



*SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER*  
*MAY 17, 2020*  
*IMMACULATE CONCEPTION PARISH*

# 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](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

### IMMACULATE CONCEPTION MISSION STATEMENT

**We at Immaculate Conception Church are a welcoming community of faith that strives to carry out the mission of Jesus by journeying in faith, sharing in joy, and living in hope. Come join us.**

### 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



**SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER**

My children could never succeed  
without their mother and me.  
That isn't me thinking too much of ourselves,  
it is just a fact.  
No one can find success in life in total isolation.  
I could never have become  
who I am today without my parents,  
various teachers and mentors, and my wife.  
Truth be told,  
I probably owe a lot of who I am to my children as well.

I can only imagine the fear and concern  
of the first disciples  
when it was apparent that  
Jesus was not going to be with them much longer.  
Some probably thought  
since Jesus had risen from the dead,  
he might just live with them in the same way forever.  
But Jesus tried to calm their fears by assuring them,  
"I will not leave you orphans."  
He said he would continue to come  
to them and that he would send the Spirit to be  
with them at all times.  
They would not have to continue  
what he had started and preach the good news  
to the ends of the earth on their own.

We may sometimes feel that we are alone.  
We may at times try to do too much or  
show others that we are independent and strong.  
However, without the help of others,  
without the help of God,  
true success will always elude us.  
Our actions and words can become empty.  
The gifts we have received can either  
be cultivated in secret and in the shadows,  
or we can welcome the help that God  
provides in his Spirit, his community,  
and the sacraments he gave us.  
By working together  
the world will truly know  
the power of the risen Lord.

**Video Recorded Mass**  
**to**  
**St. Peregrine**  
**will be**

**celebrated for the many cancer  
patients, family members, and friends  
who come to pray and find comfort  
and strength.**

**It should be available on**  
**Facebook and on our website**  
**iclowell.org**  
**no later than**  
**Wednesday, May 20, 2020**



**COMPLETION OF**  
**2019 ANNUAL GIVING PROGRAM**

**MEMORIAL GIFTS**

**John J. Carville '59**  
**by James M. MacLaughlin**

**Theresa J. Gavin**  
**by Ann Marie Gavin**



# 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**



## Sixth Sunday of Easter

**We hope for many things: passing an exam, finding our true love, securing sustainable work, or surviving an illness. We often seek to have God be a part of what we hope for and desire, almost trying to convince Him that our agenda is what is ultimately important. While our particular hopes may appear to be what needs to be achieved in order for us to be happy, they really are not. Our lesser, more personal hopes can distract us from true hope.**

**When God became a human being, a powerful message was sent: all that is authentically human is found in the divine. As the human Jesus lived and died in order to show us that he truly is the universal Christ, we have to keep our sight focused on our eternal truth and destiny and who we truly are. We have to be careful when we allow our earthly concerns to distract us. True hope is found when we place our trust in Christ's promises and don't rely on our own strength. True hope focuses on striving toward the fulfillment of God's promises and not simply on achieving what we think we need in this life. Hope always travels with two friends — faith and love. In this trio of virtues, we find the very presence of God born in every human being. These are God's greatest gifts, and they lead us to the fullness of His presence.**

**As with faith and love, we cannot see hope with just our human eyes. We don't carry this virtue within us to use solely for our own personal agenda. Hope is not something that simply comes with the human package. As with faith and love, hope is a gift that is given to us to draw us closer to our eternal truth. Faith, hope, and love are signs that there is something far greater going on in us and something greater to persevere in obtaining. The true divine gift of hope is what will endure any hardship we encounter, especially those that will come from authentically living the Gospel. With all that is happening in our lives, in our church, and in our world, what is the reason for our hope? Ask God for the fortitude to see His eternal gift as the reason we get up in the morning and do the things we do. cLPI**



**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 ARE NOT IN THE SAME BOAT ...**

I heard that we are all in the same boat, but it's not like that. We are in the same storm, but not in the same boat. Your ship could be shipwrecked and mine might not be. Or vice versa.

For some, quarantine is optimal. A moment of reflection, of re-connection, easy in flip flops, with a cocktail or coffee. For others, this is a desperate financial & family crisis.

For some that live alone they're facing endless loneliness. While for others it is peace, rest & time with their mother, father, sons & daughters.

With the \$600 weekly increase in unemployment some are bringing in more money to their households than they were working. Others are working more hours for less money due to pay cuts or loss in sales.

Some families of 4 just received \$3400 from the stimulus while other families of 4 saw \$0.

Some were concerned about getting a certain candy for Easter while others were concerned if there would be enough bread, milk and eggs for the weekend.

Some want to go back to work because they don't qualify for unemployment and are running out of money. Others want to kill those who break the quarantine.

Some are home spending 2-3 hours/day helping their child with online schooling while others are spending 2-3 hours/day to educate their children on top of a 10-12 hour workday.

Some have experienced the near death of the virus, some have already lost someone from it and some are not sure if their loved ones are going to make it. Others don't believe this is a big deal.

Some have faith in God and expect miracles during this 2020. Others say the worst is yet to come.

So, friends, we are not in the same boat. We are going through a time when our perceptions and needs are completely different.

Each of us will emerge, in our own way, from this storm. It is very important to see beyond what is seen at first glance. Not just looking, actually seeing.

We are all on different ships during this storm experiencing a very different journey.

Realize that and be kind.

Unknown author



**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 3.

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**FOR YOUR INFORMATION**

**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. Go to: [iclowell.org](http://iclowell.org)

**WE ARE VERY GRATEFUL TO:**

Margaret A. Cardone  
Kevin and Donna MacLaughlan  
For their generous donation  
IN MEMORY OF  
BERNARD CASSIDY

**WE ARE VERY GRATEFUL TO:**

Dorothy Gaumont  
For her generous donation  
IN MEMORY OF  
HENRY A GAUMONT

**WE ARE VERY GRATEFUL TO:**

Pauline H. Kenney  
For her generous donation  
IN MEMORY OF  
JOHN M., THOMAS F. LILLIAN  
And THOMAS H. KENNEY

**WE ARE VERY GRATEFUL TO:**

Stephanie and Charles Donahue  
For their generous donation  
IN MEMORY OF  
FRANCES C. McCARTIN

**WE ARE VERY GRATEFUL TO:**

James MacLaughlan  
For his generous donation  
IN MEMORY OF  
PATRICK O'BRIEN

**WE ARE VERY GRATEFUL TO:**

James MacLaughlan  
Mary Sayer  
IN MEMORY OF  
EUGENE F. WELCH, JR.