

Corpus Christi

JUNE 6, 2021



Reading I: Exodus 24: 3-8

Moses, as leader, ratifies the Covenant between God and the people. The blood of the animal is splashed on both the altar and the people as the sign of this union.

Reading II: Hebrews 9: 11-15

Just as the Hebrew high priest had the right of access to the Holy of Holies because he bore the blood of the sacrificial animals with him, so Jesus the High Priest of the New Covenant, by the shedding of His Blood has access to the heavenly sanctuary.

The Gospel: Mark 14: 12-16, 22-26

Jesus had pre-arranged the room in the upper story of a house in Jerusalem. Mark connects the bread and wine at the meal with Jesus' imminent death.



5 p.m.: Nancy Wood, Joe Britto, Diane Orlando and Chris Pierce

10 a.m.: Janet Stinson, Jack Shapiro, Joe Britto and Stephen Sanabria

LAST WEEK'S MASS ATTENDANCE

5 p.m. Saturday, May 29: **46** in the church.

10 a.m. Sunday, May 30: **92** in the church;
14 in the hall. Total: **106**.

GRATITUDE

Your Parish Community is

GRATEFUL

for your consistent contributions.

May 23-May 30: Totaled \$ 4,233.57

Envelopes: \$1,652.00 – Online: \$ 2,581.57

THANK YOU!

THE CHURCH'S GREATEST TREASURE

This weekend's readings tell us it is suddenly Holy Thursday again, the night that changed the world. They take us back to the Last Supper just where we left it, without much time to celebrate the miraculous change brought to the bread and wine that had passed around that famous table. Yes, we acknowledge the events of this first night of the Triduum. But at that time, we were collectively conscious of Christ's imminent death. It hardly seemed right to be celebrating.

But now, on this side of the Resurrection, it is truly right and just that we give full recognition, honor and thanksgiving for what Jesus has given us. It is the church's true and greatest treasure: The Body and Blood of Christ, "Corpus Christi" in the traditional Latin name of today's feast. It is not our real estate, nor the tangible valuables in painted art or sculpture. Not even the Gospels have the first rank. For this sacrament is Christ Himself: Body, blood, soul and divinity.

It all began when the real Jesus took real bread and wine and identified Himself with them. With centuries of church history behind us, concomitant with the development of her doctrine and devotion, more could be said and



has been. Saints male and female, together with popes and theologians have had their say, and we can all benefit from them. But the fact remains that we start with the remarkably simple ritual gesture done by a Man who was facing death.

It happened on a night two thousand plus years ago in the upper room of a borrowed house in the city of Jerusalem amid that city's most hectic time of year, the annual Passover. It happened in a world lit only by fire. But the greater fire of mutual love between mankind and God has stayed lit, despite the tempests of war and human folly ever since.

In his new book, "Things Worth Dying For," Charles J. Chaput, OFM Cap., retired archbishop of Philadelphia, posed questions to a broad selection of his many friends. "What gives you the most joy about the church" was responded to by a convert, husband and father: "*The Eucharist, without question ... The church gives me a home with spiritual peers I never had before and is more of a family than I ever experienced. Most of all, the church gives us the sacraments, and they've allowed me to encounter Jesus with greater intimacy than I ever knew.*"

Converts get us to snap out of any stupid stupor that the easy availability of the Eucharist can induce.

Of course, as members of the living church, present in the world with all her strengths and weaknesses, we have to remember that other meaning of "Corpus Christi," namely, that we are also the Body of Christ, with Him as our Head.

**God love you and give you His peace,
Rev. Leonard N. Peterson**

Without wood
a fire goes out;
without gossip
a quarrel dies
down.

- Proverbs 26:20

RELIGIOUS ITEMS WANTED

Do you feel funny about throwing out broken rosary beads or crucifixes?

We have a solution. The week of June 21, St. Mary Recycle Mission will be stopping by St. Paul's. That will give you the last couple of weeks of spring to spring clean your home of **unwanted religious goods** and then drop them off at the church office.

Kimberly Walters spearheads this Lancaster, PA,- based rescue-and-recycle mission that was born in a Dumpster more than 20 years ago when usable items cleared from a church basement were found. Since then, hundreds of thousands of items have been collected, cleaned, repaired and sometimes repurposed before being provided to churches, convents and schools worldwide. Sometimes it's a poor parish that reaches out for altar basics it cannot afford. Other times, a church might be facing replacing everything that a natural disaster claimed.

So gather your medals and holy cards, vestments from the family priest (any condition), altar ware, framed pictures, small prayer books (please, no library-type books) and even your broken rosaries.

There will also be a collection box in the hall through **June 20** for your convenience.

A CALL TO SOCIAL JUSTICE

Ahead of last Sunday's ecumenical prayer service to recall the Tulsa Race Massacre of 1921, Bishop David A. Konderla said it was important "to pause and reflect on how such an unspeakable horror could take place so that we can avoid any such evil in our own day." To read the full article, visit:

www.americamagazine.org/faith/2021/06/01/tusla-race-massacre-anniversary-prayer-service-240774?pnspid=ivd986ECBRWN0CVjonPJc0k6ZCmQ9gCQrtoU9fZ7&utm_source=piano&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=9999

Or for one-click access to this and all the other reflections, go to www.stpaulsbullville.org; then click "Read More" under the Social Justice heading on the home page.

YOUTH MINISTRY UPDATE

What do Brad Pitt, bologna, beaver and Bolivia have in common with Queen Elizabeth, quarter, quail and Quebec or Thomas Jefferson, telephone, turtle and TV?

They are all examples of answers given during last week's meeting during which the game Name, Thing, Animal and Place was played.

But while virtual meetings have played an important role, everyone is anxious to shut down the computer and turn up outdoors to play basketball or perhaps partake of the ice cream truck. So families are encouraged to sign up for the YM Remind group by texting **@stpaulsym** to **81010** – the most efficient way to stay in touch should inclement weather force the cancellation of an event.

The evening included Scripture sharing, of course:

John 3:17 - For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through Him.

Romans 5:5 - And hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured out into our hearts through the Holy Spirit, who has been given to us.

Psalms 73:26 - My flesh and my heart may fail, but God is the strength of my heart and my portion forever.

Psalms 56:8 - Record my misery; list my tears on your scroll[a] - are they not in your record?

2 Thessalonians 3:3 - But the Lord is faithful, and He will strengthen you and protect you from the evil one.

Isaiah 6:3 - And they were calling to one another "Holy, holy, holy is the Lord Almighty; the whole earth is full of His glory."

Isaiah 6:11 - Then I said, "For how long, Lord? And He answered: "Until the cities lie ruined and without inhabitant, until the houses are left deserted and the fields ruined and ravaged."



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