

# HOLY REDEEMER AND IMMACULATE CONCEPTION COLLABORATIVE PARISHES

SERVING MERRIMAC, NEWBURY, NEWBURYPORT, AND WEST NEWBURY

## First Sunday of Advent

December 2, 2018

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



*"In those days, in that time, I will raise up for David a just shoot;  
he shall do what is right and just in the land." (Jer 33:15)*

*All Are Welcome*



## 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: [holyredeemer@verizon.net](mailto: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](mailto:holyredeemer@verizon.net)

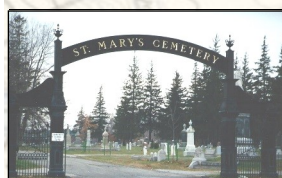
### Immaculate Conception

Parish, church, rectory, and offices:  
42 Green St., Newburyport 01950  
Office Hours: M-F 8:00 a.m.-3:30 p.m.

**Phone: 978-462-2724**

Fax: 978-234-7399

Email: [info@newburyportcatholic.org](mailto:info@newburyportcatholic.org)



### St. Mary's Cemetery

36 Storey Avenue,  
Newburyport 01950

### Immaculate Conception School

1 Washington Street, Newburyport 01950, Pre K-grade 8,  
Mrs. Joan Sullivan, Principal, Phone: 978-465-7780,  
Fax: 978-234-7331, [www.icsnewburyport.com](http://www.icsnewburyport.com)



## Collaborative Staff

#### Pastor

Rev. Timothy Harrison,  
978-462-2724 or 978-346-8604  
[info@newburyportcatholic.org](mailto:info@newburyportcatholic.org),  
[holyredeemer@verizon.net](mailto:holyredeemer@verizon.net)

#### Parochial Vicar

Rev. George E. Morin,  
978-462-2724 or 978-346-8604  
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#### Weekend Assistant

Rev. James Broderick

#### Senior Priest in Residence

Rev. William McLaughlin

#### Permanent Deacon

Deacon Paul Dow  
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#### Music Ministry

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#### Immaculate Conception School

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Cliff Vandenbulcke, IC School Custodian  
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#### St. Vincent de Paul

Saint Vincent de Paul Society at  
Holy Redeemer  
978-346-8604 x 8  
[hrrsvdp300@gmail.com](mailto:hrrsvdp300@gmail.com)

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

#### St Mary's Cemetery

Joseph Viel, 978-208-0266  
[joeviel@comcast.net](mailto:joeviel@comcast.net)



Holy Redeemer - Immaculate Conception  
Collaborative Parishes



@HRICCatholic



hriccatholic

Website: [www.hriccatholic.org](http://www.hriccatholic.org)



# COLLABORATIVE NEWS

## Collaborative Mass Schedule

### Saturday (12/1)

4:00pm **IC** *Stephen M. Boy, Patricia Cody, Kelly Martin, John Migliero, Paula Ann Doyle, Louise & Charles MacLean, The Alice & George Currier Family, Walter & Stephen Oldak, John Thumser* (Fr. Harrison)

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

### Sunday (12/2)

7:15am **IC** *Regina M. Stronge, Maria Beles* (Fr. Morin)

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

9:00am **IC** *Patricia Cody* (Fr. McLaughlin & Deacon Dow)

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

11:30am **IC** *Joanne Mann* (Fr. Morin)

### Monday (12/3)

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

### Tuesday (12/4)

7:15am **IC** *For the intentions of Rozalia Benca* (Fr. Harrison)

### Wednesday (12/5)

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

### Thursday (12/6)

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

### Friday (12/7)

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

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

1:30pm **Avita** (Fr. McLaughlin)

7:00pm **IC Vigil for the Holy Day** (Fr. Harrison)

### Saturday (12/8) Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception

7:15am **IC Holy Day** (Fr. McLaughlin)

9:00am **Nativity Holy Day** (Fr. Morin)

4:00pm **IC** *Bartley "Bart" Welch* (Fr. Morin)

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

### Sunday (12/9)

7:15am **IC** *Regina M. Stronge, Jan Javor, For the intentions of Ann & Johnny Murphy* (Fr. McLaughlin)

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

9:00am **IC** *Mark Walter Benson, Mary Phelon* (Fr. Harrison)

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

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

In your prayers, please remember Carolyn Buckley, Barbara Emmith, 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,

"NEW!"

Even without the capitals or exclamation mark, the word "new" catches our attention, doesn't it? We see it everywhere—newspaper ads, on our computers and mobile devices, in store windows, and in the supermarket. Something "new" is something different, something we haven't seen before, evoking the hope and promise that our life will be better by purchasing or embracing it. I recently tried a "new" product, that I saw in a convenience store, called "Pocket Coffee." It was a small pack of chocolate-espresso candies that promised to give you everything that a proper cup of coffee would offer: a caffeine and sugar boost to your day. Boy, did it ever deliver! Several hours of jitters and racing heart palpitations later, I finally crashed and came back to some semblance of normal. Sometimes "new" isn't always better. Note to self: do not eat one of these any later than early afternoon or sleep will be elusive!

This weekend we begin once again our short Advent Season, which celebrates the promise of God doing something new in our world. Although God is always the same and unchanging, God is not limited in the number of ways that God can express divine love for us. In a sense, everything is always new, fresh, and invigorating when it comes to God's initiatives. Advent celebrates this joyful movement of God's earnest desire for our salvation by marking the fulfillment of that promise in Jesus Christ and our ever-enduring hope of His Second Coming at the end of time. Advent always has this twofold character: a proximate preparation for the celebration of Christ's First Coming at Christmas as well as the expectation and anticipation that Christ will come again. What started in the musings of the prophets, came to reality in the birth of Christ, matured in His earthly ministry, climaxed in His Passion, Death and Resurrection, His Ascension to the Father and the sending of the Holy Spirit, and will be made complete when He returns in Glory. Advent helps place us in the midst of the new event that God begins and ends in the Lord Jesus.

Many years ago, there was a great commercial on TV for Heinz ketchup that emphasized how thick their sauce was by having actors holding a bottle upside down, waiting expectantly for the first blob to plop on their hot dogs while humming Carly Simon's, "Anticipation" in the background. Although Advent has nothing to do with BBQs or pop music, it has everything to do with joyful, hopeful waiting for the fulfillment of God's promise of something new in the person of Jesus Christ.

May we open our hearts to experience the fullness of His love for us in the weeks ahead.

Advent Blessings,

Fr. Timothy Harrison, Pastor



## COLLABORATIVE NEWS

### This Week in Our Collaborative

#### Monday, December 3

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

**HR Boy Scout Troop 41 Mtg.** 7:00pm, Nativity Hall

**Discipleship Priority Meeting** 6:30pm, IC Charity Dining Room

#### Tuesday, December 4

**Pivotal Players Saints Series** 10:00am, IC St Louis Hall

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

**VIRTUS Training** 1:00pm, Nativity Hall

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

**Collaborative Listening Session** 7:00pm, Nativity Hall

#### Wednesday, December 5

**IC PTO Meeting** 8:30am IC St. Louis Hall

**Holy Jammers Practice** 9:00am, IC Conference Room 209

**Icon Museum Tour** 9:00am, meet at IC St. James Chapel

**Holy Quilters** 1:00pm, Nativity Hall

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

**Adoration** 6:00pm, IC St. James Chapel

**Centering Prayer** 6:00pm, IC Conference Room 209

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

**IC PTO Meeting** 7:00pm IC St. Louis Hall

**Women's Evening of Prayer** 7:00pm, St. Ann Church

#### Thursday, December 6

**HR Prayer Shawl Ministry** 1:00pm, Nativity Hall

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

#### Friday, December 7

**Adoration** 8:00am, IC St. James Chapel

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

**Ultreya** 7:30pm, IC Charity Dining Room

#### Saturday, December 8

**HR Religious Ed., Grade 2 Activity Day** 1:00pm, St. Ann Church

**St. Ann Choir Rehearsal** 3:30pm, St. Ann Church

#### Sunday, December 9, Second Sunday of Advent

**Nativity Choir Rehearsal** 7:45am, Nativity Church

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

**St. Ann Choir Rehearsal** 9:45am, St. Ann Church

**IC Religious Ed.** 10:00am, IC Parish Center

**Baptisms** 1:00pm, IC Church

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

### Women's Evening of Prayer



The next Women's Evening of Prayer will be Wednesday, December 5 at 7:00 p.m. at St. Ann Church, West Newbury.

All women of the Collaborative are welcome to this wonderful evening of reflection through prayer and music.

### Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception

#### Holy Day of Obligation

Masses will be celebrated for the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception on Friday, December 7 at 7:00pm at Immaculate Conception Church in Newburyport, on Saturday, December 8 at 7:15am at Immaculate Conception Church, and at 9:00am at Nativity Church in Merrimac. Please join us in celebrating the patronal feast of the United States. Students and their families will also honor this feast at the Immaculate Conception School liturgy on Friday morning.

The regular Saturday evening Vigil Masses on December 8 will anticipate the Second Sunday of Advent.

### Advent Adventure with Icons

The **deadline** for sign-up to the Clinton, MA Russian Icon Museum is Sunday, **December 2**. Payment of \$20 is preferred by December 2 and may be left in Fr. George's IC Parish Center mail slot (2nd floor).

This includes a private tour directed by a museum docent and free time at the tea room or Clinton downtown and a collation December 19 in the IC Dining Room for all participants in this road trip.

**Date:** Wednesday, December 5

**Departure** by rental van from the IC parking lot: 9:00 a.m. and return 2:30–3:00 p.m.

**Reservations:** RSVP to Mary Schmidt 978-462-6191.

*{Sponsored by the Adult Faith Formation Team}*

### Winter Weather Mass Cancellations

Due to the hazards of travel and the safety of priests and parishioners alike, this winter daily Mass within the Collaborative will be cancelled if Immaculate Conception School, Pentucket Regional, or Newburyport Public Schools, are cancelled or delayed because of inclement weather. WBZ Channel 4 will have the updated school cancellation information. It is also available on their website at [boston.cbslocal.com](http://boston.cbslocal.com) and we will make every effort to keep our own website and social media updated as well.



In severe situations, it may also be necessary for safety reasons to cancel weekend Masses. Again, please watch WBZ or consult the websites and/or social media for cancellation information.

Thank you for your patience and understanding. In all things, God gave us the gifts of wisdom, reason, and prudence. Let's use them wisely this winter and exercise sound judgment when considering going out in severe weather.

## COLLABORATIVE NEWS

### Mass Scripture Readings: Dec. 2–Dec. 9, 2018

In praying with the Scriptures, we have the opportunity to deepen our relationship with the Lord while discerning His ever-gracious invitation to love as He loves us. Please refer to the HRIC webpage to learn about Lectio Divina as a way of praying the Scriptures. Go to <http://www.hriccatholic.org/blog/lectio-divina> or to [www.HRICcatholic.org](http://www.HRICcatholic.org) and click on HRIC Pastoral Plan and then click on Lectio Divina.

- Sunday, Dec. 2: Jeremiah 33:14-16; Psalm 25; 1 Thessalonians 3:12-4:2; Luke 21:25-28, 34-36
- Monday, Dec. 3: Isaiah 2:1-5; Psalm 122; Matthew 8:5-11
- Tuesday, Dec. 4: Isaiah 11:1-10; Psalm 72; Luke 10:21-24
- Wednesday, Dec. 5: Isaiah 25:6-10a; Psalm 23; Matthew 15:29-37
- Thursday, Dec. 6: Isaiah 26:1-6; Psalm 118; Matthew 7:21, 24-27
- Friday, Dec. 7: Isaiah 29:17-24; Psalm 27; Matthew 9:27-31
- Saturday, Dec. 8: Genesis 3:9-15, 20; Psalm 98; Ephesians 1:3-6, 11-12; Luke 1:26-38
- Sunday, Dec. 9: Baruch 5:1-9; Psalm 126; Philippians 1:4-6, 8-11; Luke 3:1-6

### Advent Ecumenical Candlelight Taizé Service

The community is warmly welcomed to take a few moments from the hustle and bustle of this season to pray in the beautiful candlelit sanctuary of Groveland Congregational Church (4 King St., Groveland) on **Sunday, December 2**, at 7:00pm. During the season of Advent, we seem engulfed by darkness and long for the light. "The people that walk in darkness have seen a great light!" The candles illuminating the sanctuary bring us hope for light and peace. The service is modeled after those held at the Taizé community in France, with prayer, song, scripture, petitions, and silence.

Give yourself the gift of a few moments of calm and peace as we prepare for Christmas. For more information, contact the church at 978-372-3463 or [www.grovelanducc.org](http://www.grovelanducc.org).

### Pivotal Players: Saints Who Inspire

Saints influence the trajectory of the Catholic Church and Western Civilization too. This is why their biographies matter. Let Bishop Barron's 60 minute DVD series inspire us how to be 21st century evangelists. Part travelogue, part hagiography, 100% uplifting!

**Place:** IC St. Louis Hall, Newburyport

**Time:** 10:00am–11:30am

**Dates:** Tuesdays (specific schedule below)

**Dec. 4:** Thomas Aquinas, the Theologian

**Dec 11:** John Henry Newman, Convert

*{Sponsored by the Adult Faith Formation Team}*

### Collaborative Listening Sessions

Realizing that many of us are experiencing all kinds of conflicting emotions and carry many important questions in our hearts because of recurring issues surrounding the sexual abuse crisis, I would like to invite parishioners from our Collaborative to a series of listening sessions in December. **These will take place at 7:00pm on Tuesday, Dec. 4 at Nativity Hall in Merrimac, Monday, December 10 at St. Louis Hall in Newburyport and Tuesday, December 11 at St. Ann Church in West Newbury.** Each evening will begin with prayer and will offer an opportunity for those who wish to share their thoughts and concerns to speak. These will be lead by an outside facilitator and are not meant to be a question and answer session, but rather a time to share and pray together. I will be present in a listening posture so that I can best hear people's concerns and needs. We will work to make these evenings a safe and affirming environment for all who are able to be present.

I hope that you will be able to attend one or more of these evenings of prayer and sharing. As we begin our Advent season and preparations for the joyful celebration of Christmas, it is good to spend a little time in prayer and reflection before the festivities reach their crescendo later in December.

Fr. Timothy Harrison

### Collaborative VIRTUS Training

A VIRTUS training session will be offered to all members of the Collaborative on Tuesday, December 4 at 1:00pm at Nativity Hall, Merrimac. All volunteers in the Collaborative need to attend one VIRTUS session. If you have not yet attended a VIRTUS class, this is your chance.

To assure we have materials ready for all attendees, please RSVP to Doreen O'Leary if you plan to attend.

### Pilgrimage to Ireland

Join us for an enriching journey through the Emerald Isle in 2019! We depart May 13, 2019 for a memorable pilgrimage through various sites of unparalleled beauty, historic significance, and religious importance. Our tour will include visits to Dublin, Galway, the Dingle Peninsula, Kilarney, the Ring of Kerry, Clonmacnoise, Knock, and more.

For more information, visit: [www.pilgrimages.com/fathertim-hric](http://www.pilgrimages.com/fathertim-hric) or contact Paul Blanchette at (978) 500-5661. Come on a Faith Journey with us!

### Questions of the Week



**Adult:** How can we prepare for the coming of the Lord?

**Child:** Name some special days and events that you are waiting for.



# COLLABORATIVE NEWS

## 3rd Annual Advent Vespers

### Praying with Icons

Take a moment for slowing down and quieting the soul with traditional Western antiphonal prayer blended with presentations on icons. Experience Eastern spirituality through iconography, chant, illumination and silences.

**Place:** St. James Chapel (IC Parish Center, 2nd floor)

**Time:** 7:00–8:00 p.m.

**Date:** Wednesday, December 12, Mary Schmidt, presenter on icons of Madonna & Child.

**Date:** Wednesday, December 19, Fr. George Morin, presenter on icon of St. George. A light collation of Russian/Polish foods concludes AFFT's Icon and Advent series. All are welcome.

{Sponsored by the Adult Faith Formation Team}



## Free Hair Cuts



Donna Koen, a parishioner and licensed hairdresser of over 30 years, is offering free hair cuts to anyone in need. She is willing to travel to your home. Her number is: (978) 998-9219. This is a service she has been offering for years for the Newburyport Housing Authority, Salvation Army, and the Sisters of Notre Dame.

She is happy to help our parishioners who are in need.

## "Open House"

### Feast of the Holy Family



*Manger scenes from families across the Collaborative and from around the world will be displayed by their owners.*

Honor the Holy Family while sharing an experience with your own family. Mangers spotlight our Catholic belief in

the incarnation of Jesus. Come for the tableaux or the treats or the door prizes, but **come!** Give an invitation to a loved one as a stocking stuffer: baskets with **free** mini scrolls will be available in all the churches.

**Place:** Nativity Hall, Merrimac

**Date:** Sunday, December 30

**Time:** 1:00pm-4:00pm

**Do you have a family manger for our "Open House" display?**

Share your heirloom for one afternoon! Enjoy answering questions about it from guests!

Set-Up Times at Nativity Hall:

Saturday, Dec. 29, 9:00 a.m.–4:00 p.m.

Sunday, Dec. 30, 9:00 a.m.–12:00 noon

RSVP: Mary Schmidt: 978-462-6191. **Please reserve a space in advance** so the team has table provisions awaiting your manger.

{Hosted by the Adult Faith Formation Team}

## Cursillo and Ultreya

The Cursillo weekend is an invitation for you to experience the love of Jesus Christ on a personal level and to bring this love into your daily life. Many of your HRIC brothers and sisters have experienced this "short course in Christianity" at St. Basil's Salvatorian Center in Methuen, MA and we invite you to include Cursillo as part of your faith journey.

Each month, we gather for an "Ultreya" (onward!) evening of Liturgy, sharing, food and fellowship at 7pm in St. James Chapel to continue the Cursillo spirit. All are welcome. Please join us! For more information, contact Jonathan Temple 978 809 9337 or Pat Forbes 617 899 0424.

### Cursillo weekends 2019

January 3	Women
February 7	Men
March 7	Women
April 4	Men
May 2	Women
June 6	Women
October 3	Men
November 7	Women

### Ultreya Evenings

December 7	January 4
February 1	March 1
March 29	April 26
May 31	

## Centering Prayer for Advent

As the days shorten and we enter the darkest season of the year we light advent candles and anticipate the coming of our Savior Jesus, the light of the world. In the busyness of preparing for Christmas we may miss the gifts of Advent. Waiting with trust in God's promise of love that saves, deepens our faith and we become people of true hope who loved by God are able to love.

During Advent please consider joining us for Centering Prayer. As we enter the silence of God's love we assent to God's presence and action within us. We say "Yes" to His invitation to be transformed into people of true hope. Simply resting in God in silence, we surrender and come to know in our hearts God's unmerited, unconditional love for us and transformed by this grace we can share His love in daily life.

All are welcome as we pray in this ancient Christian tradition and together prepare this Advent to welcome the Savior into our hearts and our lives.

The Centering Prayer group meets every Wednesday evening from 6:00pm–7:00pm in the IC Parish Center.

For more information please contact Elizabeth McCarthy 978-462-7483.

# HOLY REDEEMER PARISH

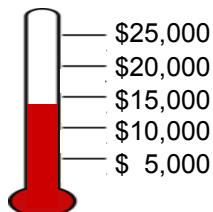
## HR Offertory Collection

November 17–18 \$8,418.00

November 24–25 \$3,721.00

The second collection **next** weekend is the Monthly.

HR Grand Annual  
Goal \$25,000  
To Date \$14,135.00



## Merrimac Santa Parade

Watch for the Activities committee as they represent Holy Redeemer Parish in the Merrimac Santa Parade on **December 2**.

## 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 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, December 6**.

## Holiday Fair Roundup

What a wonderful turnout for our Parish Fair. The Activities Committee would like to thank everyone who donated and attended our "Little Church Fair." We broke records!

The Activities Committee is happy to report to the parish that we were able to raise just over \$11,000.00. The hall was busy with people from the start.

The **bake table** was overflowing with delicious treats and busy serving coffee and hot chocolate to enjoy.

The **basket table** had 40 more baskets for sale this year. **Thank you** for all the lovely donations. The baskets looked beautiful.

The **nearly new** table displayed treasures. Truly what is old is new again! There was something for everyone.

Our **kitchen** served over 160 lunches. Fish chowder being the crowd favorite.

The **silent auction** was very profitable raising over \$3,700.00. Thank you to all who helped raise those bids!

**Raffle winners:** David Splaine (\$500), Cantone family (\$300), and Rodger Morphet (\$200). Congratulations to all!



## HR Religious Education

The 1st Graders' Activity Day has been rescheduled to March 9, along with the 4th Graders' Activity Day.

**Sun., 12/2** **Grades 3–6** at Merrimac Hall, 9–10am. **Grade 9** class at Merrimac Hall, 6–7:30pm. An adult is asked to attend with the student for this session.

**Tues. 12/4** **VIRTUS Session** at Merrimac Hall, 1:00pm, for volunteers of our Collaborative that need to attend. RSVP to Doreen if you plan to attend.

**Sat. 12/8** **Grade 2 Activity Day and First Penance Rehearsal** at St. Ann hall and church, 1–3:30pm. Please bring a snack to share. Juice boxes and water will be provided.

All families can find registration forms, class schedules, and calendar events online at: [hricatholic.org](http://hricatholic.org). Click on *Faith Formation*, then *Holy Redeemer* tab. Collaborative bulletins can be found on this site, too.

## HR St. Vincent de Paul Society



We are always looking for new members. If you are interested in becoming part of a wonderful organization, contact Dave Olds.

If you are writing a check for us, please write the check to HR Saint Vincent de Paul to help expedite our banking.

## Holy Redeemer Giving Trees

The Giving Trees are placed in the churches at the beginning of Advent to help us aid area programs for people in need during the Christmas season. We are currently giving to five programs:

- Emmaus, Inc. in Haverhill
- The Holiday Helper Program for the Pentucket Area
- Pregnancy Care Center in Haverhill and Newburyport areas
- Lazarus House Ministries in Lawrence
- Our St. Vincent de Paul Society

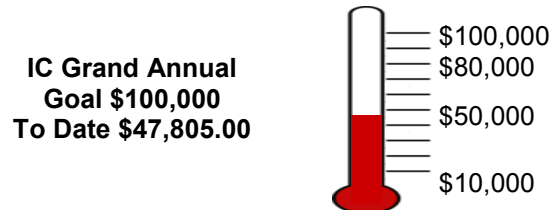
Some of the tags on the trees are for specific items that the groups are requesting, including toys and clothing. Please return the **unwrapped** gifts with the tags to the churches by the weekend of **December 9**. This allows time for us to deliver them to the programs for distribution in time for Christmas. We would ask if you take a tag and can't find the specific item that you either return the tag as soon as possible or consider getting a gift card. Thank you for all your generosity in the past, present, and future! If you have any questions, please call Dottie Carr, 978-363-2909.

# IMMACULATE CONCEPTION PARISH

## IC Offertory Collection

Offertory, November 17–18	\$8,418.00
Retired Religious Sisters	\$3,416.00
Offertory, November 24–25	\$8,855.00
Restoration/Renovation	\$1,422.00

The second collection **next** weekend is the Monthly.



## The Saint Vincent de Paul Society



Collection	\$115.00
Poor Box	\$365.00
Total	\$480.00

## Christmas Flower Envelopes

We are taking monetary donations and memorials for the purchase of flowers for the church for Christmas. You can find the flower envelope in your envelope packet or in the back of the church. It is helpful if you do not have flowers delivered to the church but allow us to purchase them. The deadline for donations is December 10 at noon.

## IC Haiti Collection

The next collection for IC Haiti will be taken up the weekend of December 15–16. We continue to thank you on behalf of the Haitian people of the village of Puit Chacha who directly benefit from the medical and educational resources made available to them through your generous donations. Over the past decade our IC church community has faithfully remained supportive of this Haitian community. In our own faith journey, we have taken up the call of Jesus to share our resources with those in need. This Advent we have an opportunity once again to respond to the Lord's call to offer hope and needed resources to the people of Haiti. May we respond joyfully.

## Knights of Columbus

The next monthly meeting of the Knights of Columbus will be held on **Tuesday, December 11** at 7:30pm in the IC Nazareth Library, Room 205. We welcome new members to this long-standing group of Catholic men. For more information, contact us at [membership@kofc231.org](mailto:membership@kofc231.org), (978) 572-0231.

## Immaculate Conception School



The IC Leadership Team delivered eleven Thanksgiving dinner baskets to Newburyport Community Services the day before Thanksgiving. Laundry baskets were chocked-full of all the fixin's for Thanksgiving dinner, breakfast foods, protein spreads, and fruit juices, along with a gift card to a local grocery store for a turkey. The baskets and gift cards were provided by the PTO, and all food items were donated by the IC students. There is always a special energy in the air when our students are actively helping others and serving the community of Newburyport.



## Storage Space Needed

IC North Pole Express is in need of storage space (10ft x 12ft x 8ft) for our large Polar Village wooden items from 12/1/18–12/7/19. Please contact Tara McQuaid if you are able to help. Thank You!

## Coffee & Baked Goods Sunday



The Pastoral Plan Welcoming Priority will sponsor a Coffee and Baked Goods Sunday at IC St. Louis Hall on **Sunday, December 2**, at 10:00 a.m. (between the 9:00 and 11:30 Masses). All are invited.

## Call for Bakers



We are in need of bakers for our monthly coffee hours. This could be a good service project for a student or maybe just a way to use your "Star Baker" talents. If you would like to help, email Maureen Catino.



# IMMACULATE CONCEPTION PARISH

## IC Religious Education

### Fall Programs

Classes for Grades K–8 are held Sunday mornings from 10:05–11:05. Registrations still being accepted. For more information contact the Religious Ed. Office.

**Substitutes** are needed should one of our catechists not be available. Perhaps you and another parent could co-teach? Please consider helping us in this capacity.

### Confirmation

Registrations are still being accepted for those students in Grades 9 & 10 who wish to prepare for Confirmation. Please call the Religious Ed. Office for more information.

### Baptism Dates to Remember

Baptism information: [www.hriccatholic.org/Baptism](http://www.hriccatholic.org/Baptism)

The next group Baptism will take place on Sunday, December 9.

Please call the Parish Office for information regarding what is needed to **pre-register** for the next Baptism class scheduled for Sunday, January 6 at 1:00 p.m.

### Reconciliation / First Eucharist

We are beginning the process of preparing students for the reception of the sacraments of Reconciliation and First Eucharist. Please contact the Religious Ed. Office at 978-462-2724 to register your child or for more information.

### Liturgical Ministers

The signup sheet for those wishing to serve at one of the Christmas Liturgies and for New Year's Day is now available in the sacristy. If you know what Mass you will be attending, please don't wait to secure a spot!

We are still missing CORIs. Please complete and submit this form to the Parish Office as soon as possible as they are past due. Forms are available in the sacristy.

Also, be aware that the Archdiocese **will not** accept copies so please submit your form in person or by mail.

Remember when submitting your CORI form by mail, a **picture ID** must also be submitted for verification purposes.

## Adoration

Join us for Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament in IC's St. James Chapel on Fridays from 8:00am–12:00noon.

## Pre-Planning/At-Need Burial Space

Immaculate Conception Parish owns and operates a private cemetery located on Storey Avenue. St. Mary's Cemetery is a 35-acre cemetery with consecrated grounds that provides tranquility and peacefulness at those difficult times that we all are faced with. Please visit the parish cemetery and you will find the cemetery to be well-managed and maintained. Cemetery plots are available for full-body and cremated remains burials in any denomination. Call Joseph Viel, Superintendent, at 978-208-0266 to schedule an appointment.

## St. Vincent de Paul Advent Project

There is an Advent project displayed in the main entry of the Immaculate Conception Church. During the weeks leading up to Christmas, parishioners are invited to take tags from the display. The tags are for gift cards that can be purchased from food stores, pharmacies, gas stations, and department stores. Please return the gift cards to the church by placing them in the collection basket at any Mass during Advent. The cards will be used by the Society of St. Vincent de Paul in response to requests for help from our local neighbors in need. We thank you for helping us to help others.

## IC 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. (At this time, Online Giving is available for only IC members.) Registration forms are available in the foyer of the church or at the parish office. Once you register, visit our website, [hriccatholic.org](http://hriccatholic.org) and click the "Links" tab, then click on "Online Giving" to get to the site. There are four different funds you can choose to 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.

## IC Knitting Ministry



The Prayer Shawl Knitting Group meets Tuesdays at 1:00pm in room 209 in the IC Parish Center. We knit/crochet prayer shawls, hats, mittens, scarves for charity.

Come join us; we meet every Tuesday at 1:00pm. Everyone is welcome! For more information, call Julia O'Connor 978-465-3350 or Frances Ronan 978-462-4972.

## Florida Hurricane Relief

The family in Panama City whom we have been helping has finally been able to return to their home, although they still face many repairs and challenges going forward as they attempt to rebuild their lives. At this point, the best way to continue to help them is through the GoFundMe page: <https://www.gofundme.com/gxv84-hurricane-michael-relief> Thank you so much for your generosity! We will keep you updated as to their progress. Please continue to keep them and all those affected by Hurricane Michael in your thoughts and prayers.