

# *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)  
[rinnacul@dor.org](mailto:rinnacul@dor.org)

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

## Parish Staff

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

*September 13, 2020*

*24<sup>TH</sup> Sunday In Ordinary Time*

Forgiveness is a choice that leads to life.

Life always offers us choices—will we hold onto anger or choose to forgive? Will we live with a spirit of compassion or withhold mercy? Will we hold onto hurts and grievances or extend a hand in peace? Living out the commands of God is no easy task, but if we show mercy and forgiveness to others, we are assured of the same from our heavenly Father.

## **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:**

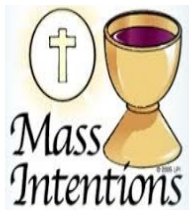
Adults interested in joining the Roman Catholic Church, please call the parish office.

*Speak,  
for your  
servant is  
listening.*

— 1 SM 3:10 —

**WE WORSHIP EVERY SUNDAY AT 10:00 AM**

**NEW MEMBERS ARE WELCOME!**



**Rena Lillard**

**Requested by Rose Stokes**

*Please pray for the sick of the parish and for family and friends of parishioners: Earl & Phyllis Barnes, Thomas Bostick, Sybil Doucette, Sarah Gordon, Mary Ann Hartman, Denise McGowan, Alice Walters*



**Offerings for September 6, 2020**

**Offerings: \$2,435**

**Attendance: 33**

**Thank you for your generous support.**

**Immaculate Conception/St. Bridget's  
Online Giving—For July: \$1,230**

**PLEASE CONSIDER ONLINE GIVING**

**Our parish is grateful for your continued support. Thank you!**



**Bible Readings for Sunday, September 13, 2020**

*Sirach 27:30—28:7 (pg. 32-33)*

*Romans 14:7-9 (pg. 33)*

*Matthew 18:21-35 (pg. 34)*

**Bible Readings for Sunday, September 20, 2020**

*Isaiah 55:6-9 (pg. 35)*

*Philippians 1:20c-24, 27a (pg. 36)*

*Matthew 20:1-16a (pg. 36-37)*

### **September Birthdays**

**Tim Sullivan**

**Bethsaida Seide**

**Belinda Seide**

**Pat Nguti**

**Peter Fraver**

**Karanja Augustine**

**Mildred Burgess**



### **LIVE THE LITURGY**

#### **INSPIRATION FOR THE WEEK**

Deciding to travel the challenging road of forgiveness is choosing a journey toward greater freedom. Resentment, anger, and clinging to past hurts not only keep open wounds that long for healing but bring us down paths that are eventually self-destructive. Harboring grudges and withholding forgiveness not only shut down relationships with others, but with God and myself as well. To choose to forgive another person, regardless of how grave the wrong, is a choice to be released from bondage to past wounds and scars and to pursue the gift of life and love again. Who among us has not wrong or sinned against another? We certainly would want God to understand, forgive, and show mercy upon us. It is hypocritical of us to not extend that same grace to our neighbor.

**“Lord, if my brother sins against me,  
how often must I forgive? As many as seven times?”**

**Jesus answered,**

**“I say to you, not seven times but  
seventy-seven times.”**

**Matthew 18:21-22**



## Break the Cycle of Poverty: Support the Catholic Campaign for Human Development

Next Sunday, September 20th, we will take up a collection for the Catholic Campaign for Human Development. CCHD addresses the root causes of poverty in America by supporting community-controlled, self-help organizations of low-income people. Groups made up of refugees, low wage workers, people with disabilities and others on the margins are making real social change through CCHD grants. In addition, 25% of the funds we collect will remain in our diocese to fund smaller, local antipoverty projects.

Here in Monroe County those local projects have included: *Coffee Connections*, a small business which trains and employs women in recovery from addiction, *Mujeras Divinas*, group of immigrant women who empowering themselves to understand their rights and to protect themselves from unhealthy relationships; and *Rochester Alliance of Communities Transforming Society (Roc/ACTS)*, made up of urban and suburban congregations working together for racial and economic justice.

## Happy Grandparents Day!

### Why Do We Celebrate Grandparents Day?

#### The History of Grandparents Day

Marian McQuade hoped to establish a national day that would honor grandparents, and in 1970 she began a campaign to do so. McQuade raised awareness about senior citizens throughout the 1970s. In 1978, President Jimmy Carter declared the first Sunday after Labor Day to be National Grandparents Day. Each year, the president issues a proclamation to keep the tradition going.

Grandparents Day has both an official flower and song. The official flower is the forget-me-not, and the song is Johnny Prill's "A Song for Grandma and Grandpa." Both were chosen by the National Grandparents Day Council.

#### Purpose of Grandparents Day

The purpose of the holiday, as stated in the preamble to the statute, is "to honor grandparents, to give grandparents an opportunity to show love for their children's children, and to help children become aware of the strength, information, and guidance older people can offer."

**GRANDPARENTS FILL THE  
WORLD WITH LOVE**



## BIBLE STUDY CORNER

*Does anyone harbor anger against another, and expect healing from the Lord? If someone has no mercy towards another like himself, can he then seek pardon for his own sins?*

*Sirach 28:3-4*

**Reflection:** We know that God is merciful, kind, slow to anger, and rich in compassion. We know that we are made in God's image. It is our lifelong challenge to let go of all that prevents us from being like God in mercy, in kindness, in slowness to anger, and in compassion.

People will hurt us. People will treat us unjustly, abandon us, and reject us. People will shame us, ridicule us, and spread malicious gossip about us. People will steal our ideas, cheat us out of our money, and take advantage of our goodness. People will attempt to undermine our self-confidence, our sense of self-worth, and our self-esteem.

It is human to want vengeance. It is human to want others to be punished for their actions. It is human to want at the very least an apology from those who have hurt us. Yet we have been made in God's image and are called to be merciful, kind, slow to anger, and rich in compassion. We have been called out of our human brokenness to be the face and hands and heart of God in the world.

Despite our human frailty, we are powerful divine beings. We have been given the power to surrender our pain and all the strong emotions that go with it to God. We have been given the power to choose mercy over revenge, kindness over hatred, forgiveness over anger, peace over violence, and compassion over superiority. We have been given the power to be like God in love and goodness.

**Ponder:** When have I felt the mercy and kindness of God?

**Prayer:** Lord, I am grateful for your endless mercy. Give me the humility and courage to forgive those who have hurt me.

**Practice:** With a grateful heart I will forgive someone who has hurt me.

**"Do not be afraid  
to take a chance on  
peace, to teach peace,  
to live peace...  
peace will be the last  
word of history."**

*—St. John Paul II*



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

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|--|--|---|
| <b>St. Joseph's House of Hospitality</b><br>A Rochester, NY Catholic Worker Community<br>402 South Avenue, Rochester, NY 14607<br>585-232-3262 | <b>BUCKMAN'S PLAZA</b><br>2590 W. Ridge Road, Rochester<br><br>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><br>133 S. Fitzhugh Street,<br>Rochester, NY 14608<br>www.cornill.org                                 | <b>Mileage Master Center of Rochester</b><br>2488 Browncroft Blvd.<br>Rochester, NY 14625<br>585-586-1870<br><i>The perfect place for all of your grilling needs</i>   | <b>TOM ZUBERT, REALTOR</b><br>RE/MAX REALTY GROUP<br>585-721-1313<br>zubert.tom@gmail.com<br>(ICS Graduate)                       |
| In Loving Memory of the<br><b>QUAMINA &amp; HARPER FAMILIES</b><br><i>Love Gail, Elise, Joyce, Richard</i>                                     | In Loving Memory of My Wife<br><b>ILONA WHITE</b><br><i>Alphonse White</i>   | <b>Skips on the Ridge</b><br>West Ridge Plaza<br>640 West Ridge Road<br>Rochester, NY 14615<br>585-865-3896                       |
| In Loving Memory of<br><b>HENRY FAISON JR.</b><br><i>Love your Mom, George, Adrian, Andre</i>  | Prayerful Remembrance of the Gordons<br><b>ARTHUR, SARAH, PEGGY, BUD, BOB, NANCY, GARY</b><br><i>Blessings Bill &amp; Family</i>   | In Loving Memory of<br><b>JOE HAUSER</b><br><i>The Wingo Family</i>   |
| In Loving Memory of<br><b>DR. NATHANIEL HURST</b><br><i>The Wingo Family</i>   | In Loving Memory of<br><b>DAVID MILES</b><br><i>Love your Wife &amp; Children</i>  | In Prayerful Remembrance of the Deceased Members of the<br><b>CULLEN &amp; CORRAL FAMILIES</b><br><i>Love Ralph &amp; Maureen</i> |
| In Loving Memory of<br><b>JAMES STOKES</b><br><i>The Stokes Family</i>   | In Loving Memory of<br><b>JAMES WALTERS</b><br><i>Alice Walters</i>  | In Loving Memory of<br><b>JEFFREY WALTERS</b><br><i>Alice Walters</i>   |
| In Loving Memory of<br><b>DOUGLAS SIMMONS</b><br><i>Alice Walters</i>  | In Loving Memory of<br><b>ADA FULLWOOD</b><br><i>The Augustine/Fullwood Families</i>   | In Loving Memory of<br><b>RITA VIOLET AUGUSTINE</b><br><i>The Augustine Family</i>  |
| In Loving Memory of<br><b>CRÉÔLE MON'AE FONTENETTE</b><br><i>Love your Grandparents</i>  | In Loving Memory of<br><b>JOSEPH RONALD WEBER</b><br><i>Roxana C. Weber</i>  | <b>SPACE AVAILABLE</b>  |

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