

Immaculate Conception Parish



Please visit our website at
www.icworc.com and Facebook

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)

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).

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**

MASS INTENTIONS

Sat.	Oct 06	4:00 PM	Robert Bacon from Ellen Talbot
Sun.	Oct 07	7:30 AM	Mike Glavickas, 23rd Anniversary, from Family
		10:00 AM	Joseph Noberini, 12th Anniversary, from Family, And Walter Evanowski, Sr., 42nd Anniversary, From Family
Mon.	Oct 08	9:00 AM	Mirick "Bill" Perkins, Month Mind, from Parish Family
Tues.	Oct 09	9:00 AM	(<i>St. Denis and Companions; St. John Leonardi</i>)
Wed.	Oct 10	9:00 AM	Parishioners of Immaculate Conception
Thurs.	Oct 11	8:00 AM	Daniel Conlin, Month Mind, from Parish Family
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 Remilard, 9th anniversary, from Family

THIS WEEK the text for The 27th Sunday in Ordinary Time, may be found at #1027 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.

RELIGIOUS QUOTE OF THE WEEK

THE LAW OF MONOGAMY: Mark 10:6; "I will call your attention to the law of monogamy. The very origin of the human race sanctions it. It is abundantly clear that God ordained it at the beginning as a pattern for posterity. For after he had made Adam, and had foreseen the necessity of providing a helpmate for him, he borrowed from his loins one alone. One woman only did he design for man." *Tertullian (160-220)*

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 next 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.

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.

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.

HOLY HOUR 2nd TUESDAY OF THE MONTH

Our Parish will be holding a Holy Hour on Tuesday, October 9 in the Church from 6:00 to 7:00 p.m. We will have the exposition of the Eucharist as well as Benediction at the end of the Holy Hour, to be completed with recitation of the Divine Praises. All are invited to attend for a quiet hour with the Lord.

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. The dates are October 9, 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.

THE SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE

"The matrimonial covenant, by which a man and a woman establish between themselves a partnership of the whole of life, is by its nature ordered toward the good of the spouses and the procreation and education of offspring; this covenant between baptized persons has been raised by Christ the Lord to the dignity of a sacrament." Canon 1055 of the Code of Canon Law of the Catholic Church.

The above words reveal the incredible beauty of marriage as defined by Christ in the Holy Scriptures and living Tradition of the Church. In our culture today, many baptized Catholics are civilly married by a Justice of the Peace, or a family member or friend who becomes a one-day justice. For those who have travelled this road to marriage, as a Church we invite you to have your marriage blessed in such a way where it becomes a Sacramental relationship, which is not present in a civil marriage. A Sacramental relationship in marriage, which Catholics are called to, is the pinnacle of a marital relationship. Yet, many baptized Catholics unknowingly settle for a civil relationship that has not been sanctioned by Christ. We warmly invite any couple presently living in a civil marriage to consider having their relationship blessed in God's Church, allowing their marriage to grow in Christ as a Sacrament. The process of doing so is easy and not time consuming. Feel free to contact Fr. Riley with any questions regarding this most holy and sacred relationship established by Christ for the good of the spouses.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

There are no classes on Sunday, October 7th due to the holiday weekend. Classes resume on Sunday, October 14th. The parent and Confirmation Candidate meeting is on Sunday, October 14th at 11:15AM.

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 married couples, may they find strength in each other as man and woman in the image of Christ and his Bride, the Church.*

ALTAR SERVERS NEEDED

We invite any parents with children and youth from Grade 3 and beyond to consider having their children serve as altar servers for the given Mass they attend. Our Parish is in need of servers for all Masses at this time. We understand that not all children and youth are called to this sacred ministry, but our hope is that more parents will lead their children to assist at Mass in the altar serving capacity. Please speak with Deacon Kevin or Fr. Riley for those who may be interested. Most servers will serve only once, or at the most, twice a month, which is very doable for most families. Thank you for considering helping in this wonderful ministry offered to the young members of our flock.

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.

WORCESTER CATHOLIC WOMEN'S CONFERENCE

All women are invited to this exciting Conference, to be held at Assumption College on Saturday, November 10. Hear dynamic talks from outstanding Catholic leaders: Professor Helen Alvaré, Susie Lloyd, Mother Mary Assumpta Long, O.P., Dr. Janet E. Smith, and Susan Conroy. Bishops and diocesan and religious priests will hear confessions. Bishop McManus will offer Mass. For more information or to register, visit our website at www.worcestercatholicwomensconference.com or call Corinn Dahm at 508-277-3969. Seating is limited, register today!

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT 09/30/18

Sunday Ordinary	\$ 3,573.00
Total Online Donations for September 2018	\$ 1,225.00
Catholic Schools	\$ 592.00

From the Pastor continued from the following page

...finances collected goes to the mission of our Parish over the course of the year; from religious education, to caring for the physical plant, to ensuring our hard-working employees receive a raise each year, to feeding Fr. Riley, which doesn't cost much at all, to purchasing books and other religious paraphernalia that are placed outside each entrance to the Church throughout the year, to a thousand small details associated with any Parish that wants to run like a well-oiled machine, which I like to think our Parish does.

So, thank you again to our Parish Activities Committee for their yearlong generosity and hard work on behalf of Parish events that allow for much fellowship and comradery in the name of Christ. And, thank you to our entire Parish for your generosity in your weekly offering, assisting greatly in the daily and weekly mission of Immaculate Conception Church.

Peace, Fr. Riley

THE WORD OF THE LORD

"To understand the word of God ... we need to appreciate and experience the essential meaning and value of the liturgical action. A faith-filled understanding of Sacred Scripture must always refer back to the liturgy, in which the word of God is celebrated as a timely and living word: 'In the liturgy the Church faithfully adheres to the way Christ himself read and explained the Sacred Scriptures, beginning with his coming forth in the synagogue and urging all to search the Scriptures.'"

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

PARISH ICE CREAM SOCIAL ON OCTOBER 12

Our Parish will be holding its first Ice Cream Social in the Church Basement on Friday, October 12, beginning at 6:30 p.m. We will have your favorite flavors, toppings, and a root beer float station. We invite those who come to bring in a homemade pie for a contest to win a \$25 gift card. There is no cost to the event, so come and enjoy a sweet treat and a couple of hours of fellowship with other parishioners.

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

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.

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. Thank you.

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 \$60.00 in cards. **Thank you** to those who continue to participate in this very worthy program.

READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY, OCTOBER 14, THE 28th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

1st Reading: Wisdom 7:7-11
Psalm: 90
2nd Reading: Hebrews 4:12-13
Gospel: Mark 10:17-30

FROM THE PASTOR

I take this opportunity to double down on thanking our Parish Activities Committee for their generosity in handing out scholarships to all our Parish students in college and high school who applied for the Francis X. Mahoney award this year. This one-time decision to hand out scholarships to each of the applicants totaled \$3000.00 for six winners at \$500.00 apiece. This is not small change when it comes to assisting the students whose parents pay for their tuition. The recognition of such generosity by this Committee should be known by our entire Parish, and help to continue to support this hard-working Parish Committee throughout the year.

One of our bigger events takes place this Saturday evening (October 6), with a gathering for our annual Spaghetti Supper in the Fr. Connors Center. Our Parish Activities Committee works hard on this event, putting together an outstanding meal for little money, along with a handful of raffles throughout the course of the dinner. Profits from this event will be placed toward the Francis X. Mahoney Scholarship and other charitable ways in the future that express the true purpose of the Committee: to assist others in some form of need.

This Committee is constantly looking for assistance, be it Sunday mornings in the Coffee Shop after each Mass, or helping to track down donations for the upcoming annual Turkey-Lurkey in November. The late, beloved Paul St. Martin was very much the point-man for Turkey-Lurkey when it came to securing donations for our Parish for that event. Paul has since gone home to his eternal reward for his steadfast, abiding faith in Christ over a lifetime. Thus, we are in need of others stepping up and stepping into Paul's hardworking shoes for the financial and communal benefit of this Committee and our Parish.

Speaking to the financial benefit of our Parish, our Finance Committee recently met in order to peruse the numbers over the past fiscal year, which ended on August 31. The numbers are healthy for Immaculate Conception, knowing, however, that one very serious catastrophe (i.e. Church roof or some other necessary part of the structure) could do a serious number on Parish savings. One main focus of our meeting was weekly giving, which is the bread and butter of any Parish's survival. We have in our Parish donors families who are very generous in their weekly offering.

Quite honestly, I don't know who they are, since I prefer to focus my attention on preaching the Gospel and all that needs to be done during the course of any given week, which is much. In other words, I love the work that is the heart and soul of what it means to be a priest. I don't peek at weekly envelopes and say, "Okay, this person donates this much (Holy Cow!), and that person only donates that much." Correct or not, I prefer the approach to pastoring that sees each person in the pews as being just as important to our faith community as the person sitting next to you, behind you, or in front of you. Which means everyone is of equal importance.

In our meeting, however, the Finance Committee arrived at the figure of just over \$22.00 being the average donation from Sunday envelopes during the past fiscal year. We as a committee consider this figure to be generous on average. No loose change, which is donated each week in the collection basket, was counted toward the above figure. The figure of \$22.00 on average was strictly from envelopes donated from approximately 200 households, being envelopes placed into the Sunday collection basket, what arrives in the mail each week, and online giving. We are grateful for such generosity. For those who have the capacity to up their weekly donation to this figure, or closer to it, there's nothing we will do to stop you from doing so, knowing full well that not everyone in our Parish can afford to do so.

The message that came out of our meeting regarding the above figures was to let parishioners know that much of the weekly ...

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THIS WEEK AT IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

Sat.	Oct 06	2:45 PM 4:00 PM	Confession Mass
Sun.	Oct 07	7:30 AM 10:00 AM	Mass Mass
Mon.	Oct 08	8:30 AM 9:00 AM	Rosary Mass
Tues.	Oct 09	8:30 AM 9:00 AM	Rosary Mass
Wed.	Oct 10	8:30 AM 9:00 AM	Rosary Mass
Thurs.	Oct 11	7:30 AM 8:00 AM 6:00 PM	Rosary Mass Rosary
Sat.	Oct 13	2:45 PM 4:00 PM	Confession Mass
Sun.	Oct 14	7:30 AM 10:00 AM	Mass Mass

CARDS FOR THE PARISH SICK

Anyone parishioner wishing to send a thoughtful, friendship card to a fellow parishioner who is in a nursing home or homebound, it would be a nice way of making the type of connection that tells the person they are not forgotten by their Church community. Visits from Fr. Riley are continuous and ongoing, but cards from other parishioners brings a sense of joy and peace to those who are struggling in some way, be it physically, emotionally, or spiritually. The following is a list of parishioners presently in a nursing facility or at home, a list that will be added to or changing in the upcoming weeks and months:

- ◆ *Mr. John Barna, Holy Trinity Nursing & Rehabilitation Center, 300 Barber Ave, Worcester, MA 01606*
- ◆ *Mr. Mike Lavin, St. Mary Healthcare Center, 39 Queen St. Worcester, MA 01610*

**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!**