



IMMACULATE CONCEPTION CATHOLIC CHURCH

P.O. Box 158, LAKE LAND, LA 70752

PARISH OFFICE: 627-5124 | RELIGIOUS EDUCATION OFFICE: 627-5819

IMMACULATECONCEPTIONLAKELAND.COM

STAFF

Pastor: Rev. C. Todd Lloyd

Deacon: Bob McDonner

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, and 11:00 AM

Daily Masses: Tues. 6:00 PM & Wed.-Sat. 8:00 AM

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

Reconciliation: Tues. 5:30 PM & Sat. 3:00 PM

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

The Ascension of the Lord

*Men of Galilee,
why are you
standing there
looking at the sky?*

Acts 1:11



June 2, 2019

Scriptures for the Week

Monday: Acts 19:1-8; Ps 68:2-3ab, 4-5acd, 6-7ab;
Jn 16:29-33
Tuesday: Acts 20:17-27; Ps 68:10-11, 20-21;
Jn 17:1-11a
Wednesday: Acts 20:28-38; Ps 68:29-30, 33-36ab;
Jn 17:11b-19
Thursday: Acts 22:30; 23:6-11; Ps 16:1-2a, 5, 7-11;
Jn 17:20-26
Friday: Acts 25:13b-21; Ps 103:1-2, 11-12, 19-
20ab; Jn 21:15-19
Saturday: Acts 28:16-20, 30-31; Ps 11:4, 5, 7;
Jn 21:20-25
Sunday: Vigil: Gn 11:1-9 or Ex 19:3-8a, 16-20b
or Ez 37:1-14 or Jl 3:1-5; Ps 104:1-2, 24,
35, 27-30; Rom 8:22-27; Jn 7:37-39
Day: Acts 2:1-11; Ps 104:1, 24, 29-31; 34;
1 Cor 12:3b-7, 12-13 or Rom 8:8-17;
Jn 20:19-23 or Jn 14:15-16, 23b-26

Your Stewardship

Collections	\$ 10,517.50
Building Fund	\$ 540.00

Prayer Requests

Trevor Allement, Janelle Amond, Barbara Andre, Joyce Aucoin, Herbert Brown, Inez Bueche, Kyle Cabalero, Sadie Collins, John David, Ronald Decuir, Landon Dickinson, Shannan Everett, Deborah Fountain, Veronica Fusulier, Robert Geier, Jr., Garrett Grafia, Alfred Gremillion, Debbie Gremillion, Lyndon Lynn Hernandez, Earl Jarreau, Sr., Laura Jarreau, Lillie Betty Jarreau, Reid LaComb, Kay Lee, Larry Lee, Troy Manier, Doug Matte, Pam Melon, Gail Metz, Sheldon Moses, Linda Olinde, Corey Patin, Dotti Purpera, Hank Ryan, Lou Sherman, Sonny Trabeaux.

BLESS OUR TROOPS

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; Major Jordan Morris; Lieutenant Stephen Burleigh, Jr.; MT2 Jacob Lamotte; Sgt. Greg Silva, Army; Jules Craig Cifreo Air Force.; Samuel Edward Guidroz, Navy; Quinton T. Gaspard, P.F.C., Army.

This Week at I.C.C.

06/4 KC Meeting.

Flowers

Flowers on the altar this weekend are kindly donated by the Armato Family in loving memory of John & Milred Murray, JP & Leona Leonard and Lillian Armato.

BAPTISMS

We welcome to our Parish Community:

David Beau Douglas, child of Kevin Patrick Douglas & Maranda Pourciau Douglas.

Sympathy

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

Family of Rogers Decuir.

Family of Michael Wood.

Come and See On Saturday, June 15, 2019

The Franciscan Missionaries of Our Lady invite single women aged 15 and over to visit us. We are eager to answer questions you may have about the Franciscan Sisters, help you explore your vocation as a person who is single, married or considering a closer relationship with us through our Lay Associate Program or Consecrated Life.

9:00 am - 2:30 pm

Corcoran Conference Center • 4200 Essen Lane, Baton Rouge, La.

Mass • Encounters with Our Vocation Team Adoration • Lunch • Convent Tour • Other Activities

There is no cost for the day, but anyone interested is asked to contact **Sr. Margarida Vasques** in advance. Deadline is **June 10**.

margarida.vasques@famolhs.org • (225) 922-7443 or (225) 765-8068

From The Pastor's Desk

In Christ,

Anyone who has been around young people has probably noticed something: their eyes are always fixed on a small screen in their hand. It is not only young people, either. But many people of all ages are fixated on their smart phones. I am guilty of it myself. Our technology, as useful and helpful as it is, has become a big distraction. It is a challenge to the attention span for many. It is hard to sit through a dinner, a talk, Mass, prayer, a movie, or anything else that requires our attention, without being distracted by either someone else's smart phone, or the temptation to look at our own. "It buzzed...or did it buzz? I have to check. I might have missed something!" Sometimes it isn't the concern of missing something, but just the mere temptation to be looking at something that delights or entertains or informs. This persistent temptation to be distracted has affected many people's ability to focus and give attention to anything for very long.

This Sunday is the Ascension of the Lord. This feast challenges us to give our undivided attention to something. The Ascension reminds us that there is a heaven, that Christ has raised himself there, and that we are being drawn to Him. At the Ascension, like the disciples in the Acts of the Apostles, we should raise our eyes to heaven. There our Lord reigns over His Church, and that is where we want to go. It is the object and goal of our whole lives. But, like in everything, we often become distracted. It is not necessarily intentional. Most people, Christians, are not purposefully turning their attention away from heaven to earthly things, any more than when we do that with our smart phones. And yet, intentional or not, it is still wrong.

I recently read an article that speaks about the virtue of solicitude. Solicitude means care or concern for someone or something. Its opposite, a vice, is negligence. St. Thomas Aquinas says that negligence is a sin. Solicitude presumes a responsibility. To fail to give due attention to one's responsibilities is sinful. And depending on how serious, it could be a mortal sin, the saint says. Naturally, if we are negligent of something pertaining to our salvation, it is a mortal sin.

It is often thought that our separation from God in heaven requires intentionality. That one has to intend and choose to be separated from him. This belief disregards the virtue of solicitude. We must

intend to go to heaven. It is hell, not heaven, that one can accidentally fall into. No one goes to heaven by accident. There is a quote accredited to the 12th century saint, Bernard of Clairvaux: "Hell is full of good wishes or desires." The author of that article I read points out that Jesus insisted on solicitude: "Watch therefore: for ye know not what hour your Lord doth come." (Mt 24:42) "To watch," Pope St Gregory comments, "is to cast away the darkness of sloth and negligence."

Immediately after this verse the Lord gives three parables that warn against negligence. The foolish virgins don't deliberately reject the bridegroom, but still fail to get into the wedding banquet because they were negligent. The man who buried his talent neglected to make money with it and was punished. And the goats, who are not mentioned to have deliberately harmed anyone or reject the Lord, but are still damned because of their negligence of the hungry, thirsty, sick, etc.

We all know that in other areas of life, negligence is a serious offence. Doctors and lawyers can lose their practice and be charged with a crime for neglect. It doesn't require intentional wrong doing. Why should it be any different for something more important – eternal life?

Ascension serves as a moment to ask ourselves if we are distracted, and not paying attention to what is our responsibility. Are we being negligent of our Lord's life in heaven and his requirements for us on earth? Are we practicing solicitude – intentional care and concern for Christ and heaven? While it may merely be rude to carelessly look at the smart phone during dinner, it could be a matter of eternal life and death to be distracted by the world, and fail to keep our focus on Christ in heaven.

Totus Tuus,
Fr. Todd Lloyd

