

# HOLY REDEEMER AND IMMACULATE CONCEPTION COLLABORATIVE PARISHES

SERVING MERRIMAC, NEWBURY, NEWBURYPORT, AND WEST NEWBURY

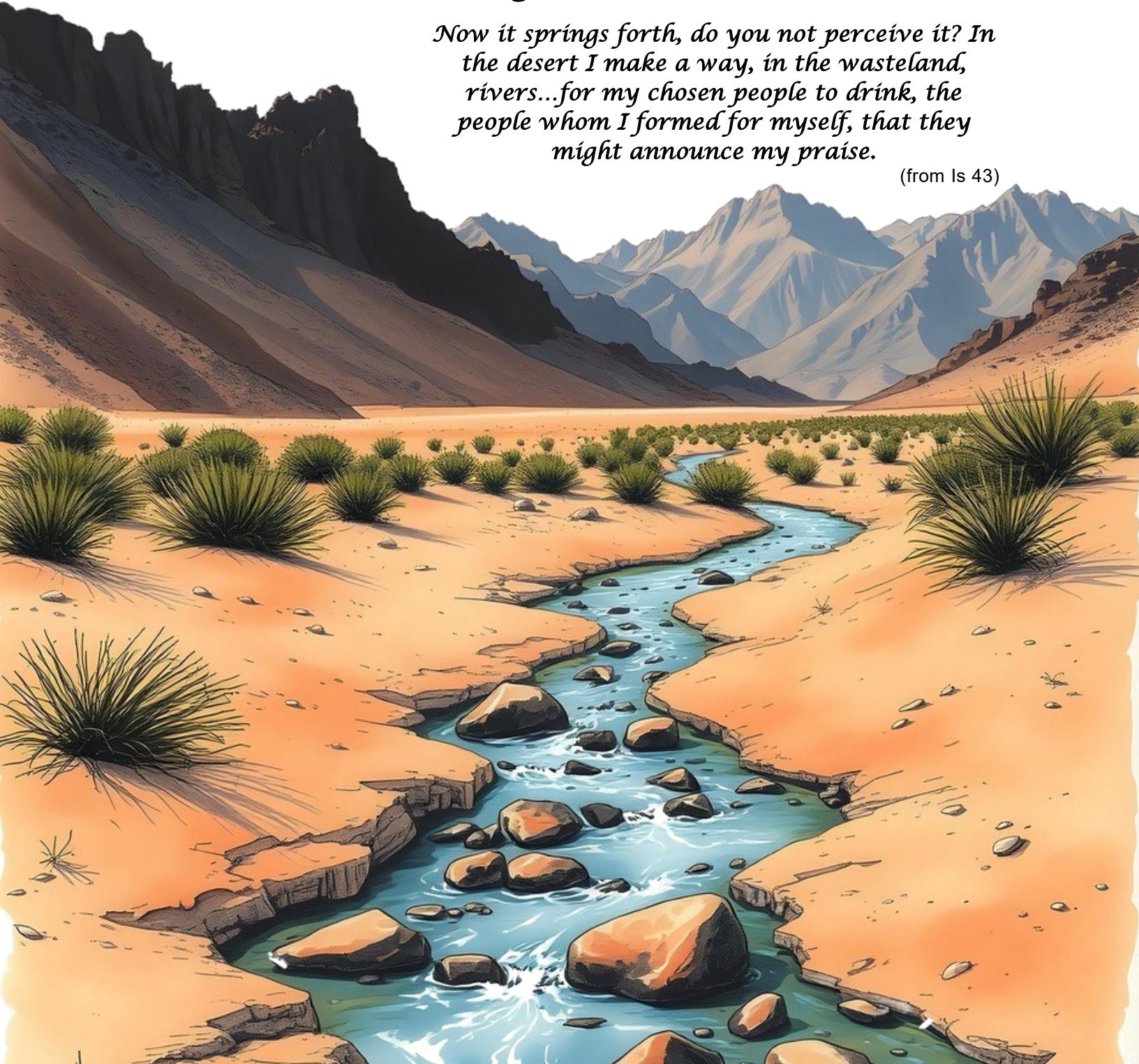
## Fifth Sunday of Lent

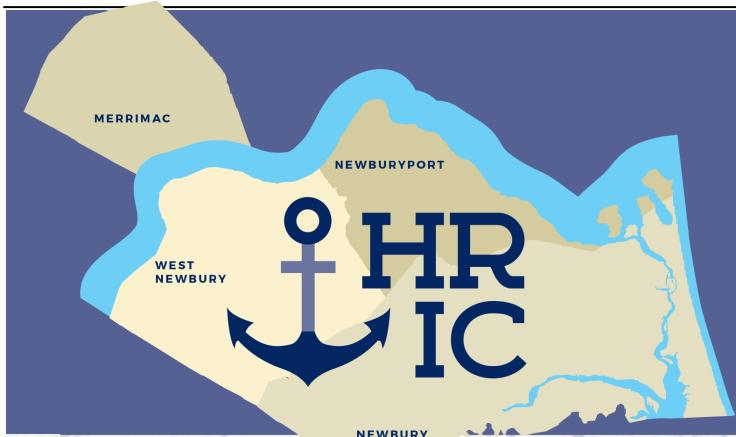
April 6, 2025

[hriccatholic.org](http://hriccatholic.org) All Are Welcome

*Now it springs forth, do you not perceive it? In  
the desert I make a way, in the wasteland,  
rivers...for my chosen people to drink, the  
people whom I formed for myself, that they  
might announce my praise.*

(from Is 43)





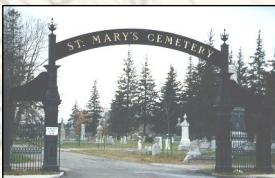
# Holy Redeemer Immaculate Conception Collaborative

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)



## St. Mary's Cemetery

36 Storey Avenue,  
Newburyport 01950

## 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)

## 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  
[hrsvdp300@gmail.com](mailto:hrsvdp300@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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Melinda Burrell, Administrative Assistant

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

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@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

978-462-2724

[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

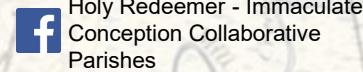
978-270-4924

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.)



# COLLABORATIVE NEWS

## Mass Schedule

### 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, Gilda LaBarba (Fr. Harrison)*  
 10:00am **St. Ann** *Jerry Mullen (Fr. Morin & Deacon Dow)*  
 11:30am **IC** *Lena Filomia (Fr. Harrison)*

### Monday (4/7)

9:00am **IC** *Norbert Vogl, Sharon Araoz Rivera (Fr. Harrison)*

### Tuesday (4/8)

9:00am **IC** *Charles Laverty, James & Mary Lefebvre and Their Families (Fr. Harrison)*

### Wednesday (4/9)

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

### Thursday (4/10)

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

### Friday (4/11)

9:00am **IC** *Pamela Shairs Crisafi (Fr. Stanley)*

### Saturday (4/12)

4:00pm **IC** *Alex Hasapis, Anna Giovanni (Fr. Morin & Deacon Moranski)*

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

### Sunday (4/13) **Palm Sunday**

8:30am **Nativity** (Fr. Harrison)  
 9:00am **IC** *Jerry Majocha (Fr. Stanley & Deacon Dow)*

10:00am **St. Ann** *Noreen Driscoll and Family (Fr. Harrison)*

11:30am **IC** *Louis & Lena Filomia, Joseph Hutt, Stanley Baikewicz (Fr. Morin)*

*In your prayers please remember Donna Viselli, Stephen Niedzinski, Victor Tavares Jr., Theresa Deneumouster, Nancy Ferrick, Robert Murphy, 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 at All Collaborative Masses



We will be selling one-pound bags of freshly-roasted “certified organic” Honduran dark-roasted coffee at all Collaborative Masses on Apr 5–6. \$13 per pound for whole bean or ground. Your purchase helps the poor farmers earn a fair wage for their hard work.

**Text or call Karen to pre-order 978-270-0183 for 2lbs or more.** Gracias from Honduras!

## From the Pastor

Dear Parishioners,

This weekend's Gospel story from the Year C cycle of readings portrays our humanity in all of its ugliness as well as its finest earthly glory. It is us, at our very worst and our very best. To begin with, let's explore the background to the scene we encounter in this passage.



First, tensions were high. Jesus' earthly ministry, His increasingly challenging preaching and the amazing miracles He performed as signs of the unfolding of God's Kingdom in the midst of the people were undermining the authority of the religious leaders in Jerusalem and threatening the sizable economic engine of the year-round Temple worship that took place in Jerusalem. Not surprisingly, those who had the most to lose were plotting and planning to publicly discredit Jesus and His followers. If they could arrange for a surrogate to do it for them, all the better. If they could find a way to snare Jesus in some sort of contradiction, how perfect it would be!

So, a trap was laid. A woman, whom many had known to have loose morals, was set-up in an arranged tryst with a man. At the appropriate moment, the two supposed lovers were caught, “in the very act of adultery.” Only the woman, however, was dragged before the angry, pre-conditioned crowd to be judged by Jesus. The man who was just as guilty, slipped away through the crowd unharmed and left the scene entirely anonymous. But the woman was convicted of her guilt before Jesus ever laid His eyes upon her. There was no trial, no cross-examination, no defense witnesses...only the absolute verdict and the sentence that according to the Law of Moses, “such women should be stoned to death.”

Now, death by stoning was a gruesome form of execution, only encountered a few times in the Scriptures. Most famously, St. Stephen was stoned to death in chapter 7 of the Book of Acts. It entailed, as the action suggests, hurling rocks and stones at the condemned person until they expire. This could take some time, however. Bones would be broken, the skin torn apart in lesions and gashes, internal organs would be ruptured and death would finally come through the blunt trauma of it all. It was a horrible, excruciatingly painful way to die that was reserved only for the most severe of crimes...a potent deterrent for any who might think of committing the most horrible of wrongdoings like treason or blasphemy. That adultery was included in such capital sins speaks to the high importance that marriage and interdependence held in Jesus' tight-knit society. One can imagine that if adultery were rampant, violence and retribution would surely follow in this honor-based community. Not every case merited this extreme punishment, but it was allowed by Moses as a strong instrument to preserve peace in the community.

So, here's the rub: while the Law of Moses allowed it, Roman law did not. At least not by the occupied peoples, such as the Jewish nation. Only the Romans retained the right to put anyone to death. Therefore, in pressing Jesus to publicly make a judgment on whether this woman should be stoned to death forced Him to choose between following the Law of Moses or following Roman law. Proclaim that Moses was right, and He set himself in opposition to the Roman authorities as someone who was subversive and lawless. You know it would have been immediately reported to the Roman leaders, and Jesus

*(Continued on page 4)*

# COLLABORATIVE NEWS

*(Continued from page 3)*

would have quickly been arrested and used as an example by them. On the other hand, if Jesus proclaimed that she was not to be stoned to death, He set Himself in opposition to the teachings of Moses and the Jewish Law, thus discrediting Himself in front of all of the people. In either way, if Jesus fell into this trap, He was toast! It was the perfect "damned if you do, damned if you don't" scenario, nauseatingly evil in its execution. It showed no care or concern for Jesus, for the poor woman whose sins were laid bare before the crowd or for the full truth behind this whole commotion: that none of this would even be happening except that the Jewish leaders were jealous of Jesus and had closed their hearts to His saving message. It was humanity at its worst: vicious, vile, insincere, deceptive, callous, and cruel.

But, in the midst of the angry crowd, despite their shouting and hatred, the full beauty of humanity also shown forth. Jesus, when confronted with this impossible scenario simply stooped down and began to trace on the ground. Mediterranean males, when severely pressed tended to have one of two reactions: react violently, or disengage and draw on the ground. We don't know what Jesus was tracing in the sand. It could have been some freestyle design, some words of Scripture, perhaps, or maybe he was even playing a First Century version of tic tac toe....What we do know is that Jesus refused to lash out violently at those whose evil intentions were presently threatening this vulnerable woman and Himself. When He finally stood up, Jesus did something brilliant and life-giving. He created a third option, where one had not existed before.

Stone her to death or don't stone her to death...but wait! Stone her to death by having the one without sin cast the first stone?! One can imagine that after speaking these revolutionary words, Jesus gazed directly into and met the eyes of every person there—staring right at each of them with a look that said: "I know you. I know your heart. I know that you have sinned. You know that you have sinned. And I will call you on it in front of everyone here if you so much as dare to raise your arm with that stone!" And then He returned to doodling on the ground. And suddenly what had been an almost certain bloodbath fizzled away into a begrimed retreat, as each person there realized the truth of Jesus' words stung to the heart. No one who gathered in that crowd that day was innocent. They had all plotted to try and discredit Jesus. They had all been willing to trap and sacrifice this helpless woman to accomplish this deed. They had failed to treat her as a daughter of Abraham, no matter what her personal failings were. They had used her. And no matter what greater political purposes they were trying to serve, no matter what loyalties any of them might have had with the Scribes and the Pharisees, the Chief Priests, and the rulers...they could not escape the conviction of their own heart—they had sinned, they were not innocent! Somehow this itinerant preacher, this wayward rabbi who some were claiming was the Messiah could see in their eyes, on their faces and in their hearts that sin had already convicted them. The truth of His words were inescapable. So...one by one, they dropped their stones and ambled away, beginning with the elders...the ones who should have known better in the first place.

In breathtaking beauty, by asking a different question, Jesus changed the situation completely, exposing their hypocrisy and laying naked for all to see the evil of their intent. This was not some pious throng who were outraged by the woman's deviant conduct. No, they were the devious ones, they were the greater sinners. They, perhaps, deserved the punishment that they sought to inflict on this helpless woman. Though she was

not completely innocent, her sins paled in comparison to those of the crowd. And now everyone knew it. Whatever shame they had sought to cast on Jesus and this woman was now squarely on them. Best to drop stone and get away while one still could....

Humanity at its very best speaks the truth. Humanity at its very best speaks the truth creatively. Humanity at its very best speaks the truth creativity to bring about life, hope, mercy, and forgiveness. In His humanity, Jesus brings about new life where there was once certain death. As the "New Adam," Jesus lives His fully human life in perfect harmony with His full divinity. As we are all called to do, Jesus reflects back to the Creator the forgiving and merciful love that has characterized the Lord and His lengthy and extensive outreach to a wayward human race from the very beginning. In the words of the Prophet Micah, "He has shown you, O mortal, what is good. And what does the Lord require of you? To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God." (Mic 6:8) The sheer beauty of Jesus' steadfast love for even the blatant sinner is magnificently displayed for all to bask in.

"Where have they all gone?

Is there no one left to condemn you?

Well then, neither do I. But from now on...avoid this sin."

As our Lenten journey turns and heads soon into Holy Week, may we seek to better imitate Christ in mercy and forgiveness, in steadfast love and truth, in creativity and hope. It is the very best of our humanity reflecting our true call to emulate our Creator.

Lenten Blessings to all,

Fr. Timothy Harrison, Pastor

## 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 Coulombe	Mabel Jancewicz	Elizabeth Pettingell
Bill Crounse	Carol Johnson	Donika Pulake
Kristen D'Entremont	Derek Johnson	Rob Schweizer
Deb Downie	Steve Johnson	Regina Seely
Dotty Duval	Michael Juralewicz	Yvonne Sloban
Ann-Margaret Ferrante	Arthur LaPointe	Gary Smith
John Flynn	Michael Lichtenstein	Arlene Stoddard
Jeanine Ebacher Fowler	Johannah Lord	Taylor
Renee Fowler	Monica Maguire	Captain Bill Taplin
Ed Hardy	Sia Mahalati	Tom Tribble
Jane Harney	Michael Martens	Michael Tucker
	Ovidio Martinez	Maddie Villers
	Patricia Carey	Laurent Vincent
	McCarthy	Sandra Welch

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

## Questions of the Week

**Adult:** When have you experienced God's love and forgiveness?

**Child:** Is there anything that you can stop doing that will help you to have a better friendship with Jesus?



# COLLABORATIVE NEWS

## This Week in Our Collaborative

### Monday, April 7

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

### Tuesday, April 8

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

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

**IC St. Vincent de Paul Mtg.** 6:15pm, IC St. Louis Hall

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

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

**Knights of Columbus Mtg.** 7:00pm, IC Nazareth Library

### Wednesday, April 9

**HRIC Soup & Sandwich Program** 7:00–9:00am St. Ann Hall

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

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

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

**Confessions during Lent** 6:00–7:00pm, St. Ann Church

### Thursday, April 10

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

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

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

### Friday, April 11

**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 Charity Dining Room

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

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

### Saturday, April 12

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

### Sunday, April 13, Palm Sunday

**Coffee Hour/Palm Weaving** 9:30am, Nativity Hall

**Holy Week Festival** 10:15am, IC St. Louis Hall

**Coffee Hour/Palm Weaving** 11:00am, St. Ann Hall

## 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 a few spaces left. If you have questions or want more information, please see or leave a message in the offices for Fr. George Morin.

## HRIC Collaborative Pastoral Council Minutes

**Saturday, February 22, 2025, 9:00 a.m., Zoom Meeting**  
**General Updates**

### Pastoral Update

- Discussed recent Mass schedule changes due to actions, priest availability, and weather. Fr. Harrison outlined approach to recruit retired priests to join the Collaborative.
- Upcoming mission: Fr. Ron Hoye of *The God Minute* Podcast is offering a mission at IC Church on March 30, 31, and April 1 at 7:00 p.m.
- Lenten activities: Stations of the Cross will be held at all 3 parishes during the Fridays of Lent. Simple suppers will be held in conjunction at Nativity and IC.

**Review of Community Service of Newburyport paper drive:** Jonathan Temple reported that the January CSN paper drive was a success.

**Replica of St. Patrick's Bell:** A shrine for St. Patrick's Bell (original completed 1094–1105) was constructed/completed by a parishioner (Colleen Mulholland's father). The bell and shrine were held for centuries by the hereditary keepers of the family in Ireland. Fr. Harrison and parish will look at having an exposition/discussion at IC school and church.

### Committee Reports

The **Ministry** committee reported that there will be a meeting of the newly formed sub-committee on safety on March 3. Details to follow.

The **Fun, Faith, and Fellowship** committee reported that the parties held for Fr. George and Fr. Bill were successful events with lots of fun and fellowship.

The **Social (Action) Justice** committee reported that a grant proposal is being prepared (Bob Belmont) in cooperation with Lazarus House to help fund the extended care pack program. The conventional care pack project (Jonathan Temple) will continue through Lent.

### Other Business

On May 2 and 4 choral society concerts will be held at IC. Details will follow in the bulletin.

Next Meeting: Saturday March 29 9:00 a.m., Immaculate Conception Charity Dining Room

Respectfully submitted by A. McEmber and G. Jablonski

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

## 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.



**Pilgrims of Hope**  
Hymn for the Jubilee Year 2025

Retrain



Like a flame my hope is burn-ing, may my  
song a - rise to you: Source of life that has no  
end - ing, on life's path I trust in you.

Verses

1. Ev - 'ry na - tion, tongue, and peo - ple find a  
2. God, so ten - der and so pa - tient, dawn of  
3. Raise your eyes, the wind is blow - ing, for our

1. light with - in your Word. Scat - tered frag - ile sons and  
2. hope, you care for all. Heav'n and earth are re - cre -  
3. God is born in time. Son made man for you and

1. daugh - ters find a home in your dear Son.  
2. a - ted by the Spir - it of Life set free.  
3. man - y who will find the way in him.

Text: Pierangelo Sequeri; tr. by Andrew Wadsworth      Music: Francesco Meneghelli



**Missed our Collaborative Mission?**

You can still watch it on our website:  
[hriccatholic.org](http://hriccatholic.org). Follow the links to the LIVE STREAM page, scroll to the bottom, and click on the PLAYLIST bar in the picture.

**HRIC Soup & Sandwich Program**

**Next delivery is Wednesday, April 9**



This program delivers soup, sandwiches, and casseroles to the Good Shepherd Center in Lawrence on the second and fourth Wednesdays of every month.

**We ask that sandwiches be cut and individually wrapped, then placed in the bread wrapper. Please label the bread wrapper with the variety of sandwich.** Cold cuts—with or without cheese—and peanut butter & jelly are favorites. **Please do not use condiments.**

Homemade soups and casseroles are always gratefully accepted. You can pick up soup containers and/or foil baking pans during the drop off dates/time.

Party-sized powered drink mixes such as iced tea, lemonade, and Kool-Aid, along with fresh fruits and goodies (cookies, chips, candies, etc.) are greatly appreciated!

**Drop off is at St. Ann Church, West Newbury from 7-9. a.m.**

*If you would like more information or have any questions about the HRIC Soup and Sandwich program, feel free contact the Collaborative offices at 978-462-2724.*

**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



**Collaborative Faith Formation**

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

Registration forms and schedules for 2025-26 will be uploaded in July.

**Baptism**

No Baptisms will take place during the season of Lent. Call Collaborative offices (978-462-2724 or 978-346-8604) for information regarding this sacrament.

**Confirmation**

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 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 recently, enrolling them in the summer week is a great way to catch up and get in a prerequisite year before they receive the Sacrament of Confirmation (8th graders can begin Confirmation prep only if they have attended recent Faith Formation with us).

**EASTER 2025**  
April 20, 2025

Easter Vigil: Saturday 7:30pm IC Church	Easter Sunday 8:30 Nativity 9:00 IC Church 10:00 St. Ann 11:30 IC Church
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# LENT IN THE COLLABORATIVE



## HOLY WEEK FAMILY FESTIVAL

APRIL 13  
IC PASTORAL CENTER  
AFTER THE 9:00 MASS

ALL ARE WELCOME TO ATTEND & WALK TOGETHER  
WITH OUR LORD AS WE CELEBRATE HIS LAST DAYS IN  
JERUSALEM THROUGH HIS PASSION, DEATH,  
& WONDROUS RESURRECTION ON EASTER SUNDAY.

JOIN US BEFORE THE 9:00 MASS (8:45) IN THE IC SCHOOL GYM  
FOR A PALM BRANCH BLESSING AND PALM PROCESSION TO MASS.



## 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](mailto:hricshare@gmail.com).

### All Care Packs should contain travel-size:

Shampoo  
Deodorant  
Toothbrush  
Toothpaste  
Liquid body wash

### Then you can add any of the following:

Razor  
Shave cream  
Socks  
Cough drops  
Rain poncho  
Chapstick  
Hand sanitizer

Body lotion  
Face and/or body wipes  
Kleenex  
Life Savers/protein bars  
Feminine hygiene products  
**No mouthwash or cash**

## Confessions for Lent 2025

### Additional Confession times during Lent:

IC Church, **Saturdays** 3:00–3:30 p.m.  
**Thursday** 6:30–8:00 p.m. on **April 10**  
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 11 and 18 (Good Friday)

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

April 11 (Stations on Good Friday at 7:00, no supper)

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

## Holy Week Schedule

**Holy Thursday** Mass of the Lord's Supper: 7:00 p.m., **IC**

**Good Friday** Liturgy: 3:00 p.m., **St. Ann** and **IC**  
Stations of the Cross: 7:00 p.m., **Nativity**

**Holy Saturday** Easter Vigil: 7:30 p.m., **IC**

**Easter follows the regular Sunday Mass schedule.**

## Lenten 5-Week Rosary Challenge

### The Fifth Sorrowful Mystery: The Crucifixion

#### Spiritual Fruit: Pardon of Injuries

The soldiers lay Jesus upon His cross, and drive nails into His hands and feet. The cross is erected, and Christ hangs blamelessly between two criminals in the presence of His afflicted Mother. Christ promises forgiveness to the repentant thief on His right, and finally, with His last utterance, commands His Spirit to His Father in Heaven. The side of Jesus is pierced with a lance, and His body is taken down from the cross and into the longing arms of His mother. This mystery teaches us to forgive those who trespass against us. Christ lovingly bore the persecution that hatred caused. We too are to pardon the injuries we face from the hatred of others. (Rosary.com)



#### Additional research:

- Biblical Reference: John 19:25–30
- Formed video: The Fifth Sorrowful Mystery
- Rosary in a Year podcast Day 43
- 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 Fifth Sorrowful Mystery
- <https://www.usccb.org/how-to-pray-the-rosary>

## This Week's Lenten Activities

### Wednesday, April 9

Adoration 3:00pm, **Nativity Church**  
Confessions during Lent 6:00–7:00pm, **St. Ann Church**

### Thursday, April 10

**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 11

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

### Saturday, April 12

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

### Sunday, April 13, Palm Sunday

Coffee Hour/Palm Weaving 9:30am, **Nativity Hall**  
**Holy Week Festival** 10:15am, **IC St. Louis Hall**  
Coffee Hour/Palm Weaving 11:00am, **St. Ann Hall**

# HOLY REDEEMER PARISH

## HR Offertory Collection

HR Offertory, March 29–30	\$2,108.00
IC Mailed-in Offertory, Week Ending March 28	\$ 210.00
HR Weekly Online Offertory Giving	\$ 508.75
<b>Total Weekly Offertory, March 29–30</b>	<b>\$2,826.75</b>

The second collection this weekend (April 6) is Pastor's Charity. The second collection next weekend (April 13) 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: [hrccatholic.org/hr-online-giving](http://hrccatholic.org/hr-online-giving).



### HR Catholic Appeal

**Goal \$28,800.00**

**To Date \$6,600.00**

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



## HR Coffee Hours

**Please Note: St. Ann Monthly Coffee is Moved to April 13.**

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!

**After Sunday Masses on April 13 at both Nativity and St. Ann we will have 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 Stations of the Cross

### St. Ann: Friday Mornings during Lent: 9:00

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 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 evening April 11 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.

(Stations will be at 7:00 p.m. on Good Friday, no supper.)



## HR St. Vincent de Paul

*Reflection: What does "fasting" mean to you?*

From the first reading on Tuesday, March 7:

*Is this the manner of fasting I wish, of keeping a day of penance: That a man bow his head like a reed and lie in sackcloth and ashes? Do you call this a fast, a day acceptable to the Lord? This, rather, is the fasting that I wish: releasing those bound unjustly, untying the thongs of the yoke; setting free the oppressed, breaking every yoke; sharing your bread with the hungry, sheltering the oppressed and homeless; clothing the naked when you see them, not turning your back on your own Then your light shall break forth like the dawn, and your wound shall quickly be healed; your vindication shall go before you, and the glory of the Lord shall be your rear guard.*

*Isaiah 58: 5–8*



Please try to add a few coins each day to your **Mite Box**. Return your Mite Box during Holy Week.

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**.

## 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.

## HR Cookbook Corner: Faith & Food

### Simple Friday Suppers for Lent Series

**Friday April 11, 2025**

In the gospel for Friday of the Fifth Week of Lent, Jesus says "If I do not perform my Father's works, do not believe me; but if I perform them, even if you do not believe me, believe the works, so that you may realize and understand that the Father is in me and I am in the Father."

**Reflection:** The good and kind words we say must be in sync with the good and kind works that we do so others will see and believe that our faith in Jesus Christ is true.

**Simple Friday** Blessing Before Meals (Cookbook page PP-5)  
**Supper Menu** French Onion Soup (page 20)  
Baptist Muffins (page 100)

*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*



# IMMACULATE CONCEPTION PARISH

## IC Offertory Collection

IC Offertory, March 29–30	\$5,934.00
IC Mailed-in Offertory, Week Ending March 28	\$1,180.00
IC Weekly Online Offertory Giving	\$3,493.34
<b>Total Weekly Offertory, March 29–30</b>	<b>\$10,607.34</b>

*The second collection this weekend (April 6) is Pastor's Charity. The second collection next weekend (April 13) 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: [hrcatholic.org/IC-Online-Giving](http://hrcatholic.org/IC-Online-Giving).



**IC Catholic Appeal**  
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To Date: \$26,235.00

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



## 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**.

## 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.



## Newburyport Choral Society to Perform at IC

 On **Friday, May 2 at 7:30 p.m. and Sunday, May 4 at 4:00 p.m.** the Newburyport Choral Society (NCS), will perform contemporary composer Dan Forrest's Jubilate Deo, and other celebratory music to mark the 90th anniversary of NCS. Both performances will be held at Immaculate Conception Church.

Please join in the celebration! For information, visit [www.newburyportchoralsociety.org/events](http://www.newburyportchoralsociety.org/events).

## Immaculate Conception School

Last Sunday the Immaculate Conception School Basketball Banquet was held in the school gym. The celebration of teams with players from 4th–8th grade began with Sunday Mass, pictured. Fr. Harrison invited the players and coaches up to the altar at the end of Mass to be recognized. A luncheon was enjoyed by all immediately afterwards. Each team was recognized, with highlights of each player's talents praised in the coaches' speeches. Both the JV Girls and JV Boys teams won the North Shore Catholic Elementary School League titles.

The Varsity team presentations included awards for leadership, coachability, sportsmanship, hustle and heart, player of the year, most improved player, and scholar-athlete. The team captains presented the best teammate awards. A special shout-out was made for Linnea Tangorra for organizing the March Madness Tournament, the banquet, and the slideshow that was enjoyed at the end of the celebration. The final applause was for Dan Dunn, who coached both JV and Varsity Boys, but also stepped up in the absence of an Athletic Director. Dan navigated the scheduling of games and also established a new tie to Catholic schools in the Portsmouth, NH area. That connection led to an invitation for four of the Varsity girls to play in the NH All-Star game.

The IC Basketball program starts in Kindergarten, and is an important community building program for the school. Many students do not go on to play in high school because of the level of competition, so offering a team experience that leads to personal growth and stronger schoolmate relationships is essential for middle school students. Pelican Pride is always alive at Immaculate Conception!!



## 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!



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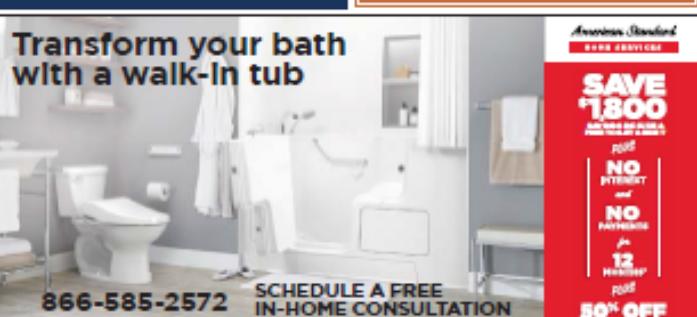
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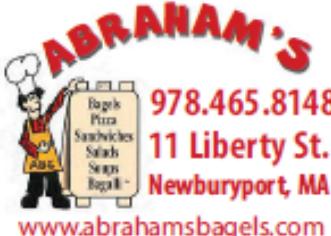
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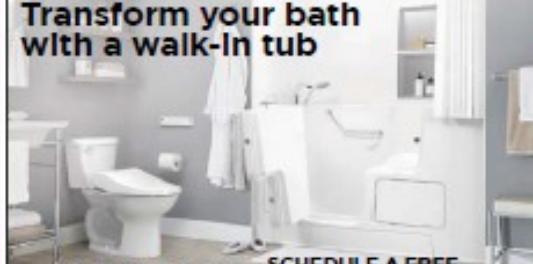
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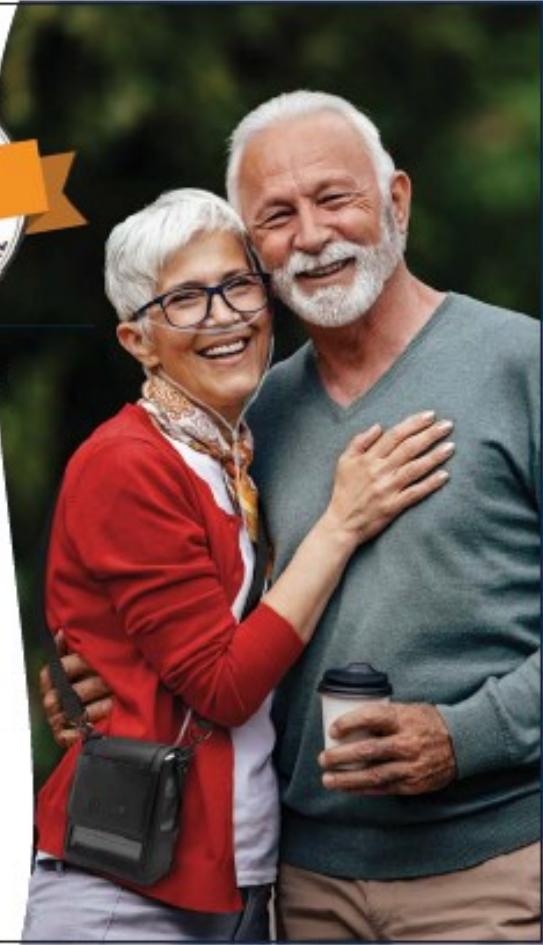




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