

# IMMACULATE

## CONCEPTION CHURCH



**DECEMBER 14, 2025**

### WELCOME!

#### Parish Information

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

## Third Sunday of ADVENT



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## 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 16

8:00 AM Ed and Eldora Haines  
by George and Joyce Haines

#### WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 17

8:00 AM Richard Love by his Family

#### THURSDAY, DECEMBER 18

8:00 AM Bob Receski  
by Barb, Laurie and Cindy Receski

#### FRIDAY, DECEMBER 19

8:00 AM Charlotte Koladish  
by Steve and Chris Koladish

#### SATURDAY, DECEMBER 20

5:15 PM Diane Jonischek  
by Don, Todd, Pam and Emma

#### SUNDAY, DECEMBER 21

8:30 AM (St. Dominic) Parish Family of  
Immaculate Conception and St. Dominic  
10:30 AM Harold Zulick

## LITURGICAL SCHEDULE—DEC. 20 & 21

### Altar Servers

Saturday, 5:15 p.m. | Please volunteer if you attend this  
Mass

Sunday, 10:30 a.m. | Oliver Butcher

### Lectors

Saturday, 5:15 p.m. | Michele Confer

Sunday, 10:30 a.m. | Teresa Gilbert/Denny Kinol  
St. Dominic | Steve French

**Rosary Leaders:** Denny Kinol, Steve Rowan



The Sanctuary Lamp burns in memory of Steve Wolfe. Requested by Merlyn Wolfe.

## THE THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

The third Sunday of Advent is traditionally called *Gaudete Sunday*. *Gaudete* is the Latin word meaning “rejoice.” This Sunday is so named because “Rejoice” is the first word in the entrance antiphon for today's Mass taken from Philippians 4:4,5: “Rejoice in the Lord always; again I say, rejoice! The Lord is near.” Some people mark this Sunday on their Advent wreath with a pink candle instead of a purple candle. This Sunday is a joyful reminder that our salvation is near.

This week's Gospel Reading continues our Advent reflection on the person and message of John the Baptist. Last week we heard John speak about his relationship to the coming Messiah, Jesus. This week, we hear Jesus' message to John the Baptist, now in prison, about the signs of the kingdom found in Jesus' ministry and Jesus' assessment of John's role in the Kingdom of God.

The Gospel of Matthew tells the story of John's arrest in chapter 14:3-12. In today's Gospel, John sends word to Jesus from prison, asking if Jesus is the Messiah for whom he has been waiting. Jesus responds by pointing to the miracles that he has worked and invites John and the other hearers to make their own determination. In his next breath, however, Jesus praises John for his role in preparing the way for Jesus. Then Jesus says that all of those who work for the Kingdom of God will be as great as John and even greater.

Jesus' message to John about the signs of the kingdom being performed recalls the salvation described by the prophet Isaiah. This passage is a reminder that the beginning of salvation is already mysteriously present to us, but also yet to be fulfilled. Salvation is already in our midst as manifest in the miraculous deeds of Jesus and in the Church. But salvation is also to be fulfilled in the coming reign of God. Even as we observe our world today, we can find glimpses of God's work among us. Even more, we help to prepare the way for God's kingdom by our words and our deeds. This message is indeed a cause for rejoicing.



## ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

Our next day of Adoration will be on **Thursday, December 18th** from 2 to 7 pm. (Please note: Date change because of Christmas). We are asking you to commit to a half hour (or longer) of adoration by placing your name on the sign-up sheet on the bulletin board at the entrance of the Church. This is to ensure that the Blessed Sacrament will never be left alone as it is exposed on the altar. Our day of Adoration ends at 7 pm with Benediction.

Please plan on joining your parish family as we pray for all those who have requested our prayers, for our parish families and for all those who have needs and no one to pray for them.

## USHERS SCHEDULE

December 20 Pat Nosker, Steve Koladish

December 21 Gene Hoak, Steven Hoak

**ADVENT PENANCE SERVICES**

The Advent Penance Service for Immaculate Conception will be held today, Sunday, December 14th at 3 pm.

The final Advent Penance Service for our area will be held next Sunday, December 21st at 3 pm at Holy Spirit Parish, DuBois, PA.

**DECORATING FOR CHRISTMAS**

Parishioners at St. Dominic are invited to stay following the 8:30 am Mass on Sunday, December 21st to help decorate the Church for Christmas.

Decorating at Immaculate Conception Church will take place at 2 pm, Sunday, December 21st. 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!

**THANK YOU!**

Thank you to all who supported our Thanksgiving Pie Sale. We realized a profit of \$910.

Proceeds will benefit our parish. Special thanks to Karen Nosker for spearheading the event and making the pies and to all those who helped with the prep work.

**MASS REQUESTS FOR 2026**

We will begin accepting Mass requests for 2026 on Tuesday, December 16th. Masses are reserved on a first come, first honored basis. **Mass intentions are to be for one person, one couple, deceased of the family, or in honor of a special day.** 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 18th. You may reserve your masses by calling the office at 814-849-8697 or by email at [icbrookville@windstream.net](mailto:icbrookville@windstream.net) or drop your requests in the mail slot at the rectory. Mass stipends remain at \$10 per Mass.

**RECITATION OF THE ROSARY AT ST. DOMINIC**

Recitation of the Rosary will be held on the first Thursday of the month at 3 pm.

The next scheduled day for the recitation of the Rosary will be on January 8th (weather permitting). January's date will be moved to the second Thursday of the month because of January 1st falling on the first Thursday. We will continue to meet the first Thursday of each month at St. Dominic's to honor the Blessed Mother in prayer.

**FOOD PANTRY COLLECTION**

Thank you for your generous contributions to our local Food Pantry. We collected \$1,401 to send to the Brookville Food Pantry. Your kindness in helping those in need is greatly appreciated.

**OPLATKI CHRISTMAS WAFERS**

We have a limited amount of Oplatki (Eastern European Christmas Wafers) available for \$5. Call the Church office (814-849-8697) if you would like to purchase a package.

**CHILD PROTECTION AND CREATING SAFE ENVIRONMENTS**

**Bullying** is defined as any unwanted aggressive behavior by another youth or group of youths that involves an observed or perceived power imbalance and is repeated multiple times or is highly likely to be repeated. 20% of youth ages 12-18 experience bullying. When adults respond quickly to bullying behavior, they send the message that bullying is not acceptable. There are ways parents can make a positive difference. Parents can educate themselves on the signs that a child is being bullied or is a bully. Parents should keep the lines of communication open with their child and model for their child how to treat others. Encourage your child to be inclusive by welcoming others to join their activities and groups. For more information on how to prevent bullying in your community visit [www.stopbullying.org](http://www.stopbullying.org).