



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 22, 2024

Scriptures for the Week

Sunday: Mi 5:1-4a; Ps 80:2-3, 15-16, 18-19; Heb 10:5-10; Lk 1:39-45
Monday: Mal 3:1-4, 23-24; Ps 25:4-5ab, 8-9, 10 and 14; Lk 1:57-66
Tuesday: 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16; Ps 89:2-3, 4, 5, 27 and 29; Lk 1:67-79
Wednesday: *Vigil Mass:* Is 62:1-5; Ps 89:4-5, 16-17, 27, 29; Acts 13:16-17, 22-25; Mt 1:1-25 or Mt 1:18-25
Mass during the Night: Is 9:1-6; Ps 96:1-2, 2-3, 11-12, 13; Ti 2:11-14; Lk 2:1-14
Mass at Dawn: Is 62:11-12; Ps 97:1, 6, 11-12; Ti 3:4-7; Lk 2:15-20
Mass during the Day: Is 52:7-10; Ps 98:1, 2-3, 3-4, 5-6; Heb 1:1-6; Jn 1:1-18 or Jn 1:1-5, 9-14
Thursday: Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59; Ps 31:3cd-4, 6 and 8ab, 16bc and 17; Mt 10:17-22
Friday: 1 Jn 1:1-4; Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 11-12; Jn 20:1a and 2-8
Saturday: 1 Jn 1:5 -2:2; Ps 124:2-3, 4-5, 7-cd-8; Mt 2:13-18

Flowers

Flowers on the altar this weekend, and for Christmas, have been donated by the Ladies Altar Society for all parishioners of Immaculate Conception Parish.

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, Sody 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.

This Week at ICC

No Rel. Ed Classes This Week

12/23-1/1 Parish Office Closed.
12/24 No Confession.
Christmas Eve Vigil Mass
@ 4pm.
12/25 Christmas Day Masses
@ 8am & 10am.

**Wishing You & Your Family
A Very Merry & Blessed Christmas!**

**From
Fr. Amrit & ICC Parish Staff**



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

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.

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**.

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**.

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

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 March retreat, begins **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.

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.chipply.com/icc/>

Weekend Reflection

There is a Christmas song that says of Bethlehem: "Yet in thy dark streets shineth the everlasting Light." Bethlehem is a suburb of Jerusalem. Its main tourist attraction in the time of Jesus was that it was the birthplace of David. Though today it has many modern homes and buildings, you can still see that it is part of "the hill country...of Judah." (Lk 1:39) It is not too far from En Kerem, where John the Baptist was born, and apparently where today's Gospel takes place.

We see in the Gospel reading today how Elizabeth and her unborn child rejoiced at the news of Jesus' coming birth. The story implies that Mary went to see Elizabeth as soon as the angel told her about Jesus. Maybe it was easier to tell her cousin, who was also with child, than her fiancé. I would think that talking about it made this miracle more real. I know that talking about my faith makes it more real to me.

Jesus is the "everlasting Light" mentioned in the song. That light shines today, not just in Bethlehem, but everywhere that his followers bring it. When we console someone who is mourning, that light shines. When we offer to help someone in need, it shines brighter. When we forgive someone who hurt us, the light is burning. When we offer to sponsor a candidate in the RCIA, the light grows. When we teach a child how to pray, it shines even brighter.

Our dark streets need the everlasting Light today as much as they did 2000 years ago. Today we remember how Mary and Elizabeth shared their faith in God. They did so much like we do today. Mary could not see her unborn son yet, but helped Elizabeth to believe by her words. Jesus, who seems to be invisible today, is seen in the shared faith of those who bring him into the world by their words and actions.

Tom Schmidt