

# IMMACULATE CONCEPTION PARISH

353 GROVE STREET, WORCESTER, MA 01605

OCTOBER 26, 2025 | 30TH 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](http://www.icworc.com)

Email: [icworc@live.com](mailto: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](mailto:fatheredwin31@gmail.com)

### PERMANENT DEACONS

Kevin Deignan | [kdeignan@charter.net](mailto:kdeignan@charter.net)

Frank Myska | Retired

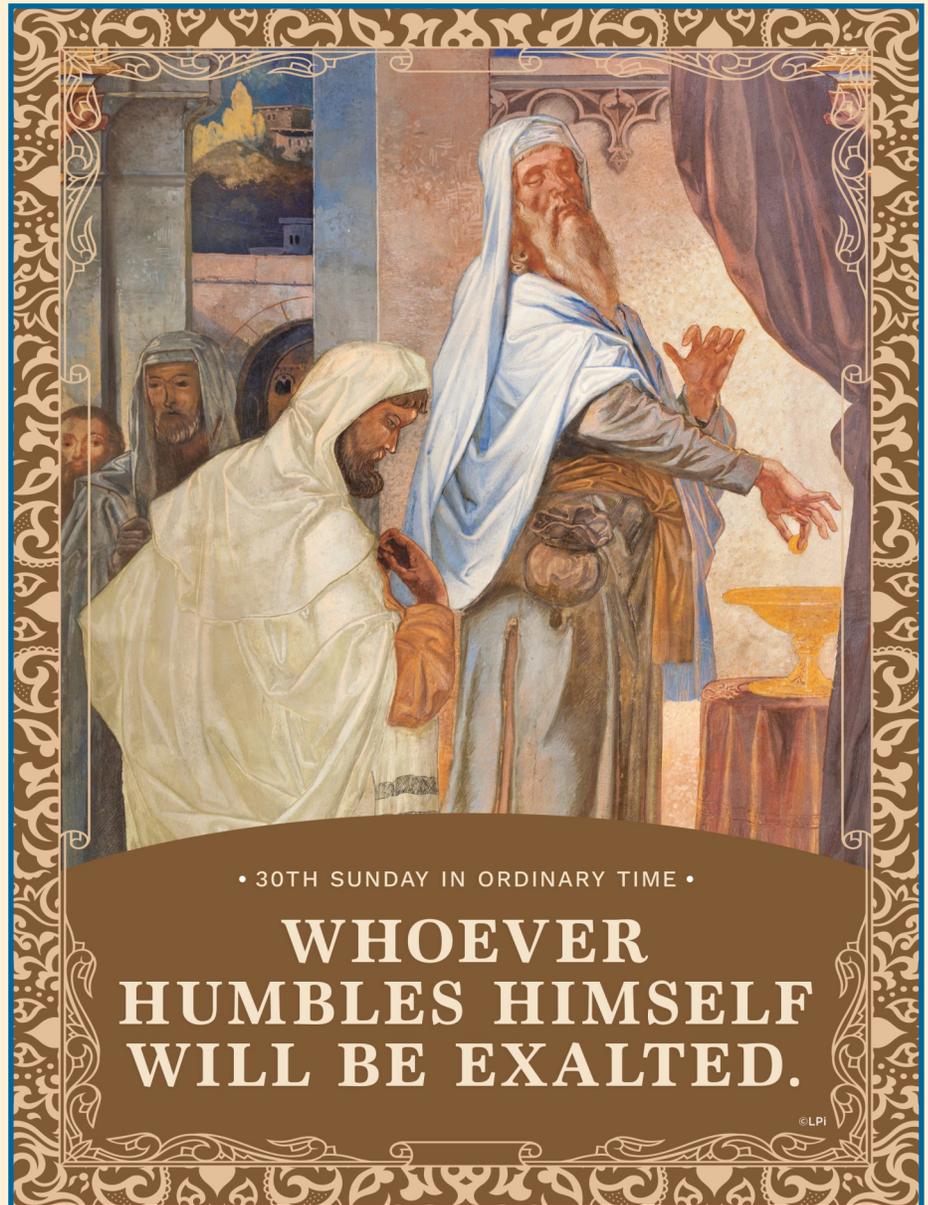
### SECRETARY

Claire Boligan

[icworc@live.com](mailto:icworc@live.com)

### BOOKKEEPER

Jennefer Noberini



### 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



**SATURDAY, OCTOBER 25**

**Vigil of the 30th Sunday in Ordinary Time**

4:00pm † Doris Herrmann, by family

**SUNDAY, October 26**

**30th Sunday in Ordinary Time**

7:30am † Pope Benedict XVI

10:00am † Msgr. Thomas J. Needham

**MONDAY, OCTOBER 27**

9:00am † Fr. Alphonse Volungis, by the Freeman family

**TUESDAY, OCTOBER 28**

**Saints Simon and Jude, Apostles**

9:00am † Bishop Daniel Reilly

**WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 29**

9:00am † Peter Rocheleau, by family

**THURSDAY, OCTOBER 30**

9:00 am The people of IC

**SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 1**

**Vigil of All Souls' Day**

4:00pm Rodolfo Marin (Birthday), by family

**SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 2**

**All Souls' Day**

7:30am † Chuck Burns, Jeannette & Brian Colonies, by family

10:00am † Denise Carlson, by Roy Funeral Homes

*The Lord hears the cry of the poor.*  
(Ps 34)

## 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. Donate 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

Every now and then readers of these reflections write letters in which they object to something. Years ago, this Gospel of Luke 18 prompted such an email. A man wrote to me: "I find it deeply offensive that you suggest we are still sinners once we are God's sons and daughters." His objection stirred in me a profound awareness of the paradox at the heart of our faith. Are we sinners or beloved children of God?

In this Gospel (Luke 18:9-14), a tax collector appears as one who has missed the mark. His sins have isolated him. His breast-beating is not an act of self-flagellation for pride's sake but a heartfelt admission of his failure and unworthiness. Remarkably, Jesus honors the candid humility of the parable's penitent. Why? Because we are always in need of mercy, always. But even more, perhaps because on the cross, Jesus will fully embrace a similar place of humiliation and rejection. He will enter into the most shameful, offensive place of the sinner so that we might "go home justified."

There is a sacred tension in admitting that we are sinners and yet have profound hope. We are beloved sons and daughters of God, growing precisely through our honest acceptance of failure. When we cry, "Have mercy on us," during Mass or when we repeat the "Jesus Prayer" in quiet moments, or in the confessional, we embrace our imperfections as fertile ground for divine grace. In doing so, we follow Christ's example — finding true exaltation in the humble acknowledgment of our human frailty.

— Father John Muir

## ALL SOULS

Next weekend at all Masses, we will celebrate the Commemoration of All the Faithful Departed with a special remembrance of our deceased loved ones. The names of those who have died since last November will be read at these Masses. All returned "All Soul's Day" envelopes will be placed on the altar during the whole month of November. Also, please note that this year **All Saints (11/1) is not a Holy Day of Obligation.**

## WORKBOOK FOR LECTORS

Weekend Lectors are invited to take a workbook from the sacristy. This workbook has the Sunday/Holy Day readings for practice.

## CELEBRATE PRIESTHOOD

Our 12th Anniversary Celebrate Priesthood - Taste of the Diocese event will be held on Thursday, October 30 at 5:30 pm at St. Paul Diocesan Jr/Sr/ High School.

Proceeds will benefit the Priests' Retirement Fund, along with the Ash Wednesday Collection and bequests and gifts which designated this fund. We appreciate your generosity and willingness to help us raise these needed funds. Tickets can be purchased at: <https://worcesterdioecese.org/celebrate-priesthood-2021>

## 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, Jam, Peanut Butter, Pancake Mix, Syrup, Soup Cans, Tuna Cans, Vegetable Mix Cans

## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Religious Education classes take place on Sunday, October 26th 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 the importance of the Scriptures as a guide for our lives. Join them by reading and reflecting on The Great Commandment (Luke 10: 25-28) and the Beatitudes (Matthew 5:3-12).

## 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.

## THANK YOU

Trunk or Treat: the Activities Committee would like to thank the parishioners for their generous donations of candy bags.

## 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](mailto:el1ercoach@yahoo.com)

## WORD OF LIFE

"The witness of our Blessed Mother [in the Gospel account of her visit to her pregnant cousin, Elizabeth,] invites us to become more aware of the needs of pregnant and parenting moms in our own parishes and communities. ... Mary's witness is an invitation to step out in love and compassion. It is a summons to make haste to help vulnerable women who may be isolated and alone."

*USCCB Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities*

## 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.kittyclleveland.com](http://www.kittyclleveland.com). For more information, please email: [worcestercommissionforwomen@gmail.com](mailto:worcestercommissionforwomen@gmail.com).

## HYMNAL READINGS: 1017

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

## READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Rom 8:12-17/Ps 68:2 and 4, 6-7ab, 20-21/Lk 13:10-17  
 Tuesday: Eph 2:19-22/Ps 19:2-3, 4-5/Lk 6:12-16  
 Wednesday: Rom 8:26-30/Ps 13:4-5, 6/Lk 13:22-30  
 Thursday: Rom 8:31b-39/Ps 109:21-22, 26-27, 30-31/Lk 13:31-35  
 Friday: Rom 9:1-5/Ps 147:12-13, 14-15, 19-20/Lk 14:1-6  
 Saturday: Rv 7:2-4, 9-14/Ps 24:1bc-2, 3-4ab, 5-6/1 Jn 3:1-3/Mt 5:1-12a  
 Next Sunday: Wis 3:1-9/Ps 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6/Rom 5:5-11 or Rom 6:3-9/Jn 6:37-40

## End-of-Life Presentation

at Immaculate Conception Parish, Worcester

*"Facing the Reality of Death with the Confidence of Faith"*



**Saturday, November 1, 2025**

**10:00 to 11:30 a.m., in the Coffee Shop, under the Church**

- ❖ How does a Catholic approach issues at the end-of-life?
- ❖ We will examine some of the basic moral principles that help to guide us in medical decision-making and assist us in helping our loved ones to live out their final days with the true dignity each human person deserves.
- ❖ The presentation will include an opportunity for Q&A.
- ❖ Materials will be available.

The presenter will be **Allison LeDoux**, Director of the Respect Life Office for the Diocese of Worcester. Questions? Call/Text Michelle Deignan 508-596-4778.

## 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 **\$6,695** in donations. Thank you for your generosity.

## THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT

(AMOUNTS INCLUDE ELECTRONIC GIVING)

**Weekend of October 18&19, 2025**

Sunday Ordinary	\$ 2,481.00
Propagation of Faith	\$ 469.00