

The kingdom
of heaven is
like a merchant
searching for
fine pearls.

Mt 13:45



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SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

JULY 26, 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. 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

17th Sunday in Ordinary Time

 Read the Gospel and Color



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St. Ann and St. Joachim
Parents of Mary, Our Blessed Mother
Feast Day – July 26

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Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

My wife is a big Dave Ramsey fan. She loves when he tells people that in order to pay down their debt they need to sell so many of their possessions that the kids think that even they can be sold for the right price. He definitely sees earthly possessions as simply tools to be used and not "possessed." This is a tough, countercultural message for sure in the eyes of the average American. Too often, our self-worth is derived from our wealth and the items we own. The size of our house, the brand of our car, and the quantity of our belongings are all gauges of success in our world. For Ramsey, not only can you not truly own anything if you owe money to others, it belongs to God anyway and is only given to us as stewards.

Could you sell all you have right now? Could you walk away from all that you have amassed and be truly free? When Jesus speaks of the merchant who sells all he has to obtain a pearl of great price, he calls us to see the pearl as the kingdom of heaven. Nothing on earth can rival the value of the kingdom.

If that is true, why is it so hard to surrender everything to God to obtain it? It can be fear that keeps us from stepping out in faith. It can be selfishness that prevents us from letting go. Whatever it is, we must face the fact that we are "possessed" by it. The good news is that God does not expect us to conquer this obstacle on our own.

But with God, all things are possible.

Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS
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 **Puzzle**

Find and circle these words from today's Gospel:

- | | | |
|----------|--------|--------|
| KINGDOM | HIDDEN | PEARLS |
| HEAVEN | FIELD | SOLD |
| TREASURE | FOUND | BOUGHT |

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

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MASSES
Every Saturday at 4 pm
and Sunday at 10 am
until further notice

As we slowly continue to re-open the church the following steps must be strictly observed.

1. We are offering a 4 PM **MASS on Sat.** and a **10:00 AM MASS on Sunday**
2. **Social Distancing** must be observed at all times within the church
3. **Hand Sanitizer** will be available at all doors and must be used. If you prefer to use your own, bring it with you.
4. **MASKS ARE MANDATORY AND MUST BE WORN AT ALL TIMES. PLEASE BRING YOUR OWN.**
5. The floor is marked with the appropriate distancing. **PLEASE OBSERVE.**
6. All Holy Water Fonts and Missalettes have been removed.
7. There will be No Singing, No Processions and No Baskets passed at the Offertory.
8. **Baskets for the Offertory Collection will be placed at the Entrances of our Church.**
9. We appreciate all of your continued cooperation and we will only be able to provide Mass if all of you comply.
10. We are under strict restrictions from the Archdiocese of Boston in this re-opening of churches during this Pandemic
11. This is truly a fluid situation and we will update you before each Mass if necessary,



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

NATIONAL GUARD

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SAINT MARY'S MISSION
LANCASTER, PA
IF YOU HAVE MORE
RELIGIOUS ITEMS

They will be returning in September and hope there will be even more!



BAPTISM

**WELCOME TO ALL
WHO HAVE BEEN BAPTIZED IN OUR
CHURCH**

from December 22, 2019 to July 16, 2020

WE ARE VERY GRATEFUL TO:
Terrence and Kathleen McCarthy
For their generous donation
In Memory Of
KEVIN FINNEGAN

WE ARE VERY GRATEFUL TO:
Jean Marie Cull
Terrence and Kathleen McCarthy
For their generous donations
In Memory Of
PATRICIA J. HOGAN

WE ARE VERY GRATEFUL TO:
M/M Kevin MacLaughlan
For their generous donation
In Memory Of
FRANCES C. McCARTIN

WE ARE VERY GRATEFUL TO:
Gail Anne Desmond
Kathleen M. Flynn
For their generous donations
In Memory Of
JOANNE RYDER

WE ARE VERY GRATEFUL TO:
Teri Parker
M/M John and Sandra Ryan
For their generous donations
In Memory Of
THOMAS J. SAAB

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WEEKLY COLLECTIONS
Weekly Collection and Building Fund
Will be announced next week.

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR
CONTINUED SUPPORT**

- Katyann Navi Jean Morrill**
- Emery Swanson Parker**
- Stephen Abraham**
- Kristi Campbell Abraham**
- Nathan Abraham**
- Evan Abraham**
- Jocelyn Abraham**
- London Brennan Palmer**
- Jack Patrick Meade**
- Aiden Joseph Paquette**
- Maxwell Michael Cappucci**
- James Mateus Batista**
- Hughes Damian Kato**
- Hector Cosmos Wasswa**
- Logan Thomas Hawker**
- Bryson Sean McDougal**
- Richard Alan Snetsky**

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ATTENTION

**If you scheduled announced
Masses
from March 15 to August 1st
please feel free to call the
Rectory between 8 and 2 Mon./Fri.
so that we can reschedule
your paid Masses.**

