

# The Beacon

· Newsletter of The Immaculata Church ·

Solemnity of the Most Holy Trinity

May 30, 2021

Keep FAITH Alive!

Blessed the people the Lord has  
chosen to be his own.

-Psalm 33

Welcome to  
The Immaculata



## Reflections on an Unexpected Journey by Sophia Suarez

As I sat in my pew on Palm Sunday this year I happened to have a perfect view, through the beautifully arched palm branches in the center aisle, to the statue of Mary nearest to the chapel that houses the tabernacle. As I looked at her, tears of gratitude came to my eyes. The realization hit me that she had been guiding me to that very moment, my first Easter season as a Catholic Christian. I was born and raised an Evangelical Protestant and I was brought into full communion with the Catholic Church on

Pentecost 2020. Had you asked me a decade ago if I would ever become Catholic I would have responded with a hearty no. Even three years ago I would have given the idea a 25% chance at best. Even though I had been attending mass with my husband, Brandon, since 2008 and had learned to respect and appreciate his personal faith, I did not consider it something I needed to pursue myself. For three years of dating and the first nine years of marriage we attended, built community in, and served in



(continued on page 3)



## The Immaculata Staff

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Bishop of San Diego

**Most Reverend John Dolan**  
Auxiliary Bishop of San Diego

**Most Reverend Ramon Bejarano**  
Auxiliary Bishop of San Diego



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# Catechesis of the Holy Father

by Pope Francis (May 19, 2021)

In our continuing catechesis on Christian prayer, In our continuing catechesis on Christian prayer, we now consider some common difficulties we encounter in our practice of prayer. The first is distraction. Prayer, like study and work, demands concentration and mental discipline. This calls for our cultivation of the virtue of vigilance, by which we focus our lives on doing the Lord's will daily in expectation of his return. A second difficulty is the experience of spiritual aridity, moments of dryness when our hearts – as the Catechism teaches – have “no taste for thoughts, memories, and feelings, even spiritual ones” (No. 2731). The spiritual masters acknowledge that the life of faith involves times of consolation but also of desolation, when we share in the Lord's sufferings. A third difficulty is acedia or sloth, a form of spiritual fatigue that leads to the deadly temptation to abandon



*pixabay.org*

prayer altogether. The saints faced these same difficulties in their prayer and they teach us that true progress in the spiritual life comes about through daily perseverance, like that of Job who remained constant even amid his many afflictions. As we strive to grow in our own life of prayer let us ask for the grace of perseverance, confident that our loving Father will grant us, through the Son and in the Spirit, all that we need to draw us ever closer to him. .

To read more visit <https://www.catholicnewsagency.com/news/pope-francis>

## Saint of the Week

Blessed Angeline of Marsciano 1377 – 1435. Feast day June 4



Blessed Angeline founded the first community of Franciscan women other than Poor Clares to receive papal approval. The young woman made a vow of perpetual chastity. That same year, however, she yielded to her father's decision that she marry the Duke of Civitella. Her husband agreed to respect her previous vow. When he died two years later, Angeline joined the Secular Franciscans and with several other women dedicated herself to caring for the sick, the poor, widows and orphans. When many other young women were attracted to Angeline's community, some people accused her of condemning the married vocation. Legend has it that when she came before the King of Naples to answer these charges, she had burning coals hidden in the folds of her cloak. When she proclaimed her innocence and showed the king that these coals had not harmed her, he dropped the case. Angeline and her companions later went to Foligno, where her community of Third Order sisters received papal approval in 1397. She soon established 15 similar communities of women in other Italian cities. Angeline died on July 14, 1435, and was beatified in 1825.

To read more [www.franciscanmedia.org/saint-of-the-day](http://www.franciscanmedia.org/saint-of-the-day)

*("Reflections on an Unexpected Journey" continuation from page 1)*

churches of two different denominations. And while there were certainly challenges that came with our unique church life, there was also tremendous grace and beauty. And the thought of becoming Catholic, if and when it presented itself, was more out of a desire for a more complete unity of faith and worship, and perhaps convenience, than as a recognition of truth residing in the Catholic Church.

Something happened early in 2019 that, looking back, changed the course of my spiritual life. We have a dear friend of our family, Steve, who is a Jesuit nearing the end of his priestly formation. Brandon and I both met him in college and he has been a friend ever since, loving and supporting us through our years of dating and marriage and parenthood. Early in 2019 Steve suggested that I try praying the Rosary. He said, "I think you'll like it." At the time I literally knew nothing about how to pray a Rosary, but because I value Steve's advice and trust his care for my spiritual well-being I decided to give it a shot and bought some books to learn more about it. Shortly thereafter we entered the Lenten season of 2019 and I decided to pray a Rosary every day during Lent. I knew having a structured goal and plan would help me, since the practice was so foreign to me at the time. I have prayed a Rosary every day since then. It is now clear to me that through those 20 minutes a day Mary brought me closer to Jesus by bringing me into full communion with the Church He established.

It's hard to explain to those who grew up in the Catholic Church how strange these words I have written sound to my former Protestant self and to many non-Catholic Christians. For thirty years, Mary was, in my mind, a teenage girl who had the unique calling to bring Jesus into this world. She was humble and obedient, of course, but sinless and perpetually a virgin? Now Queen of Heaven interceding for the Church? None of those ideas were even



remotely a part of my view of Mary. And even now as I am deeply convinced that she played a critical role in drawing me into the Catholic Church, it remains a mystery to me how that actually works. And yet, I encourage everyone reading this, Catholic or not, to try picking up a Rosary and praying it regularly, and see what unexpected spiritual transformations are in store for you.

So then, what is here in the Catholic Church that Mary would desire to bring me here? Well, to use a phrase that, when I heard it many years ago, sounded intriguing, yet a bit conceited, the Catholic Church contains the fullness of truth. There is much to say on that, but for the sake of brevity, one of the primary places this fullness of truth is found is in the Eucharist. "In the most blessed sacrament of the Eucharist, 'the body and blood, together with the soul and divinity, of our Lord Jesus Christ and, therefore, the whole Christ is truly, really, and substantially contained (CCC 1374).'" Furthermore, the



### Mission Statement of The Immaculata

Inspired and strengthened by the Sacraments, Scripture, and Liturgy, we are a vibrant, diverse Roman Catholic community called to serve as faithful disciples of Christ in our lives and ministries. With our Blessed Mother to guide us, we strive to be a beacon of faith and a spiritual home to all who seek God.

### MASSES

**Monday-Saturday 8:00 a.m.**  
(Mass inside the church & livestreamed)

**Saturday Vigil 4:30 p.m.**  
(Mass inside the church)

**Sunday 7:30 a.m.**  
(Mass inside the church & livestreamed)

**Sunday 9:00 a.m.**  
(Mass inside the church)

**Sunday 11:00 a.m.**  
(Mass on the East lawn)

### EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

**Tuesdays:** 7:00-8:00 p.m.  
**Wednesdays:** 8:30 a.m.-12:00 p.m.  
& 12:45-2:00 p.m.

### SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

**Saturdays**  
**3:30 p.m.- 4:15 p.m.**  
(Inside the church)

### OFFICE HOURS

**Monday-Friday 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.**  
**Closed on Saturdays & Sundays**  
**(619) 574-5700**  
**theimmaculata@sandiego.edu**

## Mass Readings & Intentions

### Solemnity of the Most Holy Trinity

May 30, 2021

#### First Reading

The Lord is God in the heavens above and on earth below.  
*Deuteronomy 4:32-34, 39-40*

#### Responsorial Psalm

Blessed the people the Lord has chosen to be his own.  
*Psalm 33*

#### Second Reading

You received a Spirit of adoption, through whom we cry,  
"Abba, Father!"  
*Romans 8:14-17*

#### Gospel

Baptize them in the name of the Father, and of the Son,  
and of the Holy Spirit.  
*Matthew 28:16-20*

#### Intention:

7:30 a.m. For an end to the pandemic & for its victims  
9:00 a.m. For the sick of the parish  
11:00 a.m. For All Parishioners

#### Monday, May 31

Zephaniah 3:14-18; Isaiah 12:2-3, 4-6; Luke 1:39-56  
**Intention:** +Colleen Kuklok

#### Tuesday, June 1

Tobit 2:9-14; Psalm 112:1-2, 7-9; Mark 12:13-17  
**Intention:** +Tommy Stenson

#### Wednesday, June 2

Tobit 3:1-11, 16-17; Psalm 25:2-5, 6-7, 8-9; Mark 12:18-27  
**Intention:** +Cathy Circo

#### Thursday, June 3

Tobit 6:10-11; 7:1, 9-17; 8:4-9; Psalm 128:1-5;  
Mark 12:28-34  
**Intention:** +Hattie Ann VanDoren

#### Friday, June 4

Tobit 11:5-17; Psalm 146:1-2, 6-10; Mark 12:35-37  
**Intention:** +Martha Blumenthal

#### Saturday, June 5

Tobit 12:1, 5-15, 20; Tobit 13:2, 6-8; Mark 12:38-44  
**Intention:**  
8:00 a.m. +Juan & Reyes De Reyes  
4:30 p.m. +Fr. Jaime Rasura, SJ

(“Reflections on an Unexpected Journey” continuation from page 3)

Eucharist “is the culmination both of God’s action sanctifying the world in Christ and of the worship men offer to Christ and through him to the Father in the Holy Spirit (CCC 1325).” If those words didn’t just stop you in your tracks, go back and read them again. They are powerful.

As someone who travelled a complex journey to embrace the Catholic teaching about the Eucharist, I know that possible hesitations, objections, and stumbling blocks are numerous. Yet I have also discovered that resources for overcoming them are equally numerous and easily accessible. Therefore, I invite everyone to consider reflecting on your own understanding of and appreciation for the power and beauty of the Eucharist and how you might be able to share that with family and friends outside the Catholic Church, or even within it! It will be God, through the prayers and guidance of Mary, the inspiration and conviction of the Holy Spirit, and the loving call of Jesus that will ultimately bring someone into the Catholic Church or to a new appreciation of the Eucharist, but you can certainly play a role in initiating that process. It is clear in the commission of Jesus we hear in today’s gospel that he has a desire and vision for a church united in his teachings as he states, “observe all that I have commanded you.” May we pursue unity around the Lord’s Table with charity and fervor.

If you are looking to strengthen your faith, here are some books I highly recommend.

1. *The Fathers Know Best: Your Essential Guide to the Teachings of the Early Church*, by Jimmy Akin
2. *Jesus and the Jewish Roots of the Eucharist: Unlocking the Secrets of the Last Supper*, by Brant Pitre
3. *Jesus and the Jewish Roots of Mary: Unveiling the Mother of the Messiah*, by Brant Pitre
4. *Mystery of the Altar: Daily Meditations on the Eucharist*, by Kenneth Howell and Joseph Crownwood
5. *Praying the Rosary Like Never Before: Encounter the Wonder of Heaven and Earth*, by Edward Sri



## Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

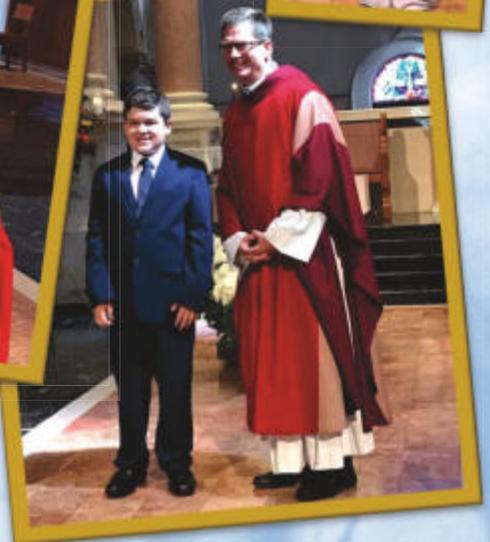
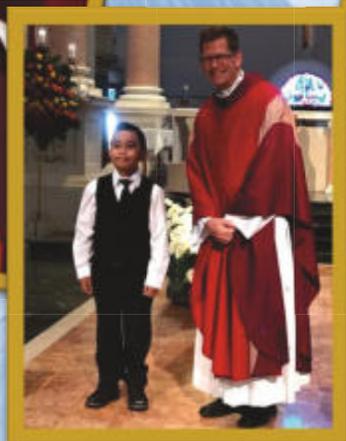
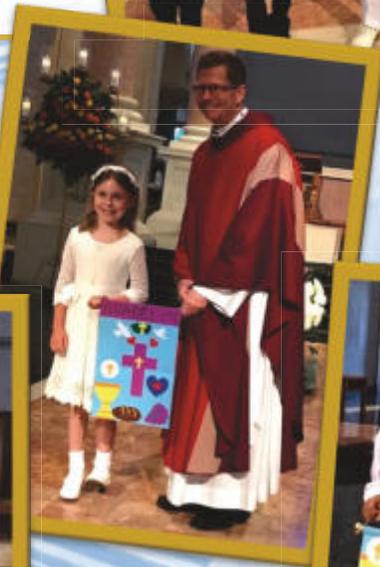
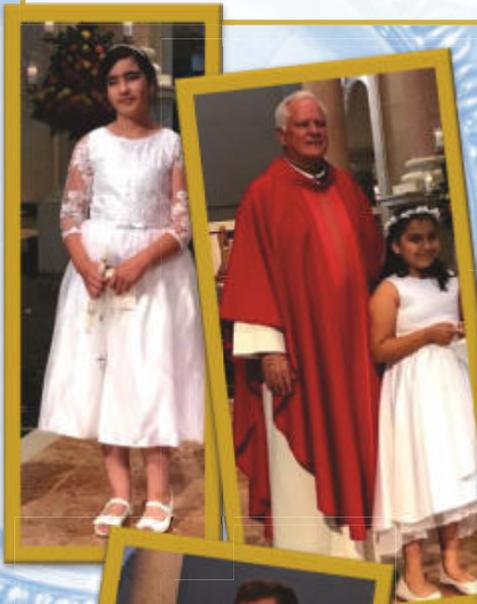
Every Tuesday  
from 7:00 - 8:00 p.m.  
&  
Every Wednesday  
8:30 a.m. - 12 p.m. and  
12:45 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.

THE IMMACULATA

# *First Communions*

*by Bea Halk, Youth Faith Formation Coordinator*

Congratulations to: Addison, Anthony, Colton, Emiliano, Ethan, Gracelyn, Ian, Kevin, Matthew, Maya, Raffaella, Richter, Sofia & Tommy who received The Eucharist for the first time this past weekend.



# Immaculata Announcements

## Terrific Tuesday Walkers

Hello, Terrific Tuesday Walkers.....are you out there? We meet on the first Tuesday of the month and we hope to see you this Tuesday, June 1. Our new meeting location is Kate Sessions Park, 5115 Soledad Road. Meet in front of the brick building in the middle of the parking lot (by the flagpole). We will gather at 9:15 a.m. and start our walk at 9:30 a.m. Come and enjoy the view and the fellowship. If you have any questions please contact Lynne or Bruce at [brucevhoward@gmail.com](mailto:brucevhoward@gmail.com) or [lynne.m.howard@gmail.com](mailto:lynne.m.howard@gmail.com)



The Mass will continue to be video-streamed for the parishioners that continue to shelter-at-home. Look for the live-stream button on the top menu at [theimmaculata.org](http://theimmaculata.org)



## SACRED TEXTS THE IMMACULATA PARISH

You can stay in touch with The Immaculata via text, email, and/or automated phone calls. Subscribing is easy, you can either text "Immaculata" to **84576** or you can sign up at [new.flocknote.com/immaculata](http://new.flocknote.com/immaculata).

# Courtesy Announcements

## World Day of the Sick Mass

Saturday, June 12 at 10:00 a.m. at Good Shepherd Church, 8200 Gold Coast Drive, San Diego, CA 92126. Auxiliary Bishop Ramón Bejarano will be the celebrant and homilist for the Diocese of San Diego's third annual World Day of the Sick Mass. Hosted by the Order of Malta, the special liturgy will be celebrated at 10 a.m., Saturday, June 12, at Good Shepherd Church in Mira Mesa. It will include the sacrament of the anointing of the sick and a blessing of caregivers. Usually celebrated on or near the feast of Our Lady of Lourdes in February, the World Day of the Sick Mass was delayed until June this year because of COVID-19 restrictions. It is open to all who are ill or disabled and who are physically able to attend along with their caregivers. In his message for the 39th World Day of the Sick, Pope Francis said, "Jesus asks us to stop and listen, to establish a direct and personal relationship with others, to feel empathy and compassion, and to let their suffering become our own as we seek to serve them." The Mass will also be livestreamed at <https://www.goodshepherdparish.net/mass-streaming>.

# Diocese Announcements

## Family Life & Spirituality

### Catholic Prayer Practices & Mental Wellness

Date: Thursdays, May 6 – June 3

Time: 7 p.m.

Location: Zoom Online

Cost: FREE

The pandemic has brought us a lot of exploration of coping mechanisms, usually regarding emotional or physical wellness. Yet, our pain is also deeply spiritual.

Where has God been in the overlapping crises of our personal and familial lives? How have our practices of prayer and spirituality "fortified" us for the unique challenges that the pandemic has brought.

For more information or to find out how to register, contact: [jprust@sdccatholic.org](mailto:jprust@sdccatholic.org)

## Stewardship of Treasure

*For where your treasure is,  
There also will your heart be.*

*-Matthew 6:21*

### Week of May 23, 2021

Plate: . . . . . \$1,927.00

Envelope: . . . . . \$5,342.00

Online: . . . . . \$6,248.08

**Total: . . . . . \$13,517.08**

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# The Last Word

## Keep in Your Prayers

*Amen, I say to you, if two of you agree on earth about anything for which they are to pray, it shall be granted to them by my heavenly father.*

*Matthew 18:19*

## Healing

Alma Church	Leonard Hayden
Lucia Yandell	Mariel Tojino
Sandy Perretti	Dawn Pathman
Bruce Perretti	Trao Nguyen
Riley Manahan	Marion Griffin

The sick list is updated on a monthly basis. Please call the parish office to add a parishioner to the list.

## Becoming Catholic

### RCIA - Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults

The RCIA program is especially designed for the following people:

- Not baptized but interested in learning about baptism.
- Baptized in another faith, but interested in the Catholic Church.
- Baptized Catholic but missed out on religious instruction and the sacraments of First Communion and Confirmation.
- Or, if simply, you or anyone you know is interested in examining your faith life, baptism, prayer or the Catholic Church, then this is for you.

For more information, please contact **Laura Martin-Spencer** at [lmartinspencer@sandiego.edu](mailto:lmartinspencer@sandiego.edu) or call (619) 574-5703.

## Newlyweds

Benjamin & Danielle Clapp  
Brandon & Mary Ferrer  
Dante & Cassandra Almonte  
Jordi & Fatima Medellin  
Roberto & Melissa Rivas  
Christian & Aubree Plascencia  
Jeff & Denysse Gillie  
Joseph & Saviora Rizk  
Paulo & Lucy Tolentino  
Erich & Noelle Lauer

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## Words of Wisdom

### COWARDLY

To know what is right and not to do it is the worst cowardice.

—Confucius