



IMMACULATE CONCEPTION CATHOLIC CHURCH

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

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

IMMACULATECONCEPTIONLAKE LAND.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.

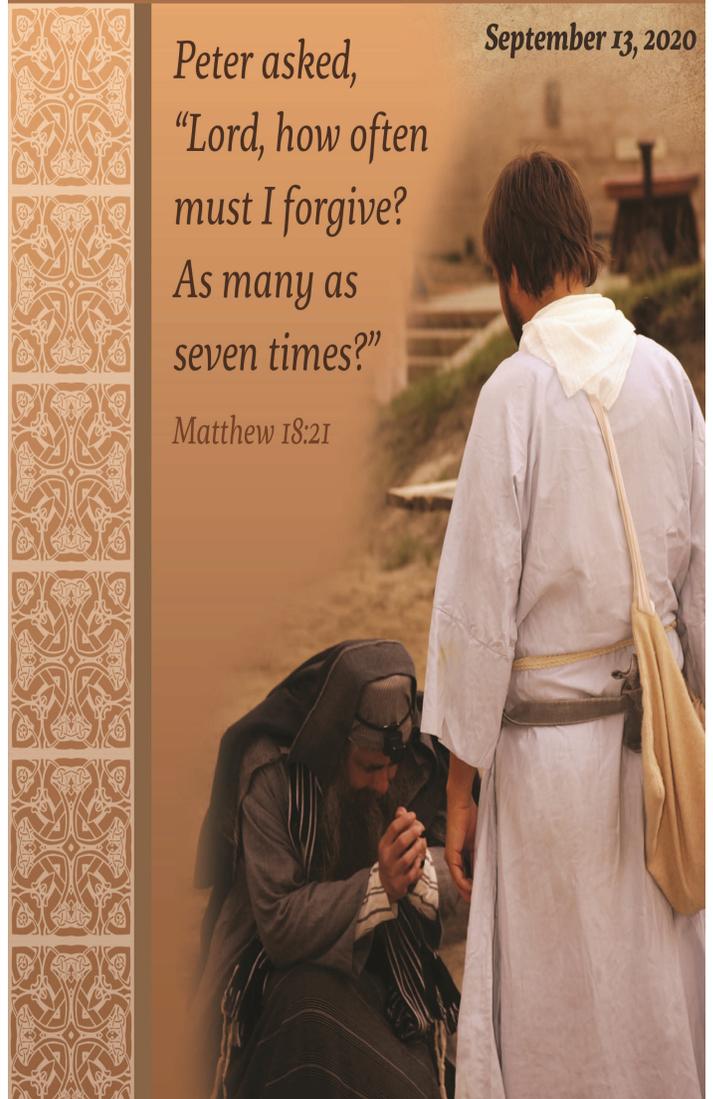
Baptism: Celebrated monthly. Please contact the Parish Office during early months of pregnancy. Baptism preparation is required.

Twenty-Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

September 13, 2020

Peter asked,
“Lord, how often
must I forgive?
As many as
seven times?”

Matthew 18:21



Scriptures for the Week

Monday: Nm 21:4b-9; Ps 78:1-2, 34-38; Phil 2:6-11; Jn 3:13-17

Tuesday: I Cor 12:12-14, 27-31a; Ps 100:1b-5; Jn 19:25-27 or Lk 2:33-35

Wednesday: I Cor 12:31 — 13:13; Ps 33:2-5, 12, 22; Lk 7:31-35

Thursday: I Cor 15:1-11; Ps 118:1b-2, 16ab-17, 28; Lk 7:36-50

Friday: I Cor 15:12-20; Ps 17:1bcd, 6-8b, 15; Lk 8:1-3

Saturday: I Cor 15:35-37, 42-49; Ps 56:10c-14; Lk 8:4-15

Sunday: Is 55:6-9; Ps 145:2-3, 8-9, 17-18; Phil 1:20c-24, 27a; Mt 20:1-16a

Sympathy

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

Family of **Mary Janelle Amond.**

Your Stewardship

Collections	\$	10,532.69
Building Fund	\$	1,180.00
Hurricane Relief Fund	\$	2,260.00

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.

Prayer Requests

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

This Week at I.C.C.

09/13 Happy Grandparents Day!
Rel. Ed Grade 11th
@ 9:30am.

09/15 PAL Meeting
@ 6pm Rm #2.

Flowers

Flowers on the altar this weekend were kindly donated by Drusilla Williams in loving memory of her mother, Girlie Samuel, birthday.

Request For Help

Each year there are a few of our families, who, for one reason or another, we ask for help with paying their religious education fees. Registration fees are \$25.00 per child, but of course any amount you can contribute would be greatly appreciated. If you can help, please drop donations off in the front door mail slot at the Office of Christian Formation. You may also mail donations to:

Office of Christian Formation
Attn. Mrs. Dina Tunstall.
P.O. Box 158, Lakeland, LA 70752.

Thank you in advance for your help and generosity.

From The Pastor's Desk

In Christ,

The corporal works of mercy are activities that Christians take on to physically care for those in need. They are an indication of our belief that humans are not merely spiritual creatures, but that we are also corporeal, bodily, beings. Our bodies are not merely vessels of our spiritual selves, but our bodies, along with our souls, are who we are. We are body and soul. The Lord Jesus has mandated that we should concern ourselves with the physical care of others (cf. Matthew 25:31-46), just as he did for the sick, deceased, hungry, and poor.

One of the corporal works of mercy is "bury the dead". This particular work of mercy most especially points to our beliefs about the sacredness of the human body as being more than a mere vessel. This practice of honoring and caring for the bodies of our deceased was something that set early Christians apart from the pagans. It became such a unique part of the Church's identity that the early Christians founded secret cemeteries in which they also gathered to worship and celebrate the Eucharist in the midst of the tombs. This practice has continued to our very day, as many churches have tombs under and inside of them, as well as burial places on the church grounds (such as in our parish).

As our culture becomes less Christian, there is confusion about what is proper practice in regards to the care for the dead, specifically in regards to cremation. Thankfully the Church has clear teaching on these matters. In fact very recently, in 2016, the Vatican released an instruction on the matter, *Ad resurgendum cum Christo*, “regarding the burial of the deceased and the conservation of the ashes in the case of cremation”.

Firstly, we are told that the practice of reverently burying the faithful departed must be preserved. The Code of Canon Law requires that members of the Church be given a church funeral. This places a requirement on both pastors (who are to see to it that funerals are offered for their parishioners), and for the next of kin (who should make the arrangements). The funeral for the deceased serves the purpose, first and foremost, of offering the Sacrifice of the Mass for the soul of the deceased, because we do not presume they are saints but are in need of God’s purifying mercy. Secondly, it honors their bodies, which was a temple of the Holy Spirit and will be raised again on the last day. And thirdly it should bring “solace of hope to the living.”

The document does explain that the Church, since 1963, has allowed for the bodies of the faithful to be cremated, but with some caveats. It is permissible “under the condition that this choice has not been made through ‘a denial of Christian dogmas, the animosity of a secret society, or hatred of the Catholic religion and the Church.’” Cremation because of beliefs contrary to Christianity is not acceptable. For instance, cremation should not be sought out of the belief that the body is no longer important, or that it will not be raised from the dead, or out of hatred for the body.

While cremation is permissible, except in cases where it is “chosen for reasons contrary to Christian doctrine”, the Church nonetheless still prefers “the practice of burying the bodies of the deceased, because this shows a greater esteem towards the deceased.” The Church’s instruction implies that, since it is not preferred, that cremation only be sought when there is some legitimate reason, such as economic or sanitary reasons.

This leads to the most important part of the instruction. As it becomes more and more common for people to choose cremation, the question of what should be done with the ashes must be addressed. This is a serious matter, as we are talking about the body of baptized Christians, redeemed by Christ, temples of the Holy Spirit, and members of the Body of Christ. The instruction is very clear, so I will just give the quotes:

“When, for legitimate motives, cremation of the body has been chosen, the ashes of the faithful must be laid to rest in a sacred place, that is, in a cemetery or, in certain cases, in a church or an area, which has been set aside for this purpose, and so dedicated by the competent ecclesial authority.”

“For the reasons given above, the conservation

of the ashes of the departed in a domestic residence is not permitted.”

“In order that every appearance of pantheism, naturalism or nihilism be avoided, it is not permitted to scatter the ashes of the faithful departed in the air, on land, at sea or in some other way, nor may they be preserved in mementos, pieces of jewelry or other objects. These courses of action cannot be legitimized by an appeal to the sanitary, social, or economic motives that may have occasioned the choice of cremation.”

“When the deceased notoriously has requested cremation and the scattering of their ashes for reasons contrary to the Christian faith, a Christian funeral must be denied to that person according to the norms of the law.”

There are few things more burdensome and sad than for a priest to deny someone a funeral. Unfortunately it does have to happen sometimes due to non-Christian plans that some have made.

Our practices should demonstrate our faith. We believe in the creative wisdom of God in making us in his image and likeness. We believe in the unity of body and soul to make up who we really are. We believe in redemption of our bodies by the sacrifice of Jesus Christ. We believe in our communion with the faithful departed. And we believe in the resurrection of the body. God’s power to save and raise from the dead is not limited by anything we do with the deceased body; but that does not mean we shouldn’t wish to honor the body of our deceased. Above every material thing in the universe – mountain ranges, animals, oceans, waterfalls, planets, the solar system, *everything* – the human body stands as the pinnacle of God’s creation. To dispose of it or fashion it for decoration or jewelry is unacceptable.

The Church who, as Mother, has accompanied the Christian during his earthly pilgrimage, offers to the Father, in Christ, the child of her grace, and she commits to the earth, in hope, the seed of the body that will rise in glory. – Ad resurgendum cum Christo, 3

Totus Tuus,
Fr. Todd Lloyd

Hurricane Laura Disaster Relief Diocese of Lake Charles

The Diocese of Baton Rouge is launching a diocesan level campaign to help support in recovery efforts of those who have been affected by Hurricane Laura.

Immaculate Conception will be accepting donations to help with this cause. If you would like to donate items, you may drop them off in Room #2 in the Activity Center. Please note that donations of food, clothing and personal items are **not** being accepted at this time.

Thank you for your generosity in helping those in need.

Information Page

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