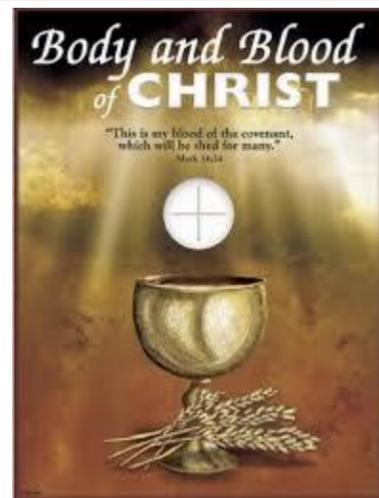
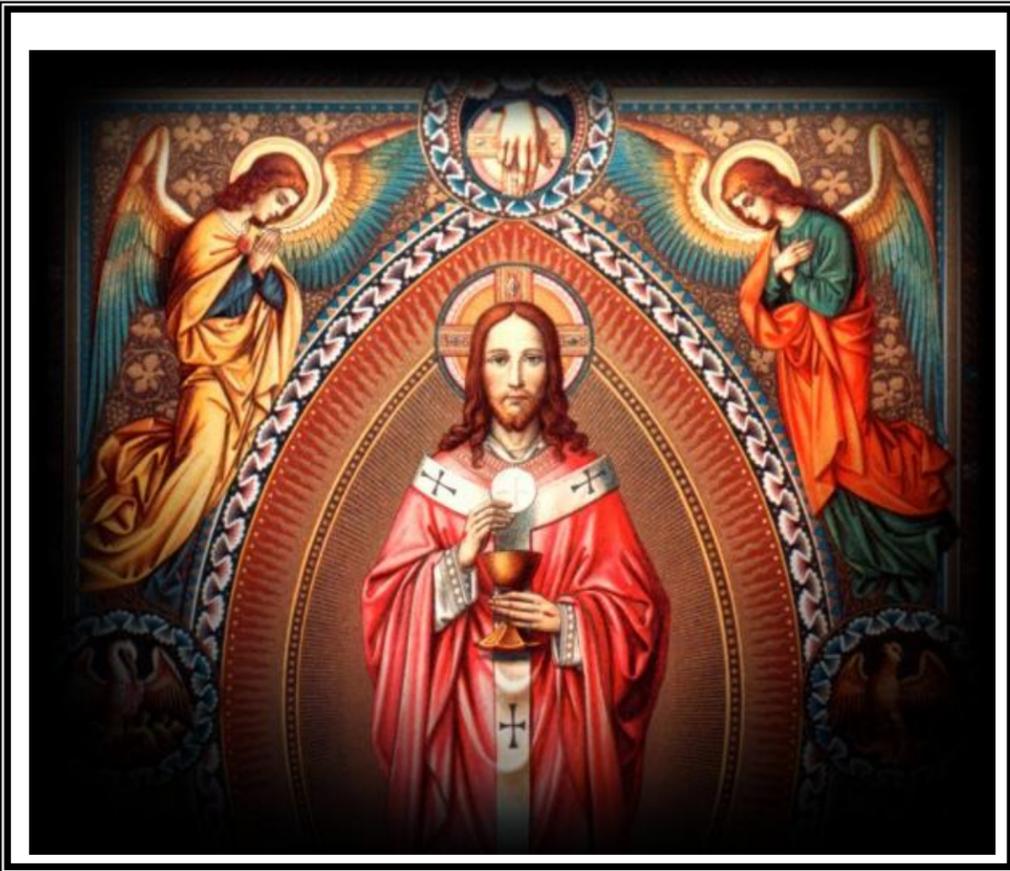


Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ – June 14, 2020



**Whoever eats
my flesh
and
drinks my blood
remains in me
and
I in him,
says the Lord.**

First Reading *Deuteronomy 8:2-3,14b-16a*
Moses tells the people to remember how God delivered them from slavery in Egypt.

Responsorial Psalm
Psalm 147:12-15,19-20
Praise God, Jerusalem!

Second Reading
1 Corinthians 10:16-17
Though many, we are one body when we partake of the Body and Blood of Christ.

Gospel Reading
John 6:51-58
Jesus says, "I am the living bread."

Grant, O Lord, we pray, that we may delight for all eternity in that share in your divine life, which is foreshadowed in the present age by our reception of your precious Body and Blood. Who live and reign for ever and ever. Amen.

Mental prayer in my opinion is nothing else than an intimate sharing between friends.

-St. Teresa of Avila

Take a moment and think about the BLESSING in your life. Even during tough times, we have so much to be thankful for.

Pray for the Lord to intervene to stop the spread of the coronavirus. Pray in Jesus' name that the virus would recede from this day forward, and that the numbers of those infected would decline rapidly.

Pray, trusting the Lord to intervene today with his loving care. And this is the confidence that we have toward him, that if we ask anything according to his will he hears us.

And if we know that he hears us in whatever we ask, we know that we have the requests that we have asked of him.

- 1 John 5:14

Background on the Gospel Reading

The Solemnity of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ was once called *Corpus Christi*, which is Latin for "Body of Christ." In the revised Lectionary the name for this day is expanded to reflect more completely our Eucharistic theology.

Today's Gospel is taken from the Gospel according to John. The reading is part of a discourse between Jesus and a crowd of Jews. The discourse comes shortly after the miracle of Jesus' multiplication of the loaves and fishes. In John's Gospel, miracles such as this are identified as "signs" through which people come to believe that Jesus is the Son of God. These signs are followed by dialogue, or discourse that interprets and explains the miracle. In John's Gospel, Jesus' multiplication of the loaves is said to have occurred near Passover, thus linking it to the Exodus story and God's saving action toward the Israelites.

Having seen Jesus multiply the loaves and fishes, the crowd pursues him, perhaps seeking more food but also looking for another sign. Jesus tells the crowd that he is the bread of life. He explains that just as God gave the Israelites manna to sustain them in the desert, so now God has sent new manna that will give eternal life. It is in this context that Jesus repeats those words in today's Gospel and tells them again that he is the living bread that came down from heaven.

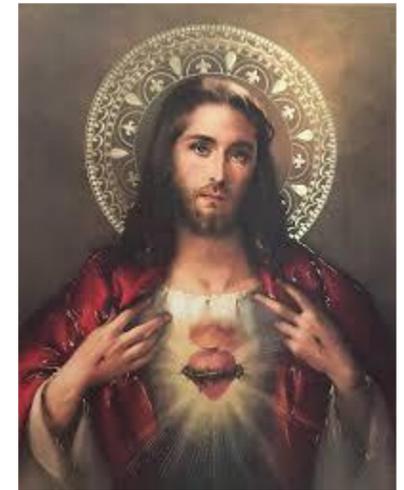
Jesus' words are not well understood by the crowd; they argue that Jesus is not from heaven but born of Mary and Joseph. The crowd also has trouble understanding how Jesus could give them his flesh to eat. Jesus tells them that when they eat his flesh and drink his blood, they will remain forever connected to him. These are difficult words, but they are important because they seek to show us our intimate connection with Jesus.

This is the mystery that is at the heart of our Eucharistic theology. In the elements of bread and wine, Jesus' Body and Blood are truly present. When we share in the Body and Blood of Christ, Jesus himself comes to dwell within us. This communion with the Lord makes us one body, brings us eternal life, and sends us forth to be Christ's Body in the world.

Family Connection

Our faith teaches us that when we gather to celebrate Mass, Jesus is present to us. The bread and wine truly become the Body and Blood of Christ. This is what we mean by the word transubstantiation: Jesus makes himself present to all who receive the Body and Blood of Christ.

Most Sacred Heart of Jesus- June 19



The heart of Jesus is adored as a symbol of his threefold love: human, spiritual and divine. In the Old Testament, this love is described as a father's love for his children or husband's for his wife. In the New Testament, the promise of living water, the Holy Spirit, is fulfilled in the pierced heart of the Messiah. Image of the Sacred Heart of Jesus in home has become a sign that the love of Jesus rules over the family.

Immaculate Heart of the Blessed Virgin Mary- June 20



The devotion to the Immaculate Heart of Mary is closely linked with that of the Sacred Heart of Jesus. The devotion began in the 17th century. Many popes have consecrated the whole world to the Immaculate Heart of Mary. Mary's sanctity and her love as the Mother of God are signified by her immaculate heart.

Mary's example of faithful perseverance in doing the will of God and her heavenly reward are a source of courage and hope for all of us.

- Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI