

HOLY REDEEMER AND IMMACULATE CONCEPTION COLLABORATIVE PARISHES

SERVING MERRIMAC, NEWBURY, NEWBURYPORT, AND WEST NEWBURY

First Sunday of Lent
February 26, 2023

hricatholic.org

All Are Welcome



*The woman saw that the tree was good for food,
pleasing to the eyes, and desirable for gaining wisdom.
So she took some of its fruit and ate it;
and she also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate it.”*

(Gn 3:6)



Holy Redeemer Immaculate Conception Collaborative

serving Merrimac, Newbury, Newburyport & West Newbury

"Come all you who are thirsty, come to the waters..."

St. Ann

Church: 300 Main St., W. Newbury 01985

Rectory: 46 Maple St., W. Newbury 01985

Phone: 978-346-8604

Email: info@hriccatholic.org

Nativity

Parish offices and church:
4 Green St., Merrimac 01860

Office Hours: By appointment

Phone: 978-346-8604

Email: info@hriccatholic.org

Immaculate Conception

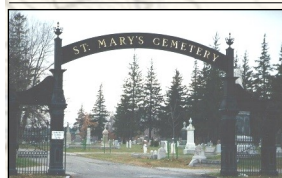
Parish, church, rectory, and offices:
42 Green St., Newburyport 01950

Office Hours: M-F 9:00 a.m.-3:30 p.m.

Phone: 978-462-2724

Fax: 978-234-7399

Email: info@hriccatholic.org



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

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978-462-2724 or 978-346-8604

info@hriccatholic.org

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Rev. William H. McLaughlin

Rev. George E. Morin

Rev. Charles Stanley

Permanent Deacons

Deacon Paul Dow

978-887-5350, paul Dow49@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 4

hrrsvdp300@gmail.com

St. Vincent de Paul Society at

Immaculate Conception

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[@HRICcatholic](https://twitter.com/HRICcatholic)



[hriccatholic](https://www.instagram.com/hriccatholic)



[Holy Redeemer - Immaculate
Conception Collaborative
Parishes](https://www.facebook.com/HolyRedeemer-ImmaculateConceptionCollaborativeParishes)



COLLABORATIVE NEWS

Mass Schedule

Saturday (2/25)

4:00pm **IC** (Fr. Morin & Deacon Moranski)

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

Sunday (2/26)

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

9:00am **IC** *For the intentions of Dawn Gaglione & Baby* (Fr. Harrison)

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

11:30am **IC** *Vincent Giacchetti, John Coughlin* (Fr. Harrison)

Monday (2/27)

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

Tuesday (2/28)

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

Wednesday (3/1)

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

Thursday (3/2)

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

Friday (3/3)

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

Saturday (3/4)

4:00pm **IC** *Jeffrey Stone, Dan Ryan Jr., for the intentions of Dawn Gaglione & Baby* (Fr. Stanley & Deacon Moranski)

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

Sunday (3/5)

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

9:00am **IC** (Fr. Stanley & Deacon Moranski)

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

11:30am **IC** *Vincent Giacchetti* (Fr. Morin)

In your prayers please remember Patricia Connolly, Neil Chambers, and all of the faithful departed.

The priests' schedule is subject to change without notice.

IC—Immaculate Conception, Newburyport

Nativity—Merrimac

St. Ann—West Newbury

Saturday Vigil Mass is broadcast online through our website: hricatholic.org and on Facebook: ([Holy Redeemer - Immaculate Conception Collaborative Parishes](#)).

Bulletin Information

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

Prayer

Fasting

Almsgiving

LENT FAMILY FESTIVAL

FEBRUARY 26

IC PASTORAL CENTER

10:00-11:30 A.M.



WHILE FAMILY FESTIVALS ARE ESSENTIAL FOR ALL ENROLLED FAMILIES, ALL PARISH COLLABORATIVE FAMILIES ARE INVITED TO ATTEND AND LEARN MORE ABOUT FOSTERING DEEPER PRAYER, FASTING, AND GIVING IN YOUR HOMES DURING THIS SPECIAL SEASON.



From the Pastor

Dear Parishioners,

It must have been one hell of an apple!

Think about it for a moment: for Adam and Eve to violate God's command, to jeopardize their place in paradise, to entertain sin and invite death and destruction to wreak havoc on all of creation...that apple really must have been something! Right? Why in anyone's right mind would they risk eternal bliss in the garden of Eden for anything less, right?!

Well, all drama aside, it might have just been an ordinary apple. A nice one, but just an apple, like many others on various trees throughout the garden. In fact, we don't even know it was an apple—the Bible simply refers to it as "fruit." As far as the story of creation goes, every fruit-bearing tree was there, so, take your pick: apple, banana, coconut, pear, pomegranate, peach, fig, apricot, orange...you name it. So, why did they do it?

Temptation takes many forms. In this case, it took the form of a snake—the most cunning of all creatures. The methodology was simple: promote half-truths and mask lies with false promises. (Sound familiar?!). The snake told them that they would not die if they ate the fruit (a lie), but that they would become like God (a half-truth—they already WERE made like God in God's image—see Psalm 8). They were told that their eyes would be opened and that they would know good and evil (another half-truth—their eyes were opened to see that they were naked, but knowledge of good and evil always was and always will be elusive, at best). It was a raw deal. Paradise was traded for a life to be lived in struggle, sweat, and toil—one that would ultimately end in death, not only for them, but for everyone that would follow and for all of creation. So high a cost for disobedience and lack of trust in God's plan.

That better have been the best, most awesome, succulent, delicious and mouth-watering apple that every existed for so high a cost!

But it probably wasn't. It was just an apple, eaten without permission, consumed in violation of God's command, the food of impetuous rebellion. It was just a sin, like the many gazillions that would follow in all of us who descended from Adam and Eve. And it tasted good, or at least OK at the moment. And then, it began to decay like our human nature. What was sweet and firm became rotten and mush, unfit for anything but to be buried in the ground where it will return to the clay of the earth from which it first sprung. So, too, sadly, ...us.

Adam and Eve didn't start their day, that fateful day, by deciding to sin and turn away from God. Though they encountered temptation, they were not innocent of all wrongdoing. It wasn't a "trick" that caused them to stray, as if the real blame and complete responsibility could be shifted to the reptile. No, they freely chose to "give it a try," to see God's word as not so absolute, His command as not so compelling. They entertained the idea that God was

(Continued on page 4)

COLLABORATIVE NEWS

This Week in Our Collaborative

Monday, February 27

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

Sicily Pilgrimage Mass/Mtg. 6:00pm, IC St. James Chapel/
St. Louis Hall

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

Compassionate Friends Mtg. 7:30pm, IC Conference Room 209

Tuesday, February 28

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

IC Choir Rehearsal 6:00pm, IC Church

Wednesday, March 1

Holy Jammers Practice 10:00am, IC Nazareth Library

IC Youth Choir Rehearsal 4:30pm, IC Church

Cub Scout Pack 26 Mtg. 6:00pm, Nativity Hall

Confessions During Lent 6:30pm, St. Ann Church

IC 175th Anniversary Planning Mtg. 6:30pm, IC St. Louis Hall

Thursday, March 2

IC Holiday Fair Mtg. 9:45am, IC Charity Dining Room

Confessions During Lent 6:30pm, IC Church

Adoration 7:00pm, IC Church

Friday, March 3

Adoration 9:30am, IC Church

HR Simple Supper 5:15pm, Nativity Hall

IC Stations of the Cross 5:15pm, IC Church

IC Simple Supper 5:45pm, IC St. Louis Hall

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

AA Meeting 7:00pm, IC Nazareth Library

Ultreya 7:00pm, IC St James Chapel/Charity Dining Room

Saturday, March 4

Confessions 3:00pm, IC Church

Sunday, March 5

Knights of Columbus Hospitality Sunday 10:00am, IC Parish
Center Lobby

RCIA Mtg. 10:00am, IC St. James Chapel

Faith Formation, K-8 10:00am, IC Parish Center

IC Confirmation Prep., Year 1 3:30pm, IC St. Louis Hall

HR Confirmation Prep., Year 1 7:00pm, Nativity Hall

Recitation of the Rosary

Join us for recitation of the rosary before 9:00 Mass at IC or on Facebook. www.facebook.com/hriccatholic/ **Tuesdays and Thursdays 8:30 a.m.**

Adoration

You are invited to Adoration every week at IC Church.

Enter through the Green Street door only.

Place: IC Church (rain or shine)

Time: Thursdays: 7 p.m.–8 p.m.

Also: Fridays 9:30 a.m.–12 noon



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.

(Continued from page 3)

holding something back from them that they deserved or somehow had a right to. They inhaled the ever so slight effervescence of envy or fancy or arrogance or privilege. They, if even for the smallest moment, thought that God wasn't as great or amazing or all-caring or trustworthy as they once thought God was. Just a split-second of doubt. Just a momentary lapse of judgement. Just one precious second when their free will was diverted from instinctually doing God's will to something else. That's it. Just that one, tiny, little itsy bitsy minute choice.

And here we are, millennia later, still suffering from ravages of that first, ill-thought failure to love God with all of our heart. Oh, to get a do-over, and go for the orange or banana instead! Anything but that...apple!

Fortunately and through no merit of our own, God has given us a second chance in Christ to become holy, just as He is holy. We begin that journey anew each year as we embrace the holy season of Lent and undertake various forms of penance that will strengthen our discipline to do good and avoid evil, to right wrongs and make amends. We rend our hearts back to God, trusting (this time!) in God's merciful love. In that, the Eden which was lost will become a new Heaven and new earth, a new city of Jerusalem, coming down out of Heaven from God, beautifully adorned as a bride prepared to meet her husband! The fruit of our sincere penance before God will help prepare a pathway to the paradise yet to come.

May this holy season be fruitful and filled with many blessings for us all!

Fr. Timothy Harrison, Pastor

Attention All Volunteers

The Archdiocese of Boston is asking all active volunteers, established or new, to fill-out a Volunteer Application Form.

This is to help us keep better records, improve our current screening process which also includes CORIs, etc., and provide emergency contact information for everyone involved in our various ministries...just in case!

Therefore, a new, one-time application form must be filled out by all volunteers. If you are currently a volunteer, you will receive an email from your ministry leader. Please fill it out and return it to the office as soon as possible. In the future, new volunteers will be asked to complete this form as part of the initial sign-up process.

All applications received will be retained by our Collaborative offices and kept strictly confidential.

Thank you for your cooperation and understanding! We appreciate all that you do for your parish and the wider Church!

Questions of the Week



Adult: In today's world, what temptations lead people away from God the most?

Child: When you are tempted to do what you know is wrong, what do you do?

LENT IN THE COLLABORATIVE

Guidelines for Lent

Fasting, almsgiving, and prayer are the three traditional disciplines of Lent. The faithful and catechumens should undertake these practices seriously in a spirit of penance and of preparation for baptism or of renewal of baptism at Easter. See our website's Lent 2023 page for more Lent inspiration: hriccatholic.org.

Fasting during Lent

Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are days of fasting. Catholics over 18 and up to the beginning of their 60th year are bound to the obligation of fasting. On these days, only one full meal is allowed. Two other meatless meals, sufficient to maintain strength, may be taken according to each one's needs, but together they should not equal another full meal. Eating between meals is not permitted, but liquids, including milk and fruit juices are allowed.

Abstinence during Lent

Abstinence is to be observed on Ash Wednesday and on all Fridays of Lent. On days of abstinence, meat may not be used at all. Catholics over 14 years of age are bound to the obligation of abstinence.

Stations of the Cross and Simple Suppers: Fridays during Lent

Holy Redeemer Parish

Simple Supper is served at 5:15 p.m. in Nativity Hall. Stations of the Cross will begin at 6:00 p.m. in Nativity Church

Immaculate Conception Parish

Stations of the Cross begin at 5:15 p.m. in IC Church. Simple Supper will follow, around 5:45 p.m. in St. Louis Hall

Note: No Simple Supper at IC on March 17 due to the 175th anniversary St. Patrick's Day dinner and Stations of the Cross at IC will be moved to 5:30 on March 17.

Confessions during Lent

Holy Redeemer Parish

A priest will be available for Confessions Wednesday evenings in March from 6:30–8:00:

March 1: St. Ann Church	March 22: St. Ann Church
March 8: Nativity Church	March 29: Nativity Church
March 15: St. Ann Church	

Immaculate Conception Parish

A priest will be available at IC for Confessions Thursday evenings in March from 6:30–8:00 (during Adoration) and Saturdays from 3:00–3:30pm.

Adoration

Thursdays, 7:00–8:00 p.m. at IC Church

Fridays, 9:30 a.m.–12:00 noon at IC Church (*Unless there is a funeral scheduled for that day. Please check the Collaborative calendar for changes.*)

Lent Family Festival

February 26, 10:00–11:30 a.m.–IC Pastoral Center This event is sponsored by and is an important aspect of Faith Formation for those enrolled but any parish family is also invited to attend, even if not enrolled this year.

Holy Week & Easter Family Festival

April 2, 10:00–11:30 a.m.–IC Pastoral Center

Helping the Homeless

**Whoever is generous to the poor lends to the Lord,
and he will repay him for his deed.**

Post-pandemic inflation has brought new suffering to many in our communities, and we will be collecting Care Packs for the Homeless at all three churches in the Collaborative. The packs consist of a one-gallon Ziploc bag filled with travel size, new and unused personal care items for men, women, and children. They will be distributed to local agencies serving those in need, including Cor Unum, Salvation Army, Community Service of Newburyport, Lazarus House, and others.

Easy-to-carry, travel-size personal care items can be found in many local stores. There will be a collection bin at the entrance of each church and in the lobby of the IC Parish Center for your donations. Please, no clothing or used or damaged goods, as these are discarded. For more information or to help with collection, sorting and delivering, contact Aaron: agiard@newburyportcatholic.org, or Jonathan Temple at hricshare@gmail.com. Thank you for your generosity and compassion. **Items needed:**

Shampoo	Cough drops	Feminine hygiene products (Women)
Toothbrush	Protein bars	Umbrellas
Toothpaste	Soap	Antiseptic Wipes
Deodorant	Life Savers candy	
Razor	Disposable face cloths	No mouthwash or loose items please.
Socks	Kleenex travel packs	
Gloves	Hand sanitizer	
Shaving Cream		

Personal Directed Lenten Retreat

"Come, follow me." Mt.4:19

When Jesus called the apostles, he spoke to their hearts and they heard with their hearts and were moved from within to respond to God's call. They left where they were to go where they were called.

Choices and actions flow from what fills your heart. This retreat is about searching, opening, and cleansing your heart to hear and respond to God as he works in your life each day. Prayer, reading, and reflection will help open your heart. Guided by the Holy Spirit as we meet, you will explore the path you are on. As you search your heart for whatever is hindering a full response to God's call, you may become more aware of what is taking space in your heart and is difficult to surrender to answer his call.

This retreat is designed to be affordable, convenient, and meet your needs. Begin your retreat any time during Lent. We will meet for 4 one-hour sessions of Spiritual Direction via Zoom, telephone, or in person on a convenient day and time. Provided retreat materials will support your journey through Scripture and spiritual writings. Retreat begins February 22 and ends April 6. Suggested Donation \$85.00.

Call (978) 462-7483 or email emccarthy1028@hotmail.com to register and for additional information. Spiritual Director: Elizabeth McCarthy, Certified Spiritual Director.



LENT

COLLABORATIVE NEWS

Easter Flower Donations



Each Easter we are able to beautifully decorate our three churches with Easter flowers as a result of the donations from our parishioners and friends who generously contribute in memory of or in honor of loved ones. The flowers and other decorations that make our churches look so stunning each Easter would not be possible without your continued support.

Please consider making a donation "in memory" of a deceased loved one or "in honor" of someone special in your life. Flower envelopes have been included in the envelope packets mailed to your home or you can pick one up in the back of any of our churches. Drop them in the collection any Sunday or mail them to the HR or IC offices (see addresses page 2). Deadline to see your gift included in the Easter bulletin is **noon on Friday, March 31**.

Second Collection Feb. 25-26

This week's second collection will support the Church in those underdeveloped areas of the world where there are insufficient resources for evangelization and formation. Catholic Relief Services (CRS), the Church in Africa and in Central and Eastern Europe and three important national Catholic missions: The Military Archdiocese, Home Missions, and the Black and Indian Missions. Your generosity to this collection will help fund the spiritual, educational and humanitarian needs of the Church around the world. For more information about each of these organizations go to their websites:

1. CRS: www.usccb.org/catholic-relief;
2. Church in Africa: www.usccb.org/africa
3. Church in Central and Eastern Europe: www.usccb.org/ccee
4. Military Archdiocese: www.milarch.org
5. Catholic Home Missions: www.usccb.org/home-missions
6. Black and Indian Missions <https://blackandindianmission.org/>

AED and First Aid Kits

We have purchased additional stop-bleed kits for our locations. They, along with AEDs or Automated External Defibrillators kits and updated first-aid kits have been installed in all of our worship spaces and parish halls. We now have 2 in each church and in the IC Parish Center.

The total cost for these complete kits (AED, stop-bleed, and first aid) with their respective cabinets and required supplies has increased to a total of \$17,533 (\$2,192 each). To date we have received \$7,793 in donations to help pay for the purchase of these life-saving kits.

We still need \$9,740 to cover the costs of all 8 kit locations. We invite parishioners who are able to consider making a donation to help pay for these potentially life-saving kits. Full or partial donations for these sets are welcome and appreciated for both parishes.

Please contact Dennis LaMalfa in our business office for more information. Thank you for your generosity in the care of others!

Collaborative Faith Formation

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

Summer 2023 Faith Formation Week
Mark your calendars! Grades 3-8
June 26-30, 9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. each day.

Lent Family Festival

February 26, 10:00-11:30 a.m. at the IC Pastoral Center. This event is sponsored by and is an important aspect of Faith Formation for those enrolled but any parish family is also invited to attend, even if not enrolled this year.

Holy Week & Easter Family Festival

April 2, 10:00-11:30 a.m. at the IC Pastoral Center. All are welcome to attend and walk together with our Lord as we celebrate His last days in Jerusalem through His Passion, death, and wondrous Resurrection on Easter Sunday.

School Year Programs (Grades K-10)

School year Faith Formation and Sacramental preparation schedules and registration forms are available on the website at (hriccatholic.org/Faith-Formation). Please contact the Faith Formation office (978-462-2724 x405) with any questions or reach out via email to Aaron (agiard@hriccatholic.org) or Melinda (burrell@hriccatholic.org).

Baptism

No Baptisms will be taking place during the season of Lent. We will resume our schedule of celebrating this sacrament the second Sunday of each month at IC Church beginning in May at 1:30 p.m. Please call the Collaborative offices (978-462-2724 or 978-346-8604) for more information.

Knights of Columbus



All men of the Collaborative, 18 years or older, are welcome to join the Knights.

We meet the second Tuesday of each month in the IC Nazareth Library. Also, all are welcome to join us on the first Sunday of every month after the 9:00 a.m. Mass at the parish center for coffee and donuts.

For more information about our meetings or to join the Knights, call 978-225-0804 or email kofc231@outlook.com.

Catholic Appeal 2023

Faith in Action. It all starts with YOU.

In the next two weekends, the 2023 Catholic Appeal will officially launch here in our Collaborative and across the Archdiocese. One of the most meaningful ways that we witness the presence of Christ and deepen the impact of our Church's ministries is by supporting the Catholic Appeal. Please prayerfully consider extending your generosity to this year's appeal. When our parishes reach their goals, a portion of the additional funds received in each separate parish will be returned to it for use in the parish. To make a gift online, scan the QR code to the right or visit www.bostoncatholicappeal.org/donate-now.



HOLY REDEEMER PARISH

HR Offertory Collection

HR Offertory, Feb. 18–19 **\$1,234.00**
St. Vincent de Paul **\$ 911.00**

The second collection this weekend (Feb. 26) is Support of the Church around the World. See page 6 for more details. The second collection next weekend (Mar. 5) is Fuel. Unless otherwise indicated, make out checks to Holy Redeemer Parish with the second collection noted in the memo.

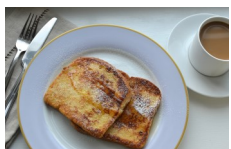
If you would like to mail in your collections, send them to **Holy Redeemer Parish, 4 Green Street, Merrimac, MA 01860**

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

**HR Grand Annual
Goal \$25,000
To Date \$18,995.00**



Fellowship, French Toast, and Coffee



All are welcome to Fellowship, French Toast, and Coffee in the Nativity hall after the 8:30 Mass on **February 26**. Please join us for coffee and conversation!

HR St. Vincent de Paul



With the Lenten observances of prayer, fasting, and almsgiving upon us, our conference is bringing back the tradition of the **Mite Box**. These boxes will be available in the back of the churches.

Please take one. Try to add a few coins each day. Try to engage your children and grandchildren in the meaning of "giving back" so that a life-long tradition is established. Simply return the Mite Box during Holy Week.

Please give what you can so that we can continue to make a difference in the lives of the poor around us. Don't forget the clothes collection bin behind the Green St, Merrimac rectory as well as one in the rear of the parking lot of the West Newbury Food Mart. As always, we appreciate your generosity.

If you know of someone who needs help, please have them call our hotline at 978-346-8604 X4.

Simple Supper and Stations of the Cross at Nativity

Simple Suppers will be served at 5:15 p.m. in Nativity Hall before Stations of the Cross at 6:00 p.m. in Nativity Church.

Anyone who would like to lead the Stations of the Cross can sign up on Friday in the church. There will be a sign up sheet available at Stations for those who want to volunteer.

HR Online Giving

It's convenient and safe. To learn more about Online giving (one-time or recurring donation options available), visit our website, hricatholic.org and click the "Links" tab, then click on "HR Parish Online Giving" to get to the site or contact Christine Breslow at 978-462-2724 x 402.

Bake Sale Thank You

A big thank you to all who baked and all who purchased baked goods last weekend. You were all so generous with your donations. Proceeds will go toward the Simple Suppers on Fridays during Lent.

Shawls and Lapghans

Shawls and lapghans are given freely as a gift, to offer comfort and joy! We would be happy to deliver to anyone. Or if you personally would like to give one to a friend, relative or neighbor, please contact Helen at 978-771-4673 or hvktax@aol.com. Come join us. Don't know how to knit or crochet? We will teach you!

We will be taking a "winter break" from our meetings until May 4, but will continue to deliver shawls and lapghans to those who need them during our break. When we start again, we meet on the first Thursday of every month at Nativity Hall in Merrimac at 2:00 p.m. **Our next meeting is Thursday, May 4. All are welcome!**

Volunteers during Confessions this Lent

We are looking for parishioners from St. Ann to be present in the church during Wednesday night Confessions from 6:30–8:00 p.m. on March 1, 15, and 22. This is a wonderful opportunity to attend Confession and sit in the silence of the church to pray or read. There is nothing to do—just be a presence in the church during Confessions. To volunteer, contact Melinda at 978-346-8604. Thank you.

Saturday Mass at Nativity

Please remember that our Saturday 4:00 p.m. Mass will move to **Nativity, Merrimac** for the month of **March**.

A NUDGE to get you Spring Cleaning!

The Activities Committee will be having an **Indoor Yard Sale** in the Nativity Hall on **Saturday, April 29** from 9:00 a.m.–3:00 p.m. We are asking you to look around your home and donate those items that you just don't need or use anymore, but are still in good condition. We will be accepting your donations (no clothing, please) on the 2 weekends before the yard sale: Saturdays, April 15 and 22 from 1:30–3:30 p.m. and Sundays, April 16 and 23 from 9:30–11:30 a.m. Please know, we will **not** be able to accept donations the day of the yard sale.

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION PARISH

IC Offertory Collection

IC Offertory, Feb. 18–19 **\$3,438.00**
St. Vincent de Paul **\$2,665.00**

The second collection this weekend (Feb. 26) is *Support of the Church around the World*. See page 6 for more details. The second collection next weekend (Mar. 5) is *Utility & Energy*. Unless otherwise indicated, make out checks to Immaculate Conception Parish with the second collection noted in the memo.

If you would like to mail in your envelopes, send them to **Immaculate Conception Parish, 42 Green Street, Newburyport, MA 01950**.

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

IC Grand Annual
Goal \$100,000
To Date \$79,525.00



St. Patrick's Day Dinner

Get your Irish on and join us for a fun time and a traditional Irish dinner!! This is the first in a series of events celebrating the **175th Anniversary of Immaculate Conception Parish**.

Date: Friday, March 17

Time: 1st seating: 4:00–5:30 p.m.

2nd seating: 6:00–8:00 p.m.

Place: IC St. Louis Hall

Price: Adults \$15, Children under 12 \$10

There will be music by the Holy Jammers, raffles, and a few surprises!

Due to space limitations in the hall, there will be two seatings as noted above. Tickets will be sold following all IC Masses beginning the weekend of February 25–26 or stop by IC offices to purchase tickets. Attendees must have a ticket to attend.



Immaculate Conception School

How Sweet It Is!

Every month, the students of Immaculate Conception School provide very generous donations of goods to the food pantry at First Parish Church in Newbury.



In February, the ICS girls' basketball team assembled some sweet treats in honor of Valentine's Day to be shared with senior guests of the food pantry. Brightly colored, ribbon-tied packages filled with a variety of candies brought great joy to the recipients of this kind and thoughtful gesture.

Way to go, team!
You are all MVPs!



Ultreya

Reminder our regional Ultreya will take place at 7:00 p.m. on Friday, March 3 at IC's St. James Chapel and the Charity Dining Room.

Join our brothers and sisters from Amesbury, Haverhill, and Newburyport in prayer for those living their weekend.

De Colores!

Substitute Custodians

IC Parish is looking for substitute Custodians to work on an as-needed basis. Duties would include cleaning, event setup, and snow removal. If you are interested in becoming a substitute custodian, please contact Christine or Melinda in the IC offices, 978-462-2724.



Hospitality Sunday

1st Sundays after the 9AM Mass | Parish Center



Join the Knights for **FREE Coffee and Donuts** after the 9AM mass **every first Sunday**.



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IC Haiti

May the Lord continue to bless our ongoing efforts to support the people of Haiti. We thank Him for offering us a ministry of service to our brothers and sisters in Christ.

If you would like to contribute to IC Haiti, please mail checks to **IC Haiti, 42 Green Street, Newburyport, MA. 01950**. Checks should be made out to "IC Haiti."

IC PARISH

Immaculate Conception Parish: 175th Anniversary



Immaculate Conception Parish celebrates its 175th anniversary in 2023.

In celebration of this milestone of faith and service to the greater Newburyport community, the parish is planning a series of events throughout the year.

A committee has formed to create, plan, and execute these year-long events, focused on celebrating the history of our parish and our patroness. Want to be a part of the planning? The next committee meeting is March 1 at 6:30 p.m. in IC St. Louis Hall.

IC St. Vincent de Paul



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

You can now make online donations on our website: www.svdnewburyport.org. If you would like to mail in your donation, please make your check payable to "SVP of Newburyport" and drop it 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

We serve our weekly Breaking Bread meal on Tuesday evenings. It is a hot, nourishing, 3-course dinner which is currently **take out only** and is distributed at the entrance to the IC Parish Center from 4:30–5:30 p.m. All are welcome!

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The Compassionate Friends



The Compassionate Friends provides support for bereaved families after the loss of a child, grandchild, or sibling—any age, any cause. Visit our website tcfnewburyport.org.

Our next monthly support meeting is **February 27** in the IC Parish Center, Room 209 from 7:30–9:00 p.m. Contact Barbara with questions: 978-697-1349 or 617-410-6309, or barbarajhopkinson@gmail.com.

Free Hair Cuts



Donna Koen, an IC parishioner and licensed hairdresser for 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.

COLLABORATIVE NEWS

Prayers for the Sick

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

Priscilla Brown
Baby Boyle
Judy Capone
Bill Crounse
Drew Daubach
Kristen D'Entremont
Carol Ann Doyle
Ann-Margaret Ferrante
Jack Flynn
Jeanine Ebacher Fowler
Charmaine Haan
Hillar Haan

Jay Hanslig
Terence Healey
Sam Kitchen
Lee Preble
Douglas Rose
Robert Rose
Maureen Russell
Rob Schweizer
Yvonne Sloban
Tom Tribble
Michael Tucker
Laurent Vincent

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

women at the well

We invite all women to come join us at any time, no matter where you may be in your relationship with God. The new study, *Keeping in Balance from Walking with Purpose*, is all about managing life's pace and pressure while living with calm and steadiness rooted in Christ. We meet Mondays at 6:30 p.m. in person at the IC Parish Center and virtually on Zoom. If you have any questions, or would like to join via Zoom, please email hricwomenatthewell@gmail.com for the link.

If you are unable to make it to every meeting, please do not worry! This group is designed to allow you to drop in whenever you are able to join us, no pre-reading necessary from week to week.

Songs of Mary Concert

The New England Classical Singers will present its concert, *Songs of Mary*, on March 5 at 3 p.m. at Christ Church, 33 Central Street, Andover. A pre-concert lecture by Andrew Shryock will take place at 2 p.m.

Conducted by well known director, David Hodgkins, the works include both Vivaldi and Pergolesi Magnificat, as well as pieces by Bach, Mozart, Pergolesi, and Martini.

Purchase tickets online at newenglandclassical.org or at the door on the day of the concert. Come and enjoy an afternoon of moving, sacred music. You might even recognize one of the singers!

Retrouvaille

Rediscover Your Marriage

Retrouvaille (retro-vi) means "rediscovery." The program offers the chance to rediscover yourself, your spouse, and a loving marriage. We teach couples a new way to communicate. Thousands of couples have successfully transformed their marriages by attending.

We have a weekend coming up on March 10 in Andover. Visit HelpOurMarriage.org to learn more.

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