

# *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](mailto:fr.ray.fleming@dor.org)

Richard Rall, Deacon  
[richard.rall@dor.org](mailto:richard.rall@dor.org)

Myrtle Fontenette, Religious Education Coordinator  
& RCIA Coordinator  
[myrtle.fontenette@dor.org](mailto:myrtle.fontenette@dor.org)

Carol Wynne, Director of Finance & Administration  
[carol.wynne@dor.org](mailto:carol.wynne@dor.org)

Jeanne Engelbrecht, Finance Manager  
[jeanne.engelbrecht@dor.org](mailto:jeanne.engelbrecht@dor.org)

Tracy Jordan, Administrative Assistant  
[tracy.jordan@dor.org](mailto: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.

*December 29, 2024*

*The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph*



*Let the peace of Christ control your hearts.*

*Our readings today point to the importance of reverencing one another with respect and charity. We are to honor our parents and let the peace of Christ control [our] hearts. We are to put on love and strive always to live with gratitude.*

***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.*

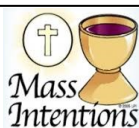
*Baptism: Please call the office to make arrangements.*

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

Sunday, December 29, 2024

Sarah Gordon

Requested by Joanne, Julian, Alana, Alia



Offerings for December 22, 2024

Offerings: \$1,039

Attendance: 62

Online Giving: \$230

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, 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



# JANUARY

- 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

## LECTOR SCHEDULE

Sunday, December 29, 2024

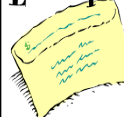
Reader I & II—Keith Parris



## MASS INTENTIONS

The 2025 Mass Intention book has arrived. You will now be able to schedule Mass intentions for 2025. Please call or stop by the office to schedule Mass Intentions. The cost is \$10.

## 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.

## 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 a Christmas card to someone who is not expecting one from you.



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, 18 families have contributed to the CMA. We have reached 49.88% of our goal (\$5,985). 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.

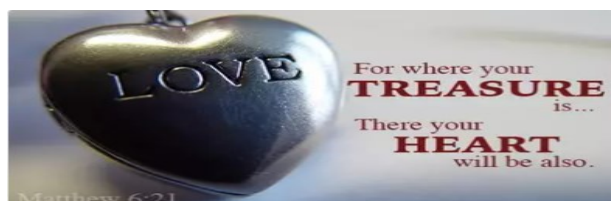


ROMAN CATHOLIC  
DIOCESE OF ROCHESTER

Any concerns related to financial fraud can be reported anonymously:

**Financial Fraud Hotline**  
**1-800-388-7177 x1266**

Reports may also be made in writing to:  
Internal Audit Department • Diocese of Rochester  
1150 Buffalo Road • Rochester, NY 14624



## Living Faith

### Our Father's House

*Did you not know that I must be in my Father's House?*

*Luke 2:49*

When my third son was four years old, he ran off while we were staying in a hotel. It took us thirty minutes to track him down, during which he roamed the floors chatting with the cleaning staff and guests. It's probably the closest we've come to experiencing the anxiety and apprehension of Mary and Joseph when Jesus remained behind in Jerusalem.

And yet, on reflection, our son was simply being who he is: outgoing, gregarious and eager to chat with any friendly face. Similarly, Jesus was being who he is: the only begotten Son, always eager to do his Father's will.

If we are to imitate Jesus—to follow his example as his disciples—we must also be eager to spend time in our Father's house. When we celebrate the liturgy, read the Scriptures and serve the poor and outcast, we are doing our Father's will and drawing closer to the holiness we are meant to live.

Jonathan F. Sullivan



## The Holy Family

When Joseph and Mary lost Jesus in Jerusalem, they did not give up searching until the family was reunited. For his part, Jesus returned to the bosom of his family, sharing their lives so that he grew in wisdom and age and grace before God and men.

Many times family members are not “lost” to one another physically, but spiritually. They may live in the same house as strangers never sharing their inner selves, pursuing their own interests and goals, and giving very little thought to one another's happiness.

The mutual love of Mary, Joseph and Jesus can show people a way out of the selfishness and indifference that destroy family unity. Each of them lived for God and for each other.



*The parish office will be closed on Tuesday, December 31<sup>st</sup> and Wednesday, January 1<sup>st</sup> for New Years.*

## New Year's Day Mass

Wednesday, January 1, 2025  
10:00 a.m. @ St. Monica Church

## 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](mailto:jessica.tette@dor.org).



THANK YOU FOR KEEPING OUR COMMUNITY WARM!



Blood Pressure Screening will be offered next Sunday, January 5th the sacristy. Please have your blood pressure taken before you leave church.



## 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 NCCY 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!

# Happy New Year!

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