

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION PARISH

353 GROVE STREET, WORCESTER, MA 01605

OCTOBER 19, 2025 | 29TH 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: 3:00 pm - 3:30 pm
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, OCTOBER 18

Vigil of the 29th Sunday in Ordinary Time

4:00pm

SUNDAY, October 19

29th Sunday in Ordinary Time

7:30am † Patrick Herlihy, by family

10:00am

MONDAY, OCTOBER 20

Saint Paul of the Cross, Priest

9:00am † Elizabeth Roybal, by family

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 21

9:00am

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 22

Saint John Paul II, Pope

9:00am † Edward Rocheleau, by family

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 23

9:00 am

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 25

Vigil of The 29th Sunday in Ordinary Time

4:00pm Doris Herrmann, by family

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 26

29th Sunday in Ordinary Time

7:30am † Pope Benedict XVI

10:00am † Msgr. Thomas J. Needham

*Our help is from the Lord, who made
Heaven and earth.
(Ps 121)*

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 GOSPEL

And what is it that we should pray for? The widow from today's Gospel gets it right. Our prayers must be for justice. Not our petty desires or what we think we need – for God already knows what we need before we ask, and many times what God knows we need and what we think we need are not at all the same thing. We are to pray for God's kingdom to come and God's will to be done. We must not lose heart or become weary with waiting for Christ to come again to deliver us, once and for all, from the pain and brokenness we see all around us. We must persist in hope, persist in prayer, and persist in seeking justice until the Lord comes.

Christ's coming may yet be in the future, but God's patience is at work in the present. The parable assures us that God will save his people. The concern is not when this will happen, but its certainty, and the necessity for us to live in readiness and faithfulness.

Will Jesus come again, as he promised? Absolutely. Will God bring justice to the world? Without a doubt. Will we be faithful until that time, pursuing justice and working for the Kingdom of God? If we pray constantly, relentlessly, persistently for God to do his mighty work among us, may it be so!

In the letter from James, we read, "Therefore confess your sins to one another, and pray for one another, so that you may be healed. The prayer of the righteous is powerful and effective." (James 5:16) And Jesus said, "For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them." (Matthew 18:20)

Many of you have experienced the power of prayer in your lives. We have heard stories of people in this church coming together regularly to pray, and the way God answered those prayers. Can you think of a time in our history when we needed prayer more than we do now? The needs in this city are so great, and there is so little help available to meet those needs. People struggle to make ends meet, to battle addiction, to find purpose and meaning in their lives. The greatest need is for Jesus to be Lord, for God's love to be made known to people who have never experienced it. Isn't that something worth praying for? Isn't that something worth praying together for?

Many of you are already overcommitted, but if God is nudging you right now to be part of a vital, ongoing prayer ministry in this church, would you please look at your calendar with God, and find a time you could agree to join in prayer? There is so much to pray for:

- Spiritual and physical Healing
 - Jobs
 - Broken relationships
 - Freedom from worry
 - Our children
 - Our leaders
 - Our Parish
 - People in our community who don't know Jesus
 - People in our community who have given up hope
 - People in our community who have lost loved ones.
 - Justice
 - God's kingdom to come
 - God's will to be done
- Let's pray!

REST IN PEACE

Please pray for the eternal repose of **Denise Carlson and Lisa Carelli**, as well as for the consolation of their families during this time of loss. May God grant them hope and strength in the days ahead.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Religious Education classes take place on Sunday, October 19th at 8:45AM-9:45AM for children in grades K-10. Confirmation Class begins at 11:15am for students in 11th grade. If you have not registered your child for classes, it is not too late! Please contact Mary Sycks at 508-868-8119 for more information.

RECONCILIATION CLASS

During the week, our young people who are preparing to celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation for the first time will be reflecting on how Jesus welcomes sinners. Join them by reading and reflecting on the story of Zacchaeus (Luke 19:1-10).

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.

RITE OF ANOINTING OF THE SICK

In the Church's Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick, through the ministry of the priest, it is Jesus who touches the sick to heal them from sin – and sometimes even from physical ailment. His cures were signs of the arrival of the Kingdom of God. The core message of his healing tells us of his plan to conquer sin and death by his dying and rising.

The Rite of Anointing tells us there is no need to wait until a person is at the point of death to receive the Sacrament. A careful judgment about the serious nature of the illness is sufficient.

When the Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick is given, the hoped-for effect is that, if it be God's will, the person be physically healed of illness. But even if there is no physical healing, the primary effect of the Sacrament is a spiritual healing by which the sick person receives the Holy Spirit's gift of peace and courage to deal with the difficulties that accompany serious illness or the frailty of old age.

The priest anoints the forehead, saying:

Through this holy anointing may the Lord in his love and mercy help you with the grace of the Holy Spirit.

R. Amen.

Then he anoints the palms of the hands, saying:

May the Lord who frees you from sin save you and raise you up. R. Amen.

The Mass for the Sick and Holy Anointing will be celebrated next weekend at all liturgies Fr. Jim Steuterman, a retired priest of our Diocese, who will be presiding over these Healing Masses.

TRUNK OR TREAT

Saturday, October 25, 2025, 5 to 7 p.m in the parking lot of the Fr. Connors' Center. 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.

FOOD PANTRY NEEDS

Cereal boxes, Spaghetti sauce, syrup, a variety of Chef Boyardee, boxed rice pilaf, canned mixed vegetables, canned fruit cocktail, jam, and peanuty butter

HYMNAL READINGS: 1014

Sunday: Ex 17:8-13/Ps 121:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-8 (see 2)/2 Tm 3:14-4:2/Lk 18:1-8

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Rom 4:20-25/Lk 1:69-70, 71-72, 73-75/Lk 12:13-2

Tuesday: Rom 5:12, 15b, 17-19, 20b-21/Ps 40:7-8a, 8b-9, 10, 17/Lk 12:35-38

Wednesday: Rom 6:12-18/Ps 124:1b-3, 4-6, 7-8/Lk 12:39-48

Thursday: Rom 6:19-23/Ps 1:1-2, 3, 4 and 6/Lk 12:49-53

Friday: Rom 7:18-25a/Ps 119:66, 68, 76, 77, 93, 94/Lk 12:54-59

Saturday: Rom 8:1-11/Ps 24:1b-2, 3-4ab, 5-6/Lk 13:1-9

Next Sunday: Sir 35:12-14, 16-18/Ps 34:2-3, 17-18, 19, 23 (7a)/2 Tm 4:6-8, 16-18/Lk 18:9-14

BAKERS NEEDED

We need bakers for the upcoming Church Fair! If you are interested in helping, please contact Alejandro Castro at 909-519-7663

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

FALL MINI-RETREAT FOR WOMEN

The Commission for Women of the Diocese of Worcester will be having a Mini-Retreat for Women with Kitty Cleveland on **Saturday, Nov. 15 from 9:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.** at St. Anne Parish, Shrewsbury. Kitty is a singer/songwriter, inspirational speaker, and artist from New Orleans. Kitty leads hundreds of people in praying the rosary each weekday morning at 5:45 a.m. Visit www.kittycleveland.com. For more information, please email: worcestercommissionforwomen@gmail.com.

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 **\$6,675** in donations. Thank you for your generosity.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT

(AMOUNTS INCLUDE ELECTRONIC GIVING)

Weekend of October 4 & 5, 2025

Sunday Ordinary	\$ 3,521.00
Catholic Education	\$ 7.00

Weekend of October 11 & 12, 2025

Sunday Ordinary	\$ 2,122.00
Diocesan Collection	\$ 7.00