

## SUNDAY MASS

### ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:

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

**FIRST READING:** Exodus 24:3-8.

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM:** Psalm 116.

### RESPONSE:

*The cup of salvation I will raise; I will call on the name of the Lord.*

1. How can I repay the Lord for all his goodness to me?  
the cup of salvation I will raise;  
will call on the name of the Lord. **R**
2. How precious in the eyes of the Lord is the death of his faithful.  
Your servant am I, the son of your handmaid;  
you have loosened my bonds. **R**
3. A thanksgiving sacrifice I make;  
I will call on the name of the Lord.  
My vows to the Lord I will fulfil  
before all his people. **R**

**SECOND READING:** Hebrews 9:11-15.

### GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

*Alleluia, alleluia! I am the living bread which came down from heaven, says the Lord; if any one eats this bread he will live for ever. Alleluia.*

**GOSPEL:** Mark 14:12-16, 22-26.

### COMMUNION ANTIPHON:

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

## THE WEEK AHEAD

# Live the Word

### Mon 7 Jun Liturgy of the Day

2 Corinthians 1:1-7; Psalm 34; Matthew 5:1-12

Many of us feel that we waste a lot of time. But that really is a matter of perspective, because any place that I am, God is there too! What do I see? What do I learn? How can I act? How can I pray?

### Tue 8 Jun Liturgy of the Day

2 Corinthians 1:18-22; Psalm 119; Matthew 5:13-16

Jesus tells us not to hide the good that we do. Others may be inspired by our example and also do good, and be drawn closer to God. But be sure to give all the credit, in your heart and in your words, to God.

### Wed 9 Jun (St Ephrem, DcD)

2 Corinthians 3:4-11; Psalm 99; Matthew 5:17-19

Sometimes the process of a journey can be painful, and a struggle. But once you reach your destination it all seems to disappear. The difficulties recede and all you have is the present laid out before you.

### Thu 10 Jun Liturgy of the Day

2 Corinthians 3:15-4:1.3-6; Psalm 85; Matthew 5:20-26

Do you imagine that you can consider of your relationship with God without thinking of your relationship with other people – family, friends, neighbours? Our faith requires us to hold all people in our hearts.

### Fri 11 Jun SACRED HEART OF JESUS

Hosea 11:1.3-4.8-9; Isaiah 12:2-6; John 19:31-37

The Sacred Heart of Jesus is the symbol of Jesus' eternal and compassionate love for each of us. It is our reminder of who God is for us – and of who we are meant to be for one another.

### Sat 12 Jun Immaculate Heart of Mary

Isaiah 61:9-11; 1 Samuel 2:1.4-8; Luke 2:41-51

We can only get a sense of the utter desolation Mary must have felt as she stood at the foot of the Cross. But she was not alone. We, too, like the disciples beside her are called to bring comfort and compassion.

### Sun 13 Jun 11TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Ezekiel 17:22-24; Psalm 92; Mark 4:26-34

"Mindfulness" is a word commonly used today. It inspires us to stop and to be aware of the present moment, of what we are actually doing and why. It calls us to stop rushing and hurrying through life...

(KEY: **SOLEMNITY**; FEAST; Memorial; (Optional Memorial) Dc=Deacon; D=Doctor)

# Catholic Link

## EASTER SPIRIT

Corpus Christi • Year B  
Divine Office: Week II • 6 June 2021



## Corpus Christi

The author of *The Lord of the Rings*, J.R.R. Tolkien, a Catholic, advised his son, "Out of the darkness of my life, so much frustrated, I put before you the one thing to love on earth: the Blessed Sacrament.... There you will find romance, glory, honour, fidelity, and the true way of all your loves on earth....which everyone's heart desires".

When the priest says the consecrating words over the bread and wine, he is lending his lips to the glorious Christ to effect his sacramental presence among us. These consecrating words are also whispered in the ears of all disciples to draw our attention to his social presence in other people. "This is my body", Jesus tells us, referring to the person before us, especially if poor and obscure. "This is my blood", he tells us, referring to the sick and suffering. His presence is everywhere now since through his resurrection he fills the whole of creation (Ephesians 1:23).

When we attend Mass and receive Holy Communion, we are celebrating the Incarnation, Life, Death, Resurrection and Ascension of Jesus of Nazareth. This is way beyond any idea of a mere static presence; this is our way of entering personally into the mystery of God-with-us, of our being present at and being drawn into the full Paschal Mystery of the Death, Rising and Ascension of Jesus.

We become part of the mystery of redemption. We take part in the Event of Events. We are being deified – sharing in Christ's divinity. In the Eucharist we experience time and eternity, the human and the divine, the suffering and the glory of Our Saviour. This is way beyond private feelings, even of devotion; it is way beyond ritual

formalism, way beyond aesthetic refinement, way beyond any "way beyond".

Catholics around the world, including Pope Francis, have been reflecting on the Eucharist in a time of pandemic. We have witnessed a revolution in communicating, even the most sacred ceremonies, by live streaming. People have been spoiled for choice, able to follow Mass from almost anywhere on the globe – including China! With the inclusion of a "Spiritual Communion", many people have experienced grace in a new way.

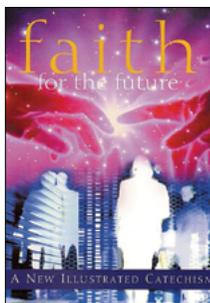
Some communities have live-streamed Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, complete with a beautiful setting and appropriate music.

It goes without saying that we are right to observe the restrictions and take the precautions. But there is a growing sense that many Catholics may not return to regular attendance at Mass. It is understandable that some people who are especially vulnerable are rightly nervous about leaving home at all. But as social restrictions are relaxed, more and more people are venturing out – to shops, to visit family and friends etc. Some may be tempted to continue to refrain from entering a Church – even when the risk level in our churches is lower than in supermarkets.

The feast of the Body and Blood of Jesus this year includes a call to reconnect with the Eucharistic mystery in a personal way. While grace can work anywhere and at any time, we need to meet as a community, to pray together, to grow holy together, and to reach out to others as a community. Come back to Mass! Nothing can replace the Real Presence of Christ in the Eucharist!

Here is a book which provides a popular yet authentic interpretation of the teaching of the Catholic Church which is appropriate for today's world.

*Faith for the Future* follows the structure of the Catechism of the Catholic Church and provides references to each section which makes it an ideal way to study the teaching of the Church in an attractive and easily assimilated way. Usually sells for R70.00



R50 plus delivery



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