

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION CHURCH



DECEMBER 22, 2024

WELCOME!

Parish Information

129 Graham Avenue
Brookville, PA 15825
P: (814) 849-8697
F: (814) 849-5265
W: www.icbrookville.com

Our Staff

Pastor | Rev. William M. Laska
Religious Ed. | Penny Rakovan
Secretary | Chris Koladish

Mass Schedule

Immaculate Conception

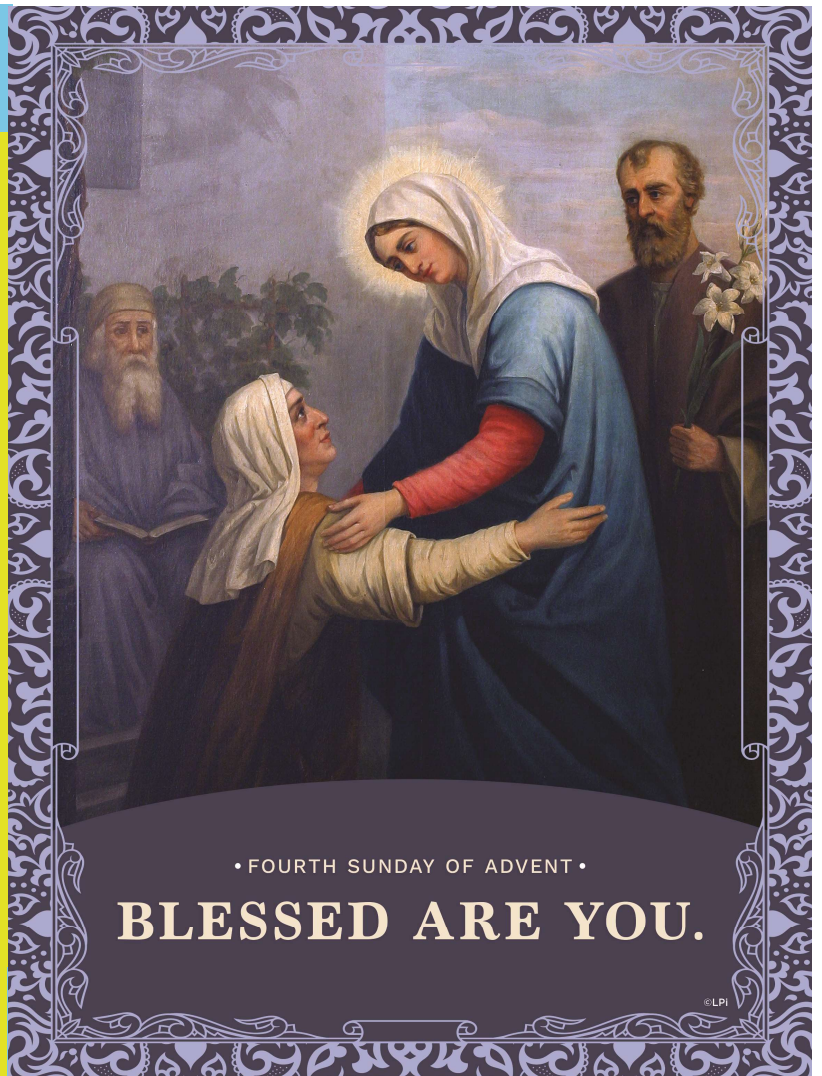
Weekdays: 8:00 a.m.
Saturday: 5:15 p.m.
Sunday: 10:30 a.m.
Holy Day: 8:00 a.m. & 7:00 p.m.

St. Dominic

Sunday: 8:30 a.m.
Holy Day (Vigil): 6:00 p.m. Reconciliation: 8 a.m.
Sunday

Reconciliation

Saturday: 4:30 p.m. (IC),
also by appointment



MORE PARISH INFORMATION...

Sacrament of Marriage

By appointment. A six-month preparation period is required.

Sacrament of Baptism

By appointment. Please call the rectory for information.

Sacrament of the Sick

Please call the rectory if anyone in your family is hospitalized or is a shut-in.

Parish Membership

Membership in the parish is required to be a sponsor for a Sacrament, to be married in the parish, or to have a child baptized. Please notify the rectory office of a change of address or phone number.

Religious Education Classes

Sunday: 9:00 a.m. - 10:15 a.m. (*All Grades*)

***Bulletin Deadline: Monday at 9:00 a.m.**

THE CHURCHES OF IMMACULATE CONCEPTION AND ST. DOMINIC

MASS INTENTIONS

Schedule for the Week

TUESDAY, December 24, CHRISTMAS EVE

- 5:15 PM Ernie and Jean Caputo
by Rob and Karen Caputo
- 9:00 PM Mass of Thanksgiving
by Chris and Steve Koladish

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 25, CHRISTMAS DAY

- 8:00 AM (St. Dominic) Dan Fiscus
by Betty and Kathi Ransel
- 10:30 AM Larry Riggs by his Family

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 26

- 8:00 AM Kathy Stepman by Betty and Kathi Ransel

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 27

- 8:00 AM Richard Mauersberg
by Betty and Kathi Ransel

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 28

- 5:15 PM Kenneth and Veronica Emerson
by Amy and Don Jonischek

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 29

- 8:30 AM (St. Dominic) Parish Family of Immaculate
Conception and St. Dominic
- 10:30 AM Mike Catanzarito by the Tattersall Family

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE HAPPY REPOSE OF THE SOUL OF:

James Laska
Ellis "Bud" McLaughlin
Doris (Dory) McAninch

LITURGICAL SCHEDULE— DECEMBER 24 & 25 DECEMBER 28 & 29

Altar Servers

- December 24, 5:15 pm: Ethan Lauer
December 24, 9:00 pm: Nora O'Donnell
December 25, 10:30 am: Oliver Butcher
December 28, Saturday, 5:15 p.m. | Please volunteer if
you attend this Mass
December 29, Sunday, 10:30 a.m. | Ethan Lauer
Andrew Bazylak

Lectors

- December 24, 5:15 pm: Jim Stanley
December 24, 9:00 pm: Michele Confer
December 25, 10:30 am: Barbara Chestnut
December 25, St. Dominic: Denny Kinol
December 28, Saturday, 5:15 p.m. | Michele Confer
December 29, Sunday, 10:30 a.m. | John Pozza
December 29, St. Dominic | John Matia
December 29, Rosary Leaders: Denny Kinol



The Sanctuary Lamp burns in memory of
Larry Riggs. Requested by his Family.

THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

On this the last Sunday before Christmas, our Gospel reading prepares us to witness Christ's birth by showing us how Jesus was recognized as Israel's long-awaited Messiah even before his birth. The Gospel turns our attention from the ministry of John the Baptist to the events that preceded John the Baptist's birth. The story of John the Baptist and his parents, Elizabeth and Zechariah, are reported only in Luke's Gospel. Luke pairs the birth of John the Baptist and Jesus, establishing John's early connection to the Messiah.

Our Gospel reading recalls Mary's actions after the announcement of Jesus' birth by the angel Gabriel. Mary goes to visit Elizabeth, her cousin, who is also with child. Elizabeth greets Mary with full recognition of the roles that they and their unborn children will play in God's plan for salvation. If we were to continue to read the verses that follow in Luke's Gospel, we would hear Mary respond to Elizabeth's greeting with her song of praise, the Magnificat. Both women recall and echo God's history of showing favor upon the people of Israel.

In Luke's Gospel the Holy Spirit helps reveal Jesus' identity as God to those who believe. Elizabeth is filled with the Holy Spirit and sings Mary's praise because she bears the Lord. We sing these words of praise to Mary in the Hail Mary. Even John the Baptist, the unborn child in Elizabeth's womb, is said to recognize the presence of the Lord and leaps for joy.

It is appropriate in this season of Advent that we consider the role of Mary in God's plan of salvation. Elizabeth describes Mary as the first disciple, as the one who believed that God's word to her would be fulfilled. Mary's faith enabled her to recognize the work of God in her people's history and in her own life. Her openness to God allowed God to work through her so that salvation might come to everyone. Because of this, Mary is a model and symbol of the Church. May we be like Mary, open and cooperative in God's plan for salvation.



USHERS SCHEDULE

December 28 Pat Nosker, Steve Koladish

December 29 John Palmer, Jonathan Hoak

MASS REQUESTS FOR 2025

We have begun accepting Mass requests for 2025. Masses are reserved on a first come, first honored basis. **Mass intentions are to be for one person or for one couple or listed as the Deceased members of the family or in honor of a special event.** Please be considerate of other parish families and limit your weekend requests to 2 per family until after the initial request period. Weekend Mass requests may be increased after January 20th. You may reserve your Masses by calling the office at 814-849-8697 or by email at icbrookville@windstream.net or drop your requests in the mail slot at the rectory. Mass stipends remain at \$10 per Mass.

ADVENT PENANCE SERVICE

The final Advent Penance Service for our area will be today, Sunday, December 22nd, at St. Tobias, Brockway at 3 pm.

SANCTUARY LAMP



The schedule for the Sanctuary Lamp for 2025 is posted on the bulletin board at Immaculate Conception Church. **Please, only one request per family at this time.** Offering for the candle is \$10.

O COME, LONG FORETOLD

O come, Desired of nations,
Whom priest and prophet long foretold
Will break the captive fetters,
Redeem the long-lost fold.
Dear Savior, haste; come, come
to earth,
Dispel the night and show your
face,
And bid us hail the dawn of
grace.



DECORATING FOR CHRISTMAS

Parishioners at St. Dominic are invited to stay following the 8:30 am Mass, today, Sunday, December 22nd to help decorate the Church.

Decorating at Immaculate Conception Church will take place at 2 pm, Sunday, December 22nd. Anyone who is willing to lend a hand is very welcome to come. The more help we have the quicker the job will be accomplished. Decorating typically takes about an hour. We need some help with moving the nativity display and Christmas trees from the Church basement. This is a great opportunity for high school students to earn service hours. All help is greatly appreciated!



A FAMILY CONNECTION

In the encounter between Mary and Elizabeth described in today's Gospel, we learn that other people can help us recognize God's presence and action in our lives. Mary traveled to see Elizabeth because Elizabeth's pregnancy was a sign that everything the angel told Mary would truly happen. Elizabeth recognized Mary as the mother of her Lord because her unborn child, John the Baptist, leapt at the sound of Mary's greeting. Elizabeth and Mary rejoiced together at the wonderful things God was doing in their lives. We too are blessed when we have people who help us recognize God's action in our lives. We pray that our family can be this for one another.

STEWARDSHIP - DECEMBER 7 & 8

Immaculate Conception & St. Dominic

Envelopes	\$3,526.00
Loose.....	\$697.00
Retired Religious Collection.....	\$1,600.00
Feast of the Immaculate Conception.....	\$272.00
Flower Fund Collection.....	\$45.00
Catholic Services Appeal—Assessment	\$41,567.00
Pledged.....	\$78,295.00
Paid.....	\$74,523.00
Weekly Goal to meet Operating Budget.....	\$4,806.00
Accumulated goal since July 1, 2023	\$101,656.00
Surplus (Deficit)(Week #21).....	\$730.00

Thank you for supporting your parish.