

Mass Intentions ~ June 24-30, 2019

Monday @ 7:30 am — Dearl Holmes (RIP)
Tuesday @ 7:30 am — Michael & Bridgett Hehir (RIP)
Wednesday @ 6:00 pm — Fr. Patrick Noonan (RIP)
Thursday @ 7:30 am — John Reiss (RIP)
Friday @ 7:30 am — Fr. Brian Carroll (Sp Int)
Saturday @ 5:30 pm — Marie Lodes (RIP)
Sunday @ 8:00 am — Pat Wade (RIP)
Sunday @ 10:30 am — Mike Brown (RIP)

New Prayer Requests

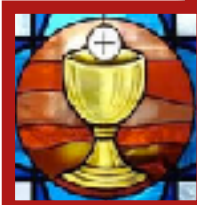
Special Intentions:
Mattie Pavolini
Gerri Gardner, mother of Stephen Gardner

Rest of the Soul:
Barry Carpenter, father of Anthony Carpenter
Maurice Thomas
Catherine Willoughby, mother of Danny Willoughby
Rick Simmonds, family member of Linda & Joe Granger

Altar Flowers this week are donated by: Donna Lee Reiss, in Memory of John R Reiss.

Blessed Mother Flowers this week are donated by: Domingo & Maria Quino, in Honor of their 16th Wedding Anniversary.

Sacrament of Reconciliation — Saturday @ 4:30-5:00 pm (or by appointment — call the Church office)
Adoration this week: Monday — Friday, 8 am - 12noon



*This is my body that is for you. Do this in remembrance of me.
This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it,
in remembrance of me.*

~ upcoming events ~ save the dates ~

Our Home Pledge Weekend — Please turn in your Capital Campaign Donation Envelope today!
Contact the Church office if you would like to set up an Automatic Draft or if you have any questions.

St. Dominic Ministry — June 25th Sign up today to provide lunch items for families of ICU patients.

The Knights of Columbus Smoked Boston Butts — Last weekend to order yours. Cost is \$40 each. Pick up is June 30th.

Baptism Preparation Class — June 30th @ 9:15 am in Room 110 of the Family Life Center. This is required for all parents wishing to have a child baptized. Godparents are welcome to attend, also. Our next class will be in September.

Life in the Spirit Seminar and Healing Prayer — August 17th at St. Jude Catholic Church in Pearl. No charge for the event; a love offering will be taken up. Lunch will be provided; \$10 suggested donation. Presented by the Marian Servants of Jesus, the Lamb of God. Register by August 10th. Contact by phone 601-906-1338 or 601-278-0423. Email tepreuss@yahoo.com or mmjroberts@gmail.com

FINANCIAL REPORT

Weekly Offertory Collection for June 15/16:

General Fund = \$19,157 Second Collection = \$460

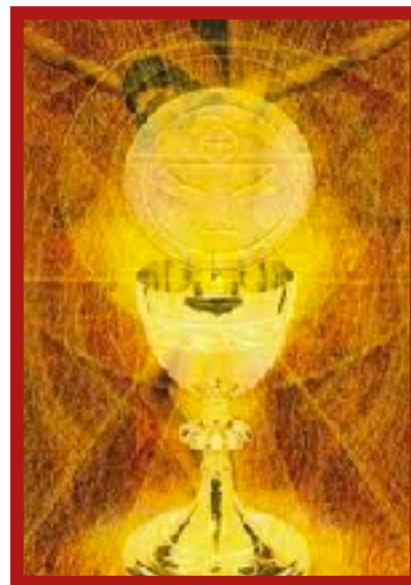
***Note: We will have a Second Collection next weekend, June 29/30 for Peter's Pence** which provides Pope Francis with the funds he needs to carry out his charitable works around the world. You can learn more at usccb.org

Office phone: 601-992-9547 Summer Hours: Tues - Thurs, 8:00 am - 4:00 pm; Fri, 8:00 am- noon
www.saintpaulcatholicchurch.com



Our mission is to invite everyone into a deeper relationship with Jesus Christ.

**June 23, 2019 ~ Corpus Christi Sunday
The Most Holy Body & Blood of Christ**



Living Bread ~ Living Faith

"I am the living bread that came down from heaven, says the Lord; whoever eats this bread will live forever." ~John 6:51

"The Catholic Church teaches that in the Eucharist, the Body and Blood of the God-man are really, truly, substantially, and abidingly present together with His soul and Divinity by reason of the Transubstantiation of the bread and wine into the Body and Blood of Christ. This takes place in the unbloody sacrifice of the Mass" (Council of Trent, 1551; CCC # 1374, note 200)

Belief takes Faith. Belief takes desire. Belief takes the Holy Spirit.

It is Faith that tells us what Jesus said is Truth — that He is who He says He is. It is our desire to know Him in a real and personal way that brings us into relationship with Him. It is the Holy Spirit who leads and guides us in our beliefs. God knew we needed to taste and see, so He gave us His Son —Body, Blood, and Spirit. The opening prayer at Mass calls our attention to Jesus' suffering and death, and our belief and worship of Him in the Eucharist.

"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."

At every Mass, we celebrate the Real Presence of Christ in the Eucharist, and because of our intimate communion with Jesus, we celebrate the Church as the Body of Christ. He is the head. We who believe, His followers, are the body. This unity and diversity make us His Church. (Colossians 1:15-20; 1Corinthians 12:12-31)

This weekend, our parish is continuing the strong Catholic tradition of keeping 40 Hours of Adoration. How wonderful to know that at every hour, for 40 consecutive hours, our brothers and sisters (the body) are united with Jesus (the head) in the Adoration Chapel to pray for our St. Paul family! We come before Our Lord and humbly ask for insight on where He is leading us. We seek an outpouring of the Holy Spirit to continue to move us forward in His Mission. He has great plans for us!

The number 40 has rich meaning in the Bible — 40 days of rain (Noah), 40 years of wandering (Moses), 40 days of prayer & fasting in the desert (Jesus). Fr. Gerry leads us in these 40 hours of solemn exposition and prayer, that we may "keep the main thing, the main thing." We are focused on relationship with Him — Jesus Christ.

HISTORY

The Solemnity of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ (Corpus Christi Sunday) was made a universal feast by Pope Urban IV in the year 1264, to call the Church to focus on two manifestations of the Body of Christ — the Holy Eucharist and the Church. It originated in the Diocese of Liege in the year 1246 as the feast of *Corpus Christi*. In the reforms of Vatican II, *Corpus Christi* was joined with the July 1st Feast of the *Precious Blood* to become one Feast, the *Solemnity of the Body and Blood of the Lord*.

This celebration is essentially three feasts in one: *The Feast of the Eucharistic Sacrifice; The Feast of the Sacrament of the Eucharist; and the Feast of the Real Presence of Jesus in this Sacrament.*

It is a doctrinal feast established for three purposes: 1) to give God collective thanks for Christ's abiding presence with us in the Eucharist and to honor Him there; 2) to instruct the people in the Mystery, Faith and devotion surrounding the Eucharist, and 3) to teach us to appreciate and make use of the great Gift of the Holy Eucharist, both as a Sacrament and as a Sacrifice.

The Catholic Church follows a three-year cycle of the Sunday Liturgy. There is a different theme each year for this Feast of the Body and Blood of Christ. This year, we are in Cycle C which focuses on the priesthood of Jesus. (The theme for Cycle A is the Eucharist as our food and drink; in Cycle B the emphasis is on the Eucharist as the sign of the Covenant.)

SCRIPTURE

Belief in the Real Presence of Jesus in the Holy Eucharist is born from His promise in the Gospel of John to give us His Body and Blood as our spiritual food and drink. This promise was fulfilled at the Last Supper as found in Matthew 26; Mark 14; Luke 22; and 1 Corinthians 11.

Our Readings today are filled with beautiful accounts of Eucharist:

— bread and wine brought as Blessing and Praise of God (Genesis 14:18-20)

— bread and drink offered as thanksgiving, in memory of the Lord's gift on the night before He died (1 Corinthians 11:23-26)

— food, Blessed and broken, in abundance for the multitudes (Luke 9:11-17)

EXEGESIS

"Blessed are those who have not seen and have believed." (John 20:29)

We believe that in the act of consecration during the Liturgy of the Eucharist, through the power of the Holy Spirit, our offerings of bread and wine are truly changed into the Body and Blood of Christ. It is a great mystery of our Faith called transubstantiation. Though the Eucharist remains under the appearances of bread and wine, they do not remain such. They are not merely symbols of His Body and Blood. The bread and wine give way to the glorified, Real Presence of Jesus Christ, Body, Blood, Soul, Divinity.

BELIEF

"Knowledge" of the Eucharist isn't enough. It must translate to my own belief. It is vital for personal relationship with Jesus Christ. Let's ask ourselves —

What do I believe? Am I changed when I receive Holy Communion?

Is my "Amen" an honest, heartfelt response of thanksgiving, affirming my belief in His true Presence?

Do I hunger for the Precious Body & Blood of Christ?

What if the privilege to receive the Eucharist was suddenly taken away from me or I was told I could only receive Him once a year — how would that change my appreciation for this Gift of His Love for me?

Catechesis of the Good Shepherd



Our children enrolled in the Sunday morning experience of the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd (CGS) develop a great understanding of the Liturgy of the Eucharist in their two-year preparation for First Holy Communion. The founders of CGS, Sofia Cavalletti and Gianna Gobbi, explain why the Sacred Mystery of the Mass is not too great for young children to grasp.

"We saw early on in our experience with young children (as Dr. Maria Montessori had previously witnessed) how attracted they are to the physical, sensorial aspects of the Mass: the liturgical colors, the beauty of the altar, and the pleasurable activity of setting up the model altar for themselves. We also saw how drawn they were to the silence and the solemnity and to participating with dignity and in processions and prayer celebrations.

"The young child gravitates toward what is simplest and most essential, and also deepest. It is we adults who tend to complicate things. There is nothing simpler or more essential in its greatness than the Eucharist, and the young child is well equipped to perceive and enjoy the gift it is."

Here is a sampling of materials used in our Atrium, which are a helpful reminder for all ages:

We celebrate the Mass because God the Father gathers His family. In the Liturgy of the Word, He offers people the gift of His Word contained in the Bible. In the Liturgy of the Eucharist, God offers people the Gift of Himself in the person of Jesus Christ.

Here is the step-by-step understanding of the summit of the Mass — the Consecration :

- At the beginning of the Eucharist, the bread and wine are prepared, and few drops of water are added to the wine.
- Then there is a prayer to the Father, asking God to send the Holy Spirit to transform the bread and wine.
- The priest repeats the words which Jesus said at the Last Supper, the words which express Jesus' wish to give all of Himself as a Gift to all persons of all times.
- To this Gift of Himself which Jesus makes to us, we respond, first of all by making a solemn proclamation. "Save us, Savior of the world, for by Your Cross and Resurrection You have set us free."
- We respond to God's gift by offering ourselves back to Him, together with Jesus Christ. "Through Him, and with Him, and in Him, O God, almighty Father, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor is Yours, for ever and ever. Amen."
- The Father invites all children (of all ages) to His table. His children then turn towards Him with the prayer which Jesus taught. (Pray the Our Father)
- The people gathered before God's table show that they are brothers and sisters by exchanging a sign of peace.
- The source of the Peace which unites people to each other and to God is the One, Broken Bread from which we are all nourished. (The Body and Blood of Christ is presented to us. Receive Him.)

