



CATHEDRAL OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION
Established December 8, 1869
935 Bilbo Street Lake Charles, LA 70601
337.436.7251 fax: 337.436.7240
Website: immaculateconceptioncathedral.com
e-mail:
secretary@immaculateconceptioncathedral.com

DIOCESE OF LAKE CHARLES
Established April 25, 1980

The Most Rev. Glen John Provost, D.D., M.A.
Bishop of Lake Charles

PARISH STAFF

Very Reverend Ruben Buller, V. G.
Pastor
Reverend Michael Beverung
Parochial Vicar
Mr. Robert Marcantel
Music Director
Mrs. Marlene Mullenix
Organist
Mrs. Carmel Fazzio
Bookkeeper
Mrs. Monica Broussard
Secretary/Youth Director
Ms. Karen Carso
Receptionist
Mrs. Sue Burke
Receptionist
Mr. Brendan Howard
Maintenance
Mrs. Jacqueline Hebert
ICCS Principal

Cathedral office hours:

Monday—Thursday 8:30 AM—12:00 1:00—4:30 PM
Friday 8:30 AM—Noon

MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday	8:00 AM
	4:00 PM (Anticipated Mass)
Sunday	7:30 AM, 9:30 AM, 11:15 AM
	12:45 PM (Rubrics of 1962)
Monday—Friday	7:00 AM St. Bernadette Oratory
	12:05 PM

SACRAMENT OF PENANCE

Monday—Thursday 11:30 AM—Noon
Friday 11:00 AM—Noon

Saturday 3:00 PM—3:55 PM

30 minutes before all Sunday Masses

NOVENA TO OUR LADY OF PERPETUAL HELP
Tuesdays before 12:05 Mass

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

DECEMBER 7, 2025

My Dear People of God!

Tomorrow (December 8th), is the Feast of the Immaculate Conception when we recall the uniqueness of the Blessed Virgin Mary and her birth. The Immaculate Conception is the Dogma by which we recall that God gave a unique grace to the Blessed Mother that allowed her to conceive without Original Sin or its consequences (which we call concupiscence) that make us desire sin. This singular grace was the work of God by which He gave the grace of the Redemption to Mary so that in turn she would be able to make a free choice (a free “yes”) to God’s plan. Recall after all, that Adam and Eve were created sinless as well (immaculate), but they squandered their freedom. As we celebrate the Immaculate Conception, we can and should pray for the freedom to respond to God’s grace in our lives.

Since the Feast of the Immaculate Conception is a Holy Day of Obligation, please be reminded that we are to make the effort to attend Mass. Our Mass schedule for December 8th is in the Bulletin today.

As we continue to consider the Creed, we come to the article of the Creed in which we profess that the Holy Spirit “proceeds from the Father and the Son.” Recently, this article of the Creed made the news when our Holy Father, Pope Leo, went to Turkey to visit the site of Nicaea where the Church formulated the Creed. In the original Creed of the Council of Nicaea, the phrase “and the Son” was not included. This is called the *filioque* (“and the Son” in Latin) controversy. Many Eastern Christians object that the phrase was added to the Creed in Latin beginning in parts of Europe in the 8th Century and then added to the Mass in the 11th Century. Both the East and the West agree in the divine processions of the Trinity and do not question the idea, but much has been said in the Western Christians adding the phrase.

The fact is that it was added to the Creed in Western Europe to counter two heresies that were beginning. First, the idea of the Holy Spirit as something less than a Person of the Trinity. To counter this, the Church would say that proceeding from the Father and the Son, He (the Holy Spirit) has the same divine origin but is not to be confused with the Son. Second, there was extensive questioning in the West until the 11th Century of the divine Nature of the Son. Showing that He was just as much God and as God the Father in this statement helped to defend the divinity of the Son and the Holy Spirit as co-equal with the Father leading to the next article that we will consider next week.

For our part looking at this history, the bishops of the West with the pope’s permission added the phrase “...and the Son” so that they could re-enforce what the Church teaches. As we learn, so we pray, as we pray, so we believe.

This week, let us be informed by what we pray so that we can believe and profess what we pray.

God Bless!
Father Ruben Buller

The Sanctuary Candle burns in December for:

Cathedral: Secondo DiCarlo
& Emma Annibolletti DiCarlo
St. Bernadette Oratory:
Lonnie Joseph Neveu



Readings for the Week ~
December 8-14, 2025

Monday: Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception
Genesis 3:9-15, 20; Psalm 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4; Ephesians 1:3-6, 11-12; Luke 1:26-38

Tuesday: Isaiah 40:1-11; Psalm 96:1-2, 3 and 10ac, 11-12, 13; Matthew 18:12-14

Wednesday: Isaiah 40:25-31; Psalm 103:1-2, 3-4, 8 and 10; Matthew 11:28-30

Thursday: Isaiah 41:13-20; Psalm 145:1 and 9, 10-11, 12-13ab; Matthew 11:11-15

Friday: Our Lady of Guadalupe Zechariah 2:14-17; Judith 13:18bcde, 19; Luke 1:26-38

Saturday: St. Lucy Sirach 48:1-4, 9-11; Psalm 80:2ac and 3b, 15-16, 18-19; Matthew 17:9a, 10-13

Sunday: Third Sunday of Advent Isaiah 35:1-6a, 10; Psalm 146:6-7, 8-9, 9-10.; James 5:7-10; Matthew 11:2-11



The Cathedral Offices will be closed
On Monday, December 8th
In honor of the
Feast of the Immaculate Conception

Your generosity is such a beautiful gift.

November 30, 2025

\$18,470.50

Offertory **\$14,800.50**
Online **\$3,670.00**

Upcoming second collections:

Christmas Flowers

December 7

#IGIVECATHOLICADVENTCHALLENGE

DON'T MISS THE TAX BREAK



Your gift makes an impact while reducing your taxable income.

QUALIFIED CHARITABLE DISTRIBUTION FROM YOUR IRA



Age 70 ½ or older



Distribution must be made by Dec. 31, 2025



Contribution must be sent directly from your IRA to your church parish



Other year-end gifts
— by check, online
donation, or
appreciated stock —
are also welcome.

**A Qualified Charitable
Distribution (QCD) can
count toward your
Required Minimum
Distribution (RMD) if
you are 73 or older,
while reducing your
taxable income.**

**CONTACT THE
CHURCH OFFICE
FOR MORE
INFORMATION**

Immaculate Conception Cathedral School and St. Louis Catholic High School Subsidy Requirements

The minimum donation per year to qualify for a subsidy for ICCS is \$500 and for St. Louis it is \$600, along with the requirement of being a registered, active parishioner of the Cathedral Parish

Welcome

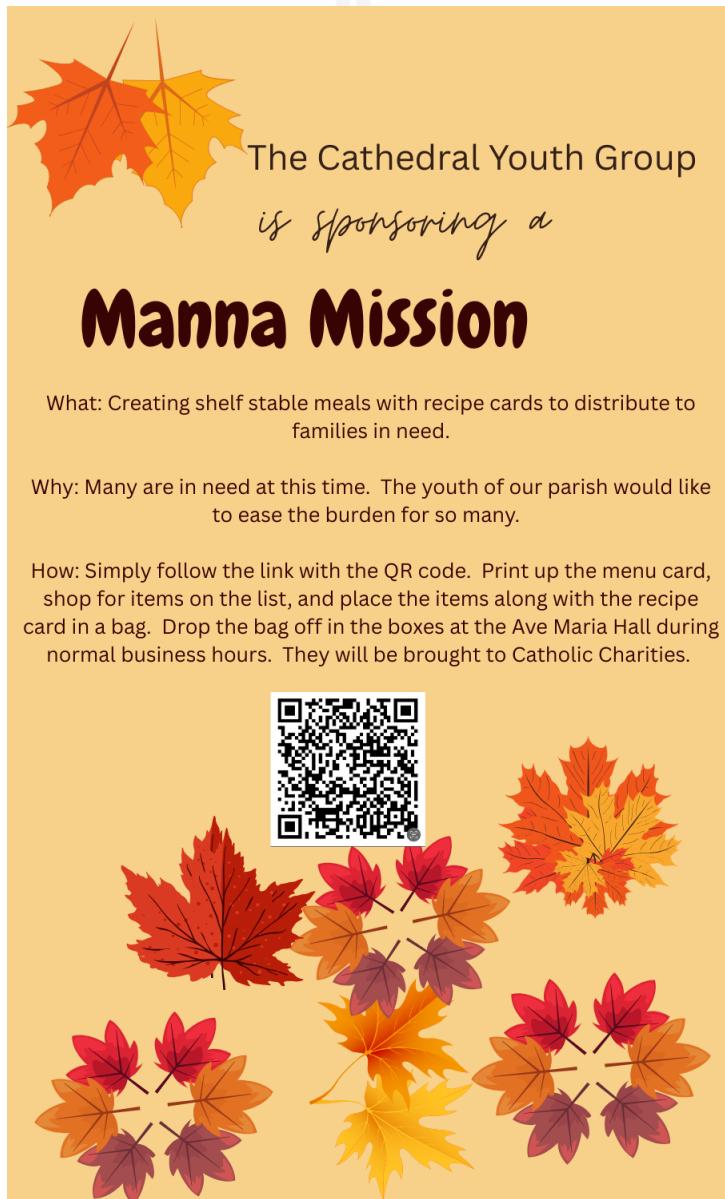
The newest members of our Cathedral Parish

Ben Delahoussaye

If you would like to make a donation in memory of your deceased loved ones for the flowers that will adorn our altar and worship space this Christmas Season, please place it in the envelope from your contribution packet or in a plain envelope marked "Flowers."

**Don't forget to include the name or names of those you wish to remember.
The list of names will be in the December 24 bulletin.**

Being the hands of feet of Christ...



The Cathedral Youth Group
is sponsoring a
Manna Mission

What: Creating shelf stable meals with recipe cards to distribute to families in need.

Why: Many are in need at this time. The youth of our parish would like to ease the burden for so many.

How: Simply follow the link with the QR code. Print up the menu card, shop for items on the list, and place the items along with the recipe card in a bag. Drop the bag off in the boxes at the Ave Maria Hall during normal business hours. They will be brought to Catholic Charities.



Christmas at Sea

The Stella Maris Seafarers Center is giving holiday treats and gift cards to sailors this year. To learn more, call 337-263-0317.



Cookies, cakes, candy and holiday breads are welcome. Gift cards to fast food restaurants like Subway, Buffalo Wild Wings, Crust Pizza, Chick-fil-A, McDonald's and Walmart, are perfect!



Spread the love of Christ to sailors this year!

Call Ray Fontenot, Director, at 337-263-0317, or email stella.maris@lcdioocese.org to have items picked up. Or, you may deliver them to Stella Maris Seafarers Center, 150 Marine St., Box 10, Lake Charles, LA 70601



Socks for the Homeless

Theresian Ministry is sponsoring a sock drive for the homeless. Simply purchase extra socks while you are shopping, and drop them off in the baskets at the Cathedral office or at the northside entrance of the Cathedral during November and December. The socks will be delivered to Catholic Charities for distribution to our friends in need.

Youth Ministry

NEWS

The Cathedral has a thriving Youth Group for both High School students and students in Middle School. Middle Schoolers meet on the first Wednesday of each month from 5-6:15, and the High Schoolers meet on the first and third Wednesday from 6-7:30. Both groups meet in the Ave Maria Hall. Interested? Use the QR codes below to sign up on our Group Me.

High School Youth Group

Use this QR code to join our high school youth group



Middle School Youth Group

Use this QR code to join our middle school youth group



Thanksgiving Java & Jesus



Our High School Youth Group gathered on Wednesday, November 26th at The Buzz Coffee & More for fellowship, coffee and discussion of the virtue of gratitude. We appreciate The Buzz for always welcoming us in and making us feel at home!



Little Flowers Girls' Club

Little Flowers Girls' Club Meeting in the
Cathedral Ave Maria Hall

To learn more please contact Jessie Dupre
225.776.4139.

Little Flowers Girls' Club® is a Catholic club for girls ages 5 and up that teaches virtues through scripture, saints' biographies and the Catechism of the Catholic Church.

Join us this Sunday, December 7th
Great coffee, doughnuts, conversation
and community

Ave Maria Hall after the 7:30 & 9:30 Mass,
courtesy of KCs Cathedral Council 1207

How to keep in touch!

Flocknote— You can either visit flocknote.com/iccathedral or text **ICCATHEDRAL** to **84576** from your cell phone to subscribe.

Facebook—Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception

Web—immaculateconceptioncathedral.com

Listen to our Sunday 9:30 AM mass on the radio! Tune in to **KLCL AM 1470** or **KJEF AM 1290**.

Volunteers Needed for Lake Charles Distribution
Catholic Charities of Southwest Louisiana is seeking volunteers for monthly food distributions at 1225 2nd Street in Lake Charles from 8:30 am-11:00 am on the following date:

December 12

Volunteers are needed to greet clients, assist with check-in and registration, direct traffic, organize food allotments and load food packages in vehicles in the drive thru line.

For more information, or to sign up to help, please contact Catholic Charities Volunteer Coordinator at (337) 439-7436 ext. 208 or by email at volunteer@catholiccharitiesswla.org

Cathedral Altar Society...making a difference every day!

Our Cathedral Altar Society works to provide and care for all the things associated with our altar and sacristy needed to celebrate Mass. The Altar Society provides for our daily Masses, five weekend Masses, the St. Bernadette Chapel, the Seafarers Center, ICCS, St. Louis Catholic High School and our homebound parishioners.

The core mission of the Altar Society remains as it always has - provide and care for the bread, wine, vessels, linens, vestments, candles, flowers and anything else needed for the altar of worship.

They are the members (women and men) who volunteer to take home the linens and towels used at Mass for cleaning and pressing. They are the Sacristans who set up for Mass and take down after. They polish and clean the vessels, press and mend the vestments, water the plants, and more. Their "behind the scenes" involvement is often unnoticed but vital to our church parish.

Your yearly dues of \$25 per family, or contributions to our Altar Society, will guarantee that our Cathedral Parish will continue to have its needs provided. If you donate or join by check, please write "Altar Society" on the memo line. You may also make a donation online by noting "Altar Society." Please contact the church office at 436.7251 for more information.

Children's Church: 11:15 AM Mass

The Cathedral's Catechesis (commonly called "Children's Church") for children who are 3 years of age through 2nd Grade, or its equivalent, is offered at the 11:15 am Mass (children must be potty trained!). The Catechesis is meant to help children better understand the Mass and the Scriptures. The catechists who are leading the program are Safe-Environment ("Safe and Sacred") Trained and use an approved text for the catechetical sessions.

Catholic Daughters Court Lady of the Lake #695 -
3rd Monday of each month (September to June) at 6:00 in the Ave Maria Hall

Cathedral Council 1207, Knights of Columbus -
4th Tuesday of each month at 6:00 p.m. in the Ave Maria Hall



DIOCESAN NOVENA

FOR OUR NEXT BISHOP

O most Holy Virgin, whom the Lord was pleased to make His Mother, immaculate in body and soul, unwavering in faith and ardent in love, look kindly upon us as we implore your powerful intercession.

O most Holy Mother, who by the first moment of your Immaculate Conception did crush the head of our ancient foe, we humbly beseech you as suppliants to receive our prayers as we implore you to present at the throne of God the favor we now request: **that a faithful and zealous shepherd be chosen as the next Bishop of Lake Charles.**

O Lady of the Immaculate Conception, Holy Mother of God, you did have influence with your Divine Son while upon this Earth. And, since your most powerful persuasion has in every way come to fullness now in Heaven, pray for us and obtain from Him, Whom you rightly call your own Son, the granting of our petition according to the Divine Will, through the same Christ our Lord. *Amen*

To be prayed November 30 – December 8, 2025

First Sunday of Advent through the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Image: From the Apse at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Lake Charles

JUBILEE PRAYER 2025

Father in heaven, may the *faith* you have given us in your son, Jesus Christ, our brother, and the flame of *charity* enkindled in our hearts by

the Holy Spirit, reawaken in us the blessed *hope* for the coming of your Kingdom.

May your grace transform us into tireless cultivators of the seeds of the Gospel. May those seeds transform from within both humanity and the whole cosmos in the sure expectation of a new heaven and a new earth, when, with the powers of Evil vanquished, your glory will shine eternally.

May the grace of the Jubilee reawaken in us, *Pilgrims of Hope*, a yearning for the treasures of heaven. May that same grace spread the joy and peace of our Redeemer throughout the earth.

To you our God, eternally blessed, be glory and praise for ever.

Amen

Can We Bring Jesus to You or Your Loved One?

If anyone is homebound and would like to receive the Holy Eucharist at home, or if you know someone who is homebound and would like to receive Holy Communion, please call the church office at 337-436-7251 and we will contact you.

Looking for something??

The Cathedral office has a Lost and Found...if you are missing your Missal, rosary, keys, sunglasses, reading glasses, mantilla, umbrella, etc. please stop by and see if we have it!

You must be able to identify your item.

Our church office gladly hands out Snack Bags, as available to anyone who comes to our door, **no questions asked.**

We also have an active Outreach Ministry, as well as Catholic Charities, to help those in need.

Explore the convenience of online giving at immaculateconceptioncathedral.com and set your tithe to automatically occur when, how often, and in the amount you would like to give. After your account is set up, you will always have access to it to update your information, change gift amounts, enter new payment methods, or pause/cancel a gift at any time.

With online giving, you can forget about writing checks or having cash on hand for the offertory!

Remember, you can easily access your online payment account at immaculateconceptioncathedral.com/payments

Pray for
VOCATIONS

Cor ad Cor

A Heart-to-Heart with Christ and the Sisters of Mercy

Unmarried women, ages 18 and up, are invited to join the Religious Sisters of Mercy at their Convent on the first Tuesday of the Month. These evenings consist of prayer before the Blessed Sacrament, Dinner, and Discussion.

The schedule is as follows:

4:55 pm Holy Hour

6:15 pm Dinner

8:00 pm Conclusion

Address: 1414 Martha Street
Lake Charles, La 70601

The Discernment Year

The Discernment Year is designed to bring clarity to vocational discernment by showing a young man how to discern. The Discernment Year is for young men who are juniors in High School through 25 years old.

If you are interested in learning more about the discernment year, please contact Father Michael Caraway at 337-439-7400 ext. 226 or email michael.caraway@lcdioocese.org

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

SATURDAY, December 6... (8:00 AM) Brad Foreman (4:00 PM)—Gladys & Delma Devillier; Ted Gauthreaux; Kate Ortego Thomas; Shelia Cola; Beau Styron; Earl Hudgins; Scalisi & Barone Families; Annette Pronia; Reverend Monsignor Charles Dubois

SUNDAY, December 7... (7:30 AM)— “Pro Populo” (For the People) (9:30 AM)—James Dunham Shearman; Anna Rita & Joseph Scalisi; Sam Reed; Tyler Family; Betty Dimaline; Bob McCall (11:15 AM)—Hiram DuRousseau
(12:45 PM Rubrics of 1962)— Phillip Conner

MONDAY, December 8... (7:00 AM) “Pro Populo” (For the People) (12:05 PM)—Dr. John Foret
(5:00 PM Rubrics of 1962) Jon & Elisa Schnur

TUESDAY, December 9... (7:00 AM) Larry DeRoussel (12:05 PM)—Brett & Chere Richard
(5:00 PM Rubrics of 1962) Christian & Kara Racco & Children

WEDNESDAY, December 10... (7:00 AM) Bruce Dauphin (12:05 PM)— Steven Ray Miller
(5:00 PM Rubrics of 1962) Phillip Conner

THURSDAY, December 11... (7:00 AM) Michael Scimemi (12:05 PM)—Mary Barnes
(5:00 PM Rubrics of 1962) Dr. Ben Guilbeau

FRIDAY, December 12... (7:00 AM) “Pro Populo” (For the People) (12:05 PM)—Debbie Richard
(5:00 PM Rubrics of 1962) Clementine Wiggins

SATURDAY, December 13... (8:00 AM)...Tom Delahoussaye (4:00 PM)—Dr. Charles Mackey; J.B. Postell; Sara Douga; Amanda Douga; Hebert & Pronia families; Louise & Joseph Bertrand; Gerald Simmons; Dr. Ben Guilbeau

SUNDAY, December 14... (7:30 AM)—“Pro Populo” (For the People) (9:30 AM)—Michael Scimemi; McCombs Family; Sherman Solari; Charlie Vicellio; The Crosby Family; The Douga Family (11:15 AM)—Charlotte Ann Murphy
12:45 PM Rubrics of 1962)— Phillip Conner

PRAY FOR OUR FRIENDS WHO ARE ILL

Melissa Anderson; George Ange; Jenna, Aden, Grace, David Babcock; James M. Bailey; Guy Barré; David Batchelor; Dale Bayard; June Benoit; Andre Boudreault; Houston G. Boyer; Gayla Brimer; Chandra Broussard; Dean Broussard; Kylan Broussard; James Bryan; Jerry Cain; Emily Carleton; Pauline Chavanne; William “Will” Chavanne; Pearl Cole; Helen Credeur; Betty Daigle; Wade Davis; Carolyn Denison; Vickie Denison; Gwen Thomas Dowden; Larry Dugas; Sherry Dugas; Sadie Dunn; Claudia & Curtis Dyle; Charles Elter; Ann Eustis; Chad Fazzio; Tony Fazzio; Nicholas Fletcher; Sundra Fontenot; Nelson Francisco; Kathleen Gallow; Carolyn Gauthreaux; Debbie Gauthreaux; Diane Hagerty; Gabriel Hardy; Mary Lois Harst; Michelle Hart; Mary Hebert; Peggy Heideman; Brenda Hoback; Allen Hoffpauir; Emery Hooper; Anne Hoyer; Sheryl Huesers; Georgia Ieyoub; Heather Ieyoub; Mary Jeffers; Gary Johnson; Brice Jones; Christy Papania-Jones; Darrel Jones; Denver Keller; Kim LaFleur; Natalie Landry; Chad Lavergne; Caroline Lawless; Wilton “Butch” Lee; James Leger; Michael Lee; Marshall Leiber; Della Lemaire; Catherine Lorenzi; Elizabeth Louviere; Melanie Lupo; Vincent Lupo; Judy Marcantel; Megan Marcantel; Zoë Dyle May; Brett McCaughey; Barbara McCombs; Kai McKinney; Raven McKinney; Elaine Morrow; Jerry Nichols; Dr. John Noble; Randy Nunez; Shawn O’Guinn; Carol & Larry Ortego; Janie Pago; Larry Parker; Larry Parker, Jr.; Ben Perry; Robert Perry; Susan Prejean; Seth Priola; Demi Rainwater; Clifford Raleigh; Rena Reed; Kendall Richard; Oliver “Rick” Richard; William P. Richard; Lathan Russell; Rene Russell; Silas David San Miguel; Sheila Sanders; Leslie Sayne; Marie Scimemi; Doug Shearman; Sue Spears; Marlena Spell; Jaxson Spikes; Rob Stephens; Jackie Stevens; Gary Swain; Jude Theriot; Cole Thomas; Fayette Thomas; Stanley Thomas; Warren Thomas; Jason Thompson; Chad Trahan; Darla & Patrick Trahan; Ted Trahan; John Tucker; Rebecca Turner; Jo Ann Van Gossen; Larry James Vidrine; Billy Ward; Clay Ward; Clyde Weber; Aly & Riley Wilkins; Remi Wissinger; Margaret Wukovits; Andrew Yearby; Ronda Yearby; Gay Young; Martha Young.

If you would like to add or remove a name, please call the church office at 337.436.7251

PRAYER INTENTIONS FOR DECEMBER

Pope Leo XIV~ Let us pray that Christians living in areas of war or conflict, especially in the Middle East, might be seeds of peace, reconciliation, and hope.

Bishop Provost~ Let us pray for a renewal of faith in the Incarnation and the hope it brings to live in peace and with joy.

PRAY FOR OUR MILITARY... Michael Buller, USN; Daniel Breaux, US Army; Cade Camel, US Army; Anthony Deshotel, US Navy; Gabriel Emerson, USAF; LTC John Harrell; Cpl. Wyatt LeJune, USMC; Noah Keller, US Army; Ross Painter, US Army; Lt. Col John Robichaux; Col. Steve Rodriguez, USAF; Joey Russell, USMC; Nikolas Stanko US Army; Anthony Viccellio, USAF National Guard; Nicholas Viccellio, USAF National Guard; Joseph Vincent, USMC
(To add or remove a name, please call the office—436.7251)