

THE PRINCIPLES OF CATHOLIC SOCIAL TEACHING: *Second of Seven: The Common Good*

The second foundation to Catholic social thinking is *the common good*. The *Catechism of the Catholic Church*, following Saint John XXIII and Vatican II, defines the common good as: “the sum total of social conditions which allow people, either as groups or as individuals, to reach their fulfillment more fully and more easily.” The common good applies to each human community, but it is most applicable to the political community where the state is “to defend and promote the common good of civil society, its citizens, and intermediate bodies.”

The *Catechism* notes *three essential elements* of the common good: *respect for the individual, the social well-being and development of the group*, and *peace* resulting from the stability of a just society. Rooted in Greek and Roman philosophy, the common good entails the goal of political life, the good of the city (*pólis*), and the task entrusted to civic leaders.

Regarding the first essential of *individual respect*, the *Catechism* notes that all “public authorities are bound to respect the fundamental and inalienable rights of the human person.” Authority must insist that majorities respect individual rights.

The second element—the *group’s social well-being and development*—maintains that authority functions properly when it arbitrates between particular interests. Think, for example, of balancing interests in coronavirus time between public health and economic wellbeing. Proper functioning must ensure that each person can access “what is needed to lead a truly human life: food, clothing, health, work, education and culture, suitable information, the right to establish a family, and so on.”

The Church emphasizes “intermediate” bodies or organizations in ideal societies. First is the family—key to nurturing its members with love, educating and protecting them. But a healthy society includes an array of organizations to promote diversity and richness: educational, sporting, cultural, arts, religious, political, and civic.

The third element of *peace* and *stability* requires authority to ensure by morally acceptable means the *security* of society and its members. Without peace—think contemporary Syria—the well-being of individuals and society itself are seriously jeopardized.

Everyone is responsible for the common good as an embodiment of charity and justice. Pope Benedict wrote, “The more we strive to secure a common good corresponding to the real needs of our neighbors, the more effectively we love them. Every Christian is called to practice this charity, in a manner corresponding to his vocation and according to the degree of influence he wields in the *pólis*.” For Benedict, this is the “institutional path” of love—addressing juridical, civil, political, and cultural institutions.

According to the *Catechism*, the state shares responsibility for the common good because “*the common good is the reason that the political authority exists*.” The state must ensure the coherency, unity, and organization of society “in order that the common good may be attained with the contribution of every citizen.”

Common good responsibility extends beyond “my country.” It includes a *universal common good* resulting from increasing human interdependence amid globalization. According to Pope Benedict, achieving it must assume “the dimensions of the whole human family, that is to say, the community of peoples and nations, in such a way as to shape the *earthly city* in unity and peace, rendering it to some degree an anticipation and a prefiguration of the undivided *city of God*.”

The Twenty-Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time ~ October 5, 2025

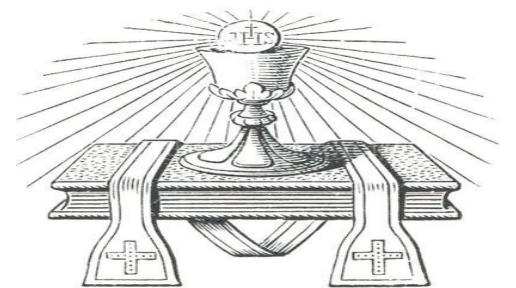


The apostles said to the Lord, “Increase our faith!”

The disciples' plea for more faith comes after Jesus gave challenging teachings, including warnings about causing others to stumble and the importance of continuous forgiveness.

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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:
• 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. Holy
Day Masses:
Vigil Mass: 7:00 PM and 12:10 PM



WOULD YOU OR SOMEONE YOU KNOW LIKE TO BECOME CATHOLIC?

If you or someone you know would like to find out more information about becoming Catholic, please have them call Father Clark or Cathy Glover (225-772-6099). There is no commitment. You may come just to explore the possibility. Candidates usually are baptized, confirmed, and receive the Eucharist at the Easter Vigil. Those already baptized, make a profession of faith, are confirmed and receive the Eucharist at the Easter Vigil or another Sunday.

ADULT CONFIRMATION

If you or someone you know who is 18 years or over, was baptized Catholic, and received their First Holy Communion, but did not have the opportunity to celebrate Confirmation, you or they may celebrate the Sacrament either at the Cathedral on Pentecost Sunday, 2026 or at our parish celebration. Please see Father Clark for more information.

PRIMARY ELECTIONS ON OCTOBER 11 (EARLY VOTING: September 27-October 4, 2025)

There will be a primary election on Saturday, October 11 with early voting from September 27-October 4. Since ballots vary depending on your parish and precinct, these are the possible items you will see on your ballot.
District Judge 19th Judicial District Court, ES 1, Div. O (1 to be elected)
City Judge City Court, ES 2A, City of Baton Rouge (1 to be elected)
Downtown Development District - 10 Mills Renewal - MC - 5 Yrs.
Concord Estates Crime Prev. Dist. - \$69.50 Parcel Fee - BOC - 6 Yrs.
Southern Heights Nbrhd. Crime Prev. & Imp. Dist. - \$100 Parcel Fee Renewal - BOC - 10 Yrs

SU HOMECOMING SCHEDULE OF MASSES

The SU Homecoming Parade will take place on Sunday, October 12 at 1:00 PM. We **will have** our regular Mass schedule that weekend: 4:00 PM (Vigil), 8:00 AM, and 10:30 AM. If you park in the church lot for the 10:30 AM Mass, you may keep that parking space if you plan to attend the parade. On Saturday, October 18, the day of the Homecoming Game, **we will not have the 4:00 PM Vigil Mass.** The Knights will be selling parking places to support their scholarship fund and to manage parking on our property.

LADIES AUXILIARY RED BEANS AND RICE DINNERS

The KPCLA Court 116 Red Beans and Rice Fundraiser is back! Come out and enjoy a \$12 tasty meal of creamy red beans and rice, savory sausage link, buttery cornbread, tossed salad, and delicious cake on Sunday, November 2 from 12 pm to 2:30 pm in the Parish Activity Center. Acceptable forms of pre-sale and walk up payment are Cash App (\$JenkinsSnoh), Zelle (504-491-6556) or Venmo (Andrea-Toles-1). Skip the cooking and pick up your ready-made Sunday lunch while giving back to the church. We appreciate your support!

BLACK CATHOLIC HISTORY MONTH MASS

The annual Black Catholic History Month Mass will take place on Sunday November 2, 2025 at 5:00 PM at Sacred Heart Church. Bishop Duca will be the celebrant and Bishop Joseph Perry, Auxiliary Bishop Emeritus of Chicago, will be the homilist.

CLERGY FORMATION DAYS

Every year the priests of the diocese go away for several days of study and prayer. This year the Clergy Formation Days are from Monday, October 6 to Thursday, October 9. Father Clark will be attending those days. We **will not have** daily Mass Tuesday, Wednesday or Thursday October 7-9. There will be a Communion Service at MLK on those days at 12:10 PM.



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
BENNY	JOHNSON	10/8
CARRIE	KENNEDY	10/8
TRENE	WILLIAMS	10/8
LOUEVINA	BENJAMIN	10/9
KELECHI	AKUJOBI	10/9
BRYSON	DAIGRE	10/9
DANA	JOHNSON	10/9
CONWAY	AMAR	10/10
JOSEPH	BREAUX	10/10
NADINA	KING	10/10
KRISTEN	MORSE	10/10
IRVIN	RICHARD	10/10
ERIC	ROSAYA	10/10
ERICKA	SAMPEY	10/10
CHAD	SAMUEL	10/10
WILLIAMS	DAVIS	10/11
CATHY	GRAY	10/11
SADIE	THIBODEAUX	10/11
TIERA	WILLIAMS	10/11

PARISH PICNIC

Come celebrate our Parish Family at our annual Parish Picnic on Sunday, October 26 after the 10:30 AM Mass until 3:00 PM. Enjoy great food, line dancing, trunk or treat, video gaming truck, snow balls, bounce house, outdoor games, line dancing, face painting, prizes, and much more!

PARISH COUNCIL OF MINISTRIES

There will be a meeting of the Parish Council of Ministries on Tuesday October 21 at 6:30 PM in the Parish Activity Center. All chairpersons of parish ministries and organizations as well as interested parishioner are ask to attend. Minutes of the last meeting and agenda will be sent out as the date approaches.

**REMINDER: FALL BACK ON NOVEMBER 2
RETURN TO STANDARD TIME**

Set your clocks back one hour before you go to bed on Saturday November 1. Standard Time returns at 2:00 AM on November 2.
FALL BACK!

Mass Readings October 5th-12th <u>Sunday</u> <u>The Twenty-Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time</u> Habakkuk 1: 2-3. 2: 2-4 2 Timothy 1: 6-8, 13-14 Luke 17: 5-10 <u>Monday</u> Jonah 1: 1-2: 1-2, 11 Luke 10: 25-37 <u>Tuesday</u> <u>Memorial of Our Lady of the Rosary</u> Jonah 3: 1-10 Luke 10: 38-42 <u>Wednesday</u> Jonah 4: 1-11 Luke 11: 1-4 <u>Thursday</u> Malachi 3: 13-20 Luke 11: 5-13 <u>Friday</u> Joel 1: 13-15; 2:1-2 Luke 11:15-26 <u>Saturday</u> Joel 4: 12-21 Luke 11: 27-28 <u>Sunday</u> <u>The Twenty-Eight Sunday in Ordinary Time</u> 2 Kings 5: 14-17 2 Timothy 2: 8-13 Luke 17: 11-19
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TBR CIVIC ACADEMY: THRIVE! EBR PLAN

Together Baton Rouge will hold a Civic Academy on Thursday, October 9 at 6:00 PM at Immaculate Conception Church Activity Center to provide Important information about Thrive! EBR that will appear on the November ballot.

Everyone is welcome to attend and learn more about this important issue. Please register to attend at:
TogetherBR.org/clustercampaign2025