

# *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

Emanuel Colon, Multi Parish Finance Director  
emanuel.colon@dor.org

Jeanne Engelbrecht, Finance Manager  
jeanne.engelbrecht@dor.org

Tracy Jordan, Administrative Assistant  
tracy.jordan@dor.org

Joanie Fraver, **Finance Council Chair**

Ramona Moore, **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.

*February 22, 2026*  
*First Sunday of Lent*

Jesus is the obedient Son.

Throughout the Old Testament, the Scriptures use metaphorical language to speak of Israel as God's son. Yet like us today, the Israelites persist in disobedience, straying from their Father's will. God thus sends Jesus, who is tempted in the desert to disobey God. Jesus' example of obedience reveals what true sonship requires.

**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.

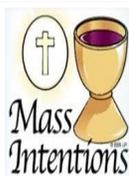
New members are welcome at Immaculate Conception/St. Bridget's Church. For more information on how to join the parish, please call the parish office at 235-3340 ext. 116.



Sunday, February 22, 2026

Clifford & Herman Family

Requested by Julietta Herman



Offerings for February 15, 2026

Offerings: \$1,441

Attendance: 65

Online Giving: \$155

Online Givers: 4

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, Clara Bray, Jocelyn Bucchan, Fr. Giles Conwill, Tom Degnan, Jacquelyn Dobson, Tom Fugate, LaVaughans Holcomb, Denise McGowan, Harold Moore, David Powe, Bing Reaves, Carolyn Walker, Kathy Wheeler

### LECTOR SCHEDULE

**Sunday, February 22, 2026**

Reader I & II—Lynn Fulmore

**Sunday, March 1, 2026**

Reader I & II—Joanie Fraver/Nadege Bukuru

**Sunday, March 8, 2026**

Reader I & II—Andre Fontenette

**Sunday, March 15, 2026**

Reader I & II—Keith Parris

**Sunday, March 22, 2026**

Reader I & II—Makeeda Tatum/Violet Booker

**Sunday, March 29, 2026 (Palm Sunday)**

Reader I & II—Marcia Fugate/Teyana Pappin



### February Christian Action

Be Christ's



Pay a sincere compliment.

Surprise someone with a love note.

Treat someone to a coffee/lunch/dinner.

Leave a generous tip.

Send a valentine to someone who may not receive one.

Pray for someone.



### Lent: A Time of Preparation

CRS Rice Bowl brings Catholics across the United States together each Lent to respond to global hunger and poverty through prayer, fasting and almsgiving. During this holy season, let us recommit to sharing bread for life with our global family so that all people can reach their God-given potential. Visit [crsricebowl.org/week-1](http://crsricebowl.org/week-1) to read this week's Story of Hope.



Parish Goal ~ \$11,000

We have exceeded our Catholic Ministries Appeal goal (\$11,784). Thank you to all who made their pledge and for supporting our mission.

### Lenten Regulations

Based on the 1983 Code of Canon Law, the following are the regulations for fast and abstinence during Lent:

- a) Everyone over 14 years of age is bound to observe the law of complete abstinence from meat on Ash Wednesday and all the Fridays of Lent.
- b) Everyone between 18 and 59 years of age is bound to observe the law of fast (one full meal a day and nothing between meals on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday).

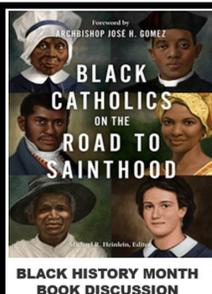
Monday, February 23, 2026

7:00—8:30 pm

Zoom Book Discussion

Sponsored by

Black Catholic Coalition of Rochester (BCCR)



### Did You Know That....??

Marie Maynard Daly changed the future of medicine — and most people have never heard her name.

She became the first Black woman in the United States to earn a PhD in chemistry, breaking barriers in a field that tried to keep her out.

But she didn't stop there — Daly's groundbreaking research revealed how cholesterol and diet contribute to heart disease, shaping the medical guidelines we still use today.

Her work saved lives... long before the world gave her the recognition she deserved.

Honor her legacy. Share her story. #BlackHistory  
#MarieMaynardDaly ~ #BlackExcellence  
#HiddenHistory ~ #BlackInventors ~ #BlackScientists

Source: Blackfeelings494 (Facebook)



The Black, Native American & Hispanic Collection today.  
Sunday, February 22, 2026

Lenten Mass & Soup Supper at Mercy Spirituality Center  
Presider for Mass: Fr. Ray Fleming  
Monday, February 23 — 5:30 pm  
Register here: <https://www.mercyspiritualitycenter.org/offerings>

Blood Pressure Screening will be offered next Sunday, March 1<sup>st</sup> in the sacristy. Please have your blood pressure taken before leaving church.



### Immaculate Conception/St. Bridget's Religious Education Food & Sock Drive



IC/SB Youth are asking for your support for their 2026 Food and Socks Drive. **PLEASE** donate nonperishable food items, Socks (children and adult sizes). There will be bins in the gathering space. This will be a continuous opportunity to support our Rochester community through June 28<sup>th</sup>.

### Needed: Candy for our Easter Egg Hunt

Help us reach 1,000 eggs for our joint Immaculate Conception/St. Bridget's, Emmanuel Church of the Deaf, and St. Monica Easter egg hunt on Easter Sunday, April 5!

We need small, individually-wrapped candies that can fit into small eggs. **PLEASE, NO PEANUTS.**

Candy can be donated anytime before March 18 to the office. Contact [Jessica.tette@dor.org](mailto:Jessica.tette@dor.org) with questions.  
Thank you for helping make Easter special!



### Holy Week 2026

St. Monica Church,  
Emmanuel Church of the Deaf, &  
Immaculate Conception/St. Bridget's Church

<b>Palm Sunday Mass:</b> March 29	10:00 am @ St. Monica Church 831 Genesee St. <b>Youth presentaion of the passion</b>
<b>Holy Thursday Mass &amp; Adoration:</b> April 2	7:00 pm Emmanuel Church of the Deaf 8:00-9:00 pm - Adoration
<b>Good Friday Service:</b> April 3	Noon - Immaculate Conception 445 Frederick Douglass St. 14608
<b>Stations of the Cross</b> in ASL with interpreter:	6:00 pm Emmanuel Church of the Deaf
<b>Easter Vigil:</b> April 4	7:01 pm Immaculate Conception Church



**Easter Sunday Mass: April 5**  
10:00 am @ St. Monica Church  
followed by Easter Egg Hunt  
All are welcome, especially you!

St. Monica CHURCH  
Save the date  
**VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL**  
2026

**AUGUST 10-14**

8:45am-noon \* Grades K-7  
Free + lunch included

Registration to come at [stmonicaofrochester.org](http://stmonicaofrochester.org)

**LIGHT OF THE  
WORLD**

*Welcome Visitors!*  
*We are blessed by your presence.*  
*Please come again.*

<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><i>WHATEVER IS TRUE, WHATEVER IS NOBLE, WHATEVER IS RIGHT, WHATEVER IS LOVELY, WHATEVER IS ADMIRABLE— IF ANYTHING IS EXCELLENT OR PRAISEWORTHY—THINK ABOUT SUCH THINGS.</i></p> <p><i>PHILIPPIANS 4:8</i></p>	
<p><b>Corn Hill Neighborhood Association</b> 133 S. Fitzhugh Street Rochester, NY 14608 www.cornill.org</p>	<p><b>Skips on the Ridge</b> 640 West Ridge Road Rochester, NY 14615 585-865-3896</p>	<p><i>Jack &amp; Elvira Powell</i></p> <p><i>Always Loved Never Forgotten Forever Missed</i></p>
<p>In Loving Memory of the <b>QUAMINA &amp; HARPER FAMILIES</b></p> <p><i>Love Gail, Elise, Joyce, Richard</i></p>	<p>In Loving Memory of <b>TALLAM &amp; RAPHAEL NGUTI</b></p> <p><i>Love Your Family</i></p>	<p><b>Alzheimers Association</b></p> <p>Our free 24/7 Helpline provides support and information. Call 800.272.3900 today.</p>
<p>In Loving Memory of <b>RACHAEL ALICEA &amp; THEODORE ALICEA-SMITH</b></p> <p><i>Rick &amp; Colleen Brade</i></p>	<p>In Prayerful Remembrance of the Deceased Members of the CANEPA, CULLEN, MILEY FAMILIES</p> <p><i>Love Ralph &amp; Maureen</i></p>	<p>In Loving Memory of <b>JOE HAUSER</b></p> <p><i>The Wingo Family</i></p>
<p>In Loving Memory of <b>DR. NATHANIEL HURST</b></p> <p><i>The Wingo Family</i></p>	<p>In Loving Memory of My Guess Family, CHARLES, MERCEDES, ERIC &amp; MARVA</p> <p><i>Out of sight but never out of mind! Marcia Fugate</i></p>	<p>In Prayerful Remembrance of the Deceased Members of the CORRAL, DESTEPHANO FAMILIES</p> <p><i>Love Ralph &amp; Maureen</i></p>
<p>In Loving Memory of <b>JAMES STOKES</b></p> <p><i>The Stokes Family</i></p>	<p>In Loving Memory of <b>TOM &amp; NELLIE BOSTICK &amp; ALICE WALTERS</b></p>	<p><i>Linda Nash</i></p> <p><i>Two Years, Too Long Missing You Still Always</i></p>
<p>In Loving Memory of <b>BILL CASTLE</b></p> <p><i>The Castle Family</i></p>	<p>In Loving Memory of <b>DAVID &amp; LOUISE MILES</b></p> <p><i>Gone, but Never Forgotten Bill Sr., Bill Jr., Shannon, Shannel &amp; Brandon</i></p>	<p>“In Memory of the great bass player <b>Tim Sullivan</b></p> <p><i>Doug and Victoria Parker on behalf of the GateSwingers Big Band “</i></p>
<p>In Loving Memory of <b>JOANNE LESSLEY</b></p> <p><i>Joanne Gordon</i></p>	<p>In Loving Memory of <b>JOSEPH RONALD WEBER</b></p> <p><i>Roxana C. Weber</i></p>	<p>In Loving Memory of <b>SARAH &amp; DONALD GORDON &amp; HENRY BELL SR.</b></p> <p><i>The Gordon/Bell Families</i></p>
<p>In Loving Memory of <b>ALL THE DECEASED MEMBERS OF THE MCGEE FAMILY</b></p> <p><i>James &amp; Melissa McGee</i></p>	<p><b>SPACE AVAILABLE</b></p>	<p>In Loving Memory of <b>MICHAEL &amp; JULIANA NWOKELO SR.</b></p> <p><i>The Nwokelo Family</i></p>
<p><b>SPACE AVAILABLE</b></p>	<p><b>SPACE AVAILABLE</b></p>	<p><b>SPACE AVAILABLE</b></p>