



While he was still speaking, a cloud came and cast a shadow over them, and they became frightened when they entered the cloud. Then from the cloud came a voice that said, “This is my chosen Son; listen to him.” - Lk 9:34-35

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

*SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT  
IMMACULATE CONCEPTION PARISH  
LOWELL, MASSACHUSETTS  
MARCH 17, 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.



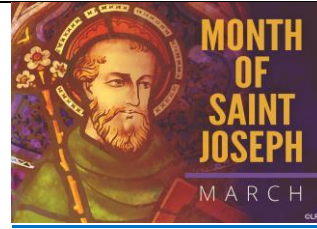
**Bulletin Deadline: Friday at Noon**

## 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



Saturday, March 16, 2019

4:00 PM Special Intention

Sunday, March 17, 2019 *Second Sunday of Lent*

7:30 AM Lorraine Panagopoulos

9:00 AM

11:30 AM Joseph P. LaBelle

5:00 PM

Monday, March 18, 2019

7:30 AM Fr. James Erving, OMI, 5<sup>th</sup> Ann.

Tuesday, March 19, 2019

7:30 AM Marion Sherman, 1<sup>st</sup> Ann.

Wednesday, March 20, 2019

7:30 AM Special Intention - Healing

Thursday, March 21, 2019

7:30 AM Mary Morrill, Mass of Healing

Friday March 22, 2019

7:30 AM

12:00 NN

Saturday, March 23, 2019

9:00 AM

4:00 PM Robert Duffy

Sunday, March 24, 2019 *Third Sunday of Lent*

7:30 AM Constance Correa, 24<sup>th</sup> Ann.

9:00 AM Claire Laferriere, 18<sup>th</sup> A

11:30 AM The Flynn Family

5:00 PM

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March 2-3, 2019

Weekly Collection: \$5,509.00

Building Fund: \$3,473.00

March 9-10, 2019

Weekly Collection: \$4,681.00

Catholic Charities: \$2,305.00

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March 17, 2019

2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Lent

As we march through Lent,  
it can be easy to think it's all about sacrifice.  
No chocolate, no alcohol, no meat on Fridays.  
Yet here, only in the second week of Lent,  
we have the story of the transfiguration.

This reading reminds us of the "why"  
behind what we do.

We don't fast from dessert to lose weight.  
We don't donate money or serve others because it's  
merely a nice thing to do. Lent is about transformation!

Peter, James, and John trudged up the mountainside  
behind Jesus.

This must have been a difficult hike,  
because when they reached the top,  
"Peter and his companions had been  
overcome by sleep."

Despite our best efforts, perhaps we, too,  
can be asleep to the deeper meaning of the Lenten  
season. Jesus is transfigured while they slumber,  
but eventually they become "fully awake,  
they saw his glory and the two men standing with him."

This is no small thing!

The disciples witness Jesus in his divine splendor and see  
the miraculous apparitions of Moses and Elijah.

The entire mountain becomes a spiritual breakthrough.

"A cloud came and cast a shadow over them,  
they became frightened when they entered the cloud."

These symbols are present in the Old Testament.  
They are present on Mount Sinai when Moses prayed  
alone and received the 10 Commandments.

Elijah had a similar experience when he prayed alone  
before God. But here are ordinary men, former  
fishermen, who have been drawn up into an adventure  
beyond their wildest expectations. Jesus is the Christ, the  
Messiah, the fulfillment of all that came before.

But Christianity is not the religion of the elite,  
where only the select few are allowed to participate.

We are all invited into spiritual transformation.

Lent is a privileged time for this!



# 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 is now accepting registrations for PK 3 year old through grade 8 students for the 2019-2020 school year. Please call 978-454-5339 to set up a tour and receive paperwork.

We offer:

- Full-day Pre-kindergarten for 3 and 4 year olds
- Full-day Kindergarten
- Academic program for grades 1-8
- Physical Education
- Spanish
- Music
- Art
- Technology Class
- Before and After Care programs
- Hot Lunch program
- Extra-curricular activities (athletic teams, ski club, homework club, art club and dance)
- Financial Aid is available for K-8 students who qualify

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## MARCH SCHEDULE

March 20 – Wednesday

Lenten Prayer Service at 7:45

March 25 Monday

Spring Concert

Gr. 1-6 and

7&8 Electives 6 PM

March 26 Tuesday

Gr. 3 Field Trip to Orthodontist

11:30 to 12:30 PM

March 27 Wednesday

Lenten Prayer Service at 7:45

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We are collecting **BOX TOPS FOR EDUCATION AND CAMPBELL SOUP LABELS.**

Please start to save them and send them to the Office.



## IMMACULATE CONCEPTION RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CALENDAR 2018-2019

Classes meet at the Immaculate Conception School On the Sunday mornings scheduled below and are subject to change for inclement weather days... Classes begin at 10:00 AM and end at 12 Noon.

### WINTER VACATION

March 17	Class 14
March 31	Class 15
April 7	Class 16

### FIRST COMMUNION RETREAT

Grade 2

\*\*\*April 14 (snow make-up day if needed)

\*\*\*\*\*April 28 @ 11:30 AM

Immaculate Conception School  
First Communion Celebration

\*\*\*\*\*May 5 @ 11:30 AM

Immaculate Conception  
Religious Education Program

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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 week end Masses.





**TAX REPORT**

**For those of you who use regular weekly offertory envelopes for your statement of parish contributions, please call the Office 978-458-1474 between 9 and 3. When you call be ready to give your envelope number, full name and street address. The report will be sent to you ASAP.**

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***Immaculate Conception Confirmation Class Service Project Clothing and Toiletries Collection for Catie's Closet***

**Sunday, March 31<sup>st</sup>**

**From 9:00 to 12:00 in the school cafeteria**

**Clothing**

--New or gently used clothing

--Clean, free from stains and damage

--Sizes:

**Youth girls 4-20      Youth boys 4-20**

--Teen girls 3-17 and xs-xxl

Teen boys 29-42 and s-xxl

**New Youth & Teen Undergarments**

--Socks, underwear

--For hygiene reasons, we only accept new undergarments

**New Full Size Youth & Teen Toiletries**

--Deodorant, shampoo, body wash, tooth paste and toothbrushes

--Feminine products, hair products, shaving products

For more information about Catie's Closet please visit

**[www.catiescloset.org](http://www.catiescloset.org)**



**WE ARE VERY GRATEFUL TO:**

Jodi A. Freedman

John and Cynthia M. McNamee

For your generous donations

In Memory Of FRANCIS X. BARRETT

**WE ARE VERY GRATEFUL TO:**

Brian Leahey

Anne C. White

For your generous donations

In Memory of MARIA FILOMENA DE SOUSA

**WE ARE VERY GRATEFUL TO:**

Donna Rogers

For your generous donation

In Memory Of HELEN J. HENRY

**WE ARE VERY GRATEFUL TO:**

Jean Cull

For your generous donation

In Memory Of GEORGE LEAHEY

**WE ARE VERY GRATEFUL TO:**

Mr. & Mrs. Brian Holbrook

For your generous donation

In Memory Of GREGORY TOWLE

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Be transformed by Jesus' love in your marriage by attending a Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend. The next Weekends are Apr 13-14, 2019 in Brewster, MA and Jun 8-9, 2019 in Medway, MA. For more information, call Stephen & Michelle O'Leary at 800-710-9963 or visit them at <https://wwmem.org/>.

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**STATIONS OF THE CROSS**

Please join us in praying the Stations of the Cross

3 PM in church

FRIDAYS:

March 22, 29, April 5, 12 and 19