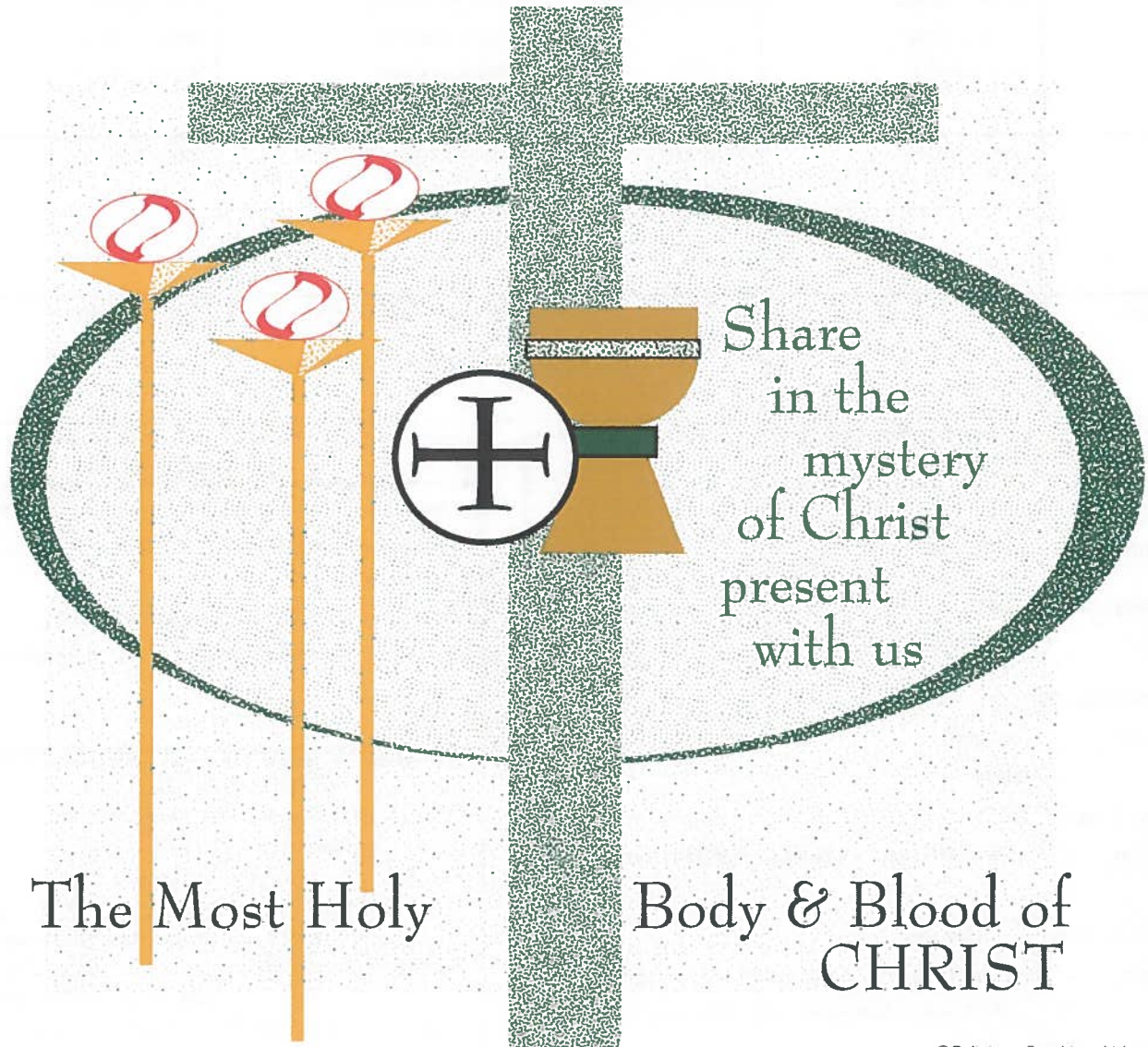


The Roman Catholic Parishes of  
St. Margaret Mary, Herscher  
St. James the Apostle, Irwin  
Sacred Heart, Goodrich

THE BODY AND BLOOD OF CHRIST

JUNE 1-2, 2024



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Weekend Masses:

St. Margaret Mary	Sat. 5:00 pm	Sun. 10:30 am
Sacred Heart	Sun. 7:30 am	
St. James	Sun. 9:00 am	

Confessions:

St. Margaret Mary	Sat. 4:15 pm
Sacred Heart	Sun. 7:05-7:20 am
St. James	Sun. 8:35-8:50 am

Church Mailing Address:

207 E. 5th Street

Herscher, IL 60941

Phone: 815-426-2550

**Quotes:** " You need to let your wounds go down to your heart. Then you can live through them and discover that they will not destroy you. Your heart is greater than your wounds."  
 —Henri Nouwen

Tenth Week in Ordinary Time				June 9-10, 2024	
Liturgical Schedule	St. Margaret Mary Saturday, June 8 5:00 pm	Sacred Heart Sunday, June 9 7:30 am	St. James Sunday, June 9 9:00 am	St. Margaret Mary Sunday, June 9 10:30 am	
Celebrant	Fr. Ron	Fr. Ron	Fr. Ron Deacon Ron	Fr. Ron	
Ushers	Dan Hoffman Roger Jensen Dave Emling Bob Schultz	David Kirkpatrick James Mallaney	Dallas Ferris Dan Forsythe Jerry Ogrentz Arlen Hansen	Darren Lovell Larry Wolles Jeremy Wolles Wayne Bisailon	
Lector	Bobbi Buza	Mike Hertz	Dave Ladehoff	Julie Splear	
Servers				Sydney Weldon	
Greeters			Greeter—Karen Miller R. Leader—Rita Thiesen	The Wheelers	

**Mass Intentions for the Week**

**Monday, June 3**  
 8:00 am No Mass

**Tuesday, June 4 (SH)**  
 8:00 am No Mass

**Wednesday, June 5 (SJ)**  
 8:00 am No Mass  
 5:30 Mass

**Friday, June 7 (SH)**  
 8:00 am +Jerry Monk) (Terri/Jerry Weakley)

**Saturday, June 8 (SMM)**  
 5:00 pm +Lionel/Loretta Schneider (Joanne Hart)  
 +Madonna Hoffman (Bonnie Matherly)

**Sunday, June 9**  
 7:30 am (SH) + Paul Muhlstadt (Terri/Jerry Weakley)  
 9:00am (SJ) +Ivan Denault (Steve/Christel Denault)  
 +Marge Nelson (Steve/Dena Coy)  
 10:30am (SMM) For All the Parish Family

**Question of the week**  
 How does the Eucharist transform me? Thinking back to a time when it was not possible for me to receive the Eucharist, for instance during the pandemic, how did its absence affect me?

**A Look Ahead**

**Wednesday, June 5**—SJ Mass at 5:30 pm (no am Mass)  
**Wednesday, June 5**—Women’s Deanery Spring Institute at St. James  
**Friday, June 7**—First Friday Adoration at SJ  
**June 15-16**—Second Collection Retired Religious

Pastor— Fr. Ron Neitzke- 815-426-2550  
 Deacon – Ron Gagnon— rjgckg@aol.com  
 Home—815-933-4077  
 Parish Email – smm\_sja\_sh@yahoo.com  
 TriParish web page – [www.triparishcatholics.org](http://www.triparishcatholics.org)  
 Like us on Facebook triparishcatholic communities  
**Tri Parish Church office** –Barb Riker 426-2550  
 Julie Bisailon 426-2550  
**Bulletin** – Debbie Jensen - 426-2550  
 debjen04@gmail.com  
**Religious Education** –  
 St. MM – Jill Fulton [jfulton.stmm@gmail.com](mailto:jfulton.stmm@gmail.com)  
 Sacred Heart – Rhonda Berns – 426-5015  
 St. James—Tanhya Osenga [tosenga81@gmail.com](mailto:tosenga81@gmail.com)  
**Parish Nurse** – Jackie Eberle – 815-421-4048  
**Prayer Line**—  
 SMM -Janice 815-426-2574 [Jdstreefarms@aol.com](mailto:Jdstreefarms@aol.com)  
 St. James— Mary Offerman-602-670-8888 (call or text)  
 Sacred Heart-Marilyn Pfeiffer 815-955-8246 (call or text)  
 Terri Weakley— 815-514-8171

**Collections Week of May 25-26 2024**

St. Margaret Mary—\$1,241  
 St. James—\$1,577  
 Sacred Heart—\$929

Thank you for your generosity!

**Reflection How to Find Meaning in Suffering**

No one has ever fully understood why so many good people are forced to endure a great deal of emotional, physical, and/or spiritual pain.

Simply realizing that suffering is a normal part of life can be the first step toward finding good in suffering. Suffering will always be a mystery.

The Lord never said the Christian life would be easy. But he did promise that you will never be alone in the painful times of your life.

**Gospel Shorts— “The Body of Christ”**

Today we hear Mark’s account of the last meal Jesus shared with his closest disciples. Through this Passover meal Jesus reveals that the new covenant he has come to establish will be sealed in blood like the old covenant. However, the new covenant will not be sealed with the blood of animals but with human blood, his blood, the blood of God’s Son. Jesus is portrayed by Mark as the new mediator, the new Moses who will lead us into the promised land of the kingdom of God.

All the meals that Jesus shared during his life on earth with sinners and saints points to the reality of God’s kingdom where there will exist a final and unending unity of love and fellowship. By allowing his body to be broken and his blood to be poured out Jesus enters our human condition fully and reveals that we all belong to the same body, his body, the Body of Christ. If we believe that Christ has made us brothers and sisters of one another this has profound implications with regard to our treatment of all people.



**Current Status for 2024 CMAA**

Parish	Goal	Pledged	Paid
Sacred Heart	\$6,000	\$7,050	\$4,675
St. MM	\$9,400	\$8,325	\$7,785
St. James	\$8,800	\$6,685	\$6,642

Students—Have a safe and blessed summer.

**Parish News:**

St. Margaret Mary—

St. James—

- ◆ There will be an Open House for Rita Thiesen’s 75th birthday in the Church Hall on Sunday, June 9th from 1-4pm. Please join us.

Sacred Heart—

- ◆ The week of June 2nd, the Blessed Virgin Mary candle burns in memory of Susan Soucie and the St. Joseph candle burns in memory of Jim Riley
- ◆ The envelopes for the names and money for Fathers’ Day flowers is in the entrance of the church. If there is no change from last year, indicate “no change”.

All Parishes—

- ◆ **Tri-Parish Office Hours—** Our office hours are Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday 9am—12 pm.
- ◆ **The phone number for the rectory will no longer be in service. All calls should be made to the parish office number 815-426-2550.**

Please pray for the repose of the soul of

**+Gary V. Wood**



Husband of Nanette Wood

Father of Jillian (Michael) Jacobowdki

Father of Jonathan (Stacey) Wood

May Gary and all the faithful departed rest in eternal peace.

Our sincere sympathy to his family and friends.

**1<sup>st</sup> Friday Adoration**

First Friday Mass and adoration will be at Sacred Heart (on the



feast of the Sacred Heart) on Friday June 7<sup>th</sup>. Benediction will take place at 3:00.

“Every consecrated host is made to burn itself up with love in a human heart.”

-St. John Vianney





**Saint of the week: St. Charles Lwanga (June 3)** was a member of the Ngabi clan. Charles was a servant of King Mwanga of Uganda. He became a convert, joining the Church in June, 1885. He was one of the *Martyrs of Uganda* who died in the Mwangi persecutions.



**Obscure saint of the week: St. Morand of Cluny (June 3)** was a monk of Cluny. He founded the monastery of Saint Christopher at Altkirch, France. He lived the whole of each Lent on a single bunch of grapes, leading to his patronage of people in the grape and wine trade.

### The Sunday Gospel in Everyday English

On the first of the Days of Unleavened Bread, the day they prepare the Passover sacrifice, his disciples asked him, "Where do you want us to go and make preparations so you can eat the Passover meal?"

He directed two of his disciples, "Go into the city. A man carrying a water jug will meet you. Follow him. Ask the owner of whichever house he enters, 'The Teacher wants to know, Where is my guest room where I can eat the Passover meal with my disciples?' He will show you a spacious second-story room, swept and ready. Prepare for us there."

The disciples left, came to the city, found everything just as he had told them, and prepared the Passover meal.

In the course of their meal, having taken and blessed the bread, he broke it and gave it to them. Then he said,

Take, this is my Body.

Taking the chalice, he gave it to them, thanking God, and they all drank from it. He said,

This is my Blood,  
God's new covenant,  
Poured out for many people.

"I'll not be drinking wine again until the new day when I drink it in the kingdom of God."

They sang a hymn and then went directly to Mount Olives (*from Mark 14*).

The  
Lord  
JESUS



Present with  
us in the  
Eucharist

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**Old eyeglasses sitting around?** This agency collects old eyeglasses, makes the necessary repairs, then sends them overseas to people in need. The Knights of Columbus will be placing collection boxes in the back of each church. Please consider helping with this project by donating your unused glasses. Prescription and reading glasses are needed. Please do not include glass cases.

## Catholic Snacks, Get Fed

A modern day Eucharistic miracle in a time of turmoil.

It happened on a summer night in a tiny town in Bavaria, West Germany, in 1970. Actually, it happened twice.



The pastor serving the town of Stich was sick. He couldn't offer Mass for the people, so a visiting Swiss priest assisted him and offered Mass at 8 PM on Tuesday, June 9, 1970.

But something unusual happened after the Consecration. The priest noticed a red spot on the corporal next to the chalice, a spot that grew to the size of a coin.

At the elevation of the chalice, another spot appeared in the place where the chalice had stood. The priest ensured that the chalice was not leaking, and after Mass, he examined the corporal and the cloths underneath it. No cause could be found for the appearance of the spots.

The stained cloths were sent to the Polyclinical Institute of the University of Zurich for analysis. The examiners, who had been told nothing of the origin of the stains, concluded that the stains were caused by human blood, and according to the letter written to the priests informing them of the results:

...the director of the clinical laboratory said that in his considered judgment the blood was most certainly that of a man in agony.

Five weeks later, at 8 o'clock in the evening on Tuesday, July 14th, the Swiss priest was scheduled to celebrate another Mass in Stich. He carefully examined the altar stone, the altar cloths, the corporal and the chalice prior to Mass and made sure they were completely clean and undamaged. Shortly after the Consecration, the red spots appeared

again on the corporal. The priest invited the congregation to inspect the stains after Mass, and they later testified to what they saw. The cloths were again sent for analysis, this time to the District Hospital of Cercee, and again, the scientists concluded that they were caused by human blood.

The 60s and 70s were a time of tremendous upheaval in the world, and in Germany, the Iron Curtain had divided the country in two since the end of World War II. At such times it is easy for us to sideline our faith and allow the events of the world to take priority in our minds. But on two nights, in an insignificant town in a place far from the newspaper headlines, Our Lord sent a miraculous reminder that—no matter how tumultuous the world becomes—He is the center of everything and His Presence is real.

Eucharistic miracles are a powerful way of fortifying our faith and devotion to Our Lord in the Blessed Sacrament. Bring the power of the Blessed Sacrament into your home with this [Blessed Sacrament Candle](#)! When you can't get to Adoration, light this candle to remind yourself of the beauty of the Blessed Sacrament, especially when exposed in Adoration.

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Bishop Hicks' Column for June 2024

### ***Celebrating a Loving and Merciful Heart***

is available on our Tri-Parish webpage at [www.triparishcatholics.org](http://www.triparishcatholics.org)



We are fed with  
the gift of finest wheat

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## Questions Catholics Ask How should we prepare for holy communion? Is fasting still necessary?

In Canon Law, seven regulations apply to proper reception of communion. Liturgical practices have changed in the last generation. It's fair to wonder what's going on with communion these days. In parishes around the country, I see everything from the reconstruction of altar railings to people falling on their knees at the front of the communion line. Folks cup their hands in the throne-like gesture taught in communion prep classes these days, or perform casual host grabs that seem almost unconsidered.

So here's the present teaching. Yes, the communion fast is still in force. Details are important here: 1) Water never breaks the fast, so don't dehydrate to prove your devotion. 2) The fast from food and drink besides water is one hour before reception of the Eucharist. 3) Sick and elderly people only need fast for fifteen minutes before communion. Caregivers accompanying such people may follow the same guidelines. 4) Sick persons may take medicine and non-alcoholic liquids unrestrictedly.



In Canon Law, seven regulations apply to proper reception of communion. The fast as outlined above is one. Anyone who's received First Eucharist is obliged to receive at least once annually, preferably during the Easter Season—the so-called "Easter duty." Receiving in the context of Mass is "most strongly recommended"—again, with exceptions for the sick and homebound, or communities with no access to a priest.

A fourth regulation concerns those conscious of having committed grave sin. Such a person should seek the Sacrament of Reconciliation before receiving communion. If this isn't possible, making an act of perfect contrition suffices so long as the person resolves to go to confession as soon as it is possible.

Frequency of reception is a concern for many older Catholics. Current rules are that as long as you receive during Mass, you can go to communion more than once daily. The only exception is in the instance of *viaticum* (literally, "on the way with you"). Someone in danger of death should receive communion outside the context of Mass even if they've already gone to Mass and received earlier that day.

The seventh regulation is the least well known. A Catholic may receive Eucharist from a non-Catholic minister in whose congregation Eucharist is valid when it's "physically or morally impossible" to do otherwise. Such occasions include danger of death or other "serious need"; persons who are "unable to approach their own minister"; "persons in prison or under persecution"; "persons who live at some distance from their own communion." The canon ends with the significant words: "this is not an exhaustive indication of such cases."

**Scriptures:** Mark 14:22-24; Matthew 5:23-24; 26:26-28; Luke 22:14-20; Acts 2:42-47; 1 Corinthians 10:16-17; 11:17-29; Revelation 19:9 // See also Canon Law 844, 912-923



St. JOHN PAUL II  
CATHOLIC PARISH



### CORPUS CHRISTI MASS & PROCESSION

With Bishop Ronald A. Hicks

Sunday, June 2, 2024

12:00 p.m. Mass at St. John Paul II Parish

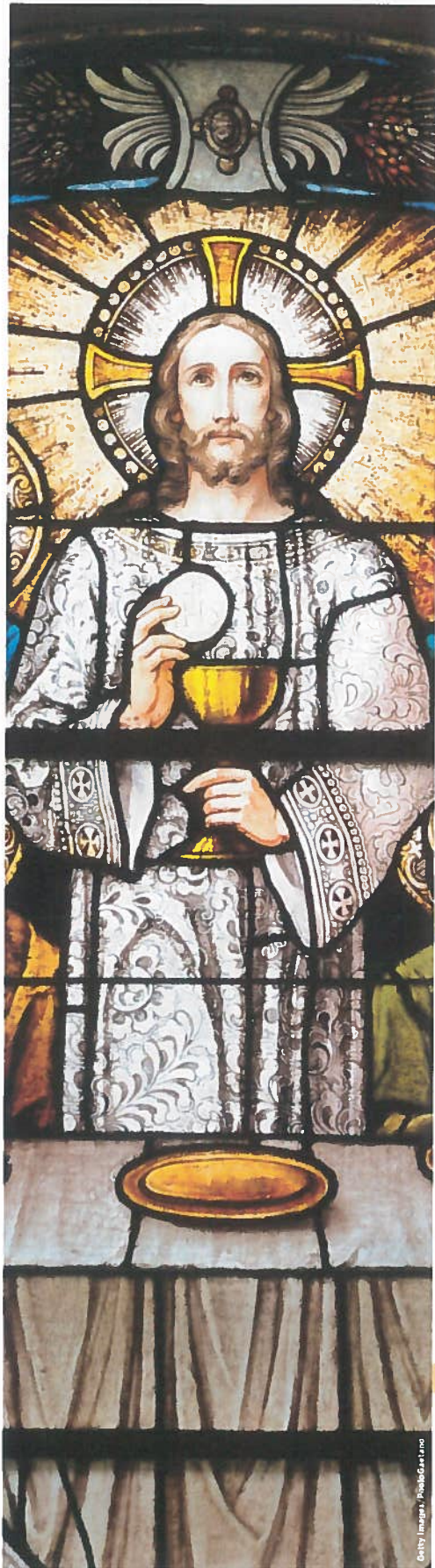
907 S. 9th Ave., Kankakee

Followed by a Procession to the Chapel of St. Rose of Lima

486 W. Merchant St., Kankakee



This is my body  
MARK 14:22



June 2, 2024

## The Solemnity of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ Corpus Christi

Ex 24:3-8 | Heb 9:11-15 | Mk 14:12-16, 22-26

Written by  
THE  
FAITHFUL  
DISCIPLE

### GROW AS A DISCIPLE | PRAY, STUDY, ENGAGE, SERVE

The Feast of Corpus Christi celebrates the great Christian mystery of the Eucharist - that Jesus Christ is really, truly, and substantially present under the appearances of bread and wine. At the Last Supper, Jesus breaks the bread and passes the cup of wine, telling his disciples to take, and eat, this is his body and blood. In the Old Testament, as we saw in the first reading, blood was seen as both a sacrifice and a covenant, a promise between God and his chosen people. Jesus says he is the new covenant, and instructs his disciples to do as he has done, in memory of him. The layers to what Jesus is saying are many: *He* is the new promise between God and people; he will be the sacrifice; and yet he will remain with them when they partake in the Eucharist. The salvation of all people is wrapped up in this seemingly simple act of eating bread and drinking wine because Jesus transcends time, just as he transcended death, to be truly present to us in the sacrament. What a profound and beautiful act of love! One we can barely begin to understand with our human minds. The first disciples likely didn't understand it either, at least not at first. But with time, and with the wisdom of the Holy Spirit, they came to see just how transformative that Passover meal was.

### GO EVANGELIZE

PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT

Our faith contains many great mysteries that challenge our modern sensibilities. After all, we live in a time where many think there ought to be no mysteries. Need an answer? Look it up online! But no matter how much knowledge we have, God's ways are still a mystery to us. Why did Jesus have to die? Why can't he return now? How do we know he's really present in the Eucharist? Rather than shying away from the mysteries of faith, perhaps we should try to become more comfortable with the unknowable and be willing to talk about it. After all, we may not understand exactly how the sun works, but we can feel its warmth. We can't prove the love of a parent or a friend, but we know it's there. God's love, and the mysteries of the Eucharist, can be felt and experienced, and can change our lives.

**PRAY** Today the Church sings what is called a "sequence," a hymn sung after the second reading but before the Gospel acclamation. There are only four days in the liturgical year that include a sequence, and today's hymn was composed in 1274 by St. Thomas Aquinas: *Lauda Sion*, or, "Praise the Savior oh Zion." Spend some time this week with the words of this hymn, either in prayerful reading or perhaps listening to a sung version.

## The Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ (Corpus Christi)

June 2, 2024: Ex 24:3-8 | Ps 116:12-13,15-18 |  
Heb 9:11-15 | Mk 14:12-16,22-26

**Pray:** Loving Jesus, open our hearts to savor the wonder and joy of Your most precious gift, the Most Holy Eucharist. Amen.

### Jesus Gives Us His Very Self in the Holy Eucharist

How humbling it is that Jesus, our promised Savior, our Emmanuel, fulfills His promise to save and be with us always in the gift of the Holy Eucharist! Today, we gratefully celebrate the Solemnity of Corpus Christi, which unites the feast of the Eucharistic sacrifice, the feast of the Sacrament of the Eucharist, and the feast of the Real Presence of Jesus in this Sacrament. Replacing the Old Covenant with the New and eternal Covenant, Jesus transformed the Jewish Passover by offering His own Body and Blood to be poured out for all to take away the sins of the world.

Are you amazed by the miracle of transubstantiation, the process by which the bread and wine of the Eucharist are transformed into the Body and Blood of Jesus after the priest says the words of Consecration? Pope St. John Paul II sought to rekindle "Eucharistic amazement" when he wrote his beautiful encyclical, *Ecclesia de Eucharistia* (the Church of the Eucharist.) I highly recommend it if you have not read it before or if it's been a while. Released in 2003, this critical Church document is excellent and will deepen your understanding and appreciation of the Eucharist, enriching your spiritual journey. It is also very rich in meaning for today's world.

Jesus modeled what it means to surrender to God's Holy Will when He sacrificed His whole life



for the good and love of others, including us. He suffered and gave the ultimate Sacrifice of His life on the Cross. He loved us enough to share His Body, Blood, Soul, and Divinity in the Sacrament of the Eucharist so we would never be alone and that we, too, might share in His Kingdom here on Earth as we journey to the Kingdom of God in Heaven. As the source and summit of our Christian faith and spiritual lives, Jesus in the Eucharist provides a way for us to unite our sacrifices and sufferings to His in an offering of charity and service to others. May all who receive the Bread of Life in the Holy Eucharist become one body by the Holy Spirit and become a living sacrifice, united with Jesus Christ.

### Reflect & Discuss:

- † How does the Eucharist nourish and keep your Christian life healthy?
- † In what ways have you offered your personal life as a living sacrifice enjoined with Christ's?
- † How have you encountered the Real Presence of Christ in Adoration?
- † As a sign of Christ's love, how can the Eucharist help us minister to the poor and outcast?
- † As a sign of unity, how can the Eucharist help us embrace those different from us with open hearts?
- † As a bond of charity, how can the Eucharist help us be living signs of Christ's presence and love in our troubled world?