

Do This in Remembrance of Me, A Step by Step walk through the Mass
Part 82: Summary & Farewell

Once “the Mass is ended” and we go on our way, you might feel that there is more. What else should we think about? The Mass is only ended in terms of a particular parish family gathering coming to a temporary halt. As some of our favorite authors for this series have taught us, the Mass continues.

The Mass and Daily Life

During our review of the Mass, we have seen how God speaks to his people. We have reflected on the great gift of Jesus, who has given himself in sacrifice for the forgiveness of our sins. We have prayed through the great gift of the Mass that unites us to Our Lord’s saving sacrifice and invites us to participate. We have meditated on the Eucharist as our true source of unity with God and one another. We have prepared to go forth, recognizing that our mission is to share the fruits of the Mass out in the world. Along these lines, Charles Belmonte teaches about the mission of the Mass: “The Lord does not want us removed from our surroundings, our work, or our social relationships. He wants us in the world so that we might sanctify and improve it, and place at God’s feet all souls and institutions, all political life and all activities in general. Blessed Josemaria Escriva points out for us, ‘Your ordinary contact with God takes place where your fellow men, your yearnings, your work and your affections are. There you have your daily encounter with Christ. It is in the midst of the most material things of the earth that we must sanctify ourselves, serving God and all mankind.’ Therefore, the Mass should not be taken as a kind of escape from our duties” (Understanding the Mass, p. 198).

Similarly, Fr. Guy Oury writes, “What remains after [the Concluding Rites of the Mass] is to go and live the Mass we have celebrated and the Communion we have received: to live it in abiding union with the Father’s will and in union with one another. Mass does not end at the Church door. There is no line of demarcation between worship and life” (The Mass, p. 124).

Seeing unity in our life inside and outside Mass, Belmonte writes (including some words from Pope St. Paul VI) that “we should turn to our daily occupations to find God also in these pursuits. Thus, we will avoid leading a double life: ‘on one side, an interior life, a life of relation with God; and on the other, a separate and distinct, professional, social, and family life, full of small earthly realities. No! We cannot lead a double life... There is just one life, made of flesh and spirit. And it is this life which has to become, in both soul and body, holy and filled with God. We discover the invisible God in the most visible and material things. There is no other way. Either we learn to find our Lord in ordinary, everyday life, or else we shall never find him”” (Understanding the Mass, p. 198).

Some Final Thoughts from Fr. Luke

For me, as this series draws to a close, I am struck by how rewarding and enriching this step-by-step journey through the Mass has been! No doubt, there are others who are more scholarly or more original. Likely, there are some spiritualities and blessings of the Mass that could have been reviewed in more detail. Hopefully, these reflections have been helpful for all of you. I hope they have been an invitation to learn more about the wonderful gift of the Mass. I pray they have been a jumping-off point for more prayer and learning in the years ahead!

With a thankful heart, we go forward. We recall the great truths and gifts shared along the way. The Mass truly is an encounter with the Lord Jesus, in his Word, through the priest and assembled community, but most especially in his very Body and Blood in the Most Holy Eucharist. As we know, the Mass isn’t just a once-a-week kind of activity, not just something we “turn on” and then “turn off” when we are finished. Rather, the Mass changes us and makes us more like Christ, perfects us, and prepares us for heaven. This change is not just internal but must be lived out in the world so that others may be brought to the fruits of the Mass, both in this life and in the eternal Banquet of the Lamb in heaven. I pray that you will always be able to find Christ truly present in the tabernacle, on the altar, and in the midst of living life. I pray that you will always find him! I pray that the fruits of the Mass will be with you out in the world, and I pray with great hope for the joy of all being joined together in perfect worship of God, joined together at the great Banquet of Heaven!

For Reflection:

1. With gratitude, reflect back on your participation in Fr. Luke’s series. Which parts of the Mass or themes stand out the most to you? How have you shared what you have learned with others, or how could you do so as the series concludes?
2. Pray for deepening integration of your interior life, and continue to approach the Eucharist and the Mass as the source of unity for every aspect of your life. Pray also for Fr. Luke and all who have shared the journey of this series with you!

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 |



Second
Sunday of Lent

March 16, 2025



Immaculate Conception Church
Roman Catholic Diocese of Corpus Christi



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|---|--|--|
| <p>Rev. Andrew Hejdak <i>Pastor</i></p> <p>David D. Solis Jr. <i>davids@iccgregory.org</i> <i>Administrative Asst.</i></p> <p>John Womack & Co. <i>Bookkeeper</i></p> <p>PARISH OFFICE HOURS Monday - Friday 10:00am - 4:30pm</p> <p>FAITH FORMATION</p> <p>Noreen Saenz <i>reoffice@iccgregory.org</i> <i>Director of Religious Ed.</i></p> <p>David D. Solis Jr. <i>Asst. Director of Religious Ed.</i></p> <p>Religious Ed. Office Hours Wednesdays 4:30 - 8:45pm</p> | <p>WEEKLY PARISH ACTIVITIES</p> <p>DIVINE MERCY CHAPLET Daily 3:00 pm Chapel</p> <p>ST. JUDE NOVENA Tuesdays 6:00 pm</p> <p>BIBLE STUDY Tuesdays 7:00PM (Español) Thursdays 7:00PM (English) R.E. building</p> <p>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</p> <p>MASS INTENTIONS <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></p> <p>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.</p> | <p>PASTORAL COUNCIL VICE-CHAIR Mike Lopez 438.9054</p> <p>FINANCE COMMITTEE VICE-CHAIR Chris Flores 244.0245</p> <p>CHOIR COORDINATOR Naida Rios 774.3778</p> <p>COMMUNION MINISTERS Jesus Garza 704-2269</p> <p>ALTAR SERVERS David D. Solis Jr. 643.4505</p> <p>ALTAR SOCIETY Nena Garcia 774.2604</p> <p>LECTORS Jesus Garza 704-2269</p> <p>USHERS Ramiro Peña 222-8857</p> <p>BEREAVEMENT COMMITTEE Aurora Leal 229.6956</p> <p>BLESSED MOTHER SOCIETY Sylvia Gomez 228.0822</p> <p>DIVINE MERCY APOSTLES Sonya Torres 730.6165</p> <p>HOUSE OF FAITH FOOD PANTRY Diana Moreno 765.7696</p> <p>SACRED HEART SOCIETY Adriana Bernardo 543.7642</p> <p>ST. JUDE NOVENA Jerry & Ofelia Rivera 876.7147</p> <p>BL. CARLO ACUTIS YOUTH GROUP Jesus Garza 704-2269</p> |
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Pastoral Emergency: 361-543-0503



Then from the cloud came a voice that said,
“This is my chosen Son; listen to him.”
Luke 9: 35

Mass Intentions For The Week

SATURDAY March 15, 2025
5:30PM: †Guadalupe V Moreno (Randy Moreno)
†Minerva Lopez (Sylvia Eudy)
†Johnny Bill (Rose De La Cruz)
†Mary Neph (Family)
†Lelia Guzman (Family)
†Johnny, †Alejandro Lopez (Family)

SUNDAY March 16, 2025
8:00AM: †Richard Ortiz Sr. (Family)
†Estefana Menchaca (Adolfo Menchaca Sr.)
†Antonio Rodriguez (Georgina y Hijos)
†Ezequiel Rodriguez (Rodriguez Family)
†Irma & †Cristian Perales (Perales Family)
†Gloria Escobedo, †Alfonso Trevino (Sanchez Family)

10:00AM: †Estefana Menchaca (Ernest Menchaca)
†Anna Rodriguez (Family)

†Margarito, †Alejandra Guerrero, †David Sanchez (Family)

12:00PM: †Lelia Guzman (Family)
†Andrew Guerra (Family)
†Alberico Garcia Jr. (Gracie Garcia)
†Juan C Flores Jr. (Juan & Josie Flores)
Health of Maria Gomez

TUESDAY March 18, 2025
5:30PM: S.I. for Fr. Andrew (Rose De La Cruz)

WEDNESDAY March 19, 2025
8:30AM: †Guadalupe Moreno (Rudy Moreno & Family)

THURSDAY March 20, 2025
8:30AM: Deceased of the Parish

FRIDAY March 21, 2025
7:00PM: S.I. for Chris Villarreal, Yvonne Villarreal, Kryie Ryan

SATURDAY March 22, 2025
5:30PM: †Guadalupe V Moreno (James & Mona Lacour)
†Minerva Lopez (Sylvia Eudy)
†Nola Rabe (Rose De La Cruz)
†Nicanora Valdez (Family)
†Estefana Menchaca (Adolfo Menchaca Sr)
†Robert & †Marion Schicker (Family)

SUNDAY March 23, 2025
8:00AM: †Richard Ortiz Sr. (Family)
†Antonio Rodriguez (Georgina y Hijos)
†Irma & †Cristian Perales (Perales Family)

10:00AM: †Estefana Menchaca (Ernest Menchaca)

†Margarito, †Alejandra Guerrero, †David Sanchez (Family)

12:00PM: †Lelia Guzman (Family)
†Juan C Flores Jr. (Juan & Josie Flores)
†Maria Sanchez, †Tiffany Mora (Family)
Health of Maria Gomez

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 | \$1,476.00 |
| Loose Collection | \$907.00 |
| Children’s Collection | \$123.00 |
| Building Maintenance Fund | \$157.00 |
| Ash Wednesday | \$1,041.00 |
| Online Giving | \$275.00 |
| Collection Total - Mar. 8/9 | \$3,979.00 |
| Church in Central & Eastern Europe | \$331.00 |
| Black & Indian Missions | \$405.00 |

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

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

| NEXT WEEK’S MINISTERS SCHEDULE | | |
|--------------------------------|----------------|--------------------------|
| Sat. Mar. 15 Sun. Mar. 16 | Lector Lectors | Extra Ordinary Ministers |
| 5:30PM | | Louis |
| 8:00AM | Esteban | Amparo |
| 10:00AM | Brenda | Ophelia |
| 12:00PM | | Lupe A. |

THANK YOU FOR JOINING US THIS WEEKEND

ABOVE AND BEYOND

God sees things from one angle, but we often see things from another. Taking a heavenly perspective while still on earth is one of the great daily struggles for the Christian. God invites us to see things from a higher perspective.

It was daytime when God lead Abram out of the tent to gaze at the sky. Did God reveal stars to him in the daylight, or was he inviting him to see the unseen? He used this moment to help Abram think higher, to go above and beyond what he could see in his own family, to trust what God would eventually do through him. As St. Paul reminded the Philippians, we must no think merely with our earthly stomachs and minds, subject to reactionism and impetuousness. We must think beyond to what is above and the glory that awaits.

It’s with this in mind that the Lord invites us to the summit, where he is glorified and transfigured before us. For it is atop the mountain that our perspective becomes less earthly and far more heavenly, when human problems seem smaller and heavenly solutions nearer. God invites us during Lent, too, to embrace the earthly sufferings and sacrifices while looking above and beyond to the glory that awaits us.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: St. Patrick
Dn 9:4b-10; Ps 79:8, 9, 11, 13; Lk 6:36-38

Tuesday: St. Cyril of Jerusalem
Is 1: 10, 16-20; Ps 50:8-9, 16-17, 21, 23 ;Mt 23:1-12

Wednesday: St. Joseph
2 Sm 7:4-5a, 12-14a, 16; Ps 89:2-5, 27, 29; Rom 4:13, 16-18, 22; Mt 1:16, 18-21, 24a or Lk 2:41-51a

Thursday:
Jer 17:5-10; Ps 1:1-4, 6; Lk 16:19-31

Friday:
Gn 37:3-4, 12-13a; 17b-28a; Ps 105:16-21; Mt 21:33-43, 45-46

Saturday:
Mi 7:14-15, 18-20; Ps 103:1-4, 9-12; Lk 15:1-3, 11-32

Sunday: Third Sunday of Lent
Ex 3:1-8a, 13-15; Ps 103:1-4, 6-8, 11; 1 Cor 10:1-6, 10-12; Lk 13:1-9

Stations of the Cross

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

Christina Kohley

MÁS ALLÁ

Dios ve las cosas desde un ángulo, pero nosotros a menudo las vemos desde otro. Adoptar una perspectiva celestial mientras estamos en la tierra es una de las grandes luchas diarias para el cristiano. Dios nos invita a ver las cosas desde una perspectiva más elevada.

Era de día cuando Dios sacó a Abram de la tienda para contemplar el cielo. ¿Le reveló Dios las estrellas a la luz del día o lo estaba invitando a ver lo invisible? Aprovechó ese momento para ayudar a Abram a pensar más alto, a ir más allá de lo que podía ver en su propia familia, a confiar en lo que Dios finalmente haría a través de él. Como recordó San Pablo a los filipenses, no debemos pensar simplemente con nuestros estómagos y mentes terrenales, sujetos al reaccionarismo y la impetuosidad. Debemos pensar más allá, en lo que está arriba y en la gloria que nos espera.

Con esto en mente, el Señor nos invita a la cumbre, donde es glorificado y transfigurado ante nosotros. Porque es en la cima de la montaña donde nuestra perspectiva se vuelve menos terrena y mucho más celestial, cuando los problemas humanos parecen más pequeños y las soluciones celestiales más cercanas. Dios nos invita también durante la Cuaresma a abrazar los sufrimientos y sacrificios terrenales mientras miramos más allá, hacia la gloria que nos espera.

PRAYER FOR THE WEEK

Lord, sometimes I cannot hear you because I fill my life with some many other distractions. Yet, you are that still voice that never fades, and for that I am incredibly grateful. Please teach me to be mindful of your desires and your Son’s voice as I continue in this journey of faith, and help me to find gratitude in all things. Thank you, Lord, for your love! Amen.

CHALLENGE OF THE WEEK

It is common for people to feat death because they misunderstand heaven. We are such finite creatures that what we cannot see, touch, taste, and feel remain a mystery. We should not fear death, but it is okay if you do. We must ask God for the grace to see heaven as he does and to pray for a peaceful death.

St. Joseph is known as the patron of a happy death because, according to tradition, it is believed Mary and Jesus were at his side when he died. Look up the Prayer to St. Joseph for a Happy Death, which you can find online, and pray it this week.

PARISH PENANCE SERVICE

We will be having our Lenten Penance Service on Thursday, April 10th at 7pm. Several Priests will be here for confessions.

EASTER FLOWER OFFERING ENVELOPES

Envelopes for Easter Lilies are located on the table in the entrance of the Church. If you would like to donate for the Easter Lilies in memory of a loved one, please pick-up a envelope on your way out after Mass.