

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

Carol Wynne, Director of Finance & Administration
carol.wynne@dor.org

Jeanne Engelbrecht, Finance Manager
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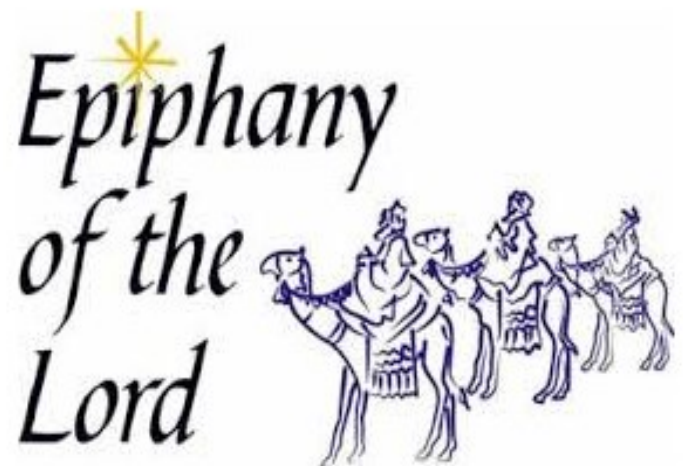
Tracy Jordan, Administrative Assistant
tracy.jordan@dor.org

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.

January 5, 2025



God has revealed a great light in the darkness.

As we celebrate Epiphany, our readings today remind us of the power of God's revelation. Throughout history, God has promised salvation. Today we celebrate some of the first witnesses of this great event, the Magi. May we deepen our faith as we, too, journey to be closer to 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.

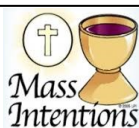
Baptism: Please call the office to make arrangements.

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

Sunday, January 5, 2025

Bill Castle

Requested by the Castle Family



Offerings for December 29, 2024

Offerings: \$1,609

Attendance: 70

Online Giving: \$130

Online Givers: 2

Christmas: \$1,153

Attendance: 57

Thank you for your generous support.



Please pray for the sick of the parish and for family and friends of parishioners: Earl Barnes, Nellie Bostick, Fr. Robert Bradler, Jocelyn Bucchan, Fr. Giles Conwill, Tom Degnan, Morris Doucette, George Fontenette, Tom Fugate, Fr. John Judie, Denise McGowan, Louise Miles, Harold Moore, Carolyn Walker, Alice Walters, Kathy Wheeler

LECTOR SCHEDULE

Sunday, January 5, 2025

Reader I & II—Joanie Fraver

Sunday, January 12, 2025

Reader I & II—Maureen Corral

Sunday, January 19, 2025

Reader I & II—Makeeda Tatum & Violet Booker

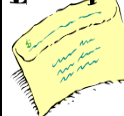
Sunday, January 26, 2025

Reader I & II—Erin McBride



Wed. Jan. 1 New Year's Day—Office Closed
Sat. Jan. 4 Pastoral Council Meeting—9:30 am
Sun. Jan. 5 Blood Pressure Screening
Mon. Jan. 20 Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
Office Closed
Fri. Jan. 31 St. Joseph's House of Hospitality

Offering Envelopes



REMINDER: If you attend another local Catholic church on the weekend, you can place your Immaculate Conception/St. Bridget's donation envelope in their collection basket and your donation will be returned to us.

2024-2025 CATHOLIC MINISTRIES APPEAL
Extending Christ's Mission
through the Catholic Ministries Appeal

Immaculate Conception/St. Bridget's Parish—Goal \$12,000

As of this date, 20 families have contributed to the CMA. We have reached 58.58% of our goal (\$7,030). 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

Don't forget, Mass Intentions are available for 2025. Please call or stop by the office to schedule Mass Intentions. The cost is \$10.

January Christian Action

Make A Difference!

- Join a ministry.
- Change a bad habit.
- Help a stranger.
- Do more than is expected.
- Say God bless you!
- Hold the door open for someone!
- Let someone go ahead of you!
- Say please and thank you!
- Listen instead of speak!
- Pray for someone!

"Thank you, Lord, for your new beginnings and unwavering provision. I trust that your peace will watch over me as I step into a new beginning." Happy New Year!

Blood Pressure Screening will be offered today in the sacristy. Please have your blood pressure taken before leaving church.



Living Faith

Follow God's Plan

And behold, the star that they had seen at its rising preceded them, until it came and stopped over the place where the child was.

Matthew 2:9

God has a purpose for you. He has a plan for you and is calling you right now. Through prayer and discernment, you come to understand where God is leading you.

Our celebration of Epiphany centers around the three kings. Imagine these kings or magi. They are living their lives, and suddenly, they see something in the night sky. They see a star. Upon study and consultation, they determine it is a rare star, signaling the birth of a king. They begin to follow the star and set out for where it will lead them. Imagine the joy and delight once they arrive at the crib, seeing the Christ Child and conversing with Joseph and Mary. They found the one for whom they searched.

The magi were meant to find Jesus. They discovered what God wanted them to do. God has a plan for you. Ask him to reveal it to you, and when he does, follow wherever it leads you.

Fr. Edward Looney



Epiphany of the Lord

Epiphany means “manifestation.” It is the feast in which we celebrate not only Christ’s manifestation to the Gentiles but rather the revelation of God to the world in Jesus Christ. The Magi were the very first person to journey toward the Lord. They are seen as the forerunners of a call and response in faith. To the Magi, the star was the sign of the great King. It burned like a flame pointing the way to God. As soon as they saw the star, they departed immediately from their homeland, bringing with them gifts to present to the great King. The light of the star led them to the Light of Lights.

How can we be the Magi of today? The feast of the Epiphany draws us into a journey toward the Lord. Daily we acknowledge Christ as the light of our life. The Magi offered gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh: we offer only our humble selves. Are we really Magi today? Yes, we have received the Light and “it cannot be hidden under a bushel basket but must be placed on a lampstand for all to see.” What a wonderful responsibility every Christian bears! We must let the divine light of Christ shine through us. How very blessed we are to be the bearers of Christ today!

Thank You

Thank you to everyone who provided Christmas gifts for the families of the Eastern Service Workers Association (ESWA). Your continued generosity is always appreciated by ESWA and the families they support. Blessings to all in the new year!

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 20, 2:00-4:00 PM



BETWEEN JANUARY 1 AND JANUARY 15, donations can be brought to the office:

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.

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

THANK YOU FOR KEEPING OUR COMMUNITY WARM!



CAN You Help?

We are accepting, on a rolling basis, returnable cans and bottles as a source of income to fund our youth group dinner program and NCYC 2025. Donations can be brought to the office during the week or to the church or bring your cans & bottles directly to our donation center at 2374 Chili Ave, Rochester, NY 14624 and tell them it is for St. Monica's.

Thank you for sharing your love!

2024 Contributions

2024 Contribution statements will be mailed no later than January 31, 2025. Please call the church office if you have any questions. Thank you for all you do!

<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 and Orville's Appliances.</p>	
<p>Corn Hill Neighborhood Association 133 S. Fitzhugh Street Rochester, NY 14608 www.cornill.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><i>Together on Earth ~ Together in Eternity Together Missed, Evermore</i></p> <p align="center">Jack & Elvira Powell</p>
<p align="center">In Loving Memory of the QUAMINA & HARPER FAMILIES</p> <p align="center"><i>Love Gail, Elise, Joyce, Richard</i></p>	<p align="center">In Loving Memory of My Wife ILONA WHITE</p> <p align="center"><i>Alphonse White</i></p>	<p align="center">Skips on the Ridge 640 West Ridge Road Rochester, NY 14615 585-865-3896</p>
<p align="center">In Loving Memory of RACHAEL ALICEA & THEODORE ALICEA-SMITH</p> <p align="center"><i>Rick & Colleen Brade</i></p>	<p align="center">Prayerful Remembrance of the Gordons ARTHUR, SARAH, PEGGY, BUD, BOB, NANCY, GARY</p> <p align="center"><i>Blessings Bill & Family</i></p>	<p align="center">In Loving Memory of JOE HAUSER</p> <p align="center"><i>The Wingo Family</i></p>
<p align="center">In Loving Memory of DR. NATHANIEL HURST</p> <p align="center"><i>The Wingo Family</i></p>	<p align="center">In Loving Memory of DAVID MILES</p> <p align="center"><i>Love your Wife & Children</i></p>	<p align="center">In Prayerful Remembrance of the Deceased Members of the CULLEN/CORRAL/DESTEPHANO FAMILIES</p>
<p align="center">In Loving Memory of JAMES STOKES</p> <p align="center"><i>The Stokes Family</i></p>	<p align="center">CPR and First Aid Classes For lay and Professional Responders EPIC TRAININGS (585) 615-4379</p>	<p align="center">In this Season & Always For Your Life & Love, We Give Thanks Linda Nash Your Daughters, Lynn & Shlonda</p>
<p align="center">In Loving Memory of BILL CASTLE</p> <p align="center"><i>The Castle Family</i></p>	<p align="center">In Loving Memory of GILBERT & CHARITY ADIELE</p> <p align="center"><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">Words cannot say how much you are missed. You are so very loved. MOMMY</p> <p align="center"><i>Love Jacquie, Kimberly, Gina & Jean</i></p>	<p align="center">In Loving Memory of JOSEPH RONALD WEBER</p> <p align="center"><i>Roxana C. Weber</i></p>	<p align="center">In Loving Memory of SARAH & DONALD GORDON & HENRY BELL SR.</p> <p align="center"><i>The Gordon/Bell Families</i></p>
<p align="center">In Loving Memory of JOANNE LESSLEY</p> <p align="center"><i>Joanne Gordon</i></p>	<p align="center">In Loving Memory of TALLAM NGUTI</p> <p align="center"><i>Love your Wife & Children</i></p>	<p align="center">In Loving Memory of MICHAEL & JULIANA NWOKELO SR.</p> <p align="center"><i>The Nwokelo Family</i></p>
<p align="center">In Loving Memory of ALL THE DECEASED MEMBERS OF THE McGEE FAMILY</p> <p align="center"><i>James & Melissa McGee</i></p>	<p align="center">In Loving Memory of RAPHAEL NGUTI</p> <p align="center"><i>Love Mom, Michael, Camille</i></p>	<p align="center">MATH TUTORING MATH COACHING</p> <p align="center">585-247-4941</p>