

HOLY REDEEMER AND IMMACULATE CONCEPTION COLLABORATIVE PARISHES

“What man among you having a hundred sheep and losing one of them would not leave the ninety-nine in the desert and go after the lost one until he finds it?” Luke 15:4

SERVING MERRIMAC,
NEWBURY,
NEWBURYPORT, AND
WEST NEWBURY

Twenty-fourth Sunday
in Ordinary Time
September 11, 2016

All Are Welcome



OUR COLLABORATIVE

Holy Redeemer Parish



St. Ann

Church: 300 Main St., W. Newbury 01985
Rectory: 46 Maple St., W. Newbury 01985
Phone: 978-346-8604
Email: holyredeemer@verizon.net



Nativity

Parish offices and church:
4 Green St., Merrimac 01860
Office Hours: By appointment
Phone: 978-346-8604
Email: holyredeemer@verizon.net

Immaculate Conception Parish



Immaculate Conception

Parish, church, rectory, and offices:
42 Green St., Newburyport 01950
Office Hours: M-F 8:00 am-3:30 pm
Phone: 978-462-2724
Fax: 978-234-7399
Email: info@newburyportcatholic.org



St. Mary's Cemetery

36 Storey Avenue,
Newburyport 01950

Immaculate Conception School

1 Washington Street, Newburyport 01950, Pre K-grade 8,
Mary Reardon, Principal, Phone: 978-465-7780,
Fax: 978-234-7331, www.icsnewburyport.com



Collaborative Staff

Pastor

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978-462-2724 or 978-346-8604
info@newburyportcatholic.org,
holyredeemer@verizon.net

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Rev. James Broderick

Senior Priest in Residence

Rev. William McLaughlin

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St. Vincent de Paul

Saint Vincent de Paul Society at Holy Redeemer, 978-346-8604 x 8
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St. Vincent de Paul Society at Immaculate Conception, 978-518-0728

St Mary's Cemetery

Joseph Viel, 978-208-0266
joeviel@comcast.net

COLLABORATIVE NEWS

Collaborative Mass Schedule

Saturday (9/10)

4:00pm **IC** *Matty, Jack, & Jackie Graham, Anna Crall, Virginia Reardon* (Fr. Morin)

4:00pm **Nativity** *Ruth Leo* (Fr. McLaughlin)

Sunday (9/11)

7:15am **IC** *Larry Howard* (Fr. Ray Richard)

8:00am **Nativity** (Fr. Morin)

9:00am **IC** *Tommy Collins, Barbara F. & William J. Griffin* (Fr. Broderick)

10:15am **St. Ann** (Fr. Morin)

11:30am **IC** *Stanley Baikewicz, John Bogue, James Doyle, Graciela Labanca* (Fr. Harrison)

Monday (9/12)

9:00am **St. Ann** *Regina M. Stronge* (Fr. Harrison)

Tuesday (9/13)

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

Wednesday (9/14)

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

Thursday (9/15)

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

Friday (9/16)

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

Saturday (9/17)

4:00pm **IC** *William Lindquist, Daniel P. Bradley* (Fr. Broderick)

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

Sunday (9/18)

7:15am **IC** *Larry Howard* (Fr. Morin)

8:00am **Nativity** *Catherine Lorenzo* (Fr. Harrison)

9:00am **IC** *Alan Chu, John Murphy, Josephine Ceccarelli* (Fr. Morin)

10:15am **St. Ann** (Fr. Harrison)

11:30am **IC** (Fr. McLaughlin)

In your prayers, please remember Francis Post and all the faithful departed.

The priests' schedule is subject to change without notice.

IC—Immaculate Conception, Newburyport

Nativity—Merrimac

St. Ann—West Newbury

From the Pastor

Dear Parishioners,

This past month, as I have often done on vacation, I had an opportunity to spend some time on the beach with friends. While enjoying the sand, surf, and beautiful weather, in years past I also have tried my hand at some kite flying. As an adult, I realized quickly that this entailed a little more skill and equipment than the plastic-and-string variety I had once dabbled with as a kid. Kite flying can be serious business! One could spend hundreds or even thousands to get the right rig aloft. I opted for a more modest approach, but it did entail hundreds of feet of special synthetic string, a proper reel, the actual carbon-fiber-backed kite itself and the all-so-necessary tail for stability. My years of experience also taught me that unless I wanted to just stand there with the reel in hand the entire flight time, a sturdy anchor in the sand was also a must so that I could do other things, like go swimming while admiring my soaring handiwork from a distance.



My anchor

The beach where I have usually flown my kites in the past has almost always enjoyed a very steady breeze. It is perfect for launching and maintaining a kite many hundreds of feet in the sky. As I unpacked my equipment and rigged it for flight, the air was filled with a constant wind. I set my anchor (the bottom half of a screw-in umbrella stand), attached the 20-foot tail and up it went! I quickly unreeled 50, then 100, then 150 feet of line, my hand burning from the friction. Ahhh! My kite was glistening in the sun, gently bobbing in the humid air aloft, as beautiful as it ever had been.

All was right with the world.

I secured the reel to the anchor and was just about to set my mind to the water for a swim when disaster struck! No sooner had I turned my back on my handiwork, when, somehow, it detached. And then, in what seemed like a matter of seconds, my kite was a quarter mile out to sea, sputtering from the sky to its inevitable, watery grave. I'm still not sure what exactly what went wrong. Somehow the carabiner (I told you this was serious business!) that was supposed to hold back the reel had let go. I was left standing there like a fool, helpless and dumbstruck. Farewell my fluttering, colorful, nylon friend....

But even in the midst of life's little tragedies (and this certainly was tiny compared to anything else), without warning a little girl from a nearby blanket came over and said, "Mister, I'm sorry about your kite. It was really pretty." And then, all of a sudden, she was gone, back to her own little world of building sand castles and dodging incoming waves. I guess I had seen her and her family when I got down to the beach some time earlier, but hadn't paid her much attention. She was just part of the typical background of any summer beach scene: blankets, umbrellas, towels, sun-bathers, sand castles, people on beach chairs, an

(Continued on page 4)

Walk to Defeat ALS



The North Shore Walk to Defeat ALS, Massachusetts Chapter, takes place on Saturday, October 15 at Beverly High School, Beverly, MA. Check-in begins at 9:00am and the 3-mile walk begins at 11:00am. Sign up to walk or donate to IC Parishioner Sandy Lambert's "Team Sandy." This is an opportunity to raise money for a cure and to bring hope to Sandy Lambert and all those living with ALS. Register on-line at North Shore Walk ALS Beverly MA October 15, 2016:

(http://web.alsa.org/site/TR/Rides/Blueprint?fr_id=12026&pg=entry#.V8RCLvkrJD8)

or contact Theresa.Maurer@gmail.com or call Sandy Lambert at 978-462-4842. Thank you.

COLLABORATIVE NEWS

This Week in Our Collaborative

Visit our website for details on these and other calendar events (hricatholic.org).

Monday, September 12

AA 10:30am & 7:30pm, IC Nazareth Library Room 205
HR Parish Finance Committee 7:00pm, Nativity Rectory
Boy Scouts Troop 41 Meeting 7:00pm, Nativity Hall
Merrimac Cub Scouts Den Meeting 7:00pm, Nativity Lower Hall

Tuesday, September 13

IC Knitting Ministry 1:00pm, IC Conference Room 209
Breaking Bread Meal 5:00pm, IC St. Louis Hall
IC St. Vincent de Paul 6:00pm, IC St. Louis Hall
HR 7th & 8th Grade Parent Meeting 7:00pm, Nativity Hall
Collaborative PPC Meeting 7:00pm, St. Ann Hall
HR St. Vincent de Paul 7:00pm, Nativity Rectory
Troop Committee Meeting 7:00pm, Nativity Lower Hall
ICKnights of Columbus 7:30pm, IC Nazareth Library Room 205

Wednesday, September 14

Holy Redeemer Sandwich Program 9:00am, St. Ann Hall
Collaborative Training 1:00pm, Nativity Hall
Adoration 6:00pm, IC St. James Chapel
Centering Prayer 6:00pm, IC Charity Dining Room
Collaborative Plan Writing 6:00pm, Nativity Hall

Thursday, September 15

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

Friday, September 16

Adoration 8:00am, IC St. James Chapel
AA 7:00pm, IC Nazareth Library Room 205

Saturday, September 17

Holy Quilters 8:00am, Nativity Hall
HR Gr. 1 Parent/Student Mtg + Mass 3:00pm, Nativity Hall

Sunday, September 18, Catechetical Sunday

HR Religious Ed., Grades 3–6 9:00am, Nativity Hall
IC Religious Ed., Grades K–6 10:05am, IC Parish Center
HR Grade 2 Class 11:15am, St. Ann Hall
Baptisms 1:00pm, IC Church
IC Religious Ed., Grades 7–8 1:00pm, IC St. Louis Hall
Scripture Study 2:00pm, IC Nazareth Library Room 205
Boy Scouts Troop 21 5:30pm, IC School Cafeteria
HR Gr. 9 Parent/Student Meeting 6:00pm, Nativity Hall

(Continued from page 3)

occasional surf-casting fisherman and many dozens of young children at play. What I didn't expect was the depth of her compassion!

Breaking through the ever-rigorous standard of "don't talk to strangers," she so honestly and directly wanted to console me as she empathized, just for the briefest second, with my "loss." She, too, had enjoyed the kite's brief aerial beauty. She must have thought for a moment how she would have felt, had it been her kite that was condemned to an unwelcome burial-at-sea. So, in her humanness, she broke free of social norms and wiggled from the watchful eyes of her parents for the briefest moment to offer her condolences.

I'm still amazed at how genuine her words were. I wonder how many of us are able to be as human to one another in our daily lives? Can we offer the unencumbered compassion that this child showed? Can we empathize with the small and occasionally substantial losses we all suffer from time to time? Can our words of care and concern really help heal the many insults that life sometimes throws at us? Can we find a way to break through the social norms and awkwardness of expectations to connect in the most innocent and human of ways?



Our Gospel this weekend offers us one of the most beloved parables of all time, the story of the Prodigal Son. In it we see the amazing depth of the father's love that cut across even the deepest chasms of sin and shame and offered the healing balm of forgiveness, not only for the wayward son, but also for the village and community which he abandoned. The closing scene leaves us with that same father pleading with his older son to return and make their home whole once again. We don't know how it ends. It is left unresolved, I think, because this is where we come in. This is where we must find a way to overcome our own pride, our hatred, our narrow mindedness, our self-centered absorption and discover a way to connect, to engage in the amazing love that is offered to us in Christ, who is the perfect expression of the Father.

Maybe we struggle to make that connection from time to time. But I have confidence that this love of God is more robust than the greatest of our failures. If a little girl on a distant beach can embody even the tiniest shred of it, imagine what we can do if we really work at it?

May the love of God embrace us all as we move forward into these fall months.

Fr. Timothy Harrison, Pastor

Mass Schedule Change

Beginning September 10/11 the Mass schedule at Immaculate Conception Church is:

Saturday, 4:00 p.m.

Sunday, 7:15 a.m., 9:00 a.m., **11:30 a.m.**

Offices Close Early for Training

On Wednesday, September 14, Collaborative offices will close at 12:00noon for Collaborative training sessions. We will reopen Wednesday at 8:00am.

COLLABORATIVE NEWS

Fr. Broderick's Scripture Study

Scripture Study Will Meet on September 11, 2016
Note change in September schedule

Father Broderick's Scripture Study will meet on the second Sunday of the month, September 11, 2016, in the Parish Center at 2:00pm and will return to its regular third Sunday of the month on September 18th. For September 11 we will continue reading the second section of *The Book of Isaiah*, The Book of Consolation, Chapters 47 through 51. The Book of Consolation is generally attributed to an anonymous poet who prophesied toward the end of the Babylonian exile and contains the great messianic oracles known as the Suffering Servant songs. Chapter 48 will mark the conclusion of Part 1 of this section: *The Lord's Glory in Israel's Liberation*. Chapters 49 through 55 are entitled: *The Expiation of Sin, Spiritual Liberation of Israel*.

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.

Cursillo

A new season of Cursillo is upon us and we are looking forward to another year of community. Cursillo is an invitation for you to experience the love of Jesus Christ on a personal level and to bring this love and joy into your daily life.



2016-2017 Ultreya / Cursillo Calendar

Ultreya	Cursillo Weekend
September 30	October 6-9 (Men)
October 28	November 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. Our first Ultreya will be September 30 in the St. James Chapel in the IC Parish Center at 7:00 p.m. If you have questions feel free to contact either Pat Forbes (978-462-1258) or Jonathan Temple (978-809-9337).

Walk 4 the Poor

Save the Date: September 24, 2016



Please join us for the **Walk 4 the Poor**, a St. Vincent de Paul annual fundraiser, on September 24. Registration begins at 8:00 a.m. The start of the walk is 8:30 at the IC parking lot, Court Street, Newburyport.

To register online: log on to www.fopwalk.org, website of Friends of the Poor Walk 2016. At the site: click on "find a walk," choose Massachusetts, then "show me the events," scroll down to Immaculate Conception, Newburyport and click "register to walk." Fill in the form as directed. Beneficiary is either **Immaculate Conception or Holy Redeemer**. After you register, e-mail your friends and family to sponsor you in the walk. You may also register the day of the walk at the registration tables. Please pick up a sponsor sheet in the back of church to raise as much as you can. Money must be turned in the day of the walk. If you are unable to join the walk on September 24, you can sponsor one of the other Registered Walkers, such as Fr. Broderick, Fr. George, Fr. Tim, or another friend. They would be grateful. Checks (payable to "Society of St. Vincent de Paul—**WALK**" for IC or "HR St. Vincent de Paul" for HR) can be added to any collection basket at any Mass through the end of September. Walkers with \$60 in paid pledges earn a free T-shirt. Additional T-shirts are available the day of the walk for \$10 each. Please be a Friend of the Poor and wear your T-shirt with great pride. Please show up at IC on Saturday, September 24 to walk the walk. We hope that this event will be an opportunity for our Collaborative members to grow closer as a community in Christ. *Thank you for helping us help others.*

RCIA

The RCIA program will begin on Sunday, September 25, 2016, in the IC Parish Center Room 209.

What is RCIA and who comes?

RCIA is a program for those over the age of 7 who wish to become Catholic.

The catechumens have not been baptized and will receive the sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation, and Holy Eucharist at the Easter Vigil.

Candidates who have already been baptized in the Catholic Church or another Christian Church will be confirmed and receive Holy Eucharist at the Easter Vigil as well.

Those who already have been baptized and only need Confirmation should call Marin at 978-462-2724 ext. 7411 or email me at fortune@newburyportcatholic.org and we will make arrangements for that to happen.

Parish Membership

We welcome all newcomers to our Parish communities and hope you take an active part in parish life. Please introduce yourself and register in the parish. Forms are available online at hricatholic.org.

HOLY REDEEMER PARISH

Pancake Breakfast



Join us on Sunday, September 11 *after* the 8:00 Mass in Merrimac until 11:00am. The breakfast is complimentary *but* we will happily accept donations for *The Pelican Intervention Fund* (supporting Twelve Step-based programs for men and women living within the Greater Newburyport area who are struggling with addictive substances). This coordinates with HR Religious Ed. "Book Pick-Up." Please plan on staying for breakfast after you pick up your books.

Holy Redeemer Holiday Fair

Save the Date—Saturday, November 19, 2016

Would you like to help get this year's Fair started? We are always looking for new ideas and *new faces*. Please come to the **Fair Meeting** Thursday, **September 22** at 7:00pm at the Nativity Hall. Call Cindy Quinn with any questions or if you would like to help: 978-346-0072 or cynwinnquinn@aol.com.



Repair/Repaint Day

Come help repair and repaint the outdoor Nativity figurines at Merrimac. Anyone wanting to help can join us on **Friday, September 23 at 10:00am** in the Merrimac Hall.

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, October 6**.

Sanctuary Light

The Sanctuary Light at St. Ann, West Newbury, the week of September 11 is donated for the special intention for Dorothy & Ralph Franzese.



Scouting Update



The two Boy Scout Troops that Holy Redeemer Parish charts, Troops 41 and 26, have merged into a single troop. The leadership of the two troops met and decided that a single troop could better serve the boys as well as both of the communities of Merrimac and West Newbury. Members of Troop 41 wish to extend a warm welcome to all scouts and leaders of Troop 26 who have joined with us. If anyone is interested in learning more about the troop or joining, meetings are held every Monday 7:00–8:30pm in the Nativity Church hall, Merrimac. All faiths welcome. Contact the scoutmaster, Mark Friend at msf4087@gmail.com

HR Religious Education

Registration forms are now due for religious education classes.

Download the form and schedule from our website: (<http://www.hricatholic.org/Holy-Redeemer-Religious-Education>).

Teachers/Adult Helpers Needed

A 5th Grade teacher is needed for Sunday morning classes following the 8:00am Mass at Nativity. Please contact Doreen if you are interested.

Note: anyone 18 years of age and older must complete a CORI form and attend **one** Virtus training course in order to serve our youngsters. Keeping our children safe in all parish activities is most important.

Website News: hricatholic.org

Visit our Collaborative website and click on Faith Formation then the tab for Holy Redeemer Religious Education, to find the dates for classes and the syllabus for grades 1-8.

Reminder: Registration forms for our Religious Education families are now due. Thanks for your cooperation.

Confirmation

Confirmation Candidates need to compose the letter to Bishop Hennessey as **soon as possible** and send it by mail to me at 4 Green St., Merrimac, MA 01860, or email it as an attachment to: reledhrp@verizon.net. If you need the "how to write the letter" form, email Mrs. O'Leary and I'll email it to you or it is available for download on our web site under "Sacraments/Confirmation, Holy Redeemer Parish."

Also, service sheets are due from all of our Confirmation Students (Grades 9 and 10). You can drop them off at the white "mailbox" by the double doors in Merrimac.

HR Sandwich Program

The Holy Redeemer Sandwich Program delivers soup/salad and sandwiches to the Lazarus House Ministry twice a month, on the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of every month. The sandwiches go to the Good Shepherd Center on Park Street in Lawrence. 200 sandwiches are needed each day to feed the hungry. We are always in need of more sandwich donations. To help, please make sandwiches by using 1 loaf of bread and sandwich meat (**No condiments added**), individually wrap the sandwiches and place them back into the bread bag. Deliver the bread bag to St. Ann's Church, West Newbury, by **9:00am on Wednesday, September 14**. Contact Dotty Carr at 978-363-2909 with questions or delivery date schedule.

HR St. Vincent de Paul

The Holy Redeemer Conference is participating in the **Walk 4 the Poor** on Saturday, 9/24, in Newburyport. The Conference will have sign-up sheets after September Masses to facilitate sponsorship of HR walkers. Any donation checks should be made out to "HR Saint Vincent de Paul." Thank you very much for your generosity.



IMMACULATE CONCEPTION PARISH

Offertory Collection

Offertory September 3-4 \$8710.00
Catholic University \$1172.00

The **second collection** this weekend is the **Monthly**. The second collection **next weekend** is Clergy Benefit Trust.



IMMACULATE CONCEPTION SCHOOL'S ANNUAL HIGH SCHOOL NIGHT

Join us Thursday, September 29, 2016

6:30 – 8:00 p.m.

ICS Gymnasium

For more information call 978-465-7780

Representatives from Public High Schools, Catholic High Schools, and Prep Schools all over New England will be in attendance to meet with parents and students in grades 6, 7 & 8.

San Marcos Coffee Sale

Father Ray Richard has been our guest at the IC rectory for the past few weeks. He is a Newburyport native who has spent the past 40 years as a Franciscan Capuchin in Honduras. "Padre Ramon" was the originator of the San Marcos Coffee Project over 10 years ago to bring a fair wage to the people of his former parish so that their hard work and top quality coffee could bring them a better standard of living. We must say good-bye to him on September 14 as he returns to Honduras, but we know he will be back again next summer. On September 17-18 you can buy this specialty Honduran whole bean dark-roasted coffee for \$10 per pound after all IC Masses. The farmers of San Marcos say "Muchas Gracias and Paz de Cristo!"



Knights of Columbus

The next monthly meeting of the Knights of Columbus will be held on **Tuesday, September 13** at 7:30pm in the IC Nazareth Library, Room 205. Our insurance field agent will be at this meeting to answer any questions about the

Knights of Columbus insurance.

Want to join the K of C? Contact (978) 572-0231 or

membership@kofc231.org or

membership@kofcnewburyport.org.



The Saint Vincent de Paul Society

Poor Box	\$ 267.00
Collection	\$ 92.50
Total	\$ 359.50

Altar Server Training Sessions

Youth in grades 4-12 are invited to attend the fall training sessions. We will offer 3 training sessions. Please select the dates that best work with your schedule.

- **Training Session 1** 3:30-4:30pm in the IC Church: Monday, September 19, Tuesday, September 20, or Thursday September 22.
- **Training Session 2** 3:30-4:30pm in the IC Church: Monday, September 26, Tuesday September 27, or Thursday, September 29.
- **Training Session 3** with Fr. Tim 3:30-4:30pm in the IC Church: Tuesday, October 4.

Please sign up with the IC Religious Education Office: Dr. Mag, mmckinnon@newburyportcatholic.org or 978-462-2724 ext. 7405.

Rose Window Repair Update

We have been informed by Burnham Laroche Studio that work will begin on the repair of the Rose Window next week and is expected to last 3 months. We will provide you more information and updates as the project progresses.

IC Knitting Ministry

The Knitting Ministry of the Immaculate Conception Parish will have their first meeting of our 2016-2017 season on **Tuesday, September 13** at the IC Parish Center, Room 209. We meet from 1:00-3:00pm 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) on Tuesday, September 13 at 1:00pm. 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.



Collaborative Website

Visit the Holy Redeemer/Immaculate Conception website at www.hriccatholic.org

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION PARISH

IC Choir

Labor Day marks the beginning of choir. We start rehearsals the first Wednesday after Labor Day. I look forward to seeing all of you in the choir loft Wednesdays at 7:00pm to gather and renew. It is always my intent to start rehearsal at 7:15pm and be done no later than 8:45pm.

We have new people who have expressed an interest in joining our Adult Choir so you will be seeing new faces. We are looking for new members to join us, especially Basses and Tenors. We look forward to welcoming you all into our choir family. Thank you to all Adult Choir members who generously share their musical gifts and time with our parish. The music they work so diligently to perfect, sung at Mass with such heart and passion, enhances our liturgies beyond just what we hear. I've been told countless times that we bring the angels to church when we sing, that people feel the presence of the Lord more fully and that so often we bring tears of joy to their eyes. Hearing that makes all our hard work worth it. That's positive reinforcement!

Let me know via email or text if you would like to attend rehearsal. I promise you a fun evening of great music, wonderful new friends, and an abundance of God's blessings. Donna Postle, IC Director of Music Ministry (978) 317-8903 - Cell, donnapostle233@gmail.com - Email

Lectors and Extraordinary Ministers of Communion Training Sessions

Our monthly Sunday 5:00pm Youth Masses are returning at the end of September. We are seeking excellent readers (grade 5 and older) to become Lectors and confirmed teens and adults to be Extraordinary Ministers of Communion. Training will be provided in September. Please contact Dr. Mag if interested.

Catechetical Sunday



Catechetical Sunday 2016 will be celebrated Sunday, September 18, 2016.

Those whom the community has designated to serve as catechists will be called forth to be commissioned for their ministry. Catechetical Sunday is an opportunity to reflect on the role that each person plays, by virtue of Baptism, in handing on the faith and being a witness to the Gospel. Catechetical Sunday is an opportunity for all to rededicate themselves to this mission as a community of faith. This year's theme is Prayer: The Faith Prayed.

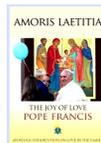
Consolers Circle Meal

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 Religious Education

Amoris Laetitia...Pope Francis

Pope Francis released the Exhortation on the Family. In #46: "Migration is particularly dramatic and devastating to families and individuals when it takes place illegally and is supported by international networks of human trafficking. This is equally true when it involves women and unaccompanied children who are forced to endure long periods of time in temporary facilities and refugee camps, when it is impossible to start a process of integration....The persecution of Christian and ethnic and religious minorities in many parts of the world, especially in the Middle East, are a great trial not only for the Church but also the entire international community. Every effort should be encouraged, even in a practical way, to assist families and Christian communities to remain in their native lands."



Religious Education Classes

School Year Registration is ongoing. Classes begin September 18-19—see our website:

Grades K-1:

<http://www.hricatholic.org/IC-Children-s-Religious-Education>

- We need a grade 2 Catechist on Monday evening.

Grades 7-8:

<http://www.hricatholic.org/IC-Youth-Religious-Education>

Baptism

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

Sept. 11 Parent Class-Charity Dining Room 1:00pm

Sept. 18 Group Baptism—Church 1:00pm

Confirmation

HS youth: Parent-only Orientation-Sunday, September 11 at 1:00pm in the Church. Sessions begin October 23 from 3-5pm for Years 1 and 2. We need small group facilitators to guide the candidate/sponsor or parent small group discussions. A sponsor or parent who will be present is encouraged to take on this task.

School year confirmation information:

<http://www.hricatholic.org/Confirmation-Immaculate-Conception-Parish>

Fr. Larry Richard: *Generous Mercy*

"He who has a bountiful eye will be blessed, for he shares his bread with the poor" (Pro 22: 9).

Feed the Hungry

We must feed the hungry or be damned.... The very core of Christianity is not the focus on self but on the forgetfulness of self and the focus on others. Jesus tells us: "This is how all people will know that you are my disciples, that you love one another" (Jn 13: 25). To feed the hungry is not an option for the Christians. We must take care of others if we hope to get to heaven. What will you do on Judgment Day when you stand before God and he asks you: Why in your lifetime did an average of twenty thousand children in the world die every day because of hunger-related causes? Will you say, "I am not sure, God, but they were not my kids," to which he will respond, "No, they were mine"? The point is that we need to make sure we live what we believe and that we prepare ourselves for the final judgment. We should not do any of this out of fear or guilt, but out of mercy and love! (*Beautiful Mercy: Experiencing God's Unconditional Love so we can share it with Others*, Dynamic Catholic, pp. 29-30).

AROUND THE ARCHDIOCESE

Second Collection Next Weekend

Next week's second collection supports the retirement, medical and financial needs of priests of the Archdiocese of Boston. On behalf of all of our priests, thank you in advance for your generosity. For more information, please visit www.clergyfunds.org.

Merrimac CoA Offers Class: Powerful Tools for Caregivers

The Merrimac Council on Aging is offering a six-week educational program designed to help take care of you while you are caring for a relative, friend, or loved one. This educational program will meet at the Merrimac Senior Center, 100 East Main Street, Merrimac, on Tuesdays from 10:00–12:00noon starting on Tuesday, October 4, 2016.

This course is provided at NO COST by the Merrimac Council on Aging. Respite care may be available during the class times. It must be requested in advance.

This workshop is not intended for professional caregivers.

For more information, or to register for classes, please call Laura Dillingham-Mailman, Director, Merrimac COA, 978-346-9549 or email: ldmailman@townofmerrimac.com

Become a Hospice Volunteer

"The best way to find yourself is to lose yourself in the service of others." ~Mahatma Gandhi

All Care Hospice is currently seeking compassionate, caring people to offer comfort and support to our patients and families. As part of the care team, volunteers serve a vital role in affecting the quality of our patients' lives. Each volunteer opportunity is unique and varies depending on the needs of the patient and family as well as the volunteer's availability and interests. Patient care may include providing companionship through conversation, reading aloud, reminiscing, or even just holding their hand. Other duties help alleviate stress for the caregiver such as running errands like grocery shopping and trips to the pharmacy, light housekeeping or meal preparation. Administrative tasks involve assembling admission packets, assisting with mailings, photocopying, and special event preparation. All Care Hospice serves the North Shore, Merrimack Valley, and Greater Boston.

For more information or to enroll in a training, contact our Volunteer Coordinator, Maureen Burge at 781-244-1129.

Questions of the Week

Adult: Name a time this past week when you treated money as a tool to assist others.

Child: Name a time when you shared your food, toys, clothes, or money with someone else.



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.

Scripture for the Week

11 Sun	Ex 32:7-11, 13-14/1 Tm 1:12-17/Lk 15:1-32 or 15:1-10
12 Mon	1 Cor 11:17-26, 33/Lk 7:1-10
13 Tue	1 Cor 12:12-14, 27-31a/Lk 7:11-17
14 Wed	Nm 21:4b-9/Phil 2:6-11/Jn 3:13-17
15 Thu	1 Cor 15:1-11/Jn 19:25-27 or Lk 2:33-35
16 Fri	1 Cor 15:12-20/Lk 8:1-3
17 Sat	1 Cor 15:35-37, 42-49/Lk 8:4-15

LIFT Ministries

All are invited to attend LIFT worship nights. Visit www.liftedhigher.com for more information. Worship nights include worship, message, adoration and are free to attend and are open to all ages. The next Lift worship night is on **Tuesday, September 20** at Our Lady of Hope Church, 1 Pineswamp Road, Ipswich, MA, from 7:00–9:00 p.m.

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>