



FEAST OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION



Saturday, December 8, is the feast of the Immaculate Conception of Mary, a holy day of obligation. Mass will be celebrated on Friday evening at 7:00 PM and on Saturday morning at 9:00 AM. As we celebrate our patronal feast, we remember the 65th Anniversary of the Dedication of our church on December 13.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT OF THE MLK CENTER



Our sincere thanks to all who participated in the #igivecatholic campaign on Giving Tuesday in support of the MLK Catholic Student Center. 28 donors raised \$2,330. MLK was in the top 10 groups of the diocese for money raised and number of donors. Thank you!

We were also very pleased by the turn out of students on the two Late Night Study nights on last Monday and Tuesday. We are grateful to our collaborator CSS Tutoring for partnering with us for this event.

TOLTON: FROM SLAVE TO PRIEST ON TUESDAY



On Tuesday, December 4, the Office for Black Catholics is hosting a production of the play: **Tolton: From Slave to Priest** at the Catholic Life Center at 7:00 PM. You may purchase tickets on line at www.eventbrite.com/e/tolton-from-slave-to-priest-tickets-52550292339 Let's support this important event and learn more about a future saint of the Church!

MEETINGS OF LECTORS AND EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS



There will be a meeting of all Lectors on this Thursday, December 6, at 6:30 PM in the Parish Activity Center. There will be a meeting of all Eucharistic Ministers on Tuesday, December 11 at 6:30 PM in the Parish Activity Center. These are mandatory meetings for all those who wish to continue in these ministries. Please make attendance a priority.

SOCK DRIVE FOR THE HOMELESS



Wanda Anderson and her grandson Kaiden are requesting new socks for the homeless in a drive sponsored by the EBR Parish Library and Parent Magazine. Donations may be dropped off in the box in the foyer of the church before December 21.

Blessings
COUNT THEM ONE BY ONE

Announcements and Upcoming Events

CHRISTMAS FOOD GIVE AWAY ON DECEMBER 18



On Tuesday, December 18, the Food Pantry will be giving away Christmas food assistance to those who have been receiving food assistance from our pantry during the year. If you would like to make a donation of money or food, please see Rogers Jackson. Be Blessed.

SPECIAL ADVENT BIBLE STUDY



BIBLE STUDY

On Mondays, December 3, 10, and 17, we will have a special edition of the Bible Study in which we look at the readings for the coming Sunday, place them into context in their book in the Bible and reflect on them in the light of the Advent season and the coming celebration of the birth of Jesus. Make your participation in the Sundays of Advent more meaningful by preparing to hear the readings a week in advance. Everyone is welcome. Bible Study takes place in the Ministry Building.

THE GIVING TREE



GIVING TREE

The Giving Tree has been set up in the foyer of the church. Each ornament contains information about a person in need of a Christmas gift. Please take an ornament and return the gift (wrapped) with the ornament attached to the gift. All gifts must be returned by Sunday, December 16. This is truly the Christmas spirit, helping out this need.

THE SACRAMENT OF THE ANOINTING OF THE SICK



Anointing the sick

On Sunday, December 16, at 2:00 PM, we will have a communal celebration of the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick. Anyone who is experiencing illness or weakness at this time is invited to celebrate this sacrament of healing.

MUSIC FOR THE CHRISTMAS MASSES



The choirs invite you to join with them in singing at the Christmas Masses. The Knights Choir invites all men and women of the parish to join them for the 4:00 PM Vigil Mass on Christmas Eve. Practices will be held on Tuesdays and Thursdays at 6:00 PM in the church. For more information contact Gerald Berzat @ 225-276-4674.

The Traditional Choir invites all parishioners to sing with them at Midnight Mass at 12:00 AM on December 25. Practices will begin on Tuesday, November 20 at 7:00 PM. For more information, please contact Keith Thierry.

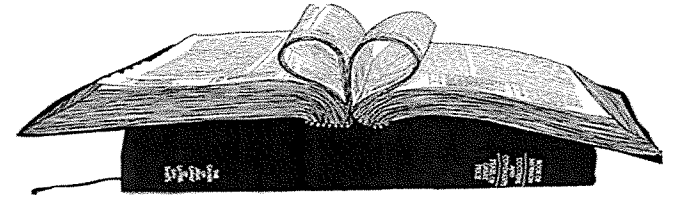
Happy Birthday

ELAINA	HARLEAUX	12/2
SHAWN	WALLACE	12/2
RITA	BARTHELEMY	12/2
TEDRICK	NIXON	12/3
JODI	SLAN	12/3
TRINITY	SMITH	12/3
LINDA	BANKS	12/4
NZINGA	BERRY	12/4
THOMAS	HIVES, JR.	12/4
CHRISTI	HODGE	12/4
PRISCILLA	BRADLEY	12/5
JAMES	BROWN	12/5
BRADLEY	DEROUEN, SR.	12/5
CHRISTOPHER	HUNT, JR.	12/5
JACQUELINE	MARSELLUS	12/5
ANTHONY	MORGAN, SR.	12/5
GENIEVA	RICHARD	12/5
GLORIA	THOMAS	12/5
MADISON	VITAL	12/5
HUNTER	WILLIAMS	12/5
NOEL	CHRISTY	12/6
VIOLA	FABRE	12/6
ANN	FENELON	12/6
PAT	HIVES	12/6
PAMELA	HONORE	12/6
REESE	JONES	12/6
STEPHANIE	PRICE	12/6
MICHAEL	WILSON	12/6
MARION	ELBERT	12/7
ANDREA	VANCE	12/7
MARY	WASHINGTON	12/7
THEA	BURCHELL	12/8
VIOLA	DARGIN	12/8
GLORIA	MEYERS	12/8

THANK YOU TO YOUTH THANKSGIVING VOLUNTEERS



Thank you to the youth of the Parish School of Religion (Grades 10 and 11) who volunteered on Monday and Tuesday, November 19-20 helping to prepare the Thanksgiving baskets for our Food Pantry. Thank you to Chandler Bias, Lia Broussard, Kalli Gregory, Makenzie Hawthorne, Landon Hunt, Layla Johnson, Ronald Johnson, Faith Patin, Triton Patin, Dajon Trudell, Aliyah Wilcox, Alexander Wilson. We appreciate your giving spirit!



Mass Readings

December 2nd - December 9th
First Sunday of Advent
Jer. 33:14-16; Psalm 25; 1 Thes. 3:12-4:2
Gospel: Luke 21:25-28, 34-36

Monday

Is 2:1-5; Psalm 122
Gospel: Matt. 8:5-11

Tuesday

Is 11:1-10; Psalm 72
Gospel: Luke 10:21-24

Wednesday

Is 25:6-10a; Psalm 23
Gospel: Matt. 15:29-37

Thursday

Is 26:1-6; Psalm 118
Gospel: Matt. 7:21, 24-27

Friday

Is 29:17-24; Psalm 27
Gospel: Matt. 9:27-31

Saturday

Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary

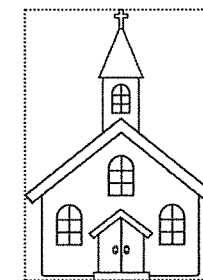
Gen. 3:9-15, 20; Psalm 98; Eph. 1:3-6, 11-12
Gospel: Luke 1:26-38

Second Sunday of Advent

Bar. 5:1-9; Psalm 126; Phil. 1:4-6, 8-11
Gospel: Luke 3:1-6

Forms for new parishioners or changes are located in the vestibule of the church.

GOOD NEWS ABOUT CHURCH RENOVATION



We are happy to report that our church renovation project has received all the necessary approvals from the diocese. The Liturgical, Building, and Financial Commissions have all approved our project and Bishop Duca has given his permission. Therefore, we will be putting the project out for bids during the month of December with construction beginning in January. We are tabulating the surveys and hope to make the best decision possible for the location of Mass during the renovation time. Please keep the success of this project in your prayers!

ADVENT

ADVENT: A TIME OF EXPECTANT HOPE

Waiting is a central theme during the Advent season. Mary's waiting in expectant joy and hope can guide us in our own waiting during Advent. Advent Week One: Waiting in expectant hope as Mary did, not only opens our hearts to welcome the Word made flesh at Christmas, it also allows us to recognize Emmanuel— God with us in our midst. An essential part of a grace-filled Advent is allowing God to come to us in the midst of our everyday experience. Are we able to wait and welcome God into our midst as Mary did? May we, like Mary, learn to wait in expectant hope for the coming of Jesus, our Savior, whose continued presence gives us reason to always live in hope.



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

To Whom Do We Go

Adult Formation: Lovenia Watson.....	778-1977
Child Protection Coord: Andrea Toles.....	(504)491-6556
Communication Coord: Andrea Toles.....	(504)491-6556
Eucharistic Ministers: Beulah Decuir.....	229-6076
Gospel Choir/Adult: Daphne Alex.....	936-4051
Gospel Choir/Youth: Tara Winder	428-5981
Hall Rental: Juliet Betts.....	775-7067
Lectors: Yvonne Jackson.....	362-0897
Ministry Council/Chair: Georgia Jenkins.....	775-5824
Ministry to the Sick: Gene Decuir.....	229-6076
Pantry/Food and Vouchers:	774-3661
Sacristan: Rogers Jackson, Jr.	362-0907
Traditional Choir: Lloyd Doucette, Jr.....	999-0090
Usher's Coordinator: Walter Ennis.....	775-7332

This Week's Prayer

Lord, please be my strength. When I am scared, please make me brave. When I am unsteady, please bring your stability to me. I look to your power for an escape from pain. I welcome your comfort. Amen.

