



# 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:** Tuesday 6:00 PM  
Wednesday - Saturday 8:00 AM

**Reconciliation:** Tuesday 5:00 PM  
Saturday 3:00 PM

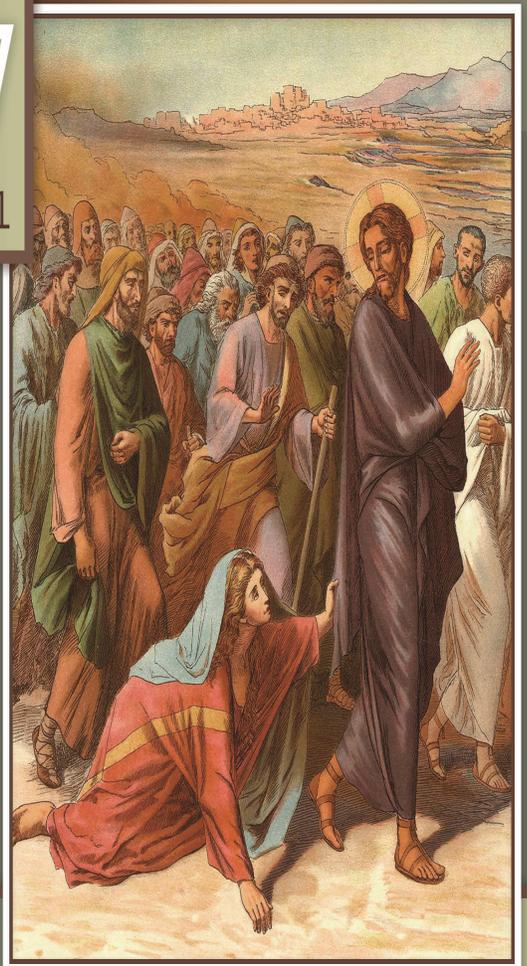
**Baptism:** Celebrated monthly. Please contact the Parish Office during early months of pregnancy. Baptism preparation is required.

**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.

June  
27  
2021

THIRTEENTH SUNDAY  
IN ORDINARY TIME



Jesus said to the woman,  
"Daughter, your faith has saved you.  
Go in peace and be cured of your affliction."

Mark 5:34

## Scriptures for the Week

**Monday:** Gn 18:16-33; Ps 103:1b-4, 8-11; Mt 8:18-22

**Tuesday:** Vigil: Acts 3:1-10; Ps 19:2-5; Gal 1:11-20;

Jn 21:15-19

Day: Acts 12:1-11; Ps 34:2-9;

2 Tm 4:6-8, 17-18; Mt 16:13-19

**Wednesday:** Gn 21:5, 8-20a; Ps 34:7-8, 10-13;

Mt 8:28-34

**Thursday:** Gn 22:1b-19; Ps 115:1-6, 8-9; Mt 9:1-8

**Friday:** Gn 23:1-4, 19; 24:1-8, 62-67; Ps 106:1b-5;

Mt 9:9-13

**Saturday:** Eph 2:19-22; Ps 117:1bc-2; Jn 20:24-29

**Sunday:** Ez 2:2-5; Ps 123:1-4; 2 Cor 12:7-10;

Mk 6:1-6a

## Baptisms

*We welcome to our Parish Community:*

Abby Katherine Rockforte, child of Bannon Joseph Rockforte & Chelsea Gaudet Rockforte.

## Your Stewardship

**Collections**           \$ 11,878.00

## 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

Leslie Aguillard, 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 Marionneaux, 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

**06/30 VBS Registration Ends.**

## Singing Praises To God ICC Choir

ICC Choir practice will begin **Wednesday, July 7th**, at **6pm** in the **Music Room**, located in the hall.

If you are interested in contributing your gifts and talents to this ministry, please join us. Being a part of the choir is such a rewarding and fulfilling experience. Singing is PRAYER!

**Need More Information?**

**Contact:** Jody Doucet, ICC Music Director at 324-5831

## VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL 2021 *SonTreasure Island VBS*

There's treasure on this island. More precious than gold, more lasting than diamonds, it's the greatest treasure of all -The island where kid's discover GOD'S LOVE!

**Date:** July 12-16

**Time:** 9:00am - Noon

**Ages:** Children must be 4 years old by Dec. 31st through entering 4th grade

**Registration Fee:** \$25.00

Must be **pre-registered** before **June 30, 2021**

**\*Limited space available\***

Registration & student volunteer forms are available in back of church and can be dropped in mail slot of Office of Christian Formation behind church.

For more information or to volunteer, please contact **Skye Johnston** at **627-5819**.

## From The Pastor's Desk

In Christ,

In both the gospels of Matthew and Luke Jesus gives us a teaching that rests on some practical knowledge about building construction. He teaches that a person who goes to him, listens to his words, and acts on them is like "a person building a house, who dug deeply and laid the foundation on rock; when the flood came, the river burst against that house but could not shake it because it had been well built." Conversely, he says, "the one who listens and does not act is like a person who built a house on the ground without a foundation." That second house

doesn't stand a chance against the flood (Lk 6:47-49; cf. Mt 7: 24-27). We could apply this analogous teaching of our Lord's to more than just individual disciples or non-disciples of Jesus. It could be applied to couples, families, nations, and even whole civilizations. A society standing on the firm foundation of Christ has a better shot at withstanding adversity.

We live in Western Civilization. We are inheritors of this civilization that can be said to have its founding with the fall of the Roman Empire in the 4<sup>th</sup> century, and the building up of Christendom throughout the western world, with the pinnacle being the Renaissance which started in the 15<sup>th</sup> century. This civilization was built on foundations of Catholic Christian theology that makes liberal use of Greek philosophy. Anything and everything significant with lasting effect that happened in that millennium happened in a heavily Catholic atmosphere. Even without realizing it, most of the major principles defining our civilization today are developments of this Catholic Christian Greco-Roman ethos. This is the firm foundation on which Western Civilization is built on. It was sturdy enough to withstand the challenges of all types of catastrophes without major change to the nature of the civilization: natural disasters, climate changes, plagues, foreign adversaries, political and social turmoil, etc. The principles which stand like columns on that firm foundation still stood into our very lifetime. Principles and ideas like family life, sexual ("gender") roles, human dignity, liberty, political theory, law, morality, economics, and more. All of these things developed in and are built on a foundation of over one thousand years of Judeo-Christian Catholic thinking in the western world.

Even in the United States where the founders established a secular, nonsectarian government, there is perhaps unrealized inspiration from inherited philosophy from Greek, Roman, and Catholic thinking. Consider, for instance, these words written by a bishop, cardinal and doctor of the Church, St. Robert Bellarmine, nearly 200 years before Thomas Jefferson lived: "All men are equal, not in wisdom or grace, but in the essence and nature of mankind". On political power Bellarmine wrote, "Political power emanates from God. Government was introduced by divine law, but the divine law has given this power to no particular man." He goes on, "Society must have power to protect and preserve itself. It depends upon the consent of the multitude to constitute over itself a king, consul, or other magistrate. For legitimate reasons the people can change the government to an aristocracy or a democracy or vice versa." The Declaration of Independence did not originate in a vacuum – it is the inheritor of a long tradition of Greco-Roman and Judeo-Christian thought.

The notion that ideas like liberty, democracy, self-governance, equality, private property, and inalienable rights are novel to the modern era or original to the United States is not only a false idea, but a dangerous one.

It is dangerous to forget that these principles, and so many others that are important to the health of a society, rely on a foundation that is dug deep and of rock. They cannot stand on their own power. The further our civilization falls away from the foundation of authentic Christianity and sound thinking, the less secure are the principles which define our civilization. Sadly, now more than ever, it seems the pillars are beginning to buckle under the pressure of the world. It is becoming common for young people to reject the most basic principles of western civilization, including even the definition of man and woman, what dignified human behavior is, and the right to private property.

This is why, as we prepare to celebrate Independence Day next weekend, we should consider how we cannot take for granted the pillars of our civilization. There is a severe need to tend to the maintenance of the foundation on which it stands: our faith life, authentic and traditional Catholicism, discipleship of Jesus Christ, and fluency in classic Western thought. The young people in our lives cannot be expected to merely uphold all the good ideas and principle that once defined Western Civilization and this country if they do not have the firm foundation of Christ and his Church in their minds and hearts. If we optimistically just raise young people to "be good people", to uphold values that are important to us, but they do not have a thorough understanding of scripture, of the teachings of Jesus Christ and the Church, knowledge of classical western wisdom, and sound logical thinking skills, then they will not only fail to be good people and uphold our values; they will fail to uphold our civilization. We are already seeing the perilous results of this naïve approach of raising "good people" separated from the Christian wisdom of ages past.

Even the Founding Fathers of the U.S. understood what they built could only work if the people maintained a basic Christian foundation. In his 1796 farewell address before the end of his second term, President George Washington warned, "Whatever may be conceded to the influence of refined education on minds of peculiar structure, reason and experience both forbid us to expect that national morality can prevail in exclusion of religious principle." And John Adams, our second president, a legal expert and co-constructor of the *Declaration of Independence* and the *Constitution*, said in a 1798 address, "Our Constitution was made only for a moral and religious people. It is wholly inadequate to the government of any other."

May God bless our nation and civilization, and may he give us the wisdom to maintain the foundation on which all we hold dear stands.

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.