

# *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](http://www.immaculateconceptionrochester.org)  
[rillacul@dor.org](mailto:rillacul@dor.org)

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

## **Parish Staff**

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

**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.

*May 2, 2021*

*Fifth Sunday of Easter*

Following Jesus asks much of us but offers the eternal love of the Father in return.

To truly stay united to Jesus, we need grounding in two essential elements. First, by taking on the mind of Christ and adhering to what the Church proclaims. Second, by living in accord with the moral teaching of the Church. Following Jesus asks much of us but offers us the eternal love of the Father in return.

***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.

New members are welcome at Immaculate Conception/St. Bridget's Church. For more information on how to join the parish, please call the parish office at 325-3893.

**Sunday, May 2, 2021**

**Rev. John Crowley—Bequest**



*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, Yvette Reaves, Margaret Saint Joy, Alice Walters*

**Bible Readings for Sunday, May 2, 2021**

*Acts 9:26-31*

*1 John 3:18-24*

*Luke 15:1-8*

**Bible Readings for Sunday, May 9, 2021**

*Acts 10:25-26, 34-35, 44-48*

*1 John 4:7-10*

*John 15:9-17*



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](mailto:Colleen.Brade@dor.org)) if you would like to make your gift today.

**May Birthdays**

*Julian Barthelemy*

*Maria Degan*

*Anthony DeRouen*

*Carrie Fontenette*

*Joanie Fraver*

*Franc Kisenyi*

*Sosthenes Pierre-Philippe*

*Coralie Seide*

*Isabelle Walters*

**Offerings for April 25, 2021**

**Offerings: \$1,091**

**Online Giving: \$145**

**Catholic Home Missions Appeal: \$290**

**Attendance: 46**

**Thank you for your generous support.**

**"I am the true vine, and my Father  
is the vine grower."**



**BIBLE STUDY CORNER**

*Jesus answered him, "Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me. I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing."*

*John 15:4-5*

**Reflection:** The family is the place where we discover who we are, form our attitudes about life, and learn how to live with others. Our experiences in the family stay with us; they are part of the fabric of our lives. Whatever we say and do in life reflects our family values. We know that it is difficult to progress in life apart from a caring and loving family. We rely on our family to give us a firm foundation to succeed in life.

Beyond the family, we need a community to give us a deeper sense of belonging. We need the emotional and spiritual support of friends to walk with us through the various twists and turns of life. Our experiences with our friends and neighbors stay with us; they are part of the fabric of our lives. Within the life of a community, we learn how to become committed, compassionate, loving, forgiving, and faithful persons. We rely heavily on a loving and supportive community to sustain us in times of trial.

We also need to be a communion with the risen Jesus to live a holy life. We meet the risen Jesus in the gospels, in the Eucharist, in prayer, and in the poor. These experiences stay with us; they are part of the fabric of our lives. Our new life in the risen Jesus is reflected in the way we treat others. With the risen Jesus we can bear God's fruit of love, compassion, peace, and forgiveness in the world.

**Ponder:** How do I abide in the risen Jesus?

**Prayer:** Risen Jesus, your abiding presence give us hope. Help me to be a loving presence to others.

**Practice:** Today I will abide with God in prayer for

**LIVE THE LITURGY**  
**INSPIRATION FOR THE WEEK**

Anyone familiar with gardening knows that proper and timely pruning is essential. The health of the plant depends upon it. An unpruned tree can quickly produce suckers that zap many of the essential nutrients from its body. Pruning requires patience and vision. Studies reveal that plants often respond defensively to being pruned, displaying reactions that are similar to hurt or discomfort. Pruning is not easy but necessary. A hard lesson for us to learn is that we also need to be pruned. We become far healthier when we allow God to stretch, refine, and form us into the best version of ourselves. The fruit that then comes from our vines will be more abundant, nutritious, and robust. Left to our own devices we can easily find ourselves running amuck and spiraling out of control. Without a proper vision and trust in the Master Pruner, we will never find the contentment we desperately desire. Nor will the work of the Gospel stand a chance of succeeding.

## NY Project Hope Coping with COVID



Here to Talk | Here to Listen | Here to Support



Whether you need to talk to someone or learn about resources in your community, our trained crisis counselors are available for you. **1-844-863-9314**  
8am-10pm / 7 days

FEMA-funded program provides COVID-19 emotional support: NY Project Hope is a FEMA-funded program that provides crisis counseling and public education in response to COVID-19. This includes an Emotional Support Helpline that was initiated by the Governor's office at the beginning of the pandemic.

### How does NY Project Hope help?

Our Emotional Support Helpline is staffed by trained crisis counselors who help callers talk through their emotions and find resources to help them with the challenges of COVID. NY Project Hope also has a website filled with resources that folks can access anytime at [www.nyprojecthope.org](http://www.nyprojecthope.org), as well as a supportive social media presence. We welcome you to take a look and follow us on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), and [Twitter](#). **Our services are always confidential, free, and anonymous.**

### Catholic Ministries Appeal

*Dear Friends,*

*Thank you! Immaculate Conception/St. Bridget has once again made its CMA Goal of \$9,910 and was one of the first parishes to complete its campaign, as well as exceeding our goal!*

*Thank you also to our parish campaign leader George Fontenette.*

*This was a difficult year and yet...to all: Thank you.*

*Fr. Ray*



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)

### Catholic Home Missions Appeal

Thank you for your generous support of last week's Catholic Home Missions Appeal. As a parish, we raised **\$290** to help strengthen the Church at home and ensure that the Gospel is spread across the United States. If you missed the appeal, it's not too late to give! Just visit [www.usccb.org/home-missions](http://www.usccb.org/home-missions).



**Registration is available at all of our schools for the 2021-2022 school year!**

Visit us at [www.dorschools.org/schools](http://www.dorschools.org/schools) to learn more!



*If you are interested in advertising or including a Memorial*

*Please call the Parish Office – 325-3893*

<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> 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.	
<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> RE/MAX REALTY GROUP 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 your 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>	In Loving Memory of <b>JAMES WALTERS</b> <i>Alice Walters</i>	In Loving Memory of <b>JEFFREY WALTERS</b> <i>Alice Walters</i>
In Loving Memory of <b>DOUGLAS SIMMONS</b> <i>Alice Walters</i>	In Loving Memory of <b>ADA FULLWOOD</b> <i>The Augustine/Fullwood Families</i>	In Loving Memory of <b>RITA VIOLET AUGUSTINE</b> <i>The Augustine Family</i>
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>HENRY BELL SR. &amp; DONALD GORDON</b> <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>	In Loving Memory of <b>JOANNE LESSLEY</b> <i>JoAnn Gordon</i>	In Loving Memory of <b>MARY JACKSON</b> <i>Thomas &amp; Nellie Bostick</i>