



IMMACULATE CONCEPTION CATHOLIC CHURCH

12364 HWY 416, LAKELAND, LA 70752

P.O. BOX 158, LAKELAND, LA 70752

PARISH OFFICE: 627-5124 | RELIGIOUS EDUCATION OFFICE: 627-5819

IMMACULATECONCEPTIONLAKELAND.COM

STAFF

Pastor: Rev. Amrit Raj, IMS
Office Manager/DRE: Dina Tunstall
Bookkeeper: Amy McDaniel, CPA
Records: Suzanne Maginnis
Preschool: Skye Johnston
Maintenance: Mitch Jarreau
Parish Email: icclakeland@diobr.org
Website: www.immaculateconceptionlakeland.com

MASS TIMES

Saturday Vigil: 4:00 PM

Sunday Masses: 8:00 AM & 10:00 AM

Daily Masses: Tuesday 6:00 PM Church
Wednesday-Friday 8:00 AM Chapel
First Saturday of the Month 8:00 AM Chapel

Reconciliation: Tuesday 5:00 - 5:45 PM
Saturday 3:00 - 3:45 PM
(Or By Appointment)

Baptism: Please contact Deacon Bob (337) 278-7923 during early months of pregnancy. Baptism preparation is required.

Care of the Sick: For emergencies, please contact the priest immediately. Communion is brought to the sick weekly. Families of those who are sick are encouraged to notify the Parish Office as soon as possible.

Marriage: Couples are asked to contact the priest at the beginning of the period of engagement or at least six (6) months prior to the desired wedding date.

*All kings shall pay him homage,
all nations shall serve him.* — Psalm 72:11



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Sunday, January 5, 2025

Scriptures for the Week

Sunday: Is 60:1-6; Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-11, 12-13; Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6; Mt 2:1-12
Monday: I Jn 3:22-4:6; Ps 2:7bc-8, 10-12a; Mt 4:12-17, 23-25
Tuesday: I Jn 4:7-10; Ps 72:1-2, 3-4, 7-8; Mk 6:34-44
Wednesday: I Jn 4:11-18; Ps 72:1-2, 10, 12-13; Mk 6:45-52
Thursday: I Jn 4:19-5:4; Ps 72:1-2; 14 and 15bc, 17; Lk 4:14-22
Friday: I Jn 5:5-13; Ps 147:12-13, 14-15, 19-20; Lk 5:12-16
Saturday: I Jn 5:14-21; Ps 149:1-2, 3-4, 5-6a and 9b; Jn 3:22-30

Important Information Regarding 2025 Altar Society Dues

Beginning in 2025, the **Altar Society dues** will **increase** from \$10.00 to **\$12.00**. We ask that you please make note of this change when mailing in your dues payment. We thank you, in advance, for your help and attention to this matter.

God Bless Our Troops

Please remember all of our troops overseas, especially members of Immaculate Conception Parish Family:

Jules Craig Cifreo, Air Force.; Quinton T. Gaspard, P.F.C., Army; Kaleb Porche, P.F.C., Army; Zachary Carl Rollins, Marines; Analise Reed, Marines.

Prayer Requests

John Larry Alpough, Tim Amond, Barbara Andre, Gerald "Cotton" Andrus, Joseph Leroy Bizette, Mike Bourgeois, Annie Bourque, Judah Burbank, Robin Casiano, Bernadette Chenevert, Monica Collie, Alma Collins, Pat Conerly, Daniel Cormier, Andy Daigle, Michael David, Patsy David, Tammy David, Dana Decuir, Darrel Decuir, Paulette Devillier, Wallace Dorgan, Jimmy Dupre, Malachi Engen, Anthony Alvarez Facione, Mary Firmin, Granger Fontenot, Horace Fuselier, David Gauthier, Gloria H. Genusa, Stuart Glasco, Shelby Gobert, Troy Green, Sr., Marshall Gremillion, Ylandra Hackett, Clay Hano, Emberly Hebert, Noah Jarreau, Stephanie Jarreau, Wayne Jarreau, Kiely Johnson, Judy & James Joseph, Linda Joseph, Juneau Family, Trey LaCour, Patricia LaMotte, Barbara Landry, Bobbie Laurent, Maria Lawrence, Ramie LeBlanc, Julie Lee, Janice Marks, Sutton McDaniel, Theresa McKnight, Abigail Medine, Rebecca Medine, Rob Melacon, Delores Mix, Myra Moniotte, Darlene Neal, Allen Olinde, Linda Olinde, Soody Olinde, Al Patin, Christine Patin, Gary Patin, Jr., Gary Patin, Sr., Gregory Patin, Carol Pharr, Jean Porche, Loretta Reviere, Mary Alice Robert, Monica Rosenblume, Julia Grace Ruiz, Hank Ryan, Keith Schapatone, Harper Showalter, Anna Graves Smith, Leona Smith, Wanda Smith, Beau Soulier, Shirley Sparks, Micah Theriot, Maxell Thompson, Jr., Frank Vienna, Randy Vossburg, Wayne Walton, Diane White, Diane Wildey, Harry Williams, Joyce York.

This Week at ICC

- 01/07** **KC 3rd Degree Meeting**
@ 7pm Parish Hall.
- 01/08** **Altar Society Meeting**
@ 10am Meeting Room #2.
Rel. Ed Grades 1st & 2nd
@ 5pm.
Rel. Ed Grades 3rd - 5th
@ 5pm.
Baptism Seminar
@ 6:30pm Meeting Room #2.
- 01/09** **ACTS "Stoking The Fire" Service**
@ 6pm Church.

Baptism Seminar

Wednesday, January 8, 2025
6:30pm Meeting Room #2

ICC "Rooted in Christ" T-shirt Sale

ICC is again taking orders for the beautifully designed, limited edition, T-shirts. T-Shirts are dark green in color with white print. These tees are **only available for purchase for a limited time**. T-Shirt prices are **\$20 (Adults)** and **\$15 (Youth)**. Please **order online** using the link below. The order **deadline** is **Wednesday, January 8, 2025**. More information on pickup will follow.

<https://donssportsman.chippy.com/icc/>



2025-2026 Immaculate Conception Preschool Registration (Lakeland, LA)

We are currently taking applications for the upcoming **2025-2026** preschool year.

The program offers a "hands-on", age-appropriate pre-kindergarten curriculum for children ages 2-5 years.

(Children must turn 3 by December 31, 2025)

Pre-K Hours: 8:30am-2:00pm M/W/F

Application forms can be found near side door of the Office of Christian Formation and **must be received by February 6, 2025 at 2pm**.

For more information contact **Skye Johnston** in the **Office of Christian Formation** at **225-627-5819**.

KC Quarterly Communion

Sunday, January 12, 2025

8am Mass

KC Appreciation Gumbo

Sunday, January 19, 2025

11am Parish Hall

25th, 50th, 65th & Over Diocesan Wedding Anniversary Celebration

Bishop Michael Duca will celebrate Mass at **2pm on Sunday, February 9, 2025**, at **St. Jude the Apostle Catholic Church**, in Baton Rouge. The Bishop will be honoring those couples celebrating their 25th, 50th, 65th or over wedding anniversary. A reception will follow in the Gym.

Couples wishing to attend are asked to register as soon as possible. Registration forms can be found on the tables in the back of church. Once completed, please return the forms to the Parish Office. The registration deadline is **Wednesday, January 15, 2025**.

ACTS of Pointe Coupee

"Stoking the Fire"

Adoration, Rosary & Prayer Service

ACTS "Stoking the Fire" Adoration, Rosary and Prayer Service, for the upcoming ACTS Men's retreat, will be held on Thursday evenings beginning **Thursday, January 2, 2025 through Thursday, March 20, 2025**, at **6pm** in church.

You do not have to be a member of ACTS to attend. **ALL** are invited to come and be with Our Lord and Blessed Mother, for 1 hour.

Pointe Coupee Men's ACTS Retreat

Date: March 20-23, 2025

Place: Maryhill Renewal Center
Pineville, Louisiana

Cost: \$50.00 Application Fee
\$200.00 Retreat Fee

Application forms can be found on the tables in church. The application fee **must be received by Friday, January 31, 2025, before 5:00pm**. Please mail your application, along with a check to:

**ACTS of Pointe Coupee
PO Box 259
Oscar, LA 70762**

Financial Assistance is Available

Martin Luther King Holiday

The Parish Office will be closed on **Monday, January 20th**, in observance of Martin Luther King Day. The office will reopen on **Tuesday, January 21st**, at 8:30am.

Waste Management Dumpsters in Chenal & Lakeland

Please be aware that the waste management dumpsters, located in both Chenal and Lakeland, are **designated for use by Immaculate Conception Church, only**. Disposal of trash and or personal items by anyone **not affiliated** with Immaculate Conception Church, and without expressed written permission, is **strictly prohibited**.

Weekend Reflection

A rather liberal priest was teasing one of the women of the parish, asking, "How do we know the Wise Men weren't Wise Women?" She answered, "If they were, they'd have brought bottles, diapers, and a bassinet, instead of gold, frankincense, and myrrh." Maybe, they were wise enough to know that Mary could have bought a lot of diapers with the gold.

The gifts, of course, are symbols of who Jesus is: a king who is both God and human. And I wonder what our gifts to the Lord say about our faith in him. Remember the song about the little drummer boy, who had no gift to bring but his ability to play the drum? Or the parable of the woman who brought two small coins to donate at the temple (Mark 12:42)? They both remind us that a person who gives all they have, no matter how little it seems, is the most generous.

So what do we bring to the newborn king? I can give my time by coming to church for the Feast of Epiphany and actually paying attention. How often do I sit in the pews, answer the prayers by heart, and suddenly realize that I can't remember what the first reading was, or what the homily was about? Just making the effort to listen to the words of Scripture, to hear what God may be trying to tell me, could be a great gift. Or I could bring someone in our family, or a friend, who doesn't go to church very much.

Now let's not forget the meaning of "epiphany." In ancient times it meant the appearance or manifestation of a divine being. In the early Church the feast included the baptism of Christ (with the voice of the Father and the Spirit as a dove) and the miracle at Cana, as well as the visit of the magi. So what we celebrate is not so much our gifts or those of the wise men, as it is a gift from God, manifested in Jesus. Maybe a way to celebrate the Epiphany is to reflect on how God has been made known to me. Simple things, like a hug from a friend or an answered prayer, or major events like a wedding, the birth of a child, or a funeral, can all be ways to experience the Lord. The wise men received the gift of an epiphany by following a star. May the light of Christ lead you to him also.

Tom Schmidt