# REFLECTIONS FROM FATHER CLARK

I was very happy about the quick response we got from the last Parish Council of Ministries meeting.

We have volunteers who will begin to send get-well, thinking of you, and birthday cards to our church parishioners. We hope that this will make everyone feel more included and strengthen the bonds among us. Getting to know the names of parishioners is very important to me. I have been making efforts lately to learn more names. It will really help me if new parishioners fill out a contact information form in the foyer and introduce themselves to me so that I can put names to faces. You must be patient with me because it takes a while for me to commit names to memory. I just want you to know that each parishioner is very important to me and I want to know you by name. I also welcome new parishioners to call and make an appointment with me to have a get acquainted chat. I am never too busy for that.

I have been hoping that our online parish directory would replace the hard copy directory and offer the advantage of always being able to update it. I am asking if you would prefer to go back to the hard copy directory with a photographer coming to take family portraits that you can purchase. I am investigating whether directory companies now offer both hard copy and online options. Let me know what you think.

We are organizing a tutoring program for our children and youth. This suggestion came from parents. Several teachers of our church have graciously volunteered to be available for tutoring. We plan to start in January. We will be announcing dates and times in the bulletin in December.

I would also like to offer parishioners the opportunity to make an overnight retreat. I am talking with parishioners who have made the ACTS retreat, hoping that we can bring this opportunity to you. There is nothing like time away to refocus and reflect and strengthen your relationship with God in prayer. More information will be coming in January.

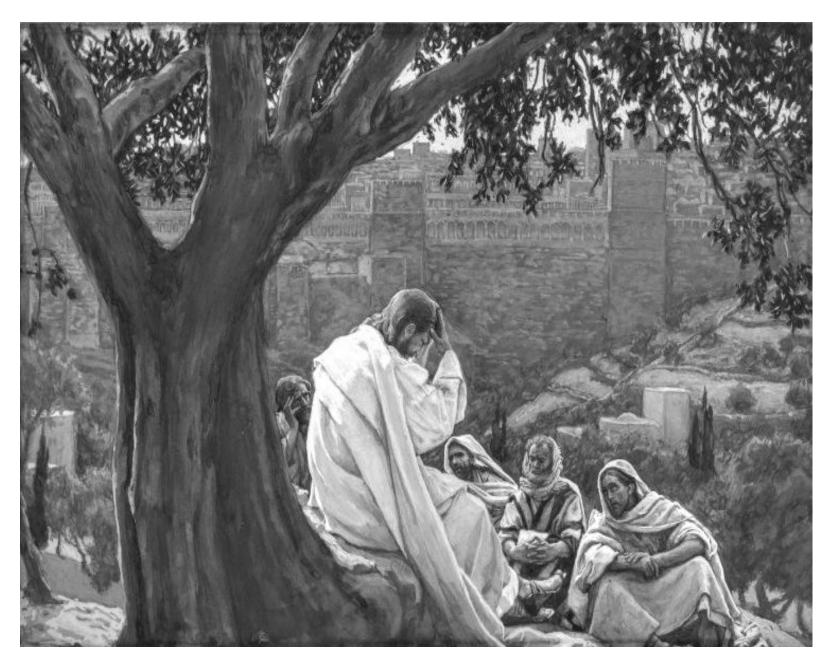
I am looking forward to the installation of the solar panels on the activity center roof that will make us a Community Lighthouse in the event of an extended power outage in the neighborhood. I am hoping that federal policies and cuts will not hamper this program. One feature of this program is that we will canvas the neighborhood to let people know of this resource and identify any special needs they would have if the power failed. I hope that this will help us get to know our neighbors and develop relationships with them. I firmly believe that we have a pastoral responsibility to all in our geographic area

I got to commend our Saint Vincent de Paul Food pantry for going above and beyond to meet the challenges of the acute food shortage that we are experiencing. I admire their dedication and the joyful and respectful spirit with which they encounter our neighbors.

On December 6, we are inviting PSR families to a morning of reflection. This is an experiment to see if a family based religious education program can work. I am interested to see if a monthly day of reflection for both parents and children with separate sessions for each and a combined session together can provide an opportunity for the whole family to grow in faith and in dialogue with each other.

As we approach Thanksgiving Day, let us all be grateful to God for all the ways that he is blessing us. Let us not take any blessing for granted and savor each grace that comes from God.

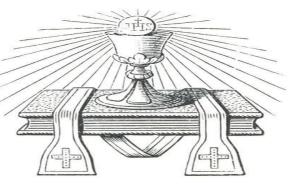




Thirty- Third Sunday in Ordinary Time ~ November 16, 2025

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) 775-706	7/(225) 773-2036
IN RESIDENCE: Father Fred Kammer, S.J.	(225) 774-3241
SECRETARY: Renae Welsh/John Edwards	(225) 775-7067
PARISH SCHOOL OF RELIGION:	•
COORDINATOR: Gloria DeRouen	(225) 936-8162
ASSISTANT TO COORDINATOR: Stephanie Yearby	(214) 881-5663 <mark>"</mark>
RCIA COORDINATOR: Cathy Glover	(225) 772-6099 🗓
MLK/SU CATHOLIC STUDENT CENTER:	Ī
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 12:10 PM Mon., Tues., Wed., Thurs., Fri.



## **BLESSING OF THE GRAVES TODAY**

**W**e will observe the Blessing of Graves today, November 16, at Southern Memorial Gardens at 3:30 PM and at Heavenly Gates at 5:00 PM. At Southern Memorial, we will gather by the office for a common prayer and then you may visit your family grave and bless them with holy water. A reception will follow at Southern Memorial.

The blessing at Heavenly Gates will follow at 5:00 PM.

### THANK YOU FOR THE SUPPORT OF OUR PICNIC

Thank you to all who made our Parish Picnic so enjoyable and fun last Sunday. We appreciate all the parishioners who came out for a day of church family fun. We are grateful to all the volunteers who made things move smoothly. We salute all our sponsors and contributors who supported the event financially. Special thanks to Andrea Toles who coordinated the picnic and managed to secure contributions to cover the cost of the picnic.

### THANK YOU FOR THE DONATIONS OF CANNED GOODS FOR THE PANTRY

Many thanks to our church members who answered our call and brought us a generous supply of canned goods and non-perishable items. With these donations we were able to serve many neighbors. Half of them came to us for the first time. However, we did have to turn people away because we ran out of food. We are asking again for donations of canned goods and non-perishables for our next distribution day. Your financial and canned goods donations are very much appreciated in this time of food shortage emergency.

### PARISH SCHOOL OF RELIGION ADVENT REFLECTION

In place of Sunday morning classes between Thanksgiving and Christmas, we are inviting parents and children of the PSR to a morning of reflection on Saturday, December 6 from 9:30 AM to 1:00 PM. There will be separate sessions for parents and children on the theme of Advent and then a joint family project that you will be able to take with you for your Advent celebration at home. Lunch will be served during which two very special guests will arrive who will be more than willing to take photos with children who have not been naughty, but nice!

### HELP SHAPE FATHERHOOD SUPPORT IN LOUISIANA

A request from our parishioner, Bradley DeRouen: The Louisiana Task Force on Fatherhood Engagement is working to strengthen father involvement in children's lives. We need fathers' voices statewide to guide our recommendations to the Governor, Legislature, and state agencies. Please see the flyer in the foyer, and scan the QR code with your phone to complete the survey! Also, consider joining a Football Game Watch Party/Listening Session

### **HYGIENE DRIVE FOR THE HOMELESS**

Join us in our **Personal Hygiene Drive** to help provide essential care items for individuals and families in homeless shelters. We welcome all donations of **soap**, **toothpaste**, **shampoo**, **deodorant**, and other hygiene products. A **donation box will be available in the narthex on Sundays** for your contributions.

Thank you for helping us share care and dignity with those in need. Your Contact person will be Wanda Anderson if you have any questions.



CALVIN	BROWN	11/17
NELSA	BUTLER	11/17
CHARLES	DUPLECHAIN	11/17
ROOSEVELT	PAYNE, III	11/17
ALPHONSE	RIDEAU	11/17
A'BRIANA	FRANCOIS	11/18
JULIAN	RICHARD	11/18
RANDLE	THOMAS, SR.	11/18
CARISSA	CROPPER	11/19
PAMELA	TAYLOR	11/19
MEAGAN	THIERRY	11/19
NICOLE	JOHNSON	11/20
SHARON	NIXON	11/20
JOY	THIERRY	11/20
AMBROSE	GRAY	11/21
RENA	PORTER	11/21
DAWN	RICHARD	11/21
DANEEN	WILLIAMS	11/21
JOIDAN	WILTZ	11/21
TAYLOR	BOUDREAUX	11/22
PAMELA	JOHNSON	11/22
CANDICE	NORTHERN	11/22
DANIEL	RICHARD, JR.	11/22
MELISSA	WIGGINS	11/22
KOURTNEY	BUTLER	11/23
LINDA	BROWN	11/23
REGINA	WILSON	11/23



### Save the Dates "The Holidays "

#### "Paiamas, Pancakes & Pravers Party"

Our Immaculate Conception Church high school students are hosting a cozy holiday gathering on **Saturday**, **December 13 at 6:00 PM!** We'll be joined by the youth from Saint Paul the Apostle Church and Saint Francis Xavier Church for an evening filled with fellowship and faith. More details coming soon—mark your calendars and get ready to kick off the holiday season.

## **KPC Council 116 Annual Christmas Dance**

Saturday December 20, 2025 8:00 PM– Midnight \$20.00 IMCC Activity Center

Featuring the Millenia Band, Melvin Chavis & The Zydeco Man Free Gumbo ~ BYOB

# Mass Readings November 16-23

# The Thirty-Third Sunday In Ordinary Time

Malachi 3: 19-20a 2 Thessalonians 3: 7-12 Luke 21: 5-19

## <u>Monday</u> Memorial of Saint Elizabeth of Hungary,

**Religious**1 Maccabees 1:10-15, 41-43, 54-57, 62-63

Maccabees 1:10-15, 41-43, 54-57, 62-63 Luke 18: 35-43

### <u>Tuesday</u>

2 Maccabees 6: 18-31 Luke 19: 1-10

### **Wednesday**

2 Maccabees 7: 1, 20-31 Luke 19-11-28

### **Thursday**

1 Maccabees 2: 15-29 Luke 19: 41-44

## <u>Friday</u>

# Memorial of the Presentation of the Blessed Virgin

1 Maccabees 4: 36-37, 52-59 Luke 19: 45-48

## Saturday Memorial of Saint Cecilia, Virgin and Martyr

1 Maccabees 6: 1-13 Luke 20: 27-40

# <u>Sunday</u>

# The Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe

2 Samuel 5: 1-3 Colossians 1: 12-20 Luke 23: 35-43

### THANKSGIVING DAY MASS

**W**e will celebrate Mass on Thanksgiving morning, Thursday, November 27, at 9:00 AM.

There is no better way to begin our Thanksgiving celebration than to gather around the Table of the Lord and celebrate the Eucharist, a word which means "thanksgiving."