

Immaculate Conception / St. Bridget's Church

A Roman Catholic Community of African American Tradition

"We've Come This Far By Faith"



445 Frederick Douglass Street, Rochester, NY 14608
(585) 235-3340 ~ (585) 235-8315 Fax
Emergency Line: (585) 723-6531
www.immaculateconceptionrochester.org
rimmunacul@dor.org

Office located at: 34 Monica Street, Rochester, NY 14619
Office Hours: 9:00 am — 3:00 pm (Monday-Friday)

Parish Staff

Rev. Raymond Fleming, Pastor
fr.ray.fleming@dor.org

Richard Rall, Deacon
richard.rall@dor.org

Myrtle Fontenette, Religious Education Coordinator
& RCIA Coordinator
myrtle.fontenette@dor.org

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Neffee Pinnock Smith, Music Director
nefetari.pinnock-smith@dor.org

Joanie Fraver, **Finance Council Chair**

Vincent Stroud, **Pastoral Council Chair**

Mission Statement: The Parish of Immaculate Conception/St. Bridget's is a Roman Catholic faith community whose worship reflects and celebrates the cultural gifts and diversity of its members. We welcome all believers to worship God, love one another, evangelize the good news of Jesus Christ and serve those in need.

December 31, 2023

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph



Imitate the Holy Family, the true model of life.

Even in their holiness, Mary, Joseph, and their child Jesus were not exempt from suffering, and the difficulties of life. Yet they never wavered in their commitment to God or to each other. There was a home where the child [Jesus] grew and became strong, filled with wisdom; and the favor of God was upon him. Let us strive to make our homes a haven for others to grow in love, virtue, and favor.

Sunday Mass ~ 9:00 a.m.

Holy Days: Consult bulletin or call the office.

Sacrament of Reconciliation: By Appointment.

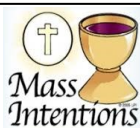
Sacrament of Marriage: Pre-Cana is a Diocesan Requirement. Arrangements should be made at least six months in advance.

Baptism: Please call the office to make arrangements.

Catechumenate: Adults interested in joining the Roman Catholic Church, please call the office.

Sunday, December 31, 2023

Rev. John Crowley—Bequest



Offerings for December 24, 2023

Offerings: \$1,714

Attendance: 70

Christmas: \$220

Online Giving: \$155

Online Givers: 3

Thank you for your generous support.



Please pray for the sick of the parish and for family and friends of parishioners: Earl Barnes, Fr. Robert Bradler, Jocelyn Bucchann, Fr. Giles Conwill, Tom Degan, Morris Doucette, George Fontenette, Tom Fugate, Denise McGowan, Carolyn Walker, Alice Walters, Kathy Wheeler

LECTOR SCHEDULE

Sunday, December 31, 2023

Reader I & II—Joanie Fraver

Monday, January 1, 2024

Reader I & II—Marcia Fugate

Sunday, January 7, 2024

Reader I & II—Andre' Fontenette

Sunday, January 14, 2024

Reader I & II—Maureen Corral

Sunday, January 21, 2024

Reader I & II—Don Toyer

Sunday, January 28, 2024

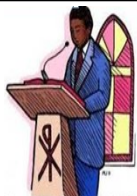
Reader I & II—Keith Parris

Sunday, February 4, 2024

Reader I & II—Makeeda Tatum & Violet Booker

Sunday, February 11, 2024

Reader I & II—Joanie Fraver



JANUARY

Mon. Jan. 1 New Year's Day—Office Closed

Sat. Jan. 6 Pastoral Council Mtg.—9:30 am

Sun. Jan. 7 Blood Pressure Screening following Mass in the Sacristy

Mon. Jan. 15 Martin Luther King Jr. Day—Office Closed

Fri. Jan. 26 St. Joseph's House of Hospitality

January Christian Action

BE GENEROUS WITH YOUR TIME:

- Brush the snow off someone else's car.
- Shovel someone's walkway.
- Visit someone who is homebound.
- Grocery shop for someone.
- Spend time with a child or someone who is alone.



MASS INTENTIONS

The 2024 Mass Intention book is now available to schedule Mass Intentions. Please call the office to schedule a Mass.



Go Forth With Christ

2023-2024 CATHOLIC MINISTRIES APPEAL

Go to www.dor.org • View the video • See how the funds are distributed • Make your gift



**Catholic Ministries Appeal
Immaculate Conception / St. Bridget's
Parish Goal ~ \$11,000**

As you are aware, the CMA has begun. To date, we have reached 72.80% of our goal (\$8,008). Thank you to all who have made their pledge and for supporting our mission. Please pray for the success of reaching our goal. Thank you.



Reminder that you must be CASE trained to do your ministry. This is a policy of the Diocese of Rochester.

All volunteers who encounter youth and vulnerable adults need to complete online Creating A Safe Environment training, background check and sign a Code of Conduct every three years. To complete the online course, go to dor.org online training or email tracy.jordan@dor.org.

Monday, January 1, 2024 ~ New Year's Day

10:00 a.m. Mass

Solemnity of Mary, The Holy Mother of God



Blood Pressure Screening will be offered next Sunday, January 7th in the sacristy. Please have your blood pressure taken before leaving church.

The Knights and Ladies of Peter Claver

On November 19th, during our 2023 Black Catholic History celebration, Dr. Althea Porter and Sr. Roberta Fulton from the Diocese of Buffalo's chapter of the Knights and Ladies of Peter Claver, spoke on the relevance of this organization today and invited members of ICSB and St. Monica's churches to consider re-activating the Rochester chapter of this organization.

The Knights and Ladies Auxiliary of Peter Claver was formed in 1909 for service and outreach to the community. Peter Claver, a Spanish Jesuit priest, became patron of slaves due to his outreach and ministry to them. The Jesuits set up the Knights of Peter Claver for African Americans who could not join other fraternal organizations. The national goals involve addressing social justice issues, concentrating particularly on human trafficking, dignity, racism, environmentalism, and prison ministry. The Diocese of Rochester had a chapter that began around 1947 but went dormant in the '60's.

If you would be interested in being a part of the re-activation of the Rochester chapter of the Knights and Ladies of Peter Claver and a chapter for young people, please give Tracy Jordan (our Church's secretary) your name and contact information by calling 235-3340. The Chapter is open to ALL regardless of race.

Christmas Cards



Most of us face a dilemma about this time each year...what to do with the Christmas cards we received? Here is a suggestion which might be helpful.

Put the cards in a basket, a box or some other open container. Each day take the card off the top, read it and then make the person or person who sent you that card the special intention of your prayers that day.

Then put that card on the bottom of the pile and the next day do the same for the card which is on top that day.

In this way you will be putting your cards to good use and your friends will be receiving a bonus—your thoughts and prayers several times during the year. Why not try it?

The parish office will be closed on Monday, January 1st for New Year's Day. Normal business hours will resume on Tuesday, January 2nd.

Happy New Year!

The Holy Family



When Joseph and Mary lost Jesus in Jerusalem, they did not give up searching until the family was reunited. For his part, Jesus returned to the bosom of his family, sharing their lives so that he grew in wisdom and age and grace before God and men.

Many times family members are not "lost" to one another physically, but spiritually. They may live in the same house as strangers never sharing their inner selves, pursuing their own interests and goals, and giving very little thought to one another's happiness.

The mutual love of Mary, Joseph and Jesus can show people a way out of the selfishness and indifference that destroy family unity. Each of them lived for God and for each other.

WE NEED COATS

(AND WINTER ACCESSORIES)

WE ARE IN NEED OF WARM, CLEAN COATS, HATS, SCARVES, AND GLOVES FOR ADULTS, TEENS, AND CHILDREN.

**ST. MONICA'S ANNUAL MLK DAY COAT GIVEAWAY
MONDAY, JANUARY 15, 2:00-4:00 PM**



Donations can be brought to the office at **34 Monica Street** Monday-Friday, **10:00am-2:30pm** -ring the bell at the front office door-

or to **Mass** to the box in the narthex until **January 10**.

To arrange another drop-off time, contact jessica.tette@dor.org.

THANK YOU FOR KEEPING OUR COMMUNITY WARM!

Hygiene Products for Refugees

We're asking Immaculate Conception/St. Bridget's, St. Monica's and Emmanuel Church of the Deaf parishes to help us collect basic hygiene products for our families at Mary's Place Refugee Outreach, located in the former Holy Rosary Church on Lexington Avenue.

Mary's Place distributes basic hygiene goods to nearly 300 refugee families on the first Wednesday of every month. Here's the list of hygiene products needed:

- Bar soap
- Large shampoo (no conditioner)
- Large toothpaste (full tubes, not travel tubes)
- Deodorant (stick or roll on)
- Menstrual pads

All donations are greatly appreciated.—Mary's Place Staff

<p>St. Joseph's House of Hospitality</p> <p>A Rochester, NY Catholic Worker Community 402 South Avenue, Rochester, NY 14607 585-232-3262</p>	<p align="center">BUCKMAN'S PLAZA 2590 W. Ridge Road, Rochester 14626</p> <p align="center">Please visit our many stores, including City Mattress, Visionworks, Pino's Deli, Megan Nail Spa, Red Cross, Sign Impressions, Greece Chiropractic, Heart & Home Health Twisted Dolls Hair Braiding Salon and Orville's Appliances.</p>	
<p>Corn Hill Neighborhood Association 133 S. Fitzhugh Street Rochester, NY 14608 www.cornhill.org</p>	<p>Mileage Master Center of Rochester 2488 Browncroft Blvd. Rochester, NY 14625 585-586-1870</p> <p><i>The perfect place for all of your grilling needs</i></p>	<p>Tom Zubert, Realtor RE/MAX REALTY GROUP 585-721-1313 zubert.tom@gmail.com (ICS Graduate)</p>
<p align="center">In Loving Memory of the QUAMINA & HARPER FAMILIES <i>Love Gail, Elise, Joyce, Richard</i></p>	<p align="center">In Loving Memory of My Wife ILONA WHITE <i>Alphonse White</i></p>	<p align="center">Skips on the Ridge 640 West Ridge Road Rochester, NY 14615 585-865-3896</p>
<p>For all Deceased Families, Friends & Parishioners of Immaculate Conception /St. Bridget's Church</p> <p align="center"><i>Rose Stokes</i></p>	<p align="center">Prayerful Remembrance of the Gordons ARTHUR, SARAH, PEGGY, BUD, BOB, NANCY, GARY <i>Blessings Bill & Family</i></p>	<p align="center">In Loving Memory of JOE HAUSER <i>The Wingo Family</i></p>
<p align="center">In Loving Memory of DR. NATHANIEL HURST <i>The Wingo Family</i></p>	<p align="center">In Loving Memory of DAVID MILES <i>Love your Wife & Children</i></p>	<p align="center">In Prayerful Remembrance of the Deceased Members of the CULLEN & CORRAL FAMILIES <i>Love Ralph & Maureen</i></p>
<p align="center">In Loving Memory of JAMES STOKES <i>The Stokes Family</i></p>	<p align="center">CPR and First Aid Classes For lay and Professional Responders</p> <p align="center">EPIC TRAININGS (585) 615-4379</p>	<p align="center">In Loving Memory of My Beloved Mother Linda Nash <i>Lynn Fulmore</i></p>
<p align="center">In Loving Memory of BILL CASTLE <i>The Castle Family</i></p>	<p align="center">In Loving Memory of GILBERT & CHARITY ADIELE <i>The Nwokelo Family</i></p>	<p align="center">"In Memory of the great bass player Tim Sullivan <i>Doug and Victoria Parker on behalf of the GateSwingers Big Band "</i></p>
<p align="center">In Loving Memory of CREÓLE MON'AE FONTENETTE <i>Love your Grandparents</i></p>	<p align="center">In Loving Memory of JOSEPH RONALD WEBER <i>Roxana C. Weber</i></p>	<p align="center">In Loving Memory of SARAH & DONALD GORDON & HENRY BELL SR. <i>The Gordon/Bell Families</i></p>
<p align="center">In Loving Memory of JOANNE LESSLEY <i>Joanne Gordon</i></p>	<p align="center">In Loving Memory of TALLAM NGUTI <i>Love your Wife & Children</i></p>	<p align="center">In Loving Memory of MICHAEL NWOKELO SR. <i>The Nwokelo Family</i></p>
<p align="center">In Loving Memory of ALL THE DECEASED MEMBERS OF THE McGEE FAMILY <i>James & Melissa McGee</i></p>	<p align="center">In Loving Memory of RAPHAEL NGUTI <i>Love Mom, Michael, Camille</i></p>	<p align="center">MATH TUTORING MATH COACHING 585-247-4941</p>