THE PRINCIPLES OF CATHOLIC SOCIAL TEACHING:

Seventh of Seven: Care for Creation

Contemporary environmental consciousness in the Church received a strong kick-start with Saint Pope John Paul's 1990 World Day of Peace Message *Peace with God the Creator, Peace with All of Creation* and in a number of recent statements from conferences of bishops. While there had been some environmental activism from the Catholic Rural Life Conference and other grassroots Catholic groups and local, national, and international Church leaders prior to 1990, it intensified afterwards.

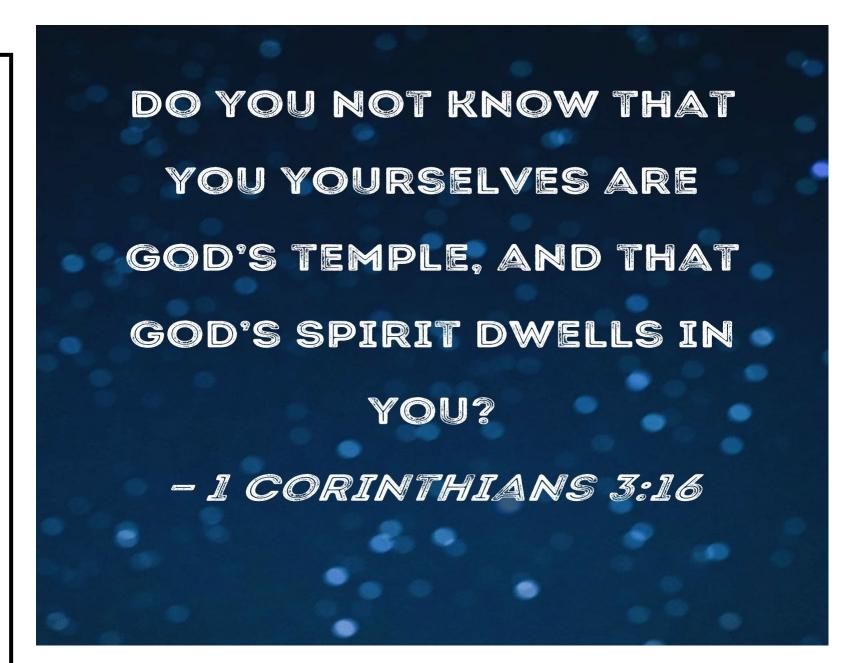
A strong component of that consciousness focused on stewardship of the environment, inspired by Scripture. John Paul argued that, through the *Genesis* work mandate "to subdue the earth," humans image their Creator and share God's creative action. With the Lord, we become co-creators of the earth and the ways humans have developed society over time, what we might call "creation given" and "creation enhanced."

In his 2008 World Day of Peace Message *The Human Family, A Community of Peace*, Pope Benedict XVI introduced the concept of a "covenant between human beings and the environment." In his 2009 encyclical *Caritas in Veritate*, the Holy Father developed a three-fold environmental responsibility: "a responsibility towards the poor, towards future generations, and towards humanity as a whole." Benedict, in framing environmental concerns in terms of covenant took a giant step beyond the "stewardship model"—which positions humans over-against the rest of creation—to a more comprehensive approach founded upon the solidarity of the human species with other forms of life and their habitats.

The pope decried hoarding of energy and stockpiling that gives rise to exploitation and frequent conflicts between and within nations. He urged solidarity between developing countries and those highly industrialized, reduced energy consumption, increased research into alternative forms of energy, and redistribution. He emphasized responsible stewardship, duties to future generations, international cooperation, changing our lifestyles, accountability for using up shared resources, and strengthening the "covenant between human beings and the environment." He lamented how many of the world's resources are "squandered by wars!"

In 2015 with Laudato Si', the first encyclical focused primarily on the environment, Pope Francis ties environmental concern closely to concern for the poor. He presents the scientific consensus on climate change and other environmental threats and how environmental degradation affects human life and society. For Francis, the poor usually pay the highest price for environmental destruction, whether it is desolation of natural habitats, erosion of farmlands, coastal flooding, or poisoning from polluting factories. Working from the biblical account of creation, Francis teaches that the universe reveals the divine and that, woven together in God's love for all creatures, we humans are united as sisters and brothers on a wonderful pilgrimage.

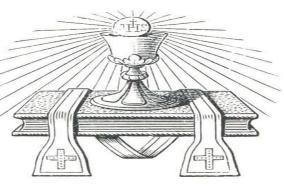
The pope argues that we are consuming the planet's limited resources, enthralled with a technocratic paradigm that promises unlimited growth and is based on a false belief in an infinite supply of the earth's goods. As such we have no interest in more balanced levels of production, better distribution of wealth, environmental concern, or the rights of future generations. Maximizing profits drives these patterns. We need an integral ecology which, understanding that the social and environment crises are one, demands a coordinated approach to combating poverty, restoring dignity to the excluded, and protecting nature. We must hear together "the cry of the earth and the cry of the poor."



Feast of the Dedication of the Lateran Basilica in Rome~ November 9, 2025

Immaculate Conception Catholic Church
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Immaculate Conception Church is a Black Catholic Church
serving the family of God and feeding the soul of the Community.

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IN RESIDENCE: Father Fred Kammer, S.J.	(225)	774-3241
SECRETARY: Renae Welsh/John Edwards	.(225)	775-7067
PARISH SCHOOL OF RELIGION:		
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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.

CHURCH

WE CELEBRATE US! IMMACULATE CONCEPTION CHURCH FAMILY!

Welcome everyone to our church family picnic! Let us celebrate all that God has done for us and rejoice in the ways that he enables us to serve our brothers and sisters. As we celebrate the dedication of the basilica of Saint John Lateran in Rome, which is the cathedral church of Pope Leo as the Bishop of Rome, we remember that the church is first and foremost PEOPLE, The church buildings are important because we need sacred space in our lives, but it is the PEOPLE who make the church. Today we celebrate US—the People of God, the Body of Christ here in Scotlandville, Baton Rouge, East Baton Rouge Parish, and beyond!

THANK YOU FOR ATTENDING THE BLACK CATHOLIC HISTORY MONTH MASS

Thank you to all who attended the Black Catholic History Month Mass last Sunday at Sacred Heart Church. We thank Nina Gray for coordinating the music and for the members of our choirs who joined the mass choir. We recognize Ean Price and Nina Donald, the Grand Knight and Grand Lady of the Southern Collegiate Council and Court for their introductory presentation.

HONORING OUR VETERANS

As a church family, we say "Thank you for your service," to all the men and women of our church and community who gave of themselves in the defense of our country. We are aware now more than ever that the wounds of war are carried well beyond the end of a war or the return home. We pray for healing for our veterans and especially for those who struggle with PTSD and other mental health issues.

BLESSING OF THE GRAVES

We will hold our annual Blessing of the Graves on Sunday, November 16. The service at Southern Memorial Gardens will begin at 3:30 PM. We will gather near the office for a brief communal prayer before visiting family graves to bless them with holy water, which will be provided. Following the blessing, the staff of Southern Memorial has graciously arranged a reception for all in attendance. The Blessing of Graves at Heavenly Gates will take place later that same day at 5:00 PM.

VOTE ON NOVEMBER 15

If you have not already voted in early voting or mailed in your ballot, **PLEASE BE SURE TO CAST YOUR VOTE ON SATURDAY**, **NOVEMBER 15**. Be informed about the three tax proposals called "ThriveBR" and consider what is best for the city of Baton Rouge. Remember, what you see is not always what you get! Be part of the large voter turnout that sent a strong message last Tuesday. Make your voice heard. Every vote counts! If it did not, why are people trying to take away your vote!

HELP SHAPE FATHERHOOD SUPPORT IN LOUISINA

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 scheduled on **November 22, 2025 at 11:00 AM to 5:00 PM at BRCC Campus.**

CALLING ALL ICCC SCHOLARS –TUTORING OPPORTUNITIES



Parents, please scan the QR code and complete the short survey to help us plan effectively. We're exploring the possibility of offering two one-hour tutoring sessions each week. We value your feedback as we prepare for this new ministry. Please return a completed survey in the collection basket or digitally to us at

immaculateconceptionbr@yahoo.com.



RUSSELL	BALTAZAR	11/10
STEPHEN	FISCHER	11/10
MATTHEW	LISTACH	11/10
ROSALIND	MORGAN	11/11
RAYON	SELLERS	11/11
ZARRIAN	WRIGHT	11/11
ZARRIUS	WRIGHT	11/11
JORDAIN	DUPLECHAIN	11/12
SKYLER	LEDOUX	11/13
BRITTANY	SMITH	11/13
SAMUELLA	FRAZIER	11/14
KEYCHA	BATES	11/14
JASMINE	JOHNSON	11/14
CAMIEL	WILKINS	11/14
PATRICIA	MCGEE	11/15
LATONYA	THOMAS	11/15
JOICE	WHITE	11/15
GLORIA	DEROUEN	11/16
KELIS	DYER	11/16
KEIDRA	JACKSON	11/16
YVONNE	JACKSON	11/16
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Save the Dates "The Holidays "

"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'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 The Zydeco Man Free Gumbo ~ BYOB Mass Readings November 9-16



Feast of the Dedication of the Lateran Basilica in Rome

Ezekiel 47: 1-2, 8-9, 12 1 Corinthians 3: 9-11, 16-17 John 2: 13-22

Monday

Memorial of Saint Leo the Great, Pope and Doctor of the Church

Wisdom 1: 1-7 Luke 17: 1-6

Tuesday

Memorial of Saint Martin of Tours, Bishop

Wisdom 2: 23 - 3: 9 Luke 17: 7-10

<u>Wednesday</u>

Memorial of Saint Josaphat, Bishop and Martyr

Wisdom 6: 1-11 Luke 17: 11-19

Thursday Memorial of Saint Frances Xavier Cabrini, Virgin [In the Dioceses of the US]

Wisdom 7: 22-8:1 Luke 17: 20-25

Friday

Wisdom 13: 1-9 Luke 17: 26-37

Saturday

Wisdom 18: 14-16; 19: 6-9 Luke 18: 1-8

The Thirty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

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

THANKSGIVING FOOD DRIVE FOR OUR PANTRY

Thank you for the continued generosity our parish shows to the St. Vincent de Paul Society and our Food Pantry. With the recent disruption of SNAP benefits, we anticipate an increased need in our community. Throughout the month of November, we invite you to donate canned goods and non-perishable items to help keep our shelves stocked.

Monetary contributions will be used to purchase gift cards for Thanksgiving turkeys and to assist families with rent and utility support. Thank you, as always, for your kindness, compassion, and care for our neighbors in need.