

## 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](http://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: Is 35:1-10; Ps 85:9ab, 10-14; Lk 5:17-26  
Tuesday: Zec 2:14-17 or Rv 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab;  
Jdt 13:18bcde, 19; Lk 1:26-38 or Lk 1:39-47, or any  
readings from the Common of The Blessed Virgin  
Mary, nos. 707-712  
Wednesday: Is 40:25-31; Ps 103:1-4, 8, 10; Mt 11:28-30  
Thursday: Is 41:13-20; Ps 145:1, 9-13ab; Mt 11:11-15  
Friday: Is 48:17-19; Ps 1:1-4, 6; Mt 11:16-19  
Saturday: Sir 48:1-4, 9-11; Ps 80:2ac, 3b, 15-16, 18-19;  
Mt 17:9a, 10-13  
Sunday: Is 61:1-2a, 10-11; Lk 1:46-50, 53-54;  
I Thes 5:16-24; Jn 1:6-8, 19-28

## Your Stewardship

Collection	\$6,992.00
Building Fund	\$220.00
Flowers	\$225.00

## Sick List

David Pete Aguillard, Sharron Allement, Cleveland Allement, Daniel Allement, LaDawnia Amond, Leonard Andre, Linda Armand, Janelle Amond, Craig Aguillard, Mary Lois Alexander, Rudolph P Antoine, Clarence Armand, Russ Armand, Julie Ashtin, Eloise Aucoin, Gary Aucoin, Ronnie Barlow, Rebecca Beard, Butch Beauvais, Linda Beauvais, Racheal Bello, Chad Belleo, Andrea Bergeron, Mary Grace Bernard, Chestin Boudreaux, Cheryl Bouquet, Hannah Boutee, Liz Breaud, Inez Bueche, Dorothy Butler, Peggy Cazayoux, Connie Cearley, Carl Chenevert, Henrietta Chenevert, Earl Chustz, Gwen Chustz, Charles Chustz, Benedict Cline, Kristy Cobb, Mabel Collette, Sherry Comeaux, Lee Comeaux, Brittany Costello, Gary David, Grant Joseph Delatte, Gary Denson, Betty Dickerson, Felton Dickinson, Deanna Lieux Ducote, James Ducote, Delta Dugas, Stacie Eirick, Melodie Fairchild, Wilfred Fleming, Daniel Firmin, Debra Fountain, Jerome Fontenot, Zane Gabor, Joshua Gaspard, Theresa Gautro, Carmella Genusa, Alfred Gremillion, Charles Gremillion, Moise Galtier, Jeremy Gremillion, Andy Gremillion, Carol Gros, 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, Ronald Jarreau, Wanda Jarreau, Larae Lewis Johnson, Judy Jones, Kayla Kinler, Adaam Kleinpeter, Black Lalonde, Ida Langlois, Avery Laurent, Antoinette LeBlanc, Bonne 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, Rickey Manchester, Alan Meadow, Ralph Mezat, Cheyenne Michalsky, Tim Miller, 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, Lawrence Pascalin, Joyce Ricard, Donald Richard, Sharron Ristroph, Barbara Rizet, Debbie Rock, Mary Roubique, Brenda Singletary, Lonnie Shasse, Angel, Raven, Amil Snell, Melanie Spears, Eric Stone, Emmett Taylor, Emily Taylor, Hank Ryan, Qwen Trabeaux, Brenda Tuttle, Debbie Wheeler, Bobby Williams, Jalen Williams, Lydia Vancal, Ramie Villere, 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 Morirs;; Lieutenant Stephen Burleigh, Jr.; MT2 Jacob Lamotte., Sgt. Greg Silva, Army; Jules Craig Major, Air Force.*

# This Week at I.C.

12/20 KC Mtg @ 7pm.  
Advent Penance Service @ 6pm.

## Sympathy

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

Family of Juanita Chustz.

## CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday, December 23rd

Regular Mass 4pm.

Christmas Eve

Sunday, December 24th

7am. & 9am. NO 11am Mass  
4pm. & 6pm.

Concert at 3:30pm.

Christmas Day

Monday, December 25th  
8am. & 10am.

New Year's Eve

Sunday, December 31st  
Regular 7am., 9am. & 11am

New Year's Day

Monday, January 1st  
8am.

Canon Law requires able Catholics to participate in a Mass for both the 4th Sunday of Advent AND for Christmas. In our parish your obligation for Sunday can be fulfilled Saturday, December 23rd at 4PM, or Sunday the 24th at 7AM or 9AM. Christmas obligation can be fulfilled Christmas Eve at 4PM or 6PM or Christmas Day at 8AM or 10AM. Consider coming to the 4PM Saturday Mass when we'll be joined by seminarians who will assist in our music.

In Christ,

We continue with the Holy Father's catecheses on the Mass. In the third talk he asked "what is the Mass?" This is a critical question which so many people cannot correctly answer. Many people imagine the Mass as primarily a community meal without the sacrificial aspect. St. John Paul II once wrote, "At times one encounters an extremely reductive understanding of the Eucharistic mystery. Stripped of its sacrificial meaning, it is celebrated as if it were simply a fraternal banquet."

Pope Francis explains: "The Mass is the *memorial of Christ's Passover*." This does not refer primarily to the Last Supper meal of Passover. He says "Jesus Christ, with his passion, death, resurrection and ascension into heaven brought the Passover to fulfillment." The Mass, then, is a memorial of Jesus' passion, death, resurrection and ascension. By memorial we understand to mean much more than a mere recollection of past events. Pope Francis continues, "It is not merely a remembrance, no. It is more: it is making present what happened 20 centuries ago."

The pope says we are brought to the pinnacle of God's saving act in the Eucharist: "the Lord Jesus, making himself Bread broken for us, pours out upon us his mercy and his love, as he did on the Cross, thus renewing our hearts, our existence and our way of relating to him and to our brothers and sisters." The Second Vatican Council said something similar: "As often as the sacrifice of the cross in which Christ our Passover was sacrificed, is celebrated on the altar, the work of our redemption is carried on." The Mass is a re-presentation of the *sacrifice* of Jesus on the Cross.

It is also a participation in his resurrection. "Taking part in the Mass, particularly on Sunday, means entering the victory of the Risen One, being illuminated by his light, warmed by his compassion," the pope said. He continued, "Through the Eucharistic celebration the Holy Spirit makes us participants in the divine life that is able to transfigure our whole mortal being. In his passage from death to life, from time to eternity, the Lord Jesus also draws us with him to experience the Passover. In the Mass we celebrate Passover. We, during Mass, are with Jesus, who died and is Risen, and he draws us forth to eternal life. In

the Mass we unite with him. Rather, Christ lives in us and we live in him."

When we fall victim to our sins we fall into death. Thankfully "Christ restores our life; Christ is the fullness of life, and when he faced death he destroyed it forever." In the Eucharist he communicates this restoration to us. This affords us the ability to love and give ourselves to others with the certainty that even if the other wounds us, we will not die. Pope Francis says, "The martyrs gave their own lives in this certainty of Christ's victory over death." Only in the power of Christ's victorious love over death are we truly free to give ourselves to God and neighbor without fear. "This is the Mass," his holiness said, "to enter this passion, death, resurrection, ascension of Jesus; when we go to Mass it is as if we're going to Calvary itself."

If this profound sentiment is true, that we approach Calvary at Mass, then shouldn't we approach with extreme solemnity? Some prefer a more informal and relaxed liturgy. But if this is really Calvary we approach, is it even possible to be *too* formal, *too* reverent? The pope asks, "Will we allow ourselves to chat, to take photographs, to put on a little show? No! Because it is Jesus! We certainly pause in silence, in sorrow and also in the joy of being saved. As we enter the church to celebrate Mass, let us think about this: I am going to Calvary, where Jesus gave his life for me. In this way the spectacle disappears; the small talk disappears; the comments and these things that distance us from something so beautiful as the Mass, Jesus' triumph." Everything – clothing, speech, posture, movements, music, etc. – before, during, and after Mass ought to reflect that we approach Calvary with the crucified Lord.

The Holy Father concludes: "Taking part in the Eucharist enables us to enter the Paschal Mystery of Christ, giving ourselves to pass over with him from death to life, meaning there, on Calvary. The Mass is experiencing Calvary; it is not a spectacle."

Totus Tuus,  
Fr. Todd Lloyd