

Mary Immaculate Parish



St. Mary's

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

Father Alphonse Arulanandu

The Presentation of the Lord
February 2nd and February 3rd, 2020

Immaculate Conception

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



Mass Schedule

Saturday Mass: 4:00pm
Months of October - March at St. Mary's

Sunday Mass: 8:00am at St. Mary's
9:30am at Immaculate Conception
Recitation of the Rosary ½ hour before Weekend Masses

Confessions: 3:15 - 3:45pm or by appointment.

Daily Mass: 8:30am
Tuesday & Thursday at Immaculate Conception
Wednesday & Friday at St. Mary's

To Contact Father Alphonse:

Office Phone (585) 584-7031
Emergency Cell (601)951-0333
E-mail: alfeeainarul@gmail.com

Parish Office Hours:

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

Deacon Edward Birmingham
Secretary - Christine Korytkowski
Bookkeeper - Diane Costa
mioffice@rochester.rr.com
Fax: (585) 250-4213

Website:

www.MaryImmaculateNY.org

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 Intentions

Saturday, February 1

4:00PM – Rose Gould by Donald Davis

Sunday, February 2

8:00AM – All Souls by Parishioners

Sunday, February 2

9:30am – Charles Shormann, Sr. by 9:30 Choir

Saturday, February 8

4:00PM – Sharon Woodruff by Platek Family

Sunday, February 9

8:00AM – All Souls by Parishioners

Sunday, February 9

9:30am – Rose Gould by Dave & Ron Colantonio

DAILY MASS: 8:30 am

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

COFFEE HOUR: There will be a Coffee Hour after 8:00am Mass on Sunday, February 2nd at St. Mary's Hall. All are welcome!!

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION: Held at Immaculate Conception Hall - Time: 10:40 AM – 12:10 PM. The upcoming dates are February 9th and February 23rd, 2020.

RETREAT: 33 Days to Morning Glory. A Do-It-Yourself Retreat, in preparation for Marian Consecration. Free pamphlets are located in the back of the church. One page a day for 33 days, will change your life.

UPCOMING COLLECTIONS

Assistance to Poland & Europe.....February 2
Winter Fuel Collection.....February 16
Black & Native Mission.....February 29

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR SICK:

Julia Barniak, Joseph Dean, David Welliver, Emma Burkell, Carl Taylor, Doris Elliott, Bonny Winspear, Jimmy Stothers, Erica Dombrowski, Etta Winter, Maverick Brumsted-Shaw, Jerry Rider, Jr., Robert Collette, Herman Hensel, Judy Wolf, Mary Lou Schmidt, Clarence Winspear, Ellie Volpe.

PLEASE REMEMBER OUR NURSING HOME PARISHIONERS: Louise Lynch, Father Richard Cilano (Carol Stream, Illinois).

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 Knowler, Michael Rigoni, Mark Wilkinsen, Hunter Schiske and Sgt. Mike Steffenella

PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS: Next meeting, February 20, 2020 at 7pm, St. Mary's. All interested persons are welcome to attend.

ENVELOPES: If you plan to attend mass at a different church, feel free to put your envelope in at that church. It will make its way to our parish. The church you attend will happily mail to Mary Immaculate Parish on your behalf.

**Your merciful love, O God,
We have received in the midst of your temple.
Your praise, O God, like your name, reaches the
ends of the earth; your right hand is filled with
saving justice.**

Psalm 48 (47):10-11

PARISH REPORT

January 19, 2020

Regular Collection:	\$ 2591.00
Catholic Relief Services:	\$ 374.00
Ladies of Charity: (cumulative)	\$ 620.00

Lector
Altar Server
Eucharistic Minister

Schedule:

Saturday, February 1 – 4:00pm – *Pavilion*

Lector: Ron Colantonio
Altar Servers: Michaela Stahler
Eucharistic Ministers: Samantha Platek
Bruce Platek

Sunday, February 2 – 8:00am – *Pavilion*

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

Sunday, February 2 – 9:30am – *East Bethany*

Lector: Mike Jackson
Altar Servers: Addison & Jayden Harkins
Eucharistic Ministers: Volunteers Needed
Ryan Shormann

Saturday, February 8 – 4:00pm – *Pavilion*

Lector: Pat Tiede
Altar Servers: Samantha Platek
Eucharistic Ministers: Samantha Platek
Rae Snyder

Sunday, February 9 – 8:00am – *Pavilion*

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

Sunday, February 9 – 9:30am – *East Bethany*

Lector: Marita Midwick
Altar Servers: Charlie Urbanczyk
Elijah Grice
Eucharistic Ministers: Mary Shaughnessy
Ryan Shormann

HAPPY GROUND HOG'S DAY!

Reflection:

Who wouldn't like a bit of consolation today? Who wouldn't like to feel the Lord put his arm around their shoulders and tell them, everything's going to be okay? In the presence of the Lord, all of us feel joy and happiness.

Simeon was looking for God's consolation. God had promised restoration for his people. He had promised a Messiah who would sit on the throne of David. For many years, Simeon had prayed for these promises to be fulfilled, but nothing had happened, but he continued to pray for redemption. He did not give up but waited.

Then the day came. Imagine how tender that moment was when Simeon took the child into his arms. The consolation of Israel had finally arrived (Luke 2:25). You can just hear the emotion welling up in his words; now, "Master, you may let your servant go in peace". At last, I have seen him, I can depart now, Lord, because you have come to save my people. Yes Lord, you have come to redeem us.

Simeon knew right then and there that everything was going to be okay. He didn't know how it would happen or when it would happen, but that didn't matter. He knew that it would happen, and that was enough for him to believe. And it happened.

God knows your anguish; he hears your prayers; he knows your concerns, worries and anxieties. So, let him console you. Today in the house of the Lord, you will meet Jesus in the unlikely form of bread and wine as Simeon met him in the unlikely form of an infant. When you receive him, think of this prayerful man. Just as he did, take Jesus into your hands and into your hearts. He has come to bring salvation and consolation. He may not tell you how or when, but it doesn't matter right now. Christ is in you, and everything is going to be okay.

Master, my eyes have seen your salvation. I surrender myself to you. Amen. (Ref. The word among us)

Fr. Alphonse Arulanandu

ALL BABIES CHERISHED: *The All Baby Cherished Bottle Drive has had a good return for the first part of January, with \$600 in checks and cash donated and the coins still being processed. However, while the coins get processed, the Knights want to remind the parish that there are still about 40 bottles out there on someone's table at home, or in their car, awaiting delivery. Please bring them into mass on the weekend, or the office during the week and we will get them added to the parish total. Thanks to all who so generously support this Pro-Life initiative.*

FIRST FRIDAY OF EACH MONTH DEVOTION

Starting Friday, February 7, we will begin a new devotion. From 10 am – 11 am we will have the Divine Chaplet, followed by Mass at 11, and then a light luncheon to share in fellowship. This new devotion is called a Healing Mass and we hope that as many as possible will join us. If you would like to bring a dish to pass, it would be appreciated. Hope to see you Friday the 7th!!

OUR FIRST CHICKEN BBQ: Hard to believe but, we will be hosting our first Chicken BBQ on Sunday, **March 15.** Be sure to watch the bulletin for more news but, in the meantime, mark your calendar and start spreading the word!!

BISON CHILDREN'S SCHOLARSHIP FUND: A private scholarship fund providing tuition assistance for low-income families in the 8 counties of Western New York who want to enroll their children in private schools. For more information and a pre-application go to bisonfund.com between January 1st and February 28th or call BISON at (716)854-0869.

COUNTERS ARE NEEDED: We are in need of more counters for both parish sites. It is only about once a month or so and it usually only takes about an hour. If anyone is interested please contact the parish office at 585-584-7031. We would love to have you.

BULLETIN ANNOUNCEMENTS: If you would like something put in the bulletin, please have your information to the office two weeks in advance. You can either email, mail or call the office with your request. Thank you.

COFFEE & DONUTS: We will have Coffee & Donuts after the 9:30 Mass at Immaculate Conception Hall on Sunday, February 16th. All are welcome to join us in fellowship.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS: Don't miss out on these important dates for our parish.

Ash Wednesday is February 26.

Easter Sunday is April 12.

Our Chicken BBQ's this year are on March 15, April 19, May 17.

LIVE AUCTION & BASKET RAFFLE: St. Paul Lutheran School will be holding their live Auction & Basket Raffle on Saturday, February 1st located at 31 Washington Ave., Batavia. Doors open at 3:30 and live auction starts at 4:00pm. There will be baked goods, hand-crafted items, themed baskets and much more! Gift certificates available. Refreshments will also be available. For more information or to donate an item contact 343-0488.

LADIES OF CHARITY: The Ladies of Charity will be meeting on Thursday, February 13th at 1:00pm in St. Mary's Hall. After a short business meeting, we're going to be sewing buttons on walker bags. If you'd like to help, please come prepared with needles (if you have a favorite). If you don't like sewing, you can stay and visit with us.

Words of Challenge and Hope by Pope Francis:

Commit yourselves to great ideals, to the most important things. We Christians were not chosen by the Lord for little things; push onwards toward the highest principles. Stake your lives on noble ideals.

WACY

Join WACY (Wyoming Association for Catholic Youth) Youth led Gathering for 7-12 graders

Sunday, February 9, 2020

5:00 until 7:30pm

Weber Hall behind St. Cecilia's Church -St. John Neumann Parish.

991 Centerline Rd., Strykersville.

New Youth Welcome!

New Friends, Fun, Faith, and Food!

We also offer a separate Parent gathering during meeting time, for those who are interested.

Your Church Can Use You! Consider giving back by volunteering at Mary Immaculate Parish. One hour a month would mean so much. Our parish has many different volunteer possibilities, **Make 2020 the year you make a difference in your church!** For more information call the church office at 585-584-7031.

WELCOMED HOME: Leora M. Reinhart was called home to Our Lord on January 29th. A Mass of Christian Burial will be held on Monday, February 3rd at 10:00 am at Mary Immaculate Parish, St. Mary's Site. All are welcome to attend. Charitable donations may be given in her name to Linwood Gardens. Leora was a long time member of St. Mary's Church and one of the original members of the Ladies of Charity. May she enjoy the eternal banquet of Heaven.

A MASS FOR A LOVED ONE IS A
GREAT GIFT FOR
VALENTINE'S DAY
BOOK YOUR MASS
TODAY!

Think of Me: In Matthew 25:40, we see Jesus' message very clearly: "Whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me." **When we reflect on this year's Appeal theme, "Think of Me," we can see it then as not only thinking of our brothers and sisters in need, but also Jesus.** Your gift to the 2020 Appeal can help a struggling family find stability through counseling or a young adult strengthen their faith through campus ministry. Think of them and think of Jesus, and see your gift as doing God's work here on earth. Secure donations can be made online at www.ccwny.org/donation or by calling Catholic Charities at 716-218-1400.

CELEBRATION MASS: Marian Consecration special culminating celebration Mass on Sunday, February 2 at 10:30 am at St. Joseph Cathedral, 50 Franklin St., Buffalo, with Bishop Edward Scharfenberger presiding. Let us come together and pray as the four-week retreat, "33 Days to Morning Glory," comes to an end. For more information about the Marian Consecration, visit www.buffalodiocese.org/marianconsecration.

A Sunday school teacher asked her class why Joseph and Mary took Jesus with them to Jerusalem.

A small child replied, "They couldn't get a babysitter."

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February 2020

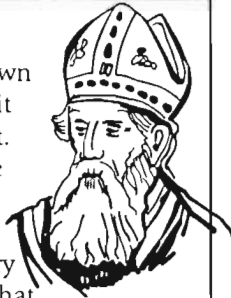
Mary Immaculate Parish
Rev. Innocent Diala, Pastor

One Minute Meditations

St. Blaise

Not much is known about his life, but it is certain that St.

Blaise was the bishop of Sebaste in fourth-century Turkey, and that he was arrested for being a Christian. On his way to jail, he healed a young boy who was choking on a fish bone. According to one legend, the boy's mother also gave St. Blaise two candles in gratitude. Refusing to deny his faith, the bishop was tortured and martyred by the local governor.



Lenten Obligations

Catholics between the ages of 18 and 59 are obliged to fast on Ash Wednesday (February 26th) and Good Friday (April 10th). In addition, all Catholics 14 years old and older must abstain from meat on Ash Wednesday, Good Friday and all the Fridays of Lent.

The U. S. bishops define fasting as eating one full meal. Some food (not equaling another full meal) is permitted as necessary to maintain strength.

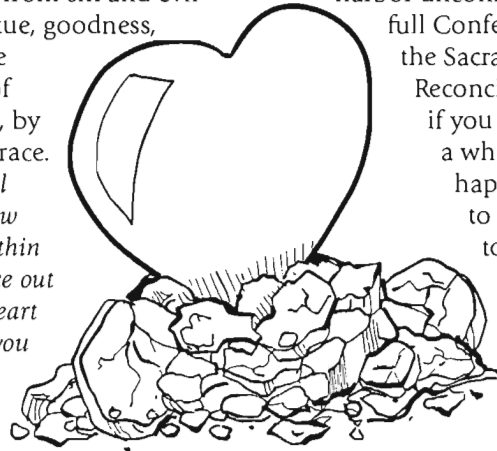


Find your new heart during Lent

The root of the word "convert" means to "change," or "transform." Think of turning from sin and evil toward grace, virtue, goodness, and God. It is the transformation of the human heart, by an act of God's grace. *"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).

A new heart. God desires our conversion more than we ever could. With the perfect heart of a Father, he pursues and draws us to himself. Conversion begins by offering him our whole heart so he can remake it as his own.

Break the heart of stone. There can be no healing or conversion when we harbor unconfessed sin. Make a full Confession to a priest in the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Don't worry if you have been away for a while. The priest will be happy to guide you and to welcome you back to God's friendship. A new spirit. When we have a soft and tender heart of flesh, we are able to receive God's holy will. Our new spirit requires renewal every day. Daily prayer, frequent Confession, and regular reception of the Holy Eucharist will keep our hearts filled with God's love.



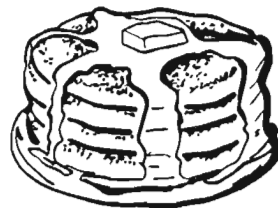
Why Do Catholics Do That?

Why do Catholics call Fat Tuesday "Shrove" Tuesday?

Commonly known as Fat Tuesday or Mardi Gras, the Tuesday before Ash Wednesday has been traditionally spent feasting (especially on pancakes). It is also called "Shrove Tuesday," recalling the tradition of going to Confession. The

word "shrove" comes from "shrive" — the English word for confessing one's sins and receiving absolution.

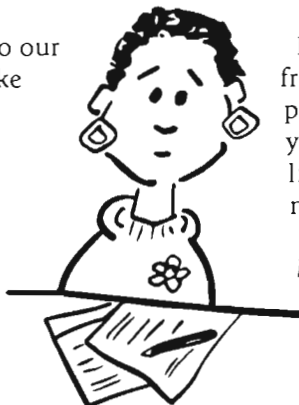
In fact, there was a custom of churches ringing the "shriving bell" on this day. The goal was to start Lent with a clean soul and a repentant spirit.



Choose Heaven over Earth

Life on Earth lasts but a moment compared to our eternal life, yet we often let earthly concerns take priority over preparing for Heaven. If we put Heaven first, however, God will take care of everything else.

What is important to you? Make a list of what you do each day, from morning to bedtime. The activities that absorb most of your time are your real priorities. If it isn't in God's service, you need a change.



How do you make decisions? Do you look to friends or coworkers for advice? Or do you turn to prayer and Scripture for guidance? Resolve to take your eyes off of the world and place them on Christ. If we base all choices and decisions on God, we will never choose wrong.

Do you trust God to make you happy? "For I know well the plans I have in mind for you, says the Lord, plans for your welfare, not for woe! Plans to give you a future full of hope" (Jeremiah 29:11).

from Scripture

Matthew 5:38-48, Forgive and pray

The ancient concept of justice – "an eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth" – is from Exodus 21:24, Leviticus 24:20 and Deuteronomy 19:21, and was originally meant to limit violence and prevent blood feuds. Instead, Jesus introduced a new approach, one that would bring about a different kind of justice.

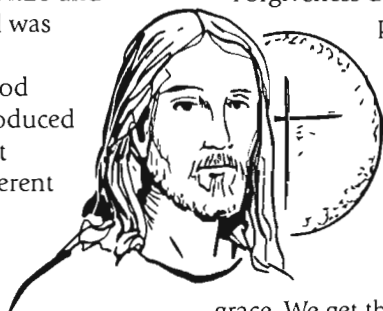
Jesus directed his followers and us to "be perfect," which includes being merciful. God requires our treatment of others – enemies included – to mirror his treatment of his enemies. As Christians, we are to imitate Christ, who forgave his executioners from the

Cross: "Father, forgive them, they know not what they do" (Luke 23:34).

Forgiveness doesn't mean letting the person get away with their offense.

Forgiveness means letting go of our anger at the offender and entrusting the situation to God's care. We can't do this alone: we rely on God's

grace. We get this from the Holy Spirit and also from receiving the Eucharist at Mass. By receiving the Eucharist, we are nourished by the Body and Blood of Christ, who strengthens us to lead a more perfect life.



Q & A How can I fit more prayer into my busy day?

"Pray constantly" sounds challenging but it doesn't have to be. Actually, busy days offer many great opportunities for prayer if we know where to look.

Consider these suggestions:



Pray throughout the day. Consider praying the Rosary on the way to work, saying grace before lunch, offering a quick "I love you," or praying for guidance for important decisions. Even job-related tasks can become "prayers in action."

Fifteen minutes a day. Good friends know text messages can't replace being together. It's the same with God. He loves us and wants our company. Aim for 10-15 minutes of daily prayer. Thank God for your blessings, meditate on Scripture, offer him your day, or simply enjoy his company.

It's the love that counts. For her love and humility, Jesus commended a poor but generous widow for her small donation (Mark 12:43-44). Sometimes, we have little time or energy for "good prayer." Remember, what pleases God is not the elegance or number of our prayers, but the love with which we offer them.

Feasts & Celebrations

Feb. 2 – Presentation of the Lord. In accordance with the Law of Moses, Mary and Joseph brought Jesus to the Temple forty days after his birth, and Simeon praised God for revealing the long-awaited Savior.

Feb. 2 – St. Catherine of Ricci (1590). St. Catherine was born to a prominent banker. Against her father's wishes, she joined the Dominicans when she was twelve. She is known for her visions of the Lord's Passion, which she experienced every Friday.

Feb. 17 – The Seven Holy Founders

(13th century). Seven Italian noblemen who withdrew from the immorality of the times to live in prayer, simplicity and penance. Their order, the Servants of Mary, was later approved by the Holy See in 1304.

Feb. 26 – Ash Wednesday. First day of Lent. Ashes from burnt palms are placed on the forehead as a sign of penance. Ash Wednesday is a day of abstinence from meat and fasting – one regular meal and two smaller meals that together don't equal a full meal.



Our Mission

To provide practical ideas that promote faithful Catholic living.

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(Unless noted Bible quotes and references are from the Revised Standard Version and the New American Bible)

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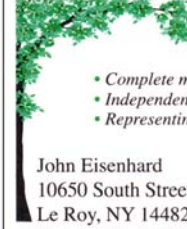
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