

THIS WEEK IN BLACK HISTORY

Benjamin O. Davis, Jr.



Benjamin O. Davis, Jr. (born December 18, 1912, Washington, D.C., U.S.—died July 4, 2002, Washington, D.C.) pilot, officer, and administrator who became the first African American general in the U.S. Air Force. Davis studied at the University of Chicago before entering the United States Military Academy at West Point, New York, in 1932. After graduating in 1936 he was commissioned in the infantry and in 1941 was among the first group of African Americans admitted to the Army Air Corps and to pilot training. Upon his graduation he was swiftly promoted to lieutenant colonel, and he organized the 99th Pursuit Squadron, the first entirely African American air unit, which flew tactical support missions in the Mediterranean theatre.

In 1943 he organized and commanded the 332nd Fighter Group (the Tuskegee Airmen). By the end of the war Davis himself had flown 60 combat missions and had been promoted to colonel. After the war Davis held other commands, and he helped plan the desegregation of the air force in 1948. He graduated from the Air War College in 1950, commanded a fighter wing in the Korean War, and was promoted to brigadier general (a one-star general) in 1954.

In 1959 Davis became the first African American officer to reach the rank of major general (a two-star general) in the air force and was promoted to lieutenant general (a three-star general) in 1965. After retiring in 1970 he was named director of civil aviation security in the U.S. Department of Transportation. In that post he devised and coordinated measures that effectively ended a wave of aircraft hijackings in the United States.

Davis became an assistant secretary of transportation in 1971. Davis received many decorations during his career, including two Distinguished Service Medals and a Silver Star. On December 9, 1998, Davis was awarded his fourth general’s star (making him a general of the highest order within the U.S. military). He was the first African American to be so honored in retirement.

Jesus said to them,
“Follow me,
and I will make you
become fishers of men.”



And immediately they left their nets
and followed Him. —Mark 1:17&18

January 21, 2024

Passing alongside the Sea of Galilee, Jesus saw Simon and Andrew the brother of Simon casting a net into the sea, for they were fishermen. And Jesus said to them, “Follow me, and I will make you become fishers of men.” And immediately they left their nets and followed him. And going on a little farther, he saw James the son of Zebedee and John his brother, who were in their boat mending the nets. And immediately he called them, and they left their father Zebedee in the boat with the hired servants and followed him. Mark 1:16-20

Jesus called His disciples, drawing to Himself followers who would help Him in His work and continue to spread His good news. These men didn’t know what would happen by following Jesus, but they were willing to leave their jobs and lives they knew, in order to serve this teacher. In doing so, they gained new life in Him. The disciples were not special because of training or talent, but because they committed to follow the Lord. When we follow Jesus, we can trust that He will provide for us and love us every day of our lives.

Following Jesus is not always easy, but it is worth it. Sometimes we have to let go of things that we enjoy or love. Being a “disciple” means putting Jesus first before anything else. The good news is that we are promised life with Christ is worth it. We might have to leave certain hobbies or practices if they get in the way or our relationship with God. But the love and strength of Jesus give us something way better!

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 Quote

“I accepted the teaching of Jesus, the way of love, the way of nonviolence, the spirit of forgiveness and reconciliation. The idea that hate is too heavy a burden to bear. I don’t want to go down that road. I’ve seen too much hate, seen too much violence. And I know love is a better way.” – John Lewis



Immaculate Conception Catholic Church

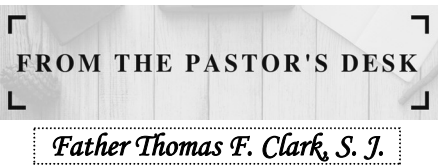
1565 Curtis Street - Baton Rouge, LA 70807
Office Phone: (225) 775-7067 - Information: (225) 775-7062
Fax: (225) 775-0775 - Email: clarktf2002@yahoo.com
Web Site Address: www.immaculateconceptionbr.org
Immaculate Conception Church is a Black Catholic Church
serving the family of God and feeding the soul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



Father Thomas F. Clark, S. J.

THANK YOU FOR OUR MLK CELEBRATION



Thank you to all who made our celebration of the Birthday of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. so memorable and enjoyable. Thanks to all who came out to celebrate Mass and to fellowship at breakfast.

Special thanks to all who played a part in our celebration. Fr. Dan White, our homilist, the Gospel Choir, lectors, Eucharistic ministers, ushers, videographer, Hospitality Committee, KPCLA Court 116 and KPC Council 116 for volunteering to cook and serve a delicious breakfast: Diane Allison, David Dartez, Bradley DeRouen, Gloria DeRouen, Sheila DeRouen, Janice Dupuy, Keyshell Dyer, Walter Ennis, Claudia Griffin, Yvonne Jackson, Charlene Jenkins, Sharon Nixon, and Andrea Toles.

PARISH COUNCIL OF MINISTRIES RESCHEDULED



Due to the cold weather last week, the Parish Council of Ministries has been rescheduled for this Tuesday, January 23 at 6:30 PM. Materials have been emailed to regular participants. Father Clark asks that chairpersons of parish ministries and organization make it a priority to attend.

THANKS TO SERVERS AT RECENT REPASTS



Thanks to the members of our parish who have volunteered to serve at recent repasts: Diana Allison, Juliet Betts, Barbara Denu, Gloria DeRouen, Walter Ennis, Yvonne Jackson, Jessica Semien Olive, Brenda Smith, Pat Thomas, and Walterine Whitfield. We appreciate your service to families in their time of need.

BLACK HISTORY MONTH MASS ON FEBRUARY 4



Bishop Duca will celebrate Mass to commemorate Black History Month at Saint Joseph's Cathedral on Sunday, February 4, at 1:30 PM. Father Greg Chisholm, SJ, the Rector of the Jesuit Community at Loyola College in Baltimore will be the homilist. Please plan to come out and participate in the celebration. It is the first time that we are having a Black History Month Mass at the Cathedral. You can make that celebration your Mass for Sunday. You do not need to come to Mass in the morning at Immaculate Conception. Please spread the word! Bring a friend!

ADULT CONFIRMATION ON PENTECOST SUNDAY



If anyone over the age of eighteen has not had the opportunity to celebrate the Sacrament of Confirmation, you may prepare to celebrate the sacrament which will be celebrated by Bishop Duca on Pentecost Sunday, May 19, 2024, at 10:30 AM at Saint Joseph Cathedral. If you would like to be confirmed on that day, please see Father Clark and he will arrange your preparation.

OUR TRI-PARISH LENTEN REVIVAL



Our annual tri-parish revival in collaboration with Saint Paul the Apostle and Saint Francis Xavier will take place on Sunday to Tuesday, March 3, 4, and 5. The Sunday service will begin at 4 PM, and the other two services will begin at 6:00 PM. Our revivalist will be Father Maurice Nutt, C.Ss.R.



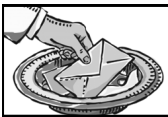
Lord, take me where you want me to go.
Let me meet who you want me to meet.
Tell me what you want me to say,
And keep me out of your way.
- Father Mychal Judge -



Happy Birthday

BRANDY	COLEMAN	1/21
DENA	CHRISTY	1/21
ERIN D.	DURLEY	1/21
BRADLEY	LEWIS	1/21
LAWRENCE	NAVARRE, SR.	1/21
CARMEN	PATRICK	1/21
DANIEL	BARNES	1/22
RAFFEAL	BENNETT	1/22
STEPHANIE	ROSAYA	1/22
DONALD	BALTAZAR	1/23
JAYDE	ENCALADE	1/23
CHRYSTLE	JONES	1/23
HORACE	LEWIS	1/23
THOMAS	WALKER, JR.	1/23
GLORIA	BURRELL	1/24
WALTER	ENNIS, IV	1/24
TONYA	STEWART	1/24
RODRICK	CLAIBORNE	1/25
PAULA	SAMUEL	1/25
KATIE	SMITH	1/25
ANNE GRACE	BALTAZAR	1/26
ADDYSON	FORT	1/26
GAIL	JOHNSON	1/26
JANICE	JOSEPH	1/26
DENITRA	PERKINS	1/26
MEGAN	WILTZ	1/26
BIZANNA	BEASLEY	1/27
ALVIN	FLEURY, JR.	1/27
FELESHA	JETT	1/27
NYRA	LANDRY	1/27
ANTHONY	LUMBARD	1/27
JONATHAN	SMITH	1/27

CHURCH CONTRIBUTIONS FOR 2023



Parishioners who would like a copy of their church contributions for 2023, please fill out the form located in the vestibule of the church or call the parish office (225-775-7067) or send an email (bettsec1@aol.com) to request a statement. If you donate online through We Share or Givelify, you can download a statement directly from those sites.



Mass Readings

January 21st - January 28th

Sunday

Jon 3:1-5, 10; Psalm 25; 1 Cor 7:29-31

Gospel: Mk 1:14-20

Monday

2 Sm 5:1-7, 10; Psalm 89

Gospel: Mk 3:22-30

Tuesday

2 Sm 6:12b-15, 17-19; Psalm 24

Gospel Mk 3:31-35

Wednesday

2 Sm 7:4-17; Psalm 89

Gospel: Mk 4:1-20

Thursday

Feast of The Conversion of Saint Paul

Acts 22:3-16; Psalm 117

Gospel: Mk 16:15-18

Friday

2 Tim 1:1-8; Psalm 96

Gospel: Mk 4:26-34

Saturday

2 Sm 12:1-7a, 10-17; Psalm 51

Gospel: Mk 4:35-41

Sunday

Dt 18:15-20; Psalm 95; 1 Cor 7:32-35

Gospel: Mk 1:21-28

