



7th Sunday
OF EASTER

“I revealed your name to those whom you gave me out of the world. They belonged to you, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word.” - Jn 17:6

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

SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER
MAY 24, 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



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

SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER



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What does faith and religion do for us?

Ultimately, they remind us of some truths we conveniently forget:

we are created by a loving God,

we have imperfections, we sin,

we need to be forgiven, we have a mission and a purpose,

it's not just about us,

and we hunger for the joy of salvation.

These are human truths that are not dependent upon whether we like them.

Ignoring them places us on the paths of comfort and satisfaction as we blindly pursue the busyness and superficiality of our empty lives.

Instead of pursuing supernatural and lasting pleasure,

we choose things that are easier and quicker to obtain: sex, drugs, travel, houses, cars, fame, popularity, self-achievement and satisfaction, physical enjoyment, and the like.

We may also find ourselves falling victim

to more negative responses to what life brings us: anger, envy, lust, pride, gluttony, greed, and apathy. Human hearts can become so hardened to the truth that violence becomes the response of first choice.

Being a Christian is hard!

Yet, as Pope Francis reminds us,

the Church needs to be a field hospital

that has to be prepared to provide people with the remedy they need.

What we need is Jesus Christ.

The Church, with all of the glory of the sacraments, exists to help make Christ present and real for us.

Once we find Christ, we find joy.

Joy is a matter of the heart that is beyond pleasure and happiness.

It is not found in some earthly satisfaction,

only in Christ.

Once we accept that we are destined to be in Christ, then we will discover eternal life.

Namely, "that they should know you, the only true God, and the one whom you sent, Jesus Christ."

It is easy to conveniently forget truth and pursue illusions immediately within our grasp,

but at what price?

A man celebrating 60 years of marriage remarked that it took so much effort and so many attempts to convince his wife that they were meant to be together.

Even his friends told him he was foolish. He easily could have given up and pursued other interests. He chose to persevere and is so grateful that he made that choice because he now has a pearl of great price.

Do we see a value in persevering in our faith regardless of the cost? If we don't take the risk, we could lose more than we know. ©LPI



**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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THE YEAR OF THE EUCHARIST

Since we are unable to receive Jesus
in the Sacrament of the Eucharist,
as we watch the Mass on TV

here is a prayer you could say:

My Jesus,

I believe that you
are present in the most Holy Sacrament

I love you above all things
and I desire to receive You into my soul.

Since I cannot at this moment receive
You sacramentally, come at least
spiritually into my heart.

I embrace You as if You were already there and
unite myself wholly to You.

Never permit me to be separated from You. AMEN



"Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations...!"

I remember watching part of a college graduation
address where the speaker said,
"With this degree you are commissioned to go into
the world and make a difference."

The imagery conjured up in my mind by the use of
the word "commissioned" was pretty powerful.

I thought about the commissioning of military
officers and the responsibility they took on for the
lives of their subordinates but also the lives of those
they protected.

To me the word meant something very serious and
solemn.

It meant huge responsibility and expectation.

In the Bible, Jesus gives what we call the Great
Commission:

"Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations,
baptizing them in the name of the Father,
and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit,
teaching them to observe all that I have
commanded you" (Mt 28:19-20a).

The word commission makes this more than
a suggestion or a hope.

There is an expectation, a responsibility, and a
mandate.

Of course, did you wake up this morning thinking
about
how you would fulfill the Great Commission today?

Sharing the faith is not just something we should do;
it is something we must do.

The key is that you don't need to speak all the time
to share.

It will be through your life of witness
that others will be able to see Jesus.

By giving of yourself,
by always responding to the call,
and by surrendering all to God,
you will lead others to become disciples,
to seek out the sacraments,
and to observe his teachings.

Yes, responding in full to the Great Commission,
great things can happen.



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



Hail Mary Word Search

J	B	L	E	S	S	E	D	M	G	F
M	Z	L	Z	Y	T	L	K	O	K	X
N	X	X	N	D	D	I	C	T	L	P
W	J	E	S	U	S	A	L	H	D	N
S	O	X	Y	Q	M	H	E	E	O	F
R	H	M	M	A	R	Y	E	R	G	R
E	H	O	E	A	G	B	H	J	V	U
N	T	B	L	N	M	R	T	D	K	I
N	A	M	O	Y	N	E	A	N	R	T
I	E	O	R	N	K	J	N	C	K	H
S	D	W	D	R	P	R	A	Y	E	D



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Directions: Find all 17 of the words that are in bold print below in the Hail Mary prayer in the word search above.

Hail Mary,
Full of Grace,
The Lord is with thee.
Blessed art thou among women,
and blessed is the fruit
of thy womb, Jesus.

Holy Mary,
Mother of God,
pray for us sinners now,
and at the hour of death.
Amen.

