

THIS WEEK IN BLACK HISTORY

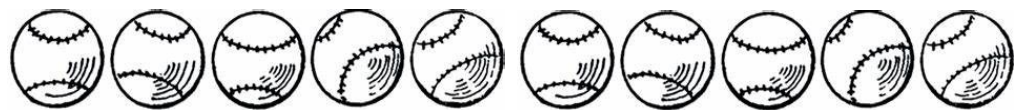
James “Cool Papa” Bell



James Cool Papa Bell was the fastest man ever to play baseball. His achievements, primarily in the Negro Leagues, earned his induction into the National Baseball Hall of Fame in Cooperstown, N.Y. in 1974. His Hall of Fame plaque reads in part, “Contemporaries rated him fastest man on the base paths.”

Born and raised in the Oktoc community of Starkville Mississippi. Bell left Starkville at the age of 19 and joined the St. Louis Stars. He began a career in professional baseball that would last nearly 30 years as a player and a coach. He was nicknamed “Cool Papa” by Stars manager Bill Gatewood, who was impressed by the youngster’s cool demeanor. Satchel Paige, a teammate with the Pittsburgh Crawfords from 1933 to 1936, said Bell, was so fast, he could turn out the light and jump in bed before it got dark.” James Bell is considered one of professional baseball’s foremost base stealers. In 1933, he was credited with 175 stolen bases in a 200-game season.

In 1937, the dictator of the Dominican Republic hired Cool Papa and other Negro League players for his traveling All-Star team. After hanging up his cleats, Cool Papa coached with the Kansas City Monarchs. He groomed players for major league baseball, influencing such greats as Jackie Robinson, Ernie Banks, and Lou Brock. He died in St. Louis in 1991 and was posthumously inducted into the Mississippi Sports Hall of Fame in 1995.



Because of baseball I smelled the rose of life. I wanted to travel, and to have nice clothes. Baseball allowed me to do all those things, and most important, during my time with the Crawfords, it allowed me to become a member of the brotherhood of friendship which will last forever. James “Cool Papa” Bell

Sacraments

RECONCILIATION (CONFESSION):

Saturdays 3:00 PM and by appointment.

BAPTISMS: To arrange and prepare for the celebration of Baptism, please call the Pastor to schedule an appointment. Baptisms are usually celebrated on Sunday afternoon.

FUNERAL: Please call the parish as soon as possible to make arrangements for the Mass of Christian Burial.

VISITING THE SICK: If you or a family member are sick or in the hospital, please call the parish so that a pastoral visit can be arranged. The Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick may be celebrated in the parish before hospitalization. Please call also to arrange for a Eucharistic minister to bring Communion to the sick. If you would like to request prayers for someone who is sick, please call the parish so that the name may be placed in the bulletin.

MARRIAGES: Preparation must begin at least six months prior to the wedding. Please make arrangements with the parish before scheduling the reception.

ANNULMENTS/CONVALIDATION: Please arrange a meeting with the Pastor to begin the process of celebrating your marriage in the Church.

NEW PARISHIONERS: Catholics who would like to be registered as parishioners of Immaculate Conception and receive stewardship envelopes should call the parish secretary or fill out a form in the vestibule of the church.

RCIA: Adults who desire to explore the possibility of becoming a member of the Catholic Church should contact the RCIA (Rite for the Christian Initiation of Adults) team. Preparation usually begins in September and Baptism or Reception is celebrated at the next Easter Vigil.

TUITION ASSISTANCE: Some financial aid for tuition assistance to Catholic schools is available to registered members of the parish. This is a one time grant of no more than \$1,000.00 to needy families to assist them during a time of financial crisis. Eligible families should write a letter to the Pastor who will evaluate the request with the Financial Advisory Committee.

To Whom Do We Go

Adult Formation: Lovenia Watson.....778-1977
Child Protection Coord: Andrea Toles.....(504)491-6556
Eucharistic Ministers: Beulah Decuir.....229-6076
Gospel Choir/Adult: Daphne Alex.....936-4051
Gospel Choir/Youth: Tara Winder428-5981
Hall Rental: Juliet Betts.....775-7067
Ministry Council/Chair: Georgia Jenkins.....775-5824
Pantry/Food and Vouchers:774-3661
Sacristan: Rogers Jackson, Jr.362-0907
Traditional Choir: Deadra James Mackie.....772-3401
Usher's Coordinator: Walter Ennis.....(504)427-6459

This Week's Prayer

Dear God, even Your wisest disciples needed strength to fortify their faith. I pray for the same strength, so that my faith in You may never waver. Increase my faith so that I may share it with others who may need to be shepherded back to You. Strengthen my faith, so that I may be ready to face any doubts that might block my path. Even with faith the size of a mustard seed, I know that anything is possible in Your name. I humbly ask this of you in Christ's glory, Amen.



19TH SUNDAY
IN ORDINARY TIME

Peter said to him in reply,
“Lord, if it is you, command
me to come to you on the
water.” He said, “Come.”
Peter got out of the boat
and began to walk on the
water toward Jesus.

- Mt 14:28-29



August 13, 2023

“Come,” he said. Then Peter got down out of the boat, walked on the water and came toward Jesus. But when he saw the wind, he was afraid and, beginning to sink, cried out, “Lord, save me!”
Matthew 14:29-30

The disciples, are not immediately comforted by seeing Jesus walking on the water. In fact, they are terrified, thinking that they are seeing a ghost. And so they cry out in fear. And that is exactly when the word “immediately” shows us again. The disciples cried out in fear, and immediately Jesus spoke to them and said, “Take heart, it is I; do not be afraid.”

There is an important teaching here about prayer. When life’s storms hit, we can cry out to the Lord in fear, and the Lord will immediately answer that prayer. Being afraid doesn’t mean that we don’t have faith. There is nothing wrong with being afraid. Our Lord wants to hear from us when we are afraid. Cry out in fear when life’s storm hits, but make it a prayer. Cry out to the Lord, and he will immediately answer your prayer. Take heart, Jesus says. It is I. Do not be afraid.

Immaculate Conception Catholic Church

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Web Site Address: www.immaculateconceptionbr.org

Immaculate Conception Church is a Black Catholic Church
serving the family of God and feeding the soul of the Community.

PASTOR: Father Thomas F. Clark, S.J.(225) 775-7067/(225) 773-2036

IN RESIDENCE: Father Fred Kammer, S.J.(225) 774-3241

SECRETARY: Juliet Betts(225) 775-7067

PARISH SCHOOL OF RELIGION:

COORDINATOR: Gloria DeRouen(225) 936-8162

ASSISTANT TO COORDINATOR: Kalli Gregory

RCIA COORDINATOR: Cathy Glover(225) 772-6099

MLK/SU CATHOLIC STUDENT CENTER:

Joyce Johnson - Wilfred Johnson(225) 775-8691



Mass Schedule

Saturday Vigil Mass: 4:00 PM

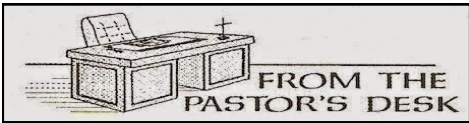
Sunday Mass: 8:00 AM and 10:30 AM

Weekday Masses:

Mon., Tues., Wed., Thurs., 12:10 PM

Holy Day Masses:

Vigil Mass: 7:00 PM and 12:10 PM



Father Thomas F. Clark, S. J.



BLESSING OF THE NEW SCHOOL YEAR



At the Masses this weekend, we will have a special blessing for all students, faculty, staff, and administrators as the new school year begins. All have been invited to bring backpacks, smart boards, rosters, and lesson planners as a symbol of the challenges that are before you. However, everyone is welcome to join in the blessing.

PLEASE BE AS GENEROUS AS YOU CAN TO THE OFFERTORY



We all have experienced the rise in prices of groceries, utilities, gasoline, and insurance. The church is feeling the same pressure. Our insurance costs have gone up, utilities, especially Entergy, have increased, and repairs are more and more costly. Father Clark is asking that, if you are able, can you consider increasing your regular contribution to the Offertory. Even if you increase it by \$5 or \$10 that will be a great help. If you are not able, we completely understand and whatever you are able to give is truly appreciated.

PARISH COUNCIL OF MINISTRIES DATE CHANGE



Because of our Provincial's visit to Grand Coteau and the holy day, the Parish Council of Ministries will meet on **THURSDAY, AUGUST 24, AT 6:30 PM.** All chairpersons of parish ministries and organizations should attend. You will be receiving minutes, agenda, and materials in the next week.



THE ASSUMPTION OF MARY-HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION

Tuesday, August 15, is the Feast of the Assumption of Mary, a holy day of obligation. Mass will be celebrated in the church at 12:10 PM and 7:00 PM.



MASS/CLASS OR CLASS/MASS

Father Clark is asking the cooperation of parents to make sure that your children are attending Mass on a regular basis. Please consider Mass and PSR class as one unit. Please do not bring your child to class only and skip Mass. If you must choose between Mass or class, please choose Mass. Set the example by attending Mass yourself and as a family. If you are traveling because of basketball or band or other activities, find a Mass to attend. There are Masses everywhere and at all different times. The Mass is where we meet Jesus in a special way. Don't make all other activities more important than Jesus!

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION - PARISH SCHOOL OF RELIGION (PSR) – 2023-2024

The first day of classes for PSR is on **Sunday, September 10, 2023**, in the Church's activity center from 9:00 A.M. to 10:15 A.M. Applications are available in the vestibule of the church after the 4:00 P.M. Vigil Mass on Saturdays, and after the 8:00 A.M. and 10:30 A.M. Masses on Sundays. The application can be completed at home and returned to a drop box available in the vestibule of the Church or complete the application online at **PSR Registration Application | 2023-24 | Immaculate Conception Catholic Church (immaculateconceptionbr.org)**. Registration fee for Pre-K/Kindergarten through eleventh grade is \$25 for one child or the first child of a family, and \$15 for each additional child of the same family. There is an additional \$10 fee for each child preparing to receive the Sacrament of First Holy Communion or Confirmation in Spring 2024. Instructions for payment of registration fees are on the application. For additional information, please contact Gloria DeRouen (225) 936-8162 or email g1930@att.net or contact the Church office at 225-775-7067. **THANK YOU**



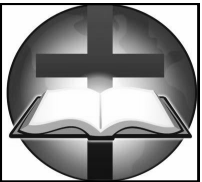
Happy Birthday

LATOYA	DIXON	8/13
CEDRIC	ROBILLARD	8/13
LAWRENCE	ST. AMANT	8/13
ANDRE	NEWTON, JR.	8/14
KAREN	OLISON	8/14
JOSEPH	RICHARD	8/14
PAULETTE	RIDEAU	8/14
JAMIE	WILLIAMS	8/14
BECKY	BELLANGER	8/15
LOGAN	DAUPHINE	8/15
GLINDA	LEWIS	8/15
REGINALD	MORRISON, III	8/15
LOIS	PRESTON	8/15
THAI	ALEX	8/16
MILES	DRUMMOND	8/16
PATRICK	JENKINS	8/16
ANITRA	KING	8/16
JARED	SAMPSON	8/16
LAWRENCE	WILLIAMS, SR.	8/16
LATOYA	DOTSON	8/17
ELOISE	JOHNSON	8/17
CYNTHIA	ST. AMANT	8/17
RONETTA	BERRY	8/18
LAWRENCE	WILLIAMS, JR.	8/18
TIA	CARTER	8/19
ORLANDO	CHAVIS	8/19
KYRIN	DOTSON	8/19
SHARNET	NIXON	8/19

DO YOU OR SOMEONE YOU KNOW WANT TO BECOME A CATHOLIC?



If you or someone you know want to become a Catholic, please have them call Cathy Glover (225-772-6099) or Father Clark (225-773-2036) to inquire about the Rite for the Christian Initiation of Adults. If a person has never been baptized, they will prepare to be baptized, confirmed, and receive the Eucharist usually at a celebration of the Easter Vigil. If they have been baptized in another Christian community, they will make a profession of faith, be confirmed, and receive the Eucharist at a Sunday Mass celebration. Are you curious? Have any questions? Want to explore your faith journey? Come and see!



Mass Readings

August 13th - August 20th

Sunday

I Kings 19:9a, 11-13a; Psalm 85; Rom 9:1-5
Gospel: Mt 14:22-33

Monday

Dt 10:12-22; Psalm 147
Gospel: Mt 17:22-27

Tuesday

Solemnity of The Assumption of The Blessed Virgin Mary

Rv 11:19A; 12:1-6A, 10AB; Psalm 45; 1 Cor 15:20-27
Gospel Lk 1:39-56

Wednesday

Dt 34:1-12; Psalm 66
Gospel: Mt 18:15-20

Thursday

Jos 3:7-10a, 11, 13-17; Psalm 114
Gospel: Mt 18:21-19:1

Friday

Jos 24:1-13; Psalm 136
Gospel: Mt 19:3-12

Saturday

Jos 24:14-29; Psalm 16
Gospel: Mt 19:13-15

Sunday

Is 56:1, 6-7; Psalm 67; Rom 11:13-15, 29-32
Gospel: Mt 15:21-28

DAILY MASS

RETURNING TO THE MLK CHAPEL



Our daily Mass (12:10 PM Mondays-Thursdays) will be returning to the chapel at the Martin Luther King Catholic Student Center on Monday, August 21. You may park in the new Alumni parking lot adjacent to the MLK property for the duration of the Mass. The SU Law Center has rented the parking lot for weekdays and the Athletic Department has rented it for weekends during football season. The Alumni Office has given MLK access to parking for events at MLK.

FOLLOW UP TO OUR MINISTRY FAIR



If you were part of the Ministry Fair and offered a ministry or signed up for a ministry, now is the time to make plans to activate that ministry. Gather interested people and set a date and a