

Mary Immaculate Parish



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

March 22, 2020
4th Sunday of Lent
1 Samuel 16:1, 6-7, 10-13
Ephesians 5: 8-14
John 9: 1-41

Immaculate Conception
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www.MaryImmaculateNY.org

[Facebook](#)

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Mass Schedule

All weekend Masses are cancelled until further Notice

Confessions: Any time by appointment.

Daily Masses are cancelled until further Notice.

Kindly log-on to our parish website Homepage for daily live Mass.

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!”

St. Mary's Church, Pavilion

The church will be open for private prayer during scheduled weekend masses.

ALL MASSES ARE CANCELLED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE AND ALL MASS INTENTIONS WILL BE MOVED TO FUTURE DATES

COFFEE HOUR: Cancelled

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION: Held at Immaculate Conception Hall - Time: 10:40 AM – 12:10 PM. All religious education classes are cancelled until further notice.

FIRST FRIDAY OF EACH MONTH DEVOTION
Friday, April 3rd. 10 -11 am Holy hour and Divine Mercy Chaplet followed by **Healing Mass** at 11am, and then a light luncheon to share in fellowship. We hope that as many as possible will join the Healing Mass. If you would like to bring a dish to pass, it would be appreciated. Hope to see you Friday the 3rd – **Cancelled!!**

UPCOMING COLLECTIONS

Easter Flowers.....March 29
Holy Land.....April 10
Catholic Home Missions.....April 26

MASS 6:30PM & STATIONS OF THE CROSS: 7:00pm

Stations of the Cross, may Resume For April if the Ban is lifted

April 3rd – East Bethany
April 10th – Pavilion (6:00pm)

*It's time for us to be united in prayer.
Time to have courage because the Lord says "Be not afraid, for I am with you always".*

We pray oh Lord, forsake not your children.

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, Jeff True, Joyce Herold, Patrick Birmingham.

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

PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS: Next meeting, April 23, 2020 at 7pm, Pavilion. All interested persons are welcome to attend if ban is lifted.

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 your envelope to Mary Immaculate Parish on your behalf.

Parish Reconciliation Service on March 24th, 7pm is cancelled.

LOTTERY BASKET: This year our Lottery Basket will be filled with various lottery tickets totally \$100 in chances. Tickets will be available to purchase at our Chicken BBQ's. The drawing for the basket will take place at close of our final Chicken BBQ on May 17th. So, bring that \$1, take a chance, try your luck and remember ... "It's just a \$1 and a Dream!" Hey, you never know ...

PARISH REPORT

March 15, 2020

Regular Collection: \$ 1360.00

Please, send your weekly donations by Post.
Thanks for your support and generosity.

A Call for All Catholics to pray for God's Mercy upon the World every day.

The world has come to a standstill with the spread of COVID 19 pandemic. Every person on earth is under fear. While Governments and medical professionals are doing all they can, there is no respite to the spread of this virus. Our Prayers are with all front-line workers.

Many people have wondered why dioceses world-wide discontinue public Masses when there is the need to be praying more and offering more Masses. We have discontinued public Masses because God has given us intelligence to assess situations. We see a command to quarantine in the Book of Leviticus 13:31. It is not the time for us to be overcome by fear because the Lord has told us almost 365 times in the Bible **"Do not be afraid" "Fear Not" and "Trust the Lord."**

Holy Mass: It now becomes the duty of all priests to celebrate Masses for the People of God, even when there are no people present. A priest celebrating Mass alone is "a public act because a priest is a public person, and his Liturgical acts are never a question of private devotion, but always an action of the Church." A priest is taken from among men and made their representative before God to offer gifts and sacrifices for sins (Hebrews 5:1). A person is ordained a priest because he is chosen by God, and his main duty is to intercede for his people.

As priests, we are to lead the people in the most important prayer - "The Eucharist "the source and summit of the Christian life" (CCC:1324) even when they are not physically present.

In 2Chronicles 7: 14, the Lord gives us a promise: "If then my people, upon whom my name has been pronounced, humble themselves and pray, and seek my face and turn from their evil ways, I will hear them from heaven and pardon their sins and heal their land."

We call upon all the people of God, to join all the priests in the world through recorded or livestreaming of Mass. Please gather all members of the family to pray by setting aside all other concerns. Families also can recite the Rosary and The Divine Mercy Chaplet on any at any time. The family prayers will keep us united and strengthen us at this time of world crisis.

Reflection – John 9: 1-41

"Jesus open my eyes! Help me to see as you see"

How's your eyesight today? What do you see when you look at the world around you? That seems to be the issue in today's Gospel. As the story opens, we meet a man whom everyone assumes is a sinner because he is blind (John 9:2). But by the end of the story, Jesus says that those who claim they can see are really the ones in darkness.

What did these Pharisees claim to see in this man? A sinner both because he had been blind and because he dared to challenge their authority. And what they saw moved them to berate him and throw him out of the synagogue.

A similar thing happened when they saw Jesus. Because he had performed a healing on the Sabbath, they saw him as another sinner. No one who was righteous would dare break the Law of Moses. Again, what they saw moved them to persecute him all the more.

But what did Jesus see in the blind man? Not a "Sinner" to be condemned and expelled, but a child of God in need of healing and salvation. And what he saw moved him to act with mercy.

The blind man saw in Jesus, not a man who broke the Sabbath, but the Messiah who brings freedom and restoration. And what he saw moved him to bow down in worship. **So, let's ask again, how is our eyesight today?**

Jesus wants to help us see the world as he does. He wants us to see people not as sinner under God's judgement but as brothers and sister who are offered the same mercy we have received. He wants us to withhold our own judgement and show kindness instead. Because that's how Jesus sees people. It's how he sees you and me.

So, as you gaze at the crucifix and at the Host at Mass at any time, let Jesus' loving gaze pierce your heart. Let him heal your blindness so that you can see the world through his eyes (Ref: WAU).

"Jesus help us to see your presence in our brothers and sisters" - Amen.

Fr. Alphonse Arulanandu

SPRING RAFFLE: – Once again we are holding our Annual Spring Raffle where you have a chance to win \$500 for First Prize or \$200 for Second Prize. The tickets are \$1 a piece and our drawing will be held at the close of our last Chicken BBQ for 2020. Parishioners are asked to pick up their envelopes with tickets for them to sell or purchase as soon as possible. Picking up your envelope will save us the expense of mailing them to you. Due to the cancellation of all masses the tickets are now located at the parish office at the East Bethany site. You can pick up your tickets there between the hours of 9:00am and 1:00pm until March 31st at which time they will be mailed out.

OUR ONLINE BULLETIN: Due to the Coronavirus, our weekly bulletin will be available online. This will allow us to keep our parishioners aware of notices concerning our parish. We ask you to read them weekly and to pass the word to fellow parishioners who may not be in the habit of looking at our website. Additionally, there are some parishioners who do not have access to a computer and would appreciate if you could print a bulletin for them. Bulletins are available at the office and you are welcome to stop into the office during business hours and pick up your bulletin there.

WEEKLY CONTRIBUTION: Along with your package of envelopes you will find an envelope that is pre-addressed for mailing to the parish. This envelope, or your own, can be used to send in your weekly contribution or, if it is easier, your monthly contribution. Please be sure your envelope number is included with any donations you do make. Remember that, even if we are not holding Mass, our normal expenses for heat, cleaning, staffing, etc. does continue. We sincerely appreciate everyone's understanding during this difficult time. If you have any questions, please contact Father Alphonse or the office during their normal business hours.

DID YOU GET YOUR FREE COPY? Be sure to grab your copy of 'Celebrating Sunday for Catholic Families' before they are gone. This is a great way to encourage yourself and your children with the Mass and deepen your appreciation of the richness of your faith life. These booklets are a good way to prepare, participate, and reflect each week. Copies can be found at the entrance of each church. Get yours before they are gone!

MARK YOUR CALENDARS: Don't miss out on these important dates for our parish – **if the Ban is lifted.**

Live Stations of the Cross is April 10th, 6pm
St. Mary's Site

Easter Sunday is April 12.

Our Chicken BBQ's second and third year are on
April 19 and May 17.

HANDICAPPED PARKING AT ST. MARY'S: We have noticed the difficulty that our elder or handicapped parishioners are having trying to enter St. Mary's Church. In an effort to ease this situation, we will try to have someone available 15 minutes before Mass to aid any parishioners into the church and into a church pew. In this regard, we also are asking that no one park in the loop between the rectory and church. This will allow anyone in need to more easily enter the church from the loop entrance. We will need volunteers so, if you are able and willing to greet/assist parishioners 15 minutes prior to Mass, please do so. If you have any questions, please contact Lisa Schiske or Fr. Alphonse. We are a community and we know that our parishioners cannot be matched with their strength of fellowship.

PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS: As you may be aware, Fr. Jim has taken up residency in the Immaculate Conception rectory. Due to this, we can no longer hold Parish Council meetings in the dining room of the rectory. Meetings held in East Bethany will be held in the Immaculate Conception Hall in the pie room (anyone who comes to the BBQ's will know where the pies are cut and take-out orders filled). If you do not know where the room is, you will enter by the door facing the main parking lot. As always, any interested party is welcome to attend Parish Council meetings.

CATHOLIC CHARITIES: Today kicks off Appeal Week in parishes across the Diocese of Buffalo. Please help us reach our goal of \$10 million by contributing or pledging today. Your donation helps strengthen, protect and empower thousands of people across Western New York through Catholic Charities services and a number of ministries through the Fund for the Faith. Will you think of those most in need in Western New York? Make a secure donation online at <http://www.ccwny.org/donation> or by calling 716-218-1400. **Think of Me.**

REMEMBER FEBRUARY 26TH STARTED THE BEGINNING OF THE SEASON OF LENT:

Abstinence: All Catholics who have reached their 14th birthday are bound to abstain totally from meat on the following days: Ash Wednesday, all Fridays of Lent and Good Friday.

Fasting: All Catholics between their 18th and 59th birthdays are also bound to observe the Law of Fast on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. This practice means limiting oneself to a single full meal and avoiding food between meals. Light sustenance may be taken on two other occasions in the course of the day.

Easter Duty: After they have been initiated into the Most Holy Eucharist, all the faithful are bound by the obligation of receiving Communion at least once a year. This precept must be fulfilled during the Easter season, unless for a good reason it is fulfilled at another time during the year. This obligation may be fulfilled between March 1 (Sunday before Lent) and June 7 (Trinity Sunday).

Reconciliation: Catholics are bound by an obligation faithfully to confess serious sins at least once a year.

Other Fridays of the Year: Catholics should be reminded that all other Fridays of the year remain as days of penance, in prayerful remembrance of the Passion of Jesus Christ.

Obligation: The obligation which we have as members of the Church to do penance is a serious one. Furthermore, the obligation to observe, as a whole or "substantially," the penitential days specified by the Church is a serious one.

Remember: While no one should hold himself or herself lightly excused, one should not become unduly scrupulous. Failure to observe individual days of penance is less serious than the failure to observe any penitential days at all or a substantial number of such days.

An Invitation: In the name of peace, and in union with the Bishops of our country, the faithful of this Diocese are invited to add voluntary fasting to the practice of penance during the Fridays of the year. Together with works of charity and service toward our neighbors, this practice would become a sign of our commitment to conversion, reconciliation and peace.

2020 LENT AND HOLY WEEK LITURGIES

RECONCILIATION: The sacrament of Reconciliation will be held at the regularly scheduled time – from 3:15 to 3:45 at the Saturday Mass location, except for Holy Saturday when no confessions will be heard.

PALM SUNDAY MASSES: (April 4 & 5, 2020)
In East Bethany: 4:00pm Saturday
In Pavilion: 8:00am Sunday
In East Bethany: **9:45am** Sunday
(Please note this Sunday Mass at East Bethany is 15 minutes later)

HOLY WEEK TRIDIUM:
Holy Thursday: (April 9, 2020) - 7:00pm
East Bethany - The Mass of the Lord's Supper
Adoration in silence – till **11:30pm**
Sign-up Sheet will be in back of church

Good Friday Ceremonies: **Pavilion** April 10, 2020
6:00pm Live Stations of the Cross by Children
7:00pm - Good Friday Liturgy

Holy Saturday: (April 11, 2020)
8:30pm - Easter Vigil in East Bethany
(Please note: there is no 4:00pm Saturday Mass for Easter weekend. Also, no confessions will be heard on Holy Saturday.)

EASTER SUNDAY MASSES: Will be celebrated according to the standard of Sunday schedule.

DO YOU LIKE MUSIC? If you do and you think it adds to our liturgy, perhaps you can help us out. Though we have dedicated and talented musicians at each church, they need your help. We are looking for parishioners to form a committee to discuss and plan where our music program goes from this point on. We will be in need of organs or keyboards. We are open to suggestions of different musical instruments. We are looking for ideas to create musical interest in our parish and to encourage our children to be more involved. If any of this interests you, please contact Father Alphonse or call the office.

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