



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 Aguillard

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: Tuesday 6:00 PM

Wednesday - Saturday 8:00 AM

Reconciliation: Tuesday 5:00 PM

Saturday 3:00 PM

Baptism: Celebrated monthly. Please contact the Parish Office during early months of pregnancy. Baptism preparation is required.

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

Marriage: Couples are asked to contact the priest at the beginning of the period of engagement or at least six (6) months prior to the desired wedding date.

FOURTEENTH SUNDAY
IN ORDINARY TIME

July 4, 2021



Many who heard Jesus were astonished.

They said,

"Where did this man get all this?

*Is he not the carpenter,
the son of Mary?"*

Mark 6:2,3

Scriptures for the Week

Monday: Gn 28:10-22a; Ps 91:1-4, 14-15ab; Mt 9:18-26

Tuesday: Gn 32:23-33; Ps 17:1b, 2-3, 6-7ab, 8b, 15;
Mt 9:32-38

Wednesday: Gn 41:55-57; 42:5-7a, 17-24a;
Ps 33:2-3, 10-11, 18-19; Mt 10:1-7

Thursday: Gn 44:18-21, 23b-29; 45:1-5; Ps 105:16-21;
Mt 10:7-15

Friday: Gn 46:1-7, 28-30; Ps 37:3-4, 18-19, 27-28,
39-40; Mt 10:16-23

Saturday: Gn 49:29-32; 50:15-26a; Ps 105:1-4, 6-7;
Mt 10:24-33

Sunday: Am 7:12-15; Ps 85:9-14;
Eph 1:3-14 [1:3-10]; Mk 6:7-13

Your Stewardship

Collections \$ 8,598.00

Sympathy

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

Family of Arthur Francis LaMotte.

Family of Denise Rita Pourciau.

Family of Micheal J. Roche, Sr.

God Bless Our Troops

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

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

Prayer Requests

Leslie Aguiillard, Daniel Allemond, Tim Amond, Roy Ancona, Blaine Benoit, Joseph Leroy Bizette, Kynlee Bueche, Robin Casiano, Daryl Cazes, Brilynn Davis, John Debetaz, Marie Debetaz, Betty Decou, Ronald Decuir, Wanda Decuir, Mary Doris Deculus, Alcide Delapasse, Carroll Devillier, Malachi Engen, Anna Grace Fremin, Joe Guarino, Laura Jarreau, Jackie Jones, James Joseph, Judy Joseph, Barbara Landry, Debra Landry, Maria Lawrence, Antoinette LeBlanc, Ramie LeBlanc, Kevin LeBlanc, Janey Lively, Margie Maronneaux, Janice Marks, Rob Melacon, Myra Moniotte, Coral, Nate & Violet Pennison, Cody Reed, Hank Ryan, Anna Marie Silvio, Anna Graves Smith, Sonny Trabeaux, Harry Williams, Ainsley Wolf.

This Week at ICC

07/04 Happy 4th of July!

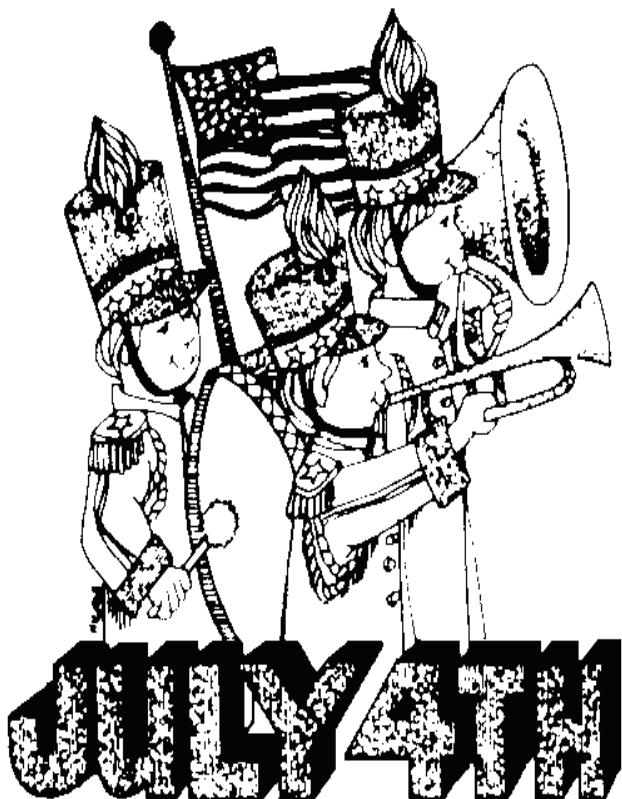
07/06 PAL Support Group Meeting
@ 6pm Rm#2.

KC 3rd Degree Meeting
@ 7pm.

07/07 Parish Council Meeting
@ 5pm.

ICC Choir Practice
@ 6pm in the Music Room.

*Happy July 4th!
May God Bless the USA!*



From The Pastor's Desk

In Christ,

Happy Independence Day! Christians ought to love the nation they live in. Hopefully we all appreciate the blessing it is to be American. Patriotism could rightly be placed under the fourth commandment – honor of father and mother. St. Thomas Aquinas discussed patriotism in his writings under the subject of “Piety.” Love of God requires love of neighbor, and therefore love of our fellow citizens is a form of piety.

In a radio broadcast in 1938 the then Father Fulton Sheen explained that the essence of Americanism “is the recognition of the sacredness of human personality and the inherent inalienable rights which every man possesses independently of the State.” If man’s sacredness and rights do not come from the state, then what is their source? Fulton Sheen says the Founding Fathers “sought the foundations of man’s rights and liberties in something so sacred and so inalienable that no State, no Parliament, no Dictator, no human power could ever take them away, and so they rooted them in God.” As our Declaration of Independence says: all men are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights...among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness.

“Unalienable” means that these rights belong to the sacredness of human personality and are not the gift of the State. Sheen explains, “In other words, man’s right to own private property, man’s right to educate his own family, man’s right to adore God according to the dictates of his conscience, come not from the Constitution, the Government, Parliament, or the will of the majority, but from God. Therefore no power on earth may take them away. This is the essence of Americanism.”

If the foundation of America is the sacredness of human personality as endowed by the Creator; then the greatest threat to Americanism is the neglect of this belief. Those who do not acknowledge the existence of God, who want no mention of God or who do not root our identity in God, are out of line with the American tradition and, if given power to influence, a threat to our freedoms as human beings. The more common lukewarm faith or disbelief becomes, the more our rights are endangered. Put simply: no God, no unalienable rights. No unalienable rights, no freedoms are safe. Sheen said, “If human dignity and liberty come from God, then it follows that loss of faith in Him means loss of faith in those liberties which derive from Him.” It follows then that serious faith in God as the giver of human dignity and freedom is required to preserve and promote authentic Americanism. As Sheen put it, “if we wish to keep our rights, then we must keep our God.”

This idea was recognized with admiration by the Catholic English author G.K. Chesterton. A year after taking a tour of the United States in 1921, he published his reflections in a book entitled *What I Saw in America*. In that work he gives what he sees as the founding idea at the heart of our nation. He

wrote: “America is the only nation in the world that is founded on a creed. That creed is set forth with dogmatic and even theological lucidity in the Declaration of Independence; perhaps the only piece of practical politics that is also theoretical politics and also great literature. It enunciates that all men are equal in their claim to justice, that governments exist to give them that justice, and that their authority is for that reason just. It certainly does condemn anarchism, and it does also by inference condemn atheism, since it clearly names the Creator as the ultimate authority from whom these equal rights are derived.”

Faith is not only important for preserving the freedom of Americans, but it is also important for right use of freedom. The source of freedom dictates how that freedom may be used. If a freedom comes from the state, then the state has the ability to tell us how to use that freedom rightly. For example, the state affords certain people the right (license) to drive, but with that right comes certain requirements about how to drive. If we abuse the right, we may lose it.

Because we believe that our unalienable freedoms comes from God, that dictates that freedom must be used according to God’s commandments. In 1995 Pope St. John Paul II came to the United State, and in a homily in Baltimore he said to us: “Every generation of Americans needs to know that freedom consists not in doing what we like, but in having the right to do what we ought.” To not believe in God means that the freedom has no baring, no purpose or use other than to “do as I feel.” And that subjectivity could mean any number of things, including things that are morally evil and contrary to God’s commands, and perilous to society. Faithlessness is a threat to good use of freedom, and this further endangers our ability to be free at all.

It is a false premise to suggest, as many people do today, that faith is a private issue. It is not a private issue; is an American one. As believers and Americans alike we have an obligation of zealous faithfulness to God, who is the giver and director of our freedom. Sheen concluded his remarks on this topic with these words: “It is our solemn duty as Catholics, therefore, to be conscious of our duty to America, and to preserve its freedom by preserving its faith in God.”

Totus Tuus,
Fr. Todd Lloyd

Information Page

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Special Instructions: Until further notice, please send us only **500** printed bulletins. Thank you.