

HOLY REDEEMER AND IMMACULATE CONCEPTION COLLABORATIVE PARISHES

SERVING MERRIMAC, NEWBURY, NEWBURYPORT, AND WEST NEWBURY

Thirty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time

October 30, 2016

hricatholic.org

All Are Welcome



“Zacchaeus, come down quickly,
for today I must stay at your house.

For the Son of Man has come to seek
and to save what was lost.”

Luke 19:5,10

Holy Redeemer / Immaculate Conception Collaborative Parishes

Host a One-Day

Pilgrimage

to the Cathedral of the Holy Cross, Boston

Destination: Cathedral of the Holy Cross
1400 Washington Street, Boston

Date: Saturday, November 12, 2016

Departure: IC parking lot,
Salter Bus departs 7:30 a.m.

Return: 1:30 p.m.

Price: \$10 cash per person or by check
payable to Immaculate Conception via
Mass Offertory collection. (Please mark
envelope "Boston Pilgrimage" and include
your name/contact information.)

Priceless: Spiritual Benefits:

- a community-building experience
- Mass in Boston with other pilgrims
- a guided tour of the Cathedral
- crossing the threshold of the Pope-blessed Door of Mercy
- holy indulgences
- personal prayer immersion in Jesus' mercy, love, and grace

Reservations: Call Mary, 978-465-8779

or email Mary Bragg, sbraggjr@comcast.net

Payment/Reservation Deadline: Nov. 7, 2016



JUBILEE
Year of Mercy

To learn more about the Jubilee Year of Mercy
search the web for uscbb/jubileeofmercy

COLLABORATIVE NEWS

Collaborative Mass Schedule

Saturday (10/29)

4:00pm **IC** *Anna F. Robinson, Jeanne Twomey, Frank Lombardi, Cora Shoreman* (Fr. Morin)
4:00pm **St. Ann** (Fr. McLaughlin)

Sunday (10/30)

7:15am **IC** (Fr. McLaughlin)
8:00am **Nativity** (Fr. Morin)
9:00am **IC** *James Heaney* (Fr. Broderick)
10:15am **St. Ann** (Fr. Morin)
11:30am **IC** (Fr. McLaughlin)

Monday (10/31)

9:00am **St. Ann** (Fr. McLaughlin)

Tuesday (11/1) All Saints Day

7:15am **IC** (Fr. Broderick)
9:00am **IC** School Liturgy (Fr. Morin)
9:00am **St. Ann** (Fr. McLaughlin)
7:00pm **IC** (Fr. McLaughlin)
7:00pm **Nativity** (Fr. Morin)

Wednesday (11/2)

7:15am **IC** (Fr. Broderick)

Thursday (11/3)

7:15am **IC** *Lawrence & Mary Twomey* (Fr. Broderick)

Friday (11/4)

9:00am **Nativity** *Regina M. Stronge, For the special intentions of Dorothy & Ralph Franzese* (Fr. Morin)

Saturday (11/5)

4:00pm **IC** *Charles & Mary Donahue, Diane Donahue Todd, Barbara Hannan Chaisson, Paul D. Haley* (Fr. Morin)
4:00pm **St. Ann** (Fr. McLaughlin)

Sunday (11/6)

7:15am **IC** *Bob MacKinnon* (Fr. McLaughlin)
8:00am **Nativity** (Fr. Morin)
9:00am **IC** *Joseph F. Callery, Jr.* (Fr. Broderick)
10:15am **St. Ann** (Fr. Morin)
11:30am **IC** *Anna Stasio, Mary A. Jayne, Jeremiah Quill* (Fr. McLaughlin)



In your prayers, please remember all the faithful departed.

The priests' schedule is subject to change without notice.

IC—Immaculate Conception, Newburyport

Nativity—Merrimac

St. Ann—West Newbury

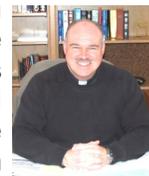
Centering Prayer

Centering Prayer, resting silently in God, facilitates the process of inner transformation. Our prayer without words is one of intention to surrender to God's presence and action in our lives and desire for a closer relationship with God. Join us on Wednesdays, 6:00pm–7:00pm, in the IC Charity Dining Room. For information please contact Elizabeth McCarthy, 978-462-7483 or see our website.

From the Pastor

Dear Parishioners,

As you read this, our Pilgrimage group will be in Athens, readying ourselves for our tour of the capital city of Greece and our eventual Mass and journey to Corinth the next day. Although I am sure the trip will have its challenges, it will be an amazing opportunity to pray and reflect on how St. Paul helped to spread the Gospel out into the wider world beyond Jerusalem and Palestine.



As part of my personal preparation for this adventure, I am finishing reading an excellent book entitled, **Paul: His Story** by Jerome Murphy-O'Connor (Oxford University Press, 2006). Rather than a dry biblical commentary (and trust me, sometimes they can be very dry!) this book is more of a narrative of Paul's life with many details and life-scenarios imagined or filled-in by Murphy-O'Connor's extensive knowledge of Scripture and Mediterranean life from the First Century. It is an easy read, but filled with a great deal of richness and plenty of vivid details from Paul's life and journeys as testified in the Bible. It is a three-dimensional portrayal of Paul as a person, a Pharisee, a Christian convert and finally as our Church's greatest Apostle. For those who were not able to join us on this Pilgrimage but want to have a taste of Paul's missionary journeys, this is an excellent read! Of course, Paul's many letters in the New Testament as well as the Book of Acts itself are must-reads too!

Many of you have asked myself and others going on the trip to pray for you and your families as we make our way around the Aegean Sea. I want to assure all of you that our Pilgrimage is a journey of faith and prayer and we will be praying for all in our Collaborative as we visit and celebrate Mass in the various sites that Paul first preached the Gospel. Our prayers and liturgies along the way will give us many opportunities to carry all of you and your needs in our hearts. I would ask you to please pray for us as well. I look forward to being able to share with you many stories and insights that were gained when we return.

I will be praying in a particular way for our nation in these final days leading up to the elections on November 8. I am voting early before leaving on the Pilgrimage, just in case our travel plans get delayed in any way. Like all of you, I have found this year's choices to be excruciatingly difficult to make, and have spent many weeks thinking, praying, and engaging in many conversations with others about what is the right path to follow. As I mentioned several weeks ago in another bulletin column, I think our choices must flow from our well-formed consciences. So, think hard, pray hard and go with confidence into the voting booths next week. I invite you to join with me in asking for God's blessing on us all in the midst of this process.

Prayerful best wishes,

Fr. Timothy Harrison
Pastor

COLLABORATIVE NEWS

This Week in Our Collaborative

See our website calendar for more events and details.

Monday, October 31, All Souls Day

AA 10:30am & 7:30pm, IC Nazareth Library Room 205

Boy Scouts Troop 41 Meeting 7:00pm, Nativity Hall

Tuesday, November 1, All Saints Day

IC Knitting Ministry 1:00pm, IC Conference Room 209

Breaking Bread Meal 5:00pm, IC St. Louis Hall

Wednesday, November 2

Holy Quilters 3:00pm, Nativity Hall

IC Youth Choir Rehearsal 4:30pm, IC Church

Adoration 6:00pm, IC St. James Chapel

Centering Prayer 6:00pm, IC Charity Dining Room

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

Thursday, November 3

HR Prayer Shawl 1:00pm, Nativity Hall

Rosary for Life 6:30pm, IC St. James Chapel

Friday, November 4

Adoration 8:00am, IC St. James Chapel

AA 7:00pm, IC Nazareth Library Room 205

Saturday, November 5

Snow Camps Staff Meeting 4:00pm, Nativity Hall

Sunday, November 6

HR Religious Ed., Grades 3–6 9:00am, Nativity Hall

IC Religious Ed., Grades K–6 10:05am, IC Parish Center

HR Religious Ed., Grade 2 11:15, St. Ann Hall

Collaborative Baptism Class 1:00pm, IC Charity Dining Room

IC Religious Ed., Grades 7–8 1:00pm, IC St. Louis Hall

Scripture Study 2:00pm, IC Nazareth Library Room 205

IC Troop 21 Scout Meeting 4:30pm, IC School Cafeteria

HR Religious Ed., Grade 10 6:00pm Nativity Hall

Cursillo

2016–2017 Ultreya / Cursillo Calendar

Ultreya	Cursillo Weekend
	Nov. 3-6 (Women)
December 2	December 1-4 (Men)
December 30	January 5-8 (Women)
February 3	February 9-12 (Men)
February 24	March 4-6 (Women)
March 3	April 6-9 (Men)
April 28	May 4-6 (Women)
June 2	June 1-4 (Women)

All are welcome. If you have questions, feel free to contact either Pat Forbes (978-462-1258) or Jonathan Temple (978-809-9337).

DIM Resources of Interest

For further information on Disciples in Mission:

The New Evangelization:

www.disciplesinmission.com

Helping Catholic leaders build amazing parishes:

www.amazingparish.org

Four Signs of the Dynamic Catholic:

Author Matthew Kelly

Available at the back of each Church:

Disciples in Mission - Frequently Asked Questions

Evangelizing Parishes

Forming Disciples in Mission: Workshop Schedule and

Locations

The Pilot is available each week on our website -

hriccatholic.org



Baby Bottles to Support the Pregnancy Care Center

We will host a “**Baby Bottle Campaign**” the weekend of November 5–6 through November 11–12 for the Pregnancy Care Center. The Pregnancy Care Center is a Christ-centered ministry offering life-affirming services designed to empower women and men in making informed decisions about unexpected pregnancy, abstinence education, and support from a past abortion. These services are free and confidential. We are pleased to support such a worthy cause in respect for the sanctity of all human life. Please pick up a bottle on November 5–6, fill it with coins, bills, or checks (payable to PCC) and return them by the weekend of November 11–12. Donate online at www.pccfriends.org/donate. For information about PCC, call 978-373-5700.

Bulletin Information

Please supply bulletin information by Monday noon to the collaborative bulletin email: hricbulletin@gmail.com.

Collaborative Contacts

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Linda Temple, IC Administrative Assistant, 978-462-2724
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COLLABORATIVE NEWS

Holy Day Mass Schedule

This **Tuesday, November 1**, is All Saints Day. It is a Holy Day of Obligation. Mass times for the Holy Day are listed below.

7:15am	Immaculate Conception, Newburyport
9:00am	St. Ann, West Newbury
9:00am	Immaculate Conception, Newburyport (School Liturgy)
7:00pm	Nativity, Merrimac
7:00pm	Immaculate Conception, Newburyport

RCIA

RCIA is a program for those over the age of 7 who wish to become Catholic. RCIA meets weekly at 10:15 in the Youth Ministry Room at the IC Parish Center. If you are interested in learning more about this program, contact Marin at 978-462-2724 ext. 7411 or email fortune@newburyportcatholic.org.

Day Pilgrimage to the Cathedral of the Holy Cross

November 12, 2016

"Pope Francis invites each of us to become 'merciful like the Father' as part of the Extraordinary Jubilee of Mercy. As we journey together with Catholics around the world, make a pilgrimage, pass through our Holy Door of Mercy and worship the Lord Jesus who tenderly loves each one of us." (Sean Cardinal O'Malley OFM Cap)

Be a partner in prayer and receive the Jubilee Indulgence from home

The Holy Door If you or a loved one is unable to join our Collaborative family for this pilgrimage to Boston, Pope Francis encourages the homebound, the infirm, or the elderly to participate with us:

- by uniting your prayers with those of the Holy Father
- by making a profession of Faith
- by reflecting on the mercy of God
- by offering joyfully personal sufferings
- by receiving the Eucharist or sharing in a communal prayer (TV Mass)

For more information on the Jubilee Year of Mercy, visit uscgb.org or visit our Collaborative website hricatholic.org

Offertory Envelopes

Did you know that you can attend Mass at any worship site in our Collaborative and use your usual offertory envelopes? Just drop your envelope in the collection and we will make sure it gets delivered to your home Parish.

Youth Masses

Our next Youth Mass is **Sunday, December 11 at 5:00pm** at Immaculate Conception Parish, 42 Green Street, Newburyport. Everyone is invited.

Youth Masses (5:00pm) for the year are:

December 11 Immaculate Conception (Service learning experience after Mass until 7:30pm in St. Louis Hall for grades 7–12.)

January 22 Holy Redeemer, Church of the Nativity

March 12 Immaculate Conception

April 2 Holy Redeemer, Church of the Nativity

May 7 Immaculate Conception



Pictures from the October 23 Youth Mass

Fr. Broderick's Scripture Study

Scripture Study Will Meet on November 6

Father Broderick's Scripture Study will meet on its regular first Sunday of the month, November 6 at 2:00pm in the IC Parish Center. We will read and discuss Chapters 57–61 in Part III in *The Book of Isaiah*. Part III, Return of the First Captives, contains oracles composed by disciples from a later period who continued the work of the great prophet.

Our beloved teacher, Father Broderick, not only explains the meaning of the Scripture passages, but also presents rich description of the period and places cited, as well as the culture and practices of the people involved. He connects the events in the New Testament to Old Testament prophecies and events, as well as to our own time. This is a worthwhile way to spend an hour and fifteen minutes on a Sunday afternoon. All are invited to attend these sessions and grow in knowledge and faith.

Daylight Saving Time



Daylight Saving Time ends next weekend. Please remember to turn your clocks back one hour.

COLLABORATIVE NEWS

Let Us Hear From You



Disciples in Mission
Archdiocese of Boston

- How can we foster a welcoming community?
- How do we form disciples eager to share their love of Christ?
- How can we assist in the growth of vocations?
- How can we better serve our communities and our Collaborative?

Please Join the Conversation. Contact Our Pastoral Plan Writing Team. We welcome your ideas and participation.

Disciples in Mission Pastoral Plan Writing Team Contacts

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Alex Hasapis
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Rich Ryan
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Charlotte Vincent
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AROUND THE ARCHDIOCESE

Daily Masses in the Area

Monday

7:00am Sacred Hearts, Bradford
8:00am St. Mary's, Rowley
9:00am St. Ann, West Newbury
9:00am Star of the Sea, Salisbury

Tuesday

7:00am Sacred Hearts, Bradford
7:15am Immaculate Conception, Newburyport
8:00am St. Mary's, Rowley
9:00am Holy Family, Amesbury

Wednesday

7:00am Sacred Hearts, Bradford
7:15am Immaculate Conception, Newburyport
8:00am St. Mary's, Rowley
9:00am Star of the Sea, Salisbury

Thursday

7:00am Sacred Hearts, Bradford
7:15am Immaculate Conception, Newburyport
9:00am Holy Family, Amesbury

Friday

7:00am Sacred Hearts, Bradford
9:00am Nativity, Merrimac
9:00am Star of the Sea, Salisbury
9:00am St. Mary's, Georgetown

Saturday

8:00am Sacred Hearts, Bradford
9:00am St. Mary's, Georgetown
Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal in Hampton, NH has a daily Mass at 6:45am & 9:00am Mon.-Fri.

Catholic Radio

Listen to Catholic Radio for Boston and New England on your radio at 1060 AM. Listen online at 1060Catholic.org. Download the app: iCatholic Radio in the iTunes or Google Play store.

LIFT Ministries

Join LIFT Ministries on Tuesday, November 8 at 7:00pm for an inspiring night of worship at St. Mary Church in Chelmsford with speaker Frank Connell. The night will include uplifting music, a relevant talk, confessions, Eucharistic Adoration, and is **free** to attend and open to all ages. For more information on LIFT Ministries, visit www.liftedhigher.com. Come and worship with hundreds of Catholics from around the Boston area.

Catholic High School Open Houses

Bishop Fenwick

Please join the students and faculty at our Open House on Wednesday, November 16, from 6:30-8:30. Fenwick: where opportunity and achievement meet. Visit our website at www.Fenwick.org.

Central Catholic

Prospective students and families have the opportunity to explore Central Catholic High School, Lawrence at an open house on Sunday, October 30, from 12:30-4:00. Visit or call www.centralcatholic.net, 978-682-0260 ext. 612.

Scripture for the Week

30 Sun Wis 11:22-12:2/2 Thes 1:11-2:2/Lk 19:1-10
31 Mon Phil 2:1-4/Lk 14:12-14
1 Tue Rv 7:2-4, 9-14/1 Jn 3:1-3/Mt 5:1-12a
2 Wed Wis 3:1-9/Rom 5:5-11 or Rom 6:3-9/
Jn 6:37-40
3 Thu Phil 3:3-8a/Lk 15:1-10
4 Fri Phil 3:17-4:1/Lk 16:1-8
5 Sat Phil 4:10-19/Lk 16:9-15
6 Sun 2 Mc 7:1-2, 9-14/2 Thes 2:16-3:5/Lk 20:27-38 or
20:27, 34-38

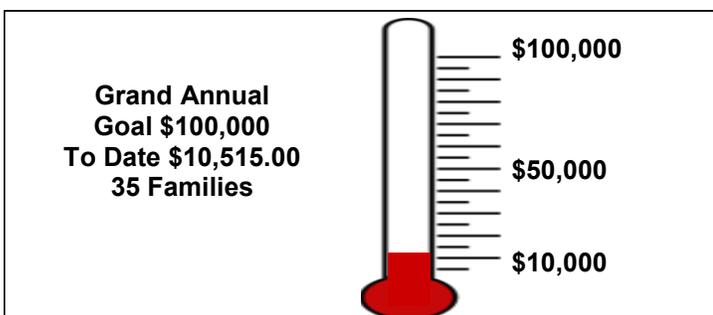
IMMACULATE CONCEPTION PARISH

Offertory Collection

Offertory October 22-23 **\$9,336.00**
World Missions **\$1,951.00**

The second collection this weekend is Restoration/Renovation.

Next week's second collection is for the Catholic Campaign for Human Development (CCHD), which works to uphold the dignity of human life by breaking the cycle of poverty across the United States through grants to local community-based groups who create jobs, improve education, and strengthen neighborhoods. Twenty-five percent of the CCHD collection stays in the Archdiocese of Boston to fund local anti-poverty projects; seventy-five percent supports national grant and education programs. For more information, please visit www.usccb.org/cchd.



The Saint Vincent de Paul Society



Poor Box	\$ 223.00
Collection	\$ 10.00
Total	\$ 233.00

New England Tenors

The Society of St. Vincent de Paul of Immaculate Conception will sponsor an upcoming concert. The New England Tenors will be performing at IC church on Sunday, November 27. Don't miss these talented tenors. As in past years, they will be sharing the program with some of our IC choirs. Hopefully we will have some surprise guests joining the choirs.

Tickets will be on sale in early November. Make plans to begin the Advent and Christmas season with joyful harmony.



Consolers Circle Meal

The IC community is pleased to offer a light meal to families who have lost a loved one. The meal is provided by volunteers and is held in St. Louis Hall following the funeral Mass. Our hall holds up to 75 people, and there is no charge for this service. Donations are accepted if you wish to do that. Please let the funeral director know that you request this service when making arrangements.

IC Haiti Update

We received some great news about the school in Puits Chacha. According to the St. Boniface Haiti Foundation crew that runs the nearby hospital the Fr. Marc Piche School is relatively undamaged and most importantly, is back in session! More updates will be shared when they are available. Please continue to keep the people of Haiti and all of the victims of Hurricane Matthew in your thoughts and prayers.

Knights of Columbus

The next monthly meeting of the Knights of Columbus will be held on **Tuesday, November 8** at 7:30pm in the IC Nazareth Library, Room 205.



Did you know that the Knights of Columbus Newburyport Council 231 was founded in 1897? We are looking to welcome new members to this long standing group of Catholic men. If you are interested in helping those in need, serving our parish, growing in faith or obtaining exclusive access to top-rated insurance protections for you or your family, or just connecting with other Catholic men then the Knights of Columbus is the organization for you.

Contact us at (978) 572-0231, membership@kofc231.org, or membership@kofcnewburyport.org

If you are already a member, please update your contact information with your email via membership@kofc231.org.

Breaking Bread

St. Vincent de Paul's Breaking Bread dinner program at Immaculate Conception is hoping you will share a little of your time and talents as we need a team of two volunteers to prepare and cook for our guests on a Tuesday of your choice. A seasoned volunteer chef will work with you as you gain experience in our kitchen. This is a truly wonderful experience that you will share with a great team of volunteers. Contact Bunny Chiasson, 978-465-5810 or sandbunnyc@yahoo.com.

Preparing for Mass

Are you looking for a helpful way to prepare for Sunday Mass? Follow the link below to find the weekend's Scripture Readings, historical and theological commentaries, and prayerful reflections. It is a great way to get ready to hear and respond to God's Word. <http://liturgy.slu.edu>

Communion Calls

If you or a loved one is homebound, in the hospital, or have transitioned to a rehab/nursing facility and wish to receive Holy Communion, please contact Sandy @ 978-462-4842 to arrange a home visit.

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION PARISH

Memorials

Since it is the custom in the Church to remember the dead during the month of November, any parishioner who wishes to include a picture of a loved one on our memorial altar is invited to place it next to our baptismal font anytime after Mass through the end of the month. Each picture should be no larger than 2" X 3". All pictures should be removed after the Thanksgiving weekend.

Online Giving

Immaculate Conception Parish provides Online Giving—a convenient and safe way to make a one-time or a recurring (weekly) donation. Getting started is easy—you need to be a registered member of Immaculate Conception Parish community. Registration forms are available in the foyer of the church or at the parish office. Once you register, visit our website, hricatholic.org and click the Online Giving picture at the bottom of our home page to get to the site. There are four different funds you can choose contribute to. If you manage your other bills online, why not give to your Church online? It is safe and secure and you get to decide exactly when and to where your gift will be made. Any questions? Contact Linda Temple, IC Administrative Assistant 978-462-2724 x7404.

Year of Mercy

Instruct the Ignorant



“Let your speech always be gracious, seasoned with salt, so that you may know how you ought to answer everyone” (Col 4: 6).

Take a look in the mirror. Examine your conscience. Do you practice what you preach? Pope Bl. Paul VI right proclaimed, “Modern man listens more willingly to witnesses than to teachers, and if he does listen to teachers, it is because they are witnesses.”

Sharing Mercy...Sarah Swafford

Ignorant is from the Latin meaning “not knowing.” It can also mean “unlearned,” “unknown,” or even “unaware...”

In light of trying to dig deeper into this work of mercy, instruct the ignorant, I think it would be beneficial to distinguish between knowledge and wisdom. Knowledge is very important; we should have the facts and information we need to communicate the brilliant truths of our Catholic faith.

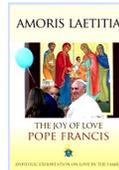
It is wisdom and faith that take knowledge and seamlessly weave it through the threads of time, history, culture and personal experience in order to help answer life’s biggest questions: “Who am I?” “What am I living for?” and “Whom am I living for?” Wisdom and faith are the anchors of human life, giving us meaning and purpose even amid the attacks of relativism, utilitarianism, and the culture of death. Wisdom and faith show us that life has a plot, a goal, and a living out this journey leads to happiness, peace and joy—both in this life and in the next.

(Beautiful Mercy: Experiencing God’s Unconditional Love so we can share it with Others, Dynamic Catholic, pp. 103, 105-107).

IC Religious Education

Amoris Laetitia...Pope Francis

Pope Francis released the Exhortation on the Family. In the weeks to come, you will be introduced to various statements from the Holy Father.



In #51—...violence within families breeds new forms of social aggression, since family relationships can also explain the tendency to a violent personality. This is often the case with families where communication is lacking, defensive attitudes predominate, the embers are not supportive of one another, family activities that encourage participation are absent, the parental relationship is frequently conflictual and violent, and relationships between parents and children are marked by hostility. Violence within the family is a breeding ground of resentment and hatred in the most basic human relationships.

Religious Education Classes

School Year Registration is ongoing. Classes: Oct 30 and Nov 6 and 7. No class: Monday, October 31.

Grades 7–8: Next class: 11/6.

Baptism

Baptism info: <http://www.hricatholic.org/Baptism>

Nov. 6 Parent Class-Charity Dining Room 1:00pm
Nov. 13 Group Baptism—Church 1:00pm

Confirmation

The next Confirmation session is Sunday, November 20 from 3:00–5:00pm in the Church for Years 1 and 2. The candidate and his/her sponsor, parent or another adult are to attend the session.

IC Knitting Ministry



We meet every Tuesday from 1:00–3:00pm at the IC Parish Center, Room 209 to knit prayer shawls, hats, mittens, and scarves. We bring prayers and hope to people who are sick and their caregivers and to celebrate happy occasions. We have made and distributed hats and scarves to the hundreds of homeless children in our area. Please come and help us to keep these boys and girls warm this winter and to send joy to our friends who are experiencing illness at this time. We are happy to help you brush up on your knitting or we can teach you to knit or crochet. Our membership is open to all. Please join us for knitting, fellowship, and tea (and goodies).

If you know anyone who needs a prayer shawl or for more information please call Frances Ronan 978-462-4972 or Julia O’Connor at 978-465-3350.

Questions of the Week

Adult: How will your eternity be celebrated?

Child: When did you act like Jesus this past week?

HOLY REDEEMER PARISH

Offertory Collection

Monthly, October 1–2	\$ 585.00
Offertory, October 8–9	\$ 2,810.00
Roofing Expenses as of 10–23	\$25,693.00
Offertory, October 15–16	\$ 3,938.00
Hurricane Matthew	\$ 1,002.00

Next week's second collection is for the Catholic Campaign for Human Development (CCHD), which works to uphold the dignity of human life by breaking the cycle of poverty across the United States through grants to local community-based groups who create jobs, improve education, and strengthen neighborhoods. Twenty-five percent of the CCHD collection stays in the Archdiocese of Boston to fund local anti-poverty projects; seventy-five percent supports national grant and education programs. For more information, please visit www.usccb.org/cchd.

HR Prayer Shawl

Do you know of any woman, man, or child who needs comfort and could use a Blessed Prayer Shawl or Lap Blanket? Please call Helen Kelley  978-771-4673, Connie Cormier 978-363-2020, or Terry Duhamel 978-384-8099 for a shawl or more information.

Come join us. Don't know how? We will teach you to knit or crochet and give you yarn. We meet on the first Thursday of every month at Nativity Hall, Merrimac at 1:00pm. Our next meeting is **Thursday, November 3**.

Preparing for the Christmas Season

There are a few tags left on both boards in our churches for purchasing our two new **Outdoor Nativity Scenes**. Please check the tags to see if you or your family members are able to help purchase a figure or the stable and needed items to secure them.

All you need to do is remove the tag, write the check (made out to **Holy Redeemer Parish**) and return in an envelope marked "Nativity Scene." Tags need to be **returned by Sunday, November 6** to have delivery and set up for the Advent season.

Holy Redeemer Holiday Fair

Saturday, November 19, 2016, 9:00am–2:00pm



We will be holding our annual Holiday Fair in the Merrimac Parish Hall. As always, it is the Saturday before Thanksgiving. Please plan on attending. Invite your friends and neighbors. You can get a jump on Christmas shopping or come enjoy lunch: a selection of homemade soups.

The committee is always looking for new ideas and helpers. Please contact the committee leaders if you can lend a hand. See the website:

<http://www.hricatholic.org/HR-Activities-Group> for details and a list of committee leaders.

HR Religious Education

Sunday, 10/30, **Grade 9** class, 6-7:30pm, Merrimac.

Sunday, 11/6, **Grades 3–6** classes, 9:00am, Merrimac.

Grade 2, 11:15am, West Newbury.

Grade 10 class w/speaker—Jaymie Stuart Wolfe—6-7:30pm, Merrimac

Planning Study Survey

Holy Redeemer Parish has been committed to being a living presence of Jesus Christ, through the proclamation of the Word of God, the celebration of the Sacraments, and the lives of our vibrant faith community. While our parish has been blessed with great vitality, the buildings in which we celebrate our faith need refurbishment.

We would like to make you aware of a parish-wide *Planning Study* to formulate a strategy for addressing some needed improvements to our parish facilities. Both St. Ann's Church and The Church of the Nativity have a number of deferred maintenance issues and other possible projects that need our attention.

Careful consideration and thoughtful planning is required for us to move forward. This is why **input from our parishioners is of the utmost importance at this time**. Your opinions and suggestions will enable us to formulate a final plan that will help meet the needs of our entire parish.

During the next several weeks, every registered member on our mailing list will be contacted and asked to take part in a study process to be conducted by Cornerstone Fundraising, a professional religious fundraising firm. Members of the Cornerstone team will be conducting one-on-one personal interviews with randomly selected families and individuals of the parish, parish-wide focus groups, and a direct mail survey to every registered household.

Please make every effort to participate in the survey process so that we may complete this study with your open and honest input.

Thank you for your continued support.

Holiday Fair Raffle Tickets

Raffle tickets will be available one half hour before and after all masses starting this weekend and the day of the fair. Please be on the lookout for tickets being mailed to all registered parish family households. **All cash prizes total \$1000**. 1st Prize: \$500 cash, 2nd Prize: \$300 cash, and 3rd Prize: \$200 cash. Donations for these raffles are a book of 6 for \$5. If you need tickets, please call Helen Kelley, 978-771-4673 or email: HVKTax@aol.com.

HR St. Vincent de Paul

The HR SVdP Conference recently deposited \$2,551.27 to its account. The money came from the Walk for the Poor, the Poor Box, and the Church Town Hall meeting. Your generosity makes our service to local clients possible. Thank you very much.

