



# 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.

AUGUST 16, 2020

*O woman,  
great is  
your faith!*

MATTHEW 15:28



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TWENTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

## Scriptures for the Week

**Monday:** Ez 24:15-24; Dt 32:18-21; Mt 19:16-22  
**Tuesday:** Ez 28:1-10; Dt 32:26-28, 30, 35cd-36ab;  
Mt 19:23-30  
**Wednesday:** Ez 34:1-11; Ps 23:1-6; Mt 20:1-16  
**Thursday:** Ez 36:23-28; Ps 51:12-15, 18-19;  
Mt 22:1-14  
**Friday:** Ez 37:1-14; Ps 107:2-9; Mt 22:34-40  
**Saturday:** Ez 43:1-7ab; Ps 85:9ab, 10-14; Mt 23:1-12  
**Sunday:** Is 22:19-23; Ps 138:1-3, 6, 8;  
Rom 11:33-36; Mt 16:13-20

## Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time August 16, 2020

Observe what is right, do what is just;  
for my salvation is about to come,  
my justice, about to be revealed.

— Isaiah 56:1

## Your Stewardship

**Collections**           \$ 10,572.81

## 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.*

## Prayer Requests

Aguillard Family, Leslie Aguillard, Trevor Allement, Janelle Amond, Tim Amond, Shirley Blauvelt, Kyle Cabalero, Linda Cheek, Lee Joseph Comeaux, Brittany Costello, Jean David, Brilynn Davis, Ronald Decuir, Shannan Everett, Deborah Fountain, Robert Geier, Jr., Alfred Gremillion, Joe Guarino, Lyndon Lynn Hernandez, Danny Jarreau, Earl Jarreau, Sr., Laura Jarreau, Sharon Jarreau, Tess Jarreau, Reid LaComb, Kevin LeBlanc, Kay Lee, Larry Lee, Janice Marks, Doug Matte, Troy Menier, Gail Metz, Sheldon Moses, Linda Olinde, Corey Patin, David Patin, John Gary Patin, Jr., Abigail Politz, Shelby Porche, Dotti Purpera, Michael Roche, Hank Ryan, Hunter Schurba, Lou Sherman, Timmy Smith, Sr., James Thames, Sonny Trabeaux, Ainsley Wolf.

## This Week at I.C.C.

**08/18 PAL Meeting**  
@ 6pm Rm#2.

## BAPTISMS

*We welcome to our Parish Community:*

Alexander Kirby Olinde, child of Johnathon Alexander Olinde & Crystal Julie Bergeron.

## Immaculate Conception Church Knights of Columbus Blood Drive Sunday, August 23rd

Our annual KC Blood Drive will be held on **Sunday, August 23rd**, from **7:00am** till **1:00pm** in the Church Hall. Donors must be 17 or older (16 with parental consent). Coffee, milk, juice and donuts will be provided. All donors will be given a free t-shirt and be entered into a drawing for the following prizes:

**1st Place :** 32" Flat Screen TV.

**2nd Place:** DVD Player.

**3rd Place:** 5 Free Car Washes.

***\*\*Urgent Need For Blood Donors\*\****

*Our Lady of the Lake Blood Donor Center is facing a severe blood and platelet shortage due to an unprecedented number of blood drive cancellations during the Covid-19 pandemic. We are asking for healthy individuals to please consider donating blood.*

## Retrouvaille Weekend

Life can be difficult, and so can the challenges you face in marriage. Retrouvaille, a Christian-based program, is a peer ministry of volunteer couples that can help you learn the tools of healthy communication, build intimacy and heal, just as they have done in their own marriages. Retrouvaille can help get your relationship back on track.

When: **September 11-13, 2020**

Contact: **Bill & Missie Curth** at **(985) 232-5963**

Visit The Website: **HelpOurMarriage.org**

**\*\*\*All COVID-19 precautions will be taken\*\*\***

## From The Pastor's Desk

In Christ,

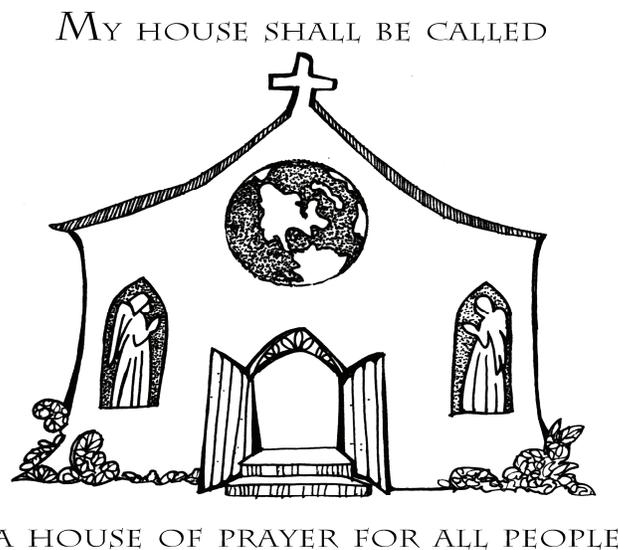
There is a Latin proverb which says *Quod gratis asseritur, gratis negatur* – “What is asserted gratuitously may be denied gratuitously.” It has been stated in other ways. It means that if someone declares something without any evidence of it being true, then one does not need evidence to deny it.

Recently a congressional representative of New York stated that a statue in our national capital building of St. Damien of Molokai is an example of the “patriarchy and white supremacist culture.” St. Damien was a Catholic priest immigrant from Belgium who was sent to Hawaii. Once there he volunteered to serve in a leper colony that had been neglected because most people and religious feared contact with the patients. He cared for the native people suffering from leprosy with great compassion. He learned their language and culture, and presented the gospel to the people not through use of polemics or authority, but by alleviating the suffering of a people who were otherwise forgotten and neglected by society. After some time his religious superior asked him to leave the colony for other service, but gave him the option to remain in the leper colony with the understanding that he would be left there for the rest of his life. Fr. Damien chose to stay with the lepers. Where others would avoid contact with the lepers, Fr. Damien would treat their wounds and physically touch them. He eventually contracted leprosy himself and died after 16 year of service. He became famous and beloved by the people of Hawaii, which is why they chose him to be one of the statues that would represent the state in the capital building. The notion that St. Molokai is an example of any kind of hatred does not warrant an argument, because it lacks any evidence.

What may be another example of *Quod gratis asseritur, gratis negatur* is the assertion that that particular congresswoman is a good Catholic, which some have tried to assert. There is no evidence of that statement, and therefore no evidence need be given to deny it. Not that it would be difficult to do so given her ignorance, her disregard for a saint who gave his life in service to the outcast, and her identifying as a socialist which is explicitly stated by the Church to be contrary to Christianity. Pope Leo XIII said the Socialists “assail the right of property sanctioned by natural law; and by a scheme of horrible wickedness, while they seem desirous of caring for the needs and satisfying the desires of all men, they strive to seize and hold in common whatever has been acquired either by title of lawful inheritance, or by labor of brain and hands, or by thrift in one's mode of life” (*Quod Apostolici Muneris* 1). And Pius XI explained clearly that Socialism “cannot be reconciled with the teachings of the Catholic Church because its concept of society itself is utterly foreign to Christian truth” (*Quadragesimo Anno* 117).

This Latin phrase and these two examples do challenge us all to consider something about ourselves. When you and I claim to be Catholic and Christian, is there evidence of that claim, or can it be dismissed freely? As we've seen above, merely claiming something does not make it true. St. Damien of Molokai has evidence of his being a faithful disciple of Christ by his selfless service and dedication to prayer – it is recorded that he especially had a devotion to praying the rosary. Can the people whom we know look at us at any moment and see evidence of our catholicity? The more our culture, such as malicious socialist elected officials, turn against the Church of Jesus Christ, the more his disciples must have evidence of their discipleship. Historically in times of persecution Catholics have been accused of terrible things such as anarchy, hatred of humanity, cannibalism, treason, and infanticide. In those times Catholics needed all the more to live above reproach as evidence of the goodness of their religion. When we are accused of bigotry, hatred, or hypocrisy today and moving forward, there should be no evidence of those assertions. Rather, there should be clear and demonstrable evidence to the contrary: that we are disciples of Jesus Christ, who demands of us excellence in the moral life, dedication to prayer and worship, fidelity to the teachings of his Church, self sacrificial service to the least among us, and love of God above all else. If we persevere like this in times of persecution, we will have no need to prepare a defense of ourselves, for the evidence will be clear, and at judgment our eternal life will be secured. “You will be hated by all because of my name, but not a hair on your head will be destroyed. By your perseverance you will secure your lives.” – Luke 21:17-19

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.