



IMMACULATE CONCEPTION CATHOLIC CHURCH

P.O. Box 158, LAKELAND, LA 70752

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

IMMACULATECONCEPTIONLAKELAND.COM

STAFF

Pastor: Rev. C. Todd Lloyd

Business Manager: Patti Aguiard

Religious Education: Dina Tunstall

Music Coordinator: Jody Doucet

MASS TIMES

Saturday Vigil: 4:00 PM

Sunday Masses: 7:00, 9:00, & 11:00 AM

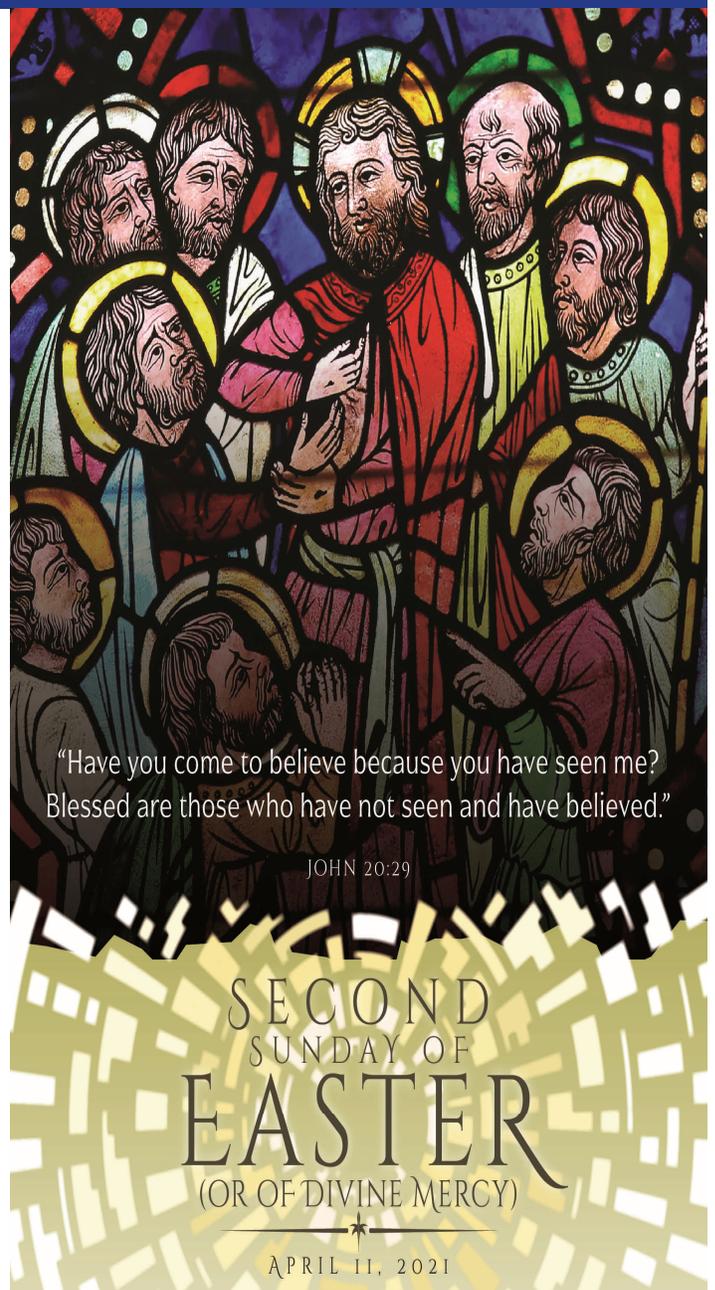
Daily Masses: Tues. 6:00 PM & Wed.-Sat. 8:00 AM

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

Reconciliation: Tues. 5:00 PM & Sat. 3:00 PM

Marriage: Couples are asked to contact the priest at the beginning of the period of engagement or at least six months prior to the projected date of marriage.

Baptism: Celebrated monthly. Please contact the Parish Office during early months of pregnancy. Baptism preparation is required.



Scriptures for the Week

Monday: Acts 4:23-31; Ps 2:1-3, 4-9; Jn 3:1-8
Tuesday: Acts 4:32-37; Ps 93:1-2, 5; Jn 3:7b-15
Wednesday: Acts 5:17-26; Ps 34:2-9; Jn 3:16-21
Thursday: Acts 5:27-33; Ps 34:2, 9, 17-20; Jn 3:31-36
Friday: Acts 5:34-42; Ps 27:1, 4, 13-14; Jn 6:1-15
Saturday: Acts 6:1-7; Ps 33:1-2, 4-5, 18-19;
Jn 6:16-21
Sunday: Acts 3:13-15, 17-19; Ps 4:2, 4, 7-9;
1 Jn 2:1-5a; Lk 24:35-48

Second Sunday of Easter (or Sunday of Divine Mercy) April 11, 2021

Who indeed is the victor over the world
but the one who believes
that Jesus is the Son of God?
— 1 John 5:5

Your Stewardship

Collections \$ 8,822.76

God Bless Our Troops

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

Jordan Todd Aguillard, Air Force; Jules Craig Cifreo, Air Force.; Samuel Edward Guidroz, Navy; Quinton T. Gaspard, P.F.C., Army; Zachary Carl Rollins, Marines.

Prayer Requests

Leslie Aguillard, Trevor Allement, Tim Amond, Blaine Benoit, Lisa Benoit, Joseph Leroy Bizette, Kyle Cabalero, Robin Casiano, Linda Cheek, Brittany Collins, Lee Joseph Comeaux, Brittany Costello, Jean David, Brilynn Davis, John Debetaz, Marie Debetaz, Betty Decou, Ronald Decuir, Wanda Decuir, Mary Doris Deculus, Malachi Engen, Shannan Everett, Deborah Fountain, Robert Geier, Jr., Alfred Gremillion, Joe Guarino, Pamela Vicknair Harrington, Lyndon Lynn Hernandez, Laura Jarreau, Sharon Jarreau, Reid LaComb, Debra Landry, Maria Lawrence, Kevin LeBlanc, Larry LeBlanc, Presleigh LeBlanc, Kay Lee, Larry Lee, Janey Lively, Janice Marks, Doug Matte, Rob Melacon, Troy Menier, Gail Metz, Myra Moniotte, Sheldon Moses, Linda Olinde, Christine Patin, Corey Patin, David Patin, John Gary Patin, Jr., Abigail Politz, Shelby Porche, Cody Reed, Michael Roche, Hank Ryan, Hunter Schurba, Lou Sherman, Anna Graves Smith, James Thames, Sonny Trabeaux, Harry Williams, Ainsley Wolf.

This Week at I.C.C.

04/11 Divine Mercy Sunday.

Sympathy

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

Family of **Blondie Joyce Amar-Hopins.**

Family of **Pete Rumfola, Jr.**

Family of **Timothy Smith, Sr.**

Fill A Prescription

The St. Vincent de Paul 2021 "Fill a Prescription Drive" is currently accepting donations. Your donations help to provide medication to the needy. The container will be on the table in the back of church until the end of May. Thanks, in advance, for your help.



O, Blood and Water, which gushed forth from the Heart of Jesus as a fountain of Mercy for us, I trust in You!

From The Pastor's Desk

In Christ,

In the 1975 thriller *Jaws* there is a scene where the three main characters, Chief Martin Brody (Roy Scheider), Quint (Robert Shaw), and Matt Hooper (Richard Dreyfuss) are sitting in the cabin of Quint's fishing boat before the horror of the great white shark attack. They are having some drinks and laughs, and the conversation turns to scars. They take turns competitively showing off the scars on their bodies and telling the stories of how they came to be. "I've got that beat" they say. Until finally Quint, the swashbuckling ship captain, is asked about a scar from a removed tattoo, which leads to the darkest moment of the movie. Quint explains it was a tattoo from his navy days when he was on the USS Indianapolis. This was a real life battleship of the pacific theater in World War II which was torpedoed and sunk, most of the crew dying of the explosion, drowning, or shark attack. This scene helps explain why Quint is so hardened and why he is so committed to finding and killing sharks.

This scene came to my mind this week as I reflected on the readings for the Second Sunday of Easter – or Divine Mercy Sunday. In the gospel we hear that Jesus appeared to his apostles and showed them his wounds. Even going as far as letting Thomas touch his wounded hands and side as a proof for his identity. This is a very masculine thing Jesus is doing. Like the men of *Jaws*, and countless other real life men throughout history, Jesus shows off his battle scars. He has the ultimate "I've got that beat" war story to tell with the wounds from his Passion.

When I think about why men do that – show off their battle scars – I think that a part of it is to show not only what hardship someone has gone through for a good cause, but also to show what has been survived. It reminds me of another scene from a very different story; William Shakespeare's *Henry V*. Before a battle in which his army is greatly outnumbered, King Henry gives the famous St. Crispian day speech in which he says: *This day is called the feast of Crispian. He that outlives this day and comes safe home, Will stand o' tiptoe when the day is named And rouse him at the name of Crispian. He that shall see this day, and live old age, Will yearly on the vigil feast his neighbors And say, "Tomorrow is Saint Crispian." Then will he strip his sleeve and show his scars, And say, "These wounds I had on Crispin's day."* There is something honorable for men to show

that they fought and survived a great battle. But, as we see with Quint, only when that battle was won.

Quint did not readily show the scar from his USS Indianapolis days because that battle was lost by him and his comrades. Most of them were killed and he would rather not dwell on those horrific memories that did not end in victory for them.

Jesus showing off his scars reveals something: he has conquered death, and the cause of death, sin. He has come out victorious and the wounds he bears are not wounds to be hidden and forgotten because they are the wounds of a victorious battle. So he rolls up his sleeve and opens his breast and says "See here, the wounds which I gained in battle over sin and death, for you!" The wounds of Jesus are something we should meditate on regularly, not only out of sorrow for the part we play in inflicting them on the Body of Christ through sin, but also out of thankfulness and adoration because they represent victory. Though they be deadly wounds, they no longer kill, but give life. Just as the wounds of victorious soldiers bring honor and pride, the wounds of Jesus give mercy and eternal life. That is why he shows them off to the apostles. And that is why he still allows us to see them today, even in our own lives and in the Church.

We are the Body of Christ, and we bear the wounds of sin. But if we are faithful, if we believe as we ought and are motivated by that belief to live lives of joyful repentance, then the grace of God can turn those wounds into scars of a victorious battle. The battle against sin and death will be and already has been won for us. Our Risen Lord has fought the fight and come away victorious, and the battle scars he bears in his flesh, which we share with him in our own sufferings, are a sign of his victory.

"In difficult moments, I must take refuge in the wounds of Jesus; I must seek consolation, comfort, light and affirmation in the wounds of Jesus." – St. Faustina

Totus Tuus,
Fr. Todd Lloyd

Information Page

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Special Instructions: Until further notice, please send us only **250** printed bulletins. Thank you.