

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION CATHOLIC CHURCH

Pastor: Rev. C. Todd Lloyd

Deacon: Bob McDonner

Religious Education:

Rachel Christ

Music Coordinator:

Jody Doucet

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

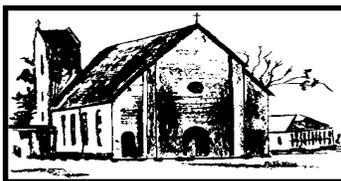
Sat. Vigil: 4:00 PM

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 14:5-18; Ps 115:1-4, 15-16;
Jn 14:21-26
Tuesday: Acts 14:19-28; Ps 145:10-13ab, 21;
Jn 14:27-31a or (for the memorial) Gn 1:26 — 2:3
or Col 3:14-15, 17, 23-24; Ps 90:2-4, 12-14, 16; Mt
13:54-58
Wednesday: Acts 15:1-6; Ps 122:1-5; Jn 15:1-8
Thursday: 1 Cor 15:1-8; Ps 19:2-5; Jn 14:6-14
Friday: Acts 15:22-31; Ps 57:8-10, 12; Jn 15:12-17
Saturday: Acts 16:1-10; Ps 100:1b-3, 5; Jn 15:18-21
Sunday: Acts 10:25-36, 34-35, 44-48; Ps 98:1-4;
1 Jn 4:7-10 or 1 Jn 4:11-16; Jn 15:9-17 or Jn 17:11b-
19

Your Stewardship

Collection	\$6,365.20
Building Fund	\$45.00

Sick List

Jessica Berthelot, Inez Bueche, John David, Neil
Daigle, Mary Decuir, Deborah Fountain, Earl
Jarreau, Jr. Gwen Trabeaux, Sony Trabeaux.

-Prayer Request

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

*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; Jules Craig
Major, Air Force.*

Sympathy

*The Sympathy Of Immaculate Conception Church
Parish Family is extended to:*

Family of Gene Burleigh.

Family of Euris J Gauthier, Jr.

This Week at I.C.

5/1 KC Mtg
Altar Society Mtg @ 10am.

Flowers

Flowers on the altar this weekend are in loving
memory of Emile David, Jr. on the anniversary
of his death from his wife, Marilyn and children
Dina, Daryl and John Keith.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

2018

“SHIPWRECKED”

Come and join us on an exciting adventure filled
with fun, fellowship and faith, as kids find out that
Jesus rescues them when life gets stormy!

Date: July 9-13

Time: 9:00am-Noon

Ages: 3 years (by Dec. 31)

through entering 4th grade

Registration Fee: \$25.00

Registration forms for participants and student
volunteers are available outside of the **Office of
Christian Formation**. For more information or
to volunteer, please contact Skye Johnston
@ 627-5819.

Must be pre-registered before June 30.

*Limited space available for
children that are 2 years old.*

In Christ,

This past Tuesday, April 24th, the Church celebrated the feast of St. Fidelis. He was a 17th century Capuchin friar who became a successful missionary to Protestants in Switzerland. He was martyred for preaching the truth. He saw his mission as a soldier fighting for and with Christ. He was known for saying this prayer out loud: *Woe to me if I should prove myself but a halfhearted soldier in the service of my thorn-crowned Captain.* This reminds me of the famous St. Crispin's Day Speech from Shakespeare's *Henry V*.

Henry is leading his army to battle against the French who outnumbered his men. Overhearing one of his advisors speaking the wishful thought that more Englishmen were available for the battle Henry responds with this speech. He says he does *not* wish for more men because he would not want more to die, and because the smaller number will mean greater honor for the men who are there.

He goes on to say how those men, no matter how humble the status of their birth, are peers to the king himself that day because they fight with him. They are now his "band of brothers." Englishmen who are unfortunate enough to not be present for this battle will be ashamed and question their manhood whenever this battle is remembered: *And gentlemen in England now abed Shall think themselves accursed they were not here, And hold their manhoods cheap whiles any speaks That fought with us upon Saint Crispin's day.*

St. Fidelis understood that Jesus, rather than Henry, is our King who leads the Church into battle against what often seems like difficult odds. The mission is to spread the Gospel, and this battle is not for the faint of heart. Many will be wounded or perhaps even die, but if they do not succumb to timidity they will have honor forever at the banquet table of God. They'll show off their wounds to the Lord, and he will share his wounds with them just as he did with the apostles on that first Easter Sunday. No matter how humble their human nature, those who share the work, the battlefield, of Christ will be granted nobility with him. Henry said *For he today that sheds his blood with me shall be my brother.*

Does not Christ say the same for those who shed blood with him? That they are no longer slaves, but are made his brothers. Like those men who fought with Henry, fighting with Christ raises their status. To evangelize and to remain faithful to Jesus gains for them the title of children of God.

Some Catholics today, especially some clerics, are offended by militant images in Christianity. For some, Christianity has gone from being a robust, militant, and serious religion to being an emasculate, innocuous, and sophomoric one. Somehow manliness became offensive to many in the Church and people preferred their pastors to be effeminate. Saints like Fidelis would be disgusted. Perhaps they would say what Henry V said: *That he which hath no stomach to this fight, Let him depart.* This is not unsimilar to what the Lord said to the lukewarm in Revelation: *So, because you are lukewarm, neither hot nor cold, I will spit you out of my mouth.* No doubt Fidelis had this verse in mind when praying for the grace not to become a "halfhearted soldier."

We should all make that prayer our own, that we be given the fortitude to join our King in battle; to be unyielding in our charity but unafraid to speak the truth of Jesus Christ, despite how offended some may be. With this grace hopefully we will persevere, and *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.*

Totus Tuus,
Fr. Todd Lloyd

Winners!!!

Danny Hogan- \$1,000 cash
Bannon Rockforte- Paragon Stay & Dinner
Donna Bonaventure- \$100 Exxon gas card