



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.

AUGUST 22, 2021
IMMACULATE CONCEPTION PARISH
LOWELL, MA

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 AM to 3 PM Monday through Friday**

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



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

Mass Schedule

Weekends:

Saturday 4:00 p.m.

Sunday 8:00 a.m. and 10:00 a.m.

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.**

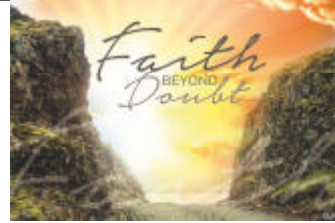


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MISSION STATEMENT

Immaculate Conception School fosters
Students in a
Catholic community with a
Highly dedicated staff, centered on
Outstanding academic excellence
Ongoing commitment to service, and a
Love for learning.



August

**24 Mandatory Parent Meeting
6 PM**

**30 Faculty Meeting
9 AM**

**31 First Day for Students
(Grades 1-8)
Half Day
Dismissal 11:30
NO BUSSING
KIDS CLUB BEGINS
TODAY AT 11:30**

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?

CORI TIME 2022
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. 8:00 AM to 1:00 PM
beginning 8/16 to 9/30, 2018.

The St. Vincent de Paul Society members
need to speak to
Mr. Peter Richards
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.
*_.*_.*_.*_.*_.

PRAY THE ROSARY NIGHT, Tyngsboro, MA

Remember the movie “Driving Miss Daisy”?
Well, why not let Mary drive you to Tyngsboro, MA
to the home of Ray/Irene Tremblay @112 Norris Rd
on Sunday, Aug. 22 @ 6 PM for our annual
celebration of Our Lady of Beauraing.
All are invited to a PRAY THE ROSARY NIGHT
where we will gather at the outdoor garden shrine of
Our Lady of Beauraing to pray the
Glorious Mysteries of the Holy Rosary.
Light refreshments will follow.
Br. Richard Cote will update us on the progress of
our new book “Our Lady of Beauraing—Queen of
the Golden Heart”.
Please bring a lawn chair.
Masks and social distancing required for
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MASS INTENTIONS

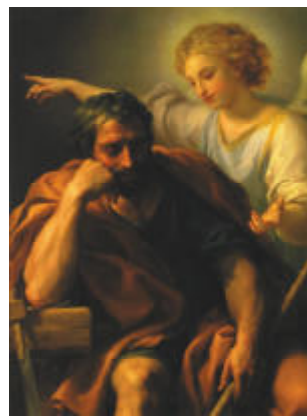
SATURDAY–August 21, 2021

4 pm FOR THE PARISHIONERS

SUNDAY August 22, 2021

8 am Mass Francis, Susan, Brendan Reilly

10 am Mass Joseph / Rose Raudelunas



THE YEAR OF ST. JOSEPH

Persecution

Now the angel, having thus appeared, talks not with Mary but with Joseph. And what does he say? “Arise, and take the young child and his mother. For Herod will seek the child’s life.” Joseph, when he heard these things, was not offended.

Neither did he say, “This is hard to understand. Did you not earlier say that ‘he should save his people’? And now he saves not even himself. Instead we must flee and go far from home, and be a long time away.

The facts are contrary to the promise.” No, none of these things does he say— for the man was faithful.

Neither is he curious about the time of his return, even though the angel had put it indefinitely: “Stay there until I tell you.”

Instead, not even at this did he shudder, but he submits and obeys, undergoing all trials with joy.... Hence, again we are taught never to be thrown into confusion when what is happening appears contrary to God’s promise....

Be not troubled, for he usually accomplishes his own plans through what is opposed to them, providing us from this a very great demonstration of his power.

Thus did the Lord lead on his own disciples also, and prepared them to do all their duty, bringing about things by their contraries, that the marvel might be greater.

–St. John Chrysostom

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**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. ArmyVicenza, Italy
- 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 AF

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