

**CHURCH NAME AND ADDRESS**

Immaculate Conception  
353 Grove Street  
Worcester, MA 01605-3907

**PHONE NUMBER**

508-754-8419

**CONTACT PERSON**

Sharon Rainville

**CHURCH NUMBER**

005046

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**SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS**

# Immaculate Conception Parish



## **RECTORY ADDRESS**

353 Grove Street, Worcester, MA 01605  
Phone: 508-754-8419 Fax: 508-754-8508  
Religious Education Phone: 508-868-8119

Rev. Walter J. Riley, **PASTOR**

KEVIN DEIGNAN, **PERMANENT DEACON**

FRANK MYSKA, **PERMANENT DEACON**

MARY SYCKS **ADMINISTRATOR OF RELIGIOUS  
EDUCATION AND YOUTH MINISTER**

C. Henry Mason, **MUSIC DIRECTOR**

Sharon Rainville, **PARISH SECRETARY**

Matthew Foster, **PASTORAL COUNCIL CHAIRMAN**

LYNDA MONAHAN, **SAFE ENVIRONMENT  
COORDINATOR**

**Please visit our website at**

**[www.icworc.com](http://www.icworc.com) and Facebook**

## **SUNDAY MASSES**

**SATURDAY VIGIL: 4:00 PM**

**SUNDAY: 7:30 AM, 10:00 AM**

## **WEEKDAY MASSES**

**MONDAY, TUESDAY, WEDNESDAY 9:00 AM**

**THURSDAY 8:00 AM**

## **SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION**

Saturday 3:00 - 4:00 PM

(or by appointment)

## **SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM**

Parents and godparents of infants to be baptized are expected to participate in a preparation session. Call the Rectory to register for this process and set a date for the actual Baptism. For Baptism of adults please contact the Rectory.

## **SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE**

Please contact the rectory one year prior to your desired wedding date

## **SACRAMENT OF ANOINTING OF THE SICK**

Father Walter can be called whenever someone can benefit from this sacrament of healing.

## **NEW PARISHIONERS**

Anyone is welcome to join the Parish Community.  
Please contact the Rectory and introduce yourself.

**MASS INTENTIONS**

Sat.	May 18	4:00 PM	Orlando Fleury by family
Sun.	May 19	7:30 AM	Marie Riley, Birthday Memorial
		10:00 AM	Gloria Venuti by Carolyn Cowal
Mon.	May 20	9:00 AM	Parishioners of Immaculate Conception (St. Bernardine of Siena)
Tues.	May 21	9:00 AM	Donald Letendre by his family (St. Christopher Magallanes and Companions)
Wed.	May 22	9:00 AM	Intentions of our Blessed Mother (St. Rita of Cascia)
Thurs.	May 23	8:00 AM	Souls in Purgatory
Sat.	May 25	4:00 PM	Peter Klein by a friend
Sun.	May 26	7:30 AM	Joseph C. Lonergan, 17th Anniversary by family
		10:00 AM	Daniel and Margaret O'Brien by daughters

**THIS WEEK** the text for the Pentecost Sunday may be found at #941 in the *Journeysongs* hymnal.

**FRIDAY FASTING AND INTENTION**

Thank you to all in our parish who participate in our weekly Friday fast of abstaining from meat and fasting for one meal. This early Catholic tradition is a wonderful way of reminding ourselves of Jesus' ultimate sacrifice for all of us on Good Friday. The intention for the upcoming is *for all those who struggle with their faith in some way, that the Holy spirit will lead them to truth and peace, especially members of our families.*

**SEMINARIAN FOR THE SUMMER AND BEYOND**

Returning for a 2nd appearance this summer will be seminarian, soon to be deacon, Jim Boland. Jim will be coming to Immaculate Conception for his summer assignment once again, beginning on May 20th. Jim will be ordained to the transitional diaconate at St. Paul's Cathedral on June 1st, and to the priesthood of Jesus Christ next year at this time. Because Jim will be entering 4th Theology in the fall, the custom is for seminarians in their last year of studies to go out to their assigned parish each weekend. Meaning, he will be here with us at Immaculate Conception through his priestly ordination next year, of which we will be blessed to share with him. More on that later. In the present, please welcome Jim back as we look forward to him sharing his faith, wisdom, and talents with all of us in our parish community.

**IMMACULATE CONCEPTION FACEBOOK PAGE**

Facebook can now be accessed from our Immaculate Conception parish website. Our hope is to have photos of the activities that take place in our parish throughout the year, as well as the Scouts who use our facilities.

**ALTAR SERVERS**...Anyone who has received their First Communion and would like to become an altar server, please speak with either Fr. Riley or deacons Kevin and Frank. With some servers graduating this year and moving on to college, we are in need of servers for the different Masses, especially the 4:00 p.m. vigil Mass on Saturdays. Thank you.

**DEANERY HOLY HOUR FOR LIFE AND RELIGIOUS LIBERTY**

This coming Tuesday, May 21st, St. Joan of Arc Parish will be holding our Deanery's Holy Hour for the dignity and respect of all human life and for religious liberty in our nation. These holy Hours are being held in all the parishes of our Deanery throughout the course of this year. It begins at 6:00 p.m. St. Joan of Arc is located at 570 Lincoln Street just after the Lincoln Plaza.

**PILGRIMAGE TO THE HOLY LAND**

There will be a pilgrimage to the Holy Land with Fr. Bob Grattaroti, Pastor of St. Joseph's Parish in Charlton, from February 4-13, 2014. Visit Bethlehem, Galilee, Jerusalem, and more. Daily Mass will be held at the Holy Sites. Call Mike Milano at 1-800-773-2660 for a flyer and more information.

**NEW PARISH ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE** ...has set up a Flea Market event at the Connor's Center on June 22nd from 8 a.m. until 4 p.m. Reserve Tables ASAP by calling Jim/Beverly Hester at 508-852-3473 or email bevhester13@gmail.com.

**PARTNERS IN CHARITY 2013**

Thus far, our parish has raised \$78,076 (84%) toward our goal of \$93,200 for the Partners in Charity Appeal. Thank you to the 182 donors who have made donations for the Appeal. Envelopes will remain in the pews and at each entrance to the Church for anyone else willing to make a donation on behalf of Immaculate Conception.

Every donation helps toward reaching our goal. To make payments easier, please consider spreading your donation over the course of 10 months. For those who wish to donate online, you can do so through the Diocese of Worcester website at [worcesterdioocese.org](http://worcesterdioocese.org).

**RELIGIOUS LIBERTY**

Why does the mandate to cover contraception, including abortion-causing drugs and sterilization, violate religious liberty? As Archbishop William Lori of Baltimore, Chairman of the Ad Hoc Committee on Religious Liberty, testified to Congress: "This is not a matter of whether contraception may be *prohibited* by the government. Instead, it is a matter of whether religious people and institutions may be *forced* by the government to provide coverage for contraception or sterilization, even if that violates their religious beliefs."

**YEAR OF FAITH**

The Gospels begin by assuming the liturgical life of Israel. Jesus is circumcised (Lk 2:21) and presented in the Temple with a sacrifice (Lk 2:22-38); the Holy Family goes to Jerusalem yearly for Passover (Lk 2:41); and Jesus continues this during his public ministry (Mt 26:1-5), as well as for the feast of Tabernacles (Jn 7:2, 10-14). This shows that Jesus lived in continuity with the Old Testament liturgical worship.

**WORCESTER EMMANUEL RADIO 1230AM**

When at home or driving in your vehicle, be sure to check out and tune into the Catholic radio station Emmanuel Radio, 1230 on the AM dial. We are very blessed in this area to have Catholic radio, as Worcester joins over 200 other Catholic affiliates throughout the country in the sharing and learning of our faith.

**THE POPE APP**

For those who wish to follow the new Holy Father, Pope Francis, look into downloading "The Pope App." It allows us Catholics the opportunity to follow Francis on a daily basis, and read some of the reflections and homilies he presents each day. The download is free.

**RELIGIOUS QUOTE OF THE WEEK**

"He had promised through the prophets that in these last days he would pour out his Spirit on his servants and handmaids, and that they would prophesy. So when the Son of God became the Son of Man, the Spirit also descended upon him, becoming accustomed in this way to dwelling with the human race."

*St. Irenaeus (d. early 3rd Century)*

**RELIGIOUS READING**

A reminder that there are a number of books in a small bookcase located in the candle and prayer room in the back of the Church. These books are from Fr. Riley's personal library. Anyone is invited to take one or two, or more, for spiritual reading, with the expectation of returning them when finished. There are many excellent topics on the shelves connected to our faith. Some new titles have been recently placed into the bookcase.

**PLAY ABOUT FR. CONNORS**

This Saturday, May 18th at 6:00 p.m. at the Fr. Connors Center, a dramatic reading of MARCH TO GRACE will be held on stage. The play, written by a former parishioner of Immaculate Conception, Eirinn Buckley Campaniello, addresses the life of our beloved Pastor, Fr. Edward T. Connors and his experiences during World War II as Chaplain of the 9th Division. All are invited to attend this play supported by the Worcester Arts Council. Tickets are \$10.00 for adults and \$5.00 for senior citizens. There will be lite refreshments, a raffle, and silent auction at 4:30 p.m., with proceeds going to local charities. Also expected on the upper grounds for the afternoon outside the Fr. Connors Center is a World War II tank.

**HOPE FOR HOUSING FOOD CARDS**

Thank you to those in our parish who continue to support this vital ministry toward those on the verge of homelessness. Your weekly/monthly purchases help to stem the tide of those struggling to remain in their homes. The purpose of Hope for Housing is to prevent homelessness. Each year this organization does so on behalf of numerous families through our common purchase of food cards, in union with many other parishes in Worcester County. For our parishioners who have not done so yet, please consider assisting in this ministry that costs us nothing, yet builds up our community. A \$50 food card is worth \$50. Last week's total purchases for our parish was \$400.00. Thank you for your support.

**SACRAMENTALIZING MARRIAGES**

I extend an offer to any and all Catholic couples, or anyone who knows or is related to a couple, who were married by either a Justice of the Peace, or by a Minister without the presence of a Catholic priest, to consider having your marriage become a Sacramental relationship blessed in the Catholic Church. I'm not sure where to begin on this topic; either the Church has done a poor job catechizing and teaching sacramental marriage as the fullness of the marital relationship, or a whole generation is simply missing the message on how a baptized Catholic is meant to be married in the church. This issue is much too important to ignore. I invite any couple to contact me at the church if either spouse, or both spouses, are baptized Catholic and your marriage is presently not a sacramental relationship. The process for making your marriage a sacrament is, and trust me when I say this, very easy. The purpose here is to bring marriages for Catholics to the point where they are meant to be in the eyes of God, that being the Sacrament of Matrimony.

Fr. Riley

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT**

Sunday Ordinary Income \$4095 Ascension \$663  
Misc. Envelopes \$ 30

## **FROM THE PASTOR**

**T**ongues of fire.

The image for Pentecost is one of brightness and form. The form being the tongue, brightness the fire. Bringing the form and brightness together, what we have in the faith are voices that shine with the news of salvation. With the news of re-creation.

As the Apostles are gathered together in the Upper Room where Jesus has already appeared to them at least twice as given to us in the Scriptures (without Thomas and one week later with Thomas), the Force of God, known as the Spirit, fulfills the promise our Lord made to them after his resurrection and ascension. "Go back to Jerusalem, and stay there until you receive what was promised from on high." Today we celebrate in form and brightness that promise.

The form of a tongue represents our capacity and ability to speak the truth of God. The truth that Jesus is raised from the dead and that salvation belongs to those who worship the Lord of all. The tongue is an image that invites us to speak the words of God. This is why it's so important to continue to learn our faith over the course of our lives. To read the Scriptures and the writings of the saints, of which one lifetime cannot possibly take in completely. The form of the tongue at Pentecost is an image of communication. One does not need to speak in order to get across a message. Actions will cause the same result, in many cases more clearly and forcefully. The form of the tongue also knows when to remain silent, as Jesus predominantly did throughout his Passion. The form of the tongue contains the wisdom of knowing when and what to speak, and when and what not to.

The brightness, meaning the fire the Apostles receive, symbolizes truth. In a world where so many claim to have the truth, and where so many have figured out the meaning of life, the truth is that there is only one truth; that Jesus is Lord and no one else is. This does not mean as Catholics we somehow disrespect those who disagree with us. On the contrary. Where there is genuine love and a search for the good, there is the Spirit of God. The brightness of God's love is capable of being accepted and lived by all through the natural law. But the brightness of Pentecost also means something very personal for all the baptized; that God's light shines within by virtue of our baptism. And that responsibility of sharing the light of Christ is a solemn one for Christians.

Tongues of fire. Form and brightness. Speak to the Light, who is Christ.



Peace  
*Fr. Riley*

**THIS WEEK AT**  
**IMMACULATE CONCEPTION**

Sat.	May 18	3:00 PM 4:00 PM	Confessions Mass
Sun.	May 19	7:30 AM 10:00 AM	Mass Mass
Mon.	May 20	8:30 AM 9:00 AM	Rosary Mass
Tues.	May 21	8:30 AM 9:00 AM 7:00 PM	Rosary Mass Boy Scouts
Wed.	May 22	8:30 AM 9:00 AM 6:00 PM	Rosary Mass Girl Scouts
Thurs.	May 23	7:30 AM 8:00 AM	Rosary Mass
Fri.	May 24		
Sat.	May 25	3:00 PM 4:00 PM	Confessions Mass
Sun.	May 26	7:30 AM 10:00 AM	Mass Mass

**YES, WE WOULD LIKE TO REGISTER  
AT IMMACULATE CONCEPTION!!**

**Name** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**City  
& Zip** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone** \_\_\_\_\_

**Number of People in Household** \_\_\_\_\_

**PLEASE, TEAR THIS OFF AND PLACE IN THE  
COLLECTION BASKET!**