

CHURCH NAME AND ADDRESS

Immaculate Conception
353 Grove Street
Worcester, MA 01605-3907

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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 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.	June 1	4:00 PM	Al Couture, 1st Anniversary by family
Sun.	June 2	7:30 AM	Elaine Lavin, 14th Anniversary by family
		10:00 AM	Geraldine Wentzell, 1st Anniversary by family
Mon.	June 3	9:00 AM	Parishioners of Immaculate Conception (St. Charles Lwanga & Companions)
Tues.	June 4	9:00 AM	Barbara Freeman by family
Wed.	June 5	9:00 AM	Extended Riley family (St. Boniface)
Thurs.	June 6	9:00 AM	(St. Norbert)
Sat.	June 8	4:00 PM	
Sun	June 9	7:30 AM	Brian B. Colonies & Jeannette T. Burns by family



THIS WEEK the text for the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ may be found at #947 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 all Catholics who doubt in their hearts that Jesus is truly present in the Eucharist, that they may come to faith and fully embrace God’s real and gracious presence at Mass.*

CONGRATULATIONS TO DEACON JIM BOLAND

Our Parish family extends sincere congratulations to our summer seminarian Jim Boland who was ordained a transitional Deacon this weekend at St. Paul’s Cathedral. May God bless Jim in his ministry as Deacon and his continued studies over the next year at St. John’s seminary in Brighton. Please keep him in your daily prayers as he continues to prepare for ordination to the priesthood at this time next year.

COLLECTION FOR THE CATHOLIC COMMUNICATION CAMPAIGN (CCC) THIS 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.

PARTNERS IN CHARITY 2013

Thus far, our parish has raised \$80,846 (87%) toward our goal of \$93,200 for the Partners in Charity Appeal. Thank you to the 188 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.

VOCATION CORNER

The Church describes faith as “a theological virtue by which we believe in God and all that he has revealed to us and that the Church proposes for our belief because God is Truth itself.” When it comes to vocation, which means calling, it is important to keep this definition at the forefront of our minds. God has a plan for all of us and is always pouring out His grace to us to accomplish through us. Our job is to receive that grace which comes first and foremost in the sacraments, and in turn, become “other Christ’s” to world. God’s Blessings to you all.

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.

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.

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.

2013-2014 RELIGIOUS EDUCATION REGISTRATION

It's time again to register your child or children in our Religious Education Program for the 2013-2014 year. We are working on the curriculum for the upcoming year and will be ordering materials for each grade soon. Registrations were mailed to all families enrolled in the program last year. Registration forms are also available on our website-www.icworc.com-or you can contact Mary Syeks at 508-868-8119 or email mks723@msn.com. Please return the registration form to the Rectory no later than June 30th.

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.

RELIGIOUS LIBERTY

How have religious liberty questions affected other religious bodies? Regarding Christian students on college campuses, in its 100-year history, the University of California Hastings College of Law has denied student organization status to only one group, the Christian Legal Society, because it required its leaders to be Christian and to abstain from sexual activity outside of marriage.

YEAR OF FAITH

In John, chapter 6, in the Bread of Life Discourse, Jesus explains the meaning of his "new liturgy at the Last Supper, when he takes bread and declares it to be his body and takes wine and declares it to be his blood. Jesus gives them to the apostles so that they can have eternal life. He commands them to 'so this' so that they can bring eternal life to the rest of the world. Jesus simply requires people to believe in him and his words and in particular to believe that he truly gives his flesh and blood so that they might have eternal life."

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

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.

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.

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	\$3716.00
Ascension	\$ 15.00
Catholic Free Press	\$ 23.00

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 \$760.00. 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

RELIGIOUS QUOTE OF THE WEEK

"O precious and wonderful banquet, that brings us salvation and contains all sweetness! Could anything be of more intrinsic value? Under the old law it was the flesh of calves and goats that was offered, but here Christ himself, the true God, is set before us as our food."

St. Thomas Aquinas (1225-1275)

FROM THE PASTOR

I get asked once in a while what is my favorite part of priesthood. While everything related to being ordained into the priesthood of Jesus Christ is rewarding in its own way, if there is one part of priesthood that offers the greater satisfaction it is the responsibility and honor to represent Christ in the actions and words of the liturgy.

While visiting the sick and homebound, praying for sick and the homebound, performing baptisms, marriages, and funerals are without question highlights of serving the Lord in His people, along with the many other responsibilities that accompany priesthood, I would say that most every priest experiences their greatest joy of priesthood when they stand at the altar and offer sacrifice. As we celebrate this Sunday the Feast of Corpus Christi, the Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ, I pray we do so with deep gratitude and a true spiritual sense of joy as our Lord continues to feed us himself, sustains our lives, and gives us a foretaste of his eternal presence.

I recently said in a weekday homily that as Catholics we are not strict fundamentalists in the interpretation of Scripture. The reason being that Scripture contains varying forms of language. To interpret all words in Scripture fundamentally, meaning literally, would be to miss out on the true meaning of what God is speaking to us in the Holy Book. But one thing we do interpret fundamentally are the words of Jesus to “eat his body and drink his blood.” and to do so in remembrance of him.

Does Jesus want us to remember him because he’s afraid we may forget his name? Well, that would be somewhat insecure and shallow on the part of our Lord if this were the reason he spoke those words. Rather, Jesus desires our remembrance of him so that we may embrace him fully here and now, and share presently, even though partially, in the eternity that awaits us. God is quite impatient with wanting to give us Himself, which serves our spiritual benefit in the present. In the Eucharist is contained the truth that our Lord grants us the grace to experience his love prior to our climbing Jacob’s Ladder to heaven.

If you have doubts about the true gift we have in the Eucharist, that our Lord is truly present in the species of bread and wine, then let faith take over. Allow faith to be the bulldozer that levels any doubt, and free your soul to accept God’s free gift. And allow me as a priest, who is blessed enough to stand at the altar of God, to tell you that, based on my personal experiences at the altar, that our Lord’s appearance at every liturgy is certain. You will have to trust me on this one.

Peace
Fr. Riley

THIS WEEK AT
IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

Sat.	June 1	3:00 PM	Confessions
		4:00 PM	Mass
Sun.	June 2	7:30 AM	Mass
		10:00 AM	Mass
	<i>Pancake Breakfast after 7:30 & 10 a.m. Masses</i>		
Mon.	June 3	8:30 AM	Rosary
		9:00 AM	Mass
Tues.	June 4	8:30 AM	Rosary
		9:00 AM	Mass
		7:00 PM	Boy Scouts
Wed.	June 5	8:30 AM	Rosary
		9:00 AM	Mass
		6:00 PM	Girl Scouts
Thurs.	June 6	7:30 AM	Rosary
		8:00 AM	Mass
Fri.	June 7		
Sat.	June 8	3:00 PM	Confessions
		4:00 PM	Mass
Sun.	June 9	7:30 AM	Mass
		10:00 AM	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!**