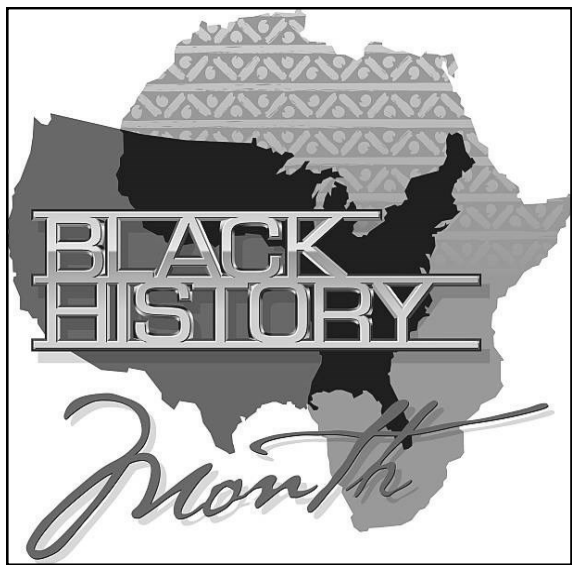


LET’S CELEBRATE BLACK HISTORY

Black History Month, celebrated annually in February, is a dedicated time to recognize and pay tribute to the pivotal role African Americans have played throughout history. It is a month-long celebration that highlights their accomplishments, contributions, and resilience in the face of adversity. From pivotal figures like Martin Luther King Jr., Rosa Parks, and Harriet Tubman to contemporary trailblazers, Black History Month serves as a reminder of the ongoing struggle for equality and justice.

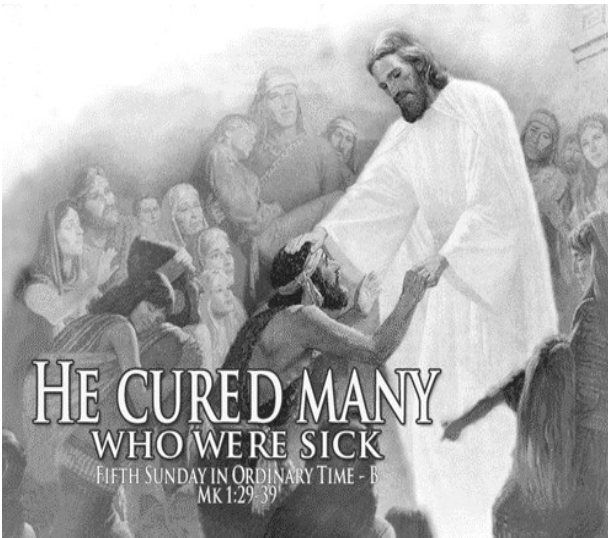


Sacraments

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



February 4, 2024



That evening after sunset the people brought to Jesus all the sick and demon-possessed. The whole town gathered at the door, and Jesus healed many who had various diseases. He also drove out many demons, but he would not let the demons speak because they knew who he was. Mark 1:32-34

The Gospel stories tell us that as well as healing, casting out demons, and preaching, Jesus was in the habit of going off to a quiet place to pray. He felt this need to be in touch with the fact that he was the Father’s beloved. He must have found the lack of human affirmation very wearing.

In prayer, perhaps you might speak to Jesus about your shared experience of this lack of human acceptance and appreciation. Let him tell you how much he appreciates you as a companion and as one who shares his work. Notice and express how much you resist as well as relish what he says to you. When I feel powerless before outside events, and before wayward tendencies in my own heart – I ask Jesus, the strong one, to come to my side. Lord, deliver me from seeking your help only in times of difficulty. May I grow in grateful love for the ways you daily raise me up and call me to the service of the community.

Immaculate Conception Catholic Church

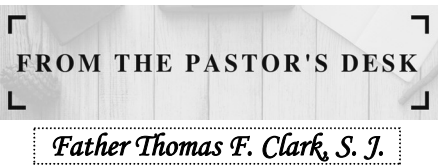
1565 Curtis Street - Baton Rouge, LA 70807
Office Phone: (225) 775-7067 - Information: (225) 775-7062
Fax: (225) 775-0775 - Email: clarktf2002@yahoo.com
Web Site Address: www.immaculateconceptionbr.org
Immaculate Conception Church is a Black Catholic Church serving the family of God and feeding the soul 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



BLACK HISTORY MONTH MASS AT THE CATHEDRAL



This weekend, we are celebrating Black History Month with a Mass celebrated by Bishop Duca at Saint Joseph Cathedral at 1:30 PM. Father Gregory Chisholm, SJ, the rector of the Jesuit Community at Loyola Baltimore, will be the homilist. The Diocesan Gospel Choir will provide the music. Parishioners of Immaculate Conception, St. Francis Xavier, and Saint Paul will provide the ministries of the Mass. Please come out and join in this celebration as we thank God for the contributions of African Americans to the history of our country and the church.

There will be a collection taken up at the Mass which will pay for the expenses of the Mass. If you place your contribution in your parish stewardship envelope and place it in the collection basket, it will be given to the parish.

THANK YOU TO OUR YOUTH FOR MINISTERING TO US



We thank the youth of our Parish School of Religion who ministered to us by assuming the ministries of the Mass last Sunday. We thank Gloria DeRouen, Stephanie Yearby, and all the teachers and volunteers of the PSR for preparing the youth. Thank you to: our Lectors: Kristen and Z'Leigha; our Universal Pray-ers: Sophie, Victor, Addisyn, Mekhi, Jillian, Leo, and Kennedy; our Altar Servers: Addison, Ryleigh, Evan, and Chase; Offertory Gift Presenters: Aja and Eryn; Ushers: Brandon, Jacob, James, Zyphelle, and Kendrick, Jr.

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE NEW OFFICERS OF THE JUNIOR DAUGHTERS #116



Congratulations to the newly installed officers of the Junior Daughters #116. They are Clarke Carter (Junior Grand lady), Eryn Jenkins (Secretary), Aja Freeman (Treasurer), Malyric Doucet (Outer Guard), Maylea Doucet (Inner Guard). We wish the Junior Daughters and their Counselors a very successful and productive year of ministry, fellowship, and service.



WHAT WILL YOU DO FOR LENT?

Lent begins in another week. Now is the time to begin to think about how you will make this Lent a time of growth. The traditional works of Lent are prayer, fasting, and almsgiving. What will help you to pray more during Lent? Can you set aside time each day to be with the Lord? Would you like some periods of Adoration in the Church to help you to pray more? If so, what days and what times? We fast by not eating between meals and eating less at our regular three meals. But can we fast from gossip, procrastination, negative thinking, and other things that hold us back? This Lent, in the spirit of Pope Francis' encyclical, Laudato Si, on the care of creation, can we have one meatless, plant-based meal a week during Lent? Almsgiving can be donations to charitable causes, but it also can include volunteering at a service organization and working for social justice by getting involved in the affairs of our community.

KNIGHTS OF PETER CLAVER AND COURT #116 FISH DINNERS

Fried Catfish, Potato Salad, Sweet Peas, Slice Bread and Dessert

Fridays: February 16, 23, March 1, 8, 15, and 22



Immaculate Conception Catholic Church - Activity Center -1565 Curtis St. Baton Rouge, La.

\$15.00 per plate: 10am – 2pm



For orders and deliveries, please contact: Jessica Semien-Olive - (225) 270-5454 -- David Dartez- (225)288-3437

Happy Birthday

EVANGELYN	CLARK	2/4
JANICE	DUPUY	2/4
STELLA	LOCKMAN	2/4
RICHARD	MATTHEW, JR.	2/4
GLORIA	PATIN	2/4
JANET	RAMI	2/4
MARIE	BROWN	2/5
ASHLEIGH	BUTLER	2/5
LANDEN	GREGORY	2/5
CHRISTINA	HAYNES	2/5
LATASHA	JACKSON	2/5
AUDREY	MORRIS	2/5
LOIS	SAMS	2/5
EDWARD	SAMUEL	2/5
TAKIYAH	BEARD	2/6
CANDICE	BELLARD	2/6
JOYCE	COSEY	2/6
CHARLOTTE	FINLEY	2/6
GEORGE	FLOYD	2/6
CARLA	JONES	2/6
PAUL	LAVIGNE	2/6
FREDERICK	LEVY	2/6
MARY	NORWOOD	2/6
GERALD	THOMAS	2/6
BELLA	CRAIG	2/7
KORY	VAUGHN	2/7
RUBEN	BROWN	2/8
CAROLINE	HUTCHINSON	2/8
VANTRINETTE	WILLIAMS	2/8
DEIANIRA	BURRELL	2/9
NAOMI	WINDER-DAVIS	2/9
CHRISTOPHER	MCKNIGHT	2/9
RICHARD	BYRD	2/9
SADE	GRAY	2/9
FRANCES	ROYAL	2/9
KATRECE	ALBERT	2/10
ALBERT	BELLANGER, III	2/10
CATHERINE	BRADFORD	2/10
TROYLAN	BREAUX	2/10
DMARVION	FINLEY	2/10
RODERICK	WELLS	2/10



Mass Readings

February 4th - February 11th

Sunday

Jb 7:1-4, 6-7; Psalm 147; I Cor 9: 16-19, 22-23

Gospel: Mk 1:29-39

Monday

I Kgs 8:1-7, 9-13; Psalm 132

Gospel: Mk 6:53-56

Tuesday

I Kgs 8:22-23, 27-30; Psalm 84

Gospel Mk 7:1-13

Wednesday

I Kgs 10:1-10; Psalm 37

Gospel: Mk 7:14-23

Thursday

I Kgs 11:4-13; Psalm 106

Gospel: Mk 7:24-30

Friday

I Kgs 11:29-32, 12:19; Psalm 81

Gospel: Mk 7:31-37

Saturday

I Kgs 12:26-32; 13:33-34; Psalm 106

Gospel: Mk 8:1-10

Sunday

Lv 13:1-2, 44-46; Psalm 32; I Cor 10:31--11:1

Gospel: Mk 1:40-45

BLESSING OF THROATS ON SATURDAY FEBERUARY 3



This Saturday, February 3, is the feast of Saint Blaise, the day on which we traditionally bless throats asking for God's protection from illnesses of the throat and all illness. The blessing will take place after the Vigil Mass on Saturday.

ASH WEDNESDAY SCHEDULE



Ash Wednesday, the beginning of Lent, is on February 14, not too far away. Our Mass schedule will be 7:30 AM (church), 12:10 PM (MLK), 5:00 PM Prayer Service (MLK), and 7:00 PM Mass (church). Ashes will be blessed and distributed at each