



# 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

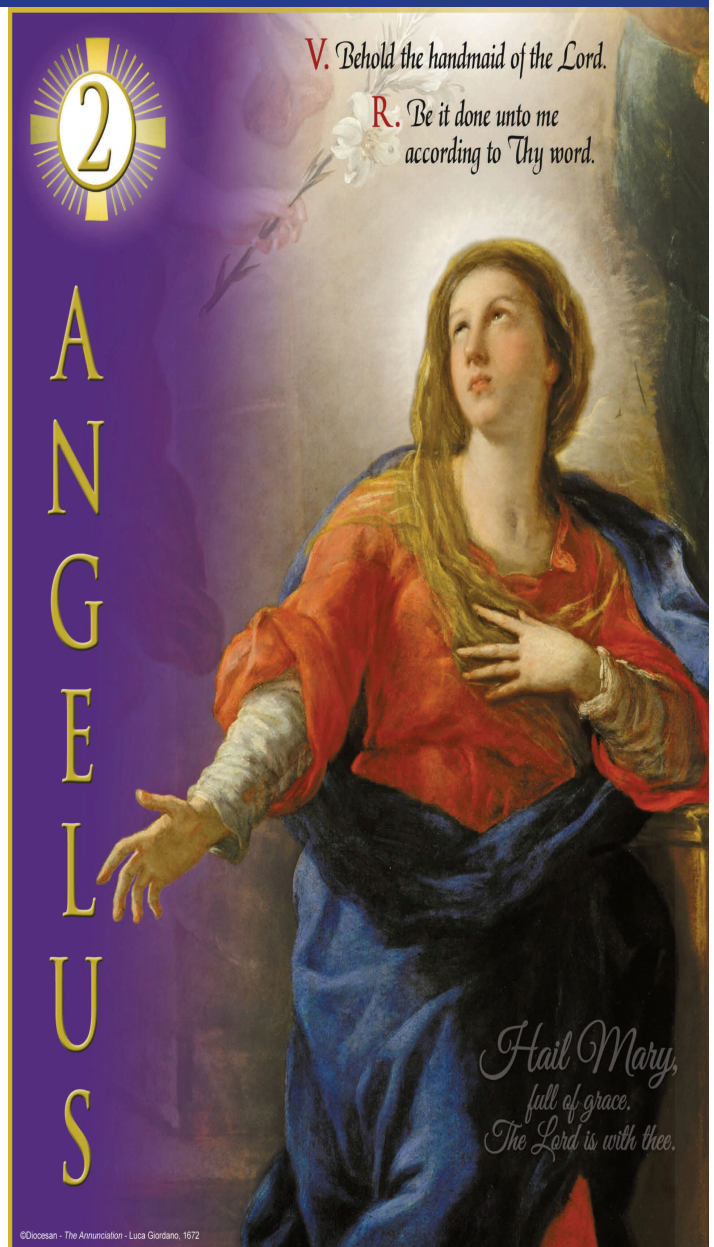
**Daily Masses:** Tuesday 6:00 PM Church  
Wednesday-Friday 8:00 AM Chapel  
First Saturday of the Month 8:00 AM Chapel

**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.



Sunday, December 8, 2024

## Scriptures for the Week

**Sunday:** Bar 5:1-9; Ps 126:1-2, 2-3, 4-5, 6; Phil 1:4-6, 8-11; Lk 3:1-6

**Monday:** Gn 3:9-15, 20; Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4; Eph 1:3-6, 11-12; Lk 1:26-38

**Tuesday:** Is 40:1-11; Ps 96:1-2, 3 and 10ac, 11-12, 13; Mt 18:12-14

**Wednesday:** Is 40:25-31; Ps 103:1-2, 3-4, 8 and 10; Mt 11:28-30

**Thursday:** Zec 2:14-17 or Rv 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab; Judith 13:18bcde, 19; Lk 1:26-38 or Lk 1:39-47

**Friday:** Is 48:17-19; Ps 1:1-2, 3, 4 and 6; Mt 11:16-19

**Saturday:** Sir 48:1-4, 9-11; Ps 80:2ac and 3b, 15-16, 18-19; Mt 17:9a, 10-13

## This Week at ICC

**12/08 Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception  
ACTS Return Mass & Reception**  
@ 11am.

**12/09 Observance of The Feast of the  
Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception**  
@ 8am Mass Church.  
**Parish Office Closed.**

**12/10 Parish Office Reopens.  
Ladies Auxiliary Meeting**  
@ 6:30pm Meeting Room #2.

**12/11 Rel. Ed Grades 1st & 2nd**  
@ 5pm.  
**Rel. Ed Grades 3rd-5th**  
@ 5pm.  
**Peer Bereavement Meeting**  
@ 5:30pm Meeting Room #2.  
**Advent Penance Service**  
@ 6pm Church.

**12/14 Christmas Party for the Elderly**  
@ 11am Parish Hall.

## Temporary Mass Schedule Change (ACTS Retreat Return Mass & Reception) December 8, 2024

Sunday, December 8th

8am Mass

11am Mass (Women's ACTS Return Mass & Reception)

## 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, 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, 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.

## ICC "Rooted in Christ" T-shirts

Orders placed for the ICC limited edition "Rooted in Christ" t-shirts are now available for pickup at the Parish Office.

## Feast of The Immaculate Conception of the BVM

Monday, December 9, 2024  
(Holy Day of Obligation)

As the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the BVM falls on Sunday, December 8, 2024, the Feast of the Immaculate Conception is transferred to **Monday, December 9, 2024.**

**Mass Time:** 8am (Church)

### Holy Day of Obligation Change

In 2024, December 8 is the Second Sunday of Advent, so the solemnity of the Immaculate Conception is transferred to Monday, December 9. **Previously**, when the date was transferred the obligation to attend Mass was abrogated. **That will no longer be true.**

Earlier this year, Bishop Thomas J. Paprocki, Chairman of the USCCB's Committee on Canonical Affairs and Church Governance, wrote to the Holy See seeking clarification about the obligation to attend Mass when a holy day of obligation in Advent, Lent, or Easter falls on Sunday and the Solemnity is transferred to Monday. In a memo to the U.S. bishops dated Thursday, October 10, Bishop Paprocki communicated the Dicastery for Legislative Text's response: "The feast must be observed as a day of obligation on the day to which it is transferred."

**Considering this new directive, the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception on Monday, December 9, 2024, is to be observed as a holy day of obligation.**

## Your Stewardship

### Monthly Collection Totals for November 2024

#### Regular Collection Envelopes

\$ 26,029.00

#### Regular Collection Online

\$ 10,577.52

#### Building Fund Envelopes

\$ 3,511.00

#### Building Fund Online

\$ 1,023.03

## Waste Management Dumpsters in Chenal & Lakeland

Please be aware that the waste management dumpsters, located in 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**.

## Parish Office Christmas Holidays

The ICC Parish Office will **close** for the **Christmas holidays** beginning **Monday, December 23rd** through **Wednesday, January 1st**. The office will **reopen** on **Thursday, January 2, 2025**, at 8:30am.

**2024**

## Christmas & New Year Mass Schedule

### Christmas Eve

**Tuesday, December 24th**  
(Holy Day of Obligation)

No Confession  
Vigil Mass 4pm

### Christmas Day

**Wednesday, December 25th**  
(Holy Day of Obligation)

Mass 8am & 10am

### New Year's Eve

**Tuesday, December 31st**  
(Holy Day of Obligation)

Vigil Mass 4pm

### New Year's Day

**Wednesday, January 1, 2025**  
(Holy Day of Obligation)

Mass 10am ONLY

## Baptisms

*We welcome to our Parish Community:*

**Dutton Gene Laprarie**, child of Alvin Jacob Laprarie & Torie Ortis Laprarie.

## Sympathy

The Sympathy of Immaculate Conception Church Parish Family is extended to:

Family of **Edgar Joseph Duval**.

Family of **Honey Beth Hood**.

## ICC Advent Penance Service

Wednesday, December 11, 2024  
6pm Church

## Christmas Party for the Elderly

Saturday, December 14, 2024  
11am Parish Hall

Gumbo will be served and Santa will visit.

## ICC Christmas Holiday Festival

ICC will be hosting a **Family Christmas Celebration** on **Sunday, December 15**, following the **10am Children's Mass**. There will be pictures with Santa, crafts, games and plenty of food and fun for the whole family.

## Weekend Reflection

As the birth of our Lord approaches, I reflect on the idea of why we celebrate Christmas. In the American culture, is it because of the gifts? Is it because of the flashy sales? No. It is about the humble beginnings of Christianity. Mary and Joseph were not rich, so when the Archangel Gabriel appeared to Mary and told her that she was to be the mother of God, it must have come as quite a shock. I would definitely freak out if I were in her position. Yet her answer to the angel was a very humble yes. Her faith and belief that God would provide, helped her to her fiat (her yes).

I was curious as to why Luke's account of the Annunciation was chosen for the Gospel on the Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe. I found that the Marian apparitions to a peasant in Mexico City, Juan Diego, could draw comparisons to the Annunciation. Juan Diego listened to Mary's request for a church to be built in her honor. Juan Diego went to the Archbishop who at first didn't believe him. Juan's faith persevered, and he met with Mary on different occasions until his uncle fell ill, so he went to take care of him, just like how Mary went to Elizabeth. Mary appeared to Juan Diego on his journey to tell him that his uncle was healed. She then performed a miracle to help convince the Archbishop to build a small chapel where the apparitions were. Just like the miracle of Jesus's birth initiated the building of Christianity.

With Christmas so close, Our Lady of Guadalupe calls us to reflect on the humble beginnings of the Church and how we should reflect on our own faith to be able to answer the call from God and say yes.

*By Ben Hooper*

