

HOLY REDEEMER AND IMMACULATE CONCEPTION COLLABORATIVE PARISHES

SERVING MERRIMAC, NEWBURY, NEWBURYPORT, AND WEST NEWBURY

First Sunday of Advent

November 28, 2021

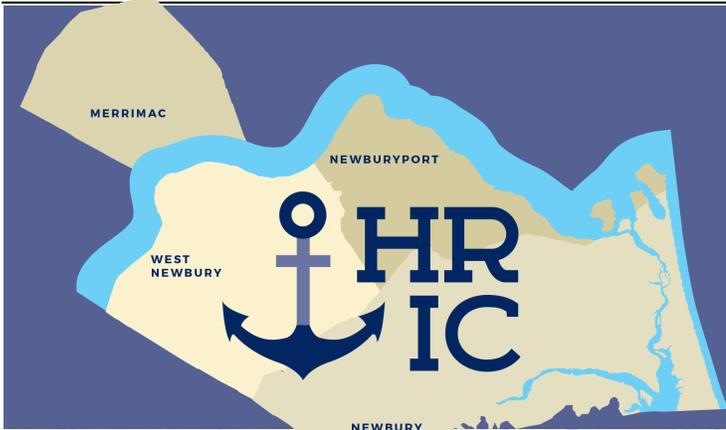
hricatholic.org



*“All the paths of the LORD are kindness and constancy
toward those who keep his covenant and his decrees.”*

(Ps 25:10)

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

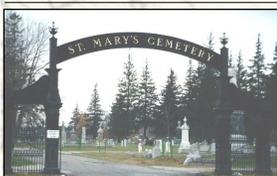
Church: 300 Main St., W. Newbury 01985
Rectory: 46 Maple St., W. Newbury 01985
Phone: 978-346-8604
Email: info@hricatholic.org

Nativity

Parish offices and church:
4 Green St., Merrimac 01860
Office Hours: By appointment
Phone: 978-346-8604
Email: info@hricatholic.org

Immaculate Conception

Parish, church, rectory, and offices:
42 Green St., Newburyport 01950
Office Hours: M-F 9:00 a.m.-2:30 p.m.
Phone: 978-462-2724
Fax: 978-234-7399
Email: info@hricatholic.org



St. Mary's Cemetery

36 Storey Avenue,
Newburyport 01950

Immaculate Conception School

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



Collaborative Staff (Note new email addresses)

Pastor

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

Senior Priests in Residence

978-462-2724 or 978-346-8604
Rev. William H. McLaughlin
Rev. George E. Morin
Rev. Charles Stanley

Permanent Deacons

Deacon Paul Dow
978-887-5350, pauldow49@gmail.com
Deacon John Moranski
978-432-1443, jmoranski51@gmail.com

St. Vincent de Paul

St. Vincent de Paul Society at
Holy Redeemer
978-346-8604 x 8
hsvdp300@gmail.com

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

St Mary's Cemetery

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Music Ministry

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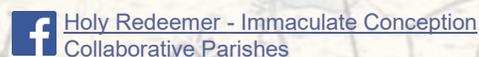
Donna Postle, IC Music Ministry Director
978-317-8903
donnapostle233@gmail.com

Tim Richard, IC organist
trichard23@gmail.com

Steve Swochak, IC Music Coordinator
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Online:

Website: www.hricatholic.org



COLLABORATIVE NEWS

Mass Schedule

Saturday (11/27)

4:00pm **IC** *Connie Bucci, Marsha Sullivan*
(Fr. Higgins & Fr. Harrison)

4:00pm **Nativity** *Leonard Desmarais* (Fr. Stanley)

Sunday (11/28)

8:30am **Nativity** (Fr. McLaughlin)

9:00am **IC** (Fr. Higgins & Deacon Dow)

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

11:30am **IC** *Thomas J. Mahon, Sr., Alan Chu, Alice McDonald, Edward Popovich* (Fr. Higgins & Deacon John)

Monday (11/29)

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

Tuesday (11/30)

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

Wednesday (12/1)

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

Thursday (12/2)

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

Friday (12/3)

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

Saturday (12/4)

4:00pm **IC** *Stephen M. Boy, Jeffrey Stone*
(Fr. Stanley & Deacon Dow)

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

Sunday (12/5)

8:30am **Nativity** (Fr. Harrison)

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

10:00am **St. Ann** (Fr. McLaughlin & Deacon Moranski)

11:30am **IC** *Robert Merrill, Lena Filomia, Lena Charles* (Fr. Stanley & Deacon Dow)

In your prayers, please remember Bridget Hublely and all the faithful departed.

The priests' schedule is subject to change without notice.

IC—Immaculate Conception, Newburyport

Nativity—Merrimac

St. Ann—West Newbury

 **Saturday Vigil Mass is broadcast online through Facebook:** ([Holy Redeemer - Immaculate Conception Collaborative Parishes](https://www.facebook.com/HolyRedeemer-ImmaculateConceptionCollaborativeParishes))

Neighbors Helping Neighbors

If you are a parishioner in the Collaborative and want assistance with grocery store runs, prescription pick ups, meal deliveries, or just receiving a call or note from us to cheer your day, please call the Collaborative offices at **978-462-2724** or **978-346-8604 (ext. 1000)** and let us know how we can help.

Virtual Rosary



Join us for recitation of the rosary live on Facebook twice every week. Pray along with us and add your intentions in the comments on Facebook. www.facebook.com/hriccatholic/

Tuesdays and Thursdays 8:30 a.m.

From the Pastor

Dear Parishioners,

Tick. Tock. Tick. Tock. Tick. Tock....

No, this isn't an endorsement for the popular social media platform. I'm actually just listening to the clock on my wall count away the seconds and minutes of the day. Sounds pretty boring, right?! Or, depending on how crazy your day may be going right now, it might even seem luxuriously self-indulgent.

Counting or quantifying the moments of the day isn't exclusively a human phenomena. Many species of animals and fish have an uncanny ability to judge time and the seasons of life. Then, of course, there are the plants who regularly cycle through an endless progression of growth-produce-harvest and death. Everything in nature seems to know just the right moment to spring forth, or hibernate. It is almost as if you could listen very carefully and hear a giant clock ticking behind the scenes in the cosmos.

This is exactly the image the Church invites us to consider as we begin our Season of Advent and a new liturgical year. A theology professor once began class by pulling out a Slinky and casting it all over his desk. (You remember the Slinky, right? That spring-like coil of metal or plastic that could be stretched-out and made to walk down a flight of stairs. Think back to the Sears Christmas catalog wish books of old...) He used it as an apt image of time, contrasting this continual, connected coil to the dusty and yellowing pile of calendars that were mouldering on the shelf, lifeless and disintegrating. The Slinky had life to it, and showed a clear connection of past to present and the future yet to come. His point was simple: time is connected. Our faith lived-out over the course of time joins us with the witness of faith from those who have gone before us. It also emphasizes our own duty to hand on our faith to those who will follow. It shows how we celebrate various aspects of our faith in sync with the cycles of nature (at least here in the Northern Hemisphere). It symbolizes that Christ is the Lord of history and time, that our world has come from a source of creative love and is actively moving towards the fulfillment of that destiny.

All Slinky's put aside, Advent challenges us to ponder two things: the return of Jesus Christ at the end of time, and our own proximate preparations to welcome Him into our lives in the here and now, especially at Christmas. We do believe as Catholic Christians that Jesus Christ will return to earth one day—on a day and time that we do not, and will not, know of in advance. It could happen tomorrow or thousands of years in the future. Nobody knows. As the Gospel describes it, it will be a day of joy and fulfillment for fervent believers, and a terrifying calamity for everyone else.

One of my treasured artifacts that I keep tucked away in my study is an old bumper sticker that reads: "Jesus is Coming.. Look Busy!" There is perhaps no better way to sum-up the call of Advent than to remind ourselves that since we don't know exactly when the Lord will come, we



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COLLABORATIVE NEWS

This Week in Our Collaborative

Monday, November 29

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

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

Tuesday, November 30

Breaking Bread Takeout-Only Meal 4:30pm, IC St. Louis Hall

Oberammergau Pilgrimage Mass & Meeting 6:30pm, IC St. James Chapel/St. Louis Hall

IC Adult Choir Rehearsal 7:00pm, IC Church

Wednesday, December 1

Holy Jammers Practice 10:00am, IC Nazareth Library

Centering Prayer 6:00pm, IC Nazareth Library

Consecration to Mary 7:00pm, IC Church

New Hope Support Group 7:00pm, IC St. Louis Hall

Thursday, December 2

Adoration 7:00pm, IC Church

Friday, December 3

Adoration 9:30am, IC Church

Ultreya 6:30pm, IC St. James Chapel/Charity Dining Room

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

Saturday, December 4

Confessions 3:00pm, IC Church

Sunday, December 5

RCIA 9:00am, IC Parish Center, Room G19

IC Faith Formation 10:00am, IC Parish Center

FORGIVEN Parish Study 10:00am, IC St. Louis Hall

IC Confirmation Prep Year 2 3:03pm, IC Charity Dining Room

(Continued from page 3)

must be about living our lives as if He is coming **today**. That means whatever is good and holy should be celebrated with fervor, and anything that needs to change—well, now is the time to get to it. And, if we need something more concrete to stir our call to holiness, there is Christmas, now firmly shining on the horizon. Just as we trim the tree and make ready our homes to welcome family and friends for the holidays (or as much as COVID will allow, anyway!), we make our hearts ready to celebrate the Lord's Nativity through our prayer, acts of charity, and careful attention to the needs of those around us.

Either way, Advent is a wake-up call to be ready to greet the Lord when He comes. In these short weeks that follow, let us get busy about the things of the Lord. After all, the clock is ticking....

Fr. Timothy Harrison, Pastor

The God Minute

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

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

Adoration

We now offer Adoration at IC Church two times during the week. All are welcome.

Join us for Adoration on **Thursdays from 7:00–8:00 p.m.**

Adoration/Benediction is also available in IC Church on **Fridays immediately following the 9:00 a.m. Mass.**

Note: If a Friday funeral is scheduled, or in the absence of a presider, IC Church will remain open for "Sacred Silence" only. Check the HRIC calendar online for updated information. The calendar link can be found on our website: hriccatholic.org.



Bulletin Information

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

Prayers for the Sick

May the comfort and healing of Christ embrace all in our Collaborative who are suffering from illness, especially:

Dan Bedard
Priscilla Brown
Fr. Drew Christiansen
Charmaine Haan
Hillar Haan
Joe Messina
Vincent Oberhofer

Maureen Russell
Rob Schweitzer
Mary Shachok
Ruth Sullivan
Ron Sylvester
Michael Tucker



Join HRIC Faith Formation on December 12 at 10:00am for our second Family Festival at IC Church and Pastoral Center. We will have a Nativity play, crafts, treats, and games to play.

Christmas Flowers

We are taking monetary donations and memorials for the purchase of flowers for all churches for Christmas. Please do not have flowers delivered to the churches but allow us to purchase them. Place your flower donation envelope in the collection box at church or mail them to IC, 42 Green St., Newburyport, MA 01950.

Donation deadline is **Monday, December 6 at 12:00 noon.**

COLLABORATIVE NEWS

ENGAGE & FORMED

We have a treasure chest of online faith formation resources available free to all in the HRIC community. We encourage you to take full advantage of these resources.

To access the resources of Word on Fire's **ENGAGE**, register at flocknote.com/hriccollaborative or by texting "HRIC" to 84576.

To access **FORMED**, visit (formed.org), click "Sign up," then "I belong to a parish or organization" and type in "Holy Redeemer Immaculate Conception Collaborative" to log in.



Holy Redeemer - Immaculate Conception Parish's happy volunteers at Cor Unum Meal Center in Lawrence where they served 87 takeout meals of breakfast crepes and home fries. From left to right Larry Lambert, Aaron Giard, Steve Swochak, Paul Mahoney, and Ralph Orlando.

The Pelican Intervention Fund



The Pelican Intervention Fund is dedicated to supporting men and women on their journey from addiction to recovery. The Pelican Intervention Fund offers hope for sustained recovery for adults who live in the communities of Amesbury, Byfield, Georgetown, Groveland, Ipswich, Merrimac, Newbury, West Newbury, Newburyport, Rowley, and Salisbury.

Donations can be made to:

"The Pelican Intervention Fund at ECCF"

Essex County Community Foundation, 175 Andover Street
Danvers, MA 01923

Questions? Contact Kim Keene 978-430-1408 or visit www.pelicaninterventionfund.org to learn more.

Centering Prayer/Lectio Divina

Join us **in person Wednesday, December 1, 6:00–7:00 p.m.**, at IC Nazareth Library for 30 minutes of Centering Prayer. For the next 30 minutes we listen to God's words, ponder and share what we hear the Lord saying to us here and now, and contemplate God's message to us and let it guide our choices and actions. For more information and the Zoom and in-person schedule, please call Elizabeth McCarthy, 978- 462-7483.

Mass Scripture Readings

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



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

Confessions

We offer Confessions Saturdays from **3:00–3:30 p.m.** at IC Church. No appointment needed. Confessions are also available at other times and places during the week by appointment only. For more information or to schedule a time for Confession, contact our Collaborative offices at (978) 346-8604 or (978) 462-2724.

Questions of the Week



Adult: How can we prepare for the coming of the Lord? What Advent resolutions can we make?

Child: What are you doing or planning to do to make this time of Advent special?

Advent Study and Penance Services

During Advent, the Collaborative will be hosting a study of a cinematically beautiful, transformative video series on the Sacrament of Reconciliation. "FORGIVEN: The Transforming Power of Confession" by Augustine Institute offers a fresh perspective on God's mercy and this often misunderstood and frequently avoided Sacrament. Take the time this season to "prepare the way of the Lord!"

Choose one of two options (No RSVP necessary):

1. Watch and discuss the video series **in person** with fellow Collaborative members at IC St. Louis Hall, **10:00 a.m.–11:15 a.m.** during these three **Sundays** of Advent: **Nov. 28, Dec. 5, and Dec. 19**
2. Watch the series **at home** online <https://watch.formed.org/forgiven> using our Collaborative's subscription to FORMED.org (go to www.hriccatholic.org/formed to learn how to sign up):
 - a. Watch Session 1 video on Nov. 28 (or week of)
 - b. Session 2 video on Dec. 5 (or week of)
 - c. Watch Session 3 video by Dec. 20

At the end of Advent, we will host two evening **Advent Penance Services** to celebrate this great Sacrament:

1. **Monday, December 20, time TBD, Immaculate Conception Church, Newburyport**
2. **Tuesday, December 21, time TBD, Church of the Nativity, Merrimac**

For more information or questions, contact Aaron Giard, Director of Lifelong Faith Formation: agiard@hriccatholic.org



COLLABORATIVE NEWS

Our COVID Journey



Several parishioners have chosen to share some profound thoughts on the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on themselves, families, and friends.

These personal reflections have been incorporated into a book which will be available for parishioners to review during the month of November:

Nativity from November 23–30

It will then be located in the IC Pastoral Center library.

There is still time to share your reflections on the pandemic. Please send your thoughts to ourcovidjourney@gmail.com.

May God continue to bless you and your loved ones.

Advent Candlelight Taizé

Meditation service at Groveland Congregational Church

During the season of Advent, we seem engulfed by darkness and long for the 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.

Taizé prayer is a simple form of ecumenical Christian prayer centered on scripture, silence and song. It involves singing and listening to the word of God in an atmosphere of silence and peace. The worship space will be illuminated with a multitude of candles; the music will consist of simple repeated refrains, enabling the worshippers to enter into prayer. There will be readings from scripture, petitions, and a time of silent prayer.

All are welcome to this time of prayer on Sunday evening, November 28 at 7:00 p.m. at Groveland Congregational Church, 4 King St., Groveland. For more info, contact the church at 978-373-9565 or gccucc@gmail.com.

Facebook Mass

To watch our Saturday 4:00 p.m. live-stream Mass:

1. Go to our Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/hricatholic/>) at the appointed time. If you don't have a Facebook page, you can still watch the live stream from your computer, smartphone, or tablet using the above link.
2. Click the "videos" link on the page.
3. The **LIVE** video should be the first one on the list.

Holy Communion in the Hand

One COVID-related restriction we are still being asked to do by the Archdiocese is to *receive Holy Communion only in the hand*.

Those distributing Communion on the tongue would be required to stop and sanitize their hands after every person whom they gave Communion to. So at this time everyone is being asked to only receive Communion in the hand. Thank you for your patience and cooperation as we continue to recover from the pandemic.



Cocoa & Caroling!

Friday December 10th
4-6 PM | Waterfront Parking Lot

Come enjoy a cup of hot cocoa,
and join us in a carol or two!

For More Info:
Matt Blanchette | 978.697.5135 | kofc231@gmail.com



New Hope Family Support Group

First & Third Wednesday of every month

For More Info:
Corey Beaver
781.854.2541
3foldrecovery@gmail



HOSTED BY *Corey Beaver*
INTERVENTIONIST & RECOVERY COACH

New Hope
Family Support
Group

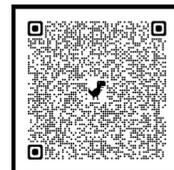
Immaculate Conception
412 Green Street
Newburyport, MA 01950
St. Louis Hall at 7:00 PM
1st and 3rd Wednesday of every month



Join the Knights!

Second Tuesdays at 7pm
IC Parish Center Library

For More Info:
Matt Blanchette
978.697.5135
kofc231@gmail.com



Consecration to Mary

11/3-12/8

Wednesday nights from 7-8pm | Main Church

Join us in weekly prayer and study on our journey to better understand and serve our Blessed Mother.

For More Info call Chris Eagan c:617.592.5907



Live Stream Rosaries

Wednesdays at 7:30am | Fridays at 8:30am

Tune into either the Knights of Columbus Council 231 or IC's Facebook pages at the times above to join in a live stream rosary by one of our Knights.

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION PARISH

IC Offertory Collection

The second collection this weekend (November 28) is Mission Appeal. The second collection next weekend (December 5) is Ongoing Church Maintenance.

If you would like to mail in your envelopes, send them to

Immaculate Conception Parish

42 Green Street,

Newburyport, MA 01950

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

**IC Grand Annual
Goal \$100,000
To Date \$54,628.00**



Second Collection This Week

The Missionaries of Our Lady of La Salette minister to people of every race, language, culture, and way of life—beginning at the La Salette Shrine in France where our Blessed Mother appeared in 1846. When called upon by the Vatican to preach the Gospel in foreign lands, they eagerly responded. The spirit brought them to mission in 27 countries, especially among the poor in Angola, Argentina, Bolivia, Haiti, India, Madagascar, Myanmar, and the Philippines. With your cooperation, the missionaries of La Salette can continue to provide spiritual and financial assistance to these mission countries as they bring God's reconciling message to the poor.

Fr. John Higgins, our speaker, is a La Salette priest who has ministered in Argentina for over 21 years and 11 years in Bolivia. As a native of the Boston area, he currently is in active ministry as Senior Priest serving at the Parish of Our Lady of Sorrows in Hartford, CT. Fr. Higgins finds great joy in sharing his missionary experiences with the parish families as he gives the Mission Appeals.

IC Haiti Appeal

The final quarterly collection of 2021 for IC Haiti will be taken up on the weekend of December 18–19. On the Sunday prior to the collection, a member of the Board of Directors for IC Haiti will make a direct appeal for your generosity and provide a brief update on our ministry to the people and school community of Puit Chacha, Haiti.

During the upcoming season of Advent, all of us are encouraged to deepen our relationship with Our Lord Jesus Christ through prayer and acts of mercy. Although we are thousands of miles away from Haiti, we have been invited since 2009 to see our Haitian brothers and sisters with the eyes of Christ. Let us continue to support them with our prayers and almsgiving.

Please use the special IC Haiti envelopes and **make out checks to "IC Haiti."** You may put your envelopes into the collection boxes around the church or send them to: **IC Haiti, 42 Green Street, Newburyport, MA 01950.**

Immaculate Conception School



What a blessing to be able to gather around the Thanksgiving table again. At Immaculate Conception School, gathering in the cafeteria for lunch was paused last year due to COVID-19 protocols. Now, with lighter restrictions and a better understanding of how the virus is (and isn't) spread, two grade levels eat lunch in the cafeteria at one time. Like many of the traditions and processes that we have had to adapt as a result of the pandemic, an unexpected blessing has evolved from change.

I have no idea who might be credited with inventing the table or who was influential in determining the different shapes, not that there are many of them; round or square, extended to oval or rectangular. What I DO know, through observing our students' interactions at lunch, is that the shape of a table influences conversation. Back in August, we unearthed several banquet tables that were stored under the stairs, to add to the long lunch tables that we have used for years. Adding these tables enabled two grade levels to sit at a distance at one time—three students at each of the long tables and four at each round table. Regardless of the age, the conversation at the round tables flows from topic to topic, with all four diners joining in. About two-thirds of the children sit at the long tables, three to a table, with everyone facing the same direction (protocol). The children at the long tables talk with each other, but often table to table, by turning backwards, or humorously, by hollering to someone a few tables away. As an adult observer, I see the effort it takes for the children at the long tables to talk to each other. As a result, the teachers and I have made some adjustments to the assigned seating (protocol) to foster conversation among individuals where needed. If I could wave a wand to recreate the cafeteria space, round tables would be the standard.

I am blessed to spend my days among our wonderful school children who provide endless moments of joy and insight into how humans interact and respond to the environment. Especially in today's landscape, the lessons learned as an educator continue to evolve minute by minute. The needs of school-age children are academic, social, and emotional, ever more so as a result of the pandemic. Creating dynamic classroom spaces, providing opportunities to socialize, and offering continuous support for emotional wellbeing and growth are concerns the faculty and staff at the IC address every day with our students. We continue to find new ways to accomplish this with every passing day. With God's help, all things are possible.

Sending Thanksgiving blessings to you as you welcome family and friends to your Thanksgiving table, whether it be square, oval, rectangular, or round.

Gratefully,

Joan Fowler Sullivan

Like Us on Facebook

[Holy Redeemer - Immaculate Conception Collaborative Parishes](#)



IC PARISH

IC St. Vincent de Paul



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

To donate, you can visit our website to donate online at www.svdpnewburyport.org, or drop your donation (checks payable to "SVdP of Newburyport") into the collection box at Mass, or mail it to the parish office at 42 Green Street, Newburyport, MA 01950.

Breaking Bread to-go Meal

Tuesday evenings **takeout only meals** 4:30–5:30 p. m. at the entrance to the IC Parish Center. All are welcome!

IC SVdP Giving Tree

Please pick a gift card tag from the SVdP Giving Tree in the vestibule of IC Church. Once you purchase the gift card noted on the tag, return it via the collection boxes at the church. These gift cards are given to help those in need throughout the entire year. Thank you.

Win Cash!

IC school annual holiday calendars are now available.

For over 20 years, IC School has run a holiday calendar fundraiser. Each \$10 calendar gives individuals 40 chances to win a grand total of \$5,000 in cash prizes. A winner is drawn each day from January 8–February 15 to receive a cash prize of \$100, \$200, \$300, or \$400.

Calendars are available at IC School, IC Church lobby, and the IC Parish Center.

To enter, fill out the buyer's name and contact information in the space at the bottom of the calendar. Cut it off and return both the ticket stub and the money to the school office or to the Parish Center office.

Check payments should be made out to Immaculate Conception School or cash is accepted.

St. Mary's Cemetery

Immaculate Conception Parish owns and operates a private cemetery located on Storey Avenue. St. Mary's Cemetery is a 35-acre cemetery with consecrated grounds that provides tranquility and peacefulness at those difficult times that we all are faced with. 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.

Consolers Circle Meal

The IC community offers 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. Please let the funeral director know that you request this service when making arrangements.

HR & IC

HR & IC Faith Formation

All Faith Formation schedules and registration forms are posted on our website at www.hriccatholic.org/Faith-Formation.

Faith Formation classes have started for all grades. If you have not yet registered your family, class schedules and registration forms can be found on the parish website at hriccatholic.org.

School Year Programs

Information regarding the fall 2021 schedule for those children entering Grades K–8 has been posted on the Collaborative website: hriccatholic.org. Registration forms are also available. Please contact the Faith Formation office (978-462-2724 x7405) with any questions or reach out via email to Aaron at agiard@hriccatholic.org or Melinda at burrell@hriccatholic.org.

First Reconciliation/First Eucharist

Registration forms as well as schedules for those children who will be preparing for the Sacraments of Reconciliation and Eucharist have been posted to the Collaborative website: hriccatholic.org. Please contact the Faith Formation office (978-462-2724 x7405) with any questions or reach out via email to Aaron at agiard@hriccatholic.org or Melinda at burrell@hriccatholic.org.

Baptism

We will celebrate the Sacrament of Baptism at IC on Sunday, December 12 at 1:30 p.m. Please call the Collaborative offices (978-462-2724) for information.

Confirmation

Information regarding the fall 2021 Confirmation Prep schedule for grades 9 & 10 has been posted along with registration forms on the Collaborative website: hriccatholic.org. Please contact the Faith Formation office (978-462-2724 x7405) with questions or email Aaron agiard@hriccatholic.org or Melinda burrell@hriccatholic.org.

HR PARISH

HR Grand Raffle



We are having a Grand Raffle! In hopes of bringing joy and anticipation for the holiday season, the Activities Committee is holding a raffle with cash prizes totaling \$2,500.

With COVID-19 being at the forefront of everyone's concerns, we feel that it is in the best interest of our parish not to overcrowd the church hall and have decided to cancel the 2021 Holiday Fair. The fair has always been a great source of community for our parish. In the spirit of giving back to our loyal parishioners, we thought a Grand Raffle would be enjoyed. We hope you will support us by purchasing raffle tickets as well as asking your friends and neighbors in our community to support our efforts.

The winning raffle tickets will be drawn on Wednesday, December 8. First prize is \$1,000. There will be two \$500 winners and two \$250 winners. Raffle tickets are \$1.00 each or 6 for \$5.00. One sheet of raffle tickets is 12 for \$10.00. We have mailed raffle tickets to all registered parishioners. Additional tickets are available in the backs of both churches.

HOLY REDEEMER PARISH

HR Offertory Collection

No second collection this weekend (November 28). The second collection next weekend (December 5) is Ongoing Church Maintenance.

If you would like to mail in your collections, send them to

Holy Redeemer Parish, 4 Green Street, Merrimac, MA 01860

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

**HR Grand Annual
Goal \$25,000
To Date \$11,695.00**



Saturday Mass at St. Ann

Please remember that our Saturday 4:00pm Mass will move to **St. Ann, W. Newbury** for the month of **December**.

IC Haiti Appeal

Since 2009, the parishioners of the Immaculate Conception parish have built and supported an elementary school in the small town of Puit Chacha, Haiti. Through a 501 c 3 incorporated, tax-exempt, non-profit organization known as IC Haiti, parishioners and other kind supporters have been faithful in their commitment to the school community in Puit Chacha. IC Haiti has been able to accomplish its work on the ground through another non-profit, Health Equity International (formerly known as Saint Boniface Haiti Foundation), which runs the Saint Boniface Hospital located in Fond des Blanc just north of Puit Chacha.

Now IC Haiti would like to invite you, the parishioners of Holy Redeemer, to join us in this worthy ministry in Haiti. We are the sole financial support for the school in Puit Chacha which provides education to approximately 200 children from kindergarten to 6th grade. Additionally, we provide tuition for all graduates who want to continue a secondary school education in Fond des Blanc. We also fund a daily hot lunch program for the elementary school children and a dental care program through the services of Saint Boniface Hospital. As you are well aware Haiti is the poorest country in the Americas, and since 2009 whenever it has suffered devastating natural disasters (earthquakes and hurricanes), IC Haiti has responded with emergency relief funding. We have also worked with the hospital in its efforts to deal with the zika and coronavirus outbreaks.

The final quarterly collection of 2021 for IC Haiti will be taken up on the weekend of December 18-19. On the Sunday prior to the collection, a member of the Board of Directors for IC Haiti will make a direct appeal for your generosity and provide a brief update on our ministry to the people and school community of Puit Chacha, Haiti.

Should you choose to donate to IC Haiti, please **make out checks to "IC Haiti."** You may put your donation into the collection boxes around the church or send them to: **IC Haiti, 42 Green Street, Newburyport, MA 01950.**

HR Christmas Giving 2021

Please visit Nativity's Giving Tree for more ideas. Due to tight space, St. Ann will not have a physical Giving Tree.

Emmaus House will continue with their arrangement with Target online. Go to Target.com/gift-registry/gift/emmaus2021registry. There will be items of different values. Items will be sent directly to Emmaus House. They would also like \$25.00 gift cards from Target, WalMart, and Amazon. Mail cards to Denise Arnold, Volunteer & Gifts-in-Kind Manager, D'Youville Center for Social Justice, 101 Winter Street, Haverhill MA 01830

HR St. Vincent de Paul is asking for monetary donations and \$25.00 Market Basket gift cards, which may be left in the metal boxes at the doors of the churches.

Merrimac Holiday Helpers is looking for pajamas for school aged children, including adult sizes for older students. There will be a box at each church for these.

Fostering Care of West Newbury is hoping to support 70 teenagers this holiday season. That's \$100 x 70 kids. That's a big goal. If you want to help, please know:

1. All amounts of donations are very appreciated.
2. 100% of any donation you send will go directly to a local kid in the Merrimack Valley. We take zero for overhead.
3. To be included in the teen event, all donations should be received by **Dec. 1** (The event is on Dec. 5 and we need time to assemble the gift bags). Donations received after **Dec. 1** will still go to teens in foster care but may not be included in the gift bags.

Cards should be sent to Fostering Care, 524 Main Street, West Newbury, MA 01985

All items need to be dropped off or sent by December 5 unless otherwise noted. The agencies are still dealing with covid restrictions and need as much time as we can give them. Thank you all in advance for your generosity and thoughtfulness at this time!

HR Prayer Shawl

If you know of anyone who needs a prayer shawl, please give their name to Helen hvktax@aol.com or 978-771-4673. If you know the address that we can deliver to, maybe a favorite color, that would be helpful but not necessary. We will not intrude at this difficult time but simply leave it at their door.

Greeters Needed

We are looking for friendly, welcoming folks to greet people at Masses at Holy Redeemer. One greeter is needed for each Mass.

There is a **particular need** for greeters at the 10:00 a.m. (Sunday) Mass at St. Ann, but we could also use more greeters at the 4:00 p.m. Masses at both St. Ann and Nativity.

Would you like to serve in this role? Please contact Sue Noyes at susaninoyes@gmail.com



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 Pictured: Msgr. Frank Kelley and Lynda Doremy, President, Pine Street Inn



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