

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION PARISH

353 GROVE STREET, WORCESTER, MA 01605

JANUARY 11, 2026 | THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

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



THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

"Behold, the heavens were opened for him, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and coming upon him." Mt 3:16

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

©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, JANUARY 10

Vigil of The Baptism of the Lord

4:00pm † James T. Delaney, by the Freeman family

SUNDAY, January 11

The Baptism of the Lord

7:30am † Mildred Scannell, by family

10:00am † Florence Goulet

MONDAY, JANUARY 12

9:00am Deceased Chestertonians

TUESDAY, JANUARY 13

Saint Hilary, Bishop and Doctor of the Church

9:00am

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 14

9:00am

THURSDAY, JANUARY 15

9:00 am

SATURDAY, JANUARY 17

Vigil of the 2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

4:00pm † Ruth A. Gadbois, by family

SUNDAY, JANUARY 18

The 2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

7:30am † Mildred Scannell, by family

10:00am

*The Lord will bless his people with peace.
(PS 29)*

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.



*May the miracle of
His birth bring you
hope and joy.
Merry Christmas!*

THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

In the liturgical calendar, the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord signifies the end of the Christmas season. The Baptism of the Lord is notable because it marks the beginning of Jesus' ministry and confirms his identity as the Son of God. This event is documented in all the gospels except John.

The Trinity Displayed in the Baptism of the Lord

The Gospel of Mark describes the event: It happened in those days that Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized in the Jordan by John. On coming up out of the water he saw the heavens being torn open and the Spirit, like a dove, descending upon him. And a voice came from the heavens, "You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased." (Mark 1:9-11)

Christ's baptism remarkably shows all three Persons of the Trinity at the same time: the Son being baptized, the Holy Spirit descending, and the Father speaking from the heavens. In this event, the Father and the Holy Spirit confirm the deity of Christ, and Jesus submits to his Father's will.

Why Is Jesus Baptized?

When Jesus comes to John, John hesitates to baptize him. John's is a baptism of repentance, and Jesus has nothing for which he needs to repent. Why then does Jesus insist on being baptized? By choosing to be baptized, Jesus fulfills all righteousness – preparing himself to be a perfect sacrifice for us.

The account in Matthew demonstrates this: Then Jesus came from Galilee to John at the Jordan to be baptized by him. John tried to prevent him, saying, "I need to be baptized by you, and yet you are coming to me?" Jesus said to him in reply, "Allow it now, for thus it is fitting for us to fulfill all righteousness." Then he allowed him. (Matthew 3:13-15)

What Does Baptism Mean for Us?

As we reflect on Christ's baptism, we are reminded of our own baptism. Pope Benedict XVI said on the Feast of the Baptism of Our Lord: [Baptism] is communion with the One who conquered death and holds in his hand the keys of life. Belonging to this circle, to God's family, means being in communion with Christ, who is life and gives eternal love beyond death.

Thanks be to God, who has redeemed us from our sins and given us eternal life through Jesus Christ.

@<https://www.nationalshrine.org>

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

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

Inclement weather policy ~ 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.

FR. EDWIN AWAY

Fr. Edwin will be on vacation visiting his family in Colombia from December 30 to January 16. Please, welcome the following priests who will celebrate Mass while Father is away:

Jan. 10-11: Msgr. Francis Scollen and Rev. Stephen Gemme.

Weekdays: Rev. Juan Parra, associate Pastor at St. Paul's Cathedral.

WORD OF LIFE

"Heavenly Father, in the sacrament of Baptism, you have given us the gift of new life. Through your son our Lord Jesus Christ and the Holy Spirit, you have made us your own. Help us to recognize the gift of human life as a sign of hope in our world. Reveal to us the places where your precious gift of life is most in need of protection and strengthen us to defend life in all stages and circumstances, from the child in the womb to the elderly and dying. Guided by your Holy Spirit, guard us from discouragement and give us the grace to be messengers of hope, filled with confidence that nothing can separate us from your love."

USCCB Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities

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. Registration deadline is January 9.

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 **\$7,550** in donations. Thank you for your generosity.

SILENT DISCERNMENT RETREAT FOR SINGLE CATHOLIC WOMEN

On **January 30 - February 1** (6 pm Friday to 2 pm Sunday) Little Sisters of the Poor at 1365 Enfield St., Enfield CT are holding a Silent Discernment Retreat for Single Catholic Women age 18 - 35 years old including Holy Mass, Adoration, Talks and abundant silence in which your heart may listen for the Lord's voice. At the beginning and end of the retreat, participants will enjoy a time of conversation and sharing with the Little Sisters of the Poor and with the other young women in vocational discernment. To register contact Sr. Carolyn at sc@littlesistersofthepoor.org by Jan 28. Questions? (860) 402-4478 There is no charge for the retreat, but early registration is appreciated.

HYMNAL READINGS: 879

Sunday: Is 42:1-4, 6-7/Ps 29:1-2, 3-4, 3, 9-10/Acts 10:34-38/Mt 3:13-17

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: 1 Sm 1:1-8/Ps 116:12-13, 14-17, 18-19/Mk 1:14-20

Tuesday: 1 Sm 1:9-20/1 Sam 2:1, 4-5, 6-7, 8abcd/Mk 1:21-28

Wednesday: 1 Sm 3:1-10, 19-20/Ps 40:2 and 5, 7-8a, 8b-9, 10/Mk 1:29-39

Thursday: 1 Sm 4:1-11/Ps 44:10-11, 14-15, 24-25/Mk 1:40-45

Friday: 1 Sm 8:4-7, 10-22a/Ps 89:16-17, 18-19/Mk 2:1-12

Saturday: 1 Sm 9:1-4, 17-19; 10:1a/Ps 21:2-3, 4-5, 6-7/Mk 2:13-17

Next Sunday: Is 49:3, 5-6/Ps 40:2 and 4, 7-8, 8-9, 10/1 Cor 1:1-3/Jn 1:29-34

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT

(AMOUNTS INCLUDE ELECTRONIC GIVING)

Weekend of December 27 & 28, 2025

Sunday Ordinary	\$ 3,056.00
Holy Days	\$ 9 .00
Retirement Fund for Religious	\$ 10.00
Christmas Donation	\$ 3,147.00
Catholic University	\$ 5.00

Weekend of January 3 & 4, 2026

Sunday Ordinary	\$ 2,194.00
Holy Days	\$ 711.00
Fuel	\$ 50.00
Christmas Donation	\$ 185.00
Christmas Flowers	\$ 10.00
Catholic University	\$ 122.00

Scan the QR code to make a secure online contribution. Thank you for supporting our parish!



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.