

# IMMACULATE CONCEPTION PARISH

353 GROVE STREET, WORCESTER, MA 01605

APRIL 23, 2023 | 3RD SUNDAY OF EASTER

## 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](http://www.icworc.com) | [icworc@live.com](mailto: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

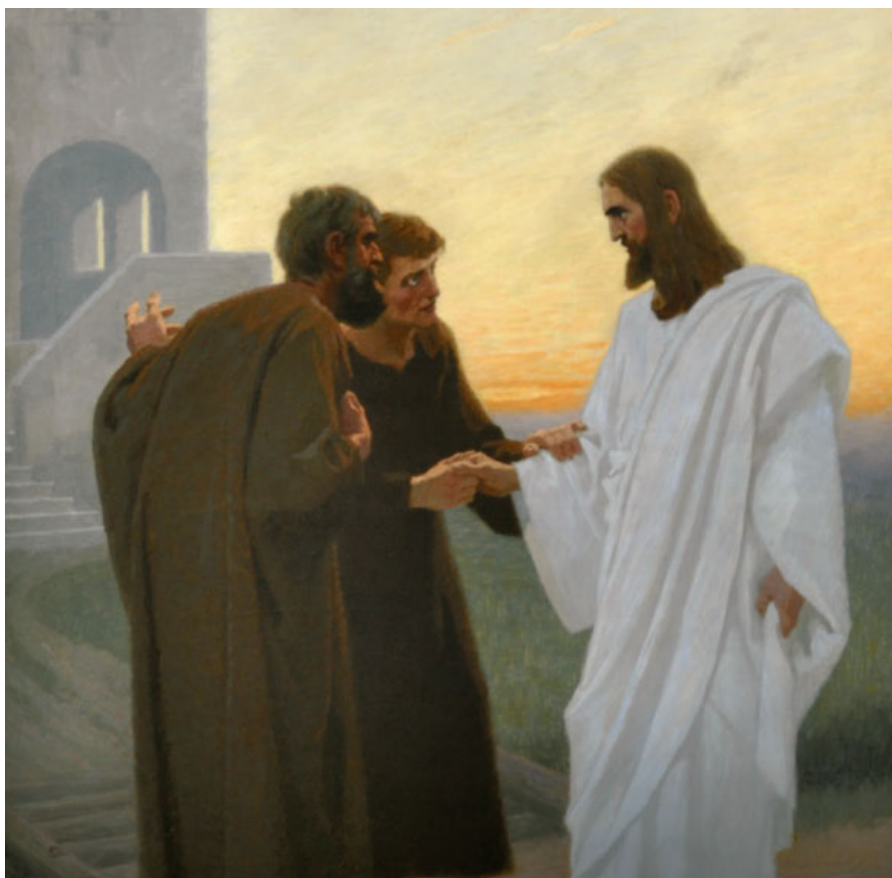
Saturday | 2:45pm - 3:30pm

Other | By Appointment

### ADORATION

Holy Hour for Priests

Second Friday | 7:00pm



## 3<sup>RD</sup> SUNDAY OF EASTER



They set out at once and returned to Jerusalem where they found gathered together the eleven and those with them who were saying, "The Lord has truly been raised and has appeared to Simon!" - Lk 24:33-34

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

©LPI

## PARISH STAFF

### PASTOR

Rev. Edwin Montana | [fatheredwin31@gmail.com](mailto:fatheredwin31@gmail.com)

### PERMANENT DEACONS

Kevin Deignan | [kdeignan@charter.net](mailto:kdeignan@charter.net)

Frank Myska | Retired

### SECRETARY

Jennefer Noberini | [icworc@live.com](mailto:icworc@live.com)

### RELIGIOUS EDUCATION &

### SAFE ENVIRONMENT COORDINATOR

Mary Sycks | [mks723@msn.com](mailto:mks723@msn.com) | 508-868-8119

### MUSIC DIRECTOR

Robert G. Carson

### CANTOR

Bridget Klofft

### BUILDINGS & GROUNDS

Mark Cutler



**SATURDAY, APRIL 22**

**Vigil of 3rd Sunday of Easter**

4:00pm | +Daniel & Margaret O'Brien, from their Daughters

**SUNDAY, APRIL 23**

**3rd Sunday of Easter**

7:30am | For All Parishioners

10:00am | +Ellen Rocheleau (Month Mind), from her Family

**MONDAY, APRIL 24**

9:00am |

**TUESDAY, APRIL 25**

**St. Mark, Evangelist**

9:00am |

**WEDNESDAY, APRIL 26**

9:00am |

**THURSDAY, APRIL 27**

9:00am |

**SATURDAY, APRIL 29**

**Vigil of 4th Sunday of Easter**

4:00pm | +Kathryn Ciccolini, from the Chevalier and Pescheta Families

**SUNDAY, APRIL 30**

**4th Sunday of Easter**

7:30am | For All Parishioners

10:00am | +Robert Z. Freeman, from Family

*Lord, you will show us the path of life.*

## 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. Donato 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.

## REMAIN WITH US LORD

At the heart of this third Sunday in the Easter Season is our reflection on the story of the bewildered disciples on the road to Emmaus. As they make their way, "conversing and debating" about all that had happened, the Lord comes to walk with them, "but their eyes were prevented from recognizing him."

Then the Lord (they still don't know it is he) interprets how his Passion, Death and Resurrection are the fulfillment of the Scriptures. He acts as if he is going on, but they insist that he stay with them: "Stay with us, for it is nearly evening and the day is almost over," they tell him. So, he goes inside and sits at table with them.

It is at this point that the story takes a very particular turn, as the Lord "took bread, said the blessing, broke it, and gave it to them." Recall how these are the same words used by Saint Paul and the synoptic evangelists to describe the actions of the Lord at the Last Supper. In effect, it is the Eucharist which is being celebrated, at which "their eyes were opened and they recognized him."

The story of the Road to Emmaus, then, demonstrates the faith of the early Church in Christ's real presence under the form of bread and wine, consecrated by his own hands through the action of the priest at every Mass. While human eyes perceive only bread, the eyes of faith are opened and recognize the Lord in the Breaking of the Bread.

It is that faith which is so beautifully expressed in a famous hymn of Saint Thomas Aquinas: "On the night of that Last Supper, seated with His chosen band, he the Pascal victim eating, first fulfills the Law's command; then as Food to His Apostles gives Himself with His own hand."

(@ Office for Divine Worship)

## 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.

## 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 **\$26,105** has been raised. If you have not yet made a gift or pledge, please consider making one and visit [partners-charity.net](http://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!

## FOOD PANTRY

Our Food Pantry is open on the second and fourth Tuesdays of the month from 11:00 AM to 1:00 PM.

## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Religious Education classes take place on **Sunday, April 23rd at 8:45AM-9:45AM** for children in grades K-10. Confirmation Class takes place on **Tuesday, April 25th at 6:00pm** in the church Coffee Shop.

## Congratulations!

On Sunday, April 16th, at St. Paul's Cathedral, our Confirmation students received the Sacrament from Bishop McManus alongside many other recipients from other parishes in the Diocese. It was a wonderful celebration for all involved. Thank you to Stephen Sycks for sharing his much wisdom and knowledge of the Catholic faith in his teaching role for another Confirmation year. May God's holy blessings be upon our Confirmands as they continue to "work for the Lord" as they grow in their faith and share in the ministry of the Church. Congratulations to **Emily Charlton, Matthew DeHoratius, Conor Douglas, Christopher Eguwatu and Alahnah Paquette!**

## First Communion Prayer Cards

A number of children in our parish will share in an event of great joy for them and the entire Catholic Community. On **Sunday, May 14th**, they will receive Jesus in the Eucharist for the first time. They and their families have been preparing for this sacrament for some time now, learning what the gift of Eucharist is about and what it means to share that gift with others. Please visit our display of the First Communion Class located near the entrance of the church. Please take a prayer card from the display and keep all of the children in your prayers as they take the final steps in preparing for the sacrament of First Holy Communion.

## Religious Education Registration 2023-2024

Registration is ongoing for the 2023-2024 Religious Education year. Classes for children in K through 10th grade take place at 8:45am-9:45am. Classes for students in 11th grade (Confirmation) take place at 11:00am-12:00pm. All Children in second grade will begin preparing for the sacraments of Reconciliation and First Holy Communion in September. All Students in 11th grade will begin preparation for the sacrament of Confirmation in September. All children are welcome to attend Religious Education Classes and will not be denied participation due to financial hardship. If you are new to the parish, and have a child entering K-11th grades, and would like to know more about our Religious Education Program please contact Mary Sycks at 508-868-8119.

**Be a part of our parish community!** Volunteers are essential to our Religious Education Program. Help spread the word of God with the children of Immaculate Conception. We have training and a wonderful support group to help you with this mission. If you are interested in sharing your faith, please contact Mary Sycks.

## THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT

(Amounts Include Electronic Giving)

Sunday Ordinary	\$ 3,476.00
Easter	\$ 130.00
Spring Fuel	\$ 10.00
Holy Days	\$ 22.00
Diocesan Collections	\$ 172.00

4/16/2023

## Hymnal Readings: 904

Sunday: Acts 2:14, 22-33/Ps 16:1-2, 5, 7-8, 9-10, 11/  
1 Pt 1:17-21/Lk 24:13-35

## READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Acts 6:8-15/Ps 119:23-24, 26-27, 29-30/Jn 6:22-29  
Tuesday: 1 Pt 5:5b-14/Ps 89:2-3, 6-7, 16-17/Mk 16:15-20  
Wednesday: Acts 8:1b-8/Ps 66:1-3a, 4-5, 6-7a/Jn 6:35-40  
Thursday: Acts 8:26-40/Ps 66:8-9, 16-17, 20/Jn 6:44-51  
Friday: Acts 9:1-20/Ps 117:1bc, 2/Jn 6:52-59  
Saturday: Acts 9:31-42/Ps 116:12-13, 14-15, 16-17/Jn 6:60-69  
Next Sunday: Acts 2:14a, 36-41/Ps 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6/  
1 Pt 2:20b-25/Jn 10:1-10

## FROM BISHOP MCMANUS

The Archdiocese of Boston has recently noted that the "Satancon" convention will be held in Boston from April 28-30 at the Boston Marriott Copley Place. The organizers of this convention are billing it as "the largest satanic gathering in history."

It is sad to witness that there are people who find satisfaction in celebrating the power of evil in the world. Perhaps they have never experienced the sense of joy and the power of redemption that we find in this Easter Season. We are a people of hope, thanks to the Resurrection of Jesus Christ, who offers all believers the path to life eternal in the loving embrace of God.

By baptism we are called to be witnesses to the Good News, in particular in light of this Satancon event. Let us remember that our power to combat evil lies in the power of prayer. To that end, I join my voice to that of Cardinal O'Malley in asking that we not organize or encourage any parishioners to go to the event to protest. It will only fuel the hate of those who support it and feed the media with images.

We should not, however, stand by idly and feel powerless. Let us storm the Heavens with prayer, in anticipation of and during the event. Pause at any time during the days ahead and petition God to enlighten those who are calling on the prince of darkness to turn toward the light of his saving power. Use formal prayers, such as the Prayer to St. Michael the Archangel or pray the Rosary, or simply use your own words. God will hear you if you simply call on him.

Join me in reciting The Prayer of Saint Michael, in particular during this month:

*Saint Michael the Archangel, defend us in battle. Be our protection against the wickedness and snares of the devil; May God rebuke him, we humbly pray; And do thou, O Prince of the Heavenly Host, by the power of God, thrust into hell Satan and all evil spirits who wander through the world seeking the ruin of souls. Amen.*

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Most Reverend Robert J. McManus  
Bishop of Worcester

## Place Your Ad Here and Support our Parish!

Instantly create and purchase an ad with

AD  
CREATOR  
STUDIO



[4lpi.com/adcreator](http://4lpi.com/adcreator)

## A Shower of Roses

### RELIGIOUS SHOP

"Refresh Your Faith  
With A Shower Of Roses"

360 West Boylston Street  
West Boylston MA 01583  
Hours: T-F 10-5, Sat. 10-4

508-835-2828

Patricia Quintiliani

### For Your Next Event:

Event Host • DJ Entertainment  
Lighting & Decor • Photo Booths  
A/V Production • Event Rentals  
Tents, Tables, Chairs, Linen

WEDDINGS | LIFE EVENTS  
CORPORATE GALAS  
EVENT RENTALS & LIGHTING

Bookings@AtlasEventGroup.com  
Office/Text 508.459.2011



Please Donate to the SVDP  
Recycle Bin behind the church  
Society of St. Vincent de Paul  
Immaculate Conception



*Dedicated to helping  
individuals & families in  
our community in need*

Easy Donation Bin  
Clothing, Textiles,  
and Shoes

Funds raised go to needs  
like fuel, rent, gas, food,  
repairs, and clothing to  
sustain a future store

[www.svdpworcester.org](http://www.svdpworcester.org) - 508-754-8419

*Tax receipts available for monetary donation  
Contact us if someone needs help*

MASSACHUSETTS ASSOCIATION  
for the

## Blind and Visually Impaired

Do Good. Feel Good.

Help someone in your community today  
Volunteer with the blind in Worcester county  
[www.mabvi.org](http://www.mabvi.org) or email us at [volunteer@mabvi.org](mailto:volunteer@mabvi.org)

## WE'RE HIRING!

### AD SALES EXECUTIVES



BE YOURSELF.  
BRING YOUR PASSION.  
WORK WITH PURPOSE.

- Paid training
- Some travel
- Work-life balance
- Full-Time with benefits
- Serve your community



Contact us at  
[careers@4lpi.com](mailto:careers@4lpi.com) or  
[www.4lpi.com/careers](http://www.4lpi.com/careers)

## LET'S GROW YOUR BUSINESS

Place Your Ad Here  
and Support Our Parish!

CONTACT ME  
**Bill Ames**

[bames@4LPi.com](mailto:bames@4LPi.com)  
(800) 477-4574 x6424

# SUPPORT OUR ADVERTISERS!

