

Immaculate Conception Church

GEORGE GREEN PARISH CENTER ••• 113 North Geneva Street ••• Ithaca, NY 14850 ••• 607-273-6121

Hours: Mon. – Fri. 8:30 AM – 4:30 PM, Sat. 9:00 AM – 6:00 PM, Sun. 8:00 AM – Noon

PARISH WEBSITE: www.immconch.org

November 28, 2010



Staff Connection...

In his fine commentary on Matthew's Gospel, William Barclay cited a fable about three apprentice demons who were being sent to earth to complete their apprenticeships (*The Daily Study Bible*, The Saint Andrew Press, Edinburgh, U.K.: 1975). Before they departed, Satan asked each of them how they were going to tempt and ruin humankind. "I will tell them there is no God," said the first. Satan responded, "That will not delude many, for they know there is a God." At that the second demon said, "I will tell them there is no hell." To that Satan said, "You will deceive no one, for they also know that there is a hell for the unrepentant." The third demon said, "I will tell them that there is no hurry." Pleased at this response, Satan said, "Go! You will ruin them by the thousands." Most dangerous of all delusions is to think that there is plenty of time. One of the most dangerous days in a person's life is when he or she learns that there is a tomorrow. On that day, the person begins to put off what can and should be done today.

This fable underscores the urgency in preparing for the coming of the Son of Man. The images in today's Gospel warn that when that day comes, it will come with shattering suddenness and with a swift judgment that sifts good from evil with a finality that cannot be reversed.

On the outside, two men in a field and two women grinding at a mill look the same. No doubt the primeval Noah was also outwardly similar to his contemporaries. Yet he survived the flood, as did the one man from the field and the one woman at the mill survive the coming of the Son of Man. For reasons known only to God who sees beyond appearances to the heart of a person, some will survive the hour of the Son while others will not. Since that decision lies completely within God's purview, believers are simply to follow the Matthean Jesus' advice and "be prepared." With a nod to Barclay's fable, we would not be wrong to add a modifier to Jesus' advice and say, "Be prepared *today!*"

In an appeal to the common sense of his listeners, the Matthean Jesus also offered the image of the homeowner who prepares so that a thief will not catch him off guard. If we are practical and sensible enough to guard ourselves and those who are dear to us against danger and harm from unwanted guests, how can we not be prepared for the ultimate guest, Jesus?

Perhaps the secret to being prepared lies in taking time each day to search out the presence of Jesus. He lives and breathes in the word that proclaims and reveals him; he reaches out to feed the hungry with the bread of his word and the bread of his very self. Familiarity with his sacramental presence should lead us to recognize his presence in the poor and needy of this world. Although Jesus has said that these poor will always be with us, he has also warned that our time to see his face in theirs and to minister to them will come to an end. Therefore, to prepare for an hour we cannot know and will not expect, let us use this day, this moment, this time as best we can.

From Celebration. Hope this helps us to celebrate Advent & to be vigilant everyday to meet Christ. *Fr. Leo*

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 journey."

SACRAMENTS

BAPTISM: A preparation session is required **before the baptism of your child**. Please call 273-6121 prior to your due date for an appt.

RECONCILIATION: Saturday 3PM – 4:00PM

MARRIAGE: Please call 273-6121 at least 6 months in advance of your anticipated wedding date.

ANOINTING OF THE SICK: Call 273-6121 to request this sacrament.

Hospitalizations


Call 273-6121 if your loved one is in the hospital.

MASS SCHEDULE:

Mon., Thurs. 12:10PM, Tues., Wed., Fri., 7AM, Vigil Mass Saturday 4:30PM, Sunday 8:30 & 10:30AM

DATE	EUCCHARISTIC INTENTIONS	PARISH EVENTS...THE WEEK AHEAD
Sunday, November 28	8:30AM—Ruth Wortman by the Whittaker Family 10:30AM—Dominic Gaultiere by Theresa Flacco	Coffee Hours after 8:30 and 11:30AM Masses 11:45AM—Youth Group—School Gym
Monday, November 29	12:10PM—Edward Schano by Carolyn George	1PM—Rosary Making—Parish Center
Tuesday, November 30	7:00AM—Daniel Gallagher by Sonny & Mary Camobreco	11AM—Food Pantry—Carges Hall Distribution begins at 1PM 7:30PM—SCC Meeting—Parish Center
Wednesday, December 1	7:00AM—Ruth Kirby by the Kirby Family	10:45AM—SCC—Parish Center 7PM—Parish Council—Carges Hall
Thursday, December 2	12:10PM—Evelyn Bauer by Bill & Marie Marshall	12:40PM—Adult Faith Formation—Carges Hall
Friday, December 3	7:00AM—In Honor of St. Philomena by Julia Kennedy	11AM—Benediction—Church
Saturday, December 4	4:30PM—Brien Field by George & Virginia Field	11:30AM—Reconciliation Day of Prayer—CH 6PM—Holy Hour—Church
Sunday, December 5	8:30AM—In Celebration of Jim & Barb Manning's 46 th Wedding Anniversary 10:30AM—Robert Gneo & Deceased Members of the Gneo Family by Loretta Gneo	9:20AM—Religious Ed—School 11:30AM—RCIA—Parish Center 11:45AM—Youth Group—School Gym 1:30PM—4:00—Carmelites—Parish Center

OUR SANCTUARY LAMP WILL BURN THIS WEEK
 IN MEMORY OF
VIOLA & LEO MALISKI
 FROM THE MALISKI FAMILY



CHRISTMAS FLOWERS & DECORATIONS

If you wish to contribute (\$10.00) toward the purchase of Christmas Flowers & Decorations in memory of a loved one, please stop by the Parish Center now until Monday, December 13th.

Thanks to the generosity of our parishioners, Immaculate Conception Church was able to assist more than 20 families with Thanksgiving Dinner this year. The recipients of this year's FOOD BASKET CARD PROGRAM were very gracious and quite thankful. God Bless each of you for your Spirit of Giving.

OUR OFFERING TO THE LORD	
November 21, 2010	
Collection 2010	\$ 6,997
Budgeted (\$10,118 weekly)	\$ 212,478
Actual Collections: wk 21 of FY	\$ 177,921
OVER/(UNDER) to date	\$ (34,557)
Collection 2009	\$ 7,198

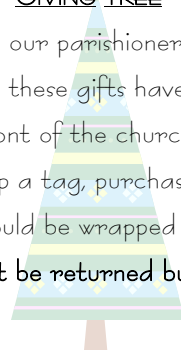
School Support 2010	\$ 1,834
School Support 2009	\$ 1,816

Attendance 2010	722
Attendance 2009	760

CATHOLIC MINISTRIES APPEAL
 Goal = \$52,588
 We have reached 57.29% of our goal!

GIVING TREE

Each year at Christmas, our parishioners purchase gifts for families in need. Tags for these gifts have been placed on the Christmas tree in the front of the church. If you would like to participate please pick up a tag, purchase the gift, and return it under the tree. Gifts should be wrapped with the tag taped on the outside. All gifts must be returned by Sunday, Dec. 12. Thank you for your generosity.



CATHOLIC MINISTRIES APPEAL:
 Sue Versluys oversees the Diocesan Youth Ministry. She works closely with Rich and Carolann to keep our youth up to speed with what is happening in the Diocese and on the national level.

BLESSING FOR EXPECTANT MOTHERS

There will be a blessing for expectant mothers at the masses on the weekend of December 18th & 19th. Please call the Parish Center to let us know which Mass you will be attending on that weekend.

Adult Faith Formation:

December 2, 9 & 16, 2010

We will share a DVD

AN ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS JOURNEY

EVERYDAY EVANGELIZATION

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Jesus, I Trust in You

In the spirit of "Disciples in Mission," the Evangelization Team presents these easy, everyday ways to give witness to our faith, as our Lord asked us.

Suggestions-

1. In anticipation of the birth of Christ, set up an advent wreath in your home.
2. Take cards from the "Giving Tree" to make someone a little happier this Christmas.

Be not afraid

HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH GROUP

Groups are held from 11:45AM—1:15PM at Immaculate Conception School.

ALL 9TH-12TH GRADERS

ARE WELCOME ANYTIME!

"Never neglect the little things. Never skimp on that extra effort, that additional few minutes, that soft word of praise or thanks, that delivery of the very best that you can do. It does not matter what others think, it is of prime importance, however, what you think about you. You are special. Act it. Never neglect the little things."

The IC MUSIC MINISTRY is looking for a small group of young adults (ages 10 to 16) to join with the choir on a special piece for Midnight Mass. The basic part for this group would be to sing the "First Noel" within a choral piece, similar to what we have done in the past. There will be one or two short rehearsals. This rendition will be performed after Communion. Anyone interested, or with questions, should contact Gary Vlabel @ 315/729-5881 or email support@southerncayuga.org or gvrabel@immconch.org. You may also call the rectory.

**IC
SCHOOL
YOUTH
GROUP**

The word advent, from Latin, means "the coming." It is a time of spiritual reflection as well as cheer and anticipation. The home or family Advent devotion includes the ceremonial lighting of candles in the Advent wreath.

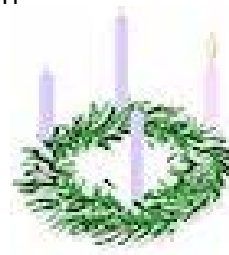
First Sunday of Advent : Hope Light one purple candle to symbolize Hope

Prayer: Read Isaiah 60:2-3

Extinguish the flame

To make your own advent wreath...

Create your own wreath every year, using greens from the yard, florist wire, pine cones, candles and candle holders. Insert your greens pine cones candles etc. into a Styrofoam ring. You can also find wood or metal bases o be used year after year.



Office of Youth Ministry & Religious Education
 Rich Rasmussen ext. 110 or Carolann Darling ext. 109

Do you have knickknacks, craft projects, etc. lying around the house? Do you want to clean out some of these and help Immaculate Conception School at the same time? The school sets up a Santa Shoppe for students to purchase gifts for their families and friends at a small cost. We would gladly accept any donations for the Shoppe. They can be dropped off at school (7:30 A.M. – 5:30 P.M.) by Friday, December 10th. Thanks for your support.

The annual **Immaculate Conception School** concert and Christmas pageant will take place on Tuesday, December 7th at 7:00PM in the school gym. Everyone is invited to attend.

The **IC INSPIRATIONAL GIFT SHOPPE** is stocked with Advent candles, wreaths, and calendars for the Advent Season. Nativity Sets & Christmas Gifts are on display. Come early for best selection. Open M-F 10AM—5PM and Saturdays noon to 4:30.

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

Lynn Hathaway ext. 101
 Parish Assistant

Ginny Seacord ext. 102
 Office Manager

Gary Vlabel ext. 111
 Music Ministry

CONTACT INFORMATION

Diana Oravec - School Principal
 IC School 273-2707
<http://schools.dor.org/ic/>

Inspirational Gift Shoppe 273-6363

Calvary Cemetery 272-5780

BULLETIN REQUESTS:

E-mail: Lynn Hathaway @ lhathaway@immconch.org
 Bulletin requests must be received no later than close of business on Tuesdays.