IMMACULATE CONCEPTION PARISH

353 GROVE STREET, WORCESTER, MA 01605

APRIL 9, 2023 | EASTER SUNDAY

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

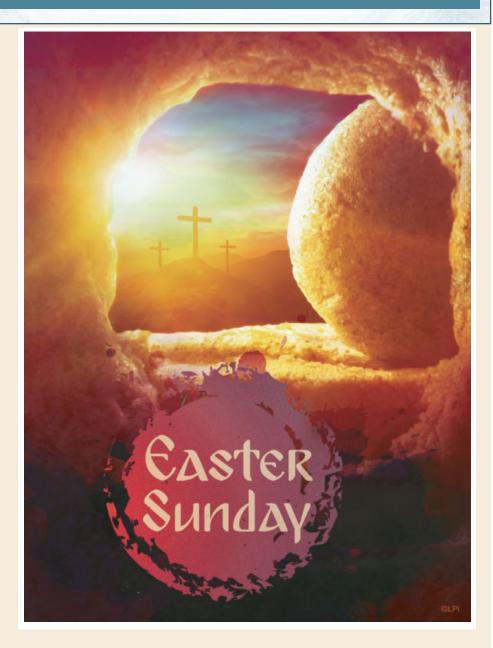
Saturday | 2:45pm - 3:30pm

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

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION PARISH

WORCESTER, MA



SATURDAY, APRIL 8

Vigil of Easter Sunday

7:30pm | Jose Borquez, for his birthday, from Alejandro and Ana Castro

SUNDAY, APRIL 9

Easter Sunday

7:30am | +Bridget Walsh, from the Freeman Family 10:00am | +Shirley Killeen, from Family

MONDAY, APRIL 10

9:00am | Ignacio Marin, for his birthday, from Alejandro and Ana Castro

TUESDAY, APRIL 11

9:00am |

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 12

9:00am |

THURSDAY, APRIL 13

9:00am | +Kelly Herlihy, from the Herlihy Family

SATURDAY, APRIL 15

Vigil of 2nd Sunday of Easter (Divine Mercy)

4:00pm | +Robert Bacon (5th Anniversary), from Family

SUNDAY, APRIL 16

2nd Sunday of Easter (Divine Mercy)

7:30am | For All Parishioners

10:00am | +John Barna (3rd Anniversary), from Family



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. Donate 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.



THE RESURRECTION OF THE LORD

Christians, to the Paschal Victim
Offer your thankful praises!

A Lamb redeems the sheep!

The Paschal Mystery is the great Mystery of Faith. Having just concluded the Sacred Paschal Triduum, the cornerstone of the entire liturgical year, we now reach the greatest feast of all Christianity: Easter Sunday, the Solemnity of the Resurrection of the Lord.

As we repeatedly recalled throughout Lent, and especially at the Easter Vigil, the story begins with the arrogance of sinful Adam, who wanted to be God. Saint Paul, in his famous letter to the Philippians, contrasts this arrogance with the humility of the Son of God "who, in becoming man does not hesitate to take upon himself all human weaknesses, save sin, and going even as far as the depths of death." The Passion, Death and Resurrection of the Son of God is what we refer to as the Paschal Mystery, the central mystery of our salvation, whereby he emptied himself, taking on our humanity out of love for us.

The meaning of the Paschal Mystery is most clearly perceived in the Sacrament of the Eucharist, whereby "on the night in which he was betrayed [the Lord] took bread, and after he had given thanks, broke it and said, This is my body, which is for you. Do this in remembrance of me. In the same way, after the supper, he took the cup, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

In the reception of Holy Communion on this Easter, then, let us enter deeply into the Paschal Mystery, whereby the Lamb has been slain for our salvation and we, who receive his Body and Blood, "renewed by the paschal mysteries, [may] may come to the glory of the resurrection."

(@Office for Divine Worship)

PARTNERS IN CHARITY

Thanks to all our parishioners who have made their gift to the 2023 Partners in Charity Appeal. Our Parish's goal is \$88,500. To date \$20,905 has been raised. If you have not yet made a gift or pledge, please consider making one and visit partners-charity.net to do it online, or you can "text to give" by texting DONATE to 84576, or call the office at 508-929-4366. Partners in Charity is the Annual Appeal for the Diocese of Worcester, serving charitable, educational, and pastoral ministries. Thank you! We couldn't do it without you!

Easter Sunday April 9, 2023

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

There are no Religious Education classes on Easter Sunday, April 9th. Classes will resume on Sunday, April 23rd.

Immaculate Conception Annual Easter Egg Hunt

Please join us on **Easter Sunday following the 10:00am Mass** for the Annual Easter Egg Hunt. The egg hunt will take place on the church grounds. Bring your own basket!

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.

ST VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY

The Society of St. Vincent de Paul at Immaculate Conception will be meeting **Thursday**, **April 13th at 6:00pm** in the Coffee Shop. Please contact Jennefer at icworc@live.com or 508-754-8419, ext. 2 for more information.

HOLY HOUR TO PRAY FOR PRIESTS

Please join us for a holy hour to pray for our priests on **Friday**, **April 14th at 7:00pm** in the church.

MAY SCRIPTURE STUDY

All are invited to participate in a presentation and discussion of Saint Paul's Second Letter to Timothy on **Tuesday evenings, May 2, 9, 16 and 23** in the church sacristy from 6:30 pm to 7:30 pm. A ramp to the sacristy will facilitate handicap access. This Letter, most likely written just before his martyrdom at the hands of the Romans, reflects what Paul wanted Timothy and all followers of Jesus Christ to reflect upon and put into practice. Frank McGuire will serve as presenter and discussion moderator.

FOOD PANTRY

The Food Pantry would like to welcome our new volunteer **Anne Queenan**. At this time the food pantry is in need of: cereal bars, hot chocolate, syrup, vienna sausages, and rice. Thank you!

SPRING CLEANING TIME!

Please donate your used clothing, shoes, and textiles to the St. Vincent de Paul Bin located at the Father Connor Center behind the church. Thank you!

TRIP TO FRANCE IN NOVEMBER

Fr. Walter Riley, pastor of St. Anne's Parish, Shrewsbury, is leading a custom tour to France from November 2-11, 2023. Some tourist sites will be Paris, Versailles, martyrdom of St. Joan of Arc, Basilica of St. Therese of Lisieux, Normandy (D-Day), Mont St. Michel, Cathedral in Chartres, and more. For cost and more information please visit the website for this trip at www.gate1travel.com/customgroups/FR2356201, or call Fr. Riley at 508-757-5451.

Hymnal Readings:

Easter Vigil: #901

Gn 1:1—2:2/Ps 104:1-2, 5-6, 10, 12, 13-14, 24,35/ Gn 22:1-18/Ps 16:5, 8, 9-10, 11/Ex 14:15—15:1/ Ex 15:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 17-18/Is 54:5-14/Ps 30:2, 4, 5-6, 11-12, 13/Is 55:1-11/Is 12:2-3, 4, 5-6/Bar 3:9-15, 32-4:4/Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 11/Ez 36:16-17a, 18-28/ Ps 42:3, 5; 43:3, 4/Rom 6:3-11/Ps 118:1-2, 16-17, 22-23/Mt 28:1-10

Easter Sunday (Day): #902

Acts 10:34a, 37-43/Ps 118:1-2, 16-17, 22-23/Col 3:1-4/

Jn 20:1-9

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Acts 2:14, 22-33/Ps 16:1-2a and 5, 7-8, 9-10, 11/

Mt 28:8-15

Tuesday: Acts 2:36-41/Ps 33:4-5, 18-19, 20 and 22/Jn 20:11-18 Wednesday: Acts 3:1-10/Ps 105:1-2, 3-4, 6-7, 8-9/Lk 24:13-35 Thursday: Acts 3:11-26/Ps 8:2ab and 5, 6-7, 8-9/Lk 24:35-48 Friday: Acts 4:1-12/Ps 118:1-2 and 4, 22-24, 25-27a/

Jn 21:1-14

Saturday: Acts 4:13-21/Ps 118:1 and 14-15ab, 16-18, 19-21/

Mk 16:9-15

Next Sunday: Acts 2:42-47/Ps 118:2-4, 13-15, 22-24/1 Pt 1:3-9/

Jn 20:19-31



EASTER AS A SEASON

For Christians, Easter is not just one day - it's a season of 50 days, a week of weeks, derived in its length from the fifty days between Passover and Pentecost (which means fiftieth) in Judaism. Easter season begins at sunset on the eve of Easter and ends with Pentecost, the day we celebrate the gift of the Holy Spirit and the birth of the Church.

Easter season is more than an extended celebration of the resurrection of Jesus. In the early church, Lent was a season when persons who wished to become Christians were learning how to live the way of Jesus and preparing for baptism on Easter Sunday. Christians have referred to this time of formation as "catechesis" or "echoing the way of Jesus." The original purpose of the Easter season was to continue the formation of new Christians in the faith. Christians have historically referred to this formation process as "mystagogy" or "leading people into the mysteries."

Today, this extended season gives us time to rejoice and experience what we mean when we say Christ is risen and that we, as the church, are the body of the Risen Lord. It's a season for focusing on the core doctrines and mysteries of the faith and for preparing for the ministries the Spirit has empowered us to undertake in Jesus' name.

The season after Pentecost is the second part of Ordinary time. It begins with Trinity Sunday and concludes with Christ the King Sunday. The purpose of this season is to reflect on the ordinary life of our Lord as we support our mission as disciples by using the gifts we have been given by the Holy Spirit.

(@Franciscan Media)

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