

# Mary Immaculate Parish



*St. Mary's*  
11095 St. Mary's St.  
P.O. Box 442  
Pavilion, NY 14525

*Rev. Innocent Diala, Pastor*  
*Deacon Walter Szczesny*  
Easter Sunday of the  
Resurrection of the Lord  
March 31 and April 1, 2018

*Immaculate Conception*  
5865 Ellicott St. Rd.  
P.O. Box 98  
East Bethany, NY 14054

## *To Contact Father Innocent:*

Phone (585) 584-3280  
Emergency Cell (716) 378-3731  
E-mail: [innocentdiala@yahoo.com](mailto:innocentdiala@yahoo.com)

## **Parish Office Hours:**

Tuesday & Thursday:  
9:00am-1:00pm

Secretary – *Christine Korytkowski*  
Bookkeeper – *Diane Costa*  
[mioffice@rochester.rr.com](mailto:mioffice@rochester.rr.com)

Phone: (585) 584-7031  
Fax: (585) 250-4213

Website:

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

## Mass Schedule



**Saturday Mass: 4:00pm**

Months of October - March at St. Mary's

Months of April - September at Immaculate Conception

**Sunday Mass: 8:00am at St. Mary's**

9:30am at Immaculate Conception

**Recitation of the Rosary 1/2 hour before Weekend Masses**

**Daily Mass: 8:30am**

Tuesday & Thursday at Immaculate Conception

Wednesday & Friday at St. Mary's

**Holy Day Mass Schedule:** as announced in the bulletin

**Confessions:** 3:15 – 3:45pm Saturdays at Saturday Mass Site  
or by appointment.

## *Welcome!*

No matter what your present status in the Catholic Church; no matter your current family or marital situation; no matter your personal history, age, income, background, gender, race, ethnicity or spirituality; no matter your own self-image of holiness or virtue –

You belong to Jesus Christ and you belong to us! You are invited, accepted and respected here at Mary Immaculate Parish.

We want to share our Roman Catholic way of faith and life in Christ with you!

***“Mother Mary; I Love You! Help me at the hour of my death! Amen!”***

## MASS SCHEDULE

### WEEKEND:

#### Easter Vigil Mass:

##### **Saturday, 8:30pm – March 31 in Pavilion**

Intention: Edward and Louise Lynch  
(Wedding Anniversary remembered)  
By: The Family

#### Easter Sunday:

##### **Sunday, 8:00am – April 1 in Pavilion**

Intention: Easter Blessings to my Mary Immaculate Parishioners  
By: Father Innocent

##### **Sunday, 9:30am – April 1 in East Bethany**

Intention: Easter Blessings to my Mary Immaculate Parishioners  
By: Father Innocent

##### **Saturday, 4:00pm – April 7 in East Bethany**

Intention: John Meyer (RIP)  
By: Wayne Stahler

##### **Sunday, 8:00am – April 8 in Pavilion**

Intention: Mary Immaculate Parishioners – For  
What They Ask of God the Most  
By: Father Innocent

##### **Sunday, 9:30am – April 8 in East Bethany**

Intention: Mary Immaculate Parishioners – For the  
Deepest Good Desires of Their Hearts  
By: Father Innocent

### DAILY MASS: 8:30 am

**Tuesday and Thursday in East Bethany  
Wednesday and Friday in Pavilion**

#### Tuesday, April 3 – Tuesday within the Octave of Easter

Intention: Loved Ones of Mary Immaculate Parish  
By: Father Innocent

#### Wednesday, April 4 – Wed. within the Octave of Easter

Intention: My People of Nigeria  
By: Father Innocent

#### Thursday, April 5 – Thurs. within the Octave of Easter

Intention: Deceased Members of the Ladies of Charity  
By: Father Innocent

#### Friday, April 6 – Friday within the Octave of Easter

Intention: Religious Freedom  
By: Father Innocent

### PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR SICK:

Joan Dowdell, Rose Gould, Cindy Bishop, Julia Barniak, Cathleen Vania, Joseph Dean, David Welliver, Emma Burkell, Catherine Schmidt, Jody Shepard, Mark Volpe, Carl Taylor, Doris Elliott, Bonny Winspear, Erica Dombrowski, Father Richard, Father Kemp and Father Innocent

### PLEASE REMEMBER OUR NURSING HOME PARISHIONERS:

Rose Gould

### PRAY FOR THOSE SERVING IN THE

**MILITARY:** Joseph Stanley, Maj. Jason Palermo, W2 Christian Koch, Dan Murphy, Alex Roth, Tim Stalica, Jady Gray, Jakob Kosiorek, Paul Agan Jr., Mst. Sgt. Nicholas Boyer, Brett Sheffer, Captain Mathieu Philie, SFC Jay Knower, Michael Rigoni, Mark Wilkinsen and Sgt. Mike Steffenella

**PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS:** Next meeting, April 19, 2018 at Conlin Hall. All interested persons are welcome to attend:

**RELIGIOUS EDUCATION:** Held at Immaculate Conception Hall - Starting in September.  
Time: 10:40 AM – 12:10 PM

**UPON THIS ROCK:** For “Upon This Rock” pledge questions, please call 716-847-8740.

### MARY IMMACULATE PARISH COLLECTION REPORT

Regular Collection: (3/24 & 3/25)	\$1,991.00
Easter Flowers: (Cumulative)	\$ 812.00

*Please make checks payable to  
“Mary Immaculate Parish”*

**I have risen, and I am with you still, Alleluia.  
You have laid your hand upon me, Alleluia.  
Too wonderful for me, this knowledge,  
Alleluia, Alleluia.**

*cf. Psalm 139 (138):18, 5-6*

**Lector**  
**Altar Server**  
**Eucharistic Minister**  
**Schedule:**

**Saturday, March 31 – 8:30pm – Pavilion**

**Lector:** Brian Dills  
**Altar Servers:** Michaela Stahler  
Christopher Doody  
**Eucharistic Ministers:** Bruce & Samantha Platek

**Sunday, April 1 – 8:00am – Pavilion**

**Lector:** Carol Pursel  
**Altar Servers:** John Callari  
Cathy Johnson  
**Eucharistic Ministers:** John Callari  
Cathy Johnson

**Sunday, April 1 – 9:30am – East Bethany**

**Lector:** Mike Jackson  
**Altar Servers:** Oscar & Francine  
Stringham  
**Eucharistic Ministers:** Ryan Shormann  
Debbie Schmidt

**Saturday, April 7 – 4:00pm – East Bethany**

**Lector:** Elaine Lemley  
**Altar Servers:** Elijah & Jacob Iten  
**Eucharistic Ministers:** Christine Dailey  
Rae Snyder

**Sunday, April 8 – 8:00am – Pavilion**

**Lector:** Carol Pursel  
**Altar Servers:** John Callari  
Cathy Johnson  
**Eucharistic Ministers:** Patty Bodine  
Nellie Colvin

**Sunday, April 8 – 9:30am – East Bethany**

**Lector:** Marita Midwick  
**Altar Servers:** Evan & Shea Amberger  
**Eucharistic Ministers:** Carol Witmann  
Debbie Schmidt

**SATURDAY MASS LOCATION:** Reminder!! As of Saturday, April 7, 2018 the Saturday Mass will change from St. Mary's Church to **Immaculate Conception**.

**PARISH SECRETARY:** Christine Korytkowski has accepted the position of parish secretary. We welcome her to the staff of Mary Immaculate.

**LADIES OF CHARITIES:** The monthly meeting of the Ladies of Charity will be Thursday, April 12<sup>th</sup> at 1:00pm in Conlin Hall. All ladies of Mary Immaculate Parish are invited to attend.

**NO COFFEE HOUR:** There will be no coffee hour this Sunday, April 1<sup>st</sup>. Our next coffee hour will be Sunday, May 6<sup>th</sup>.

**LITURGICAL RESTRICTIONS:**

Dear Parishioners,  
Thank you for your prompt and continued attention to the directives Bishop Malone issued on January 22<sup>nd</sup> in response to the influenza outbreak within New York State. Please note the following update: As of Palm Sunday, March 25<sup>th</sup>, all of the 1/22/18 liturgical restrictions will be lifted. Thus: The distribution of the Precious Blood for the faithful can be reinstated, and the exchange of the Sign of Peace can be offered as usual. ***However, people should not shake hands or drink from the cup if they have flu symptoms.*** Bishop Malone is grateful to you for cooperating with the previous directives. Likewise, he is grateful to each of you for all you've done to help prevent the spread of the flu. Thank you for your understanding of this situation! ***Father Innocent***

**UPCOMING RELIGIOUS EDUCATION DATES:**

April 22<sup>nd</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup>  
May 6<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup>

**ALTAR SERVER OF THE YEAR:** Congratulations to Oscar Stringham who will receive this year's Altar Server of the Year award. This award will be presented to Oscar by Bishop Malone at a special Mass celebrated this Saturday, March 24<sup>th</sup> at St. Joseph's Cathedral. Our parish is blessed to have Oscar's ministry at the celebration of the Eucharist.

**IT WAS A SELL-OUT!!!** Our first Chicken BBQ of 2018 was a sell out and we sincerely thank everyone who helped in any way to make it possible!! The short-staffed pit crew did a wonderful job cooking the chicken to perfection and we had customers take the time to tell us how delicious their meal was. If you missed out for any reason, no worries ... **we have another BBQ coming up on April 15!!** Mark your calendars and plan to be part of our volunteers working hard for the benefit of all of Mary Immaculate Parish!!

**DO YOU HAVE ANY PICTURES?** If anyone took pictures at the 'Winter Escape' and are willing to share them, please let us know. We would like to put some pictures on our website for this event. Pictures can be sent via e-mail or copies can be dropped off at the office.

**CATHOLIC CHARITIES SITES:** Services provided by Catholic Charities are in all 8 counties of Western New York. If you need to contact Catholic Charities for any services needed, please see the flyer on the bulletin board at the back of each church.

**EASTER SUNDAY:** The Lord is risen, it is true! Through His death and Resurrection, Jesus affords us new life. We must now decide how we are going to live that new life. Will we answer the call from our Lord? If God is calling you to a Church vocation call Fr. Andrew Lauricella at 716-847-5535. You can also check out the "Priest of the Month" stories on our website -[www.buffalovocations.org](http://www.buffalovocations.org).

**MARRIAGE MOMENT:** Easter: Lent is over, Alleluia! Yes, you can go back to eating sweets if that's what you gave up, BUT don't go back to taking your "sweetie" for granted. Can you each treat the other to some favor today? Looking for the opportunity is half of the favor.

**PARENTING PERSPECTIVE:** "Whose sins you forgive are forgiven them." (John 20:23) Confession need not be limited to a priest in the confessional. Confess a mistake you've made to your child. Is there anyone they have hurt and can ask forgiveness from? Especially consider siblings.

**CHICKEN BBQ #2 & HOW YOU CAN HELP:**

**Volunteers needed:**

**Wednesday, April 11<sup>th</sup> at 5:00pm** to scrub potatoes and set up

**Saturday, April 14<sup>th</sup> at 9:00am** to grease and wrap potatoes and finish set up

**Sunday, April 15<sup>th</sup>,** to assist in the dining room, pie room

If you can't help physically there are a few things we need:

Donations of pounds of butter

Home baked pies or cakes by our very gifted bakers

Dish Towels or Dish Cloths – what we have is in need of replacements

Note: We do not need coffee at this time

***Don't wait to be asked to help***, everyone is needed for our second BBQ of 2018!! Also, be sure to invite all your family, friends, neighbors, and coworkers to come to the best Chicken BBQ around!! Posters are available, take as many as can be properly displayed.

*World Ruler...*

*Pastor George and wife Sally brought their new bundle of joy home to the parsonage. Days went by with Sally watching every move baby Georgie made while George Sr. busied himself with heavy global and theological thoughts. Naturally the care began to take its toll on Sally, causing her husband to gallantly announce:*

*George: "I know you're having a lot of trouble with Georgie, dear, but keep in mind, 'the hand that rocks the cradle is the hand that rules the world.'"*

*Sally: "How about taking over the world for a few hours while I go shopping?"*

# Growing in FAITH™

Discovering **hope and joy** in the Catholic faith.

April 2018

Mary Immaculate Parish  
Rev. Innocent Diala, Pastor

## One Minute Meditations

### St. Gianna Beretta Molla

Born into a large Catholic family in Italy, St. Gianna studied medicine and became a physician. She opened a medical practice in Mesero, where she met her husband. The pregnancy and birth of their fourth child was very difficult, but Gianna was willing to risk her life for the life of the child. St. Gianna gave birth to a baby girl and died a week later. She is the patroness of mothers, physicians, and unborn children.



### No guesswork involved

Followers of Christ never have to rely on guesswork to decide what is right. We have a perfect example for our daily lives in Jesus. And to guide us, he gave us the Catholic Church.

*"A new heart I will give you, and a new spirit I will put within you; and I will take out of your flesh the heart of stone and give you a heart of flesh" (Ezekiel 36:26).*



## Begin a new life after Easter

The promise of the Resurrection is that faithful followers of Jesus will have new life. Whether we had a fruitful Lent or were lukewarm in our resolve, we can begin now to become new creations.

**Make an examination.** Call on the Holy Spirit to reveal what is keeping you from becoming the person God intends. Make an examination of your life as you live it. Look at your prayer life, your sacramental life, your dedication to spiritual growth. Do you share your faith? Do you serve others with love?

**Face the truth with courage.** It can be discouraging to look honestly at our

many faults. Remember, though, that God understands we aren't perfect. He asks us to act with integrity and relentlessly fight against sin.

Being a sinner is not the worst condition – remaining one is.

**Devise a plan.** Decide what needs to change and make a plan. Write it down and commit to it. Sometimes making a brave life change entails leaving bad company behind. Often it means changing entrenched habits. Change may be uncomfortable but growth can't happen without it.

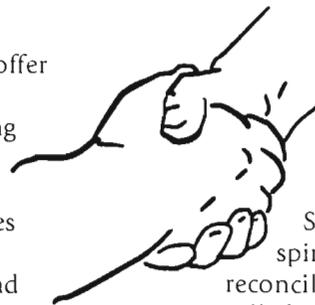
**Take the first steps.** New life comes through God. Entrust your plan for change to him. Spend at least 15 minutes a day in prayer, asking for inspiration and strength. Then take the first steps toward new life.



## Why Do Catholics Do That?

### Why do Catholics offer the sign of peace?

During the Mass, we offer the Sign of Peace in preparation for receiving Communion. After his Resurrection, Jesus appeared to his disciples in the Upper Room. Although his friends had abandoned him, Jesus



forgave them, saying: "Peace be with you" (John 20:19). When we offer each other the Sign of Peace, we imitate Christ. The Sign of Peace is also a sign of spiritual unity. Just as Jesus reconciled with his disciples, we are called to reconcile with each other.

# Catholic disciples are called to more

Daily prayer, weekly Mass attendance, and regular Confession form the foundation for a solid Catholic life. Yet, discipleship calls us to more. Discipleship moves us to make a “conscious, firm decision, carried out in action, to be followers of Jesus Christ no matter the cost” to ourselves (U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops).

A conscious decision. Disciples consciously resolve to follow Jesus with our whole heart, soul, mind, and strength. This governing resolution – renewed every day – controls all other decisions in a disciple’s life.



Demonstrated by action. Our discipleship is visible to others by our devotion to the Church and by the good works we perform. Our charitable actions are offered in obedience to Jesus’ example – and instructions – in the New Testament. The Church suggests the Corporal and Spiritual Works of Mercy as guidelines.

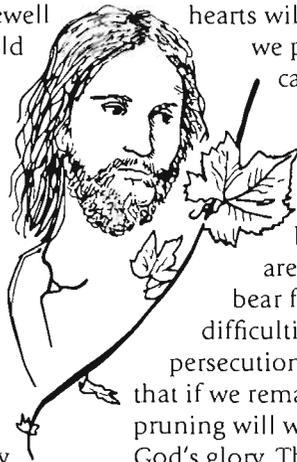
Despite the cost. “So therefore, whoever of you does not renounce all that he has cannot be my disciple” (Luke 14:33). To be Christian isn’t always comfortable. Yet, disciples persist out of love, no matter the cost.

## from Scripture

### John 15:1-8, Stay faithful to Christ

This Gospel comes from Jesus’ Last Supper Discourse, a kind of farewell speech for his disciples. Jesus told his disciples – and us – that without him, we can do nothing. He used a familiar image to explain. A grapevine has a main stem and smaller branches growing from it. Just as the main stem is the source of life for the branches, so Jesus is the source of spiritual life for us.

We received this life when we were “grafted onto” Jesus in Baptism. We preserve this life by taking his words seriously and



striving to live by them. Then our hearts will become like his. When we pray in Jesus’ name, we can trust that God will answer our prayers. There is a “catch” to following Jesus, though. Just as the branches on a grapevine are pruned – cut short – to bear fruit, we will encounter difficulties and even persecution. Yet, Jesus reminds us that if we remain faithful to him, this pruning will work for our good and God’s glory. Then we’ll become the saints we were called to be.

## Q & A What does the Resurrection mean for us?

Jesus’ Resurrection – the most important event in human history – is how we know that what he said and did while on Earth is true and his promises to us are trustworthy.



During his public ministry, Jesus spoke and acted as God. He promised that if we follow him, we will have eternal life. Either he was God and had the power to make it true, or he was a mere man claiming to be someone he wasn’t.

That Jesus rose from the dead – a fact verified by more than 500 eyewitness accounts – means that his word can be trusted. He warned of the specifics of his own death, predicted his Resurrection, and proved that he really is God. Therefore, his promises of eternal life are real, too.

The Resurrection gives us hope. “By his death, Christ liberates us from sin; by his Resurrection, he opens for us the way to a new life” (*Catechism of the Catholic Church* #654). All those who die in God’s friendship will live with him forever.

## Feasts & Celebrations

**April 3 – St. Richard of Chichester (1253).** Born in England, St. Richard studied law at Bologna. Known for his holiness and administrative skills, he was named archbishop of Chichester, but King Henry III refused to let him rule until the pope threatened the king with excommunication. Even as an archbishop, St. Richard lived a humble life. He died in Dover while preaching a crusade.

**April 8 – Divine Mercy Sunday (1935).** In 1931, Jesus appeared to St. Faustina and asked that the Sunday after Easter become the “Feast of

Mercy.” Jesus promised anyone who honors him as King of Mercy and prays the Chaplet of Divine Mercy – the prayer he gave St. Faustina – would receive special graces and great mercy.

**April 25 – St. Mark the Evangelist (1st Century).** St. Mark wrote the second Gospel largely based on St. Peter’s perspective. Mark accompanied Saints Paul and Barnabas (Mark’s cousin) on their missionary journey through the island of Cyprus and is credited with founding the Church of Alexandria.



### Our Mission

To provide practical ideas that promote faithful Catholic living.  
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