

Do This in Remembrance of Me, A Step by Step walk through the Mass
Part 57: The Great Amen

Amen! Today we look at our response at the end of the doxology: the Great Amen. After the priest sings or says, “Through him, and with him, and in him, O God, almighty Father, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor is yours, for ever and ever,” the people respond with, “Amen!” What exactly does Amen mean? Amen is a special word that most often is understood to mean, “So be it.”

What Does the Word “Amen” Mean?

As the glossary of our Catechism says, Amen is “A Hebrew word meaning ‘truly; it is so; let it be done,’ signifying agreement with what has been said. The prayers of the New Testament and of the Church’s liturgy, and the Creeds, conclude with ‘amen.’ Jesus used the word to introduce solemn assertions, to emphasize their trustworthiness and authority” (CCC, p. 865). As Edward Sri writes, “‘Amen’ transliterates a Hebrew word that affirms the validity of what has been said and was often used in liturgical settings. For example, when the Levites sang, ‘Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel, from everlasting to everlasting,’ the people joined in this blessing of God by exclaiming, ‘Amen!’ (1 Chr 16:36).” Sri goes on to say, “Most notable is how the angels and saints in heaven cry out ‘Amen’ as they sing their part in the chorus praising God in the heavenly liturgy. In the book of Revelation, every living creature in heaven and earth and under the earth says, ‘To him who sits upon the throne and to the Lamb be blessing and honor and glory and might for ever and ever!’ And in response, the angelic creatures say ‘Amen!’ as if to shout out, ‘Yes! May the Lord be blessed and honored forever!’” (A Biblical Walk Through the Mass, p. 120).

What is the “Great Amen” in the Mass?

Ok, so why is the “Amen” of this part of the Mass called the “Great Amen”? Fr. Oury teaches, “The Amen of the people has special importance at this moment of the celebration. It is more than ever a response and assent. Concerning it Bossuet wrote: ‘In the Book of Revelation the elect are represented to us as ever singing Amen to God. Amen in sacred parlance is Yes, a firm and definite Yes that conquers assent, or rather, the whole heart. That is how they love in heaven. Ought we not do so on earth?’” (The Mass, p. 103). Similarly, Charles Belmonte instructs, “This is the most important Amen in the Mass. It is for us both a resolution and a prayer. A resolution upon which our love for God blooms; a prayer based on the future hope of resurrection” (Understanding the Mass, p. 163).

How Should We Say the “Great Amen”?

If we think about our journey through the Mass, it makes sense to say this Amen is the most important. Take a moment to think about what has recently happened in the Mass: bread and wine were brought forward, along with all our prayers and sacrifices offered in union with Jesus. Through the words and actions of Jesus, the priest prayed the Eucharistic Prayer, and the bread and wine have been changed into the very Body, Blood, Soul, and Divinity on the altar: Jesus himself is truly present with us! This is Almighty God with us! This is Jesus who loved us so perfectly that he gave everything for us! This is the moment of Jesus being offered to the Father in perfect praise, and we have been invited to join with Jesus!

Hopefully, we are so excited about what has just taken place that we want to belt out our Amen with great joy and fervor! With this mentality of joy and celebration, Belmonte quotes St. Jerome: “Let us sing or say the Great Amen with all our hearts united to all our brothers. Let it resound the whole world over, as the Amen of our early brothers in the faith ‘resounded in heaven, as a celestial thunderclap in the Roman basilicas’” (Understanding the Mass, p. 163). Wouldn’t that kind of “Amen” get the attention of our neighbors? “What was that loud sound that shook the ground? Oh, it was the Catholics at Mass singing Amen!”

For Reflection:

1. The Book of Revelation uses “Amen” as another name for Jesus: “The Amen, the faithful and true witness, the source of God’s creation...” (Rev. 3:14). The angels, elders, and four living creatures use this word at both the beginning and end of prayer (see Rev. 7:12; cf. Rev. 19:4). In your own prayer, spend time with this word and allow its meaning to penetrate your life.
2. When you face joys and challenges throughout the day, take a moment to pray (silently or audibly), “Amen,” as a way of accepting God’s will.

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



Twenty-Fifth
Sunday in
Ordinary Time

September 22, 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



“Whoever receives one child such as this in my name,
receives me; and whoever receives me,
receives not me but the One who sent me.”
Mark 9: 37

Mass Intentions For The Week



SATURDAY September 21, 2024
5:30PM: Souls in Purgatory
†Guadalupe V Moreno (Rudy Moreno & Family)
†Alvaro Lopez Sr. (Juan & Rosario Cantu)
†Diana Schicker (Family)
†Roland Rodriguez (Richard & Anita Nerios)
†Ernest Solis (Family)
†Paula Bazan Garcia (Lupe & Dora)
†Eva Corona (M/M Manuel Menchaca)
†Dorn Dover (Rose De La Cruz)
†Esteban & †Candelaria Ortiz (Estaban & Lydia)
†Concepcion, †Ester & †David Rangel
†Margarito, †Alejandra Guerrero, †David Sanchez
Special Intentions for Sara Bazan (Chris & Chelo Flores)

SUNDAY September 22, 2024
8:00AM: †Richard Ortiz (Family)
†Juan Manuel Lozano (Family)
†David Solis Sr (Pat, David & Gabby)
†Jose Javier Mendoza (Family)
†Clyde Rosalez (Family)
†Alvaro & †Manuela Lopez
†Maria Felix Aguirre, †Tomas Rangel Jr
10:00AM: †Estefana Menchaca (Menchaca Family)
†Santos Garcia (Family)
†Jessica Avila (Avila Family)
†Aurelio Avila, †Joel Mora (Ophelia Avila)
†Eddie Perez (Family)
†Loy Avila (Family)
†Eugenio & †Esperanza Esparza, †Rachel Hinojosa (Family)
12:00PM: †Janie Galvan (Family)
†Lelia Guzman (Family)
†David Sanchez (Paula Guerrero)
†Adrian G Flores (Family)
†Juan C Flores Jr. (Family)
†Maria Oralia Cavazos (Cavazos Family)
†Emilio Peña Sr. (Family)

TUESDAY September 24, 2024
5:30PM: †Manuela Veliz (Rudy Moreno & Family)

WEDNESDAY September 25, 2024
8:30AM: †Marcelino Campa Jr. (Christine Maxwell)

THURSDAY September 26, 2024
8:30AM: †Felicia Campa (Christine Maxwell)

FRIDAY September 27, 2024
8:30AM: for the parishioners of Immaculate Conception


Whoever wishes to be first must be the servant to all



WEEKLY STEWARDSHIP	
Envelope Collection	\$1,323.00
Loose Collection	\$960.00
Children’s Offering	\$21.00
Online Giving	\$500.00
Collection Total - Sept. 14/15	\$2,804.00
Disaster Relief Collection	\$427.00

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 September
21/22 - Building Maintenance Fund



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

NEXT WEEK’S MINISTERS SCHEDULE		
Sat. Sept. 28 Sun. Sept. 29	Lector 	Extra Ordinary Ministers 
5:30PM	Chelo	Juan
8:00AM	Elisa	Janie
10:00AM	Brenda	Raymond
12:00PM	Alma	Jesse C

THANK YOU FOR JOINING US THIS WEEKEND

HOW DO WE TREAT THE MESSENGER?

Let’s not be too hasty in defining who is “the wicked one” and who (namely us) is just! We are very quick to label others as evil, because we tend to label ourselves as good guys. We don’t like it when we are brought up short by a prophetic voice that brings us some bad news about our own behavior. We don’t like to be reproached for transgressions of the law or charged with violations of our training.

We may condemn and abuse those who bring us up against these truths about ourselves when, if we were really good, we would thank them for helping to keep us on the right path. This is the way they treated the prophets and the way they treated Jesus. Is this also the way we treat those whose message we don’t like?

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: St. Pius of Pietrelcina (Padre Pio)
Prv 3:27-34; Ps 15:2-5; Lk 8:16-18

Tuesday:
Prv 21:1-6, 10-13; Ps 119:1, 27, 30, 34, 35, 44; Lk 8:19-21

Wednesday:
Prv 30:5-9; Ps 119:29, 72, 89, 101, 104, 163; Lk 9:1-6

Thursday: Ss. Cosmas and Damian
Eccl 1:2-11; Ps 90:3-6, 12-14, 17bc; Lk 9:7-9

Friday: St. Vincent de Paul
Eccl 3:1-11; Ps 144:1b, 2abc, 3-4; Lk 9:18-22

Saturday: St. Lawrence Ruiz and Companions; St. Wenceslaus
Eccl 11:9-12:8; Ps 90: 3-6; 12-14, 17; Lk 9:43b-45

Sunday: Twenty-Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time
Nm 11:25-19; Ps 19:8, 10, 12-14; Jas 5:1-6; Mk 9:38-43, 45, 47-48

PRAYER FOR THE WEEK

Lord God, you fulfill your promises, forever and always. When I begin to doubt you or allow my own selfish desires to obscure your plan, help me to trust in you. Help me to trust that you hear my prayers and know the desires of my heart. Ultimately, God, help me to know that your plan is far greater than my own. Amen.


CHALLENGE OF THE WEEK

Pray the litany of Humility each day this week. You can find it online. It is a wonderfully dangerous prayer to pray.

Special Prayer Intention of Pope Francis for September

For the cry of the Earth

We pray that each one of us will hear and take to heart the cry of the Earth and of victims of natural disasters and climactic change, and that all will undertake to personally care for the world in which we live.



CÓMO TRATAMOS AL MENSAJERO

No debemos precipitarnos a definir quiénes son “los malvados” y quiénes (es decir nosotros) son los justos. Tendemos a clasificar rápidamente a los demás como malos, porque solemos considerarnos buenas personas. No nos gusta que una voz profética nos critique con malas noticias sobre nuestro propio comportamiento. No nos gusta que nos reprochen que hemos transgredido la ley ni que nos acusen de no haber actuado acorde a nuestra formación.

Puede que condenemos e insultemos a quienes nos enfrentan a estas verdades sobre nosotros mismos, pero si fuéramos realmente buenos, les agradeceríamos por ayudarnos a permanecer en el camino correcto. Éste es el trato que le dieron a los profetas y el trato que le dieron a Jesús. ¿Es éste también el trato que les damos a las personas cuyos mensajes no nos gustan?

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. Currently the image is scheduled to be picked up at the church on Saturday or Sunday and dropped off back at the church by Saturday (around the time of confessions).

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

Ignacio Solis

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS

CAKE WALK

The religious education department is asking for your help for the cake walk booth for Jamaica, We are seeking your help with donations of baked goods, cakes, cookies, pies, etc. Homemade items a preferred but not necessary.


These items can be dropped off at the Holy Sprit Room of the Religious Education Building on:

Friday, October 4th from 5pm - 8pm

Saturday, October 5th from 10am - 10pm

Sunday, October 6th from 8am - 8pm

Thank you in advance for your support.



MASS TIME CHANGE

On Saturday, October 5th the Saturday Vigil Mass will be celebrated at 5:00PM for that day only. Please make note of this change. Confessions will also be from 3:30-4:30pm on this day.

