

# 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

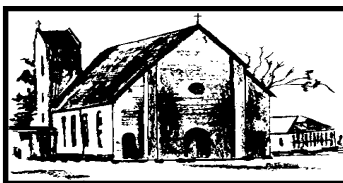
**Sat. Vigil:** 4:00 PM

**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: Heb 9:15, 24-28; Ps 98:1-6; Mk 3:22-30  
Tuesday: Heb 10:1-10; Ps 40:2, 4ab, 7-8a, 10, 11;  
Mk 3:31-35  
Wednesday: Heb 10:11-18; Ps 110:1-4; Mk 4:1-20  
Thursday: Heb 10:19-25; Ps 24:1-6; Mk 4:21-25  
Friday: Heb 10:32-39; Ps 37:3-6, 23-24, 39-40;  
Mk 4:26-34  
Saturday: Mal 3:1-4; Ps 24:7-10; Heb 2:14-18;  
Lk 2:22-40 [22-32]  
Sunday: Jer 1:4-5, 17-19; Ps 71:1-6, 15, 17;  
I Cor 12:31 — 13:13 [13:4-13]; Lk 4:21  
30

## Your Stewardship

Collection \$ 8,272.50  
Building Fund \$ 190.00

## Sick List

Barbara Andre, Gary Aucoin, Edward Babin, Jr., Inez Bueche, Mable Collette, John David, Robert Geier, Jr., Garrett Grafia, Alfred Gremillion, Susie Gremillion, Deborah Fountain, Earl Jarreau, Sr., Laura Jarreau, Reid LaComb, Kay Lee, Larry Lee, Kaci McCamy, Gail Metz, Linda Olinde, Landon Pickin-son, Dottie Purpera, Horace Ransome, Lou Sherman, 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.*

Our Lord does not care so much for the importance of our works as for the love with which they are done.  
—Teresa of Ávila

## This Week at I.C.C.

**01/29 Rel. Ed Grades 1st & 2nd**  
@ 5:30pm.

**01/30 Rel. Ed Grades 3rd-5th**  
@ 5:30pm.

**02/02 Confirmation Rehearsal**  
@ 5pm.

## Sympathy

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

*Family of Vera Ransome.*

## 25<sup>th</sup>, 50<sup>th</sup>, 65<sup>th</sup> & Over Diocesan Wedding Anniversary Celebration

Bishop Michael Duca will celebrate a liturgy at **2pm on Sunday, February 10, 2019**, at St. George Catholic Church. The Bishop will be honoring couples on their 25<sup>th</sup>, 50<sup>th</sup>, 65<sup>th</sup> or greater wedding anniversary.

Couples wishing to attend should contact ICC parish office, at 627-5124, as soon as possible. The registration deadline is **Wednesday, January 30<sup>th</sup>**.

## *Preschool Registration* **2019/2020**

***Deadline: Feb. 5, 2019***

Immaculate Conception Preschool Learning Center will be taking applications for the upcoming 2019/2020 preschool year. The program offers a “hands-on”, age appropriate pre-k curriculum for children ages 3,4 & 5. (**Children must turn 3 by Dec. 31, 2019**)

Preschool hours: 8:30am-2:00pm M/W/F.

Application forms can be found near side door of Office of Christian Formation and must be received by **Feb. 5th, 2:00pm**. For more information contact Skye Johnston in the Office of Christian Formation at 225-627-5819.

In Christ,

Prayer is a critical part of every Christian life, but often we might find ourselves saying with St Paul, “we do not know how to pray as we ought.” Spontaneous prayer, usually filled with petitions and intercessions, is common for most Christians. We are all quick to turn to God when we have a need, or see the needs of someone we love. But this spontaneous prayer, while good, is not enough for a full and authentic life of prayer. There ought to be an intentional effort to set time aside strictly for praying to God, not only in petition or intercession, but also in gratitude, adoration, and praise. The highest forms of prayer include contemplation of what God has revealed to us about himself, how great he is, and what he wills for us in our lives. This should be done daily, and even throughout the whole day. St. Paul says we should “pray without ceasing.”

The *Catechism* explains: “Prayer is the life of the new heart. It ought to animate us at every moment. But we tend to forget him who is our life and our all. This is why the Fathers of the spiritual life in the Deuteronomic and prophetic traditions insist that prayer is a remembrance of God often awakened by the memory of the heart. ‘We must remember God more often than we draw breath.’ But we cannot pray ‘at all times’ if we do not pray at specific times, consciously willing it.” Out of a desire to sanctify the whole day, the Church’s tradition grew to assign certain prayers to specific times of the day. All together they are called the Divine Office or, more commonly today, the Liturgy of the Hours.

The Liturgy of the Hours developed from the ancient monasteries where monks chanted prayers as a community several times a day. These times of prayer are structured around the different “hours” of the day (morning, daytime, evening, night). The primary content of these times of prayer are the Psalms. The Psalms are the poetic and musical prayers that the Jews, including Jesus, knew by heart and prayed often.

The Liturgy of the Hours are obligatory for priests. There are five throughout the day. The four that are specific to the time of day (morning, daytime, evening, and night prayers) and then one fifth hour called the Office of Readings. This one can be done at any time during the day. While all five follow a similar structure, and make heavy use of the psalms, they are also each unique. They each have scripture readings pertaining to the season or time of day. Two of them have petitions similar to Mass. One includes an examination of conscience and act of

contrition. The Office of Readings includes a longer scripture reading and a reading from the living tradition – writings of saints, popes or councils of the Church.

While this is mandatory in the life of priests and most religious, it is also something that lay people can and should make use of. Vatican II says that the Liturgy of the Hours is “devised so that the whole course of the day and night is made holy by the praises of God. Therefore, when this wonderful song of praise is rightly performed by priests and others who are deputed for this purpose by the Church’s ordinance, or by the faithful praying together with the priest in the approved form, then it is truly the voice of the bride addressed to her bridegroom; It is the very prayer which Christ Himself, together with His body, addresses to the Father.” The council goes on to say that “...the laity, too, are encouraged to recite the divine office, either with the priests, or among themselves, or even individually.”

If you are looking for a fuller life of prayer please consider taking up the Liturgy of the Hours. Each “hour” does not take an hour, but can be done in less than thirty minutes. Because you are not obliged to do it, you might just be interested in using it for certain times, like morning, or night, or for greater contemplation with the Office of Readings. Consider that when you pray these prayers, you are praying with the whole Church. You are praying what every priest, bishop, and even the pope prayed that day.

It is easier today than ever to pray the Liturgy of the Hours thanks to technology. You can search the internet for free daily versions. If you have a smart phone you can install an app called *iBreviary*, which has all five hours up to date every single day, for free. You can also buy a hard copy of these prayers online or in Catholic book stores. Please join me in trying to pray without ceasing, in sanctifying the day by remembering the Lord, and praying with and for the Church.

Totus Tuus,  
Fr. Todd Lloyd