

CHURCH NAME AND ADDRESS

Immaculate Conception
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SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS

Immaculate Conception Parish



RECTORY ADDRESS

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REV. WALTER 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.

THE MOST HOLY BODY AND BLOOD OF CHRIST

June 22, 2014

MASS INTENTIONS			
Sat.	June 21	4:00 PM	Dr. Charles Vassallo, 23rd Anniversary by family
Sun.	June 22	7:30 AM	John Oakes, 1st Anniversary by family
		10:00 AM	Deceased members of the Monahan family by family
Mon.	June 23	9:00 AM	Donald Letendre by family
Tues.	June 24	9:00 AM	Souls in Purgatory
Wed.	June 25	9:00 AM	Parishioners of Immaculate Conception
Thurs.	June 26	8:00 AM	
Sat.	June 27	4:00 PM	Thomas Coty, Months Mind by The Regele Family
Sun.	June 28	7:30 AM	Anne M. Kelly by family
		10:00 AM	Kevin Eressey, Months Mind by family



THIS WEEK the text for The Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ may be found at #945 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 Fr. Jim Boland as he begins his first priestly assignment at St. Luke's Church in Westboro*

PARTNERS IN CHARITY

Thank you to all of our parishioners who have donated to the Partners in Charity campaign thus far this year. Each donation helps to support the financial lifeline of our Diocese in ways of serving the poor and needy, serving retired priests and seminarians, and serving the many cultural ministries that exist in our diocese, among other necessary ministries. It would be good to reach our parish goal soon, hopefully in the month of June, as opposed to the campaign dragging on over the summer months. In order for this to happen, we would need a donation from most every family in the parish. *Every donation makes a difference.* For those who have not yet made one, we ask that you please consider doing so over the next few weeks to help complete this campaign. Our parish goal is \$93,200. Thus far, we have raise \$88,025.00 (94%) from 189 donors. May God bless our parish and its annual generous response to Partners in Charity.

PARISH SHAWLS

Another Parish in our Diocese has donated a few prayer shawls to Immaculate Conception. Prayer shawls can be a heartfelt gift for people who may be dealing with the effects of cancer or any other disease someone may be suffering from. Also, they can be used for the elderly who may be homebound or possibly a life situation not mentioned here. If you know of someone who can use a prayer shawl, please speak with Fr. Riley. Thank you.

PRAYERS FOR BISHOP MCMANUS

Please keep Bishop McManus in your prayers as he will be having surgery in late June for prostate cancer. His recovery is expected to last through July. May the healing touch of our Risen Lord be upon him.

THANK YOU TO FR. JIM BOLAND AND PARISH ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE

As a Parish, we express our sincere thanks to Fr. Jim Boland for returning last Sunday to preside at the 10:00 Mass. It was a wonderful turnout on behalf of our community to be part of Fr. Jim's Mass of Thanksgiving celebrated in honor of the Most Holy Trinity. To our Parish Activities committee, we owe a loud and heartfelt thank you for setting up the Fr. Connors Center for Fr. Jim's reception after Mass, along with preparing much of the food we enjoyed at the reception, along with absorbing the cost of the entire day. Their generosity is so greatly appreciated. We wish Fr. Jim all the best as he begins his new assignment on July 1st at St. Luke's Church in Westboro. His Pastor will be Msgr. Mike Foley, a priest who is a perfect fit for Fr. Jim.

LEAVING MASS EARLY

Because of the amount of people leaving Mass early at each of the Sunday Masses, I feel compelled to write a few words on this subject. 99% of the time when people leave before the final blessing or final song, or after receiving Communion, it is a result of habit. There is the occasional "I have to go home to care for my sick spouse," which, of course, is understandable. But my guess is that most people leaving the community of faithful a couple minutes early is simply a result of their doing this over the years to the point where it becomes habit. I must confess I take it personally, since it seems the message is, "Fr. Riley, we don't need or want your blessing." I know this is not the case, but I can't help but think such a thought. It's Scriptural to stay to the end. The Holy Sacrifice of the Mass mirrors the Last Supper. At the Last Supper, Mark's Gospel says "Then, after singing a hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives." The singing concluded the celebration. The Eleven stayed after receiving the Lord for the first time in the Eucharistic species, and they stayed until the song was over. I humbly ask that those who leave early out of habit to please rethink and break this habit. There are important events that occur quickly—from reception of Communion to the end of our liturgical celebration. If you know me, you know I don't keep the good people of Immaculate Conception for any length of time at the end of Mass. So I invite anyone who leaves early to stay for my final blessing and, at the 4:00 p.m. and 10:00 a.m. Masses, the final song. Thank you, Fr. Riley

TRANSFORMATION

The effect of our sharing in the Body and Blood of Christ is to change us into what we receive. —Pope St. Leo the Great

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS

We are very excited to offer Vacation Bible Camp at Immaculate Conception! VBC will be the week of June 23rd-27th from 9:30 a.m.—12:30 p.m. and is FREE! Children 5-12 years old are welcome to join us for a fun week of many activities including Bible Stories, Games, Music, Crafts, Snacks and more! Contact Mary Sycks at mks723@msn.com for more information. Registration Forms can be found on our website www.icworc.com.

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.

The CYC will be going to Canobie Lake Park on Sunday, June 22nd. If you are a CYC member or would like to join the CYC, please contact Mary Sycks at mks723@msn.com or 508-868-8119 for more information.

RELIGIOUS LIBERTY

"...in forming their consciences the faithful must pay careful attention to the sacred and certain teaching of the Church. For the Catholic Church is by the will of Christ the teacher of truth. It is her duty to proclaim and teach with authority the truth which is Christ, and, at the same time, to declare and confirm by her authority the principles of the moral order which spring from human nature itself."

Vatican II Document, Declaration on Religious Liberty

DIGNITY OF HUMAN LIFE

"When conscience, this bright lamp of the soul, calls 'evil good and good evil' (Is. 5:20), it is already on the path to the most alarming corruption and the darkest moral blindness. And yet all the conditioning and efforts to enforce silence fail to stifle the voice of the Lord echoing in the conscience of every individual: It is always from this intimate sanctuary of the conscience that a new journey of love, openness, and service to human life can begin."

Blessed John Paul II, from the encyclical *Evangelium Vitae*,
The Gospel of Life

RELIGIOUS QUOTE OF THE WEEK

"Jesus's death on Calvary was not simply a brutal and bloody execution. Jesus's death was transformed by his self-offering in the Upper Room."

Scot Hahn, Consuming the Word

READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY, JUNE 29, Saints Peter and Paul, Apostles

1st Reading: Acts 3:1-10

Psalm 19

2nd Reading: Galatians 1:11-20

Gospel: John 12:15-19

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT

Sunday Ordinary Income \$3514.00

Misc. Envelopes \$ 72.00

PARISH ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE

Coffee Shop will be closed for June, July and August. The Coffee Shop will re-open September 21, 2014 and every third Sunday of the month after the 7:30 & 10 a.m. Masses.

2ND ENVELOPE NEXT WEEK

The annual Peter's Pence collection will be held next week at all Masses on the Feast Day of Saints Peter and Paul. This collection helps to support the works of the Holy Father in his ministry as the Vicar of Christ on earth. Thank you for your support.

HOPE FOR HOUSING FOOD CARDS

Please consider purchasing food cards for the purpose of helping to stop homelessness here in Central Massachusetts. 5% of each card purchased will be donated by the participating grocery chain, while the purchase receives the full value of the card that is purchased. The money raised from this ministry has helped to prevent hundreds of families from being homeless, a situation that no one in our country should have to experience. Last week at Immaculate Conception our parishioners purchased \$420.00 of cards. Thank you to those who continue to participate in this very worthy program.

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

TRIP TO THE SHRINE OF DIVINE MERCY

Our Parish will be hosting a trip to the Shrine of Divine Mercy in Stockbridge, MA on Friday, July 18th. The tour includes a full course Cork n' Hearth luncheon, visit to the national Divine Mercy Shrine in beautiful western Massachusetts, Silver Fox Motor Coach, and a day of good company with others. The cost of the trip is \$59.00 per person. The bus will depart from Immaculate Conception at 8:30 a.m. and return at approximately 6:00 p.m. Please contact Michelle Deignan at 508-853-0820 or mmdeignan@charter.net for sign up. Flyers for the trip will left at each entrance to the Church.

CHOIR CONCERT IN WORCESTER

On Sunday, June 22 at 4 pm, St. John's schola Cantorum and Parish Choir will present choral favorites from the Church's Year. The concert is Free and Open to the Public. The church is Wheelchair accessible. Located @ 44 Temple St., Worcester

FROM THE PASTOR

Mayor Joe Petty said to me, “Nice speech.” I said, “Yea, for the 10 people that listened to it.” And then we both laughed.

I was asked and honored by Mayor Petty to give the invocation last Saturday morning at the democratic State Convention at the DCU Center (I still call it the Centrum). As the proceedings for the day began early in the morning, one of the first pieces of business was the invocation. I offered a prayer of blessing that day for all present at the convention, along with a prayer that all the proceedings that day would be centered on the dignity of the human person and serving the common good in our cities and towns of Massachusetts.

However, a political convention is a setting and event where there is much to talk about. Candidates are vying for position to get on the ballot, and their supporters in the arena are busy catching up on “the peoples’ business.” In other words, it’s anything but quiet, unlike the invocation I gave at the recent Firefighters’ Graduation, where *everyone* listened. After I was introduced by a very nice woman, and as I walked out onto the stage, I noticed there were an estimated 2000-3000 people in the center. The noise was obvious, and I couldn’t help but laugh within, saying to myself, “Go out there, start it, finish it, and get off the stage.” I remembered Cardinal Timothy Dolan’s speech at the national convention, where it seemed no one listened judging by the noise level. I felt like I was in good company.

After the invocation, and as I was leaving behind the stage, I ran into Mayor Petty, and we exchanged the above words. In the end, I knew there was no way everyone’s attention could be had in that type of setting. I believe only Jesus and Abraham Lincoln would have gotten their attention. Sometimes you just have to go with the flow and not take oneself too seriously.

However, here is the setting and the one part of our faith that catches our attention always. Or at least it should. The one part being fed by the Body and Blood of Jesus. Our Lord’s “invocation” on Holy Thursday, which the Apostles listened to attentively, was a “speech” that has been taken with the utmost seriousness—as it should—resulting in our being spiritually fed for the journey we presently walk. Jesus did not give a political speech that night before he died. Our Lord did not give an oration, thanking his supporters for their time and energy spent on his behalf. Christ did not give a long-winded talk on what our communities are to look like, except in the ways of love, peace, and forgiveness. Jesus was not an orator. He is the Son of God who speaks on behalf of heaven.

His speech is short and swift, and right to the point. Especially in John, chapter 6 of this week’s Gospel; “Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood has eternal life.” There words caught everyone’s attention at the time. So much so that some of his disciples left him as a result of their misunderstanding him. (I don’t think I caused anyone to leave the DCU Center, as far as I know).

There are words that sound good, where others may or may not listen. And then there are words that bring life, when they are put into practice. We are so blessed to have the “speech” of Jesus as recorded by John. May we listen to these words closely, allow them to lead us to our eternal home, and have life within us.

Peace,
Fr. Riley

THIS WEEK AT
IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

Sat.	June 21	3:00 PM 4:00 PM	Confessions Mass
Sun.	June 22	7:30 AM 10:00 AM	Mass Mass
Mon.	June 23	8:30 AM 9:00 AM	Rosary Mass
Tues.	June 24	8:30 AM 9:00 AM	Rosary Mass
Wed.	June 25	8:30 AM 9:00 AM	Rosary Mass
Thurs.	June 26	7:30 AM 8:00 AM	Rosary Mass
Fri.	June 27		
Sat.	June 28	3:00 PM 4:00 PM	Confessions Mass
Sun.	June 29	7:30 AM 10:00 AM	Mass Mass

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

Name _____

Address: _____

**City
& Zip** _____

Phone _____

Envelopes _____

Number of People in Household _____

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