

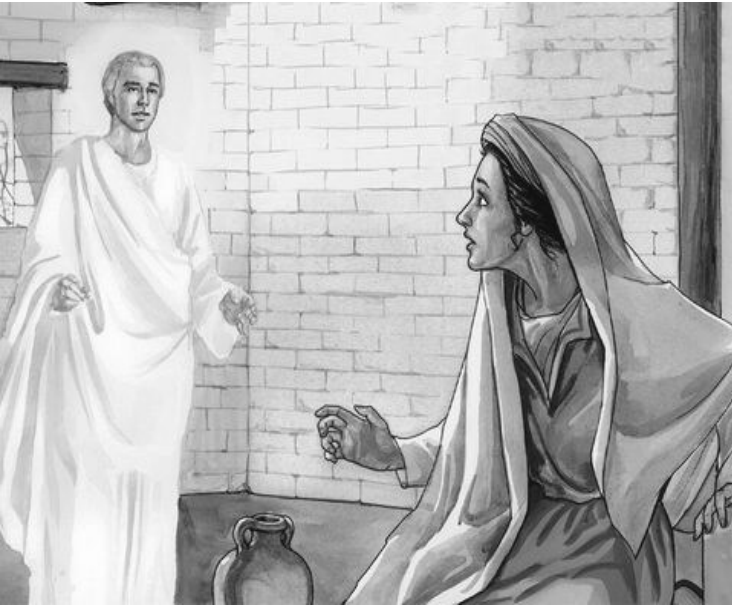
FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT



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 Heavenly Father, help me to hear your voice. Touch me once again. Give me the courage to be your beloved. Give me courage to choose joy. I need you now this Christmas. Be born in me again. Today. In Jesus' name, Amen.



For with God
nothing shall be
Believe impossible.
~Luke 1:37

December 24, 2023

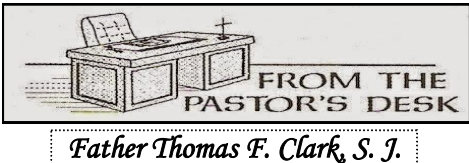
The angel Gabriel was sent from God to a town of Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin betrothed to a man named Joseph, of the house of David, and the virgin's name was Mary. And coming to her, he said, "Hail, favored one! The Lord is with you." But she was greatly troubled at what was said and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. Then the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. Behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall name him Jesus."
Luke 1:26-31

God could have chosen someone famous, someone important, or someone wealthy to bring his Son into the world. But he didn't. Instead, God chose an unknown young woman who was willing to be his servant. God knew Mary would be a wonderful mother for Jesus and that Joseph would be a good earthly father. God didn't care how famous or important Mary and Joseph were because God uses ordinary people. Not only did God choose ordinary people to be Jesus' parents on earth, but God also chooses ordinary people to be Jesus' spiritual brothers and sisters. That's right—Jesus was born on earth so that any ordinary person could become a child of God and have a relationship with him. Jesus loves ordinary me and ordinary you!

Immaculate Conception Catholic Church
1565 Curtis Street - Baton Rouge, LA 70807
Office Phone: (225) 775-7067 - Information: (225) 775-7062
Fax: (225) 775-0775 - Email: clarktf2002@yahoo.com
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: Stephanie Yearby(214) 881-5663
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: MLK Chapel
Mon., Tues., Wed., Thurs., 12:10 PM
Holy Day Masses:
Vigil Mass: 7:00 PM and 12:10 PM



MERRY CHRISTMAS TO ALL



We wish everyone a very merry and blessed Christmas. May the Lord who is born for us bless us all in the ways that we need to be blessed. To all those who are travelling, traveling mercies. May you reach your destination safely and return to us safely. We hope to see as many as possible at our Christmas Masses. May God bless us with good health, peace of mind, and freedom from worry.

DAILY MASS BETWEEN CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR



On Tuesday, December 26, there will be no Mass. On Wednesday and Thursday, Mass will be at 12:10 PM. at the MLK Center.

JESUIT NOVICES VISIT ON DECEMBER 31



The Jesuit Novices of the Central Southern Province of the Jesuits will visit us for Mass on Sunday morning, December 31, at 10:30 AM. Novices are young men who are beginning their religious life with two years of formation in prayer, ministry and understanding the Jesuit charism. Please come and welcome them to our parish.

MLK BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION



We will celebrate the Birthday of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. on Monday, January 15, with Mass at 9:00 AM followed by breakfast in the Parish Activity Center. Everyone is welcome. Please plan to join us as we commemorate this holiday in honor of Dr. King. At breakfast, we will listen to one of Dr. King's speeches.

BLACK HISTORY MONTH MASS ON FEBRUARY 4



Bishop Duca will celebrate a Mass at Saint Joseph Cathedral on Sunday, February 4, 2024, at 1:30 PM to commemorate Black History Month. The homilist will be Rev. Gregory C. Chisholm, SJ, the Rector of the Jesuit Community at Loyola College in Baltimore, MD. Please plan to attend this first celebration at the Cathedral for Black History Month.

REQUEST FROM OUR POLICE OFFICERS

Sargent Timothy Daigre and Officer Anthony Augustine, who provide security for us at our weekend Masses, request that no one park in the two parking spaces on the far west side of the parking lot nearest to Curtis Street. They need to park their vehicle in those spots so that they have the best vantage point of the parking lot and the doors of the church.

PARISH COUNCIL OF MINISTRIES

The Parish Council of Ministries will meet on Tuesday, January 16, 2024, at 6:30 PM in the Parish Activity Center. Father Clark asks that all chairs of parish ministries and organizations make it a priority to attend. All interested parishioners are welcome to attend. An agenda and minutes will be sent out in advance of the meeting.



CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE

Please take note of the Christmas Mass schedule as it is different from previous years.

DECEMBER 23-24: FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT: 4:00 PM (Saturday Vigil) and 9:00 AM Sunday morning. ONLY ONE MASS SUNDAY MORNING.

DECEMBER 24: CHRISTMAS EVE: 4:00 PM Christmas Vigil Mass, 8:00 PM Mass During the Night in Candlelight

DECEMBER 25: CHRISTMAS MORNING: 9:00 AM

DECEMBER 30-31: Regular weekend Mass schedule: 4 PM, 8 AM, 10:30 AM

DECEMBER 31: New Year's Eve: Vigil Mass at 4:00 PM (incorporating elements of a Night Watch to celebrate the 160 Anniversary of the Emancipation Proclamation.


JANUARY 1, 2024: New Year's Day: 9:00 AM

Happy Birthday


VINCENT	GREGORY	12/24
CALEB	HAWKINS	12/24
MARLON	LANDRY	12/24
NOELLE	CLOYD	12/25
GLORIA	BURRELL	12/26
KIMBERLY	LEWIS	12/26
KAIDEN	COMBS	12/27
KYRI	HOOKS	12/27
INGA	KING	12/27
MELISSA	SMITH	12/27
ERIC	STIEFF	12/27
DAJON	TRUDELL	12/27
CATHY	GLOVER	12/28
LARRY	KNIGHT, JR.	12/28
SENTORIA	FOSTER	12/29
TINA	JORDAN	12/29
SANDRA	WILLIAMS	12/29
RICHARD	DORSEY	12/30
KYLE	RIDEAU	12/30
JERMONE	SAMPSON, JR.	12/30

PAINT MINISTRY

Join the Paint Ministry where you can create beautiful works of art inspired from the Bible. Enjoy a relaxing atmosphere and friendly fellowship with other ICCC members. All supplies provided no experience needed. Join us and bring a friend.



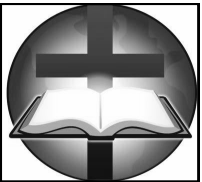
Our next class starts
Tuesday, January 2, 2024
10:00 AM-11:45 MLK (Harding Blvd)
6:00 PM-7:45 (Parish Activity Center)



We meet every other Tuesday of each month. Our January Schedule is Tuesday, January 2, 16, & 30th, 2024 - RSVP required
For more information contact: Stephanie Yearby (214)881-5663

CHRISTMAS TO DO LIST

Buy Presents. No, be a present.
Wrap Gifts. No, wrap someone in a hug.
Send Gifts. No, send Peace.
Shop for food. No, donate Food.
See the Lights. No, be the Light.



Mass Readings

December 24th - December 31st

Sunday

Fourth Sunday of Advent

2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16; Psalm 89; Rom 16:25-27

Gospel: Lk 1:26-38

Monday

The Nativity of The Lord

Is 9:1-6; Psalm 96; Ti 2:11-14

Gospel: Lk 2:1-14

Tuesday

Feast of Saint Stephen

Acts 6:8-10, 7:54-59; Psalm 31

Gospel Mt 10:17-22

Wednesday

Feast of Saint John

1 Jn 1:1-4; Psalm 97

Gospel: Jn 20:1a and 2-8

Thursday

Feast of The Holy Innocents

1 Jn 1:5--2:2; Psalm 124

Gospel: Mt 2:13-18

Friday

1 Jn 2:3-11; Psalm 96

Gospel: Lk 2:22-35

Saturday

1 Jn 2:12-17; Psalm 96

Gospel: Lk 2:36-40

Sunday

Feast of The Holy Family

of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

Sir 3:2-6, 12-14; Psalm 128; Col 3:12-21

Gospel: Lk 2:22-40

NEW YEAR'S EVE HOLY HOUR



On Sunday, December 31, at 2:30 PM we will have a Holy Hour in the presence of Jesus in the Eucharist. This will give us an opportunity to reflect upon the blessings of 2023 and look forward with hope and trust to 2024. The Vigil Mass will follow at 4:00 PM with a special commemoration of the 160th Anniversary of the Emancipation Proclamation. Plan to set aside some quiet time with the Lord as we celebrate the end of a year and the beginning of another.

