

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION PARISH

353 GROVE STREET, WORCESTER , MA 01605

FEBRUARY 25, 2024 | SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT

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

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, FEBRUARY 24

Vigil of 2nd Sunday of Lent

4:00pm † Dr. Harry J. Kelly (50th Anniversary) and his parents, from Family

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 25

2nd Sunday of Lent

7:30am † Gerald Duclos (4th Anniversary), from Family
10:00am † Mark Buczek (25th Anniversary) and his father John Buczek, from Friends

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 26

9:00am

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 27

9:00am

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 28

9:00am

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 29

9:00am

SATURDAY, MARCH 2

Vigil of 3rd Sunday of Lent

4:00pm † Barbara Costello, from Deacon Kevin and Michelle Deignan

SUNDAY, MARCH 3

3rd Sunday of Lent

7:30am
10:00am † Janice R. Evanowski (2nd Anniversary), from her husband Walter Evanowski

I will walk before the Lord, in the land of the living.
(Ps 116)

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.

A BRIEF EXAMINATION OF CONSCIENCE BASED ON THE TEN COMMANDMENTS

I am the Lord your God: you shall not have strange Gods before me.

Have I treated people, events, or things as more important than God?

You shall not take the name of the Lord your God in vain.

Have my words, actively or passively, put down God, the Church, or anything sacred object or teaching?

Remember to keep holy the Lord's Day.

Do I go to Mass every Sunday (or Saturday Vigil) and on Holy Days of Obligation? Do I avoid, when possible, work that impedes worship to God, joy for the Lord's Day, and proper relaxation of mind and body? Do I look for ways to spend time with family or in service on Sunday?

Honor your father and your mother.

Do I show my parents due respect and obedience? Do I seek to maintain good communication with my parents where possible? Do I criticize them for lacking skills I think they should have?

You shall not kill.

Have I harmed another through physical, verbal, or emotional means, including gossip or manipulation of any kind?

You shall not commit adultery.

Have I respected the physical and sexual dignity of others and of myself?

You shall not steal.

Have I taken or wasted time or resources that belonged to another?

You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.

Have I gossiped, told lies, or embellished stories at the expense of another?

You shall not covet your neighbor's spouse.

Have I honored my spouse with my full affection and exclusive love?

You shall not covet your neighbor's goods.

Am I content with my own means and needs, or do I compare myself to others unnecessarily?

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.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Religious Education classes take place on **Sunday, February 25th 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.

During the week, our young people who are preparing to receive Holy Communion will be reflecting about the Eucharist as a sacrament of unity and forgiveness. Join them by reflecting on the words of the Confiteor and how you have experienced God’s mercy and forgiveness.

REST IN PEACE

Please pray for the repose of the souls of **Carleton H. LaPorte, and John J. Carney**, and keep their families in your prayers during this time of loss. May God grant them hope and strength in the days ahead.

THANK YOU

A special **Thank You** to all parishioners and friends of Immaculate Conception who provided desserts for Fr. Walter Riley’s mercy meal. May God bless you for your generosity and kindness.

LENT 2024

FRIDAYS DURING LENT

- **Eucharistic Adoration & Confessions**
This is a great opportunity to spend some quiet time with the Lord truly present in the most Blessed Sacrament from **5:00 to 6:00 PM**. Also, the Sacrament of Reconciliation will be available during this time.
- **Stations Of the Cross**
The Stations are a very important devotion which allow us through prayer and reflection to follow Jesus Christ on his way to Calvary. They will be held at **6:00 PM**, immediately after Benediction.

FAST AND ABSTINENCE

Lenten fast and abstinence regulations are as follows:

- Abstinence from meat is to be observed by all Catholics fourteen (14) years of age and older on Ash Wednesday, Good Friday and all the Fridays of Lent.
- Fasting is to be observed by all Catholics who are eighteen (18) years of age but not yet fifty-nine (59) years of age on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday.
- Those who are bound to fast may take only one full meal. Two smaller meals are permitted if necessary to maintain strength according to one’s needs, but eating solid foods between meals is not permitted.
- Catholics should not lightly excuse themselves from these prescribed Lenten penitential practices.

OPERATION RICE BOWL

Cartons for **Operation Rice Bowl** can be found at each entrance to the Church. For those who participate in this Lenten program, we invite you to place coins in the carton and we will collect them at the end of Lent and forward the total to Catholic Relief Services. The money collected is used to serve the needs of the poor in America and throughout the world, and those who struggle through natural disasters. Twenty-five percent of donations to CRS Rice Bowl stay in the local diocese, supporting hunger and poverty alleviation efforts.

HYMNAL READINGS #887

Sunday: Gn 22:1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18/Ps 116:10, 15, 16-17, 18-19/Rom 8:31b-34/Mk 9:2-10

READINGS FOR THE WEEK:

Monday: Dn 9:4b-10/Ps 79:8, 9, 11 and 13/Lk 6:36-38
Tuesday: Is 1:10, 16-20/Ps 50:8-9, 16bc-17, 21 and 23/Mt 23:1-12
Wednesday: Jer 18:18-20/Ps 31:5-6, 14, 15-16/Mt 20:17-28
Thursday: Jer 17:5-10/Ps 1:1-2, 3, 4 and 6/Lk 16:19-31
Friday: Gn 37:3-4, 12-13a, 17b-28a/Ps 105:16-17, 18-19, 20-21/Mt 21:33-43, 45-46
Saturday: Mi 7:14-15, 18-20/Ps 103:1-2, 3-4, 9-10, 11-12/Lk 15:1-3, 11-32
Next Sunday: Ex 20:1-17/Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 11/1 Cor 1:22-25/Jn 2:13-25

PARTNERS IN CHARITY

Immaculate Conception Parish is once again called upon to support the work of our Lord Jesus made possible through the diocesan annual appeal. Our parish goal is **\$88,500**. Please complete a pledge envelope found at the end of your pew, indicating your gift or pledge today. It is important for all of us to participate in order to support our mission as a diocese. Please be as generous as possible. If you have already made a gift to the 2024 appeal, we thank you. Your gift will help us in reaching our parish goal. You can also make your gift online at www.partners-charity.net. Thank you!

DIOCESAN MEN’S CONFERENCE

Men (of all ages, including teens and college students) are invited to this important in-person conference, which will be held at the DCU center on **Saturday, March 16, 2024**. Come meet and hear: Deacon Harold Burke-Sivers, James Wahlberg, Monsignor Thomas Sullivan, Michael Nicholson, and our Bishop Robert McManus. Mass and Confessions will also be offered.

Our Parish Fellowship Committee has donated 10 tickets to this conference; tickets are on first come, first served basis. Each ticket includes a lunch. If you have any interest in attending, please speak with or contact **Deacon Kevin (kdeignan@charter.net)** before **March 4**. Visit the conference website at catholicmenworc.com to purchase tickets or for more information.

HOLY HOUR TO PRAY FOR PRIESTS

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

WOMEN’S PRAYER GROUP

The next gathering of the Women's Prayer Group will be **Saturday, March 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

FOOD PANTRY

The **Food Pantry** is looking for volunteers to help two Tuesdays a month from 10am-2pm. Please contact Alejandro Castro at (909) 519-7663 or email: el1ercoach@yahoo.com

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT	2/18/2024
(amounts include Electronic Giving)	
Sunday Ordinary	\$ 3,002.00
Diocesan Collections	\$ 1,421.00
Easter Flowers	\$ 20.00

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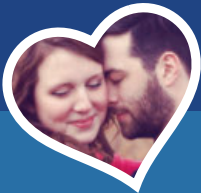
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