

Do This in Remembrance of Me, A Step by Step walk through the Mass
Part 80: Personal Thanksgiving

Let us go forth! But not so fast that we forget to give thanks! Another important part of taking in the graces received in the Mass is “the **personal thanksgiving**.” According to the Diocese of Peoria, “While nothing is officially noted in the rubrics, the importance of making a personal thanksgiving after Mass has been emphasized by many saints throughout the history of the Church. It is so important that the clergy are advised by canon law to make such an act. We never rush saying goodbye to someone we love. How true this should be with our Lord whom we have just praised and adored at the Holy Mass” (*A Study of the Mass*, p. 21).

Fr. Stefano Manelli notes saints who emphasized the personal thanksgiving after Mass. For example, St. Louis de Montfort “used to remain after Mass for thanksgiving at least a half hour, and he would not permit any need or assignment to serve as a reason for omitting it. He said, ‘I would not give up this hour of thanksgiving even for an hour of Paradise.’” In another story, Fr. Manelli explains, “A fellow sister asked St. Bernadette, ‘How are you able to remain for so long in thanksgiving after Holy Communion?’ The saint replied, ‘I consider that it is the holy Virgin who gives me the Baby Jesus. I receive Him. I speak to Him and He speaks to me’” (*Jesus Our Eucharistic Love: Eucharistic Life Exemplified by the Saints*, pp. 46, 113).

Lingering with Our Lord

Further exhorting the virtues of a personal thanksgiving, Charles Belmonte teaches that, “in Communion, Jesus not only comes into our arms, or sits by our side, but also enters and dwells in our hearts. Thus, our heart ought to glow in the same way that the hearts of the disciples on the road to Emmaus burnt within them as Christ spoke and explained the Scriptures to them. It is natural that we desire to remain a few minutes in prayer and thanksgiving after the Mass. The Church recommends this practice. Sometimes, we will be talking with Christ. At other times, we will say nothing at all; we will simply look at him and he will look at us. We should also know that Christ’s Body and Blood remain in us after communion as long as the accidents of the bread and wine remain as such. As soon as our bodily processes change these accidents, Christ’s real presence ceases to be. Nevertheless, we continue living in his Mystical Body. While Christ is really present inside us in the form of the consecrated species, we must be grateful and gracious hosts to him... St. Josemaria Escriva thus advises us: ‘Do not leave the Church almost immediately after receiving the sacrament. Surely you have nothing so important to attend to that you cannot give our Lord ten minutes to say thanks. Let’s not be mean. Love is paid for with love’” (*Understanding the Mass*, pp. 200–1).

Ideas to Pray in Thanksgiving after Mass

Need some further ideas of what to pray in personal thanksgiving? Belmonte continues, “The content of our thanksgiving will be just a continuation of the sentiments and affections we have felt—or tried to foster in ourselves—during the Mass, but perhaps in an atmosphere of greater intimacy this time. Sometimes, acts of faith, hope and charity addressed to the Three Divine persons will spurt from our soul. At other times, we will maintain an intimate dialogue with Jesus, our divine Friend who will purify and transform us. Or perhaps, we will just be sitting still, in silent adoration, in the same manner that a mother watches over her son who has fallen asleep. According to St. Teresa, there is no other time than thanksgiving after Mass when we can so easily enrich our soul with virtues, or so rapidly advance to a high degree of perfection. We should not look for prayers or formulas, if we do not find any need for them. But if we realize they can help us, we should overcome our laziness (say, to open our missal and read the prayers for thanksgiving there). [...] We should remember to pray for all those who cannot be with us in this celebration because they do not share the faith of the Church.” Belmonte reminds us that prayers to our Blessed Mother and the saints can be helpful, quoting from Pope St. Paul VI: “May the most Blessed Virgin Mary, from whom Christ the Lord took flesh that ‘is contained, offered, received’ in this sacrament under the appearances of bread and wine, and may all the saints of God and especially those who were more inflamed with ardent devotion toward the divine Eucharist, intercede with the Father of mercies so that this common belief in the Eucharist and devotion to it may give rise among all Christians to a perfect unity of communion that will one day flourish” (*Understanding the Mass*, pp. 201-3; *Mysterium Fidei*, 75).

No doubt, after Mass we will be excited to go out into the world! Perhaps we have people we are going to visit or gatherings or events we will attend. Hopefully, we don’t get in such a hurry that we omit the thanksgiving, a wonderful opportunity to solidify the fruits of the Mass!

For Reflection:

1. If you are not in the habit of making a personal thanksgiving after Mass, commit to this practice. If you attend Mass with others, share this commitment with them and invite them to participate. Allow this time of personal prayer to help foster spontaneous intimacy with the Lord, or make use of composed prayers if you find them helpful.
2. Extend the practice of personal thanksgiving at the end of Mass to other areas of your life by concluding other events or interactions with a moment to acknowledge and give thanks to God for the fruits of this time, whether silently and privately in your own heart or in union with those open to your devotion.

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



Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time

March 2, 2025



Immaculate Conception Church

Roman Catholic Diocese of Corpus Christi



“A good tree does not bear rotten fruit,
nor does a rotten tree bear good fruit.
For every tree is known by its own fruit.

Luke 6:43-44

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 –Thursday 8:30AM
First Friday of the Month
Eucharistic Adoration 5:30PM
Fridays during Lent
Stations of the Cross 6:30PM
Friday 7:00PM

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



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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 March 1, 2025
5:30PM: †Guadalupe V Moreno (Randy Moreno)
†Rosalie Wied (Rose De La Cruz)
†Minerva Lopez (Sylvia Eudy)
†Alejandro & †Johnny Lopez (Esteban & Lydia)
†Concepcion, †Ester & †David Rangel (Danny Rangel)
†Ray Villarreal Jr., †Joel Mora, †Aaron Gobble (Family)

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)

TUESDAY March 4, 2025
5:30PM: S.I. for Belinda Sanchez, Isabel Juarequi, Sally Cavazos

WEDNESDAY March 5, 2025
8:30AM: For the sick and homebound
12:05PM: Liturgy of the Word Service
6:30PM: for the parishioners of Immaculate Conception

THURSDAY March 6, 2025
8:30AM: Deceased of the Parish

FRIDAY March 7, 2025
7:00PM: for the deceased members of Sacred Heart Society

SATURDAY March 8, 2025
5:30PM: †Guadalupe V Moreno (Randy Moreno)
†Minerva Lopez (Sylvia Eudy)
†Angie Dippel (Rose De La Cruz)
†Esteban & †Candelaria Ortiz (Esteban & Lydia)
†Concepcion, †Ester & †David Rangel (Danny Rangel)

SUNDAY March 9, 2025
8:00AM: †Richard Ortiz Sr. (Family)
†Antonio Rodriguez (Georgina y Hijos)
†Odilia Martinez (Arnulfo Martinez)
10:00AM: †Estefana Menchaca (Ernest Menchaca)
†Margarito, †Alejandra Guerrero, †David Sanchez (Family)
†Ernest, †Roy & †Meisha Hinojosa (Hinojosa Family)
12:00PM: †Lelia Guzman (Family)
S.I. for Divine Mercy Apostles

Don't Forget to move your clocks ahead one hour next Saturday March 8th before you go to bed.


Special Prayer Intention of Pope Francis for March
For families in crisis
Let us pray that broken families might discover the cure for their wounds through forgiveness, rediscovering each other's gifts, even in their differences.

WEEKLY STEWARDSHIP	
Envelope Collection	\$2,507.00
Loose Collection	\$685.00
Children's Collection	\$8.00
Building Maintenance Fund	\$110.00
Online Giving	\$405.00
Collection Total - Feb. 22/23	\$3,688.00

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

NEXT WEEK'S MINISTERS SCHEDULE		
Sat. Mar. 8 Sun. Mar. 9	Lector Lectors	Extra Ordinary Ministers
5:30PM	Jenevieve	Juan
8:00AM	Elisa	Pedro
10:00AM	Gabriel	Raymond
12:00PM	Jesse	Chelo

THANK YOU FOR JOINING US THIS WEEKEND

THE INSIDE SHOWS

In this third Sunday of our reading from the Sermon on the Plain, Jesus speaks of the inner soul and its outer expression. He uses images as he teaches. He addresses all of us.

Jesus sees a plumb line connecting the soul with the soul's expression-words and actions. He uses exaggeration to drive home his point. We are urged to clear out the debris that blinds us. He knows that we have an uncanny ability to be blind to our own weaknesses, though they be as big as a board. He knows, too, how willingly we seem to ferret out others' smallest speck-like flaws.

And this, too, is for our general consumption; solid old goodness and solid old badness will show eventually. The old Latin saying, which echoes Jesus' images, is true: "What is bred in the bone will out in the flesh." By and by, the inside will show through.

LOS ESPECTÁCULOS INTERIORES

En este tercer Domingo de lecturas del Sermón del Llano, Jesús habla del alma interior y sus expresiones exteriores. Usa imágenes para enseñar. Nos habla a todos nosotros.

Jesús ve un cable que conecta el alma con las expresiones del alma, palabras y hechos. Usa un poco de exageración para recalcar el punto. Nos urge a limpiar toda la basura que nos hace ciegos. Sabe que tenemos una tremenda habilidad para cegarnos ante nuestras propias debilidades, aunque sean tan grandes como una viga. Sabe, también, lo dispuestos que estamos a sacar a relucir los fallos de los demás por minúsculos que sean.

Y también esto es para el consumo general nuestro; lo bueno sólido y lo malo sólido eventualmente saldrá a relucir. Hay un dicho en latín que hace eco de las imágenes de Jesús, y es muy cierto: "Lo que se engendra en el hueso se mostrará en la carne". Al fin y al cabo, lo interior saldrá afuera

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.

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.

BAPTISMAL CLASS

We will be having our next baptismal class here on Thursday, March 13th at 7pm. You Must register for the class at the parish office, to attend.

TRAVELING IMAGE OF DIVINE MERCY

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

Claudia Mendez

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: St. Katherine Drexel
Sir 17:20-24; Ps 32:1-2, 5-7; Mk 10:17-27

Tuesday: St. Casimir
Sir 35:1-12; Ps 50:5-8, 14, 23; Mk 10:28-31

Wednesday: Ash Wednesday
Jl 2:12-18; Ps 51:3-6ab, 12-14, 17; 2 Cor 5:20 — 6:2; Mt 6:1-6, 16-18

Thursday:
Dt 30:15-20; Ps 1:1-4, 6; Lk 9:22-25

Friday: Ss. Perpetua and Felicity
Is 58:1-9a; Ps 51:3-6ab, 18-19; Mt 9:14-15

Saturday: St. John of God
Is 58:9b-14; Ps 86:1-6; Lk 5:27-32

Sunday: First Sunday of Lent
Dt 26:4-10; Ps 91:1-2, 10-15; Rom 10:8-13; Lk 4:1-13

PRAYER FOR THE WEEK

Heavenly Father, you always know what I need when I need it. You neve leave me wanting. Thank you for sending me signs and reminders of your fidelity and love. Thank you, too, for sending holy men and women into my life whose message and fidelity resound deep within my heart and soul. Bless those who bless you, and help me also to be a prophet in my own home, parish, job, and neighborhood. Amen.

CHALLENGE OF THE WEEK

Think of someone in your life who you know is sick, physicaly challenged, or chronically ill. Commit to praying for him or her by name each day. Pray that, if it is the Lord's will, he or she may enjoy healing or a respite from the discomfort. Entrust your prayers to God's perfect and providential plan.