



# 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

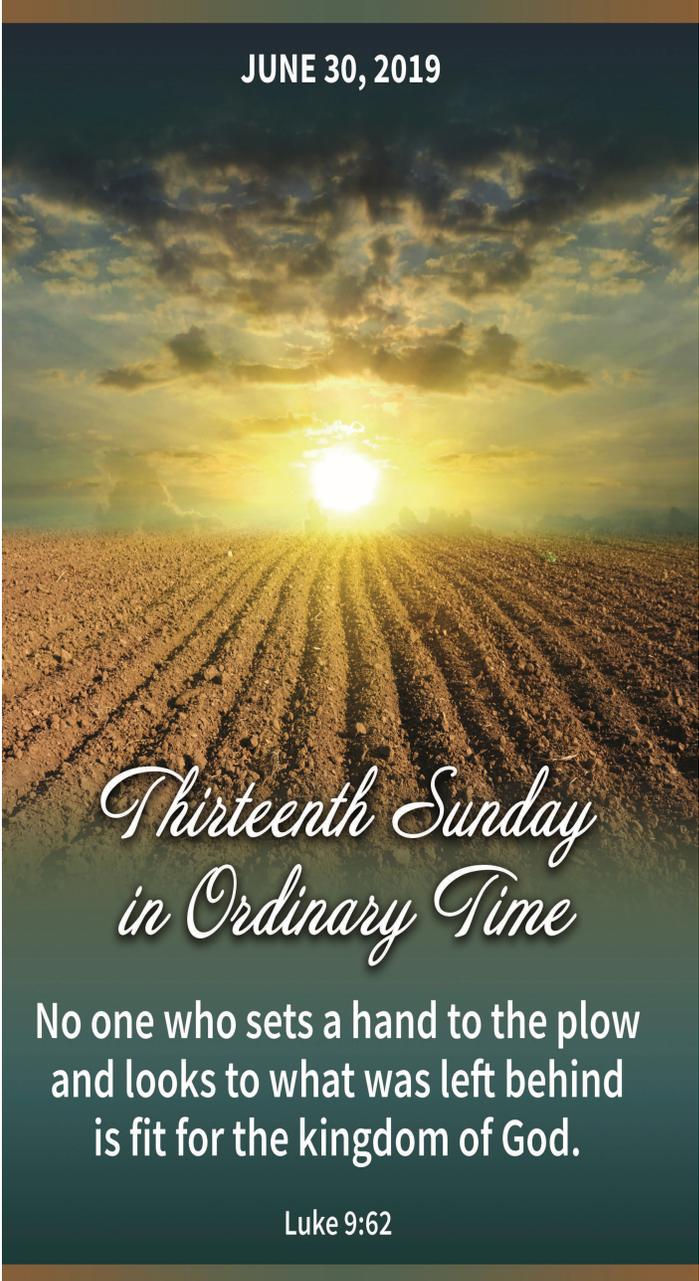
**Care of the Sick:** For emergencies please call immediately. Eucharist is brought to the sick weekly. Families of those who are sick are encouraged to notify the Parish Office as soon as possible.

**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.

JUNE 30, 2019



*Thirteenth Sunday  
in Ordinary Time*

No one who sets a hand to the plow  
and looks to what was left behind  
is fit for the kingdom of God.

Luke 9:62

## Scriptures for the Week

Monday: Gn 18:16-33; Ps 103:1b-4, 8-11; Mt 8:18-22  
Tuesday: Gn 19:15-29; Ps 26:2-3, 9-12; Mt 8:23-27  
Wednesday: Eph 2:19-22; Ps 117:1bc-2; Jn 20:24-29  
Thursday: Gn 22:1b-19; Ps 115:1-6, 8-9; Mt 9:1-8; or,  
for Independence Day, any readings from  
the Mass “For the Country or a City,”  
nos. 882-886, or “For Peace and Justice,”  
nos. 887-891  
Friday: Gn 23:1-4, 19; 24:1-8, 62-67; Ps 106:1b-5;  
Mt 9:9-13  
Saturday: Gn 27:1-5, 15-29; Ps 135:1b-6; Mt 9:14-17  
Sunday: Is 66:10-14c; Ps 66:1-7, 16, 20;  
Gal 6:14-18; Lk 10:1-12, 17-20 [10:1-9]

## Your Stewardship

Collections \$ 7,895.00

## Prayer Requests

Trevor Allement, Janelle Amond, Barbara Andre, Joyce Aucoin, Numa 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, 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, Hunter Schurba, Lou Sherman, Sonny Trabeaux.

## God 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.

- 07/02 KC Meeting.**  
**07/04 Happy 4th of July.  
Parish Office Closed.**  
**07/05 Parish Office Re-Opens.**

## Congratulations

To **James L. Lazare, Jr. & Yvonne W. McLin** who were married here on June 22, 2019.

## Sympathy

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

Family of Josefa Maria Mendez Torres.

Family of James Dudley Major, Jr.

## From The Pastor's Desk

In Christ,

This coming Thursday is the 4<sup>th</sup> of July, our Independence Day. Christians ought to love the nation they live in, and 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.

What is Americanism? At the core of our nation's founding philosophy is the idea that people are capable of governing themselves, and that the government's role is to defend the liberty of citizens to pursue the good. 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.” But knowing the source of this human dignity and freedom is important for both preserving it and using it well.

Sheen asks, “Where find the basis for the

right of a man to be his own master, captain of his own soul, free in his right to pursue his ultimate end with a free conscience?" He says the Founding Fathers found their answer: "They 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. The more common lukewarm faith or unbelief 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."

But 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 what that freedom is for. For example, the state affords certain people the right (license) to drive, but with that right comes certain requirements about *how* to drive.

Because we believe that our unalienable freedoms comes from God, that dictates that freedom is

given so that we might freely keep 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. If individuals or the population of the nation do not believe in God, then not only is that a threat to the freedom they enjoy, but it is also a treat to good use of that freedom. The Founding Fathers understood well that the state for which they were forming a government required a people who would use the liberty given to them for good and moral purposes – and not merely to do as they please, without any consideration of *who* afforded them that liberty.

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."

Thus, faith is not merely a private issue, but 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 said in his conclusion, "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

## Happy 4th of July!

From Fr. Todd and the staff  
at Immaculate Conception  
Church.