Conception School

Immaculate Conception School cultivates a sense of community by fostering relationships across student age groups. Special activities are planned throughout the school year, especially between the 8th grade and the Pre-K students. One beloved celebration is the New Year's Eve party that took place earlier this month after the students returned from Christmas vacation. The children came to school dressed in their fanciest, most glittering outfits, many of the boys wore bow ties. The children wore "2024" crowns and made confetti poppers from paper tubes and brightly colored pom poms. The disco ball and dance party music in the classroom provided a festive ambiance which came to a crescendo when everyone counted down to "midnight." The 8th grade students love the important role they play for the younger children in making memories and carrying on IC traditions.



With today's challenges and stressors, fostering a feeling of belonging is important for children of all ages. The friendships and relationships that occur naturally through purposefully planned events ties directly to Immaculate Conceptions School's mission. Give us a call to learn more about the advantages of an IC education!! 978-465-7780 icsnewburyport.com

Photo courtesy of the 2024 Yearbook Team



A recent drone picture of the newly operational solar farm on the roof of our school. Since it was switched on, it has generated more than 5 megawatts of electricity to offset the needs of the school. Given that we are slowly coming out of the darkest time of the year, this is highly encouraging as our peak producing months are still ahead. Stay tuned for more updates on our energy savings!

Collaborative Calendar



Did you know we have an online Collaborative calendar? It lists Mass times and all Collaborative events and activities. Access it through the calendar tab on our website: hriccatholic.org or you can scan the QR code.

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION CHURCH

Emmy's Valentines at MGH



Please help Emmy and her Nana, Melissa, make this Valentine's Day a bit brighter for children diagnosed with cancer at Mass General Hospital for Children.



Emmy was diagnosed 3 years ago with a rare aggressive brain cancer. She was given a 4% chance to live but we are happy to say she celebrated her 4th birthday and has remained NED (No Evidence of Disease) for 3 years. Now she wants to pay it forward by donating stuffed animals to those still in treatment.

We ask that stuffed animal donations are:

- Brand new, tags on if possible (they are being delivered to a hospital)
- **Not** Valentine themed
- 6–12 inches tall
- Lovable and squishy



Donations can be dropped off in the foyer of the IC Pastoral Center. There will be a plastic bin with a photo of Emmy and last year's donations. Please feel free to take home a photo.

Retrouvaille

Marriage can be difficult. We can help. We teach better communication. Join us in one of our upcoming Retrouvaille weekends: February 2 and March 1. Visit HelpOurMarriage.org to learn more.

St. Anthony's Guild

IC's 175th Anniversary History Continued

Recognizing the need for an organization to provide temporary relief to the poor, ill, and aged members of the Parish, a small group of women formed St. Anthony's Guild in 1908. The Guild's great success is attributed to the numerous members who contributed funds through monthly dues. Many social affairs occurred over the years to further add to the Guild's treasury. Rev. Ryan, himself contributed \$3000 to the Guild in its early years. Additionally, bequests have been made over the years that set up trust funds for use by the Guild. Some of these funds remain active even now: the Mary A. Kelly Fund for example, provides tuition assistance for parish college students seeking degrees in the sciences!

The Guild always carried out its work with extreme diligence and discretion. Throughout the Guild's existence, food, fuel, and clothing have been distributed. During the Depression years of the 1930's, many children were outfitted for First Communion and Confirmation. Traditional Christmas dinners for the needy and in extreme cases cash distributions were made. Care baskets were routinely brought to shut-ins and old-age homes through the city.

What has become of the St. Anthony Guild? When did it disband? Was it's mission simply carried on by the Society of St Vincent DePaul conference associated with the Parish?

View our weekly bulletin online on our website:
hricatholic.org.

St. Joseph's Day Dinner

Hold the Date: March 16, 2024

Immaculate Conception's 175th Anniversary continues!

St. Joseph's Day Dinner

Special Italian Meal

IC St. Louis Hall

Watch the bulletin for further details

Want to help plan the dinner? Join us at our next meeting on Wednesday, January 31 at 7:00 p.m. in IC St. Louis Hall

IC Faith, Fun, and Fellowship Committee

After such a glorious and fun gala on Friday, December 8 to celebrate our 175th Anniversary, a group of parishioners shared our hopes with one another that having that much fun as a parish is something we'd love to do more often.

We are reaching out to all our fun-loving parishioners to join in! We will be having our first meeting of Immaculate Conception Parish's Faith, Fun, and Fellowship Committee after the New Year. If you would like to be a part of our parish's new committee please contact Nancy Rose via text at 978-270-1579. Thank you and let the fun continue!

175th Anniversary Website Page

Immaculate Conception Parish celebrates 175 years

In celebration of this milestone of faith and service to the greater Newburyport community, the parish is planning a series of events throughout the year.

Take a minute to visit the IC 175th Anniversary page on the Collaborative Website, www.hricatholic.org for many upcoming events as well as past events and photo links.

175th Anniversary Prayer

Immaculate Conception Church

1848-2023

Gracious and loving Father, on this 175th anniversary of our Parish, we celebrate our past and rejoice in our present.

We praise You for all the joy we have shared in these years of faith and fellowship. We pray for all who together make up this community of Your people.

Through the guidance and intercession of our Patroness, may we be ever mindful of the grace of God, the love of Jesus Christ, and the strength of the Holy Spirit who renews all things.

May our Parish continue to grow as a home for all who seek Your love and mercy. Mary, Queen of Peace, conceived without original sin, pray for us. Amen

HOLY REDEEMER PARISH

HR Offertory Collection

HR Offertory, Jan. 13–14	\$2,239.00
HR Mailed-in Offertory, Week Ending Jan. 12	\$1,010.00
HR Weekly Online Offertory Giving	\$ 377.50
Total Weekly Offertory, Jan. 13–14	\$3,626.50
Monthly, Jan. 13–14	\$1,633.00

No second collection this weekend (Jan. 21). The second collection next weekend (Jan. 28) is the Church in Latin America. See page 4 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: hriccatholic.org/hr-online-giving.

**HR Grand Annual
Goal \$25,000
To Date \$21,065.00**



Activities Committee

Gift Baskets and Christmas Cards Wanted



We are looking to recycle and reuse **gift baskets**.

If you received any baskets this Christmas and have no use for them, the Activities Committee would love to repurpose them for next year's **Holiday Fair**.

Please leave the baskets in the back of either church and we will collect them to paint and spruce up for our fair in November.

Also, we are looking to reuse **Christmas cards**. Please leave Christmas cards in the back of either church and we will reuse them next year too!



HR Online Giving

To get started you need to be a registered member of Holy Redeemer Parish. Registration forms are available on the website or contact the parish office.

To learn more visit our website, hriccatholic.org and click the "Links" tab, then "HR Parish Online Giving" to get to the site.

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

Volunteers for Confessions During Lent

Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, February 14. We have scheduled some extra times for Confession during Lent. We are looking for parishioners from St. Ann and Nativity to be present in the churches during Wednesday night Confessions from 6:30–8:00 p.m.

Dates: February 28 (Nativity), March 6 (St. Ann), March 13 (Nativity), March 20 (St. Ann)

This is a wonderful opportunity to attend Confession and sit in the silence of the church to pray or read. There is nothing to do—just be a presence in the church during Confessions. To volunteer, contact Melinda (978-346-8604).

HR St. Vincent de Paul

We are inspired by the opening lines from a prayer from St. Teresa of Avila:

Christ has no body but yours, no hands, no feet on earth but yours.

Yours are the eyes with which he looks compassionately on this world.

Yours are the feet with which he walks to do good.

We request your continued support to address the needs of those less fortunate among us. Please make use of the envelopes in the pews at St. Ann and Nativity churches for your donations. These can be mailed or placed in the poor boxes.

An even easier way to donate would be to scan the QR code (seen here) and donate online. As always, anything that you can give is greatly appreciated.



Please keep us and those we serve in your prayers.

Collaborative Website

Visit our **Website**, www.hriccatholic.org for up-to-date information on what is happening in the Collaborative. Find links to our weekly bulletins, our live stream Masses, and our social media pages.

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 978-346-8604 to schedule a visit.



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"He has risen." *Matt 28:6*

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