

May 29, 2016

Solemnity of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ~ Corpus Christi

From The Desk of Msgr. Corrigan:

We have been reading about the early church and marveling at its eventual success. We can understand the first generation of believers. There are many religious groups who are able to hold their believers together for the first twenty years but then they gradually die out. Christianity was able to survive into the second, third generation and beyond; with that foundation they began to attract more and more people until eventually they became the dominant religion of the Roman Empire. There are many reasons for this success but for me a key reason was the celebration of the Eucharist or what we call today the Mass. From the earliest days they gathered together for prayer, learning about the life of Jesus and then had a meal of bread and wine which they believed was Jesus. This meal was the central binding force in their lives. It has kept us together, sustained us and energized us spiritually for 1,983 years. Today we celebrate this Eucharist, our spiritual food.

I heard a new expression this week: "Catholic in Exile". The usual expression is "I am a lapsed Catholic" I think this is a better name for people who deliberately (not just laziness) don't practice their religion anymore but still consider themselves Catholic. They may be ready to return to their homeland (Catholicism) when circumstances change.



COLLECTION: the collection for last Sunday May 22, 2016 was

\$3,855.00

The second collection next Sunday June 5, 2016 will be our collection to support the Catholic Church in Africa.

Corpus Christi: Today gives us an opportunity to reflect on our celebration of the Eucharist in a way that we may not have time for on Holy Thursday. This action is central to who we are as Christians. It defines us and builds up the Church as the Body of Christ in the world so that we can continue Jesus' mission on earth. Let us enter into this celebration giving praise and thanks to God for so great a gift.

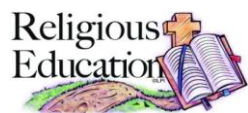


First Reading: *Genesis 14:18-20 (page 45)* – Melchizedek, offers up bread and wine; he gives thanks to God for granting deliverance to his people.

Responsorial Psalm: *Psalm 110 (page 46)* - **"You are a priest forever in the line of Melchizedek!"**

Second Reading: *1 Corinthians 11:23-26 (page 46)* – Paul narrates the institution of the Eucharist: the Church will be able to join itself to **Jesus'** sacrifice till the end of time.

Gospel: *John 6:51 (page 47)* – **Jesus** miraculously feeds 5,000 and more people in abundance with the meager resources of five loaves and two fish.



Religious Education News:

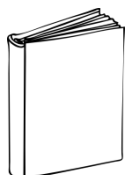
First Holy Communion:

❖ **First Holy Communion Ceremony Group 2 -June 4, 2016 at 10:00am**



Memorial Day May 30, 2016: there will be a Memorial Day

Mass at 10:00am on Monday May 30, 2016 at St. Mary's Cemetery. For your comfort please bring a folding chair to the Mass. Also please be advised that the rectory office will be closed for Memorial Day.



Msgr. Corrigan's Book on the History of our Parish: will be out mid June, the price of the book will be a \$30.00 donation to the church; if you would like it mailed to you there will be a \$5.00 charge for mailing purposes.