

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION PARISH

353 GROVE STREET, WORCESTER, MA 01605

SEPTEMBER 7, 2025 | 23RD 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

Mon - Wed
9:00am - 2:00pm

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

PARISH STAFF

PASTOR

Rev. Edwin Montana
fatheredwin31@gmail.com

PERMANENT DEACONS

Kevin Deignan | kdeignan@charter.net
Frank Myska | Retired

SECRETARY

Claire Boligan
icworc@live.com

BOOKKEEPER

Jennefer Noberini

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, SEPTEMBER 6

Vigil of the 23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

4:00pm Health and healing of Denise Carlson, by her family

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 7

23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

7:30am

10:00am † Earl Finne (4th anniversary)

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 8

The Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary

9:00am The parishioners of IC

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 9

St. Peter Claver, Priest

9:00am

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 10

St. Gregory the Great, Pope and Doctor of the Church

9:00am

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 11

Patriot Day

9:00 am † Raymond Pelletier, by Mr. & Mrs. Jerome Lemoine

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 13

Vigil of The Exaltation of the Holy Cross

4:00pm

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 14

The Exaltation of the Holy Cross

7:30am

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.

THE NATIVITY OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

(September 8)

The Church has celebrated Mary's birth since at least the sixth century. A September birth was chosen because the Eastern Church begins its Church year with September. The September 8 date helped determine the date for the Feast of the Immaculate Conception on December 8.

Scripture does not give an account of the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary. However, the apocryphal Protoevangelium of James fills in the gap. This work has no historical value, but it does reflect the development of Christian piety. According to this account, Anna and Joachim are infertile but pray for a child. They receive the promise of a child who will advance God's plan of salvation for the world. Such a story, like many biblical counterparts, stresses the special presence of God in Mary's life from the beginning.

We can see every human birth as a call for new hope in the world. The love of two human beings has joined with God in his creative work. The loving parents have shown hope in a world filled with travail. The new child has the potential to be a channel of God's love and peace to the world.

This is all true in a magnificent way in Mary. If Jesus is the perfect expression of God's love, Mary is the foreshadowing of that love. If Jesus has brought the fullness of salvation, Mary is its dawning.

Birthday celebrations bring happiness to the celebrant as well as to family and friends. Next to the birth of Jesus, Mary's birth offers the greatest possible happiness to the world. Each time we celebrate her birth, we can confidently hope for an increase of peace in our hearts and in the world at large.

[@franciscanmedia.org](https://www.franciscanmedia.org)

TABERNACLE RESTORATION

Our silver tabernacle and sanctuary lamp have been sent for a much-needed re-plating. This tabernacle has been a part of our sanctuary since the foundation of the church in 1956 and it was notoriously worn out. The cost of this restoration will be around **\$14,000**. If you would like to assist us in paying for this, feel free to put your donation in an envelope with the memo: "tabernacle restoration" and place it in the collection basket. To date we have received **\$5,695** in donations. Thank you for your generosity.

PARTNERS IN CHARITY

Thanks to all our parishioners who have made their gift to the 2025 Partners in Charity Appeal. Our Parish's goal is **\$88,500**. To date **\$76,260** has been raised. If you have not yet made a gift or pledge, please consider making one and visit 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!

SAVE THE DATE

September 7: Back-To-School Sundae Social
 September 20 : Friends of the Poor Walk (10am)
 September 20: Pasta Night (5-7pm)
 October 11: Public Rosary (12 Noon)
 October 25: Trunk or Treat
 November 1: End-of-Life Presentation
 November 22 : Church Fair
 More information to come

If you have questions or would like to volunteer, please contact Alejandro 909-519-7663

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

The Opening Class and Family Kick-Off for Religious Education classes take place on **Sunday, September 7th**, 8:45AM-9:45AM for children in K through 10th grade. Parents, please plan on staying for the opening prayer, to meet your child's teacher and for a short presentation. Registration forms and the RE class calendar are on the Immaculate Conception website. 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-10th grade, and would like to know more about our Religious Education Program please contact Mary Sycks at 508-868-8119.

Children in second grade will begin preparing for the sacraments of Reconciliation and First Holy Communion on Sunday, September 7th. Students in 11th grade will begin preparation for the sacrament of Confirmation on **Sunday, September 14th** at 11:00AM.

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 our 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.

BACK-TO-SCHOOL SUNDAY SOCIAL

What's the perfect post-mass activity? An ice cream sundae social! Please join us on **Sunday 9/7 after the 10am Mass** for this parish ice cream event, held in the coffee shop (basement of the church) sponsored by the Women's Prayer Group. Enjoy the complimentary ice cream, chat with other families, and relish all the sundae smiles!

FRIENDS OF THE POOR WALK

The Society of St Vincent de Paul of Immaculate Conception will be hosting the fourth annual **Friends of the Poor Walk** on **Saturday, September 20th**. Join us for a family friendly fundraising event. Help support our Society of St. Vincent de Paul raise funds -and awareness- for those struggling with homelessness, hunger, and financial hardship in our local community. Together, we can make a difference- one step at a time. Bring the family. Bring a friend. Walk with heart. The walk starts at 10:00am in front of the Fr. Connor's Center. To register email: svdp.icworc@gmail.com This event is sponsored by Quincy Mutual Insurance.

PASTA NIGHT

Saturday, September 20, 5 to 7 pm at the Coffee Shop/ basement. Come and enjoy different types of pasta and your choice of sauce (red, pesto or alfredo), meatballs, salad, drinks and tiramisu for \$10; Children under 12 are Free. Take Out will be available. Also, try your luck at the 50/50 raffle.

HYMNAL READINGS: 996

Next Sunday: Wis 9:13-18b/Ps 90:3-4, 5-6, 12-13, 14-17/Phlm 9-10, 12-17/Lk 14:25-33

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Mi 5:1-4a/Ps 13:6ab, 6c/Mt 1:1-16, 18-23

Tuesday: Col 2:6-15/Ps 62:6-7, 9/Lk 6:12-19

Wednesday: Col 3:1-11/Ps 145:2-3, 10-11, 12-13ab/Lk 6:20-26

Thursday: Col 3:12-17/Ps 150:1b-2, 3-4, 5-6/Lk 6:27-38

Friday: 1 Tm 1:1-2, 12-14/Ps 16:1b-2a and 5, 7-8, 11/Lk 6:39-42

Saturday: 1 Tm 1:15-17/Ps 113:1b-2, 3-4, 5a and 6-7/Lk 6:43-49

Next Sunday: Nm 21:4b-9/Ps 78:1bc-2, 34-35, 36-37, 38/Phil 2:6-11/Jn 3:13-17

FOOD PANTRY NEEDS

Peanut butter, jelly, spaghetti sauces, pancake mix, syrup (24 oz.), chef boyardee (variety), boxes of rice pilaf and cereal.

BLESSING OF ANIMALS

In honor of the patron saint of animals, Saint Francis of Assisi, whose feast day is October 4, you are invited to bring your pets for a special blessing on **Sunday, October 5 at 12 noon** in the parking lot. All animals large and small are welcome!

PUBLIC ROSARY

We want to invite you to join in a Public Square Rosary Rally on Saturday, **October 11 at 12 noon** in the front patio of the church. Seating will be available. In case of rain, it will be held inside the church. This Public Square Rosary, sponsored by "America Needs Fatima" will be one of 22,500 rallies that will take place all across the country on that day. Please joins us in offering reparation for the sins and offenses committed against the Immaculate Heart of Mary and to fervently pray for the conversion of the United States.

HEALING WEEKEND

Mass and Anointing of the Sick will be celebrated at all weekend Masses on **October 18-19**.

TRUNK OR TREAT

Saturday, October 25, 2025, 5 to 7 p.m. Come in your favorite costume and stop by the picture corner! Pizza, nachos, drinks and chips will be available for sale. Bring a bag of candy to share.

CHURCH FAIR

Saturday, November 22, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Fr. Connors' Center. The Activities Committee is looking for donations of gift cards/certificates and baskets to be raffled (themes: sports, children, health, beauty, cosmetics, kitchen, etc.). No used items, clothes or furniture. Everything needs to be donated by November 15.

VENDORS: Rectangular tables available at \$25/table + one item donation to IC table.

Questions call/message Alejandro at 909-519-7663 or email at el1ercoach@yahoo.com