



IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

VOL. 39
ISSUE 48

Catholic Church † Mission of the Sacred Heart

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November 27, 2016

First Sunday
Of Advent



The Grapevine

PASTORAL STAFF

Rev. Frank M. Uter.....Pastor
Rev. Amal Raj, I.M.S. Associate Pastor
Ronnie DugasParish Administrator
Mike ChiappettaPermanent Deacon
Peter SchlettePermanent Deacon
Rudy StahlPermanent Deacon

MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday Vigil.....4:00 p.m.
Sundays 7:00 a.m., 9:00 a.m.,
9:00 a.m. (MSH), 11:00 a.m. & 6:00 p.m.
Monday-Wednesday-Thursday-Friday .. 8:30 a.m.
Tuesday6:00 pm followed by
Novena/Benediction
Holy Days..... As announced

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Tuesday 5:30-5:45 p.m.
Friday.....8:00-8:20 a.m.
Saturday..... 2:45-3:45 p.m.
Other times as announced or by appointment.

BAPTISMS: Notify Parish Office during pregnancy. Instruction for parents and godparents is required.

MARRIAGE: Contact the Parish Office at least six months before desired date.

PRAYER LINE: (confidential ministry)
Contact Ms. Pat Pastor at 664-1097.

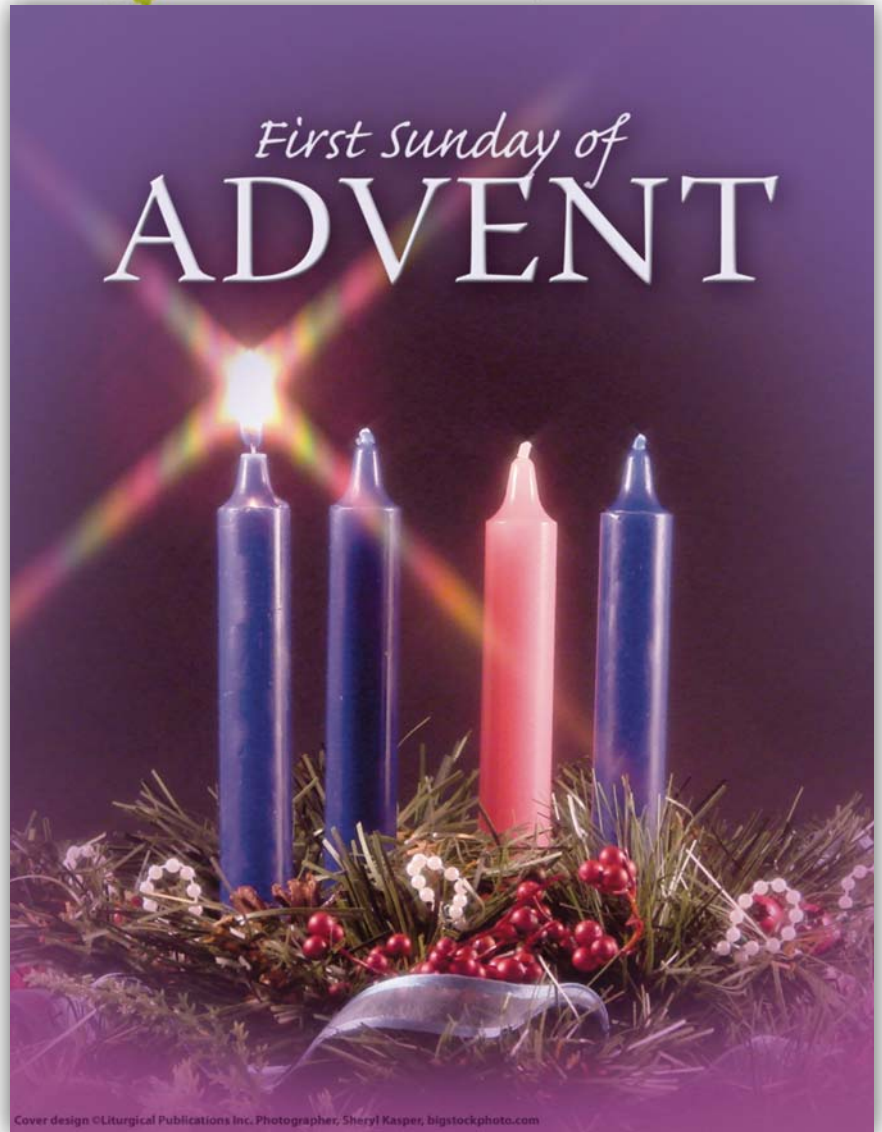
CARE OF THE SICK: Emergency calls answered immediately. Home visitation for the sick and shut-in weekly and upon request. Hospital visits weekly and upon request.

CHRISTIAN BURIAL: Please make arrangements by calling the Parish Office.

PERPETUAL EUCHARISTIC

ADORATION CHAPEL: **TEMORARILY CLOSED**
Open 24 hours a day, seven days a week.
Contact Allison Renfrow at 665-1424.

Information or news for *The Grapevine* (published weekly) should be called in to the Parish Office at least two weeks prior to the event.



MISSION STATEMENT

Immaculate Conception Church Parish and the Mission of the Sacred Heart is a welcoming community, centered in the Eucharist, rooted in faith, growing in fellowship, and sharing in unity the mission Christ entrusted to us.

This week at a Glance

Parish Life ♦ Upcoming Events

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 27

7:00 AM - 8:00 AM	Mass/C
8:00 AM - 11:00 AM	RCIA Rite of Welcome/FFC-211
9:00 AM - 11:00 AM	RCIA-C/FFC-105
9:00 AM - 10:00 AM	Mass/C
9:00 AM - 10:00 AM	Mass/MSH
11:00 AM - 12:00 PM	Mass/C
12:15 PM - 1:30 PM	Baptisms/C
4:00 PM - 5:45 PM	Youth Choir/C
6:00 PM - 7:00 PM	Mass/C
7:00 PM - 8:00 PM	Patriotic Rosary/C

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 28

8:30 AM - 9:00 AM	Mass/C
9:15 AM - 2:00 PM	Early Learning Center/T Bldg.
12:00 PM - 1:00 PM	AA Meeting/SH
4:30 PM - 5:30 PM	PSR 1-5 Grade/FFC
6:30 PM - 7:30 PM	PSR 1-5 Grade/FFC

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 29

9:15 AM - 2:00 PM	Early Learning Center/T Bldg.
12:00 PM - 1:00 PM	AA Meeting/SH
5:30 PM - 6:00 PM	Reconciliation/C
6:00 PM - 6:30 PM	Mass/C
6:30 PM - 7:00 PM	Nov/Bene/C
7:00 PM - 8:00 PM	Adult Choir/C
7:00 PM - 8:00 PM	Men's Club/SH

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 30

8:30 AM - 9:00 AM	Mass/C
9:15 AM - 2:00 PM	Early Learning Center/T Bldg.
12:00 PM - 1:00 PM	AA Meeting/SH
4:30 PM - 5:30 PM	PSR 1-5 Grade/FFC
5:30 PM - 6:30 PM	Children's Choir/MH
6:00 PM - 7:30 PM	Reconciliation: The Light is On for You/C
6:30 PM - 7:30 PM	PSR 1-5 Grade/FFC
6:30 PM - 7:30 PM	PSR 1-5 Grade/MSH

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 1

8:30 AM - 9:00 AM	Mass/C
9:15 AM - 2:00 PM	Early Learning Center/T Bldg.
12:00 PM - 1:00 PM	AA Meeting/SH

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 2

8:00 AM - 8:25 AM	Reconciliation/C
8:30 AM - 9:00 AM	Mass/C
9:15 AM - 2:00 PM	Early Learning Center/T Bldg.
12:00 PM - 1:00 PM	AA Meeting/SH
7:00 PM - 9:00 PM	Charismatic Prayer Group/C
7:00 PM - 8:00 PM	AA/FFC-110

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 3

12:00 PM - 1:00 PM	AA Meeting/SH
2:45 PM - 3:45 PM	Reconciliation/C
4:00 PM - 5:00 PM	Sunday Mass/C



More than any other time in the history of our parish, families need our prayers. On Saturday, December 31st, Immaculate Conception Church will open its doors to host **A DAY OF PRAYER FOR PARISH FAMILIES**. We will begin at 8:00 a.m. and end about 3:45 p.m. We are asking parishioners to join our effort to pray for every family of the parish.

- Choose the time that fits best into your schedule—stay as long as you like.
- When you arrive, we will give you a number of prayer cards. You specify how many.
- These prayer cards have a prayer for healing, a picture of the Holy Family and the name of an ICC family and its members.
- Sit in church, in the presence of Jesus, and pray for each family by name.
- The prayer takes less than 30 seconds to read making it possible to pray for 30 to 60 families in one hour.

This **DAY OF PRAYER** gathers us, in hope and solidarity, to instill comfort, change hearts, stir enthusiasm, and foster a more real and personal relationship with Jesus and his flock. If you can commit to this day of prayer, please notify us by either calling the office at 665-5359 or email pcowart@me.com. We want to ensure that we will have enough people to pray for all 4000+ families before 4:00 Mass begins. You are also welcome to drop by even if you haven't contacted us. However, it is helpful to let us know. Please invite others who are willing to help. With just a small effort, the Holy Spirit will accomplish great things.

Question of the Week

Matthew 24:37-44-Jesus warned his followers to be ready for his return and the advent of the end-time. How are you preparing for the return of the Son of Man?

Consideration of our Christian Commitment: Beginning with Prayer

This Sunday, the First Sunday of Advent, begins a new Liturgical Year, and we begin with a recommitment to prayer.



Today's Scriptures remind us of the importance of prayer throughout our days.

Our First Reading this Sunday is from the prophet Isaiah. In Isaiah's time, wars were a

constant part of life. Political intrigues and alliances divided nations and tribes. Misery seemed to be everywhere and people and nations were alienated from each other as never before. **Isaiah's message, written in the midst of discouragement and chaos is always about calling us back to rely on God, and not our own self-reliance for salvation.** Even when things appear desolate, he tells us to be filled with hope: our faithful God is here with us. During Advent, we will hear the prophet's message over and over because Isaiah is used for most of the first readings of the season. In my mind, no writer in the Scriptures is more identified with Advent than Isaiah.

Today, the First Sunday of Advent begins with two messages - **Have Hope and Prepare for God.** The first reading, which is the focus of the first part of Advent, is about a future time of unity and peace. It feels like the right message for us today. All over the world, there are divisions and a deep need for healing and reconciliation. Sometimes we can't imagine that there is any reason to have hope. Isaiah reminds us that our God is faithful to us always and knows about the situation we are in. Our God is always moving to bring us together. What is the coming together? What might we all "stream toward" together? Isaiah says, **"that he may instruct us in his ways, and we may walk in his paths."** Our only real hope of coming together is to come together in greater faithfulness to our God. The closer we come to our God, the closer we will come toward each other. It will no longer be about a winning and losing – about victory over the other, by putting the other down. When this hope-filled unity comes, Isaiah says, *"They shall beat their swords into plowshares and their spears into pruning hooks; one nation shall not raise the sword against another, nor shall they train for war again."*

Each of us can find a desire in our hearts that sings, "Let us go rejoicing" to this kind of communion and peace. As Paul says, it is a time for us to "wake from sleep." This is a season to "throw off" many things that are all about darkness and to "put on the armor of light," to "put on the Lord Jesus Christ." In the Gospel, Jesus offers us the central Advent

theme. Because we are letting ourselves wake up and become hopeful about God's gathering us together in community, we prepare. We have to let ourselves enter a season of getting ready.

We might have recently been so stuck in discouragement that we are not attentive to signs of hope, to graces being offered us, to any light at all. Could this Advent season be one in which I give myself to more opportunities for togetherness, for bridge building? Sometimes genuine healing and reconciliation in our families, our communities and in our world need serious preparation. We prepare by letting light into places of darkness.

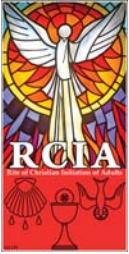
As we rebuild our homes, our parish campus, we have the wonderful call to also strengthen and build relationships with those with whom we journey. Concretely, can this Advent be about continuing gestures of love for a spouse, a co-worker, a fellow student who often bugs me? Can this be a time to reach out to the adult child who has disappointed me – who I might have hurt by my judgements? What nice, caring, generous things can I do that builds a bridge, without recalling a hurt or continuing my finger pointing? Is there a friend or neighbor or church community member I have recently fought with about our differing opinions about something? Could a coffee or tea together be a time to let Advent come alive by spending time saying that our relationship is more important than our differing ideas?

Advent is not just about our "getting ready" to let God come to us – this season is about recognizing God is already with us and in us. All we have to do is recognize God's presence in our hearts. This wonderful season is about recognizing our own weakness yet feeling how deeply God cares for us, even in our deepest failings. From Isaiah's time we have been encouraged to "walk in the light of the Lord!"

To me, our (re)commitments to prayer which we make today are our greatest aid in recognizing God's presence already with us and in us. This is why I think it is so good that we traditionally begin this new Liturgical Year with a commitment to prayer. As we begin together this new Liturgical year we can pray, with growing desire, "Come, Lord Jesus. We await your coming. Come O Lord."

Because of the Thanksgiving holidays, I had to write this article a bit early, so have no real updates to give you this week in the bulletin. I hope to have good news for you next week. Let us keep one another in prayer. Thanks for your commitments to prayer. It means so much to us all. Love,

This Week ♦ Parish Life ♦ Formation ♦ Youth Events



Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults

This Sunday, November 27, brings an end to Phase One of the R.C.I.A. process when the inquirers celebrate the Rite of Acceptance and enter into Phase Two, the Catechumenate. This Rite is the celebration of the inquirers' intention to become Catholic and seriously continue the journey of faith toward baptism or full communion with the Church. Those not baptized are called "Catechumens" and baptized Christians seeking communion with the Catholic Church are called "Candidates." Catechumens and Candidates will continue to study the Catholic faith through December 11 and then resume in January.

Please pray for the following adult and children catechumens/candidates and their sponsors during the next few months as they study and reflect upon Scripture and the teachings of the Catholic faith.



Adult Catechumens

Kristen Duplantis
Kelsey Valentine

Sponsors

Ann Munson
Tammy Valentine

Adult Candidates

Scott Dickerson
Avery Johnson
Desiree' Kennedy

Sponsors

Tammy Jackson
Tammy Young
Whitney Hebert/
Toni Matthews
Randi Langlois
Andrew Kennedy
Tammy Young

Georgia Langlois
Jody Mayeux
Bruce Pearson

Children/Catechumens

Lauren Danielle Farley
James Daniel Guillory
Juniper Elizabeth Guillory
Haley Madison Hoon
Jacyie N. Johnson

Children/Candidates

Michel Ailene Duenez
Miguel Angel Duenez
Danny Joseph Farley
Anthony Kwai-Chang Howard
Korey Joseph Starns

Catholic Youth Leadership Awards

The Knights of Columbus is seeking candidates for The Catholic Youth Leadership Award. Cash prizes are presented to High School Seniors who show leadership in the Church, School and Community. The Top Prize is \$4000. Please call Danny Bennett with nominations at 505-6062. Interested students and parents can obtain an application at <http://louisianakc.org/programs/cyla/>.

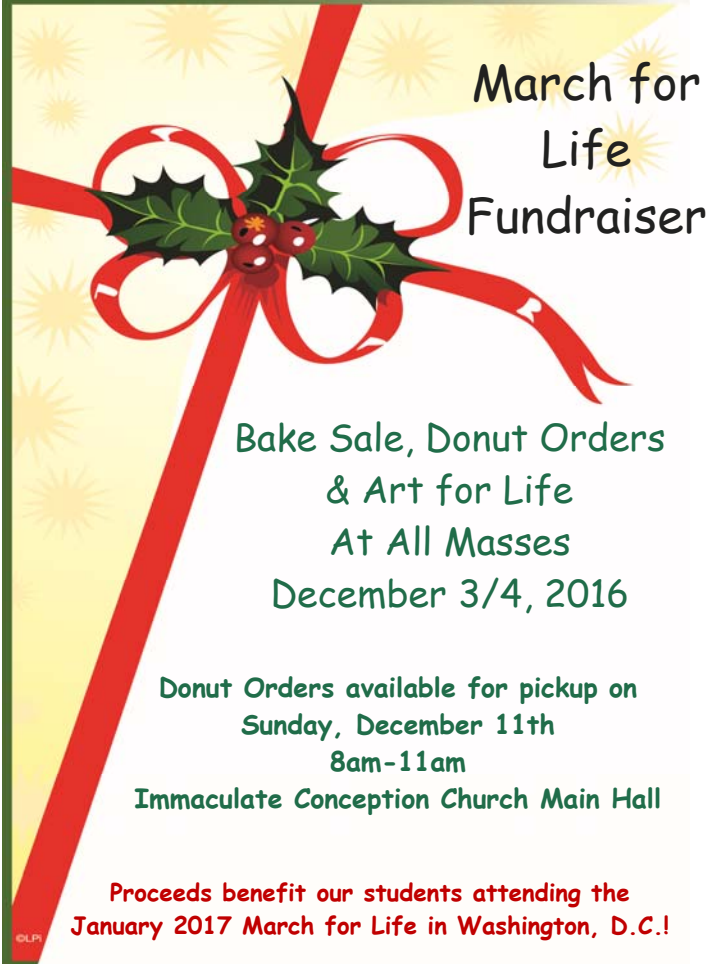
Deadline for submission is January 31, 2017

Parish School of Religion News Dates to Remember!

PSR Classes 6th-10th grade:

- 6th Grade—December 11; 12:30-2:00 p.m.
- 7th & 8th Grade—December 11; 2:30-4:00 p.m.
- 9th Grade—December 18; 12:30-2:00 p.m.
- 10th Grade—December 18; 2:30-4:00 p.m.

Anyone in 6th-10th grade who missed the November classes, please call the office at 665-5926 for make-up classes.



**March for
Life
Fundraiser**

**Bake Sale, Donut Orders
& Art for Life
At All Masses
December 3/4, 2016**

**Donut Orders available for pickup on
Sunday, December 11th
8am-11am
Immaculate Conception Church Main Hall**

**Proceeds benefit our students attending the
January 2017 March for Life in Washington, D.C.!**



1st through 6th grade

Please join us at 5:30 p.m. – in the Church (Main Hall during Advent) for Children's Choir Rehearsals. The children sing on the first Sunday of the month at the 11:00 a.m. Mass and Christmas Eve at 4:00 p.m.

Parish Life ♦ Stewardship



November 26, 2016-
December 4, 2016

SATURDAY: 11/26/16

4:00 p.m. Jerry Valentine, Sr.†; Virgil & Mary Brown†; Kathy Alello†; Lindell Gill, Sr.†; Douglas Fuentes; Peter Lan Nguyen†.

SUNDAY: 11/27/16

7:00 a.m. Lloyd DeGeneres†; Dominic P. Nguyen†.
9:00 a.m. Garrett Minard†; Myrtle & John Bubrig†; William & Josephine Chiappetta†; William Chiappetta, III†; Phillip John Bilski†; Mary Guidry†; Deacon William Chiappetta†; Laura Diaz†; Kenneth Badeaux, Sr.†.
9:00 a.m. (MSH) Open Intention.
11:00 a.m. Butch Calmes†; Lucille O’Neill†; Jean Meyers†; Ashley Nicole Purpera†; Rodney Williams†; Valerie Jordan†; Dominic Nham Truong†.
6:00 p.m. Parishioners.

MONDAY: 11/28/16

8:30 a.m. Mr. Clyde Meyers, Sr.

TUESDAY: 11/29/16

6:00 p.m. Maria Nguyen†.

WEDNESDAY: 11/30/16

8:30 a.m. M/M Henry Pulizzano.

THURSDAY: 12/01/16

8:30 a.m. Alex Theriot, Jr.†.

FRIDAY: 12/02/16

8:30 a.m. M/M Henry Pulizzano.

SATURDAY: 12/03/16

4:00 p.m. Sam Guzzardo†; M/M George Guzzardo†; Chuck Harrison & Family†; Douglass Fuentes; Rev. Richard Hall, OMI†; Keith David Budde, Sr.†; Dominic Do†.

SUNDAY: 12/04/16

7:00 a.m. Parishioners.
9:00 a.m. Phillip John Bilski†; John Durand†; Louis “LJ” Berthelot†; Lucille O’Neill†; Mary Guidry†.
9:00 a.m. (MSH) Open Intention
11:00 a.m. Dane Bananno†; Butch Calmes†; Mark Andrew Smith†; Michael Bui & Tran Bon†; Dan Gully†;
6:00 p.m. Special Intention.

CHURCH SANCTUARY LAMP: 11/27/16—12/03/16
burns in memory of **JOEY & TRUDY WAGUESPACK.**

“So too, you also must be prepared, for at an hour you do not expect, the Son of Man will come.”

—Mt. 24:44



This week we hear that ominous Gospel passage where Jesus tells us about people being taken from where they are and what they are doing when they least expect it, while others remain. This has been distorted by some for support into a spectacular idea of rapture, leading to many books and movies. A profitable genre has been created that sometimes preys on people’s fears.

But in following Jesus Christ, there is no fear. What we are called to do is live each day as it were our last. Be mindful of all the opportunities around you to share love and the gifts God has given you. We will all be held accountable in the end, but it is not what we have done that will save us. Our salvation lies in the grace freely given to us by Jesus. When we choose to receive that gift and intentionally follow him, we are led to giving over our entire being totally to Him.

This Advent, let’s not allow ourselves to be caught up in all the craziness of the season, but instead give ourselves over to God to use for His glory. The Incarnation born in a manger is calling you. Have no fear!

Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

November 12/13, 2016



Identified offertory givers:	\$	16,668.00
Visitors/unidentified:	\$	1,954.18
All Saints:	\$	140.00
Total Collected:	\$	18,762.18

JULY 1, 2016 TO DATE
Actual Income: \$ 492,278.92

JULY 1, 2016 TO DATE

Actual Expense:	\$	539,270.89
Surplus/Deficit	\$	-46,991.97
St. Vincent de Paul:	\$	42.00
Building & Maintenance:	\$	2,513.00
Propagation of the Faith:	\$	20.00
Retirement for Religious:	\$	50.00
Campaign for Human Development	\$	50.00

Donation made to
The Building Fund given in memory of:
Jean Meyers by Kathy DeGeneres

Patriotic Rosary for our Nation—Join us to pray a rosary for our nation every Sunday at 7:00 p.m. in the Church



WeShare Online Giving
icc-msh.weshareonline.org



Outreach

Worship ♦ Directory



Pray for the Sick

If you wish to place a name on the prayer list or retain a name after the four-week period, please call the church office at 665-5359. For the prayer line, call Pat Pastor at 664-1097.

- | | | |
|-------------------------|------------------------|-----------------------|
| Stacey Allee | Mike Gremillion | Doris Nix |
| Elmer Allen | Mac Griffin | Mary Piper |
| Jane Ardoin | Johnny Guyban | Fran Poche |
| Karen Balle | Shirley Harrington | Troy Pourciau |
| Joseph Beazer | Richard Hartley | Sr. Carol Ann Ptacek |
| Mary Ann Bendily | Charles Haughton, Jr. | Edna Purvis |
| Judy Bennett | Natalie Hicks | Max Rabalais |
| Linda Betz | Valerie Hill | John Richeaux |
| Nick Betrand | Betty Himel | Tyler Rivers |
| Perri Blackledge | Jimmy Hood | Darrin Rogers |
| Lynne Blair | Helen Wickwire Hoshman | Jerri Rogers |
| Susan Birou | Wanda Ishmael | Stephen Rogers |
| Carley Biscotto | Jeanette Jandler | Desi Rosado |
| Dana Bramlett | Chelse Kaighen | Erica Ryland |
| John Bramlett, Jr. | Vicki Kelly | Jessica Schexnayder |
| Dale Breaux | Bruce Kerr | Ernest Scott |
| Caty Brignac | Michael Kilcrease | Jerri Scott |
| Amelia Brown | Sally Kramer | Gene Sellers |
| Troy Campo | Eva Laborde | Ozark Shaffort |
| Barbara Carlton | Louis Lacara | Charles Stafford |
| Emily Caruthers | Alan Landry | Mike Stephens |
| Leila Champagne | Julie LaFleur | Dennis Strader |
| Scott Charleville | Pauline Lambert | Daren Tassin |
| Kristi Chenier | James Landry | Paul Tassin |
| Jim Cook | Aaron LeBlanc | Susan Friedman Tate |
| Jeanne Comeaux | Leonard LeBlanc | Joanna Terry |
| Lavern Conerly | Jeffery LeJeune | Nell Thigpen |
| Maxim Daquin | Ronald Lohr | Jeff Thornton |
| Brandon/Charlene DeCuir | Elsie Lousteau | Mickie Todd |
| Karen Dembrun | Sr. Maria | Pat Trahan |
| Joseph Desota | Richard Mariani | Ada Trembly |
| Shirley DeSoto | Anita Martinez | Jean Tullier |
| Jessica Dettman | Bernard Martinez | Nick Tullier |
| Russell Dietrich | Edward Martinez | Ann Viola |
| Darryl Dufour | Sr. Anthony Mary | Mary Walker |
| Pat Dunn | Jennifer McBride | Christopher Waller |
| MacKenzie East | George Meyers | Robert Whiddon |
| Glenn Ezell | JoAnne Miles | Susie White |
| Charles Fava | Jackie Miller | Melissa Wilkes |
| Jeff Fisher | Kaden Miller | Wolinski Family |
| Betty Frugé | Dennis Montgomery | Kenneth Woodburn, Jr. |
| Moore Gauthier | Cherry Moore | Robin Wroten |
| Dee Dee Gautreau | Chris Morris | Richard/Vertie Young |
| Evelyn Guyban Germany | Avery Musick | |



Adoration Chapel News:

Besides restoring the chapel, there is obviously the need to restore our list of Committed Adorers. **Allison Renfrow is seeking to rebuild our list of Committed Adorers.** If she has not reached you yet, you can contact her via email at arenfrow05@bellsouth.net.

Readings for the week of 11/27/16

- Sunday: Is 2:1-5/Ps 122/Rom 13:11-14/Mt 24:37-44
 - Monday: Is 4:2-6/Ps 122/Mt 8:5-11
 - Tuesday: Is 11:1-10/Ps 72/Lk 10:21-24
 - Wednesday: Rom 10:9-18/Ps 23/Mt 4:18-22
 - Thursday: Is 26:1-6/Ps 118/Mt 7:21, 24-27
 - Friday: Is 29:17-24/Ps 27/Mt 9:27-31
 - Saturday: Is 30:19-21, 23-26/Ps 147/Mt 9:35--10:1, 5a, 6-8
 - Next Sunday: Is 11:1-10/Ps 72/Rom 15:4-9/Mt 3:1-12
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 Liturgy Coordinator Assistant/Baptism Coordinator:
 Mrs. Sherry Leger; sleger@icc-msh.org
 Adult Formation: Deacon Rudy Stahl; deaconrudy@icc-msh.org
 R.C.I.A. Coordinator:
 Mrs. Judy Graphia; 665-9631; jgraphia@icc-msh.org

MAINTENANCE OFFICE—(225) 665-2281; EXT. 206
 Mr. Harry Stelly; Mr. Fred Adams; Mrs. Joni Hebert; Ms. Kerry Brown

PARISH SCHOOL OF RELIGION OFFICE -(225) 665-5926
OFFICE HOURS DURING SCHOOL SESSIONS:
 2nd and 3rd Sundays: 12:00 Noon-4:00 P.M.;
 Monday and Wednesdays: 12:00 Noon-7:30 P.M.;
 Tuesday: 8:00 A.M.-5:00 P.M.

Coordinator for Grades 1-6:
 Mrs. Barbara Normand; bnormand@icc-msh.org
Coordinator for Grades 7-10:

Mrs. Gwen Richard; gcrichard@icc-msh.org
 Parish School of Religion Secretary/Site Child
 Protection Officer: Mrs. Jane Stahl; jstahl@icc-msh.org
 Youth Minister: Mr. Kevin Acord; acordkp@gmail.com

EARLY LEARNING CENTER-(225) 664-8968
 ELC Director: Mrs. Mandy Haley; elc@icc-msh.org
 Asst. Director: Mrs. Karen Smith; elc@icc-msh.org
St. Vincent de Paul—(225) 665-1623

We Need You! We are still in need for volunteers who would like to help clean the church. Think about it, pray about it, and if interested, call Gussie Davis at 572-3947 or Jo Ann Martrain at 324-2904. We would love to have you join our team. What a beautiful way to glorify the Lord!

