



*IMMACULATE CONCEPTION PARISH  
LOWELL, MASSACHUSETTS  
DECEMBER 15, 2019*

# IMMACULATE CONCEPTION PARISH



144 East Merrimack Street  
Lowell, Massachusetts 01852

Rectory: 3 Fayette Street  
Tel: 978-458-1474 ❖ Fax: 978-446-0790  
Office Hours: 8:00 to 3:00, Mon.-Thurs. 8 to 12 Noon-Fri.

## Pastoral Staff

Rev. Nicholas A. Sannella, Pastor

Rev. Kenneth Healey, SM, Parochial Vicar  
Rev. Raju Muringayil, O. Praem, Assisting Priest  
Deacon Stephen M. Papik  
Deacon Carlos Desousa  
Sister Irene Martineau, SASV, Secretary & Bulletin Editor  
Ms. Claire Couillard  
Pastoral Associate  
Director of Religious Education Gr. 1-10

Catherine Fiorino, School Principal  
School Tel: 978-454-5339  
School Fax: 978-454-6593  
Parish Website: [www.iclowell.org](http://www.iclowell.org)

## Mass Schedule

### Weekends:

Saturday 4:00 p.m.  
Sunday 7:30 a.m.  
9:00 a.m. Family Mass  
11:30 a.m. and 5:00 p.m.

### Weekdays:

Mon. - Fri. 7:30 a.m. (Rectory Chapel)  
Saturday 9:00 a.m. (Rectory Chapel)  
Mon. - Fri. 12:00 NN (SMMC Chapel)  
Wednesday 7:00 p.m. Mass and Prayer Group  
(Rectory Chapel)

Holydays – As announced

## Adoration and Holy Hour

First Wednesday of each month 8:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m.  
Divine Mercy Chaplet 3:00 p.m.  
Rosary 6:00 p.m. followed by Benediction and Mass

## Parish Membership

All new families are welcome to the parish and are encouraged to become actively involved. New parishioners should register at the Rectory as soon as possible.



## Sacraments

**Baptism** – On an individual basis by appointment. Please contact the Rectory Office.

**Reconciliation** – By appointment

**Matrimony** – Arrangements must be made at least six months in advance.

**Ministry to the Sick** – Please inform the Staff about anyone confined in your home or in a Nursing Home. Communion is brought regularly to the homebound.



**Bulletin Deadline: Friday at Noon**

## Parish Meetings

**St. Vincent de Paul:** 7:00 p.m. Monday in rectory

**Adult Choir:** 2:00 p.m. Tuesday in church

**Religious Education:** Sundays, bi-monthly from 10:00 a.m. to 12 noon at Immaculate Conception School

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT



Saturday, December 14, 2019  
4:00 PM

Sunday, December 15, 2019 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent

7:30 AM  
9:00 AM  
11:30 AM  
5:00 PM

Robert and Rose Bordeleau

Monday, December 16, 2019

7:30 AM  
9:00 AM

Tuesday, December 17, 2019

7:30 AM Mary Morrill, Mass of Healing

Wednesday, December 18, 2019

7:30 AM Jim, Ed, Patrick McCarthy

Thursday, December 19, 2019

9:00 AM John J. MacLaughlan, 28 yrs.  
Kenneth Desmarais  
12:00 NN

Friday, December 20, 2019

7:30 AM Special Intention

Saturday, December 21, 2019 St. Peter Canisius, Priest  
and Doctor of the Church

9:00 AM Living/Deceased Members of WG  
4:00 PM Ann O'Donnell, 1<sup>st</sup> Anniversary

Sunday, December 22, 2019 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent

7:30 AM  
9:00 AM  
11:30 AM Olive Leary, 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary  
5:00 PM Charles R., Helen, and Francis  
Sweeney

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December 1, 2019

Weekly Collection: \$5,665.00  
Christmas Flowers: \$3,540.00

December 8, 2019

Weekly Collection: \$5,287.00  
Building Fund: \$3,690.00

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

"At the moment the sound of your greeting reached my ears,  
the infant in my womb leaped for joy."  
The story of the Visitation describes more than Mary's visit to her cousin Elizabeth. The Gospel also portrays the meeting of the unborn babies these women carried within them.  
John the Baptist, the one who would herald the coming of the Messiah, even in utero recognized the presence of the Christ. The infant prophet was not only moved; he was moved with joy. His mother, Elizabeth, "filled with the Holy Spirit," was given a special grace to understand what was happening.  
She declared in her own words what Mary already heard from the angel, Gabriel: "Blessed is the fruit of your womb!"  
These mothers-to-be realized that the babies they carried were already participating in God's plan of salvation. They understood their pregnancies not as meaningless waiting periods, but rather as the beginning of the proclamation of the good news.  
Indeed, the months of anticipation before the birth of these children is like the season of Advent in which we now stand. We too wait to celebrate the birth of the Christ Child at Christmas. But this waiting is not meaningless; these four weeks offer the opportunity to establish a deeper intimacy with the Lord.  
During Advent, let us imitate Our Lady of Guadalupe, the expectant mother around whom the light of Christ radiates so brightly even as she waits for the coming of her Son.

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Each of us is an innkeeper  
who decides if there is  
room for Jesus.



# Immaculate Conception School

218 East Merrimack Street • Lowell, MA 01852

(978) 454-5339 • Fax (978) 454-6593

Accredited by the New England Association of Schools and Colleges

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## IMMACULATE CONCEPTION CHURCH Religious Education Calendar 2019-2020

### The Immaculate Conception School 2019-2020

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#### DECEMBER SCHEDULE

17 “ESCAPE ROOM/TELL TALE HEART”  
DRAMA PRODUCTION  
6 PM

18 ADVENT PRAYER SERVICE  
7:45 AM

20 11:00 AM  
LESSONS AND CAROLS

11:30 DISMISSAL  
NO P.M. BUS

KIDS CLUB OPEN

CHRISTMAS BREAK

SCHOOL RE-OPENS  
JANUARY 6<sup>th</sup> 2020

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LANYARD – red  
Three keys attached

With a turtle with two blue stones for eyes.  
Call rectory: 978-458-1474 between 8 and 2.

Classes meet at the Immaculate Conception School  
on the Sunday mornings scheduled below  
and are subject to change for inclement weather days...  
The \* indicates Sundays that are two in a row.  
Due to this year’s scheduling with school events  
there are a few months with two in a row.

### Classes begin at 10am and end at 12 NOON.

December 15	Class 8
January 5	Class 9
*January 12	Class 10
February 2	Class 11

FIRST PENANCE PARENT MEETING  
Sunday, February 9 at 6:30 PM School Cafeteria

*February 9	Class 12
March 1	Class 13

FIRST PENANCE March 14 at 10 AM in Church

March 15                      Class 14

FIRST COMMUNION PARENT MEETING  
Sunday, March 15 at 6:30 PM School Cafeteria

March 29	Class 15
*April 5	Class 16

FIRST COMMUNION RETREAT-Grade 2  
Saturday, April 4<sup>th</sup>, 9:00AM to 2:00 PM

May 3<sup>rd</sup> IMMACULATE CONCEPTION  
FIRST COMMUNION CELEBRATION

Please contact Claire Couillard at 978-458-1474 X21  
for any questions.

Our Religious Education Program  
is still in need of teachers.  
Please call Claire Couillard.





**PLEASE PRAY FOR ALL  
OUR ARMED FORCES**

Lance CPL James Bakanosky U.S. Marines AFGHANISTAN  
Sgt. James R. Boudreau U.S. Army Newport, RI  
Capt. Christopher Buck, U.S. Army Clarksville, TN  
Lance CPL Michael P Crowley U.S. Marines-AFGHANISTAN  
Corp. James Farley U.S. Marines Special Forces Mideast  
SN Michael Gendron U.S Coast Guard  
Gunnery Sgt. Michael G. Hill U.S. Marines,Camp Lejeune,NC  
1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Jeremy LaBranche U.S. Army Fort Carson, CO  
SPC Pieter Lobscher U.S. Army AFGHANISTAN  
AST 3 Michael Linehan U.S. Coast Guard  
A1C Emily McPhillips Air Force  
Master Sgt. Nicholas Owens USAF MacDill AFB  
Staff Sgt. John J. Rogers U.S. Army Fort Bliss, Texas

**NATIONAL GUARDS**

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**ADVENT GIVING TREE FOR BIRTHRIGHT**

**Every year our parish sponsors an  
Advent Giving Tree for Birthright.**

**It is heartwarming to see the generosity of our  
Parishioners who contribute to this worthy cause.**

**Your participation again this year will help  
the most vulnerable in our society.**

**New Baby Items**

**are what we are looking for you to donate.  
Thank you in advance for your unselfishness.**

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JESUS ACROSS THE BORDER  
“MAKE ROOM” CHRISTMAS CONCERT”  
FRIDAY, December 20, 2019 7 PM to 12 AM

Immaculate Conception Parish

216 East Dunstable Road, Nashua, NH

Join JESUS ACROSS THE BORDER

For the 3<sup>rd</sup> year in a row, as we prepare to celebrate the  
birth of Jesus, through our Christmas Event.

We invite people of all ages and religions.

Our night kicks off with the Concert.

Mandy Powers of New England’s B Street Bombers with  
Sammie Moore and the Here on Each Worship Band.

Following the concert, dynamic priest Asst. Vocations

Director, Fr. Von DeRosia will talk on the theme  
“Make Room”.

Adoration and praise and Worship will follow.

IC’s Young Adult Group THRIVE will get the party  
going with Christmas Carol Karaoke, pizza, and hot  
chocolate.

Facebook link:

<https://www.facebook.com/events/747792252333953/>



**Immaculate Conception  
ANNUAL CHRISTMAS PAGEANT**

4:00 PM Mass Christmas Eve

Tuesday, December 24<sup>th</sup>

**Children who want to be  
Angels, Shepherds, Kings, Star**

**Rehearsal:**

**Saturday, December 21 @ 10 AM**

**Upper Church...Please enter on Fayette St.**

Please call Claire @978-458-1474 if interested



**St. Vincent de Paul**

St. Vincent de Paul is an organization that provides person to person services to the needy in our parish.

We are currently seeking new members.

If you are interested in joining or would like more information, please call the rectory at 978-458-1474 and leave a message for SVDP or speak to Richard Sweeney at one of the week end Masses.

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**THIRTY-ONE**



**ANNUAL CALENDAR RAFFLE**

You will be receiving in the mail an envelope containing 2020 January calendar raffle tickets.

Your past generosity encourages us to HOPE that you will make use of those tickets to show your gratitude during the Thanksgiving season to many people who support you throughout the year

as well as to give as stocking stuffers for the upcoming

Christmas celebrations.

If you did not receive the tickets in the mail and you would like to support us, please contact the rectory office

978-458-1474.

The tickets will also be sold after each Mass during the month of December, thanks to the members of the WOMEN'S GUILD



Let the ICS 8<sup>th</sup> grade class take your worries and Christmas Tree away for a mere \$10. Simply put your tree out the night before and we will pick it up and bring it to the Recycling Area. Pick up dates are 12/28, 01/04, and 01/11. Payment Types: Cash or Check Payable to ICS 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Class Contact Melissa 978-590-3586 to schedule your pick up.

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**If you did not buy one for your Christmas Tree**  
**THE 150<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY**  
**COMMEMORATIVE ORNAMENT**  
is still available at the Rectory Office  
3 Fayette Street  
between 8 AM - 2 PM- Monday through Friday  
or in the sacristy after the Masses.

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**HOLY TRINITY ANNOUNCEMENT**



PIEROGIS will be available for Christmas SALE is Saturday, December 21, 2019

From 8 to 11 AM

Both cheese and cabbage!

OPLATEK: Free-will offering

At Holy Trinity Rectory

Mondays, 10 AM to 1 PM

After Masses in church

At Pierogi Sale on December 21, 2019

At Coffee Social after 8:30 Sunday Mass

At Immaculate Conception Rectory