

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION PARISH

353 GROVE STREET, WORCESTER, MA 01605

NOVEMBER 2, 2025 | ALL SOULS' DAY

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



Eternal rest grant unto them,
O Lord; and let perpetual
light shine upon them.

May the souls of the faithful
departed, through the mercy
of God, rest in peace.

Amen.

kimcameronsmith.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, 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

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 3

9:00am The Forgotten Souls in Purgatory

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 4**Saint Charles Borromeo, Bishop**

9:00am † Bishop Daniel Reilly

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 5

9:00am The Forgotten Souls in Purgatory

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 6

9:00 am The Forgotten Souls in Purgatory

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 8**Vigil of The Dedication of the Lateran Basilica**

4:00pm † Dorothy Groden, by family

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 9**The Dedication of the Lateran Basilica**

7:30am Gertrude McDermott (Birthday), by family

10:00am † Bishop Daniel Reilly

*The Lord is my Shepherd; there is
nothing I shall want.
(PS 23)*

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.

ALL SOULS' MONTH

November is, and has traditionally been, the month where the Church calls upon us to remember those who have died and to do so through our prayers. As the year – both calendar and liturgical – winds down, it seems appropriate to ask for God's love and mercy upon those who have "gone before us marked with the sign of faith."

We began the month of November with two holy days that help us to focus our attention on our beloved dead: the Solemnity of All Saints and the Commemoration of All the Faithful Departed (All Souls). The first recognizes and asks for the prayers of all who now wear, in the words that St. Paul wrote to St. Timothy, "the crown of righteousness." The second centers our prayer on those who have completed their earthly journey, yet are presently undergoing "the final purification of the elect" (Catechism of the Catholic Church, 1031).

The first group, the Church Triumphant, is both an example for us of the Christian life and a source of help in living that life. Yet, the month of November is not for them, but for those who we remember on All Souls Day. These are the congregants in the Church Suffering, those who in the words of the Catechism "are indeed assured of their eternal salvation" but must first be cleaned in the pre-heavenly state that we commonly call Purgatory.

The Catechism reminds us that: "From the beginning the Church has honored the memory of the dead and offered prayers in suffrage for them, above all the Eucharistic sacrifice, so that, thus purified, they may attain the beatific vision of God. The Church also commends almsgiving, indulgences, and works of penance undertaken on behalf of the dead."

This reminder is especially important in an age where funeral Masses can easily fall prey to our desire to assure the grieving family and friends that their loved one is "no longer suffering" and "in a better place." Our kindness toward those left behind can unwittingly mask an unintended lack of charity for the deceased who is most probably still in need of our prayers. And so, to pray on their behalf is the greatest gift that we can give them. Yet, since we all hope that our beloved dead have already been admitted to the beatific vision, we might wonder whether or not our prayers for them as a waste of time. The infinite love of God would never let a prayer go to waste, and that a prayer for a loved one, if unneeded by him, could easily be transferred to another soul still in Purgatory.

Considering the nature of the Communion of Saints as a family united with Jesus through the Holy Spirit under the Father, this approach makes total sense. If family members share with each other in this life, then why wouldn't they continue to do so in the next?

So, let's not waste this important last month of the liturgical year by forgetting our responsibility to our family members who need our prayers, and, while we're at it, let's also include in our intentions those who may be forgotten and un-prayed for, those who are the least of our sisters and brothers in Purgatory. They will not forget us when our time comes. They will go out of their way to return the favor.

(Source: Ignatius Press)

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Religious Education classes take place on Sunday, November 2 at 8:45AM-9:45AM for children in grades K-10. Confirmation Class takes place at 11:00am-12:00pm at the Fr. Connors Center.

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 sorrow for sin and confession. Join them by reflecting on the actions and patterns in your life that distance you from a deeper relationship with Jesus and the Church. Pray to the Holy Spirit to awaken sorrow and contrition in you.

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.

COAT DRIVE

There will be a coat drive to support families of the St. Vincent de Paul Society. The coat drive will run on **11/8 & 11/9 and 11/15 & 11/16**. There will be bins at the entrances of the church for you to donate clean washed coats with no-rips. All sizes are welcome (infant, child and adult). Thank you for your support!

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

BISHOP'S HOLIDAY DINNER

We are about a month away from Catholic Charities Worcester County's Bishop's Holiday Dinner on Thanksgiving Day, and we are in need of compassionate volunteers to help make this meaningful event possible. Your time and support can make a real difference as we come together to serve individuals in our community who are facing hardship during the holiday season.

There are several volunteer opportunities available, including:

- Meal Packaging
- Meal Deliveries
- Sit Down Dinner

If you're available to volunteer on Thanksgiving Day or Christmas Day, we'd be grateful for your support. Please use the link below to sign up for the opportunities that work best for you:

<https://www.ccworc.org/bishopsdinnervolunteer/>

HYMNAL READINGS: 1043

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

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Rom 11:29-36/Ps 69:30-31, 33-34, 36/Lk 14:12-14
 Tuesday: Rom 12:5-16b/Ps 131:1bcde, 2, 3/Lk 14:15-24
 Wednesday: Rom 13:8-10/Ps 112:1b-2, 4-5, 9/Lk 14:25-33
 Thursday: Rom 14:7-12/Ps 27:1bcde, 4, 13-14/Lk 15:1-10
 Friday: Rom 15:14-21/Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4/Lk 16:1-8
 Saturday: Rom 16:3-9, 16, 22-27/Ps 145:2-3, 4-5, 10-11/Lk 16:9-1
 Next Sunday: Ez 47:1-2, 8-9, 12/Ps 46:2-3, 5-6, 8-9/1 Cor 3:9c-11, 16-17/Jn 2:13-22

WOMEN'S PRAYER GROUP

The next gathering of the Women's Prayer Group will be **Saturday, November 15 at 9am** in the Coffee Shop. This will be a special gathering, called **PRAYER AND PIE!** We will pray, reflect on what we are thankful for, and enjoy various savory and sweet pies. All are welcome! For more info, please email Bridget Klofft, at bridgetbakes@yahoo.com

MARCH FOR LIFE BUS TRIP—REGISTRATION NOW OPEN

Plan now to attend the 52nd annual March for Life in Washington, DC on **Friday, Jan. 23, 2026!** Buses will leave from St. Paul Cathedral on Thurs., Jan. 22 following the Respect Life Mass at 7:30 p.m., and will travel to the Basilica of National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington, DC in time for Friday morning Mass followed by the March for Life at noon. Buses will return to Worcester immediately following the March, arriving back at St. Paul's at approximately 1:00 a.m. on Saturday, Jan. 24. Cost is \$150 per seat. Registration deadline is December 12. Registrations will be accepted on a first-come-first-served basis. For more details and to download registration forms visit www.worcesterdiocese.org/respect-life. Can't attend this year but want to help? Consider making a donation that will help defray expenses for our students who want to attend but might otherwise find it difficult to do so. Thank you!

WORKBOOK FOR LECTORS

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

FOOD PANTRY NEEDS

Cereal boxes, Jam, Peanut Butter, Pancake Mix, Syrup, Soup Cans, Tuna Cans, Vegetable Mix Cans

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT

(AMOUNTS INCLUDE ELECTRONIC GIVING)

Weekend of October 25&26, 2025

Sunday Ordinary	\$	3,259.00
Propagation of Faith	\$	30.00
Holy Days	\$	55.00