



21st Sunday
IN ORDINARY TIME

Simon Peter answered him, "Master, to whom shall we go?
You have the words of eternal life." - Jn 6:68

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

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION PARISH
LOWELL, MASSACHUSETTS
AUGUST 26, 2018

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
Bro. James Lucas, OMI, Ministry to the Sick
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:



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

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.

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, August 25, 2018

9:00 AM Fr. Francis Ouellette, O.M.I.
4:00 PM Edward/Mary Croke, 1st Ann.

Sunday, August 26, 2018 21st Sunday in Ordinary Time.

7:30 AM Henri Martineau, 25th Ann.
9:00 AM Virginia C. Creegan
11:30 AM David Beauchemin, 2nd Ann.
5:00 PM John W. Mahoney and
Jane Mahoney Kiluk

Monday, August 27, 2018 *Saint Monica*

7:30 AM Jeffrey Wisniewski, Birthday

Tuesday, August 28, 2018 *St. Augustine, Bishop and Doctor of the Church*

7:30 AM Mary Morrill, Mass of Healing

Wednesday, August 29, 2018 *Passion of St. John the Baptist*

7:30 AM Greg Towle

Thursday, August 30, 2018

7:30 AM Mary Morrill, Mass of Healing
12:00 NN Souls in Purgatory

Friday, August 31, 2018

7:30 AM Greg Towle
12:00 NN Souls in Purgatory

First Saturday, September 1, 2018

9:00 AM Mary Morrill, Mass of Healing
4:00 PM Theresa/Charles Cousens
Vidal Bandit

Sunday, September 2, 2018 22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

7:30 AM Special Intention
9:00 AM John J. Mulligan, 10th Ann.
11:30 AM James Lorrey, Month's M. Mass
5:00 PM For the Parishioners

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August 18-19, 2018

August 15 - Assumption Day: \$1,087.00

Next week for the other two collections

Twenty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time
GOSPEL MEDITATION - ENCOURAGE DEEPER
UNDERSTANDING OF SCRIPTURE

"This saying is hard; who can accept it?"
The words of Jesus' disciples in today's Gospel
must sound familiar.
At some point in our lives,
you and I have said it about some article of our faith.
Christianity makes firm demands on our ethical
behavior and gives no easy answers for suffering.
Many disciples were confused and dismayed
by Jesus' words in the Bread of Life Discourse.
Not all of them, however, had the same reaction.
When the disciples question Jesus' teaching,
he confirms its truth.
"The words I have spoken to you are spirit and life."
For some, Jesus' reassurance was not enough.
These disciples do not question Jesus
further or wrestle with their lack of understanding.
The mighty deeds Jesus has done
fade to the background.
"Many of his disciples returned
to their former way of life and no longer accompanied
him." For them, their doubt proves too much.
Jesus turns to the Twelve,
knowing that confusion lives in their hearts as well.
Peter answers. "Master, to whom shall we go?
You have the words of eternal life.
We have come to believe and are convinced that you are
the Holy One of God."
Notice this is not a confession of perfect understanding.
It is a confession of faith in Jesus.
The precise words may still confuse them,
but they believe the One who said them.
In our own lives,
we face doubt, confusion, and disillusionment
in our Christian faith.
The same choice available to the disciples
is available to us.
Do you have faith in Jesus,
even when you lack perfect understanding?
Will you stay or will you go?
What do you do with your doubt?



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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CORI TIME 2019 **CORI FORM**

to be completed by all volunteers
MA State law mandates that any person 17 years of age and older, who serves as a volunteer in any parish ministry, must complete a CORI form (Criminal Offense Record Info.).
This form requires verification of identity with a photo document (e.g. MA Driver's License or passport)
There are no exceptions to this requirement.
The CORI form is available at the Rectory Office
Monday-Thurs. 7:00 AM to 3:00 PM
Fridays: 7:00 AM to 12:00 PM (Noon)
beginning 8/6 to 9/23, 2018.

I WILL BE AVAILABLE AT FRONT ENTRANCE AFTER EVERY MASS THE WEEKEND OF SEPT. 15-16.

Sister Irene

The St. Vincent de Paul Society members need to speak to

Mr. Leo Sheridan to arrange to fill the Cori form
Know that we are truly grateful that you are willing to serve our parish community as a volunteer.

This is our way of showing you that we are committed to protect all our parishioners and all who visit with us...especially the children and the elderly.

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THE RIVER OF DIVINE MERCY CATHOLIC COLLABORATIVE

40 HOURS OF ADORATION FOR VOCATIONS PLACE: St. Rita's Church

Begins: 5 PM, Aug. 23rd, Thurs. Ends 9 AM Aug. 25th, Sat. 158 Mammoth Rd., Lowell, MA 01854

Call: 508-633-4894

e-mail to: adoration247divinemercury@gmail.com



PARISH PICNIC

Inviting everyone to join us for our 13th Annual Parish Picnic as we celebrate the 150th Anniversary of Immaculate Conception Parish.
SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 2018
from 12 to 4 PM

The rain date will be Sept. 16 from 1 to 5 PM.

Come enjoy a BQ, inflatables, rockwall*, eurobungy*, pony rides*, petting zoo*, spin art, carnival games and much more.

Admission is \$5.00 per person/\$15.00 per family.

Volunteers would be greatly appreciated.

Please contact Meg Chase at

megmchase@hotmail.com

(*Saturday only)



**PLEASE PRAY FOR ALL
OUR ARMED FORCES**

Lance CPL James Bakanosky U.S. Marines AFGHANISTAN
Sgt. James R. Boudreau U.S. Army Newport, RI
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
1st Lt. Jeremy LaBranche U.S. Army AFGHANISTAN
SPC Pieter Lobscher U.S. Army AFGHANISTAN
AST 3 Michael Linehan U.S. Coast Guard
A/C Emily McPhillips Air Force
Master Sgt. Nicholas Owens USAF MacDill AFB FL
Staff Sgt. John J. Rogers U.S. Army Fort Bliss, TX

NATIONAL GUARDS
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HOLY TRINITY CHURCH

We invite you to attend on the
First Saturday of each month
a Marian Devotion which will consist of
15 decades of the Rosary
and other prayers to honor Our Lady.
It will be held at Holy Trinity Church
340 High Street, Lowell, MA
at 6:00 PM to 7:30 PM
We hope you will consider joining us.
For further information please call
978-454-4395 (Anna or Ted)

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OUR LADY OF FATIMA
ON THE FIRST SATURDAY
OF EACH MONTH

After the 9 AM Mass, please join us to recite the rosary
and reflect
on the mystery for 15 minutes at the
IC Chapel

SAINT ANTHONY'S PARISH

Presents

MONTREAL SPECTACULAR!

September 17-19, 2018

Luxury Holiday Inn & Suites Hotel
Native Guide Sightseeing Tour in Montreal
Four meals (2 breakfasts and 2 dinners)
Visit to Montreal's Casino Royale

DAY 1

8:00 am Depart from St. Anthony's Church for
Canada on your luxury Silver Fox Coach.
You'll travel north into scenic Vermont,
visiting the Cold Hollow Cider Mill on the way.
You'll arrive in Montreal in the afternoon
at the luxurious Holiday Inn & Suites.
At night, you'll enjoy a full course delicious
DINNER, featuring Soup, Salad,
Choice of Entrée and Dessert
at Le Vieux Port Restaurant in Old Montreal.

DAY 2

Enjoy Montreal's sights/attractions with your native
guide who will take you throughout this fabulous
City which is one of the most cosmopolitan cities in
the Northern Hemisphere.

You'll visit Mont Royal, Old Montreal
St. Joseph's Oratory and much more.
In the evening, after DINNER, you'll visit
Montreal's Casino Royale for an evening of
exciting casino gaming.

DAY 3

On the way home, you'll visit
Ben & Jerry Ice Cream Factory
where you can purchase
an ice cream confection.
You'll arrive back home around 7:30 PM after an
exciting time in beautiful Montreal.

Tour cost

\$389.00 PP Double

\$379.00 PP Triple

\$479 Single

Checks payable to: *Filomena Silva*
\$100 Deposit Due With Reservation
Balance is Due 30 Days Prior to Departure!
To contact Filomena Silva call 978-761-9591

Canada's Waiting For You!

LOVE THE WORLD RETREAT

St. Kathryn Parish in Hudson, NH presents a very special 2-day event, a Love the Word™ Retreat, featuring Sonja Corbitt, the Bible Study Evangelist in her only upcoming Northeast appearance on Friday, September 21, 2018, beginning at 7:00 PM and on Saturday, September 22, 2018 from 9:00 AM – 3:00 PM. Join us for what promises to be a fulfilling and uplifting retreat – all men, women, and couples invited to attend. You'll laugh, you'll cry, and through her dynamic and powerful speaking,

Sonja will ignite your Faith through four inspiring talks. Throughout the two days, you'll encounter Christ through music, Eucharistic Adoration, confession, prayer, and the unique and inspiring way Sonja brings the Scriptures to life with lively study followed by breaks for quiet reflection using her own Love the Word™ technique. Her talks will be on Heroes of the Bible on Friday, and on Saturday, her talks will be on her book Ignite, her latest Series the Fruits of the Spirit, and a devotion to Eucharistic Adoration and the Third Order Carmelites. \$25 Saturday Admission Price. Please call 603-882-7793 or visit stkathryns.org for further details and to purchase tickets.

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WORLDWIDE MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER

**“My God is now my strength!
Let God be the strength of your marriage
by attending a Worldwide Marriage Encounter
Weekend.**

The next Weekends are

September 15-16, 2018

in Medway, MA

and

December 7-9, 2018

in Duxbury, MA

**For more information, call
Stephen/Michelle O’Leary at 800-710-9963
or
visit them at <https://wwmema.org/>.**



My wife has a hope chest filled with items from her past.
Some memories contained in there are joyous,
while others are painful and filled with sorrow.
However, all those memories helped to make her the
person she is today.

They have become a part of her very being.
Traditionally, a hope chest contained linens and clothing
for a woman's wedding day.

It was a chest filled with the hope for the future.
As time goes by, many of our hopes are fulfilled.
However, life never goes exactly as planned.
Some hopes are dashed by unfortunate circumstances or
bad choices we have made.

Our hearts are like hope chests that long for the day
when we are joined for eternity with our God.

Along the way, our chest may accumulate additional
items that we collect on our life's journey.

If we are gracious and generous along the way,
our chest will fill with fruit to abundance.

If we live more with a focus on ourselves,
we will find our hope chests nearly barren.

We will, in fact, lose hope.

May the hope chest of your heart be overflowing with
love that you have freely given and
that has come back to you tenfold.

May your generosity provide hope for the hopeless,
and may your hope always remain strong.

--Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

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When your brother or sister dies
everything changes in your family, in your life, and your
dreams. Know you are not alone in your grief and
loneliness. **A Surviving Sibling Support Group** is now
offered at St. John the Evangelist Old Parish Hall
115 Middlesex St., No. Chelmsford, MA
On the last Sat. of each month from 10:30 am to 12 Noon
for surviving **ADULT SIBLINGS** of all ages and for any
reason. Our meetings will resume September 29.
All are welcome to a safe place to share their story,
find comfort, hope and encouragement.

Registration is recommended:

phassett99@gmail.com