

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

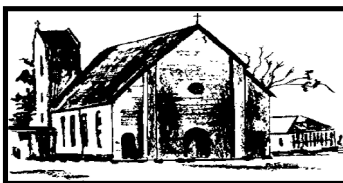
Sat. Vigil: 4:00 PM

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: Dn 9:4b-10; Ps 79:8, 9, 11, 13; Lk 6:36-38
 Tuesday: Is 1:10, 16-20; Ps 50:8-9, 16bc-17, 21, 23; Mt 23:1-12
 Wednesday: Jer 18:18-20; Ps 31:5-6, 14-16; Mt 20:17-28
 Thursday: Jer 17:5-10; Ps 1:1-4, 6; Lk 16:19-31
 Friday: Gn 37:3-4, 12-13a; 17b-28a; Ps 105:16-21; Mt 21:33-43, 45-46
 Saturday: Mi 7:14-15, 18-20; Ps 103:1-4, 9-12; Lk 15:1-3, 11-32
 Sunday: Ex 20:1-17 [1-3, 7-8, 12-17]; Ps 19:8-11; 1 Cor 1:22-25; Jn 2:13-25
 Alternate readings (Year A): Ex 17:3-7; Ps 95:1-2, 6-9; Rom 5:1-2, 5-8; Jn 4:5-42 [5-15, 19b-26, 39a, 40-42]

Your Stewardship

Collection	\$7,926.00
Building Fund	\$205.00
Black/Ind Mission	\$891.00

Sick List

David Pete Aguillard, Sharron Allement, Cleveland Allement, Daniel Allemond, LaDawnia Amond, Leonard Andre, Linda Armand, Janelle Amond, Craig Aguillard, Mary Lois Alexander, Rudolph P Antoine, Clarence Armand, Russ Armand, Julie Ashtin, Elouise Aucoin, Gary Aucoin, Ronnie Barlow, Rebecca Beard, Butch Beauvais, Linda Beauvais, Racheal Bello, Chad Bellelo, Andrea Bergeron, Mary Grace Bernard, Jessica Berthelot, 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 Fontenet, Zane Gabor, Theresa Gautro, Carmella Genusa, Alfred Gremillion, Charles Gremilion, Moise Galtier, Jeremy Gremillion, Kearney 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, Ronald Jarreau, Wanda Jarreau, Larae Lewis Johnson, Judy Jones, Kayla Kinler, 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, Margje 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., Jonathan Olinde, Shane Roy Olinde, Frieda Parks, Mason Part, Corey Patin, Greg Patin, John Patin, Jay O Porche, Dottie Purpera, Brenda Puttle, Lawrence Pascaline, 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 Vancel, 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.

- 2/27 Rel Ed Grades 1st-2nd @ 5:30pm.
- 2/28 Rel Ed Grades 3rd-5th @ 5:30pm.
Loaves/Fishes Mtg @ 6pm Rm 2.
- 3/1 RCIA/RCIA-C.

Sympathy

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

- Family of Clement Guidroz.
- Family of Roy Steib.
- Family of Florence Samson.

IMPRESSION

When we try to make an impression, that's the impression we make.

—Anonymous



Jesus was
transfigured
before them

In Christ,

Lord, teach us to pray. This request from the Gospel is closely related to something St. Paul said in his letter to the Romans: *We do not know how to pray as we ought, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us with sighs too deep for words.* These two lines regularly ring in my head when I go to pray. There is often a temptation to jump into prayer with whatever concerns I have for the day. Sometimes there is a litany of requests to be offered, from praying for those who have asked me to, to asking for virtue or strength for some dilemma. Occasionally, especially after experiencing some great blessing, there is the desire to excitedly praise God for his goodness to me. I am confident the Lord is happy when we share all this with him, like a father who is happy when his children want to share their day with him. Still, though, is there more to prayer than just us sharing a lot of concerns, petitions, or gratitude with the Lord?

According to St. Paul when the Holy Spirit prays he does so *with sighs too deep for words.* This tells me that prayer can be something inaudible. Not merely inaudible with our ears, but our minds as well. The Spirit prays with a *sigh*. I think of the deep sigh that two lovers might have when they embrace after a long separation. Like when a soldier returns to his family after a long tour, and he and his wife embrace and hold each other, breathing hard, but saying nothing. No words can express what they are telling each other in that moment. Is it possible for us to have a prayer like this with the Lord, where we allow for silence, because anything more, or less, would ruin the moment? This reminds me of a famous story about Mother Teresa. Once a reporter asked her what she says in prayer. She said she doesn't say anything, she just listens. So the reporter asked, *What does God say to you?* Mother said God also *just listens*. Her prayer was a silent moment with the Lord, mutually listening, being attentive to one another. The saint once wrote, *We forget that in the silence of the heart God speaks, and from the fullness of the heart we speak. Only when we have heard him in the silence of our hearts, only when we have learned to listen to God in the silence of our hearts, only then can we say: I pray.* A few weeks ago Pope Francis said *Silence is not reduced to the lack of words, but in being open to listen to other voices: That of our heart and, especially, the voice of the Holy Spirit.*

During Lent is a good time to renew our request to the Lord: *Lord, teach us to pray.* While he teaches us through the *Our Father*, he also teaches us by his example. As C.S. Lewis once said, *For most of us the prayer in Gethsemane is the only model.* What happened in Gethsemane? Our Lord prayed in quiet, while his disciples continued to fall asleep.

When we ask the Lord to teach us to pray, He has left us, by inspiration of the Holy Spirit, the Church, who tells us how to pray the Mass. The *Roman Missal*, the big red book that tells the priest how to offer Mass, includes a lot of details that are not merely suggestions or options. It says *During Lent, it is not permitted to decorate the altar with flowers, and the use of musical instruments is allowed only so as to support the singing.* This has always been understood to mean and upholds the long tradition of not using the organ unless absolutely necessary to give the key for the music being sung. As for style of music it says *The main place should be given, all things being equal, to Gregorian chant, as being proper to the Roman Liturgy.* This is the style of music we are using especially during Lent, for our Masses. And finally in regards to Latin, it says *it is desirable that they [lay people] know how to sing together at least some parts of the Ordinary of the Mass in Latin.*

I know the liturgy during Lent is awkward without the organ, with the chanted music, and the Latin. I know it is quiet, even silent at times. If you find this to be challenging or uncomfortable it's good. The disciples found Gethsemane to be challenging. The Lord found the 40 days in the desert to be challenging. That is prayer. We have to remember that we do not know how to pray as we ought, and therefore the Lord has taught us how to pray, and still does, through his Church.

Totus Tuus,
Fr. Todd Lloyd