

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: Mi 6:1-4, 6-8; Ps 50:5-6, 8-9, 16bc-17, 21, 23; Mt 12:38-42
Tuesday: Mi 7:14-15, 18-20; Ps 85:2-8; Mt 12:46-50
Wednesday: 2 Cor 4:7-15; Ps 126:1bc-6; Mt 20:20-28
Thursday: Jer 2:1-3, 7-8, 12-13; Ps 26:6-7ab, 8-11; Mt 13:10-17
Friday: Jer 3:14-17; Jer 31:10-13; Mt 13:18-23
Saturday: Jer 7:1-11; Ps 84:3-6a, 8a, 11; Mt 13:24-30
Sunday: 2 Kgs 4:42-44; Ps 145:10-11, 15-18; Eph 4:1-6; Jn 6:1-15

Your Stewardship

Collection	\$7,156.00
Electronic	\$1,453.00
Building Fund	\$154.00

Sick List

Janelle Amond, Jessica Berthelot, Gertrude Bonaventure, Inez Bueche, John David, Robert Geier, Jr., Alfred Gremillion, 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.

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.

Red Stick Catholic Fest November 10, 2018 – Baton Rouge

Spaces are available to take a group of youth (those entering grades 9-12) and adult chaperones from our Parish to this Diocesan event sponsored by the Office of Youth Ministry. To sign-up to receive more information about this event (as a youth or chaperone), please call Kevin Durbin at 225-573-0380 or register for more information online at icredstick.eventbrite.com

The deadline to be placed on our notification list for this group trip is August 1, 2018. More details to come! There will be a cost to attend, but the cost has not been disseminated by the Diocese yet.

In Christ,

This Wednesday marks the 50th anniversary of Blessed Pope Paul VI's important encyclical on the topic of human procreation, *Humanae Vitae*. In the last two bulletins we looked at how he first addressed what the issues of the day are and the related moral questions, and the important relationship between married love and responsible parenthood. If you missed those you can find previous bulletins on our parish website.

The pope continues by affirming that the Church believes that the sexual activity of a husband and wife, by which they are uniquely united to one another and human life is transmitted, is "noble and worthy" – it is good. He said that this is true even if, "for reasons independent of their will," the act does not lead to pregnancy. By God's design in nature "new life is not the result of each and every act of sexual intercourse." Spacing between children happens naturally. In observance of natural law which the Church interprets by her constant doctrine, the pontiff emphasizes, "that each and every marital act must of necessity retain its intrinsic relationship to the procreation of human life." *Sex and procreation are intrinsically related and should not be considered as separable.*

Both the unitive (brings husband and wife together) and procreative aspects are inherent to the marriage act. Marriage retains its fullest purpose and dignity only when both of these (mutual love and openness to life) are retained. Reasonable people should agree that for a spouse to demand and have sex with the other without concern for the other's wellbeing would not be a true act of mutual love and "therefore offends the moral order." Similarly, an act which impairs the ability to become pregnant as God the Creator has designed into the nature of the marriage act is equally offensive to the moral order. Man is neither the master of procreation nor of the nature of his body. He cannot claim total authority over the purpose or function of his body, including specifically his sexual faculties, which in its nature has a role in the identity of the person and is critical to the generation of life, "of which God is the source."

Based on these natural and Christian doctrines of marriage and sex, the Vicar of Christ goes on to clearly state what is morally condemned: 1) Direct interruption of the sexual act in order to avoid insemination, 2) direct abortion even for health reasons, 3) direct sterilization of either the man or woman (e.g. vasectomies and tubal ligations), 4) any action which either before (e.g. chemical contraception), at the moment of (e.g. barrier), or after sexual intercourse (e.g. "Plan B") is specifically intended to prevent procreation.

He concludes this section by clarifying general moral principles. First, a single, freely chosen immoral action is never justifiable; neither for accomplishing a perceived good, nor for avoiding a greater evil. The ends do not justify the means. Likewise, it is not permissible to think that one single immoral act is made licit when accompanied with many moral acts. Therefore, Paul VI says, "it is a serious error to think that a whole married life of otherwise normal relations can justify sexual intercourse which is deliberately contraceptive and so intrinsically wrong." For him to say that it is "intrinsically wrong" means that it is a moral evil in and of itself, and can never be justified either by intention, circumstance, or other related acts. Nonetheless, it is licit to procure a legitimate medical procedure or medication for good health that might also have the second, unintended effect of impeding procreation, "provided such impediment is not directly intended for any motive whatsoever" (e.g. hysterectomy).

In the next bulletin we'll look at Pope Paul VI's response to objections, and his prophetic assessment of what wide spread acceptance of contraception would look like in the world.

Totus Tuus,
Fr. Todd Lloyd