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Administrator: Fr. Roy Farrell

Deacon Assistant: Deacon Raymond Frendo

Parish Secretary: Mrs. Rita Apalit

REGULAR OFFICE HOURS

Monday to Friday: 10:00 am to 5:30 pm

MASS SCHEDULES & OTHER ACTIVITIES Weekday Morning Mass

Monday, Wednesday & Friday - 9:15 am (Maltese/English) Tuesday & Thursday - 9:15 am (English)

First Friday of the Month:

Bilingual Mass at 9.15 am (Maltese/English) Adoration & Benediction from 10:00 am to 12:00 noon

Weekend Masses;

Saturday 5:30 pm (English) Sunday: 9:00 am (English)

> 10:30 am (Maltese/English)) 12:00 noon (English)

Weekly Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Every Wednesday from 7:00 pm to 8:00 pm

SACRAMENTS

Baptism: Please contact the Parish Office for more details

Every1st Saturday of every month at 10:30am. You can find the Registration Form on our website.

Marriages:

Contact the priest at least one year in advance of the wedding. A marriage preparation course is required. You can find the Registration Form on our website.

Sacrament of Reconciliation:

First Fridays from 8:40 am to 9:10 am Saturdays: from 4:45 pm to 5:15 pm Anytime by appointment.

Anointing of the Sick:

Contact the priests. Parishioners are reminded that this is not a sacrament that should be left for the last possible minute. It is a Sacrament for the sick, not just for the dying.

Saturday, June 10 5:30pm

• +Giovanna 'Joan' Zammit

Sunday, June 11

Corpus Christi

9:00am

+Missa Pro Populo

10:30am

- +Moses & Elizabeth Mifsud
- +Emanuel Mercieca

12:00 noon

+Salvina & Paul Ballucci

Monday, June 12

Tuesday, June 13

St. Anthony Of Padua

+Eugenio Sturino, Mariano & Amalia Stellato

Wednesday, June 14

• +Fr. Lawrence Bonavia

Thursday, June 15

+Fenech Family

Friday, June 16

The Most Sacred Heart of Jesus

+Julia Camilleri

Sunday, June 11, 2023 Corpus Christi - Year A

From the Desk of Fr. Roy...



This week's reflection will focus on Corpus Christi, including its past and how it influences us today.

The Feast of Corpus Christi, or the Feast of the Body and Blood of Christ (as it is often called today), goes back to the 13th century. But it celebrates something far older: the institution of the Sacrament of Holy Communion at the Last Supper.

On September 8, 1264, Pope Urban IV issued the papal decree which established the Feast of Corpus Christi as a universal feast of the Church. It was to be celebrated on the

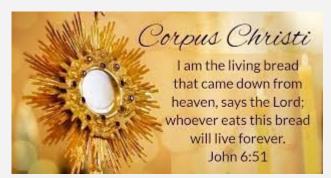
Thursday following Trinity Sunday.

As time passed, the celebration was expanded to include an Eucharistic procession. The Sacred Host was carried in a monstrance around the town, with hymns and litanies. The faithful would venerate the Body of Christ as the procession passed by.

Doubts among some Catholics concerning the Real Presence of Christ in the Holy Eucharist have lately arisen. It has resulted in a decline in the observance of this ancient tradition. This solemn day is an opportunity to strengthen our devotion to the Holy Eucharist and to implore God to give His grace to our families and parish.

Since it is not possible to hold a procession outside the church on Sunday without a permit, I have scheduled a Holy Hour at 3pm. During the Holy Hour, there will be a brief procession around the church at four designated stops. Each station will include a gospel passage, a prayer, and a period of silent prayer, concluding with the special Corpus Christi Litany.

After the Holy Hour, please join us in St. Joseph's Room (upper hall), for some light refreshments.



ON TUESDAY, JUNE 13TH THE MEMORIAL OF ST. ANTHONY, BREAD WILL BE BLESSED AND DISTRIBUTED FOLLOWING THE 9: 15 AM MASS.

A common practice of blessing and distributing loaves of bread in honor of Saint Anthony is known as Saint Anthony's Bread. It is traditional to give alms to those in need in appreciation for the blessings granted through the prayers of St Anthony. Sometimes the alms are given for the education of priests. In some places, parents also make a gift for the poor after placing a newborn child under the protection of St. Anthony.

Different legends or stories account for the donation of what is called St. Anthony Bread. By at least one account, it goes back to 1263, when it is said a child drowned near the Basilica of St. Anthony, which was still being built. His mother promised that if the child was restored to her, she would give for the poor an amount of corn equal to the child's weight. Her prayer and promise were rewarded with the boy's return to life.

Another reason for the practice is traced back to Louise Bouffier, a shopkeeper in Toulon, France. A locksmith was prepared to break open her shop door after no key would open it. Bouffier asked the locksmith to try his keys one more time after she prayed. She promised to give bread to the poor in honor of St. Anthony if the door would open without force. The door then opened. After others received favors through the intercession of St. Anthony, they joined Louise Bouffier in founding the charity of St. Anthony Bread.

To show appreciation for the blessings granted through the intercession of St. Anthony, you may place your offering in the basket near St. Anthony's statue or place in the Sunday collection.

Gospel Summary

As much as Jesus' listeners didn't understand how Jesus could really mean that they were to eat his body and drink his blood, Jesus made it very clear that that was precisely what he did mean. Once again, it was hard for the people of Jesus' day (and still hard for us today, too) to understand what Jesus tried to say because they only thought in earthly, literal terms. This Gospel passage gives us one of our firm foundations for the institution of the Eucharist so that, in faith, we will eat the bread that will give us everlasting life.

Reflection for Families

Many times we prepare our children for the "big" events in their lives forgetting how much of life takes place in the ordinary moments. For example, first communion is often a big production either at the hands of the parish or how families choose to dress their children and celebrate after mass. The really important message of this Gospel reading, however, is how joyful and thankful are we when we receive our one hundredth or one thousandth communion. Our goal might be to help our children continue to be thankful and joyful each time they receive communion. This can happen when they see how happy we are to receive communion ourselves.

Bringing the Gospel Into Your Family

After an evening meal this week, talk together about how your family was fed at the meal. Did you affirm one another? Did you listen to the stories told, the events of each person's day? Think about how each person individually and together as a family you were nourished by the food and conversation. See if your family can come up with any similarities to the nourishment of your meal and the nourishment offered us at Mass and in community with others.

Discussion Starters

- 1. What I am most thankful for at Eucharist is . . .
- 2. Jesus promises me "real life" in this Gospel. To me this means . . .
- 3. I know I received the "bread of life" when . . .

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This Sunday, during the 12 noon Mass, the following children will be receiving the Sacrament of First Holy Communion:



Katelyn Avenins
Frederick Caruana
Chloe Correia
Khloe Frendo
Gabriel Sanguigni
Matthew Sousa
Martha Xuereb

Congratulations to these children and their families. As a parish community, we accompany them with our prayers. May the love and joy of Jesus be always present in their hearts

A big thank you to our catechists Jason Borg and Abigail Apalit, who helped to prepare these children for this very important day in their lives. **VOCATION REFLECTION** "God so loved the world that he gave his only-begotten Son..."
How can you best serve God in a response to that love? If God is calling you to the priesthood, diaconate, or consecrated life, contact Fr. Matt McCarthy, Director of Vocations, Archdiocese of Toronto at 416-968-0997.

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