

Do This in Remembrance of Me, A Step by Step walk through the Mass  
Part 59: The Lord’s Prayer

As we journey through our final preparations before Communion, we take a closer look at the Our Father. “At our Savior’s command and formed by divine teaching, we dare to say: Our Father...” The Lord’s Prayer is the first part of the Communion Rite. This prayer, of course, is the prayer given to us by Jesus in the Gospel (Matthew 6:9-13; Luke 11:2-4). These are the very words that Jesus gave us to pray! As a priest, I feel like one of the most common things people say to me is that they don’t feel like they pray very well, or that they don’t know what to say when they pray. Maybe the disciples felt this way when they asked Jesus how to pray. In response, he gave the words that we now know as the Our Father. Here is an opportunity to pray with confidence with words directly from the mouth of Jesus.

A Daring Prayer

Why does the priest say in the invitation, “we dare to say”? As Charles Belmonte notes, “This invitation is a very touching and most ancient formula (one alluded to as early as the fourth century by St. Jerome). It states that we should not dare (audemus) to utter what we are about to say—were it not for the express command of our Lord. He taught us to approach God as a son talks to his father” (Understanding the Mass, p. 169). According to the Diocese of Peoria, “Our Lord used the word ‘Abba’ to express our filiation of the most high God. We are His sons and daughters and we call upon Him in a most intimate and familial term: Father. Our Lord desires we approach our Father with the serenity and confidence of children. Not only does he reveal this, but in a certain sense he commands it when he says, ‘When you pray, pray like this... Our Father!’” (“A Study of the Mass, p. 17). We dare to call God our Father because Jesus said we could!

If you look through the Old Testament, we see a few people having a uniquely close relationship with God: Adam, Abraham, and others who talked with God (Genesis 3 and 18); Moses, whose face was radiant after being in God’s presence (Exodus 34); Jonah and Job who talked with God when angry and frustrated (Jonah 4; Job 3 and 42), among others. As Edward Sri writes, “The ancient Jews certainly viewed God as the father of the people of Israel. But it was not at all common for an individual to address God as ‘Father.’ Nevertheless, this is precisely what Jesus calls us to do [...] and if he was speaking his native Aramaic, he probably used the word ‘Abba’ for father. This was an intimate, affectionate term similar to ‘Daddy’... This underscores the intimate relationship we now have with God because of Jesus’ work of salvation. Through our union in Christ, God has truly become our Father” (A Biblical Walk Through the Mass, p. 124).

God’s Desire to Be Close to Us

Among some of the first words we learn as young children are “mommy” and “daddy.” This is true for all different kinds of people with all different kinds of language. In some ways, these words are really central to who we are—people in relation to others. When Jesus taught us to pray, he said we should begin by saying, “Our Father.” If a good translation of “Abba” is “Daddy,” just think about how close God wants us to be! So close, in fact, that we could call him by a name that even a young child could recognize. What an amazing gift! What an amazing sharing in the life of God! No wonder we can pray with confidence—we have a Loving Father who loves us so much and so perfectly!

As the Diocese of Peoria has said, “The ‘Our Father’ itself is a model of prayer. It beseeches the Father, it praises and blesses Him, it recognizes His Divinity and Majesty. It asks and intercedes, asks pardon for our sins, avoidance of temptation and a deliverance from evil. It is so fitting we call upon our Father God in such a great prayer as we prepare to receive His great gifts... In this proximate preparation for Holy Communion, we are asking the Father for the gift of His Son. Unworthy as we are, we pray this in confidence, knowing of His infinite mercy and desire to share His gifts with us” (“A Study of the Mass, p. 17). Next, we’ll look at this wonderful prayer in more depth, including the meaning of the petitions. In the meantime, if you decide to pray a few extra Our Father’s, please pray one for me!

For Reflection:

- 1. Peruse the passages Fr. Luke cites of persons speaking intimately with God (Genesis 3 and 18; Exodus 34; Jonah 4; and Job 3 and 42), and choose one of these texts for further meditation. Allow your reflection on this passage to lead you into your own open sharing with the Lord.
- 2. Give thanks to God for the men who have been models of loving fatherhood in your own life. Ask for forgiveness and healing in situations where men have not embodied loving fatherhood. Open your heart to enter more deeply into a filial relationship with God as Abba-Father.

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-Seventh  
Sunday in  
Ordinary Time

October 6, 2024



Immaculate Conception Church  
Roman Catholic Diocese of Corpus Christi



<b>Rev. Andrew Hejdak</b> <i>Pastor</i>  David D. Solis Jr. <i>davids@iccgregory.org</i> <i>Administrative Asst.</i>  John Womack & Co. <i>Bookkeeper</i>  <b>PARISH OFFICE HOURS</b> Monday - Friday 10:00am - 4:30pm  <b>FAITH FORMATION</b>  Noreen Saenz <i>reoffice@iccgregory.org</i> <i>Director of Religious Ed.</i>  David D. Solis Jr. <i>Asst. Director of Religious Ed.</i>  <b>Religious Ed. Office Hours</b> Wednesdays 4:30 - 8:45pm	<b>WEEKLY PARISH ACTIVITIES</b>  <b>DIVINE MERCY CHAPLET</b> Daily 3:00 pm Chapel  <b>ST. JUDE NOVENA</b> Tuesdays 6:00 pm  <b>BIBLE STUDY</b> Tuesdays 7:00PM (Español) Thursdays 7:00PM (English) R.E. building  <b>LA HORA DE DIOS PRAYER GROUP</b> Fridays 6:00 pm Church  <b>NEW TO THE PARISH?</b> 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  <b>MASS INTENTIONS</b> <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>  <b>EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION CHAPEL</b>  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.	<b>PASTORAL COUNCIL VICE-CHAIR</b> Mike Lopez 438.9054 <b>FINANCE COMMITTEE</b> Javier Solis 229.4653 <b>SACRISTANS</b> Jesse Gomez 229.0102 Juan Rodriguez 229.5515 Raymond Flores 215.3542 <b>CHOIR COORDINATOR</b> Naida Rios 774.3778 <b>COMMUNION MINISTERS</b> Jesus Garza 704-2269 <b>ALTAR SERVERS</b> David D. Solis Jr. 643.4505 <b>ALTAR SOCIETY</b> Nena Garcia 774.2604 <b>LECTORS</b> Jesus Garza 704-2269 <b>USHERS</b> Ramiro Peña 222-8857 <b>BEREAVEMENT COMMITTEE</b> Aurora Leal 229.6956 <b>BLESSED MOTHER SOCIETY</b> Sylvia Gomez 228.0822 <b>DIVINE MERCY APOSTLES</b> Sonya Torres 730.6165 <b>HOUSE OF FAITH FOOD PANTRY</b> Diana Moreno 765.7696 Adriana Bernardo 543.7642 <b>IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY</b> Nydia Tamez 688.0333 <b>PRAYER &amp; PRAISE GROUP</b> Jeronimo Garcia 704.2136 <b>SACRED HEART SOCIETY</b> Amelia Flores 443.9811 <b>ST. JUDE NOVENA</b> Jerry & Ofelia Rivera 876.7147
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But from the beginning of creation, ‘God made them male and female. For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife and the two shall become one flesh.’ So they are no longer two but one flesh.  
Mark 10:6-8



Mass Intentions For The Week

**SATURDAY October 5, 2024**  
**5:00PM:** Souls in Purgatory  
†Guadalupe V Moreno (Rudy Moreno & Family)  
†Anna Rodriguez (Rodriguez Family)  
†Frank Hernandez (M/M Manuel Menchaca)  
†Robert & †Marion Schicker (Family)  
†Margarito, †Alejandra Guerrero, †David Sanchez  
Thanksgiving to Our Lady of Guadalupe (Minerva Lopez)

**SUNDAY October 6, 2024**  
**8:00AM:** †Richard Ortiz (Family)  
†Eva Corona(M/M Manuel Menchaca)  
†Jose Javier Mendoza (Family)  
†Clyde Rosalez (Family)  
†Delia L. Gonzales (Jessie Gonzales)  
**10:00AM:** †Estefana Menchaca (Menchaca Family)  
†Santos Garcia (Family)  
†Eddie Perez (Family)  
†Ignacio Rodriguez (Rodriguez Family)  
†Hector & †Mary Sanchez (Avila 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)

**TUESDAY October 8, 2024**  
**5:30PM:** †Brigida Sabedra (Family)

**WEDNESDAY October 9, 2024**  
**8:30AM:** †Irene M Reyna (Christine Maxwell)  
†Gary & †Sue Hartnett (Torres Family)

**THURSDAY October 10, 2024**  
**8:30AM:** †Fernando Solis Sr (Belia Solis & Family)

**FRIDAY October 11, 2024**  
**8:30AM:** for the parishioners of Immaculate Conception

**LOOKING AHEAD**

The Feast days of All Saint’s & All Souls’ are approaching, below you will find the Mass times for both days. Please take the time to mark these days in your calendar.

**All Saint’s Day** - Friday, November 1st  
**8:30AM & 6:30PM**

**All Souls’ Day** - Saturday, November 2nd  
**9:30AM** Rosary at Gregory Cemetery

Followed by  
**10:00AM** Mass at Gregory Cemetery

The All Souls Novena will be from November 2nd - 10th  
(Mass will be celebrated on Mondays also)

Envelopes for the Novena are in your offering envelope mail-out and in the entry of the church.

WEEKLY STEWARDSHIP	
Envelope Collection	\$2,370.00
Loose Collection	\$608.00
Children’s Offering	\$6.00
Building Maintenance Fund	\$50.00
Online Giving	\$260.00
Collection Total - Sept. 28/29	\$3,294.00

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 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. 12 Sun. Oct. 13	Lector Lectors	Extra Ordinary Ministers
5:30PM		Juan
8:00AM	Elisa	Pedro
10:00AM	Jenevieve	Raymond
12:00PM	Chelo	Alma

THANK YOU FOR JOINING US THIS WEEKEND

**HE EMBRACED THEM AND BLESSED THEM**

Today Jesus stresses how children embody the reign of God. They are trusting and loving and have hearts that are open to love. They are joyful when they are made aware of God’s love for them, and are eager to return that love. This is the model Jesus holds out to us if we want to welcome the reign of God. We need to have open, loving hearts. We must drop our defenses, however we came by them, and welcome Christ’s love for us with joy. This is impossible for us on our own. Only the grace of God will enable us to do this, but that grace is freely and generously given. We have only to accept it.

**READINGS FOR THE WEEK**

**Monday: Our Lady of the Rosary**  
Gal 1:6-12; Ps 111:1b-2, 7-9, 10c; Lk 10:25-37

**Tuesday:**  
Gal 1:13-24; Ps 139:1b-3, 13-15; Lk 10:38-42

**Wednesday: St. Denis and Companions; St. John Leonardi**  
Gal 2:1-2, 7-14; Ps 117:1bc, 2; Lk 11:1-4

**Thursday:**  
Gal 3:1-5; Lk 1:69-75; Lk 11:5-13

**Friday: St. John XXIII**  
Gal 3:7-14; Ps 111:1b-6; Lk 11:15-26

**Saturday:**  
Gal 3:22-29; Ps 105:2-7; Lk 11:27-28

**Sunday: Twenty-Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time**  
Wis 7:7-11; Ps 90:12-17; Heb 4:12-13; Mk 10:17-30 [17-27]

**PRAYER FOR THE WEEK**

Dear God, you created me in your image and likeness. You know me, with all of my flaws and imperfections, and you love me. I pray, Lord, that you can help me become the person you created me to be. Guide me in your ways, not my own, and lead me on the path of righteousness and salvation. Amen.

**CHALLENGE OF THE WEEK**

Make a list of all the blessings in your life, of all the ways God has provided for you. Then, offer a prayer to the Lord, thanking Him for all He has done for you. If you find yourself doubting God’s promise to provide, reach through your list to remind yourself that he will never abandon you.

**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.

**LOS ABRAZÓ Y LOS BENDIJO**

Hoy Jesús recalca que el Reino de Dios pertenece a los que son como los niños. Son confiados, tiernos y tienen el corazón abierto al amor. Se alegran cuando se dan cuenta del amor que Dios siente por ellos y están más que dispuestos a retribuir ese amor. Este es el modelo que Jesús nos presenta si queremos recibir el Reino de Dios. Debemos abrir el corazón y amar. Debemos bajar la guardia, sin importar por qué la hayamos montado, y recibir con alegría el amor que Cristo siente por nosotros. Es imposible que hagamos esto sin ayuda. Sólo la gracia de Dios nos permitirá hacerlo y esa gracia se nos concede generosamente y sin condiciones. Lo único que debemos hacer es aceptarla.

**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*

**Paula Guerrero**

**PARISH OFFICE HOURS**

The Parish Office will be CLOSED, Monday, October 7th to allow our staff to rest after the Jamaica Festival.

**STATE OF THE DIOCESE**

Speaker: Bishop Michael Mulvey

**Wednesday, November 6, 2024**  
**6:00 - 8:30 pm**  
Richard M. Borchard Fairgrounds

Admission: \$12 per person/\$7 children under 12  
A meal will be provided  
Register by October 16: [diocesecc.org/stateof](http://diocesecc.org/stateof)