

HOLY REDEEMER AND IMMACULATE CONCEPTION COLLABORATIVE PARISHES

SERVING MERRIMAC, NEWBURY, NEWBURYPORT, AND WEST NEWBURY

The Epiphany of the Lord



January 8, 2023

hricatholic.org

All Are Welcome

*Rise up in splendor, Jerusalem! Your light has
come, the glory of the Lord shines upon you.
See, darkness covers the earth, and thick clouds
cover the peoples; but upon you the LORD shines,
and over you appears his glory.*

(Is 60:1-2)





December 31, 2022

Cardinal Seán P. O'Malley, OFM Cap Statement on the Passing of Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI

“Today a loving God called Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI home to his eternal reward for a lifetime of dedicated service to the Church. That service included 71 years as a priest, 28 years as a Cardinal, and nearly eight years leading the Catholic Church as the Bishop of Rome and Successor to St. Peter. His life and his pontificate were based in a deep and abiding faith and an extraordinary record of theological scholarship. In the years leading to the Second Vatican Council and at the Council itself, Father Joseph Ratzinger made substantial contributions to the renewal of Catholic theology, and he played a significant role in the drafting of key conciliar documents. Pope John Paul II called Cardinal Ratzinger to Rome to serve as the Cardinal Prefect of the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith. In that role, he proved to be an invaluable contributor throughout the pontificate of his predecessor. Pope Benedict XVI’s pontificate was characterized by broad and deep contributions to Catholic magisterial teaching.

In all of my personal interactions with Pope Benedict XVI, I found him to be an engaged leader, thoughtful in his decisions and always committed to the mission of the Church. I am very appreciative of the confidence he showed in me when he made me a Cardinal in 2006 and his ongoing support and pastoral care for the Archdiocese of Boston.

In February 2013, he stunned the world and the Church by becoming the first Pope to resign the office in nearly 600 years. At that time, I noted that he brought unique capabilities to the papacy. His fidelity to maintaining the truth and clarity of the Catholic faith, cultivating ecumenical and interfaith dialogue and reaching out to inspire the next generation of Catholics have been great gifts to us all.

Perhaps the most moving experience for me was accompanying survivors of clergy sexual abuse to a meeting with the Holy Father in Washington, D.C. during his 2008 pastoral visit to the United States. It was a great privilege for me to be present at this meeting, as the Holy Father, in very personal ways, demonstrated his deep pastoral care for the survivors. Pope Benedict XVI recognized the pain experienced by survivors and all persons impacted by the abuse crisis. He was then, and at all times remained, committed to the Church supporting their journey towards healing and doing all that was possible to ensure the protection of children, young people, and vulnerable adults.

I am particularly mindful in this Christmas season of God’s unconditional love for all of us manifested by the Incarnation. I continue to pray for all of those in need that they may know His love and of our blessings upon them, Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI, Pope Francis and each of you.

I will miss Pope Benedict.

May his soul, and the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, Rest in Peace.”



COLLABORATIVE NEWS

Mass Schedule

Saturday (1/7)

4:00pm **IC** Carmella Herlihy, Marguerite Benson,
Colleen P. Honohan (Fr. Harrison)

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

Sunday (1/8)

8:30am **Nativity** For the intentions of Chai Dove
(Fr. Stanley)

9:00am **IC** John J. Mosher (Fr. Harrison)

10:00am **St. Ann** (Fr. Morin & Deacon Moranski)

11:30am **IC** (Fr. Harrison & Deacon Dow)

Monday (1/9)

9:00am **IC** Esther M. Roche (Fr. Stanley)

Tuesday (1/10)

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

Wednesday (1/11)

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

Thursday (1/12)

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

Friday (1/13)

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

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)

In your prayers please remember Romilda Dow, Ernest Brown,
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](#)).

Like Us on Facebook

[Holy Redeemer - Immaculate Conception Collaborative Parishes](#)



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.

From the Pastor

Dear Parishioners,

As I write this, I am continuing in my quarantine having picked up a case of COVID in the days following Christmas. Fortunately, it has not been any worse than a bad head cold and I am feeling better each day so far although I just recently lost my sense of taste and smell. I hope to be up and running by the time you read this. Blessedly, I was able to enjoy many of the wonderful Christmas treats that so many of you dropped off at the rectory in the days leading up to the holiday, so maybe this is my penance for indulging as we start the new year! Hopefully all will return to normal soon. I want to express my gratitude to my brother priests and deacons as well as to our excellent staff for their hard work in my absence. We are truly blessed in our Collaborative to have such dedicated people serving us and our local Church communities. God is good!



On New Year's Eve Day, we received word of the passing of Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI, who was 95 and in declining health at a small monastery within the Vatican. Pope Benedict XVI had served the Church as the Vicar of Christ and Bishop of Rome from 2005 until he resigned for health reasons in 2013. He was the first pope in nearly 600 years to resign from his office. Known for his work supporting the Second Vatican Council and later as a staunch defender of the Faith, he guided our Church through some very turbulent times particularly in dealing with the fallout from the clergy abuse crisis. While much will be said about Pope Benedict XVI and his many gifts to the Church, I would direct you to read the letter from Cardinal O'Malley (included in this bulletin) which was released this past week that gives a gentle testimony to his life and priestly service. I would also encourage you to consider watching the 2019 movie, *The Two Popes*, currently available on Netflix, which starred Anthony Hopkins and Jonathan Pryce. Although fictional in its conversational content, it is based on many true events and gives a good flavor of what both of our recent Popes have struggled with as well as an insight into their characters and personalities. The acting is superb and the story heartwarming. Please continue to pray for Benedict XVI that he may enjoy the fullest blessings of the Heavenly Kingdom. May his soul, and the souls of all of the faithful departed, Rest In Peace.

New Year's Blessings to all,

Fr. Timothy Harrison, Pastor

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 9

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

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

Tuesday, January 10

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 11

Holy Jammers Practice 10:00am, IC Nazareth Library

IC Youth Choir Rehearsal 4:30pm, IC Church

Cub Scout Mtg. 6:00pm, Nativity Hall

Thursday, January 12

IC 2023 Holiday Fair Mtg. 9:45am, IC Charity Dining Room

Adoration 7:00pm, IC Church

Friday, January 13

Adoration 9:30am, IC Church

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

Saturday, January 14

Confessions 3:00pm, IC Church

Sunday, January 15

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

RCIC Mtg. 10:00am, IC Parish Center

Baptisms 2:30pm, IC Church

Confirmation Prep., Year 2 3:30pm, IC St. Louis Hall

Confirmation Prep., Year 2 7:00pm, Nativity Hall

Knights of Columbus



All men of the Collaborative, 18 years or older, are welcome to join the Knights.

We meet the second Tuesday of each month in the IC Nazareth Library.

For more information about our meetings or to join the Knights, call 978-225-0804 or email kofc231@gmail.com.

Mass Scripture Readings

The Scripture passages read each day at Mass can be found on the United States Council of Catholic Bishops' website at bible.usccb.org. Praying with the Scriptures daily is a wonderful way to deepen our relationship with Our Lord and to discern how best to serve God as an intentional disciple of Christ.



(The free App "**Laudate**" allows you to access the daily Scripture readings on your cell phone.)

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."**

Collaborative Contacts

Holy Redeemer

4 Green St., Merrimac 01860

Phone: 978-346-8604

info@hriccatholic.org

Immaculate Conception

42 Green St., Nbpt. 01950

Phone: 978-462-2724

Fax: 978-234-7399

info@hriccatholic.org

Office Hours: M–F 9:00 a.m.–3:30 p.m.

Rev. Timothy Harrison, Pastor

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978-462-2724 x451, dlamalfa@hriccatholic.org

Karen Leff, Media Outreach Coordinator,

hricbulletin@gmail.com

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.



Follow Us on Twitter

@HRICatholic

HRIC Soup & Sandwich Program

Next delivery is January 11

The HRIC Collaborative Soup & Sandwich Program (formerly the HR Sandwich Program) is asking for volunteers to help make sandwiches for the Lazarus House Ministry. We deliver on the second and fourth Wednesdays of the month.

Thank you to all who have been donating since we started up again. We are delivering over 150 sandwiches every date, and are now bringing 5 gallons of soup.

Sandwiches need to be **individually wrapped or bagged** and returned to the bread wrappers. Peanut butter and jelly sandwiches are requested at this time, also cold cuts and/or cheese sandwiches. Please, no condiments. **Large** containers of coffee, Adobo, and minced garlic are also welcome. They are also looking for fresh vegetables (not potatoes). Drop off is at St. Ann Church, West Newbury, from 7:00–9:00 a.m. on the second and fourth Wednesday of the month. (Door on the larger parking lot side of the church).

Any questions please contact Jill: dobsondolls@aol.com or Tom at Tom@grellafinancial.com.

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 just 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 is time that we add these devices along with "stop-bleed" kits and updated first-aid kits to each of our gathering spaces. To that end, I would like to invite parishioners who are able to consider making a donation to provide these potentially life-saving kits. We would like to place 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. With your support, we are hoping to order and have these installed sometime in January. 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
Ann-Margaret Ferrante	Yvonne Sloban
Jack Flynn	Tom Tribble
Jeanine Ebacher Fowler	Michael Tucker
Charmaine Haan	Laurent Vincent
Hillar Haan	Lorraine Zollo

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

In the next couple of months, 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 **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.hricatholic.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 (hricatholic.org/Faith-Formation). Please contact the Faith Formation office (978-462-2724 x405) with any questions or reach out via email to Aaron (agiard@hricatholic.org) or Melinda (burrell@hricatholic.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 Requires Presence



God's "tiny whispering voice" (1 Kings 19:11-13) can be heard by your ear of the heart. Your reply? Words are optional. It is your presence with Him in the Monstrance that attains to the spiritual dialogue.

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.

HOLY REDEEMER PARISH

HR Offertory Collection

Christmas Collections	\$3,988.00
Mailed in Offertory, week ending Dec. 23	\$1,117.00
Weekly Online Offertory Giving	\$ 325.00
HR Offertory, Dec. 31–Jan. 1	\$1,742.00
Ongoing Church Maintenance	\$ 529.00
Mailed in Offertory, week ending Dec. 30	\$2,830.00
Weekly Online Offertory Giving	\$ 325.00

The second collection this weekend (Jan. 8) is the Monthly. No second collection next weekend (Jan. 15). 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 \$17,060.00



Christmas Clean-Up at Nativity Sunday, January 8

Help needed for Nativity's Christmas clean-up happening after the 8:30 Mass this weekend. Please stay after Mass and help pack up and store our decorations for next year.

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.

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

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!**

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.

HR Christmas Flowers

The Hayes Family • The O'Connor Family



IMMACULATE CONCEPTION PARISH

IC Offertory Collection

Christmas Collections	\$11,446.00
Mailed in Offertory, week ending Dec. 23	\$2,530.00
Weekly Online Offertory Giving	\$3,456.34
IC Offertory, Dec. 31–Jan. 1	\$4,837.00
Ongoing Church Maintenance	\$1,033.00
Mailed in Offertory, week ending Dec. 30	\$2,918.00
Weekly Online Offertory Giving	\$3,456.34

The second collection this weekend (Jan. 8) is the Monthly. No second collection next weekend (Jan. 15). 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 Grand Annual
Goal \$100,000
To Date \$67,935.00**



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, hriccatholic.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

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.

Immaculate Conception School

The fourth grade students at Immaculate Conception School led a lovely reading of the Nativity as the last school activity before dismissing for the Christmas break. Many grandparents and extended family were in attendance, as well as the IC students. Every 4th grader had a part as a reader or as an actor. Costumes and props brought the story to life. Glorious music embellished scenes such as the angel Gabriel carrying baby Jesus, the shepherds rushing to the stable, and the 3 wise men’s long trek to adore the new king. The 4th graders did a beautiful job under the direction of their teacher, Ms. Kelly Hague and religion teacher Mrs. Bridget Lacefield. Gathering together at important liturgical times of the year to re-enact the meaning of the season is a purposeful expansion of faith practices at the IC. These moments are establishing new traditions for various grade levels and serve to strengthen our school community.



Photo courtesy of L. Tangorra

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 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!

Follow Us on Instagram
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IMMACULATE CONCEPTION PARISH

Live Stream Mass

To watch our live-stream Masses on our website:

1. Go to our website (hriccatholic.org).
2. Click on the live-stream map on the homepage
3. You will be directed to the live stream page. Click the image to begin the video.

To watch our live-stream Masses on Facebook:

1. Go to our Facebook page (facebook.com/hriccatholic/)
2. Click the "videos" link on the page.
3. The **LIVE** video should be the first one on the list.

Questions of the Week



Adult: Following the example of the Magi, how do you follow the Light of Christ in your own life?

Child: If you were one of the Magi, what gift would you bring to Jesus?

Virtual Rosary



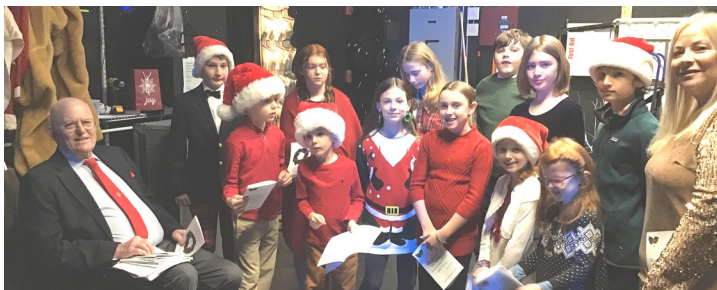
Join us for recitation of the rosary live on Facebook twice every week. Pray along with us and add your intentions in the comments on Facebook. www.facebook.com/hriccatholic/

Tuesdays and Thursdays 8:30 a.m.

IC Youth Choir

On December 17, the IC Youth Choir performed a Christmas sing-a-long at the Firehouse Center theater in Newburyport.

Interested in joining the choir? The choir, children in grades 1–8, sing twice a month at the 9:00 a.m. Sunday family Liturgy. Rehearsals are Wednesdays from 4:30–5:30 p.m. in the church. Youth choir follows the regular school schedule, so when there is no school, there is also no rehearsal or singing at Mass scheduled.



Pictured: the Youth Choir along with Donna Postle, Steve Swochak, and Terry Blanchard.

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.

IC Christmas Flowers

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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.

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.

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