

# HOLY REDEEMER AND IMMACULATE CONCEPTION COLLABORATIVE PARISHES

SERVING MERRIMAC, NEWBURY, NEWBURYPORT, AND WEST NEWBURY

## Fourth Sunday of Lent

### March 30, 2025

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

All Are Welcome



*Father, I have sinned against heaven and against  
you; I no longer deserve to be called your son.*

(Lk 15:21)



# Holy Redeemer Immaculate Conception Collaborative

serving Merrimac, Newbury, Newburyport & West Newbury

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

## St. Ann

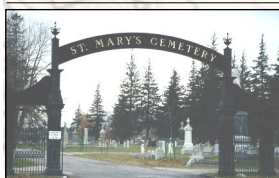
Church: 300 Main St., W. Newbury 01985  
Rectory: 46 Maple St., W. Newbury 01985  
**Phone: 978-346-8604**  
Email: [info@hricatholic.org](mailto:info@hricatholic.org)

## Nativity

Parish offices and church:  
4 Green St., Merrimac 01860  
Office Hours: By appointment  
**Phone: 978-346-8604**  
Email: [info@hricatholic.org](mailto:info@hricatholic.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@hricatholic.org](mailto:info@hricatholic.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@hricatholic.org](mailto:info@hricatholic.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  
[hsvdp300@gmail.com](mailto:hsvdp300@gmail.com)

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

### St Mary's Cemetery

Joseph Viel, 978-208-0266

### Office Associates

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Assistant/Bookkeeper  
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[cbreslow@hricatholic.org](mailto:cbreslow@hricatholic.org)

Melinda Burrell, Administrative Assistant  
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Dennis LaMalfa, Business Manager  
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Karen Leff, Coordinator of Media Outreach  
[hricbulletin@gmail.com](mailto:hricbulletin@gmail.com)

### Lifelong Faith Formation

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

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

Website: [www.hricatholic.org](http://www.hricatholic.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@hricatholic.org](mailto:bkent@hricatholic.org)

Eddie Martinez, IC Facilities Manager  
978-462-2724  
[emartinez@hricatholic.org](mailto:emartinez@hricatholic.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



hricatholic



Holy Redeemer - Immaculate  
Conception Collaborative  
Parishes



# COLLABORATIVE NEWS

## Mass Schedule

### Saturday (3/29)

4:00pm **IC** *Vivian Amadei, Garry F. Doyle, Beverly L. Doyle* (Fr. Stanley & Deacon Dow)

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

### Sunday (3/30)

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

9:00am **IC** *Ernest J. Falvo* (Fr. Ron Hoye & Deacon Moranski)

10:00am **St. Ann Michaelina & James DiResta** (Fr. Stanley)

11:30am **IC** *Gene Talford* (Fr. Harrison & Fr. Ron Hoye)

### Monday (3/31)

9:00am **IC** *For the intentions of Amy Monagle* (Fr. Ron Hoye)

### Tuesday (4/1)

9:00am **IC** *For the intentions of Joseph Patchett* (Fr. Ron Hoye)

### Wednesday (4/2)

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

### Thursday (4/3)

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

### Friday (4/4)

9:00am **IC** *Stephen O'Connor* (Fr. Stanley)

### Saturday (4/5)

4:00pm **IC** *Alex Hasapis, Larry Boothroyd* (Fr. Harrison)

4:00pm **St. Ann** (Fr. Stanley)

### Sunday (4/6)

8:30am **Nativity** *Joyce Nevins* (Fr. Stanley & Deacon Moranski)

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

10:00am **St. Ann** *Jerry Mullen* (Fr. Morin & Deacon Dow)

11:30am **IC** *Lena Filomia* (Fr. Harrison)

*In your prayers please remember Nancy Wickers, Edward Kelleher, John A. Gallant Sr., Paul B. Mahoney, 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](http://hricatholic.org) as well as our Facebook page.

## San Marcos Coffee Sale

April 5–6

We will be selling at all Collaborative Masses on **Saturday and Sunday April 5 and 6. \$13 per pound** for whole bean or ground. Your purchase helps the poor farmers earn a fair wage for their hard work. Gracias from Honduras!

## Questions of the Week

**Adult:** How have you or your family welcomed a family member who has been distant or absent from you?

**Child:** Who is the one person you most need to say "I'm sorry" to?

## From the Pastor

Dear Parishioners,

This weekend's Gospel story is a classic Lenten text and perhaps one of the most cherished of all of Jesus' stories and parables. The Parable of the Prodigal Son can be looked at from many different perspectives. Some like to refer to it as the "Parable of the Loving Father," focusing on the enduring and merciful love that the father figure exhibits towards both of his erring sons. Others will speak of this as the "Parable of the Two Sons," contrasting the hardening and loosening of hearts between the two brothers and their sometimes turbulent relationship to their father. It is brilliant storytelling, no matter how you slice it!



A good parable always leaves room for interpretation as well as the ability of the hearer to place oneself in all of the different characters at one point or another in the story. While God is often seen playing the part of the father figure, we can see the hand of the divine throughout the text, gently tugging at many hearts and calling for mercy, forgiveness, and love.

One "character" that often gets overlooked is that of the village or the crowd. It is important to note that unless otherwise noted, the scenes and stories contained in the Gospels are presumed to include "the crowd," that ever-present body of onlookers who are constantly observing, considering, and judging the actors and actions that take place. They provide a public arena of shame and guilt, redemption and honor...such that any of these may be encountered.

In the Parable of the Prodigal Son, the village is the crowd and something constantly to be considered in every act. To begin with, the village consisted of several tight-knit families, all related by intermarriage and mutual dependency for commerce and security. This interdependence was economic as much as it was social and practical. Thus, when the Prodigal Son demanded his share of the inheritance, it was wealth that was being taken out of the village as a whole, not just from his father. It is interesting to note that in ancient times, the younger son often received no inheritance at all when his father passed, rather it would have passed in its entirety to the oldest son. So not only is the younger son overstepping the social and economic norms of his time, but he also was in practice publicly wishing that his father was already dead, something that would have been highly shameful and egregiously offensive.

Thus, the village was seriously injured and offended at what this younger son did, never mind the emotional harm caused to his blood relatives. The Prodigal Son took irreplaceable wealth out of the village and de facto transferred it to (spent it on) foreigners. Hence something that was being relied upon to help and support the economic life of the village was dissipated and lost. The villagers as a whole would have been furious with this younger son! Not only had he publicly shamed his father by effectively wishing him dead (what could be more offensive than that?!), but he also harmed directly or indirectly everyone in the village by taking what was considered finite-wealth away from those who might need to rely on it one day for their collective prosperity.

*(Continued on page 4)*

## COLLABORATIVE NEWS

### This Week in Our Collaborative

#### Monday, March 31

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

**Collaborative Mission, Night 2** 7:00pm, IC Church

#### Tuesday, April 1

**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

**Collaborative Mission, Night 3** 7:00pm, IC Church

**Mission Reception** 8:00pm, IC St. Louis Hall

#### Wednesday, April 2

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

**Confessions during Lent** 3:00–4:00pm, Nativity Church

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

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

**Medjugorje Pilgrimage Mass & Reception** 6:00pm, IC St. James Chapel, St. Louis Hall

**Ministry Committee Mtg.** 6:00pm, IC Nazareth Library

#### Thursday, April 3

**ICS PTO Mtg.** 8:30am, IC Charity Dining Room

**My father's Father Series** 9:45am, IC St. Louis Hall

**Confessions during Lent** 6:30–8:00pm, IC Church

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

**Ultreya Mtg.** 7:00pm, All Saints, Haverhill

#### Friday, April 4

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

**Nativity Simple Supper** 5:00pm, Nativity Hall

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

**IC Simple Supper** 5:45pm, IC Charity Dining Room

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

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

#### Saturday, April 5

**San Marcos Coffee Sale after All Masses**

**Cursillo Reunion Group** 9:00am, IC Charity Dining Room

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

#### Sunday, April 6

**San Marcos Coffee Sale after All Masses**

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

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

**First Communion Retreat** 12:30pm, IC St. Louis Hall

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

**Confirmation Prep, Grade 10** 6:30pm, Nativity Hall

### Easter Flower Donations

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.

*(Continued from page 3)*

This collective animosity plays out in several ways as this parable unfolds. First, you have the father running out to greet his repentant son when he first sees him at a distance. This wasn't simply because he was overjoyed to see him again after a long hiatus. He wanted to get to him before anyone else in the village did, lest they do him violence! The father then immediately does four things. First, he orders that a fine robe be put on his son—a robe that would cover over his nakedness and shame. Second, he orders that a ring be placed on his finger—a sign that his inheritance has been restored. Third, he orders that sandals be placed on his feet—a sign that his son returns not as a slave or servant, but as a full member of the father's household.

The fourth order—that the “fatted calf” be slaughtered completes the grave concern that the father has for his son's relationship with the whole community. While the robe, ring, and sandals were outward signs of the father's forgiveness of his recalcitrant son, they were no guarantee that anyone else in the village would extend to him the same mercy, forgiveness, and love that he had. So the father ordered the “fatted calf”—an animal that was being specially nurtured and kept for an important feast—slaughtered to bring the whole village together to eat, as it was far more food than any one family could consume by itself. And then, one-by-one, at this feast, the father would have reintroduced his wayward son to each villager, personally begging them to forgive him, demonstrating to each person individually that if he who had been most-offended by his son's actions could forgive him, then ought not everyone else as well? If they were not won over by the father's genuine vulnerability and sincerity, they would have been blessed with the unexpected generosity of the lavish meal, a gesture, perhaps, “re-paying” the village for some of its loss. And this went on until everyone was reconciled with his son...

...everyone, that is, except his older brother. And here, the father leaves the feast in his home, satisfied that his younger son has been reconciled to the crowd, the village where he grew up, to go outside and beg and plead with the one last community member who refused to be swayed by food and festivity, by generosity and sincerity. Here, the father makes yet one more plea for a change of heart with his oldest son, the one who should have received the full inheritance in the first place, the one who felt as though he had received nothing from his father—not even a kid goat, the one who likely endured the strictest treatment from his father as he grew up (as the oldest child often does), the one who had done nothing wrong except closing his heart to his father's love and blinding himself from seeing all that was already his precisely through that steadfast, merciful, and forgiving love.

Thus, the story is unresolved and left dangling for the hearer to wrestle with. The oldest son, part of the crowd, a member of the village, not spoken of or identified until the end is the final person to be called to reconcile with the Prodigal Son, his very own brother, who was dead-to-him and had somehow, miraculously come back to life. Seeing ourselves in the character of the crowd or village, seeing ourself, finally in the person of the older son...

...what to do, brothers and sisters...what to do?!

Lenten Blessings to all,

Fr. Timothy Harrison

Pastor

# COLLABORATIVE NEWS

## Grand Annual Updates

Congratulations to both parishes on meeting the 2024 Grand Annual appeal goals. Thanks to all who contributed to this worthwhile fund that sustains our parishes.

HR Grand Annual, Goal: \$25,000	\$26,540.00
IC Grand Annual, Goal: \$100,000	\$100,306.00

## 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.

## Prayers for the Sick

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

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

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

## Collaborative Baptisms

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

Joseph Ruston Bolcome • Ada Jane Burke •  
Quinn Colby Coveney • Madelyn Maura Cutter •  
Owen Michael O'Neil • Callan Hughes Padellaro •  
Grace Jean Scally • Harriett Mae Yee

## Bulletin Information

Email all bulletin submissions by Monday at noon to [hricbulletin@gmail.com](mailto:hricbulletin@gmail.com).

## Collaborative Faith Formation

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

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

### Baptism

No Baptisms will take 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 is now celebrated with students currently in Grade 8 rather than 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 change.

### 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).

## 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 12–Friday, May 16. 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 (Memo line: Spencer Retreat). Act quickly—there are only 10 spaces. If you have questions or want more information, please see or leave a message in the offices for Fr. George Morin.

# PARISH MISSION!

Immaculate Conception Church  
March 30, 31, and April 1,  
at 7:00 p.m. each evening.

*(Reception will follow Tuesday's presentation.)*



Fr. Ron Hoye, founder of  
The God Minute Podcast,  
is offering a mission at IC Church.

*Want to feel closer to God?*



A parish mission blends story, laughter, reflection, and scripture into an enjoyable 50-minute presentation each evening.

Our presenter is Fr. Ron Hoye, a Vincentian priest from from St. Louis, MO.

For anyone who desires a spiritual boost or spark, come join us for three evenings you won't forget.

All are welcome (especially kids)!

*Ignite your faith!*

## LENT

### Lenten 5-Week Rosary Challenge

*The Fourth Sorrowful Mystery: The Carrying of the Cross*

**Spiritual Fruit:** Patience in Suffering

Jesus submits to His fate, and bears the cross on His bruised and wounded shoulders. The journey to Calvary is excruciating as the soldiers ruthlessly drive Him forward. However, Jesus' battered body is too weak to endure, and succumbing to the limits of His humanity. He falls three times under the weight of the Cross. Jesus, at last, encounters His grief-stricken Mother, and they share in unmatched heartache. The soldiers recognizing that Jesus is physically unable to go on, force Simeon of Cyrene to carry the cross behind Him. This mystery teaches us that we are to bear our trials with patience and pure acceptance of God's will. With Christ living in us, we too can take up our cross and follow Him. (Rosary.com)



Additional research:

- Biblical Reference: John 19:16–22
- Formed video: The Fourth Sorrowful Mystery
- Rosary in a Year podcast Day 42
- Hallow app has several guests that you can pray the rosary with including: Bishop Barron, Cardinal Dolan, Mark Wahlberg, Sr. Miriam James Heidland, and many others
- YouTube video The Fourth Sorrowful Mystery
- <https://www.usccb.org/how-to-pray-the-rosary>

### Directed Lenten Retreat

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.

Material will be provided for reading and reflection. Four in-person or Zoom spiritual direction sessions will be scheduled throughout the retreat at your convenience.

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

*Spiritual Director:* Elizabeth McCarthy, Certified Spiritual Director, MA Pastoral Counseling. Call (978) 462-7483 to register or for additional information.  
Suggested donation: \$95.00

### Adoration

**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)*

# LENT IN THE COLLABORATIVE

## This Week's Lenten Activities

**Monday, March 31**

**Collaborative Mission, Night 2** 7:00pm, IC Church

**Tuesday, April 1**

**Collaborative Mission, Night 3** 7:00pm, IC Church  
**Mission Reception** 8:00pm, IC St. Louis Hall

**Wednesday, April 2**

**Confessions during Lent** 3:00–4:00pm, Nativity Church  
**Adoration** 3:00pm, Nativity Church

**Thursday, April 3**

**My father's Father Series** 9:45am, IC St. Louis Hall  
**Confessions during Lent** 6:30–8:00pm, IC Church  
**Adoration** 7:00pm, IC Church

**Friday, April 4**

**St. Ann Stations of the Cross** 9:00am, St. Ann Church  
**Nativity Simple Supper** 5:00pm, Nativity Hall  
**IC Stations of the Cross** 5:15pm, IC Church  
**IC Simple Supper** 5:45pm, IC Charity Dining Room  
**Nativity Stations of the Cross** 6:00pm, Nativity Church

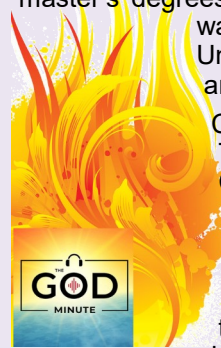
**Saturday, April 5**

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

## Collaborative Lenten Mission

**Lenten Mission with Fr. Ron Hoye, C.M.**  
**March 30, 31, and April 1 at 7:00 p.m. at IC Church.**  
**Reception will follow Tuesday's presentation.**

Mission speaker, Fr. Ron Hoye, a Vincentian priest, is based in St. Louis, MO. Fr. Ron holds bachelor's and master's degrees in philosophy, theology, and ethics and was involved in campus ministry at DePaul University where he taught Business Ethics and World Religions.



Currently, he serves as director of Catholic TeamWorks, a collaborative effort of Catholic evangelization and spirituality in the digital landscape, and is the founder of *The God Minute*, a daily podcast focused on Scripture, reflection, and music. A published author, Fr. Ron travels the country leading missions and leadership renewal.

Join us each evening at 7:00 p.m. to share in faith, fellowship, music, and laughter with this energetic speaker as we continue our Lenten journey.

## Helping the Homeless

It's Lent, and time again for our Care Pack Campaign. We've fine-tuned the content this year to better meet the needs of our recipient organizations. Each care pack should contain the five essential items, and then we can add from the list of other items as we have in the past. This year's shopping list is available in all of the churches. The campaign will run through Easter Sunday and we'll sort and ready the packs for delivery on April 26. If you have questions or are interested in helping with sorting, please contact Jonathan at hricshare@gmail.com.

<b>All Care Packs should contain travel-size:</b>	<b>Then you can add any of the following:</b>	Body lotion
Shampoo	Razor	Face and/or body wipes
Deodorant	Shave cream	Kleenex
Toothbrush	Socks	Life Savers/protein bars
Toothpaste	Cough drops	Feminine hygiene products
Liquid body wash	Rain poncho	<b>No mouthwash or cash</b>
	Chapstick	
	Hand sanitizer	

## Lenten Video Series: "My father's Father." Thursday Mornings during Lent

**Dates:** Thursdays through April 10

**Time:** 9:45 a.m.–11:15 a.m.

**Location:** IC Charity Dining Room

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

## Fasting and Abstinence during Lent

Good Friday is a day of fasting. Catholics age 18–59 are bound to the obligation of fasting. **Fasting** guidelines: one full meal, and two smaller meals that together are not equal to a full meal. No eating between meals, but liquids, including water, milk, and fruit juices are allowed. Abstinence is observed on *all* Fridays of Lent. **Abstinence** guidelines: no meat all day (fish is allowed). Catholics over 14 years of age are bound to the obligation of abstinence.

## Confessions for Lent 2025

*Additional Confession times during Lent:*

IC Church, **Saturdays** 3:00–3:30 p.m.

**Thursdays** 6:30–8:00 p.m. on **April 3** and 10

Nativity Church, **Wednesday** 3:00–4:00 p.m. on **April 2**

Saint Ann Church, **Wednesday** 6:00–7:00 p.m. on April 9

## Stations of the Cross

**St. Ann: Friday mornings during Lent: 9:00 a.m.**  
April 4, 11, and 18 (Good Friday)

**Nativity: Friday evenings during Lent:**  
**5:00 supper, 6:00 Stations**  
April 4, and 11 (no Stations Good Friday)



**Immaculate Conception: Friday evenings during Lent:**  
**5:15 Stations, 5:45 supper (Charity Dining Room)**  
April 4, and 11 (no Stations Good Friday)

## Centering Prayer for Lent

Centering Prayer is an ancient Christian practice available to all who seek transformation through a more intimate relationship with God.

Consider joining us and let God move you closer to him. We gather Wednesdays 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.

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

# IMMACULATE CONCEPTION PARISH

## IC Offertory Collection

IC Offertory, March 22–23	\$5,142.00
IC Mailed-in Offertory, Week Ending March 21	\$ 444.00
IC Weekly Online Offertory Giving	<u>\$3,250.84</u>
<b>Total Weekly Offertory, March 22–23</b>	<b>\$8,836.84</b>
IC Haiti, March 22–23	\$3,106.00

No second collection this weekend (March 30). The second collection next weekend (April 6) is Pastor's Charity.

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

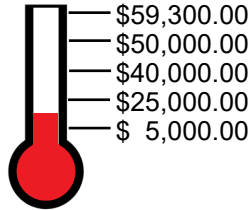
If you would like to mail in your envelopes, send them to **Immaculate Conception Parish, 42 Green Street, Newburyport, MA 01950.**

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



**IC Catholic Appeal**  
**Goal: \$59,300.00**  
**To Date: \$16,060.00**

Visit [bostoncatholicappeal.org](http://bostoncatholicappeal.org) to learn more or to donate.



## Time to Celebrate

### Reminder: Fr. Stanley's Birthday



The Faith, Fun, and Fellowship Committee is happy to announce there will be a **Birthday Dinner Celebration** in IC St. Louis Hall after the 4:00 p.m. Mass on March 29 to celebrate Fr. Charles Stanley's 80th birthday.

Reservations needed.

## Knights Hospitality Sunday

Join us **Sunday, April 6, 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.



## St. Mary's Cemetery Spring Clean-up

Mill City Management Corporation will begin its spring clean-up at St. Mary's Cemetery, Newburyport on April 1.

Family members wishing to save any personal, holiday or seasonal decorations or any other mementos should remove them before April 1. **Any items remaining after April 1 will be discarded.** Rules and regulations are posted at the cemetery's main gate. We thank you for your cooperation.

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## Free Hair Cuts

Donna Koen, an IC parishioner and licensed hairdresser for over 30 years, is offering free hair cuts to anyone in need. She is willing to travel to your home. Her number is (978) 998-9219. She is happy to help our parishioners who are in need.

## 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](mailto: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 or emailed to the Trustees no later than **Tuesday, April 15, 2025**.

## 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.svdpnewburyport.org](http://www.svdpnewburyport.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!

# HOLY REDEEMER PARISH

## HR Offertory Collection

HR Offertory, March 22–23	\$2,242.00
IC Mailed-in Offertory, Week Ending March 21	\$ 100.00
HR Weekly Online Offertory Giving	\$ 451.25
<b>Total Weekly Offertory, March 22–23</b>	<b>\$2,793.25</b>
IC Haiti, March 22–23	\$ 820.00

No second collection this weekend (March 30). The second collection next weekend (April 6) is Pastor's Charity.

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

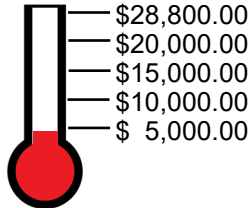
If you would like to mail in your collections, send them to **Holy Redeemer Parish, 4 Green Street, Merrimac, MA 01860.**

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).



**HR Catholic Appeal**  
Goal **\$28,800.00**  
To Date **\$4,400.00**

Visit [bostoncatholicappeal.org](http://bostoncatholicappeal.org) to learn more or to donate.



## Time to Celebrate

**Reminder: Fr. Stanley's 80th Birthday**



The HR Activities Committee invites all to celebrate with Fr. Stanley on this very happy occasion!

**When/Where:** Sunday, March 30 at St. Ann Hall following the 10:00 a.m. Mass.

Join us for a festive **Birthday Brunch** featuring delicious home baked treats, great coffee, and—of course—birthday cake!

## Saturday Mass at St. Ann

Please remember that our Saturday 4:00pm Mass will move to **St. Ann, W. Newbury** for the month of **April**.

## 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 8:30 after both Sunday Masses on April 13** for coffee and palm cross making classes.

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

**Who was Archbishop Oscar Romero?**

Archbishop Oscar Romero had become an outspoken champion of the poor and oppressed in El Salvador, using his prominent position to be an outspoken critic of the ruling elite. He provided a voice for the voiceless poor. He was assassinated on March 24, 1980 as he celebrated Mass. He was canonized in 2018.



Learn more about him: <https://rothershrine.org/news/venerable-voices-st-oscar-romero>

**Your donations, prayers, and sacrifices are making a difference in our ministry to the poor!**

*It's not too late to pick up your Mite Box from the tables near the entrance to the churches. Try to add a few coins each day to your Mite Box. Simply return your Mite Box during Holy Week. Thank you!*

Your kind donations in any form are 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.**

St. Ann will be praying the Stations of the Cross on Friday mornings during Lent. We will follow the Scriptural Way of the Cross introduced by Pope John Paul II on Good Friday 1991. Note that Stations on a given Friday may be cancelled if there is a funeral at St. Ann.

Lenten Fridays, 9:00 a.m.: April 4, 11, and 18 (Good Friday)

**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: April 4, and 11 starting at 6:00 p.m. (Stations at 7:00 p.m. on Good Friday, no supper.)

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

## HR Cookbook Corner: Faith & Food

**Simple Friday Suppers for Lent Series**

Friday, April 4, 2025

In the gospel for Friday of the Fourth Week of Lent, St. John writes "... they tried to arrest him, but no one laid a hand upon him, because his hour had not yet come."

**Reflection:** Waiting for our heartfelt prayers to be answered takes patience...our prayers will surely be answered when the hour has come according to God's perfect plan.

**Simple Friday Supper Menu** Blessing Before Meals (Cookbook page PP-5)  
Butternut Squash & Sweet Potato Soup (p 18)  
Cranberry Nut Muffins (page 101)

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



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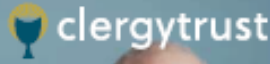
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So it means a lot to all of us."

- Fr. Richard Clancy  
Pastor, River of Divine Mercy Parish  
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