

HOLY REDEEMER AND IMMACULATE CONCEPTION COLLABORATIVE PARISHES

SERVING MERRIMAC, NEWBURY, NEWBURYPORT, AND WEST NEWBURY

Third Sunday of Easter

April 14, 2024

All Are Welcome

hricatholic.org



*Then he said to them, "Why are you troubled?
And why do questions arise in your hearts?
Look at my hands and my feet, that it is I myself.
Touch me and see, because a ghost does not have flesh and bones
as you can see I have."*

(Lk 24:38–39)



Holy Redeemer Immaculate Conception Collaborative

serving Merrimac, Newbury, Newburyport & West Newbury

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

St. Ann

Church: 300 Main St., W. Newbury 01985

Rectory: 46 Maple St., W. Newbury 01985

Phone: 978-346-8604

Email: info@hriccatholic.org

Nativity

Parish offices and church:
4 Green St., Merrimac 01860

Office Hours: By appointment

Phone: 978-346-8604

Email: info@hriccatholic.org

Immaculate Conception

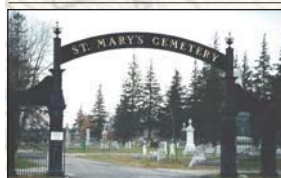
Parish, church, rectory, and offices:
42 Green St., Newburyport 01950

Office Hours: M-F 9:00 a.m.-3:30 p.m.

Phone: 978-462-2724

Fax: 978-234-7399

Email: info@hriccatholic.org



St. Mary's Cemetery

36 Storey Avenue,
Newburyport 01950

Immaculate Conception School

1 Washington Street, Newburyport 01950, K-grade 8,
Mrs. Joan Sullivan, Principal, Phone: 978-465-7780,
Fax: 978-234-7331, www.icsnewburyport.com



Collaborative Staff

Pastor

Rev. Timothy Harrison,
978-462-2724 or 978-346-8604
info@hriccatholic.org

Senior Priests in Residence

978-462-2724 or 978-346-8604

Rev. William H. McLaughlin

Rev. George E. Morin

Rev. Charles Stanley

Permanent Deacons

Deacon Paul Dow

978-887-5350

Deacon John Moranski

978-432-1443

St. Vincent de Paul

St. Vincent de Paul Society at

Holy Redeemer

978-346-8604 x 4

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

978-462-2724 x 402

cbreslow@hriccatholic.org

Melinda Burrell, Administrative Assistant

978-462-2724

burrell@hriccatholic.org

Dennis LaMalfa, Business Manager

978-462-2724 x 451

dlamalfa@hriccatholic.org

Karen Leff, Coordinator of Media Outreach

hricbulletin@gmail.com

Lifelong Faith Formation

Aaron Giard, Director of Lifelong Faith
Formation

978-462-2724 x 405 or 978-346-8604

agiard@hriccatholic.org

Melinda Burrell, Administrative Assistant,
Lifelong Faith Formation

978-462-2724

burrell@hriccatholic.org

Website: www.hriccatholic.org



Immaculate Conception School

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

Maintenance

Bud Kent, IC Building Maintenance

978-462-2724

bkent@hriccatholic.org

Eddie Martinez, IC Facilities Manager

978-462-2724

emartinez@hriccatholic.org

Music Ministry

Jennifer Acorn, HR Organist

978-697-1082

Kathy Peavey, HR Vocalist

978-360-8756

Donna Postle, IC Music Ministry Director

978-317-8903

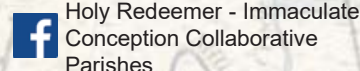
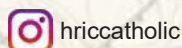
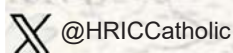
Tim Richard, IC organist

Steve Swochak, IC Music Coordinator

978-270-4924

Confessions

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



COLLABORATIVE NEWS

Mass Schedule

Saturday (4/13)

4:00pm **IC** Jerry Majocha, Richard & Robert Ring, William Moore (Fr. McLaughlin & Deacon Moranski)

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

Sunday (4/14)

8:30am **Nativity** Lynn & Ray Fontaine (Fr. McLaughlin & Deacon Dow)

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

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

11:30am **IC** Steve Tsai, Lillian Pecht (Fr. Harrison)

Monday (4/15)

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

Tuesday (4/16)

9:00 am **IC** Louis & Lena Filomia (Fr. Stanley)

Wednesday (4/17)

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

Thursday (4/18)

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

Friday (4/19)

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

Saturday (4/20)

4:00pm **IC** Alex Hasapis, Fran Cundari, Maddie Corbett, Richard Barron, Jessica Gill (Fr. Morin & Deacon Moranski)

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

Sunday (4/21)

8:30am **Nativity** Helen & Joseph Duda and family (Fr. Stanley)

9:00am **IC** Tom & Helen O'Donnell, Al Smith (Fr. McLaughlin & Deacon Dow)

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

11:30am **IC** David McLaughlin (Fr. Morin & Deacon Moranski)

In your prayers please remember Dr. Vincent Russo, Beverly LaMarco, 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.

Bulletin Information

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

Mass Scripture Readings

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



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

From the Pastor

Dear Parishioners,

Would you have recognized the Risen Jesus shortly after His resurrection? It might seem like a dumb question to ask because: a). We weren't there, and b). What difference would it make anyway? If Jesus needed me to recognize Him, He would figure something out, right?! He is the Son of God after all?! Why ask dumb questions?!



How many times have we been told in our lives that there are no dumb questions—just questions that if asked appropriately and with an open mind and heart can lead to learning and growth? Asked inappropriately, and they can lead us astray and confuse us more than enrich us with wisdom. While asking questions can sometimes be annoying, especially if you've ever been interrogated by a 3-year-old's endless stream of "why's"..., I think training ourselves to ask the best questions is one of the most important things we ever do in life.

While trying to magically transport ourselves back in time and throw ourselves at the feet of the Risen Christ to see if we can perceive some flickering glow of the cosmic event known as His Resurrection from the Dead can be a little academic and fantastical, ignoring what the First Century witnesses of this Risen Christ tell us in their writings would be irresponsible and reckless. So let's start there.

To begin with, so many of the Gospel resurrection accounts do not begin with His disciples leaping to their feet and running into His arms with a boisterous, "Yeh! Jesus is back!" Instead, they mostly portray Jesus bending over backwards to convince them that it really is He, awkwardly lifting His tunic to show them the nail marks and the gash in His side. For whatever reason that only God knows, the Risen Jesus didn't look much like the earthly Jesus from days and weeks before. Granted, His torture and death were pretty awful and one might not expect Him to be His "old self" after such trauma. But even so, you would think that the disciples would learn to recognize Him after that first encounter.

But the Scriptures keep portraying Him as looking different, each time He appears. So, instead, He is recognized later by His disciples by these characteristics: His woundedness, His actions, and His promises. The wounds are pretty straightforward—nail holes and an opening in His side from the soldier's lance after He had died on the cross. The Risen Jesus intentionally shows these to His questioning band of followers as proof for them that it really is Him. His actions include powerful allusions to things He did when He was among them before His death—things like giving fishing directions ("Try the other side of the boat!") or breaking bread. These were more than mere memories of

(Continued on page 4)

Patriot's Day Holiday

Collaborative offices will be closed on Monday, April 15 for Patriot's Day.

COLLABORATIVE NEWS

(Continued from page 3)

gestures-past, but produced in the present what they signified: living signs of God's enduring presence: so many fish were caught that the boat almost sunk, recognizing His true presence in the action of breaking the bread. His promises were always the same: "Peace be with you." "Do not be afraid." "Your sins are forgiven." "God's Kingdom is at hand." "Repent and believe in the Good News." These displays of His woundedness, His actions and promises would together constitute irrefutable proof that this mysterious stranger who walked with them and is present among them is indeed Jesus Christ, risen from the dead. The most amazing thing they came to realize over time was that this Risen Christ was among them, whether they recognized Him in the flesh or not. He was still there, in them! Whenever they gathered, whenever they came together to do the things He told them to do—break bread, care for the poor, preach the good news to others—the Risen Jesus was in and among them sanctifying the early body of believers that St. Paul in time would come to call The Body of Christ, The Church.

So that was then. How about now? Is the Risen Christ still among us? And if so, how do we recognize Him today? What are the best questions to ask to find these answers?

Fortunately, what was realized among our ancestors is still relevant for us today. Although we don't have a stranger walking through walls and locked doors, inviting us to poke our fingers into His open scars, we still encounter Christ in the woundedness and suffering of others, in the saving actions of doing in His name what He once did for those in need and certainly in proclaiming the Good News of Salvation to those who long for it.

On the Cross, Christ unified His suffering with ours, redeeming us through His blood that was shed. In turn, we unite our sufferings with His as we recognize our need for His healing and mercy. This is the ongoing reality of the Paschal Mystery—Christ, the unblemished lamb, was slain for us that we might be healed through His sacrifice. Whenever we encounter human suffering, we encounter Christ crucified for us—His sacrificial love being poured out for us once again that we might find healing and peace.

By virtue of our Baptism, we have been so closely remade in His image that whenever we preach, offer care, bring comfort, proclaim the truth, stand up for justice, suffer for what is righteous, or act in His Name, it is Christ who is present in and through us by these actions. In other words He is inside of us, working through us and sometimes despite our own unworthiness and sinfulness. As St. Paul once wrote: "But we hold this treasure in earthen vessels, that the surpassing power may be of God and not from us. We are afflicted in every way, but not constrained; perplexed, but not driven to despair, persecuted, but not abandoned; struck down, but not destroyed; always carrying about in the body the dying of Jesus, so that the life of Jesus may also be manifested in our body." (2 Cor 4:7-10)

By preaching and proclaiming the evangelical Hope that defines us as Christians, we carry on the mission of Christ that all might come to share in the joy that is the Father's singular gift to us in Christ. We never do this on our own,

but always with the Risen Christ speaking and preaching and acting through us. If we are docile to the movements of the Holy Spirit in our lives, this is something that we can actually feel and mysteriously experience. God will use us to bring the love of Christ to others. And when that happens, we will breathe in the Holy Spirit and breathe out Jesus Christ. Our words will, for that moment, become His. Our actions, will for that split second in time become His. Our dreams will be of Him. Our thoughts will reflect His Word of life. Our very spirit will sigh with ecstasy and gratitude for His living presence among us.

So, would you have recognized the Risen Christ shortly after His resurrection? Better question: Will you recognize Him alive and in our midst today?! Answer this question well, and your life will never be the same!

Continued Easter Blessings to all,

Fr. Timothy Harrison, Pastor

Questions of the Week



Adult: When have you had an "Aha" moment, when you suddenly realized that God was with you?

Child: Name some times when you know Jesus is with you.

This Week in Our Collaborative

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

Monday, April 15, Patriot's Day

Offices Closed

Tuesday, April 16

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

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

IC Adult Choir Rehearsal 6:30pm, IC Church

Wednesday, April 17

Holy Jammers Practice 10:00am, IC Nazareth Library

Adoration 3:00pm, Nativity Church

IC Youth Choir Rehearsal 4:15pm, IC Church

Thursday, April 18

Adoration 7:00pm, IC Church

Friday, April 19

Adoration 9:30am, IC Church

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

Saturday, April 20

Holy Quilters 8:30am, Nativity Hall

HRIC Baby Toddler Playgroup 10:00am, IC Charity Dining Room

Confessions 3:00pm, IC Church

San Marcos Coffee Sale at all Masses

Sunday, April 21

San Marcos Coffee Sale at all Masses

Coffee Hour after Mass 9:30am, Nativity Hall

Faith Formation, Grades K-8 10:00am, IC St. Louis Hall

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

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

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	Eleanora Paciulan
Marjorie Barr	Jane Harney	Joseph Palumbo
Kathy P. Brodeur	Chloe Hequet	Joanne Pesa
Priscilla Brown	Rosemarie Hines	Donika Pulake
Vasfije Buhali	Linda Hofferty	Rose Raimo
Autumn Rose	Armand Hyatt	Maureen Russell
Coulombe	Justin Johnson	Rob Schweizer
Bill Crounse	Michael Juralewicz	Frank Siderio
Drew Daubach	Karen L.	Yvonne Sloban
Kristen	Arthur LaPointe	Gary Smith
D'Entremont	Johannah Lord	Arlene Stoddard
Deb Downie	Sia Mahalati	Tom Tribble
Ann-Margaret	Patricia Carey	Michael Tucker
Ferrante	McCarthy	Maddie Villers
Jeanine Ebacher	Maryann Mikson	Laurent Vincent
Fowler	Ann Murphy	
John Flynn	Carol O'Neal	

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.

Shawls and Lapghans



Shawls and lapghans are given freely as a gift, to offer comfort and joy! We would be happy to deliver to anyone. Or if you personally would like to give one to a friend, relative or neighbor, please contact Helen at 978-771-4673.

Come join us. We meet on the first Thursday of every month at Nativity Hall in Merrimac at 2:00 p.m. Don't know how to knit or crochet? We will teach you! All are welcome.

Our next meeting is Thursday, May 2 at Nativity Hall, Merrimac at 2:00 p.m.

Centering Prayer/Lectio Divina

We welcome all members of our Collaborative community to join us each Wednesday 6:00–7:00 p.m. via Zoom for 30 minutes of Centering Prayer, silently resting in God and surrendering and assenting to God's presence and action in our lives, and 30 minutes of reading Sacred Scripture in group Lectio Divina. Both practices strengthen our faith and reliance on God and deepen our personal relationship with God. For more information, please call Elizabeth McCarthy, 978-462-7483.

Adoration:

This is Jesus' Real Self



Eucharistic Adoration is the most conspicuous demonstration of taking Jesus at His word when He pronounced at the Last Supper: "This is My Body."

Come & worship the Real Presence of the Lord at Adoration. The Adorer groups gather:

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)

New time and location:

Wednesdays 3:00–4:00 p.m. (no Benediction), Nativity Church

San Marcos Coffee Sale

April 20–21



Finally the coffee is coming! I know many of you have been waiting patiently to get your hands on more of this specialty Honduran coffee. We will be selling at all Collaborative Masses on **Saturday and Sunday April 20 and 21. \$10 per pound** for

whole bean or ground. Your purchase helps the poor farmers earn a fair wage for their hard work.

Gracias from Honduras!

women at the well

Are you seeking a way to connect to other faith-centered women in the midst of a busy work, social, or parenting life? Or maybe you're just searching for a new way to regularly meet and connect with Jesus.

We invite all women to come join us, no matter where you may be in your relationship with God. The group meets **Mondays at 6:30 p.m.** in person at the IC Parish Center and virtually on Zoom. If you have any questions, or would like to join via Zoom, please email HRICWomenAtTheWell@gmail.com.

The God Minute

Every morning a small group of priests, nuns, and lay people start their day in prayer. Soft music, sacred scripture, and a thoughtful reflection are weaved into a 10-minute prayer called *The God Minute*. It's then uploaded for you to access and pray along with us on your own time. And it's free.

Listen with your coffee in the morning, while driving to work or taking a walk. See how easy and beautiful prayer can be. www.thegodminute.org.



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

We celebrate the Sacrament of Baptism on the second Sunday of each month at IC Church at the 11:30 Mass. 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 be changing. 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.

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 Collaborative 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.



SCAN HERE to make your gift

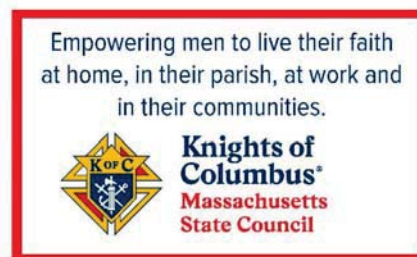


IC Haiti

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." Visit our website: ichaiti.org.

St. Mary's Cemetery

Immaculate Conception Parish owns and operates a private cemetery located on Storey Avenue. St. Mary's Cemetery is a 35-acre cemetery with consecrated grounds that provides tranquility and peacefulness at those difficult times that we all are faced with. Cemetery plots are available for full-body and cremated remains burials in any denomination. Call Joseph Viel, Mill City Management Corporation, at 978-208-0266 to schedule an appointment.



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/



LOCAL EVENTS

Mission Sox Sock Drive

Mission Sox is an organization that began last year to raise awareness for clothing insecurity, beginning with the most overlooked clothing necessity: socks! We collected and donated over 1500 pairs of new socks last spring by putting "sox boxes" around Newburyport. We used social media and an Amazon wish list to spread the message but word of mouth was the biggest tool.

This year, our goal is to gather over 2000 pairs of socks and we need your help! Look for sox boxes and flyers at Immaculate Conception Church (Pastoral Center). We want donating to be accessible to everyone so the whole city can take part in making a difference by helping people struggling with clothing insecurity and/or homelessness.

Collections will start on April 9, the Red Sox home opener, and finish on May 9. Keep an eye out and spread the word! Follow us on Instagram: @missionsox.

Charitable Sewing Day

Little Dresses for Africa is an organization that delivers dresses to girls who need appropriate clothing to wear to school. These dresses not only provide a practical use, they are a message of hope and love for God's vulnerable children.



In addition to dresses, if we have time, we will be making reusable, washable menstrual pads to give young women the opportunity to still attend school while on their period.

When: Saturday, April 27, 12:00–4:00 p.m.

Instructions and fabric will be provided

Where: St. Mary's, Georgetown Parish Hall

94 Andover St., Georgetown, MA

If you do not have a sewing machine, we have a limited number available for use. First come, first served by pre-registration. Pre-registration is required for everyone. To register, contact Annie Rhodes by text at 978-884-1804.

Speaker: The Power of Prayer

All are welcome to an evening of focus on the real power of prayer featuring Allison Gingras on **Tuesday, April 16, at 6:00 p.m. at St. Mary Church, Georgetown.**



Allison is an author, speaker and host of the podcast, *A Seeking Heart. Living the Catholic Faith in the Everyday, Ordinary of Life.*

Allison believes her essential role as a woman of prayer in the Church today restores and maintains peace in her heart! We have grown to underestimate the real power of prayer, especially Scripture, Adoration, and the Rosary! Please join us in the church to hear Allison share her wisdom and prayerful heart.

Please bring your rosary. A free will offering will be accepted. Her books will be available for purchase if you are interested: cash or Venmo. This evening is sponsored by St Mary's Women's Club.

IC NEWS

IC Anniversary Mass of Thanksgiving

April 28, 2024, 11:30 a.m.



Our 175th anniversary year is coming to an official close on May 15. It is hard to believe the year has passed so quickly! It has been an exciting, energizing, and sacred communal time.

In celebration of the past 12 months of shared events, a special concluding Mass will be celebrated on April 28 at 11:30 a.m. followed by the crowning of Mary on Green Street.

Join us in this Liturgy of Thanksgiving as we recall the many blessings of the last twelve months, the people who shared in our celebration, the bonds which have been formed, and the promise of the future of our Parish, our Collaborative, and our community.

A souvenir program book will be distributed to all parishioners as a reminder of this year of faith, fun, and fellowship.

*With blessings, Fr. Tim, Pat Temple (Chair)
Patty and David Olds (Co-Chairs)*



Meet Rev. John C. Fearn

IC 175th Anniversary Continued

Three months after Rev. McManmon passed, Rev. John C. Fearn became the sixth Pastor of Immaculate Conception Parish on April 15, 1933. Fr. Fearn was born in Boston on April 21, 1877. He attended Cambridge High and Latin and matriculated at Harvard University. He was ordained as a priest on December 21, 1906. Prior to coming to Newburyport, he spent four years as the Pastor in Middleboro.



REV. JOHN C. FEARN

During the difficult days of the depression, it was not easy to manage a large and growing parish. The upkeep of the church school, rectory, and convent placed a tremendous burden on Rev. Fearn. The weight of this responsibility was willingly shared by two hardworking assistants, Fr. William McGuire and Fr. James Mooney who had joined the parish in the early 1930's also. Working together with parishioners, the Parish staff embarked on plans to further update the campus on the corners of Washington and Green and Court Streets.

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.

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION PARISH

IC Offertory Collection

IC Offertory, April 6-7	\$4,301.00
C Mailed-in Offertory, Week Ending April 5	\$1,201.00
IC Weekly Online Offertory Giving	\$2,815.59
Total Weekly Offertory, April 6-7	\$8,317.59
Pastor's Charity, April 6-7	\$1,244.00
Pelican Intervention Fund, 1Q24	\$1,905.00
IC Grand Annual, Goal: \$100,000	\$85,555.00

No second collection this weekend (April 14). The second collection next weekend (April 21) is Ongoing Church Maintenance.

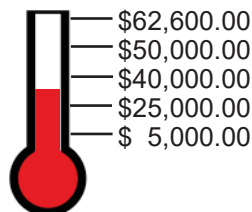
Unless otherwise indicated, make out checks to Immaculate Conception Parish with the second collection noted in the memo. If you would like to mail in your envelopes, send them to **Immaculate Conception Parish, 42 Green Street, Newburyport, MA 01950.**

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



IC Catholic Appeal
Goal: \$62,600.00
To Date: \$30,673.00

Visit bostoncatholicappeal.org to learn more or to donate.



IC Online Giving

To get started, you need to be a registered member of Immaculate Conception Parish. 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, hricatholic.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.

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 maryakyscholarship@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.**

St. Vincent de Paul Clothing Drop Box



Immaculate Conception 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.

Immaculate Conception School

Students at Immaculate Conception School learned about the solar eclipse in a variety of ways. Several families had the opportunity to travel north to see the phenomenon in person. The 5th grade students built models of the sun and moon. With a light source, they recreated the movement of the moon across the sun's path. They brought along their solar eclipse glasses to complete the experience. The middle school students benefited from a very



comprehensive video that described the phases of the solar eclipse, its impact on animals, visibility of other planets, unique features such as Bailey's Beads and the diamond ring effect. The digital resources available for all to learn about the solar eclipse prior to the event has the students well prepared for the phenomenon!



IC St. Vincent de Paul

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

You can now make online donations on our website: www.svdpnnewburyport.org. If you would like to mail in your donation, please make your check payable to "**SVdP of Newburyport**" and drop it into the collection box at Mass or mail it to the parish office at 42 Green Street, Newburyport, MA 01950.

Car Donation Needed

We are seeking the donation of a car in good running order for a Newburyport single mom. Her current car's engine is no longer repairable. If you, or someone you know, has a vehicle that they would like to donate to this deserving family, please call the SVdP hotline or see any one of the I.C. Vincentians.

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, April 6-7	\$2,406.00
HR Mailed-in Offertory, Week Ending April 5	\$ 900.00
HR Weekly Online Offertory Giving	\$ 310.00
Total Weekly Offertory, April 6-7	\$3,616.00

The Pelican Intervention Fund, 1Q24	\$ 655.00
HR Grand Annual, Goal: \$25,000	\$21,785.00

No second collection this weekend (April 14). The second collection next weekend (April 21) is Ongoing Church Maintenance.

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

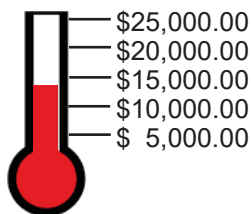
If you would like to mail in your collections, send them to **Holy Redeemer Parish, 4 Green Street, Merrimac, MA 01860.**

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



HR Catholic Appeal
Goal \$25,000.00
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Adoration at Nativity Church



Beginning on April 17, Eucharistic Adoration (without Benediction) will be offered on Wednesdays from 3:00- 4:00 p.m. at Church of the Nativity. Join us weekly for one hour of Sacred Silence.

Communion to the Homebound

If you are a Holy Redeemer parishioner who is homebound or unable to attend Mass on a regular basis, we would like to offer you the opportunity to receive the Eucharist. Please let us know. If any parishioner knows of someone who might be interested in receiving the Eucharist, please also let us know. This could be a one-time occasion, or a regular schedule could be arranged. Please call Melinda Burrell at 978-346-8604 to schedule a visit.

HR Online Giving

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.

To learn more visit our website, hricatholic.org and click the "Links" tab, then "HR Parish Online Giving" to get to the site.

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

Vacation Bible School at HR



Mark your calendars for July 22-26 from 9:00 a.m.-12:00 noon for a *Stellar* week of VBS at Nativity hall. Registration forms are available on our website at www.hricatholic.org/vbs-stellar.

Nativity Coffee after Mass

All are invited to the Holy Redeemer Coffee Hour after the 8:30 Mass at Nativity on Sunday, April 21.



HR St. Vincent de Paul

More than 2,000 years ago, a perfect sacrifice made on a cross forever changed the future for all humankind. The Easter season challenges us to follow Christ's example by making small acts of sacrificial love. Beyond addressing urgent needs, these acts serve as a witness to the Gospel in the lives of those less fortunate.

When we give to address hunger and hardship, we help families regain their hope for the future. Families are given the ability to overcome the challenges in their lives and to embrace the joy of Christ's Easter promise. We encourage you to put your faith into action this Easter season in Christ's holy name!

We always appreciate your use of the envelopes in the pews at St. Ann and Nativity churches for your donations. These can be mailed or **placed in the poor boxes**. Reminder: Make sure to make checks payable to **HR St. Vincent de Paul**.

As always, anything that you can give is greatly appreciated. Thank you!



Merrimac Library Program

The Friends of the Merrimac Public Library is hosting a program on Saturday, April 27 at 1:00 p.m. at the Merrimac Public Library. Led by quilt maker and interior decorator Barbara Graceffa, the program features tips on downsizing and decluttering. Participants will learn practical reasons for downsizing and tips on how to live with less but still live in style. Learn to start the decluttering process; determine what to keep, toss or donate; and gain strategies for maintaining a clutter-free home.

This is a free event open to the public. Register at <https://buytickets.at/thefriendsofthemerrimacpubliclibrary/1203626>.



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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