



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 journey.

~December 18 2011~

Staff Connection...

MISCELLANEOUS MUSINGS

Lest we forget (because I did). I found out that there was a Sister of Mercy before Sister Judy Kenrick and those mentioned in the bulletin of December 4th. She was a 16 year old novice, Sister Mary Angela Lynch. She was sent to Holy Family School, in Auburn May 16, 1867. After professing her vows on May 12, 1868, she died 5 days later at the age of 17, in Rochester.

Rosaries and Medals on a chain. On behalf of the residents of Cayuga Ridge to whom we bring Communion on a weekly basis, including the folks residing there from Riverview in Owego, other health facilities where our parishioners now live, and our homebound, **I would like to thank each of you** for your generosity in giving me rosaries and medals on chains during the year. I wrote 88 Christmas cards and was able to share either a rosary or medal on a chain with each person. During the year the rosaries have been used by the sick and the dying as a source of comfort. I gave rosaries to 2 people when I was called when they were dying. The family said they held them until they died. They have been given to the hospital for the chaplains to put in the chapel for family members to use while visiting loved one. I have even, over the years, went to calling hours and the person was too poor to have a rosary so I was able to place one in their hands. I now carry one with me for whatever reason it will be used.

God bless you. How many times will we hear that this winter season as our closed in space become breeding grounds for bacteria and viruses. Be conscious of this when you are in church. The Sign of Peace is a time to share peace, not a germ or flu bug. If you are sick, be careful not to be “touching” others to give them more than peace. (I carry hand sanitizer and use it before the Sign of Peace as not to pass any germs, anytime to others.) This also holds true for the reception of the Precious Blood. The Cup Ministers are trained to wipe the cup and turn it for the next person. The reality that the Precious Blood is in fact alcohol and the carefulness of the Cup Minister, does not prevent the spread of disease. Please use caution and sensibility when going to Communion this winter.

Help Needed. Altar Servers (grades 4—adult) are needed, especially for the 4:30 Mass. As you see, I have up there quite often to help. This summer, at one Mass, I served alone. All Liturgical Ministers are welcome for all Masses.

Cayuga Ridge Communion Ministers are needed for taking Communion after the 8:30 Mass. Training is provided. (Please see me for these ministries.)

Cantors are needed for the Masses and other Liturgical Celebrations. We are a mobile people and cantors move as well. (Do see Gary Vrabel for more information.)

Christmas Blessings... Sister Edna Slyck, RSM

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

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

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.

Date	Mass Intentions	The Week Ahead...
Sunday 12-18	8:30AM—Deceased Members of Douglas Stone Sr. Family By Pat Darling 10:30AM—Ann Maliski Diller by Mona Miller	SUNDAY, DEC 18 11:30A—RCIA-ST. CATHERINES-MASS/ CLASS 11:45A—YOUTH GROUPS—SCHOOL 5P—FAMILY BASED—PARISH HALL
Monday 12-19	12:10PM—Thomas Vincent Speno By Patricia Ann Speno 10:30AM—Cayuga Ridge—Elsie Boronkay	MONDAY, DEC 19 10:30A—MASS @ CAYUGA RIDGE 1P—ROSARY MAKING—PARISH CENTER 6:30P—COMTEMPORARY CHOIR—SCHOOL 7P—ICS BOARD MEETING
Tuesday 12-20	7AM—Rita Bangs by Lyn Mazza	TUESDAY, DEC 20 11A—FOOD PANTRY DISTRIBUTION BEGINS @1PM—CARGES HALL 7P—TRADITIONAL CHOIR— CHURCH 7P—STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE-PH
Wednesday 12-21	7AM—Carole Harvill & Deceased Members of the Harvill & Reynolds Families by Jim Harvill	WEDNESDAY, DEC 21 7P—KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS— CARGES HALL 1P—CEMETARY MTG—PARISH CENTER
Thursday 12-22	12:10PM—Maria Christina Abdelnour by Her Children	THURSDAY, DEC 22 3P—TITUS TOWERS 4P—MCGRAW HOUSE
Friday 12-23	7AM—Mary Klein by Ross & Mary Moody Parish Office Closed	SATURDAY, DEC 24 NO RECONCILIATION @ 3P
Saturday 12-24	CHRISTMAS EVE 4:00PM—Raymond Lawrence by Rollande Lawrence 6:30PM—Filippo Carroccia by the Gneo Family 11:00PM—Harold Cushman by Natalia Cushman Parish Office Closed	
Sunday 12-25	CHRISTMAS DAY 10:00AM—Margaret Guidi by Mario Guidi	



CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE:

Christmas Eve Masses: 4:00PM 6:30PM 11:00PM
 Christmas Day Mass: 10:00AM
 There will be **NO** Reconciliation on Christmas Eve @ 3PM

CATHOLIC MINISTRIES APPEAL (CMA)

CMA standings... Pledged 64.30% or \$32,324.44 Last year we were at 59.55%. During this winter season we hear the call for help for the homeless and the hungry. We are privileged to have a Catholic Charities Service right in our own Parish. Part of your contributions to the CMA is filtered to aid this ministry which is much needed especially today. Remember no amount is too insignificant. Thank you for your pledges!

CHRISTMAS GIVING TREE

Thank you to those families who were so kind to offer gifts from the tags on the Giving Tree. Your generosity means so much to so many!

OUR SANCTUARY LAMP

WILL BURN THIS WEEK
 IN MEMORY OF MATT PETERS
 FROM TOM & ANN HERSON & FAMILY

A Great Job to the Immaculate Conception students and A huge Thank you to the Ithaca College student teachers and music professors for their tremendous singing and all of their time and talent in helping our students get ready for Tuesday's Concert. It was truly awesome!

We would also like to thank Mrs. Case and her committee for getting the students ready for the Christmas Pageant. All your hard work certainly paid off!

OUR OFFERING TO THE LORD

December 11, 2011

Collection 2011	\$ 8,172
Budgeted (\$10,118 weekly)	\$ 242,832
Actual Collections: wk 24 of FY	\$ 204,834
OVER/(UNDER) to date	\$ (37,998)
Collection 2010	\$ 9,110

Immaculate Conception 2011 \$ 1,759

Attendance 2011	831
Attendance 2010	698

CMA APPEAL

STEP BY STEP—BUILDING THE FAITH

Goal: \$50,269

ADULT FAITH FORMATION

Thank you for your support of this educational opportunity in 2011. We will not be meeting this week or next, but will resume on Jan. 5th with the DVD—“Fullness of Life: Reflections on Spirituality”. This 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: 4th week of Advent. LOVE

Dear God,

As our Advent pilgrimage draws to completion,

Grant us the courage to share your love.

Love for the unexpected challenge,

Love for the vulnerable one,

Love for the presence of God. Amen

A NOTE FROM FATHER LEO:

When I first came to Immaculate Conception, there was the reference to the parish as the “Ponderosa” of Bonanza fame. It is a large parish with many buildings to maintain. One of the items on my “bucket list” before I leave at the end of June is to establish a Buildings & Grounds Committee. One was started a few years ago & they diligently set out to do an evaluation of all the buildings of the parish.

Unfortunately they were unable to finish. Now that we are trying to hire a new business manager, it is an opportune time to form this committee to help the Finance & Pastoral Parish Councils come to a better understanding of the condition of the buildings in the parish & to assess appropriate funds to maintain, update & repair where necessary.

If you are interested in being part of this committee, I invite you to call me at the parish center of my cell phone (607-279-3750). We will have our initial meeting hopefully in early January. Please consider your talents & join me in building a sound foundation for the future of Immaculate Conception!

IC INSPIRATIONAL GIFT SHOPPE

Nativity Sets and Christmas Gifts are on display.

We have Polish OPLATEK available for Christmas.

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.

The Ithaca Community Chorus and Chamber Singers, under the direction of Gerald Wolfe, will perform Karl Jenkins' "The Armed Man: A Mass for Peace," with full orchestra, on January 7, 2012 at 7:30 pm at St. Paul's United Methodist Church, 402 North Aurora St., Ithaca. For more information, visit: <http://ithacacommunitychoruses.org/g-icccs.cfm>

The Traditional Choir invites you to come early to Midnight Mass on Christmas Eve, for an evening of warmth and music, beginning at 10:15pm. Mass is at 11:00pm.

YOUTH GROUPS!!!

We will be meeting on Sunday @ 11:45 for some fun and excitement. Come join us and bring a friend along. Contact Carolann or Rich with any questions 273-6121. Look forward to seeing you @ the school.

Everyday Evangelization!

MYSTERY OF FAITH

- Invite a friend to attend Christmas Mass with you and talk about the changes in the Mass and their purpose.
- Family involvement in setting up the nativity scene and read the Christmas story of Christ's birth.

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/ic/>
Inspirational Gift Shop 273-6363
Calvary Cemetery 272-5780