

Do This in Remembrance of Me, A Step by Step walk through the Mass
Part 58: The Communion Rite

It is almost time for Holy Communion! Having gone through the Eucharistic Prayer and responded together with vigor in the Great Amen, we are now in our final preparations before the moment of Holy Communion. This next section of the Mass is called the **Communion Rite**. The special parts of this moment in the Mass include:

- The Lord’s Prayer
 - Sign of Peace
 - Lamb of God (Agnus Dei) and Fraction of the Sacred Host
 - The commingling of the Body and Blood
 - The private prayer preparation of the priest
 - Elevation of the Holy Eucharist with the words “Behold the Lamb of God”
 - Communion of the priest and the faithful
 - Communion antiphon or song
 - A time for personal quiet prayer
 - The Prayer After Communion
- We’ll be taking a closer look at each part in the coming weeks.

But First... Why?

Although we may be familiar with this section of the Mass, perhaps it is helpful to step back and ask, “What exactly are we doing?” Many of us have been receiving Communion for some time, but have we ever stopped to wonder why we do so? As the General Instruction of the Roman Missal says, “Since the celebration of the Eucharist is the Paschal Banquet, it is desirable that in accordance with the Lord’s command his Body and Blood should be received as spiritual food by those of the faithful who are properly disposed. This is the sense of the fraction and the other preparatory rites by which the faithful are led more immediately to Communion” (GIRM, 80).

When we talk about the Eucharist, we usually think about four things: The True Presence of Christ’s Body and Blood; The Sacrifice of the Cross; The Sacrament of Unity among people; and the Paschal or Heavenly Banquet. The True Presence reminds us that Jesus is really there. The Sacrifice reminds us that the Mass is the one perfect Sacrifice of Jesus on the Cross and shows how much Jesus loves us. The True Presence of Jesus and his Sacrifice open the door to restoration, healing, and true unity. These truths also point us toward heaven, where we will experience the fullness and perfection of unity and love. The image of the heavenly banquet calls to mind celebration, eating, and drinking. As Jesus instructed us, we receive his Body and Blood by eating and drinking. That is what the Communion Rite is all about: the point of all the prayers, gestures, and words is that we receive Jesus the Lord in Holy Communion!

Our Spiritual Food

Continuing with Charles Belmonte, “The early Christians always likened the Eucharist to the life of the soul. St. Augustine writes: ‘It is an excellent thing that the Christians around Carthage [in North Africa] call baptism itself nothing else but salvation, and the sacrament of Christ’s Body nothing else but life. By apostolic tradition, the churches of Christ hold that without baptism and participation at the Lord’s table it is impossible for any man to attain either the kingdom of God or salvation and life eternal. The Scriptures give testimony to this.’ This is the very same body and blood which, by being immolated, restored our friendship with God. Christ’s sacrifice and the Paschal Meal are intimately linked. Our Mother the Church encourages us to participate in one and in the other, if we are properly disposed, of receiving our Lord’s Body and Blood. These will be our nourishment for the journey to our Father’s home” (Understanding the Mass, pp. 166–67).

For more background on sacrifice and eating, Belmonte looks back at the relationship between sacrifices and banquets: “The ancient sacrificial custom required that part of the victim be given back to the person offering the sacrifice. Thus, he became, symbolically, God’s guest. That which was just a symbol in the pagan rites and a figure in the Jewish offerings is a reality in the Holy Mass. After we have offered to God his Son Jesus Christ in sacrifice, God offers Him to us as spiritual food” (Understanding the Mass, p. 165). So, in the ancient sacrifices, whenever a person would offer a sacrifice to God, he always got “a little something” to take back with him. Generally, this was a portion of the sacrifice. In the case of receiving Jesus in the Mass, we get back the whole Christ: Body, Blood, Soul, and Divinity. What an exchange! There is no better deal in the world!

For Reflection:

- When you divide food or some other kind of created matter into portions, take the opportunity to reflect on the mystery of Christ, wholly present, in every portion of the Eucharistic species.
- At your next meal, allow your experience of this kind of eating and drinking to help you prepare to encounter Christ through Eucharistic eating and drinking.

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	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					



Anyone who gives you a cup of water to drink because you belong to Christ, amen, I say to you, will surely not lose his reward.

Mark 9: 41



Immaculate Conception Church

Roman Catholic Diocese of Corpus Christi



<p>Rev. Andrew Hejdak <i>Pastor</i></p> <p>David D. Solis Jr. <i>davids@iccgregory.org</i> <i>Administrative Asst.</i></p> <p>John Womack & Co. <i>Bookkeeper</i></p> <p>PARISH OFFICE HOURS Monday - Friday 10:00am - 4:30pm</p> <p>FAITH FORMATION</p> <p>Noreen Saenz <i>reoffice@iccgregory.org</i> <i>Director of Religious Ed.</i></p> <p>David D. Solis Jr. <i>Asst. Director of Religious Ed.</i></p> <p>Religious Ed. Office Hours Wednesdays 4:30 - 8:45pm</p>	<p>WEEKLY PARISH ACTIVITIES</p> <p>DIVINE MERCY CHAPLET Daily 3:00 pm Chapel</p> <p>ST. JUDE NOVENA Tuesdays 6:00 pm</p> <p>BIBLE STUDY Tuesdays 7:00PM (Español) Thursdays 7:00PM (English) R.E. building</p> <p>LA HORA DE DIOS PRAYER GROUP Fridays 6:00 pm Church</p> <p>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</p> <p>MASS INTENTIONS <i>ALL Mass intention requests should be submitted to the parish office.</i> For Intentions to appear in the Bulletin they must be submitted by 4:00pm Tuesday. <i>Donation of \$5 per intention is suggested.</i></p> <p>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.</p>	<p>PASTORAL COUNCIL VICE-CHAIR Mike Lopez 438.9054</p> <p>FINANCE COMMITTEE Javier Solis 229.4653</p> <p>SACRISTANS Jesse Gomez 229.0102 Juan Rodriguez 229.5515 Raymond Flores 215.3542</p> <p>CHOIR COORDINATOR Naida Rios 774.3778</p> <p>COMMUNION MINISTERS Jesus Garza 704-2269</p> <p>ALTAR SERVERS David D. Solis Jr. 643.4505</p> <p>ALTAR SOCIETY Nena Garcia 774.2604</p> <p>LECTORS Jesus Garza 704-2269</p> <p>USHERS Ramiro Peña 222-8857</p> <p>BEREAVEMENT COMMITTEE Aurora Leal 229.6956</p> <p>BLESSED MOTHER SOCIETY Sylvia Gomez 228.0822</p> <p>DIVINE MERCY APOSTLES Sonya Torres 730.6165</p> <p>HOUSE OF FAITH FOOD PANTRY Diana Moreno 765.7696 Adriana Bernardo 543.7642</p> <p>IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY Nydia Tamez 688.0333</p> <p>PRAYER & PRAISE GROUP Jeronimo Garcia 704.2136</p> <p>SACRED HEART SOCIETY Amelia Flores 443.9811</p> <p>ST. JUDE NOVENA Jerry & Ofelia Rivera 876.7147</p>
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Gregory, TX 78359



Mass Intentions
For The Week



SATURDAYSeptember 28, 2024

5:30PM: Souls in Purgatory

†Guadalupe V Moreno (Rudy Moreno & Family)

†Frank Hernandez (M/M Manuel Menchaca)

†Doug Dalton (Rose De La Cruz)

†Alejandro & †Johnny Lopez (Estaban & Lydia)

†Gary & †Sue Hartnett (Torres Family)

†Concepcion, †Ester & †David Rangel

†Margarito, †Alejandra Guerrero, †David Sanchez

SUNDAYSeptember 29, 2024

8:00AM: †Richard Ortiz (Family)

†Estefana Menchaca (M/M Manuel Menchaca)

†Jose Javier Mendoza (Family)

†Clyde Rosalez (Family)

Special Intentions for George Lopez (Raymond Lopez)

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

†Santos Garcia (Family)

†Eddie Perez (Family)

†Jose Landeros (Family)

12:00PM: †Janie Galvan (Family)

†Lelia Guzman (Family)

†Adrian G Flores (Family)

†Juan C Flores Jr. (Family)

†Maria Oralia Cavazos (Cavazos Family)

†Emilio Peña Sr. (Family)

TUESDAYOctober 1, 2024

5:30PM: †Emma Canales Reyna (Christine Maxwell)

WEDNESDAYOctober 2, 2024

8:30AM: †Frank G Reyna Jr (Christine Maxwell)

THURSDAYOctober 3, 2024

8:30AM: †Frank M Reyna III (Christine Maxwell)

FRIDAYOctober 4, 2024

6:30PM: Deceased Members of Sacred Heart Society

PRAYER FOR THE WEEK

Lord, I come before you today, offering all that I am and all that I hope to be. Transform my heart into the heart of a humble servant. Allow your grace to overflow in me so I can follow your commands more closely and love you more deeply. I pray that all that I do be done for your glory. Amen.

CHALLENGE OF THE WEEK

One of the ways to be freed from sin is through the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Receive this grace. Find the times for Confession and make it a nonnegotiable to attend. If your parish doesn't have a time that fits into your schedule, consider checking the times at other parishes nearby or, instead, make a sacrifice in order to fit it into your schedule. As a last resort, call the parish office and schedule a time with a priest.

WEEKLY STEWARDSHIP	
Envelope Collection	\$1,419.00
Loose Collection	\$737.28
Children’s Offering	\$32.00
Building Maintenance Fund	\$593.00
Online Giving	\$480.00
Collection Total - Sept. 21/22	\$3,261.28

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 October

5/6 - Respect Life Collection

12/13 - Building Maintenance Fund

19/20 - World Mission Sunday



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. Oct. 5 Sun. Oct. 6	Lector 	Extra Ordinary Ministers 
5:00PM	Louis	Amelia
8:00AM	Esteban	Janie
10:00AM	Jesse L	Terri F
12:00PM	Lupe A	Josie

THANK YOU FOR JOINING US THIS WEEKEND

NOT AGAINST US

Like Moses before him, Jesus corrects his disciples’ misunderstanding of the gift of the Spirit. They saw people who were not of their company casting out demons and doing other works such as Jesus had done. Jesus points out that no one who does a good deed in his name can be opposed to him at the same time. He goes on to point out the importance of the “little ones,”: the poor, simple people, children, the meek ones who are not important in the world. It is to them that he was sent, not to the wealthy and the self-righteous. He underscores the importance of small works done in faith, as well as big works like driving out demons. “Anyone who gives you a cup of water . . . because you belong to Christ . . . will surely not lose his reward” (Mark 9:41). God builds the coming reign little by little in our actions, however small and unassuming, when they are done out of love of God and neighbor.

¿QUIÉN ESTÁ A NUESTRO FAVOR?

Jesús, como Moisés que estuvo antes que él, corrige los malentendidos de los discípulos sobre el don del Espíritu. Vieron a personas, que no eran parte de su grupo, echar demonios y hacer otros milagros como Jesús había hecho. Jesús señala que nadie que hace milagros en su nombre puede luego hablar mal de él. Luego señala la importancia de la “gente sencilla”: los pobres, las personas sencillas, los niños, los humildes que no son importantes en el mundo. Es a ellos a quienes fue enviado, no a los ricos ni a los farisaicos. Jesús hace hincapié en la importancia de las pequeñas obras hechas con fe, de la misma manera que las grandes obras como echar a los demonios. “Todo aquél que les dé a beber un vaso de agua...por el hecho de que son de Cristo...les aseguro que no se quedará sin recompensa” (Marcos 9:41). Dios construye el Reino por venir poco a poco con nuestras acciones, sin importar que sean pequeñas o sencillas, si se las hace por amor a Dios y al prójimo.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: St. Jerome

Jb 1:6-22; Ps 17:1bcd-3, 6-7; Lk 9:46-50

Tuesday: St. Thérèse of the Child Jesus

Jb 3:1-3, 11-17, 20-23; Ps 88:2-8; Mt 18:1-5, 10

Wednesday: The Holy Guardian Angels

Jb 9:1-12, 14-16; Ps 88:10bc-15; Lk 9:57-62

Thursday:

Jb 19:21-27; Ps 27:7-9abc, 13-14; Lk 10:1-12

Friday: St. Francis of Assisi

Jb 38:1, 12-21; 40:3-5; Ps 139:1-3, 7-10, 13-14ab; Lk 10:13-16

Saturday: Blessed Francis Xavier Seelos, St. Faustina Kowalska

Jb 42:1-3, 5-6, 12-17; Ps 119:66, 71, 75, 91, 125, 130; Lk 10:17-24

Sunday: Twenty-Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

Gn 2:18-24; Ps 128:1-6; Heb 2:9-11; Mk 10:2-16 [2-12]

CONGRATULATIONS!!!

Altar Server Recognition Ceremony

Congratulations to the following Altar Servers, they will be receiving the following awards today (Sunday, September 29th) at the Corpus Christi Cathedral from Bishop Mulvey, the ceremony will be at 3:00PM.

Justin Flores and Jenevieve Garza - Eucharistic Cross Bearer Award (red Sash, Cord & Crucifix)

Andrew Flores and Javier Solis - 10 years of Service Award (purple sash, Cord and Crucifix)

Congratulations and Thank you for your hard work and dedication.

Special Prayer Intention of Pope Francis for October

For a shared mission

We pray that the Church continue to sustain in all ways a Synodal lifestyle, as a sign of co-responsibility, promoting the participation, the communion and the mission shared among priests, religious and lay people.



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

Oscar & Odilia Reyes

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.

