

## 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-SAT** 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. Please contact the Parish Office during early months of pregnancy. Baptism preparation is required.

## Scriptures for the Week

Monday: Gn 49:2, 8-10; Ps 72:1-4ab, 7-8, 17;  
Mt 1:1-17  
Tuesday: Jer 23:5-8; Ps 72:1-2, 12-13, 18-19;  
Mt 1:18-25  
Wednesday: Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a; Ps 71:3-4a, 5-6ab,  
16-17; Lk 1:5-25  
Thursday: Is 7:10-14; Ps 24:1-6; Lk 1:26-38  
Friday: Sg 2:8-14 or Zep 3:14-18a;  
Ps 33:2-3, 11-12, 20-21; Lk 1:39-45  
Saturday: I Sm 1:24-28; I Sm 2:1, 4-8abcd; Lk 1:46-  
56  
Sunday: Mi 5:1-4a; Ps 80:2-3, 15-16, 18-19;  
Heb 10:5-10; Lk 1:39-45

## Your Stewardship

Collection	\$ 8,226.73
Building Fund	\$ 164.00
Special Collection	\$ 1,397.00
Christmas Flowers	\$ 250.00
St. Joseph's Abby	\$ 915.00

## Sick List

Gary Aucoin, Edward Babin, Jr., Gertrude Bonaventure, Inez Bueche, John David, Robert Geier, Jr., Alfred Gremillion, Deborah Fountain, Ferd Fabre, Earl Jarreau, Sr., Laura Jarreau, Reid LaComb, Kay Lee, Larry Lee, Kaci McCamy, Gail Metz, Linda Olinde, Dottie Purpera, Horace Ransome, Vera Ransome, Lou Sherman, Gwen Trabeaux, Sonny 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 Cifreo Air Force.; Samuel Edward Guidroz, Navy.*

## This Week at I.C.C.

12/16 Peer Bereavement Support Grp  
Candle Lightening @ 2pm.  
12/17 No Rel. Ed Class.  
12/18 No Rel. Ed Class.  
12/19 No Rel. Ed Class.  
Advent Penance Service @ 6pm.  
KC's Officers Meeting.  
12/20 No Rel. Ed Class.

## Sympathy

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

*Family of Claude Joseph Leet*

## CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE

### Christmas Eve

**Monday, December 24th  
Vigil Mass 4pm & 6pm.**

### Christmas Day

**Tuesday, December 25th  
8am & 10am.**

### New Year's Eve

**Monday, December 31st  
Vigil Mass 4pm.**

### New Year's Day

**Tuesday, January 1st  
8am.**

In Christ,

One of the traditions of this season is the “O Antiphons.” From December 17<sup>th</sup> to the 23<sup>rd</sup> in vespers (official evening prayer of the Church) and the alleluia verse before the gospel at weekday Mass there is a proper antiphon which invokes titles for the Messiah from the Old Testament. They are *O Sapientia* (O Wisdom), *O Adonai* (O Lord), *O Radix Jesse* (O Root of Jesse), *O Clavis David* (O Key of David), *O Oriens* (O Rising Sun), *O Rex Gentium* (O King of the Nations), and *O Emmanuel*. Each one goes on to refer to Isaiah’s prophecy of the coming of the Messiah, expressing the desire for the Christ to come. In fact every one of them prays for the Lord to come with a certain blessing.

These O Antiphons were first referenced in Christian writing as early as the 6<sup>th</sup> century, and were in regular use in Roman liturgies by at least the 8<sup>th</sup> century. They have also been put into use in the popular Advent hymn *O Come, O Come Emmanuel*, which dates back as far as the 9<sup>th</sup> century. It is believed by some that the early monks who composed these verses intentionally created an acrostic. If you take the first letter of each title, moving from the last to the first, it spells out *Ero Cras*, which in Latin means “Tomorrow, I will come.”

Since these antiphons are a part of Christian history and are beautiful prayers expressing the anticipation for the coming Christ, I’d like to invite everyone to join me, and the whole Church, in praying them this week. With the addition of two more verses on the 16<sup>th</sup> and the 24<sup>th</sup> these make for a good novena – nine days of prayer for a certain intention. The first novena was prayed by the disciples and the Blessed Mother between the Ascension and Pentecost, praying for the Holy Spirit to come. We can join this Christian custom with the ancient Jewish longing for the Messiah to prepare for Christmas by praying for nine days before Christmas, invoking our Lord by his many titles, and asking him to come with the many blessings of his incarnation.

Please find at the doors of the church cards with the novena on it. Each day from the 16<sup>th</sup> to Christmas Eve pray the opening prayer, then pray and meditate on the O Antiphon of that

day, follow that up with an Our Father, Hail Mary, and Glory Be; and conclude with the prayers for our intentions. Remember as you pray these that they are not only a prayer from us to Jesus, but also a promise from Jesus to us that he has come and will come again. “Ero Cras!”

Totus Tuus,  
Fr. Todd Lloyd

## **Advent Penance Service**

**Wednesday  
12/19  
6pm**

## **SAVE TIME AND DONATE ONLINE**

Online Giving is now available for parishioners with WeShare, an easy and convenient way to save time and support the church. Donating is simple, safe, and completely secure.

With WeShare, you can set up a recurring weekly or monthly transaction using your checking, saving, or credit card account. You can decide how much to give to any collection and make changes any time, day or night. Plus, you can leave your checkbook at home on Sundays.

If you would like to enroll in Online Giving, please visit, <https://immaculateconceptionlakeland.weshare.org>. If you have any questions or concerns about the program or would like help setting up your account call our parish office 627-5124.