

# *Immaculate Conception Parish*

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION CHURCH  
ST. MARY'S ACADEMY  
ST. MARY'S CEMETERY



Gathered at the Lord's Table,  
we live in joyful expectation...a People of Hope

**BISHOP OF ALBANY DIOCESE:**

**Edward Scharfenberger**

**BISHOP EMERITUS: Howard Hubbard**

**OUR PARISH OFFICE & MAILING ADDRESS**

**67 Main Street**

**Hoosick Falls, NY 12090**

**PHONE: 518-686-5064**

**E-MAIL: [immconcept@roadrunner.com](mailto:immconcept@roadrunner.com)**

**OFFICE HOURS: Monday—Friday 8:30 AM to 3:30 PM**

**WEBSITE: [www.icchoosickfalls.com](http://www.icchoosickfalls.com)**

**PASTOR: Fr. Tom Zelker**

**[tomzelker@gmail.com](mailto:tomzelker@gmail.com)**

**Office Secretary: Tina Becker**

**IMMACULATE CONCEPTION MASS SCHEDULE**

**SATURDAY, 4 PM & SUNDAY, 9 AM**

**RECONCILIATION, SATURDAY AT 3 PM**

**TRUSTEES: Elizabeth Ferrannini & Ed Gorman**

**FINANCE COUNCIL: Krissy Fauler**

**PASTORAL COUNCIL MEMBERS**

Virginia Cuddihy, Mike Brewster,

Jerry D'Acchille, Rick Ferrannini,

Karen Kaufman, JoAnn Shea and the two Trustees

**MUSIC MINISTRY: Richard Cherry**

**WORSHIP & ENVIRONMENT: Marie Slattery**

## **WE PRAY ADVENT**

Purples and blues grace our worship space. They invite us into a conversion process as the Day of the Lord dawns upon us. We begin our liturgy in quiet. We light our wreath, remembering God's forever faithful love, singing the ancient "Maranatha"... "Come Lord, come Lord Jesus. Give your people hope! Come Lord, come Lord Jesus, and lead your people home." Our response to the Hebrew Scriptures is Psalm 27: "The Lord, is my light and my salvation, of whom should I be afraid?" The Gospel acclamation is the bold "soon and very soon." we cannot wait the fulfillment of God among us...we live in wondrous anticipation. The ancient Creed comes to us from the earliest Church and we walk by faith today. We gather around the Lord's Table for our Eucharist. We give thanks for God's life giving presence among us this day, even as we look for Christ's coming again. As we pray and are sent out as new disciples we sing "Come, let's build the Holy City, a family of love, a new tomorrow where all are free and welcomed, where truth and justice flourish. May the Light of God reform us as God's Holy People.



Please bring any type of the following items: tuna fish, canned fruit, canned goods, cookie/cake mixes or toiletry items to our donation box in church. There is always a need for old bags to be reused.

**FOOD PANTRY VOLUNTEERS ...** We are looking for volunteers at the Food Pantry to help. If you are interested, please call Dianne Hosterman at 686-5310.

**LITURGY SCHEDULE**

**Saturday, December 9**

**4:00 PM Mass**

Richard Martelle  
Virginia G. Cuddihy  
Catherine Trimble  
Iris Doris Petillo

**Sunday, December 10**

**9:00 AM Mass**

Deceased Members of the  
Ambrosino & Bagnoli Families

**Monday, December 11**

**12 Noon Mass**

“For Peace in Our World”

**6:00 PM**

**Reconciliation Service**

at St. Patrick’s Church

**Tuesday, December 12**

**10:30 AM Advent Mass**

Hoosick Falls Health Center

**Wednesday, December 13**

**8:30 AM Mass**

St. Patrick’s Church

**Friday, December 15**

**12 Noon Mass**

“For Joy in Our Discipleship”

**1:15 PM Advent Mass**

Danforth

**Saturday, December 16**

**4:00 PM Mass**

Victor & Jane Williams  
Catherine Monahan  
Patti Turi

**Sunday, December 17**

**9:00 AM Mass**

Deceased Members of the  
Ciuk & Levandowski Families  
Fred Bouplon

**SANCTUARY LAMP**

**12/10/17 - 12/16/17**

**In honor of the Risen Christ**

**we remember:**

Richard Martelle

**PARISH MEETING**

**Sunday, January 21, 2017**

**10:00 AM, at the church**

We have had a few weeks to process the information we heard during the meetings held on November 11th, and 12<sup>th</sup> regarding our parish. Now it is time to meet again and share what we heard and how we felt after those meetings.

This conversation will continue to help crystalize our parish vision. Continue to consider the following questions:

- What is the justice in spending large amounts of money when there are other humanitarian needs in our community and the world?
- What is our greatest debt to our tradition and to future generations?
- Are the People of God the Church? Is a building? Both? How?
- Should our worship space be renewed to encourage more active participation at Mass?
- How do we become more engaged disciples of Christ?
- How do we honestly, realistically face population changes, fewer Catholics, fewer priests, dwindling resources, and the busyness of parishioners?
- How can we become a self-supporting parish? “Financial information is available at our office.”

— Proverbs 15:22 “Without counsel plans fail, but with many advisers they succeed.”



**STONE SOUP GROUP**

The Stone Soup story teaches us that if we each give a little, if we share what we have, we can achieve a lot. With colder days and longer nights let us share and give a little by making an extra pot of soup. We can share with the Food Pantry, residents at Wood Bridge and Wood Park apartments. You decide on the amount of soup, as few as 10 bowls or as many as 30 or more. **How can you take part?**

- Sign up at church - there will be a signup sheet on a table at the entrance of the church and Beth Ferrannini will be scheduling people before and after 9:00AM mass on Sundays. Or
- Call Beth Ferrannini at 518-686-4728 or call/text at 518-207-7727 and arrange for the day most convenient for you.
- Soup containers will be provided.
- For your convenience, you may leave your soup at the Rectory and delivery will be arranged, or you can deliver yourself.

Call Beth Ferrannini if you have any questions. Please no spicy or cream based soup. If you have not read the Stone Soup folktale it is worth reading.

— Philipians 2:4 “Do not merely look out for your own personal interests, but also for the interests of others.”

**ST. MARY'S ACADEMY**

4 PARSONS AVENUE, HOOSICK FALLS, NY  
PHONE: (518) 686-4314, FAX: (518) 686-5957

**Principal, Mrs. Amanda Goyer**  
**Mrs. Mary Beth Smith, Secretary**

*St. Mary's Academy is the parish school of the Immaculate Conception Faith Community. Founded in 1891, St. Mary's Academy provides education for students beginning in Pre-Kindergarten and continuing through Grade 8.*



Dear Friends of SMA,

Our fruit of the spirit this month is Faithfulness. Students are practicing their faithfulness as they learn about the season of Advent and prepare for the birth of Jesus at Christmas.

Last month, our faculty and staff raised \$115 for the Karen and Molly McGovern Fund. This month, we will be raising money for the Stand Up to Cancer Foundation.

As our village worked to fix the PFOA situation within our water system, Saint Gobain has been purchasing bottled water for SMA. Saint Gobain has stopped paying for the water because our water supply is now safe to drink. SMA can't afford to take on the purchasing of this water through the end of the school year. We need time to make sure our fountains are free of lead and make any necessary changes to them. If you, or someone you know would be willing to help SMA defray the cost of the water through June, we would be most appreciative!

As always, I encourage you to stop by and visit your parish school.

With many blessings,

-Mrs. Amanda Goyer-



**CLASS THIS WEEKEND**  
**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 10TH**

**Our next class is December 17th**  
All classes are at St. Mary's Academy.

Class assistants are needed. Yes, you can help make a difference in a child's life....contact Deb Kapron, Deb Mahar, or our parish office today.



St Nicholas...a Saint of Advent...visits all the children...sharing treasures of love

*St. Mary's Academy Presents*

# 15th Annual Cabaret



**Featuring**  
**West Side Drive**

**Saturday, December 9, 2017**  
Cocktail hour at 6:00 p.m.  
Silent Auction Bidding  
Music Begins at 7:00 p.m.  
\$20 per person (paid before 12/8)  
\$25 per person the night of the show  
\$150 table of 8 (if paid in full by 12/8)  
~ Get your tickets now!  
Call St. Mary's at 518-686-4314 for tickets or  
visit our website at [www.smahf.org](http://www.smahf.org) to purchase  
tickets online.



The Giving Tree will be up Saturday, November 25th through Sunday, December 10th. This year we are giving out pajamas. Pajamas will be given to each child in the family, sizes from toddlers through adults. Pajamas **MUST** be in the church under the tree **UNWRAPPED** by **Sunday, December 10th 9AM Mass**. Gift Cards are welcome and will be given to families as needed, monetary donations can also be made and dropped off at the parish office Monday through Friday from 10AM to 4PM.

Your generosity is always appreciated. Thank you in advance for your support.

**NEW ALTAR SERVERS**

Anyone in 3rd grade or older is invited to help out at Mass as an altar server. Please let Fr. Tom Zelker know at church.



“O Come, O Come Emmanuel,  
I pray with upraised eyes.  
Drop down, O Dew of Heaven,  
that God might walk and talk on earth,  
might heal and feed our sin-soaked world.

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel,  
my prayers like searchlights  
comb the starry winter skies.  
Descend from the black hole of some neighboring galaxy  
to green with your grace  
our barren earth.

Such an Advent waiting prayer  
can be a lifelong profession of patient longing,  
unless I know, with all my heart,  
that Emmanuel not only comes down  
but also comes forth and emerges.

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel,  
come forth from deep within me  
with Christmas luminous beauty.  
For my heart has become the sacred crib,  
the birthing place of God-among-us.

Peace on earth and justice for all  
will only become manifest in our lives  
when enough of your sons and daughters  
awaken to your divine design  
that has made each of us  
an emerging Emmanuel.

**ADVENT PRAYER, PRAISE AND SERVICE**

The Giving Tree will be in the Church for the Christmas Basket Program. Pajamas should be returned, **UNWRAPPED**, by Sunday, December 10th.

- **Saturday, December 9th at 6:00 PM - Cabaret at St. Mary's** at SMA. Music by "West Side Drive."
- **Monday, December 11th at 6:00 PM - Communal Reconciliation Service** at St. Patrick's Church.
- **Wednesday, December 13th at 6:00 PM - Advent Seasonal Concert** at Immaculate Conception Church. Uplifting music by the children of SMA. All are welcome.
- **Saturday, December 16th at 5:00 PM - Anointing of the Sick** after Mass at Immaculate Conception Church. Christ the Healer is in our midst.
- **Sunday, December 17th after the 9:00 AM Mass - Church Decorating**. We need your help with balsam fir trees, lights, and wreaths.
- **Monday, December 18th - FLOWER REMEMBRANCES ARE DUE!!**
- The Prophetic Imagination - Inspiring and challenging words from Biblical prophets, their excuses and their search for truth. Available in church.
- The Little Blue Book - Reflections for the season from the Gospel of Matthew.
- 2018 Calendars, donated by Mahar Funeral Home, are available in church.
- Open for Prayer and Peace - Our church is open and lighted 24 hours a day. The Immaculate Conception stained glass window and steeple are lighted every evening until 9PM.

**Christmas Mass:**

**Sunday, December 24, 2017**  
4:00 PM - Immaculate Conception Church  
6:00 PM - St. Patrick's Church, Cambridge  
6:30 PM - Immaculate Conception Church

**Monday, December 25, 2017**  
9:00 AM - Immaculate Conception Church  
11:00 AM - St. Patrick's Church, Cambridge

**ADVENT & CHRISTMAS**

Christmas begins with the 4 PM Mass on Sunday, December 24th. Advent concludes on Saturday, December 23rd with the 4 PM Mass and on Sunday, December 24th with the 9 AM and 11 AM (St. Patrick's) Masses. It can be confusing, but that's just part of being Catholic.

**CHRISTMAS MASS MINISTRY SIGN-UP**

In the back of Church and in our office. We need you: servers, readers, singers, greeters, ushers, ministers of Communion, and bell ringers.

**'TIS THE SEASON**

Caroling - Saturday, December 30th at 5:15 PM  
Gathering on our Church steps  
We sing of Christmas in our neighborhoods.  
Hot chocolate, too!

**THE CHRISTMAS SEASON BEGINS ON DECEMBER 24TH AT 4:00 PM  
AND  
ENDS ON MONDAY, JANUARY 8TH**

**FIRST DAY HIKE**

Monday, January 1st at 12:30 PM  
Leaving the rectory for Matteson Hollow Trail, Cherry Plain  
A family level walk along a crystal clear trout brook,  
through forests of pine and hemlock. A great way to begin 2018!

**HELP FOR THE HOMELESS AND FELLOW TRAVELLERS**

As people pass through and need help we are putting together "containers of compassion." Items needed: granola bars, fruit roll ups, individual juice boxes, trail mix, and personal hygiene items. They can be brought to church. Thank you.

**IMMACULATE CONCEPTION PARISH  
DECEMBER 9 & DECEMBER 10, 2017**

**This Week: December 9 & December 10, 2017**

Lay Ministers: Team #2

Counters: Terry Hewson & Heather Hassett

**Next Week: December 16 & December 17, 2017**

Lay Ministers: Team #3

Counters: Linda Bennett & Mike Bailey

**(It is your responsibility to find a substitute if you are unable to serve.)**

**YOUR SACRIFICIAL OFFERINGS & ATTENDANCE**

YOUR SACRIFICIAL OFFERINGS December 2 & 3:

Offertory.....\$3,061.00

SMA.....\$256.00

Fuel.....\$175.00

Candles.....\$69.00

Total: \$3,561.00

ATTENDANCE December 2 & 3:

4 PM.....130    9 AM.....197    Total: 327

**Holy Communion...**Please be sure to let one of the greeters know if you are unable to approach the altar. The usher will then make arrangements for Communion to be brought to your pew.

**BULLETIN SUBMISSION GUIDELINES ...**

The Bulletin deadline for new submissions is noon on Tuesday. Send submissions to: [immconcept@roadrunner.com](mailto:immconcept@roadrunner.com) along with your name and phone number.

**WE ASK FOR YOUR PRAYERS FOR THE FOLLOWING:**

Bob Smith, Alexandra Lettre, Ken Burns, Marcus Martinez, Helen Restino, Bud Barber, Baby Rousseau, Frank Novak, Bill Green, Nicholas Wytkus, Pat Finzer, Mary McCaffery, Chick Thurber, Luka Vincent Raziano, Armand Rousseau, Robert Sargood, Scott Williams, Marie Godfrey, Mary Carter, Sandy Freeman, Kari Bornt, Diane Grogan, Corinne Philippott, Helen Hogan, David Martin, Rosemary O'Malley, Ron Dooley, Mary Slingerland, and Cheryl Kresky. Those who have been on the list for quite some time will still be prayed for, but will not appear in the bulletin. If you are in need of prayer for yourself or someone you know, please call: Margaret O'Malley at 686-7835.

**ELECTRONIC GIVING**

Our automatic withdrawal system is working well. This may be an easy way for you to support our parish. Please contact our office for more information.

**ADVERTISER OF THE WEEK ...**

**CAMBRIDGE VALLEY SELF STORAGE**

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