



# Immaculate Conception Church

December 15 & 16, 2018

4671 Townline Road, Ransomville, New York 14131 [www.lcransomville.org](http://www.lcransomville.org) FORMED.org Code: X7RQGP

## 3rd Sunday OF ADVENT



### Parish Staff:

Rev. James Bastian (ext. 102)  
Dcn. Paul Stankiewicz, Deacon Emeritus  
Mrs. Mary Zastrow (ext. 101), Secretary  
Mrs. Laurie Muth (ext. 103), Pastoral Associate  
Karli Leggett, Bulletin (ext. 106)  
Marina Muth, Website  
Mr. Marc Mosher, Maintenance  
Mr. Nick Drumsta, Custodian

Safe Environment Coordinator  
Miss Cynthia Curione, volunteer

RCIA Coordinator:  
Donna Kelsch

Trustees: Claire Curione, Kiersten Ryndak

Disability Advocate: Amy McQuay

### Sacrament of Reconciliation:

Saturday 3:15 - 3:45 p.m.  
Wednesday 6:00 - 6:25 p.m.  
By appointment: 716-731-4822

### Communion/Prayer Service Schedule:

Tuesday, Friday 9:00 a.m.

### Mass Schedule:

Saturdays 4:00 p.m.  
Sundays 8:30 a.m., 11:00 a.m.  
Monday, Thursday 9:00 a.m.  
Wednesday 6:30 p.m.

### Adoration:

Adoration in Chapel every Friday  
10:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m.

### Ministry to the Sick:

Home visitations are available for all parishioners who are confined to their homes because of any illness or other infirmity. Call 731-4822 to make arrangements.

### Outreach Program - Primary Contacts:

Mr. Howard Morgan 417-7584

### Al-Anon:

Meetings take place on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of the month at 7:00 p.m. in the Blessed Kateri Tekakwitha room.

Narcotics Anonymous: meets every Monday 7:30pm-9:30pm

## Our Parish Mission Statement

*"Immaculate Conception parish is a warm and caring Roman Catholic faith community where all of God's people are welcome. We strive to bring Christ to all people through spiritually and uplifting liturgies, ministry, service and outreach."*

**MASS INTENTIONS**

|           |             |          |  |
|-----------|-------------|----------|--|
| Saturday  | December 15 | 4:00 pm  | In memory of <b>Mary Lou Murphy</b> req. by Jan Zitzka                             |
| Sunday    | December 16 | 8:30 am  | In memory of <b>William Doty &amp; Jeff Wassell</b> req. by Louise Doty            |
|           |             | 11:00 am | In memory of <b>Joseph Forgione Sr.</b> req. by Jan Zitzka, Claire & Cindy Curione |
| Monday    | December 17 | 9:00 am  | In memory of <b>Deceased Loved Ones</b> req. by Parishioners                       |
| Tuesday   | December 18 | 9:00 am  | <b>Prayer and Communion Service</b>  |
| Wednesday | December 19 | 6:30pm   | In memory of <b>Bob Favero</b> req. by Donna Kelsch                                |
| Thursday  | December 20 | 9:00am   | In memory of <b>Mother's Living and Deceased</b> req. by Parishioners              |
| Friday    | December 21 | 9:00 am  | <b>Prayer/Communion Service/Adoration</b>  |
| Saturday  | December 22 | 4:00 pm  | In memory of <b>Gail Deuro</b> req. by Gary & Judy Heppner                         |
| Sunday    | December 23 | 8:30 am  | In memory of <b>Phil Warner</b> req. by Kelly & Corky Greenwald                    |
|           |             | 11:00 am | In memory of <b>Ron Hicks</b> req. by Paul & Jan Deplato                           |

**CATHOLIC RESOURCES –**

- FORMED** is available to parishioners as a gift from Immaculate Conception. It is an online resource with all things Catholic. Catholic Bible studies, audio books, movies and more. Visit [FORMED.org](http://FORMED.org) and enter the parish code **X7RQGP**

**CHRISTMAS MASS**

**CHRISTMAS**

**MASS TIMES**

**MASS AND CHILDREN'S PAGEANT**

December 24 at 4:00 pm in the Church

**CHRISTMAS EVE MASS**

December 24 at 7:00 pm in the Church

**CHRISTMAS DAY MASS**

December 25 at 10:00 am in the Church



**DIGGING DEEPER**

December 16, 2018 3rd Sunday of Advent

In Christianity, we hear often about the "Good News." We might often associate it with Jesus' compassion to the poor, his healings and miracles, and the salvation he won for us. In today's Gospel, we read of John the Baptist. "Exhorting them in many other ways, he preached good news to the people." Yet as we examine the rest of the reading, we see examples of John's preaching. If you have two cloaks, give one away. Don't cheat others out of their money, extort, or lie. And, of course, the warning that the Messiah is on the move and "his winnowing fan is in his hand to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his barn, but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire." Merry Christmas? Not only do John's listeners enjoy his message, but they seem to think he might be the awaited Messiah! To understand today's Gospel, it's important to understand the Jewish people. For most of their history, God's chosen people had been under someone else's heel. They were slaves in Egypt. Their kingdoms were ravaged first by the Assyrians, then the Babylonians. Now they were under the yoke of the Roman Empire. Familiar with being strangers in a strange land, welcoming the stranger, caring for the vulnerable, and enacting justice was incredibly important to them as a people. While John's words may seem odd or strong to our modern ears, this call to justice was welcome, even if it was directed at the hearer. The truth is, no one is exempt from John's call to repentance. We all have further to go in the Christian life. We can all grow in virtue and love our neighbors more generously. The Church gives us the Advent season to examine our own hearts. Did any of John's warnings resonate with you? That could be a great thing to bring to Jesus this week! Lpi

**DECORATING THE CHURCH**

**Monday, December 17 at 9:00am.**

We will be decorating the church for Christmas, and we are looking for volunteers to help us. Many hands make light work! If you are able to help please meet us in the Church on Monday December 17th at 9:00am.

New bulletin request forms now available on the website, in the Parish office, or on the Narthex bulletin board. Questions or Concerns contact Karli Leggett: Telephone- 716- 731-4822 (ext. 106), email- [Bulletin@icramsonville.org](mailto:Bulletin@icramsonville.org)



## DAILY SCRIPTURE READINGS

|        |          |   |
|--------|----------|---|
| Sat.   | December | 15- Sirach 48:1-4, 9-11; Psalm 80:2 and 3, 15-16, 18-19; Matthew 17:9, 10-13  |
| Sun.   | December | 16- Zephaniah 3:14-18a; Isaiah 12:2-3, 4, 5-6; Philipines 4:4-7; Luke 3:10-18 |
| Mon.   | December | 17- Genesis 49:2, 8-10; Psalm 72:1-2, 3-4, 7-8, 17; Matthew 1:1-17            |
| Tues   | December | 18- Jeremiah 23:5-8; Psalm 72:1-2, 12-13, 18-19; Matthew 1:18-25              |
| Wed.   | December | 19- Judges 13:2-7, 24-25; Psalm 71:3-4, 5-6, 16-17; Luke 1:5-25               |
| Thurs. | December | 20- Isaiah 7:10-14; Psalm 24:1-2, 3-4, 5-6; Luke 1:26-38                      |
| Fri.   | December | 21- Song of Songs 2:8-14; Psalm 33:2-3, 11-12, 20-21; Luke 1:39-45            |
| Sat.   | December | 22- 1 Samuel 1:24-28; 1 Samuel 2:1, 4-5, 6-7, 8; Luke 1:46-56                 |
| Sun.   | December | 23- Micah 5:1-4; Psalm 80:2-3, 15-16, 18-19; Hebrews 10:5-10; Luke 1:39-45    |

## ADVENT: SHARING THE FAITH THROUGH OUR CATHOLIC TRADITION



3rd Candle: (pink) THE SHEPHERD CANDLE or THE CANDLE OF JOY– The angels sang a message of joy.

The purple candles remind us of preparation. We must prepare for Christ in our hearts through prayer and fasting.

This week's candle is pink as a reminder of the coming joy. It is called Gaudete Sunday (from the Latin meaning "rejoice")



## SANTA'S COMING TO SANBORN

### Get Your Picture With Santa!

Parishioners Paul and Janice Deplato invite you to their festive yard for pictures with Santa! Bring your camera and your Christmas spirit to:

2430 Washington Street Wheatfield (Bergholz)

**Saturday December 15th & Saturday December 22nd from 6:00-8:00 PM**



### Directions:

From Lockport : Turn left on Ward Rd and go 1 mile. Turn right on Niagara Road and go 1 mile. Turn right on Rohr St. and go 1 block. Turn left on Washington Street.

From Niagara Falls: Niagara Falls Blvd. Turn left at 5 corners onto Niagara Road and go 1/2 mile. Turn left on Schultz St. and go 1 block. Turn right on Washington Street. Third house on right.

## PLEASE PRAY FOR ...

Marilynn, Carolin Adamson, Jeff Antoncich, Edward Barraclough, Hugh Benton, Christine Blagus, Marilyn Brinson, Devin Burns, Jason Busey, Mark Corraine, Janice DePlato, Lauren Devin, Ron Dobraz, Jim & Edith Faery, Diane Fallgotter, Faye Finley, Debbie Foe, Gino & Murrel Forte, Joan Freeland, Mary Gross, Lisa Harris, Haven Hiller, Nicole Hiller, Nurice James, Norbert Kaleta, Happy Klan, Cathy Kean, Donna Keener, Marilyn Kankolenski, Janelle Kitcho, Angela Lissen, Lynn Maggioli, Christopher McGillion, Donovan Miller, Renee Morrison, John Moudy, Pat Mussall, Debbie Nolan, Leo Notaro, Heather Nugent, Carlos Ortega, Wendy Osucha, Noah Shelvay, Linsey Shelvay, Donald Sinclair, Ruth Schuler, Deacon Paul Stankiewicz, Bruce Stauff, Diane Taylor, Sharon Trentini, Kim Vallaincourt, Janice Ventimiglia, Florence Walker, Roberta Walker, Gerry Wick, Charlotte Wimett, Judy Woolson, and Mark Zastrow

*If you would like to have a name added to or taken off of the prayer list, please call the parish office at 731- 4822.*

## PARISH ACTIVITIES

**SUN. Dec 16— Mass Sponsored by grades 6 & 7 11:00am**  
**SUN. Dec 16— Christmas Caroling 12:00pm** Our Lady of Peace  
**MON. Dec. 17— Decorating the Church 9:00am**  
**MON. Dec. 17— Narcotics Anonymous 7:30pm**  
**TUES. Dec. 18— Caritas Bowling 10:00am** Lewiston Event Center  
**TUES. Dec. 18— Christmas Pageant Rehearsal 7:00pm**  
**WEDS. Dec. 19— Extended Confession times 5:00-6:25 pm**  
**WEDS. Dec. 19— IC Impact Youth Group 6:30 pm**  
**THURS. Dec. 20— Knitting Group 1:00pm**  
**FRI. Dec. 21— Eucharistic Adoration 10:00am-4:00pm**  
**SUN. Dec 23— No Religious Ed.**  
**SAT./SUN. Anointings after all Masses**  
**MON. Dec. 24— Mass 4:00pm**  
**MON. Dec. 24— Children's Christmas Pageant 4:00pm**  
**MON. Dec. 24— Christmas Eve Mass 7:00pm**  
**MON. Dec. 24— Narcotics Anonymous 7:30pm**  
**TUES. Dec. 25— Christmas Day Mass 10:00am**  
**OFFICE CLOSED DECEMBER 24TH-26TH**

***THE LIGHT IS ON FOR YOU- TIPS ON MAKING A GOOD CONFESSION***

The Light is  
ON for You.



*Celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation*

**Extended confession times during Advent: Wed. during 5:00-6:25pm**

**Why do I have to confess my sins to a priest?** That's the way Jesus set it up on Easter Sunday evening. He told his apostles that just as God the Father had sent him — and God the Father sent him to save us from our sins — so he was sending them. He breathed on them the power of the Holy Spirit, giving them God's power to forgive sins, since no one can forgive sins but God alone. He told them that whatever sins they forgive are forgiven and whatever sins they retain are retained (Jn 20:21-23; Mk 2:7). Since the apostles were unable to

read minds, the only way that they would know which to forgive and which to retain is if people told them their sins. Jesus thus established the essential structure of the sacrament of confession. Just as he uses priests to give us his Body and Blood at Mass so he uses them to give us His mercy in Penance

**What is an Examination of Conscience?** Below are some questions you might ask yourself prior to your Confession to help you prayerfully examine your life in the light of Christ's teaching and example.

**1. *I am the Lord your God. You shall not have strange gods before me.***

- Do I give God time every day in prayer?
- Do I seek to love Him with my whole heart?
- Have I been involved with superstitious practices or have I been involved with the occult?
- Have I ever received communion in the state of mortal sin?
- Have I ever deliberately told a lie in Confession or have I withheld a mortal sin from the priest in Confession?
- Are there other "gods" in my life? Money, Security, Power, People, etc.?

**2. *You shall not take the name of the Lord your God in vain.***

- Have I used God's name in vain: lightly or carelessly?
- Have I been angry with God?
- Have I wished evil upon any other person?
- Have I insulted a sacred person or abused a sacred object?

**3. *Remember to keep holy the Lord's Day.***

- Have I deliberately missed Mass on Sundays or Holy Days of Obligation?
- Have I tried to observe Sunday as a family day and a day of rest?
- Do I do needless work on Sunday?

**4. *Honor your father and your mother.***

- Do I honor and obey my parents?
- Have I neglected my duties to my spouse and children?
- Have I given my family good religious example?
- Do I try to bring peace into my home life?
- Do I care for my aged and infirm relatives?

**5. *You shall not kill.***

- Have I had an abortion or encouraged or helped anyone to have an abortion?
- Have I physically harmed anyone?
- Have I abused alcohol or drugs?
- Did I give scandal to anyone, thereby leading him or her into sin?
- Have I been angry or resentful?
- Have I harbored hatred in my heart?

**6. *You shall not commit adultery.***

- Have I been faithful to my marriage vows in thought and action?
- Have I engaged in any sexual activity outside of marriage?
- Have I used any method of contraception or artificial birth control in my marriage?
- Has each sexual act in my marriage been open to the transmission of new life?

**7. *You shall not steal.***

- Have I stolen what is not mine?
- Have I returned or made restitution for what I have stolen?
- Do I waste time at work, school, and home?
- Do I gamble excessively, thereby denying my family of their needs?
- Do I pay my debts promptly?
- Do I seek to share what I have with the poor?
- Have I cheated anyone out of what is justly theirs

**8. *You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.***

- Have I lied? Have I gossiped?
- Do I speak badly of others behind their back?
- Am I sincere in my dealings with others?
- Am I critical, negative or uncharitable in my thoughts of others?
- Do I keep secret what should be kept confidential?
- Have I injured the reputation of others by slanders?

**9. *You shall not desire your neighbor's wife.***

- Have I consented to impure thoughts?
- Do I pray at once to banish impure thoughts and temptations?
- Have I behaved in an inappropriate way with members of the opposite sex.

**10. *You shall not desire your neighbor's goods.***

- Am I jealous of what other people have?
- Do I envy the families or possessions of others?
- Am I greedy or selfish?
- Are material possessions the purpose of my life?

**NEW YOUNG ADULT & COLLEGE GROUP**

**Immaculate Conception's  
Young Adult Ministry invites you  
to come watch the**

**Games, Food, Drinks,  
Friends, & Fellowship  
Saturday January 5th,  
2019**



**Cost-Free  
Meet us in the Parish Hall  
At 6:45pm**



**HOMELESS SHELTER MEAL MINISTRY**

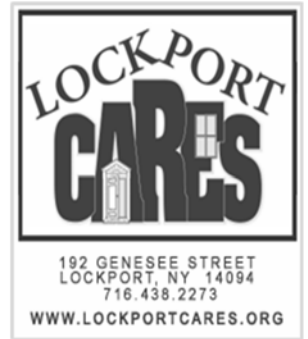
Lockport Cares Homeless Shelter is in need of meal volunteers to cover the following dates in January and February:

**January: 4, 6, 11, 12, 17, 18, 20, 22, 26, 27, 30.**

**February: 1, 2, 3, 6, 8, 9, 12, 16, 17, 18, 23, 24, 26, 27.**

The homeless shelter provides emergency shelter, compassionate care, and material needs to those in need. Volunteers preparing meals should prepare food for approximately 12 people. To sign up or for more information, email Julie Costello at Lockport Cares at [julcos50@gmail.com](mailto:julcos50@gmail.com).

Anyone interested in being part of Immaculate Conceptions Homeless Shelter Meal Ministry and is looking to be part of a team should contact Laurie in the office.



**CANDLES AVAILABLE**

**Monthly Candles Available**

There are many candles available for the upcoming 2019 year! These candles remain lit throughout the month in the Church and Chapel. If you would like to dedicate a candle to a loved one, please contact Mary in the Parish office.

**FOLLOW US...**



Like us on Facebook! Follow us on Instagram username:



**Immaculateconceptionchurch1891** for daily Catholic posts, and information on upcoming parish events.

**STEWARDSHIP**

**PARISH INCOME FOR DECEMBER 8 & 9, 2018**

|  |            |
|--|------------|
| Offertory Collection.....                      | \$3,612.00 |
| Online Giving.....                             | \$1,051.69 |
| Religious Retirement Fund.....                 | \$1,737.00 |
| Renovation Fund.....                           | \$584.00   |
| Immaculate Conception .....                    | \$511.00   |
| Christmas Flowers (Add'l) .....                | \$64.00    |
| Campaign for Human Develop. (Add'l) .....      | \$5.00     |
| Catholic Universities of America (Add'l) ..... | \$5.00     |
| Children .....                                 | \$1.00     |

*Thank you for your generosity!*