

Do This in Remembrance of Me, A Step by Step walk through the Mass  
Part 37; Silent, Humble and Contrite

As we continue our walk through the Offertory of the Mass, have you ever noticed that sometimes the priest is saying something you can't hear (or can barely hear)? As we have reflected on previously, there are moments in the Mass—such as before proclaiming the Gospel—where the priest prays a prayer silently or quietly. These prayers are to prepare the priests (or deacons) for what comes next; they provide a moment of reflection for the priest and open his heart. Another one of these quiet prayers happens after the offering of bread and wine during the Offertory.

We offer ourselves...

After placing the bread and wine on the altar, the priest bows and says quietly, “With humble spirit and contrite heart may we be accepted by you, O Lord, and may our sacrifice in your sight this day be pleasing to you, Lord God.” As the Diocese of Peoria explains, “In this prayer, the priest silently speaks in his own name and on behalf of all the faithful, asking that God accept the sacrifice and find us in humility and contrition” (A Study of the Mass, p. 12). The priest acknowledges the truth about how much we need God and that we at times fall short of living up to his standards. With that mindset, the priest is asking God to accept us and the sacrifice as we are, not faulty Christians who have given up and thrown in the towel, but honest Christians who admit our shortcomings and yet strive toward that perfection to which God calls us.

Reflecting on this prayer, Edward Sri invites us: “Notice how the sacrifice envisioned in this prayer is not some thing being offered to God, like bread and wine, but the people assembled: ‘May we be accepted by you...’ This theme, as well as the mention of a humble spirit and contrite heart, recalls the petition of the three Hebrew men thrown in the fiery furnace in Daniel [Chapter 3]” (A Biblical Walk Through the Mass, p. 90). If you have read this interesting story, you know that these three faithful men would not worship a false image made of gold by King Nebuchadnezzar. As punishment, they were thrown into a burning furnace, heated seven times more than normal. Instead of burning, the three men walked around unharmed and began singing a long hymn of praise to God. This hymn praises God for his goodness, recalls the many blessings he has given to his people, and then asks every part of creation to sing praise to God. Just before this last part, the three men say to God that they offer all they have (which is themselves) and ask him to accept them as if they were providing the best offering one could imagine (tens of thousands of rams, bulls, and fat lambs).

... and receive God himself.

Our prayer in the Mass, which echoes the prayer of the three faithful men, works in a very similar way. We have just said to God that we offer him the gifts of bread and wine, which are not much even by human standards. Along with the bread and wine, we have ourselves to offer, and we all know that sometimes we are not very worthy offerings to God either. Yet, we ask God to accept what we offer as if it were good and pleasing to him. And what is God's response? For the last 2000 years of Masses, no matter how big or small the congregation, no matter how strong or how weak their faith, no matter how worthy (or unworthy) we think our offerings are, God accepts them. As if that weren't enough, God in his love and generosity does something unbelievable with our meager offerings. He changes them into the very Body and Blood of Jesus Christ! God accepts the bread and wine from us and gives us back the gift of himself! What a generous exchange! What a great God we have!

For Reflection:

1. Reflect on Daniel 3 and pray with the words of the three young men in the fiery furnace.
2. This prayer at the conclusion of the Offertory was at one time called the “Secret.” Consider these words from the Book of Tobit: “A king's secret should be kept secret, but one must declare the works of God and give thanks with due honor” (Tob 12:7, 11). Reflect on the intimate values you hold in “sacred silence” within your own heart. Allow this sense of reverence and wonder at God's generosity to inspire how you participate in the Offertory prayer at Mass.

This article was written by: Fr. Luke Spannagel and posted on the National Eucharistic Revival Blog website.



Baptisms:	Reconciliation	Marriage	Quincerañeras	Anointing of the Sick	Communion to the Sick / Homebound
By Appointment only  Contact Parish office for more information	Confessions are heard on Saturdays from 4-5pm and on request	By appointment only:  Contact parish office at least 6 months prior to proposed date.	Must be enrolled and actively participating in Religious Education Classes	Anytime: contact the parish office	Pastoral Visit: 1st Friday of the Month / Contact the parish office



# The Ascension of the Lord

May 12, 2024



## Immaculate Conception Church

Roman Catholic Diocese of Corpus Christi



“Men of Galilee,  
why are you standing there looking at the sky?  
This Jesus who has been taken up from you into heaven  
will return in the same way as you have seen him going into heaven.”  
Acts 1:11

Rev. Andrew Hejdak  
*Pastor*

David D. Solis Jr.  
*davids@iccgregory.org*  
*Administrative Asst.*

John Womack & Co.  
*Bookkeeper*

### PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Monday - Friday  
10:00am - 4:30pm



### FAITH FORMATION

Noreen Saenz  
*reoffice@iccgregory.org*  
*Director of Religious Ed.*

David D. Solis Jr.  
*Asst. Director of Religious Ed.*

**Religious Ed. Office Hours**  
Wednesdays 4:30 - 8:45pm

### WEEKEND MASSES

**SATURDAY (Vigil) 5:30PM**  
**SUNDAY (en Español) 8:00AM**  
**10:00AM & 12:00PM**

### WEEKDAY MASS SCHEDULE

Tuesday (en Español) **5:30PM**  
Wednesday–Friday **8:30AM**  
**First Friday of the Month**  
*Eucharistic Adoration 5:30PM*  
Friday Daily Mass **6:30PM**

### WEEKLY PARISH ACTIVITIES

**DIVINE MERCY CHAPLET**  
Daily 3:00 pm Chapel

**ST. JUDE NOVENA**  
Tuesdays 6:00 pm

**BIBLE STUDY**  
Tuesdays 7:00PM (Español)  
Thursdays 7:00PM (English)  
R.E. building

**LA HORA DE DIOS PRAYER GROUP**  
Fridays 6:00 pm Church



**NEW TO THE PARISH?**  
Interested in registering with us?  
Ask the ushers for a registration form, welcome to the parish.  
If you would like to become involved with one of the ministries or organizations here, you can find contact numbers on this bulletin

**MASS INTENTIONS**  
*ALL Mass intention requests should be submitted to the parish office.*  
For Intentions to appear in the Bulletin they must be submitted by 4:00pm Tuesday.

*Donation of \$5 per intention is suggested.*

### EUCHARISTIC ADORATION CHAPEL

The Chapel is available to anyone 24/7 if you would like to spend time to visit with Jesus in the Eucharist. To get the door code contact the parish office or Fr. Andrew.

**PASTORAL COUNCIL VICE-CHAIR**  
Mike Lopez 438.9054

**FINANCE COMMITTEE**  
Javier Solis 229.4653

**SACRISTANS**  
Jesse Gomez 229.0102  
Juan Rodriguez 229.5515  
Raymond Flores 215.3542

**CHOIR COORDINATOR**  
Naida Rios 774.3778

**COMMUNION MINISTERS**  
Jesus Garza 704-2269

**ALTAR SERVERS**  
David D. Solis Jr. 643.4505

**ALTAR SOCIETY**  
Nena Garcia 774.2604

**LECTORS**  
Jesus Garza 704-2269

**USHERS**  
Ramiro Peña 222-8857

**BEREAVEMENT COMMITTEE**  
Aurora Leal 229.6956

**BLESSED MOTHER SOCIETY**  
Sylvia Gomez 228.0822

**DIVINE MERCY APOSTLES**  
Sonya Torres 730.6165

**HOUSE OF FAITH FOOD PANTRY**  
Diana Moreno 765.7696

**IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY**  
Adriana Bernardo 543.7642

**PRAYER & PRAISE GROUP**  
Nydia Tamez 688.0333

**SACRED HEART SOCIETY**  
Jerónimo Garcia 704.2136

**ST. JUDE NOVENA**  
Amelia Flores 443.9811

**ST. JUDE NOVENA**  
Jerry & Ofelia Rivera 876.7147



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PO Box 108

Gregory, TX 78359

www.iccgregory.org

Pastoral Emergency: 361-543-0503






The Ascension of the Lord 🌸 May 12, 2024 🌸 Solemnidad de la Ascensión del Señor

Mass Intentions

For The Week



SATURDAY May 11, 2024

5:30PM: †Guadalupe Moreno (James & Mona Lacour)  
†Alejandro & †Johnny Lopez (Minerva Lopez)  
†Concepcion, †Ester and †David Rangel (Danny Rangel)

SUNDAY May 12, 2024

8:00AM: Mother's Day Novena  
†Richard Ortiz (Family)  
†Estefana Menchaca (M/M Manuel Menchaca)  
†Irma Perales (Family)  
Special Intentions for Eloisa Lozano (Elisa & Family)

10:00AM: †Estefana Menchaca (Menchaca Family)  
†Eddie Perez (Family)  
†Frank Hernandez (Sylvia & Rogelio Zuniga)  
†Santos Garcia Jr (Mom and Brothers)  
†Ernest, †Roy & †Meisha Hinojosa (Family)

†Alfredo & †Adan Flores; †Nora & †Nelda Ortiz (Adela Escobedo)  
†Diana Flores, †Maria Flores, †Lucille Spriggs & †Margie Reed

12:00PM: †Janie Galvan (Family)  
†Adrian G. Flores (Family)  
†Lelia Guzman (Family)  
†Juan Flores Jr. (Family)  
†Margarito & †Alejandra Guerrero, †David Sanchez  
†Elodia and †Elva Valencia, †Rosa Hernandez (Family)

Special Intentions for Adrian, Alex & Jose F. Flores (Lucy Guerrero)

MONDAY May 13, 2024

5:30PM: Mother's Day Novena

TUESDAY May 14, 2024

5:30PM: Mother's Day Novena

WEDNESDAY May 15, 2024

8:30AM: Mother's Day Novena

THURSDAY May 16, 2024

8:30AM: Mother's Day Novena

FRIDAY May 17, 2024

8:30AM: Mother's Day Novena

SATURDAY May 18, 2024

5:30PM: Mother's Day Novena  
†Guadalupe Moreno (Rudy Moreno & Family)  
†Diana Schicker (Family)  
†Pedro K Lopez (Patricia Solis)  
†Abel G Garcia (Family)  
†Fr. Gino (Rose De La Cruz)  
†Esteban & †Candelaria Ortiz (Esteban & Lydia)  
†Concepcion, †Ester and †David Rangel (Danny Rangel)  
†Margarito & †Alejandra Guerrero, †David Sanchez

SUNDAY May 19, 2024

8:00AM: †Richard Ortiz (Family)  
†Eva Corona (M/M Manuel Menchaca)  
†Irma Perales (Family)  
†Jose Manuel Lozano (Family)

10:00AM: Mother's Day Novena  
†Estefana Menchaca (Menchaca Family)  
†Eddie Perez (Family)  
†Santos Garcia Jr (Mom and Brothers)

12:00PM: †Janie Galvan (Family)  
†Adrian G. Flores (Family)

WEEKLY STEWARDSHIP

Envelope Collection	\$1,309.00
Loose Collection	\$1,899.00
Building Fund	\$460.00
Children's Collection	\$20.00
Online Giving	\$270.00
Collection Total - May 4/5	\$3,958.00
Retired & Infirm Priest Envelope	\$497.00

Thank you for your faithfulness, your generous support, and

Special Collections for the Month of May

11/12 - Catholic Communications Campaign



† Belief - Trust - Faith †

Prayer is the most powerful against trials, the most effective medicine against sickness and the most valuable gift to someone we care for.

Please pray for the sick of the parish, especially:

Valerie Aleman, Guadalupe G Alvarado, Victoria Arredondo, Paula Avila, Rafael Baez Rosa Barrera, Estevan Cantu Jr., Elisa Claudio, Johnny Cruz, Sandra Davila, Dominic DeLeon, Nora Dishman, Yvonne Ellison, Adela Escobedo, Adan Flores Jr. Aurora Flores, Chris Flores, Eudelia Flores, Guadalupe Flores, Juanita Flores, Jesus Garza Jr., Xavier A. Gallegos, Violet Guerrero,	Esmeralda Hernandez, Jorge Hernandez, San Juanita Hinojosa, Mr. Kalich Jerry Lopez Sr., Raul Lucio, Teresa Lucio, Jose Antonio Lopez Jr, Jaime Jimenez, Margie Medina Adolfo Menchaca Jr., Alejandro Mora, Anastacio Mora, Noemilio Mora, Augustin Moreno III, Angie Ochoa, Carmen Ortiz, Yvonne Ortiz, Anita Peña, Emilio Peña Sr., Luis Peña Jr., Ramiro Peña, Johnny Pereida,	Elva Rivera, Jerry Rivera Sr., Julia Rodriguez, Sergio Rodriguez, Yolanda G. Rodriguez, San Juanita Saenz, Bernice Sanchez, Adan Salazar, Armando Salazar, Gracie Salazar, Stephanie Salazar, Raymond Smith, B Solis, Dora Tagle, Gloria Treviño, Joe Treviño, Sara Treviño, Ramona Vasquez, Alex Zambrano Sr., Alex Zambrano Jr., Gerri Zambrano
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NEXT WEEK'S MINISTERS SCHEDULE

Sat. May 18 Sun. May 19	Lector 	Extra Ordinary Ministers 
5:30PM	David	Louis
8:00AM	Esteban	Amparo
10:00AM	Brenda	Ophelia
12:00PM	Graduates	Lupe A.

THANK YOU FOR JOINING US THIS WEEKEND

MISSION STATEMENT

Today we celebrate Christ's ascension into heaven and his commissioning of the disciples to carry on his mission in the world. First we hear Luke's description of those events in the opening verses of the Acts of the Apostles. Next we hear words of encouragement and guidance from the Letter to the Ephesians. Finally we hear Mark's account of the Ascension, foretelling the mighty words and acts the Christian community would do in Jesus' name.

Together these scriptures give us a vision of the mission of the church of Jesus Christ—a mission statement of sorts. Like mission statements in our parishes and corporations, this mission statement can help us set priorities and focus our activities. It can guide and support us as we strive to continue Christ's messianic mission on earth.

DECLARACIÓN DE LA MISIÓN

Hoy celebramos la Ascensión de Cristo al cielo y su elección de los discípulos para que continuaran su misión en el mundo. Primero escuchamos la descripción de Lucas de dichos acontecimientos en los primeros versículos de los Hechos de los Apóstoles. Luego escuchamos palabras de aliento y consejo en la carta a los efesios. Por último, escuchamos el relato de Marcos de la Ascensión, que predice las poderosas palabras y obras que la comunidad cristiana hará en nombre de Jesús.

Juntas, estas lecturas nos brindan una visión de la misión de la Iglesia de Jesucristo, una especie de declaración de misión. Como las declaraciones de misión de nuestras parroquias y empresas, esta declaración de misión puede ayudarnos a establecer prioridades y enfocar nuestras actividades. Puede guiarnos y apoyarnos mientras luchamos por continuar la misión mesiánica de Cristo en la tierra.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Our Lady of Fatima

Acts 19:1-8; Ps 68:2-7; Jn 16:29-33

Tuesday: St. Matthias

Acts 1:15-17, 20-26; Ps 113:1-8; Jn 15:9-17

Wednesday: St. Isidore the Farmer

Acts 20:28-38; Ps 68:29-30, 33-36ab; Jn 17:11b-19

Thursday:

Acts 22:30; 23:6-11; Ps 16:1-2a, 5, 7-11; Jn 17:20-26

Friday:

Acts 25:13b-21; Ps 103:1-2, 11-12, 19-20ab; Jn 21:15-19

Saturday: St. John I

Acts 28:16-20, 30-31; Ps 11:4, 5, 7; Jn 21:20-25

Sunday: Pentecost Sunday

Acts 2:1-11; Ps 104:1, 24, 29-31, 34; 1 Cor 12:3b-7, 12-13 or Gal 5:16-25; Jn 20:19-23 or Jn 15:26-27; 16:12-15

PARISH PRAYER LIST

A change to the parish prayer list: any names on the list will remain on the list for six (6) weeks; after which names will be removed.

To add or remove names contact the parish office.

TRAVELING IMAGE OF DIVINE MERCY

In preparation for our centennial celebration in 2026, we have a image of Divine Mercy that will be traveling from home to home over the next several years. The mission of this is to pray for all our parish families. If you would like to have this image visit your home, see the sign-up book in the entry of the church. You are welcomed to sign up for it more than once. The sign-up sheet is currently listed through November.

TRAVELING DIVINE MERCY IMAGE

Pray for the following families that will be hosting the Traveling Divine Image this week

Elvira Hinojosa  
Emilio & Marylou Peña

CATHOLIC COMMUNICATIONS CAMPAIGN

Today we take up the collection for the Catholic Communication Campaign (CCC). Your support helps the CCC connect people to Christ and builds Catholic communities in the United States and around the world using the internet, television, radio, and print media. Half the funds we collect remain here in the Diocese of Corpus Christi to support local efforts. Be a part of this campaign to spread the Gospel message



Catholic Communication Campaign  
CONNECT WITH CHRIST

CHALLENGE OF THE WEEK

Spend time in prayer evaluating the current state of your faith and missionary action. Are you stuck with doubt and confusion about the truth of the faith? Do you struggle with how to apply the teachings of the Church to your everyday life? Are you paralyzed by fear of what others might think when you share the Gospel? Do you question your capacity to boldly proclaim Jesus to the whole world? Regardless of where you find yourself, allow today's gospel passage to breathe new life into your mission by meditating on the final verse this week: **"But they went forth and preached everywhere, while the Lord worked with them and confirmed the word through accompanying signs" (Mk 16:20)** Thank Jesus for working with you as you seek to share his love and mercy with the world. Ask him to overcome any doubt, confusion, struggle, or fear so that you may better fulfill the mission he has entrusted to you.

Special Prayer Intention of Pope Francis for May

For the formation of religious and seminarians

We pray that religious women and men, and seminarians, grow in their own vocations through their human, pastoral, spiritual and community formation, leading them to be credible witnesses to the Gospel.

