

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION PARISH

353 GROVE STREET, WORCESTER , MA 01605

JANUARY 28, 2024 | FOURTH 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

Phone: 508-754-8419

Fax: 508-459-9815

Website: www.icworc.com

Email: 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



4TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

In their synagogue was a man with an unclean spirit; he cried out, "What have you to do with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are—the Holy One of God!" Jesus rebuked him and said, "Quiet! Come out of him!" - Mk 1:23-25

PARISH STAFF

PASTOR

Rev. Edwin Montana

fatheredwin31@gmail.com

PERMANENT DEACONS

Kevin Deignan | kdeignan@charter.net

Frank Myska | Retired

SECRETARY

Jennefer Noberini

icworc@live.com

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION & SAFE ENVIRONMENT COORDINATOR

Mary Sycks | mks723@msn.com | 508-868-8119

MUSIC DIRECTOR

Robert G. Carson

CANTOR

Bridget Klofft

BUILDINGS & GROUNDS

Mark Cutler



SATURDAY, JANUARY 27

Vigil of 4th Sunday in Ordinary Time

4:00pm † John W. Callan, from Family

SUNDAY, JANUARY 28

4th Sunday in Ordinary Time

7:30am

10:00am † Linda Insani Jengo, from her Husband

MONDAY, JANUARY 29

9:00am

TUESDAY, JANUARY 30

9:00am

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 31

St. John Bosco, Priest

9:00am

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 1

9:00am

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 3

Vigil of 5th Sunday in Ordinary Time

4:00pm

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 4

5th Sunday in Ordinary Time

7:30am † Elenor Groden, from Family

10:00am

*If today you hear his voice,
harden not your hearts.*

(Ps 95)

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 WORD

In today's Gospel, we have Jesus working on a sabbath in a synagogue. He is going to upset everyone by choosing to cure someone on the sabbath in a synagogue. A double challenge!!

Today we have Jesus the dynamic, eloquent persuasive teacher. Everyone was astonished at his brilliance. Then there is the account of the exorcism, with the evil spirits identifying Jesus as the Messiah, sandwiched between the theme of Jesus Power, the Power of His Word. He not only speaks the truth, but he also does it.

The members of the synagogue recognized that Jesus had a new teaching. They, however, did not recognize the Good News, how He was not just from God, but the Son of God.

How fortunate we are to know the Truth. Jesus the "persuasive teacher, and there is the power in Jesus' word, which is one of a new teaching with authority!

Isn't it fascinating that even today, the Gospel seems to be so new, revolutionary, and has authority? We are not talking about legal or political authority, but moral authority, a way of living a meaningful life; the one God has given you, not the one people tell you that you should live. That is the purpose of the Catholic Church, to preserve and interpret for the current time, the teachings of Christ in the Gospel and help us find our true selves as God intends.

Many things can distract us from that, but with the grace of God and the Holy Spirit, we can pull ourselves together as a Church and also our own very selves.

How do we do that? Let Jesus be your teacher. Get to know Him. Read the Scripture and what the Church teaches; pray and you will find yourself and your purpose. As a disciple of Jesus, what is your role? Once you figure that out, you are on your way. It may involve being a parent, a faithful spouse, a student, whatever you are becoming.

We all have phases in our lives, different calls from God, and there should be joy when we listen to the call when it comes. Some calls will be more challenging than others, when Jesus speaks to us, it is good to listen. If we do listen, his teaching will be powerful and liberating.

Add God and Jesus to your life, and you will find more meaning and enjoy life so much more. Let the Lord teach you as today's scripture asks of us.

(Source: Franciscan Media)

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL FREE PICKUP OF DONATIONS

The society of St. Vincent de Paul of Worcester County is now offering **free curbside pick-up** of clothing, shoes, books and household items. To schedule a free home pick-up, visit sydpworchester.org and click on "How You Can Help" tab, then "Schedule a Home Pick-Up." Or contact our partner (CMRK) at 508-474-8966 or scan the QR code below which will direct you to our website.

The funds received go to help our neighbors in need with services including food, clothing, rent and utilities.

Please help us help our neighbors in need! Thank you!



RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Religious Education classes take place on **Sunday, January 28th at 8:45am-9:45am** for students in K-10th grade.

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.



WINTER MASS CANCELLATION POLICY (UPDATED: 1/5/2024)

Weekday Masses: 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. When school is not in session, please look at our website or Facebook page for updated cancellation information.

Weekend Masses: In severe situations, it may also be necessary for safety reasons to cancel some of the weekend Masses. Again, please consult our website or Facebook page for cancellation information.

Take care of yourself and those around you during the winter months, especially by using common sense. Thank you.

MASS INTENTIONS

One of the greatest works of charity is to pray for the living and the dead. The greatest and most powerful prayer we have is the Mass, since the fruits of the Mass are the very fruits of Jesus' redemption. For that reason, all are encouraged to have Mass offered for a deceased loved one; for health and healing of a person who is sick or suffering; for a living person who is celebrating a birthday, anniversary or other special moment in their life; in thanksgiving to God, our Blessed Mother or a saint; or simply for a special intention. A \$10 stipend, as determined by diocesan policy, is to accompany each Mass request. Persons/families who have a Mass intention on weekends are invited to bring up the gifts of bread and wine during the offertory.

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

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT

(amounts include Electronic Giving)

1/14/2023

Sunday Ordinary	\$ 3,153.00
Winter Fuel	\$ 70.00
Diocesan Collections	\$ 40.00

HYMNAL READINGS #938

Sunday: Dt 18:15-20/Ps 95:1-2, 6-7, 7-9/1 Cor 7:32-35/
Mk 1:21-28

READINGS FOR THE WEEK:

Monday: 2 Sm 15:13-14, 30; 16:5-13/Ps 3:2-3, 4-5, 6-7/
Mk 5:1-20

Tuesday: 2 Sm 18:9-10, 14b, 24-25a, 30—19:3/Ps 86:1-2,
3-4, 5-6/Mk 5:21-43

Wednesday: 2 Sm 24:2, 9-17/Ps 32:1-2, 5, 6, 7/Mk 6:1-6

Thursday: 1 Kgs 2:1-4, 10-12/1 Chr 29:10, 11ab, 11d-12a,
12bcd/Mk 6:7-13

Friday: Mal 3:1-4/Heb 2:14-18/Ps 24:7, 8, 9, 10/
Lk 2:22-40

Saturday: 1 Kgs 3:4-13/Ps 119:9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14/
Mk 6:30-34

Next Sunday: Jb 7:1-4, 6-7/Ps 147:1-2, 3-4, 5-6/1 Cor 9:16-19,
22-23/Mk 1:29-39

CONTRIBUTION STATEMENTS FOR 2023

Any parishioner who would like to receive a statement for your contributions for 2023 for tax purposes, please call the rectory during office hours or email icworc@live.com and we will mail you a copy. Thank you.

HOLY HOUR TO PRAY FOR PRIESTS

Please join us for a holy hour to pray for our priests on Friday, **February 9th at 7:00pm** in the church.

WOMEN'S PRAYER GROUP

The next gathering of the Women's Prayer Group will be **Saturday, February 10th 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

G.K. CHESTERTON SOCIETY

The G. K. Chesterton Society of Worcester will be meeting on **Saturday, February 10th 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.

IRISH FESTIVAL IN WORCESTER

St. Patrick Day Irish Festival will be held at St. Joan of Arc Church on **Saturday, Feb. 24 from 5 pm - 10 pm**. Admission is \$5.00. Featuring Live Irish Music and Irish step dancers from the McInerney School of Irish Dance. Corned beef dinner is \$15.00; Corned beef sandwich and chips \$10.00; Beer and wine will be sold. Tickets will be sold for these.

PRAYER, ALMSGIVING, HOLINESS AND CHARITY

Please join Christ the King's Women's Guild and Fr. Stephen Gemme, Chaplain at St. Vincent's Hospital, for An Evening of Recollection on **Monday, February 26, 2024 at 6:15 pm** at Christ the King Church, Johnson Center. The Evening will begin with Mass at 5:30pm followed with a light dinner then a presentation by Fr. Gemme. Donation for the evening is \$18.00 Member \$20 non-member. Please call Donna Byrnes at 508-753-3024 by Friday, 2/23 if you will be attending.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT

(amounts include Electronic Giving)

1/21/2024

Sunday Ordinary	\$ 2,344.00
Winter Fuel	\$ 660.00
Diocesan Collections	\$ 5.00

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



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A Shower of Roses

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With A Shower Of Roses"

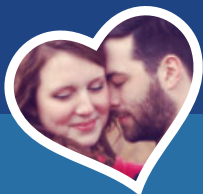
360 West Boylston Street
West Boylston MA 01583
Hours: T-F 10-5, Sat. 10-4

508-835-2828



Patricia Quintiliani

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