

Immaculate Conception Catholic Church

THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT

March 4th, 2018

Next Weekends Second Collection: *Catholic Relief Services*

Monday – March 5th	5:00 PM	Rosary for our Country
Tuesday – March 6th	6:30 AM Mass	Kip Fair
	6:00 PM – 7:30PM	Confirmation
Wednesday – March 7th	6:30 AM Mass	Special Intentions
	6:00 PM – 7:00 PM	Adult Choir Practice
	6:00 PM – 7:00PM	CCD Classes
	7:00 PM – 8:00 PM	Children's Choir Practice
Thursday – March 8th	6:30 AM Mass	Carlton J. & Mona F. Sylvester
	6:30PM – 8:30PM	Adoration Thursdays
Friday – March 9th	5:30 PM Mass	Emile Richard Family, Grace Richard



Saturday – March 10th

4:00 PM Mass – Lois & Claude Blanchard, Herbert Ortego, Jay Ortego, Lane Ortego, Jack Thibodeaux, Poke Courville & Deceased Family, Aubrey Soileau, J. Bailey, Mitzie Valin Brooks, Fr. Ralph Landry, Special Intentions, Mr. & Mrs. Herbert Ortego Sr., Willie Chelette, The Henry Pitre Family

Sunday – March 11th

7:00 AM – Mass – Brian T. Ortego, Shirley & Ruth D. Soileau, Mary Landry, Raymond Dupre, Joann Okeson, Carlos, Ray Macip & Russell Humphries, Clyde Soileau

9:00 AM – Mass – For the People

11:00 AM (Holy Trinity)

THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT

Almsgiving: An Important Lenten Exercise

When we look at the three traditional “disciplines” of Lent, prayer, fasting and almsgiving, we know that almsgiving gets the least attention. Yet, the Bible places emphasis firmly on almsgiving: Prayer and fasting are good, but better than either is almsgiving accompanied by righteousness ... It is better to give alms than to store up gold; for almsgiving saves one from death and expiates every sin. Those who regularly give alms shall enjoy a full life (Tobit 12:8-9). A central part of our faith is the practice of almsgiving. It is a practice described in our Catholic Catechism thusly: The foundational call of Christians to charity is a frequent theme of the Gospels. During Lent, we are asked to focus more intently on “almsgiving.”

OC NEWS

The OC Athletic Council is holding a Spring Barbecue Dinner sale on Sunday, March 11. Please contact the athletic department for tickets. Congratulations to the girls' basketball team for claiming the District Championship and for their playoff run as well as to the boys' basketball team for their outstanding season and their playoff run! The OC Angel Appeal Drive is continuing through June 1st. Thank you to the “angels” who have given thus far, and we pray for more angelic help as OC strives to reach its goal to purchase more Chromebooks for the classrooms.



CRS RICE BOWL: In Burkina Faso, we encounter Safiata, a mother, grandmother and farmer who relies on the money she makes from her crops to put her children through school. How can our purchases this Lent support farmers and artisans? How can you support those, worldwide, who are forced to flee their homes to find safety or better opportunities?



CENTENNIAL NEWS

- Episcopal Ordination of Bishop Jarrell - On March 4, 1993, Bishop Michael Jarrell was ordained to the rank of the episcopacy. Bishop Jarrell, a native of Opelousas, previously served as a priest in the Diocese of Lafayette at St. Louis High School in Lake Charles, at St. Michael's in Crowley, and as pastor of Sacred Heart in Broussard and Sacred Heart in Ville Platte. Pope St. John Paul II appointed him to serve as the second Bishop of the Diocese of Houma-Thibodaux. He chose “In all things charity” as his episcopal motto. After nine years in Houma, Bishop Jarrell would be named the sixth Bishop of Lafayette in 2002.
- Second Centennial Deanery Mass will be at St. Landry Catholic Church, our 2nd oldest canonically established Church in the Diocese, on March 23 at 6:30pm in Opelousas. All Clergy and Laity are invited to attend this Mass and reception with our Bishop Deshotel as we continue to honor and celebrate this Centennial Jubilee Year of our Diocese. This is an exciting year and it is good for all of us from all parts of the Diocese of Lafayette to come together for the Centennial Events to reflect upon our past and recommit to the future that God is leading us into. Please mark your calendars and plan to attend.
- Jubilee Bible Marathon – In honor of the Centennial of the Diocese of Lafayette 1918-2018, the Holy Bible will be read from cover to cover in the Square of St. Martinville beginning Wednesday, April 4th at 12:30pm to Sunday, April 8th at 4:30pm - 100 hours for 100 years!!! All are invited to come and participate in this Proclamation of the Foundation of our Faith. Come and marinate in the word. For more information or to sign up as a Reader, call Fr. Michael Champagne at 337- 394-6550. Please mark your calendars and plan to attend as much as possible of this extraordinary event.

HOLY WEEK/ EASTER SCHEDULE



- Holy Thursday*** (March 29th) – 6:30 PM at Holy Trinity
- Good Friday*** (March 30th) – 3:00 PM at Immaculate Conception
- Easter Vigil*** (Saturday evening, March 31st) – 8:00 PM (IC)
- *Note:** The reason only one church celebration is offered combined for Immaculate Conception and Holy Trinity is that the sacred liturgies during the Triduum are to be combined in smaller communities, especially those near each other, so that there is only one solemn celebration of each of these important prayer services.
- Easter Sunday (April 1st) – 7:00 AM (IC), 9:00 AM (IC) & 11:00 AM (HT)**

EASTER FLOWER DONATIONS

We are now accepting donations for Easter Flowers in Memory of Loved ones. If you'd like to make a donation, please put it in the collection basket in an envelope labeled Easter Flowers.

CHOIR NEWS

Our Church Choir is starting to prepare for Holy Week and the Lenten and Easter Seasons. If anyone is interested in joining and singing with the Choir for these holy seasons then please join us for practice March 17th from 9am to 10am. You don't need to know how to read music, just bring your heart and voice!

MEATLESS FRIDAYS



Every person 14 years of age or older **must abstain from meat on all the Fridays of Lent**. Abstinence forbids the use of meat, but not of eggs, milk products or condiments made of animal fat. Every person 14 years of age or older must abstain from meat on all other Fridays of the year, unless he or she substitutes some other form of penance for abstinence.

**03 - 10 - 4:00 PM
EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS**
Evelina Soileau
Ruth Montgomery
Vine Mayeux
READER
Janice Deshotels
USHERS
Herman Bidstrup
Raynold Soileau
Marcus Decou
Merlin Valin
ALTAR SERVER
Matthew Vidrine

**03 - 11 - 7:00 AM
EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS**
Winn Plattsmier
Shirlene Matt
Pauline Vidrine
READER
Merryle Soileau
USHERS
Donnie Vidrine
Volunteer
Allen Vidrine
Phillip Dardeau
ALTAR SERVER
Elliot Landreneau

**03 - 11 - 9:00 AM
EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS**
Rick Ortego
Pam Landreneau
Jessie Howard
READER
Charlotte LaHaye
USHERS
Bruce Courville
Gregory Doucet
Benny Howard.
Gary Wilson
ALTAR SERVER
Michael Darbonne



IMMACULATE CONCEPTION LENTEN MISSION

Teacher, author and national speaker Chad Judice will be our Mission Speaker **Monday, March 12th and Tuesday March 13th** in the church from 6:00PM – 8:00PM. Judice is the author of "Waiting for Eli, A Fathers Journey from Fear to Faith" and "Elis Reach," on the value of human life and the power of prayer.

WOMEN AT THE FEET OF JESUS RETREAT

Friday, March 23, 2018 at

Our Lady of Sorrows Retreat Center, 420 N. Main St., St. Martinville

A silent retreat for women to help foster a deeper intimacy with Jesus Christ. Meditations will focus on the women in the life of Jesus, such as Mary and Martha, the penitent woman, the woman at the well and Mary at the Foot of the Cross. Retreat begins Friday, March 23 at 6 p.m. and ends Sunday, March 25 at 3 p.m. Please bring a Bible, paper and pencil or pen, toiletries, towels and washcloths. To register or for more information, call 337-394-6550

COME MARINATE IN THE WORD!

The Jubilee of the Word Marathon – 100 Hours for 100 Years is an extraordinary and unique way to celebrate the Centennial of the Diocese of Lafayette! Beginning on Wednesday April 4th at 12:30 PM the Bible will be read publicly cover to cover without pause in the Square of St. Martinville. The Marathon will conclude on Divine Mercy Sunday at 4:30 PM. Bishop Douglas Deshotel will begin the reading from the first chapters of Genesis and Bishop Michael Jarrell will conclude with the closing chapters of the Book of Revelation. Over 300 lectors will be needed for 20 minute intervals. Lectors from churches throughout Acadiana and others interested in reading are encouraged to sign up for a reading slot during the Marathon. All are encouraged to come listen and *Marinate in the Word!* For more information or to register as a lector please contact Fr. Michael Champagne, CJC at fetedieuduteche@gmail.com or 337-394-6550. More information is available at www.fetedieuduteche.org and Fete-Dieu du Teche on Facebook.

CONFIRMATION & FIRST COMMUNION EVENTS

- **Confirmation Mass** with Bishop Deshotel will be at Immaculate Conception Church on Tuesday, March 20th at 6 PM
- **First Penance** with Fr. Matthew will be during the children's regularly scheduled catechism class sometime in March.
- **First Holy Communion Mass** will be Sunday, May 13th during the regularly scheduled 9AM Mass.

ANNULMENT PROCESS WORKSHOP

April 17th, 2018, Judicial Vicar for the Diocese of Lafayette, Msgr. Robie Robichaux, will be presenting workshops on Declaration of Nullity and what is needed to begin the process. Additionally, the Office of Marriage and Family Life will provide information and resources available to individuals dealing with divorce and grief recovery. The two hour workshop will be held at 10:00 a.m. or 6:00 p.m. at the Diocesan offices, 1408 Carmel Drive, Lafayette, LA. Prior to attending one of the sessions, please register by calling 261-5623, or via email to catrahan@diolaf.org. There is *no charge* for this workshop.

DIRECTED RETREATS AT THE JESUIT SPIRITUALITY CENTER

The Jesuit Spirituality Center offers personally directed retreats. Participants may choose either a 5-day or 3-day option. The center specializes in these personally directed retreats, which are based on the Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius Loyola. Solitude and silence are important aspects of the retreat experience.

The Jesuit Spirituality Center in Grand Coteau announces these upcoming retreats:

- Mon., 4/09 or Thu., 4/12
- Mon., 5/28 or Thu., 5/31
- Mon., 4/23 or Thu., 4/26
- Mon., 6/18 or Thu., 6/21
- Mon., 5/14 or Thu., 5/17

To register or for more information visit jesuitspiritualitycenter.org or call 337-662-5251.

LOCAL BIBLE STUDY

Come, Lord Jesus! is a weekly journey to study and meditate on the Sunday Gospels.

We are blessed at Immaculate Conception to have three thriving Come, Lord Jesus! Groups already formed. Everyone is welcome and there is always room for additional people to join. Please call the office with any questions you may have.

Our meeting times are as follow:

Tuesday afternoon at 3:30 PM to 5:00 PM – In the parish Hall
5:00 PM to 6:00 PM – In the parish Hall

Thursday morning at 9:30 AM to 11:00 AM at Ms. Jane Dupre's home
You can reach her on her cell phone for directions at 337-945-6881



PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK

Connie Benoit, Jeffrey Stelly, Dr. Amy Franchebois Bainsfather, Frieda Mayeux, Ray Levaha, Fr. Albert Nunez, Margaret Lafleur, Mcall Thibodeaux

WEEKLY PRAYER FOR PRIESTS EACH DAY

Eternal Father, we lift up to You these and all the priests of the world. Sanctify them, heal and guide them. Mold them into the likeness of Your Son, Jesus, the Eternal High Priest. May their lives be pleasing to You in Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

Sunday: Bishop Emeritus Michael Jarrell

Thursday: Rev. Louis Richard

Monday: Bishop Glen John Provost

Friday: Rev. Michael Richard

Tuesday: Rev. Herve Racivitch, SJ

Saturday: Rev. Rusty Richard

Wednesday: Rev. Hernando Ramirez, SJ

PRAYER FOR FAMILIES

Jesus, Mary, and Joseph, like you we are members of the Father's family. We pray that our family love may reflect his love on its openness to all people. May we forgive even when not forgiven, and be patient with others' weaknesses. Jesus, give us peace, unity, and strength to meet the difficulties of daily living. May we use our family resources to improve the quality of life for ourselves and all people. Let us show joy in serving, for whatever we do for others, we do for you. Mary, inspire us, that our love may be strong but not possessive. Let our willingness to give depend on the needs of others rather than on the cost of giving. Joseph, help us to be attentive to the Father's will. Let us be ready, as you were, to act whenever her calls us.



PRAYER BLANKET MINISTRY

Prayer Blankets can benefit those suffering in body, mind, or spirit.

For those interested in being part of this ministry, please contact Jerry Mayeux at 308-3325 or Jane Dupre at 945-6881. If you have fabric you'd like to donate, it would be appreciated.

If you or a loved one would like a prayer blanket please call the ladies mentioned above or the church office.



MONDAY ROSARY

All are invited to a group rosary every Monday at **5:00 pm** in church at Immaculate Conception. Prayers will be offered for our country and an end to violence in the world. Invite your friends and family.



MONTH OF MARCH:

**Norma Plattsmier, Merryle Soileau
Karen Ducote, Diane Wartelle**



SURVIVOR OF SUICIDE SUPPORT GROUP

The death of a loved one is never easy and grief is experienced differently for everyone. The Jacob Crouch Suicide Prevention Services and the Office of Marriage and Family Life have formed a support group especially tailored for survivors of suicide. This group provides a safe place for those who have lost a loved one to suicide to share their struggles, experiences, and pain as they struggle to regain hope and strength. The group is facilitated by a licensed counselor and is open to all survivors of suicide over the age of 18 and meets on two evenings a month. Please call Kelley Chapman at 337-261-5653 for more information or to register

DIVORCE RECOVERY PROGRAM

The Office of Marriage and Family Life offers a 6-week divorce recovery program for those who have suffered from divorce/separation. Please visit our website, www.diolaf.org/divorcerecovery to register or to find out more information.

RETRouvaille WEEKEND

Retrouvaille is a program for troubled marriages. The weekend provides a safe setting; encouraging couples to learn communication in marriage in a respectful manner. Visit the website for more information and to register www.helpourmarriage.com.

WELCOME NEW PARISHIONER!



Welcome to Immaculate Conception Church! We are very glad you are here and pray that you become active in our vibrant church community where we love God, one another, our community, and our world with our thoughts and actions. If you are new to the parish, please complete a registration form which can be found on our website immaculate-conception-washington.org under "About, Contact Us" or you may come into the office. Please return the form either in the collection basket or to the parish office.

PARISH BULLETIN INFORMATION: Contact the bulletin editor (parish secretary) or bring information to the rectory. All information must be in by Monday. If your family or business would like to help support the bulletin by taking an ad, or remember a loved one "In Memoir" Please call: John or Peter Watson at 985-868-6804.

