



# Immaculate Conception

December 7th & 8th, 2019



4671 Townline Road, Ransomville, New York 14131

[www.lcransomville.org](http://www.lcransomville.org)

716-731-4822

# 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday OF ADVENT



#### Parish Staff:

Rev. James Bastian, Pastor  
(ext. 102)

Dcn. Paul Stankiewicz, Deacon  
Emeritus

Mrs. Mary Zastrow, Secretary  
(ext. 101)

Mrs. Laurie Muth, Pastoral  
Associate (ext. 108)

Karli Leggett, Bulletin (ext. 106)

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 Contact:

Mrs. Nancy Mosher 310-4902

#### AI-Anon:

Meetings take place on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of the month at 7:00 p.m. in the Father Nelson Baker room.

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

FORMED.org Code: X7RQGP

Email:

[lcransomville@yahoo.com](mailto:lcransomville@yahoo.com)

## 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 7	4:00 pm	In memory of <b>Dorothy Rolling</b> req. by Patricia Brandt
Sunday	December 8	8:30 am	In memory of <b>Melvin John Case</b> req. by wife Zoraida Case
		11:00 am	In memory of <b>Frank Zuccari</b> req. by Paul & Jan DePlato
Monday	December 9	9:00 am	In memory of <b>Lionel Barrick</b> req. by friends of the Barrick Family
Tuesday	December 10	9:00 am	<b>Prayer/Communion Service</b>
Wednesday	December 11	6:30 pm	In memory of <b>Deceased Loved Ones</b> req. by Parishioners
Thursday	December 12	9:00 am	In memory of <b>Angelo Rizzo</b> req. by Will & Jane Hartley
Friday	December 13	9:00 am	<b>Communion Service/ Prayer/ Adoration</b>
Saturday	December 14	4:00 pm	In memory of <b>Mary Jane &amp; Walter Kelsch</b> req. by daughter Donna
Sunday	December 15	8:30 am	In memory of <b>William Doty &amp; Jeff Wassell</b> req. by Louise & Family
		11:00 am	In memory of <b>Maggie Schulz</b> req. by Louise M. Waytena

**Formed.org**

- Formed is a free service that is provided by our Parish. Formed has a large library of Catholic resources. To register go to their website and enter our 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 6:00 pm in the Church

**CHRISTMAS DAY MASS**

December 25 at 10:00 am in the Church



**DIGGING DEEPER**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent December 8, 2019**

What does it mean to be worthy? There are a few different ways to approach this question. Today's Gospel highlights two: the way of the Pharisees and the way of John the Baptist. Our faith values good works and discipleship. Perhaps, then, we "earn" our worth by adhering to the right doctrines and following the right pious practice. The Pharisees thought they were worthy. Due to their religious pedigree and proper procedures, they were self-satisfied. John the Baptist's words to them are strong. *"Do not resume to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our father.'" Of course, Jesus (and John) don't omit the responsibility for moral behavior. John gives the Pharisees quite a strong warning in that regard. "Produce good fruit as evidence of your repentance ... every tree that does not bear good fruit will be cut down and thrown into the fire."*

It's a question of attitude. Of disposition. It's a matter of the heart. If anyone would be worthy in this scenario, it's John the Baptist. Jesus himself will name him the greatest of prophets and a great man. John, however, recognizes his own lowly place in the grand scheme of things. *"The one who is coming after me is mightier than I. I am not worthy to carry his sandals."* The Pharisees take pride in being "better" than others. John embraces humility in Christ being "better" than him. We don't self-generate our own worthiness. We receive it as a gift from God.

In a few short weeks, we'll celebrate the birth of Christ. Bishop Ven. Fulton Sheen wrote about the Nativity in his "Life of Christ": "Because [Jesus] was born in a cave, all who wish to see Him must stoop. To stoop is the mark of humility. The proud refuse to stoop and, therefore, they miss divinity." God invites us to prepare our hearts this Advent. When you consider your own life, where are you looking for your worth? This Christmas, are you prepared to stoop? Lpi

**CANDLES ARE AVAILABLE FOR 2020**

**Candles are available for 2020!**

**Sanctuary Church** is available for November and December

**Sanctuary Chapel:** March, June, July, Aug., Sept., Oct., Nov., & Dec.

**Blessed Mother:** Jan., Feb., March, July, Sept., Oct., Nov., & Dec.

**St. Joseph:** Jan., Feb., May, June, Aug., Oct., Nov.

Contact Mary Zastrow in the Parish office for purchase.

## DAILY SCRIPTURE READINGS

Sat.	December 7-	Isaiah 30:19-21, 23-26; Psalm 147:1-2, 3-4, 5-6; Matthew 9:35—10:1, 5a, 6-8
<b>Sun.</b>	<b>December 8-</b>	<b>Isaiah 11:1-10; Psalm 72:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 19; Romans 15:4-9; Matthew 3:1-12</b>
Mon.	December 9-	Genesis 3:9-15, 20; Psalm 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4; Ephesians 1:3-6, 11-12; Luke 1:26-38
Tues.	December 10-	Isaiah 40:1-11; Psalm 96:1-2, 3 and 10ac, 11-12, 13; Matthew 18:12-14
Wed.	December 11-	Isaiah 40:25-31; Psalm 103:1-2, 3-4, 8 and 10; Matthew 11:28-30
Thurs.	December 12-	Judges 13:2-7, 24-25a; Psalm 71:3-4a, 5-6ab, 16-17; Luke 1:5-25
Fri.	December 13-	Isaiah 48:17-19; Psalm 1:1-2, 3, 4 and 6; Matthew 11:16-19
Sat.	December 14-	Sirach 48:1-4, 9-11; Psalm 80:2ac and 3b, 15-16, 18-19; Matthew 17:9a, 10-13
<b>Sun.</b>	<b>December 15-</b>	<b>Isaiah 35:1-6a, 10; Psalm 146:6-7, 8-9, 9-10; James 5:7-10; Matthew 11:2-11</b>

### CARITAS SOCIETY



#### December Luncheon

The Christmas Caritas Luncheon will be held on Thursday, December 12th at the Wilson House Inn Restaurant in Wilson at 12:00pm. Details and sign up sheet are on the bulletin board in the Narthex. RSVP and payment are due by December 8th. All members of the Parish are invited to join us!

### CHRISTMAS PAGEANT



#### Christmas Pageant at Christmas Eve Mass

All children of the Parish are welcome to participate in this year's Christmas Pageant at the Christmas Eve Mass. There is a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board in the Narthex and plenty of roles available! Practices will be held on Wednesday, December 18th and Monday, December 23rd at 6:30 pm.

### BOOK CLUB

#### Book Club News

Hey guys! We've chosen *Faith and Fury (The Rise of Catholicism During the Civil War)* by Fr. Charles P. Connor as our first book for our book club. The cost is \$19.95 from Sophia Institute Press, but feel free to buy elsewhere. Until New Year's we will be meeting Tuesdays at 12:45pm at Tina's restaurant in Sanborn, the first meeting is on Tuesday, December 10th. Please order your book. We could also meet at night at the Church if there are at least 2 people interested. Email Donna Kelsch at [sisterdssc@gmail.com](mailto:sisterdssc@gmail.com) if you are interested in meeting at night at the Church.

### DECORATING THE CHURCH



#### Monday, December 16 at 9:00am.

We will be decorating the church for Christmas, we need volunteers come any time you can make it. We have light jobs and heavy jobs and everything in between. A light lunch will be served. If you are able to help please meet us in the Church on Monday December 16th at 9:00am.

## CHRISTMAS CAROLING

Come join us for Christmas carols,  
cards, and cookies!

At Our Lady of Peace Nursing Home in Lewiston

Sunday, December 15 at 1:00pm.

Join us as we sing and share Christmas cards and cookies with the residents. We will meet after the 11am Mass on Sunday Dec. 15th in the Father Cronin/Chrissy room for a snack and then proceed to Our Lady of Peace Nursing Home. Or you can meet us at OLP at 1pm in the front entrance lobby area. Call Kathy Z at 940-3452 for more information.



**ADVENT: SHARING THE FAITH THROUGH OUR CATHOLIC TRADITION**



2nd CANDLE – (purple) **THE BETHLEHEM CANDLE** or **THE CANDLE OF PREPARATION** – God kept his promise of a Savior who would be born in Bethlehem. Preparation means to “get ready”. Help us to be ready to welcome YOU, O GOD! (Luke 3:4-6)



**ADVENT PENANCE SERVICES**

1. **St. Peter’s, Lewiston-Saturday, Dec 7th** Fr. Jim, along with other area priests, will be hearing confessions from 9-10am
2. **St. John’s, Lockport– Mon, Dec 16th** 7pm
3. **Good Shepherd, Mon, Dec 16th** 7pm

**FOOD PANTRY**

**We Need Hams for Christmas!**

We are in need of hams for Christmas. Please place donations in the kitchen refrigerator. We will be making the donation baskets on Thursday the 19th. Please have all donations in by 12/19. Thank you for your generosity! Merry Christmas!

**A VOCATION VIEW**



We are urged to “prepare the way of the Lord!” God has called some men and women to show His children how to do this through their leadership as priests and religious brothers and sisters. If God is calling you to a Church vocation, call Fr. Andrew Lauricella at 716-847-5535.

**STEWARDSHIP**

PARISH INCOME FOR NOVEMBER 30 & DECEMBER 1, 2019	
Offertory Collection.....	\$2,015.00
Online Giving .....	\$695.13
Renovation Fund .....	\$272.00
Additional .....	\$25.00
Children .....	\$1.00

**PLEASE PRAY FOR ...**

Marilynn, Carolin Adamson, Jeff Antoncich, Christine Blagus, Marilyn Brinson, Devin Burns, Jason Busey, Dr. MaryAnn Bishara, Zoraida Case, Nancy Conti, Janice DePlato, Justin DePlato, Lauren Devin, Ron Dobrasz, Louise Doty, Lisa Eimer, Jim & Edith Faery, Diane Fallgotter, Faye Finley, Debbie Foe, Joan Freeland, Joseph Giuseppetti, Larry Harris, Justin Healey, Haven Hiller, Nicole Hiller, Nurice James, Norbert Kaleta, Kathleen & Gregory Klaes, Cathy Kean, Donna Keener, Marilyn Kankolenski, Carol Koppmann, Angela Lissen, Lynn Maggioli, Amy Marcin, Rosa Margevich, Steven Marshall, Timothy McCann, Christopher McGillion, Donovan Miller, Renee Morrison, John Moudy, Pat Mussall, Debbie Nolan, Leo Notaro, Heather Nugent, Wendy Osucha, Nancy Palmieri, Jennifer Retzinger, Ruth Schuler, Noah Shelvay, Donald Sinclair, Christopher Speanburg, Andrew Stack, Deacon Paul Stankiewicz, Bruce Stauff, Diane Stillinger, Diane Taylor, Gerald Thomason, Sharon Trentini, Jan Turnbull, Ginger Uticone, Kim Vallaincourt, Roberta Walker, Mark Zastrow

**PARISH ACTIVITIES**

- SUN. December 8— Religious Education 9:45-10:45AM
- SUN. December 8— Bible Study 9:45-10:45AM
- MON. December 9— Narcotics Anonymous 7:30PM
- TUES. December 10— Caritas Bowling 10:00AM Lewiston Event Center
- TUES. December 10— Book Club Mtg 12:00PM Tina’s Restaurant
- WED. December 11— IC Impact Youth Group 6:30PM
- WED. December 11— Town mtg- solar panels in hall 6:30PM
- THURS. December 12— Dementia Respite 10:00-2:00PM
- THURS. December 12— Caritas Luncheon 12:00PM
- THURS. December 12— Knitting Group 1:00PM
- FRI. December 13— Eucharistic Adoration 10:00-4:00PM
- SUN. December 15— Religious Education 9:45-10:45AM
- SUN. December 15— Bible Study 9:45-10:45AM
- SUN. December 15— Christmas Caroling at OLP 1:00PM
- MON. December 16— Narcotics Anonymous 7:30PM

**Prayers for our Military Personnel**



Lance Corporal Andrew Farmer, Petty Officer 3rd Class Hospitalman James Farmer, Captain Kevin Farmer, 2nd Lieutenant William Farmer, E4 SPC Tyler Fleming, E7 SFC Timothy Fleming, 2nd Lieutenant Philip Joseph Giovannini, Major Heather Heppner, Specialist Riley Johnston, Airman Apprentice Micah Prieto, Hospitalman Samuel Prieto, MSGT Christopher Zastrow



## A MESSAGE FROM FATHER JIM



Dear Parish family,

The Diocese of Buffalo is encouraging all parishes to light a special purple candle as a part of "A Time of Prayer for Healing". This effort is coordinated by the Presbyteral Council and the Vicars of our Diocese.

Let us pray for our Apostolic Administrator, Bishop Edward B. Scharfenberger and for all victims in need of healing.

Let this candle be a sign of hope, especially during this season of Advent.

May the light of Christ shine in our church and in our hearts,

O Merciful Father,  
Your Son in Love stretched out his  
hands upon the cross to embrace  
us.

Embrace and heal our brothers  
and sisters  
who carry the wounds of abuse  
inflicted upon them.

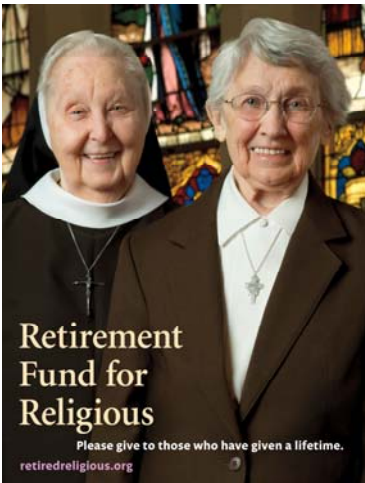
Heal Your Church broken by this  
betrayal of trust.

Cleanse and sanctify Your Clergy  
that they may radiate the selfless  
love of Your Son.

And strengthen and call the  
people of the Church throughout  
Western New York to a  
new dawn of hope  
and grace in your Holy  
Spirit.

We ask this through the  
same Jesus Christ, our Lord.  
Amen.

## RETIREMENT FUND FOR RELIGIOUS



**Next Weekend Saturday, 14th & Sunday, 15th**

Next weekend Saturday the 14th and Sunday the 15th there will be a second collection for the Retirement Fund for Religious. Give in thanksgiving. "The nuns left lasting impressions on me", "I shall always be grateful for my Catholic education"- donors to the campaign. Please join in thanking the thousands of senior Catholic sisters, brothers, and religious order priests who worked tirelessly to educate the young and serve those in need. Next week's second collection is for the Retirement Fund for Religious, which helps care for aging members. Please generously give to those who have given a lifetime.