

Advent
November 28 & 29, 2020 ~ Immaculate Conception Church



**May your Light, the Light of Christ within you, radiate bright hope to the whole world...
the Advent Season and everyday!**

BISHOP OF ALBANY DIOCESE:

Edward B. Scharfenberger

BISHOP EMERITUS: Howard Hubbard

PASTOR: Fr. Tom Zelker

tomzelker@gmail.com

OFFICE MANAGER: Sue Hyde

+OUR PARISH OFFICE & MAILING ADDRESS

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Hoosick Falls, NY 12090

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E-MAIL: immconcept@roadrunner.com

OFFICE HOURS: Monday—Friday 9:00 AM - 3:30PM

WEBSITE: www.icchoosickfalls.com

Facebook page: Immaculate Conception Hoosick Falls

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION MASS SCHEDULE:

CELEBRATED IN IMMACULATE CONCEPTION
CHURCH HALL

SATURDAY, 4 PM & SUNDAY, 9 AM

TRUSTEES: Christina Angell & Ellen Scott

FINANCE COUNCIL:

Krissy Fauler, Dave Stagnitti, Mike Sanders &
Linda Billert

PASTORAL COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Virginia Cuddihy, Mike Brewster

Jerry D'Acchille, Rick Ferrannini, Karen
Kaufman, and the two Trustees

MUSIC MINISTRY: Richard Cherry

WORSHIP AND ENVIRONMENT: Lynne Mango

Advent November 28 & 29, 2020

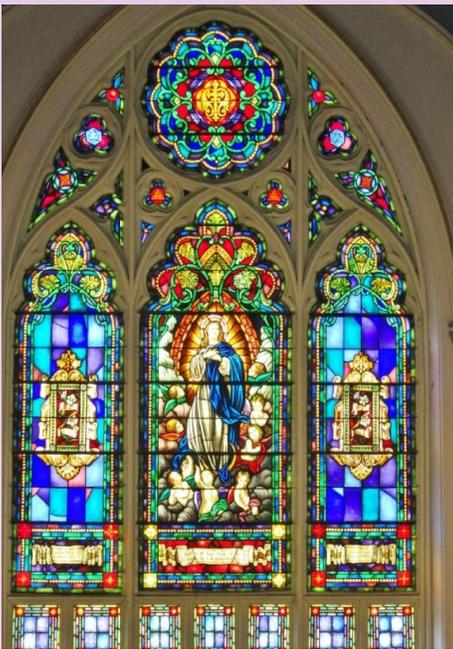
Liturgy Schedule:

Saturday, November 28 - 4PM Mass
Sandy McCart
(Requested by Jesse & Noreen Stevens)

Sunday, November 29 - 9AM Mass
Antonio & Rosa Duarte
(Requested by Isabel Custodio)

Saturday, December 5 - 4PM Mass
Manuel Custodio
(Requested by Isabel Custodio)
Dorothy & Tim Shea
(Requested by Family)
Sandy McCart
(Requested by Mike & Mary Ellen Sanders)

Sunday, December 6 - 9AM Mass
Fr. Richard Broderick
(Requested by friends)



Advent

Human beings cannot live without hope. Unlike the animals, we are blessed - or cursed - with the ability to think about the future and to fear our actions to shaping it. So essential is this to human life, that human beings cannot live without hope, without something to live for, without something to look forward to. To be without hope, to have nothing to live for, is to surrender to death in despair. But we can find all sorts of things to live for and we can hope for almost anything: for some measure of success or security or for the realization of some more or less modest ambition; for our children, that they might be save from our mistakes and sufferings and find a better life than we have known; for at better world, throwing ourselves into politics or medicine or technology so that future generations might be better off. Not all these forms of hope are selfish; indeed, they have given dignity and purpose to the lives of countless generations.

But one of the reasons why we read the Old Testament during Advent is to learn what to hope for. The people of the Old Testament had the courage to hope for big things: that the desert would be turned into fertile land; that their scattered and divided people would eventually be gathered again; that the blind would see, the deaf hear, the lame walk; that not only their own people, but all peoples of the earth, would be united in the blessings of everlasting peace. Clearly, their hopes were not different from ours or from any human being's: lasting peace, tranquil lives, sufficiency of food, and end to suffering, pain and misery.

Thus we hope for the same things as the Old Testament people, for their hopes are not yet realized. But we differ from them in two ways. First, the coming of Jesus in history, as a partial fulfillment of God's promises, immeasurably confirms and strengthens our hope. Secondly, we differ from the Old Testament people because Jesus has revealed to us that God is not afar off, but is already in our midst. Hence the importance in the Advent liturgy of John the Baptist and of Mary: because they recognized the new situation, they serve as models for the Church in discerning the presence or our Savior in the world.

Christmas 2020

“And each went to register” the Gospel of Luke reminds us. As Mary and Joseph had to sign in at Bethlehem, this year all must sign in at Immaculate Conception Church for our Christmas Masses. Beginning today, please sign up so there will be enough safe seating. Sign up as normal by calling our office at 518-686-5064 or emailing at immconcept@roadrunner.com. Once we reach capacity no other reservations will be taken for that Mass. If you do not sign up you will not be able to get inside. As you know, we must follow Federal, State, and Diocesan regulations and guidelines during this epidemic and they are subject to change. Our church has suspended any obligation to be at Mass; especially if anyone is ill, weakened, or vulnerable. Please take care of yourself and other by staying home. A full sung Christmas Mass is being filmed and will be available on Immaculate Conception Facebook by 2pm December 24.

Our Christmas Mass schedule is:

Thursday December 24:

2pm

4pm

6pm

8pm

Friday December 25:

9am

Saturday December 26:

4pm

Sunday December 27:

9am

All these Masses will be the same liturgy of Mass at Midnight. Please only come to one Mass during these 4 days. If you come to one, there is no need to come to another. This will help spread out the people at each Mass and help keep us less crowded inside. These Masses are all celebrated in our Church Hall Church. Please remember your health and well being and that of all our neighbors. Isn't that what Christmas is all about anyway?



Holiday Cabaret...Virtually!



To be filmed in and around Hoosick Falls. A wonderful, fun way to share your talents and help support our parish. We need singers, jokesters, musicians, jugglers, dancers to celebrate our reason to hope and find joy. Call our office to join in the fun!



The Giving Tree (sans l'arbre)

This year we are collecting facial masks for our neighbors in need. Please drop off any kind of mask at church in our parish office. Be safe and well.

If you would like to receive ICC emails, please call the parish office at 518-686-5064 or email to: immconcept@roadrunner.com

On these cold, frosty, and even drab November days, let beauty be seen... no matter what!



Lector books are here for our readers. Living Liturgy books are also available for anyone who needs the written Scripture Reading for inspiration and meditations.

All Souls Supporting the Living

Thank you for your All Souls offering totaling \$332. This will help support Joseph's House, Dyken Pond, Adirondack Land Trust, and the American Cancer Society.

Faith Formation News

As part of our Family based focus these are **This weeks and Next weeks** readings so you and your family can think about those lessons.

Reading for Sunday November 29

1st Reading: Isaiah 63:16b-17, 19b; 64:2-7

2nd Reading: 1 Corinthians 1:3-9

Gospel: Mark 13:33-37

Readings for Sunday December 6

1st Reading: Isaiah 40:1-5, 9-11

2nd Reading: 2 Peter 3:8-14

Gospel: Mark 1:1-8

Here is this weeks YouTube video that you can share and discuss with your family. Go to YouTube and search for the following:

Advent: More Than a Chocolate Calendar

God's Word Spoken to Us

The first readings for the Advent season attend to the human longing to know that God is committed, caring, and faithful to promises of redemption and healing. Isaiah speaks from the post-Exilic period, when expectations of restoration are at first high and confident (40:1-11), but after a time give way to doubts regarding God's salvific intentions (61:1-11; 63:16-19). The divine response is inspiring but frankly challenging: trust and never doubt that God remains committed to Israel (and, by extension, all of God's children). The past actions of God give evidence of God's power and faithfulness, and it is this ancient, corporate witness that must inform present hope for the future. At the same time, those who hope in God must be prepared to examine and amend their lives to place them in conformity with God's will. The Christmas season abounds with affirmations of the *euangelion* of God's fidelity and power to save (Isaiah 52:7-10), filling the world with light and bringing blessing, healing, and shalom (Numbers: 6:22-27; Isaiah 60:1-6). A new day of salvation is dawning, drawing all nations into the light of the God of Israel (Isaiah 55:1-11; 60:1-6).

The Epistles for Advent also focus on the human predicament of maintaining hope in God's promises in the face of (apparent) delay, this time of the coming of the Lord and the fulfillment of history in Christ. Paul reminds his audiences that they must persevere in this time of waiting, not giving in to old ways but remembering that they have been sanctified in Christ (1 Corinthians 1:3-9; 1 Thessalonians 5:16-24). Peter has much the same message for his flock, also emphasizing that the "delay" is for their benefit, in that it allows for ongoing repentance and the struggle for holiness (2 Peter 3:8-14). In his letter to the Romans, Paul assures his mixed audience of Jews and Gentiles that God's ancient promises, now fulfilled in Christ, have always been intended to include all the nations; not only Israel but the whole world is caught up in God's care and thus the whole world is called to give praise and thanks (16:25-27). The Christmas season readings overwhelmingly emphasize, in a variety of ways, what God has done for us in Christ by making us children of God and heirs of the divine promises (Hebrews 1:1-6; Galatians 4:4-7; Ephesians 3:2-3; 1 John 5:1-9).

In Advent the Gospels feature Jesus' and John the Baptist's strongly worded warnings to avoid spiritual procrastination, assuming that there is always plenty of time to get around to repentance and reforming one's life. Repentance is the acceptance of divine forgiveness and the invitation to the new life now being offered by the One who is coming into the world (Mark 1:1-8; 13:33-37). This new thing God is about to do is announced by John and to Mary, but it is clear that this is not a "new" thing at all, but rather the culmination of a long, providentially designed plan conceived long ago in the divine heart (Luke 1:26-38). The Gospels at Christmas are all about the coming of the divine Light and Word into the world (John 1:1-18). It is an advent hidden in the mystery of divine humility, poverty, and vulnerability (Luke 2:16-21; 22-40), yet for those with the eyes of faith it is a revelation of the divine graciousness, majesty, and power (Matthew 2:1-12; Mark 1:7-11).

November 28 & 29, 2020

YOUR SACRIFICIAL OFFERINGS & ATTENDANCE

October 21 & November 22, 2020

- Not available at time of publication -

WE ASK FOR YOUR PRAYERS FOR THE FOLLOWING:

Allen A. Lyle Sr., Cheryl McLaughlin, Dave Hanselman, Dawn Myers, Dr. Marcus Martinez, Felicia Martelle, Fr. Joe Manerowski, Gary Grogan, Jeff Babson, Jesse Stevens, Judy Brownell, Judy Quackenbush, Keith Buck, Marie Slattery, Matt Waytkus, Melissa Cleary, Nancy Hathaway Mahoney, Neil Waytkus, Paulette Sukuskas, Ronda Sharpe, Stacy Rogers, and all those who are ill or hurting. Those who have been on the prayer 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 else, please call Margaret O'Malley at 686-7835.



HACA Food Pantry will be open normal hours, however, they will give out pre-packaged bags at the door to one family at a time. All normal items will be included. **Additional Items Needed: Ramen noodles, oatmeal, canned dinners (spaghetti, chili, stew), pancake mix, rice/pasta boxed mixes (Rice a Roni), shampoo, toothpaste and brushes, and feminine hygiene items.**

Food Pantry Volunteers...We are looking for volunteers to help. For information and training, contact Dianne Hosterman at 686-5310.



VOLUNTEER!
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WE NEED YOUR HELP

- ♦ Wednesday mornings at 10 AM: Bulletin proofreaders. **Call the office.**
- ♦ Sunday morning: Collection Counters. **Call the office.**
- ♦ Lectors (readers) at Mass: **See Gloria Shufon, or call the office, 686-5064.**

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.