

Do This in Remembrance of Me, A Step by Step walk through the Mass
Part 43; The Preface

As we continue our journey through the Eucharistic Prayer, we turn to teaching from the Diocese of Peoria: “The Eucharistic prayer is the center and summit of the entire Mass. Eucharist means thanksgiving. The Eucharistic prayer is a celebration of thanksgiving and sanctification. The Mass offers the fitting praise and worship to God as it places before his throne the sacrifice of his Son on the Cross... The Eucharistic Prayer offers gratitude to God, as it is the prayer of his Son, Jesus. Acting in the person of Christ, the priest, in the name of the community, offers this great prayer of adoration and praise to the Father through the power of the Holy Spirit” (“A Study of the Mass,” p. 13). Very clearly at the forefront, we are giving thanks to God as we are gathered around the altar. A special part of the prayers at the altar that highlights thanksgiving is called the Preface.

A Prayer That Unifies through the Centuries

The Preface begins with a familiar dialogue:

The Lord be with you. And with your spirit.

Lift up your hearts. We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. It is right and just.

As Edward Sri notes, “This dialogue is first reported in the Eucharistic prayer of St. Hippolytus (c. A.D. 215). Now, eighteen centuries later, we continue to say the same words, uniting us with the Christians of the early Church” (A Biblical Walk Through the Mass, p. 95). I enjoy sharing this stretch into history with people when I offer explanatory Masses. Just let it sink in for a moment: one of our oldest accounts of the Mass includes this dialogue. Think about all the Masses celebrated throughout history; think about that unity in prayer with all those who have gone before us! As a priest, I am always strengthened by the thought that some of those early priests who were saints and martyrs would have used these same words when offering the Mass. What an amazing reminder of the unity we share through the Mass!

The first part of this dialogue takes us back to the beginning of the Mass, when the assembly is greeted by the celebrant. As Edward Sri explains, the next part of the dialogue recalls Lamentations 3:41, “Let us lift up our hearts and hands to God in heaven.” For us, Sri says, this is a “wake-up call” where the priest “is summoning us to give our fullest attention to what is about to unfold.” Sri quotes St. Cyprian (+ A.D. 258), commenting on this part of the dialogue: “When we stand praying, beloved brethren, we ought to be watchful and earnest with our whole heart, intent on our prayers. Let all carnal and worldly thoughts pass away, nor let the soul at that time think on anything but the object of its prayer” (A Biblical Walk Through the Mass, p. 96–97). Very clearly, the second exchange in the dialogue helps us renew our attention to God as we enter the Eucharistic Prayer.

A Prayer of Thanksgiving

For the last section of the dialogue, Sri reminds us that giving thanks to God “is a common biblical response to God’s goodness and to his saving works in our lives” (A Biblical Walk Through the Mass, p. 98). As we will see more next time, the words that follow in the Preface will remind us of many different reasons to be thankful to God. Tying back to the Offertory, we can recall that we are thankful for the blessings we have in terms of our livelihood and resources. We can think of God’s care for us and all he provides for us. As Sri says so well, “We also should be thankful for the miracle about to take place in our midst, as the bread and wine on the altar will be changed into the body and blood of Jesus. Our Lord and King will soon be with us in the Real Presence of the Eucharist. Our hearts should be filled with gratitude as our church becomes like a new holy of holies, housing the divine presence. What an awesome privilege it is for us to draw near! [...] There is so much to be thankful for at this moment in the Liturgy! We therefore acknowledge that gratitude is the only fitting response to the mysteries about to unfold before us. In answer to the priest’s invitation to thank the Lord, we say, ‘It is right and just’” (A Biblical Walk Through the Mass, p. 99). Amen!

For Reflection:

1. In your own time of prayer, whether in private or with others, consider using the Preface dialogue as a guide to beginning your meditation in three phases: 1) Take a moment to be aware of God’s presence. 2) Consciously lift up your heart to the Lord. 3) Give him thanks. Let your prayer proceed from this starting point.
2. Father Luke, quoting Edward Sri, references Lamentations 3:41: “Let us lift up our hearts and hands to God in heaven.” As the title of this book of the Bible suggests, this verse comes from a chapter about suffering. Consider reflecting on or even reading Lamentations 3 out loud as a way of praying for those who are suffering at this time.

| Baptisms: | Reconciliation | Marriage | Quincerañeras | Anointing of the Sick | Communion to the Sick / Homebound |
|--|--|---|--|------------------------------------|---|
| By Appointment only | 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 |
| Contact Parish office for more information | | | | | |



Eleventh Sunday
in Ordinary Time

June 16, 2024



Immaculate Conception Church
Roman Catholic Diocese of Corpus Christi



Rev. Andrew Hejdak
Pastor

David D. Solis Jr.
david@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.

EUCCHARISTIC 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

Adriana Bernardo 543.7642

IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY
Nydia Tamez 688.0333

PRAYER & PRAISE GROUP
Jeronimo Garcia 704.2136

SACRED HEART SOCIETY
Amelia Flores 443.9811

ST. JUDE NOVENA
Jerry & Ofelia Rivera 876.7147



107 Church Street

PO Box 108

Gregory, TX 78359

facebook.com/ICGregory

www.iccgregory.org

Parish Office: 361-643-4505


Pastoral Emergency: 361-543-0503



The Kingdom of God
is like a mustard seed that, when it is sown in the ground,
is the smallest of all the seeds on the earth.
But once it is sown, it springs up and becomes the largest of plants.
Mark 4: 31-32

Mass Intentions

For The Week



SATURDAY

June 15, 2024

5:30PM:†Guadalupe Moreno (Rudy Moreno & Family)

†Esteban & †Candelaria Ortiz (Esteban & Lydia)

†Concepcion, †Ester and †David Rangel (Danny Rangel)

†Margarito & †Alejandra Guerrero, †David Sanchez

SUNDAY

June 16, 2024

8:00AM:†Richard Ortiz (Family)

†Irma Perales (Family)

†Javier Martinez (Family)

†Eva Corona (M/M Manuel Menchaca Family)

†Herminia Lara & †Juana Garcia (Daniel Lara & Family)

10:00AM:Father’s Day Novena

†Estefana Menchaca (Menchaca Family)

†Eddie Perez (Family)

†Santos Garcia (Family)

†Ernest, †Roy and †Meisha Hinojosa (Family)

Special Intentions for David Emrich (Family)

12:00PM:†Janie Galvan (Family)

†Lelia Guzman (Family)

†Juan Flores Jr. (Family)

†Maria Oralia Cavazos (Cavazos Family)

MONDAY

June 17, 2024

5:30PM:Father’s Day Novena

TUESDAY

June 18, 2024

5:30PM:Father’s Day Novena

WEDNESDAY

June 19, 2024

8:30AM:Father’s Day Novena

THURSDAY

June 20, 2024

8:30AM:Father’s Day Novena

FRIDAY

June 21, 2024

8:30AM:Father’s Day Novena

†Maria R Flores (Family)

†Gabriel Claudio Sr. (Solis Family)

SATURDAY

June 22, 2024

5:30PM:Father’s Day Novena

†Guadalupe Moreno (James & Mona Lacour)

†Diana Schicker (Family)

†David Solis Sr. (Pat, David, Gabby)

†Alvaro Lopez Sr (Juan & Rosario Cantu)

†Alejandro & †Johnny Lopez (Esteban & Lydia)

†Concepcion, †Ester and †David Rangel (Danny Rangel)

†Margarito & †Alejandra Guerrero, †David Sanchez

SUNDAY

June 23, 2024

8:00AM:Father’s Day Novena

†Richard Ortiz (Family)

†Irma Perales (Family)

†Juan Manuel Lozano (Family)

†Estefana Menchaca (M/M Manuel Menchaca Family)

10:00AM:†Estefana Menchaca (Menchaca Family)

†Eddie Perez (Family)

†Santos Garcia (Family)

12:00PM:†Janie Galvan (Family)

†Lelia Guzman (Family)

†Juan Flores Jr. (Family)

†Maria Oralia Cavazos (Cavazos Family)

WEEKLY STEWARDSHIP

Envelope Collection\$1,340.00

Loose Collection\$522.00

Building Fund\$543.00

Online Giving\$165.00


Collection Total - June 8/9\$2,570.00

Thank you for your faithfulness, your generous support, and sharing of your gifts with Immaculate Conception Church.

May God bless you now and forever.

Special Collections for the Month of June

29/30 - Peter’s Pence Collection



SCAN THIS QR CODE TO BE TAKEN TO OUR PARISH WEBSITE’S ONLINE GIVING PAGE



† 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:

Names remain on the prayer list for two (2) months; after which they are removed, to add/remove a name contact the parish office.


Valerie Aleman, Esmeralda Hernandez, Sergio Rodriguez, Victoria Arredondo, Jorge Hernandez, Yolanda G. Rodriguez, Paula Avila, San Juanita Hinojosa, San Juanita Saenz, Rafael Baez, Jaime Jimenez, Bernice Sanchez, Rosa Barrera, Adolfo Menchaca Jr., Adan Salazar, Elisa Claudio, Alejandro Mora, Gracie Salazar, Johnny Cruz, Anastacio Mora, Raymond Smith, Sandra Davila, Noemilio Mora, B Solis, Adela Escobedo, Augustin Moreno III, Dora Tagle, Aurora Flores, Angie Ochoa, Gloria Treviño, Chris Flores, Carmen Ortiz, Joe Treviño, Eudelia Flores, Anita Peña, Sara Treviño, Guadalupe Flores, Luis Peña Jr., Alex Zambrano Jr., Juanita Flores, Jerry Rivera Sr., Gerri Zambrano, Violet Guerrero, Julia Rodriguez,

NEXT WEEK’S MINISTERS SCHEDULE


Sat. June 22

Sun. June 23

Lector



Extra Ordinary Ministers



5:30PM

Chelo, Gabby

Juan

8:00AM

Armando

Carmen

10:00AM

Gabriel

Cindy

12:00PM

Jesse C.

Lucy

THANK YOU FOR JOINING US THIS WEEKEND

THE MASTER STORYTELLER

In today’s Gospel, Jesus is presented to us as the master storyteller. He loved to use parables as a tool for comparing one thing to something else. In most of his parables, Jesus revealed who God is by comparing God’s essence or actions with something familiar to his listeners. In the parable of the mustard seed, Jesus proclaims a marvelous and irrefutable truth. His small band of disciples, as insignificant as they may have felt, would one day produce a mighty kingdom whose growth was initiated by God. The seeds of this kingdom were planted by God and it is God who will harvest the fruit brought forth from those seeds. The extent of the growth of God’s kingdom cannot be predicted. We must trust the work of the Master’s hand as we, the mustard plant, grow and grow.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday:

1 Kgs 21:1-16; Ps 5:2-3ab, 4b-7; Mt 5:38-42

Tuesday:

1 Kgs 21:17-29; Ps 51:3-6ab, 11, 16; Mt 5:43-48

Wednesday: St. Romuald

2 Kgs 2:1, 6-14; Ps 31:20, 21, 24; Mt 6:1-6, 16-18

Thursday:

Sir 48:1-14; Ps 97:1-7; Mt 6:7-15

Friday: St. Aloysius Gonzaga

2 Kgs 11:1-4, 9-18, 20; Ps 132:11-14, 17-18; Mt 6:19-23

Saturday: St. Paulinus of Nola; Ss. John Fisher and Thomas More

2 Chr 24:17-25; Ps 89:4-5, 29-34; Mt 6:24-34

Sunday: Twelfth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Jb 38: 1, 8-11; Ps 107: 23-21; 2 Cor 5: 14-17; Mk 4: 35-41

CHALLENGE OF THE WEEK

Make a list of your personal health goals—anything from cutting our sugar from your diet to exercising thirty minutes five times a week or adding more fruit and vegetables to your daily intake. Now make a list of your spiritual goals. How do these two lists look when compared to each other? Are you more ambitious with your physical or spiritual goals? Do you put more effort into achieving your physical or spiritual goals? Measure your response by how, as St. Paul says, these goals might please the Lord.

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

UN EXCELENTE CUENTISTA

En el Evangelio de hoy, se nos presenta a Jesús como un excelente cuentista. A él le gustaba contar parábolas como una forma para comparar esto de aquello. En muchas de las parábolas, Jesús revela quien es Dios al comparar la naturaleza o acciones de Dios con alguna situación conocida de su audiencia. En la parábola de la semilla de mostaza, Jesús proclama una verdad maravillosa e irrefutable. Su pequeño grupo de discípulos, tan insignificantes como ellos se hubieran sentido, un día producirán un reinado poderoso cuyo crecimiento lo comenzó Dios. Las semillas de este reino fueron plantadas por Dios y es Dios quien cosechará el fruto producido por esas semillas. No se puede predecir que tanto crecerá el Reino de Dios. Debemos confiar el trabajo de las manos del dueño, así como nosotros, al igual que la semilla de mostaza, crece y crece.

FATHER’S DAY NOVENA

Envelopes for the Father’s Day Novena are located in the entrance of the Church. This year you can also add names to the novena list online on our website. The Father’s Day Novena will begin on Sunday, June 16th and will continue for a total of 9 days. This is an excellent way to remember your Father’s, Grandfathers, Uncle’s, Brother’s who have helped shape our lives.

LECTORS AND EXTRA ORDINARY MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION MEETING

There will be a meeting for ALL Lectors and Extra Ordinary Ministers of Holy Communion, tomorrow (Monday, June 17th) at 6:30PM in the Church. For more information contact Jesus Garza. New members are always welcome.

CONGRATULATION!

Congratulations to Jonah Garza!!! He received his religious emblem award (Light of Christ Emblem) from the scouts last Sunday, June 9th at the Corpus Christi Cathedral from Bishop Mulvey

JULY MASS SCHEDULE

Fr. Andrew will be taking his vacation during the month of July. During this time Fr. Zenon will be celebrating all Masses. Masses will be celebrated at their usual days and times. Confessions will still be heard on Saturdays (unless otherwise announced). If you have any emergency pastoral emergencies, please contact the parish office.

Special Prayer Intention of Pope Francis for June

For migrants fleeing their homes

We pray that migrants fleeing from war or hunger, forced to undertake journeys full of danger and violence, find welcome and new opportunities in the countries that receive them.

