

Do This in Remembrance of Me, A Step by Step walk through the Mass
Part 73: Communion Under Both Forms

Last time, we addressed making a sign of reverence before receiving Communion in the sacred host or in the chalice. This time, we consider receiving from the chalice in particular. You may have noticed differences in what churches do for Communion. Someone who travels might encounter parishes where the Precious Blood is offered and others where everyone receives the sacred host without receiving from the chalice.

Let’s look at The General Instruction of the Roman Missal: “It is most desirable that the faithful, just as the Priest himself is bound to do, receive the Lord’s Body from hosts consecrated at the same Mass and that, in the cases where this is foreseen, they partake of the chalice, so that even by means of the signs Communion may stand out more clearly as a participation in the sacrifice actually being celebrated” (GIRM, 85). The point here is to emphasize that receiving Communion itself should help unite us to the Holy Sacrifice—through hosts consecrated at the Mass and, (then notice) “where this is foreseen,” from the chalice.

When Do We Receive Communion from the Chalice?

So, when are members of the faithful able to receive from the chalice? The GIRM reminds us that the bishops have the authority to give guidelines for the manner of receiving Communion in their dioceses. This is because the bishops are the caretakers of the liturgy within their dioceses. The GIRM does provide some guidelines for the bishops to follow: “Holy Communion has a fuller form as a sign when it takes place under both kinds. For in this form the sign of the Eucharistic banquet is more clearly evident and clearer expression is given to the divine will by which the new and eternal Covenant is ratified in the Blood of the Lord, as also the connection between the Eucharistic banquet and the eschatological banquet in the Kingdom of the Father” (GIRM, 281). What is this paragraph saying with “both kinds” (or sometimes we see the description “both forms”)? The reference here is to Communion being offered under the form of the sacred host and in the chalice. That is, that Communion would be offered in forms that involve both eating and drinking.

Why Don’t We Always Receive from the Chalice?

So, why don’t we always have Communion under both forms? Believe it or not, one simple reason is practicality. Having numerous people drink from the chalice requires either a very large chalice or a number of chalices. Depending on the size of the parish, this could be no problem; but in parishes that are very large, this can become a challenge. In one parish where I visited, there were 10 to 20 extraordinary ministers of Holy Communion at every Mass. As you might imagine, getting all these folks prepared and to their stations was quite a process. Another practical reason for some bishops and pastors is concern for reverence and the worry over potentially spilling the Precious Blood. Additionally, with heightened sensitivity to health, for some, the sharing of the chalice is personally challenging.

Along with some of these practical reasons, there is also a faith consideration based on our belief that Jesus is really and completely present under either form of Communion. The GIRM states, “Sacred pastors should take care to ensure that the faithful... are made aware by the most suitable means possible of the Catholic teaching on the form of Holy Communion as laid down by the Ecumenical Council of Trent. Above all, they should instruct the Christian faithful that the Catholic faith teaches that Christ, whole and entire, and the true Sacrament, is received even under only one species, and hence that as regards the resulting fruits, those who receive under only one species are not deprived of any grace that is necessary for salvation” (GIRM, 282). This text reminds pastors to make sure people know that receiving the host is receiving the whole Christ; receiving from the chalice is receiving the whole Christ; receiving both forms is receiving the whole Christ. There have been times in history where this teaching was not necessarily clear; for some, receiving Communion under one form can assist with that clarity.

Who Decides When We Receive from the Chalice?

Ultimately, the decision is up to the bishop, who can choose to extend the decision to the individual pastor. Bishops are charged to do whatever they think will be most helpful to people spiritually, while at the same time guarding the true faith and reverence for Jesus present in the Holy Sacrament. So, when you travel and notice that some parishes have Communion under both forms and some do not, know that the bishop and pastor have decided, according to the instruction of the GIRM, to do what they think is best for their parishes and people at the present time. As always, if we don’t understand the wisdom of our leaders in these decisions, we are invited to pray for the Holy Spirit’s guidance and wisdom, and continue to pray for true unity in Christ!

For Reflection:

1. Pray with 1 Corinthians 10:14–22, where St. Paul describes our unity in the “one loaf” of the Eucharist. Ask for a greater appreciation of Communion as union with Christ and one another.
2. Make a commitment to pray daily for your local bishop and for the guidance of the Holy Spirit in all his decisions.

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:	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	Contact parish office at least 6 months prior to proposed date.				



The Baptism of the Lord

January 12, 2025



Immaculate Conception Church
Roman Catholic Diocese of Corpus Christi



“You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased.”

Luke 3:22

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.

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 VICE-CHAIR
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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Parish Office: 361-643-4505

PO Box 108

Gregory, TX 78359

www.iccgregory.org

Pastoral Emergency: 361-543-0503



Mass Intentions For The Week

SATURDAY January 11, 2025
5:30PM: †Guadalupe V Moreno (Rudy Moreno)
†Ernest Solis (Christi Solis)
†Mary Neph (Michael Schicker)
†Charles Caldwell (Rose De La Cruz)
†Esteban & †Candelaria Ortiz (Esteban & Lydia)
†Concepcion, †Ester & †David Rangel (Danny Rangel)
Thanksgiving to Our Lady of Guadalupe (Minerva Lopez)

SUNDAY January 12, 2025
8:00AM: †Richard Ortiz (Family)
†Federico Perez (Elda Perez Vasquez)
10:00AM: †Estefana Menchaca (Sylvia & Rogelio Zuniga)
†Daniel E Flores (Merrill & Nora F Pierce)
†Ernesto, †Roy & †Meisha Hinojosa (Elvira Hinojosa)
†Margarito, †Alejandra Guerrero, †David Sanchez (Family)
12:00PM: †Lelia Guzman (Family)
†Steven S Garcia (Garcia Family)
†Juan C Flores Jr. (Family)
†Emilio Pena Sr. (Lucy Pena)
†Angelina & †Joel Mora, †Aaron Gobble (Family)
Special Intention for Divine Mercy Apostles

TUESDAY January 14, 2025
5:30PM: NO MASS

WEDNESDAY January 15, 2025
8:30AM: for the sick and homebound

THURSDAY January 16, 2025
8:30AM: Deceased of the Parish

FRIDAY January 17, 2025
8:30AM: †Teresa C Chapa (Minerva Rodriguez)

SATURDAY January 18, 2025
5:30PM: †Guadalupe V Moreno (Rudy Moreno)
†Macario Barrera (Rosa Barrera)
†Robert & Marion Schicker (Michael Schicker)
†Alejandro & †Johnny Lopez (Minerva Lopez)
†Concepcion, †Ester & †David Rangel (Danny Rangel)

SUNDAY January 19, 2025
8:00AM: †Richard Ortiz (Family)
10:00AM: †Estefana Menchaca (Sylvia & Rogelio Zuniga)
Margarito, †Alejandra Guerrero, †David Sanchez (Family)
12:00PM: †Lelia Guzman (Family)
†Juan C Flores Jr. (Family)
†Emilio Pena Sr. (Lucy Pena)
†Angelina & †Joel Mora, †Aaron Gobble (Family)

SILVER & GOLD WEDDING ANNIVERSARY MASS

Those blessed by celebrating 25 or 50 years of Sacramental Marriage are invited to attend a special Silver & Golden Wedding Anniversary Mass celebrated by Bishop Michael Mulvey. Sunday, February 9, 2025 at 9:30a.m. at Corpus Christi Cathedral. Contact the parish office to register. Deadline is January 31, 2025.

WEEKLY STEWARDSHIP	
Envelope Collection	\$1,798.00
Loose Collection	\$836.00
Building Maintenance Fund	\$5.00
Solemnity of Mary (Dec./ Jan. 1)	\$426.00
Online Giving	\$335.00
Collection Total - Jan. 4/5	\$3,400.00

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

Special Collections for the Month of January

11/12 - Building Maintenance Fund

25/26 - Church in Latin America

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

NEXT WEEK'S MINISTERS SCHEDULE		
Sat. Jan. 18 Sun. Jan. 19	Lector Lectors	Extra Ordinary Ministers
5:30PM	David	Louis
8:00AM	Esteban	Amparo
10:00AM	Brenda	Ophelia
12:00PM	Chelo	Lupe A.

THANK YOU FOR JOINING US THIS WEEKEND

Where does power come from? Your first inclination might be to say, “The outlet on the wall.” Perhaps, if you are a parent, a boss, or a coach, your first thought or reply is by virtue of your parental authority or business title or wisdom grown through life experience. As we see this week’s readings unfold, however, the Holy Spirit breathes through Isaiah, the psalmist, and St. Luke (in both the second reading and gospel) to reveal that true power comes directly from God (not ironically, through that same Holy Spirit).

In the first reading from Isaiah we hear that God will be sending “justice to the nations.” He will “open the eyes of the blind,” set prisoners free, and offer light in the darkness. You cannot do those things unless you have power and authority, and that is granted from on high. The psalm reverberates this theme, as well, when we are told “the God of glory thunders” and his mere voice is “mighty.” In Acts, Peter preaches and offers living testimony to the power of the Lord that he and the disciples witnessed firsthand, saying that Jesus’s anointing “with the Holy Spirit and power” fueled him to go “about doing good” and casting out evil. That type of power is not of this world. Even John the Baptist recognizes that as “powerful” as he is at that time, he is nothing compared to who is to come.

The greatest power is not over physical death (although Jesus would go on to demonstrate that power too), but over spiritual death. It is by our baptism that we not only come into God’s family but cheat spiritual death through Christ’s mercy. We pass from death to life not out of our own power or initiative but by passing through the waters of baptism. It’s in the sacraments that God’s power is on full display, as our sin and pride are sentenced to death, so that God’s power and very life (the gift of grace) can grow within us. God offers us life because he loves us. We are his *beloved* sons and daughters, and we are empowered by the Father’s gift of the Son through the Spirit. Amen.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: First Week in Ordinary Time; St. Hilary
Heb 1:1-6; Ps 97:1, 2b, 6, 7c, 9; Mk 1:14-20

Tuesday:
Heb 2:5-12; Ps 8:2ab, 5, 6-9; Mk 1:21-28

Wednesday:
Heb 2:14-18; Ps 105:1-4, 6-9; Mk 1:29-39

Thursday:
Heb 3:7-14; Ps 95:6-11; Mk 1:40-45

Friday: St. Anthony
Heb 4:1-5, 11; Ps 78:3, 4bc, 6c-8; Mk 2:1-12

Saturday:
Heb 4:12-16; Ps 19:8-10, 15; Mk 2:13-17

Sunday: Second Sunday in Ordinary Time
Is 62:1-5; Ps 96:1-3, 7-10; 1 Cor 12:4-11; Jn 2:1-11

TRAVELING IMAGE OF DIVINE MERCY

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

Maria Amelia Castro Vasquez

¿De dónde viene el poder? Tu primera inclinación podría ser decir: “Del enchufe de la pared”. Tal vez, si eres padre, jefe o entrenador, tu primer pensamiento o respuesta sea en virtud de tu autoridad paternal o tu título empresarial o la sabiduría que has adquirido a través de la experiencia de vida. Sin embargo, como vemos que se desarrollan las lecturas de esta semana, el Espíritu Santo respira a través de Isaías, el salmista, y San Lucas (tanto en la segunda lectura como en el evangelio) para revelar que el verdadero poder viene directamente de Dios (no irónicamente, a través de ese mismo Espíritu Santo).

En la primera lectura de Isaías escuchamos que Dios enviará “justicia a las naciones”. Él “abrirá los ojos de los ciegos”, liberará a los prisioneros y ofrecerá luz en la oscuridad. No puedes hacer esas cosas a menos que tengas poder y autoridad, y eso se otorga desde lo alto. El salmo también resuena este tema cuando se nos dice que “el Dios de la gloria truenas” y su sola voz es “poderosa”. En Hechos, Pedro predica y ofrece testimonio vivo del poder del Señor que él y los discípulos presenciaron de primera mano, diciendo que la unción de Jesús “con el Espíritu Santo y poder” lo impulsó a “hacer el bien” y expulsar el mal. Ese tipo de poder no es de este mundo. Incluso Juan el Bautista reconoce que, por “poderoso” que sea en ese momento, no es nada comparado con quien está por venir.

El mayor poder no es sobre la muerte física (aunque Jesús también demostraría ese poder más adelante), sino sobre la muerte espiritual. Es por nuestro bautismo que no solo entramos en la familia de Dios, sino que también burlamos la muerte espiritual a través de la misericordia de Cristo. Pasamos de la muerte a la vida no por nuestro propio poder o iniciativa, sino al pasar por las aguas del bautismo. Es en los sacramentos donde el poder de Dios se muestra en su plenitud, ya que nuestro pecado y orgullo son sentenciados a muerte, para que el poder de Dios y la vida misma (el don de la gracia) puedan crecer dentro de nosotros. Dios nos ofrece la vida porque nos ama. Somos sus *amados* hijos e hijas, y estamos fortalecidos por el don del Padre, el Hijo, a través del Espíritu. Amén.

PRAYER FOR THE WEEK

God the Father, Almighty, as you spoke to the apostle on the mountain and said,” This is my beloved Son. Listen to him” (Mk 9:7), grant me the same gift of listening to him. As I seek to know Christ as the apostles did, please also give me the same strength and conviction to follow him. Amen.

CHALLENGE OF THE WEEK

If you have not been baptized, take some time to talk a priest about the process and why the Sacrament is so important. If you have been baptized, find out what day it was, and schedule a small celebration for the next anniversary of your baptism.

Special Prayer Intention of Pope Francis for January

For the right to an education

Let us pray for migrants, refugees, and those affected by war, that their right to an education, which is necessary to build a better world, might always be respected.

