

## 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

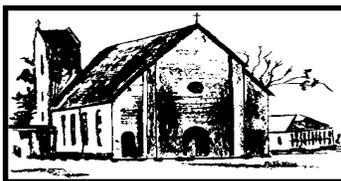
**Sat. Vigil:** 4:00 PM

**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: Is 2:1-5; Ps 122:1-9; Mt 8:5-11  
Tuesday: Is 11:1-10; Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17;  
Lk 10:21-24  
Wednesday: Is 25:6-10a; Ps 23:1-6; Mt 15:29-37  
Thursday: Is 26:1-6; Ps 118:1, 8-9, 19-21, 25-27a;  
Mt 7:21, 24-27  
Friday: Is 29:17-24; Ps 27:1, 4, 13-14; Mt 9:27-31  
Saturday: Gn 3:9-15, 20; Ps 98:1-4;  
Eph 1:3-6, 11-12; Lk 1:26-38  
Sunday: Bar 5:1-9; Ps 126:1-6; Phil 1:4-6, 8-11;  
Lk 3:1-6

## Your Stewardship

Collection	\$ 7,294.00
Electronic	\$ 1,625.00

## ***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.

## 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.

# This Week at I.C.C.

- 12/3 Rel. Ed Grades 6th-8th @ 5:15pm.
- 12/4 Altar Society Meeting @ 10am.  
Rel. Ed Grades 1st & 2nd @ 5:30pm.  
KC's Meeting.
- 12/5 Rel. Ed Grades 3rd-5th @ 5:30pm.  
Baptism Seminar @ 6pm.  
Parish Council Christmas Party.
- 12/7 Feast Of The Immaculate Conception - Vigil Mass @ 6pm.
- 12/8 Feast Day Of The Immaculate Conception - Mass @ 8am.

## BAPTISMS

*We welcome to our Parish Community:*

**Hunter Allen Guidroz**, child of Mark Guidroz & Nicole Guidroz.

**Myles Anthony LeJeune**, child of Corey LeJeune & April LeJeune.

## **-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.*

In Christ,

In the movie *Braveheart* there is a famous scene at the Battle of Stirling Bridge where the protagonist, William Wallace, gives a brief but fiery speech to the Scots. He encourages these men who are mostly commoners to fight for their freedom. When some of the men say they want to go home and live instead of fight and die he says, "Run and you'll live...at least a while." While this speech is probably not historical it is reminiscent of something Winston Churchill really did say. As war raged on the European continent, and the English debated the position they would take towards the Nazis, the famous Prime Minister said, "Appeasement from weakness and fear is alike futile and fatal." This is similar to a verse from Proverbs: "For the simple are killed by their turning away, and the complacency of fools destroys them" (Proverbs 1:32). In other words, choosing not to fight evil out of fear of evil or indifference will make you a victim of evil. In *Braveheart* William Wallace was not willing to be complacent, to placate to his oppressors. Instead of tolerating a battleground accord that would see the Scots lose more of their freedoms, he rode out to the parley to "pick a fight."

Some people do not like conflict of any kind. For them picking a fight, especially with an enemy who seems to have the advantage, seems foolish. They would prefer to live with the consequences of appeasement than risk battle. Many of the English wanted to appease the Nazis rather than fight them. Thankfully Churchill was able to convince them otherwise.

Examples of courageous risk by waging battle against evil forces rather than placating to avoid sacrifice is a good example of what we are all called to as Christians. Personally, culturally, and in the Church; we sometimes have to take the risk that comes with picking a fight rather than giving in and being taken over.

Personally we all have to battle against our own sinful tendencies. If we have regular or habitual sin, even addictions, then we must fight them. We cannot continue on in that sin, allowing it to gain more and more ground over our freedom. We have to take the battle to sin by avoiding everything connected to it, doing hard penance that will give us grace and encourage us to overcome that sin, and bring it to confession again and again if necessary, until either the sin is overcome or we die. Final judgment will be more pleasant for the soul who fought against personal sin but died before conquering it than the one who did not try to fight it at all.

The same is true culturally. If in our families or our society there are evils that persist and we do nothing to combat them, then we are guilty ourselves.

Doing nothing to confront the culture of death makes us little better than those who did not want to meet the Nazis in battle.

In the life of the Church, too, we must not surrender. We must pick a fight when heretical teachings are being taught, or effete (i.e. pretentious and ineffectual) liturgy is being "performed," or sin goes unrepented. The hordes of modernity that have pillaged the Church this past half century have left nothing but infertile land in their wake, and those who appease this evil further will be left to ~~so~~ in ashes. It would be hard to explain to Jesus why we stood by and did nothing as his bride was stripped of all her goodness by the self-ordained "pastoral" prophets of novelty.

With St. Paul, we Christians should not be afraid to "fight the good fight" (cf. 1 Tim 6:12). Though there is risk involved, the consequences of surrender are far worse.

"Courage is almost a contradiction in terms. It means a strong desire to live taking the form of a readiness to die." – G.K. Chesterton, *Orthodoxy*.

Totus Tuus,  
Fr. Todd Lloyd

## ***GIVING TREE***

Once again the Ladies Auxiliary will be sponsoring The Giving Tree. The tree with the ornaments is located in the Activity Center. All gifts **MUST** be returned, under the tree in the hall, by **December 9th**. Please return the ornament with your gift. Thank you in advance for your generosity.

## **Nursing Home Donations Needed**

Our 1st and 2nd graders, again this year, will hold an annual drive to collect socks for the nursing home residents. They are asking for your help to collect plenty of warm socks.

Please drop off socks at the Office of Christian Formation by **Sunday, December 16, 2018**. If you are interested in making a monetary donation instead, please place in an envelope labeled Nursing Home and drop off in the mail slot at the Office of Christian Formation, as we will buy the socks for you. Thank you!