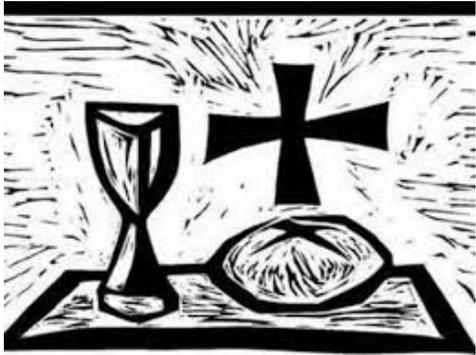


For The Bulletin Of
June 18, 2017



CORPUS CHRISTI THE BODY AND BLOOD OF CHRIST

From Father Robert

Artisan breads have become very popular. Some small bakeshops specialize in them and only sell these special loaves. Supermarkets may have a dedicated section in the bread aisle for artisan bread. Artisan bread may be basic consisting of only flour, water, salt, and yeast; or it may be flavored with herbs and other ingredients added. What all breads that are called “artisan” have in common is that they are not mass-produced, but crafted. Making this bread is an art. Each loaf is unique.

The gospel for today is about bread. However, this bread is surely not mass-produced in some factory. It is not even artfully crafted in some small bakery or home kitchen, as special as that is. This bread is unique, unequalled, unsurpassed in its nourishment. This bread is more than a staple of life. It *is* Life.

In the gospel Jesus *is* the bread that is the *living* bread; this is *all* we need to “live forever.” The reasoning is simple enough: by partaking of Jesus’ Body

and Blood we *become* what we eat – we become the “one body” in which we all share. This is the “Holy Communion” that assures us of who we are as baptized Christians – the Body of Christ. This is why Eucharist is, and remains throughout our life, a sacrament of *initiation*: we are constantly being fed on the Bread of Life and constantly drawn more deeply into being who we are – members of the one Body of Christ.

As members of Christ’s Body, we are to be His life poured out in our everyday good living. We are to give our life – His life! – unreservedly for others. As this living bread nourishes us, so are we to nourish others. The sacramental eating and drinking of Jesus’ Body and Blood is the culmination and ritual manifestation of the self-giving of our everyday living. It is our strength for choosing to be Who this bread makes us to be: the living Body of Christ given for others. The challenge ultimately issued by this solemnity is to be as giving as Jesus is. This is the way to eternal Life. Jesus giving Himself as living bread is a foretaste of the Life that one day we will share eternally with Him. Jesus is the “living bread that came down from heaven.” When we eat this bread we “will live forever.” The Life this bread gives is eternal.

Heaven is above. Forever is beyond. Life is fleeting. But Life eternal is here and now in Jesus, “the living bread” Who “came down from heaven” to give Himself “for the life of the world.” We who eat His flesh and drink His blood have eternal Life *now*. Heaven is not above. Forever is not beyond. Life is not fleeting. Because Jesus is *living* bread.



Living The Paschal Mystery

It is far too easy for us to file out of our pews into the Communion line, receive, return, leave after the liturgy is over, and get on with our lives. The food and drink that Jesus offers us in this memorial celebration requires of us conscious preparation, deliberate partaking, and ongoing savoring by how we live. The Divine Artisan crafts us to live more holy and self-giving lives. We can't just put on a costume or cloak of being Jesus' followers; sharing in the Body and Blood of Christ means that we share in Jesus' life of self-giving. This means becoming more aware of others' needs and responding to them; it means doing our everyday tasks well and out of love, it means being honest, just, and forgiving. Eternal life is the fruit of our transformation in Christ. We are to remain in Him and are sent to be His Presence in the world.

What is it that you bring with you as you come to today's celebration? What significance does The Eucharist hold for you?

- That Jesus is "the living bread" Who "came down from heaven" means to me...
- That Jesus gives Himself "for the life of the world" means...

- I find it easy to be "living bread" for others when...I find it most difficult when...

About Liturgy: The Communion Procession

We usually think of the Communion Procession as a pragmatic action that gets us from our place in church to where Holy Communion is distributed and back again. It is that, but so much more.

In most churches the Communion Procession moves **forward** in the church; this direction has symbolic meaning.

Forward is toward the Altar, which symbolizes Christ and the messianic banquet. In other words, our moving forward in the Communion Procession is a gesture reminding us that in our very lives we are moving forward to that day of our eternal participation in the heavenly banquet – we are moving forward to eternal Life. This procession, then, is symbolic of our journey to salvation.

As a moving forward to the messianic table, the Communion Procession also might symbolize our whole life's journey – what we do ritually in this moment is what, really, all our Christian living is about: moving toward eternal union with God. To process and receive Holy Communion is already a witness on our part that we wish to change and live our very lives according to God's ways. This symbolizes for us the relationship between celebrating Eucharist and living Eucharist – God nourishes us for the journey to eternal Life. To live Eucharist fully we must live our lives as Jesus did – dying to self so that one day we will share in the eternal Life promised by the Resurrection.

ALTAR FLOWERS

The Floral Arrangement at the Altar today is placed to the Glory of God and in honor of the Fortieth Anniversary of Marriage of Bob and Marla Plurkowski. Congratulations! And may God bless you with many more years of happiness, the deepening of your love, and the best of health.

**Happy
Fathers
Day!** ★

Today we honor all fathers, grandfathers, great grandfathers, godfathers, foster fathers, step-fathers, and all those wonderful men who give and nurture life. A special blessing will be given at the conclusion of each liturgy this weekend. Happy Father's Day!

*Newly-sworn Chief Tammany Brooks
To Visit Our Parish*



On Sunday, July 2nd, at our 10:00 a.m. Eucharist, we will have the honor of welcoming our newly-sworn Police Chief, **Tammany Brooks**, to the parish. We will have the opportunity to bless him for his new position and the great responsibilities that come with being the Chief of Police. It is also Hospitality Sunday so you will be able to meet and congratulate him after the liturgy in the Gathering Plaza. Welcome, Chief "T!"



Norway Trip Set

Several weeks ago, I met with Linda Grelli from Black Diamond Travel and we discussed the different possibilities for a trip to Scandinavia. We decided on a 16 day trip that will take us to Copenhagen, Denmark, followed by touring Sweden, and concluding in Norway. The cities to be visited include: Copenhagen, Roskilde, Stockholm, Sigtuna, Uppsala, Falun, Dales and Lakes to Lillehammer, Geiranger, Fjaerland, Fjordland, Leikanger, The Flam Railway to Bergen, Mountains and Fjords to Oslo where the trip will conclude. We will fly on SAS round trip from San Francisco. The tentative dates are from August 6, 2018 to August 22, 2018. I have copies of the Tour Brochure in my office and you are most welcome to take one. If you are interested in going, please speak with me and I will place your name on the list.

Once we know how many are going, I will arrange a meeting to discuss all the details. The tour is arranged through Insight Tours which is an outstanding company with whom I have traveled in the past. Linda Grelli has indicated that you may NOW call her at Black Diamond Travel to ask about the trip! Thank you for your consideration. As of today's bulletin, all the places are filled! I will start a "Waiting List" just in case someone on the list has to cancel. Thank you for your interest and support.



...to our wonderful parishioner volunteers who come early each Saturday morning to clean and prepare the church and parish hall for the weekend: **Jun Bajet, Carole Miller, Jack Goncalves, Angela Bueno, Rose Salamanca, Cathy Romeo, Emilia Freking, and Steve Rojek.**

...to our volunteer parishioners who have taken responsibility for cleaning and maintaining the bathrooms in both the church and parish hall: **Robert Goncalves, Patricia Britton, Mary Ewing, Harlan Young, and Virginia Noack.**

...to **Dilcia Aparacio** who does such an excellent job of washing, ironing, and caring for the Sacred Linens.

...to our Sacristans and Altar Guild who prepare the sanctuary for the celebration of Eucharist each week:

Peter Degl'Innocenti, Pam and Rich Confetti, Vincent Rodriguez, Harlan Young, Rowena Cayaban, Monika Kauer, Cynthia Enrique, Belen Farin, Nancy Santos and Rose Salamanca.

...to **our counting teams** who are here every week to count the weekly collections.

...to our volunteers who assisted in the parish office last week: **Harlan Young, Melodye Costanza, Yvette Young, Alicia Perez, Joe Fanfa and Bev Iacona.**

...to our St. Vincent de Paul and Mobile Mall volunteers who transported last week's donations: **Bob Carvalho and Barbara Jackson.**

...to our faithful weekly bulletin assembly team: **Bob Carvalho, Carole Miller, Dave Costanza, Judy Quicho, Vangie Parrilla and Dilcia Aparicio.**

...to our wonderful Parking Lot Security who keep watch over our vehicles during weekend liturgies: **Don Benson, Steve Rojek and Bob Goncalves.**

End of School Year Luncheon for Contra Costa Interfaith Housing (CCIH)

On June 8th, and for the fifth year in a row, parishioners from St. Ignatius of Antioch sponsored an end-of-year Pizza luncheon for the students in the CCIH homework club. This club serves the children residing in the Los Medanos Village Apartments in Pittsburg. The ages range from elementary school through high school. The event honors the children for their accomplishments in school during the past year, and thanks the many volunteers who serve in the program as tutors.