



# 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  
**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.

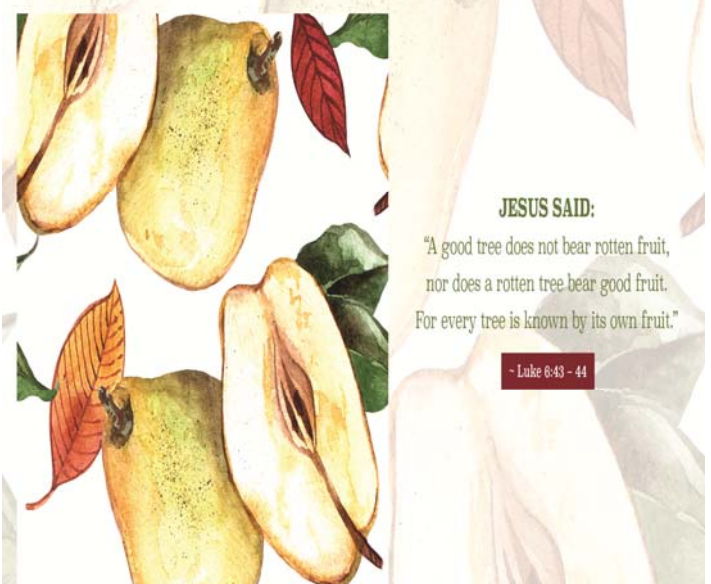
**Reconciliation:** Tues. 5:30 PM & Sat. 3:00 PM

**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.

MARCH 3, 2019

EIGHTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



## TODAY'S READINGS

**First Reading** — One's speech shows the bent of one's mind. Praise no one before he or she speaks (Sirach 27:4-7).

**Psalm** — Lord, it is good to give thanks to you (Psalm 92).

**Second Reading** — We are given victory over death through Jesus. In the Lord our labor is not in vain (1 Corinthians 15:54-59).

**Gospel** — A good person produces good, an evil person produces evil. The mouth speaks from the goodness of the heart (Luke 6:39-45).

## Scriptures for the Week

Monday: Sir 17:20-24; Ps 32:1-2, 5-7; Mk 10:17-27  
Tuesday: Sir 35:1-12; Ps 50:5-8, 14, 23; Mk 10:28-31  
Wednesday: Jl 2:12-18; Ps 51:3-6ab, 12-14, 17; 2 Cor 5:20 — 6:2; Mt 6:1-6, 16-18  
Thursday: Dt 30:15-20; Ps 1:1-4, 6; Lk 9:22-25  
Friday: Is 58:1-9a; Ps 51:3-6ab, 18-19; Mt 9:14-15  
Saturday: Is 58:9b-14; Ps 86:1-6; Lk 5:27-32  
Sunday: Dt 26:4-10; Ps 91:1-2, 10-15; Rom 10:8-13; Lk 4:1-13

## Your Stewardship

Collection \$ 8,489.51

## Sick List

Barbara Andre, Gary Aucoin, Joyce Aucoin, Edward Babin, Jr., Herbert Brown, Inez Bueche, Mable Collette, John David, Veronica Fusulier, Robert Geier, Jr., Garrett Grafia, Alfred Gremillion, Susie Gremillion, Deborah Fountain, Earl Jarreau, Sr., Laura Jarreau, Lillie Betty Jarreau, Reid LaComb, Kay Lee, Larry Lee, Kaci McCamy, Gail Metz, Linda Olinde, Landon Pickinson, Dottie Purpera, Horace Ransome, Lou Sherman, 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; Quinton T. Gaspard, P.F.C., Army.*

## This Week at I.C.C.

- 03/5 **Mardi Gras**  
Parish Office Closed.  
No Rel. Ed Class.
- 03/6 **Ash Wednesday**  
No Rel. Ed Class.
- 03/7 **KC'S Monthly Meeting.**

## Sympathy

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

*Family of Sarah Nell Stogner*

## ASH WEDNESDAY

## MASS TIMES

8am, 12pm & 6pm.

## ***SAVE TIME AND DONATE ONLINE***

Online Giving is now available for parishioners with WeShare, an easy and convenient way to save time and support the church. Donating is simple, safe, and completely secure.

With WeShare, you can set up a recurring weekly or monthly transaction using your checking, saving, or credit card account. You can decide how much to give to any collection and make changes any time, day or night. Plus, you can leave your checkbook at home on Sundays.

If you would like to enroll in Online Giving, please visit, <https://immaculateconceptionlakeland.weshare.org>. If you have any questions or concerns about the program or would like help setting up your account call our parish office 627-5124.

In Christ,

Happy Mardi Gras! Ever since I was a small child I have loved going to Mardi Gras parades, eating King Cake, and listening to the marching bands. I've come to love not only the south Louisiana cultural expression of this celebration, but the deeper meaning it has in relation to our prayer life.

As you likely know already, Mardi Gras ("Fat Tuesday") gets its name from the idea of eating all the sweets and more luscious foods before the fast of Lent starts on Ash Wednesday. In the Church the day was once commonly known as "Shrove Tuesday." The word *shrove* is the past tense of the English verb *shrive*, which means to obtain absolution for one's sins by way of Confession and doing penance. Both *Mardi Gras* and *Shrove Tuesday* emphasize what is about to happen, the beginning of the season of Lent.

Mardi Gras and Lent are so closely connected that if one does not know the connection, the meaning of Mardi Gras is lost. It becomes just another festival. Unfortunately that has happened for many people. But it is important for faithful Catholics and Protestants alike to know the connection and celebrate it properly. There is no sin in enjoying ourselves, taking part in the revelry, catching beads, and having good food. But if these things are done without purpose they *can* spiral into sinful behavior. I do not have to mention the types of gluttony and behavior that are linked to Mardi Gras today. This spiral happens when we forget that ultimately this festivity is in place so that we can prepare for something, not gorge senselessly.

What are we preparing for and what good does this type of prep do? As I mentioned already we are preparing for the season of Lent. On Wednesday Catholics around the world will receive their blessed ashes and be reminded of their mortality. It is through our mortality that Christ has brought us salvation when He entered into it Himself. We celebrate on Mardi Gras because we are still alive and have the God given freedom to enjoy the pleasures of life. On Wednesday we are also reminded that this freedom is not primarily for this pleasure, but for the ability to freely live lives united to the emptying out of Christ on the Cross. God wants us to live free from the slavery of sin: whether in the pleasures of Mardi Gras or the fasting of Lent.

Please join me in enjoying the festivities of Mardi Gras. Do so with every bit of joy you can. Remember that we are given a great gift from God to enjoy all the good things He has created, and this should be celebrated. But also remember that this

freedom of ours should be made holy through the disciplines of Lent. As a Church we abstain from meat on Fridays in order to recall that Christ offered His Flesh and Blood for our life, and our own flesh often leads us to sin. We should all embrace additional prayer, fasting, and almsgiving in the season of Lent.

Finally, when the festivities have concluded, please join us on Tuesday night as we pray the second Chaplet of Divine Mercy of our Novena. The confessional will be open at 5PM for Shrove Tuesday, and then we will celebrate Mass and offer the Chaplet for all priest and religious. Fr. Miles Walsh will join us to offer the Mass and preach.

On Ash Wednesday we will offer Mass at 8AM, 12, and 6PM, with the distribution of ashes at each. I will be hearing confessions before each Mass. Starting this Friday and on every Friday of Lent we will pray the Stations of the Cross at 6PM. Our daily Mass schedule will not change – Tuesday at 6PM and Wed–Sat at 8AM (Divine Mercy after Tuesday Mass and community Rosary after Saturday Mass) – nor will our adoration schedule change – Tuesday 5PM, Wed–Fri 7AM, Saturday 3PM, and Sunday 8:30AM and 10:30AM. Make the best of the Lenten season by committing yourself to join us for extra times of prayer.

Totus Tuus,  
Fr. Todd Lloyd

## **HIRING!!!**

### **Full-Time Maintenance Worker**

Immaculate Conception is currently accepting applications for a full-time maintenance worker. Applications may be picked up at the parish office along with a list of required duties and responsibilities. Benefits package includes: Health and Dental insurance, Life insurance, 401k as well as paid vacation and sick leave.

For more information, call the Business Manager, Patti Aguillard, at 225-627-5124.