# 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

Rev. Robert Bradler **Assisting Priest** 

Richard Rall Deacon

**Religious Education** Myrtle Fontenette Coordinators

myrtle.fontenette@dor.org

Harry Pierre-Philippe

harry.pierre-philippe@dor.org

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Manager 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. welcome all believers to worship God, love one another, evangelize the good news of Jesus Christ and serve those in need.

### April 11, 2021



### 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 11, 2021

Tallam Nguti

Requested by the Fontenette Family





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

### Bible Readings for Sunday, April 11, 2021

Acts 4:32-35

1 John 5:1-6

John 20:19-31

#### Bible Readings for Sunday, April 18, 2021

Acts 3:13-15, 17-19

1 John 2:1-5a

Luke 24:35-48



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

### April Birthdays

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

### Offerings for April 2, 2021 (Good Friday)

Offerings: \$236 Attendance: 27

Offerings for April 4, 2021

Offerings: \$2,828 Online Giving: \$270

Attendance: 87

Thank you for your generous support.



#### **BIBLE STUDY CORNER**

With great power the apostles gave their testimony to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and great grace was upon them all.

Acts 4:33

**Reflection**: We have been told on more than one occasion that our actions speak louder than our words. The way we act in life gives testimony to what we believe and hold dear in our hearts.

It is hard to convince others to respond to the needs of the poor if we are not involved in a project that prepares a meal and feeds the poor. No one will care to listen to us about visiting the sick and lonely when we have not made the effort to visit a hospital or nursing home. It is difficult to get others to advocate for peace and justice when we have not resolved our personal conflicts with others. We cannot preach to others about the love of God when we harbor hatred and prejudice in our hearts.

After the resurrection, the followers of Christ had to ensure that their preaching matched their attitude and behavior. Preaching about the resurrection of the Lord Jesus required a new way of thinking and a new way of living. Belief in the resurrection challenged the followers of Christ to reflect on his life and ministry. They honored Jesus' teachings by following his example of reaching out to the poor, the rejected, the sick, and the lame. Their lives had to resemble the life of Christ, who came to bring God's compassion, love, peace, and forgiveness to all people.

Our actions, born out of faith in the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, have the power to change peoples minds and hearts. People will know the love of God when we show love. People will know the mercy of God when we offer forgiveness. People will know the goodness of God when we are good to others.

Ponder: How often do my actions match my words?

**Prayer:** Risen Lord, you fulfilled your promise by rising from

the dead. Help me to practice what I preach.

Practice: Today I will do more and speak less.

# **Completing The Dream**

It's been over 50 years since Martin Luther King Jr.'s "I Have A Dream" speech and it is now time to "Find Our Voice—Call To Action" on the **HR1** voting rights. There have been over 40 plus states promoting voting suppression that will impact blacks. Don't let his life's dream go in vain.

The For the People Act (also known as **H.R.1**) is a bill in the United States Congress to expand voting rights, change campaign finance laws to reduce the influence of money in politics, limit partisan gerrymandering, and create new ethics rules for federal officeholders.

What would Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. say today? Let your voice be heard, call your representative—202-224-3121.

Also John Lewis' last pleading words were to encourage people to vote for the passing of the (H.R. 4) voting rights bill. This bill is being named the *John Lewis Bill*. Congress is urging the passing of the John Lewis Bill.



#### **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 & 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.

## LIVE THE LITURGY INSPIRATION FOR THE WEEK

Alleluia! Forgiveness has risen from the grave! What a wonderful joy fills us today as we ponder the inexhaustible mercy of God. When experienced, we are moved to do all in our power to avoid sin and embrace the loving presence of our risen God. God stands ever ready to receive us and wants nothing more than for us to come home. How reluctant we are to believe this truth! We want proof, tangible evidence and absolute assurance that what we have been told is true. Jesus has risen from the dead and brings us peace. It is the gift of wholeness and holiness that is breathed upon us by God's life-giving and healing mercy. May the rays of love that flow from the heart of Christ pierce ours!

Magnificat Rochester invites all women to a virtual **Magnificat Visitation** on **Saturday, April 17th** at 10:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

Our speaker is Alexandra Andrews. Alexandra is a wife and mother of two young boys, and a Pro-Life speaker who shares her testimony as an Abortion Survivor! Alexandra reveals the ways in which God carried out His plan for her life, to bring her out of an orphanage in Russia so she could spread the message of the Gospel. Alexandra is an active member of her Parish, a Registered Nurse and a Creighton Model Fertility Care Practitioner Intern.

A Zoom registration must be made to take part. To register and receive the link please email us at <u>MagnificatRochester@frontier.com</u>. Or click on this link:

 $\frac{https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZcof-mqrDwpGdOJsKrVVDwmvpQS6ZHi83UV}{}$ 

For more information: call Louise Carson at 585-233-8647, or send an email to the above email address. There is no cost but a donation is gratefully accepted.



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

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