



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: 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. 5:00 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.

I love you, O Lord, my strength.
O Lord, my rock,
my fortress, my deliverer.

Psalm 18:2-3

Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time

2020
25
October

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Scriptures for the Week

Monday: Eph 4:32 — 5:8; Ps 1:1-4, 6; Lk 13:10-17

Tuesday: Eph 5:21-33; Ps 128:1-5; Lk 13:18-21

Wednesday: Eph 2:19-22; Ps 19:2-5; Lk 6:12-16

Thursday: Eph 6:10-20; Ps 144:1b, 2, 9-10;
Lk 13:31-35

Friday: Phil 1:1-11; Ps 111:1-6; Lk 14:1-6

Saturday: Phil 1:18b-26; Ps 42:2, 3, 5cdef;

Lk 14:1, 7-11

Sunday: Rv 7:2-4, 9-14; Ps 24:1-6; 1 Jn 3:1-3;

Mt 5:1-12a

Thanksgiving Food Bank

The ICC Food Bank is busy making preparations for Thanksgiving. Each year, we do our best to supply the Food Bank participants with a special Thanksgiving box, which includes a turkey. If you would like to help by making a monetary donation, please contact **Kris Chustz** at **(225) 620-7507**.

Your Stewardship

Collections \$ 6,570.84

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

Aguillard Family, Leslie Aguillard, Shaunda Allement, Trevor Allement, Tim Amond, Gary Bello, Shirley Blauvelt, Kyle Cabalero, Linda Cheek, Brittany Collins, Lee Joseph Comeaux, Brittany Costello, Jean David, Brilynn Davis, Ronald Decuir, Wanda Decuir, Malachi Engen, Shannan Everett, Deborah Fountain, Robert Geier, Jr., Alfred Gremillion, Joe Guarino, Pamela Vicknair Harrington, Lyndon Lynn Hernandez, Earl Jarreau, Sr., Laura Jarreau, Sharon Jarreau, Tess Jarreau, Reid LaComb, Kevin LeBlanc, Kay Lee, Larry Lee, Janey Lively, Janice Marks, Doug Matte, Rob Melacon, Troy Menier, Gail Metz, Sheldon Moses, Linda Olinde, Christine Patin, Corey Patin, David Patin, John Gary Patin, Jr., Abigail Politz, Shelby Porche, Dotti Purpera, Michael Roche, Hank Ryan, Hunter Schurba, Lou Sherman, Anna Graves Smith, Timmy Smith, Sr., James Thames, Sonny Tra-beaux, Ainsley Wolf.

This Week at I.C.C.

10/25 Rel. Ed Class Grade 11th
@ 9:30am.

10/27 Rel. Ed Class Grade 2nd
@ 5pm.

10/31 Happy Halloween!
Blessing of the Graves.

Congratulations

To **Brock Wayne Rockforte & Tyler Marie Laurent** who were married here on October 16, 2020.

Sympathy

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

Family of **Theodore Thomas Thibodeaux.**

Family of **Clyde Chustz.**

Family of **Shirley Nickens.**

Blessing of the Graves Saturday, October 31st

Morning mass will begin at **8am** at Chenal Cemetery (weather permitting). Blessing of the Graves at **9am**. Lakeland Cemetery immediately follows.

All Saints Day Sunday, November 1st

Masses

7am, 9am and 11am

From The Pastor's Desk

In Christ,

In the very first few years of the Church there was a controversy around the issue of non-Jewish converts to Christianity. It was debated whether they must follow the Mosaic laws. There was a school of thought amongst the more strict Jewish Christians that the non-Jewish Christians needed to be circumcised and follow the Jewish laws regarding diet and other things. In the *Acts of the Apostles* chapter 15 we see an important event in Church history where the apostles and other early Church leaders gather to discuss and ultimately decide on this issue. This event is referred to as the Council of Jerusalem. After debate and discussion the council, led by St.

Peter and supported by St. James, determined that there is no requirement for new Christians to be circumcised or follow all of the Mosaic laws. They declared that a letter with their decision be drafted and sent out to all the churches. In that letter they state that the decision is “of the Holy Spirit and of us”. The apostles had in mind what Jesus had promised them; that when they gather together, anything they agree upon is binding, and that the Holy Spirit would be with them always (cf. Matthew 16:19, 18:18; John 14: 17, 26; Luke 10:16).

Scripture, while exhaustive in what we need for salvation, does not explicitly cover every single question and issue that might arise in the moral and faith life of the Church. As Catholics we believe that the apostles and their successors are empowered by Jesus through the Holy Spirit to lead and teach the Church. This is never more important than when issues arise which have not been authoritatively and explicitly addressed, such as the one which the Council of Jerusalem had to decide on. There have been other important issues since then.

Imitating that scriptural example of the early Church, the bishops of the Church have gathered for what we call Ecumenical Councils. For a council to be “ecumenical” it must be open to bishops from throughout the whole world, in union with the Pope. Like in the proto-council of Jerusalem, the bishops, or their representatives, prayerfully discuss and debate on the matter at hand, and eventually conclude by publishing their final thoughts, decisions, and declarations. Of course, the Pope has to give his approval of any of those conclusions.

So far there have been a total of twenty-one ecumenical councils in the history of the Church. While any ecumenical council is important by the nature of what it is, they are not all equally important based on what they teach. Some are more specific to issues of a time and place, where as others define timeless and universal articles of faith. There have been councils that declared the Church’s faith on issues such as the Divinity of Jesus, the Divine nature of the Holy Trinity, the necessity of grace for salvation, the canon of the Bible, the effects of the sacraments, the role of the papacy as Successor of Peter, and much more. Some councils also addressed important issues of discipline and Church law, such as the responsibilities of priests and bishops. And most of the councils denounce specific heresies by explicitly naming them, declaring their proponents excommunicated (*anathema sit*), and declaring what is obliged beliefs for Catholics.

Today we most often hear about the Second Vatican Ecumenical Council because it was most recent and *seems* to have the biggest impact on our lives. Vatican II is described as a “pastoral council” meant to address how the Church professes and teaches the gospel in the modern world rather than addressing a specific dilemma or controversy in faith or morals. St. Pope John XXIII said at the opening of Vatican II that the point of the council was not to address “one article or another of the funda-

mental doctrine of the Church ... which is presumed to be well known and familiar to all.” Instead of focusing on *what* the doctrine of the Church is, he said, the council needed to focus on how it is presented, with “everything being measured in the forms and proportions of a magisterium which is predominantly pastoral in character.” It is important to understand that Vatican II is not meant to change the teaching of the Church, but to preserve it by teaching it anew.

Unfortunately many people tend to think of Vatican II in revolutionary terms, as if it set the Church free from her past identity. The trend to overemphasize Vatican II in this way does damage to the integrity of all the other councils that precede it, and undermines the real intention of Vatican II. In regards to actual content, the Second Vatican Council is not as important as other councils. Its place in the history of the Church can only be properly understood in light of all the councils before it because its very purpose was to teach the faith of those historical councils to the modern world. As John XXIII said, the council presumes that fundamental Church doctrine is already known.

Over 50 years later, we cannot have that optimistic presumption anymore. It is safe to say that most people, including most Catholics, do not know the doctrines of the Catholic Church very well. Any person with a sincere desire to respect the Second Vatican Council cannot look to that council to form their faith and Catholic identity. Rather, Catholics should familiarize themselves with the faith, morality, and disciplines expressed by the Church councils before Vatican II. And by doing this, only then does the objective of the most recent council become possible.

“The Twenty-first Ecumenical Council, which will draw upon the effective and important wealth of juridical, liturgical, apostolic, and administrative experiences, wishes to transmit the doctrine, pure and integral, without any attenuation or distortion, which throughout twenty centuries, notwithstanding difficulties and contrasts, has become the common patrimony of men.” St. Pope John XXIII at opening of the Second Vatican Council

“The Church, both before and after the Council, was and is the same Church, one, holy, catholic and apostolic, journeying on through time; she continues ‘her pilgrimage amid the persecutions of the world and the consolations of God’, proclaiming the death of the Lord until he comes.” – Benedict XVI

Totus Tuus,
Fr. Todd Lloyd

Information Page

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Special Instructions: Until further notice, please send us only **250** printed bulletins. Thank you.