

FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT



“Lent is the season in which we ought to be surprised by joy. Our self-sacrifices serve no purpose unless, by laying aside this or that desire, we are able to focus on our heart’s deepest longing: unity with Christ. In him-- in his suffering and death, his resurrection and triumph, we find our truest joy.”

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.

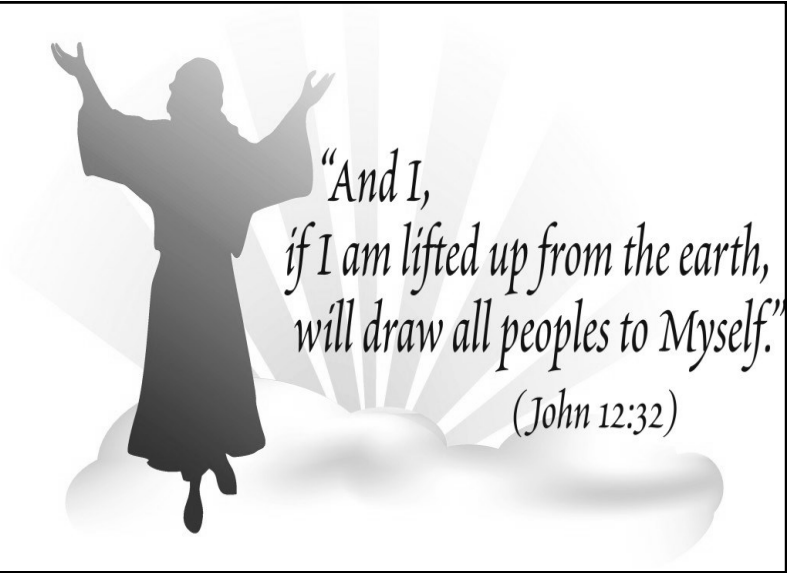
NEW PARISHIONERS: Catholics who would like to be registered as parishioners of Immaculate Conception and receive stewardship envelopes should call the parish secretary or fill out a form in the vestibule of the church.

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



MARCH 17, 2024

Now there were some Greeks among those who went up to worship at the festival. They came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, with a request. “Sir,” they said, “we would like to see Jesus.” Philip went to tell Andrew; Andrew and Philip in turn told Jesus. John 12:20-22

Where is Jesus? He is with the Father and he dwells among us. He is leading his followers to eternal life as he moves toward the hour of his death. Before much longer he will be “lifted up” on the cross where he will lay down his life for all. Even as a grain of wheat falls to the earth in order to fulfill its true purpose, Jesus is lifted up from the earth in order to fulfill his, so that he may draw all people to himself. It is there, at the cross, that we will see his glory. During this season of Lent we follow him all the way to Golgotha, all the way to the cross, where we will stand beneath it, together with those followers who asked at the beginning of his ministry, “Where are you staying?”. It is there, in the face of the world’s many ways of death (e.g., poverty, economic collapse, hunger, sickness, war) that we are drawn even closer to Jesus. It is there, in the light of the stark reality of life at its end that we begin to catch a glimpse of life at its fullest. Jesus promises, “When I am lifted up from the earth, I will draw all people to myself”. It is for such a time as this that Jesus has brought us to this hour. There is nothing like impending death to focus our attention.

Immaculate Conception Catholic Church

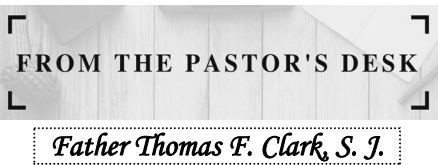
1565 Curtis Street - Baton Rouge, LA 70807
Office Phone: (225) 775-7067 - Information: (225) 775-7062
Fax: (225) 775-0775 - Email: clarktf2002@yahoo.com
Web Site Address: www.immaculateconceptionbr.org
Immaculate Conception Church is a Black Catholic Church
serving the family of God and feeding the soul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

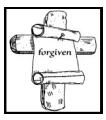
Saturday Vigil Mass: 4:00 PM
Sunday Mass: 8:00 AM and 10:30 AM
Weekday Masses: MLK Chapel
Mon., Tues., Wed., Thurs., 12:10 PM
Holy Day Masses:
Vigil Mass: 7:00 PM and 12:10 PM




HOLY WEEK AND EASTER

PALM SUNDAY: March 24: Mass with Procession of Palms at 4:00 PM, 8:00 AM and 10:30 AM
HOLY THURSDAY: March 28 at 7:00 PM: Mass of the Lord's Supper with Washing of the Feet and Procession of the Blessed Sacrament. Adoration until 10:00 PM
GOOD FRIDAY: March 29 at 3:00 PM: Liturgy of the Passion and Death of the Lord with the Passion according to John, the Solemn Universal Prayer, Veneration of the Cross, and Holy Communion.
HOLY SATURDAY: March 30 at 8:00 PM: The Easter Vigil with Service of the Light, Liturgy of the Word, Sacraments of Christian Initiation, First Eucharist of Easter.
EASTER SUNDAY: March 31: Mass of the Resurrection at 8:00 AM and 10:30 AM


SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION (CONFESSION)

 We will celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession) on Wednesday, March 20, at 6 PM. We will have several priests available for individual confession after a short prayer service. The Sacrament of Reconciliation is a great opportunity to bring peace to your heart. Let go of those things that weigh you down. Ask yourself, how can you grow at this time in your life? What is one thing you can do to make yourself a better person?



PALM SUNDAY INTERFAITH BLESSING OF PALMS

 On Palm Sunday, March 24, we will continue our tradition of gathering with Camphor Memorial UMC at Scotlandville Plaza at approximately 9:45 AM for an Interfaith Blessing of the Palms. Please join us and our brothers and sisters at Camphor after the 8:00 AM Mass and before the 10:30 AM Mass.

EASTER EGG HUNT ON PALM SUNDAY

 The Junior Knights and Junior Daughters will host an Easter Egg Hunt on Palm Sunday, March 24 following the 10:30 AM Mass. There will be three age groups: 1-4, 5-8, and 9-12. The child with the most eggs in each group will win an Easter Basket, but the oldest group will win a gift card. Please plan to participate in this celebration of this holy season.



JESUIT NOVICE TO JOIN US IN APRIL

 Corey Jackson, a Jesuit novice (in his first year of formation as a Jesuit) will be joining us from April 3-22. It is always a blessing to have a Jesuit in formation spend time with us. Keep Corey in your prayers and let us be ready to extend to him a warm welcome. 

2024 KNIGHTS OF PETER CLAVER SCHOLARSHIP

SCHOLARSHIP Application
Wilfred B. Ricard Council 116 of the Knights of Peter Claver is accepting applications for our 14th annual scholarship award. We will award this scholarship to a **MALE APPLICANT** from Immaculate Conception Catholic Church. Applications for the scholarship can be picked up in the rear of the church, by contacting the parish secretary, or via email at monsieurjai@gmail.com. The application deadline is April 30, 2024. Thanks, Aubrey Jones, Chairman. Questions/comments regarding this request should be directed to Aubrey Jones at 504.810.3555 or via email at monsieurjai@gmail.com.


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

STACY	ADDISON	3/17
LONDON	DRUMMOND	3/17
PERCY	VAUGHN	3/17
FAITH	DARBY	3/18
BARBARA	ALLEN	3/19
MAURICE	BAUDY	3/19
CASSANDRA	DAVIS	3/20
DWIGHT	THOMAS	3/20
ERIC	TUGGLE	3/20
BEULAH	DECUIR	3/21
RENELLA	GUILLORY	3/21
TREY	PATTY	3/21
LUCY	SMITH	3/21
KEVIN	WALKER, JR.	3/22
MARIO	WASHINGTON	3/22
JEANETTE	HUFF	3/23
MITCHELL	JACKSON	3/23
LOUELLA	JOSEPH	3/23
RHONDA	WILLIAMS	3/23

IMPORTANT COMMUNITY MEETING

COMMUNITY MEETING
 The Environmental Section of the Department of Transportation and Development will hold a public meeting about the proposed upgrading of the active warning signals for the railroad crossings located at Blount Road, Elmer Avenue, Mills Avenue, and Swan Avenue. LADOTD is proposing to remove the rail crossing at Scaup Street. This will cause a hardship for residents there, eliminating one access to the main road. Please come to the meeting to express your opinion on this. The meeting will be held on **TUESDAY, MARCH 26, 2024, from 4:30 pm TO 7:30 pm** at the **SCOTLANDVILLE BRANCH LIBRARY, 7373 SCENIC HIGHWAY.**



THANK YOU FOR BIRTHDAY BLESSINGS

Father Clark thanks everyone who made his birthday so special. I am overwhelmed by your kindness and generosity. Thank you for making me feel loved.



Mass Readings

March 17th - March 24th
Sunday
Fifth Sunday of Lent
Jer 31:31-34; Psalm 51; Heb 5:7-9
Gospel: Jn 12:20-33
Monday
Dn 13:1-9, 15-17, 19-30, 33-62; Psalm 23
Gospel: Jn 8:1-11
Tuesday
Solemnity of Saint Joseph, Husband of The Blessed Virgin Mary
2 Sm 7:4-5a, 12-14a, 16; Psalm 89
Rom 4:13, 16-18, 22
Gospel: Mt 1:16, 18-21, 24a
Wednesday
Dn 3:14-20, 91-92, 95; Daniel 3
Gospel: Jn 8:31-42
Thursday
Gn 17:3-9; Psalm 105
Gospel: Jn 8:51-59
Friday
Jer 20:10-13; Psalm 18
Gospel: Jn 10:31-42
Saturday
Ez 37:21-28; Jeremiah 31
Gospel: Jn 11:45-56
Sunday
Palm Sunday of The Lord's Passion
(At the Procession with Palms) Mk 11:1-10
Is 50:4-7; Psalm 22; Phil 2:6-11
Gospel: Mk 14:1--15:47

PARTICIPATION IN THE HOLY WEEK SERVICES



Please plan to take part in the Holy Week liturgies of Holy Thursday, Good Friday, and Easter Vigil. You may take part in these liturgies in these ways:
On Holy Thursday, bring a bell to ring at the Glory to God, spend time in Adoration following the Mass until 10:00 PM; Good Friday, remove shoes if possible for the Veneration of the Cross; Easter Vigil: participate in the Blessing of the Fire, read the readings before the Vigil and reflect on them, ring your bell at the Glory to God, welcome the newly confirmed, bring a container to bring holy water to your home from the Baptismal pool.