

# Immaculate Conception Parish

September 13, 2020

The parable Jesus tells today is the story of a king, but in truth it is about Jesus himself. He is the "king" who has forgiven our debts. We are the "servants" whose sins have earned us chastisement. But when we repent and ask for Christ's mercy, he grants it to us without hesitation.

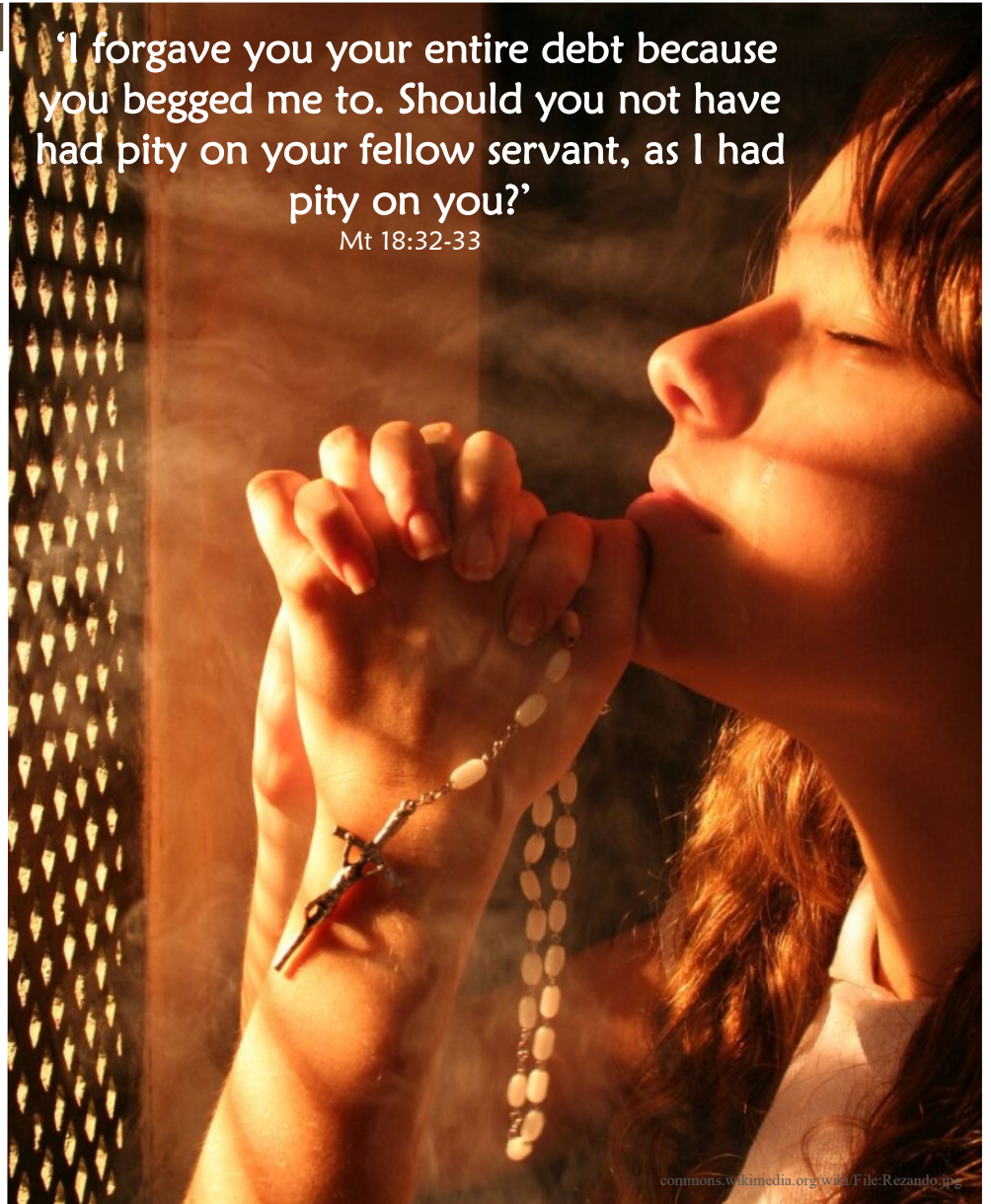
The point of the parable, then, is that we too should extend this mercy to others. We should not be like that "wicked servant" who begged for mercy but would not show it to others. Elsewhere, Jesus teaches us to pray, "Forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors" (Mt. 6:12). We use different words, but a similar meaning when we pray the Our Father asking God to "forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us." But are we sure that we mean what we say?

It's important to pause and evaluate how we are doing in this regard. Are we harboring any grudges? Are there people we refuse to forgive? Is there a situation where we are seeking revenge instead of extending mercy? Jesus asks us to do otherwise. He reminds us that we have already been forgiven. We are right now enjoying the benefits of his forgiveness. So we are called to bear in mind our own sins, failings, weaknesses, and "debts" when we deal with others instead of thinking that we are perfectly innocent and acting as if we've never been the beneficiary of mercy. So let us do our best to forgive as we have been forgiven. This doesn't mean approving of wrong behavior; God doesn't ask us to do that. But he does ask us to let go of bitterness and foster mercy instead.

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**'I forgave you your entire debt because you begged me to. Should you not have had pity on your fellow servant, as I had pity on you?'**

Mt 18:32-33



commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Rezando.jpg

## 24<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

### Welcome to Our Parish!

Whether you are visiting, interested in becoming Catholic, or seeking to return to the practice of your faith, we are pleased you are here. If you would like to become part of our Parish family or have questions about the Catholic faith, please stop by or contact the Parish Office.

We will be happy to assist you.

We, the Roman Catholic community of the Immaculate Conception Parish, strive to love and trust God completely and unconditionally. We evangelize with compassion, continue the works of Jesus Christ, and welcome all who seek Him.

### MASS SCHEDULE

Open to the Public

Monday through Thursday - 8:30am

Saturday Vigil - 5pm

Sunday Morning - 9am and 11am

### EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

Open to the Public

Wednesdays 9am-3pm

### SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Saturdays 4pm - 4:30pm

Please visit [iccnashuanh.org](http://iccnashuanh.org)  
for up-to-date information

### PASTOR

Rev. Ray Labrie

### PRIEST IN RESIDENCY

Rev. Paul Montminy

### WEEKEND ASSISTANT

Rev. Dixon Choolakkal C.R.S.

### DEACONS

Deacon William McDermott

Deacon Christopher Everhart

### OFFICE CONTACT

Phone: 603-888-0321 Fax: 603-888-9084

Mon.-Thur. 9:00am to 3:30pm

216 E. Dunstable Rd., Nashua, NH 03062

[iccnashuanh.org/contact-us](http://iccnashuanh.org/contact-us)

September 13th, 2020



# 2020/2021 Faith Formation Registration

2020/2021 Faith Formation registration will begin on Monday, September 14th for all programs for grades K-12.

For more information and to register, please visit [iccnashuanh.org/grades-prek-12](http://iccnashuanh.org/grades-prek-12)

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## CONFIRMATION/1ST EUCHARIST CELEBRATION



Alas, we have a date for your child's Confirmation/First Eucharist Celebration (Restored Order Students-Grade 3 and Siblings)

**The Celebration will be held on:**  
Sunday, September 20, 2020 at 2PM

**A Rehearsal will be held on:**  
Saturday, September 19 at 10AM (for one hour at the most); this will be for Sponsors and Students only-if your sponsor will not be in attendance, a parent will need to serve as Proxy. \*

**Masks** are required to be worn by all (over age 5), in the church, at all times according to guidelines we are following during regular Masses; we will guide your child as to how to receive with the masks, etc. during rehearsal. **Also, we will provide your child with a paper mask for the day of the celebration.**

**The First Eucharist Retreat** will be live-streamed and available only for students (and parents) receiving both Confirmation and First Eucharist on: **Thursday, September 17 at 6:30PM (also for an hour at the most) -a private link will be sent to you to attend with your child. Please have your child bring his/her "We Believe and Celebrate First Communion" books with them.**

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**Confirmation Retreat Make-Up**-for any student who was not able to attend the Confirmation Retreat we held on Feb. 1, please contact Maryann right away. We will have a Make-Up Live-Stream Retreat on Thursday, September 10, at 6:30PM (for an hour at the most). This will be a private link zoom call. A parent must be present on this call as well.

**The Celebration will also be Live-Streamed on our website at [www.iccnashuanh.org](http://www.iccnashuanh.org) at 2PM on September 20.** As safe as we feel our church environment is, we are going to live-stream the celebration as well. Because of this, we ask that any sponsor and/or family member(s) who is elderly, health-compromised or who does not feel comfortable coming into the church at this time, to please watch from home. \* **If your sponsor requires a Proxy to attend in his/her place, please notify Maryann ASAP.**

**Family Rows:** Due to Diocesan guidelines for gatherings in the midst of this Pandemic, we will be sitting families together with the student and the sponsor in one "family" row, or half row, depending on the size of the family and the size of the row. Each family will be at least 6 feet apart from other families if together in a long row. There are empty rows both in front and behind you. We respectfully ask that you keep your guests limited to immediate family (those living in the same house) whenever possible.

# 24th Sunday in Ordinary Time



**Realm Parish Portal**  
onrealm.org

Thank you to all who already signed in!  
An email with an invitation to join our new Parish Portal was sent out in July to all active parishioners. If you did not receive an invite, please contact Lisa at [iccnashuanh.org/contact-lisa](http://iccnashuanh.org/contact-lisa) or 603-888-0321.

**Realm Connect App**

Download the App to stay connected and up to date with all that is happening at Immaculate Conception Parish. The Realm Connect App is available on iOS and Android devices and it is fully integrated with the Realm Portal.

**Realm Giving**

Did you already set up your Realm account? Now you can easily manage your Parish contributions, set up online giving, see your giving history, and manage payment methods. Just sign in to Realm at [onrealm.org](http://onrealm.org) and click on Giving.

One-Time Donation for Non-Parishioners

If you are not a registered parishioner and would like to make a one-time online donation to Immaculate Conception Parish, please visit [iccnashuanh.org/donate](http://iccnashuanh.org/donate)



This week, the Sanctuary Candle burns for Steven F. X. Murphy

**SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 12**

The Most Holy Name of Mary  
5:00pm Raoul & Aldea Corriveau  
(46 Year Anniversary)  
Tory C. Marandos  
Robert Wright

**SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 13**

24th Sunday in Ordinary Time  
9:00am Stephen Williams  
Margaret Rutups  
Jovit Montiero  
11:00am Thomas MacDonald  
(Anniversary)  
Ralph Hensel  
Jerry Kendall

**MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 14**

The Exaltation of the Holy Cross  
8:30am Catherine Hussey  
(6 Month Anniversary)  
Jack Nelson

**TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 15**

Our Lady of Sorrows  
8:30am Sr. Doris Guerrette

**WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 16**

Sts. Cornelius, Pope, and Cyprian, Bishop  
8:30am Rachel Laquerre  
Monica Sullivan

**THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 17**

St. Robert Bellarmine  
8:30am Marie R. Machovic  
Warren Callery

**FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 18**

No Daily Mass

**SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 19**

St. Januarius, Bishop and Martyr  
This week, the Sanctuary Candle burns for Elizabeth Jacobbe  
5:00pm Frederick Goodspeed  
Victor DiFazio  
John DiFazio

**SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 20**

25th Sunday in Ordinary Time;  
Catechetical Sunday  
9:00am Joe Mikenas  
Steven F.X. Murphy  
(2 Year Anniversary)  
11:00am George Maxfield  
William Farrell, Jr.

**WE REMEMBER THOSE WHO HAVE PASSED RECENTLY, ESPECIALLY: MARTIN J. GRILLO AND JUDITH TELLO. MAY THEY BE REWARDED WITH ETERNAL LIFE IN THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN.**



**Banns of Marriage**

Matthew Allard & Emily Lafave ~ 1st

MASS INTENTIONS



# Immaculate Conception Church



## FAITH FORMATION

### ■ LETTER TO PARENTS OF CHILDREN IN GRADES K-12

Thank you for your patience as we gathered our plan for the 2020/2021 Religious Education programs at Immaculate Conception. It has indeed been a challenge to plan for Religious Education in this time of uncertainty and ever-changing guidelines from the State and our Diocese.

We are pleased to announce that our popular monthly Family Home Study program will continue, however, all sessions will be live-streamed for the foreseeable future. We will continue to support families with crafts and resources that complement the online teachings. We have also established a method where the families will be able to communicate with us virtually in real-time during the sessions.

The isolation that is occurring due to the lockdowns and social distancing guidelines has been particularly difficult for middle school and high school youth. For this reason, we have made the decision to have in-person SEEK Middle School Ministry nights, and in-person Youth ALPHA High School program. We will be limiting these programs to 25 students each. We are confident that we have established safety guidelines which will ensure all the proper COVID-19 protocols are in place.

The current plan is to begin monthly Family Home Study sessions in October on Sunday mornings at 8:00-8:45am. We will not have a Wednesday option at this time. The Middle School SEEK program will begin in November and run for 4 consecutive weeks in the months of November, January, and March. The high school ALPHA program will

begin on Sunday nights in January and run for 10 weeks.

This is the current plan. We will continue to assess the changing status of the pandemic and adjust our programs accordingly.

Please know that we continue to pray for your family and for an end to the disruption and tragedies this pandemic has caused.

May God Bless you deeply,  
Maryann Stuke, Catechetical Leader Gr. K-5 & Fatima Walsh, Catechetical Leader Gr. 6-12

### ■ FAMILY FAITH FORMATION 2020-2021

Family Faith Formation and Sacrament Preparation Registration will begin in September. Please continue to watch the bulletin and the website for our offerings and instructions in this regard. We will be offering The Family Home Study Program for all families with children in Pre-K through Grade 8, SEEK Middle School Program (which includes Family Home Study Sessions), and YOUTH ALPHA (for students in grades 9-12). Students in Grade 2 during this school year, are eligible to receive the Sacrament of Penance and should register for First Penance Preparation. Students in Grade 3 are eligible to register for the Restored Order Sacraments of Confirmation/First Eucharist and its Preparation. Finally, any student who

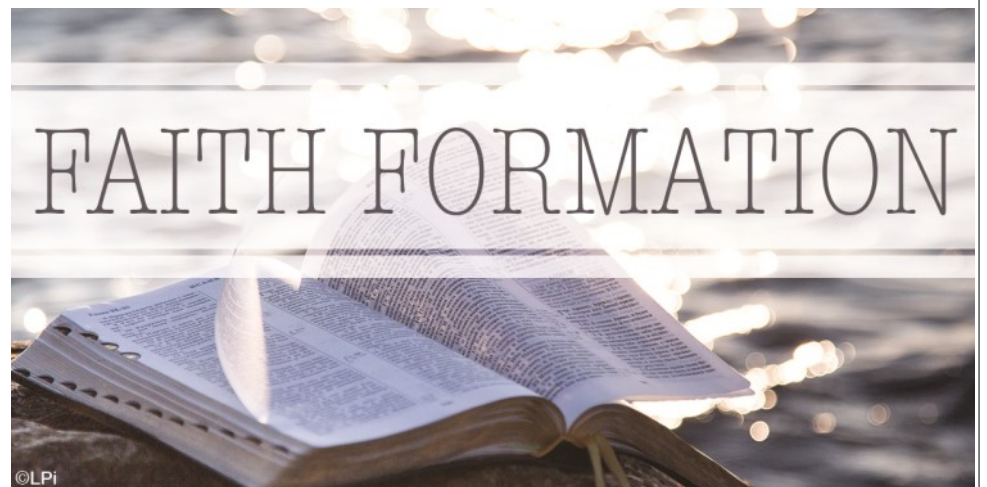
has received First Eucharist, but not Confirmation, in any grade, should register for the Sacrament of Confirmation and its Preparation. More details are forthcoming on meeting plans for these programs (virtually or otherwise as time and conditions allow).

### ■ CONFIRMATION & FIRST EUCHARIST CELEBRATIONS SPRING 2020

The Confirmation Celebration for children in Grade 6 and Siblings, that was originally scheduled for May 31, 2020, has been postponed until the Spring of 2021. The exact date for this celebration will be determined prior to January 2021.

Students in this group that received preparation and were due to be Confirmed will not be required to re-register for Confirmation, but will need to register for Faith Formation classes: Family Home Study for all families with children in Pre-K through Grade 8, SEEK Middle School Program (which includes Family Home Study Sessions), and Youth ALPHA (for students in grades 9-12).

Thank you for your patience as we navigate re-opening. We are looking forward to getting together virtually, and hopefully very soon in person, to grow closer to Jesus as a faith community!



**■ Question:**

A member of my parish was recently arrested for a white-collar crime. I don't approve of what he did, but he is a great neighbor and a nice person. How should I treat someone like him?

**Answer:**

There is a litany of expressions that fit this situation: Everyone makes mistakes. Hate the sin, love the sinner. Judge not, lest you be judged. All of these proverbs and sayings highlight the fact that we are here to help each other on the way to salvation. Our hope and goal is that everyone grows in grace, drawing closer to God and to the promise of eternal life. Part of that process is our struggle, collectively and individually, with sin. And that is the ugly part. Sin is not nice, pretty, or inviting when laid out for all to see. Nor is it easy for the person caught in the spotlight.

Kindness and support are not the same thing as approval. We recognize that good people can do bad things and in their struggle, they need the help of others. Our kindness is often the flicker of hope that allows someone to face the consequences of sin while focusing on the promise of redemption. Your desire to help and support your neighbor is the response of grace to sin, and the same response of Jesus to us.

4lpi.com



**■ REOPENING OF THE PARISH OFFICE**

The Parish Office is now open for walk-in's (for transactions such as Mass requests etc.).

Meetings with staff can be set by appointment only.

Although the office is open for walk-ins, you still can have a mass offered or the Sanctuary Candle burning in memory of a deceased loved one by visiting [iccnashuanh.org/mass-intentions](http://iccnashuanh.org/mass-intentions).

**■ FIRST COMMUNION AND CONFIRMATION GIFTS AVAILABLE AT THE GIFT SHOP**

The Gift Shop reopened just in time for the 1st Communion/Confirmation Celebration on September 20. The hours are Monday and Wednesday from 9:30am to 11:30am. We have a nice selection of gifts for this special occasion. All guidelines are being followed for a safe shopping experience.



**■ CORPUS CHRISTI FOOD PANTRY IN NEED OF DONATIONS**

Corpus Christi will be collecting new socks and underwear for school-age children. Please drop new socks and underwear in the box in the foyer of the church now through the end of September. Please call Susan at 598-1641 if you have any questions.

**■ CATHOLIC CHARITIES NH: SUPPORTING OUR NEIGHBORS IN CRISIS FOR 75 YEARS**

Catholic Charities NH remains steadfast in our commitment to being there for those who need us most – whether isolated seniors, homeless and struggling veterans, families facing chronic hardship or individuals searching for ways to cope in the “new norm” of life, especially in times of crisis like these. Our programs remain fully operational during the COVID-19 pandemic. We prayerfully ask for your support to continue to help your neighbors facing difficulties and encourage you to make a gift today online at [cc-nh.org/everything](http://cc-nh.org/everything). You may also mail your gift to CCNH, PO Box 9510, Manchester, NH 03108-9510.

■ **NEW: 40 DAYS FOR LIFE**

The fall 40 Days for Life campaign will be held from 9/23 – 11/1 in Manchester NH. Please join on any day during this period to visibly pray for the end of abortion and honor the sanctity of life. Additional information can be found at [www.40daysforlife.com/manchester](http://www.40daysforlife.com/manchester). You may also contact the Knights at [iccnashuanh.org/k-of-c](http://iccnashuanh.org/k-of-c) to coordinate with participating Knights of Columbus and potentially carpool.



**KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS  
COUNCIL 13904**

[iccnashuanh.org/  
knights-of-columbus](http://iccnashuanh.org/knights-of-columbus)

■ **STEWARDSHIP**

Offertory N/A  
Offertory Online N/A

■ **ONLINE GIVING**

Online giving can be a convenient option to support your parish. Please visit [iccnashuanh.org/donate](http://iccnashuanh.org/donate) to learn more.

■ **SPECIAL COLLECTION**

**September 13 - Catholic University of America - Assessed**

This collection provides funding for academic scholarships at the Catholic University of America and supports the work of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops. This collection is an assessed collection of \$3,699.

**Online Giving Fund:** Catholic Univ. & Bishop Conference

■ **MORTGAGE DEBT**

**ON CHURCH BUILDING**

**September Mortgage Payment:** \$11,644.23

**Remaining Balance:** \$909,136.83

As always, we thank you for your generosity.

■ **CONTEMPLATIVE PRAYER DAY OF ENRICHMENT**

Retreat Director Fr. Bill Sheehan OMI will give a Day of Enrichment "Transforming the Heart of the World Through Contemplative Prayer" on Sat. Sept. 19, 9am-3pm at Immaculate Heart of Mary Church, 180 Loudon Rd., Concord 03301. For more information, please call 603-224-4393 ext. 1.

■ **VOTING**

"The obligation to participate in political life is rooted in our baptismal commitment to follow Jesus Christ and to bear Christian witness in all we do." -- Forming Consciences for Faithful Citizenship, No. 13. Visit the Diocese's website for more information on voting <https://www.catholicnh.org/community/public-issues/voting/>



**OFFICE CONTACT**

office@iccnashuanh.org  
Phone: 603-888-0321 Fax: 603-888-9084  
Mon.-Thur. 9:00am to 3:30pm  
[www.iccnashuanh.org](http://www.iccnashuanh.org)

**CLERGY**

**Rev. Ray J. Labrie**

Pastor - office@iccnashuanh.org

**Rev. Paul D. Montminy**

Priest in Residency - office@iccnashuanh.org

**Rev. Dixon Choolakkal C.R.S.**

Weekend Assistant - dix\_143@hotmail.com

**Deacon William McDermott**

Permanent Deacon - office@iccnashuanh.org

**Deacon Christopher Everhart**

Permanent Deacon - office@iccnashuanh.org

**PASTORAL STAFF**

**Carmen Rodriguez-Brick**

Adult Minister

carmen@iccnashuanh.org

**Fatima Walsh**

Youth Minister

fatima@iccnashuanh.org

**Maryann Stuke**

Children's Minister

maryann@iccnashuanh.org



Artist's rendering of the church by Jeannine Migliorino

**SUPPORT STAFF**

**Cindy Rohm**

Office Manager

cindy@iccnashuanh.org

**Lisa Brideau**

Office Administrator

lisa@iccnashuanh.org

**Monika Janicki**

Parish Accountant

monika@iccnashuanh.org

**Eveline Morrier**

Communications Coordinator

eveline@iccnashuanh.org

**Tracey Carter**

Maintenance

tracey@iccnashuanh.org

**Travis Catello**

Organist

tcatello@msn.com