



# 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

## PARISH STAFF

**Pastor:** Rev. Amrit Raj, IMS

**Office Manager/Cemetery:** Suzanne Maginnis

**Clerical Assistant/Records:** Doniell Fuller

**Bookkeeper/DRE:** Dina Tunstall

**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 the Parish Office 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.



*The child  
grew and  
became strong,  
filled with  
wisdom; and  
the favor  
of God  
was upon him.*

*Luke 2:40*

THE HOLY FAMILY OF  
*Jesus, Mary & Joseph*

Holy Family with the Infant John the Baptist Offering Fruit  
by Simone Carlini, between 1530-1545  
© Diocese

**Sunday, December 28, 2025**

## Scriptures for the Week

**Sunday:** Sirach 3:2-6, 12-14; Ps 128:1-2, 3, 4-5; Col 3:12-21 or 3:12-17; Mt 2:13-15, 19-23

**Monday:** 1 Jn 2:3-11; Ps 96:1-2a, 2b-3, 5b-6; Lk 2:22-35

**Tuesday:** 1 Jn 2:12-17; Ps 96:7-8a; 8b-9, 10; Lk 2:36-40

**Wednesday:** 1 Jn 2:18-21; Ps 96:1-2, 11-12, 13; Jn 1:1-18

**Thursday:** Num 6:22-27; Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8; Gal 4:4-7; Lk 2:16-21

**Friday:** 1 Jn 2:22-28; Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4; Jn 1:19-28

**Saturday:** 1 Jn 2:29-3:6; Ps 98:1, 3cd-4, 5-6; Jn 1:29-34

**Sunday:** Is 60:1-6; Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-11, 12-13; Mt 2:1-12

## Sanctuary Candle

*December 27 - January 2*

*In memory of Avery Michael Landry*

*January 3 - January 9*

*For Cooper Walker*

*January 17 - January 23*

*In memory of Russell Decuir & Dana Decuir*

## 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; Jordan Jones, P.F.C., Army; Chad Ashton Patin, Marines; Kaleb Porche, P.F.C., Army; Zachary Carl Rollins, Marines; Analise Reed, Marines; Gage Tate, Army Specialist; William P. Tate, P.F.C., Army.*

## Prayer Requests

Tim Amond, Barbara Andre, Marc Barker, Ronnie Barlow, Hazel Bello, Mike Bourgeois, Annie Bourque, Judah Burbank, Colin Carlton, Robin Casiano, Bernadette Chenevert, Mary Chustz, Diane Cline, Robert Cole, Monica Collie, Alma Collins, Rose Collins, Pat Conerly, Daniel Cormier, Lori Treuil Couvillion, Patsy David, Tammy David, Darrel Decuir, Wallace Dorgan, Jimmy Dupre, Malachi Engen, Anthony Alvarez Facione, Mary Firmin, Granger Fontenot, Horace Fuselier, David Gauthier, Jenni Gauthier, Stuart Glasco, Shelby Gobert, Brandy Gremillion, Marshall Gremillion, Ylandra Hackett, Emberly Hebert, Debra Jarreau, Posie Jarreau, Stephanie Jarreau, Wayne Jarreau, Judy & James Joseph, Linda Joseph, Juneau Family, Kyle LaChapelle, Trey LaCour, Patricia LaMotte, Barbara Landry, Maria Lawrence, Marilyn LeDuff, Janice Marks, Abigail Medine, Rebecca Medine, Rob Melacon, Delores Mix, Myra Moniotte, Lane Mouget, Darlene Neal, Erik Neusetzer, Adele Olinde, Allen Olinde, Linda Olinde, Al Patin, David Patin, Sr., Gary Patin, Gregory Patin, Kayson Davis Patin, Carol Pharr, Jean Porche, Loretta Reviere, Laurie Roche', Monica Rosenblume, Debra Rudolph, Julia Ruiz, Hank Ryan, Keith Schapatone, Harper Showalter, Anna Graves Smith, Leona Smith, Wanda Smith, Shirley Sparks, Frank Vienna, Amber Volker, Randy Vossburg, Sheila Ward, Diane White, Diane Wildey, Harry Williams, Joyce York.

## This Week at ICC

### No Rel. Ed This Week

**12/31** **New Year's Eve Vigil Mass**  
@ 4:00 PM.

**01/01** **Happy New Year's!**  
**New Year's Day Mass.**  
@10:00 AM ONLY.

## Parish Office News

The Parish Office will be **closed** Wednesday, December 24th through Friday, January 2, 2026, for the Christmas holidays.

The office will **reopens** on Monday, January 5, at **8:30 AM**.

## Michael Denson Can Collection Drive

This Weekend

Saturday, December 27 & Sunday, December 28

## Our Sympathy

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

The family of **James Aguiard**.

## ICC Food Bank Thank You

Kathy Lewis, Director of the ICC Food Bank, wishes to thank everyone for their generous donations to our ICC food pantry over the past year. We are blessed for your unwavering support in helping us continue to serve the needy of the parish.

## Christmas Books

Fr. Armit wishes to thank, Frances Antie, for generously donating copies of the book "**The Seven Pillars of Catholic Spirituality**" by author Matthew Kelly, for our parishioners this Christmas season.

This is a beautiful read that highlights practical and spiritual habits to help enrich our daily lives. Please be sure to pick up your copy today!

## 2025

### New Year Mass Schedule

#### New Year's Eve

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

Vigil Mass 4pm

#### New Year's Day

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

Mass 10am ONLY

## The Michael Denson Can Collection Drive

Collection Total for October & November, 2025

\$ 124.62

### 25<sup>th</sup>, 50<sup>th</sup>, 65<sup>th</sup> & Over Diocesan Wedding Anniversary Celebration

Bishop Michael Duca will celebrate Mass at **2pm on Sunday, March 22, 2026**, at **Immaculate Conception Church**, in Denham Springs. The Bishop will be honoring those couples celebrating their 25<sup>th</sup>, 50<sup>th</sup>, 65<sup>th</sup> or over wedding anniversary. A reception will follow in the Parish Hall.

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 email or mail in the forms to the appropriate address listed on the registration form. The registration deadline is **Thursday, February 26, 2026**.

### ICC Memorial Trees

Our Lakeland cemetery has recently expanded and a new area has been opened. To beautify the cemetery, ICC thought that planting trees would be a perfect addition. We would love for you to plant a tree in honor of a loved one. Our goal is to plant **45** trees. The tree will line both sides of the road going down to the end of the cemetery, to where the statues are located. With that noted, we will not be planting trees in front of or along the sides of the mausoleum. Each tree will cost **\$250**. Our plan is to purchase the trees in October and plant them in November. On the day of planting, the families will be invited to assist in planting their tree. The church will be responsible for the maintenance and upkeep of the trees. If you are interested in purchasing a tree or obtaining more information, please call **Dina** at **627-5819**.

### 2026-2027 Immaculate Conception Preschool Registration (Lakeland, LA)

We are currently taking applications for the upcoming **2026-2027** 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, 2026)

**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, 2026 at 2pm**.

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

## A Special Thank You

Thank you to all who joined us for the Children’s Mass and Christmas Festival on December 14th. The children’s joyful participation in the Mass was uplifting, followed by a festive celebration with Santa, food, games, crafts, raffles, and prizes. We are grateful for the generosity, help and service of our community to make this celebration of Christ’s birth possible. May our church parish continue to shine in Christ’s light.

*Wishing you a Happy & Blessed  
New Year!*

*From Fr. Armit and ICC Staff*



### Weekend Reflection

Dreams are a thing in the Bible. Joseph in the Old Testament, famous for his coat of many colors, interpreted dreams and earned himself a place in Pharaoh’s government. Daniel also interpreted dreams and worked for King Darius.

Joseph, Mary’s husband and father to Jesus, was no stranger to divine communication via dreams. When Jesus’ life was threatened by Herod, Joseph was told in a dream to rise and take the family to Egypt. He was obedient and he trusted. Despite having nowhere specific to go and no way of supporting himself or his family, he went in the dark of night. He did what any loving father would do, trusting that God would take care of them. And God did.

We see Joseph acting with complete trust in God. We imagine his fear for his family’s safety, his worry about the necessities of life, his awe at the instructions and their urgency. We wonder if he wondered about it. But we know he acted. We know Joseph embraced God’s perfect plan. In him we see a man who radically trusted God. We do not know if he initially struggled with what God asked of him; we only know he obeyed.

Whether we are man or woman, single or married, a parent or not, we can hold Joseph up as a model of trust and fidelity to God and his plan. When we struggle with what God asks of us, we can ask for intercession from St. Joseph. During this Christmas season, we can thank him for his obedience and docility. He played a quiet, yet important role in salvation history.

By Merridith Frediani