



IMMACULATE CONCEPTION CATHOLIC CHURCH

P.O. Box 158, LAKE LAND, LA 70752

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

IMMACULATECONCEPTIONLAKELAND.COM

STAFF

Pastor: Rev. C. Todd Lloyd

Business Manager: Patti Aguillard

Religious Education: Dina Tunstall

Music Coordinator: Jody Doucet

MASS TIMES

Saturday Vigil: 4:00 PM

Sunday Masses: 7:00, 9:00, and 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. 5:30 PM & Sat. 3:00 PM

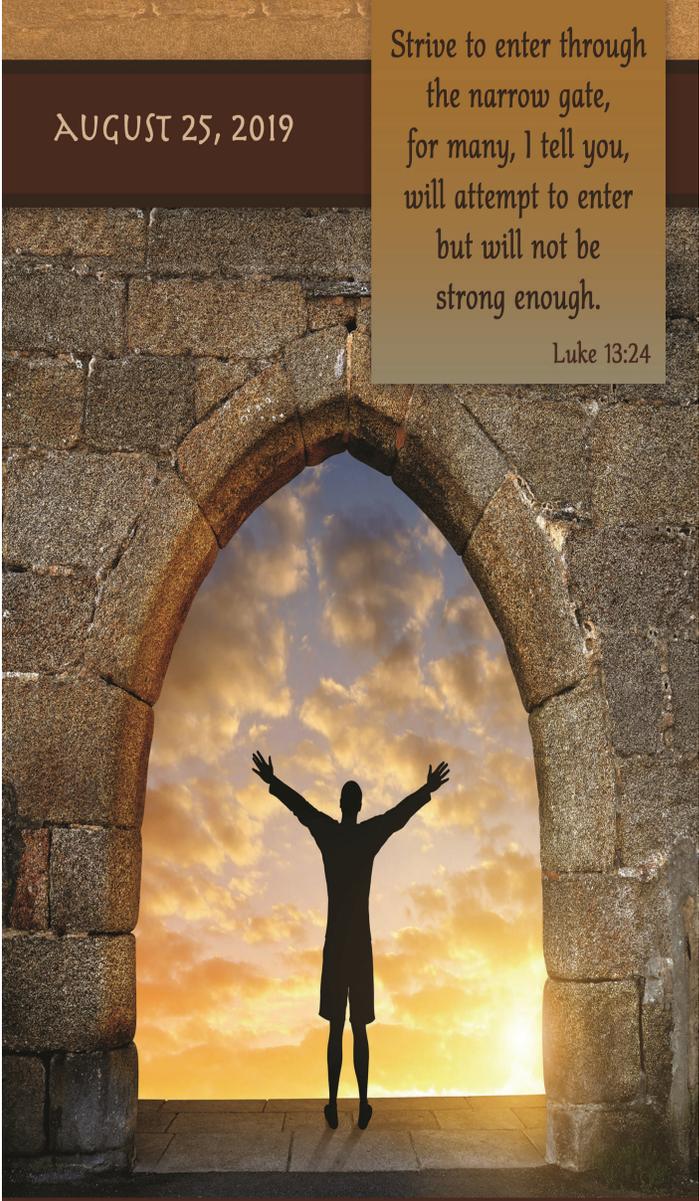
Marriage: Couples are asked to contact the priest at the beginning of the period of engagement or at least six months prior to the projected date of marriage.

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

AUGUST 25, 2019

Strive to enter through
the narrow gate,
for many, I tell you,
will attempt to enter
but will not be
strong enough.

Luke 13:24



TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Scriptures for the Week

Monday: I Thes 1:1-5, 8b-10; Ps 149:1b-6a, 9b;
Mt 23:13-22
Tuesday: I Thes 2:1-8; Ps 139:1-6; Mt 23:23-26
Wednesday: I Thes 2:9-13; Ps 139:7-12ab; Mt 23:27-32
Thursday: I Thes 3:7-13; Ps 71:1-4a, 5-6ab, 15ab, 17;
Mk 6:17-29
Friday: I Thes 4:1-8; Ps 97:1, 2b, 5-6, 10-12;
Mt 25:1-13
Saturday: I Thes 4:9-11; Ps 98:1, 7-9; Mt 25:14-30
Sunday: Sir 3:17-18, 20, 28-29; Ps 68:4-7, 10-11;
Heb 12:18-19, 22-24a; Lk 14:1, 7-14

Your Stewardship

Collections	\$ 8,018.50
Building Fund	\$ 243.00

Prayer Requests

Aguillard Family, Leslie Aguillard, Trevor Allement, Janelle Amond, Joyce Aucoin, Numa Aucoin, Randi Lynn Bergeron, Shirley Blauvelt, Herbert Brown, Kyle Cabalero, Charles Chustz, Sadie Collins, Brittany Costello, John David, Ronald Decuir, Landon Dickinson, Shannan Everett, Deborah Fountain, Veronica Fusulier, Robert Geier, Jr., Garrett Grafia, Alfred Gremillion, Lyndon Lynn Hernandez, Audrey Jarreau, Earl Jarreau, Sr., Laura Jarreau, Lillie Betty Jarreau, Sharon Jarreau, Reid LaComb, Kay Lee, Larry Lee, Troy Menier, Doug Matte, Pam Melon, Gail Metz, David Mohr, Sheldon Moses, Phyllis Naquin, Linda Olinde, Corey Patin, John Gary Patin, Jr., Shelby Porche, Dotti Purpera, Hank Ryan, Hunter Schurba, Lou Sherman, James Thames, Sonny Trabeaux.

God Bless Our Troops

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; Major Jordan Morris; Lieutenant Stephen Burleigh, Jr.; MT2 Jacob Lamotte; Sgt. Greg Silva, Army; Jules Craig Cifreo Air Force.; Samuel Edward Guidroz, Navy; Quinton T. Gaspard, P.F.C., Army.

This Week at I.C.C.

08/25 KC Annual Blood Drive
@ 7am - 1pm.

BAPTISMS

We welcome to our Parish Community:

Andon Kyle Wolf, child of Kyle Neal Wolf & Paula Renee Wolf.

GRACE AND STRUGGLE

The gift of grace increases as the struggles increase.
—St. Rose of Lima

Request For Help

Each year there are a few of our families, who, for one reason or another, we ask for help with paying their religious education fees. Registration fees are \$25.00 per child, but of course any amount you can contribute would be greatly appreciated. If you can help, please drop donations off in the front door mail slot at the Office of Christian Formation. You may also mail donations to:

Office of Christian Formation
Attn. Mrs. Dina Tunstall.
P.O. Box 158, Lakeland, LA 70752.

Thank you in advance for your help and generosity.

Immaculate Conception Church Knights of Columbus "Summer Lifesaver" Blood Drive

Our annual KC Blood Drive will be held on **Sunday, August 25th**, from **7:00am** till **1:00pm** in the Church Hall. Donors must be 17 or older (16 with parental consent) and should eat first before arriving. All donors will be given a free t-shirt and be entered into a drawing for the following prizes:

1st Place : 32 inch flat screen TV.

2nd Place: Bluetooth CD with digital FM radio.

3rd Place: 5 free car washes at a local car wash.

Be A Life Saver...Donate Blood

From The Pastor's Desk

In Christ,

“Come back with your shield – or on it.” According to an ancient Greek writer named Plutarch, Spartan mothers would tell their sons this as they went away for battle. The general meaning of the phrase was “victory or death.” Victorious warriors returned home carrying their shields; and the fallen would be carried back on them. This was the greatest honor for a Spartan and his kinsfolk. Those who returned home without a shield were assumed to have been cowards who shed their shield and weapons in order to abandon the battle and runaway. To return without one's shield was to return without honor even in the eyes of their mothers.

The Spartan culture is incompatible with Christianity in a lot of ways. However, this kind of zeal for fighting to the death without backing down could be admirable in the right context. To be authentically Catholic is challenging and, in our day, radically counter cultural. Even within the Church it is considered old fashioned and backwards to love the faith, teachings, disciplines, and especially traditions of the Church. This invites animosity and makes someone an enemy to others. For someone to remain faithful in this climate requires the virtue of fortitude.

Any warrior who fights with their shield without giving up is exemplifying this important virtue. In the words of the *Catechism of the Catholic Church*: “Fortitude is the moral virtue that ensures firmness in difficulties and constancy in the pursuit of good” (CCC, no. 1808). Fortitude is the combative virtue of the saint who doesn't quit or run away when they face obstacles, either from the outside or the inside (their own fears and hesitations).

St. Paul exhorts the Ephesians, “Put on the armor of God, that you may be able to resist on the evil day and, having done everything, to hold your ground. So stand fast with your loins girded in truth, clothed with righteousness as a breastplate, and your feet shod in readiness for the gospel of peace. In all circumstances, hold faith as a shield, to quench all [the] flaming arrows of the evil one. And take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God” (Ephesians 6:13-17). Notice that, for St. Paul, the shield is faith.

Like any military victory, this battle requires training. If we are going to hold our shield well with fortitude, against any attack, we have to learn it. We

must know our faith, both through study and prayer. Catholics today do not have the benefit of being able to get by with minimal knowledge. We are regularly required to answer questions about faith, explain and defend our beliefs, and correct erroneous beliefs of others. If we do not know the faith well enough, and/or do not live it out, then we will have little success in wielding that shield when conflict comes. This means that all Catholics must, according to our own ability, study the faith. We should all at least be familiar with scripture and the sections of the *Catechism* enough that we know where to find answers to questions.

“Come back with your shield – or on it.” Let us neither be cowards nor ill-equipped, like those who break rank, dropping their shields and running away. Hold the shield of faith with confidence that it is resilient. No matter how fierce the enemy, the truth of our faith is impenetrable. And if we hold to it, with fortitude, even if we fall in battle, we will be raised up and carried home on that faith which is our shield.

Totus Tuus,
Fr. Todd Lloyd

Prayer for Hurricane Season

O God, our Father in heaven, through the powerful intercession of Our Lady of Prompt Succor, hear the humble voices of your children. The Sea of Galilee obeyed your order and returned to its former calmness, you are still the Master of land and sea. During this hurricane season, we turn to You. O Loving Father, spare us from past tragedies and protect us from future storms.

