



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 14, 2025, GAUDETE

My Dear People of God!

This weekend, the Church celebrates the mid-point of Advent by rejoicing that Christmas is nearer than when we began. The first word of the Mass' propers (the Entrance Antiphon) is "Rejoice." We see Christ is nearer, and so we are only lead to rejoice. Let us this weekend look for the nearness of Christ and rejoice that we have recognized His Presence.

Delving further into the Creed, this weekend we will consider how the Holy Spirit is worshipped with the Father and the Son and that He speaks through the prophets. First, in stating that with the Father and the Son, the Spirit is worshipped means that He is fully God. We cannot forget that the Holy Spirit is a Person of the Blessed Trinity and as such worshipped fully as Lord and God. Although we may personally struggle to explain Him, this does not lessen His Personhood nor His divinity. In that regard, we cannot possess or own the Holy Spirit although we can be filled with His Presence.

With the idea of being filled with the Holy Spirit, we are able then to look more deeply at the next stage of the Creed's profession that is that our Lord the Holy Spirit has spoken through the prophets. We often times think that the "prophets" are individuals who can foretell the future. Rather, the Church and the Scriptures tell us the prophets are those who able to understand the hidden workings of God and explain these workings to others. As such, the Holy Spirit inspires or moves the prophet to speak truths that otherwise would go unseen and unheard.

We can consider prophets of our own times like Pope Saint John Paul II whose message of hope inspired an entire generation of young people to remain close to God. His message of hope also helped to end the grip-hold of the Communists in Eastern Europe who strangled the Christian message and the human dignity of so many. We can look at the prophetic words that Saint Teresa of Calcutta spoke in front of President Clinton that a country that has abortion without limits will lose the basic dignity of every person. These words were first written by Pope Saint Paul VI who warned that artificial contraception will lead to legalized abortion, that leads to no-fault divorce, that leads to the devaluation of the elderly, that leads to euthanasia, and then leads to the legalization of suicide in a nation. Looking at our times, can we deny any of the words of these modern day prophets who spoke through the inspiration of the Holy Spirit the hidden or forgotten plans of God?

We, my friends, at baptism were introduced into the ministry of Christ to be priests who worshipped God in truth, to be kings who act as good stewards in this world, and to be prophets who speak the hidden or forgotten truth that God speaks to world. If we fail to act in speaking these truths, the world will not know the truth of God. Let us then pray for the courage to be true prophets of Christ, speaking through the inspiration of the Holy Spirit.

God Bless!
Father Ruben Buller

The Sanctuary Candle burns in December for:

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



Celebration of the
Sacrament of Baptism
Welcomed into the Family of Christ
Emerson Rose McGroarty
Daughter of
Caitlin & Brendan McGroarty



Your generosity is such a beautiful gift.

December 7, 2025

\$19,925.50

Offertory \$14,143.50
Online \$5,782.00

Upcoming second collections:
December 14-Christmas Flowers
December 21-Building Fund

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

Readings for the Week ~ December 15-19, 2025

Monday: Numbers 24:2-7, 15-17a; Psalm 25:4-5ab, 6 and 7bc, 8-9; Matthew 21:23-27
Tuesday: Zephaniah 3:1-2, 9-13; Psalm 34:2-3, 6-7, 17-18, 19 and 23; Matthew 21:28-32
Wednesday: Genesis 49:2, 8-10; Psalm 72:1-2, 3-4ab, 7-8, 17; Matthew 1:1-17
Thursday: Jeremiah 23:5-8; Psalm 72:1-2, 12-13, 18-19; Matthew 1:18-25
Friday: Judges 13:2-7, 24-25a; Psalm 71:3-4a, 5-6ab, 16-17; Luke 1:5-25
Saturday: Isaiah 7:10-14; Psalm 24:1-2, 3-4ab, 5-6; Luke 1:26-38
Sunday: Fourth Sunday of Advent Isaiah 7:10-14; Psalm 24:1-2, 3-4, 5-6; Romans 1:1-7; Matthew 1:18-24

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 member of our Cathedral Parish

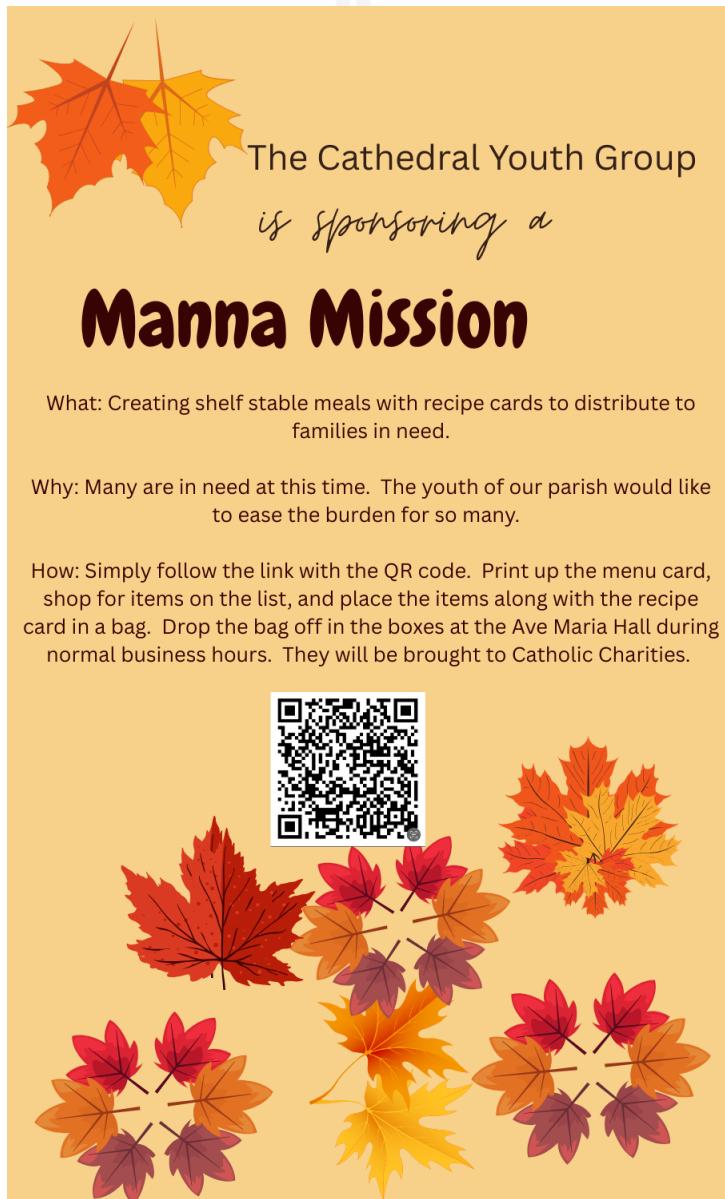
Ella Hebert



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



Teen ACTS Retreat



Our Cathedral Teen ACTS Retreat was held December 4-7 at Dry Creek Baptist Camp. Thirty-one retreatants and fifty-two team members were on this weekend retreat where teens had a deep encounter with our Lord. Everyone in attendance came back filled with the Holy Spirit and ready to pour out God's love to all they encountered. Teen directors were Joseph DesOrmeaux, Halle Poncho, and Dominic Reeves.



PROVERBS 31

foundation

WISDOM SERVICE GRACE

"Proverbs 31 Foundation is a youth ministry group and service organization established from scriptural authority of God's purpose and provision for Girls. The Proverbs 31 Foundation is a catechesis in biblical femininity and virtue development for Girls ages 12-18 cultivated in the charisms of the great female Saints in which the *feminine genius* is intentionally mentored. Girls will be shepherded into knowing their inherent dignity and worth in Christ Jesus. The mission of the Proverbs 31 Foundation is to reverently inspire truth, goodness and beauty and to intentionally cultivate and mentor wise and graceful girls who are prayerful, contemplative, humble, and obedient to our Lord - devoutly serving Christ and His Church."

MEETING DATES 2026 - 4:30 PM:

JANUARY 18

FEBRUARY 15

MARCH 22

APRIL 12

MAY 17

JUNE 14

CATHEDRAL OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

AVE MARIA HALL



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**.

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

JOIN US MARCHING FOR UNBORN BABIES & THEIR MOTHERS AT THE

Southwest **LIFE MARCH** IN LAKE CHARLES

JANUARY 22, 2026 AT 6PM
MEET AT VETERANS MEMORIAL PARK



KEYNOTE
SPEAKER:

Amber Dubois

Conceived in Sexual Violence



LALIFEMARCH.COM



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

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.

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 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

MONDAY, December 15... (7:00 AM) “Pro Populo” (For the People) **(12:05 PM)**—Grimnett Family
(5:00 PM Rubrics of 1962) Tony Leger

TUESDAY, December 16... (7:00 AM) Ted Gauthreaux **(12:05 PM)**—Jeanette Benoit
(5:00 PM Rubrics of 1962) Brad Foreman

WEDNESDAY, December 17... (7:00 AM) Lorita Dauphin **(12:05 PM)**— Carl Ardoin
(5:00 PM Rubrics of 1962) Cheryl Casey

THURSDAY, December 18... (7:00 AM) Logan McGuirk **(12:05 PM)**—Daniel Hernandez
(5:00 PM Rubrics of 1962) Seeburn & Pinkie Chaumont

FRIDAY, December 19... (7:00 AM) “Pro Populo” (For the People) **(12:05 PM)**—Mr. & Mrs. Bruce Dauphin
(5:00 PM Rubrics of 1962) Sam Dugas

SATURDAY, December 20... (8:00 AM) Bishop Glen John Provost **(4:00 PM)**—Kate Ortego Thomas; Annette Pronia; Reverend Monsignor Charles Dubois; Hayley, Andrew, & Arthur Yearby; Vi & Wilburn Laumann; Vera & Joe Ellender; Emma Clark Ward; Beverly L. Mesh; Rikki D. Mesh

SUNDAY, December 21... (7:30 AM)— “Pro Populo” (For the People) **(9:30 AM)**—**J.B. Postell; Bernard**; James Dunham Shearman; Lonnie J. Neveu; Bob McCall; Caius McGuirk **(11:15 AM)**—Hiram DuRousseau
(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)