

HOLY REDEEMER AND IMMACULATE CONCEPTION
COLLABORATIVE PARISHES

SERVING MERRIMAC, NEWBURY, NEWBURYPORT, AND WEST NEWBURY

Fifth Sunday of Lent
March 17, 2024

All Are Welcome

hriccatholic.org

*I am troubled now. Yet what should I say?
“Father, save me from this hour?”
But it was for this purpose that I came to this hour.
Father, glorify your name.
Then a voice came from heaven, “I have glorified it
and will glorify it again.”*

(Jn 12:27–28)



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

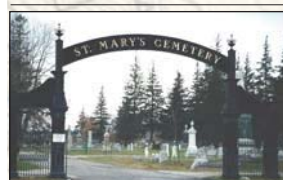
Parish, church, rectory, and offices:
42 Green St., Newburyport 01950

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

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978-462-2724 or 978-346-8604
info@hriccatholic.org

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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

hrrsvdp300@gmail.com

St. Vincent de Paul Society at

Immaculate Conception

978-518-0728

St Mary's Cemetery

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bkent@hriccatholic.org

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Jennifer Acorn, HR Organist

978-697-1082

Kathy Peavey, HR Vocalist

978-360-8756

Donna Postle, IC Music Ministry Director

978-317-8903

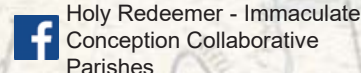
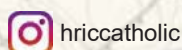
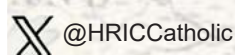
Tim Richard, IC organist

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 (3/16)

4:00pm **IC** *Valentina Perry, Laurel Wightman Ryti, Garry F. Doyle* (Fr. McLaughlin & Deacon Moranski)

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

Sunday (3/17)

8:30am **Nativity** *Jozef Kardas and family* (Fr. Morin & Deacon Dow)

9:00am **IC** *Harry Joe Barker, William & Nancy Twomey* (Fr. Harrison)

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

11:30am **IC** *Fred & Lorraine Cameron, Joseph Ford, Deacon Richard Siebert, Faris Abu-Jawdeh* (Fr. Harrison)

Monday (3/18)

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

Tuesday (3/19)

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

Wednesday (3/20)

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

Thursday (3/21)

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

Friday (3/22)

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

Saturday (3/23)

4:00pm **IC** *Alex Hasapis, Marjorie Howard, George, Ann, & Susan Bergin* (Fr. Morin)

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

Sunday (3/24) **Palm Sunday**

8:30am **Nativity** (Fr. Harrison & Deacon Moranski)

9:00am **IC** *Marie A. Burke, Deacon Richard Siebert, for the intentions of Leo Burke* (Fr. Stanley & Deacon Dow)

10:00am **St. Ann** *Lee Preble* (Fr. McLaughlin)

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

In your prayers please remember Kathleen Conroy, Jane Jacobus, Peter Atherton, 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.

JOIN US FOR A PALM SUNDAY PROCESSION
FROM THE ICS GYM TO IC CHURCH FOR 9:00 MASS.
GATHER AT THE GYM AT 8:45 A.M.

SUNDAY,
MARCH 24
2024

Palm
Sunday



NATIONAL
Eucharistic
Revival

EucharisticRevival.org

Eucharistic Revival Event

Thursday, March 21, 6:00–8:00 p.m., IC Church

Bishops across the country have organized a **National Eucharistic Revival**, urging parishes on the local level to host events that celebrate Jesus' Real Presence. Cardinal Seán O'Malley is promoting this initiative, and Immaculate Conception Church in Newburyport has accepted the opportunity to host a second National Eucharistic Revival event.

Jesus always prompts you to draw closer to Him in the Holy Eucharist. Lent is a season to grow closer to Jesus, who seeks your gaze and love. Jesus gives us the gift of Himself in the Holy Eucharist.



All are welcome to join us on March 21 from 6:00–8:00 p.m. at IC Church for an evening of sacred music, personal witness talks, the opportunity to receive the Sacrament of Confession, and a Holy Hour of sacred silence in Adoration of the Holy Eucharist.

Food and fellowship will follow the Holy Hour in the IC Parish Center.

If you have any questions about this event, please feel free to contact our National Eucharistic Revival point person, Sean Goguen at 339-927-5777.

"It is not to remain in a golden ciborium that He comes down each day from Heaven, but to find another Heaven of our soul in which He takes delight." —St. Thérèse of Lisieux

Easter Flower Donations

Each Easter we are able to decorate our three churches with Easter flowers as a result of the donations from our parishioners and friends who generously contribute in memory of or in honor of loved ones. The flowers and other decorations that make our churches look so stunning each Easter would not be possible without your continued support.

Please consider making a donation "in memory" of a deceased loved one or "in honor" of someone special in your life. Flower envelopes have been included in the envelope packets mailed to your home or you can pick up one in the back of any of our churches. Drop them in the collection any Sunday or mail them to the HR or IC offices (see addresses page 2). Deadline to see your gift listed in the April 7 bulletin (Divine Mercy Sunday) is **12:00 noon on Monday, March 18.**

COLLABORATIVE NEWS

Foundations of Our Faith: An Evening with Rabbi Alex Matthews

This week: Tuesday, March 19, 7:00 p.m.
IC St. Louis Hall

**What should Catholic Christians know about
Passover and the Seder?**

Passover or Pesach will be celebrated this year before sundown on April 22 and ends at nightfall on April 30. It is the Jewish feast of redemption and liberation, memorializing the Israelites' deliverance from bondage in Egypt. The children of Israel were protected from the avenging angel of God as it "passed over" the doors marked with the blood of the lamb.



The Jewish Seder is the annual, symbolic meal, held during Passover, and in observance and commemoration of the Exodus story. The meal includes commentary, prayers, ritual, specific foods, and scriptural reflection.

For Christians, Jesus' sacrifice, "the blood of the lamb," delivered us from sin and gave us the promise of redemption. In our Christian tradition, the Passover Seder is also believed to be when Jesus instituted the Eucharist at the Last Supper, when he told the apostles, "I have longed to eat this Passover with you before I suffer." Luke 22:15

The Christian observance of the Eucharistic meal celebrates not only our tradition of Christ's last supper, but our own Jewish heritage.

Rabbi Alex Matthews, of Newburyport's Congregation Ahavas Achim, will lead us in exploring the foundation of our faith through an introduction to the history, symbolism, and beauty of the Passover and Seder.

All are welcome.

Questions of the Week



Adult: Are there parts of your life that Jesus has called "back to life"?

Child: How does loving Jesus give you new life?

Boston Catholic Appeal

Thank you to those who have already responded generously to Cardinal Seán's invitation! As Catholics, each of us shares the responsibility of the Church community—both directly within our parish and to the greater Church. Thank you for responding in faith, hope, and charity by making a gift to the 2024 Catholic Appeal. We are stronger together and your generous participation is greatly appreciated! To make a gift online, visit www.bostoncatholicappeal.org.

This Week in Our Collaborative

Monday, March 18

Bible Study 9:45am, IC Conference Room 209

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

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

Tuesday, March 19

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 Adult Choir Rehearsal 6:30pm, IC Church

Foundations of our Faith Lecture with Rabbi Alex 7:00pm, IC St. Louis Hall

Wednesday, March 20

Holy Jammers Practice 10:00am, IC Nazareth Library

IC Youth Choir Rehearsal 4:15pm, IC Church

Confessions 6:30–8:00pm, St. Ann Church

IC 175th Anniversary Committee Mtg. 7:00pm, IC St. Louis Hall

Thursday, March 21

Metanoia Video Series 9:45am, IC Charity Dining Room

First Communion Parent Mtg. 3:15pm, IC Church

Eucharistic Revival 6:00pm, IC St. Louis Hall

First Communion Parent Mtg. 6:15pm, IC Charity Dining Room

Confessions 6:30–8:00pm, IC Church

Adoration 7:00pm, IC Church

Friday, March 22

St. Ann Stations of the Cross 9:00am, St. Ann Church

Adoration 9:30am, IC Church

Nativity Simple Supper 5:00pm, Nativity Hall

IC Stations of the Cross 5:15pm, IC Church

IC Simple Supper 5:45pm, IC St. Louis Hall

Nativity Stations of the Cross 6:00pm, Nativity Church

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

Saturday, March 23

Confessions 3:00pm, IC Church

Sunday, March 24, Palm Sunday

Holy Week Festival 10:00am, IC Parish Center

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

EASTER 2024

March 31, 2024

Easter Vigil: Saturday
7:30pm IC

Easter Sunday
8:30 Nativity
9:00 IC
9:00 IC School Gym
10:00 St. Ann
11:30 IC

Easter Vigil and 9:00am Mass will be
Live Streamed on Website.

COLLABORATIVE NEWS

Collaborative Faith Formation

Summer Program

Summer Faith Formation program dates for grades 3–8 are June 24–28. Registration forms are available online: hriccatholic.org/Faith-Formation.

Baptism

No Baptisms will be taking place during the season of Lent. We will resume our schedule of celebrating this sacrament the second Sunday of each month at IC Church after Easter. Please call the Collaborative offices (978-462-2724 or 978-346-8604) for more information.

Confirmation

In January, Cardinal Seán announced his decision to move the Sacrament of Confirmation from 10th grade to 8th grade. As a result, our Faith Formation and Sacramental Preparation process will need to change. While we are working on how this change will be rolled out, please help us to spread the word to families of middle schoolers who may not yet be aware. Program updates will be made available as they occur.

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.

Prayers for the Sick

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

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

IC Haiti

Earlier this month, the Directors of IC Haiti contacted our partner non-profit organization in Haiti: Health Equity International (HEI). We asked how the Saint Boniface Hospital (SBH) in Fond des Blancs and the Father Marc Piché elementary school in Puit Chacha were holding up under the violent and chaotic conditions afflicting Haiti. Below is the response we received.

The situation in Haiti has indeed deteriorated, and we deeply appreciate your concern for the well-being of the students and staff at the Chacha School and the hospital. Despite the heightened insecurity in the country, SBH has remained operational. Unfortunately, gang blockades have made travel between Port-au-Prince and the southern peninsula extremely difficult. As a result, our staff are facing critical shortages of medicine and medical supplies, along with increased risks of kidnapping and soaring operational costs.

Nevertheless, our dedicated team has been working tirelessly to find alternative local suppliers in places like Les Cayes or Miragoane to ensure that we can continue providing uninterrupted services, albeit at higher costs. Additionally, we are pleased to report that the Chacha school has been able to stay open, including its kitchen.

Your support means the world to us, and we are profoundly grateful for your generosity. In these challenging times, any assistance you can offer to both the school and the hospital would be greatly appreciated.

Please continue your generous support for IC Haiti. **Our first quarterly collection takes place the weekend of March 23–24, the beginning of Holy Week.**

Bulletin Information

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

Men's Retreat



The Guest House of Saint Joseph's Abbey in Spencer, MA has been reserved for the exclusive use of the men of Holy Redeemer

and Immaculate Conception Parishes from Monday, May 13–Friday, May 17. Spend a week in silent prayer and meditation joining the community of Monks at daily Mass and at various hours of the day and night as they sing the Divine Office. There is also a daily conference given by one of the Monks. The Guest House welcomes 11 guests (all private rooms with bath). The cost for the mid-week retreat is \$500.00 per person with arrival Monday at 3:00 p.m. and departure on Friday after breakfast. Make your reservation with a check payable to Immaculate Conception Parish for \$500.00 (Spencer Retreat in the memo line). If you have questions or want more information, please see or leave a message in the offices for Father Morin.



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HRICatholic

LENT

Guidelines for Lent

Fasting, almsgiving, and prayer are the three traditional disciplines of Lent. See our website's Lent 2024 page for more Lent inspiration: hriccatholic.org.

Fasting during Lent

Good Friday is a day of fasting. Catholics age 18–59 are bound to the obligation of fasting. When fasting, a person is permitted to eat one full meal, as well as two smaller meals that together are not equal to a full meal. Eating between meals is not permitted, but liquids, including water, milk, and fruit juices are allowed.

Abstinence during Lent

Abstinence is observed on *all* Fridays of Lent. Abstinence is the absence of meat all day. Fish is allowed, though. All Catholics over 14 years bound to the obligation of abstinence.

Stations of the Cross and Simple Suppers: Fridays during Lent

St. Ann Church

Stations of the Cross will begin at 9:00 a.m. in the church.

Nativity Church

Simple Supper is served at 5:00 p.m. in Nativity Hall.

Stations of the Cross will begin at 6:00 p.m. in the church.

Immaculate Conception Church

Stations of the Cross begin at 5:15 p.m. in the church.

Simple Supper will follow, around 5:45 p.m. in St. Louis Hall

Confessions during Lent

St. Ann Church

A priest will be available for Confessions Wednesday evening: March 20 from 6:30–8:00.

Immaculate Conception Church

A priest will be available for Confessions Thursday evening during Adoration: **March 21** (during the Eucharistic Revival) from 6:30–8:00 and Saturdays from 3:00–3:30pm.

Centering Prayer for Lent

Centering Prayer is an ancient Christian practice available to all who seek transformation through a more intimate relationship with God. This daily practice deepens our faith as we come to better know our God as one who loves us unconditionally just as we are and trust God has plans to give us a future of hope. Please consider joining us. We gather via Zoom Wednesdays from 6–7 p.m. for 30 minutes of Centering Prayer and 30 minutes of Lectio Divina. All are welcome. Please contact Elizabeth McCarthy 978 462-7483 if you are interested in learning more about this simple prayer of resting in God.

Holy Week Family Festival

March 24, 10:00–11:30 a.m., IC Pastoral Center. All are welcome to attend and walk together with our Lord as we celebrate His last days in Jerusalem through His Passion, death, and wondrous Resurrection on Easter Sunday.

Metanoia Video Series

A journey into conversion with Christ.

What: The Wild Goose "Metanoia" video series, discussion, prayer, and fellowship

Where: IC Charity Dining Room

When: Thursdays, February 1–April 4; 9:45–11:15 a.m.

Adoration

Thursdays, 7:00–8:00 p.m. at IC Church

Fridays, 9:30 a.m.–12:00 noon at IC Church *(Unless there is a funeral scheduled for that day. Please check the Collaborative calendar for changes.)*



Lenten Eucharistic Revival

Immaculate Conception Church

Thursday, March 21, 6:00–8:00 p.m.

See page 3 of the bulletin for more details.

Join us for an evening of sacred music, personal witness talks, opportunity to receive the Sacrament of Confession, and a Holy Hour of sacred silence in Adoration of the Holy Eucharist.

Food and fellowship will follow the Holy Hour in the IC Parish Center.

Helping the Homeless

During Lent we will be collecting Homeless Care Packs at all three churches. This is a one-gallon Ziploc bag filled with travel size, new, and unused personal care items for men, women, and children. They will be distributed to local agencies serving the homeless, including Cor Unum, Community Service of Newburyport, Lazarus House, and others. Easy to carry, travel-size personal care items can be found in many local stores. There will be a collection bin at the entrance of each church and in the lobby of the IC Parish Center. Please, no clothing, used, or damaged goods, as these are discarded. For more information or to help, contact Jonathan Temple at hricshare@gmail.com.

Thank you for your generosity and compassion. Suggestions:

Shampoo	Cough drops	Feminine hygiene
Toothbrush	Protein bars	products (Women)
Toothpaste	Soap	Umbrellas
Deodorant	Life Savers candy	Antiseptic Wipes
Razor	Disposable face	
Socks	cloths	
Gloves	Kleenex travel packs	No mouthwash or
Shaving Cream	Hand sanitizer	loose items
		please.

Recitation of the Rosary

Join us for recitation of the rosary Tuesdays and Thursdays at 8:30 a.m. (before 9:00 Mass) in person at IC Church or on Facebook. www.facebook.com/hriccatholic/

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IMMACULATE CONCEPTION PARISH

IC Offertory Collection

IC Offertory, March 9–10	\$4,245.00
IC Mailed-in Offertory, Week Ending March 8	\$2,726.00
IC Weekly Online Offertory Giving	\$3,352.59
Total Weekly Offertory, March 9–10	\$10,323.59
Monthly, March 9–10	\$1,103.00
IC Grand Annual, Goal: \$100,000	\$85,115.00

The second collection this weekend (March 17) is Ongoing Church Maintenance. The second collection next weekend (March 24) is IC Haiti. **Please make checks payable to "IC Haiti."**

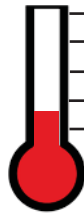
Unless otherwise indicated, make out checks to Immaculate Conception Parish with the second collection noted in the memo. If you would like to mail in your envelopes, send them to **Immaculate Conception Parish, 42 Green Street, Newburyport, MA 01950.**

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



IC Catholic Appeal
Goal: \$62,600.00
To Date: \$17,680.00

Visit bostoncatholicappeal.org to learn more or to donate.



\$62,600.00
\$50,000.00
\$40,000.00
\$25,000.00
\$ 5,000.00

Mary A. Kelly Scholarship

Scientific Education for IC Parish Students

Applications are now being accepted for the Mary A. Kelly Scholarship Fund. Email your request for an application to maryakscholarship@gmail.com.

Scholarship eligibility:

- Young man or woman parishioner of IC Parish
- High school graduate in pursuit of a scientific education

Completed applications must be postmarked and returned to the Trustees no later than **Tuesday, April 16, 2024.**

Raffle Items Wanted

Do you have any items that were given to you for Christmas that you don't want or can't use? Why not put them away for our Fall Fair on October 19. They would be a welcome addition on our raffle table. We will be calling for donations in the bulletin beginning in September.

Thanks from the IC 2024 Fall Fair Committee.

IC Online Giving

To get started, register as a member of IC Parish (if you aren't already registered). Registration forms are available in the foyer of the church or at the parish office. You can also register online.

To learn more visit our website, hriccatholic.org and click the "Links" tab, then click on "IC Parish Online Giving" to get to the site or contact Christine Breslow, 978-462-2724 x 402.

Immaculate Conception School

On March 6 the Newburyport Human Rights Commission awarded Newburyport students the 2024 Peace Prize Award at City Hall. Receiving this honor were Immaculate Conception School students Rider Hogan, grade 5 and Lindsay Longacre, grade 8.



Principals from every Newburyport school were in attendance as well as Superintendent Sean Gallagher and City Mayor Sean Reardon who gave out the awards. An impressive group of young people were honored with remarks shared about their daily interactions in the school setting that encourage peace, equity, and acceptance.

During her remarks at the award ceremony, Principal Joan Sullivan shared how Ryder always checks in with classmates who are navigating a difficult time or have a special event on the calendar. Knowing the unique personalities of his classmates, Ryder can always recognize when someone needs a smile or a quick witted joke. Lindsay was praised for her caring way. She has consistently supported childhood missions in third-world countries and works within her own classrooms to uplift others, every day.

Congratulations to all the Peace Prize Award recipients, especially Rider and Lindsay.



Ryder and his 5th grade teacher, Ms. Kelly Hague.



Lindsay and her 8th grade teacher Mrs. Bridget Lacefield and Principal Joan Sullivan

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.svdnpnewburyport.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 PARISH

175th Committee Meeting

Join us in planning for the remaining events of IC's 175th anniversary. We will meet on March 20 at 7:00 p.m. in IC St. Louis Hall. All are welcome.

Basketball Comes to the Parish

175th Anniversary History Continued

In 1932, with Rev. McManmon's encouragement, the Parish curate Fr. John Quinlan began an organized boys' basketball program. With the help of many volunteers, Fr. Quinlan renovated the Parochial Hall on Court Street into a passable gymnasium. Attracting the boys of the parish was not difficult; they found just about all the entertainment and recreation they might desire in the renovated facility. At one time, the Parish Boys Club boasted of fifteen uniformed basketball teams. The basketball program continues at the Immaculate Conception School, nearly 100 years later, with boys' and girls' teams from nearly every grade participating in organized competition.



The image here shows the Parochial Hall and Sacred Heart Chapel (now in place of the school and orphanage building c. 1935) located where the current parking lot is today.

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

Family Resource Table

We will provide different printables, activities, crafts, recipes, displays, and more to help celebrate feasts, seasons, and saints to take home.

Please remember that the **Mass rings/ prayer rings and books should be returned to the table after Mass.** Families, please look around to see if you mistakenly took any home and return them to the table. Thank you.



HR PARISH

HR St. Vincent de Paul

This past week we were reminded of the man at the Sheep Gate and the pool at Bethesda. (John 5:7). For years he suffered while others ignored him. Jesus approaches and says, "Do you want to be well?" The man responds, "I have no one..." Jesus commands: "Rise, take up your mat and walk."



Our SVdP Society works to "seek and find the forgotten." Each day we are reminded of those among us who are ignored and hope for assistance—assistance that we can offer with *your help*.



As we approach the end of Lent, let's make almsgiving an encounter with God through our care for the poor. Your daily sacrifice can *make a difference in the lives of the poor around us.* Please give generously using our poor boxes or your Lenten mite box.

As always, make sure to make your checks payable to "HR St. Vincent de Paul Society"

Simply return your mite box during Holy Week. Thank you!



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Gift Baskets and Christmas Cards Wanted

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**.

We are also looking to reuse **Christmas cards**. Please leave baskets and cards in the back of either church and we will collect them for our fair in November.

HR Online Giving

HR provides Online Giving—a convenient and safe way to make a one-time or a recurring donation. 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. Once you register, or if you are already a registered parishioner, visit our website, hricatholic.org and click the "Links" tab, then "HR Parish Online Giving" to get to the site. There are three different funds you can contribute to: Offertory, Monthly, and Grand Annual.

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

HOLY REDEEMER PARISH

HR Offertory Collection

HR Offertory, March 9–10	\$1,688.00
HR Mailed-in Offertory, Week Ending March 8	\$ 580.00
HR Weekly Online Offertory Giving	\$ 306.25
Total Weekly Offertory, March 2–3	\$2,574.25
Monthly, March 9–10	\$1,869.00
HR Grand Annual, Goal: \$25,000	\$21,745.00

The second collection this weekend (March 17) is Ongoing Church Maintenance. The second collection next weekend (March 24) is IC Haiti. **Please make checks payable to "IC Haiti."**

Unless otherwise indicated, make out checks to Holy Redeemer Parish with the second collection noted in the memo.

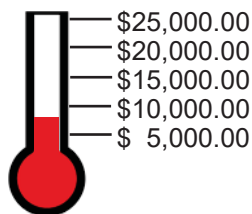
If you would like to mail in your collections, send them to **Holy Redeemer Parish, 4 Green Street, Merrimac, MA 01860.**

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



HR Catholic Appeal
Goal **\$25,000.00**
To Date **\$7,435.00**

Visit bostoncatholicappeal.org to learn more or to donate.



Holy Redeemer Offertory Checks

We would like to thank you for your continued support of Holy Redeemer Parish. Due to banking regulations, financial institutions require that all checks be made payable to the legal parish entity. Please make your checks payable to "Holy Redeemer Parish." Feel free to use the memo line on your check to designate the second collection or a contribution to a specific church or project.

St. Ann Easter Cleaning



On Friday, March 22, at 9:30 a.m. after the Stations of the Cross, volunteers will be cleaning and polishing the church in preparation for Easter. We are looking for 2 more people who would be willing to help with this activity. After cleaning we will share a light lunch together in the church hall. If you are available to help, please call Donna at (978) 683-3632.

Vacation Bible School at HR

Vacation Bible School is back!

Mark your calendars for July 22–26 from 9:00 a.m.–12:00 noon for a fun week. Watch future bulletins for more information.



Coffee and Conversation

Sunday, March 17

Join us this weekend for coffee, conversation, and Irish Soda Bread after the 8:30 Mass in Nativity Hall. All are welcome!



HR Activities Committee

The HR Activities Committee will meet **Thursday, April 4 at 6:30 p.m.** in Nativity Hall. We will be discussing future events. All are welcome and encouraged to join. Please bring your ideas for future events for Holy Redeemer Parish.

Nativity Stations of the Cross and Simple Supper

Friday evenings during Lent: 5:00 supper, 6:00 Stations

Nativity will be praying the Stations of the Cross on the Fridays during Lent starting at 6:00 p.m.

We will serve a "Simple Supper" starting at 5:00 p.m. We will serve supper until 5:55 p.m.

On Friday, March 22, Stations will be led by the Confirmation students and they will also be providing the Simple Supper.

St. Ann Lenten Sacrifices and Prayer Intentions



During Lent, there will be paper hearts located at the table near the entrance of the church. Please write your Lenten sacrifices and prayer intentions on the hearts and put them in the basket. The hearts will then be placed at the altar throughout this Lenten season. Your sacrifices and prayer intentions will be remembered during all Lenten Masses at St. Ann.

St. Ann Stations of the Cross

Fridays during Lent, 9:00 a.m.

Please join us at St. Ann on Friday mornings during Lent as we retrace the footsteps of Jesus from the Garden of Gethsemane to the Garden Tomb.

Lenten Fridays: March 22, and 29 (Good Friday) at 9:00 a.m.

Please note that Stations will be cancelled if there is a funeral at St. Ann on any of these Friday mornings or if school is cancelled due to inclement weather.



Fr. Tom Nestor has served as pastor at the Collaborative Parishes of Resurrection and Saint Paul in Hingham for the past ten years, and previously served at St. Eulalia's in Winchester for 17 years. A Harvard graduate and native of West Roxbury, Fr. Nestor is known for fostering a sense of community wherever he goes.

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"He has risen." Matt 28:6

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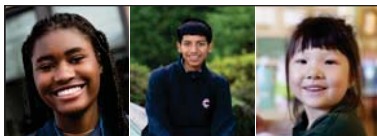
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