

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
rillacul@dor.org

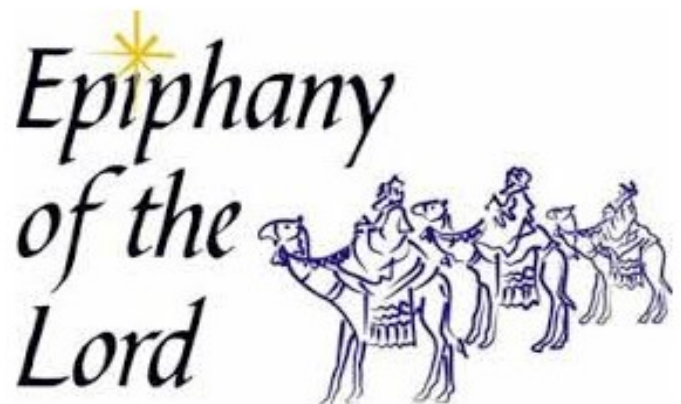
Church Office Days & Hours
Tuesday, Thursday, & Friday
8:30 am — 4:00 pm

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	Chibueze 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.

January 3, 2021



The eternal gifts of joy, hope, and peace are bestowed on those who choose to live in the light of Christ.

The voices of the prophet Isaiah, the Apostle Paul, and the three kings – Balthazar, Caspar, and Melchior – resound today in one joyful chorus. They are reminding us that Christ, our Light, has come to dispel the darkness of sin and death and to remain with us forever.

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

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

WE WORSHIP EVERY SUNDAY AT 10:00 AM

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



Offerings for December 27, 2020

Offerings: \$1,085

Online Giving: \$2,695

Thank you for your continued and generous support.

Bible Readings for Sunday, January 3, 2021

Isaiah 60:1-6

Ephesians 3:2—3a, 5-6

Matthew 2:1-12

Bible Readings for Sunday, January 10, 2021

Isaiah 55:1-11

1 John 5:1-9

Mark 1:7-11



Catholic Ministries Appeal
Parish Goal: \$9,910
Pledged as of December 29, 2020
\$8,560 (86.38%)

CMA Update: How the CMA helps our Parish

As of this date, we have raised \$8,560 and 23 families from our parish have contributed to the CMA. We thank those who have given generously and ask all who have not yet given to prayerfully consider doing so. The CMA helps our Church and our parish in so many ways. Did you know that the CMA funds the education and formation of seminarians and deacons, education and professional development of our parish leaders and, and promotion of religious vocations? One example that has greatly benefitted our parish is the ministry of Deacon Rick Rall. Although he does not receive payment for his service to Immaculate Conception/St. Bridget's Church, his education to become a deacon was funded by the CMA. Please join our appeal and give what you can so that we remain strong and continue to encourage vocations to continue God's great work! Go to www.dor.org/cma for more information or to make your gift.

January Birthdays

Earl Barnes, Phyllis Barnes, Nellie Bostick,
Sandra Brooks, Alex Cooper, Lauren DeRouen,
Joyce Gainey, Scholastique Hicubundi, Ruth Johnstone,
Yvette Reaves, Shelly Smith, James Walker



BIBLE STUDY CORNER

See what love the Father has bestowed on us that we may be called the children of God.

Yet so we are.

John 3:1

Reflection: The whole of the human family is our family because we are all children of God. God delights in us and watches over each of us with tender, gentle, and unconditional love. God encourages us to explore our heritage of love and goodness, and gives us Jesus to be our teacher. In our imitation of Jesus, we learn to share our experience of love, compassion, and forgiveness with all those we encounter.

Along with physical, mental, and emotional maturing comes spiritual maturing. We learn to discern our gifts and talents and to make good use of them in continuing the good work of love. We learn to act consciously, choosing to respond with respect and love to others rather than act impulsively. We learn to nurture ourselves by seeking the companionship of God through prayer, meditation, and reading of the Scriptures.

With all that we know and experience, we are still children in our spirituality. We will always have something to learn. We will always have growing to do. We will always need the support of our human family. We will always rely on God's love and guidance.

Ponder: Do I possess childlike innocence? How have I matured spiritually? What is my image of God?

Prayer: Lord, you are my hope and strength. Teach me humility so that I may keep learning and growing spiritually.

Practice: Today I will get in touch with my inner child.

Happy New Year

Loving God, it is time to turn again to you. It is time to realize anew that I am not totally self-reliant. This is a moment full of grace that invites me to lift up my spirit to you, the one who gives freshness, the one who moves across my heart like a new snowfall and erases all the drab, brown memories of a year filled with so many uncertainties that have gone by.

Come to meet me, God of life, reach into the mystery of my self. Take me into the heart of this year and give me the confidence to journey freely; loving; with risk, wonder, and laughter. Amen

As we look forward to another year, we extend to all a sincere wish for a very Happy New Year. All through the year, our prayer will be that the Good Lord will bestow His choicest blessings upon all the members of our faith community.

*Father Raymond Fleming
Father Robert Bradler
Deacon Richard Rall
Lay Staff*

A Prayer to Keep God First This New Year

Dear God,

Thank you that you make all things new. Thank you for all that you've allowed into our lives this past year, the good along with the hard things, which have reminded us how much we need you and rely on your presence filling us every single day.



Epiphany of the Lord



Epiphany means "manifestation." It is the feast in which we celebrate not only Christ's manifestation to the Gentiles but rather the revelation of God to the world in Jesus Christ. The Magi were the very first person to journey toward the Lord. They are seen as the forerunners of a call and response in faith. To the Magi, the star was the sign of the great King. It burned like a flame pointing the way to God. As soon as they saw the star, they departed immediately from their homeland, bringing with them gifts to present to the great King. The light of the star led them to the Light of Lights.

How can we be the Magi of today? The feast of the Epiphany draws us into a journey toward the Lord. Daily we acknowledge Christ as the light of our life. The Magi offered gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh: we offer only our humble selves. Are we really Magi today? Yes, we have received the Light and "it cannot be hidden under a bushel basket but must be placed on a lampstand for all to see." What a wonderful responsibility every Christian bears! We must let the divine light of Christ shine through us.

How very blessed we are to be the bearers of Christ today!

**Just in time for the New Year!
The 2021 Josephite Calendars have arrived.**



Plans to distribute calendars while the church is closed are being organized. If you are interested or have questions, please contact the church office. Thank you.

Welcome 2021!

***If you are interested in advertising or including a Memorial
Please call the Parish Office – 325-3893***

St. Joseph's House of Hospitality A Rochester, NY Catholic Worker Community 402 South Avenue, Rochester, NY 14607 585-232-3262	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.	
CORN HILL NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION 133 S. Fitzhugh Street, Rochester, NY 14608 www.cornill.org	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>	TOM ZUBERT, REALTOR RE/MAX REALTY GROUP 585-721-1313 zubert.tom@gmail.com (ICS Graduate)
In Loving Memory of the QUAMINA & HARPER FAMILIES <i>Love Gail, Elise, Joyce, Richard</i>	In Loving Memory of My Wife ILONA WHITE <i>Alphonse White</i>	Skips on the Ridge 640 West Ridge Road Rochester, NY 14615 585-865-3896
In Loving Memory of HENRY FAISON JR. <i>Love your Mom, George, Adrian, Andre</i>	Prayerful Remembrance of the Gordons ARTHUR, SARAH, PEGGY, BUD, BOB, NANCY, GARY <i>Blessings Bill & Family</i>	In Loving Memory of JOE HAUSER <i>The Wingo Family</i>
In Loving Memory of DR. NATHANIEL HURST <i>The Wingo Family</i>	In Loving Memory of DAVID MILES <i>Love your Wife & Children</i>	In Prayerful Remembrance of the Deceased Members of the CULLEN & CORRAL FAMILIES <i>Love Ralph & Maureen</i>
In Loving Memory of JAMES STOKES <i>The Stokes Family</i>	In Loving Memory of JAMES WALTERS <i>Alice Walters</i>	In Loving Memory of JEFFREY WALTERS <i>Alice Walters</i>
In Loving Memory of DOUGLAS SIMMONS <i>Alice Walters</i>	In Loving Memory of ADA FULLWOOD <i>The Augustine/Fullwood Families</i>	In Loving Memory of RITA VIOLET AUGUSTINE <i>The Augustine Family</i>
In Loving Memory of CREÓLE MON'AE FONTENETTE <i>Love your Grandparents</i>	In Loving Memory of JOSEPH RONALD WEBER <i>Roxana C. Weber</i>	In Loving Memory of HENRY BELL SR. & DONALD GORDON <i>The Bell/Gordon Families</i>
For all the Deceased Families, Friends & Parishioners of Immaculate Conception/St. Bridget's Church <i>Love Rose Stokes</i>	SPACE AVAILABLE	In Loving Memory of MARY JACKSON <i>Thomas & Nellie Bostick</i>

***Welcome Visitors to Immaculate Conception / St. Bridget's Church
We are blessed by your presence. Please come again!***