

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION CATHOLIC CHURCH

Pastor: Rev. C. Todd Lloyd

Deacon: Bob McDonner

Religious Education:

Rachel Christ

Music Coordinator:

Becky Boudreaux

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

Sat. Vigil: 4:00 PM

Daily Masses:

Wed-Fri. Eucharist 8:00 AM & **Tues.** 6:00pm

Care of the Sick: Emergency calls immediately. The Eucharist is brought to the sick weekly. Families of those who are sick are encouraged to notify the Parish Office.

**P.O. Box 158
Lakeland, LA 70752**



**Parish Office 627-5124
Religious Education Office 627-5819
Immaculateconceptionlakeland.com**

Reconciliation: Saturday Vigil 4:00 PM. Saturday 3:00 PM and Tuesday 5:30pm

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 except during Lent & Advent. Please contact the Parish Office during early months of pregnancy. Baptism preparation is required.

Scriptures for the Week

Monday :Acts 6:8-15;Ps 119:23-24, 26-27, 29-30; JN 6:22-29

Tuesday: Acts 7:51-8:1a; PS 31:3-4, 6, 7b, 8a, 17, 21ab; JN 6:30-35

Wednesday: Acts 8:1b-8; PS 66:1-3a, 4-7a; JN 6:35-40

Thursday: Acts 8:26-40; PS 8-9, 16-17,20; JN 6:44-51

Friday: Acts 9:1-20; PS 117: 1bc; 2; JN 6:52-59

Saturday: Acts 9:31-42; PS 116:12-17; JN 6:60-69

Sunday: Acts 13:14, 43-52; PS 100:1-35; RV 7:9, 14b-17; JN 10:27-30

Your Stewardship

Collection	\$6,675.00
Building Fund	\$39.00

Sick List

Dina Bello McAdams, Sharron Allement, Cleveland Allement, Daniel Allemond, Linda Armand, Hazel Armond, Janelle Amond, Craig Aguilard, Mary Lois Alexander, Rudolph P Antoine, Clarence Armand, Russ Armand, Julie Ashtin, Gary Aucoin, Verna Bankston, Ronnie Barlow, Rebecca Beard, Butch Beauvais, Linda Beauvais, Racheal Bello, Chad Bellelo, Mary Grace Bernard, Adeline Bonaventure, Chestin Boudreaux, Cheryl Bouquet, Hannah Boutee, Liz Breaud, Inez Bueche, Donald Butcher, Dorothy Butler, Peggy Cazayoux, Connie Cearley, Carl Chenevert, Earl Chustz, Gwen Chustz, Charles Chustz, Jean Chustz, Leroy Chustz, Benedict Cline, Kristy Cobb, Mabel Collette, Sadie Collins, Lee Comeaux, Brittany Costello, Sam Costanza, Barbara Coutrado, Jake Coutrado, Gary David, Grant Joseph Delatte, Gary Denson, Betty Dickerson, Felton Dickinson, Luke Dickinson, Deanna Lieux Ducote, Delta Dugas, Stacie Eirick, Wilfred Fleming, Daniel Firmin, Rachel Gaudin, Jerome Fontenot, Angie Fulmer, Zane Gabor, Theresa Gautro, Carmella Genusa, Alfred Gremillion, Charles Gremilion, Moise Galtier, Randy Gremillion, Erin Gross, Cindy Gueho, Celeste Guidroz, Leo Guidroz, Marilyn Guidroz, Dana Guzzardo, Brooklyn Hebert, Betty Honore, Margaret Hooper, Shirley, Hymel, Bert Jarreau, Jr. Helen Jarreau, James Robert Jarreau, Jessie Jarreau, Laura Jarreau, Noah Jarreau, Ronald Jarreau, Wanda Jarreau, Larae Lewis Johnson, Judy Jones, Marie King, Kayla Kinler, Black Lalonde, Ida Langlois, Avery Laurent, Antoinette LeBlanc, Jeffrey LeBlanc, Roderick LeBlanc, Marilyn LeDuff, Jacob Laiche, John E. Landry, Eva Lalonde, Larry Lee, Kay Lee, Randy Levi, Anthony Lopinto, Margje Marioneaux, Hartense Manchester, Aaron McLemore, Breanna McDonald, Alan Meadow, Ralph Mezat, Cheyenne Michalsky, Bernadine Moore, San Juana Moreno, Danielle Moses, Anthony Olinde Sr., James Olinde, Jonathan Olinde, Patricia Olinde, Shane Roy Olinde, Frieda Parks, Mason Part, Corey Patin, Greg Patin, John Patin, Paul K. Patin, Mark Patin, Tren Patin, Sr., Jeff Plauche, Tricia Plauche, Haley Ponthieux, J.O. Porche, Gladys Porche, Irvis Pourciau, Leon Prevot, Jr., Brenda Puttle, Christina Quigley, Joyce Ricard, Donald Richard, Barbara Rizet, Mary Roubiqueynn Rusk, Brenda Singletary, Lonnie Shasse, Angel, Raven and Amil Snell, Martin Smiley, Melanie Spears, Eric Stone, Connie Rozarto, Emily Taylor, Hank Ryan, Qwen Trabeaux, Brenda Tuttle, Debbie Wheeler, Bobby Williams, Jalen Williams, Joyce York.

Prayer Request

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

Timothy Harleaux, Marines; Lance Corporal Metoyer, Marines; P.F.C.; SPC ; Timothy J. Loucks, Corporal U.S. Marine; Lance Corporal Gary R. Major, Jr., Corporal; Private First Class; Captain Jordan Morirs;; Lieutenant Stephen Burleigh, Jr.; MT2 Jacob Lamotte., Sgt. Greg Silva, Army

This Week at I.C.

4/20 **Choir Practice @ 6pm.**
KC Officers Mtg. @ 6pm.

BAPTISMS

We welcome to our Parish Community:

Gabrielle Marie Bush, child of Henry & Octivia Bush.

Landen Steven Andre, child of Seth & Kristan Andre.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL 2016

Barnyard Roundup

Come join us for fun, fellowship and faith as we learn that Jesus cares and provides for us, now and forever, no matter what.

Date: July 11-15

Time: 9:00 am-Noon

Ages: children must be 3 years old by Dec. 31* through entering 4th grade

Registration Fee: \$25.00

Must be pre-registered

before July 3, 2016

*limited space available for children that are 2 years old

*Registration forms available outside the Office of Christian Formation. For more information or to volunteer, please contact Skye Johnston

AND THE WINNER IS....

The winner of the 4 wheeler is Becky Part.

In Christ,

This past week at Mass I mentioned the Holy Father's Post-Synodal Apostolic Exhortation, *AMORIS LAETITIA*. Like many things Pope Francis does, this document has garnered a lot of attention. Due to its length and style it is unlikely that many people will read it in full. I thought I'd cover three general points as I reflect on the document myself.

1. What is a Post-Synodal Apostolic Exhortation? An Apostolic Exhortation is the Holy Father's personal reflections and encouragement to the Church on a given subject. It is customary for the pope to write this reflection based on the text of a bishops' synod. In most cases the pope will also include in this writing his view on how to carry out the conclusions of the synod. By its very nature it is not meant to define doctrine. Any document of this type relies on its readers knowing, believing, and practicing the faith of the Catholic Church and reading the Exhortation in light of this faith.

2. What does *AMORIS LAETITIA* say? A lot! It is 60,000 words. I won't even make an attempt here to discuss all of what *AL* says. But I would like to cover a critical aspect of the document; starting with what it does NOT say. It does not make any changes to what we believe about marriage and family life in the Church. The Holy Father clearly affirms that marriage is indissoluble. When the unfortunate and all too common occurrence of separation or civil divorce happens this does not mean that the responsibilities to marriage are void. The only way that one's moral responsibilities to their marriage are excused is by an acknowledgment that the marriage was invalid (i.e. not a marriage). This is the divine law of Christ and His Church (cf. Lk. 16, Matt. 19, Mk. 10).

The Holy Father acknowledges that there are many instances where individuals have entered into a second civil "marriage" after divorce, without having received a declaration of invalidity of the first. The Church still desires to reconcile these individuals with the Body of Christ. The Holy Father especially encourages pastors to see to it that anyone in this situation be integrated into the life of the Church and be made aware of the access they have to God's mercy. This quote from the document makes the point clearly: "[T]he baptized who are divorced and civilly remarried need to be more fully integrated into Christian communities in the variety of ways

possible, while avoiding any occasion of scandal... They are baptized; they are brothers and sisters; the Holy Spirit pours into their hearts gifts and talents for the good of all... Such persons need to feel not as excommunicated members of the Church, but instead as living members, able to live and grow in the Church and experience her as a mother who welcomes them always, who takes care of them with affection and encourages them along the path of life and the Gospel." (Paragraph 299).

3. What does this mean for us? The first is that we should all pray and work for a renewal of married life in our society. The reality is that divorce and remarriage is not a part of God's plan for us; and the moral gymnastics we have to play as Christians because of how common it has become is an unfortunate byproduct of sin. I encourage everyone to at least read the Holy Father's reflection on married love in chapter 4 of *AL*.

Secondly, anyone who is currently in a marriage that is struggling, seek assistance. Married life is not meant to be lived on an island. There is no shame in acknowledging that there are difficulties and trying to overcome them in a healthy and holy way. Marriage is hard. It takes work. It will not naturally get better over time. It requires self-sacrifice, humility, and all the virtues. Divorce is no more a suitable remedy to a struggling marriage than suicide is a suitable remedy to suffering.

Lastly, if you or someone you know is in a second marriage outside of the Church, please know that you are not rejected. Read the words of the Holy Father above and know that priests want to help you discern how you can be active in the life of the Church again. God's love for you is very real. God's mercy is limited only by our ability to accept it. He never tires of forgiving.

Totus Tuus,
Fr. Todd Lloyd