

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
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 30, 2025

Fourth Sunday of Lent



We implore you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God.

In the parable of the prodigal son, Jesus presents God as a Father who loves all his children—the wayward and the dutiful—and seeks to draw them into a loving relationship and therefore share in his joy. Sometimes, like the younger son, we are swept up in God's love, forgiveness, and mercy; other times, we set up barriers and resist it. Let us reflect on how God has been coming out to meet us in our own lives.

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.

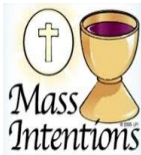
Baptism: Please call the office to make arrangements.

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

Sunday, March 30, 2025

Special Intentions for ICSB Clergy & Staff

Requested by Lynn Fulmore



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, Morris Doucette, Tom Fugate, Fr. John Judie, Denise McGowan, Louise Miles, Harold Moore, Carolyn Walker, Kathy Wheeler

Offerings for March 23, 2025

Offerings: \$1,347

Attendance: 67

Online Giving: \$80

Online Givers: 2

Thank you for your generous support.

March Christian Action



Be generous with your time:

- Brush the snow off someone else's car.
- Shovel someone's walkway.
- Visit someone who is a shut-in.
- Grocery shop for someone.
- Spend time with a child.

LECTOR SCHEDULE

Sunday, March 30, 2025

Reader I & II—Marcia Fugate



Sunday, April 6, 2025

Reader I & II—Don Toyer

Sunday, April 13, 2025

Reader I & II—Andre Fontenette

Good Friday, April 18, 2025

Reader I & II—Marcia Fugate

Sunday, April 20, 2025

Reader I & II—Joanie Fraver

Sunday, April 27, 2025

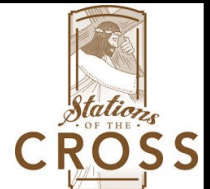
Reader I & II—Norma Thom



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.



Day of Penance and Mercy—April 2, 2025 at parishes throughout the Diocese of Rochester.



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.

Lenten Regulations

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

- 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.
- 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).

Living Faith

A dignified Title and Mission

So we are ambassadors for Christ... 2 Corinthians 5:20

I have often thought about how I can best live my faith in relation to Christ. I believe in the Scriptural teachings of Jesus. I believe I should love others, do charitable deeds, be humble, offer mercy and forgive. I worship at Mass and pray often to be a Christian for Christ. However, in today's reading, I note that Paul has given me another dignified title that I am called to fulfill: I am an ambassador for Christ.

I am being sent to represent Christ who has appointed me to go on my mission, whether nearby or far away. As an ambassador, my responsibilities are to maintain a kind attitude, to promote good will, to assist where I can and to try to keep peace among the people. My ambassador credentials are renewed and strengthened at every Mass—which from the Latin means “to be sent.”

Dear Christian sisters and brothers, we are all ambassadors for Christ. On what mission is Christ sending you?

Fr. James McKarns

During Lent, we are called to grow closer to God through prayer, and spring is a perfect time to find new ways to do that. Praying outdoors or in a chair by a window can rejuvenate us as we marvel at the new life slowly emerging this time of year.

Using an app to pray can be one way to listen to God. In the spirit of “buy-nothing Lent,” here are two free apps to consider:

Pray As You Go: This app offers narrated daily meditations that run from 10 to 13 minutes. The meditation opens with music (classic or contemporary), and then one reading from that day's Mass liturgy. The narrator then poses questions for you to contemplate. (If you prefer to read the meditation, that is an option.) The app includes many other features, including special Sunday meditations for Lent on the theme of “The Pace of Grace.” The Jesuits in Britain produce the content.

Sacred Space – Your Daily Prayer Online: This app offers a series of contemplations followed by scripture for you to read and meditate on. In the settings, you can choose various sounds to play, such as rain forest or birds at dawn. For Lent, it offers daily meditations on the theme “Pilgrims of Hope.” Sacred Space is a ministry of the Irish Jesuits.

There are other Catholic apps available, but some charge a subscription fee. Hallow is perhaps the most well-known, with actor Mark Wahlberg as an endorser and participant. Hallow offers a 30-day free trial. To find other apps, simply type “Catholic apps” into Google.

If you enjoy soft background music to help you slow down to pray or meditate, consider the Pandora app, which offers hundreds of stations of various genres and artists. Simply search “meditation” and a few dozen options will come up. Pandora has a free version that includes short commercials.

Although technology can be intrusive in our lives, there are ways to use it to help us slow down and grow closer to God every day.

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



SUPPORT THE CATHOLIC RELIEF SERVICES COLLECTION

Today 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.

Holy Week 2025

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

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

Easter Sunday Mass: April 20

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



PROTECTING CROPS FROM NATURAL DISASTERS IN BANGLADESH

Shahadat's village, and much of Bangladesh, is located on flat lowlands. The intense rainy season causes flooding that often destroys farms and crops. Find out how Shahadat learned new farming skills from a Catholic Relief Services program that enabled him to increase the yield of his vegetable crops despite the challenges of climate change. Visit crsricebowl.org/week-4 to read this week's Story of Hope.

<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 style="text-align: center;">BUCKMAN'S PLAZA 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>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>Jack & Elvira Powell Lynn Fulmore</p>
<p>In Loving Memory of the QUAMINA & HARPER FAMILIES <i>Love Gail, Elise, Joyce, Richard</i></p>	<p>In Loving Memory of My Wife ILONA WHITE <i>Alphonse White</i></p>	<p>Skips on the Ridge 640 West Ridge Road Rochester, NY 14615 585-865-3896</p>
<p>In Loving Memory of RACHAEL ALICEA & THEODORE ALICEA-SMITH <i>Rick & Colleen Brade</i></p>	<p>Prayerful Remembrance of the Gordons ARTHUR, SARAH, PEGGY, BUD, BOB, NANCY, GARY <i>Blessings Bill & Family</i></p>	<p>In Loving Memory of JOE HAUSER <i>The Wingo Family</i></p>
<p>In Loving Memory of DR. NATHANIEL HURST <i>The Wingo Family</i></p>	<p>In Loving Memory of DAVID MILES <i>Love your Wife & Children</i></p>	<p>In Prayerful Remembrance of the Deceased Members of the CULLEN, CORRAL, DESTEPHANO FAMILIES <i>Love Ralph & Maureen</i></p>
<p>In Loving Memory of JAMES STOKES <i>The Stokes Family</i></p>	<p>In Loving Memory of TOM & NELLIE BOSTICK & ALICE WALTERS</p>	<p>Linda Nash Like Dust, Dreams, Air, the Sun & Hopes Eternal She Rose Your Daughters, Lynn & Shlonda</p>
<p>In Loving Memory of BILL CASTLE <i>The Castle Family</i></p>	<p>In Loving Memory of GILBERT & CHARITY ADIELE <i>The Nwokelo Family</i></p>	<p>"In Memory of the great bass player Tim Sullivan <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. MOMMY <i>Love Jacquie, Kimberly, Gina & Jean</i></p>	<p>In Loving Memory of JOSEPH RONALD WEBER <i>Roxana C. Weber</i></p>	<p>In Loving Memory of SARAH & DONALD GORDON & HENRY BELL SR. <i>The Gordon/Bell Families</i></p>
<p>In Loving Memory of JOANNE LESSLEY <i>Joanne Gordon</i></p>	<p>In Loving Memory of TALLAM NGUTI <i>Love your Wife & Children</i></p>	<p>In Loving Memory of MICHAEL & JULIANA NWOKELO SR. <i>The Nwokelo Family</i></p>
<p>In Loving Memory of ALL THE DECEASED MEMBERS OF THE McGEE FAMILY <i>James & Melissa McGee</i></p>	<p>In Loving Memory of RAPHAEL NGUTI <i>Love Mom, Michael, Camille</i></p>	<p>MATH TUTORING MATH COACHING 585-247-4941</p>