

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION PARISH

353 GROVE STREET, WORCESTER, MA 01605

NOVEMBER 23, 2025 | OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, KING OF THE UNIVERSE

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

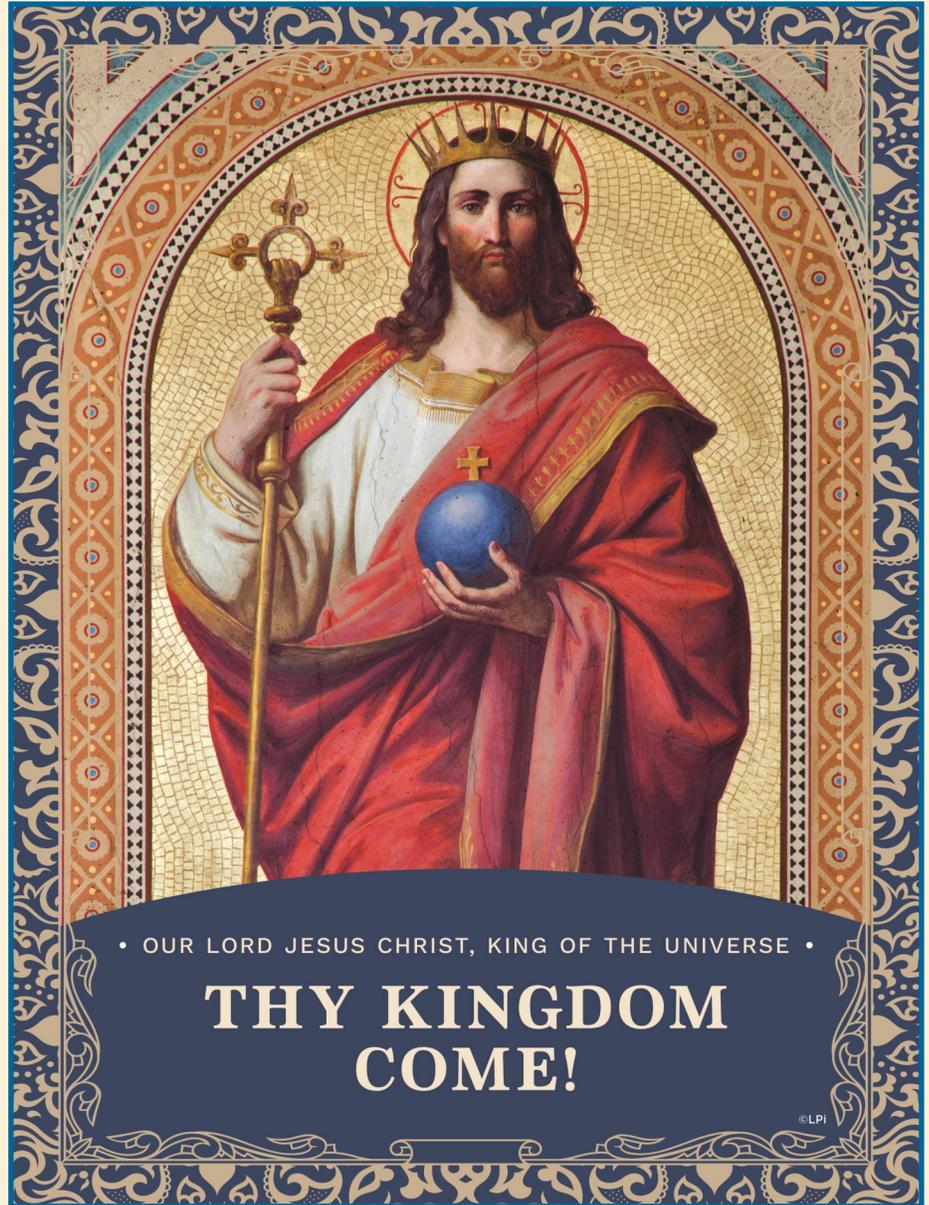
SECRETARY

Claire Boligan

icworc@live.com

BOOKKEEPER

Jennefer Noberini



• OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, KING OF THE UNIVERSE •

**THY KINGDOM
COME!**

©LPI

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 22

Vigil of Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe

4:00pm The Remillard, Senior, Daly and Barnes Family,
by family

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 23

Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe

7:30am † Evelyn Carlson, by family

10:00am

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 24

Saint Andrew Dung-Lac, Priest, and Companions, Martyr

9:00am † Bishop Daniel Reilly

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 25

9:00am The Forgotten Souls in Purgatory

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 26

9:00am The Forgotten Souls in Purgatory

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 27

Thanksgiving Day

9:00 am The Forgotten Souls in Purgatory

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 29

Vigil of the 1st Sunday of Advent

4:00pm † John & Anne Callan, by family

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 30

The 1st Sunday of Advent

7:30am

10:00am

*Let us go rejoicing to the house
of the Lord.*

(PS 122)

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.



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

CATHOLIC TEACHING ON CREMATION

The practice of cremation has grown and become more commonplace in the United States, and it is often presented as a more affordable alternative to traditional burial. The Catholic Church does not in any way forbid or recommend against cremation. In fact, Ecclesiastes 3:20 literally mentions dust with the prevalence of the phrase: "ashes to ashes." Catholics are permitted to be cremated, but they do need to follow specific guidelines:

- Ideally, cremation should take place at some time after the Funeral Mass. This allows for the appropriate reverence for the sacredness of the body at the Funeral Mass. However, cremation can also take place before the Funeral Mass. Either way, the Funeral Mass should always take place with a full body or with cremated remains.

- Ashes should be placed in an urn or other proper container.

- Ashes must be buried or entombed. They cannot be scattered or remain in a private residence or funeral home. Ashes cannot be separated. This means that you cannot put any in jewelry or distribute among family members, they must all be buried in the same location.

- If you want your final resting place to be in a body of water, your ashes are required to be in a solid and durable container so that they are not damaged or accidentally disperse into the water - again, you are not permitted to scatter ashes even at sea.

The remains of a cremated body should be treated with the same respect given to the corporeal remains of a human body: "This is the body once washed in baptism, anointed with the oil of salvation, and fed with the bread of life. This is the body whose hands clothed the poor and embraced the sorrowing. Indeed, the human body is so inextricably associated with the human person that it is hard to think of a human person apart from his or her body." (OCF 412)

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Please join us for the Family Advent Project on Sunday, November 23rd, at 8:45am in the Fr. Connors Center. All families are welcome to join the Religious Education families for a wonderful morning celebrating Advent. Confirmation Class takes place at 11:00am-12:00pm at the Fr. Connors Center.

CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PAGEANT

We are very excited to announce the date of the Children's Christmas Pageant. The Christmas Pageant will be held Sunday, December 21st at 9:15am in the church. All children at Immaculate Conception are invited to join us for Christmas Pageant rehearsals on the following dates: Sunday, December 7 & 14 at 10:45am-11:45am in the church & Dress rehearsal on Saturday, December 20th at 10:00am. We have many roles for all the children. If your child is interested in participating, please contact Mary Sycks 508-868-8119. Any adults who would like to volunteer as costume coordinators or "herders" to guide our littlest angels and sheep the morning of the performance please contact Mary Sycks.

GIVING TREE

There are still a few Giving Tree tags available on our Giving Tree.

For Children: There are no restrictions on the number of tags you can take. Items range from inexpensive toys to winter jackets. Although there will be 2 gifts listed on each tag, **only 1 gift is necessary**. You will have 2 weeks to purchase the item you choose. **Be sure the giving tag is attached securely to the outside of your unwrapped gift**. No Christmas wrapping paper, no batteries, no food are allowed. **Return gifts in ordinary plastic bags by Sunday, December 7, by 11:00 a.m.**

For the seminarians: Please **mail your gift card** in the envelope attached to each tag. It has the address and the name of the seminarian who will receive your gift.

Questions? Call or text Michelle Deignan at 508-596-4778. Our sincere thanks for your participation in this annual giving program that serves the needs of the needy children in our communities and of our future priests.

FOOD PANTRY NEEDS

Peanut Butter, Jelly, Cereal, Pasta Sauce, Pancake Mix, Syrup, Tuna Cans, variety of canned soup, canned mixed vegetables.

The holiday season is upon us and there is an **increase in the need for food**. The Food Pantry group and the guests appreciate your generosity.

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 **\$6,795** in donations. Thank you for your generosity.

THANKSGIVING DAY MASS & COLLECTION

On **Thanksgiving Day, Mass will be at 9:00 AM**. The collection to be taken at this Mass will be donated to our parish's St. Vincent de Paul Society for the works of mercy and charity they perform during the year. The dedicated group of volunteers use the funds to support local community members in need of rent, utilities, gas, repairs, medicine, and food, in addition to Thanksgiving and Christmas Baskets of food for numerous families in need, and Easter flowers for families who have lost loved ones in the past year. This Parish group appreciates your ongoing support to assist them in helping people in need.

HYMNAL READINGS: 1029

Sunday: 2 Sm 5:1-3/Ps 122:1-2, 3-4, 4-5 (see 1)/Col 1:12-20/Lk 23:35-43

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Dn 1:1-6, 8-20/Dn 3:52, 53, 54, 55, 56/Lk 21:1-4

Tuesday: Dn 2:31-45/Dn 3:57, 58, 59, 60, 61/Lk 21:5-11

Wednesday: Dn 5:1-6, 13-14, 16-17, 23-28/Dn 3:62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67/Lk 21:12-19

Thursday: Dn 6:12-28/Dn 3:68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74/Lk 21:20-28

Friday: Dn 7:2-14/Dn 3:75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81/Lk 21:29-33

Saturday: Dn 7:15-27/Dn 3:82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87/Lk 21:34-36

Next Sunday: Is 2:1-5/Ps 122:1-2, 3-4, 4-5, 6-7, 8-9/Rom 13:11-14/Mt 24:37-44



A PRAYER BEFORE THE THANKSGIVING MEAL

As we bow our heads to pray, we give thanks to you God, for this Thanksgiving Day.

We thank you, Lord, for our families, friends, and for all the blessings, both big and small, that you pour out on us each day.

We give thanks to you for this food and for the hands that have prepared it. We ask your blessings upon this meal: that it will nourish our bodies and refresh our souls.

We give thanks to you for this wonderful time together, and for each one present here today. We ask you, dear Lord, let each one of us feel your love, comfort, and presence in our lives today and every day.

Let us not forget those who can't be here with us today. We give thanks to you for them, too. We miss our loved ones, Lord, but we are thankful for all the good times that we had with them.

We know, Lord, that this life is not all there is; that the best is yet to come if we live for you. So, help us each day to live our lives in ways that honor and please you.

And we'll not forget to give you all the praise and glory. Amen.