



Immaculate Conception Church

Parish Mission Statement

We are the people of Immaculate Conception (est. 1860) in Ithaca, NY (Tompkins County), a Parish of the Roman Catholic Church of the Diocese of Rochester. Inclusive and rich in diversity, we joyfully embrace our baptismal call to worship, celebrate sacramental life, nurture spiritual growth, foster lifelong faith formation, minister to others, share our gifts of time, talent and treasure, and affirm the Good News of Jesus Christ. We seek to welcome everyone no matter where they are in their spiritual

~August 7, 2011~

Staff Connection...

THE SPIRITUALITY OF VACATIONING

In the Book of Ecclesiastes we read— “There is a time for everything” (3:1). A time for vacation, although not mentioned, I am sure should be included.

While Father Leo was away it was my privilege to share daily Communion Services with you and Remo Rubens’ Funeral Homily. The daily readings of the various saints were a spiritual gold mine which gave me an opportunity to put together a practical application which hopefully gave you food for thought during those days. I am so grateful that so many of you came to pray with us as a Community of Believers, praying with and for one another.

In July 17, 2005, Pope Benedict XVI stated, that vacations are “almost a necessity in the world in which we live...to regain one’s strength of body and spirit, especially for those who live in the city, where the conditions of life, often feverish, leave little room for silence, reflection and relaxed contact with nature.” He continues, “It is a time which offers the unique opportunity to pause before the thought-provoking spectacles of nature, a wonderful ‘book’ which is in the reach of everyone.” (freerepublic.com)

Another “on line” source (rcspiritualdirection.com) compares it to farming. Before planting a new crop, a farmer plows and fertilizes his field. He has to turn over the earth and refresh the soil underneath by exposing it to the air. Then he is ready for the new crop. Vacation does something similar for our souls. Daily life is demanding and exhausting. We pour energy— mental, psychological, spiritual and emotional—into work, the duties of our state in life, and relationships. Our activity drains the nutrients from the soil of our human nature, drying it out. Vacation is meant to refresh that soil, to restore balance to our physical and psychological self. As Pope Benedict XVI put it: ‘I hope everyone, especially those in greatest needs, will be able to take a bit of vacation in order to restore their physical and spiritual energy and recover a healthy contact with nature’ (Angelus, July 8, 2007).

A vacation will yield little rest and rejuvenation if it fails to include a notable change from the daily grind—the soil must be plowed to be refreshed.

In short, we go on vacation from what we do, not from who we are.”

With all this said, you will find me at Angel Rock, Cape Vincent, NY until the 13th.

Sister Edna Slyck, RSM

MASS SCHEDULE
 Monday & Thursday—12:10PM
 Tuesday, Wednesday & Friday—7AM
 Vigil Mass Saturday—4:30PM
 Sunday—8:30 & 10:30AM

SACRAMENTS
BAPTISM: A preparation session is required before the baptism of your child. Please call 273-6121 prior to your due date for an appointment.
RECONCILIATION: Saturday 3—4PM
MARRIAGE: Please call 273-6121 at least 6 months in advance of your anticipated wedding date.
ANONING OF THE SICK: Call 273-6121 to request this sacrament.
HOSPITALIZATIONS
 Call 273-6121 if your loved one is in the hospital.

George Green Parish Center *** 113 North Geneva Street
 Ithaca, NY 14850 *** 607/273-6121
 Hours: Mon.—Fri. 8:30AM—4:00PM,
 Sat. 9AM—6PM, Sun. 8AM—Noon

Date	Mass Intentions
Sunday 8-07	8:30AM—Vladimir Gutierrez by Maria & Family 10:30AM—Deceased Members of the Ronaldo Bordoni & Cornish Families by Louise Cornish
Monday 8-08	12:10PM—Dode & Carl Yengo by Angelo & Molly DiGiacomo
Tuesday 8-09	7AM—John Cronoque by Mary & Bill Kennedy
Wednesday 8-10	7AM—Joseph Buttino by Ann Marie Sheridan
Thursday 8-11	12:10PM—Helen Kuno by Wilda Vanek
Friday 8-12	7AM—Caroline Guidi by Mario Guidi
Saturday 8-13	4:30PM—Francis & Olga Letizia by Pete & Carolyn Romani
Sunday 8-14	8:30AM—Mary Rinkcas/Rose Kroboth by Theresa Rinkcas 10:30AM—Emilio Sposito by Emma & Gezazdo Sciazza

OUR SANCTUARY LAMP
WILL BURN THIS WEEK
IN MEMORY OF
FRANCIS & OLGA LETIZIA
FROM PETE & CAROLYN ROMANI

*A sincere thank you to the family of
Rita McGonagle Head
For remembering Immaculate Conception
Church in the obituary of their loved one*

The Week Ahead...

TUESDAY, AUGUST 9
11AM—FOOD PANTRY DISTRIBUTION BEGINS AT 1PM—CH



Sr. Edna will be on vacation
August 6th–13th!

120 Migrant Farm Workers arrived to our community last weekend to harvest the seasons fruits & vegetables @ local farms. The distribution of basic living essentials of sheets, towels & dishes went smoothly last Monday afternoon. They are still in need of a few more items: flip-flops or shower shoes size large; & portable electric fans. If you are able to donate one or more of these items, please bring to the parish office for the remainder of this week. Thank you so much for your generosity.

Please remember to update your Parish Census Card as often as necessary so that we can contact you when necessary!

To commemorate 150 years as a Parish we're going to update our Parish Directory. Each parishioner and family are encouraged to get their picture taken at no cost and receive a free directory. You can sign up after masses August 13 & 14 We have over 1300 parish families, let's see if we can get everyone in the directory! If you'd like to help with the sign-ups or with the layout of the directory contact Mark Jasinski at 241-2796 or mjasinski@twcny.rr.com.



OUR OFFERING TO THE LORD	
July 31, 2011	
Collection 2011	\$ 7,109
Budgeted (\$10,118 weekly)	\$ 50,590
Actual Collections: wk 5 of FY	\$ 39,951
OVER/(UNDER) to date	\$ (10,639)
Collection 2010	\$ 11,910

Youth Ministries	\$ 1,341

Attendance 2011	720
Attendance 2010	741



Invest just five minutes a day, and your faith will deepen and grow—a day at a time.

SUNDAY, AUGUST 7, 2011

NINETEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

No doubt about it

Most of us struggle with fears and doubts, some great, many small but nagging. At least we can take comfort in having a prominent role model—Saint Peter. The story of how he was able to walk on the water toward Jesus until he got scared and began to sink is a textbook example of our own tendency to let fear and doubt “sink” our greatest aspiration: to be one with Jesus. Perhaps a quote from Shakespeare will help us see the light: “Our doubts are traitors and make us lose the good we oft might win by fearing to attempt.” Take the plunge!

TODAY'S READINGS: *1 Kings 19:9a, 11-13a; Romans 9:1-5; Matthew 14:22-33 (115)*

“O you of little faith, why did you doubt?”

MONDAY, AUGUST 8 FEAST OF DOMINIC, PRIEST

Are you seeing stars?

Few things in nature are as awe-inspiring as the night sky. The multitude of stars and the sheer vastness of the universe help us know we are part of a creation that is more marvelous and wonderful than we can imagine. An old proverb reminds us, “Be humble, for you are made of earth. Be noble, for you are made of stars.” Saint Dominic is the patron saint of astronomers. Legend has it that his mother saw a star shining on his breast the day he was baptized. In honor of Dominic, spend some time looking at the evening sky this week.

TODAY'S READINGS: *Deuteronomy 10:12-22; Matthew 17:22-27 (413)*

“Think! The heavens, even the highest heavens, belong to the Lord, your God, as well as the earth and everything on it.”

TUESDAY, AUGUST 9

FEAST OF TERESA BENEDICTA OF THE CROSS, VIRGIN, MARTYR

Cross purposes

Three Spanish saints—Ignatius of Loyola, Teresa of Avila, and John of the Cross—wrote extensively on suffering and the role of the cross. Their writings helped draw Edith Stein (later Carmelite Sister Teresa Benedicta) into the life of the church. Even before the rise of Nazism, Teresa Benedicta, a Jewish convert to Catholicism who was gassed at Auschwitz in 1942, saw the cross as central in her own life: “I understood the cross as the destiny of God’s people. . . . I felt that those who understood the cross of Christ should take it upon themselves on everybody’s behalf.” How willing are you to take up the cross on behalf of others? What would you risk for the sake of what is right and just?

TODAY'S READINGS: *Deuteronomy 31:1-8; Matthew 18:1-5, 10, 12-14 (414)*

“It is the Lord who marches before you; he will be with you and will never fail you or forsake you.”

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 10 FEAST OF LAWRENCE, DEACON, MARTYR

A martyr for all seasons

Lawrence was one of seven deacons of ancient Rome who were martyred during the persecution of Emperor Valerian in 258. When commanded by his persecutors to turn over the treasures of the church, he brought forth the poor of his congregation, sealing his own fate. Because his martyrdom occurred early in church history, he is widely venerated by Christians of all stripes—Roman Catholic, Orthodox, Protestant. Perhaps he can serve as a point of common ground. Ask a friend or relative from a different faith background if they know the story of Lawrence’s life and martyrdom.

TODAY'S READINGS: *2 Corinthians 9:6-10; John 12:24-26 (618)*

“Unless a grain of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it remains just a grain of wheat.”

THURSDAY, AUGUST 11 FEAST OF CLARE, VIRGIN

Keep it simple

Franciscans have always treasured Saint Clare for her lifelong friendship with Saint Francis of Assisi. The Second Vatican Council’s directive that all religious orders return to their roots, however, resulted in research that showed Clare was more than a feminine shadow to her male friend. She was a parallel force whose commitment to the gospel, and especially gospel poverty, was equally unwavering. Clare outlived Francis by 27 years during which she showed that his ideals did not die with him, to the point of standing up to Pope Gregory IX when he tried to persuade her to give up such austere poverty. The Poor Clares of today cling fervently to simplicity and poverty, beacons like their mother Clare by whose light we may see more clearly.

TODAY'S READINGS: *Joshua 3:7-10a, 11, 13-17; Matthew 18:21-19:1 (416)*

“The kingdom of heaven may be likened to a king who decided to settle accounts with his servants.”

FRIDAY, AUGUST 12

FEAST OF JANE FRANCES DE CHANTAL, RELIGIOUS

You can count on God

Where is God in the midst of tough times? It’s an age-old question—and one Saint Jane Frances de Chantal faced centuries ago. At age 28 her husband died in an accident, leaving her entirely responsible for their young children. It would be understandable to question God’s role in such circumstances. Maybe Jane did. But instead of turning away from God, she turned toward God. She allowed her pain to be transformed into something life-giving. In 1610 she and her friend Francis de Sales began a religious order for women, the Visitation of Holy Mary, to help others transform their lives through prayer. Jane trusted that God was with her always. Hold onto the trust in God that has sustained people throughout history.

TODAY'S READINGS: *Joshua 24:1-13; Matthew 19:3-12 (417)*

“I gave you a land that you had not tilled and cities that you had not built, to dwell in.”

SATURDAY, AUGUST 13

FEAST OF PONTIAN, POPE, MARTYR, AND HIPPLYTUS, PRIEST, MARTYR

Hell is a choice

“No,” a church signboard said one scorching summer, “it is not hotter than hell.” Throughout Christian history hell has inspired some pretty vivid imagery. Around the turn of the first century, one of today’s saints, Pontian, warned the unrepentant about the “boiling flood of hell’s eternal lake of fire and the menacing glare of fallen angels chained . . . as punishment for their sins.” Does a loving and forgiving God really condemn people to permanent residence in such a place? Hell, says the *Catechism of the Catholic Church*, is the “state of definitive self-exclusion from communion with God” (no. 1033). Note this statement involves the freedom to make a personal decision to separate oneself from God; spending eternity being glared at by fallen angels is totally optional.

TODAY'S READINGS: *Joshua 24:14-29; Matthew 19:13-15 (418)*

“If it does not please you to serve the Lord, decide today whom you will serve.”

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Scripture quotes come from the New American Bible.

Contributors: Alice Camille, Daniel Grippo, Father Larry Janowski, O.F.M., Ann O’Connor, Joel Schorn, Patrice J. Tuohy, Sister Julie Vieira, I.H.M.



Invest just five minutes a day, and your faith will deepen and grow—a day at a time.

SUNDAY, AUGUST 14, 2011 TWENTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME Welcome the foreigner

Jesus had a weak spot for the downtrodden. He was always on the lookout to bring a word of hope and healing to persons who were struggling. We continue Jesus' mission by opening our doors to and seeking out people who could use a helping hand. Caring for migrants and immigrants, especially those who suffer from human rights abuses and separation from family and loved ones, is one of the pressing issues of our time. The U.S. Catholic Bishops have spoken clearly and consistently on how each of us and our government can better receive the "strangers among us." Check out what the bishops are saying at JusticeForImmigrants.org and consider ways that you can help extend a word of hope and healing.

TODAY'S READINGS: *Isaiah 56:1, 6-7; Romans 11:13-15, 29-32; Matthew 15:21-28 (118)*

"The foreigners who join themselves to the Lord . . . I will bring to my holy mountain and make joyful in my house of prayer."

MONDAY, AUGUST 15

SOLEMNITY OF THE ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY Salve Regina

Mary's Assumption into heaven has been celebrated by Christians since at least the sixth century, and the many images in Christian art attest to the popularity of this Marian devotion. The feast of the Assumption not only honors Mary's reign in heaven but her exemplary life on earth. Mary's life offers Christians consolation and hope. She was faithful despite hardships and suffering, and her service is rewarded. We ask Mary to pray for us "now and at the hour of our death" because her life and death provided the first and best witness to the way of Jesus. She is, in the words of Saint Alphonsus Liguori, the Gate of Heaven. Ask for Mary's help daily to make you a better Christian.

TODAY'S READINGS: *Revelation 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab; 1 Corinthians 15:20-27; Luke 1:39-56 (622)*

"From this day all generations will call me blessed: the Almighty has done great things for me."

TUESDAY, AUGUST 16 FEAST OF STEPHEN OF HUNGARY Take a letter

Saint Stephen wrote letters to his son whom he hoped would follow him to the throne of 11th-century Hungary. While Stephen—even as a saint—was not above the violence and political maneuvering of his time, the letters show he had another critical legacy. He wrote, for example, "Show favor not only to relations and kin, or to the most eminent, be they leaders or rich men or neighbors or fellow-countrymen, but also to foreigners and to all who come to you." While our own lived example of goodness is critical, a letter—not an e-mail or a text!—of encouragement and faith to a child, relative, or friend is sure to be kept and valued.

TODAY'S READINGS: *Judges 6:11-24a; Matthew 19:23-30 (420)*

"If I find favor with you, give me a sign that you are speaking with me."

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 17 Getting leadership right

After enduring a number of presidential elections, we can be baffled about what makes for a good leader. The campaign trail offers few authentic clues, and news outlets are by no means reliable sources. The Book of Judges bears witness that ours is not the first generation that struggles to discern wise leaders for

itself. People remain people: invested in their own self interest, swayed by fear and anxiety as much as by reason and thoughtful consideration. Because our vision can be faulty and our hearts small, we need to pray for our leaders before we elect them—and especially afterward.

TODAY'S READINGS: *Judges 9:6-15; Matthew 20:1-16 (421)*

"So they said to the olive tree, 'Reign over us.'"

THURSDAY, AUGUST 18

The honor of your presence is requested

Gifted teacher that he was, Jesus knew that there is no better way to teach than through a story. None is more timely than the story of the king who prepared a feast for guests who were too busy pursuing worldly gain to show up. They seem foolish and rude—who would pass up a king's invitation, after all?—until we pause to consider if perhaps we, too, are the invited guests. Thankfully, God's invitation is a standing one. If you have become absorbed by earthly pursuits, even worthwhile or necessary ones, pause for a moment of quiet reflection or prayer today. Let the feast begin!

TODAY'S READINGS: *Judges 11:29-39a; Matthew 22:1-14 (422)*

"Some ignored the invitation and went away, one to his farm, another to his business."

FRIDAY, AUGUST 19 FEAST OF JOHN EUDES, PRIEST Look for those hiding in plain sight

It takes intention and not a little effort to notice the people who exist beyond the circle of those we encounter on a daily basis. The pull of family, friends, neighbors, and coworkers is strong. Yet there are people who model how to see beyond those closest to us. Saint John Eudes (1601-1680) was one such person. He was a great preacher and writer who acknowledged and helped care for those who were surviving on the margins, in particular prostitutes and victims of the plague. Jesus knew that people respond to love, not condemnation. That's why he commanded us to care for others, especially those who are poor, ill, incarcerated, or homeless. May our prayer today be that we see and respond to those who are ordinarily invisible to us.

TODAY'S READINGS: *Ruth 1:1, 3-6, 14b-16, 22; Matthew 22:34-40 (423)*

"Wherever you go, I will go, wherever you lodge I will lodge, your people shall be my people, and your God my God."

SATURDAY, AUGUST 20

FEAST OF BERNARD, ABBOT, DOCTOR OF THE CHURCH Dining on air

What would you think of a person who stood in the wind, mouth open, inhaling draughts of air in hopes of satisfying hunger? "You would think him lunatic," Abbot Bernard (1090-1153) declared. "But it is no less foolish to imagine that the soul can be satisfied with worldly things which only inflate it without feeding it." How often have you and I inhaled the air in random acts of shopping or professional ambition, expecting that these might fill that empty place within us? It's time to acknowledge the one true Master and dine on the only food that truly satisfies.

TODAY'S READINGS: *Ruth 2:1-3, 8-11; 4:13-17; Matthew 23:1-12 (424)*

"Do not be called 'Master'; you have but one master, the Christ."

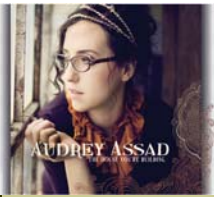
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Don't forget to purchase your "We Are The Beggars" Tour Tickets featuring Ike Ndolo & Audrey Assad

Special Guest: **Ennie HickMan**
Monday, September 19th @ 7p
St. Catherine of Siena Church, Ithaca, NY

Promoted by Immaculate Conception Youth & Family Ministry & St. Catherine of Siena Church in Ithaca, NY

For more ticket info & to listen to Audrey & Ike's music, please visit <http://www.immconch.org/youth.html>



ATTENTION LADIES!

Another year gone by and it is time for the Women's Retreat weekend at Notre Dame Retreat House. This year's theme is: **"TO BE OR NOT TO BE A 24/7 CATHOLIC; FOR THAT IS THE QUESTION."** That theme has certainly peaked my interest....how about you? Please join me in what promises to be a renewal of our identity as Catholic women of faith.

Date: September 16-18, 2011
Deadline for registration is September 7, 2011

Contact: **Maureen Seeley** 589-6483 or e-mail mseeley@htva.net

Changes in Policies and Procedures

Over the next few weeks and months you may notice some changes in the way long standing procedures are done at Immaculate. The Diocese of Rochester has updated its policies and procedures for all parishes, schools and worship sites and will continue to do so as legislation and tax laws evolve for not-for-profit and religious organizations. For instance, this weekend the ushers will begin a small change in the procedure for combining the gifts in the baskets which are collected at Mass. The ushers will now empty the baskets into the sealed-plastic bag before it is received at the altar. As the Mass proceeds the ushers will place the collection in the locked area in the vestry.

We would also like to welcome Ann Argetsinger, who will be our new weekend Office Assistant. Ann will now work on Saturday from 10:00 am to 4:30 pm. This Parish office will no longer be open on Sunday. And at this time, we would very much like to extend our thanks and gratitude for a ministry well done to all the middle and high school teens who have worked faithfully in the office each weekend for so many years.

PEACE MASS- SAVE THE DATE:

"Peacemaking is not an optional commitment. It is a requirement of our faith. We are called to be peacemakers, not by some movement of the moment, but by our Lord Jesus." - U.S. Catholic Bishops in "The Challenge of Peace"

The eight Catholic communities of Tompkins County will again this year sponsor a special Mass for peace coinciding with the International Day of Peace. It will be held on the evening of Friday, September 16, hosted by the enthusiastic Catholic chaplaincy at Ithaca College! Fr. Simon Harak, S.J., Director of the Center for Peacemaking at Marquette University, will be the principal celebrant. On Saturday, September 17, Fr. Harak will lead a workshop on Jesus' message of peace and non-violence. Please save these dates. More information to follow on this wonderful opportunity for all Catholics in the county to gather and pray for peace. Questions? Call Laurie Konwinski at Catholic Charities, 272-5062 ext 12.

Have you missed the **Evangelization Team Suggestions?** Would love to hear from you about how you have used these suggestions this year. **SEE YOU IN SEPTEMBER...**

THE IC INSPIRATIONAL GIFT SHOPPE IS IN NEED OF VOLUNTEERS TO WORK ON SATURDAY AFTERNOON FROM 12 TO 4:30—ONCE A MONTH. PARKING IS FREE AND YOU WILL RECEIVE A DISCOUNT ON PURCHASES. CALL SHARON @ 273-6363 FOR MORE INFO



PARISH STAFF

- Fr. Leo Reinhardt ext. 113
Pastor/Sacramental Preparation
- Sr. Edna Slyck ext. 108
Pastoral Associate for RCIA,
Liturgy, Evangelization
- Lynn Kingston ext. 106
Business Manager
- Jo-Anne Evanek ext. 101
Parish Administrative Assistant
- Ginny Seacord ext. 102
Office Manager
- Colleen Sforzo ext. 105
Administrative Assistant
- Gary Vrabel ext. 111
Music Ministry

CONTACT INFORMATION
Main Office 607/273-6121

- Diana Oravec - Principal
IC School 273-2707
<http://schools.dor.org/ic/>
- Inspirational Gift Shop 273-6363
- Calvary Cemetery 272-5780

YOUTH & FAMILY

- Rich Rasmussen ext. 110
High School & Family Based
- Carolann Darling ext. 109
Middle School

BULLETIN REQUESTS:

E-mail: [Jo-Anne Evanek @ jevanek@immconch.org](mailto:Jo-Anne.Evanek@immconch.org)
no later than Tuesdays @ 4PM