

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION CHURCH



NOVEMBER 30, 2025

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

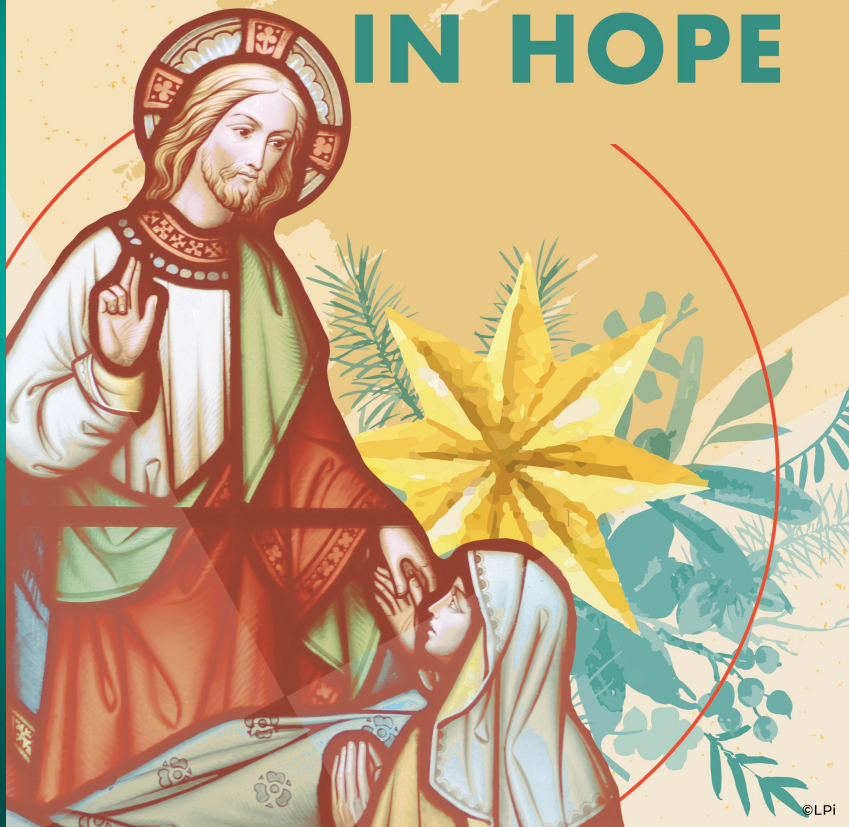
Sunday: 8:30 a.m.
Holy Day (Vigil): 6:00 p.m.
Reconciliation: 8 a.m. Sunday

Reconciliation

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

1ST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

WAIT
IN HOPE



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 2

8:00 AM Richard Boozer by his Family

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 3

8:00 AM Donna Kinol by her Family

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 4

8:00 AM Nancy J. Boozer by her Family

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 5

8:00 AM Tom Ransel by Darlene Ransel

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 6

5:15 PM Margaret Mineweaser by Bill Allgeier

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 7

8:30 AM (St. Dominic) Dorothy Love
by Betty and Kathi Ransel

10:30 AM Amy Palmer by John and Marian Palmer

LITURGICAL SCHEDULE—DECEMBER 6 & 7

Altar Servers

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

Sunday, 10:30 a.m. | Andrew Bazylak

Lectors

Saturday, 5:15 p.m. | Ann Thacher

Sunday, 10:30 a.m. | John Pozza

St. Dominic | Suzy Walker

Rosary Leaders: Denny Kinol, Steve Rowan



STEWARDSHIP - NOVEMBER 15 & 16

Immaculate Conception & St. Dominic

Envelopes	\$2,860.00
Loose	\$826.00
Local Needs Collection	\$893.00
Catholic Services Appeal—Assessment	\$42,385.00
Pledged	\$80,223.00
Paid	\$77,095.00
Weekly Goal to meet Operating Budget	\$4,970.00
Accumulated goal since July 1, 2023	\$83,099.00
Surplus (Deficit) (Week #19)	(\$11,331.00)

Thank you for supporting your parish.



The Sanctuary Lamp burns in memory of our parents. Requested by Steve and Chris Koladish.

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Today is the first Sunday of Advent, which is also the first Sunday of a new liturgical year for the Church. The Advent season includes the four Sundays that precede Christmas. It is a time of preparation for the coming of the Lord. In this season, we recall two central elements of our faith: the final coming of the Lord in glory and the incarnation of the Lord in the birth of Jesus. Key themes of the Advent season are watchful waiting, preparation, and justice.

In this new liturgical year, the Gospel of Matthew will be the primary Gospel proclaimed (Lectionary Cycle A). In today's Gospel, we hear Jesus speak about the need for wakefulness, for watchful waiting, for the coming of the Son of Man.

Matthew's Gospel is dated by most scholars after 70 A.D. Most believe that Matthew wrote for a primarily Jewish community, but one that was no longer centered on the Temple in Jerusalem. These were Jewish Christians trying to come to terms with their relationship to Judaism in a new situation: Judaism after the destruction of the Temple in Jerusalem. There may have been Christians who believed that the events of the world around them gave evidence of the imminent return of the Lord in glory.

The passage from Matthew we read today is rather straightforward. No one knows the precise time of the coming of the Lord in glory, so watchful waiting and vigilance are required. The passage speaks to the uselessness of looking for signs; there will be none. As a thief sneaks in during the night, so will the Lord's coming in glory be.

The question for us as members of the Christian community, then, is how do we prepare for this? Today's passage speaks more about the manner of waiting, rather than the details of the preparation. Jesus compares the vigilance required of Christians to the vigilance of a homeowner who knows the plans of the thief. If one knows that the thief's action is imminent, one remains watchful. As Christians, we know *that* our Lord is coming even if we cannot know the precise timing. Jesus calls us to be watchful and vigilant, like the homeowner. If we become lax in our Christian living, we may be caught unprepared.

USHERS SCHEDULE

December 6 Rick Cherico, Bob Deter

December 7 Jim Holencik, Brien Alexander

FEAST OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

The Feast Day of the Immaculate Conception is on Monday, December 8th. It is a holy day of obligation. Mass schedule for the Feast Day is 8 am at Immaculate Conception Church and 6 pm at St. Dominic's Church. Please note: there will not be a vigil Mass for this year's feast day.



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 December 4th (weather permitting). We will continue to meet the first Thursday of each month at St. Dominic's to honor the Blessed Mother in prayer.



ST. TOBIAS PARISH MISSION

St. Tobias Parish, Brockway will be presenting a Parish Mission with Fr. Larry Richards on December 1-4, from 6:30-8:30 pm. Fr. Larry will speak about Prayer (Monday), Mass and Love of Others (Tuesday), Passion Talk and Confession (Wednesday) and Adoration and Healing (Thursday). The event is free and open to the public. You are invited to attend and share in this experience.



ST. DOMINIC'S CHRISTMAS GATHERING

Saint Dominic's will hold their annual Christmas get together at the Sigel Civic Center on Sunday, December 7, 2025, at 1:00 PM. All are invited.

Turkey, stuffing, mashed potatoes and ham will be provided. Please bring a covered dish to share. Also, beverages, plates and silverware will be provided. Hope to see you there to help celebrate the Reason for the Season.

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 or drop your requests in the mail slot at the rectory. Mass stipends remain at \$10 per Mass.

FOCUS OF ADVENT LITURGY

I am the voice of one crying in the wilderness, make straight the way of the Lord.

There are always four Sundays in Advent, though not necessarily four full weeks. The liturgical color of the season is violet or purple, except on the Third Sunday of Advent, called *Gaudete* or Rejoice Sunday, when optional rose vestments may be worn. The Gloria is not recited during Advent liturgies, but the Alleluia is retained.

The prophecies of Isaiah are read often during the Advent season, but all of the readings of Advent focus on the key figures of the Old and New Testaments who were prepared and chosen by God to make the Incarnation possible: the Blessed Virgin Mary, St. John the Baptist, St. Joseph, Sts. Elizabeth and Zechariah. The expectancy heightens from December 17 to December 24 when the Liturgy resounds with the seven magnificent Messianic titles of the O Antiphons.

The Advent season also has a Marian and pro-life focus. We meditate on this wonderful mystery of the Word Made Flesh with as much eagerness as his Mother, Mary prepared and awaited the birth of her son. In the USA we celebrate the special feasts of the Immaculate Conception, the patroness of the United States of America, on December 8, and Our Lady of Guadalupe, patroness of the Americas, on December 12. Other saints' days traditionally associated in with our preparation for Christmas include St. Nicholas, patron saint of children whose feast falls on December 6, and the saint of light, St. Lucy on December 13.