

# *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**

**rinnmacul@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**

**Carol Wynne, Director of Finance & Administration**

**carol.wynne@dor.org**

**Jeanne Engelbrecht, Finance Manager**

**jeanne.engelbrecht@dor.org**

**Tracy Jordan, Administrative Assistant**

**tracy.jordan@dor.org**

**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 17, 2023*

*Third Sunday of Advent*



*Rejoice always. Pray without ceasing.*

*In today's readings Isaiah, Paul, and John the Baptist rejoice because they have Good News. God is with them and working through them. They are anointed, blessed, and sent to do God's will. On this Gaudete Sunday, we, too, find reason to rejoice. Let us rejoice in sharing the Good News of Christ.*

*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.*

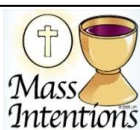
*Baptism: Please call the office to make arrangements.*

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

**Sunday, December 17, 2023**

**Thomas Bostick**

**Requested by the Bostick Family**



**Offerings for December 10, 2023**

**Offerings: \$2,495**

**Attendance: 72**

**Online Giving: \$100**

**Online Givers: 1**

**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 Bucchan, Fr. Giles Conwill, Tom Degnan, George Fontenette, Tom Fugate, Denise McGowan, Carolyn Walker, Alice Walters, Kathy Wheeler*

**LECTOR SCHEDULE**

**Sunday, December 17, 2023**

Reader I & II—Don Toyer

**Sunday, December 24, 2023**

Reader I & II—Makeeda Tatum & Violet Booker

**Sunday, December 31, 2023**

Reader I & II—Andre' Fontenette



**December Christian Action**

**BE THE GIFT:**

- Visit someone who is lonely
- Wish someone a Merry Christmas instead of Happy Holidays.
- Help someone with a task
- Make a donation to a food/clothing shelter
- Surprise someone with a kind note
- Call someone you haven't spoken to in a long time.
- Give someone a hug
- Tell someone you love/appreciate them
- Tell someone you're sorry
- Send someone a Christmas card who is not expecting one from you.



**Go Forth With Christ**

2023-2024 CATHOLIC MINISTRIES APPEAL  
Go to [www.dor.org](http://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 62.89% of our goal (\$6,918). 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.



**MASS INTENTIONS**

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

**Musicians! Lectors! Greeters! Ushers!**

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

Contact [tracy.jordan@dor.org](mailto:tracy.jordan@dor.org) if you need to be trained or update your CASE training, which must be done every 3 years.

*On the third Sunday of Advent, which is also called Gaudete (Latin: "Rejoice") Sunday, we recognize the joyful anticipation of the season that will culminate in the birth of Christ on Christmas by changing the liturgical color to rose. Rose is a "brightening" of the ordinary violet and thus symbolizes joy.*



CELEBRATE CHRISTMAS WITH US & THE LORD

# HOLIDAY MASSES

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ST. MONICA CHURCH · EMMANUEL CHURCH OF THE DEAF  
IMMACULATE CONCEPTION/ST. BRIDGET'S CHURCH

**Saturday, Dec 23: 4:00 pm Mass @ St. Monica**  
**Sunday, Dec 24: Regular Sunday morning Mass schedule**

**4:00pm Christmas Eve Mass with pageant @ St. Monica**

**Monday, December 25: 10:00 am Mass @ St. Monica**

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**Saturday, Dec 30: 4:00 pm Mass @ St. Monica**  
**Sunday, Dec 31: Regular Sunday morning Mass schedule**  
**Monday, January 1: 10:00 am Mass at Immaculate  
Conception/St. Bridget's**

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ALL ARE WELCOME... ESPECIALLY YOU!

### Our Religious Education Program

Our Religious Education students learned about Saint Lucy's Day. Saint Lucy's Day, also called the Feast of Saint Lucy, is observed on December 13<sup>th</sup>. According to legend St. Lucy brought food and aid to Christians hiding in the Roman catacombs. They hid so they wouldn't be persecuted. St. Lucy wore a candle lit wreath on her head to light her way and leave her hands free to carry as much food as possible. She brought the light of Christ into the world!

What's something you do to bring the light of Christ into the world?

|           |   |
|-----------|---|
| Joshua    | I pray about Jesus.                                     |
| Alicia    | I will do for the light of Christ is help clean room.   |
| Junior    | I will be kind to others.                               |
| Jaylan    | I will help clean up at school.                         |
| Violet    | I will show respect for adults at school.               |
| Lily      | I will make a donation for the animals that need homes. |
| Nadege    | I will be helpful at home and school.                   |
| Sherkylee | I will help the homeless.                               |
| Mia       | I will teach my little cousins a prayer.                |
| Chanty    | I will clean my room and listen in school.              |
| Erica     | I will show respect and kindness to others.             |
| Nadia     | I will help around the house and spread kindness.       |

### 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.**

### Did you know...?

#### ICSB LIVE STREAM PRODUCTIONS

This information can be found on the ICSB Facebook page. Please join us for our weekly Mass on Sunday at 9:00 am. The mass will also be live-streamed conveniently for you. This mass and the livestream will start at 9:00 am and it covers the entirety of mass. We look forward to you joining us. Click here or the button below to access the livestream link or click on the Immaculate Conception/St. Bridget's website.

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC2416e8Evwoqibg5YWjAs9Q>

### Advent Calendar

The Catholic Courier's annual digital Advent calendar is back for the 2023 season. The calendar, which started Dec. 3 at [CatholicCourier.com/adventcalendar2023](http://CatholicCourier.com/adventcalendar2023), features 23 windows hiding daily multimedia "treats." Visitors will be able to open a new window each day through Dec. 25.

Immaculate  
Conception/St.  
Bridget's Sunday  
Service Live Stream

9:00am at Immaculate  
Conception/St. Bridget's

Join Us

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