



SAINT FIACRE AND IMMACULATE CONCEPTION'S Parish

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OFFICE HOUR:
Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday
(8.00 am - 13.00 pm)

SOLEMNITY OF CORPUS CHRISTI (YEAR A) - SUNDAY, 14 JUNE 2020

IN THIS ISSUE

REFLECTION ON CORPUS CHRISTI

by Dianne Bergant CSA

This feast harkens back to the celebration of Holy Thursday. By way of the metaphors of food and drink, its readings provide us with a look at the mystery of divine presence. They first provide a picture of a God who feeds us. In the past God set a table in freedom, and then provided food that enabled our ancestors to survive. God fed those who were needy, not those who were worthy. Jesus offered sustenance to the crowds that gathered around him. It was not manna from heaven that he offered but his own flesh and blood as food and drink. This food and drink are the pledge of eternal life.

Those who eat this bread and drink this cup are caught up in a profound unity with God, a unity not envisioned in the wilderness experience. There is a new overlay of significance. Jesus' claim to give his flesh and blood was a bold one, Paul's seems even bolder. He states that partaking of the bread and the cup not only joins us with Christ, but actually makes us participants in the body and blood of Christ. Humanity and divinity are joined as one. The Eucharist is a sign of unity in another way. Joined to the body and blood of Christ, we are joined to each other. We are one body and that body is Christ. The Eucharist is truly a celebration of thanksgiving: thanksgiving for our

transformation and thanksgiving for our unity.

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Making Our Church Safe for All

Since only **50 people** are permitted to attend Holy Mass in the church, please come to the church early. When the maximum number has been reached, you are not allowed to enter the church because the fine will be very expensive. Besides, the main purpose of this regulation is for our common good too. Please follow these protocols, as recommended by the NSW government and the Archdiocese:

- If you feel unwell, you should not come.
- Keep a safe distance and use a hand sanitiser when entering the church.
- Measuring body temperature (will be assisted by an usher/trusted delegate).
- Fill in the guest book (for COVID-19 safety purposes, and parish database/communication).
- Keep a safe distance by sitting on a bench that has been marked with a sign "SIT HERE."
- Receive Holy Communion by hand.

MASS TIME AND CONFESSION

- ❖ DAILY MASS: Monday-Saturday, 7.00 am
- ❖ SUNDAY MASS:
 - Vigil Mass (Saturday afternoon), 5.30 pm
 - English Mass, 8.00 am (at St Francis' church, Lilyfield)
 - English Mass, 9.30 am
 - Italian Mass, 11.00 am
 - Adoration & Mass for Young Adults, 4.00 pm
- ❖ CONFESSION: Every Saturday, 4.45 pm (or by appointment. Please contact parish office)

FRIAR'S VAN WINTER APPEAL

Friar's Van is a young adult ministry (age 18-35 years old) dedicated for homeless people in Sydney. It provides tea, milo, coffee, and sweets (such as Mars bars, Snickers, Twix, and KitKat) to the homeless. Also, during winter, the homeless need more blankets and raincoats/ponchos to keep them warm and dry. If you would like to donate (goods, money, or gift cards), please contact Fr Pio (0478777498) or drop them off to the parish office or friary. Thank you very much for your support.

Mass on Sunday

Entrance Antiphon

He fed them with the finest wheat and satisfied them with honey from the rock.

Collect

O God, who in this wonderful Sacrament have left us a memorial of your Passion, grant us, we pray, so to revere the sacred mysteries of your Body and Blood that we may always experience in ourselves the fruits of your redemption. Who live and reign with God the Father in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

First reading *Deuteronomy 8:2-3,14-16*

He fed you with manna, which neither you nor your fathers had known

Moses said to the people: 'Remember how the Lord your God led you for forty years in the wilderness, to humble you, to test you and know your inmost heart – whether you would keep his commandments or not. He humbled you, he made you feel hunger, he fed you with manna which neither you nor your fathers had known, to make you understand that man does not live on bread alone but that man lives on everything that comes from the mouth of the Lord. 'Do not become proud of heart. Do not forget the Lord your God who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery: who guided you through this vast and dreadful wilderness, a land of fiery serpents, scorpions, thirst; who in this waterless place brought you water from the hardest rock; who in this wilderness fed you with manna that your fathers had not known.'

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 147:12-15,19-20

R: Praise the Lord, Jerusalem.

- ⇒ O praise the Lord, Jerusalem! Zion, praise your God! He has strengthened the bars of your gates he has blessed the children within you. (R)
- ⇒ He established peace on your borders, he feeds you with finest wheat. He sends out his word to the earth and swiftly runs his command. (R)
- ⇒ He makes his word known to Jacob, to Israel his laws and decrees. He has not dealt thus with other nations; he has not taught them his decrees. (R)

Second reading *1 Corinthians 10:16-17*

That there is only one loaf means that, though we are many, we form one body

The blessing-cup that we bless is a communion with the blood of Christ, and the bread that we break is a communion with the body of Christ. The fact that there is only one loaf means that, though there are many of us, we form a single body because we all have a share in this one loaf.

Sequence – Lauda, Sion

Sing forth, O Zion, sweetly sing The praises of thy Shepherd-King, In hymns and canticles divine; Dare all thou canst, thou hast no song Worthy his praises to prolong, So far surpassing powers like thine. Today no theme of common praise Forms the sweet burden of thy lays – The living, life-dispensing food – That food which at the sacred board Unto the brethren twelve our Lord His parting legacy bestowed. Then be the anthem clear and strong, Thy fullest note, thy sweetest song, The very music of the breast: For now shines forth the day sublime That brings remembrance of the time When Jesus first his table blessed. Within our new King's banquet-hall They meet to keep the festival That closed the ancient paschal rite: The old is by the new replaced; The substance hath the shadow chased; And rising day dispels the night. Christ willed what he himself had done Should be renewed while time should run, In memory of his parting hour: Thus, tutored in his school divine, We consecrate the bread and wine; And lo – a Host of saving power. This faith to Christian men is given – Bread is made flesh by words from heaven: Into his blood the wine is turned: What though it baffles nature's powers Of sense and sight? This faith of ours Proves more than nature e'er discerned.

Concealed beneath the two-fold sign, Meet symbols of the gifts divine, There lie the mysteries adored: The living body is our food; Our drink the ever-precious blood; In each, one undivided Lord. Not he that eateth it divides The sacred food, which whole abides Unbroken still, nor knows decay; Be one, or be a thousand fed, They eat alike that living bread Which, still received, ne'er wastes away. The good, the guilty share therein, With sure increase of grace or sin, The ghostly life, or ghostly death: Death to the guilty; to the good Immortal life. See how one food Man's joy or woe accomplisheth. We break the Sacrament, but bold And firm thy faith shall keep its hold, Deem not the whole doth more enfold Than in the fractured part resides Deem not that Christ doth broken lie, 'Tis but the sign that meets the eye, The hidden deep reality In all its fullness still abides.

*Behold the bread of angels, sent For pilgrims in their banishment, The bread for God's true children meant, That may not unto dogs be given: Oft in the olden types foreshowed; In Isaac on the altar bowed, And in the ancient paschal food, And in the manna sent from heaven. *Come then, good shepherd, bread divine, Still show to us thy mercy sign; Oh, feed us still, still keep us thine; So may we see thy glories shine In fields of immortality; *O thou, the wisest, mightiest, best, Our present food, our future rest, Come, make us each thy chosen guest, Co-heirs of thine, and comrades blest With saints whose dwelling is with thee.

Amen. Alleluia.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia! I am the living bread from heaven, says the Lord; whoever eats this bread will live forever. Alleluia!

Gospel

John 6:51-58

My flesh is real food and my blood is real drink

Jesus said to the crowd:

'I am the living bread which has come down from heaven. Anyone who eats this bread will live for ever; and the bread that I shall give is my flesh, for the life of the world.'

Then the Jews started arguing with one another: 'How can this man give us his flesh to eat?' they said. Jesus replied:

'I tell you most solemnly,

if you do not eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you will not have life in you. Anyone who does eat my flesh and drink my blood has eternal life, and I shall raise him up on the last day.

For my flesh is real food and my blood is real drink. He who eats my flesh and drinks my blood lives in me and I live in him.

As I, who am sent by the living Father, myself draw life from the Father, so whoever eats me will draw life from me.

This is the bread come down from heaven; not like the bread our ancestors ate: they are dead, but anyone who eats this bread will live forever.'

Prayer over the Offerings

Grant your Church, O Lord, we pray, the gifts of unity and peace, whose signs are to be seen in mystery in the offerings we here present. Through Christ our Lord.

Communion Antiphon

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

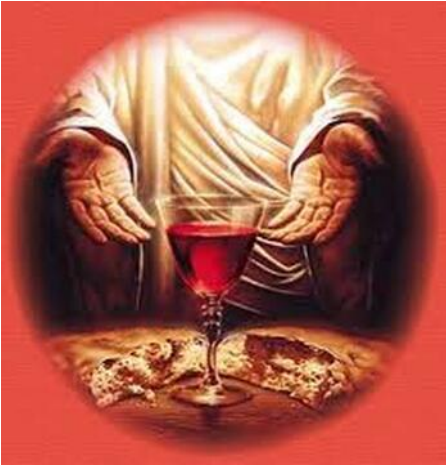
Prayer after Communion

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.

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Reflection

Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood abide in me, and I in them



In John's account of Jesus' multiplication of the loaves in the wilderness, he moved from the wisdom theme of Jesus' discourse on the Bread of Life, to the Sacramental theme. The vocabulary changes graphically: "flesh and "blood," and "eat and drink." Jesus spoke clearly of the nourishment of his body and blood given to us in the Eucharist. His flesh was "real food" and his blood was "real drink." The Greek word used for

dining is phagos. Jesus uses the word trogos, which means "to gnaw," or "to munch." In Jewish thought blood stood for life, and the blood belonged to God. That is why to this day orthodox Jews will not eat meat that is not completely drained of blood (kosher). When Jesus told his followers that they must drink his blood he meant that they must take his very life into themselves. Jesus is the supreme "sacrament" of God, nourishing the faithful with his own body and blood on their spiritual journey. Without this sacred food, we cannot have eternal communion with him and his Father. How unfortunate that those who claim a literal interpretation of other passages of scripture, deny the reality of Jesus' real presence in the Eucharist as explained by Jesus himself..

NOTE: The Catechism of the Catholic Church affirms: "At the heart of the Eucharistic celebration are the bread and wine that, by the words of Christ and the invocation of the Holy Spirit, become Christ's Body and Blood" (#1333). <http://www.togetherwithgodsword.com>

PLEASE SUPPORT OUR PARISH

Saint Fiacre's Parish and the Capuchin Friars extend their gratitude to all parishioners and friends who are helping during these difficult times! Donations can be made by EFT to:

- Account Name: **St Fiacre's Catholic Church**
- BSB: **062 784**
- Account No: **0457 5001**
- ❖ If you require a **30% tax deduction**, please write your **Envelope Number** in the reference box.
- ❖ Tax deduction is only available to those givers who are enrolled to the Second Collection at St Fiacre's.
- ❖ If you wish to join the program, please contact the Parish office at **02 9518 0650** or fiacre@capuchinfriars.org.au

TO LOVE AND TO SERVE

Do I understand the real presence of Christ in the Eucharist?
Could I explain it to others?

Lord Jesus, feed me at your table of eternal life.

From the Archdiocese

• **Dancing at the Vatican: Film Fundraiser to fight Huntington's Disease**

Pope Francis became the first world leader to recognize the devastating plight of those living with what is among the most common hereditary brain disorders when he met with families affected by it in an audience at the Vatican in 2017.

Watch the documentary that captures this story in an online screening with all proceeds going to support Huntington's NSW/ACT.

When: Friday 14 August at 7-9 pm

Cost: \$20 per household via Eventbrite

Where: In the comfort of your home Appeal for Blankets

CORPUS CHRISTI



O prezioso e meraviglioso convito! Dalle «Opere» di san Tommaso d'Aquino, dottore della Chiesa (Opusc. 57, nella festa del Corpo del Signore, lect. 1-4)

L'Unigenito Figlio di Dio, volendoci partecipi della sua divinità, assunse la nostra natura e si fece uomo per far di noi, da uomini, déi. Tutto quello che assunse, lo valorizzò per la nostra salvezza. Offrì infatti a Dio Padre il suo corpo come vittima sull'altare della croce per la nostra riconciliazione. Sparse il suo sangue facendolo valere come prezzo e come lavacro, perché, redenti dalla umiliante schiavitù, fossimo purificati da tutti i peccati. Perché rimanesse in noi, infine, un costante ricordo di così grande beneficio, lasciò ai suoi fedeli il suo corpo in cibo e il suo sangue come bevanda, sotto le specie del pane e del vino.

O inapprezzabile e meraviglioso convito, che dà ai commensali salvezza e gioia senza fine! Che cosa mai vi può essere di più prezioso? Non ci vengono imbandite le carni dei vitelli e dei capri, come nella legge antica, ma ci viene dato in cibo Cristo, vero Dio. Che cosa di più sublime di questo sacramento? Nessun sacramento in realtà è più salutare di questo: per sua virtù vengono cancellati i peccati, crescono le buone disposizioni, e la mente viene arricchita di tutti i carismi spirituali. Nella Chiesa l'Eucaristia viene offerta per i vivi e per i morti, perché giovi a tutti, essendo stata istituita per la salvezza di tutti.

Nessuno infine può esprimere la soavità di questo sacramento. Per mezzo di esso si gusta la dolcezza spirituale nella sua stessa fonte e si fa memoria di quella altissima carità, che Cristo ha dimostrato nella sua passione. Egli istituì l'Eucaristia nell'ultima cena, quando, celebrata la Pasqua con i suoi discepoli, stava per passare dal mondo al Padre. L'Eucaristia è il memoriale della passione, il compimento delle figure dell'Antica

Alleanza, la più grande di tutte le meraviglie operate dal Cristo, il mirabile documento del suo amore immenso per gli uomini.
<https://www.maranatha.it>



ARE YOU STRUGGLING IN THIS TIME OF CRISIS?

Depression. Anxiety. Loneliness. Conflict. Stress.

CCareline 13 18 19 is a free and confidential helpline for counselling, relationships, parenting, ageing, disabilities, addictions and mental health.

Eucharistic Adoration on the Feast of Corpus Christi

This **Sunday 14 June** marks this special feast- a time to unite in our love for the Blessed Sacrament.

We would normally celebrate the feast through our **Walk with Christ** procession through the streets of Sydney, but we can't gather this year because of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Archbishop Anthony Fisher OP has invited the faithful to spend some time in prayer with our Lord through Eucharistic Adoration on the Feast of Corpus Christi.

Archbishop Fisher has recorded a video message ahead of this special feast day. Please feel free to download the video and share it via your family and friends.
<https://vimeo.com/427601264>

CatholicCare Marriage Preparations Marriage Education Goes Virtual: CatholicCare has quickly adapted to social distancing laws, providing marriage education virtually from mid March. If you are engaged and are planning on getting married soon, CatholicCare is still able to provide you with your marriage education course during this time. We expect demand to surge when social distancing rules are relaxed further, so don't miss out. Book now! Call 13 18 19. "Considering we were attending remotely, [the educator] still made the experience feel collaborative and a safe space in which to share.

Young people's seminar Understanding Change, Loss and Grief

This seminar is an opportunity to explore and better understand:

- Our own grief reactions and those of others
- The effects of grief on our bodies, minds, emotions and behaviours
- How to take care of ourselves and others in grief.

This 1.5 hour seminar will be conducted via Zoom.

Please express your interest by emailing Leonied@catholiccemeteries.com.au and we will arrange the time to suit those wishing to participate.

hearing experiences of loss & death

Grief will be experienced by all of us at times throughout our lives, yet can affect each of us in unique ways. HELD is a safe place of welcome for anyone aged 18-35, where you can be open about how grief has impacted you. Our HELD gatherings will run every fortnight

beginning Monday 6 April 2020
6:30pm-8:30pm

Venue will be in the Lidcombe area: full address will be shared with you once you

RSVP to Ben at
benjamin_woolf@yahoo.com.au
(Feel free to contact Ben with any questions before)

Care, Empathy and Compassion for Young Adults