

# HOLY REDEEMER AND IMMACULATE CONCEPTION COLLABORATIVE PARISHES

SERVING MERRIMAC, NEWBURY, NEWBURYPORT, AND WEST NEWBURY

## Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time

### March 2, 2025

[hriccatholic.org](http://hriccatholic.org)

All Are Welcome



*Why do you notice the splinter in your brother's eye,  
but do not perceive the wooden beam in your own?*

(Lk 6:41)





## Holy Redeemer Immaculate Conception Collaborative

serving Merrimac, Newbury, Newburyport & West Newbury

*"Come all you who are thirsty, come to the waters..."*

### St. Ann

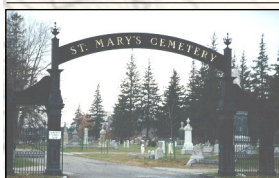
Church: 300 Main St., W. Newbury 01985  
Rectory: 46 Maple St., W. Newbury 01985  
**Phone: 978-346-8604**  
Email: [info@hriccatholic.org](mailto:info@hriccatholic.org)

### Nativity

Parish offices and church:  
4 Green St., Merrimac 01860  
Office Hours: By appointment  
**Phone: 978-346-8604**  
Email: [info@hriccatholic.org](mailto: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](mailto:info@hriccatholic.org)



### St. Mary's Cemetery

36 Storey Avenue,  
Newburyport 01950

### Immaculate Conception School

1 Washington Street, Newburyport 01950, Pre-K-grade 8,  
Mrs. Joan Sullivan, Principal, Phone: 978-465-7780,  
Fax: 978-234-7331, [www.icsnewburyport.com](http://www.icsnewburyport.com)



## Collaborative Staff

### Pastor

Rev. Timothy Harrison,  
978-462-2724 or 978-346-8604  
[info@hriccatholic.org](mailto:info@hriccatholic.org)

### Senior Priests in Residence

978-462-2724 or 978-346-8604  
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](mailto:hrrsvdp300@gmail.com)

St. Vincent de Paul Society at  
Immaculate Conception  
978-518-0728

### St Mary's Cemetery

Joseph Viel, 978-208-0266

### Office Associates

Christine Breslow, Administrative  
Assistant/Bookkeeper

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[cbreslow@hriccatholic.org](mailto:cbreslow@hriccatholic.org)

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Dennis LaMalfa, Business Manager  
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Karen Leff, Coordinator of Media Outreach  
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### Lifelong Faith Formation

Aaron Giard, Director of Lifelong Faith  
Formation  
978-462-2724 x 405 or 978-346-8604  
[agiard@hriccatholic.org](mailto:agiard@hriccatholic.org)

Melinda Burrell, Administrative Assistant,  
Lifelong Faith Formation  
978-462-2724  
[burrell@hriccatholic.org](mailto:burrell@hriccatholic.org)

Website: [www.hriccatholic.org](http://www.hriccatholic.org)



### Immaculate Conception School

Joan Sullivan, Principal, 978-465-7780  
[jsullivan@icsnewburyport.com](mailto:jsullivan@icsnewburyport.com)

### Maintenance

Bud Kent, IC Building Maintenance  
978-462-2724  
[bkent@hriccatholic.org](mailto:bkent@hriccatholic.org)

Eddie Martinez, IC Facilities Manager  
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[emartinez@hriccatholic.org](mailto: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  
Paula Quann, IC Youth Choir  
609-519-3236

### Confessions

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

X @HRICatholic



hriccatholic



Holy Redeemer - Immaculate  
Conception Collaborative  
Parishes



# COLLABORATIVE NEWS

## Mass Schedule

### Saturday (3/1)

4:00pm **IC** John Coughlin, Cliff Moody (Fr. Morin)  
4:00pm **Nativity** (Fr. Harrison & Deacon Moranski)

### Sunday (3/2)

8:30am **Nativity** (Fr. Harrison)  
9:00am **IC** Irene Palaima, Gilda LaBarba (Fr. Morin & Deacon Dow)  
10:00am **St. Ann** Jerry Mullen (Fr. Harrison)  
11:30am **IC** Sylvia Gilbert (Fr. Morin)

### Monday (3/3)

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

### Tuesday (3/4)

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

### Wednesday (3/5) **ASH WEDNESDAY**

9:00am **IC** For the Niles, Keefe, Swochak and Macri families (Fr. Harrison & Deacon Dow)  
9:00am **St. Ann** (Fr. Morin)  
7:00pm **IC** (Fr. Morin & Deacon Moranski)  
7:00pm **Nativity** (Fr. Harrison)

### Thursday (3/6)

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

### Friday (3/7)

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

### Saturday (3/8)

4:00pm **IC** Joseph Keefe, Laurie Ann Freeman, Gertrude O'Brien (Fr. Morin)  
4:00pm **Nativity** (Fr. Harrison & Deacon Dow)

### Sunday (3/9)

8:30am **Nativity** (Fr. Morin)  
9:00am **IC** (Fr. Harrison)  
10:00am **St. Ann** (Fr. Morin & Deacon Moranski)  
11:30am **IC** Shirley Marshall (Fr. Harrison)

In your prayers please remember Lawrence Mansfield Jr., Mary Joan (Bouchard) Kenny, Jason "Jay" Gile, Alfreda E. Amaral, 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: [hrrcatholic.org](http://hrrcatholic.org) as well as our Facebook page.

## Ash Wednesday, March 5

Ashes will be distributed at the following Masses:

9:00 a.m., **IC** (Live-stream)  
9:00 a.m., **St. Ann**  
7:00 p.m., **IC**  
7:00 p.m., **Nativity**



## Spring Forward

**Daylight Saving Time begins March 9. Don't forget to turn your clocks ahead one hour.**

## The Jubilee Prayer

Father in heaven,  
may the *faith* you have given us  
in your son, Jesus Christ, our  
brother,  
and the flame of *charity* enkindled  
in our hearts by the Holy Spirit,  
reawaken in us the blessed *hope*  
for the coming of your Kingdom.

May your grace transform us  
into tireless cultivators of the seeds of the Gospel.  
May those seeds transform from within both humanity  
and the whole cosmos  
in the sure expectation  
of a new heaven and a new earth,  
when, with the powers of Evil vanquished,  
your glory will shine eternally.

May the grace of the Jubilee  
reawaken in us, *Pilgrims of Hope*,  
a yearning for the treasures of heaven.  
May that same grace spread  
the joy and peace of our Redeemer  
throughout the earth.  
To you our God, eternally blessed,  
be glory and praise for ever.

Amen



## Pilgrims of Hope

Original text: Pierangelo Sequeri  
English translation: Andrew Wadsworth

### Chorus

**Like a flame my hope is burning,  
may my song arise to you:  
Source of life that has no ending,  
on life's path I trust in you.**

Ev'ry nation, tongue, and people  
find a light within your Word.  
Scattered fragile sons and daughters  
find a home in your dear Son.

### Chorus

God, so tender and so patient,  
dawn of hope, you care for all.  
Heav'n and earth are recreated  
by the Spirit of Life set free.

### Chorus

Raise your eyes, the wind is blowing,  
for our God is born in time.  
Son made man for you and many  
who will find the way in him.

### Chorus





# COLLABORATIVE NEWS

## This Week in Our Collaborative

See our online calendar for more listings. Link on our website: [hricCatholic.org](http://hricCatholic.org).

### Monday, March 3

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

**IC Safety Committee Mtg.** 6:00pm, IC Charity Dining Room

### Tuesday, March 4

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

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

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

**IC Choir Rehearsal** 7:00pm, IC Church

### Wednesday, March 5, Ash Wednesday

**Holy Jammers Practice** 10:00am, IC Nazareth Library

**Adoration** 3:00pm, Nativity Church

**IC Youth Choir Rehearsal** 4:30pm, IC Church

**Cub Scouts Pack 26 Mtg.** 5:45pm, St. Ann Hall

### Thursday, March 6

**ICS PTO Mtg.** 8:30am, IC St. Louis Hall

**My father's Father Video Series** 9:45am, IC Charity Dining Room

**Altar Server Training, Session 2** 5:00pm, IC Church

**Adoration** 7:00pm, IC Church

**Ultreya in Haverhill** 7:00pm, All Saints Church, Haverhill

### Friday, March 7

**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 8

**Confessions** 3:00pm, IC Church

**HR Appreciation Dinner** 5:00pm, Nativity Hall

### Sunday, March 9, Daylight Saving Time Begins

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

**Faith Formation, Grade 10** 3:30pm, IC St. Louis Hall

**Faith Formation, Grade 10** 6:30pm, 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.

## Winter Weather Mass Cancellations

Due to the hazards of travel and the safety of priests and parishioners alike, this winter, daily Mass will be cancelled if Newburyport Public schools are cancelled because of inclement weather. Any Faith Formation classes will also be cancelled on such days. WBZ Channel 4 will have the updated school cancellation information. It is also available on their website at [boston.cbslocal.com](http://boston.cbslocal.com).

In severe situations, it may also be necessary for safety reasons to cancel weekend Masses. Watch WBZ or consult their website for cancellation information. We will also post cancellation information on our website and social media.

## Jubilee 2025: Evening of Reflection

Our Collaborative will begin an observance of Jubilee 2025 with an evening of reflection on **Thursday evening, March 13 at 5:45 p.m. at Immaculate Conception Church.**

Fr. George will introduce us to the Jubilee theme, Pilgrims of Hope, and guide us through a reflection on Pope Francis' advice to "look to the future with an open spirit."

*"Hope does not disappoint, because God has been poured out into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us." Romans 5:5*



## Collaborative Pastoral Council

**Meeting Minutes: Sat., January 11, 2025 – 9 a.m., Zoom**

**General Updates:** Fr. George and Fr. Stanley are out of the office for the first few weeks of the year. Any Mass adjustments will be in bulletin or on the website.

The Christmas play on Christmas Eve put on by the grade school CCD students was well attended and there were no issues with parking.

**Call to Service:** Finding enough Eucharistic ministers, lectors, and ushers is a challenge, especially at HR. Active participants in these ministries are encouraged to recruit new participants, particularly HS students. Please contact Melinda in the offices to become a participant.

**Door-to-Door Evangelization:** Aaron proposed training a team that would go door to door to bring the light of the Gospel. Aaron will recruit a team, train, and run a pilot program.

**RIM (Refugee Immigrant Ministry) Program:** HRIC has been invited to participate in a new cluster group that will be centered in Newburyport. This regional program aims to cooperatively support individuals or families who are legal asylum seekers until they have paperwork completed to work. The program will be vetted and evaluated by the Collaborative over the next few months.

**CSN Paper Drive and Care Pack Programs:** Collection of paper and cleaning products for the Community Service of Newburyport continues through the end of January. Collection of care pack items will be conducted during Lent. This collection of care pack contents meets the need for a couple of months after Lent, but the need is constant and growing. A parallel program where care packs are purchased at different times during the year is in its infancy and hopefully the Collaborative will be a leader in implementing this important program. **Thank you for your continuing generosity.**

**Safety Committee:** A new safety committee will be formed to address safety concerns while at Mass. The Ministry committee will recruit, train, and run the program initially.

**Next Meeting: March 29 in the IC Charity Dining room. All are welcome to attend.**

Respectfully Submitted by A. McEmber and G. Jablonski

*Complete minutes for the Pastoral Council; Social Action; Faith, Fun, and Fellowship; and Ministry Committees can be found on the website.*

# COLLABORATIVE NEWS

## Prayers for the Sick

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

Patricia Baikewicz	Ed Hardy	Joseph Palumbo
John Bourque	Jane Harney	Joanne Pesa
Kathy P. Brodeur	Chloe Hequet	Elizabeth Pettingell
Michael Brenner	Emma Hurley	Donika Pulake
Priscilla Brown	Armand Hyatt	Rose Raimo
Autumn Rose	Michael Juralewicz	Rob Schweizer
Coulombe	Arthur LaPointe	Regina Seely
Bill Crounse	Michael	Yvonne Sloban
Drew Daubach	Lichtenstein	Gary Smith
Kristen D'Entremont	Johannah Lord	Arlene Stoddard
Deb Downie	Monica Maguire	Taylor
Dotty Duval	Sia Mahalati	Captain Bill Taplin
Ann-Margaret	Ovidio Martinez	Tom Tribble
Ferrante	Patricia Carey	Michael Tucker
John Flynn	McCarthy	Maddie Villers
Jeanine Ebacher	Molly O'Donnell	Laurent Vincent
Fowler	Carol O'Neal	Sandra Welch
Renee Fowler	Eleanora Paciulan	

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

## The Sacrament of the Sick

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.

## Thinking About Becoming Catholic?

If you, or anyone you know, are thinking about becoming Catholic, we always welcome new inquirers at any point in your spiritual journey. Contact Aaron Giard, the Director of OCIA (Order of Christian Initiation of Adults) at (978) 462-2724 x 405 to learn about the process and to get started.

## Catholic Appeal



Each contribution to The Catholic Appeal has a significant impact on the lives of thousands across the Archdiocese of Boston. You can make a gift by returning your pledge card or by making an online donation at [www.bostoncatholicappeal.org](http://www.bostoncatholicappeal.org). For those who have already made a gift, thank you!

## Questions of the Week



**Adult:** How has your image of God and how you experience Him changed over your lifetime?

**Child:** If you were drawing a picture of God, what would He look like?

## Collaborative Faith Formation

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

Registration forms are no longer available for 2024–25, but the schedule is still on the website at [www.hriccatholic.org/Faith-Formation](http://www.hriccatholic.org/Faith-Formation), for reference. We will have registration forms and schedules for 2025–26 uploaded in July.

### Baptism

No Baptisms will be taking place during the season of Lent. Please call the Collaborative offices (978-462-2724 or 978-346-8604) for more information regarding this sacrament.

### Confirmation

The Sacrament of Confirmation will now be celebrated with students currently in Grade 8 rather than with Grade 10 students. As a result, our Faith Formation and Sacramental Preparation process has changed. Help us to spread the word to families of middle schoolers who may not be aware of this policy change.

## Faith Formation Summer Program

### Summer Faith Formation: June 23–27

Grades 3–8, 9:00 a.m.–3:00 p.m. daily

Registration forms for summer Faith Formation are now available on our website:

[hriccatholic.org/faith-formation-registration-forms](http://hriccatholic.org/faith-formation-registration-forms)

**NOTE:** If your child is preparing for **Sacraments** (First Reconciliation, First Communion, or Confirmation) we offer preparation only during the school year.

If your child is entering **8th grade** in the fall, but has not received Faith Formation in recent years, enrolling them in the Summer Faith Formation Week is a great way to catch them up and get in a prerequisite year before they receive the Sacrament of Confirmation (8th graders can begin preparation for Confirmation only if they have attended recent Faith Formation with us).

## 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 27 (Divine Mercy Sunday) bulletin is Monday, April 14.

**Please email any bulletin submissions by Monday at noon to [hricbulletin@gmail.com](mailto:hricbulletin@gmail.com).**

# LENT IN THE COLLABORATIVE

## This Week's Lenten Activities

**Wednesday, March 5, Ash Wednesday**

**Ash Wednesday Masses:** 9:00am, St. Ann  
9:00am, IC  
7:00pm, Nativity  
7:00pm, IC

**Adoration** 3:00pm, Nativity Church

**Thursday, March 6**

**My father's Father Video Series** 9:45am, IC Charity Dining Rm.

**Adoration** 7:00pm, IC Church

**Friday, March 7**

**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

**Saturday, March 8**

**Confessions** 3:00pm, IC Church

## Lenten Series

**Thursdays during Lent, March 6–April 10**

**My  
father's  
Father**

Join us on Thursdays this Lent for a six-part video series called "My father's Father."

"God is Father" – This is the life-altering revelation of Jesus. Yet, how many of us struggle to know that we have a Father in heaven who knows, loves, and chooses us as His sons and daughters?

Join Fr. Dave Pivonka as he journeys home to reflect on the urgent need to know God as Father amidst the backdrop of his hometown and the relationship he shared with his dad. This poignant documentary series explores the transformative impact of embracing our inheritance, unraveling the intricate tapestry of fear, doubt, shame, and brokenness to reveal a loving Father—for each of us.

We will be reflecting on the love of God the Father for us, his sons and daughters, through this beautiful series, over some refreshments. We hope to see you there!

**Dates:** Thursdays, March 6–April 10

**Time:** 9:45 a.m.–11:15 a.m.

**Location:** IC Charity Dining Room

*Coffee/tea, Baked goods, and breakfast foods provided.*

## Ash Wednesday Collection



This Ash Wednesday, a special collection will be taken up for Catholic Charities Boston.

Catholic Charities supports nearly 100,000 people across the Archdiocese of Boston, serving as a safety net for the most vulnerable members of our communities in need of food, shelter, advocacy, and emergency resources. The goal is to empower individuals and families to find long-term economic stability through education, childcare, and job training programs. Your support enables Catholic Charities to respond swiftly to urgent community needs and emergencies that would otherwise go unmet. Any amount directly helps our neighbors in need.

For more information, visit [ccab.org/donate](http://ccab.org/donate).

## Stations of the Cross

**St. Ann: Friday mornings during Lent: 9:00 a.m.**

March 7, 14, 21, 28, April 4, 11, and 18 (Good Friday)

*More details page 9.*

**Nativity: Friday evenings during Lent:**

**5:00 supper, 6:00 Stations**

March 7, 14, 21, 28, April 4, and 11 (no Stations Good Friday)

*More details page 9.*

**Immaculate Conception: Friday evenings during Lent:**

**5:00 Stations, 5:45 supper**

March 7, 14, 21, 28, April 4, and 11 (no Stations Good Friday)

## LENT FAMILY FESTIVAL

MARCH 2 IC PASTORAL CENTER

10:00–11:15 A.M.



THERE WILL BE ACTIVITIES FOR KIDS OF ALL AGES AS WE LEARN ABOUT THE LENTEN PRACTICES OF PRAYER, FASTING, AND ALMSGIVING AND HOW WE MIGHT LIVE THESE OUT IN OUR FAMILIES. OPEN TO ALL FAMILIES IN THE COLLABORATIVE.



AND CELEBRATE MARDI GRAS!

## Adoration



When prayer feels empty, rejoice that prayer is no longer about you! God is Love, not perpetual solace. Bless what seems to be His absence so you advance in holiness by not clinging

**Wednesdays** 3:00–4:00 p.m. Nativity Church

**Thursdays** 7:00–8:00 p.m., IC Church  
(enter at Green Street door only)

**Fridays** 9:30 a.m., IC Church (unless a funeral is scheduled)

## Guidelines for Lent

Fasting, almsgiving, and prayer are the three traditional disciplines of Lent.

### Fasting during Lent

Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are days 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 during Lent, though. All Catholics over 14 years of age are bound to the obligation of abstinence.



# LENT IN THE COLLABORATIVE

## Lenten 5-Week Rosary Challenge

### Introduction

During Lent this year, we want to challenge everyone to pray the rosary. Many great popes, saints, and Christian leaders have encouraged us to pray the rosary. It's a powerful prayer that can change your life, strengthen the family, bring peace to the world, convert entire nations, and win the salvation of souls.

We would like to do an in-depth look at the Sorrowful Mysteries. Each week we'll provide a short meditation and some references that you can research, if you choose, during the week as part of your Lenten meditations.

Here is a guide on How to Say the Rosary for those who are unfamiliar or would like a refresher.

## Praying the Rosary

1. Make the Sign of the Cross.
2. Holding the Crucifix, say the *Apostles' Creed*.
3. On the first bead, say an *Our Father*.
4. Say one *Hail Mary* on each of the next three beads.
5. Say the *Glory Be*
6. For each of the five decades, announce the Mystery (perhaps followed by a brief reading from Scripture) then say the *Our Father*.
7. While fingering each of the ten beads of the decade, next say ten Hail Marys while meditating on the Mystery. Then say a *Glory Be*. (After finishing each decade, some say the following prayer requested by the Blessed Virgin Mary at Fatima: *O my Jesus, forgive us our sins, save us from the fires of hell; lead all souls to Heaven, especially those who have most need of your mercy.*)



After saying the five decades, say the *Hail, Holy Queen*, followed by this dialogue and prayer: **V.** Pray for us, O holy Mother of God. **R.** That we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ. *Let us pray: O God, whose Only Begotten Son, by his life, Death, and Resurrection, has purchased for us the rewards of eternal life, grant, we beseech thee, that while meditating on these mysteries of the most holy Rosary of the Blessed Virgin Mary, we may imitate what they contain and obtain what they promise, through the same Christ our Lord. Amen.*

(Source: <https://www.usccb.org/how-to-pray-the-rosary>)

## FORMED®

Also, we'll be referencing videos that can be found at FORMED.ORG. All parishioners are given a **free** subscription to FORMED. You will need to sign-up on Formed to watch the episodes, but it is quite easy. Go to [www.hricatholic.org/formed](http://www.hricatholic.org/formed).

## Directed Lenten Retreat

### Lent: A Time of Choice, Challenge, and Change

*Exploring the cost of becoming Jesus' disciple by carrying your cross each day.*

This retreat will focus on the inner work of Lent signified by the outward sign of ashes. It will provide a time and space to engage in interior work to support and explore your public proclamation and respond to Jesus' call. Lent is a time of choice, challenge and change. In Luke we hear Jesus invite us to follow him *if* we are willing to pay the cost of discipleship and be changed. What concretely, does Jesus mean by this?

Taking up your cross daily and giving up your life in order to find a deeper life in Christ means six interpenetrating things that we will explore along with other questions. Why is suffering necessary and salvific? What supports you to change? How do you pray? What is hard to surrender? Where do you resist change? Do you believe in Jesus' promise? The season of Lent calls us to reflect on and explore such questions with faith.

I will provide material for reading and reflection from scripture and a variety of spiritual teachers that reflect your unique relationship with God as we explore these and other questions you may have. We will meet for four in-person or Zoom spiritual direction sessions you schedule throughout the retreat. This offering is designed to provide an affordable, convenient retreat that creates an intimate space for you to share yourself deeply with the Holy Spirit's guidance.

**Retreat Opens March 3. Retreat Closes April 16.**

Begin retreat any time you choose. Four one-hour spiritual direction sessions scheduled at your convenience.

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

Suggested donation: \$95.00

## Centering Prayer for Lent

Centering Prayer is an ancient Christian practice available to all who seek transformation through a more intimate relationship with God. Centering Prayer helps us say to the Father, "Not my will but yours be done" (Lk. 22: 42).

Please consider joining us and let God move you closer to him. All are welcome as we gather Wednesday evenings from 6:00–7:00 p.m. via Zoom. Following 30 minutes of Centering Prayer, we practice Lectio Divina. We listen to God's words in scripture, ponder, and share what we hear the Lord saying to us here and now and contemplate for the following week God's message to us and let it guide our choices and actions. Both practices strengthen our faith and reliance on God and deepen our personal relationship with God.

If you are interested in joining us or learning more about these practices please contact Elizabeth McCarthy 978-462-7483

# IMMACULATE CONCEPTION PARISH

## IC Offertory Collection

IC Offertory, Feb. 22–23	\$5,458.00
IC Mailed-in Offertory, Week Ending Feb 21	\$ 592.00
IC Weekly Online Offertory Giving	\$3,189.09
<b>Total Weekly Offertory, Feb. 22–23</b>	<b>\$9,239.09</b>
Support of the Church around the World	\$ 848.00
IC Grand Annual, Goal: \$100,000	\$98,666.00

The second collection this weekend (March 2) is Utility and Energy. The Ash Wednesday collection (March 5) is Catholic Charities. See page 6 for details. The second collection next weekend (March 9) is the Monthly.

*Unless otherwise indicated, make out checks to **Immaculate Conception Parish** with the second collection noted in the memo.*

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

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

## IC St. Vincent de Paul

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

You can now make online donations on our website: [www.svdnewburyport.org](http://www.svdnewburyport.org) or scan the QR code. If you would like to mail in your donation, please make your check payable to **"SVdP of Newburyport"** and drop it into the collection 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!

## Knights Hospitality Sunday

Join us **Sunday, March 2, after the 9:00 a.m. Mass**, in IC Parish Center Lobby for Hospitality Sunday sponsored by the Knights of Columbus. We will have free coffee and donuts for all.



## Hospitality Sunday



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. Our next meeting is **Tuesday, March 11 at 7:00 p.m.** in the IC Nazareth Library. For more information call 978-225-0804 or email [kofc231@outlook.com](mailto:kofc231@outlook.com).

## Immaculate Conception School

The Immaculate Conception School JV Girls basketball team has achieved an impressive feat, finishing their regular season with an undefeated 11–0 record. This remarkable accomplishment showcases their dedication, teamwork, and skill on the court. Contributing to their successful season are the positive and supportive relationships that have developed among these 4th, 5th, and 6th grade girls. Congratulations to the team for an outstanding season! Go Pelicans!



Photo courtesy of A. Aylward

## 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](http://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."

## Follow Us on Instagram

HRICatholic



## St. Vincent de Paul Clothing Drop Box



Immaculate Conception SVdP now offers a St. Vincent de Paul clothing drop box. We are accepting **clothing and shoes only** in the drop box.

The box is located behind the IC Parish Center, nearest Green Street.



# HOLY REDEEMER PARISH

## HR Offertory Collection

HR Offertory, Feb. 22-23	\$2,459.00
IC Mailed-in Offertory, Week Ending Feb. 21	\$ 405.00
HR Weekly Online Offertory Giving	\$ 481.25
<b>Total Weekly Offertory, Feb. 22-23</b>	<b>\$3,345.25</b>
Support of the Church around the World	\$ 470.00
HR Grand Annual, Goal: \$25,000	\$26,540.00

The second collection this weekend (March 2) is Fuel. The Ash Wednesday collection (March 5) is Catholic Charities. See page 6 for details. The second collection next weekend (March 9) is the Monthly.

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](http://hricatholic.org/hr-online-giving).

## "Fat Tuesday" Bake Sale

**March 1-2 after all HR Masses:  
the Weekend before Ash Wednesday**



The Activities Committee is hosting a "Fat Tuesday" bake sale after all three Masses on **March 1 and 2.** Our cookbooks will be available to purchase for \$15.00.

Stop by the baked goods tables in the foyer at St. Ann and in the hall at Nativity and pick out a few delicious treats to indulge in before the start of Lenten fasting!

Monetary donations gladly accepted. Money raised will be used to purchase flowers for the outside of both churches in the spring.

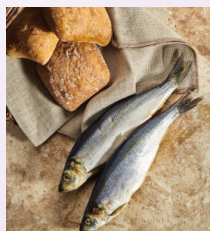
## HR Cookbook Corner: Faith & Food

**Simple Friday Suppers for Lent Series**  
Friday March 7, 2025

In the gospel for the Friday after Ash Wednesday, Jesus is asked why his disciples do not fast. Jesus replies "The days will come when the bridegroom is taken away from them, and then they will fast."

**Reflection** In this Lenten season, the bridegroom has indeed been taken from us. As we fast from physical food, how can we fill up our lives with the nourishment of prayer?

**Simple Friday Supper Menu** Blessing Before Meals (Cookbook page PP-5)  
Fair Day Fish Chowder (page 19)  
Irish Soda Bread (page 96)



If you do not have a copy of the HR parish cookbook, *Our Favorite Recipes* and would like to purchase one, please stop by our bake sales after all Masses this weekend or stop in at the IC parish offices during business hours and ask for Melinda. The cookbooks are \$15.00 each and make wonderful gifts!

## HR Coffee Hours

Holy Redeemer Coffee Hours are held twice a month to promote fellowship among our parishioners. Everyone is invited and encouraged to come and make a new friend!

Please join in the fun **after the 10:00 Mass on March 2 or after the 8:30 Mass on March 23.**

Anyone interested in helping with setup, clean up or making "breakfast food" are asked to call Donna Pallone, (978) 886-1621 if interested in helping after the 10:00 Mass (St. Ann) or Cindy Quinn (978-346-0072) if interested in helping after the 8:30 Mass (Nativity).

## HR St. Vincent de Paul

### Our Conference News

**Raffle Fundraiser:** Our raffle fundraiser was a *tremendous success*. Eight lucky winners were notified of their gift cards this week. We thank the members who worked so hard to solicit the donations, and we thank all the members of the HR and IC conferences who sold the tickets. We are grateful for the support of the parishioners of Holy Redeemer and Immaculate Conception as well as the generous donations made by the restaurants.

**Recognition:** *Mike Baumert* served as our conference treasurer for nearly 8 years. He is now retiring and moving west to Cincinnati with his wife Sue to be near their daughter and grandchildren. We recognize and thank Mike for his dedicated service in our ministry to the poor. We are grateful that Andrew Heaton will be serving as our next treasurer.

**Preparing for Lent:** Please take a *Mite Box* as you leave church on Ash Wednesday. **Assignment:** Read Mark 12: 41-42. Lent is a time for prayer, fasting, and almsgiving.

Your kind donations in any form are always greatly appreciated. Please use the envelopes at St. Ann and Nativity churches for your donations. These can be mailed or placed in the poor boxes at the churches. Reminder: Make sure to *make checks payable to **HR St. Vincent de Paul***.

## HR Stations of the Cross

**St. Ann: Friday Mornings during Lent: 9:00 a.m.**

Please join us at St. Ann Church as we follow the Scriptural Way of the Cross introduced by Pope John Paul II on Good Friday 1991. Pope JP II wanted to provide a version of this devotion more closely aligned with the biblical accounts. In 2007 Pope Benedict XVI approved this set of stations for meditation and public celebration.

Please note that Stations on a given Friday may be cancelled if there is a funeral at St. Ann.

Lenten Fridays: March 7, 14, 21, 28, April 4, 11, and 18 (Good Friday) at 9:00 a.m.

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

Nativity will be praying the Stations of the Cross on the Friday evenings during Lent: March 7, 14, 21, 28, April 4, and 11 (no Stations on Good Friday) starting at 6:00 p.m.

We will serve a community supper starting at 5:00 p.m. We will serve supper until 5:55 p.m.



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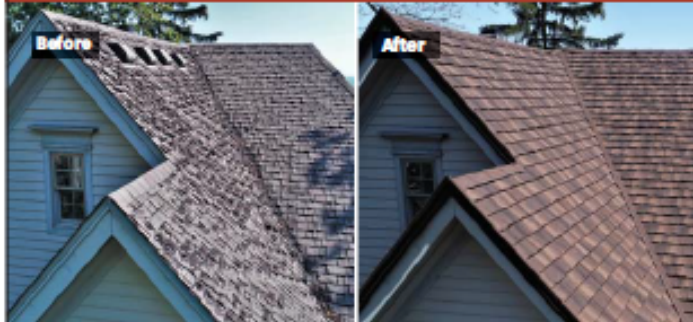
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