

The Catholic Church of the
Immaculate Conception

2540 San Diego Avenue, San Diego, CA 92110 619 295-4141 FAX 619 295-4142
e-mail: parish@ic-sandiego.org Website: www.ic-sandiego.org

February 28, 2016

Rev. Richard L. Perozich, Pastor
parish@ic-sandiego.org 619-295-4141 x 11

Deacon Robert H. Fitzmorris
rfitzmor@sdcatholic.org; 858 490-8332

Liz Fielder, Manager, Serra Gifts
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Connie Rodriquez, Parish Secretary
parish@ic-sandiego.org 619-295-4141 x 10

Marsha Long, Music
pictures@marshalong.com

Parish Office Hours
Monday: Noon to 4:00 pm
Tuesday-Friday: 9:00 am to 4:00 pm
Saturday & Sunday: Closed

Mass Schedule

Daily Mass: Monday - Saturday at 8:00 am
First Friday Mass & Devotion: 8:00 am

Sunday Masses

Saturday Vigil: 5:15 P.M.
Sunday: 8:30 AM, 10:00AM, 11:30 AM, 5:15 P.M.

Holy Day Masses: 8 A.M., 7:00 P.M.

Penance: For daily Mass goes 7:30 AM. For Parish on Saturday: 4:30 to 5:00 P.M., and by appointment

Baptisms & RCIA: *By appointment only.* Please email Deacon Fitzmorris at rfitzmor@sdcatholic.org.

Weddings: By appointment only. Arrangements must be made at least **one year** in advance. Please contact the office

Funerals: *For arrangements, please call the parish office.*



History of Immaculate Conception Parish

It was here in Old Town that Saint Junípero Serra celebrated his First Holy Mass in California on July 2, 1769, near the site of the present Immaculate Conception Church, and it was on the hill overlooking Old Town that he planted the cross which marked the site of the Mission and the Presidio.

In 1849, the first parish church was established in Old Town with the name of Immaculate Conception and was dedicated in 1858. It still stands and is known as the Old Adobe Chapel on Conde Street. The cornerstone to the present Immaculate Conception Church was laid in 1868 under the direction of Father Antonio Ubach. With the population swing toward the south, it was not until July 6, 1919, that the church was dedicated by Archbishop John J. Cantwell of Los Angeles.

WE PRAY

MASS INTENTIONS

29	8 AM	Lenten Weekday †Jascha Roux, SI	RP
01	8 AM	Lenten Weekday †Lupe Gloria Ramirez	RE
02	8 AM	Lenten Weekday †Maria Refugia Lujan	RP
03	8 AM	St. Catherine Drexel Mary Nuñez, SI	RP
04	8 AM	St. Casimir Rev. Elias Gharios, SI	RP
05	8 AM	Lenten Weekday Christine Scillo, SI	RP
	5:15 PM	†Alex Mambo	RP
06	8:30 AM	Apolinario Family, SI	RP
	10:00 AM	†Leonard Deahl	RE
	11:30 AM	†William Kennedy	RE
	5:15 PM	†Aaren O'Connor	RP

APOSTLESHIP OF PRAYER

March: Intentions of the Holy Father

Universal: That families in need may receive the necessary support and that children may grow up in healthy and peaceful environments.

Evangelization: That those Christians who, on account of their faith, are discriminated against or are being persecuted may remain strong and faithful to the Gospel, thanks to the incessant prayer of the Church.

PRAY: SEMINARIANS IN THEOLOGY

1st	Manuel Del Rio, St. John's Seminary, Camarillo
4th	David Exner, North American College, Rome
4th	Brian Frice, Mt. Angel Seminary, OR
2nd	Oscar Lopez, St. John's Seminary, Camarillo
3rd	Nathan McWeeny, Mt. Angel Seminary, OR
1st	Raymond Napuli, Mt. Angel Seminary, OR
1st	Michael O'Connor, Mt. Angel Seminary, OR
2nd	Eric Tamayo, North American College, Rome
4th	Corey Tufford, North American College, Rome
4th	Derek Twilliger, Mt. Angel Seminary, OR
3rd	Billy Zondler, Mt. Angel Seminary, OR

PRAY FOR OUR PRIESTS

29	Rev. Jovencio Ricafort
01	Pope Francis
02	Bishop Robert McElroy
03	Bishop Robert Brom
04	Bishop Gilbert Chavez
05	Rev. Pedro Rivera
06	Rev. Michael Robinson

PRAY THE SCRIPTURES

Monday:	2 Kgs 5:1-15; Ps 42:2,3; 43:3, 4; Lk 4:24-30
Tuesday:	Dn 3:25-43; Ps 25:4-9; Mt 18:21-35
Wednesday:	Dt 4:1-9; Ps 147:12--20; Mt 5:17-19
Thursday:	Jer 7:23-28; Ps 95:1-9; Lk 11:14-23
Friday:	Hos 14:2-10; Ps 81:6-17; Mk 12:28-34
Saturday:	Hos 6:1-6; Ps 51:3--21; Lk 18:9-14
Sunday:	Jos 5:9-12; Ps 34:2-7; 2 Cor 5:17-21; Lk 15:1-32

PRAY FOR HEALING

Jesus we ask you to bring your peace and healing touch to those who are ill afraid or worried. Amen

Esther Fitch	Inez Cerda Bull
Margaret Kelly	Cosmo Busalacchi
Patricia Kennedy	Maria Casanova
Dorothy Kleint	Steve Stone
Dena Mendoza	Maria Esperanza Kramer
Jean Miller	Joan Busalacchi
Patricia O'Grady	Mark Brandon.
Mary Jane Tiernan	Jeanne Pontius
Marguerite Vorst	Esther Salazar
Martha Zamudio	Joane Anderson
Carlos Amaya	Janet Meyers
Mike Rodriguez	Yolanda Garcia
Maguire Fitzpatrick	Susan Rykowskj
Tony Jenkins	Elias Barajas
Peter Nalwalker	Shirley Ilog
Bob Witt	Olivia Ingram
Frank Garay	Grace Mulvanity
Frances Garcia	Angelica Ortega
Socorro Pacheco	Barbara Driscoll
Linda Lee	Lucille Miller
Amparo Valenzuela	Reginald Custodio
Robby Witt	Frankie Diaz, Jr.
Phyllis Altomare	Victoria Cardenas
Alicia Ambrose	Adela Diaz

PRAY FOR OUR DEPLOYED MILITARY

Jesus protect all who serve our country.

Sgt. Ahmed John Alexander	Sgt. Adriana Matizel
Natalie Augustine	Wendell Miculob
Major Jerry Bloomquist	LTJG Joe F. Morales, USN;
Col. Mike Bodkin	LCPL Matthew A. Pena
Danny Carpenter, USMC	Sgt. Richard Pierce
LTJG Joseph Colangelo, USN	Sgt. William Paul Powers and
Cpl. Samuel James Comer	Cinco
Daniel Dinglebeck, USN PFC	CPL Wilson Santiago
David Eley, USMC	Alfred Tello
Micah Emery	Ricky Thibeault
Sgt. Christopher Escalona	Tony Tulloss
Capt. Pedro Esquivel	PFC Travis Vliet; & 3rd
1Lt. Cortez Fabia	Marine Aircraft Wing.
Juan Carlos Galazza	SCPO Desiree S. Hayes, USN
SSGT. Vincent Charles Lucario	Gil Perez, US Navy
Robert Clinton Long, MC2	

† PRAY FOR OUR DECEASED †

Eternal rest grant unto them O Lord and let perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace Amen.

William Kennedy	Angela Cordova
Joan Schmitt	Ramiro Moreno
Robert McMahon	Alexander Toczko
Concepción Garza	Jeannette Toczko
Richard Solís Moreno	José Teofilo Solorio
Alvin Weaver	Ray & Betty Jackson
William Bethel	Denise Cooney
Lillian Sinclair	Joanne Mangiameli
Olga Hritz	Edna Moore
Angelina Olivarez	Paul Ramirez
Alice Perry	Isabella Asaro
Joseph Moreno	Maude Laracy
Louie Serrano	Helen Peña
Gustavo Sosa	Lydia Castillo Herrera
Floyd Watson	Maria Necochea
Iola Torre	Bertha Lockwood
Emilie Graham	Salvador Rivera

REPENT— *Saint Clement, pope***FROM THE PASTOR**

Let us fix our attention on the blood of Christ and recognize how precious it is to God his Father, since it was shed for our salvation and brought the grace of repentance to all the world.

If we review the various ages of history, we will see that in every generation the Lord has *offered the opportunity of repentance* to any who were willing to turn to him. When Noah preached God's message of repentance, all who listened to him were saved. Jonah told the Ninevites they were going to be destroyed, but when they repented, their prayers gained God's forgiveness for their sins, and they were saved, even though they were not of God's people.

Under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, the ministers of God's grace have spoken of repentance; indeed, the Master of the whole universe himself spoke of repentance with an oath: *As I live*, says the Lord, *I do not wish the death of the sinner but his repentance*. He added this evidence of his goodness: *House of Israel, repent of your wickedness. Tell the sons of my people: If their sins should reach from earth to heaven, if they are brighter than scarlet and blacker than sackcloth, you need only turn to me with your whole heart and say, "Father", and I will listen to you as a holy people.*

In other words, God wanted all his beloved ones to have the opportunity to repent and he confirmed this desire by his own almighty will. That is why we should obey his sovereign and glorious will and prayerfully entreat his mercy and kindness. We should be suppliant before him and turn to his compassion, rejecting empty works and quarrelling and jealousy which only lead to death.

Brothers, we should be humble in mind, putting aside all arrogance, pride and foolish anger. Rather, we should act in accordance with the Scriptures, as the Holy Spirit says: *The wise man must not glory in his wisdom nor the strong man in his strength nor the rich man in his riches. Rather, let him who glories glory in the Lord by seeking him and doing what is right and just.* Recall especially what the Lord Jesus said when he taught gentleness and forbearance. *Be merciful*, he said, *so that you may have mercy shown to you. Forgive, so that you may be forgiven. As you treat others, so you will be treated. As you give, so you will receive. As you judge, so you will be judged. As you are kind to others, so you will be treated kindly. The measure of your giving will be the measure of your receiving.*

Let these commandments and precepts strengthen us to live in humble obedience to his sacred words. As Scripture asks: *Whom shall I look upon with favour except the humble, peaceful man who trembles at my words?*

Sharing then in the heritage of so many vast and glorious achievements, let us hasten toward the goal of peace, set before us from the beginning. Let us keep our eyes firmly fixed on the Father and Creator of the whole universe, and hold fast to his splendid and transcendent gifts of peace and all his blessings.

PRAYER IS THE LIGHT OF THE SPIRIT— *John Chrysostom, bishop*

Prayer and converse with God is a supreme good: it is a partnership and union with God. As the eyes of the body are enlightened when they see light, so our spirit, when it is intent on God, is illumined by his infinite light. I do not mean the prayer of outward observance but prayer from the heart, not confined to fixed times or periods, but continuous throughout the day and night.

Our spirit should be quick to reach out toward God not only when it is engaged in meditation; at other times also, when it is carrying out its duties, caring for the needy, performing works of charity, giving generously in the service of others, our spirit should long for God, and call him to mind, so that these works may be seasoned with the salt of God's love, and so make a palatable offering to the Lord of the universe. Throughout the whole of our lives we may enjoy the benefit that comes from prayer if we devote a great deal of time to it.


Prayer is the light of the spirit, true knowledge of God, mediating between God and man. The spirit, raised up to heaven by prayer, clings to God with the utmost tenderness; like a child crying tearfully for its mother, it craves the milk that God provides. It seeks the satisfaction of its own desires, and receives gifts outweighing the whole world of nature.

Prayer stands before God as an honored ambassador. It gives joy to the spirit, peace to the heart. I speak of prayer, not words. It is the longing for God, love too deep for words, a gift not given by man but by God's grace. The apostle Paul says: "We do not know how we are to pray but the Spirit himself pleads for us with inexpressible longings."


When the Lord gives this kind of prayer to someone; he gives him riches that cannot be taken away, heavenly food that satisfies the spirit. One who tastes this food is set on fire with an eternal longing for the Lord: his spirit burns as in a fire of the utmost intensity.

Practice prayer from the beginning. Paint your house with the colors of modesty and humility. Make it radiant with the light of justice. Decorate it with the finest gold leaf of good deeds. Adorn it with the walls and stones of faith and generosity. Crown it with the pinnacle of prayer. In this way you will make it a perfect dwelling place for the Lord. You will be able to receive him as in a splendid palace, and through his grace you will already possess him, his image enthroned in the temple of your spirit.


AROUND THE PARISH



2016 Baptism Schedule
No baptisms during March.
 Schedule is available on the parish website (*ic-sandiego.org*).



Stations of the Cross continue on each Friday at 7:00 p.m. during Lent through March 25.
Exception: Stations of the Cross will be held at 3:00 p.m. on Good Friday, March 25.
Note: Free Soup Supper served from 6:00-6:45 p.m.



Palm Sunday - The Passion of the Lord
 March 20
 8:30, 10:00, 11:30 a.m., 5:15 p.m.
 (Vigil Mass on Saturday, March 19 at 5:15 p.m.)

Holy Thursday
 March 24
 No 8:00 a.m. Mass
 Mass of the Lord's Supper
 7:00 p.m.

Friday of the Passion of the Lord (Good Friday)
 March 25
 No 8:00 a.m. Mass
 The Passion
 7:00 p.m.

Holy Saturday
 March 26
 No 8:00 a.m. Mass
 Easter Vigil Mass
 8:00 p.m.

Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord
 March 27
 8:30, 10:00, 11:30 a.m., 5:15 p.m.

28 FEB ... FAMILY CATECHESIS
 Parents and children as well as all interested adults are welcome to attend Family Catechesis in the bride's room of the parish hall every other week. The program continues on Sunday, February 28 at 9:45 right after the 8:30 AM Mass. All children must be accompanied by their parents at each session.

06 March ... Annual Lenten Collection
 Special envelopes will be available in the pews next weekend for donations to the Annual Lenten Collection. The envelopes may be dropped in the collection basket on March 06 or on March 13. Donations support the works of Catholic Relief Services, the Church in Africa, and the Church in Latin America.

28 FEB ... QUARTERS & CANS SUNDAY
 Please drop your Quarters and Cans envelopes in the regular collection this Sunday or next Sunday. All money collected will be used here at Immaculate Conception to assist our brothers and sisters who come to us in need. Your generous donations will continue to be used to help feed, and in some cases assist those who are in need of our help with rent and utilities. The parish also provides gas and grocery cards. Resource information is also available so people can access public and private agencies that can help with their needs.
 Food items collected will be taken by our volunteers to the Catholic Charities Food Resource Center. Please make sure these items are in non-breakable containers, unopened, and the dates have not expired. There is always a need for the following items:

- ◆ Canned goods including vegetables, fruit, chili, tuna fish, spam, chicken, beef, beans, soups, and spaghetti sauce;
- ◆ Peanut butter, jelly, and honey;
- ◆ Cereals, pasta, rice, and beans;
- ◆ Any paper goods such as toilet paper, paper towels, paper plates, cups, napkins, Kleenex tissues, baby wipes;
- ◆ Hygiene items such as shampoo, soaps, toothpaste, tooth brushes, dental floss, mouthwash, disposable razors, shaving cream, lotions and feminine products;
- ◆ Plastic, paper or reusable grocery bags for carrying the above.

Thank You
 On behalf of the entire Quarter and Cans Committee and Father Richard we thank you for your continued support of these important programs as we try to follow Our Lord's command and put the Holy Gospel into action.

AROUND THE PARISH

Gifts of Treasure

With gratitude for the gifts we have received parishioners and visitors made a joyful return to the Lord.

February 21, 2016

Total Collection: \$4,181.34
Envelopes: \$2,822.00 Plate: \$1,359.34
Total contributing households: 88

5:15 Sat	\$ 630.05
8:30 Sun	\$1351.00
10:00 Sun	\$ 972.50
11:30 Sun	\$ 680.50
5:15 Sun	\$ 507.29
Mailed	\$ 40.00

EXPENSES

February 15-19, 2016

Gas & Electric	\$961.61
Hall Supplies	\$159.60
Ministry Supplies	\$450.31
Music	\$700.00
Office Supplies	\$ 46.62
Payroll (incl tax)	\$3197.68
Payroll Service	\$46.45
Pension	\$377.60

Total: \$ 5,939.87

Annual Catholic Appeal
Goal: \$24,000

Pledged: \$16,453.50 -- Paid: \$12,513.50

Serra Gifts...

**Street Level of
Fr. Serra Hall
619-297-3426**



Open 7 days a week
 Monday - Friday 9:30 -4:00
 Saturday 10:00 to 4:00
 Sunday 9:30 to 3:00

Serra Gifts offers a beautiful assortment of religious items for your home, for your family, and friends.

Lenten Resources

The Stations of the Cross with Pope John Paul II
The Way of the Cross with text from the Scriptures
The Way of the Cross, according to the method of St. Alphonse Liguori
My Lenten Prayer Book
 Spanish language versions also available.

See our online catalog at:
<http://www.ic-sandiego.org/gift-shop>

**SECOND VATICAN COUNCIL:
DIGNITATIS HUMANAE**

MAN'S DIGNITY AND RELIGIOUS FREEDOM

... 11. At the same time, however, they showed respect for those of weaker stuff, even though they were in error, and thus they made it plain that "each one of us is to render to God an account of himself" (Romans 14:12), and for that reason is bound to obey his conscience. Like Christ Himself, the Apostles were unceasingly bent upon bearing witness to the truth of God, and they showed the fullest measure of boldness in "speaking the word with confidence" (Acts 4:31) (24) before the people and their rulers. With a firm faith they held that the Gospel is indeed the power of God unto salvation for all who believe. Therefore they rejected all "carnal weapons:(26) they followed the example of the gentleness and respectfulness of Christ and they preached the word of God in the full confidence that there was resident in this word itself a divine power able to destroy all the forces arrayed against God and bring men to faith in Christ and to His service. As the Master, so too the Apostles recognized legitimate civil authority. "For there is no power except from God", the Apostle teaches, and thereafter commands: "Let everyone be subject to higher authorities.... He who resists authority resists God's ordinance" (Romans 13:1-5).(29) At the same time, however, they did not hesitate to speak out against governing powers which set themselves in opposition to the holy will of God: "It is necessary to obey God rather than men" (Acts 5:29).(30) This is the way along which the martyrs and other faithful have walked through all ages and over all the earth.

**WELCOME TO IMMACULATE
CONCEPTION!**

To register at the parish, please fill out the form below and drop it in the basket or call the office at 295-4141.

NAME _____
 STREET _____
 CITY/ ZIP _____
 PHONE _____

PARISH & COMMUNITY

Parish Calendar

February

28	Quarters and Cans Sunday Family Catechesis	9:45 AM
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MARCH

03	Harp Meditation Choir Practice	2:00 PM 6:00 PM
05	Soup Supper Stations of the Cross	6:00 PM 7:00 PM
06	Annual Lenten Collection	
07	I.C. Seniors Luncheon Meeting	11:00 AM
10	Harp Meditation Choir Practice	2:00 PM 6:00 PM
11	Soup Supper Stations of the Cross	6:00 PM 7:00 PM

FROM MISERICORDIAE VULTUS - Pope Francis

**BULL OF INDICTION OF THE
EXTRAORDINARY JUBILEE OF MERCY**

*FRANCIS
BISHOP OF ROME SERVANT OF THE SERVANTS
OF GOD TO ALL WHO READ THIS LETTER,
GRACE MERCY, AND PEACE*

18. During Lent of this Holy Year, I intend to send out Missionaries of Mercy. They will be a sign of the Church’s maternal solicitude for the People of God, enabling them to enter the profound richness of this mystery so fundamental to the faith. There will be priests to whom I will grant the authority to pardon even those sins reserved to the Holy See, so that the breadth of their mandate as confessors will be even clearer. They will be, above all, living signs of the Father’s readiness to welcome those in search of his pardon. They will be missionaries of mercy because they will be facilitators of a truly human encounter, a source of liberation, rich with responsibility for overcoming obstacles and taking up the new life of Baptism again. They will be led in their mission by the words of the Apostle: “For God has consigned all men to disobedience, that he may have mercy upon all” (Rom 11:32). Everyone, in fact, without exception, is called to embrace the call to mercy. May these Missionaries live this call with the assurance that they can fix their eyes on Jesus, “the merciful and faithful high priest in the service of God” (Heb 2:17).

APPLY...Saint Charles Borromeo Academy Accepting Applications

Applications are being accepted now for the 2016-2017 school year. Visit the school, take a tour and talk with staff, students and parents regarding our strong academics and our faith-filled environment. Ideally located across from Liberty Station just west of Old Town and the 5 freeway.
See our video page at Vimeo.com/SCBASanDiego or call: **(619) 223-8271**.

Taking Life, Love and Faith Seriously

Is Abortion a Single Issue for Pro-lifers?

No! But it is the *single most important issue*. Let’s be brutally honest. Isn’t it only fair to be so for those unborn who are susceptible to attack? **Abortion is barbaric!** Face it or bury your head in the sand (if it isn’t already).
Democrats for Life? **What nonsense!**
Catholics, or *anyone professing to be pro-life*, voting for a Democrat? **What injustice and hypocrisy!**
Catholics, or *anyone professing to be pro-life*, voting for a Republican, or person of any other party (or none) who supports or enables abortion (when there is an unambiguous pro-life alternative)? **What injustice and hypocrisy!**
Anyone desiring worldwide peace who supports or enables abortion? **Fools!**
We all must come to recognize the human person in everyone who is victimized, rejected, abandoned, and defenseless in the worldwide community. This cannot be accomplished if we do not firstly recognize and protect the most defenseless among us, the unborn. Not until we have done all in our power to end the abomination of abortion worldwide by peaceful measures, can we hope to see a measure of peace in the world.

(Fred D’Alessio)

**JOINT DECLARATION OF POPE FRANCIS
AND PATRIARCH KIRILL OF MOSCOW
AND ALL RUSSIA** **2/12/16**

2. Our fraternal meeting has taken place in Cuba, at the crossroads of North and South, East and West. It is from this island, the symbol of the hopes of the “New World” and the dramatic events of the history of the twentieth century, that we address our words to all the peoples of Latin America and of the other continents.

It is a source of joy that the Christian faith is growing here in a dynamic way. The powerful religious potential of Latin America, its centuries-old Christian tradition, grounded in the personal experience of millions of people, are the pledge of a great future for this region.

I WILL NOT KEEP SILENT*This Lent, pray to become a prophet.*

Here's something we can all do for Lent.

Catholics are very familiar with sins against charity by saying things we should not say: gossip, calumny, detraction and the like — serious sins. But not holding your tongue when you *should* say something is just as evil. To not say what needs to be said when it should be said is a sin against justice and is a cooperation with evil. You can sin in two methods involving your speech.

The prophet Isaiah, for example, cries out: "For Zion's sake I will not be silent; for Jerusalem's sake I will not keep quiet, until her vindication shines forth like the dawn and her victory like a burning torch" (Isaiah 62:1).

It is almost a certainty when you come across a reference to Jerusalem or Zion in the Old testament that what is being spoken of in its fullest sense is the Catholic Church. And it is for this that we must speak up, cry out, abandon silence; we are at pains to bring about Her vindication until all nations behold Her victory like a burning torch.

This is powerful language. It describes the arduous lengths a lover will go to achieve victory and honor for his beloved — his beloved who has been made a mockery of, belittled before every living creature. This much is made clear when Isaiah continues that "Nations will behold your vindication and all kings your glory. No more will men call you forsaken and your land desolate" (Isaiah 62:2).

If this isn't a prophecy of the current agony of Holy Mother Church, nothing is. True, it had more immediate reality regarding Israel, but what is Israel other than a type of the Church?

We Catholics have got to understand the great love required from us, demanded from us, in this current hour of the Church's agony. We cannot keep silent. We must shout from the rooftops. Even St. Paul tells us "Woe to me if I do not preach the Gospel!" (1 Cor. 9:16). When you see the word "woe" make its way into a Scripture passage, you need to sit up and fixate on it. It is a word used in reference to damnation, to going to Hell.

Our Blessed Lord used it in reference to Judas: "But woe to that man by whom the Son of Man is betrayed; it would be better for him had he never been born" (Matt. 26:24). (Are you "reasonable hope" people listening?)

Our Blessed Lord used it *seven* times in reference to the Pharisees during His indictment of them. Saint Paul used it in reference to himself, as we said: if *he* did not preach the Gospel.

So whom is the word "woe" reserved for? Traitors, hypocrites, cowards — in short, all those who do not profess Christ to the world. And this is not a crowd you want to get lumped in with. It takes prophecy to proclaim truth to a world that does not want to hear it.

And this is exactly the point. It is what God commands. Our earthly fate is not a consideration. What is a consideration is the peril of souls.

Why did Our Lord foretell the damnation of Judas and the Jewish leaders? Why did St. Paul lay out the possibility of his own damnation? Because they cared more for themselves than the salvation of others. They cared, for money, prestige, reputation more than they cared for the things of God. And their concern for their own comforts prevented them from opening their mouths for the truth.

We need to understand the great peril we are all in by keeping quiet about the Faith, the truth and glory and majesty of the One True Faith. We do not get to keep quiet in the face of family and friends. We do not get to stay silent because of fear of losing respect or friendship. We *must* proclaim Her glory, Her truth, until everyone we know has heard in no uncertain terms the glory of God in His Holy Catholic Church.

This includes speaking to clerics who have lost their zeal, their first love, their passion for God and His Holy Bride, perhaps even their supernatural faith. You *must* speak out — to anyone who will hear you.

As a result of your baptism, you share in Our Lord's prophetic mission. What matters is truth, nothing else.

Truth is a Person. Jesus Christ is Truth. The resurrected Jesus Christ breathed life into His Bride so that She would continue His mission among men until the end of time.

We are either on board with this mission or we are damned. And that shouldn't be shocking; after all, what is it to be damned? It is to love self more than God.

If we love God, we will prove it. Love is, after all, an act of the will, not an emotion. And we will prove it by declaring the rightness and truth of the Holy Catholic Church. We will not accommodate Her truth for the sake of politeness or ecumenism or any other thing on earth.

Our cry needs to be that of Isaiah: *No, I will not keep silent.* For Her sake I will not keep silent; for the Church's sake I will not be quiet — until Her vindication shines forth like the dawn and Her victory shines like a burning torch.

This Lent, pray to become a prophet.

— Michael Voris