

# *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](http://www.immaculateconceptionrochester.org)**

**[rillacul@dor.org](mailto:rillacul@dor.org)**

**Sunday Mass ~ 9:00 a.m.**

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](mailto:fr.ray.fleming@dor.org)**

Richard Rall, Deacon

**[richard.rall@dor.org](mailto:richard.rall@dor.org)**

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Tracy Jordan, Administrative Assistant

**[tracy.jordan@dor.org](mailto:tracy.jordan@dor.org)**

William Castle, 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.

*January 1, 2023*

*Solemnity of Mary,  
The Holy Mother of God*

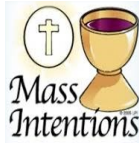


*The birth of Christ is manifestation of God's unending love for humanity.*

*To express his love for all humanity. God takes on our human nature by being born of a woman, Mary. As she is the mother of Jesus, we honor Mary as our spiritual mother, and mother of all God's adopted sons and daughters. Through the Son's Spirit sent by God, Christ dwells in our hearts and we can't help but share this Good News, as the shepherds did, by praising and glorifying God in our lives.*

*Sunday, January 1, 2023*

*Rev. John Crowley—Bequest*



Please pray for the sick of the parish and for family and friends of parishioners: Earl & Phyllis Barnes, Fr. Robert Bradler, William Castle, Bishop Fernand Cheri, Fr. Giles Conwill, Tom Degan, Morris Doucette, Tom Fugate, Denise McGowan, Tim Sullivan, Carolyn Walker, Alice Walters

***Bible Readings for Sunday, January 1, 2023***

*Numbers 6:22-27*

*Galatians 4:4-7*

*Luke 2:16-21*



***Bible Readings for Sunday, January 8, 2023***

*Isaiah 60:1-6*

*Ephesians 3:2-3a, 5-6*

*Matthew 1:1-12*

***January Birthdays***

*Earl Barnes, Phyllis Barnes, Nellie Bostick, Sandra Brooks*

*Alex Cooper, Joyce Gainey, Scholastique Hicuburundi*

*Ruth Johnstone, Yvette Reaves, Shelly Smith, James Walker*

*Happy Birthday*

**The office will be closed on  
Monday, January 2 for New Years Day.**



**MASS  
INTENTIONS**

For 2023, we have many openings for Mass intentions. You can celebrate loved ones and friends with a Mass for an anniversary, birthday, etc. and remember those who have passed away. Please call or stop by the office to schedule a Mass. The offering is \$10.

*Offerings for December 24, 2022 will be reported  
in the January 8, 2023 bulletin*

*Thank you for your generous support.*

***January***

Sat. Jan. 7	Pastoral Council Mtg.—9:30 am
Sun. Jan. 8	Blood Pressure Screening—following Mass in the Sacristy
Mon. Jan. 16	Martin Luther King Jr. Day—Office Closed
Wed. Jan. 25	Finance Council Mtg.—5:30 pm
Sat. Jan. 28	St. Joseph's House of Hospitality

**January Christian Action**



Join a ministry.

Change a bad habit.

Help a stranger.

Do more than is expected.

Say God bless you!

Hold the door open for someone!

Let someone go ahead of you!

Say please and thank you!

Listen instead of speak!

Pray for someone!

*I Am With You Always*  
Matthew 28:20

**Parish Goal ~ \$9,000**

To date, we have reached 89.60% of our goal (\$8,064). Thank you to all who have made their pledge and for supporting our mission. Please pray for the success of reaching our goal. Thank you.

## Happy New Year

*O God of this new year that stretches before me,  
"teach me the secrets of wisdom.  
Purify me with hyssop until I am clean;  
wash me until I am whiter than snow."*

*O God of this new year that beckons to me,  
"create a clean heart in me,  
put into me a new and constant spirit."*

*O God of this new year that holds out hope to me,  
"be my savior again, renew my joy,  
keep my spirit steady and willing."*

*O God of this new year that gives me another chance,  
"in your great tenderness wipe away my faults,  
wash me clean of my guilt  
purify me from my sin.  
For I am well aware of my faults.  
Instill some joy and gladness into me."*

*Psalm 51:6-7, 10, 12, 1-3*

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 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  
Deacon Richard Rall  
Lay Staff

Blood Pressure Screening will be offered next Sunday, January 8th in the sacristy. Please have your blood pressure taken before leaving church.



## Parish Seminar/Fellowship Event

On Saturday, February 11, 2023, we are having a parish seminar/fellowship event from 11:00am to 2:00pm. How much do you know about how a parish is "run"? Pre-registration will be expected.

## Mary, the Mother of God

January 1<sup>st</sup> is the Feast of the Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God. The scriptures speak about names and naming. They tell of blessings in the name of God, our names for the Lord and the angel's name for Jesus, our Son of Mary. The feast celebrates the name of Jesus and the title of Mary as the mother of God. All of this offers rich reflection on God's relation to us and our experience of Him. All of this tells us a little more clearly who God is and how closely He has aligned Himself with us. It also says much about our own identity and destiny.

As we look to the new year this week, our name comes to the forefront. Paul calls us heirs of God, sons and daughters of God. That is not an idle title or a passing whim. It is a powerful destiny. We share the very life of God. We are called to bring that life more fully into our homes, our families, our work and our society. We who bear the name Christian are called to give that name new life, new impetus, new power today.

The blessing that God gave to the Israelite people is still necessary today. Our world—frail, vulnerable so often on the brink of disaster—must see once again the face of God, hear once again the name of God, know once again the mercy, compassion and love of God. What will we offer to our world?

# Happy New Year!

## Do Something Beautiful for God

The Essential Teachings of Mother Teresa

Live simply so others may simply live.



ROMAN CATHOLIC  
DIOCESE OF ROCHESTER

Victims of sexual abuse should always  
report to the civil authorities.

To receive help and guidance from the  
Roman Catholic

Diocese of Rochester,

contact our

Victim Assistance Coordinator:

**Deborah A. Housel**

585-328-3228, ext. 1555

Toll-free:

1-800-388-7177, ext. 1555

or by e-mail to [victimassistance@dor.org](mailto:victimassistance@dor.org)

<b>St. Joseph's House of Hospitality</b>  A Rochester, NY Catholic Worker Community 402 South Avenue, Rochester, NY 14607 585-232-3262	<b>BUCKMAN'S PLAZA</b> <b>2590 W. Ridge Road, Rochester 14626</b>  Please visit our many stores, including City Mattress, Visionworks, Pino's Deli, Megan Nail Spa, Red Cross, Sign Impressions, Greece Chiropractic, Heart & Home Health Twisted Dolls Hair Braiding Salon and Orville's Appliances.	
<b>Corn Hill Neighborhood Association</b> 133 S. Fitzhugh Street Rochester, NY 14608 www.cornill.org	<b>Mileage Master Center of Rochester</b>  2488 Browncroft Blvd. Rochester, NY 14625 585-586-1870  <i>The perfect place for all of your grilling needs</i>	<b>Tom Zubert, Realtor</b>  <b>RE/MAX REALTY GROUP</b> 585-721-1313 zubert.tom@gmail.com (ICS Graduate)
In Loving Memory of the <b>QUAMINA &amp; HARPER FAMILIES</b>  <i>Love Gail, Elise, Joyce, Richard</i>	In Loving Memory of My Wife  <b>ILONA WHITE</b>  <i>Alphonse White</i>	<b>Skips on the Ridge</b>  640 West Ridge Road Rochester, NY 14615 585-865-3896
In Loving Memory of  <b>HENRY FAISON JR.</b>  <i>Love Mom, George, Adrian, Andre</i>	Prayerful Remembrance of the Gordons  <b>ARTHUR, SARAH, PEGGY, BUD, BOB, NANCY, GARY</b>  <i>Blessings Bill &amp; Family</i>	In Loving Memory of  <b>JOE HAUSER</b>  <i>The Wingo Family</i>
In Loving Memory of  <b>DR. NATHANIEL HURST</b>  <i>The Wingo Family</i>	In Loving Memory of  <b>DAVID MILES</b>  <i>Love your Wife &amp; Children</i>	In Prayerful Remembrance of the Deceased Members of the <b>CULLEN &amp; CORRAL FAMILIES</b>  <i>Love Ralph &amp; Maureen</i>
In Loving Memory of  <b>JAMES STOKES</b>  <i>The Stokes Family</i>	<b>EPIC TRAININGS</b> LYNN FULMORE, MASTER INSTRUCTOR  CPR First Aid Classes for Lay/Professional Responders, Safety Classes for Children, Coaches, Scouts and Seniors Certified Just Yell Fire Training Center Phone: 585-615-4379 Email: mail@epictrainings.com WEB: www.epictrainings.com Facebook: EPIC Trainings	
In Loving Memory of  <b>JAMES &amp; JEFFREY WALTERS DOUGLAS SIMMONS</b>	In Loving Memory of  <b>GILBERT &amp; CHARITY ADIELE</b>  <i>The Nwokelo Family</i>	All About Toastmasters...Your Path to Leadership <b>Where Leaders are Made</b> For more information contact Jean Pryor Meeting: 1 <sup>st</sup> & 3 <sup>rd</sup> Mondays except holidays <a href="mailto:E-mail-lyceumclub93@gmail.com">E-mail-lyceumclub93@gmail.com</a>
In Loving Memory of  <b>CREÓLE MON'AE FONTENETTE</b>  <i>Love your Grandparents</i>	In Loving Memory of  <b>JOSEPH RONALD WEBER</b>  <i>Roxana C. Weber</i>	In Loving Memory of  <b>SARAH &amp; DONALD GORDON &amp; HENRY BELL SR.</b>  <i>The Gordon/Bell Families</i>
In Loving Memory of  <b>JOANNE LESSLEY</b>  <i>Joanne Gordon</i>	In Loving Memory of  <b>TALLAM NGUTI</b>  <i>Love your Wife &amp; Children</i>	In Loving Memory of  <b>MICHAEL NWOKELo SR.</b>  <i>The Nwokelo Family</i>
In Loving Memory of  <b>ALL THE DECEASED MEMBERS OF THE McGEE FAMILY</b>  <i>James &amp; Melissa McGee</i>	In Loving Memory of  <b>SARAH ANN GORDON</b>  <i>Louise &amp; Shannon</i>	<b>MATH TUTORING MATH COACHING</b>  585-247-4941