

Do This in Remembrance of Me, A Step by Step walk through the Mass
Part 79: Recessional

After reflecting on the dismissal and mission last time, was anyone else excited to take the fruits of the Mass out into the world?! Let’s go! This time, we review some acts of reverence similar to the beginning of the Mass with which we conclude and go forth from Mass. As the Diocese of Peoria instructs, “After the blessing and closing words, ‘Go forth, the Mass is ended,’ the priest goes to the altar once more and reverences it with a kiss. The Mass ‘ends’ where it began—at the altar. For on the altar the sacrifice of Christ was made present in our midst. As the Eucharist is the source and summit of our faith, the altar on which this sacrifice is rendered is given this gesture of reverence and even love. A kiss is a symbol of love—the priest, ‘the servant of God and minister to the Holy of Holies,’ acknowledges his love for the mystery that he celebrates. As it is the source and summit of the Church, it is then necessarily the source and summit of the priest’s ministry in the parish. Everything in the Church derives from and is pointed toward the Most Holy Eucharist” (A Study of the Mass, p. 20). Just as we saw in the entrance at the beginning of Mass, the altar is especially honored as the place where Jesus truly becomes present during the Mass.

Going Forth to Share the Good News

The Diocese of Peoria continues, “After reverencing the altar the priest genuflects in adoration of the Blessed Sacrament before exiting the sanctuary. The priest then recesses, most often following the cross and candles that led him in... The recessional may be accompanied by a hymn of praise, or even just instrumental music. The music at this point is typically majestic, as we have concluded the celebration of a most majestic event” (A Study of the Mass, p. 21). Some priests have pointed out that there is not a recessional antiphon in the Roman Missal, whereas we do have Entrance and Communion Antiphons. These antiphons unite us in praise and meditation, while the conclusion of Mass feels more open-ended. Perhaps this is fitting, in accordance with mission and sending forth; perhaps this open-ended conclusion reminds us that the fruits of the Mass continue and are carried forth with us as we depart. Within that mindset, singing together also feels appropriate, as we are now going forth together, united by Christ!

Carrying Christ’s Love into the World

After the celebrant follows the processional cross out of church, the Diocese of Peoria challenges us: “It is not appropriate to leave or exit the church before the priest, as the symbolism is so important. Following the cross ‘into the world’ is a profound thing that all of us do, even if not immediately after the priest. We carry the cross of the Lord with us as it was ‘by this Holy Cross you have redeemed the world!’ The Cross is the most powerful symbol of God’s love for his people. ‘God so loved the world that He sent His only son so that we might not die, but have eternal life!’ In Catholic churches we have a corpus of Christ on our processional crucifixes and sanctuary crucifixes because the Paschal Mystery is at the center of all our celebrations. When we look upon the crucifix we see our God, who literally loves us to death! We carry this love with us into the world, as all of us are ‘missionaries’ given a mission to spread the ‘Good News’ of our Lord Jesus Christ” (A Study of the Mass, p. 21).

Let us then remember this love as we “process” out into the world. Let us take with us what we have learned about God and about ourselves; let us take the graces we have received; let us take the victory of the Cross which we have experienced and process out into the world. That is how the fruits of the victory of the Cross are extended to every heart; that is how the fruits of the Mass are extended to all people! That is how we embrace our identity as Eucharistic Missionaries!

For Reflection:

1. Even as you participate fully in the singing or silence that accompanies the recessional part of the Mass, take note of the celebrant and crucifix processing out of the sanctuary. Spiritually unite yourself to Christ’s Cross and renew your commitment to live the Paschal Mystery in your daily life.
2. When you are ready to leave the church building, approach your departure as a form of procession and an extension of the liturgy. If you drive to church, consider having a crucifix or other image in your car, which will remind you that you are processing from Mass into the world.

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

“To you who hear I say,
love your enemies, do good to those who hate you,
bless those who curse you, pray for those who mistreat you.
Luke 6:27



Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

February 23, 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



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
Chris Flores 244.0245

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

SACRED HEART SOCIETY
Amelia Flores 443.9811

ST. JUDE NOVENA
Jerry & Ofelia Rivera 876.7147

BL. CARLO ACUTIS YOUTH GROUP
Jesus Garza 704-2269



107 Church Street

facebook.com/ICGregory

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 February 22, 2025
5:30PM: †Guadalupe V Moreno (Randy Moreno)
†Minerva Lopez
†Brigida Sabedra (Solis Family)
†Diana Schicker (Family)
†Ruben, †Juanita, & †Lisa Cortez (Family)
†Concepcion, †Ester & †David Rangel (Danny Rangel)

SUNDAY February 23, 2025
8:00AM: †Federico & Dora Peña (Oscar & Odilia Reyes)
†Richard Ortiz Sr. (Family)
†Antonio Rodriguez (Georgina y Hijos)
†Brigida Sabedra (Rodriguez Family)

10:00AM: †Estefana Menchaca (Gilbert & Elvia Hernandez)
†Olivia Villegas (Rodriguez Family)
†Juan Manuel & †Consuelo Hernandez (Saenz Family)
†Margarito, †Alejandra Guerrero, †David Sanchez (Family)
†Eugenio & †Esperanza Esparza,
†Graciela Moreno, †Rachel Hinojosa (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)

TUESDAY February 25, 2025
5:30PM: Communion Service

WEDNESDAY February 26, 2025
8:30AM: Communion Service

THURSDAY February 27, 2025
8:30AM: Communion Service

FRIDAY February 28, 2025
8:30AM: Communion Service

SATURDAY March 1, 2025
5:30PM: †Guadalupe V Moreno (Randy Moreno)
†Alejandro & †Johnny Lopez (Esteban & Lydia)
†Concepcion, †Ester & †David Rangel (Danny Rangel)

SUNDAY March 2, 2025
8:00AM: †Richard Ortiz Sr. (Family)
†Antonio Rodriguez (Georgina y Hijos)

10:00AM: †Estefana Menchaca (Ernest Menchaca)
†Olivia Villegas (Rodriguez 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)

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	\$1,720.00
Loose Collection	\$460.00
Online Giving	\$405.00
Collection Total - Feb. 15/16	\$2,585.00


Thank you for your faithfulness, your generous support, and sharing of your gifts with Immaculate Conception Church. May God bless you now and forever.

SCAN THIS QR CODE TO BE TAKEN TO OUR PARISH WEBSITE'S ONLINE GIVING PAGE



Special Collections for the Month of March

1/2 - Building Maintenance Fund
5 - Church in Central & Eastern Europe
8/9 - Black & Indian Missions
29/30 - Catholic Relief Services



† 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,
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
Juanita Flores,	Julia Rodriguez,	
	Sergio Rodriguez,	

NEXT WEEK'S MINISTERS SCHEDULE		
Sat. Mar. 1 Sun. Mar. 2	Lector Lectors	Extra Ordinary Ministers
5:30PM	Louis	Amelia
8:00AM	Esteban	Janie
10:00AM	Jesse L	Terri F
12:00PM	Lupe A	Josie

THANK YOU FOR JOINING US THIS WEEKEND

Look What You Made Me Do

In the early eighteenth century, the famous English poet Alexander Pope wrote, “to err is human; to forgive, divine.” This simple turn of phrase reveals much about us, but more importantly, it reaffirms what scripture shows us.

In this week’s readings, we are reminded of something essential about God – namely, that God doesn’t just offer mercy; on his deepest level, God is mercy. Mercy is not just our path to God; it is also our destination.

In this week’s first reading, David has the chance to take the life of his greatest adversary – King Saul, the very man who wants the young hero dead. When Abishai suggests that David kill his deep-sleeping enemy and David refuses, we see the difference in perspective. Abishai is thinking on a human, selfish level, while David decides to deal with Saul “not according to [his] crimes,” showing mercy to him just as the psalmist tells us God shows mercy to us.

As we head in the psalm (likely written by David himself), the Lord is not only kind but *kind and merciful*. This is the same portrait of mercy and rule for living that Jesus gives us in this week’s gospel passage, urging us to offer forgiveness and “the other cheek” after our first cheek has been struck. Jesus is not asking us if we are willing to give, but if we are willing to give everything *and then some* – not merely to go the extra mile, but to go a mile beyond even that!

For although Adam – who literally came from the earth – sinned and fell short, the “new Adam” we call Jesus – who came not from the earth but from heaven – never sinned. In his divinity, we don’t have to wonder how God thinks or acts. We witness in his flesh “the image of the heavenly one” and what God desires in and from us.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday:
Sir 1:1-10; Ps 93:1-2, 5; Mk 9:14-29

Tuesday:
Sir 2:1-11; Ps 37:3-4, 18-19, 27-28, 39-40; Mk 9:30-37

Wednesday:
Sir 4:11-19; Ps 119:165, 168, 171, 172, 174, 175; Mk 9:38-40

Thursday: St. Gregory of Narek
Sir 5:1-8; Ps 1:1-4, 6; Mk 9:41-50

Friday:
Sir 6:5-17; Ps 119:12, 16, 18, 27, 34, 35; Mk 10:1-12

Saturday:
Sir 17:1-15; Ps 103:13-18; Mk 10:13-16

Sunday:
Sir:27:4-7; Ps 92:2-3, 13-16; 1 Cor 15:54-58; Lk 6:39-45

PRAYER FOR THE WEEK

Thank you, Lord, for your great mercy. Thank you for reminding me today of your words – that difficult, yet all-important, challenge you impart to us in the gospel. May I love with greater ferocity those who are hard to love, and may I remember you in times of need, trusting in your endless font of mercy. Amen.


CHALLENGE OF THE WEEK

Often the surest way to love someone who wronged you is to do something good for him or her. That is mercy. As Christ offered salvation on the Cross for even those who persecuted him, we are called, in a small way to extend a hand of forgiveness and love as Christ did. Find a way this week to perform an act of love for someone you want to forgive or who has asked for forgiveness. Perhaps write that person a letter, buy him or her coffee, or say a Rosary for that person.

BISHOP’S STEWARDSHIP APPEAL

If you have not made your pledge please prayerfully consider. You support of the appeal supports Youth & Young Adult Ministry, Faith Formation, Clergy, Families, Those in Need and Parishes, our parish goal is \$16,408.

Consider a recurring online pledge. Scan the QR code to be taken to the BSA website to learn more about the appeal.



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 davids@iccgregory.org so we can prepare your statement.

ASH WEDNESDAY SCHEDULE

Wednesday, March 5th is Ash Wednesday

Below is the Schedule for this day

8:30AM - Mass & Imposition of Ashes

12:05PM:- Liturgy of the Word and Imposition of Ashes

6:30PM: - Mass & Imposition of Ashes

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

You are invited to join us as we walk the way of the cross on Fridays at 6:30pm during the Lenten Season. Immediately followed by Friday Daily Mass in the Church.

TRAVELING IMAGE OF DIVINE MERCY

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

Isidro & Christina Garza