

The True Presence of Christ

How important is food? For many people and cultures, food is not just to fill our stomachs and to provide the nutrition that we need to survive. Food is an expression of culture, a sign of our hospitality and is often at the centre of community gatherings. Consequently, how we eat and who we eat with, are particularly symbolic – expressions of our values and what we consider important. It is no wonder that religions developed sacramental rituals based on eating.

For the Israelites, their principal experience of God was the exodus; when God liberated Israel from slavery in Egypt and led them into the Promised Land. Before they set off on their journey, they shared the Passover Meal – a meal of roast meat and unleavened bread; a hasty but nutritious meal to sustain them on the long walk and journey across the desert and the sea. Afterwards, in the Promised Land, they remembered what God did for them by repeating the Passover Meal in a ritual form.

When Jesus knew that he was about to leave his disciples, he brought them together to celebrate a meal. He shared bread saying: ‘this is my body.’ Then he shared some wine with them saying: ‘this is my blood, the blood of the covenant, which is to be poured out for many.’ Then he asked them to continue to share this meal when he was gone, in memory of him. From the earliest days of the church, Christians celebrated the Eucharist as a way of remembering Jesus.

This Sunday, the Church celebrates the feast of Corpus Christi – the feast of the Body of Christ. In our Church, this remembrance of Jesus has become highly ritualized in the sacrament of the Eucharist. But it would be a shame if the Eucharist became for us, just a ritual. If a ritual is to have meaning, then it has to be something that inspires us, something that pervades our entire lives. If the Eucharist is to be relevant, Christians must live its values every day.

The Jewish people continue to celebrate the Passover and through that celebration, they remember and participate in the experience of the Exodus. In the same way, through the Eucharist, we get to participate in the life of Jesus – **Christ becomes truly present to us.**

Whenever we celebrate the Eucharist, we remember how God has journeyed with us through our joys and sufferings, how Jesus lived and what he taught us, how he gave his life so that we might have life, and how we are called to follow him as his disciples.

Through the Eucharist we remember how God is present with us.

Reflection by Gerard Louis, CSSr

Novena notes

Corpus Christi
Year B
3 June 2018

Readings & Responses for the Week

Sun, 3 June Corpus Christi	Ex 24:3-8; Hebr 9:11-15; Mk 14:12-16,22-26 The cup of salvation I will raise; I will call on the Lord's name.
Mon, 4 June	2 Pt 1:2-7; Mk 12:1-12 My God, in you I trust.
Tue, 5 June St. Boniface, Bishop & Martyr	2 Pt 3:11-15,17-18; Mk 12:13-17 O Lord, you have been our refuge from one generation to the next.
Wed, 6 June St. Norbert, Bishop	2 Tim 1:1-3,6-12; Mk 12:18-27 To you, O Lord, I lift up my eyes.
Thu, 7 June	2 Tim 2:8-15; Mk 12:28-34 Lord, make me know your ways.
Fri, 8 June Sacred Heart of Jesus	Hos 11:1,3-4,8-9; Eph 3:8-12,14-19; Jn 19:31-37 With joy you will draw water from the wells of the Saviour.
Sat, 9 June Immaculate Heart of Blessed Virgin Mary	Is 61:9-11; Lk 2:41-51 My heart exults in the Lord my saviour.

WEEKDAY MASS (MON – FRI)
Time: 6.30am, 12.15pm, 6.30pm
Confession: Half an hour before Mass

SUNSET MASS (SAT)
Time: 6.30pm

SUNDAY MASS
Time: 8am, 10am, 12noon, 5.30pm

PUBLIC HOLIDAY
Time: 8am, 6.30pm

SATURDAY MORNING MASS
Time: 7am

SATURDAY NOVENA DEVOTION
English: 8am, 9.30am, 11am, 1pm, 4pm, 5.30pm
Mandarin: 2.30pm
Confession: After every Novena Service except after the 11am service.

DAYS OF OBLIGATION
Time: 7pm (Eve of Day of Obligation)
6.30am, 12.15pm, 7pm

Novena notes

A Prayer Before The Blessed Sacrament

Outside the noisy traffic flows past. People rush hither and thither. I leave that behind me for a while as I come before you, Lord. I don't exclude my sisters and brothers. I bring them with me, for I know that they are equally dear to you. I have nothing yet, because I have you, I have everything. Here I am at peace. Here I experience my true worth - not in my possessions or achievements, but in knowing that I am loved by you.



Feast of Corpus Christi

Today's feast celebrates the real presence of the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ, the Son of God, in the Eucharist.

On Holy Thursday, we celebrated the institution of the Eucharist in a somber atmosphere leading to Good Friday. Corpus Christi emphasizes the joy of the Eucharist being the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ.

DAWN Skill Development Programme for foreign domestic workers

Registration is open for courses on Baking, Cooking, Cake Decoration, Sewing and Handicraft from July 2018 till December 2018.

The 2nd Batch 2018 Care-giving Course is scheduled to begin on Sunday 15 July 2018.

Classes will be conducted on 1st & 3rd Sundays of each month.

Dates : Sundays, 3rd, 10th & 17th June 2018.

Time : 10 am to 2 pm
Venue: DAWN,
Good Shepherd Place,
9, Lorong 8, Toa Payoh,
Singapore 319253.

Contact: 96702880 (Suzeth) or 82333728 (Sr. Barbara)



Donations for our new pews

The pews give us the place to sit in silence, pray and worship. Your gift would be etched on a plaque affixed to the side of the pews.

Brochures can be obtained from the Reception Office.

Safety Checks

For our peace of mind and the safety of all, our Ministers of Hospitality will be carrying out a simple check of bags and bulky items being brought into the Church.

Please give them your full cooperation. Thank you.

Confessionals For The Elderly And Wheelchair Bound

Two Confessionals are now available for the elderly and wheelchair bound. These are located on the left side of the Reconciliation Chapel. These are also available for all penitents, but PRIORITY is to be given to the elderly and those in wheelchairs.

Maintenance of the new church

Now that our building fund target has been met, all further donations will go towards our Church Maintenance Fund.

You can donate by cheque. You can now also donate via GIRO.

Kindly issue your cheque payable to:

Redemptorist Fathers Maintenance Fund.

Those who wish to donate via GIRO, please obtain the GIRO Form from the Reception desk.

Our credit card machine can now accept donations to the Maintenance Fund via Pay Wave.

Thank you very much for your generous support.

RCIA Chinese Programme

We are starting our new Chinese RCIA Programme on 7th July 2018 every Saturday from 3.15pm to 5.15pm. The application form can be obtained at the Church Office or you can download from www.novenachurch.com

Safety and Security in the Church

When the Church is full, please do not enter. For safety and security no standing along the aisles on Sundays and Days of Obligations. Thank you.