

# *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

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jeanne.engelbrecht@dor.org

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.

*March 23, 2025*

*Third Sunday of Lent*

*The Lord is kind and merciful.*

*Today's psalm is a joyful song of thanksgiving and remembrance. We know the history of Moses' role in God delivering the Israelites from bondage, and we have heard the story of the barren fig tree, but the psalm allows us that moment of connection to God in our own particular way. He has pardoned us; he has healed us; he redeems us from destruction; he is merciful and gracious and surpassing in kindness. Our story is not just what happened then, but what is happening now, and the Lord indeed is kind and merciful.*

*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.*

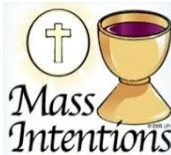
*Baptism: Please call the office to make arrangements.*

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

Sunday, March 23, 2025

Michael & Juliana Nwokelo Sr.

Requested by the Nwokelo Family



Offerings for March 16, 2025

Offerings: \$1,655

Attendance: 62

Online Giving: \$205

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, Jocelyn Bucchan, Fr. Giles Conwill, Tom Degnan, Jacquelyn Dobson, Morris Doucette, Tom Fugate, Fr. John Judie, Denise McGowan, Rose McKnight, Louise Miles, Harold Moore, Carolyn Walker, Kathy Wheeler

LECTOR SCHEDULE

Sunday, March 23, 2025

Reader I & II—Erin McBride



Sunday, March 30, 2025

Reader I & II—Marcia Fugate



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, 30 families have contributed to the CMA. Thank you to all who have made their pledge and for supporting our mission. We have exceeded our goal by 110.25% (\$13,230).

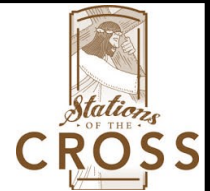
Once again, thank you.



MASS INTENTIONS

Mass Intentions are available for the deceased, special intentions, birthdays or anniversaries. Please call or stop by the office if you would like to schedule Mass Intentions.

Stations of the Cross will be held at 6:00 p.m. on Fridays during Lent in the church. Please use the Edinburgh Street side entrance doors to the church.



REMINDER



Diocesan Day of Penance & Mercy with extended Confession times in parishes.

It's a Jubilee Year! This Holy Year is a time of grace and reconciliation, and it calls us to righting our relationships with God and others. In his Papal Bull for the Jubilee, Pope Francis says: "the sacrament of Reconciliation is not only a magnificent spiritual gift, but also a decisive, essential and fundamental step on our journey of faith." Join us to rediscover the healing power of this joyful sacrament. Day of Penance and Mercy, April 2, at parishes throughout the Diocese of Rochester.



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

### Fruitless?

*It may bear fruit in the future.*

**Luke 13:9**

This Gospel couldn't come at a better time.

Right now, squarely in the middle of Lent, when we're weary of going meatless, skipping desserts, scraping our fingers on empty holy water fonts and remembering sin we'd rather forget, maybe we're starting to think, "I'm never going to get this right." But then this passage from Luke comes along to say: "Keep at it. God isn't giving up on you."

One beautiful gift of this season is time. When we backslide, slip up, forget or just fall back into sins we've tried to overcome, we're reminded that we can begin again. Ours is a faith of second (and third and fourth) chances. Every one of us is a work in progress. Lent reminds us of that. Often.

Take a moment this day to ask: How can I better tend my garden?

The God who created us and loves us is giving us the blessed gift of time. How can we make it more fruitful?

Dcn. Greg Kandra

Blood Pressure Screening will be offered on Sunday, April 6th in the sacristy. Please have your blood pressure taken before leaving church.



### SUPPORT THE CATHOLIC RELIEF SERVICES COLLECTION

Next Sunday, March 30<sup>th</sup> our parish will take up The Catholic Relief Services Collection. Funds from this collection provide food to the hungry, support displaced refugees, and bring Christ's love and mercy to vulnerable people here and abroad. Next week, please give generously to the collection and reveal Christ's love to those most in need. Learn more about the collection at [www.usccb.org/catholic-relief](http://www.usccb.org/catholic-relief).

**Holy Week 2025**

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

<b>Palm Sunday Mass:</b> April 13	9:00 am - Immaculate Conception 11:00 am - St. Monica Church & Emmanuel Church of the Deaf
<b>Holy Thursday Mass &amp; Adoration:</b> April 17	7:00 pm Emmanuel Church of the Deaf 8:00-9:00 pm - Adoration
<b>Good Friday Service:</b> April 18	Noon - Immaculate Conception 445 Frederick Douglass St. 14608
<b>Stations of the Cross in ASL with interpreter:</b>	6:00 pm Emmanuel Church of the Deaf
<b>Easter Vigil:</b> April 19	7:01 pm St. Monica Church

### Easter Sunday Mass: April 20

Immaculate Conception/St. Bridget's  
9:00 am

### CASE (Creating A Safe Environment) Training Policy

CASE training is a diocesan requirement for those who work with children/vulnerable adults. This training is a way to create safety for our most vulnerable individuals, who we are called to protect in the church. They are beloved children of God, and this training is important to understand who is at risk and how to protect them.

CASE training is done online and takes about an hour. It also includes a background check and signed code of conduct. CASE training, the background check, and the signed code of conduct must be updated every 3 years. Those over 70 who have taken CASE training in the last 3 years do not need to renew the training, only the background check and the code of conduct.

Tracy Jordan is the CASE coordinator for Immaculate Conception/St. Bridget's. If you need to take the training, please email [tracy.jordan@dor.org](mailto:tracy.jordan@dor.org) for instructions.

Thank you for keep our youth and vulnerable adults safe!



### NUTRITIOUS MEALS HELP CHILDREN GROW HEALTHY IN GUATEMALA

In Santa Maria Chiquimula, Guatemala, over half the community is affected by malnutrition. Amid rising food prices and job loss, Ana Belén and her husband were struggling to provide for their growing family. But they saw a ray of hope through their participation in a Catholic Relief Services' program that helps them ensure their children are healthy and have the nutrition they need to thrive and play. Visit [crsricebowl.org/week-3](http://crsricebowl.org/week-3) to read this week's Story of Hope.

<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 style="text-align: center;"><b>BUCKMAN'S PLAZA</b> 2590 W. Ridge Road, Rochester 14626</p> <p style="text-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.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><i>Together on Earth ~ Together in Eternity Together Missed, Evermore</i></p> <p><b>Jack &amp; Elvira Powell</b> Lynn Fulmore</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>RACHAEL ALICEA &amp; THEODORE ALICEA-SMITH</b> <i>Rick &amp; Colleen Brade</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, CORRAL, DESTEPHANO 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>TOM &amp; NELLIE BOSTICK &amp; ALICE WALTERS</b></p>	<p><b>Linda Nash</b> Like Dust, Dreams, Air, the Sun &amp; Hopes Eternal She Rose  Your Daughters, Lynn &amp; Shlonda</p>
<p>In Loving Memory of <b>BILL CASTLE</b> <i>The Castle Family</i></p>	<p>In Loving Memory of <b>GILBERT &amp; CHARITY ADIELE</b> <i>The Nwokelo Family</i></p>	<p>"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>Words cannot say how much you are missed. You are so very loved. <b>MOMMY</b> <i>Love Jacquie, Kimberly, Gina &amp; Jean</i></p>	<p>In Loving Memory of <b>JOSEPH RONALD WEBER</b> <i>Roxana C. Weber</i></p>	<p>In Loving Memory of <b>SARAH &amp; DONALD GORDON &amp; HENRY BELL SR.</b> <i>The Gordon/Bell Families</i></p>
<p>In Loving Memory of <b>JOANNE LESSLEY</b> <i>Joanne Gordon</i></p>	<p>In Loving Memory of <b>TALLAM NGUTI</b> <i>Love your Wife &amp; Children</i></p>	<p>In Loving Memory of <b>MICHAEL &amp; JULIANA NWOKELO SR.</b> <i>The Nwokelo Family</i></p>
<p>In Loving Memory of <b>ALL THE DECEASED MEMBERS OF THE McGEE FAMILY</b> <i>James &amp; Melissa McGee</i></p>	<p>In Loving Memory of <b>RAPHAEL NGUTI</b> <i>Love Mom, Michael, Camille</i></p>	<p><b>MATH TUTORING MATH COACHING</b>  585-247-4941</p>