

# 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**

## WEEKDAY MASSES

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

**THURSDAY 8:00 AM**

## SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Saturday 2:45 - 3:45 PM

(or by appointment)

## 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.	Nov 10	4:00 PM	Harry Dapper, 6 Month Mass, from Family
Sun.	Nov 11	7:30 AM	Paul Daly, from Family
		10:00 AM	Anthony Roy, Month Mind, and Army SPC Kyle Little from Parish Family, and John "Jack" Kelley from Family
Mon.	Nov 12	9:00 AM	Walter Lalone, Month Mind, from Parish Family, ( <i>St. Josaphat</i> )
Tues.	Nov 13	9:00 AM	( <i>St. Frances Xavier Cabrini</i> )
Wed.	Nov 14	9:00 AM	George St. John, from Friends
Thurs.	Nov 15	8:00 AM	Parishioners of Immaculate Conception, ( <i>St. Albert the Great</i> )
Sat.	Nov 17	4:00 PM	Mary Shugrue, 17th Anniversary, from Family
Sun.	Nov 18	7:30 AM	William and Helen Callahan, from Family
		10:00 AM	Donald H. Letendre, from Family

**THIS WEEK** the text for The 32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time, may be found at #1043 in the *Journeysongs* hymnal.

**RELIGIOUS QUOTE OF THE WEEK**

THE SONG OF SERAPHIM: Mark 12:42; "I pass on to the widow in the Gospel who though she was but a poor widow was yet richer than all the people of Israel. She had but a grain of mustard seed, but she put her leaven in the measures of flour; and, tempering her confession of the Father and the Son with the grace of the Holy Spirit, cast her two pennies into the treasury. All the substance that she had, all her possessions she offered in the two testaments of her faith. These are like the two seraphim who glorify the trinity with threefold song and are stored among the treasures of the church. They are like the two legs of the tongs by which live coal is caught up to cleanse the sinner's lips." *St. Jerome (347-420)*

**THANSGIVING MASS AND COLLECTION**

Mass on Thanksgiving Day, Thursday, November 22, will be held at 9:00 a.m. Come and join us in the holy liturgy as we celebrate our national day of giving thanks to God for the many blessings bestowed upon us, as well as giving thanks for the precious gift of life. At this Mass each year our Parish takes up a collection for the St. Vincent de Paul Society of Immaculate Conception. This collection assists them in their work of providing food baskets and Thanksgiving and Christmas, as well as other ministries that arise throughout the year.

**RCIA CLASSES HAVE BEGUN**

Classes for the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) have begun. The next class is Monday, November 12, from 6:30-7:45 p.m. These classes will culminate with reception of the Sacraments at the Easter Vigil in April, 2019. All 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.

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

**TRIP TO GETTYSBURG, EMMITSBURG, AND HARPERS FERRY**

Consider joining Fr. Riley and others from our Parish on a 2019 spring trip from May 13-17 to southeastern Pennsylvania (Gettysburg), western Maryland (Emmitsburg), and Harper's Ferry, WV where three states (Maryland, Virginia, West Virginia) and two rivers (Potomac and Shenandoah) meet in one of the most beautiful areas of our country. The trip is a combination of history and our Catholic faith, exploring and learning the Battle of Gettysburg, where a number of Worcester soldiers were engaged, the Shrine of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton and Grotto at Mt. St. Mary's College, and historic Harper's Ferry, well known for Lewis and Clark, and John Brown. It will be a memorable trip for those who wish to join us at the affordable price of \$850.00, which includes motor-coach bus for 5 days and 4 nights, hotel, and other amenities including meals and tour guides. Flyers and a sign-up sheet can be found at each entrance to the Church. The trip limited to 45 travelers.

**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 \$200.00 in cards. *Thank you* to those who continue to participate in this very worthy program.

**BIBLE STUDY ON WEDNESDAY EVENINGS**

Fr. Riley will holding a weekly evening Bible Study to be held in the Rectory from 6:30-7:30 p.m. The next Wednesday we will meet will be November 14. We will read, study, and comment on the Gospel of Luke for the duration of the Bible Study. Please bring your Bible, reading Chapter 3 of Luke's Gospel as preparation for the next class. All are invited to attend.

**RELIGIOUS EDUCATION**

There are no classes on Sunday, November 11th due to the holiday weekend. Classes resume on Sunday, November 18th with the Family Advent Day at 8:45am for students and parents in grades pre-K through 6th grade. Classes for students in 7th-11th grade will take place 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 the grace and virtue of generosity in our lives.*

**THE WORD OF THE LORD**

"... the Synod calls for a particular pastoral commitment to emphasizing the centrality of the word of God in the Church's life, and recommend a greater 'biblical apostolate,' not alongside other forms of pastoral work, but as *a means of letting the Bible inspire all pastoral work.*' This does not mean adding a meeting here or there in parishes or dioceses, but rather of examining the ordinary activities of Christian communities, in parishes, associations, and movements, to see if they are truly concerned with fostering a personal encounter with Christ, who gives himself to us in his word. Since 'ignorance of the Scriptures is ignorance of Christ,' making the Bible the inspiration of every ordinary and extraordinary pastoral outreach will lead to a greater awareness of the person of Christ, who reveals the Father and is the fullness of divine revelation."

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

**FALL FUEL COLLECTION SUNDAY**

The heat is on...in the Church. This Sunday our Parish holds the first of three collections over the autumn/winter for assistance with fuel costs for our Church. We all heat our homes; we all know the not so low cost of doing so. Your financial assistance is warmly appreciated to help offset the high cost of heating our Church most every day for the next 5-6 months. Thank you.

**READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 18th, THE 33rd SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

1st Reading: Daniel 12:1-3

Psalm: 16

2nd Reading: Hebrews 10:11-14, 18

Gospel: Mark 13:24-32

*From the Pastor continued from the following page*

And what was he doing? He was watching the baseball playoffs, including his beloved Red Sox, on the TV moved that was into the living room where he rested day and night. Mary and Walter together watched every Red Sox game throughout the year, including the West Coast games that would end here on the East Coast as late as 2:00 a.m. If there was ever a couple that was made for one another, it was these two. And, God bless Mary for being married to a guy named Walter for so long. As I remarked at Walter's funeral, I doubt I will ever come to know another couple in my priesthood who were married for as long as this couple. Their marriage was truly a blessing from heaven, guided by the Spirit of love and commitment.

As we celebrate Veterans Day 2018, we recognize these two soldiers from our Parish, these two Catholic couples, these two families, and these two faithful servants of Christ. Such faith that I've been blessed to witness in them as individuals, couples, and families enables me to move forward with joy and strength in my own ministry. Even though it's a Marine song, we salute these two good soldiers with the words, "From the halls of Montezuma, to the 'halls of heaven.'" May they rest in peace.

*Peace, Fr. Riley*

**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 November 15. Questions? Call Michelle Deignan at 508-853-0820 or [mmdeignan@charter.net](mailto:mmdeignan@charter.net).

**HOLY HOUR THIS TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 13**

Our Parish will hold a Holy Hour in the Church this Tuesday, November 13 at 6:00 p.m. All are invited to spend an hour with the exposition of the Lord in silence and prayer. We pray in particular this month for the souls in Purgatory, and for all the souls who have no one to pray for them.

**FREE ADVENT CONCERT AT IMMACULATE CONCEPTION**

On December 2, the first Sunday of Advent, our Parish will hold a free concert in the Church at 2:00 p.m. Tidings of Great Joy will be an afternoon of special music featuring sopranos Jane Shivick, Bridget Klofft, and pianist Olga Rogach. This concert is seasonal, sacred, classical, and Advent-themed. Consider joining us for this concert with these three outstanding, professional musicians who will give us a concert we will not soon forget. This concert is open to the public, so be sure to invite family, friends, and anyone who enjoys listening to some of the best music – live music – they will hear this Advent season.

**PARISH APPRECIATION DINNER IN DECEMBER**

Our Parish will hold its annual Appreciation Dinner on Saturday, December 8 at 5:30 p.m. in the Church Basement. This dinner is for everyone who assists in the entire scope of our Parish ministries along with their family members, from altar servers, Lectors, Eucharistic Ministers, those who collect at Sunday Mass, employees of the Parish, etc., etc., - any and all ministries, large and small. Please call the rectory between now and December 5 to place your names on a list so the appropriate amount of food can be purchased for this event.

**THE FACE OF MERCY**

"Jesus, seeing the crowds of people who followed him, realized that they were tired and exhausted, lost and without a guide, and he felt deep compassion for them. On the basis of this compassionate love he healed the sick who were presented to him, and with just a few loaves of bread and fish he satisfied the enormous crowd. What moved Jesus in all of these situations was nothing other than mercy, with which he read the hearts of those he encountered and responded to their deepest need."

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

**PRAYER SHAWLS**

We have a few prayer shawls in our possession that we would like to give out to anyone who feels the need of having one. Or, if you know of someone who may be dealing with cancer or any other disease and would benefit from the comfort and peace of a prayer shawl, please speak with Fr. Riley. We thank the Prayer Shawl Group at Our Lady of Good Counsel in West Boylston for making and donating the beautiful work of their shawls to us.

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT 11/04/2018**

Sunday Ordinary	\$ 4,800.00
Fall Fuel	\$ 170.00
All Saints	\$ 671.00
Propagation of the Faith, Mission Sunday	\$ 280.00

## **FROM THE PASTOR**

With this Sunday falling on November 11, Veterans Day in the United States, I humbly dedicate this column to two parishioners who came to see Jesus face to face in the past few months, two men who were World War II veterans, as well as their families and spouses they left behind.

Our Parish back in August lost the lovable, humble Jim Shugrue after he gave up his spirit to Him who welcomed our brother home. Jim and his wife Kathleen have been longtime parishioners of Immaculate Conception. In fact, Kathleen, over 90 years old now, has been an Immaculate Conception parishioner her entire life. She predated Fr. Connors, his World War II Chaplaincy and all his veteran Masses at this Church, witnessing all that took place over those years, and prior to. Kathleen goes back to the original structure on Prescott Street, as have a few others I've had the pleasure of coming to meet since my arrival in 2010. She is one of the handful of "Matriarchs" of Immaculate Conception Church, along with a few others, and most definitely the lone Matriarch of her family.

Jim and Kathleen were married for (I believe) 68 years before God called home the husband the day after The Assumption of Mary into heaven. Jim, after serving in the Second World War, returned to Worcester, eventually becoming a Police Officer for our city for 35 or so years. He was the sort of police officer who gave it his all. He loved his work, was a straight-shooter (no pun intended) on the force, was a man of flat-out honesty, and loved, absolutely loved helping people, especially those in distress. Jim was like Superman; he was there to assist and never to hurt, standing up for truth, justice, and the American way.

In my visits to Jim as he was coming to the end of his life on earth, as we sat in his home he would never fail to tell me how "your father was such a great guy. And your mother was great too. All those kids," he would say. And I would gently remind him, "Jim, my mother did all the work." It was always a pleasant, enjoyable conversation, filled with both laughter and serious thoughts, with someone I knew to be among the best of men, a pure Worcester guy, a guy who stood tall among those who so humbly represent the Greatest Generation, a guy fully devoted to love of his wife and family, a man of the best values God created for us to live by. Jim's Catholic faith was unwavering and steadfast over the length of his 92-plus years. His faith was the source of all the goodness he possessed, which was much, and never did he miss Mass on Sundays and Holy Days until the end when he was unable to attend. May God grant this good man the eternal repose he so richly deserves.

The second "soldier" our Parish lost from the Greatest Generation was Walter Lalone. Walter, who died just over a month ago, was married to his wife Mary for over 73 years. This good man spent 3-1/2 years in the Navy during the Second World War, with time in the Pacific area, including Midway and Pearl Harbor (after the infamous attack), eventually returning to Worcester unscathed, marrying his Bride Mary at Our Lady of Mount Carmel, both of them at the young age of 20. It's a story that movies are made of.

After the war and marriage, Walter went on to work for the City of Worcester in its Public Works Department. No doubt a handyman who could fix anything put together, he was known as a hard, dedicated worker who gave his all each day. He also, like Jim Shugrue, was a man of the greatest integrity. There was room for nothing but truth in the words he spoke. If he ever told even a white lie somewhere along the way, I would be shocked to hear so. Many in today's generation, as well as mine, would do well to recognize such candor and truth and make them our own.

Walter and Mary were out and out diehard Red Sox fans. The last time I saw Walter at his house on Balder Rd., he was entering the last phase of his blessed life on earth.

*Continued on Previous Page*

**THIS WEEK AT IMMACULATE CONCEPTION**

Sat.	Nov 10	2:45 PM 4:00 PM	Confession Mass
Sun.	Nov 11	7:30 AM 10:00 AM	Mass Mass
Mon.	Nov 12	8:30 AM 9:00 AM	Rosary Mass
Tues.	Nov 13	8:30 AM 9:00 AM	Rosary Mass
Wed.	Nov 14	8:30 AM 9:00 AM	Rosary Mass
Thurs.	Nov 15	7:30 AM 8:00 AM	Rosary Mass
Sat.	Nov 17	2:45 PM 4:00 PM	Confession Mass
Sun.	Nov 18	7:30 AM 10:00 AM	Mass Mass

**MARCH FOR LIFE REGISTRATION INFORMATION IS NOW AVAILABLE!**

Please join us for the Diocese of Worcester's bus trip to the 46th annual March for Life in Washington, DC. Buses leave on Thurs. Jan. 17 after the 7:30 p.m. Mass at St. Paul's Cathedral, travel to Washington for the March for Life on Jan. 18, followed by the return trip to Worcester. Cost is \$80 per seat for registrations postmarked by December 31, and \$95 thereafter. For more information, and to download registration forms, visit [www.worcesterdiocese.org/respect-life](http://www.worcesterdiocese.org/respect-life). Can't attend this year but want to help? Consider making a donation that will help defray expenses for our students who want to attend but might otherwise find it difficult to do so. Thank you!

**ROSARY MOVED TO FIRST SATURDAY OF THE MONTH**

The outdoor Rosary led by parishioner Mike Mitchell has moved indoors to the Church. The timing will now be on the first Saturday of each month. The next indoor Rosary will be held on Saturday, December 1st at 2:30 PM for all who wish to join Mike in this powerful prayer.

**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!**