

# Immaculate Conception Parish



Please visit our website at  
[www.icworc.com](http://www.icworc.com) and Facebook

## RECTORY ADDRESS

353 Grove Street, Worcester, MA 01605

Phone: 508-754-8419

Fax: 508-306-9718

Religious Education Phone: 508-868-8119

Rectory Hours: M: 9:30am-1:30pm, T: 9:30am-1:30pm

W: 9:30am-1:30pm, F: 9:30am-1:30pm

MOST REV. ROBERT J. MCMANUS, **Bishop of Worcester**

REV. WALTER RILEY, **PASTOR**

REV. ENOCH KYEREMATENG, **IN RESIDENCE**

KEVIN DEIGNAN, **PERMANENT DEACON**

FRANK MYSKA, **PERMANENT DEACON**

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

C. HENRY MASON, **MUSIC DIRECTOR**

BRIDGET KLOFFT, **CANTOR**

ROBERT NOBERINI, **PARISH OFFICE MANAGER**

MATTHEW FOSTER, **PASTORAL COUNCIL CHAIRMAN**

LYNDA MONAHAN, **SAFE ENVIRONMENT COORDINATOR**

## SUNDAY MASSES

**SATURDAY VIGIL: 4:00 PM**

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

## SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Saturday 2:45 - 3:45 PM

(or by appointment)

## WEEKDAY MASSES

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

**THURSDAY 8:00 AM**

## NEW PARISHIONERS

Anyone is welcome to join the Parish Community.

Please contact the Rectory and introduce yourself.

## 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.

## PROTECTING OUR YOUTH AND CHILDREN

If you or someone you know has been sexually abused by a priest, religious or lay person working for the Church, and you want to share feelings of hurt or betrayal, call Cathaleen Peloquin, Victim Services Coordinator, Office of Healing and Prevention, 508-929-4363 (direct, confidential line).

**MASS INTENTIONS**

Sat.	Oct 13	4:00 PM	Florence E. Dillon and Thomas F. J. Dillon, from Family
Sun.	Oct 14	7:30 AM	Deceased Members of the Dowd Family, from family
		10:00 AM	Robert Remillard, 9th Anniversary, from Family <i>(St. Teresa of Jesus)</i>
Mon.	Oct 15	9:00 AM	John W. McDavitt, 1st Anniversary, from Family, <i>(St. Margaret Mary Alacoque)</i>
Tues.	Oct 16	9:00 AM	Alice George, Month Mind, from Parish Family, <i>(St. Ignatius of Antioch)</i>
Wed.	Oct 17	9:00 AM	Parishioners of Immaculate Conception, <i>(St. Luke)</i>
Thurs.	Oct 18	8:00 AM	Robert W. Duffy, 3rd Anniversary, from Family
Sat.	Oct 20	4:00 PM	Msgr. Thomas J. Needham, 16th Anniversary, from Family
Sun.	Oct 21	7:30 AM	Patrick Hurlihy, 3rd Anniversary, from Family
		10:00 AM	

**THIS WEEK** the text for The 28th Sunday in Ordinary Time, may be found at #1030 in the *Journeysongs* hymnal.

**RCIA CLASSES BEGINNING ON MONDAY, OCTOBER 15**

Classes for the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) will begin on Monday, October 15 from 6:30-7:45 p.m., and will culminate with reception of the Sacraments at the Easter Vigil in April, 2019. Classes will be held at the rectory, unless there are numerous candidates. If so, and we will move classes to the Church Basement. The RCIA Program is for adults 17 and older who have not been baptized in the Catholic Church or were baptized in an ecclesial community where the Catholic Church does not recognize it as a valid baptism. The program is also for adults who have been validly baptized in the Catholic Church or another Christian community, but have not received their First Communion or Confirmation in the Catholic Church. For youth and children 16 and under who have not been baptized, have not received their 1st Communion (after the 2nd grade), or have not been Confirmed, such students will need to attend Religious Education classes. Any questions regarding the above possibilities can be directed to Fr. Riley before or after Mass, to Mary Sycks (Administrator of Religious Education), or call the rectory at 508-754-8419.

**ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE HAS WORCESTER RAILERS TICKETS**

The Activities Committee will be offering a night out for the family at the Worcester Railers on Sunday Nov. 18, 2018 at 5pm. Your \$20 ticket gets you a Mid-ice seat, free youth hockey jersey for kids 12 and under, one free ride on the Zamboni, Post-game photo, and a free Railers hat! Tickets will go fast so buy early. Those interested should call Jim Hester at 508-852-3473.

**VISITATION HOUSE BABY BOTTLES**

Our annual passing out of baby bottles to help support the Gospel of Life ministry of Visitation House in Worcester will take place this weekend (October 13 & 14) after all Masses. We invite all parishioners to consider taking a bottle and placing change, dollar bills, or a check made out to Visitation House into the bottle and returning it by the end of this month. Visitation House assists in the many needs of women with child in the womb who have no where else to turn for assistance. Alongside St. John's Soup Kitchen who feed many of the city's poor, Visitation House is a most excellent example of supporting the Gospel of Life. Thank you for taking a baby bottle and donating to a most worthy charity.

**MEETING OF THE SOCIETY OF ST. VINCENT DE PAUL**

On October 28th, following the 10:00 am Mass, there will be a Society of St. Vincent de Paul meeting in the Church Rectory regarding the annual Thanksgiving baskets. All are welcome - we are looking for new members.

**READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY, OCTOBER 21, THE 29th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

1st Reading: Isaiah 53:10-11  
 Psalm: 33  
 2nd Reading: Hebrews 4:14-16  
 Gospel: Mark 10:35-45

**TICKETS FOR JANE SHIVICK CONCERT IN NOVEMBER**

Our Parish has purchased 10 tickets for parishioner Jane Shivick's Concert called *My Favorite Things*. Jane, along with acclaimed pianist Olga Rogach, will be performing on Thursday evening, **November 8 at Mechanics Hall, 321 Main Street in Worcester at 7:30 p.m.** The tickets will be given to the first 10 (actually 9, since Fr. Riley has claimed one) who request a single ticket or a pair of tickets. The limit is two tickets per request. Consider coming out for a wonderful night of music and enjoy the professional, gifted talent of Jane and Olga as they perform here in our city.

**PARISH ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE TURKEY-LURKEY AND NEEDED GIFTS**

Our Parish Activities Committee will be holding its annual Turkey-Lurkey event on Saturday evening, November 17 in the Fr. Connors Center. This is a family event that has been fun for all over the years. The committee is looking for another big crowd to be in attendance. Donations for this family event can be dropped off at the rectory no later than November 3. The Activities Committee has lost some members recently and they need much help this year to secure donations from new or longtime parishioners. The donations needed are as follows: new children's toys; gift cards for food (Shaw's, Big Y, Stop & Shop), restaurant gift cards, homemade gifts, sporting event tickets, wine/spirits or miscellaneous baskets. Thank you in advance for any and all donations to this fun event. Please contact Jim Hester if you're able to volunteer for the Turkey-Lurkey and to be a member of the Activities Committee at 508-852-3473, or email [bevhes-ter13@gmail.com](mailto:bevhes-ter13@gmail.com).

**THE FACE OF MERCY**

"Patient and merciful." These words often go together in the Old Testament to describe God's nature. His being merciful is concretely demonstrated in his many actions throughout the history of salvation where his goodness prevails over punishment and destruction. In a special way the Psalms bring to the fore the grandeur of his merciful action: 'He forgives all your iniquity, he heals all your diseases, he redeems your life from the pit, he crowns you with steadfast love and mercy' (Ps 103:3-4). Another psalm, in an even more explicit way, attests to the concrete signs of his mercy: 'He secures justice for the oppressed; he gives food to the hungry. The Lord sets the prisoners free; the Lord opens the eyes of the blind. The Lord lifts up those who are bowed down; the Lord loves the righteous. The Lord watches over the sojourners, he upholds the widows and the fatherless, but the way of the wicked he brings to ruin' (Ps 146:7-9). Here are some other expressions of the Psalmist: 'He heals the brokenhearted, and bind up their wounds... The Lord lifts up the downtrodden, he casts the wicked to the ground' (Ps 147:3,6). In short, the mercy of God is not an abstract idea, but a concrete reality through which he reveals his love as that of a father or a mother, moved to the very depths out of love for their child. It is hardly an exaggeration to say that this is a 'visceral' love. It gushes forth from the depths naturally, full of tenderness and compassion, indulgence and mercy."

*Pope Francis, from Misericordiae Vultus, The Face of Mercy*

**RELIGIOUS EDUCATION**

Religious Education classes take place Sunday, October 14th at 8:45AM-9:45AM for children in grades Pre-K-6 and 11:15AM-12:15PM for students in grades 7-10. The parent and Confirmation Candidate meeting is on Sunday, October 14th at 11:15AM.

If you have not registered your child for classes it is not too late! Please contact Mary Sycks at 508-868-8119 for more information.

**STAR STUDENT OF THE WEEK**

Our Student of the Week is Alexandra Charlton! Alexandra is a fourth grade student in our Religious Education Program. She attends Mass every week with her family and is an Altar Server. Alexandra participates in Vacation Bible Camp and can be seen helping out at many of the Parish Activities with her family. She also volunteers her time at a nursing home every weekend where her smile and exuberance is loved by many of the residences. Alexandra loves spending time with her siblings and cousins. She is a beautiful example of living our faith. Congratulations Alexandra!

**RELIGIOUS QUOTE OF THE WEEK**

What Must I Do To Inherit Eternal Life? THE FALSE PREMISE OF THE QUESTION; Mark 10:17; "The young man became arrogant through the observance of the law. He did not recognize that the consummation of the law is Christ. He assumed he could be justified by works. He was not aware that Jesus had come for the lost sheep of the house of Israel, and that the law could not save except through justifying faith. He questioned the Lord of the law and the only begotten God as if he were an ordinary teacher of precepts that were written down in the law. Hence, the Lord rejected this declaration of a spurious faith, because the question was put to him as if he were merely a teacher of the law. He replied, 'Why do you call me good?' In order to make known how much he was to be recognized and acknowledged as good, he declared, 'No one is good but God only.' He would not have rejected the attribute of goodness if it had been attributed to him as God."

*St. Hilary of Poitiers*

**NEW ALTAR SERVER TRAINING**

Our Parish will have training for new altar servers on Saturday, October 20 at 9:00 a.m. in the Church. We have thankfully had a few families come forward with their son/daughter to assist in this wonderful ministry. This is an opportunity for the children and youth in our Parish to become involved in the liturgy in a hands-on way. The training should be no more than one hour.

**BIBLE STUDY ON WEDNESDAY EVENINGS**

Beginning on Wednesday, October 17, Fr. Riley will holding a weekly evening Bible Study to be held in the Rectory from 6:30-7:30 p.m. We will read, study, and comment on the Gospel of Luke for the duration of the Bible Study. Please bring your Bible, reading Chapter 1 of Luke's Gospel as preparation for the first class. All are invited to attend.

*From the Pastor continued from the following page*

and nothing comes before him, especially mere mortals with major ego issues who will one day die like the rest of us. However, the Christian faith is one of growth, not stagnation. For example, the Holy Mass of today has a different look than when Peter and Paul celebrated the Eucharist in the first century. But what the two Apostles -as well as the rest of them - would surely recognize today is what takes place at the altar each day and Sunday, along with the proclamation of the word. While fundamentally remaining the same over the centuries in word and Eucharist, the Mass has grown, through the Spirit, into what we experience and participate in today. This is called the Living Tradition being formed, shaped and practiced over the course of our Church history. This is also why the words of prayers at Mass can change over time, which they did 5 or 6 years ago with the Gloria and the Nicene Creed, as we come to a deeper understanding of what the original texts meant to say.

So, we welcome next Sunday for another year the good people of the Ninth Division Association as they keep alive the memory of their family members. And, we fondly and solemnly remember the history of our faith and its own growth over the centuries, embracing how the Spirit is alive, continuing to touch us in ways that are loving and good, trusting we walk toward Him who is the ultimate joy in heaven and on earth.

*Peace, Fr. Riley*

**FRIDAY FASTING AND INTENTION**

We thank all our parishioners who continue to fast for one meal and abstain from meat each Friday as we commemorate our Lord's saving act on that day. This wonderful Catholic tradition is reemerging, calling us to be mindful of our Lord's crucifixion every Friday of the year. Such a particular awareness in our lives can only deepen our faith and love in Christ. As we fast and abstain, we do so each week for an intention that is to us on a local, national, or world level, always effecting our faith. Next Friday's intention is *for extending peace in our lives and the lives of those who presently struggle with adversity.*

**CELEBRATE PRIESTHOOD 2018**

Join us on Thursday, October 18 at the Atrium at St. Vincent Hospital in Worcester for the annual Celebrate Priesthood event from 5:30 p.m. – 7:30p.m. This event will feature different cuisines from local restaurants as well as ethnic cuisines from parishes around the diocese, along with a variety of wines, local handcrafted beers and soft drinks. Advertising and sponsorship opportunities are also available. Donation is \$100.00 per person. For more information, contact Michael Gillespie at 508-929-4368 or email [mgillespie@worcesterdiocese.org](mailto:mgillespie@worcesterdiocese.org)

**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 \$20.00 in cards. **Thank you** to those who continue to participate in this very worthy program.

**FALL SCRIPTURE STUDY PROGRAM AT I.C.**

Everyone is invited to participate in a program on St. Paul's Letter to the Romans on the first four Tuesdays of October at Noon in the Church Basement. The dates are October 16, and 23. Fr. Walter Riley and Dr. Frank McGuire will serve as discussion leaders. The Letter to the Romans is considered to be St. Paul's masterpiece: a marvelous gift for true followers of Jesus Christ. Please feel free to bring your lunch. Also, beverages and dessert will be served. We look forward to you joining us for this opportunity to deepen our understanding of the Scriptures, in particular this incredible letter from the hand of St. Paul.

**TRIP TO WRIGHT'S CHICKEN FARM AND LASALETTE**

Advent Bus Trip to Wright's Chicken Farm & LaSalette Lights. Thursday, December 13, depart Immaculate Conception Church parking lot at 11:00 for delicious family-style luncheon of chicken, pasta, salad, beverage and rolls. Next, we'll arrive at 4 p.m. at LaSalette Shrine in Attleboro, attend Father Pat's Christmas Choral Concert. At 5 p.m., over 400,000 lights will brighten. Visit the Creche Museum with hundreds of creches from around the world. Cost is \$59 per person. Deadline to register is October 31. Questions? Call Michelle Deignan at 508-853-0820 or [mmdeignan@charter.net](mailto:mmdeignan@charter.net).

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT 10/07/18**

Sunday Ordinary

\$ 9,673.00

## **FROM THE PASTOR**

Next Sunday at the 10:00 Mass we welcome back for another year the good people associated with the Ninth Infantry Division. They are a small group each year, yet a group of adults who keep alive the memory of the sacrifices made by family members during the Second World War. Most of the veterans associated with the 9th Division have gone home to their eternal reward, with a handful of them still carrying the torch of their contribution to the preservation of our nation.

There is one local veteran of the 9th Division and his wife who continue to grace us with their presence each year for this Mass. They ride down from the hill country of Paxton to Grove Street, sharing with us their gracious presence and abiding love for country. It's a pleasure to speak with them each year, knowing that any of these years could be their last one in attendance, both being in their nineties.

The other folks arrive in Worcester on that day from other places that are further away, such as Rhode Island and Connecticut, keeping alive the memory of their fathers, uncles, or a relative that served with the 9th Division. We are greatly blessed by their presence also, having come to know them over the past eight-plus years. I consider these folks – the children and nephews and nieces of past veterans of the 9th – to be the remnant. Think about that; these younger men and women, born post war in the 1950's and 60's, now in their 50's and 60's themselves, take on the responsibility to carry on the torch of their family members who engaged in a war that faced the likes of Fascism, Nazism, and Communism, helping to preserve what we cherish most today, the gift of freedom.

The biggest mistake we can make on our part today is to consider what they are doing to be a waste of time, simply saying it's all in the past and let's move on not thinking about what happened years ago. Such an approach to our recent history, and handing on the history of why the men and women of the Greatest Generation did what they did back then, would result in a more doubtful, troubling future for us as a nation. Don't we consider things to be quite crazy at this time? The recent United States Senate circus over a Supreme Court nominee viewed by our nation was just one example of what can happen when we forget who we fundamentally are as Americans, and what direction we can travel in the future for the betterment of our country. Therefore, what the small amount of men and women who show up each year for the Ninth Division Mass do is to help us remember the importance of our past actions/inactions as Americans, how such past responses remain relevant to our present and future, and how essential it is to remember our history so that our children may grow in both faith and citizenship. God bless them for such dedication to their family members who served in the military with the likes of Fr. Connors as their Chaplain, keeping the flame lit of the many Veterans Masses here at Immaculate Conception with that holy priest.

This same process of history surrounds and envelops our Catholic faith. God bless our Protestant brothers and sisters in Christ, but too many of them dismiss the importance of understanding our 2000-year history as a Church, remaining stuck in the pages of the Scriptures written in the 1st century, and not recognizing how the pages have come alive over the past 2000 years, how the words have jump off the page, especially in the lives of the many Saints and Martyrs. The words of the Good Book undoubtedly remain as relevant today as they did the day they were written. Undoubtedly. Which tells us they speak to the human person and our nature that does not change over time, even though there are those who presently do some pretty weird things to try to change the unchangeable nature of humanity.

Our faith, we know, begins and ends with the first century life of Christ, the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End. He reigns supreme over all things of heaven and earth, and no one

*Continued on Previous Page*

**THIS WEEK AT IMMACULATE CONCEPTION**

Sat.	Oct 13	2:45 PM 4:00 PM	Confession Mass
Sun.	Oct 14	7:30 AM 10:00 AM	Mass Mass
Mon.	Oct 15	8:30 AM 9:00 AM	Rosary Mass
Tues.	Oct 16	8:30 AM 9:00 AM	Rosary Mass
Wed.	Oct 17	8:30 AM 9:00 AM	Rosary Mass
Thurs.	Oct 18	7:30 AM 8:00 AM 6:00 PM	Rosary Mass Rosary
Sat.	Oct 20	2:45 PM 4:00 PM	Confession Mass
Sun.	Oct 21	7:30 AM 10:00 AM	Mass Mass

**OPEN HOUSE**

**Notre Dame Academy**, 425 Salisbury Street, Worcester, on Sunday, October 21 from 2:00-4:00 p.m. Students currently in 5th through 7th grades are encouraged to attend. More info, call 508-757-6200, Ext. 229, or email [admissions@nda-worc.org](mailto:admissions@nda-worc.org).

**THE WORD OF THE LORD**

“The expansion of God’s word in time takes place above all in the Eucharistic celebration and in the Liturgy of the Hours. At the center of everything the paschal mystery shines forth, and around it radiate all the mysteries of Christ and the history of salvation which becomes sacramentally present... For this reason I encourage the Church’s pastors and all engaged in pastoral work to see that all the faithful learn to savor the deep meaning of the word of God which unfolds each year in the liturgy, revealing the fundamental mysteries of our faith. This is in turn the basis for a correct approach to Sacred Scripture.”

*From The Word of the Lord, Verbum Domini, Pope Benedict XVI, 2010*

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

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

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

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

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

**Envelopes** yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_

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

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