

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: Is 1:10-17; Ps 50:8-9, 16bc-17, 21, 23;
Mt 10:34 — 11:1

Tuesday: Is 7:1-9; Ps 48:2-8; Mt 11:20-24

Wednesday: Is 10:5-7, 13b-16; Ps 94:5-10, 14-15;
Mt 11:25-27

Thursday: Is 26:7-9, 12, 16-19; Ps 102:13-14ab, 15-21;
Mt 11:28-30

Friday: Is 38:1-6, 21-22, 7-8; Is 38:10-12abcd, 16;
Mt 12:1-8

Saturday: Mi 2:1-5; Ps 10:1-4, 7-8, 14; Mt 12:14-21

Sunday: Jer 23:1-6; Ps 23:1-6; Eph 2:13-18;
Mk 6:30-34

Your Stewardship

Collection	\$6,814.00
Electronic	\$650.00
Catholic Charities	\$577.00

Sick List

Janelle Amond, Jessica Berthelot, Gertrude Bonaventure, Inez Bueche, John David, Robert Geier, Jr., Deborah Fountain, Earl Jarreau, Sr., Laura Jarreau, Reid LaComb, Kaci McCamy, Gail Metz, Dottie Purpera, Lou Sherman, Gwen Trabeaux, 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.

This Week at I.C.

7/16 KC 4th Degree Mtg @ 6pm.

Sympathy

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

Family of Fern David.

Family of Louis Francois, Sr.

Family of John Wayne Moore.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION REGISTRATION

2018-2019

AUGUST 12, 2018

**HELD AFTER ALL MASSES IN
ACTIVITY CENTER AND INCLUDES:**

Religious Education for 1st-11th Grades.
Sacraments of Reconciliation and Eucharist for 2nd Grade.
Sacrament of Confirmation for 11th Grade.
(11th Grade Catholic School students must register and also attend weekly classes)
Classes for baptized/unbaptized adults/children interested in becoming Catholic.

Forms are available outside the Office of Christian Formation for anyone wishing to register early!

For questions or concerns, please call Mrs Rachel Christ at 627-5819.

In Christ,

Last week we began looking at Blessed Pope Paul VI's encyclical, *Humanae Vitae*, which is fifty years old this month. The first section proposed the issues and questions of the day. In short they are: *Does every single sexual act have to be open to life, or is it licit to regulate and plan the family size by taking actions to render some acts infertile, while still being open to life in the marriage as a whole? Furthermore, does the requirement for responsible procreation and family size make it licit to regulate procreation through artificial means – by intelligence and will “rather than through the specific rhythms of their own bodies”?* Pope Paul VI starts the second section of his encyclical by looking at the two reasons most often used by those who want to justify artificial contraception: the good of married love, and responsible parenthood.

He says that marriage, as an institution created by God, calls a couple to give themselves to one another mutually and totally, in an exclusive way. That union helps to perfect one another as they cooperate “with God in the generation and rearing of new lives.” Married love is a type of love that can only be shared between one man and one woman. This unique type of love is not merely the result of natural instinct or emotional drive (e.g. sexual attraction or affection). It is an act of the will, a decision. Married love is “total” – “that very special form of personal friendship in which husband and wife generously share everything, allowing no unreasonable exceptions and not thinking solely of their own convenience.” The pontiff continues, “Whoever really loves his partner loves not only for what he receives, but loves that partner for the partner’s own sake, content to be able to enrich the other with the gift of himself.” Married love is faithful, exclusive, and permanent (until death). Despite the difficulties, he said, “No one has the right to assert that it is impossible.” Finally and importantly, this kind of love is fruitful. “It is not confined wholly to the loving interchange of husband and wife; it also contrives to go beyond this to bring new life into being. ‘Marriage and conjugal love are by their nature ordained toward the procreation and education of children. Children are really the supreme gift of marriage and contribute in the highest degree to their parents’ welfare.’”

Married love, then, requires an understanding of responsible parenthood. Biologically speaking, “Responsible parenthood means an awareness of, and respect for, their proper functions.” In other words, because we know how pregnancy comes about, responsible parenthood means that one must

exercise discipline over their passions. “With regard to physical, economic, psychological and social conditions, responsible parenthood is exercised by those who prudently and generously decide to have more children, and by those who, for serious reasons and with due respect to moral precepts, decide not to have additional children for either a certain or an indefinite period of time.” Also critical to responsible parenthood is the objective moral order which was established by God, and should inform the conscience. “Responsible parenthood requires that husband and wife, keeping a right order of priorities, recognize their own duties toward God, themselves, their families and human society.”

The Holy Father concludes this discussion on married love and responsible parenthood by saying “it follows that they are not free to act as they choose in the service of transmitting life, as if it were wholly up to them to decide what is the right course to follow.” Rather married people must do what corresponds to the will of God the Creator. “The very nature of marriage and its use makes His will clear, while the constant teaching of the Church spells it out.”

This last line is important because it shows the objective nature of this matter. Meaning that the Church’s teaching cannot change because it is not just the Church’s teaching, it is the design of God, and has thus always been, and always will be the teaching of the Church. Pope Paul is not teaching something new, here. It is a “constant teaching.” Anyone who claims otherwise is wrong. In the next bulletin we’ll look at what Blessed Pope Paul VI says about observing that natural law and faithfulness to God’s design.

Totus Tuus,
Fr. Todd Lloyd

GOD IN ALL

In everything, be it a thing sensed, or a thing known, God is hidden within.
—St. Bonaventure