

The Catholic Church of the
Immaculate Conception

2540 San Diego Avenue, San Diego, CA 92110 619 295-4141 FAX 619 295-4142
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FEBRUARY 26, 2017

Rev. Richard L. Perozich, Pastor

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Deacon Robert H. Fitzmorris

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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

27	8 AM	<i>Weekday</i> †Martin Morris	RP
28	8AM	<i>Weekday</i> †Thomas Jakab	RE
01	8 AM	<i>Ash Wednesday</i> Kaitlin Rodriguez, SI	RP
	7 PM	Shirley Ilog, SI	RP
02	8 AM	<i>Thursday after Ash Wednesday</i> †Martin Morris	RP
03	8 AM	<i>St. Katharine Drexel</i> †Frances Illig	RP
04	8 AM	<i>Saturday after Ash Wednesday</i> Rev. Msgr. Mark Campbell	RP
	5:15 PM	Devina Villar, SI	RP
05	8:30 AM	†Frances Illig	RE
	10:00 AM	Teagan Rengel, SI	RP
	11:30 AM	†William Kennedy	RP
	5:15 PM	†Alex Mambo	RP

APOSTLESHIP OF PRAYER

MARCH: Intentions of the Holy Father

Support for Persecuted Christians: That persecuted Christians may be supported by the prayers and material help of the whole Church.

PRAY: SEMINARIANS IN THEOLOGY

2nd	Manuel Del Rio, St. John's Seminary, Camarillo
1st	Josue Jiménez, Mt. Angel Seminary OR
3rd	Oscar Lopez, St. John's Seminary, Camarillo
4th	Nathan McWeeny, Mt. Angel Seminary, OR
2nd	Raymond Napuli, Mt. Angel Seminary, OR
2nd	Michael O'Connor, Mt. Angel Seminary, OR
3rd	Eric Tamayo, North American College, Rome
4th	Dcn. Billy Zondler, Mt. Angel Seminary, OR
PY	Antonio Morales, PY

PRAY FOR OUR PRIESTS

27	Rev. Reynaldo Roque
28	Rev. William Rowland, CJM
01	Pope Francis
02	Bishop Robert McElroy
03	Bishop Robert Brom
04	Bishop Gilbert Chavez
05	Rev. Eddie Ruiz

PRAY THE SCRIPTURES

Monday: Sir 17:20-24; Ps 32:1-7; Mk 10:17-27
 Tuesday: Sir 35:1-12; Ps 50:5-23; Mk 10:28-31
 Wednesday: Jl 2:12-18; Ps 51:3-17; 2 Cor 5:20 – 6:2; Mt 6:1-18
 Thursday: Dt 30:15-20; Ps 1:1-6; Lk 9:22-25
 Friday: Is 58:1-9a; Ps 51:3-19; Mt 9:14-15
 Saturday: Is 58:9b-14; Ps 86:1-6; Lk 5:27-32
 Sunday: Gn 2:7-9; 3:1-7; Ps 51:3-17; Rom 5:12-19; Mt 4:1-11

PRAY FOR HEALING

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

Patricia Kennedy	Olivia Ingram
Dena Mendoza	Grace Mulvanity
Patricia O'Grady	Angelica Ortega
Mary Jane Tiernan	Barbara Driscoll
Marguerite Vorst	Lucille Miller
Martha Zamudio	Reginald Custodio
Tony Jenkins	Victoria Cardenas
Peter Nalwalker	John Hobbs
Socorro Pacheco	Robert Rolli
Amparo Valenzuela	Eleanor Anderson
Phyllis Altomare	Marie Whitman
Alicia Ambrose	Deirdre Rigney
Cosmo & Joan Busalacchi	Marie Wagner
Maria Casanova	Joanne Daleo
Mark Brandon	Dominic Castagnola
Jeanne Pontius	Arthur Acuna, Jr.
Esther Salazar	Frankie Diaz, Jr.
Joane Anderson	Earl Jenkins
Yolanda Garcia	Shirley Ilog

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. Moralez, USN
Col. Mike Bodkin	LCPL Matthew A. Pena
Danny Carpenter, USMC	Sgt. Richard Pierce
LTJG Joseph Colangelo, USN	Sgt. William Paul Powers and Cinco
Cpl. Samuel James Comer	CPL Wilson Santiago
Daniel Dinglebeck, USN	Alfred Tello
PFC David Eley, USMC	Ricky Thibeault
Micah Emery	Tony Tulloss
Sgt. Christopher Escalona	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
Robert Clinton Long, MC2	Scott Walker, 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.

Denise Cooney	Janet Meyers
Joanne Mangiameli	Hector Morales
Edna Moore	Carol Raiter
Paul Ramirez	Albina Farrie
Maude Laracy	Stephanie Anzelone
Helen Peña	Fred Levine
Lydia Castillo Herrera	Eleanor Maycan
Bertha Lockwood	Ronald Monreal
Salvador Rivera	Mary Louise Fillet
John Cervantes	Inez Cerda Bull
Daniel Don	Bernice Lyons
Florence Messina	Elias Barajas
Arthur Wilbur Martinez	Robert F. Curry, Jr.
Jesse Benitez	Jean Miller
Margaret Kelly	Marie Rita Dubler
Martha Jane Hotchkiss	Gerry Lyons

DOMINUS IESUS

FROM THE PASTOR

... 10. Faithful to Sacred Scripture and refuting erroneous and reductive interpretations, the First Council of Nicaea solemnly defined its faith in: “Jesus Christ, the Son of God, the only begotten generated from the Father, that is, from the being of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, one in being with the Father, through whom all things were made, those in heaven and those on earth. For us men and for our salvation, he came down and became incarnate, was made man, suffered, and rose again on the third day. He ascended to the heavens and shall come again to judge the living and the dead”.²⁸ Following the teachings of the Fathers of the Church, the Council of Chalcedon also professed: “the one and the same Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, the same perfect in divinity and perfect in humanity, the same truly God and truly man..., one in being with the Father according to the divinity and one in being with us according to the humanity..., begotten of the Father before the ages according to the divinity and, in these last days, for us and our salvation, of Mary, the Virgin Mother of God, according to the humanity”.²⁹

For this reason, the Second Vatican Council states that Christ “the new Adam... ‘image of the invisible God’ (*Col* 1:15) is himself the perfect man who has restored that likeness to God in the children of Adam which had been disfigured since the first sin... As an innocent lamb he merited life for us by his blood which he freely shed. In him God reconciled us to himself and to one another, freeing us from the bondage of the devil and of sin, so that each one of us could say with the apostle: the Son of God ‘loved me and gave himself up for me’ (*Gal* 2:20)”.³⁰

In this regard, John Paul II has explicitly declared: “To introduce any sort of separation between the Word and Jesus Christ is contrary to the Christian faith... Jesus is the Incarnate Word — a single and indivisible person... Christ is none other than Jesus of Nazareth; he is the Word of God made man for the salvation of


all... In the process of discovering and appreciating the manifold gifts — especially the spiritual treasures — that God has bestowed on every people, we cannot separate those gifts from Jesus Christ, who is at the centre of God’s plan of salvation”.³¹

It is likewise contrary to the Catholic faith to introduce a separation between the salvific action of the Word as such and that of the Word made man. With the incarnation, all the salvific actions of the Word of God are always done in unity with the human nature that he has assumed for the salvation of all people. The one subject which operates in the two natures, human and divine, is the single person of the Word.³²

Therefore, the theory which would attribute, after the incarnation as well, a salvific activity to the Logos as such in his divinity, exercised “in addition to” or “beyond” the humanity of Christ, is not compatible with the Catholic faith.³³

11. Similarly, the doctrine of faith regarding the unicity of the salvific economy willed by the One and Triune God must be *firmly believed*, at the source and centre of which is the mystery of the incarnation of the Word, mediator of divine grace on the level of creation and redemption (cf. *Col* 1:15-20), he who recapitulates all things (cf. *Eph* 1:10), he “whom God has made our wisdom, our righteousness, and sanctification and redemption” (*I Cor* 1:30). In fact, the mystery of Christ has its own intrinsic unity, which extends from the eternal choice in God to the parousia: “he [the Father] chose us in Christ before the foundation of the world to be holy and blameless before him in love” (*Eph* 1:4); “In Christ we are heirs, having been destined according to the purpose of him who accomplishes all things according to his counsel and will” (*Eph* 1:11); “For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn among many brothers; those whom he predestined he also called; and those whom he called he also justified; and those whom he justified he also glorified” (*Rom* 8:29-30).

AROUND THE PARISH




2017 Baptism Schedule

March 7	Class
March 12	Baptism

Class is held in Serra Hall.

26 FEB ... Family Catechesis ...

...for parents with their children 6 years and older and for adults who need sacraments continues on February 26 in the parish hall at 9:45 am sharp, after the 8:30 Mass.




March 1st

8:00 AM - Mass with distribution of ashes

12 Noon - Liturgy of the Word with distribution of ashes

7:00 PM - Mass with distribution of ashes



03 March - Soup Supper
5:30 p.m. ... in Serra Hall

Enjoy a delicious hot supper before Stations of the Cross

Choice of Clam Chowder, Kale Soup, or Broccoli Cheddar Cheese Soup. Served with dinner salad, dinner rolls/bread, salad and coffee/tea. All at **no cost**.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Fridays during Lent, March 03 through April 7, 7:00 pm in the church.

10 MARCH ... PARISH LENTEN RETREAT

The retreat begins with 8:00 a.m. Mass and ends at 2:00 p.m. Continental breakfast and lunch provided.

Topics:
Biblical foundations for the Mass
Jesus Christ as the only Savior of the World
The Christian in today's world.

RSVP to ssullivan@sandiego.edu

LENTEN PRACTICES

To discipline ourselves in imitation of Jesus' 40 days of fast and prayer, we do the following:

Fasting in a modified way of 2 small meals and one regular meal, refraining from snacks, or the full fast of only 1 meal/day for those who are able for those up to age 59.

Abstinence from meat (including poultry) on Ash Wednesday, all Fridays of Lent, and Good Friday as well for all 14 and older.

Prayer more intensely to unite us with Jesus.

Discipline of the body from the material pleasures, particularly those which might lead us to sin such as excessive food, alcohol, tobacco, television and other distractions.

FEB 26 ... QUARTERS & CANS SUNDAY

Please drop your Quarters and Cans envelopes in the regular collection this Sunday. Money collected will be used to assist those who come to us in need and to support other Catholic programs. 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 ...
for your continued support of these important programs

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 19, 2017

Total Collection: \$4,411.67
Envelopes: \$3,003.00 Plate: \$1,408.67,
Total contributing households: 86

5:15 Sat	\$ 492.10
8:30 Sun	\$ 869.75
10:00 Sun	\$1186.07
11:30 Sun	\$ 707.75
5:15 Sun	\$ 651.00
Mailed	\$ 505.00

EXPENSES
February 13-17, 2017

Gas & Electric	\$1,270.33
Music	\$825.00
Office/HallSupplies	\$157.62
Payroll (incl. taxes)	\$3435.73
Payroll Service	\$256.00
Pension	\$384.01
Priests Pension	\$791.55
Property Insurance	\$1193.91
Workers Comp	\$229.00

TOTAL: \$8543.15

Annual Catholic Appeal
Goal: \$24,000
Paid Pledges-ytd: \$10,058.50

BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS

Old Town State Park invites you to bring your pets on Sunday, Feb. 26, 1:00 pm, to be blessed by Fr. Richard.

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 _____

Serra Gifts...

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



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

NEW ITEMS:
Cards for priests and religious (anniversary, ordination, etc.)

CHILDREN'S BOOKS:
 Miniature Stories of the Saints
 The Easter Story
 Celebrating Lent

Se habla español.
 Libros y tarjetas para adultos y niños.

AMORIS LAETITIA
 ON LOVE IN THE FAMILY
 OF THE HOLY FATHER FRANCIS

77. Appealing to the Bible's teaching that all was created through Christ and for Christ (cf. *Col 1:16*), the Synod Fathers noted that "the order of redemption illuminates and fulfills that of creation. Natural marriage, therefore, is fully understood in the light of its fulfillment in the sacrament of Matrimony: only in contemplating Christ does a person come to know the deepest truth about human relationships. 'Only in the mystery of the Incarnate Word does the mystery of man take on light... Christ, the new Adam, by the revelation of the mystery of the Father and his love, fully reveals man to himself and makes his supreme calling clear' (*Gaudium et Spes*, 22). It is particularly helpful to understand in a Christocentric key... the good of the spouses (*bonum coniugum*)", which includes unity, openness to life, fidelity, indissolubility and, within Christian marriage, mutual support on the path towards complete friendship with the Lord. "Discernment of the presence of 'seeds of the Word' in other cultures (cf. *Ad Gentes* 11) can also apply to the reality of marriage and the family. In addition to true natural marriage, positive elements exist in the forms of marriage found in other religious traditions", even if, at times, obscurely. We can readily say that "anyone who wants to bring into this world a family which teaches children to be excited by every gesture aimed at overcoming evil – a family which shows that the Spirit is alive and at work – will encounter our gratitude and our appreciation. Whatever the people, religion or region to which they belong!"

PARISH & COMMUNITY

Parish Calendar

FEBRUARY

26	Quarters & Cans Sunday Family Catechesis Blessing of the Animals (State Park)	9:45 AM 1:00 PM
28	Choir Practice (note change of day)	6:30 PM

MARCH

01	Ash Wednesday	
03	Lenten Soup Dinner (No charge) Stations of the Cross	5:30 PM 7:00 PM
04	Quilting Group	9:30 AM
08	Choir Practice	6:00 PM
10	Parish Lenten Retreat Lenten Soup Dinner (No charge) Stations of the Cross	8:00 AM 5:30 PM 7:00 PM
11	Quilting Group	9:30 AM
12	Parish Pancake Breakfast	8:30 AM

FROM FAMILIARIS CONSORTIO
- Pope John Paul II 1981

ON THE ROLE OF THE CHRISTIAN FAMILY IN THE MODERN WORLD 1981

THE PLAN OF GOD FOR MARRIAGE AND THE FAMILY

The Rights and Role of Women

There is no doubt that the equal dignity and responsibility of men and women fully justifies women's access to public functions. On the other hand the true advancement of women requires that clear recognition be given to the value of their maternal and family role, by comparison with all other public roles and all other professions. Furthermore, these roles and professions should be harmoniously combined, if we wish the evolution of society and culture to be truly and fully human.

This will come about more easily if, in accordance with the wishes expressed by the Synod, a renewed "theology of work" can shed light upon and study in depth the meaning of work in the Christian life and determine the fundamental bond between work and the family, and therefore the original and irreplaceable meaning of work in the home and in rearing children. Therefore the Church can and should help modern society by tirelessly insisting that the work of women in the home be recognized and respected by all in its irreplaceable value. This is of particular importance in education: for possible discrimination between the different types of work and professions is eliminated at its very root once it is clear that all people, in every area, are working with equal rights and equal responsibilities. The image of God in man and in woman will thus be seen with added luster.

**UNBOUND CONFERENCE
FREEDOM IN CHRIST**

Saturday, April 1, 2017 - 8:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
St. Stephen's Church, Valley Center, CA
For information, visit www.AbbaFatherInstitute.org.
Call 760-749-3324
email: Unbound@AbbaFatherInstitute.org

THOUGHTS FOR MEDITATION

Our national moral sense – sometimes, it seems, even the moral sense of the Church – is governed by the “Magisterium of the Mirror,” in which conscience is formed by consulting personal wishes.

Deacon James Toner

We must not mar the purity of Christ’s church either by refusing to exercise church discipline or by exercising it abusively.

– A. J. Castellito

Pope Gregory XVI, already sensing a growing enchantment early in the 19th century with everything that presented itself as “progressive,” condemned the “unrestrained desire for innovation [which] does not seek truth where it stands in the received and holy apostolic inheritance.”

MARTYRDOM FOR THE FAITH IN OUR TIMES

His Eminence Raymond Leo Cardinal Burke

Father Hardon took up the work of the new evangelization faithfully and tirelessly. It was his one desire to assist his brothers and sisters in the Church to teach, celebrate and live the Catholic faith with the enthusiasm and energy of the first disciples, of the great saints, and of the missionaries who first brought the Catholic faith to our homeland. He expressed the call to the new evangelization most fittingly as a call to witness and ultimately to martyrdom. So many faithful, including myself, continue to follow the inspiration and direction which the Servant of God gave to us.

A TEMPTATION: THE CULT OF PERSONALITY*By Rev. Jerry J. Pokorsky*

By the grace-filled cooperation of individuals within the organization called “the Catholic Church,” we come to know Jesus Christ and His Way. The Church has no army divisions; no tanks; no hellfire missiles; just Christ, His Mystical Body, Sacraments, and saving message.

In a sense, the “Cult of Jesus” is the only authentic “cult of person” in all human history. All other “cults of person” (to distinguish from the Person of Christ, call them “cults of personality”), when not resisted, easily become forms of narcissism.

The Incarnation has logical consequences. If God truly became man and dwelt among us, it means He is a man with flesh and blood with all the limitations of time and space associated with His earthly humanity. He comes in peace and freedom. But He’s not superman, or the Terminator, or Robocop. Hence, in God’s providence, even Christ as man “depends” upon our free response to His teaching (always acknowledging the hidden working of God’s grace). Jesus does not force us. He persuades by the power of who He is and what He does and says.

God needs helpers because Jesus, the Word incarnate, is “only one man.” “And he called the twelve; and began to send them two and two, and gave them power over unclean spirits.” (Mark 6:7). Then He enlists the seventy-two disciples and sends them out on His behalf. Such was the beginning of what would become the Church, the “Mystical Body of Christ.”

After the Ascension and the Descent of the Holy Spirit, the message and cult of Jesus needed to be handed down in time, over the centuries. Evangelization is not automatic or magical, but requires our cooperation (in our highly individual roles) guided by God’s grace. The accounts of the mighty deeds of Christ and His teaching are proclaimed, committed to writing, and handed down from generation to generation. Jesus doesn’t work alone. By nature and Divine design, the spread of His “cult of Person” needs the people and structures of the Church.

But “cults of personality” – without God or the Person of Christ – always end in destruction. Wise kings rule with God’s justice, but their rule becomes lawless and ultimately self-destructive when it devolves into a “cult of personality.” The rule of King Solomon held out great promise, but ended badly because he forgot about the source of his legendary wisdom. The bloody history of the 20th Century reveals many attempts to foster political cults of personality, all failing badly, but bringing great death and destruction.

Religions, great and small, can be prone to engender false and potentially destructive “cults of personality” as well. Horrors like the Jonestown mass murder are easily seen. But there is plenty of evidence of alarming “cult of personality” problems emerging from within the Church herself.

Father Charles Coughlin (the social justice “Radio Priest” of the 1930s) and Fulton J. Sheen (whose TV ratings exceeded that of comedian Milton Berle) were

real-life “celebrity priests.” By contrast, the popes of their day – custodians of the Church’s Magisterium – were dull and not particularly entertaining.

Then Pope John XXIII and later Pope John Paul II emerged as “celebrity popes” with unprecedented public appeal. JPII accomplished much in the geopolitical world and advanced Catholic orthodoxy at a time when dissent within the Church was widespread and very destructive. Like Fulton Sheen and John XXIII, John Paul used his popularity in the service of the Gospel; the name of Jesus was frequently on his lips. But the popular appeal of the modern clerical celebrity also set the stage for a serious displacement of the Person of Christ.

Blame Bing Crosby in part. In his 1944 movie classic, “Going My Way” Crosby’s character – Fr. Chuck O’Malley – had little to do with Christ. It had everything to do with a charismatic priest reaching out to youth by the power of his talent and personality. The film became very popular and – in an unintended way – arguably changed the way popular culture views ministers of the Gospel. We now tend to demand charismatic and “vibrant” priests often at the expense of the difficult truths of the Faith.

The immensely popular John the Baptist chose to “decrease” so that Christ would “increase.” (John 3:30) Today, there is a pronounced tendency for many ministers of the Gospel to promote their own “cult of personality,” becoming clerical entertainers, with Jesus and His sacred Name effectively choked off by narcissism. The temptation doesn’t stop with ordinary priests. Increasingly, we hear speeches by high-ranking prelates in which the name of Jesus is never mentioned. During his visit to America, Pope Francis addressed Congress, the United Nations, and Independence Hall, and the name of Jesus was not heard in the over 8,000 words of his three speeches.

The Catholic faith is not about rulers, popes, bishops, priests – or even saints, as necessary as these are to the machinery and mission of the Church. The Faith is fundamentally about knowing and loving Christ and living His Way unto salvation. A cleric’s narcissism may be entertaining for a time, but can never save. The narcissist, through his own perverted “cult of personality,” obstructs the view of Christ. And he needs to get out of the way.

The narcotic of vainglory and its warm sensation can be terribly addictive. So we can begin to break the allure by recognizing that all clerical authority comes from Christ alone. The same goes for those of us in the sacred ministry: in preaching and conversation, frequently placing the name of Jesus reverently on our lips.

“Therefore God exalted Him to the highest place, and gave Him the name above all names, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.” (Philippians 2:9-11)

Jesus Christ, in Whom we live, move and have our being, the only name by which we can be saved.