

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](mailto:parish@ic-sandiego.org) Website: [www.ic-sandiego.org](http://www.ic-sandiego.org)

**April 10, 2016**

**Rev. Richard L. Perozich, Pastor**

[pastor@ic-sandiego.org](mailto:parish@ic-sandiego.org) 619-295-4141 x 11

**Deacon Robert H. Fitzmorris**

[rfitzmor@sdccatholic.org](mailto:rfitzmor@sdccatholic.org); 858 490-8332

**Liz Fielder, Manager, Serra Gifts**

[fielder@ic-sandiego.org](mailto:fielder@ic-sandiego.org) 619-297-3426

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[parish@ic-sandiego.org](mailto:parish@ic-sandiego.org) 619-295-4141 x 10

**Marsha Long, Music**

[pictures@marshalong.com](mailto: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@sdccatholic.org](mailto:rfitzmor@sdccatholic.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**

11	8 AM	<i>St. Stanislaus</i> Gregory Kresge, SI	MT
12	8AM	<i>Easter Weekday</i> †Dale Pearson	RE
13	8 AM	<i>St. Martin I</i> †Rey & Rosario Amaro	JB
14	8 AM	<i>Easter Weekday</i> †Carol Shearer	JB
15	8 AM	<i>Easter Weekday</i> †Maria R. Nungaray	MT
16	8 AM	<i>Easter Weekday</i> †Benito Rodriguez	MT
	5:15 PM	†James DiEdoardo	MT
17	8:30 AM	†Roger M. Ibarra	RE
	10:00 AM	†Ana Orozco	RE
	11:30 AM	†William Kennedy	MT
	5:15 PM	All Souls	MT

**APOSTLESHIP OF PRAYER**

**APRIL: Intentions of the Holy Father**

**Universal:** That small farmers may receive a just reward for their precious labor.

**Evangelization:** That Christians in Africa may give witness to love and faith in Jesus Christ amid political-religious conflicts.

**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 McWeeney, 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**

11	Rev. J. Noel Thompson
12	Rev. Thomas Thompson
13	Rev. Harold Tindall
14	Rev. Joselito Tiongson
15	Rev. Christopher Tozzi
16	Rev. Michael Tran
17	Rev. Matthias Tumulty, OFM

**PRAY THE SCRIPTURES**

Monday: Acts 6:8-15; Ps 119:23-30; Jn 6:22-29  
 Tuesday: Acts 7:51 -- 8:1a; Ps 31:3-21; Jn 6:30-35  
 Wednesday: Acts 8:1-8; Ps 66:1-7; Jn 6:35-40  
 Thursday: Acts 8:26-40; Ps 66:8-20; Jn 6:44-51  
 Friday: Acts 9:1-20; Ps 117:1bc, 2; Jn 6:52-59  
 Saturday: Acts 9:31-42; Ps 116:12-17; Jn 6:60-69  
 Sunday: Acts 13:14, 43-52; Ps 100:1-5; Rv 7:9-17; Jn 10:27-30

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

**PRAY FOR OUR DEPLOYED MILITARY**

*Jesus protect all who serve our country.*

Sgt. Ahmed John Alexander	Robert Clinton Long, MC2
Natalie Augustine	Sgt. Adriana Matizel
Major Jerry Bloomquist	Wendell Miculob
Col. Mike Bodkin	LTJG Joe F. Moralez,USN
Danny Carpenter, USMC	LCPL Matthew A. Pena
LTJG Joseph Colangelo, USN	Sgt. Richard Pierce
Cpl. Samuel James Comer	Sgt. William Paul Powers and Cinco
Daniel Dinglebeck, USN	CPL Wilson Santiago
PFC 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,
SSGT. Vincent Charles	USN
Lucario	Gil Perez, US Navy

**† PRAY FOR OUR DECEASED †**

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

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

**OUR LADY, HELP OF EXORCISTS,  
TERROR OF DEMONS****FROM THE PASTOR**— *Christine Niles, M.St.*  
*(Oxon.), J.D. •*  
*ChurchMilitant.com*

Exorcists make a habit of calling on Our Lady for help in their difficult ministry, sometimes asking laity to participate in exorcisms by standing in the room simply to pray the Rosary. As a sign of God's victory over a possessed soul and of the demon's final defeat, exorcists often ask the demon before he departs the soul to make some sign of reverence toward Our Lady, whether by saying the "Hail, Mary" or by laying an object at the foot of a Marian image or statue — a great torture for demons, who will resist with all their might before doing any act of obeisance to Our Lady, so much do they fear and despise Her.

Of the many roles for which Our Lady is known — as health of the sick, refuge of sinners, comforter of the afflicted, among others — she also has the primary role of being the one who crushes the serpent, of waging war and doing battle against the demons in advancing the Kingdom of Heaven on earth.

"Thou art terrible as an army in battle array," reads Cantic of Canticles 6:3. And in Genesis 3:15, the ancient battle between Our Lady and the serpent is first set forth: "I will put enmities between thee and the woman, and thy seed and her seed: she shall crush thy head, and thou shalt lie in wait for her heel."

There exists a burning enmity between Our Lady and Satan — hatred by Our Lady because Satan is snatching immortal souls away from Her Son, hatred by Satan because Our Lady signals his utter defeat and humiliation.

In fact, the saints have written that Mary is feared and hated by the demons more than they hate any other saint, even more than they hate God Himself, because unlike God She is a mere creature, yet through Her humility and perfect accomplishment of God's will on earth, She helped redeem the world, and is now exalted as Queen of Heaven and Earth. Our Lord's death on the Cross was a crushing defeat for Satan — but Our Lady's cooperation in that defeat is a double-humiliation for him, because She as mere mortal helped obtain Her Son's victory, and it is She before whom Satan must one day bow.


The Rosary is among the most powerful weapons by which Our Lady lays siege against the fortresses of Hell and tears down their spiritual strongholds. She herself described this prayer thus in 1214 when She urged St. Dominic to preach the Rosary in order to wipe out the Albigensian heresy:

*I want you to know that, in this kind of warfare, the principal weapon has always been the Angelic Psalter, which is the foundation stone of the New Testament. Therefore, if you want to reach these hardened souls and win them over to God, preach my Psalter.*

Padre Pio called it "the Weapon," this saint who did nightly physical battle against the devil himself, and who always ensured his Rosary beads were next to his bed or on his person.

The faithful on earth make up the Church Militant, the Christians who fight to advance the Kingdom of Heaven on earth and wage war against the legions of Hell. We are militants, soldiers in the body of Christ, called to spiritual warfare — and chief among our spiritual arsenal is the Most Holy Rosary, a great gift Our Lady has given us to help join in Her Son's work of crushing the ancient enemy, snatching souls from his grip, and securing our own eternal salvation.

**AROUND THE PARISH**



**2016 Baptism Schedule**

<b>April 12</b>	<b>Baptism class</b>
<b>April 17</b>	<b>Baptism</b>
<b>May 10</b>	<b>Baptism class</b>
<b>May 15</b>	<b>Baptism</b>

Schedule is available on the parish website (*ic-sandiego.org*).

**10 April ... Parish Breakfast & Parish Registration**

Join fellow parishioners for a delicious pancake breakfast in Serra Hall after the 8:30 and 10:00 a.m. Masses.

Only \$5 per person, includes coffee and orange juice.

After breakfast, Elena Orozco is available to answer questions about our parish community and to assist you with registration as a member of the parish.



**BABY BOTTLE DRIVE**  
Culture of Life  
Fill a Bottle-Save a Life!  
Support women in crisis pregnancies  
This weekend is the Baby Bottle Drive. We provide the baby bottles, you provide the cash, check, or change!  
For more information or to volunteer contact our Coordinator at (619)886-7884.  
www.pregnantandscared.me  
www.COLFLS.org  
Medical Offices open in San Diego and Escondido

Drop your donation bottles in the bin located in the courtyard after Mass this weekend or next.  
Thank you for your support.

**30 April ... An Evening with Dr. Peter Kreeft  
How to Win the Culture War  
Strategies for Turning the World Right Side Up**

Our Lady of Mount Carmel -- 7:00 p.m.  
For information [www.mkt.com/immaculate](http://www.mkt.com/immaculate)  
To register by phone, call 818-943-8979

A portion of the proceeds benefit Children of the Immaculate Heart, an apostolate serving victims of sex trafficking.

**DAILY PRAYER FOR PRIESTS**

O Jesus,  
I pray for your faithful and fervent priests;  
For your unfaithful and tepid priests;  
For your priests laboring at home or  
Abroad in distant mission fields.  
For your tempted priests;  
For your lonely and desolate priests;  
For your young priests; For your dying priests;  
For the souls of your priests in Purgatory.  
But above all, I recommend to you  
The priests dearest to me: The priest who baptized me;  
The priests who absolved me from my sins; The priests  
at whose Masses I assisted and who gave me Your Body  
and Blood in Holy Communion;  
The priests who taught and instructed me;  
All the priests to whom I am indebted in  
any other way (especially.....).  
O Jesus, keep them all close to your heart,  
And bless them abundantly  
in time and in Eternity. Amen

**27 April ... Hospice and Palliative Care Presentation**

Our Mother of Confidence Parish is hosting a Q&A forum on Hospice and Palliative Care on Wednesday, April 27 from 7:00 to 8:30 p.m.

Topics for discussion include the definition of hospice, family involvement and end of life management, and hospice team roles and duties. Hospice professionals will also be available for Q&A.

All are welcome, please invite your friends! Refreshments will be served, there is no charge for the event. Please contact Tasha @ 858-952-1786 or [troma@ardenthpc.com](mailto:troma@ardenthpc.com) for more information.

**04 April - 23 May ... Endow Study  
of Pope St. John Paul II's "Letter to Women"**

Church of St. Mary Magdalene  
7 p.m. to 9 p.m.

Must register at: <https://store.endowonline.org/diane-kenney-p2963.aspx>

For info: [diane.kenney@att.net](mailto:diane.kenney@att.net) or [religiously@saintmarymagonline.org](mailto:religiously@saintmarymagonline.org)

**AROUND THE PARISH**

**Gifts of Treasure**

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

**April 03, 2016**

**Total Collection: \$6,891.86**  
**Envelopes: \$5352.00 Plate: \$1,539.86**  
**Total contributing households: 108**

5:15 Sat	\$ 780.65
8:30 Sun	\$1846.00
10:00 Sun	\$1123.66
11:30 Sun	\$ 967.95
5:15 Sun	\$ 818.60
Mailed	\$1355.00

**EXPENSES**

March 28-April 1, 2016

Cable/Internet	\$97.14
Copier Lease	\$291.81
Diocesan Tax	\$2,395.25
Health Insurance	\$1,530.58
Ministry Supplies	\$132.20
Music	\$1000.00
Payroll (incl. tax)	\$3,179.02
Payroll Service	\$155.37
Pension	\$379.11
Waste Disposal	\$283.43
Workers Comp	\$131.83

**Total: \$ 9,575.74**

**Annual Catholic Appeal**  
**Goal: \$24,000**

Pledged: \$27,053.50 -- Paid: \$18,963.50

*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

**MOTHER'S DAY, MAY 8**

Remember your mother with a special gift. Rosaries, religious medals, prayer books, and religious jewelry are available in the gift shop.

Do you have a Baptism, First Communion, Confirmation, or Wedding to attend? If so, consider visiting the Serra Gifts for that special gift.

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

**SECOND VATICAN COUNCIL:  
SACROSANCTUM CONCILIUM**

**ON THE SACRED LITURGY**

1. This sacred Council has several aims in view: it desires to impart an ever increasing vigor to the Christian life of the faithful; to adapt more suitably to the needs of our own times those institutions which are subject to change; to foster whatever can promote union among all who believe in Christ; to strengthen whatever can help to call the whole of mankind into the household of the Church. The Council therefore sees particularly cogent reasons for undertaking the reform and promotion of the liturgy.

2. For the liturgy, "through which the work of our redemption is accomplished," most of all in the divine sacrifice of the Eucharist, is the outstanding means whereby the faithful may express in their lives, and manifest to others, the mystery of Christ and the real nature of the true Church. It is of the essence of the Church that she be both human and divine, visible and yet invisibly equipped, eager to act and yet intent on contemplation, present in this world and yet not at home in it; and she is all these things in such wise that in her the human is directed and subordinated to the divine, the visible likewise to the invisible, action to contemplation, and this present world to that city yet to come, which we seek .

**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**

**APRIL**

10	COLFS Baby Bottle Drive Parish Breakfast Parish Registration	8:30 AM
12	Baptism Class	7:00 PM
13	Choir Practice	6:00 PM
16	Quilting Group	9:30 AM
17	Baptisms	2:00 PM
20	Choir Practice	6:00 PM
23	Quilting Group	9:30 AM
24	Missionary Cooperation Appeal Quarters and Cans Sunday Courtyard Dedication	4:00 PM
27	Choir Practice	6:00 PM
30	Quilting Group	9:30 AM

**MAY**

02	I.C. Seniors Luncheon	11:00 AM
04	Choir Practice	6:00 PM
06-08	Old Town Cinco de Mayo Festival	
07	Quilting Group	9:30 AM

*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**

... 20. The Apostle Paul makes a similar journey. Prior to meeting Jesus on the road to Damascus, he dedicated his life to pursuing the justice of the law with zeal (cf. Phil 3:6). His conversion to Christ led him to turn that vision upside down, to the point that he would write to the Galatians: "We have believed in Christ Jesus, in order to be justified by faith in Christ, and not by works of the law, because by works of the law shall no one be justified" (2:16).

Paul's understanding of justice changes radically. He now places faith first, not justice. Salvation comes not through the observance of the law, but through faith in Jesus Christ, who in his death and resurrection brings salvation together with a mercy that justifies. God's justice now becomes the liberating force for those oppressed by slavery to sin and its consequences. God's justice is his mercy (cf. Ps 51:11-16).

**Courtyard Bricks ...**

Bricks in honor or in memory of loved ones are available for purchase using the form on the website (IC-SanDiego.com) or in the Gift Shop.

**SAVE THE DATE  
APRIL 24, 2016  
4:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.**

Parishioners and friends are invited to attend the **Dedication of the Courtyard** followed by a reception (cake and coffee) in the parish hall.

**LOVE OUR PRIESTS**

Prayer Group

We invite you to join us for a special Mass honoring **Rev. Toufic Nasr** Pastor, Saint Ephrem Maronite Catholic Church El Cajon, California

**Saturday, April 23, 2016  
10:00 A.M.  
Ascension Parish**

The Mass will be followed by an informal potluck luncheon. Bring a friend & dish to share!

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

9. We call upon the international community to act urgently in order to prevent the further expulsion of Christians from the Middle East. In raising our voice in defense of persecuted Christians, we wish to express our compassion for the suffering experienced by the faithful of other religious traditions who have also become victims of civil war, chaos and terrorist violence.

Pope St Pius X promulgated his famous encyclical *Pascendi Dominici gregis* on modernism. He starts at the very beginning saying, "One of the primary obligations assigned by Christ to the office divinely committed to Us of feeding the Lord's flock is that of guarding with the greatest vigilance the deposit of the faith delivered to the saints, rejecting the profane novelties of words and the gainsaying of knowledge falsely so called." Novelty is profane when it does not guard the "deposit of the faith." Again, what is novel is what contradicts *doctrine*.

**CRISIS IN THE CHURCH**

— *Interview with His Holiness Benedict XVI*

However, in my opinion, there continues to exist, in another way, the perception that we are in need of grace and forgiveness. For me it is a “sign of the times” the fact that the idea of the mercy of God should become more and more central and dominant – starting from Sister Faustina, whose visions in various ways reflect deeply the image of God held by the men of today and their desire for the divine goodness. Pope John Paul II was deeply impregnated by this impulse, even if this did not always emerge explicitly. But it is certainly not by chance that his last book, published just before his death, speaks of God’s mercy. Starting from the experiences which, from the earliest years of life, exposed him to all of the cruel acts men can perform, he affirms that mercy is the only true and ultimate effective reaction against the power of evil.

Only where there is mercy does cruelty end, only with mercy do evil and violence end. Pope Francis is totally in agreement with this line. His pastoral practice is expressed in the fact that he continually speaks to us of God’s mercy. It is mercy that moves us toward God, while justice frightens us before Him. In my view, this makes clear that, under a veneer of self-assuredness and self-righteousness, the man of today hides a deep knowledge of his wounds and his unworthiness before God. He is waiting for mercy.

It is certainly no coincidence that the parable of the Good Samaritan is particularly attractive to contemporary man. And not just because that parable strongly emphasizes the social dimension of Christian existence, nor only because in it the Samaritan, the man not religious, in comparison with the representatives of religion seems, so to speak, as one who acts really so in conformity with God, while the official representatives of religion seem, as it were, immune to God. This clearly pleases modern man. But it seems just as important to me, nevertheless, that men in their intimate consciences expect the Samaritan will come to their aid; that he will bend down over them, pour oil on their wounds, care for them and take them to safety. In the final analysis, they know that they need God’s mercy and his tenderness. In the hardness of the technologized world in which feelings no longer count for anything, the expectation however increases of a saving love that is freely given. It seems to me that in the theme of divine mercy is expressed in a new way what is meant by justification by faith. Starting from the mercy of God, which everyone is looking for, it is possible even today to interpret anew the fundamental nucleus of the doctrine of justification and have it appear again in all its relevance.

**Servais:** When Anselm says that Christ had to die on the cross to repair the infinite offense that had been made to God, and in this way to restore the shattered order, he uses a language which is difficult for modern man to accept (cfr. Gs 215.ss iv). Expressing oneself in this way, one risks likely to project onto God an image of a God of wrath, relentless toward the sin of man, with feelings of violence and aggression comparable with what we can experience ourselves. How is it possible to speak of God’s

justice without potentially undermining the certainty, deeply established among the faithful, that the God of the Christians is a God “rich in mercy” (Ephesians 2:4)?

**Benedict XVI:** The conceptuality of St. Anselm has now become for us incomprehensible. It is our job to try again to understand the truth that lies behind this mode of expression. For my part I offer three points of view on this point:

a) the contrast between the Father, who insists in an absolute way on justice, and the Son who obeys the Father and, obedient, accepts the cruel demands of justice, is not only incomprehensible today, but, from the point of view of Trinitarian theology, is in itself all wrong. The Father and the Son are one and therefore their will is intrinsically one. When the Son in the Garden of Olives struggles with the will of the Father, it is not a matter of accepting for himself a cruel disposition of God, but rather of attracting humanity into the very will of God. We will have to come back again, later, to the relationship of the two wills of the Father and of the Son.

b) So why would the cross and the atonement? Somehow today, in the contortions of modern thought we mentioned above, the answer to these questions can be formulated in a new way. Let’s place ourselves in front of the incredible amount of evil, violence, falsehood, hatred, cruelty and arrogance that infect and destroy the whole world. This mass of evil cannot simply be declared non-existent, not even by God. It must be cleansed, reworked and overcome. Ancient Israel was convinced that the daily sacrifice for sins and above all the great liturgy of the Day of Atonement (Yom-Kippur) were necessary as a counterweight to the mass of evil in the world and that only through such rebalancing the world could, as it were, remain bearable. Once the sacrifices in the temple disappeared, it had to be asked what could be opposed to the higher powers of evil, how to find somehow a counterweight. The Christians knew that the temple destroyed was replaced by the resurrected body of the crucified Lord and in his radical and incommensurable love was created a counterweight to the immeasurable presence of evil. Indeed, they knew that the offers presented up until then could only be conceived of as a gesture of longing for a genuine counterweight. They also knew that in front of the excessive power of evil only an infinite love was enough, only an infinite atonement. They knew that the crucified and risen Christ is a power that can counter the power of evil and save the world. And on this basis they could even understand the meaning of their own sufferings as inserted into the suffering love of Christ and included as part of the redemptive power of such love. Above I quoted the theologian for whom God had to suffer for his sins in regard to the world. Now, due to this reversal of perspective, the following truths emerge: God simply cannot leave “as is” the mass of evil that comes from the freedom that he himself has granted. Only He, coming to share in the world’s suffering, can redeem the world.

*This is the second part of the interview. It will continue in subsequent bulletins; it began bulletin of 4/3/16.*