

# IMMACULATE CONCEPTION PARISH

353 GROVE STREET, WORCESTER , MA 01605

JANUARY 7, 2024 | THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

## 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



## THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

They were overjoyed at seeing the star, and on entering the house they saw the child with Mary his mother. They prostrated themselves and did him homage. - Mt 2:10-11a

## 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

## MASS INTENTIONS

### SATURDAY, JANUARY 6

Vigil of The Epiphany of the Lord

4:00pm † Thomas Dube (10th Anniversary), from his mother  
Irene Dube

### SUNDAY, JANUARY 7

The Epiphany of the Lord

7:30am

10:00am

### MONDAY, JANUARY 8

The Baptism of the Lord

9:00am

### TUESDAY, JANUARY 9

9:00am † Maureen Janulewicz, from the Freeman Family

### WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 10

9:00am

### THURSDAY, JANUARY 11

9:00am

### SATURDAY, JANUARY 13

Vigil of 2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

4:00pm † Robert, James, and Jonathan Stukowski, from  
Family

### SUNDAY, JANUARY 14

2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

7:30am † Vacas Luckauskas (100th 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.

### 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

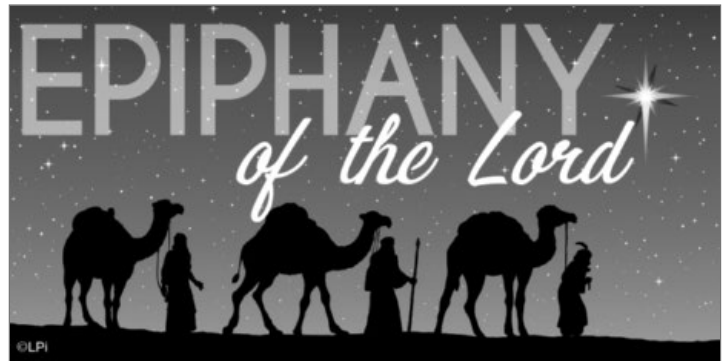
To learn more about the Permanent Diaconate, contact Diaconate Director Deacon Donald Pegg (617) 794-7702. To learn more about the Priesthood, contact Rev. Donato Infante at 508-630-4473.

### 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.



## THIS SUNDAY'S SOLEMNITY

“Epiphany” means manifestation. And the “Epiphany of the Lord” is Jesus’ manifestation not only to these three Magi from the East, but it’s also a symbolic but real manifestation of the Christ to the whole world. These Magi, traveling from a foreign and non-Jewish nation, reveal that Jesus came for all people and all are called to adore Him.

These Magi were “wise men” who studied the stars and were aware of the Jewish belief that a Messiah was coming. They would have been versed in much of the wisdom of the day and would have been intrigued by the Jewish belief in the Messiah.

God used what they were familiar with to call them to adore the Christ. He used a star. They understood the stars and when they saw this new and unique star over Bethlehem they realized that something special was happening. So, the first lesson we take from this for our own lives is that God will use what is familiar to us to call us to Himself. Look for the “star” that God is using to call you. It’s closer than you may think.

A second thing to note is that the Magi fell prostrate before the Christ Child. They laid their lives down before Him in complete surrender and adoration. They set a perfect example for us. If these astrologers from a foreign land could come and adore Christ in such a profound way, we must do the same. Perhaps you could try literally lying down prostrate in prayer this day, in imitation of the Magi, or at least do so in your heart through prayer. Adore Him with a complete surrender of your life.

Lastly, the Magi bring gold, frankincense, and myrrh. These three gifts, presented to our Lord, show that they acknowledged this Child as the Divine King who would die to save us from sin. Gold is for a King, frankincense is a burnt offering to God, and myrrh is used for one who would die. Thus, their adoration is grounded in the truths of who this Child is. If we are to adore Christ properly, we must also honor Him in this threefold way.

Reflect, today, upon these Magi and see them as a symbol of what you are called to do. You are called from the foreign place of this world to seek out the Messiah. What is God using to call you to Himself? When you discover Him, do not hesitate to acknowledge the full truth of who He is, lying prostrate before Him in complete and humble submission.

(Source: Our Sunday Visitor)

## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Religious Education classes take place on **Sunday, January 7th at 8:45AM-9:45AM** for children in grades K-10.

**Inclement weather policy** ~ For cancellations of Religious Education classes due to weather conditions please check the Immaculate Conception website or Facebook Page. You can also call the Office of Religious Education at 508-868-8119.

## FR. EDWIN AWAY

Fr. Edwin will be on vacation visiting his family in Colombia from **December 26 to January 12**. Please, welcome the following priests who will celebrate Mass while Father is away:

**Weekends:** Fr. Richard Trainor, minister to the priests of the Diocese; Fr. Stephen Gemme, hospital Chaplain; Fr. Joseph Marcotte, senior priest.

**Weekdays:** Fr. Juan Parra, associate Pastor at St. Paul's Cathedral.

## REST IN PEACE

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

## ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY

The next St. Vincent de Paul Society group meeting will be **Thursday, January 11, 2024 at 7:00 via Zoom**. New Members are always welcome! For more information please contact Jennefer at [jen.noberini@gmail.com](mailto:jen.noberini@gmail.com)

## HOLY HOUR TO PRAY FOR PRIESTS

Please join us for a holy hour to pray for our priests on **Friday, January 12th at 7:00pm** in the church.

## WOMEN'S PRAYER GROUP

The next gathering of the Women's Prayer Group will be **Saturday, January 13th 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 will be meeting on **Saturday, January 13th 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).

## THE ASSOCIATION OF JESUS OF THE EUCHARIST

Dear Fellow Parishioners, I am inviting you to join me in a new association which I call "**The Association of Jesus of the Eucharist**". It is another opportunity to grow in our faith by performing the following, daily if possible:

- Attend Mass daily, or if possible watch it on TV.
  - Pray the Rosary
  - Pray the Chaplet of the Divine Mercy
  - Pray for the Souls in Purgatory
  - Perform an Act of Kindness
  - Pray 3 Hail Marys at the end of each day
- Joseph Duggan | 508-847-7403 | [Joebobduggan@outlook.com](mailto:Joebobduggan@outlook.com)

## HYMNAL READINGS #878

Sunday: Is 60:1-6/Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-11, 12-13/Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6/Mt 2:1-12

## READINGS FOR THE WEEK:

Monday: Is 55:1-11/Is 12:2-3, 4bcd, 5-6/1 Jn 5:1-9/  
Mk 1:7-11  
Tuesday: 1 Sm 1:9-20/1 Sm 2:1, 4-5, 6-7, 8abcd/  
Mk 1:21-28  
Wednesday: 1 Sm 3:1-10, 19-20/Ps 40:2 and 5, 7-8a, 8b-9, 10/  
Mk 1:29-39  
Thursday: 1 Sm 4:1-11/Ps 44:10-11, 14-15, 24-25/  
Mk 1:40-45  
Friday: 1 Sm 8:4-7, 10-22a/Ps 89:16-17, 18-19/Mk 2:1-12  
Saturday: 1 Sm 9:1-4, 17-19; 10:1a/Ps 21:2-3, 4-5, 6-7/  
Mk 2:13-17  
Next Sunday: 1 Sm 3:3b-10, 19/Ps 40:2, 4 7-8, 8-9, 10/  
1 Cor 6:13c-15a, 17-20/Jn 1:35-42

## PRO-LIFE MORNING OF REFLECTION – JAN. 13

All are invited to attend a Pro-Life Morning of Reflection and Enrichment on **Saturday, Jan, 13 from 9:00 a.m.–1:00 p.m.** at the Cathedral of St. Paul, 38 High St., Worcester. The day will include reflections by Msgr. James Moroney, Mass, and light lunch. There is no cost to attend but pre-registration is required. To register, send your name, parish, and email address to [aledoux@worcederdiocese.org](mailto:aledoux@worcederdiocese.org), or contact the Respect Life Office at 508-929-4311.

## JANUARY PRO-LIFE MASS

All are invited to join Bishop McManus for the annual Mass for Life on **Thursday, Jan. 18, 2024 at 7:30 p.m.** at the Cathedral of St. Paul, 38 High St., Worcester. Please join us to pray for and with our pilgrims who will be travelling to Washington, DC for the annual March for Life on Jan. 19, and to pray for an end to abortion and the conversion of our nation. All are welcome!

## ST. PETER CENTRAL CATHOLIC OPEN HOUSE

St. Peter Central Catholic Elementary School, 865 Main Street Worcester will be holding an Open House on **Sunday, January 28th from 1:00pm-3:00pm**. St. Peter's has openings in Grades Pre-K-8. Please visit on January 28th, for more information please contact [marybeth.soucy@stpetercc.com](mailto:marybeth.soucy@stpetercc.com) or by phone at 508-791-6496. You can visit the website at: [www.stpetercentralcatholic.com](http://www.stpetercentralcatholic.com).

## WINTER MASS CANCELLATION POLICY

If Worcester Public Schools are CLOSED because of inclement weather, daily Mass WILL NOT be celebrated and the Parish Office will be closed on that day. If school opening is DELAYED, daily Mass WILL BE celebrated and the office will open as usual. Weekend Masses will always be celebrated, unless there is a travel ban issued. Please take care of yourself and those around you during the winter months, especially by using common sense.

## THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT

(amounts include Electronic Giving)

12/24/2023

Sunday Ordinary	\$ 2,583.00
Christmas	\$ 2,772.00
Christmas Flowers	\$ 95.00
Diocesan Collections	\$ 5.00



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*Tax receipts available for monetary donation  
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## A Shower of Roses

### RELIGIOUS SHOP

"Refresh Your Faith  
With A Shower Of Roses"

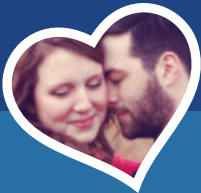
360 West Boylston Street  
West Boylston MA 01583  
Hours: T-F 10-5, Sat. 10-4

508-835-2828



Patricia Quintiliani

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