



IMMACULATE CONCEPTION CATHOLIC CHURCH

P.O. Box 158, LAKELAND, LA 70752

PARISH OFFICE: 627-5124 | RELIGIOUS EDUCATION OFFICE: 627-5819

IMMACULATECONCEPTIONLAKELAND.COM

STAFF

Pastor: Rev. C. Todd Lloyd

Business Manager: Patti Aguiard

Religious Education: Dina Tunstall

Music Coordinator: Jody Doucet

MASS TIMES

Saturday Vigil: 4:00 PM

Sunday Masses: 7:00, 9:00, & 11:00 AM

Daily Masses: Tues. 6:00 PM & Wed.-Sat. 8:00 AM

Care of the Sick: For emergencies please call immediately. Eucharist is brought to the sick weekly. Families of those who are sick are encouraged to notify the Parish Office as soon as possible.

Reconciliation: Tues. 5:00 PM & Sat. 3:00 PM

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.

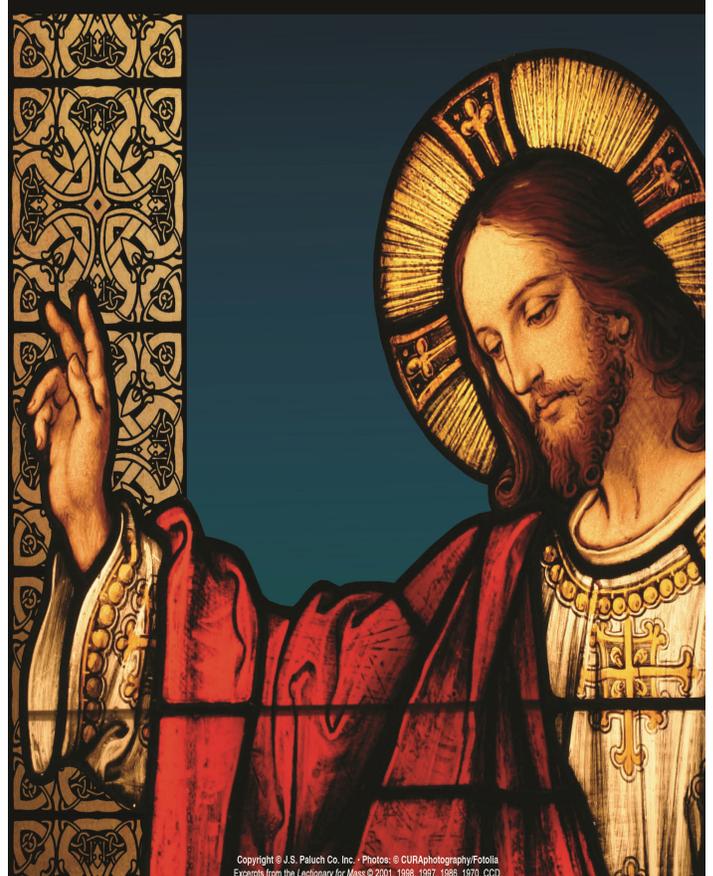


JANUARY 31, 2021

Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

The people were astonished at Jesus' teaching,
for he taught them as one having authority.

Mark 1:22



Scriptures for the Week

Monday: Heb 11:32-40; Ps 31:20-24; Mk 5:1-20

Tuesday: Mal 3:1-4; Ps 24:7-10; Heb 2:14-18;

Lk 2:22-40 [22-32]

Wednesday: Heb 12:4-7, 11-15; Ps 103:1-2, 13-14, 17-18a; Mk 6:1-6

Thursday: Heb 12:18-19, 21-24; Ps 48:2-4, 9-11;

Mk 6:7-13

Friday: Heb 13:1-8; Ps 27:1, 3, 5, 8b-9; Mk 6:14-29

Saturday: Heb 13:15-17, 20-21; Ps 23:1-6; Mk 6:30-34

Sunday: Jb 7:1-4, 6-7; Ps 147:1-6; 1 Cor 9:16-19, 22-23; Mk 1:29-39

End Of Year Statements

If you require an end of the year **Contribution Statement** for **2020**, please call the Parish Office at 627-5124. All requested statements will be mailed out by **January 31, 2021**.

Your Stewardship

Collections \$ 5,957.00

God Bless Our Troops

Please remember all of our troops overseas, especially members of Immaculate Conception Parish Family:

Jordan Todd Aguillard, Air Force; Jules Craig Cifreo, Air Force.; Samuel Edward Guidroz, Navy; Quinton T. Gaspard, P.F.C., Army; Zachary Carl Rollins, Marines.

Prayer Requests

Aguillard Family, Leslie Aguillard, Trevor Allement, Tim Amond, Gary Bello, Joseph Leroy Bizette, Theresa Bizette, Shirley Blauvelt, Kyle Cabalero, Robin Casiano, Doris Castillo, Linda Cheek, Brittany Collins, Lee Joseph Comeaux, Brittany Costello, Jean David, Brilynn Davis, Ronald Decuir, Wanda Decuir, Mary Doris Deculus, Malachi Engen, Shannan Everett, Deborah Fountain, Robert Geier, Jr., Alfred Gremillion, Joe Guarino, Pamela Vicknair Harrington, Lyndon Lynn Hernandez, Roger Hollier, Laura Jarreau, Sharon Jarreau, Tess Jarreau, Reid LaComb, Kevin LeBlanc, Kay Lee, Larry Lee, Janey Lively, Janice Marks, Doug Matte, Rob Melacon, Troy Menier, Gail Metz, Sheldon Moses, Linda Olinde, Christine Patin, Corey Patin, David Patin, John Gary Patin, Jr., Abigail Politz, Shelby Porche, Dotti Purpera, Cody Reed, Michael Roche, Hank Ryan, Hunter Schurba, Lou Sherman, Anna Graves Smith, Timmy Smith, Sr., James Thames, Sonny Trabeaux, Harry Williams, Ainsley Wolf.

This Week at I.C.C.

02/02 PAL Meeting
@ 6pm Rm#2.

02/04 Sacrament of Confirmation
@ 7pm.

Sympathy

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

Family of **Catherine Dauthier**.

Family of **Delta Dugas**.

Family of **Shirley Willeford**.

2021/2022 Pre-School Registration

Application deadline for the upcoming **2021/2022** pre-school year must be received by **February 2, 2021** by **2:00pm**. For more information, please contact **Skye Johnston** at the Office of Christian Formation at **627-5819**.

The Blessing of Throats February 3rd

8am Mass

Divine Mercy Novena Feb. 9th - April 6th

(Tuesday Evenings)

6pm

Ash Wednesday February 17, 2021

Masses

8am, 12 Noon & 6pm

Confessions

7am, 11am & 5pm

Way Of The Cross Feb. 19th - Mar. 26th

(Friday Evenings During Lent)

6pm

From The Pastor's Desk

In Christ,

Recently I heard someone say “Keep me updated!” What they wanted to be kept updated on is not very important to that particular person. It was an issue that involved a priest in a different part of the country, which they could have no effect or influence on, and therefore their immediate up to date knowledge of the issue serves only to quench their thirst for information. This is not something unique to that person. We have become a culture of people who are used to being in the know. Thanks to the internet and growth of media, information about what is happening everywhere is readily available.

Despite it seeming common to us, this development is still novel. Just a few decades ago it would be pretty unlikely to be able to expect immediate knowledge about what is happening in another part of the country, much less on the other side of the world. This global connectedness is convenient in many ways. People who are interested in what is happening in other parts of the world, or in politics, or in science or any other field do not have to wait for and then scour a weekly news paper or monthly magazine or journal to satisfy their interest. We can know almost immediately when something important happens anywhere.

This easy access to immediate information is helpful for us as Catholics in a unique way. Unlike most other religions in the world, ours is not merely local or culturally particular, but a universal community interconnected via our unity to the church in Rome and her bishop, i.e. the pope. For most of the history of Christianity, communication from the pope to the rest of the Church was slow going, just like with all other information. If the pope wanted to communicate with bishops he would send a letter. If he wanted to give a teaching to the whole world, we'd have to wait until it was received by the local bishop who would then disseminate it to the priests in the diocese, and from there parishioners would find out what the pope has to say. It is hard to imagine now, but consider that before mass media, when a pope died, you might go days or weeks without even knowing it. Now you would know within the minute.

While this is all very convenient and helpful to staying updated with what's going on in the world and the Church, it is not all good. The more used to it we've gotten, the less prudent we have become about what information we choose to know and not know. Many people hastily read/watch/listen to what is happening in the world and Church without much consideration of whether it is really necessary or good for them to be constantly “updated.” Inevitably when we do this we find out about things happening that afterwards we might wish we did not know. Those events and occurrences that do not bring

us delight to know, but discouragement, sadness, and scandal. It is true: sometimes bad news cannot be avoided and must be faced with maturity. But part of that maturity involves the humility to say “I do not *need* to know this.”

Over the past few years I've noticed that many people are in a constant state of frustration, fear and agitation – even sinfully – because they have been kept updated. I've occasionally asked myself and others: what good does it do for you or anyone else to be kept up daily with what is happening in Washington, D.C. or the Vatican? What happens in those two cities is important to our lives as Americans and as Catholics. And being interested is not bad. But sometimes we are not looking because of our sense of citizenship or faithfulness, but because we like to see dumpster fires, train wrecks, and terrible auto accidents. Or, as I've described it to people: road kill.

The thing with road kill is that we all know it is there. It does not bother some people who are able to just pass by without any thought, and for others it can be gross and disturbing to look too closely. My recommendation is that if road kill is disturbing to you, pass by and don't look too closely. That does not mean that you ignore its existence; just that you be mature about it and carry on with life.

So it is with problems that might occur in D.C. or the Vatican. They are there. There is nothing patriotic or holy about being naïve. But there is also no requirement in either citizenship or sanctity to obsess about what is happening in those cities – especially the bad. A multitude of good Americans and holy saints who have gone before us lived their entire lives without regular updates on what was happening with the president or pope, congress or cardinals. They were good Americans and holy Catholics because they lived their lives, focusing on what was needed to be focused on, and trusting in God's providence in their lives, in their country, and in their Church.

This is my recommendation for anyone who is tempted to anger or sadness or fear by the constant stream of information that comes from the world: turn off the stream every once in a while. The world will get on without you watching it, and it will still be there when you turn your TV/Internet back on. As a practice of prudence, humility, and faithful trust in God, let us occasionally avert our eyes from imperfection of the world, country, or Church so that we can focus on our own imperfection and work on something we might actually be able to fix.

“Pray, hope, and don't worry. Worry is useless. God is merciful and will hear your prayer.” – Padre Pio

Totus Tuus,
Fr. Todd Lloyd

Information Page

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Special Instructions: Until further notice, please send us only **250** printed bulletins. Thank you.