

Do This in Remembrance of Me, A Step by Step walk through the Mass
Part 47; The Background of the Eucharistic Prayers

What is the background for the Eucharistic Prayers? We begin with what Jesus himself said and did. Fr. Guy Oury writes, “According to St. Paul and Saint Luke, Jesus ‘gave thanks’ (1 Cor. 11:24; Lk 22:17). According to Saint Matthew and Saint Mark, he ‘said [a] blessing’ (Mt. 26:26; Mk 14:22). The two expressions are equivalent. They designate a blessing prayer of thanksgiving that was customary among the Jews. The ritual of the Passover meal, which may have been the setting for the institution and first celebration of the Eucharist, included such a prayer” (The Mass, p. 92–93). If we look through the Gospels, we will see Jesus often giving thanks. This reminds us of the word Eucharist, which means thanksgiving!

The Jewish Roots of Eucharistic Prayers

As Edward Sri observes, “Scholars have noted that the Eucharistic prayer has roots in the Jewish table prayers recited at every meal. Near the start of the meal, the father of the family or the one presiding over the community would take bread and speak a blessing (barakah) which praised God, saying: ‘Blessed are you, Lord, our God, king of the universe, who has brought forth bread from heaven.’ The bread was then broken and given to the participants, and the people began eating... When the meal neared its conclusion, the presider prayed a second and longer barakah over a cup of wine. This blessing had three parts: 1) praise of God for his creation; 2) thanksgiving for his redemptive work in the past (for example, the giving of the covenant, the land, the law); and 3) supplication for the future, that God’s saving works would continue in their lives and be brought to their climax in the sending of the Messiah who would restore the Davidic kingdom” (A Biblical Walk Through the Mass, p. 93). Doesn’t that structure and content sound familiar? Sri goes on to say that this pattern was found in early Eucharistic prayers and is still present today. We also see this pattern in the writings of St. Justin and St. Hippolytus.

The Promises to the Jews Fulfilled in Jesus

It makes sense that Jesus prayed in the pattern of the Jewish people of his day. What was different, and what changes these prayers for us, is when Jesus said, “This is My Body. This is My Blood.” As Fr. Oury continues, “In his blessing prayers, and especially the one he spoke on the eve of the Passion for the institution of the Eucharist, Jesus went beyond the blessing prayers of his contemporaries. He referred to more than the benefits of creation or the blessings of the history of salvation in the Old Testament. He showed the promises fulfilled in himself... At the Last Supper Jesus left his disciples a memorial of his covenant. He left them certain actions to be perpetuated: breaking and distribution of bread, presentation of the cup, together with the words of institution” (The Mass, p. 94).

Knowing more about the Jewish background can be a great help to us in understanding customs and references we find in the Scriptures as well as seeing how many prayers of the Mass took shape. Above all, this background can help us understand even more clearly the longing for the Messiah and the amazing gift that Jesus is as he is truly present with us! As we continue our journey through the parts of the Mass, the notes of thanksgiving and praise will continue to be present, as well as ongoing reminders of how Jesus is truly present with us and why the Mass is such a unique and perfect prayer of praise to the Father. Challenge for the week: See how many times you notice “thanks” present in the Mass!

For Reflection:

1. Take up Fr. Luke’s challenge to count the number of times you hear references to “thanks” or “thanksgiving” during Mass.
2. Do you have Jewish friends or acquaintances? If the relationships allow, ask about your friends if and how they practice meal prayers.

This article was written by Fr. Luke Spannagel and published on the National Eucharistic Revival Blog Webpage.



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



Fifteenth Sunday
in Ordinary Time

July 14, 2024



Immaculate Conception Church
Roman Catholic Diocese of Corpus Christi



Jesus summoned the Twelve
and began to send them out two by two
and gave them authority over unclean spirits.
Mark 6: 7

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

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



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PO Box 108

Gregory, TX 78359

www.iccgregory.org

Pastoral Emergency: 361-543-0503



Mass Intentions For The Week

SATURDAY July 13, 2024
5:30PM: †Guadalupe Moreno (James & Mona Lacour)
†Alejandro & †Johnny Lopez (Minerva Lopez)
†Concepcion, †Ester and †David Rangel (Danny Rangel)
†Margarito & †Alejandra Guerrero, †David Sanchez

SUNDAY July 14, 2024
8:00AM: †Richard Ortiz (Family)
†Eva Corona (M/M Manuel Menchaca Family)
†Aurora & †Jose Javier Mendoza (Family)
†Herminia Lara & †Juana Garcia (Daniel Lara & Family)

10:00AM: †Estefana Menchaca (Menchaca Family)
Eddie Perez (Family)
†Santos Garcia (Family)
†Lorna Gomez (daughter)
†Martha & †Israel Perales (Severo Perales)
†Ernesto, †Roy & †Meisha Hinojosa (Family)

12:00PM: †Janie Galvan (Family)
†Lelia Guzman (Family)
†Adrian G Flores (Family)
†Maria Oralia Cavazos (Cavazos Family)
†Emilio Peña Sr. (Annette Freeman)

TUESDAY July 16, 2024
5:30PM: †Jessica Avila (Avila Family)
†Aurelio & †Eulojia Avila (Family)

WEDNESDAY July 17, 2024
8:30AM: Special Intention for Paul Thompson

THURSDAY July 18, 2024
8:30AM: Special Intentions for Lance Maxwell

FRIDAY July 19, 2024
8:30AM: Special Intentions for Kyle Lovallo

SATURDAY July 20, 2024
5:30PM: †Guadalupe Moreno (Rudy Moreno & Family)
†Diana Schicker (Family)
†David Solis Sr. (Pat, David, Gabby)
†Rene Aaron Pena (Solis Family)
†Esteban & †Candelaria Ortiz (Esteban & Lydia)
†Concepcion, †Ester and †David Rangel (Danny Rangel)
†Margarito & †Alejandra Guerrero, †David Sanchez

SUNDAY July 21, 2024
8:00AM: †Richard Ortiz (Family)
†Juan Manuel Lozano (Family)
†Alfredo Hernandez (Solis)
†Estefana Menchaca (M/M Manuel Menchaca Family)
†Aurora & †Jose Javier Mendoza (Family)
†Herminia Lara & †Juana Garcia (Daniel Lara & Family)


10:00AM: †Estefana Menchaca (Menchaca Family)
†Santos Garcia (Family)
†Lorna Gomez (daughter)
†Eddie Perez (Family)
†Martha & †Juanita Perales (Severo Perales)
†Ernesto, †Roy & †Meisha Hinojosa (Family)

12:00PM: †Janie Galvan (Family)
†Lelia Guzman (Family)
†Adrian G Flores (Family)
†Maria Oralia Cavazos (Cavazos Family)


WEEKLY STEWARDSHIP	
Envelope Collection	\$1,456.00
Loose Collection	\$968.00
Building Fund	\$650.00
Online Giving	\$275.00
Collection Total - July 6/7	\$3,349.00

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 July
20/21 - Solidarity Fund for Church in Africa



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. July 20 Sun. July 21	Lector 	Extra Ordinary Ministers 
5:30PM	David	Louis
8:00AM	Esteban	Amparo
10:00AM	Brenda	Ophelia
12:00PM	Alma	Lupe A.

THANK YOU FOR JOINING US THIS WEEKEND

CALLED BY GOD

Today’s scriptures invite us to listen to two calls. The first is the call issued by the Lord to the prophet Amos, the “shepherd and a dresser of sycamores” (Amos 7:14). The second is the call the Lord Jesus issued to the Twelve, whom he sent out “two by two” (Mark 6:7). These faithful people responded to the call, prophesying and preaching to the people to whom they had been sent. Each of us received a call when we were baptized. The second reading invites us to ponder that call as we are reminded that we are chosen in Christ and that, in love, God “destined us for adoption” (Ephesians 1:5). As adopted daughters and sons of God we are called to bring the presence of Christ into our marriages, families, schools, and places of work. Let us be inspired today to say yes to the call we hear once again through God’s living word.

READINGS & SAINT OBSERVANCES FOR THE WEEK

Monday: St. Bonaventure
Is 1:10-17; Ps 50:8-9, 16bc-17, 21, 23; Mt 10:34 — 11:1

Tuesday: Our Lady of Mount Carmel
Is 7:1-9; Ps 48:2-8; Mt 11:20-24

Wednesday:
Is 10:5-7, 13b-16; Ps 94:5-10, 14-15; Mt 11:25-27

Thursday: St. Camillus de Lellis
Is 26:7-9, 12, 16-19; Ps 102:13-14ab, 15-21; Mt 11:28-30

Friday:
Is 38:1-6, 21-22, 7-8; Is 38:10-12abcd, 16; Mt 12:1-8

Saturday: St. Apollinaris
Mi 2:1-5; Ps 10:1-4, 7-8, 14; Mt 12:14-21

Sunday: Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time
Jer 23:1-6; Ps 23:1-6; Eph 2:13-18; Mk 6:30-34


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 December.

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

Special Prayer Intention of Pope Francis for July
For the pastoral care of the sick

We pray that the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick confer to those who receive it and their loved ones the power of the Lord and become ever more a visible sign of compassion and hope for all.



LLAMADOS POR DIOS

Las lecturas de hoy nos invitan a escuchar dos llamados. El primero es el llamado del Señor al profeta Amós, el “pastor y cultivador de higos” (Amós 7:14). El segundo es el llamado del Señor Jesús a los Doce, a quienes envió “de dos en dos” (Marcos 6:7). Estas personas fieles respondieron al llamado, profetizaron y predicaron a aquellos a quienes habían sido enviados. En el Bautismo, cada uno de nosotros recibió un llamado. La segunda lectura nos invita a reflexionar sobre ese llamado ya que se nos recuerda que hemos sido elegidos en Cristo y que, por amor, Dios “nos eligió... para que fuéramos sus hijos” (Efesios 1:5). Por ser hijos adoptivos de Dios se nos llama a llevar la presencia de Cristo a nuestro matrimonio, familiares, escuelas y sitios de trabajo. Sintámonos inspirados a decir “sí” hoy al llamado que escuchamos una vez más en la palabra viva de Dios.

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.

CHALLENGE OF THE WEEK

This week, give God glory for choosing you to be the vessel through which each specific daily task is completed. In each task, also keep your ears, eyes, heart and mind open to where he wants you to speak to someone in need. For example, while folding and putting away laundry, pray for the intention of someone you promised you’d pray for. While washing dishes, listen to songs of praise and sing along, giving glory to God. While shopping, or just out in public, smile at someone who looks as though they need it. Find small ways to share faith, hope, and love.

HOUSE OF FAITH FOOD PANTRY

The Food Pantry will be OPEN again on **Wednesday, July 24th** from 4pm until we run out of supplies If you are willing to volunteer please contact Diana Moreno at 765.7696.



USHERS BREAKFAST TACO SALE

The Ushers will be selling breakfast tacos after the 8AM and 10AM Masses on Sunday, July 28th.

SOLIDARITY FUND FOR THE CHURCH IN AFRICA

Next week our parish will take up a collection to support the Solidarity Fund for the Church in Africa. Although the Church in Africa is growing, many still lack access to basic resources and pastoral care. The Solidarity Fund supports pastoral projects to build the capacity of the Church and foster lasting peace and reconciliation across a continent often marked by division and tension.