

## 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](http://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: Hos 2:16, 17b-18, 21-22; Ps 145:2-9;  
Mt 9:18-26  
Tuesday: Hos 8:4-7, 11-13; Ps 115:3-10; Mt  
9:32-38  
Wednesday: Hos 10:1-3, 7-8, 12; Ps 105:2-7;  
Mt 10:1-7  
Thursday: Hos 11:1-4, 8c-9; Ps 80:2ac, 3b, 15-  
16; Mt 10:7-15  
Friday: Hos 14:2-10; Ps 51:3-4, 8-9, 12-14,  
17; Mt 10:16-23  
Saturday: Is 6:1-8; Ps 93:1-2, 5; Mt 10:24-33  
Sunday: Am 7:12-15; Ps 85:9-14;  
Eph 1:3-14 [3-10]; Mk 6:7-13

## 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.*

## WORDS

Fair words butter no parsnips.

—John Clarke

## This Week at I.C.

7/11 Ladies Aux Mtg.  
Peer Berv. Grp Mtg @ 5:30 Rm 2.

## Flowers

Flowers on the altar this weekend are in loving memory of all our deceased loved ones.

## REGINA CAELI ACADEMY 2018-2019

Come join our exciting mission to form the next generation of Catholics! Regina Caeli Academy provides a classical, hybrid education in the Catholic tradition. Pre K3-12th grade students attend Socratic, hands on classes taught by trained tutors 2 days a week and home school on the remaining days. For enrollment or to schedule a tour of our facility please contact our admissions representative at [admissions@rcahybrid.org](mailto:admissions@rcahybrid.org) or (470)-239-0259.

## ONLY HALFWAY

You can only go halfway into the darkest forest; then you are coming out the other side.

—Chinese proverb

In Christ,

In 1968, fifty years ago, on July 25th, Blessed Pope Paul VI promulgated his encyclical letter *Humanae Vitae*. It has come to be one of the most ignored papal teachings of the modern era.

Pastors of the Church have done a pathetic job of transmitting the teaching of the Church on the issues of marriage and procreation, which this document addresses. This scandalous neglect has led most Catholics to be either ignorant of the teaching or to have erroneous and simplistic views of it. The failure to convincingly teach the truth on this important moral issue has led to rejection of it and many other aberrations related to the issues of marriage and human sexuality. As we commemorate the 50th anniversary of this document I'd like to share with you large portions of the document over the next few weeks. The document begins by stating the topic:

“The transmission of human life is a most serious role in which married people collaborate freely and responsibly with God the Creator. [...] The fulfillment of this duty has always posed problems to the conscience of married people, but the recent course of human society and the concomitant changes have provoked new questions.”

The pope listed certain developments in society related to the issue of procreation: rapidly increasing populations; rising standards, demands, and costs of education and economy; better understanding of the dignity of woman; and the value of conjugal love in marriage. The most remarkable development, the Holy Father said, is the dominance of man over the natural world through science and organization, including “over his body, over his mind and emotions, over his social life, and even over the laws that regulate the transmission of life.”

With these new challenges and developments, the unchanging moral norms must be reviewed and considered for the modern context. The Holy Father offers these questions that need to be addressed: *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 not make licit regulation of procreation through artificial means – by intelligence and will “rather than through the specific rhythms of their own bodies”?*

Paul VI goes on to say that the Church has the authority and responsibility to respond to these moral questions for all of humanity. The teaching must be “based on the natural law as illuminated and enriched by divine Revelation.” He emphasized the undeniable role of the Church’s magisterium “to interpret the natural moral law.” He said it is indisputable because, when Jesus established the Apostles as the body to teach all nations His commandments, he “constituted them as the authentic guardians and interpreters of the whole moral law...” both of the Gospel and of natural law. Natural law declares the will of God and following it is necessary for salvation. Furthermore, the teaching on this subject is not new, because the Church already has an established teaching “on the nature of marriage, the correct use of conjugal rights, and the duties of spouses.”

While it is in the pope’s authority to teach definitively, he has sought the opinion and advise of others. A commission made up of married couples and experts of various fields was formed to study the topic and give the Holy Father their findings and conclusions. He also sought the opinion and advice of the bishops around the world. Ultimately, after studying and discerning all of this information, it falls to the authority of the Successor of Peter to state definitively the Church’s teaching. As Pope Paul VI said, “We, by virtue of the mandate entrusted to Us by Christ, intend to give Our reply to this series of grave questions.”

Please look to the next few bulletins for this prophetic teaching of Blessed Pope Paul VI.

Totus Tuus,  
Fr. Todd Lloyd