

# IMMACULATE CONCEPTION PARISH

353 GROVE STREET, WORCESTER , MA 01605

NOVEMBER 26, 2023 | OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, KING OF THE UNIVERSE

## 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

Phone: 508-754-8419

Fax: 508-459-9815

Website: [www.icworc.com](http://www.icworc.com)

Email: [icworc@live.com](mailto:icworc@live.com)

## OFFICE HOURS

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday

8:30am - 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

Or 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)



## OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, KING OF THE UNIVERSE



“Come, you who are blessed by my Father. Inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world.” - Mt 25:34

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

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### 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

## MASS INTENTIONS

**SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 25**

**Vigil of Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe**

4:00pm † William and Helen Callahan, from Family

**SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 26**

**Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe**

7:30am

10:00am † Paul Michalak, from Michelle Deignan and Family

**MONDAY, NOVEMBER 27**

9:00am

**TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 28**

9:00am

**WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 29**

9:00am

**THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 30**

**St. Andrew, Apostle**

9:00am

**SATURDAY, DECEMBER 2**

**Vigil of 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Advent**

4:00pm

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 3**

**1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Advent**

7:30am

10:00am † Michael Barna (70th Anniversary), from Family

*The Lord is my shepherd; there is  
nothing I shall want.*

(Ps 23)

## 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.

### OCIA

For adults seeking full admission into the church through baptism, confirmation & eucharist. Please call the church office for registration which takes place during 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 Diaconate Director Deacon Donald Pegg (617) 794-7702. To learn more about 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.



On the last Sunday of each liturgical year, the Church celebrates the Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe, or Christ the King.

Pope Pius XI instituted this feast in 1925 with his encyclical *Quas primas* ("In the first") to respond to growing secularism and atheism. He recognized that attempting to "thrust Jesus Christ and his holy law" out of public life would result in continuing discord among people and nations. This solemnity reminds us that while governments come and go, Christ reigns as King forever.

During the early twentieth century, in Mexico, Russia, and some parts of Europe, militantly secularistic regimes threatened not just the Catholic Church and its faithful but civilization itself. Pope Pius XI's encyclical gave Catholics hope and—while governments around them crumbled—the assurance that Christ the King shall reign forever. Jesus Christ "is very truth, and it is from him that truth must be obediently received by all mankind" (*Quas primas*, 7).

Christ's kingship is rooted in the Church's teaching on the Incarnation. Jesus is fully God and fully man. He is both the divine Lord and the man who suffered and died on the Cross. One person of the Trinity unites himself to human nature and reigns over all creation as the Incarnate Son of God. "From this it follows not only that Christ is to be adored by angels and men, but that to him as man angels and men are subject, and must recognize his empire; by reason of the hypostatic union Christ has power over all creatures" (*Quas primas*, 13).

The Church calls us to acknowledge Christ's kingship with our whole lives:

He must reign in our minds, which should assent with perfect submission and firm belief to revealed truths and to the doctrines of Christ. He must reign in our wills, which should obey the laws and precepts of God. He must reign in our hearts, which should spurn natural desires and love God above all things, and cleave to him alone. He must reign in our bodies and in our members, which should serve as instruments for the interior sanctification of our souls, or to use the words of the Apostle Paul, 'as instruments of justice unto God' (*Quas primas*, 33).

Today, religious freedom for many people means that we can believe whatever we want in private, but when we enter the public square or the marketplace, we may not speak of anything that relates to our faith. However, the Church acknowledges the reign of Christ, not only privately, but publicly. This solemnity encourages us to celebrate and live out our faith in public. "Thus, by sermons preached at meetings and in churches, by public adoration of the Blessed Sacrament exposed and by solemn processions, men unite in paying homage to Christ, whom God has given them for their King" (*Quas primas*, 26).

For Christians, when our faith is repeatedly marginalized in public life, we can fall into the habit of compartmentalizing our lives. We love Jesus in our private lives, but we shrink from acknowledging the kingship of Christ in social life. When we celebrate the Solemnity of Christ the King, we declare to the world and remind ourselves that Jesus is the Lord of the Church and of the entire universe.

(Source: USCCB)

## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

There are no Religious Education classes on Sunday, November 26th. **Happy Thanksgiving! Classes will resume on Sunday, December 3rd.**

## Children's Christmas Pageant

We are very excited to announce the date of the Children's Christmas Pageant. The Christmas Pageant will be held **Sunday, December 17th at 9:15am** in the church. All children at Immaculate Conception are invited to join us for Christmas Pageant rehearsals on the following dates: Sunday, December 3rd & 10th 11:00am-11:45am in the church & Dress rehearsal on Saturday, December 16th at 10:00am. We have many roles for all the children. If your child is interested in participating, please contact Mary Sycks 508-868-8119. Any adults who would like to volunteer as costume coordinators or "herders" to guide our littlest angels and sheep the morning of the performance please contact Mary Sycks

## REST IN PEACE

Please pray for the repose of the soul of **Dr. Robert D. Blute, Jr.**, and keep his family in your prayers during this time of loss. May God grant them hope and strength in the days ahead.

## GIVING TREE

The gift tags are available on our Giving Tree today. UNWRAPPED gifts must be returned with the tag securely attached to the gift. Without the tag with its family number, we cannot get your tag's specific need to the right person. Please note: NO BATTERIES, NO FOOD OR CANDY ALLOWED. NO GIFT BAGS. All UNWRAPPED items must be returned by 11:30 a.m. Sunday, December 9/10. We will have very large plastic bags for completed purchases.

## CAROLING AND COOKIES IN WORCESTER

Join the Emmaus Ministry on the front steps of St. George Church for Caroling, Cookies, and Cocoa on **Sunday, Dec. 3rd beginning at 6:00 pm** with Caroling followed by Cookies & Cocoa in the Church Hall. "The best way to spread Christmas cheer is singing loud for all to hear." – Buddy Questions? please call 508-854-0864 or email [emmaus.stgeorge@gmail.com](mailto:emmaus.stgeorge@gmail.com).

## EXTRA WEEKDAY MASSES IN ADVENT

Advent begins on the weekend of December 2 & 3. **Christ the King Parish**, located at 1052 Pleasant St. in Worcester, continues its custom of celebrating an **additional weekday Mass at 5:30pm, Monday through Friday**. All are welcome to join. **The first Mass will be Monday, December 4.** The last is on Friday, December 22. Mass concludes about 6:00pm each night. The only exception to this schedule is on Friday, December 8, the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception, when the Mass will be at 6:00pm rather than 5:30pm.

## ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY

The next St. Vincent de Paul Society group meeting will be **Thursday, November 7 at 7:00pm via Zoom**. New Members are always welcome! For more information please contact Jennefer at [jen.noberini@gmail.com](mailto:jen.noberini@gmail.com)

## THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT

(amounts include Electronic Giving)

11/12/2023

|                      |             |
|----------------------|-------------|
| Ordinary             | \$ 3,026.00 |
| Fall Fuel            | \$ 601.00   |
| Diocesan Collections | \$ 15.00    |

## HYMNAL READINGS: 1027

Sunday: Ez 34:11-12, 15-17/Ps 23:1-2, 2-3, 5-6/1 Cor 15:20-26, 28/Mt 25:31-46

## READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Dn 1:1-6, 8-20/Dn 3:52, 53, 54, 55, 56/Lk 21:1-4

Tuesday: Dn 2:31-45/Dn 3:57, 58, 59, 60, 61/Lk 21:5-11

Wednesday: Dn 5:1-6, 13-14, 16-17, 23-28/Dn 3:62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67/Lk 21:12-19

Thursday: Rom 10:9-18/Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 11/Mt 4:18-22

Friday: Dn 7:2-14/Dn 3:75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81/Lk 21:29-33

Saturday: Dn 7:15-27/Dn 3:82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87/Lk 21:34-36

Next Sunday: Is 63:16b-17, 19b; 64:2-7/Ps 80:2-3, 15-16, 18-19/1 Cor 1:3-9/Mk 13:33-37

## HOLY HOUR TO PRAY FOR PRIESTS

Please join us for a holy hour to pray for our priests on Friday, **December 8th at 7:00pm** in the church.

## WOMEN'S PRAYER GROUP

The next gathering of the Women's Prayer Group will be **Saturday, December 9th at 9am** in the Coffee Shop. We will pray, reflect, share, and have coffee. For more info, please email Bridget Klofft, at [bridgetbakes@yahoo.com](mailto:bridgetbakes@yahoo.com)

## G.K. CHESTERTON SOCIETY

The G. K. Chesterton Society of Worcester invites new members to join us on **Saturday, December 9th at 6:30pm** in the church basement. The group is currently discussing Chesterton's book on St. Thomas Aquinas. For further information, contact Candace at [cjaegle787@gmail.com](mailto:cjaegle787@gmail.com).

## AVAILABLE NOW!

### PRINT & DIGITAL AD SPACES

**The Support of Your Business is Greatly Appreciated**

**Ginny Sgarzi** from LPi, our bulletin printer, will be securing new ads for our church in the coming weeks. It is the support of the business community that helps to make our church thrive. Please consider purchasing a print and/or digital ad as your participation makes our bulletin successful, and you attract customers!

**Church bulletin advertising** is a cost-effective way to advertise 52 times per year and show support for your local community; in turn, parishioners will support you!

**Digital advertising** allows your business to be front and center to anyone who visits a church profile page on [ParishesOnline.com](http://ParishesOnline.com) — that's approximately 500,000 page views per month!

**Ginny Sgarzi**  
(800) 888-4574 x 3121



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## A Shower of Roses

### RELIGIOUS SHOP

"Refresh Your Faith  
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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*

**Easy Donation Bin  
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Funds raised go to needs  
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**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.

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www.mabvi.org or email us at volunteer@mabvi.org

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