

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION PARISH

353 GROVE STREET, WORCESTER, MA 01605

MARCH 19, 2023 | FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT

WELCOME!

No matter what your present status in the Catholic Church, no matter what your current family and marital situation, no matter what your personal history, age, background, race, etc., no matter what your own self-image, you are invited, welcomed, accepted, loved and respected here.

CONTACT US

(P) 508-754-8419 | (F) 508-459-9815

www.icworc.com | icworc@live.com

OFFICE HOURS

Monday - Thursday | 9:30am - 2:30pm

MASS SCHEDULE

LORD'S DAY MASSES

Saturday Vigil | 4:00pm

Sunday | 7:30am, 10:00am

WEEKDAY MASSES

Monday - Thursday | 9:00am

CONFESSION

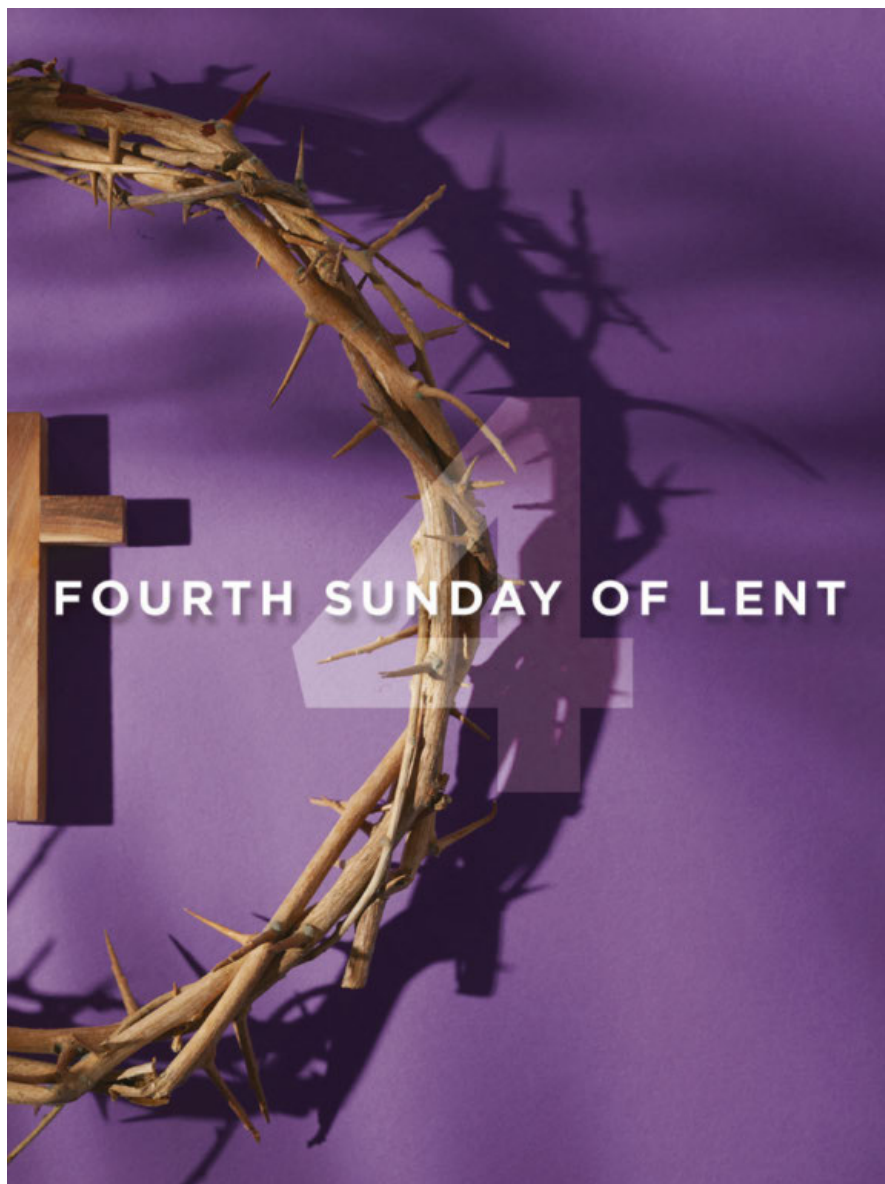
Saturday | 2:45pm - 3:30pm

Other | By Appointment

ADORATION

Holy Hour for Priests

Second Friday | 7:00pm



PARISH STAFF

PASTOR

Rev. Edwin Montana | fatheredwin31@gmail.com

PERMANENT DEACONS

Kevin Deignan | kdeignan@charter.net

Frank Myska | Retired

SECRETARY

Jennefer Noberini | icworc@live.com

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION &

SAFE ENVIRONMENT COORDINATOR

Mary Sycks | mks723@msn.com | 508-868-8119

MUSIC DIRECTOR

Robert G. Carson

CANTOR

Bridget Klofft

BUILDINGS & GROUNDS

Mark Cutler



SATURDAY, MARCH 18

Vigil of 4th Sunday of Lent

4:00pm | +Elmer Carlson (23rd Anniversary), from Paul & Denise Carlson

SUNDAY, MARCH 19

4th Sunday of Lent

7:30am | +Jeannette Burns, +Brian B. Colonies, and +Chuck Burns, from Family

10:00am | +Craig Halloran, from Rose and John Hanson

MONDAY, MARCH 20

ST. JOSEPH, SPOUSE OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

9:00am | +Lynn Sullivan, from Rose and John Hanson

TUESDAY, MARCH 21

9:00am | +Liz Haas, from Rose and John Hanson

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 22

9:00am | In Thanksgiving to God, from Young Shin

THURSDAY, MARCH 23

9:00am | +Gerald P. Casey (17th Anniversary), from Mike Casey & Family

SATURDAY, MARCH 25

Vigil of 5th Sunday of Lent

4:00pm | +Janet A. Schiripo, from Rose and John Hanson

SUNDAY, MARCH 26

5th Sunday of Lent

7:30am | For All Parishioners

10:00am |

“HE SPREADS A TABLE BEFORE ME”

The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want. You spread the table before me in the sight of my foes; you anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows.

As a response to the first reading today, we pray what is perhaps the most well-known Psalm. The twenty-third Psalm famously declares that I am without needs or wants because the Shepherd is my Lord.

The Shepherd is, of course, Christ the Lord, who gives us his Body and Blood as our food and drink. Elsewhere, the Lord assures us that those who eat this food will never die and that, indeed, his Body and Blood is our defense, even against death itself.

Thus, does the Psalmist see the shepherd laying out a supper for us within sight of our enemies. He even serves the meal within their sight! Eating a celebratory meal after a victorious battle is not unusual, but eating during the battle, in the sight of our enemies, means that we are assured that we are safe from whatever might befall us.

The administration of the Eucharist as Viaticum comes to mind. In the face of death, the Sacrament of the Church is the “food for the journey,” final reception of the Holy Eucharist. Perhaps this is why the blessing following the administration of Viaticum asks God to defend and strengthen the dying person.

(@ Divine Worship Office)

CATHOLIC SACRAMENTS

INFANT BAPTISM

Celebrated on Saturdays at 2:00pm or Sundays at 11:30am. Please contact the church office.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION FOR CHILDREN

From grades Pre-K to 11. Contact our Religious Education Administrator, Mary Sycks at 508-868-8119.

RCIA

For adults seeking full admission into the church through baptism, confirmation & eucharist. Please call the church office for registration which takes place during the month of September.

ADULT CONFIRMATION

For Catholics who received first communion but have not yet been confirmed a diocesan-wide adult (18+) Confirmation celebration is offered every year in February at the Cathedral of St. Paul in Worcester. If interested, please contact the church office.

HOLY ORDERS

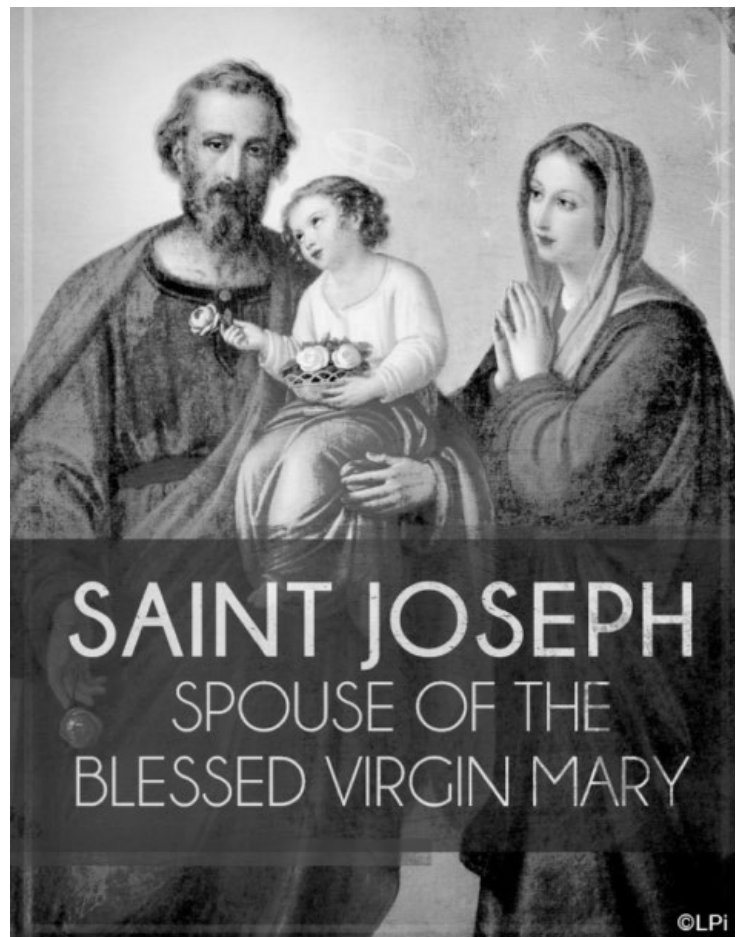
To learn more about the Permanent Diaconate, contact Deacon William Bilow at 508-929-4335. To learn more about entering the Priesthood, contact Rev. Donat Infante at 508-630-4473.

HOLY MATRIMONY

Contact the Pastor at least six months in advance.

ANOINTING OF THE SICK & COMMUNION CALLS

Please call the office when a parishioner is confined at home, in the hospital, or placed in a nursing home. If there is an urgent need, dial the emergency extension.



RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Religious Education classes take place on **Sunday, March 19th** at 8:45AM-9:45AM for children in grades K-10. Confirmation Class takes place at 11:00am.

Star Student of the Week

Our Student of the Week is **Michael Smith**! Michael was nominated by his teachers, Mrs. Hermance and Mrs. Jalbert. He is preparing to receive the sacrament of First Holy Communion. Michael is a serious student who always completes his and participates in class with thoughtful questions and answers. He attends Mass with his family and participates in the Children's Liturgy of the Word. He helps around the house and spends time with his grandparents helping with yard work. Michael works on how to live our Catholic faith every day. Congratulations Michael!

Prayer Cards for Confirmation Candidates

Please visit our display of the Confirmation Candidates located near the entrance of the church. Please take a prayer card from the display and keep all of the candidates in your prayers as they begin at this time a more focused study and deeper meaning of their Catholic faith. As they prepare for their reception of the sacrament of Confirmation on Sunday, April 16th at St. Paul's Cathedral, may we rejoice in their dedication, devotion, and hard work as they prepare to receive the fullness of the Holy Spirit in their lives.

STAR OF BETHLEHEM

Maysoon Khair will be at our church in March 25 & 26, 2023 representing over a hundred Christian families who make their livelihood through the selling of their hand carved olive wood religious articles. After all masses there will be a display of these beautiful hand carved religious items; such as nativity scenes, crucifix, rosaries, last supper and many other beautiful religious statues. Please stop by and look over the carvings that are available and help support this self-help project to keep the Children and the Christians living in the Holy Land.

PARTNERS IN CHARITY

Immaculate Conception is called upon to support the work of our Lord Jesus made possible through the diocesan annual appeal. Our parish goal is **\$88,500**. Please complete your pledge envelope, indicating your gift or pledge today. It is important for all of us to participate in order to support our mission as a diocese. Please be as generous as possible. If you have already made a gift to the 2023 appeal, we thank you. Your gift will help us in reaching our parish goal. You can also make your gift online at www.partners-charity.net. Thank you!

OPERATION RICE BOWL

Cartons for Operation Rice Bowl can be found at each entrance to the Church. For those who participate in this Lenten program, we invite you to place coins in the carton and we will collect them at the end of Lent and forward the total to Catholic Relief Services. The money collected is used to serve the needs of the poor in America and throughout the world, and those who struggle through natural disasters.

Hymnal Readings: 892

Sunday: 1 Sm 16:1b, 6-7, 10-13a/Ps 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6/
Eph 5:8-14/Jn 9:1-41

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: 2 Sm 7:4-5a, 12-14a, 16/Ps 89:2-3, 4-5, 27 and 29/
Rom 4:13, 16-18, 22/Mt 1:16, 18-21, 24a

Tuesday: Ez 47:1-9, 12/Ps 46:2-3, 5-6, 8-9/Jn 5:1-16

Wednesday: Is 49:8-15/Ps 145:8-9, 13cd-14, 17-18/Jn 5:17-30

Thursday: Ex 32:7-14/Ps 106:19-20, 21-22, 23/Jn 5:31-47

Friday: Wis 2:1a, 12-22/Ps 34:17-18, 19-20, 21 and 23/
Jn 7:1-2, 10, 25-30

Saturday: Is 7:10-14; 8:10/Ps 40:7-8a, 8b-9, 10, 11/Heb 10:4-10/
Lk 1:26-38

Next Sunday: Ez 37:12-14/Ps 130:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-8 (7)/Rom 8:8-11/
Jn 11:1-45

LENT 2023

Fridays of Lent

Eucharistic Adoration and Confessions: 5 – 6 PM

Stations of the Cross: 6 PM

Fast and Abstinence

Lenten fast and abstinence regulations for the Diocese of Worcester are as follows:

- Abstinence from meat is to be observed by all Catholics fourteen (14) years of age and older on Ash Wednesday, Good Friday and all the Fridays of Lent.
- Fasting is to be observed by all Catholics who are eighteen (18) years of age but not yet fifty- nine (59) years of age on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday.
- Those who are bound to fast may take only one full meal. Two smaller meals are permitted if necessary, to maintain strength according to one's needs, but eating solid foods between meals is not permitted.

HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

Palm Sunday – April 1st & 2nd

Regular Weekend Mass Schedule

Holy Thursday – April 6th

7 PM Mass of the Lord's Supper followed by Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament.

Good Friday – April 7th

12 Noon Stations of the Cross

7 PM Liturgy of the Lord's Passion

Holy Saturday – April 8th

7:30 PM Easter Vigil. Please note that there will not be Mass at 4 PM this evening.

Easter Sunday – April 9th

Regular Sunday Mass Schedule

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT

(Amounts Include Electronic Giving)

Sunday Ordinary

Diocesan Collections

3/12/2023

\$ 3,113.00

\$ 25.00

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