

# IMMACULATE CONCEPTION PARISH

353 GROVE STREET, WORCESTER, MA 01605

JUNE 18, 2023 | THE ELEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

## 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



## 11<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

"Go rather to the lost sheep of the house of Israel. As you go, make this proclamation: 'The kingdom of heaven is at hand.' Cure the sick, raise the dead, cleanse lepers, drive out demons. Without cost you have received; without cost you are to give." - Mt 10:6-8

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

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## 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, JUNE 17**

**Vigil of 11th Sunday in Ordinary Time**

4:00pm | +Martin Geheran, from Family

**SUNDAY, JUNE 18**

**11th Sunday in Ordinary Time**

7:30am | +Robert Bacon (birthday remembrance), from Family

10:00am | For All Fathers

**MONDAY, JUNE 19**

9:00am | Nelly Co (birthday remembrance), from Alejandro and Ana Castro

**TUESDAY, JUNE 20**

9:00am | Jose Marin (birthday remembrance), from Alejandro and Ana Castro

**WEDNESDAY, JUNE 21**

**St. Aloysius Gonzaga, Religious**

9:00am | For the Souls in Purgatory, from Sr. Maria Manzano

**THURSDAY, JUNE 22**

9:00am | For the Souls in Purgatory, from Sr. Maria Manzano

**SATURDAY, JUNE 24**

**Vigil of 12th Sunday in Ordinary Time**

4:00pm | +J. Paul Deignan (8th Anniversary), from Family

**SUNDAY, JUNE 25**

**12th Sunday in Ordinary Time**

7:30am | +Helen Duclos, from Family

10:00am | +Donald Rocheleau, from Family

*Without cost you have received;  
without cost you are to give.*

## 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.

## RELIGIOUS FREEDOM WEEK AND STS. TOMAS MORE AND JOHN FISHER

The Religious Freedom Week begins on June 22, the day when the Church celebrates the feast day of Sts. Thomas More and John Fisher.

Sts. Thomas More and John Fisher were Renaissance men. Talented and energetic, they contributed to the humanist scholarship of early modern England. More wrote theological and philosophical treatises, while making a career as a lawyer and government official. Bishop John Fisher worked as an administrator at Cambridge, confronted the challenge Martin Luther presented to Christian Europe, and most importantly served as Bishop of Rochester. As a bishop, he is notable for his dedication to preaching at a time when bishops tended to focus on politics. These men were brilliant. They both corresponded with Erasmus, who helped Bishop Fisher learn Greek and Hebrew, and who also famously referred to More as a man for all seasons.

Above all their accomplishments, these men bore witness to a deep faith in Christ and his Church. More considered joining religious life and was assiduous in his devotional practices. As a married man, he committed himself wholly to his vocation as a father. At the time, disciplinary practices with children tended to be severe, but More's children testify to his warmth, patience, and generosity.

St. John Fisher was a model shepherd and demonstrated remarkable humility. He remained in the small Diocese of Rochester his entire episcopal ministry, devoting himself to his local church rather than seeking promotion to a larger, more powerful diocese.

More and Fisher are well-known for opposing King Henry's divorce. Ultimately, it was their refusal to sign an oath of supremacy that led them to be executed. King Henry VIII claimed to be the supreme head of the Church in England, asserting sovereign power over English Christians. Neither Fisher nor More could abide this claim, and their steadfastness to their consciences put them in conflict with the king. They were convicted of treason.

It is good to love one's country, but ultimate loyalty is due only to Christ and his kingdom. Sts. Thomas More and John Fisher show us what faithful citizenship looks like. They loved and served their country. In the moments just before his execution, More is said to have stated, "I die the King's good servant, but God's first." They never rose up to incite rebellion or foment revolution. They were no traitors. But when the law of the king came into conflict with the law of Christ, they submitted to Christ. These men gave their lives for the freedom of the Church and for freedom of conscience. They bear witness to the truth that no government can make a claim on a person's soul. May their example continue to illuminate the path for us, as we seek to faithfully serve our Church and country.

We ask for the intercession of Sts. Thomas More and John Fisher, that we too would be good servants to our country, but God's first!

(usccb.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.

## Altar Servers Needed

Altar Servers perform a very important and much needed role in liturgical services. This role includes assisting the presider so that the liturgy can be conducted with grace and reverence. It enables the presider to focus on leading all present through word, prayer and the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass. Immaculate Conception is recruiting boys and girls for its Altar Server Ministry. The Altar Server Ministry is a special opportunity for children to participate in the life of the parish as they serve our Lord at the Altar. Altar Servers must be Baptized, have received their First Holy Communion, and be in the third grade or higher. Training is required. If you and your child(ren) are interested in pursuing this ministry, please contact Mary Sycks.

## REST IN PEACE

Please pray for the repose of the soul of **Dr. Helen Vassallo**, and keep her family in your prayers during this time of loss. May God grant them hope and strength in the days ahead.

## THANK YOU

Thank you to all the volunteers who contributed to make the spaghetti meal the success that it was. Also, our gratitude to all those who supported this event by attending, picking up a take-out meal, or just purchasing a ticket. A total of **\$270** was raised.

## FORUM ON PHYSICIAN ASSISTED SUICIDE

The Christ the King Parish forum on Physician Assisted Suicide on Monday, June 19 at 7:00 pm **has been cancelled**.

## FREE FAMILY MOVIE NIGHT

All are invited **Thursday, June 29th at 6:00pm** to come watch a family friendly movie in the Coffee Shop (prior to the Worcester Fireworks). Snacks and beverages will be available for purchase to benefit The Society of St. Vincent de Paul at Immaculate Conception.

## THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT

(Amounts Include Electronic Giving)

Sunday Ordinary	\$ 3411.00
Catholic Communication Campaign	\$ 5.00

**6/11/2023**

## Hymnal Readings: 958

Sunday: Ex 19:2-6a/Ps 100:1-2, 3, 5/Rom 5:6-11/Mt 9:36-10:8

### READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: 2 Cor 6:1-10/Ps 98:1, 2b, 3ab, 3cd-4/Mt 5:38-42

Tuesday: 2 Cor 8:1-9/Ps 146:2, 5-6ab, 6c-7, 8-9a/Mt 5:43-48

Wednesday: 2 Cor 9:6-11/Ps 112:1bc-2, 3-4, 9/Mt 6:1-6, 16-18

Thursday: 2 Cor 11:1-11/Ps 111:1b-2, 3-4, 7-8/Mt 6:7-15

Friday: 2 Cor 11:18, 21-30/Ps 34:2-3, 4-5, 6-7/Mt 6:19-23

Saturday: Is 49:1-6/Ps 139:1b-3, 13-14ab, 14c-15/

Acts 13:22-26/Lk 1:57-66, 80

Next Sunday: Jer 20:10-13/Ps 69:8-10, 14, 17, 33-35/Rom 5:12-15/Mt 10:26-33

## OFFERING THE SACRIFICES OF THEIR LIVES

In the Book of Exodus today, we hear God promise the Israelites at Sinai that they will become to him "a Kingdom of Priests and a holy nation."

In Christ, we have become, in the words of Saint Peter, "a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's own people" by virtue of our Baptism.

Of course, we have not been baptized to become priests who offer bloody sacrifices of bulls or sheep. Rather, we are called to offer the sacrifice of our lives, joined to the perfect Sacrifice which Christ offered upon the altar of the Cross. Thus, we are called "to offer to God the Father the Divine Victim in the Sacrifice of the Mass, and to join to it the offering of our own lives."

This is beautifully demonstrated whenever the faithful present the gifts of Bread and Wine at Mass, symbolically uniting the sacrifices of their lives to the Sacrifice of Christ. In the Presentation of the gifts, it becomes evident that "a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's own people," are joining the sacrifices of their lives with the one and perfect Sacrifice of Christ upon the Cross.

When gifts of bread and wine are placed into the hands of the priest, it is not just bread that is offered, but with those hosts are mixed all the sacrifices of our lives. And with the wine in the chalice are mixed the joys and sorrows, the longings and holy desires of each member of the gathered assembly.

We place those gifts into the hands of the priest, who, acting in the person of Christ, places them upon the altar in the same way that Christ placed his body upon the altar of the Cross. These are the gifts that will be transformed by the great Eucharistic Prayer into the very Body and Blood of Christ, and then returned to us as our nourishment that we may have the strength to offer our lives in the days to come.

*(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 **\$48,955** 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. Thank you! We couldn't do it without you!

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## 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

### 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*

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Funds raised go to needs  
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*Tax receipts available for monetary donation  
Contact us if someone needs help*

## MASSACHUSETTS ASSOCIATION for the

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