

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
rimmacul@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
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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 24, 2023
Fourth Sunday of Advent

God is the font of all blessings and salvation.

Today's readings make evident the goodness of the Lord, and that he is the source of all blessings. The Lord promises to build a house for David—one that will last forever. And from the lineage of David comes Jesus, God himself, to dwell among us. He is our shelter, our bodies are his temple, and his kingdom endures forever. We will soon celebrate the feast of his incarnation and Nativity, while awaiting still, with joyful hope, the time when he will come again.

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.

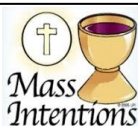
Baptism: Please call the office to make arrangements.

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

Sunday, December 24, 2023

Tim Sullivan

Requested by the Fontenette Family



Offerings for December 17, 2023

Offerings: \$799

Attendance: 68

Online Giving: \$325

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 Bucchan, Fr. Giles Conwill, Tom Degnan, Morris Doucette, 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—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



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 • View the video • See how the funds are distributed • Make your gift



MASS INTENTIONS

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

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 70.62% of our goal (\$7,768). 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.

On the fourth week of Advent, we light the final purple candle to mark the final week of prayer and penance as we wait for the birth of our Savior. This final candle, the "Angel's Candle," symbolizes peace. It reminds us of the message of the angels: "Peace on Earth, Good Will Toward Men."



CELEBRATE CHRISTMAS WITH US & THE LORD

HOLIDAY MASSES

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

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**

ALL ARE WELCOME... ESPECIALLY YOU!



The focus of Christmas is not merely the birth of Christ and His coming into the world. The focus is full when we include the purpose for which Christ came—namely Redemption of us—and our new and renewed relationship to God. To overlook or forget this in all the excitement of gifts and people, would be a loss for us and for our children.

The happiness and joy of Christmas is almost irrepressible and overwhelming, and all of us should share in that joy. Like the Wise Men and the shepherds, we approach the manger with a mixture of awe and reverence, rejoicing that Christ has come into the world and humbly paying homage to this Newborn King.

And Christ welcomes us all without reservation and with open arms.

What would the world be like if all people at all times could and would respond to that love. But our sometimes weaknesses and selfishness stand in our way. We pray that all of us may be so touched by the grace of God that we strive more zealously to let Christ rule our lives.

It is our prayer that this Christmas Season will bring you and your family understanding, contentment and peace. A Merry Christmas to all the wonderful people who make up the beautiful family of Immaculate Conception/St. Bridget's.

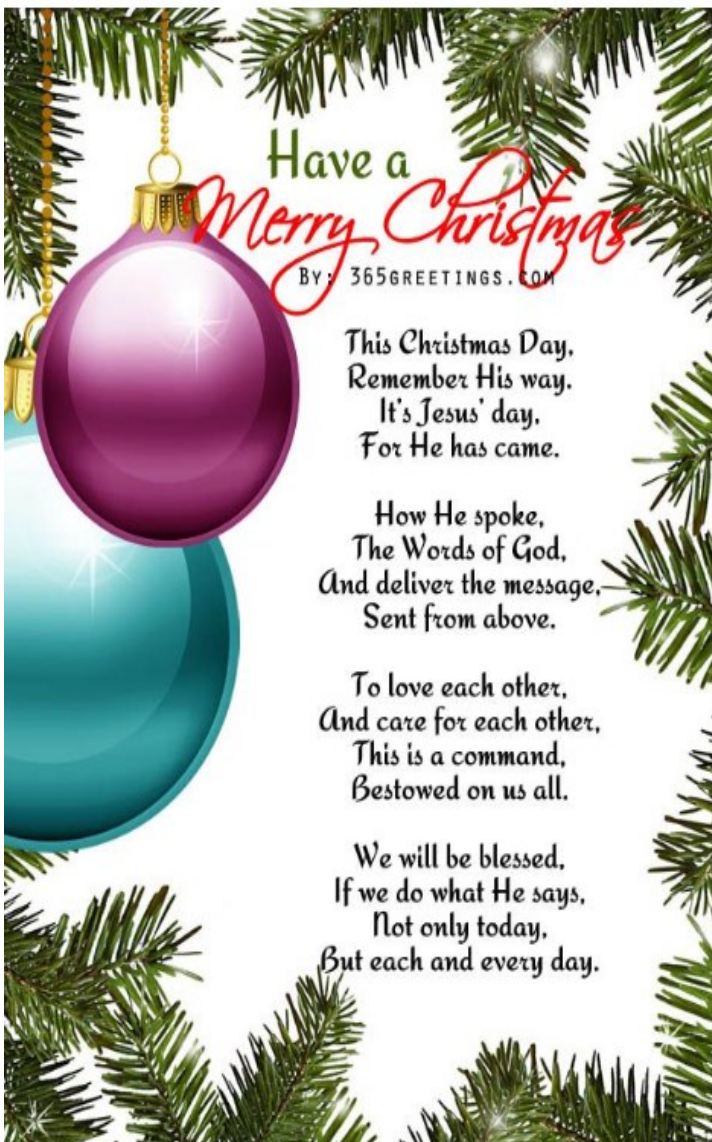
*Father Raymond Fleming
Deacon Richard Rall
Lay Staff*



The parish office will be closed on Monday, December 25th and Tuesday, December 26th for the Christmas Holiday. Normal business hours will resume on Wednesday, December 27th.

Merry Christmas!

Dear Year-end Givers please note - All gifts that are dated and postmarked December 31st or earlier, and received at the parish by Monday, January 1st, will be processed and considered as 2023 transactions so we may give you an accurate gift statement to use in filing your taxes. Thank You for your support to your church during 2023.



<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 style="text-align: center;">BUCKMAN'S PLAZA 2590 W. Ridge Road, Rochester 14626</p> <p style="text-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>In Loving Memory of the QUAMINA & HARPER FAMILIES <i>Love Gail, Elise, Joyce, Richard</i></p>	<p>In Loving Memory of My Wife ILONA WHITE <i>Alphonse White</i></p>	<p>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 <i>Rose Stokes</i></p>	<p>Prayerful Remembrance of the Gordons ARTHUR, SARAH, PEGGY, BUD, BOB, NANCY, GARY <i>Blessings Bill & Family</i></p>	<p>In Loving Memory of JOE HAUSER <i>The Wingo Family</i></p>
<p>In Loving Memory of DR. NATHANIEL HURST <i>The Wingo Family</i></p>	<p>In Loving Memory of DAVID MILES <i>Love your Wife & Children</i></p>	<p>In Prayerful Remembrance of the Deceased Members of the CULLEN & CORRAL FAMILIES <i>Love Ralph & Maureen</i></p>
<p>In Loving Memory of JAMES STOKES <i>The Stokes Family</i></p>	<p>CPR and First Aid Classes For lay and Professional Responders EPIC TRAININGS (585) 615-4379</p>	<p>In Loving Memory of My Beloved Mother Linda Nash <i>Lynn Fulmore</i></p>
<p>In Loving Memory of BILL CASTLE <i>The Castle Family</i></p>	<p>In Loving Memory of GILBERT & CHARITY ADIELE <i>The Nwokelo Family</i></p>	<p>"In Memory of the great bass player Tim Sullivan <i>Doug and Victoria Parker on behalf of the GateSwingers Big Band "</i></p>
<p>In Loving Memory of CREÓLE MON'AE FONTENETTE <i>Love your Grandparents</i></p>	<p>In Loving Memory of JOSEPH RONALD WEBER <i>Roxana C. Weber</i></p>	<p>In Loving Memory of SARAH & DONALD GORDON & HENRY BELL SR. <i>The Gordon/Bell Families</i></p>
<p>In Loving Memory of JOANNE LESSLEY <i>Joanne Gordon</i></p>	<p>In Loving Memory of TALLAM NGUTI <i>Love your Wife & Children</i></p>	<p>In Loving Memory of MICHAEL NWOKELO SR. <i>The Nwokelo Family</i></p>
<p>In Loving Memory of ALL THE DECEASED MEMBERS OF THE McGEE FAMILY <i>James & Melissa McGee</i></p>	<p>In Loving Memory of RAPHAEL NGUTI <i>Love Mom, Michael, Camille</i></p>	<p>MATH TUTORING MATH COACHING 585-247-4941</p>