

THIS WEEK IN BLACK HISTORY

Elvin Hayes



Though he became an NBA legend, Elvin Hayes almost didn't play basketball. If not for a school teacher who pushed him into sport in middle school, his life may have been quite different. The NBA Hall of Famer was born November 17, 1945 in Rayville, La.

Hayes was incorrectly punished for a class prank and en route to the principal's office, a teacher allowed him to come to his classroom and introduced him to basketball. Already tall in ninth grade, Hayes was a shy and introverted kid who at the time had absolutely no skills on the court. In the summer, he worked out and willed himself to become adept, becoming a basketball star in the latter part of his high school career.

In 1966, Hayes saw basketball as a way out of poverty and the racism of the Deep South. The talented big man joined the University of Houston Cougars men's basketball team. He and future Temple University basketball coach Don Chaney were the first Black players for the squad. During a nationally televised regular season NCAA men's basketball game in January 1968, Hayes outdueled the UCLA Bruins and

its star big man Lew Alcindor (Kareem Abdul-Jabbar).

Hayes went number one in the 1968 NBA Draft to the San Diego Rockets (now the Houston Rockets), He spent a few seasons with the team before being traded to the Baltimore Bullets (now the Washington Wizards), helping the franchise win its lone championship in 1978. Over the course of his career, Hayes was selected to the NBA All-Star Game 12 times made the All-NBA First Team three times, and is a member of the legendary NBA 50th Anniversary Team.

The Iota Phi Theta fraternity member walked away from the game in 1984 after returning to Houston. He remained in the region and opened a number of businesses while also finishing his college obligations at the University of Houston, calling it the hardest thing he's ever done. He also fulfilled a lifelong dream in 2007 by becoming a reserve police officer.

Hayes was inducted into the Hall of Fame in 1990, boycotting the honor until his college coach was inducted, which took place in 2013. Hayes may have been inspired by NBA legend Bill Russell. Russell is the first Black player to get into the Hall, who refused the honor until this later, because he felt another player, Chuck Cooper, the first Black NBA player to be drafted, deserved it first.



BASKETBALL



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 Prayer

Dear God, teach us to be tolerant and welcoming of other races, religions, and cultures that we encounter in our communities and neighborhoods. Let your Spirit bring appreciation for our differences, because they are by your design. May we see you in people who don't look like us and recognize we are all your beloved people. Keep our children safe in school and bring resolution between our law enforcement and citizens so neither are needlessly harmed. Help us live in harmony with our neighbors and be a good neighbor, as you call us to be. Help me be an instrument of peace in my community, to set an example for children, and to show people the power of your love by my actions. Please grant us the peace that I know is possible in the name of your son, my Lord, Jesus. Amen.



October 1, 2023



What is your opinion? A man had two sons. He came to the first and said, 'Son, go out and work in the vineyard today.' He said in reply, 'I will not,' but afterwards he changed his mind and went. The man came to the other son and gave the same order. He said in reply, 'Yes, sir,' but did not go.

Matthew 21:28-30

Twenty-Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

The gospel reminds us of something we often forget: words can be meaningless. Promises are empty when not followed by action. The first son is arrogant but his action shows his goodness. The second son sounds co-operative but fails to keep his promise. Do I make promises to others that quickly go out the window? My good intentions are no good to the person I intended to help, but didn't. Could I say: "I'm sorry, I won't be able to do that for you," instead of promising what I already know is not going to happen?

Let me take a few moments of silence to read over the gospel text again and see does anything come to my attention. And I could make a prayer asking for help to be honest in speaking of my intentions.



Immaculate Conception Catholic Church

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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

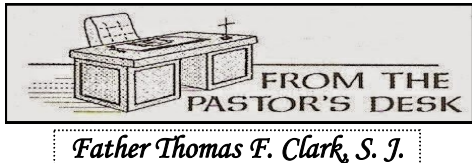
Sunday Mass: 8:00 AM and 10:30 AM

Weekday Masses: MLK Chapel

Mon., Tues., Wed., Thurs., 12:10 PM

Holy Day Masses:

Vigil Mass: 7:00 PM and 12:10 PM



WELCOME, FATHER TOM GREENE, SJ



Welcome to Fr. Tom Greene, SJ, the Provincial Superior for the Jesuits in the Central Southern Province. He is making his annual visit to our parish. He will be concelebrating at the 10:30 AM Mass.

OPEN HOUSE AT SACRED HEART SCHOOL



Sacred Heart School will be hosting an open house on Thursday, October 19, from 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM and 5:00 PM to 7:00 PM. All interested students are welcome to come and visit.

GOLDEN OPPORTUNITY FOR SENIORS



Are you 50+ years old or do you know someone who would benefit from spending time with other adults? Ochsner Health has a wonderful program called Golden Opportunity designed exclusively for men and women who want to lead more active and healthier lives. This lifestyle program will provide opportunities to create a healthier spirit, mind, and body, meet people in the same stage of life who want to be active and healthy. And participate in educational seminars, wellness sessions, monthly meetings, luncheons, day trips, overnight travel and so much more. Although the usual cost is \$25 per member or \$40 per member and spouse, it is NOW

FREE until the end of the year. For more information contact: goldenopportunity@ochsner.org or visit Ochsner.org/go.



PARISH PICNIC ON SUNDAY, OCTOBER 8

Please plan on coming out and enjoying our parish picnic on Sunday, October 8 after the 10:30 AM Mass until 3:00 PM. There will be BBQ chicken, baked beans, salad, rolls, cake squares, hamburgers, hotdogs, snowballs, music, line dancing, bingo, face painting, gaming truck, inflatables, painting, and much more. You will have a chance to win a prize by introducing yourself to 10 parishioners whom you do not know. You will be able to register as

a parish member, update your contact info and get your photo taken for the parish directory. Come out and have a good time! **Pray for good weather.**



ELECTION DAY IS SATURDAY, OCTOBER 14

Election Day for the governor and other state offices is Saturday, October 14, the same day as SU Homecoming. Plan now for how and when you are going to vote. Early voting begins on September 30 and ends on October 7 (except for Sunday, October 1). You can request a mail in ballot if you are 65+ up to October 10.



THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY TO THE OFFERTORY

Thank you to all who responded to Fr. Clark's appeal for an increase in the Offertory. Since that request, we have seen a 19% increase in the Offertory. Your generous response is so helpful in paying our bills and making necessary repairs. Please keep it up! An increase of \$5 or \$10 dollars to

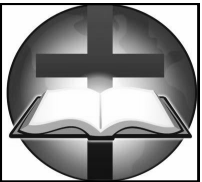
Happy Birthday

OMERGENE	AMAR	10/1
MICHAEL	COLEMAN	10/1
ALLISON	LLORENS	10/1
DINA	NEAL	10/1
ROSAYA	MORRIS	10/1
JOYCELYN	DEROUEN	10/2
JAMES	FREEMAN, JR.	10/2
BETHANY	JACK	10/2
LILLIAN	LEE	10/2
JUANITA	RIDEAU	10/2
TARIC	BEARD	10/3
RANDY	BOURGEOIS, II	10/3
KATRINA	FREEMAN	10/3
NICOLE	HARRIS	10/3
NORA	LISTACH III	10/3
KAYLAN	PERRY	10/3
LOVENIA	WATSON	10/4
MARCUS	GRAY	10/4
ANGELA	JACKSON	10/5
JOHN	SMITH	10/5
GAIL	THOMAS	10/5
TAMI	CRAIG	10/6
ALLISON	SINGLETON	10/6
ILYSSA	JOHNSON	10/6
STEVEN	OKOYE	10/6
PATRICK	GRIFFIN	10/6
DELORIS	PAYNE	10/6
JAMAR	ENNIS	10/7
TYLER	HOLIDAY	10/7
VERONICA	SAULNY	10/7

CHURCH BUS DRIVERS NEEDED



We are in need of volunteers to drive the church bus. Drivers will transport parishioners to and from the daily 12:10 Mass at the MLK Chapel (Mon. - Thurs.) from 11:30 AM to 1:30 PM. If you can help, please call Rogers Jackson at (225)362-0907.



Mass Readings

October 1st - October 8th

Sunday

Ez 18:25-28; Psalm 25; Phil 2:1-11

Gospel: Mt 21:28-32

Monday

Zec 8:1-8; Psalm 102

Gospel: Mt 18:1-5, 10

Tuesday

Zec 8:20-23; Psalm 87

Gospel Lk 9:51-56

Wednesday

Neh 2:1-8; Psalm 137

Gospel: Lk 9:57-62

Thursday

Neh 8:1-4a, 5-6, 7b-12; Psalm 19

Gospel: Lk 10:1-12

Friday

Bar 1:15-22; Psalm 79

Gospel: Lk 10:13-16

Saturday

Bar 4:5-12, 27-29; Psalm 69

Gospel: Lk 10:17-24

Sunday

Is 5:1-7; Psalm 80; Phil 4:6-9

Gospel: Mt 21:33-43

Forms for new parishioners or changes are located in the vestibule of the church.



PRAYER
changes things

