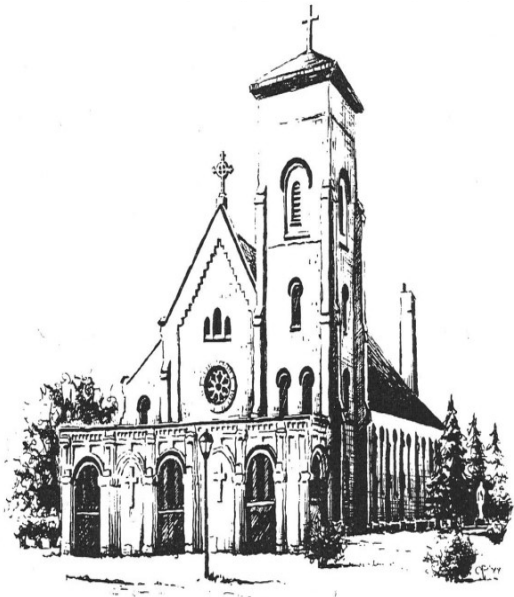


# *Immaculate Conception / St. Bridget's Church*

*A Roman Catholic Community of African American Tradition*

*"We've Come This Far By Faith"*

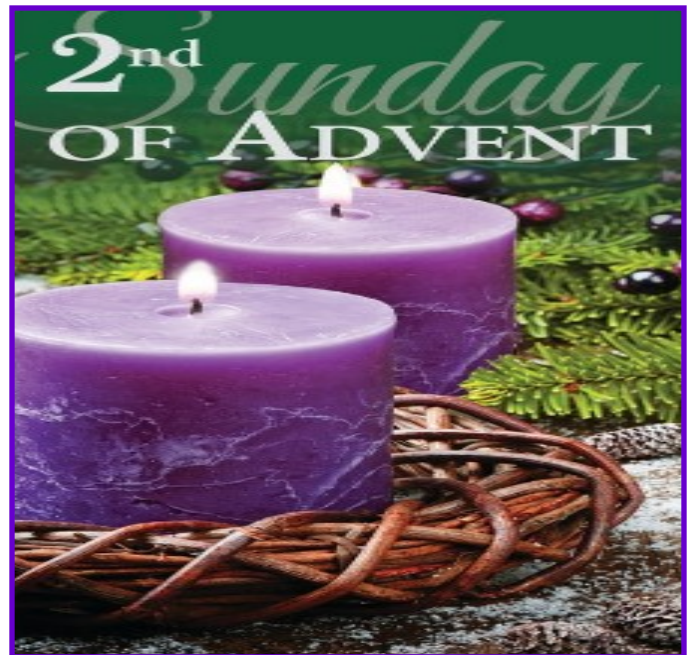


445 Frederick Douglass Street, Rochester, NY 14608  
(585) 325-3893 ~ (585) 325-2082 Fax  
[www.immaculateconceptionrochester.org](http://www.immaculateconceptionrochester.org)  
[rillacul@dor.org](mailto:rillacul@dor.org)

**Church Office Days & Hours**  
**Tuesday, Thursday, & Friday**  
**8:30 am — 4:00 pm**

**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 6, 2020



## Parish Staff

<b>Pastor</b>	Rev. Raymond Fleming <a href="mailto:fr.ray.fleming@dor.org">fr.ray.fleming@dor.org</a>
<b>Assisting Priest</b>	Rev. Robert Bradler
<b>Deacon</b>	Richard Rall
<b>Religious Education Coordinators</b>	Myrtle Fontenette <a href="mailto:myrtle.fontenette@dor.org">myrtle.fontenette@dor.org</a> Harry Pierre-Philippe <a href="mailto:harry.pierre-philippe@dor.org">harry.pierre-philippe@dor.org</a>
<b>Director of Finance &amp; Administration</b>	Carol Wynne <a href="mailto:carol.wynne@dor.org">carol.wynne@dor.org</a>
<b>Regional Business Manager</b>	Mark Shevlin <a href="mailto:mark.shevlin@dor.org">mark.shevlin@dor.org</a>
<b>Parish Secretary</b>	Tracy Jordan <a href="mailto:tracy.jordan@dor.org">tracy.jordan@dor.org</a>
<b>Pastoral Council Chair</b>	Chibueze Onwunaka
<b>Finance Council Chair</b>	William Castle

Stay awake, for the day of the Lord is at hand.

The voice of God breaks into our world through sacred Scripture and the witness of modern-day disciples. Does it resound and echo in our thoughts, words, and actions, forming and shaping our lives? Or, is it dulled and dimmed by our worldly ways? Now is the time to listen, now is the time to act, for the kingdom of God is at hand.

Please pray for the sick of the parish and for family and friends of parishioners: Earl & Phyllis Barnes, Thomas Bostick, Fr. Giles Conwill, Sybil Doucette, Sarah Gordon, Mary Ann Hartman, Denise McGowan, Alice Walters



### Bible Readings for Sunday, December 6, 2020

Is 40:1-5, 9-11

2 Peter 3:8-14

Mark 1:1-8

### Bible Readings for Sunday, December 13, 2020

Is 61:1-2a, 10-11

1 Thessalonians 5:16-24

John 1:6-8, 19-28



### Catholic Ministries Appeal

Parish Goal: \$9,910

Pledged as of December 1, 2020

\$4,910 (49.55%)

### CMA Update: How the CMA helps our Parish

As of this date, we have raised \$4,910 and 16 families from our parish have contributed to the CMA. We thank those who have given generously and ask all who have not yet given to prayerfully consider doing so. The CMA helps our Church and our parish in so many ways. Did you know that the CMA funds the education and formation of seminarians and deacons, education and professional development of our parish leaders and, and promotion of religious vocations? One example that has greatly benefitted our parish is the ministry of Deacon Rick Rall. Although he does not receive payment for his service to Immaculate Conception/St. Bridget's Church, his education to become a deacon was funded by the CMA. Please join our appeal and give what you can so that we remain strong and continue to encourage vocations to continue God's great work! Go to [www.dor.org/cma](http://www.dor.org/cma) for more information or to make your gift.

**PLEASE CONSIDER ONLINE GIVING**  
Our parish is grateful for your continued support. Thank you!



**Online Giving: Week of November 28—\$270**

**Thank you for your continued and generous support.**



### BIBLE STUDY CORNER

*Even now the ax lies at the root of the trees. Therefore every tree that does not bear good fruit will be cut down and thrown into the fire.*

*Matthew 3:10*

**Reflection:** Genesis tells us that after God created man and woman, God saw everything, and indeed, it was very good. We were made for goodness because God is the source of goodness. We were made to bring forth love because God is the source of love. We were made to be compassionate toward others because God is the source of compassion. We were made to be peacemakers in the world because God is the source of peace. We were made in the image and likeness of God to be God-like wherever we journey in life. We were created to bear good fruit, to show others that we come from God, who is goodness, love, compassion, and peace. Sometimes we forget that we are grounded in divine mystery and not in the ugliness of conflict, hatred, violence, and war. God is patient with us and never abandons us. God gives us time to ground ourselves more deeply in the Word that teaches us to strive to be good, to love our neighbor, to be compassionate to the poor, and to work for peace and justice.

**Ponder:** What is preventing me from believing in my innate goodness and seeing goodness in others?

**Prayer:** Lord, you have created me for goodness, love, compassion, and peace. Help me to make good use of the gifts you have given me to make a difference where I am at this moment of my life.

**Practice:** Today I will affirm my own goodness and look for something good to share with the people around me.

## LIVE THE LITURGY

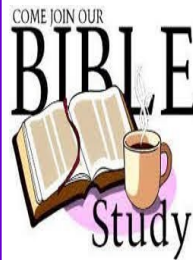
### Inspiration for the week

Prepare the way of the Lord! The message of John the Baptist becomes the calling of every baptized disciple of Jesus Christ. Each one of us is asked to prepare the way of the Lord. Given the humble means of our lives, how can we do this? It certainly does not require that we stand on street corners announcing God's future coming! We can more readily take up the task of our lifework by clearing our lives of unnecessary, distracting clutter. By creating solid and deep spiritual lives, we can heighten our awareness of God's presence and help people point to and discover God's presence around them. By conducting ourselves in holiness and devotion, we can speak volumes to those we meet. Not by preaching actual words, but by living lives that communicate the comfort God wants. His people to know. As the world sometimes frantically unfolds around us, we can be people of patience who show others that it's okay to wait for God's gift to come. Conducting our lives in this manner, we will know the peace that comes from doing what we have been asked to do.

## December Birthdays

Modupe Agunbiade, Thomas Bostick, Robert Burgess,  
Musette Castle, Iala Cropper, Natalie Cropper,  
Thomas Degan, George Fontenette, Caroline Seide,  
Judy Toyer, Roxana Weber

Happy Birthday



Bible Study resumed on Tuesday, December 1, 2020 and will be held on Tuesdays from 12:00 noon to 1:30 pm via Zoom. If you are interested in joining Bible Study, please contact Jean Pryor or the church office.

*"O magnify the Lord with me, and let us exalt  
His name together."*

*Psalm 34:3*

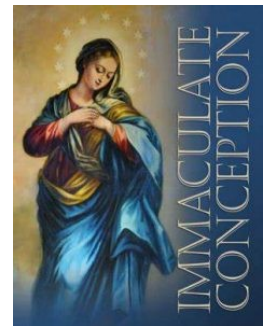
### Prayer to the Immaculate Conception

*O God,  
who by the Immaculate Conception  
of the Blessed Virgin Mary,  
did prepare a worthy dwelling place  
for Your Son, we beseech You that,  
as by the foreseen death of this, Your Son,  
You did preserve Her from all stain,  
so too You would permit us,  
purified through Her intercession,  
to come unto You.  
Through the same Lord Jesus Christ,  
Your Son, who lives and reigns  
with You in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
God, world without end.*

*Amen.*

### The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary

This Tuesday, December 8<sup>th</sup> is the Feast of the Immaculate Conception, our parish's feast day. On this day we celebrate the Blessed Mother being conceived without sin, preserved from the first moment of her existence as a part of God's plan for our salvation.



### Catholic Courier 2020 Advent Calendar

Filled with daily multimedia treats, the calendar is designed to help families and individuals prepare for the birth of Christ. Visit each day starting November 28th.

[CatholicCourier.com/adventcalendar2020](http://CatholicCourier.com/adventcalendar2020)

*If you are interested in advertising or including a Memorial  
Please call the Parish Office – 325-3893*

<p><b>St. Joseph's House of Hospitality</b> A Rochester, NY Catholic Worker Community 402 South Avenue, Rochester, NY 14607 585-232-3262</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>BUCKMAN'S PLAZA</b> 2590 W. Ridge Road, Rochester</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Visit our many stores including City Mattress, Visionworks, Pino's Deli, Megan Nail Spa, Red Cross, Hair Finale Morgan School of Driving, Orville's Appliances and many more.</p>	
<p><b>CORN HILL NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION</b> 133 S. Fitzhugh Street, Rochester, NY 14608 www.cornill.org</p>	<p><b>Mileage Master Center of Rochester</b> 2488 Browncroft Blvd. Rochester, NY 14625 585-586-1870 <i>The perfect place for all of your grilling needs</i></p>	<p><b>TOM ZUBERT, REALTOR</b> RE/MAX REALTY GROUP 585-721-1313 zubert.tom@gmail.com (ICS Graduate)</p>
<p>In Loving Memory of the <b>QUAMINA &amp; HARPER FAMILIES</b> <i>Love Gail, Elise, Joyce, Richard</i></p>	<p>In Loving Memory of My Wife <b>ILONA WHITE</b> <i>Alphonse White</i></p>	<p><b>Skips on the Ridge</b> 640 West Ridge Road Rochester, NY 14615 585-865-3896</p>
<p>In Loving Memory of <b>HENRY FAISON JR.</b> <i>Love your Mom, George, Adrian, Andre</i></p>	<p>Prayerful Remembrance of the Gordons <b>ARTHUR, SARAH, PEGGY, BUD, BOB, NANCY, GARY</b> <i>Blessings Bill &amp; Family</i></p>	<p>In Loving Memory of <b>JOE HAUSER</b> <i>The Wingo Family</i></p>
<p>In Loving Memory of <b>DR. NATHANIEL HURST</b> <i>The Wingo Family</i></p>	<p>In Loving Memory of <b>DAVID MILES</b> <i>Love your Wife &amp; Children</i></p>	<p>In Prayerful Remembrance of the Deceased Members of the <b>CULLEN &amp; CORRAL FAMILIES</b> <i>Love Ralph &amp; Maureen</i></p>
<p>In Loving Memory of <b>JAMES STOKES</b> <i>The Stokes Family</i></p>	<p>In Loving Memory of <b>JAMES WALTERS</b> <i>Alice Walters</i></p>	<p>In Loving Memory of <b>JEFFREY WALTERS</b> <i>Alice Walters</i></p>
<p>In Loving Memory of <b>DOUGLAS SIMMONS</b> <i>Alice Walters</i></p>	<p>In Loving Memory of <b>ADA FULLWOOD</b> <i>The Augustine/Fullwood Families</i></p>	<p>In Loving Memory of <b>RITA VIOLET AUGUSTINE</b> <i>The Augustine Family</i></p>
<p>In Loving Memory of <b>CREÓLE MON'AE FONTENETTE</b> <i>Love your Grandparents</i></p>	<p>In Loving Memory of <b>JOSEPH RONALD WEBER</b> <i>Roxana C. Weber</i></p>	<p>In Loving Memory of <b>HENRY BELL SR. &amp; DONALD GORDON</b> <i>The Bell/Gordon Families</i></p>
<p><b>SPACE AVAILABLE</b></p>	<p><b>SPACE AVAILABLE</b></p>	<p>In Loving Memory of <b>MARY JACKSON</b> <i>Thomas &amp; Nellie Bostick</i></p>

*Welcome Visitors to Immaculate Conception / St. Bridget's Church  
We are blessed by your presence. Please come again!*