

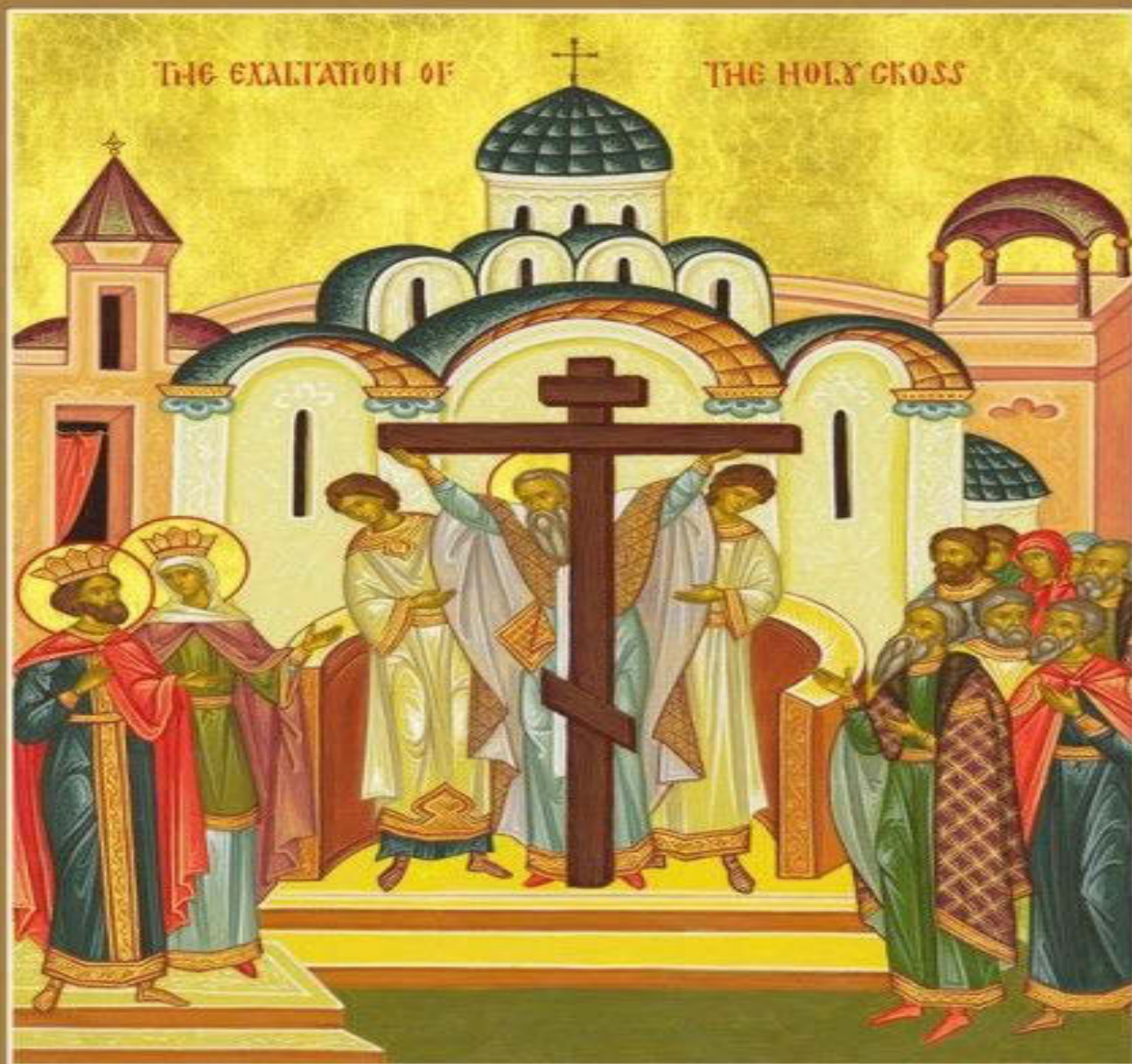


IMMACULATE HEART OF *M*ARY

Parish Mission + Mision Parroquial

*With Mary, we seek to know Christ better and to make him better known through our words and actions.
Con María, deseamos conocer mejor a Cristo y darlo a conocer por medio de nuestras acciones y palabras.*

TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME — SEPTEMBER 13, 2020



500 Fairview Avenue • Brentwood, CA 94513 • (925) 634-4154 • FAX (925) 516-9340
Website: www.ihmbrentwood.com — E-Mail: ihmchurch@ihmbrentwood.com
Office Hours: Monday-Friday 9:00 am-4:00 pm

Bishop of the Diocese of Oakland

The Most Rev. Michael C. Barber, SJ

+

Parish Office: (925) 634-4154

Mon-Fri Office Hours: 9 AM - 4 PM

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The Pastor's Page/Página del Pastor

Dear families of the Immaculate Heart of Mary,

Nearly ten years before, a son and father had parted ways when the business they shared went bankrupt. The son blamed the father. They did not speak to each other again.

Then the father became seriously ill. The mother called the son and told him he had better come soon. The son walked sheepishly into the hospital room. The father motioned his son to him and whispered: "Did you ever think you could do anything that would keep me from loving you?"

Resentment and anger are foul things, the first reading from Sirach tells us. Remember the last things. Stop hating. Live by the commandments. As St. Paul writes to the Romans, ***we are to live for the Lord and die for the Lord***.

Jesus' parable in today's Gospel reminds us of God's compassion. The immense sin of humanity has been forgiven and stricken from the record. We are to forgive others in the same way.

Immaculate Heart of Mary, pray for us.

Father Quang

+++++

Queridas familias del Inmaculado Corazón de María,

Unos diez años antes, un padre e hijo se distanciaron cuando el negocio en el que eran socios se les fue a bancarrota. El hijo culpó al padre. No se hablaron más.

Entonces el padre se puso gravemente enfermo. La madre llamó al hijo y le dijo que viniera a verlo pronto. El hijo entró con vergüenza a su habitación en el hospital. El padre hizo un gesto para que se acercara y susurró: "¿Acaso pensaste que podrías hacer algo que me hiciera dejar de amarte?"

El rencor y la cólera son abominables, nos dice la primera lectura de Sirácide. Piensa en tu fin. Deja de odiar. Vive conforme a los mandamientos. Como escribe San Pablo en Romanos, ***para el Señor vivimos y para el Señor morimos***.

Sin embargo, la parábola de Jesús en el Evangelio de hoy nos recuerda la compasión de Dios. El inmenso pecado de la humanidad ha sido perdonado y borrado del libro. Tenemos que perdonar a otros de igual manera.

Inmaculado Corazón de María, ruega por nosotros.

Padre Quang

Weekday Masses/Misas Diarias

Monday, Wednesday, Friday: 8:00AM (English)

Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday: 8:00AM (Bilingual)

Sunday Mass/Domingo Misa

9:00AM (English) - 10:45AM (Español) - 12:30PM Traditional Roman Rite (Latin)

Prayers & Weekly Scriptures/Oraciones y Lecturas de la Semana

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK INTENCIONES PARA MISAS DE LA SEMANA

SAT. SEP. 12TH

8:00AM † William and Mary Lou Murray

SUN. SEP. 13TH

9:00AM † Julie Halpin
 † Lena Dame
 Figueroa Family - Special Intentions
 † Mariana Hernandez de Peña
 10:45AM Abenoja Family - Thanksgiving Mass
 † Ester Ayala
 Immaculate Heart of Mary Parishioners
 12:30PM † Joyce Kortuem

MON. SEP. 14TH

8:00AM † James Burke
 † Cresencio and Arthur Rivera, Sr.

TUE. SEP. 15TH

8:00AM † Jesse Ceja
 † Adela Papango
 Eleanor Janson - Birthday

WED. SEP. 16TH

8:00AM Rita & Richard Nahm - Wedding Ann.
 † Manuel Vierra

THU. SEP. 17TH

8:00AM † Ramon Avila Lemos
 † Carrol Elkins

FRI. SEP. 18TH

8:00AM † Romy De La Cruz
 † Maria Luis

Sick Relatives & Friends Parientes y Amigos Enfermos

*Ryan McCloud, Ramon Antonio Toledo, Kay Aviani, Mia Eternal, Rosa Velasquez, Giselle Honore, Gina Lilly, Mary Spinelli, Bev Casey, Stanley Etienne, Mary McCann, Jacqueline Reed, Frances Brecht, Sean Bowen, Susan Rossillon, Kathleen Hernandez, Corey Amesquita, Barbara Snider, Gloria Crabaugh, Deacon Ron Horan, Bob Schumacher, Barbara Crandell, Ryan Adler, Anita and Ed Camera, Richard Grimes ***** Mary Jeanne and Dave Brink, Debbie Morris, Debbie Juarez, Therese Brantome, Eleanor Janson, Maria Luisa Guisar Oseguera, Maria Guadalupe Espindola, Sotico Amboy, Connie Madrid, Angelica Cruz Duenas, Chris Heuer, Louise Delia, Mickey Eitner, Ida Gutierrez, Elisa Heitzmann, Troy Moncada, Marge and Larry Cragle, Romano Marchetti, James Halvorsen, Sandy Heinisch, Kim Wiley, Juanita Cruz, Rose Marie and Michael De Marzo, Greg Fasula, Arlie Blackshear, Mary and Larry Ratto, Arlie Blackshear, Michael Lopez, Peggy Scalise, Beth Camola, Catalina and Eulogio Oseguera, Chris Kamola, Jose Velez, Michelle Young, Juan and Patricia Galarza, Elena Sanchez, Tan Dong, Toni Fulscher, Norman Smith, Bob Specht.*

If You would like a name added to the prayer list, please call the parish office at (925) 634-4154 or e-mail: bulletin@ihmbrentwood.com. At the end of each month you must call to place the name again on the list.

Ud. quiere añadir un nombre en esta lista, por favor llame a la oficina de la parroquia al (925) 634-4154 o mande un correo electrónico al: bulletin@ihmbrentwood.com. Al final del mes, usted debe llamar a la oficina si desea que el nombre aparezca de nuevo.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK LECTURAS DE LA SEMANA

Monday: 638: Nm 21:4b-9 Ps 78:1b-2, 34-38
 Phil 2:6-11 Jn 3:13-17

Tuesday: 444: 1 Cor 12:12-14, 27-31a
 Ps 100:1b-5 Jn 19:25-27

Wednesday: 445: 1 Cor 12:31—13:13 Ps 33:2-5,
 12, 22 Lk 7:31-35

Thursday: 446: 1 Cor 15:1-11 Ps 118:1b-2, 16-17,
 28 Lk 7:36-50

Friday: 447: 1 Cor 15:12-20 Ps 17:1b-d, 6-7,
 8b, 15 Lk 8:1-3

Saturday: 448: 1 Cor 15:35-37, 42-49
 Ps 56:10c-12, 13-14 Lk 8:14-15

Sunday: 133: Is 55:6-9 Ps 145:2-3, 8-9, 17-18
 Phil 1:20c-24, 27a Mt 20:1-16a

Names of Deceased for the month of August



Maria Pena

Bonifacio Rodriguez Martinez

Linda McDaniels

Gloria

Gloria a Dios en el cielo,
Y en la tierra paz a los hombres
Que ama el Señor.
Por tu inmensa Gloria te alabamos,
te bendecimos,
te adoramos,
te glorificamos,
te damos gracias,
Señor Dios, Rey celestial,
Dios Padre todopoderoso.
Señor, Hijo único, Jesucristo,
Señor Dios, Cordero de Dios,
Hijo del Padre;
Tu que quitas el pecado del mundo,
Ten piedad de nosotros;
Tu que quitas el pecado del mundo,
Atiende nuestra suplica;
Tu que estas sentado a
La derecha del Padre,
Ten piedad de nosotros;
Porque solo tu eres Santo,
Solo tu Señor,
Solo tu Altísimo Jesucristo.
Con el Espíritu Santo
En la gloria de Dios Padre. Amen.

Primera lectura

Sir 27:30—28:7

Cosas abominables son el rencor y la cólera;
sin embargo, el pecador se aferra a ellas.
El Señor se vengará del vengativo
y llevará rigurosa cuenta de sus pecados.
Perdona la ofensa a tu prójimo,
y así, cuando pidas perdón, se te perdonarán tus
pecados.

Si un hombre le guarda rencor a otro,
¿le puede acaso pedir la salud al Señor?
El que no tiene compasión de un semejante,
¿cómo pide perdón de sus pecados?
Cuando el hombre que guarda rencor
pide a Dios el perdón de sus pecados,
¿hallará quien interceda por él?
Piensa en tu fin y deja de odiar,
piensa en la corrupción del sepulcro
y guarda los mandamientos.
Ten presentes los mandamientos
y no guardes rencor a tu prójimo.
Recuerda la alianza del Altísimo
y pasa por alto las ofensas.

Salmo Responsorial Salmo 102: 1-2. 3-4. 9-10. 11-12
El Señor es compasivo y misericordioso.

Segunda Lectura

Rom 14: 7-9

Hermanos: Ninguno de nosotros sí mismo, ni vive ni muere para sí mismo. Si vivimos, para el Señor vivimos; y si morimos, para el Señor morimos. Por lo tanto, ya sea que estemos vivos o que hayamos muerto, somos del Señor. Porque Cristo murió y resucitó para ser Señor de vivos y muertos.

Evangelio

Mt 18:21-35

En aquel tiempo, Pedro se acercó a Jesús y le preguntó: “Si mi hermano me ofende, ¿cuántas veces tengo que perdonarlo? ¿Hasta siete veces?” Jesús le contestó: “No sólo hasta siete, sino hasta setenta veces siete”.

Entonces Jesús les dijo: “El Reino de los cielos es semejante a un rey que quiso ajustar cuentas con sus servidores. El primero que le presentaron le debía muchos talentos. Como no tenía con qué pagar, el señor mandó que lo vendieran a él, a su mujer, a sus hijos y todas sus posesiones, para saldar la deuda. El servidor, arrojándose a sus pies, le suplicaba, diciendo: ‘Ten paciencia conmigo y te lo pagaré todo’. El rey tuvo lástima de aquel servidor, lo soltó y hasta le perdonó la deuda.”

Pero, apenas había salido aquel servidor, se encontró con uno de sus compañeros, que le debía poco dinero. Entonces lo agarró por el cuello y casi lo estrangulaba, mientras le decía: ‘Págame lo que me debes’. El compañero se le arrodilló y le rogaba: ‘Ten paciencia conmigo y te lo pagaré todo’. Pero el otro no quiso escucharlo, sino que fue y lo metió en la cárcel hasta que le pagara la deuda.

Al ver lo ocurrido, sus compañeros se llenaron de indignación y fueron a contar al rey lo sucedido. Entonces el señor lo llamó y le dijo: ‘Siervo malvado. Te perdoné toda aquella deuda porque me lo suplicaste. ¿No debías tú también haber tenido compasión de tu compañero, como yo tuve compasión de ti?’ Y el señor, encolerizado, lo entregó a los verdugos para que no lo soltaran hasta que pagara lo que debía. Pues lo mismo hará mi Padre celestial con ustedes, si cada cual no perdona de corazón a su hermano”.

Credo de Nicea

Creo en un solo Dios, Padre todopoderoso, Creador del cielo y de la tierra, de todo lo visible y lo invisible.

Creo en un solo Señor, Jesucristo, Hijo único de Dios, nacido del Padre antes de todos los siglos: Dios de Dios, Luz de Luz, Dios verdadero de Dios verdadero, engendrado, no credo, de la misma naturaleza del Padre, por quien todo fue hecho; que por nosotros, los hombres, y para nuestra salvación bajó del cielo, **y por obra del Espíritu Santo se encarnó de María, la Virgen, y se hizo hombre**; y por nuestra causa fue crucificado en tiempos de Poncio Pilato, padeció al tercer día, según las Escrituras, y subió al cielo, y está sentado a la derecha del Padre; y de nuevo vendrá con gloria. Para juzgar a vivos y muertos, y su reino no tendrá fin. Creo en el Espíritu Santo, Señor dador de vida, que procede del Padre y del Hijo, que con el Padre y el Hijo recibe una misma adoración y Gloria, y que habla por los profetas.

Creo en una iglesia, que es santa, católica y apóstolica. Confieso que hay un solo bautismo para el perdón de los pecados. Espero la resurrección de los muertos y la vida futura del mundo. Amen.

Readings

Gloria

Glory to God in the highest,
and on earth peace to people of good will.
We praise you, we bless you,
we adore you, we glorify you,
we give you thanks for your great glory,
Lord God, heavenly King,
O God, almighty Father.
Lord Jesus Christ,
Only Begotten Son,
Lord God, Lamb of God,
Son of the Father,
you take away the sins of the world,
have mercy on us;
you take away the sins of the world,
receive our prayer;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father,
have mercy on us.
For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father. Amen

First Reading

Sir 27:30—28:7

Wrath and anger are hateful things,
yet the sinner hugs them tight.
The vengeful will suffer the LORD's vengeance,
for he remembers their sins in detail.
Forgive your neighbor's injustice;
then when you pray, your own sins will be forgiven.
Could anyone nourish anger against another
and expect healing from the LORD?
Could anyone refuse mercy to another like himself,
can he seek pardon for his own sins?
If one who is but flesh cherishes wrath,
who will forgive his sins?
Remember your last days, set enmity aside;
remember death and decay, and cease from sin!
Think of the commandments, hate not your neighbor;
remember the Most High's covenant, and overlook faults.

Reponsorial Psalm

Ps 103:1-2, 3-4, 9-10, 11-12

The Lord is kind and merciful, slow to anger, and rich in compassion.

Second Reading

Rom 14:7-9

Brothers and sisters:
None of us lives for oneself, and no one dies for oneself.
For if we live, we live for the Lord,
and if we die, we die for the Lord;
so then, whether we live or die, we are the Lord's.
For this is why Christ died and came to life,
that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living.

Gospel

Mt 18:21-35

Peter approached Jesus and asked him,
"Lord, if my brother sins against me,
how often must I forgive? As many as seven times?
Jesus answered, "I say to you, not seven times but
seventy-seven times.
That is why the kingdom of heaven may be likened to a

king who decided to settle accounts with his servants.
When he began the accounting,
a debtor was brought before him who owed him a huge
amount. Since he had no way of paying it back,
his master ordered him to be sold,
along with his wife, his children, and all his property,
in payment of the debt. At that, the servant fell down, did
him homage, and said, 'Be patient with me, and I will pay
you back in full.' Moved with compassion the master of
that servant let him go and forgave him the loan.
When that servant had left, he found one of his fellow
servants who owed him a much smaller amount.
He seized him and started to choke him, demanding,
'Pay back what you owe.' Falling to his knees, his fellow
servant begged him, 'Be patient with me, and I will pay you
back.' But he refused. Instead, he had the fellow servant
put in prison until he paid back the debt. Now when his
fellow servants saw what had happened, they were deeply
disturbed, and went to their master and reported the whole
affair. His master summoned him and said to him, 'You
wicked servant! I forgave you your entire debt because
you begged me to. Should you not have had pity on your
fellow servant, as I had pity on you?'

Then in anger his master handed him over to the torturers
until he should pay back the whole debt.

So will my heavenly Father do to you, unless each of you
forgives your brother from your heart."

The Nicene Creed

I believe in one God,
the Father almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all things visible and invisible.
I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the Only Begotten Son of God,
born of the Father before all ages.
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father;
through him all things were made.
For us men and for our salvation
he came down from heaven,
**and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin
Mary, and became man.**

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate,
he suffered death and was buried,
and rose again on the third day
in accordance with the Scriptures.
He ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the
dead and his kingdom will have no end.
I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is adored and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.
I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church.
I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins
and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead
and the life of the world to come. Amen.



Act of Spiritual Communion

My Jesus, I believe that you are present in the most Blessed Sacrament.
 I love You above all things and I desire to receive You into my soul.
 Since I cannot now receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart.
 I embrace You as if You were already there, and unite myself wholly to You.
 Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.

Oración de Comunión Espiritual

Creo, Jesús mío, que estás real y verdaderamente en el Cielo
 y en el Santísimo Sacramento del altar.
 Te amo sobre todas las cosas
 y deseo vivamente recibirte dentro de mi alma,
 pero no pudiendo hacerlo ahora sacramentalmente,
 ven al menos espiritualmente a mi corazón.
 Y como si ya te hubiese recibido,
 Te abrazo y me uno del todo a Ti.
 Señor, no permitas que jamás me aparte de Ti. Amén.

Oracion San Miguel

San Miguel Arcángel,
 defiéndenos en la batalla.
 Sé nuestro amparo contra la
 perversidad y asechanzas del
 demonio. Reprímale Dios,
 pedimos suplicantes,
 y tú Príncipe de la
 Milicia Celestial,
 con el divino poder de Dios,
 arroja al infierno a Satanás
 y a todos los espíritus
 malignos
 que andan dispersos
 por el mundo
 para la perdición de las
 almas. Amén.



Prayer to St. Michael

St. Michael the Archangel,
 defend us in battle,
 be our protection
 against the wickedness and
 snares of the devil.
 May God
 rebuke him we humbly pray;
 and do thou, O Prince of the
 Heavenly host,
 by the power of God,
 cast into hell Satan
 and all the evil spirits
 who prowl about the world
 seeking the ruin of souls.
 Amen

Prayer to St Corona
in time of Epidemic

Lord, Jesus Christ,
Yu came into this
world for our
salvation.

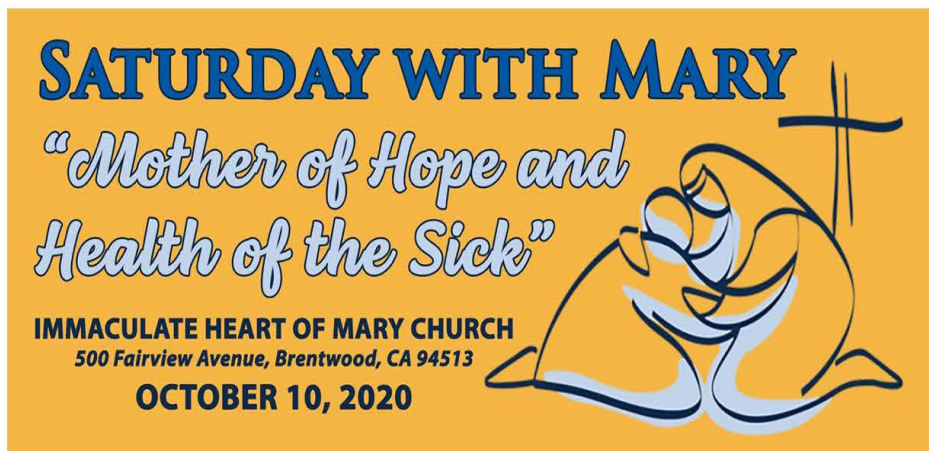
Look kindly on us
now, we pray, that
we, and all those who
serve You, might be
kept safe from this
epidemic. Heal those
who are sick, comfort
the suffering, and
Bring back those who
have gone astray, and
above all, increase
our faith, O Lord.
Give us the grace to
follow you and, like
the martyr St.
Corona, who gave
her life for love of
You, to take up our
crosses daily without
fear or hesitation.
Lord Jesus Christ,
Son of the living
God, have mercy on
us and on the whole
world. St. Corona,
patroness epidemic
victims, pray for us.
Amen.



Oración a Santa Corona
en tiempo de Epidemia

Señor, Jesucristo, Tu
vinistes a este mundo
para nuestra salvación.

Mira con buenos ojos a
nosotros ahora,
rezamos, para que
nosotros, y todos los
que te sirven, podamos
estar a salvo de esta
epidemia. Cura a los
enfermos, consuela a los
que sufren, y trae de
vuelta a los que se han
extraviado, y sobre todo,
aumenta nuestra fe, oh
Señor. Danos la gracia
de seguirte y, como la
mártir Santa Corona,
que dio su vida por
amor a Ti, de tomar
nuestras cruces
diariamente sin miedo ni
vacilación. Señor
Jesucristo, Hijo del Dios
vivo, ten piedad de
nosotros y del mundo
entero. Santa Corona,
patrona de las víctimas
de las epidemias, ruega
por nosotros.
Amén.



Registration

Name _____
 Address _____
 City/State _____
 Name of Parish _____

Phone Number () _____
 Email _____
 Zip Code _____
 Diocese _____

THIS IS A FREE EVENT BUT WE ENCOURAGE YOU TO PRE-REGISTER BEFORE SEPT 30
as seating is limited. You may also register and pay online via FaithDirect or Eventbrite.

Adult @ \$30	x _____	FREE
Youth (11-17)	x _____	FREE
Under 11 years old	x _____	FREE
Clergy/Religious/Seminarian	x _____	FREE

List Additional Names Here

I WISH TO DONATE TOWARDS CONFERENCE EXPENSES \$ _____

DONATION OPTIONS

For CASH (indicate amount) _____
 Received by _____
(Name/Date)

For CHECK, or MONEY ORDER, make it payable to:
IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY CHURCH
 Memo Line: 2020 Saturday with Mary
 Check Number: _____

For CREDIT CARD

Account Number _____
 CVC No. _____ (back of card last 3 numbers)
 Name on Card _____

☒ VISA ☐ MasterCard

Exp. Date ____ / ____

Signature _____

Please send Registration Form and Donation to IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY CHURCH
(500 Fairview Avenue, Brentwood, CA 94513) no later than September 30.
Kindly indicate Confirmation of Registration by: _____ Mail _____ Email _____ Phone Call _____

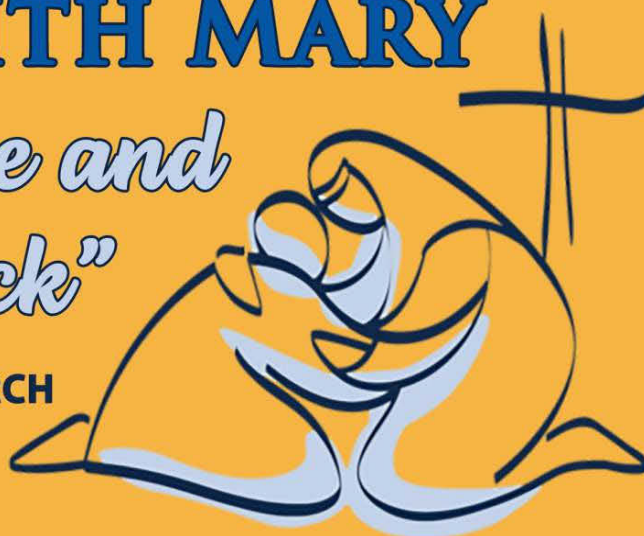
SATURDAY WITH MARY

*"Mother of Hope and
Health of the Sick"*

IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY CHURCH

500 Fairview Avenue, Brentwood, CA 94513

OCTOBER 10, 2020



PROGRAMME

8:00 AM	Mass with Anointing of the Sick	Father Quang Minh Dong
9:00 AM	Opening Program Welcome Remarks Overview	
9:30 AM	International Scriptural Rosary	Deacon John Kortuem
10:30 AM	Spanish Presentation	Father Arturo Bazan
11:30 AM	Open Time for Lunch	
12:30 PM	Enrollment in the Brown Scapular	
1:00 PM	Praise and Worship Stations of the Cross Confessions (until 3PM)	Deacon Candelario Jimenez Deacon Leland DeFrates
3:00 PM	Exposition and Adoration Divine Mercy Chaplet	Deacon Paul Abenoja
3:30 PM	English Presentation	Father John Erick Villa
4:30 PM	Spanish Solemn Benediction	
5:00 PM	Closing Mass	Bishop Michael Barber, SJ
6:30 PM	Candlelight Rosary Procession	

*We encourage you to pre-register online at <http://marianconference.ihmbrentwood.com> **before September 30** as seats are limited.
This is a free event, but we will appreciate whatever support you can extend. Donations can also be made via FaithDirect or Eventbrite.
There will be no full meals available for sale on site; only pre-packed snacks and bottled items will be sold.
Most events for the day are planned for outdoors, and will be implemented following safety and health protocols in place at the time.*

Information/Información

St. Vincent de Paul for Friday's Food Pantry

For the weekend of September 20, 2020, please bring canned milk. THANK YOU!

Para el fin de semana del 20 de septiembre, 2020, por favor traigan leche enlatada. GRACIAS!



Thanks you for those parishioners who have used the **SmileAmazon.com** so that the Amazon Smile Foundation can donate .5% of the price of eligible purchases. IHM received a donation of \$163.07 for the activity period of April 1 through June 30, 2020.

NOTICE!

You must not double park in red zones. Be sure your cars are parked in designated parking spots and leave handicap parking for those who need them. Several cars are parking in red zones and we do not want roadways blocked in case of emergencies.

ANUNCIO!

No deben estacionarse en zonas rojas. Asegúrense de que sus automóviles estén estacionados en lugares de estacionamiento designados y deje el espacio designados para personas discapacidades que tienen los permisos. Varios automoviles han estado estacionando en zonas rojas y no queremos que esos lugares estén bloqueados en caso de emergencias.



Information: We are accepting Mass intentions. Just call the office to schedule a date. Donations for the Masses can be dropped off at the office. Place the day and time and name of person who the intention is for and place it in the mail slot. No intentions will be taken for 2021 only 2020.

SCHEDULE OF SECOND COLLECTIONS

September 20, 2020 - Maintenance Fund
October 4, 2020 - Facility Improvement Fund

FECHAS DE SEGUNDAS COLECTAS

20 de septiembre, 2020 - Fondo del Mantenimiento
4 de octubre, 2020 - Fondo del Mejoramiento de las Instalaciones

Please: take a bulletin and keep it to take home. Do not return the bulletin back.



Por favor: Tome un boletin y guardelo para llevarlo a casa. No devuelva el boletin de nuevo.

We now have a code for the website **FORMED.ORG** - Simply open a web browser and type in: www.formed.org. - Go to the lower right hand side and click on "Register" and follow the prompts. Our IHM code is: **CM7TFZ**

This is a dynamic website that has all things Catholic, on demand, all the time! Check it out!!!

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- 1 Chronicles 29:9

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and use our church code: **CA752**.

Thank you for your continued support.

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+ Confessions / Confesiones

Tuesday/Martes: 6:00 - 7:00PM
Saturday/Sabado: 3:30 - 4:30PM

Devotions/Devociones

Monday to Friday/Lunes a Viernes
8:00AM

Holy Rosary/Santo Rosario

+
Wednesday/Miércoles
8:30AM

Mother of Perpetual Help Novena Novena Madre del Perpetuo Socorro

+
Friday/Viernes
8:30AM

Divine Mercy Chaplet Novena Coronilla a la Divina Misericordia

Anointing of the Sick Unción de los Enfermos

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The Story of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross

Early in the fourth century, Saint Helena, mother of the Roman Emperor Constantine, went to Jerusalem in search of the holy places of Christ's life. She razed the second-century Temple of Aphrodite, which tradition held was built over the Savior's tomb, and her son built the Basilica of the Holy Sepulcher on that spot. During the excavation, workers found three crosses. Legend has it that the one on which Jesus died was identified when its touch healed a dying woman.

The cross immediately became an object of veneration. At a Good Friday celebration in Jerusalem toward the end of the fourth century, according to an eyewitness, the wood was taken out of its silver container and placed on a table together with the inscription Pilate ordered placed above Jesus' head: Then "all the people pass through one by one; all of them bow down, touching the cross and the inscription, first with their foreheads, then with their eyes; and, after kissing the cross, they move on."

To this day, the Eastern Churches, Catholic and Orthodox alike, celebrate the Exaltation of the Holy Cross on the September anniversary of the basilica's dedication. The feast entered the Western calendar in the seventh century after Emperor Heraclius recovered the cross from the Persians, who had carried it off in 614, 15 years earlier. According to the story, the emperor intended to carry the cross back into Jerusalem himself, but was unable to move forward until he took off his imperial garb and became a barefoot pilgrim.

Reflection

The cross is today the universal image of Christian belief. Countless generations of artists have turned it into a thing of beauty to be carried in procession or worn as jewelry. To the eyes of the first Christians, it had no beauty. It stood outside too many city walls, decorated only with decaying corpses, as a threat to anyone who defied Rome's authority—including Christians who refused sacrifice to Roman gods. Although believers spoke of the cross as the instrument of salvation, it seldom appeared in Christian art unless disguised as an anchor or the Chi-Rho until after Constantine's edict of toleration.

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