

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

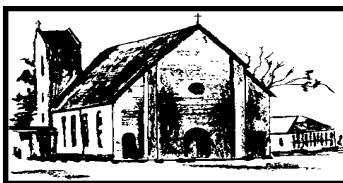
Sat. Vigil: 4:00 PM

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: Ex 32:15-24, 30-34; Ps 106:19-23;
Mt 13:31-35
Tuesday: Ex 33:7-11; 34:5b-9, 28; Ps 103:6-13;
Mt 13:36-43
Wednesday: Ex 34:29-35; Ps 99:5-7, 9; Jn 11:19-27 or
Lk 10:38-42
Thursday: Ex 40:16-21, 34-38; Ps 84:3-6a, 8a, 11;
Mt 13:47-53
Friday: Lv 23:1, 4-11, 15-16, 27, 34b-37;
Ps 81:3-6, 10-11ab; Mt 13:54-58
Saturday: Lv 25:1, 8-17; Ps 67:2-3, 5, 7-8; Mt 14:1-11
Sunday: Dn 7:9-10, 13-14; Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 9;
2 Pt 1:16-19; Mt 17:1-9

Your Stewardship

Collection \$7,161.88

Sick List

David Pete Aguillard, Sharron Allement, Cleveland Allement, Daniel Allemond, LaDawnia Amond, Linda Armand, Hazel Armond, Janelle Amond, Roland Armstrong, Craig Aguillard, Mary Lois Alexander, Rudolph P Antoine, Clarence Armand, Russ Armand, Julie Ashtin, Elouise Aucoin, Gary Aucoin, Paul Baker, Ronnie Barlow, Rebecca Beard, Mel Bueche, Butch Beauvais, Linda Beauvais, Racheal Bello, Chad Bellelo, Andrea Bergeron, Mary Grace Bernard, Chestin Boudreaux, Cheryl Bouquet, Hannah Boutee, Liz Breaud, Inez Bueche, Donald Butcher, Dorothy Butler, Peggy Cazayoux, Connie Cearley, Carl Chenevert, Henrietta Chenevert, Earl Chustz, Gwen Chustz, Charles Chustz, Juanita Chustz, Benedict Cline, Kristy Cobb, Mabel Collette, Sadie Collins, Sherry Comeaux, Lee Comeaux, Brittany Costello, Gary David, Nancy David, Grant Joseph Delatte, Gary Denson, Betty Dickerson, Felton Dickinson, Deanna Lieux Ducote, Delta Dugas, Stacie Eirick, Wilfred Fleming, Daniel Firmin, Debra Fountain, Rachel Gaudin, Jerome Fontenot, Angie Fulmer, Zane Gabor, Theresa Gautro, Carmella Genusa, Alfred Gremillion, Charles Gremillion, Moise Galtier, Randy Gremillion, Erin Gross, Cindy Gueho, Celeste Guidroz, Leo Guidroz, Marilyn Guidroz, Dana Guzzardo, Brooklyn Hebert, Nathaniel Hill, Brandon Holden, Betty Honore, Margaret Hooper, Nadia Jarreau, Bert Jarreau, Jr., Earl Jarreau, Jr., Emmett Jarreau, Sr., Helen Jarreau, James Robert Jarreau, Jessie Jarreau, Laura Jarreau, Noah Jarreau, Patricia Olinde, Randy Jarreau, Ronald Jarreau, Wanda Jarreau, Larae Lewis Johnson, Judy Jones, Kayla Kinler, Black Lalonde, Ida Langlois, Avery Laurent, Antoinette LeBlanc, Jeffrey LeBlanc, Marilyn LeDuff, Jacob Laiche, John E. Landry, Eva Lalonde, Larry Lee, Kay Lee, Randy Levi, Anthony Lopinto, Jo Ann McGowan, Margie Marioneaux, Hartense Manchester, Aaron McLemore, Breanna McDonald, Alan Meadow, Ralph Mezat, Cheyenne Michalsky, Joe Mitchell, San Juana Moreno, Danielle Moses, Katherine Myers, Carter Navarre, Anthony Olinde Sr., James Olinde, Jonathan Olinde, Shane Roy Olinde, Frieda Parks, Mason Part, Corey Patin, Greg Patin, John Patin, Jay O Porche, Dottie Purpera, Brenda Puttle, Joyce Ricard, Donald Richard, Sharron Ristroph, Barbara Rizet, Mary Roubique, Brenda Singletary, Lonnie Shasse, Angel, Raven, Amil Snell, Martin Smiley, Melanie Spears, Eric Stone, Emily Taylor, Hank Ryan, Qwen Trabeaux, Brenda Tuttle, Debbie Wheeler, Bobby Williams, Jalen Williams, Lydia Vancal, Tracy Viola, Joyce York.

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 Moris;; Lieutenant Stephen Burleigh, Jr.; MT2 Jacob Lamotte., Sgt. Greg Silva, Army

This Week at I.C.

8/16 KC Officers Mtg @ 7pm.

8/17 Bible Study @ 6pm.

Sympathy

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

Family of Mary Gale Rumfola.

Flowers

Flowers on the altar this weekend are donated by the Guarino family in loving memory of Mr. & Mrs. Joe Guarino, Sr., Russell and Velma Guarino, Beverly and Jean Guarino.

Religious Education Registration

2017-2018-August 13th, 2017

Held after all masses in Activity Center and includes:

Religious Education for K-11th Grades
Sacraments of Reconciliation and Eucharist for 2nd Grade
Sacrament of Confirmation for 11th Grade
(11th Grade Catholic School students must register and also attend weekly classes)

Classes for baptized/unbaptized adults/children interested in becoming Catholic

Forms are available outside the Office of Christian Formation for anyone wishing to register early!
For questions or concerns, please call Mrs. Rachel Christ, 627-5819.

In Christ,

“Goodness, patriotism, honesty and loyalty are losing their battles not by conflict, but by default.” I recently read these words in a newspaper column written by Archbishop Fulton Sheen from 1973. In it the famous prelate discusses the importance of the virtue of courage. He sees a decline in courage, not because the courageous are being defeated, but because few people are actually courageous anymore. He says “Those who are called to be defenders of what is right are not wounded in the battle, they flee.”

If that was his take in 1973, when much of the social revolution of the 60’s was just becoming mainstream, then what would the good Archbishop say about today? Today it is not only unpopular to speak the truth about moral issues, it might even garner someone the title of bigot, or an accusation that they have some sort of irrational phobia based on hatred. Sycophancy has become a virtue in our time; and courageously speaking the truth is now a vice. G.K Chesterton once wrote, “The act of defending any of the cardinal virtues has today all the exhilaration of a vice.” He had no idea, back in 1901, how true that statement would become.

Sheen goes on to wonder why leaders are afraid to speak out with courage. His answer: “Partly because they are not themselves practicing what they ask others to do; partly because they are afraid of being unloved or because running counter to the moods of the time and partly because they do not rely on Divine strength to aid them in their defense of what is right and just.” I can’t speak to whether leaders are living morally, but it is evident that many leaders are addicted to popularity, affirmation and affection. We are a culture completely deformed by the notion that if I get a lot of “likes” on my Facebook post that I’m doing something right. We do not rely on God’s assistance to do the hard things, like sacrifice; because we have become enamored with man’s encouragement to do what is easy, like seek unrestricted pleasure.

Sheen explains that defending the truth is not a burden when one believes in God; and that therefore a lack of courage is a lack of faith. As an example he says, “If a bishop, for examples, is afraid to tell a minister in the sanctuary not to appear in patched overalls and leather jacket, it is because he is less in awesome concern for the glory of God than he is in dread of the cutting rejoinder of the hippie.” Where the love of God is the source of courage; the fear of evil is a matter of faithlessness in God. “All

weakening anxieties have their roots in practical unbelief,” he writes.

The Archbishop then touches on the effect this has on young people. It isn’t that they are unmotivated by the goodness put on display for them; it is that they have never seen goodness to motivate them. “The so-called generation gap does not exist; it is a spirit-gap—The distance between the leaders who are not on fire with the ideals and the followers who are unlighted torches waiting for the flame.” Young people are anxious to be inspired by courageous leaders who are unafraid of being unpopular for the sake of truth. I can tell you that what drew me to love the Church as a young person was the courage of St. Pope John Paul II and Pope Benedict XVI. Both of these men, hated by many still today, were compelled by a love for God’s truth, and countless young Catholics were attracted to this.

As parents, adults, Christians, and Catholics, we ought to desire courage, both in ourselves and in our leaders. Encourage each other and your leaders to defend truth and goodness. Refuse to celebrate popularity at the expense of what is right. We need good leaders, in the world and in the Church, who do God’s will more than our will; who do what is right rather than what is trendy. Sheen concluded, “In religion and politics alike, leadership will return when a man will not be afraid to make enemies because he loves God above all things.”

Totus Tuus,
Fr. Todd Lloyd

BIBLE STUDY

You are encouraged to join the *Bible Time Line* study which will be on Thursdays, starting on **Thursday, August 31**. There will be two times options: Thursday mornings after the 8AM Mass (approximately 8:30AM) and Thursday evenings at 6PM. Both times will consist of the same content and format; both will be on the same schedule; and both will be in the parish hall. For more information or to register for the study please take a registration form with you from the tables in back of church after Mass or contact Addie Armato at (225) 933-6723 or aarmato@hotmail.com. In order to guarantee a workbook once the sessions begin, please return your registration form by Sunday, August 13th.