

# IMMACULATE

## CONCEPTION CHURCH



**DECEMBER 7, 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),  
*also by appointment*



## 2ND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

"John the Baptist appeared, preaching in the desert of Judea and saying, 'Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand!'" - Mt 3:1

Excerpt from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

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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

**MONDAY, DECEMBER 8, FEAST OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION, HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION**

8:00 AM Daniel Laska Jr.  
6:00 PM (St. Dominic) Barb O'Donnell  
by Jim O'Donnell and Family

**TUESDAY, DECEMBER 9**

8:00 AM Parish Family of Immaculate Conception  
and St. Dominic

**WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 10**

8:00 AM Priscilla Allgeier by Bill Allgeier

**THURSDAY, DECEMBER 11**

8:00 AM Albert and Ann Pucalik by Marie Pucalik

**FRIDAY, DECEMBER 12**

8:00 AM Ruth Clark by Mary Park

**SATURDAY, DECEMBER 13**

5:15 PM Gene Mineweaser  
by Rick and Gina Cherico

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 14**

8:30 AM (St. Dominic) Wayne Blotzer  
by Art and Jo Schrecongost  
10:30 AM Holy Souls in Purgatory

## LITURGICAL SCHEDULE—DECEMBER 13 & 14

### Altar Servers

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

Sunday, 10:30 a.m. | Nora O'Donnell

### Lectors

Saturday, 5:15 p.m. | Jim Stanley

Sunday, 10:30 a.m. | Barbara Chestnut

St. Dominic | Rosemary Wolbert

**Rosary Leaders:** Barb Riggs, Steve French

## STEWARDSHIP - NOVEMBER 29 & 30

### Immaculate Conception & St. Dominic

Envelopes .....	\$2,268.00
Loose.....	\$843.00
Flower Offering.....	\$220.00
Catholic Services Appeal—Assessment .....	\$42,385.00
Pledged.....	\$80,383.00
Paid.....	\$77,785.00
Weekly Goal to meet Operating Budget.....	\$4,970.00
Accumulated goal since July 1, 2023 .....	\$99,723.00
Surplus ( <b>Deficit</b> ) (Week #21) .....	<b>(\$5,007.00)</b>

**Thank you for supporting your parish.**



The Sanctuary Lamp burns in memory of Bob Receski. Requested by Barb, Laurie and Cindy Receski.

## THE SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

In this week's Gospel Reading and next week's, our Advent preparation for Christmas invites us to consider John the Baptist and his relationship to Jesus. In this week's Gospel, Matthew describes the work and preaching of John the Baptist.

John the Baptist appears in the tradition of the great prophets of Israel, preaching repentance and reform to the people of Israel. In fact, the description of John found in this reading is reminiscent of the description of the prophet Elijah (2 Kings 1:8). In this reading, John directs a particularly pointed call to repentance to the Pharisees and Sadducees, parties within the Jewish community of the first century.

John marks the conversion of those who seek him out with a baptism of repentance. Other groups in this period are thought to have practiced ritual washings for similar purposes, and John's baptism may have been related to the practices of the Essenes, a Jewish sect of the first century. John's baptism can be understood as an anticipation of Christian baptism. In this passage, John himself alludes to the difference between his baptism and the one yet to come: "I am baptizing you with water, for repentance . . . He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire." (Matthew 3:11).

In this reading, John makes very clear that his relationship to the Messiah yet to come (Jesus) is one of service and subservience: ". . . the one who is coming after me is mightier than I. I am not worthy to carry his sandals" (Matthew 3:11). In the context of Matthew's Gospel, today's passage is followed by Jesus' baptism by John, an event that is attested to in all four of the Gospels and appears to have been the start of Jesus' public ministry.

John's preaching of the coming of the Lord is a key theme of the Advent season. As John's message prepared the way for Jesus in the first century, we, too, are called to prepare ourselves for Jesus' coming. We respond to John's message by our repentance and reform of our lives. We are also called to be prophets of Christ, who announce by our lives, as John did, the coming of the Lord.





USHERS SCHEDULE

December 13    Jim Stanley, Don Jonischek  
December 14    Steve French, Thad Johnson

COLLECTION FOR RETIRED RELIGIOUS  
DECEMBER 13TH AND 14TH

Our second collection, next weekend is for the Retired Religious. Bishop Persico writes, “This collection has significant benefits for the retired Sisters in our diocese, as well as the over 20,000 retired religious throughout the country. The Retirement Fund for Religious offers financial support for those Catholic sisters, brothers and religious order priests who worked for years for little or no stipends. Last year, the people in our diocese contributed \$138,840.00 to help defray the costs of medication, nursing care, medical equipment, transportation, physical and occupational therapy and other necessary needs. Your generous gift provides help for their ongoing health care supporting them as they age safely, with dignity, and comfort. Senior Religious are our treasure in the Church. Their dedication and hard work laid the foundation for Catholic schools, religious education programs, hospitals, social service agencies and countless other ministries throughout our diocese; many still serve those in need today. Those who are no longer able to actively minister continue to support all that is being done through their ministry of prayer. Please give what you can to help support our Senior Religious.. Most importantly, please continue to pray for an increase of vocations to the consecrated life and for God’s blessing on all our women and men religious.”

ADVENT PENANCE SERVICE

The Advent Penance Services for our area have begun. The list of services is as follows:

December 14	Immaculate Conception	3 pm
	Brookville, PA	
December 21	Holy Spirit Parish	3 pm
	(St. Catherine’s, DuBois, PA	

Second  
Sunday  
Of  
Advent



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 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. DOMINIC’S CHRISTMAS GATHERING

Saint Dominic's will hold their annual Christmas get together at the Sigel Civic Center , today, 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.

PARENTING POINTER

Advent is the season of **waiting**. Don’t hurry Christmas. Help your children practice patience this week. Use tools such as the Advent wreath or an Advent calendar to mark the time. Help your children wait by not celebrating before Dec. 25 – at least at home. (We can’t control the rest of the world.) Decorate slowly and in stages. Wait to do the tree. Minimizing time in stores and TV commercials helps.