

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION CATHOLIC CHURCH

Pastor: Rev. C. Todd Lloyd

Deacon Bob McDonner

Religious Education:

Rachel Christ

Music Coordinator:

Becky Boudreaux

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: 1 Jn 2:22-28; Ps 98:1-4; Jn 1:19-28
Tuesday: 1 Jn 2:29 — 3:6; Ps 98:1, 3cd-6; Jn 1:29-34
Wednesday: 1 Jn 3:7-10; Ps 98:1, 7-9; Jn 1:35-42
Thursday: 1 Jn 3:11-21; Ps 100:1b-5; Lk 4:14-22a
Friday: 1 Jn 5:5-13; Ps 147:12-15, 19-20;
Mk 1:7-11 or Lk 3:23-28 [23, 31-34, 36, 38]
Saturday: 1 Jn 5:14-21; Sal 149:1-6a, 9b; Jn 2:1-11
Sunday: Is 60:1-6; Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-13;
Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6; Mt 2:1-12

Sick List

David Pete Aguillard, Sharron Allement, Cleveland Allement, Daniel Allement, Linda Armand, Hazel Armond, Janelle Amond, Craig Aguillard, Mary Lois Alexander, Rudolph P Antoine, Clarence Armand, Russ Armand, Julie Ashtin, Gary Aucoin, Ronnie Barlow, Rebecca Beard, 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, Jean Chustz, Benedict Cline, Kristy Cobb, Mabel Collette, Sadie Collins, Sherry Comeaux, Lee Comeaux, Brittany Costello, Sam Costanza, Barbara Coutrado, Jake Coutrado, Gary David, Nancy David, Grant Joseph Delatte, Gary Denson, Betty Dickerson, Felton Dickinson, Luke Dickinson, Deanna Lieux Ducote, Delta Dugas, Stacie Eirick, Wilfred Fleming, Daniel Firmin, Rachel Gaudin, Jerome Fontenot, Angie Fulmer, Zane Gabor, Theresa Gautro, Carmella Genusa, Alfred Gremillion, Charles Gremilion, Moise Galtier, Randy Gremillion, Erin Gross, Cindy Gueho, Celeste Guidroz, Leo Guidroz, Marilyn Guidroz, Dana Guzzardo, Brooklyn Hebert, Nathaniel Hill, Betty Honore, Margaret Hooper, Shirley, Hymel, Bert Jarreau, Jr. Earl Jarreau, Jr., Emmett Jarreau, Sr., Helen Jarreau, James Robert Jarreau, Jessie Jarreau, Laura Jarreau, Mary Jarreau, Noah Jarreau, Patricia Olinde, Ronald Jarreau, Wanda Jarreau, Larae Lewis Johnson, Judy Jones, Marie King, 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, Margie Marioneaux, Hartense Manchester, Aaron McLemore, Breanna McDonald, Alan Meadow, Ralph Mezat, Cheyenne Michalsky, San Juana Moreno, Danielle Moses, Katherine Myers, Anthony Olinde Sr., James Olinde, Jonathan Olinde, Shane Roy Olinde, Frieda Parks, Mason Part, Corey Patin, Greg Patin, John Patin, Dottie Purpera, Brenda Puttle, Christina Quigley, Joyce Ricard, Donald Richard, Joseph Richardson, Barbara Rizet, Mary Roubique, Brenda Singletary, Lonnie Shasse, Angel, Raven and Amil Snell, Martin Smiley, Melanie Spears, Eric Stone, Connie Rozarto, 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 Morirs;; Lieutenant Stephen Burleigh, Jr.; MT2 Jacob Lamotte.,

This Week at I.C.

- 1/3 Rel Ed Grades K-2nd @ 5:30pm.
KC Mtg @ 7pm.
1/4 Rel Ed Grades 3rd-5th @ 5:30pm.
1/8 RCIA/RCIA-C.

Sympathy

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

Family of Geraldine Devillier.

2017-2018 PRESCHOOL REGISTRATION

Deadline: February 6, 2017

Immaculate Conception Preschool Learning Center will be taking applications for the upcoming 2017/2018 preschool year. The program offers a “hands-on”, age appropriate pre-k curriculum for children ages 3, 4 & 5. (children must turn 3 before Dec. 31, 2016)

Preschool hours: 8:30-2:00 Monday, Wednesday and Friday.

Application forms can be found near side door of Office of Christian Formation and must be received by Feb. 6, 2:00pm. For more information contact Skye Johnston in the Office of Christian Formation at 627-5819.

Happy New Year!

In Christ,

The first day of the year is celebrated in the Church as the Solemnity of the Blessed Virgin Mary, the Mother of God. This is the celebration of one of the four Marian dogmas the Church has: Mother of God, Perpetual Virginity, Immaculate Conception, and Assumption. The dogma of Mary as Mother of God was formally pronounced by the Church way back in 431AD at the Ecumenical Council of Ephesus. This is a critical teaching not because of what it says about Mary, but because of what it says about Jesus.

During the 5th century a heretical group who followed the teachings of a bishop by the name of Nestorius claimed that the Second Person of the Trinity did not truly take on the human nature. Rather they claimed that the two natures, human and divine, remained separate. Therefore they believed that Jesus of Nazareth, the man born from the Virgin Mary, was the anointed one who lived in union with the Second Person of the Trinity, but the two can somehow be distinguished as two distinct persons. They suggested the title “Mother of Christ” for Mary, but rejected Mother of God. This was denounced by the Council Fathers of Ephesus as a heresy, declaring that Jesus Christ is Himself the incarnate Word of God not just by grace of adoption but by nature. The Second Person of the Trinity took for Himself the human nature and animates the body of Jesus Christ just as our soul animates our bodies as an indistinguishable being. He is like us in every way except for sin.

Therefore Mary gave birth to the Second Person of the Trinity which means that she does not produce God or preexist Him, but that she is the bearer of God into this world – the *Theotokos* – Greek for Birthgiver of God or Mother of God.

This dogma of Mary being the Mother of God is critical to our belief about the nature of Jesus Christ and how He brings salvation to us. Many of the Church Fathers argued that if God did not take on flesh as Jesus Christ, then it was not God who offered and who was offered in the sacrifice on the Cross. If this is not the case then the sacrifice is not an unblemished and infinite

sacrifice because only God is unblemished and infinite. Therefore if Jesus Christ is not the Divine Second Person of the Trinity incarnate then his sacrifice would not be sufficient for the salvation for the world, because he would have himself also needed saving. And one who needs to be saved cannot be expected to be the savior of everyone else. But because Jesus was God among us, He did not need to make sacrifice for Himself, but rather offers the sacrifice of Himself for the perfection of everyone else (cf. Hebrews 10).

The celebration of Mary, Mother of God is intentionally celebrated in relation to Christmas. We start the year off with a reminder that God has entered time not by forming for Himself a body out of nothing (which He could do if He wanted), but rather that He chose to be born into time through His relation with another person. He’s chosen to take for Himself not just flesh, but a mother. This is not merely a job given to Mary, but a unique relationship He has chosen to share with her. Unlike most children who are assigned their parents by God and nature, God chose this mother for Himself.

Unfortunately so many non-Catholic Christians today see no reason to honor Mary, erroneously believing that to do so takes away from Jesus. It is right and just to honor Mary. Only if we were to worship her as some equal to God would it be wrong. If we wish to revere every bit of who Jesus is, we must also revere the relationship He chose to have with Mary of Nazareth. It is not coincidental that she is His mother. It is His doing, His will. It is best for a mother-in-law and daughter-in-law to have a good relationship. It would be beautiful if when a wife needs assistance or guidance or insight into her husband’s life that she could turn comfortably to his mother. So too the Bride of Christ ought to desire a good and honorable relationship with Mary. When we have this type of relationship with her we might find that she not only had the ability to bear Christ into the world 2000 years ago, but can still do so in our lives today.

Totus Tuus
Fr. Todd Lloyd