



Lent is a time for producing, in greater abundance, the fruits of the Kingdom of God. Lent is a call to action; a time for pruning; a time to cut away the unwanted negative thoughts and misdeeds that keep us from loving God and our neighbor as we should. Our branches need to be cut back so that we will produce with greater abundance the fruits of the Kingdom of God.

In today's first reading, Moses encounters the great *I AM* in the form of a burning bush. In the second reading, Paul takes the people of Corinth to task for their grumbling and calls them to change their ways. In the Gospel, Jesus tells the story of the fig tree in which the gardener pleads for more time to cultivate around it so that it might become fruitful.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Lent

ADORATION / BENEDICTION—each Friday during Lent, 5:00—6:00 p.m.

WAY OF THE CROSS—will immediately follow. It commemorates key events on the day of Christ's crucifixion—His final walk through Jerusalem, carrying the Cross.

LENTEN MEAL—will be served in Allen Hall, following the Way of the Cross.

EASTER FLOWER ENVELOPES—are available on the table at the church entrance. Your donation will be used to decorate the Church during the Easter season. You may drop your gift in the collection basket.

RICE BOWLS— Please return your gift by Sunday, April 14th.

R.C.I.A.— This Sunday at the 11:00 a.m. Mass, we celebrate the First Scrutiny with the catechumens and candidates who are preparing for initiation into the Church at Easter. Please keep them in your prayers.

APRIL WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

Congratulations to those celebrating an anniversary during the month of April.

April 3 ~ Michael & Carolyn Hernandez, 55years

April 9 ~ Tommy & Pam Delrie, 31 years

April 15 ~ Donald & Betty Bouillette, 58 years

April 22 ~ Jerry & Angie Johnston, 24 years

April 23 ~ Carroll & Willie LaCaze, 59 years

April 28 ~ Duke & Stacy Goudeau, 12 years

“Enjoy life with the wife whom you love.” (Eccl. 9:9a)



- Vigil (4 p.m.) In Thanksgiving, Carmen Hively
- Sun. (9 a.m.) Richard Buelow
Frances Philpot
- (11 a.m.) All People
- Mon. Carliss Maupin Intention
- Tues. No Mass
- Wed. Carmelia Asedon
- Thurs. Donna Tuegel
- Fri. Jack Snow

Mass Intentions next weekend - Vigil (4:00 p.m.) - Trey Brown, Paul Schmidt Intention; Sunday (9:00 a.m) -Irvin and Michael Brouillette, Nelda Goodman; (11 a.m.) - All people.

SANCTUARY LAMP— will burn in memory of Donna Tuegel. Please remember her in your prayers.

MAY THEY REST IN PEACE—Mary Thiels Perschy; and, Joyce Santos. We offer our sympathy and extend our prayers to their family and friends.

CHURCH OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED— Tuesday, March 26th.

ANNUAL DIOCESAN APPEAL — Our goal is **\$16,366.00.**

EASTER EGG HUNT - sponsored annually by IHM Church and KC Council 9753, will be held Sunday, April 14th, beginning at 12:00 noon. Children, bring something to gather eggs in, and meet in Allen Hall. Prizes and candy will be given in four age groups ~ newborn—2 years; 3—5 years; 6—8 years; and, 9—10 years.

OFFERTORY GIFTS :

Regular collection: \$3,590.00

Thank you for your generosity!

SICK LIST – Nancy Affeltranger, Ariel Armstrong, Ernie Babineaux, Dorothy Barrios, Jeannie Basco, Ed & Rosemary Bonial, Donald Brouillette, Syble Brouillette, Steve Brown, Louis Brunett, Jennie Buckowski, Jonie Burch, Bonnie Burke, Joyce Burge, Paul Burks, Jan Carlton, Lebo Clark, Charles Clover, Joy Cooley, Raymond Costantino, Susan Degeyter, Mary & John DeSlatte, James Etta Dixon, Catherine Dupray, Marie Finley, Ronnie Foster, Mary Ann Greiner, Carolyn Hernandez, Bishop Herzog, Pam Hogue, Chevy Howell, Heidi Howell, Jane Hulin, Ellis & Iva Isom, Danny and Jared Johnson, Audrey Kelley, Shelly Larrieu, Teresa LeBlanc, Ginger Lemons, Arland McConathy, Melody McGee, Jaime Meredith, Caitlin Merrell, James and Mary Michiels, Kaden Michiels, Melissa Monk, Annette Moreau, Arnold Murrell, Josephine Norwood, Joy Nugent, Abel Pacheco, Gayle Porto, Steve Primeaux, Rose Quatrevingt, Judy Rechs, Mark Reitzell, Alma Reitzell, Carmen Rozano, Paul Schmidt, Ann Sellers, Gene Snow, Dean Soileau, Debbie Strubble, Lou Sutton, Wren Noel Trahan, Nick Tullier, Gordon & Rae Tullier, George Wetzell, Artis White, Nellie White, Bo Whittington, Megan Wilson, Residents at Tioga Manor Nursing Home.

MASS INTENTION REQUESTS— If you would like a Mass offered in honor of or in memory of someone, please call the church office. The usual stipend is \$5.00 per Mass. The sanctuary lamp can be burned one week for a loved one or an intention. Donation is \$5.00.

MASS HYMNS -are in the missal,

#493, “Age to Age”

#437, “O God, You Search Me”

(No recessional hymn during Lent)

LENTEN REGULATIONS

Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are days of fast and abstinence. This means that we do not eat meat and we have only one full meal.

The other Fridays of the season of Lent are days of abstinence from meat. The obligation to abstain from meat binds Catholics 14 years of age and older. The obligation to fast, limiting oneself to one full meal and two lighter meals in the course of the day, binds Catholics from the age of 18 to 59. Those who are younger or older may freely embrace these disciplines. But Lenten disciplines should never endanger your health.

It is obvious that abstaining from meat is meaningless for vegetarians, who must choose some other form of abstinence. It is equally obvious that replacing meat with a gourmet seafood meal is not in keeping with the spirit of Lent.

Regular Schedule

Office Hours

Monday – Thursday, 8:30 a.m. – 12 noon & 1:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Friday, 8:30 a.m. - 12:00 noon

Facebook at Immaculate Heart of Mary Catholic Church, Ball, LA

Weekend Masses: (ext. 1)

Saturday Vigil, 4:00 p.m.

Sunday, 9:00 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.

Confessions:

20 minutes prior each weekend

Mass or by appointment

Marriages:

Pre-marital preparation takes several months. Call Father 6 months before marriage

Religious Education Classes:

Kn – 5th: Wed. 5:30 – 6:30 p.m.

6th – 11th: Wed., 7:00 – 8:00 p.m.

Ladies Altar Society:

2nd Thursday, 9:00 a.m.

Allen Hall

Tioga Manor Nursing Home:

Communion Service, 10:00 a.m.

1st Thursday of each month

(Subject to change)** (especially during flu season) ** (Subject to change)

Weekday Masses: (ext. 1)

Mon., Wed., Thurs., Fri.,

8:00 a.m. (No Tues. Mass)

Baptisms:

By appointment

Please call office to schedule

New Parishioners:

Welcome to IHM Parish!

Please call the office to register.

R.C.I.A. (Adult Inquiry Classes):

Tuesday, 6:00—7:30 p.m.

Allen Hall

Knights of Columbus # 9753:

First Monday, 7:00 p.m.

KC Hall, Birkland Drive

Mass at Tioga Manor Nursing Home:

All are invited – 10:00 a.m.

4th Thursday of each month

Immaculate Heart of Mary

Catholic Church

1220 Tioga Road, Ball, LA 71405

Website—www.ihmarychurch.org

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Pianist
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