

# *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**

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 3, 2023*

### *First Sunday of Advent*



*We must be active in our hope for Christ's return.*

*Hope is a theological virtue: "We desire the kingdom of heaven and eternal life as our happiness, placing our trust in Christ's promises and relying not on our own strength, but on the help of the grace of the Holy Spirit" (ccc1817). Hope is an active state of being, not passive. During this Advent season we must be fully alive and fully engaged. We must be committed in our pursuit of the Lord; we must be people of hope!*

*Sunday Mass ~ 9:00 a.m.*

*Holy Days: Consult bulletin or call the office.*

*Sacrament of Reconciliation: By Appointment.*

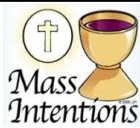
*Sacrament of Marriage: Pre-Cana is a Diocesan Requirement. Arrangements should be made at least six months in advance.*

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

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

**Sunday, December 3, 2023**

**Lena Adams—Bequest**



**Offerings for November 26, 2023**

**Offerings: \$987**

**Attendance: 65**

**Online Giving: \$170**

**Online Givers: 3**

**Catholic University: \$340**

**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*

**Bible Readings for Sunday, December 3, 2023**

Isaiah 63:16b-17, 19b, 64:2-7

1 Corinthians 1:3-9

Mark 13:33-37



**Bible Readings for Sunday, December 10, 2023**

Isaiah 40:1-5, 9-11

2 Peter 3:8-14

Mark 1:1-8

**DECEMBER**

**Fri. Dec. 8** *Feast of the Immaculate Conception  
Mass—6:00 pm*

**Mon. Dec. 25** *Christmas—Office Closed*

**Tues. Dec. 26** *Office Closed*

**Sun. Dec. 31** *New Year's Eve*

**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.

**LECTOR SCHEDULE**

**Sunday, December 3, 2023**

Reader I & II—Maureen Corral

**Sunday, December 10, 2023**

Reader I & II—Joanie Fraver

**Sunday, December 17, 2023**

Reader I & II—Don Toyer

**Sunday, December 24, 2023**

Reader I & II—Makeeda Tatum & Violet Booker



**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 45.62% of our goal (\$5,018). 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.

*As you light your first advent candle, may God's spirit transform the days leading up to Christmas into a time of holy anticipation—a time we joyfully await the chance to celebrate the arrival of our king.*





## Blood Pressure Screening

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

## Thank You for Gracing our Gardens

"The rejuvenation of the gardens around Immaculate Conception/St. Bridget have gone well. The north side of the church has a new flower bed, Our Lady's grotto was all a blossom with colorful begonias and mums. The church entrances are now graced with tubs of flowers. The circle garden in front of the old rectory has new azaleas that should sparkle next spring. The huge overgrown lilac bush is back under control and the barberries trimmed. The daffodils that graced the altar last Easter are now in the ground, sleeping, ready to pop up next spring.

Time, now, to acknowledge the people who helped make the change happen: Judy, Isabella, Ralph, Kobe, Vince, Dan, Lee, George, Vasyl, Kevin, Jackie and the students in the Religious Ed program who started the coleus plants from seed in paper cups. Abundant thanks to all.

Robert Hoffmann."

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!

## 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>

<https://www.immaculateconceptionrochester.org/>

## Living Faith

### Our Father

You, Lord, are our father, our redeemer...Return for the sake of your servants, the tribes of your heritage. ...Oh, that you would rend the heavens and come down....

Isaiah 63:16b-17, 19b

All eyes are on Isaiah as the first reading to open this holy season of Advent. This prayer extols the Fatherhood of God more than once, beseeching him to save his people, for the Father loves Israel like a son. As the people long for deliverance from exile, this is a truly expectant petition begging God to send the Messiah—the same One we prepare to meet on Christmas Day.

The book of Isaiah is full of God's promises. This faith and God's Promised One are on display elsewhere as the sign who will be a "son" names "Emmanuel" (Isaiah 7:14), and a child who is 'born to us,' named "Prince of Peace" (Isaiah 9:5). So, for now, let us, too, keep watch with faith.

*Our Father, we place our full trust in your promises.*

Pat Gohn



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