



PALM SUNDAY

And when he entered Jerusalem the whole city was shaken and asked, “Who is this?” And the crowds replied, “This is Jesus the prophet, from Nazareth in Galilee.” —Mt 21:10-11

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

*IMMACULATE CONCEPTION PARISH
LOWELL, MASSACHUSETTS
APRIL 5, 2020
PALM SUNDAY*

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. Cristiano G. Barbosa, 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



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- 12 noon at Immaculate Conception School

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.

MASS



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Possibility of Live-streaming

All Masses at the usual Mass hours for Palm Sunday

Please check our WEB SITE:
<https://www.iclowell.org>
AND
FACEBOOK

CATHOLIC TV
has Masses at 9:30 AM & 7:00 PM
every day Monday through Saturday
in our area it is on channel 268.
Sundays
Masses are at 10 from U. of ND in Indiana
and 7 pm from Boston.
EWTN
has Masses at 8 & 11 AM daily and more
that is channel 56.
Check your TV guide and listen
as the Masses are announced.

When I was expecting my second son, I remember spending hours poring over decisions on his birth and what I wanted things to look like. Every step of the labor and delivery process was already planned out in my mind. So, when at 40 weeks pregnant and ready to make this plan reality, I experienced a partial placental abruption, I was completely blindsided. Everything that I had anticipated for his birth was undone and I was sent on a completely new path in that single moment. In God’s providential care, my son was born healthy.

This Lent, our entire world has learned a similar lesson at a much larger scale. Many of us planned to spend our days preparing for the Lord’s Passion and Resurrection in a very specific way. However, this year we have seen in God’s providential care that he has allowed a new way to be carved out for many Catholics this year. A way that God may see fit to call even more hearts to conversion as the world navigates the immense challenges of a pandemic. We’ve been called to give up far more than most had planned. At the same time we’ve been called to renew our hope and trust in the God who sees beyond any earthly suffering. At the end of Lent many of us are realizing God’s plans were not our plans, and His plans will bear so much more fruit even if we don’t see it yet.

The canticle in the second reading helps us commit to heart this reality: no matter how deep our suffering is or how tragic our world becomes, no matter how many plans are disrupted, we have a God who is so profoundly on our side that nobility and earthly power mean nothing to Him. If I had planned for a king to save the world, the last thing I would plan is a suffering servant who had to endure a horrendous death. But in His mercy and goodness, God planned a way that would convince even the hardest heart that we are never alone, and we will someday be in paradise with Him if we remain faithful and trust in Him.

Let us welcome Palm Sunday and our Lord’s Passion this year with new hearts that have been formed by God’s will, even if it didn’t come as we had planned, leaning into the love of Christ and his wounded heart. *Angie Windnagle* -- edited



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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The Immaculate Conception School in Lowell
is now accepting registrations for the
2020-2021 school year!

SAINT CORONA
is the patron saint against
plagues and epidemics.
Her feast day is celebrated on May 14.



Almighty God, who forgive the sins of your people and heal all their faults, you who call the Lord our healer and your beloved Son to bear our sickness, look upon us who stand humbly before You.

We pray to You in this time of plague and need, remember Your love and kindness that You have always shown to Your people in times of tribulation. Just as you graciously looked upon Aaron's atonement and stopped the plague that broke out, just as you accepted David's sacrifice and commanded the destroying angel to withdraw his hand, accept also today our prayer and sacrifice and show us mercy. Keep this disease away from us, allow those affected to be healed, protect those who have been preserved from it so far by Your goodness and do not let the plague spread any further.

Holy Mary, health of the sick, pray for us!
Saint Corona, pray for us!
Saint Sebastien, pray for us! AMEN

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION CHURCH **Religious Education Calendar 2019-2020**

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.

PENDING

FIRST COMMUNION RETREAT

May 3rd IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

FIRST COMMUNION CELEBRATION

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

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PARENTS AND CHILDREN

If you have grandparents who would appreciate the bulletin make them a copy of this bulletin if they usually attend Mass and read it.
There will be no hard copy it will be on line only.
Thank you



**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
Captain Jeremy LaBranche	U.S. Army	Fort Huachuca, AZ
SPC Pieter Lobscher	U.S. Army	AFGHANISTAN
AST 3 Michael Linehan	U.S. Coast Guard	
SN Nicholas Ludwig	U.S. Navy	
A1C Emily McPhillips	Air Force	
Master Sgt. Nicholas Owens	USAF	MacDill AFB
Staff Sgt. John J. Rogers	U.S. Army	Fort Bliss, Texas

NATIONAL GUARD

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**We encourage you to follow
directives given by
the Governor
in order to help remain
SAFE and HEALTHY.**

**There are many fine
religious programs
on EWTN channel 56**

**and
CATHOLIC TV
Channel 268**

**that can help lift your spirits
and bring you close to God
Who never fails us.**



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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 weekend Masses.

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TAX REPORT

For those of you who use regular weekly offertory envelopes for your statement of parish contributions, your tax report is ready.

Please call the Office 978-458-1474 between 9 and NOON.

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FOR YOUR INFORMATION

**FROM NOW UNTIL
ST. MARY'S MISSION IN
LANCASTER, MA**

you are encouraged to hold on to your religious items until the Office reopens.

NO CARDS/PRAYER CARDS.
The Mission from Lancaster, PA will come to pick up whatever was given as soon as the restrictions have been removed.

Year of the Eucharist

**Holy Thursday 2020 to
Feast of Corpus Christi 2021**



What to Expect

Throughout this Year we will:

- provide a series of catechetical materials specific to the Eucharist
-
- invite parishes to provide more opportunities for Adoration and to make more availability for parishioners to pray before the Blessed Sacrament
-
- feature video testimonies from a wide array of Boston Catholics about their love of the Eucharist
-
- conclude the Year with a three-day Eucharistic Congress, comprising of speakers, music, processions, and a Mass on the Feast of Corpus Christi in June 2021.

Archdiocesan memo!