

REFLECTIONS FROM FATHER CLARK

The holidays are fast upon us! This week we celebrate Thanksgiving. I encourage everyone to make it a priority this week to be mindful of all for which you are grateful. We take so much for granted. Let us take an inventory of our lives this week and name the things for which we are grateful. Take nothing for granted, even the most ordinary of things. When you are conscious of your gifts, then you become more conscious of the Giver of All Good Gifts.

Next Sunday begins a new church year and the season of Advent. We will begin to read the Gospel of Matthew for most Sundays in the coming year. We are a Lectionary Church, meaning that the readings for each Sunday are chosen for us. Whereas, in other Christian churches the pastor chooses the theme of his message and then supports it with Scripture. We start with the Scripture and then apply it to our lives. This coming year is Cycle A of the Lectionary.

We all complain about how commercial Christmas has become and how it does not feel the same way it used to. We can do something about that! Take time out before Christmas to celebrate Advent. Advent is the four weeks before Christmas. The theme of Advent is preparation and waiting. Build in some time to be quiet and still in December. Put off your celebrations of Christmas until after December 17. If you start now, you will be sick of Christmas by December 25. Do some special things to prepare to receive Jesus in your heart and home. Some ways to make Advent meaningful:

- ♦ Read a chapter of Luke's Gospel starting on December 1. There are twenty-four chapters in the Gospel, so you will finish on December 24 and know whose birthday you are celebrating on Christmas!
- ♦ Make an Advent wreath. All you need is four candles. Light an additional one each week and sit quietly in the light of the candles.
- ♦ Each day of Advent, set aside time each day when you turn off your phone, and other electronics and entertainment, and sit quietly in the Lord's presence. You will be amazed at how good the silence feels.

On Saturday, December 6, we will have a morning of reflection for the parents and children of the Parish School of Religion. Father Clark asks all families to make this a priority. The morning retreat will replace the Sunday classes during December. It is important that families attend together. We want to make our PSR more family oriented. Instead of the classroom model, we want to involve the whole family in learning about their faith. This is our first attempt. Families, please make it a priority to attend.

-Father Thomas Clark

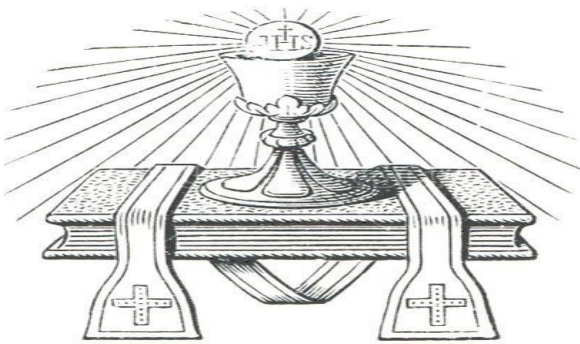
Build up a spirit of anticipation before Christmas



Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe ~ November 23, 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) 775-7067/(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
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
12:10 PM
Mon., Tues., Wed., Thurs., Fri.



THE FEAST OF CHRIST THE KING

This weekend we celebrate the Feast of Christ the King, the last Sunday of the Church’s worship year. We bring our reading of the Gospel of Luke during this Cycle C to a conclusion by reading the story of Jesus’ forgiveness of the thief crucified at his side. The story epitomizes the mercy of God that has characterized the whole Gospel. Next Sunday, we begin the season of Advent with four weeks of preparation for the feast of the Lord’s Birth at Christmas. In the new church worship year, we will begin Cycle A of the Lectionary by reading the Gospel of Matthew. Advent Blue Books are available in the foyer.

THANKSGIVING DAY MASS AT 9:00 AM

We will celebrate Mass at 9:00 AM on Thursday, November 27, Thanksgiving Day. What better way to begin the holiday than around the Table of the Lord before we sit down around our family tables. In these days before Thanksgiving, take time to count your blessings. Make an inventory of everything you are grateful for. Take nothing for granted! Everything is a Gift!

THANK YOU TO KNIGHTS AND TRADITIONAL CHOIR

Thank you to the Knights for donating to the church \$1,711.25 from the money raised during Homecoming. Thank you to the Traditional Choir for donating \$125.00 from their Jazz Brunch.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT OF THE FOOD PANTRY

During this food emergency because of the suspension of SNAP benefits, we are grateful for the support of our parishioners to the Food Pantry by your monetary contributions and canned good and non-perishable items. As we hopefully get back to more normal circumstances, your contributions of canned goods and non-perishables are priceless.

MEETINGS FOR LECTORS AND EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS

There will be a meeting of Lectors on Thursday, December 4 at 6:00 PM in the Parish Activity Center. There will be a meeting of Eucharistic Ministers on Tuesday, December 9 at 6:00 PM. Please make every effort to attend. Please consider it part of your ministry to get together as a group and reflect on your ministry. Lectors Workbooks for 2025-2026 are available in the foyer.

CALLING YOUTH WHO WANT TO BE ALTAR SERVERS

Any child who has made their First Holy Communion and would like to be an altar server, please come to a training session on Friday, December 5 at 5:00 PM in the church. Some parents or adults must remain during the practice. After several practices, you will be able to start serving Mass.

FEAST OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF MARY

Monday, December 8, is the Feast of the Immaculate Conception of Mary, a holy day of obligation. Mass will be celebrated at 12:10 PM at the MLK Catholic Student Center and at 7:00 PM at the church. (Please note: When a holy day falls on a Saturday or Monday, it is not a day of obligation EXCEPT FOR CHRISTMAS DAY AND IMMACULATE CONCEPTION. Therefore, December 8 is a day of obligation to attend Mass.



RYAN	KNIGHT	11/24
ANDRES	AUGUSTINE	11/25
JACQUE	HILL, JR.	11/25
REBECCA	JOHNSON	11/25
RAVEN	JONES	11/25
TONY	BARTHELEMY	11/26
CHERYL	EDWARDS	11/26
SHANNON	HARRIS	11/26
RENEE	MCGEE	11/26
HENRY	STEWART, III	11/26
RANDALL	THOMAS, JR.	11/26
SYLVINA	THOMPSON	11/26
VIRGINIA	GREEN	11/27
INDIA	HAYES	11/27
JONATHAN	VICTOR	11/27
TASHARVIS	ELLISON	11/28
SHAZLY	JONES	11/28
VERA	DECUIR	11/29
D'LANA	FRANCOIS	11/29
KAREN	TUGGLE	11/29
ALBERT	JOHNSON, SR.	11/30
BERNARD	WASHINGTON	11/30



ADVENT MORNING OF REFLECTION FOR PSR FAMILIES

On Saturday, December 6, there will be a morning of reflection for the families of the Parish School of Religion. This reflection time will replace the Sunday PSR classes during December. This will be an event for the whole family. There will be separate sessions for adults and youth and then a combined group activity. This morning prayer will be fun and interactive. During lunch we will have two special guests who will be more than happy to have their photos taken with children.

9:30 AM Sign in and Meet and Greet
10 AM -11 AM: Separate activities for adults and children
11:15 AM-12:15 PM: Family Advent Project
12: 15-1:00 PM: Lunch

**Mass Readings for the week of
November 23-30**

Sunday

**The Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ,
King of the Universe**
2 Samuel 5: 1-3
Colossians 1: 12-20
Luke 23: 35-43

Monday

**Memorial of Saint Andrew Dung-Lac,
Priest, and Companions, Martyrs**
Daniel 1: 1-6, 8-20
Luke 21: 1-4

Tuesday

Daniel 2: 31-45
Luke 21: 5-11

Wednesday

Daniel 5: 1-6, 13-14, 16-17, 23-28
Luke 21: 12-19

Thursday

Thanksgiving Day
[Mass at 9:00 AM]
Sirach 50: 22-24
1 Corinthians 1: 3-9
Luke 17: 11-19

Friday

Daniel 7: 2-14
Luke 21: 29-33

Saturday

Daniel 7: 15-27
Luke 21: 34-36

Sunday

First Sunday of Advent
Isaiah 2: 1-5
Romans 13: 11-14
Matthew 24: 37-44

Pajamas, Pancakes & Prayers Party

Our Immaculate Conception Church high school students are hosting a cozy holiday gathering on **Saturday, December 13 at 6:00 PM!** We will 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.