



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.

~December 4 2011~

Staff Connection...

180 YEARS OF MERCY

On December 12, 1831, Catherine McAuley professed her vows as the first Sister of Mercy, in the chapel at George's Hill, Dublin, Ireland. Up to that time the Vowed Religious were cloistered, but Catherine wanted her Sisters to be out with and for the people. The Sisters of Mercy became known as "the Walking Sisters".

They started schools and visited the hospitals. They nursed those suffering from epidemics. Some of the Sisters died young as a result of their exposure to these diseases. Other nurses became involved in aiding wounded soldiers along, with Florence Nightingale, during the Crimean War. The Bishop of Pittsburgh, PA, requested the Sisters come to America, so in 1843, Mother Mary Francis Warde, came with a group of Sisters. From there they came to Rochester on June 9, 1857. Here in America they nursed soldiers from the North and South during the Civil War. In 1991, the Sisters of Mercy in the United States came together as one—the Institute of the Sisters of Mercy of the Americas. From there, 6 geographic communities were formed. The Rochester Community joined with Buffalo, Erie, Pittsburgh, and the Philippines to form "New York, Pennsylvania, and Pacific West" or the acronym "NyPPaW", pronounced "ni-paw". Mercy is alive throughout the world, but also in Ithaca. The vocations from Ithaca are **Sister Jane Kendrick**, Santiago, Chile; **Sister Barbara Stinard**, Rochester Associate Coordinator, and **Sister Madeline Rockwell**, involved in Mercy Ministries of Laredo, Texas. **Sister Judith Kendrick** is "busy" praying for us in heaven. Our Associates from Immaculate are: **Mary Ann Fitzpatrick**, Welcoming and Hospitality Committees and Mass Coordinator; **Jean Massicci**, Eucharistic Minister and Mass Coordinator; **Kathleen O'Grady**, Eucharistic Minister and care of her father; **Nancy Liguori**, Prayer Ministry; **Mary Edsall-Golway**, Eucharistic Minister, Welcoming, Hospitality, and Stewardship Committees, Finance Council, and Evangelization Team; **Dinah Collins**, Eucharistic Minister, Liturgy, Hospitality and Welcoming Committees; **Ann Argetsinger**, Eucharistic Minister, Service Team and Saturday Office Secretary; **Margaret Dean**, Catholic Charities; **Cathy Cooke**, Liturgy, Hospitality and Welcoming Committee. **Helen Wilkins** is helping Sister Judy pray for us from heaven. And yes, there is **Sister Mary Elise**, retired, yet with our Food Pantry and director of our Funeral Choir; and **Sister Edna Slyck**, Pastoral Associate.

Mercy IS alive and well and living in Ithaca!

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.

ANOIDING 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. 8:00AM—4:00PM
Sat. 10AM—4:30PM

Immaculate Conception Church

Date	Mass Intentions	The Week Ahead...
Sunday 12-4	8:30AM—Rita Bangs by Joe & Mary Kohm 10:30AM—Frank Murphy by John & Peggy Keating	SUNDAY, DEC 4 11:30A—RCIA—PARISH CENTER 11:45A—YOUTH GROUPS—SCHOOL
Monday 12-5	12:10PM—James & Barbara Manning (47th Wedding Anniversary) from The Family	MONDAY, DEC 5 1P—ROSARY MAKING—PARISH CENTER 6:30P—COMTEMPORARY CHOIR—SCHOOL
Tuesday 12-6	7AM—Marifrancys Lucas from Fingerlakes Kennel Club	TUESDAY, DEC 6 11A—FOOD PANTRY DISTRIBUTION BEGINS @1PM—CARGES HALL
Wednesday 12-7	7AM—Georges (Gary) Jaynes from Josephine Jaynes & Family	7P—TRADITIONAL CHOIR— CHURCH
Thursday 12-8	FEAST OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION 7AM—Joan Therese Rispoli from Carmela Savarese 12:10PM—Kenneth & Catherine Fauls from Bernadine Fauls 5:30PM—Lt Col Domingo I Aguilar from Carmen Brewer	WEDNESDAY, DEC 7 10:45A—SMALL CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY— PARISH CENTER 7P—PASTORAL COUNCIL—PARISH HALL
Friday 12-9	7AM—Louis Bonanni Sr. from The Bonanni Family	THURSDAY, DEC 8 12:40P—ADULT FAITH FORMATION— PARISH HALL
Saturday 12-10	4:30PM—Victor Mansfield from Virginia Pepitone	6:30P—DISH TO PASS FOLLOWING THE 5:30 MASS PARISH HALL
Sunday 12-11	8:30AM—Michael R. Slade from The Colbert Family 10:30AM—Angelo Bergamini from Leo & Emilia Sposito	SATURDAY, DEC 10 1P—RECONCILIATION SERVICE
		SUNDAY, DEC 11 8:30/10:30—COFFEE HOUR—PARISH HALL 11:45A—YOUTH GROUPS—SCHOOL

RECONCILIATION

There will be a special Reconciliation on Saturday December 10, 2011 at 1:00PM. We will still be having our regular Individual Reconciliation at 3:00PM

CATHOLIC MINISTRIES APPEAL (CMA)

CMA standings... Pledged 59.55% or \$29,934.19 Last year we were at 58.52%. Matching gifts is another way to help increase our pledge amount. If you are an active/retired employee of a corporation, please check with your Human Resource department for a matching-gift application that can be mailed with your gift. Remember no amount is too insignificant.

Thank you for your pledges!

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 14th.

OUR SANCTUARY LAMP

WILL BURN THIS WEEK
IN MEMORY OF GEORGE (GARY) JAYNES
FROM JOSEPHINE JAYNES & FAMILY

"Success means having the courage, the determination, and the will to become the person you believe"

CHRISTMAS GIVING TREE

Thank you to those families who were so kind to take the tags from the Giving Tree last weekend. A few more tags for gifts have been placed on the Christmas Giving Tree at the front of church (Seneca Street side of church). If you would like to participate please take a tag off the tree, 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, December 11.** Thank you for your generosity!!

OUR OFFERING TO THE LORD

November 27, 2011

Collection 2011	\$ 7,129
Budgeted (\$10,118 weekly)	\$ 222,596
Actual Collections: wk 22 of FY	\$ 183,884
OVER/(UNDER) to date	\$ (38,712)
Collection 2010	\$ 6,756

Catholic University 2011	\$ 1,367

Attendance 2011	867
Attendance 2010	731

CMA APPEAL

STEP BY STEP—BUILDING THE FAITH

Goal: \$50,269

CHILDRENS CHRISTMAS PAGEANT

We will again have the children of the parish present the Christmas story according to Luke during the 4:00 p.m. Mass on Christmas Eve. Practices for the pageant will be held on Sunday, December 11th and Sunday, December 18th. Both practices will take place immediately following the 10:30 a.m. Mass and all children are invited to participate. Additional practices may be scheduled if necessary. For further information please contact Rich at 273-6121 or rrasmussen@dor.org

SANTA SHOPPE

Every year Immaculate Conception School holds a Santa Shoppe so that the students can secretly buy gifts for their family members. It is wonderful watching them budget their money and try to buy a gift for everyone on their list. We are asking for donations of knick-knacks, craft projects, re-gifts, that parishioners may have and want to clean out. Donations may be dropped off at school from 7:30 AM – 5:30 PM or at the Parish Center from 9:00 AM – 4:00 PM Monday – Friday before Dec. 12th. Please call the school if you will be arriving after 4:00 to make sure that someone is there. Thank you for your support.

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION SCHOOL CHRISTMAS CONCERT

The Immaculate Conception School family would like to invite everyone to our Christmas Concert and Pageant on Tuesday, December 13th beginning at 7:00 in the school gym. This annual event will provide a wonderful evening of entertainment and will surely touch your heart. Come early and share the true meaning of Christmas with all of us at Immaculate Conception School.

CHRISTMAS CARDS FOR CAYUGA RIDGE

The Immaculate Conception parish community ministers to the residents at Cayuga Ridge Care Facility throughout the year. This Christmas the Service Team is inviting parishioners to participate in ***Christmas Cards for Cayuga Ridge***. As parishioners are writing Christmas cards and preparing for the many holiday festivities, we ask all to take a moment to remember a Cayuga Ridge Resident. Just sign a holiday card, maybe even write a note, and “*mail*” (place it) in the Green/Red basket next to the Giving Tree by December 11. The cards will be delivered to Cayuga Ridge Residents at Christmas.

BLESSING FOR EXPECTANT MOTHERS

There will be a blessing for expectant mothers at the masses on the weekend of December 17th & 18th. Please call the Parish Center @ 273-6121 to let us know which Mass you will be attending on that weekend.



FOR YOUR INFORMATION

SPANISH MASSES @ ST. CATHERINE OF SIENA (5:30PM)

December 18, 2011	Padre Joe Marcoux
January 22, 2012	Padre Daniel McMullin
February 26, 2012	Padre Joe Marcoux
March 25, 2012	Padre Joe Marcoux
April 22, 2012	Padre Daniel McMullin
May 27, 2012	Padre Daniel McMullin
June 24, 2012	Padre Joe Marcoux
July 22, 2012	Padre Joe Marcoux
August 26, 2012	Padre Joe Marcoux
September 23, 2012	Padre Daniel McMullin
October 28, 2012	Padre Joe Marcoux
November 25, 2012	Padre Joe Marcoux
December 23, 2012	Padre Daniel McMullin

CATHOLICISM WITH FATHER ROBERT BARRON

There has been a wonderful television program on PBS (46), viewed on the Ithaca Channel—6, on the past Tuesday evenings at 8:00. I am not sure how far into the series it is or how long it may be televised.

Father Barron is an author, speaker and theologian. He is the Francis Cardinal George Professor of Faith and Culture at Mundelein Seminary and founder of the Word on Fire (www.WordOnFire.org).

This series takes place in many localities throughout the world. Father uses very down to earth words and locals to explain the very depths of our Faith.

We have ordered this series so will be using it during Lent as an Adult Faith Formation Series.

Please check your local paper for updated information. We are not sure when this series started so you will have to check if it is still being televised.

You may also visit www.catholicismtv.com for more information about Father and the series.

Also stay tuned for additional information about this upcoming series during Lent in the Parish Hall.

28 Teens and Chaperones Called to Glory at NCYC 2011

What an incredible experience NCYC 2011 was for the 21 teens and 7 chaperones from our parish. I am excited to say that our parish had the largest contingent of people from our diocese attend this year's NCYC (AWESOME!!!). Highlighting the three day event were the opening and closing liturgies, keynote presentations by Valimar Jansen, Mark Hart and Mike Patin. Rich, Emily, Reinemarie and Matty also caught up with a former Immaculate Conception Parishioner and Immaculate Conception School student, Hans Stautberg, son of Terry and Deb Stautberg who now live in Georgia. Teens and chaperones attended incredible workshops that challenged them and helped foster a greater sense of Catholic identity. A more detailed story about our NCYC experience can be found in the upcoming parish newsletter. In the meantime, if you would like to experience a little of what we experienced, you can go to www.ncyc.info and watch the general sessions as well as many of the workshops that were given. I would like to thank you all again for supporting our pilgrimage financially. We have not quite raised all the funds needed so keep your eyes peeled for more pancake breakfasts. Rich

ADULT FAITH FORMATION

On December 8th, being the **Feast of the Immaculate Conception**, our session will take a turn, and the video will be on the **Blessed Mother**, narrated by Father Robert Barron. The session will be held after our 12:10 Mass in the Parish Hall. Please bring your lunch. Beverages will be provided.

ADVENT WREATH

Advent means “a coming.” Advent celebrates that Christ came once in the historical way in Bethlehem; that He comes in the Sacraments and to each of us as we open ourselves to Him in prayer; and that He will come again in the fullness of His kingdom. So we pray with expectation, “**THY KINGDOM COME!**”

Purple candle: 2nd week of Advent. PEACE

**Dear God,
As we journey down this Advent road, grant us the courage to make peace.
Peace in our hearts,
Peace in our homes,
Peace in our communities. Amen**

SHARE THE WARMTH - The 19th annual Share the Warmth campaign, a collaboration of the Ithaca and Trumansburg Rotary clubs, Catholic Charities, Cornell, Ithaca College, TC3, Ithaca ReUse is underway. Through this program, warm coats, sweaters, sweatshirts, snowpants, boots, hats, gloves, scarves, and blankets are distributed to local families who need these items. Anyone wishing to donate new or gently used items can do so through the red collection boxes located in and around Ithaca at participating businesses, or by delivering directly to Catholic Charities at 324 W. Buffalo Street. In addition to warm clothing, donations of blankets are particularly needed. Anyone in need of warm items is invited to come to Catholic Charities from November 28 - December 9, Monday - Friday, 9 am - 4 pm, where items will be available free-of-charge. Questions can be directed to Emily at Catholic Charities, 607-272-5062, x27
Thank you for your support!

Advent Reflections-Presented by: Sr. Carole Proia, SSJ
December 13th, 2011 Notre Dame Retreat House
5151 Foster Rd, Canandaigua, NY 14424

Day Of Prayer Schedule

9:00am Registration, Coffee & Danish
9:30 Morning prayer—chapel
10:00 Conference
11:00 Quiet Reflection
11:25 Chaplet of Divine Mercy and Rosary
12:00pm LUNCH
1:00 Reconciliation
2:00 Eucharist
3:00 Dismissal
Call to reserve a spot: 585-394-5700 \$20.00 registration fee

IC INSPIRATIONAL GIFT SHOPPE

Nativity Sets and Christmas Gifts are on display.
Come in early for best selection.

Books to Understand the Revised Mass Texts open Mon - Fri
10-5 and Sat 12- 4:30. Call 273-6363 w/any questions.

**FEAST OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION—
DISH TO PASS....**

Please join us for a Dish-To-Pass Dinner on Thursday, December 8. Beverages & Place settings will be provided. We look **forward to seeing you there!**
Carges Hall—6:30PM

*A Sincere Thank You to the family of
Joseph Ciaschi
For remembering
Immaculate Conception Church
In the obituary of their loved one*

Christmas is not a time nor a season, but a state of mind. To cherish peace and goodwill, to be plenteous in mercy, is to have the real spirit of Christmas

We welcome into our faith family
Derek Alfred Parente
Son of Jason & Heather Parente
Baptized on November 26, 2011

Everyday Evangelization!

SALVATION

- Pray daily around the Advent wreath and explain its meaning to visitors in your home.
- Spend a little extra time in church (before or after Mass) in silence and prayer.

Be not afraid

PARISH STAFF

Fr. Leo Reinhardt ext. 113
Pastor/Sacramental Preparation

Sr. Edna Slyck ext. 108
Pastoral Associate for RCIA,
Liturgy, Evangelization

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

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

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

Inspirational Gift Shop 273-6363
Calvary Cemetery 272-5780