

# IMMACULATE CONCEPTION PARISH

353 GROVE STREET, WORCESTER, MA 01605

MAY 21, 2023 | SEVENTH 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

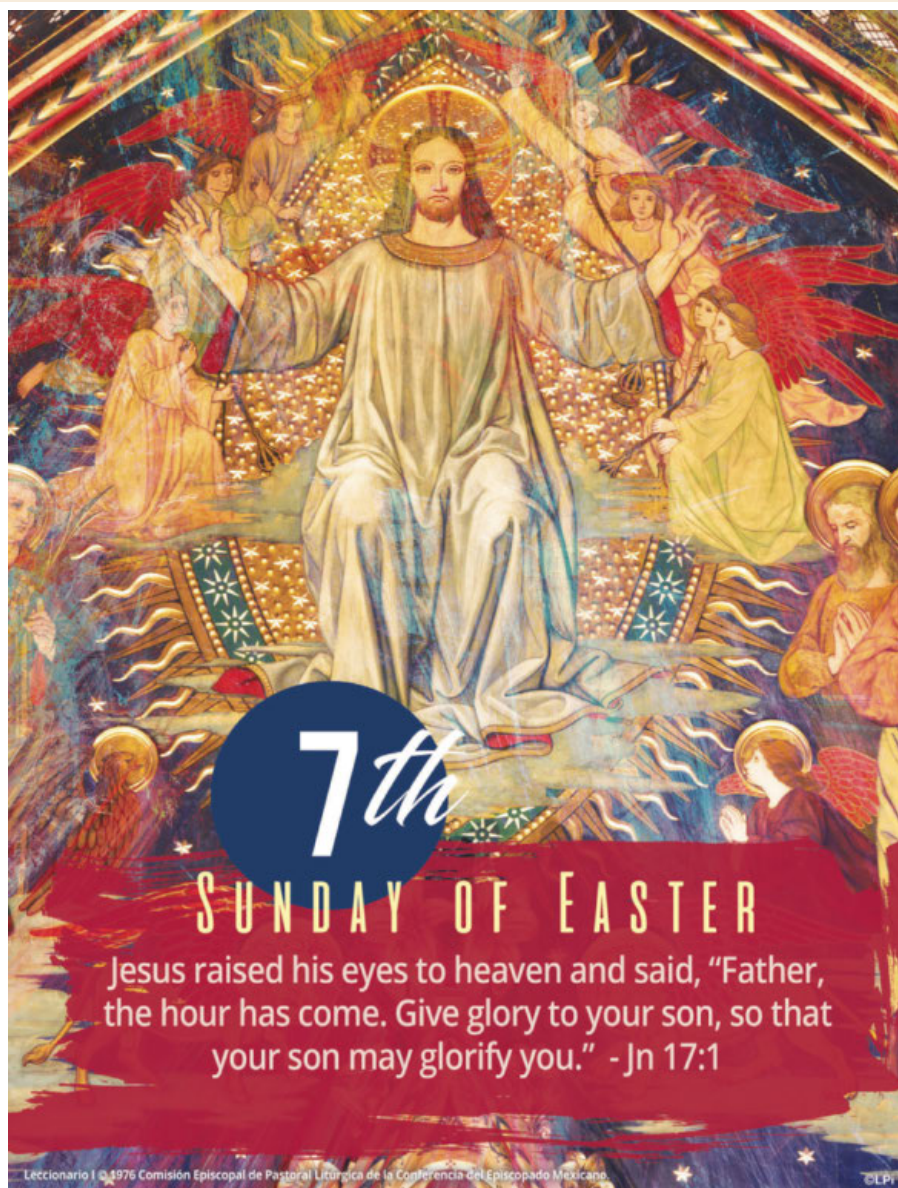
Saturday | 2:45pm - 3:30pm

Other | By Appointment

### ADORATION

Holy Hour for Priests

Second Friday | 7:00pm



## 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, MAY 20**

**Vigil of 7th Sunday of Easter**

4:00pm | +Mary Power, from John Hanson

**SUNDAY, MAY 21**

**7th Sunday of Easter**

7:30am | +Richard Kaley, from Mike Casey and Family

10:00am | +Barbara Freeman, from the Freeman Family

**MONDAY, MAY 22**

9:00am |

**TUESDAY, MAY 23**

9:00am |

**WEDNESDAY, MAY 24**

9:00am |

**THURSDAY, MAY 25**

9:00am |

**SATURDAY, MAY 27**

**Vigil of Pentecost Sunday**

4:00pm | +Barbara A. Mahoney (1st Anniversary), from Family

**SUNDAY, MAY 28**

**Pentecost Sunday**

7:30am | +Gertrude McDermott (22nd Anniversary), from Family

10:00am |



## 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.

## PREPARING FOR PENTECOST

We prepare for Christmas by celebrating the four weeks of waiting known as Advent, and prepare for Easter by undergoing our own 40-day journey into the desert of Lent. The joyous feast time of Easter should be its own form of both Lent (penance/preparation) and Advent (joyful waiting), as we approach the feast of the day our Church began its mission, Pentecost.

It's probably not realistic to hunker down in an Upper Room like Mary and the Apostles did and wait for the Holy Spirit. But this time of preparation should remind us of the first feast of Pentecost and also lead us to celebrate the fact that the Holy Spirit is already with us, all of us, always. The annual celebration of this holy day should be an opportunity to begin or renew our commitment to the mission we've been given as God's children. How? Here are five ways to prepare your own heart for the feast of Pentecost, and grow more aware of the work of the Spirit in your life and in the world.

1. *Find out your Confirmation date.* Pope Francis encourages us to discover our Baptism date and celebrate this moment in time when we became part of Christ's church and were freed from original sin. In the same way, shouldn't we celebrate the day we chose to embrace our faith of our own free will, and to be commissioned and sent out to tell everyone the good news? The sacrament of Confirmation is a one-time event, with lifetime effects. Read up on the saint you chose as your patron. Reach out and pray with your Confirmation sponsor if he or she is available, or if not, pray for them, and try to make it to mass or adoration on the date. Tell the Holy Spirit "thank you," for coming to you as Gift and Advocate.

2. *Refamiliarize yourself with the gifts of the Holy Spirit:* wisdom, understanding, piety (reverence), knowledge, counsel (right judgment), fortitude (courage), and fear of the Lord (wonder and awe). Ask the Holy Spirit to help you sift through your own charisms and gifts, and for guidance on what God's will is for you in building up the body of Christ.

3. *Ask the Holy Spirit to guide you through an examination of conscience* and prepare yourself to receive the sacrament of Penance. The further we are from sin, the closer we are to each person of the Trinity.

4. *Help renew the face of the earth.* We are the body of Christ, and each of us is a vessel of the Holy Spirit. When the Apostles received the gift of the Spirit at Pentecost, they went out and spoke about their faith, about the man they loved and knew to be the Christ. They no longer feared proclaiming their beliefs. They shared what they had, what they knew, with everyone they encountered. Go out and share your faith with someone. Invite someone back. Be not afraid to speak.

5. *Gladden the Holy Spirit. Spend some time serving God by serving others.* Perform either corporal or spiritual works of mercy in your home and/or community. Pray a prayer to the Holy Spirit.

Have a great Feast of Pentecost!

(@aleteia.org)

## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION REGISTRATION 2022-2023

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.

## Congratulations!

On Sunday, May 14th, 3 children received their First Holy Communion. It was a glorious day filled with love. May the Lord continue to bless them as they grow in their faith. A special thank you to their teachers, Nicole Hermance and Joanna Jalbert, who shared their time and faith to prepare the children for this very special day. Congratulations to **Amelia Belanger, Inara Paquette and Michael Smith.**

## 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 **\$44,740** 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!

## REPAIRS FRONT OF THE CHURCH

The masonry repairs to the front patio of the Church that were started last year will finally be complete. In addition to this, a broken sewer pipe in the driveway in front of the church will be fixed. The completion of all this work will take over a month during which time we will be unable to use the front doors. Also, the downstairs bathrooms cannot be used until the pipe is repaired. If you need to use the restroom, you can use the one passing the exit sign by the candle room and taking a left. We apologize for any inconvenience that this may cause and thank you for your continued support towards our Church building maintenance.

## THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT

(Amounts Include Electronic Giving)

	5/14/2023
Sunday Ordinary	\$ 5,622.00
Ascension	\$ 90.00
Peter's Pence	\$ 10.00
Legacy of Hope Distribution	\$ 22,366.75

## Hymnal Readings: 917

Sunday: Acts 1:12-14/Ps 27:1, 4, 7-8/1 Pt 4:13-16/Jn 17:1-11a

### READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Acts 19:1-8/Ps 68:2-3ab, 4-5acd, 6-7ab/Jn 16:29-33

Tuesday: Acts 20:17-27/Ps 68:10-11, 20-21/Jn 17:1-11a

Wednesday: Acts 20:28-38/Ps 68:29-30, 33-35a, 35bc-36ab/Jn 17:11b-19

Thursday: Acts 22:30; 23:6-11/Ps 16:1-2a and 5, 7-8, 9-10, 11/Jn 17:20-26

Friday: Acts 25:13b-21/Ps 103:1-2, 11-12, 19-20ab/Jn 21:15-19

Saturday: Acts 28:16-20, 30-31/Ps 11:4, 5, 7/Jn 21:20-25

Next Sunday: Acts 2:1-11/Ps 104:1, 24, 29-30, 31, 34/1 Cor 12:3b-7, 12-13/Jn 20:19-23

## END-OF-LIFE PRESENTATION IN SHREWSBURY

The Knights of Columbus will host "Facing the Reality of Death with the Confidence of Faith", a presentation by the diocesan Respect Life Office on **Monday, May 22 at 7:00 p.m. at St. Anne Parish, Shrewsbury.** The presentation will discuss the Catholic approach to end-of-life issues. It will examine some of the basic moral principles that help to guide us in medical decision-making, and will offer practical ways to assist us in helping our loved ones to live out their final days with the true dignity each human person deserves. The presentation will include an opportunity for Q & A and materials will be available.

## MAY SCRIPTURE STUDY

All are invited to participate in a presentation and discussion of Saint Paul's Second Letter to Timothy on **Tuesday evening, May 23rd** 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.

## SPAGHETTI SUPPER

All are invited to come enjoy a **Spaghetti Supper** at the Father Connor's Center on **Saturday, June 10th, after the 4 p.m. Mass.** Pasta, meatballs, sausage, salad, bread, desserts, and beverages. Adults \$15.00 and Children \$8 (12 and under). Family maximum is \$45. BYOB. Tickets will be on sale after all Masses.

## WORD OF LIFE

"The Lord says to us, 'Do not fear: I am with you' (Isaiah 41:10). He speaks these words not as one who merely observes our pain, but as one who experienced immense suffering. And the very wounds that bear witness to his suffering indicate the essence of our identity and worth: we are loved by God. Reflecting on the healed wounds of the Risen Christ, we see that even our most difficult trials can be the place where God manifests his victory. He makes all things beautiful. He makes all things new."

USCCB Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities, "Be Not Afraid"  
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Patricia Quintiliani

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



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