

HOLY REDEEMER AND IMMACULATE CONCEPTION COLLABORATIVE PARISHES

SERVING MERRIMAC, NEWBURY, NEWBURYPORT, AND WEST NEWBURY

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph

December 31, 2023

hricatholic.org

All Are Welcome



*He took him into
his arms and
blessed God,
saying:
“Now, Master,
you may let your
servant go
in peace,
according to
your word,
for my eyes
have seen your
salvation,
which you
prepared in sight
of all the peoples,
a light for
revelation to
the Gentiles,
and glory for your
people Israel.”*

(Lk 2:28-32)



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

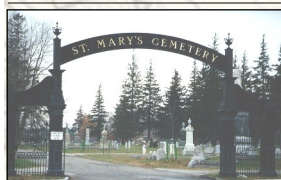
Immaculate Conception

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

hrrsudp300@gmail.com

St. Vincent de Paul Society at
Immaculate Conception

978-518-0728

St Mary's Cemetery

Joseph Viel, 978-208-0266,
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Lifelong Faith Formation

Aaron Giard, Director of Lifelong Faith
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978-462-2724 x 405 or 978-346-8604

agiard@hriccatholic.org

Melinda Burrell, Administrative Assistant,
Lifelong Faith Formation

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Website: www.hriccatholic.org



Immaculate Conception School

Joan Sullivan, Principal, 978-465-7780
jsullivan@icsnewburyport.com

Maintenance

Bud Kent, IC Building Maintenance

978-462-2724

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 (12/30)

4:00pm **IC** John & Carmella Herlihy, Jim & Emily Saccone, Jimmy Saccone, Nancy Jones (Fr. Morin & Deacon Dow)

4:00pm **St. Ann** (Fr. McLaughlin & Deacon Moranski)

Sunday (12/31)

8:30am **Nativity** John Gorski, Thanksgiving for all blessings Carolyn & Dorothy (Fr. Stanley)

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

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

11:30am **IC** Mario Ragusa (Fr. Harrison)

Monday (1/1)

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

Tuesday (1/2)

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

Wednesday (1/3)

9:00am **IC** For the Niles, Keefe, Swochak and Macri families (Fr. Stanley)

Thursday (1/4)

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

Friday (1/5)

9:00am **IC** Ralph Teran and family (Fr. Morin)

Saturday (1/6)

4:00pm **IC** Carmella Herlihy, John E & Katherine Kelley (Fr. McLaughlin & Deacon Moranski)

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

Sunday (1/7)

8:30am **Nativity** (Fr. Harrison)

9:00am **IC** Catherine Roche (Fr. Stanley & Deacon Dow)

10:00am **St. Ann** Jerry Mullen (Fr. Harrison)

11:30am **IC** (Fr. Morin)

In your prayers please remember Gerald Majocha 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 live-streamed online through our website: hricatholic.org.

Eucharist: Body and Soul Therapy in a Monstrance

Whatever ails, Jesus heals. His secret therapy for living well today and for how you will enter eternity is "hiding" in plain view! Accept Jesus' wordless prescription during Adoration. Come to Adoration. Be. Then be healed.



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,

As we reach the end of our calendar year, it is natural to reflect back on what the previous 12 months have been for us, as well as look forward to the New Year about to begin. Here within our Collaborative, this past year has been an exciting one, indeed!



After much planning and preparation, IC Parish has enjoyed many festive and varied celebrations throughout the year to mark its 175th Anniversary. These have included among other things, a planting and dedication of a Laudato Si Garden on the Rail Trail, a Father's Day weekend cookout (which became an eat-in event due to the rain!), a successful return of the Strawberry-Blueberry Festival during Yankee Homecoming week, along with IC Parish being well-represented during the closing parade, a hugely-successful Interfaith Choir Concert in the fall, a well-received Harvest Fair in October and most recently, festive celebrations the weekend of the Patronal Feast of our Parish on December 8th followed by a sold-out Gala at the Mission Oak Grill and a solemn Mass celebrated by our Archbishop, Cardinal Seán O'Malley. With more activities planned into the spring, it is safe to say that we will be remembering this milestone for many years to come.

Following a great deal of research, this spring, we were successful in installing an 87 KWh solar farm on the flat roof of our school. Designed to provide all or most of the electricity needs of the school (depending on the weather and time of the year), we finally received the go-ahead by National Grid to begin producing our own power in December. With an approximate 10-year payback period expected on the initial investment for the cost and installation of the system and a 25-30 year life expectancy of the panels themselves, this system should produce an excess value of electricity (profit) approaching \$500,000 for the school when all is said and done. Even if this were only a break-even scenario, it is still well-worth doing and a huge step forward to making our school and parish more environmentally friendly. It is a potent investment in the future.

This June, as one more positive sign of our recovery from the many COVID-era restrictions, the Archdiocese gave permission for all parishes to return to the practice of sharing Holy Communion under both forms. This re-introduction of the Communion Cup at Mass marks not only an important step along the journey of recovering from the pandemic, but also restores the completeness in the sign of Holy Communion: that we may eat and drink, as the Lord commanded us to do in His memory. Jesus meant for the Eucharist to be experienced as a meal, with His very own

(Continued on page 4)

January 1 Holy Day

Monday, January 1 is the Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God. As it falls on Monday this year, it is not a Holy Day of Obligation. Mass on Monday will be at 9:00 a.m. at IC Church. All are welcome to attend.

COLLABORATIVE NEWS

This Week in Our Collaborative

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

Monday, January 1, New Year's Day

Collaborative offices closed

Tuesday, January 2

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

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

IC Adult Choir Rehearsal 6:30pm, IC Church

Wednesday, January 3

Holy Jammers Practice 10:00am, IC Nazareth Library

IC Youth Choir Rehearsal 4:15pm, IC Church

Thursday, January 4

HR Prayer Shawl 1:00pm, Nativity Hall

Adoration 7:00pm, IC Church

Friday, January 5

Adoration 9:30am, IC Church

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

Ultreya Mass 7:00pm, IC St. James Chapel

Saturday, January 6

Confessions 3:00pm, IC Church

Sunday, January 7

KofC Hospitality Sunday 10:00am, IC St. Louis Hall

St. Ann Coffee Social 11:00am, St. Ann Hall

Baptism Prep Class 12:00pm, IC Charity Dining Room

Millennium Gospel Choir Concert 2:30pm, IC Church

IC Confirmation Prep., Year 2 3:30pm, IC Nazareth Library

Gospel Choir Fellowship 4:00pm, IC St. Louis Hall

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

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

Bulletin Information

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

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 either 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.

(Continued from page 3)

Body and Blood as the food and drink to nourish and strengthen us on the path to greater holiness of life, and as a reminder of the promise and pledge of eternal life that they signify.

Over the course of this past year, parishioners at Holy Redeemer Parish were successful in raising the funds to complete two significant improvements to their facilities. Air conditioning was added to the Nativity Church hall, and the interior of St. Ann Church was given a fresh coat of paint. Both fundraising projects were completed by parishioner donations and funds raised from the very successful Holiday Fair in November.

All throughout the year, there were many smaller, but important gatherings that have taken place, such as coffee and pastry socials, Faith Formation festivals, Beano socials, a plethora of school-related activities and the return of many ministries and meetings. A very successful Pilgrimage to Sicily and the Amalfi Coast of Italy took place this fall attended by parishioners from both of the parishes of our Collaborative. Our R.C.I.A. Program continues to grow and has been a true blessing in helping us to welcome new people into our Church this past year. Our combined Pastoral Council has been meeting regularly to continue to help our Collaborative grow and expand the many ministries and services that we offer to our community including a successful launch of the Social Action Committee to better focus our outreach to those in need. This fall, IC Church welcomed a 3-night Mission as part of its 175th celebrations returning a familiar tradition. Finally, as this year closed, we began participation in the National Eucharistic revival by hosting an evening of adoration, prayer, and song this past week—something that will continue into the spring as part of a larger, national movement.

Looking back, there is so much to be grateful for and looking ahead, there is much more to come! We will continue to build on the many good works of this past year and anticipate greater integration of infant Baptism into weekend liturgies, more 175th Anniversary events this spring, the sponsoring of two Pilgrimages this year: Medjugorje in the spring and Fatima / Portugal / Spain in the fall (See pg. 6). We are exploring the scope of a larger fundraising campaign in IC Parish to replace the parking lot as well as refinish the pews and replace the flooring in the Church along with several other needs, and hope to launch that effort later this coming year. (Stay tuned for more on that!) We continue to recruit more volunteers into the many ministries of both parishes and plan to reintroduce the Offertory collection and Procession of Gifts during Mass this coming year. We are also looking to form a Spirituality Committee in the months ahead as well.

With so many good things happening on all ends of our Collaborative, this is an excellent time to get involved in the many different forms of outreach from our churches. As 2024 dawns on us, please consider an invitation to join us in ministry and works of charity. I know that God will bless us all in the months ahead.

Happy New Year!

Fr. Timothy Harrison, Pastor

COLLABORATIVE NEWS

Collaborative Faith Formation

**School Year Programs
(K-10, Including Sacramental Prep.**

It's not too late to register your child for class!

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.

Questions of the Week



Adult: How do the members of your family support one another in difficult times?

Child: How do you show your family that you love them?

RCIA Corner

On Sunday, December 17 at the 11:30 a.m. Mass, Susan Jasiak, a longtime resident of Newburyport and retired teacher at the Bresnahan School, was received into full communion with the Catholic Church. Already baptized as a baby in a Congregational church in Haverhill, Susan received the Sacraments of Confirmation and Eucharist during the Mass and is now a fully initiated member of the Church! Please join us in welcoming Susan and praying for her during this joyful time.

If you or anyone you know is interested in becoming Catholic, we encourage you (or them) to reach out to Aaron Giard at agiard@hriccatholic.org.

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, January 4 at Nativity Hall, Merrimac at 2:00 p.m.

Collaborative Baptisms

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

Audrey Victoria Bullis • Zoey Quinn Bullis • Bree Emma Castiglione • Fiona Maura Chase • Calla Elizabeth Curt • Matthew Donald Haley • Oman Michael Hickling • Grace Marie Hughes • Rory Thomas Kent • Elaine Roisin Madden • Charles Proud Morrone

Millennium Gospel Choir

**Performing at Immaculate Conception Church,
Sunday, January 7, 2:30 p.m.**



Don't miss this opportunity to get your praise on and enjoy an afternoon of holiday, spiritual, and gospel music performed by the renowned Millennium Gospel Choir of Boston.



As part of the continued celebration of the 175th anniversary of Immaculate Conception Parish, the choir will entertain with classic and contemporary selections sure to inspire everyone's participation.

The concert is free and open to the community.

Collaborative Office Hours

Collaborative offices will be closed on Monday, January 1 for the New Year's holiday. Offices will reopen on Tuesday, January 2 at 9:00 a.m.

Prayers for the Sick

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

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

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

COLLABORATIVE NEWS

Bible Study

Some Collaborative members are looking for people who may be interested in joining a Bible study on Wednesday mornings following the 9:00 a.m. Mass at IC. We would meet in the IC parish center weekly. If you are interested, contact Melinda at 978-462-2724.

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.

Empowering men to live their faith at home, in their parish, at work and in their communities.



Knights of Columbus
Massachusetts
State Council

For more information visit:
kofc.org/join



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."

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. 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. Cemetery plots are available for full-body and cremated remains burials in any denomination. Call Joseph Viel, Mill City Management Corporation, at 978-208-0266 to schedule an appointment.



Christine & Paul Blanchette
Pilgrimage to

Medjugorje

APRIL 8 -16, 2024

Inclusions:

- Round-trip airfare
- Airport taxes & surcharges
- 7 nights accommodation
- Breakfast and dinner daily
- Transfers, transportation
- Wireless headsets
- Assistance from professional local Catholic guide(s)
- Visit to Community Cenacolo
- Sightseeing and admissions fees
- Mass daily & Spiritual activities
- Luggage handling (1 piece per person), Flight bag

Dubrovnik
2 nights: April 16-18, 2024
\$649 per person
*All pricing is based on double occupancy

CONTACT US
Alexandra@206tours.com
or cat@206tours.com

REGISTER USING THE QR CODE

\$2,599
from BOSTON (BOS)
Leave from any airport:
<https://www.206tours.com/airports/>
All pricing is based on double occupancy

Spiritual Director:
Fr. George Morin



SCAN TO SITE



Pilgrimage to Fatima & Flavors of Portugal Duoro River Cruise

October 25 - November 7, 2024

\$8,174 per person from Boston (BOS) in Cabin D

Cabin A: additional \$950 per person
Cabin B: additional \$750 per person

*All pricing based on double occupancy
Leave from Any airport: www.206tours.com/addon

Inclusions:

- Round-trip airfare from Boston (BOS)
- Airport taxes and Surcharges
- 11 nights accommodation (combination ship and hotels)
- Transfers
- Breakfast and dinner daily, lunches when on cruise
- Transportation
- Tour escort
- Assistance from professional local Catholic guide(s)
- Sightseeing and admissions fees
- Mass daily & Spiritual activities
- Whispers headsets
- Luggage handling (1 piece per person), flight bag

Register Online:
<https://www.206tours.com/blanchette/fatima/>

Contact: alexandra@206tours.com or cat@206tours.com

Fr. Tim Harrison

Category A: Porto Deck-Outside Balcony, 215 sq.ft.
Category B: Lisbon Deck-Outside Balcony, 215 sq.ft.
Category D: Duoro Deck-Panoramic Window, 161 sq.ft.

HOLY REDEEMER PARISH

HR Offertory Collection

HR Offertory, Dec. 16–17	\$1,683.10
HR Mailed-in Offertory, Week Ending Dec. 15	\$ 567.50
HR Weekly Online Offertory Giving	\$ 306.25
Total Weekly Offertory, Dec. 16–17	\$2,556.85
IC Haiti, Dec. 16–17	\$ 304.00

No second collection this weekend (Dec. 31). The second collection next weekend (Jan. 7) is Ongoing Church Maintenance.

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 \$14,725.00



Follow Us on Instagram
HRICatholic

HR Online Giving

Holy Redeemer offers 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

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.

St. Ann Coffee Hour

St. Ann Church Welcomes All to the Return of Our “Coffee And...”

We welcome all to join us on the first Sunday of every month for St. Ann’s “Coffee And...” coffee social. We will meet on **Sunday, January 7**, after the 10:00 Mass. We hope you will join us in the church hall, for coffee and baked goods, to visit with old friends, and to make new ones. For your convenience, the side door on the parking lot side will be open with easier access to the hall.



HR St. Vincent de Paul

Our conference offers sincere thanks for your generosity during Advent. We ask for your blessing in the new year. Our prayerful requests for your help continue as the needs in our community continue. Do not forget the poor.

From Psalm 10

R. Rise up, LORD! Do not forget the poor.

Rise up, LORD! God, lift up your hand! Do not forget the poor!

Why should the wicked scorn God, say in their hearts, “God does not care”? R.

But you do see; you take note of misery and sorrow; you take the matter in hand. R.

The ongoing needs of the needy in our community will require your continued support in the form of donations. We ask for your help now and in the new year. 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 (left) or visit to <https://bit.ly/stvincent-holy-redeemer> to donate. As always, anything that you can give is greatly appreciated.



Please keep us and those we serve in your prayers.

Happy New Year!



Like Us on Facebook

Holy Redeemer - Immaculate Conception
Collaborative Parishes

Saturday Mass at Nativity

Please remember that our Saturday 4:00 p.m. Mass will move to **Nativity, Merrimac** for the month of **January**.

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION PARISH

IC Offertory Collection

IC Offertory, Dec. 16–17	\$4,374.00
IC Mailed-in Offertory, Week Ending Dec. 15	\$1,466.00
IC Weekly Online Offertory Giving	\$3,193.09
Total Weekly Offertory, Dec. 16–17	\$9,033.09
IC Haiti, Dec. 16–17	\$6,147.00

No second collection this weekend (Dec. 31). The second collection next weekend (Jan. 7) is Ongoing Church Maintenance.

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 \$68,395.00**



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 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!

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!

Immaculate Conception School

As we close out 2023, the IC celebrates the accomplishments of the school community. Since September, the IC fundraisers have brought record numbers—through annual events such as the Fun Run, Golf Outing, Scholastic Book Fair, North Pole Express, and Christmas Store. All of these events support the educational experience for students.



Participation is a key indicator of the health of an organization. Ninety-eight percent of families attended a parent-teacher conference in November—a valued opportunity for parents and educators to discuss the strengths and areas of development of their children. Students in grades 5–8 set a goal to earn academic honors each semester. During the first semester, 97% of students earned grades of 80 (out of 100) or higher, in all classes. This accomplishment speaks to the admirable work ethic that is cultivated and practiced among IC students.

Service to the community is a foundational piece of an education at the IC. Monthly food collections are delivered to the Newbury Food Pantry. Special collections of much-needed items bring a strong response from school families. The IC also provided Thanksgiving dinner baskets in time for Thanksgiving. That included over \$500 in grocery store gift cards for turkeys and perishable food items.

Students experience daily prayer through monthly all-school Masses, bi-monthly Masses in the Parish Chapel, daily morning prayer and classroom prayer within and outside of religion class. Practices within the school day become life-long habits that IC students carry with them for life.

As we welcome 2024, we ask for God’s continued blessings on Immaculate Conception School. Happy New Year!

Win Cash!

IC School Annual Holiday Calendars are now available. For over 20 years, IC School has run a holiday calendar fundraiser. Each \$10 calendar gives individuals 40 chances to win a grand total of \$4,800 in cash prizes. A winner is drawn each day from January 6–February 14 to receive a cash prize of \$100, \$200, or \$300. Calendars are available at IC School, IC Church lobby, and the IC Parish Center. To enter, fill out the buyer’s name and contact information in the space at the bottom of the calendar. Cut it off and return both the ticket stub and the money to the School Office or to the Parish Center office no later than January 5, 2024. Check payments should be made out to Immaculate Conception School or cash is accepted.

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.)

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION CHURCH

Knights Hospitality Sunday

Join us **next Sunday, January 7, after the 9:00 a.m. Mass**, in IC St. Louis Hall for Hospitality Sunday. We will have free coffee and donuts for all.

All men of the Collaborative, 18 years or older, are welcome to join the Knights. We meet the second Tuesday of each month at 7:00 p.m. in the IC Nazareth Library. For more information call 978-225-0804 or email kofc231@outlook.com.



Hospitality Sunday

1st Sundays after the 9AM Mass | Parish Center



Pelican Intervention Fund



To date we have placed 135 local men and women into 12-step residential sober living. 12-step recovery programs receive no federal/state funding and insurance won't cover costs due to its faith-based nature. So, your support is more important than ever.

The Pelican Intervention Fund envelopes can be dropped in the collection at any time according to your means. Make checks payable to HR or IC Parish. Totals will be reported quarterly.

Visit our website at www.pelicaninterventionfund.org

IC Online Giving

Immaculate Conception Parish offers 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.

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.

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.

Newburyport Scouting

*Newburyport Scout Troop 21 Invites
Youth Ages 11-17 to Join*

The Scouts BSA Troop 21 is looking for boys and girls aged 11–17 to join and participate in the adventures of Scouting! Troop 21 welcomes any youth looking to join; no prior Scouting experience is necessary.

Based in Newburyport at the IC Church, Troop 21 is led by Leonard Wallace and Dr. Michelle LaFlamme and offers opportunities to learn and develop life and leadership skills, make new friends through a combination of outdoor activities, visits to cultural or historical sites and much more.

For more information about Troop 21 or to get information on upcoming troop events, please check out our website at <https://www.nbptroop21.org/>.

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.hriccatholic.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

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