

The Work of the People
The Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ (Corpus Christi)

This Eucharistic day, observed with such solemnity throughout the world, began in a quiet Belgian convent in the thirteenth century, with the vision of a holy nun, St. Juliana. In her vision, she saw the moon, full and bright. It was glorious, except that one part of its disk was in shadow. The meaning of the vision was then revealed to her: the moon represented the liturgical year; the shadow, a missing feast in honor of the Blessed Sacrament. Juliana spoke to her confessor about what she had seen. Amazingly, within thirty-five years, Pope Urban IV had established the Feast of Corpus Christi, the Body of Christ, in the Church's universal calendar.

Hundreds of years later, in 1849, Pope Pius IX added the Feast of the Precious Blood celebrated on July 1. Following the Second Vatican Council, the two liturgies became one solemnity and honor of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ.

Of course, we already had a day honoring the Eucharist: the Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper on Holy Thursday, which even includes a procession with the Blessed Sacrament. But the purpose and the mood of the two processions are strikingly different.

On Holy Thursday, we walk with Jesus to the Mount of Olives, to keep watch with him on the night of his betrayal. The sacrament is carried in the ciborium, covered with the humeral veil: and Christ's glory, too, is veiled as he undergoes his Passion. On Corpus Christi, we walk in the afterglow of Easter Time, in company with the Risen Lord. This time, the Blessed Sacrament is exposed in a monstrance: the Lord's glory is not hidden, but visible to all.

Corpus Christi is one of the most Catholic of days, an expression of our faith in the Real Presence of Christ in the Blessed Sacrament. And yet, this celebration is also outward looking, carrying the liturgy out of the church and into the streets. We come together in all our diversity, and we celebrate our unity.

The reflection for this solemnity of Corpus Christi is from J. Peter Nixon who is a regular contributor to *Give Us This Day*. He works in detention ministry in Northern California.

Several years ago, I was leading a communion service for inmates at a county jail near my home.

During my reflection on the Scriptures, I noticed a young man weeping quietly, just a tear or two streaming down his face. After the service, he remained seated while the other men got up to leave. I walked over to him, placed my hand on his shoulder and asked, "Are you okay?" He rose, wrapped his arms around me in a bear hug, and began weeping into my shoulder. We just stood there holding each other for several moments until he released me.

What this young man needed that morning was not the words of my reflection and perhaps not even the Word of God in the Scriptures. He needed to be touched. He needed an embrace that would communicate better than any words, "You are loved. You are forgiven. You are not alone."

The feast of the Body and Blood of Christ is celebrated after the close of the Easter season. We have walked with Jesus through his passion, death, and resurrection. The fires of Pentecost console us after Jesus departs for a final time in the Ascension. After all of this is finished, we face the challenge of living out Jesus' teaching day by day. Sometimes that challenge can feel overwhelming.

In the Eucharist, Jesus leaves us with more than a memory to sustain us. He gives us his touch. He gives us a powerful embrace that says to us: "You are loved. You are forgiven. You are not alone."

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: 2 Kgs. 17:5-8, 13-15a, 18/Mt. 7:1-5

Tuesday: 2 Kgs. 19:9b-11, 14-21, 31-35a, 36/
Mt. 7:6, 12-14

Wednesday: 2 Kgs. 22:8-13; 23:1-3/Mt. 7:15-20

Thursday: Is. 49:1-6/Acts 13:22-26/Lk. 1:57-66, 80

Friday: Ez. 34:11-16/Rom 5:5b-11/Lk. 15:3-7

Saturday: Lam. 2:2, 10-14, 18-19/Lk. 2:41-51

Sunday: 1 Kgs. 19:16b, 19-21/Gal. 5:1, 13-18/Lk. 9:51-62

A FATHERS PRAYER

*Dear Father in Heaven,
 as a father, help me to follow Your example
 to be patient, to be caring,
 to be understanding, to be forgiving,
 to be firm, to be compassionate,
 to be a teacher, to be loving,
 to be a good listener.
 And most importantly
 to be there as a parent,
 as you are always there for me.
 Amen*

WORSHIP

Monday, June 20
 8:00 am + Lucille Hobson (Hobson Family)
 Tuesday, June 21
 8:00 am + NO MASS
 Wednesday, June 22
 8:00 am + NO MASS
 Thursday, June 23 - The Most Sacred Heart of Jesus
 8:00 am + NO MASS
 Friday, June 24
 8:00 am + For those lost in the mass shootings
 (Dale & Carole Schoiack)
 Saturday, June 25
 4:30 pm + Living & Deceased Parishioners
 Sunday, June 26
 8:00 am + AT ST. BERNADETTE MISSION
 Mary Ann Zinchiak (Coreen M. Wilkinson)
 9:30 am + AT ST. ANTHONY OF PADUA
 Craig Beck (Jim & Ginger Beck)

PARISH EVENTS CALENDAR

Monday, June 20 - Friday, June 24
 Vacation Bible School
 5:00 pm - Family Meal at First Baptist Church
 5:30 pm - 8 pm - Activities
 Saturday, June 25
 3:30 - 4:15 pm - Confession
 Sunday, June 26
 ST. BERNADETTE MISSION
 Before Mass - Confession
 ST. ANTHONY OF PADUA
 After Mass - Confession

ST. ANTHONY OF PADUA
ALTAR SERVERS
 Saturday, June 25 - 4:30 pm
 Sydney Zilhaver
 Sunday, June 26 - 9:30 am
 Max Marteeny

ST. BERNADETTE MISSION STEWARDSHIP	
Offertory	\$665.00
Maintenance	10.00
Good Shepherd	10.00
Ascension	10.00
International Needs	10.00
TOTAL	\$705.00

PETER'S PENCE COLLECTION

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

On June 29th, the Church will celebrate the Solemnity of Sts. Peter and Paul, the two Apostles who shed their blood for Christ in Rome. As every year, the Peter's Pence Collection will be taken throughout the Church on the weekend in June nearest that Solemnity. The collection will be taken in our parishes this year on the weekend of June 25th and 26th.

The Peter's Pence Collection supports the charitable works of our Holy Father, Pope Francis, the successor of St. Peter, as he responds to some of the most urgent needs of people throughout the world, including relief to victims of natural disasters such as earthquakes and floods. Peter's Pence also helps our Holy Father support seminaries and religious houses, orphanages, AIDS treatment centers, and other medical facilities in developing nations, as well as many other charitable works.

From the beginning the Church has made it a priority to help the most in need among our brothers and sisters in the human family. Your prayers and contributions will allow this important work to continue.

Through our support of the Peter's Pence Collection, we are also helping to strengthen the ties that bind us together as the Family of God. Thank you for your generosity.

Sincerely yours in Christ,
 The Most Reverend Lawrence T. Persico, JCL
 Bishop of Erie

DIOCESAN ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

The 2022 Diocesan Anniversary Celebration Liturgies for couples celebrating 25, 40, 50, 60, or more years of marriage will be held Sunday, August 7, 2022 at 2:00 pm at Holy Cross in Fairview. To register, please contact the parish office Mon, Tues, Thurs, Fri from 9:00 am - 3:00 pm. before July 10, 2022.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Vacation Bible School will be next week Monday, June 20 thru Thursday, June 24. The Family meal will be from 5 pm - 5:30 pm at the First Baptist Church with activities starting at 5:30 thru 8 pm. in the parking lot, weather permitting. If rain, activities will move to St. Anthony Parish Center.

*"Holy Spirit,
 help me not to judge anyone today"*

ST. ANTHONY OF PADUA STEWARDSHIP	
Offertory	\$1,314.00
Maintenance	322.00
Candles	55.00
Peter's Pence	20.00
CSA	835.00
TOTAL	\$2,546.00
Catholic Services Appeal	
Pledged: \$31,453 Paid: \$24,506	

CHURCH NAME: ST. ANTONY OF PADUA

CHURCH NO.:

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS:
