

Do This in Remembrance of Me, A Step by Step walk through the Mass
Part 76: Prayer after Communion

“Let us pray.” Following Holy Communion and our time for prayer, we prepare to go forth out into the world. This is called the Prayer after Communion. As the General Instruction of the Roman Missal says, “To bring to completion the prayer of the People of God, and also to conclude the whole Communion Rite, the Priest pronounces the Prayer after Communion, in which he prays for the fruits of the mystery just celebrated....The people make the prayer their own by means of the acclamation Amen”(GIRM, 89). According to the Diocese of Peoria, “Oftentimes [this] Prayer beseeches God to put the graces received in the Eucharist into practice, and to bring the celebration to fulfillment in Heaven. [This] Prayer often indicates our mission as disciples of Christ in the world” (A Study of the Mass, p.20).

Short, Quick, and Wonderful Prayers

These prayers can very often be short and quick... although to miss them is truly to miss something wonderful. For example, consider these Prayers after Communion from the Solemnities of our Lord during Ordinary Time:

The Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ (Corpus Christi): “Grant, O Lord, we pray, that we may delight for all eternity in that share in your divine life, which is foreshadowed in the present age by our reception of your precious Body and Blood. Who live and reign for ever and ever.”

The Most Sacred Heart of Jesus: “May this sacrament of charity, O Lord, make us fervent with the fire of holy love, so that, drawn always to your Son, we may learn to see him in our neighbor. Through Christ our Lord.”

Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe: “Having received the food of immortality, we ask, O Lord, that, glorying in obedience to the commands of Christ, the King of the universe, we may live with him eternally in his heavenly Kingdom. Who lives and reigns for ever and ever.”

While I certainly would enjoy sharing many more of these rich prayers, these examples give us a good idea of what we are praying at this part of the Mass. We are recalling the amazing gift we have received. We are asking that the fruits of Jesus truly present will strengthen us in his love as we go out in the world. We are looking toward sharing the fullness of life with our loving Lord in the Kingdom of Heaven.

Preparing to Go Forth as Missionary Disciples

As Charles Belmonte teaches, the Prayer after Communion actually helps very well to pull together what we have heard, said, and done at the Mass: “We have been nourished with the ‘bread of life,’ the food which is the source of our fortitude. This virtue of fortitude enables us to sustain the daily combat against our passions and our weaknesses... The virtue of fortitude goes hand in hand with the capacity of sacrificing oneself... The Gospel is addressed to weak, poor, meek and humble men, to peacemakers and to the merciful, but, at the same time, it contains a constant appeal to fortitude. The Gospel often repeats: ‘Fear not’ (Mt 14:27). It teaches man that, for a just cause, for truth, for justice, one must be able to ‘lay down one’s life’ (Jn 15:13)... We can profit a lot from the Prayers after Communion by using them as an inspiration for personal reflection during the course of the day” (Understanding the Mass, p.191–3).

Being honest with ourselves, we know that sometimes at this point in the Mass we are looking ahead to what is next, perhaps a nice family meal or enjoying the big game. The Prayer after Communion, however, reminds us that the fruits of the Mass don’t just take place within the church walls—they also happen in our minds and hearts. As we get ready to go forth, hopefully we have been strengthened with resolve for faithfulness. Hopefully, our hearts have become more like the One who loves us best.

So, instead of thinking past this moment in the Mass to your exit plan from the parking lot, why not use this as one last opportunity to put everything together and really prepare to go out into the world as a missionary disciple of Jesus Christ? If we do this, we won’t as easily forget the great graces we have received at the Holy Mass. Instead, we will actively carry them with us throughout the day—and even better—share them with others!

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	<i>Pastoral Visit:</i> 1st Friday of the Month / Contact the parish office
Contact Parish office for more information					



Presentation of the Lord

February 2, 2025



Immaculate Conception Church

Roman Catholic Diocese of Corpus Christi



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
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
PRAYER & PRAISE GROUP	Adriana Bernardo 543.7642
SACRED HEART SOCIETY	Jeronimo Garcia 704.2136
ST. JUDE NOVENA	Amelia Flores 443.9811
BL. CARLO ACUTIS YOUTH GROUP	Jerry & Ofelia Rivera 876.7147
	Jesus Garza 704-2269



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Pastoral Emergency: 361-543-0503




When the days were completed for their purification according to the law of Moses, Mary and Joseph took Jesus up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord.
Luke 2:22

Presentation of the Lord ❖ February 2, 2025 ❖ Fiesta de la Presentación del Señor

Mass Intentions

For The Week



SATURDAY February 1, 2025

5:30PM: †Guadalupe V Moreno (Rodolfo V Moreno)
†Alejandro & †Johnny Lopez (Esteban & Lydia Ortiz)
†Concepcion, †Ester & †David Rangel (Danny Rangel)

SUNDAY February 2, 2025

8:00AM: †Federico & Dora Peña (Oscar & Odilia Reyes)
10:00AM: †Estefana Menchaca (Gilbert & Elvia Hernandez)
†Adolfo Valdez (Family)
†Margarito, †Alejandra Guerrero, †David Sanchez (Family)
12:00PM: †Lelia Guzman (Family)
†Juan C Flores Jr. (Family)
†Emilio Pena Sr. (Pena Family)
†Candelario Zavala (Garcia Family)
†Adrian G Flores (Family)
†Angelina & †Joel Mora, †Aaron Gobble (Family)
S.I. for Joe, Adrian, & Alex Flores (Family)

TUESDAY February 4, 2025

5:30PM: †Fernando Solis Sr. (Family)

WEDNESDAY February 5, 2025

8:30AM: For the Parishioners of Immaculate Conception

THURSDAY February 6, 2025

8:30AM: Deceased of the Parish

FRIDAY February 7, 2025

6:30PM: Deceased Members of Sacred Heart Society

SATURDAY February 8, 2025

5:30PM: †Guadalupe V Moreno (Rodolfo V Moreno)
†Doug Dalton (Rose De La Cruz)
†Mary Neph (Family)
†Esteban & †Candelaria Ortiz (Esteban & Lydia Ortiz)

SUNDAY February 9, 2025


8:00AM: †Federico & Dora Peña (Oscar & Odilia Reyes)
S.I. for Divine Mercy Apostles
10:00AM: †Estefana Menchaca (Gilbert & Elvia Hernandez)
†Ernest, †Roy & †Meisha Hinojosa (Hinojosa Family)
†Margarito, †Alejandra Guerrero, †David Sanchez (Family)
12:00PM: †Lelia Guzman (Family)
†Juan C Flores Jr. (Family)
†Emilio Pena Sr. (Pena Family)
†Adrian G Flores (Family)
S.I. for Joe, Adrian, & Alex Flores (Family)

S.I. - Special Intentions
† - Repose (Eternal Rest)
Th - in Thanksgiving

Special Prayer Intention of Pope Francis for February

For vocations to the priesthood and religious life

Let us pray that the ecclesial community might welcome the desires and doubts of those young people who feel a call to serve Christ's mission in the priesthood and religious life.




WEEKLY STEWARDSHIP

Envelope Collection	\$1,860.00
Loose Collection	\$604.00
Children's Collection	\$8.00
Online Giving	\$455.00
Collection Total - Jan. 25/26	\$2,227.00
Church in Latin America	\$359.00


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 February

1/2 - 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	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. Feb. 8 Sun. Feb. 9	Lector 	Extra Ordinary Ministers 
5:30PM		Juan
8:00AM	Elisa	Pedro
10:00AM	Jenevieve	Raymond
12:00PM	Gabby	Alma

THANK YOU FOR JOINING US THIS WEEKEND

One of the greatest contributors to wisdom is the invaluable gift of life experience. Listening to a grandparent dole out advice to a grandchild is a great time to see this reality on full display. Even though times and cultures change, humans face the same struggles generation after generation: broken relationships, financial stress, health scares, family drama, and recurring sin, among others. When you're going through something, it can help to talk to someone who has gone through it, too, and to learn from them what to do.
We see this idea played out in this week's second reading, especially. We hear from Hebrews that we have a "merciful and faithful high priest" who "himself was tested." This High Priest has personally endured the trials, temptations, and struggles and come out the other side victorious! It is for this reason that reason that the writer of Hebrews is imploring us to go to our High Priest, Jesus, who will wipe away our sins with his mercy. Jesus was not a priest who needed to be purified before he could purify us; as we hear in the first reading. He is pure like "the refiner's fire." He is faithful, and he is merciful to us.
Jesus isn't the only one who understands our suffering. Our greatest saint, Mary, also knows deep suffering, as we hear prophesied in the gospel. In Jesus, Mary, and of course St. Joseph, we have powerful intercessors who understand any situation we endure and will never turn their backs on our prayers. And as if that's not enough, we have Wisdom incarnate in the Holy Spirit ready to come to our aid—and we can invite him in any time we need him.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

MONDAY: St. Blaise; St. Ansgar
Heb 11:32-40; Ps 31: 20-24; Mk 5:1-20

TUESDAY:
Heb 12:1-4; Ps 22: 26b-28, 30-32; Mk 5:21-43

WEDNESDAY: St. Agatha
Heb 12: 4-7; Ps 103:1-2, 13-14, 17-18a; Mk 6:1-6

THURSDAY: St. Paul Miki & Companions
Heb 12:18-19, 21-24; Ps 48: 2-4, 9-11; Mk 6:7-13

FRIDAY:
Heb 13: 1-8; Ps 27:1, 3, 5, 8-9; 6:14-29

SATURDAY:
Heb 13: 15-17; Ps 23: 1-6; Mk 6:30-34

SUNDAY: Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time
Is 6: 1-2a, 3-8; Ps 138: 1-5, 7-8; 1 Cor 15: 1-11; Lk 5:1-11

Uno de los mayores contribuyentes a la sabiduría es el invaluable don de la experiencia de vida. Escuchar a un abuelo dar consejos a un nieto es un gran momento para ver esta realidad en plena exposición. Aunque los tiempos y las culturas cambian, los seres humanos enfrentan las mismas luchas generación tras generación: relaciones rotas, estrés financiero, problemas de salud, drama familiar y pecado recurrente, entre otros. Cuando estás pasando por algo, puede ser útil hablar con alguien que también lo haya pasado y aprender de él qué hacer.
Vemos esta idea desarrollada especialmente en la segunda lectura de esta semana. Escuchamos en Hebreos que tenemos un "sumo sacerdote misericordioso y fiel" que "él mismo fue probado". ¡Este Sumo Sacerdote ha soportado personalmente las pruebas, tentaciones y luchas y ha salido victorioso del otro lado! Es por esta razón que el escritor de Hebreos nos implora que vayamos a nuestro Sumo Sacerdote, Jesús, quien borrará nuestros pecados con su misericordia. Jesús no era un sacerdote que necesitaba ser purificado antes de poder purificarnos a nosotros; Como escuchamos en la primera lectura, Él es puro como "el fuego purificador". Él es fiel y es misericordioso con nosotros.
Jesús no es el único que entiende nuestro sufrimiento. Nuestra santa más grande, María, también conoce el sufrimiento profundo, como escuchamos profetizado en el evangelio. En Jesús, María y, por supuesto, San José, tenemos intercesores poderosos que entienden cualquier situación que atravesemos y nunca darán la espalda a nuestras oraciones. Y como si eso no fuera suficiente, tenemos la Sabiduría encarnada en el Espíritu Santo lista para venir en nuestra ayuda, y podemos invitarlo en cualquier momento que lo necesitemos.


PRAYER FOR THE WEEK

Lord Jesus, by your grace make me worthy to be in your presence, to receive your Body and Blood, and to call myself a son or daughter of God. Purify me. Cleanse me. Mold me in your image and likeness, God. Help me to become the best version of myself. Help me to love like you. Amen.

CHALLENGE OF THE WEEK

Pick two or three days this week when you will offer some small sacrifice. Consider fasting from sweets, alcohol, coffee, or snacking between meals; helping a neighbor or friend; or clearing out a closet to donate to charity.

FIRST FRIDAY: EUCHARISTIC ADORATION & MASS

Join us **THIS Friday, February 7th for first Friday.** Sacred Heart Society will recite the rosary at 5:00PM. Eucharistic Adoration at 5:30PM in the Church Followed by Friday Daily Mass at 6:30PM.

TRAVELING IMAGE OF DIVINE MERCY

Pray for the following family that will be hosting the Traveling Divine Image this week
Albert & Delma Canales

2024 Contribution Statements

If you would like to receive a copy of your 2024 contribution statement for your income tax purposes. Please contact the Parish Office or send an email to dauids@iccgregory.org so we can prepare your statement.