

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) 325-3893 ~ (585) 325-2082 Fax
www.immaculateconceptionrochester.org
rimmacul@dor.org

Church Office Hours: Tuesday, Thursday & Friday
8:30 am — 4:00 pm

Parish Staff

Pastor	Rev. Raymond Fleming fr.ray.fleming@dor.org
Assisting Priest	Rev. Robert Bradler
Deacon	Richard Rall
Religious Education Coordinators	Myrtle Fontenette myrtle.fontenette@dor.org Harry Pierre-Philippe harry.pierre-philippe@dor.org
Director of Finance & Administration	Carol Wynne carol.wynne@dor.org
Regional Business Manager	Mark Shevlin mark.shevlin@dor.org
Parish Secretary	Tracy Jordan tracy.jordan@dor.org

Pastoral Council Chair Chib Onwunaka

Finance Council Chair William Castle

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.

April 4, 2021

*Easter Sunday of the
Resurrection of the Lord*



We worship every Sunday at 10 am

Holy Days: Consult bulletin or call church 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 church office to make arrangements.

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

Sunday, April 4, 2021

JoAnne Lessley

Requested by Joanne Gordon



Offerings for March 28, 2021

Offerings: \$1,421 Online Giving: \$240

Attendance: 73

Thank you for your generous support.



Please pray for the sick of the parish and for family and friends of parishioners: Earl & Phyllis Barnes, Julie Coe, Fr. Giles Conwill, Sarah Gordon, Denise McGowan, Alice Walters

April Birthdays

James Brooks, Joycelyn Buchan, Joanne Gordon Paterne Hicu, Franklyn Horman, Chanty Nsabinama Chibueze Onwunaka, Donald Toyer, Thelma Uter Al White, Mary Wingo

Bible Readings for Sunday, April 4, 2021

Acts 10:34a, 37-43

Colossians 3:1-4 or 1 Corinthians 5:6b-8

John 20:1-9 or Mark 16:1-7

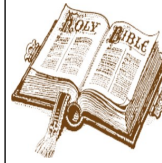
Bible Readings for Sunday, April 11, 2021

Acts 4:32-35

1 John 5:1-6

John 20:19-31

BIBLE STUDY CORNER



Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene came to the tomb and saw that the stone had been removed from the tomb.

John 20:1

Reflection: We cannot avoid the darkness. We must embrace the darkness of life, the darkness of uncertainty, the darkness of fear and ignorance, the darkness of sadness, the darkness of failure and disillusionment, and the darkness of self-betrayal. We must learn to keep moving through the darkness in the absence of care, love, and compassion.

Mary Magdalene knows her own darkness but does not allow this darkness to engulf her life and keep her from moving forward into the light. She walks through the darkness with hope in her heart. In this darkest moment, she still seeks the one she loves at the tomb. It is this empty tomb that sheds light in her darkness and heightens her desire to be with the Lord.

The resurrection story can help us to make sense of the many shades of darkness in our lives. Mary Magdalene shows us how to walk through the darkness of life with deep trust and faith. The resurrection story reminds us that we live in a world of darkness and light, but that light triumphs over the darkness. Easter reassures all believers that the light of God's love and mercy embodied in the risen Lord triumphs over all the darkness that keeps us sad, unfulfilled, and afraid.

Ponder: What darkness paralyzes me and keeps me afraid?

Prayer: Lord, your resurrection pierces the darkness of doubt and fear. May the power of your resurrection help me to deepen my love for you and all people.

Practice: Today I will pray for perseverance, I will rejoice in the light of your resurrection; I will ask for help to overcome my inner doubt and fear.



Thank you to all of our generous parishioners who have supported the Catholic Ministries Appeal this year! If you have not made your gift yet, it is not too late. You might be wondering if you should still make a gift to the CMA if our church has surpassed its goal. There are two good reasons for making a gift to the CMA today:

1. Fifty percent of all dollars raised over our goal will come back to our church in a check from the Diocese.
2. The other fifty percent will be used to help other parishes that are struggling to get to their CMA goals. In the City of Rochester alone, St. Monica's, St. Boniface, and Blessed Sacrament are all still working to get to their goals. If they don't make their goals, the parish will have to make up the difference. Your gift to the CMA today can help those parishes, by at least partially reducing the gap between what they raise from their parishioners and their CMA goals.

Please contact George Fontenette or Colleen Brade (Colleen.Brade@dor.org) if you would like to make your gift today.

HE IS RISEN
alleluia

During the past week, we have watched the supreme tragedy of the world's history, presented for us with great solemnity and in

liturgical form. We accompanied Our Lord from the garden of His agony to the Hill of Crucifixion. We stood by in spirit as He was laid in the Sepulchre. The tension of sympathetic sorrow, of penitent heart, is naturally followed this morning by a corresponding reaction.

The joy of Easter is a joy of great reaction. Our Lord's Passion is over; He is the Victor over sin and death; He is our King of glory. It is the victory of our Lord that we celebrate on Easter Day. The radiance of this feast comes quickly upon the gloom of Calvary. The last words spoken by Jesus Christ, words of defeat and despair, quickly give place to the triumphant proclamation of the angel: "He is risen, He is not here."

We are living in fateful and momentous days. Despite the victories that came to us during past generations, there is still, in this world, much confusion, anxiety and fear. Never has the power of Christ been more needed than it is right now. So, on this blessed Easter Day, let us lift up our thoughts and hearts to Him, Our Savior, Jesus Christ. As He conquered over sin and death may He continue to win for us further victories over the enemies that threaten our civilization.

Happy Easter!

Fr. Raymond Fleming

Fr. Robert Bradler

Deacon Richard Rall

Lay Staff

A Time of New Life

Lent, a time of ardor and intensity, a period of reconciliation and change of heart, is over.

Now the Easter Season begins. Easter is a time of rest and enjoyment as we contemplate the risen Lord, the meaning of his passion, death and resurrection in our lives. At Eastertime we can enjoy the ardor and intensity of our Lenten effort.

Easter is a time of new life. We are baptized into Christ's death. Our faith assures us we will share one day in His resurrection; the resurrection we celebrate Easter Sunday.

We, the staff extend to each of you our greeting of peace and joy this blessed season.



Today's a joyous day of victory, resurrection, and new life. Our Lenten Penance ended, our Vigil of Waiting concluded. We rejoice together as God's Saved People.

Notre Dame Retreat House's

Spring "Desert Days"

(5151 Foster Rd. Canandaigua, NY 14424)

"Desert Days" are special days for individuals seeking a ONE DAY retreat alone with God. As we continue to navigate these challenging times, give yourself an opportunity to converse with God in order to revitalize your life and heart.

We will give you the time, space and materials . . . all you need to do is come with a willing heart and an open mind.

Three dates for Spring: May 5th; May 19th and June 2nd.

Note that in order to address social distancing requirements and needs, at this time we are limiting attendance on each "Desert Day" to fifteen (15) people—open to men and women.

The day begins at 8:45am and concludes at 3:00pm. During your time with us, our priests are available for confession and/or conversation and will offer mass at the closing of our day.

The **cost is \$25.00** and includes lunch! To register, please contact us at 585-394-5700 or ndretreat@rochester.rr.com.

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia

Alleluia is not a word. It is a shout of joy which cannot be defined. Likewise, the mystery of Christ's resurrection unfolds not only during the seven weeks of Easter but calls for daily reflection for the rest of our lives. Easter is the power of God's action in our world and the power of God transforming death unto life. The church's Easter season lasts 50 days plus forever.



If you are interested in advertising or including a Memorial

Please call the Parish Office – 325-3893

<p>St. Joseph's House of Hospitality A Rochester, NY Catholic Worker Community 402 South Avenue, Rochester, NY 14607 585-232-3262</p>	<p>BUCKMAN'S PLAZA 2590 W. Ridge Road, Rochester Visit our many stores including City Mattress, Visionworks, Pino's Deli, Megan Nail Spa, Red Cross, Hair Finale Morgan School of Driving, Orville's Appliances and many more.</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 <i>The perfect place for all of your grilling needs</i></p>	<p>TOM ZUBERT, REALTOR RE/MAX REALTY GROUP 585-721-1313 zubert.tom@gmail.com (ICS Graduate)</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 HENRY FAISON JR. <i>Love your Mom, George, Adrian, Andre</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 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 JAMES WALTERS <i>Alice Walters</i></p>	<p>In Loving Memory of JEFFREY WALTERS <i>Alice Walters</i></p>
<p>In Loving Memory of DOUGLAS SIMMONS <i>Alice Walters</i></p>	<p>In Loving Memory of ADA FULLWOOD <i>The Augustine/Fullwood Families</i></p>	<p>In Loving Memory of RITA VIOLET AUGUSTINE <i>The Augustine Family</i></p>
<p>In Loving Memory of CREÓLE MON'AE FONTENETTE <i>Love your Grandparents</i></p>	<p>In Loving Memory of JOSEPH RONALD WEBER <i>Roxana C. Weber</i></p>	<p>In Loving Memory of HENRY BELL SR. & DONALD GORDON <i>The Bell/Gordon Families</i></p>
<p>For all the Deceased Families, Friends & Parishioners of Immaculate Conception/St. Bridget's Church <i>Love Rose Stokes</i></p>	<p>In Loving Memory of JOANNE LESSLEY <i>JoAnn Gordon</i></p>	<p>In Loving Memory of MARY JACKSON <i>Thomas & Nellie Bostick</i></p>