

**CHURCH NAME AND ADDRESS**

Immaculate Conception  
353 Grove Street  
Worcester, MA 01605-3907

**PHONE NUMBER**

508-754-8419

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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 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
Mon.	May 27	9:00 AM	Parishioners of Immaculate Conception (St. Augustine of Canterbury)
Tues.	May 28	9:00 AM	Pamela Potenti by family
Wed.	May 29	9:00 AM	No Mass
Thurs.	May 30	8:00 AM	No Mass
Sat.	June 1	4:00 PM	
Sun.	June 2	7:30 AM	Parishioners of Immaculate Conception
		10:00 AM	Geraldine Wentzell, 1st Anniversary by family

**THIS WEEK** the text for the Most Holy Trinity Sunday may be found at #944 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 Friday is *for the souls in Purgatory, especially any of our loved ones, that God will bring them to their eternal reward in heaven.*

**SEMINARIAN JIM BOLAND'S DIACONATE ORDINATION**

Next Saturday, June 1st, our summer seminarian Jim Boland will be ordained to the transitional diaconate at St. Paul's Cathedral in Worcester at 10:00 a.m. In the church there are two forms of deacons; Permanent deacons, such as Kevin Deignan and Frank Myska, meaning they remain as deacons, and transitional Deacons, who, like Jim Boland, will transition from the diaconate state into the Priesthood. For next week's ordination, all are invited to the Cathedral to witness this joyous day for the Church and for Jim and his family. No invitation is needed to attend the ordination. Hope to see you there.

**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.

**PARTNERS IN CHARITY 2013**

Thus far, our parish has raised \$79,576 (85%) toward our goal of \$93,200 for the Partners in Charity Appeal. Thank you to the 185 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 [worcesterdiocese.org](http://worcesterdiocese.org).

**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.

**YEAR OF FAITH**

A key to understanding Jesus' new liturgy is the discourse in John 6:22-71. It begins with Jesus rebuking the crowd that wanted mere food that perishes instead of food for eternal life. Then he explains, "This is the work of God, that you believe in him whom he has sent" (Jn 6:29). Jesus treats faith as essential for understanding his teaching.

From the Book *The Year of Faith*, Fr. Mitch Pacwa

**NO MASS WEDNESDAY & THURSDAY**

There will be **no** weekday Mass this coming week on **Wednesday and Thursday, May 29th and 30th**, due to Fr. Riley being away at the annual Priest Assembly. Mass will be held at Christ the King Church on those days at 7:00 a.m. for those wishing to attend Mass.

**COLLECTION FOR THE CATHOLIC COMMUNICATION CAMPAIGN (CCC) NEXT WEEK**

—This collection communicates the Good News through Catholic social media activities and enriches our faith through podcasts, television, radio, and print media. Half of all proceeds remain in our diocese, so please be generous in this collection. CCC is how the Good News gets around *to you*.



**Memorial Day**

**RELIGIOUS LIBERTY**

How have religious liberty questions affected other religious bodies? In 1994, New York City’s Department of Education denied the request of the Bronx Household of Faith and sixty other churches to rent space from public schools on weekends for worship services, even though non-religious groups could rent the same schools for scores of other uses. The City has been investigating what the churches do in the public schools and has made its own assessments of whether the meetings constituted a “worship service” or not. In late February, 2012, a federal district court issued a preliminary injunction, ruling that the city’s policy violated the Free Exercise Clause and the Establishment Clause. While the DOE’s discrimination would not frequently affect Catholic parishes, which generally own their own buildings, it would be devastating to many smaller congregations. It is a simple case of discrimination against religious believers.

**BOY SCOUT PANCAKE BREAKFAST**

Pancake Breakfast/can drive on **Sunday, June 2nd** to benefit the Boy Scouts. Come help the boys earn their way to camp this summer. The boys will also be collecting bottles and cans. \$4 kids, \$6 adults, \$20 family max.

**HOLY HOUR FOR LIFE AND LIBERTY**

Our monthly Holy Hour for the defense of human life and religious liberty will be held on **Tuesday, June 4th** at 6:00 p.m. in the church.

**RELIGIOUS QUOTE OF THE WEEK**

“For such is the power of great minds, such the light of truly believing souls, that they put unhesitating faith in what is not seen with the bodily eye; they fix their desires on what is beyond sight. Such fidelity could never be born in our hearts, nor could anyone be justified by faith, if our salvation lay only in what was visible.”

*St. Leo the Great (c.400-461)*

**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.

**FOOD PANTRY** needs donations of peanut butter, jelly, baked beans, spam, canned fruit and vegetables, rice pilaf, instant mashed potatoes, crackers, and juice. Thank you.

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT**

Sunday Ordinary Income	\$2997
Online Donations	\$ 845
Misc. Envelopes	\$ 5

**CHILDRENS BULLETINS**

During the Children’s Liturgy summer hiatus, Children’s Bulletins will be available to all children at Immaculate Conception. They can be found at all three entrances in the church. The bulletins offer fun activities relating to the Gospel readings. They are a great tool for families to share their faith together.

**ST. PETER CENTRAL CATHOLIC ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**

, 865 Main Street, Worcester will host an Open House on **Wednesday, June 5, 2013** from 5:30-7:00 p.m. St. Peter’s has openings in Grades Pre-K-7. Please visit us on June 5th, or call [www.stpetercentralcatholic.com](http://www.stpetercentralcatholic.com).

**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

**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](mailto:bevhester13@gmail.com).

## **FROM THE PASTOR**

As we celebrate Memorial Day this weekend (the “unofficial start to summer”), we hold close to our hearts all of our loved ones who have gone before us marked with the seal of faith. We remember also all those who lived and died for our nation so that we may continue to enjoy freedoms that no other nation has had the continuous capacity of enjoying as we do in the United States.

Speaking of united, today we celebrate in the Church Trinity Sunday. Three in one is about as united as one can get. Because God is pure mystery, any attempt at trying to figure out the Trinity results always in futility and frustration. As I like to say each year on this holy day, God is not meant to be figured out in the human head, but lived and experienced in the human heart.

Yes, there are many things we “know” about God of which the Scriptures inform us. For example, “God is love.” This we know. This truth is non-negotiable, as we like to say. It is a point where debate is not part of the scene. God is love. And if any concrete proof is needed, then just turn our eyes to a crucifix, and that’s all the proof we’ll ever need.

Also, God is light, and in him there is no darkness. This we know. We know that all the tragedies in our world where evil reveals itself in too many obvious ways are from the Evil One. God’s light and love are the characteristics of our Creator that brings forth light from darkness and love from hateful acts. Have we ever blamed God for “causing” a tragedy, or “allowing” a tragedy to happen? We must look toward the eternal good in such circumstances, and see that our Lord has overcome physical, temporary disasters and brings about a better day in eternity.

These are just a couple things we “know” about God, among many others. But knowing God is not a mere intellectual endeavor, but rather the determination to seek the ways of love and life. God is experienced when we choose the good. And the good is not defined by individuals, who are all too good at messing up and confusing the good with the not so good. The good is defined by our faith in Jesus Christ. There are no sins that make up Christianity. To follow Christ is to follow the path to heaven, where sin is an eternally disinvited guest. So, on Trinity Sunday we give thanks to our loving and merciful God for allowing us the grace to experience His presence in our lives. We experience the Spirit in the ways we live and move and have our being in the faith. We experience Jesus our Lord and Savior most profoundly in the Eucharist. And we experience the Father of all in the very fact of our existence.

May God bless us this Memorial Day in the United States as we keep close the memories of our loved ones. May the Lord in His love and light grant them eternal rest.

Peace  
Fr. Riley

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

Sat.	May 25	3:00 PM 4:00 PM	Confessions Mass
Sun.	May 26	7:30 AM 10:00 AM	Mass Mass
Mon.	May 27	8:30 AM 9:00 AM	Rosary Mass
Tues.	May 28	8:30 AM 9:00 AM 7:00 PM	Rosary Mass Boy Scouts
Wed.	May 29	8:30 AM 9:00 AM 6:00 PM	<b>NO</b> Rosary <b>NO</b> Mass Girl Scouts
Thurs.	May 30	7:30 AM 8:00 AM	<b>NO</b> Rosary <b>NO</b> Mass
Fri.	May 31		
Sat.	June 1	3:00 PM 4:00 PM	Confessions Mass
Sun.	June 2	7:30 AM 10:00 AM	Mass Mass

*Pancake Breakfast after 7:30 & 10 a.m. Masses*

**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!**