

# IMMACULATE CONCEPTION PARISH

353 GROVE STREET, WORCESTER, MA 01605

DECEMBER 7, 2025 | 2NDSUNDAY OF ADVENT

## 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

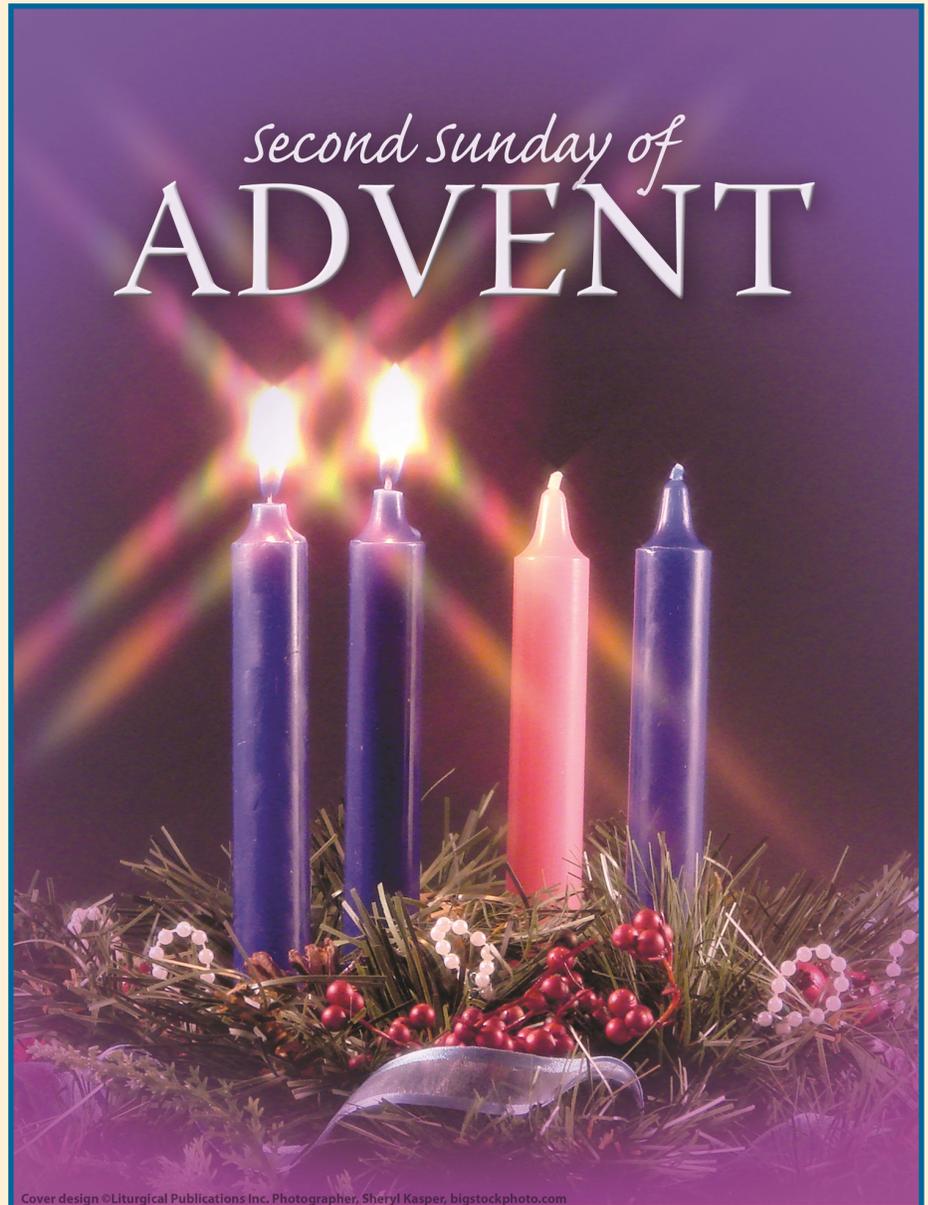
Kevin Deignan | [kdeignan@charter.net](mailto:kdeignan@charter.net)  
Frank Myska | Retired

### SECRETARY

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

### BOOKKEEPER

Jennefer Noberini



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### 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, DECEMBER 6

### *Vigil of the 2nd Sunday of Advent*

4:00pm William & Helen Callahan, and † Anita Callahan, by family

## SUNDAY, December 7

### *The 2nd Sunday of Advent*

7:30am † Anita Callahan, by Gerry & Rita Shea

10:00am † Robert F. Kennedy, by a parishioner

## MONDAY, DECEMBER 8

### *The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary*

9:00am

5:30pm † Bishop Daniel Reilly

## TUESDAY, DECEMBER 9

9:00am † Thomas Ryan

## WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 10

9:00am

## THURSDAY, DECEMBER 11

9:00 am † Dr. Paul Tan, by family

## SATURDAY, DECEMBER 13

### *Vigil of the 3rd Sunday of Advent*

4:00pm † Alisia & Henry Michalak, by family

## SUNDAY, DECEMBER 14

### *The 3rd Sunday of Advent*

7:30am † John Senior, by Ursula Arello

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. 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.



FEAST OF THE

IMMACULATE  
CONCEPTION



## IMMACULATE CONCEPTION, A HOLY DAY

This year, the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary is **Monday, December 8, 2025**, and is a holy day of obligation. Masses will be celebrated at 9 a.m. and 5:30 p.m. Please, notice the 5:30 p.m. Mass is on the same day and not the night before. Join as we celebrate our Parish Feast Day! This dogma of our faith is not about Christ's conception in Mary's womb. Neither is it about Mary being conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit in the way Jesus was. This dogma declares that Mary was preserved from original sin by God's grace; that from the first instant of her existence, she was in the state of sanctifying grace and was free from the corrupt nature original sin brings.

## CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR'S MASS SCHEDULE

Eve: 4:00 p.m. (Dec. 24 and 31)

Day: 9:00 a.m. (Dec. 25 and Jan. 1)

Let us celebrate together these Holy Days of Obligation, The Nativity of Our Lord and Mary Mother of God.

## ADULT CONFIRMATION

This is an opportunity for any adult catholic (18+), who was baptized and received First Communion, to be confirmed. The 2025 Adult Confirmation celebration will be held on Sunday, February 15 at the Cathedral of St. Paul at 3pm. Candidates are invited to attend a retreat that will serve as preparation for this sacrament on Sunday, January 18 from 2 pm to 8 pm at Christ the King Parish in Worcester. Please email Fr. Edwin if you are interested: [fatheredwin31@gmail.com](mailto:fatheredwin31@gmail.com). Registration deadline is January 9.

## REST IN PEACE

Please pray for the eternal repose of **Priscilla Calcagni and David Turgeon**, 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.

## BAPTISM

Our Parish welcomes **James Thomas Defazio and Aria Marie Estela De La Cruz** into the Catholic Church by the Sacrament of Holy Baptism. We pray that by the example of their guardians and godparents, the gift of faith may grow in them day by day. Congratulations!

## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Religious Education classes take place on Sunday, **December 7th, 8:45AM-9:45AM** for children in K through 10th grade at the Fr. Connors Center. Confirmation Class takes place at 10:45AM-11:45AM in the church.

## 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

For Children: **Return gifts in ordinary plastic bags by Sunday, December 7, by 11:00 a.m.** 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.

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.

## WORD OF LIFE

"Perhaps one of your friends has become pregnant unexpectedly. As someone who has been there, I encourage you to support your friend in her new journey of being a mother." Learn how at [respectlife.org/support-her](http://respectlife.org/support-her).

*USCCB Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities*

## 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 **\$7,230** in donations. Thank you for your generosity.

## 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](http://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!

## HYMNAL READINGS: 861

Sunday: Is 11:1-10/Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17 (see 7)/Rom 15:4-9/Mt 3:1-1

## READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Gn 3:9-15, 20/Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4/Eph 1:3-6, 11-12/Lk 1:26-38

Tuesday: Is 40:1-11/Ps 96:1-2, 3 and 10ac, 11-12, 13/Mt 18:12-14

Wednesday: Is 40:25-31/Ps 103:1-2, 3-4, 8 and 10/Mt 11:28-30

Thursday: Is 41:13-20/Ps 145:1 and 9, 10-11, 12-13ab/Mt 11:11-15

Friday: Zec 2:14-17 or Rv 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab/Jdt 13:18bcde, 19/Lk 1:26-38

Saturday: Sir 48:1-4, 9-11/Ps 80:2ac and 3b, 15-16, 18-19/Mt 17:9a, 10-13

Next Sunday: Is 35:1-6a, 10/Ps 146:6-7, 8-9, 9-10 (see Is 35:4)/Jas 5:7-10/Mt 11:2-11

## WOMEN'S PRAYER GROUP

The next gathering of the Women's Prayer Group will be Saturday, December 13th at 9am in the Coffee Shop. We will pray, reflect, share, and have coffee. For more info, please email Bridget Klofft, at [bridgetbakes@yahoo.com](mailto:bridgetbakes@yahoo.com)

## THANK YOU!

We are delighted to share that this year's Church Fair was a wonderful day of fellowship, fun, and generosity. We extend our heartfelt gratitude to everyone who organized and contributed—our activities committee, those who volunteered their time, prepared food, donated goods, organized activities, or simply came to enjoy the day. We raised: **\$3,189.25** for the support of our Parish. Thank you for helping make this year's fair both meaningful and successful! May God bless you for your generosity and service.

## THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT

(AMOUNTS INCLUDE ELECTRONIC GIVING)

### Weekend of November 22 & 23, 2025

Sunday Ordinary	\$ 3,924.00
Fuel	\$ 25.00
Cycle of Poverty	\$ 242.00

### Weekend of November 29 & 30, 2025

Sunday Ordinary	\$ 1,964.00
Fuel	\$ 53.00
Cycle of Poverty	\$ 4.00

## WINTER MASS CANCELLATION POLICY

If Worcester Public Schools are CLOSED because of a winter storm, daily Mass WILL NOT be celebrated and the Parish Office will be closed that day. If school opening is DELAYED because of the same reason, daily Mass WILL BE celebrated and the office will open as usual. If real inclement weather takes place during a weekend, please check our website or Facebook page for updates. Please take care of yourself and those around you during the winter months, especially by using common sense.

## For Religious Education

For cancellations of Religious Education classes due to weather conditions please check the Immaculate Conception website or Facebook Page. You can also call the Office of Religious Education at 508-868-8119.