

**JUNE 26, 2011: The Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ**



*"I am the living bread that came down from heaven; whoever eats this bread will live forever; and the bread that I will give is my flesh for the life of the world. For my flesh is true food, and my blood is true drink. Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood remains in me and I in him." — [Jn 6:51, 53-56]*

**LITURGY**

**MASS INTENTIONS & READINGS**

**Sunday, June 26, Most Holy Body & Blood of Christ**

**(Dt 8:2-3, 14b-16a/1 Cor 10:16-17/Jn 6:51-58)**

- 8:00 am- For our Parish Family
- 10:30 am- Mass of Thanksgiving – Jerry & Margaret Kallus' 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary
- 5:00 pm- Father's Day Novena (Spanish Mass)

**Monday, June 27, St. Cyril of Alexandria, bishop & doctor of the Church (Gn 18:16-33/Mt 8:18-22)**

- 7:00 am- Carl Haas
- 10:00 am- Father's Day Novena (H'ville Rehab)

**Tuesday, June 28, St. Irenaeus, bishop & martyr (Gn 19:15-29/Mt 8:23-27)**

- 7:00 am- Mass of Thanksgiving – Tommy & Elsie Grahmann's 52<sup>nd</sup> Anniversary

**Wednesday, June 29, Sts. Peter & Paul, apostles (Acts 12:1-11/2 Tm 4:6-8, 17-18/Mt 16:13-19)**

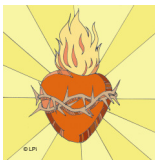
- 7:00 am- Ron Zappe
- 8:05 am- Frank & Annie Schaefer and Wylie & Mary Jansky

**Thursday, June 30, The First Holy Martyrs of the Holy Roman Church (Gn 22:1b-19/Mt 9:1-8)**

- 7:00 am- Dolores Appelt
- 10:00 am- Ann Gerlich (Stevens)

**Friday, July 1, The Most Sacred Heart of Jesus (Dt 7:6-11/1 Jn 4:7-16/Mt 11:25-30)**

- 7:00 am- Joe N. Steffek
- 8:05 am- Anton Steffek



**Saturday, July 2, The Immaculate Heart of the Blessed Virgin Mary (Gn 27:1-5, 15-29/Lk 2:41-51)**

- 5:30 pm- Grace Ann Liska

**Sunday, July 3 (Zec 9:9-10/Rom 8:9, 11-13/Mt 11:25-30)**

- 8:00 am- Douglas Bludau
- 10:30 am- For our Parish Family

Bulletin Sponsor: In memory of Carl Haas by Lillian Haas & Family.

Radio Broadcast Sponsor: In memory of Baldemar & Refugia Flores, Sr.

Vigil Light: In memory of Joseph & Anna Labay and Edward & Louise Kubena Families.

Our Gift to God: Envelopes-\$6,327; Black & Native American, Catholic Communication Campaign, Catholic University of America-\$193; Ascension Thursday-\$179; Catholic Education-\$1,327; School Endowment-\$15; Church Endowment-\$70; Loose-\$1,000; Children-\$70.

Anniversaries:

|                         |          |         |
|-------------------------|----------|---------|
| Tommy & Elsie Grahmann  | 52 years | June 27 |
| John & Virginia Greer   | 60 years | June 27 |
| Roman & Gertrude Shimek | 56 years | June 28 |



Please pray for the blessing of rain!

**CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

**SUNDAY, JUNE 26**

- Baptism Preparation Class, 9:00 a.m., Rectory. Please call the Rectory in advance to register for the class.
- Sts. Peter & Paul Parish Picnic, Plum. Mass 10 am.
- Covered dish supper after Spanish Mass, Family Center.

**MONDAY, JUNE 27**

- Rosary & evening prayer, 5:30 p.m. in church.
- Parish Finance Council mtg, 6:00 p.m., Mary's House.
- Parish Advisory Council mtg, 6:30 p.m., Mary's House.
- Men's ACTS meeting, 7:00 p.m., Family Center.

**TUESDAY, JUNE 28**

- Quilting Circle, 9:00 a.m., KC Hall of Fame Room.
- Altar Society meeting, 5:15 p.m. in church.

**WEDNESDAY, JUNE 29**

- Divine Mercy Study/Prayers, 7:30 p.m., Church Cry Rm

**THURSDAY, JUNE 30**

- First Friday Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament begins 6:00 pm in church. The intention this month is for *rain*.
- Holy Hour of Eucharistic Adoration, 7:00 p.m., church.

**FRIDAY, JULY 1**

- First Friday Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament ends with Benediction at 6:00 p.m. in church.

**SATURDAY, JULY 2**

- Serra Club Mass for Vocations, 8:30 a.m., Sacred Heart Church, Flatonia.

**SUNDAY, JULY 3**

- Sts. Cyril & Methodius Church Feast, Dubina. Mass 8:45 a.m. Fried Chicken & Sausage Dinner 11am. Auction, antique tractor show, bingo, music & more!

**Among our sick:** Edna Key, Frank Fishar, Helen M. Appelt, Faith Del Castillo, Michael Gerdes, Renae Ross, Hubert & Mary Grahmann, Odessa & Doug Blumberg, Danielle Grady, Rose Thumann, Dr. Michael Moore, John D. Henneke, Bill Gohlke, Monica Barnes, Sterlin Ritchie, Brenda Grahmann, Ed Aulick, Ricky Skelton, Larry Appelt, Victor Pavliska, Robert Butschek, Derrick Berger, Anita Bohuslav, Anita Kallus, Daniel Wick, Josephine Janak, Paul Najvar, Betty Hernandez, Gene Drozd, Irene Bordovsky, Steven DeLaRosa, Benita Bordovsky, Soila Sanchez, nursing home residents & the homebound.

Flowers at the Altar of Sacrifice this weekend by Jerry & Margaret Kallus in honor of their 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

Every first Thursday, the Church commemorates Jesus' institution of the Sacrament of His Body and Blood and of the holy Priesthood which is intrinsically tied to the Eucharist. Join us this Thursday for a special Holy Hour of Eucharistic Adoration in the church from 7:00-8:00 p.m. for the intention of the priests and seminarians of our diocese of Victoria and to pray for more good and holy priests for the service of our diocese.

**All cantors & organists:** Rehearsal in church on June 30 at 7:00 p.m. to review new hymns. Please plan to attend.

From the Desk of Father John

Please welcome Father Steven Ryan who will speak at all the Masses on behalf of Cross International Catholic Outreach, which was founded to create a meaningful link between parishes in America and the priests and nuns working in the Church overseas in the Caribbean, Africa, Asia, Central and South America. Please be generous in your response to Father's appeal. Brochures will be provided if you wish to support this worthy Catholic ministry.

I will be gone this weekend from Thursday through Sunday attending the State Junior Catholic Daughters Convention in Austin.

We thank God for the rain received. This was a wonderful blessing.

Today as we celebrate the Feast of Corpus Christi, let us give thanks to God for giving us this most wonderful sacrament of Jesus' Body and Blood in the Eucharist – Holy Communion.

Friday, July 1<sup>st</sup>, is the Feast of the Sacred Heart. This is our parish Feast Day. Please try to attend Mass on that day or spend some time in adoration since it is also First Friday.

The Serra Clubs of the Diocese of Victoria car raffle tickets for a 2010 Toyota Corolla Sport car to be given away on July 14 are still available for purchase at the Rectory or from Ed Scherer 798-3414. The raffle tickets are \$5 each or 3 for \$10. Proceeds benefit vocation efforts in the Victoria Diocese.



The Sacred Heart Catholic School Cheerleaders will be hosting a mini cheerleader camp on July 11-13 from 9:00 a.m. – 12 noon for girls PreK to 6<sup>th</sup> grade. If you would like your child to participate, please contact the school office or Debi

Bludau at 798-4728.

**Perpetual Adoration** – adorers are needed at 4:00 pm on Wednesdays, 4:00 a.m. on Thursdays and 3:00 p.m. on Fridays. If you are able to spend an hour in adoration with our Lord, please call Charlene Bradbury at 798-3224.

The IWBS Sisters "Come and See" Day, July 31, for Jr. and Sr. High Girls and their parents begins with Mass at 8:30 am and ends with Evening Praise at 5:00 pm. Join us for information, games, stories, fun and food at Incarnate Word Convent, 1101 N.E. Water St., Victoria.

**Sacred Heart Catholic School 2011-12 final registration** will be held on June 28 & 29 from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. and 3:00 to 6:00 p.m. in the school cafeteria. All high school students must come to finalize their schedules. Parents of students in grades K-8 who have pre-registered will need to come only to pay their fees and first month's tuition. The first month's tuition and all school fees must

be paid at the time of registration on June 28 & 29. Classes will begin on Wednesday, August 17, 2011.



**PRAYER FOR RAIN** – Almighty God, we are in need of rain. We realize now, looking up into the clear, blue sky, what a marvel even the least drop of rain really is. To think that so much water can fall out of the sky, which now is empty and clear! We place our trust in You. We are sure that You know our needs. But You want us to ask You anyway, to show You that we know we are dependent on You. Look on our dry hills and fields, dear God, and bless them with the living blessing of soft rain. Then the land will rejoice, and the rivers will sing Your praises, and the hearts of men will be made glad. Amen.



**Youth ConneXion**

**Greg & Kris Hermes 798-0655**



**Teen ACTS Retreat:** June 30 – July 3. Forms in the church foyer.

**Young Adult ACTS Retreat:** Forms available in the church foyer. (20-30 year olds) Register ASAP....limited space.

**Notice:** We are making plans to attend NCYC in Indianapolis (Nov. 17-20). High school youths interested in attending should contact Greg & Kris at 798-0655.

**Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ**



We sometimes go to extraordinary lengths to preserve life. Consider all the interventions that exist in a modern hospital's emergency room: from defibrillators to ventilators, from medicines that instantly negate the effects of an opiate over-dose, to drugs that can break up a clot even as a stroke is underway. All of these intricate responses have been devised over and above the more ordinary actions of orange juice to revive a diabetic or caesarian section to deliver a baby in a compromised pregnancy. Because modern medicine can do so much, many of us in the developed world live with the expectation that our lives will just keep going on. The progress of medicine has made it inevitable that many families now confront the decision of when to let someone go - ending treatment, stopping medication, removing machines.

In this weekend's Gospel, Jesus promises that whoever eats His flesh and drinks His blood has eternal life. He tells the crowds that whoever eats the bread that comes down from heaven will live forever. The body and blood of Christ is real food and real drink. It is medicine for our body and soul. It is nourishment for our lives.

When Jesus makes the promise of life forever to those who eat His flesh and drink His blood, He is not talking about the kind of life support that we associate with hospital care. He is instead indicating that those who eat His body and drink His blood will live eternally because of the life that He gives. The medicine of the Eucharist heals us from sin and division, and makes us whole in Christ uniting us in one communion of love. So when we think about the extraordinary lengths we undertake to



preserve life in the natural world, we may want to reconsider what we are willing to do in the spiritual world. Is the Eucharist part of our spiritual health care regularly?

---

## The Word of God This Week

Set time aside each day this week with other members of your household, with other members of your parish or alone to listen to and reflect on the living Word of God. Use these passages from the Lectionary that are assigned for Liturgy this week. Reflect on how the Lord is inviting you to a deeper union with him.

### TODAY\*

**Deuteronomy 8:2–3, 14B–16A**  
**1 Corinthians 10:16–17**  
**John 6:51–58**

### MONDAY

**Matthew 8:18–22**  
*"Follow me . . ."*

### TUESDAY

**Matthew 8:23–27**  
*"Why are you afraid . . . ?"*

### WEDNESDAY\*\*

**Matthew 16:13–19**  
*"Who do people say the Son of Man is?"*

### THURSDAY

**Matthew 9:1–8**  
*" . . . your sins are forgiven."*

### FRIDAY\*\*\*

**Matthew 11:25–30**  
*"All things have been handed over to me by my Father."*

### SATURDAY\*\*\*\*

**Luke 2:41–51**  
*"Did you not know that I must be in my Father's house?"*

\*Solemnity of The Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ

\*\*Solemnity of Saint Peter and Saint Paul

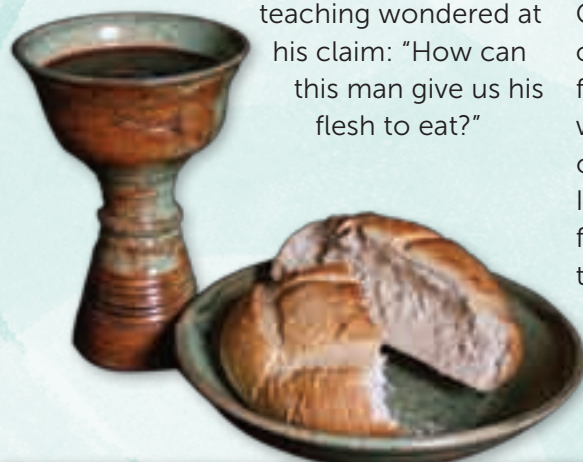
\*\*\*Solemnity of The Most Sacred Heart of Jesus

\*\*\*\*The Immaculate Heart of the Blessed Virgin Mary

## For What Do You Hunger?

The three readings for this Sunday have a distinct Eucharistic theme. Each provides us food for thought concerning the Eucharistic meal we share at Mass and a chance to reflect on the many hungers that fill our lives.

In the Gospel reading (John 6:51–58), Jesus proclaims that he is the bread of life who has come down from heaven. Those who desire salvation must first eat of his flesh and drink of his blood. John recalls that those who heard this teaching wondered at his claim: "How can this man give us his flesh to eat?"



In the reading from First Corinthians 10:16–17, Paul—in answer to questions from the Christian community in Corinth—writes that the cup of blessing used during their worship was more than just a cup of wine from an ancient Jewish ritual. It was something more: drinking from the cup was an actual "sharing in the blood of Christ," and eating the bread during the meal was now a "sharing in the body of Christ."

This reading, which predates the Gospel of John by nearly 40 years, is one of the earliest references to the Eucharist found in the Bible. (1 Corinthians was written in about A.D. 56 and the Gospel of John was written around A.D. 95.) It establishes the Church's early, yet firm, belief in the Real Presence: That the Eucharistic bread and wine actually become the Body and Blood of Christ. And, as Saint Paul writes, it is in the eating of this one bread that we all become one in the Body of Christ.



## The Faith of the Church

The Holy Spirit makes Christ present when God's word is proclaimed during the Mass, in the person of the priest, and in a totally unique manner through the Eucharist itself. The presence is called "real" because it is Christ's presence in the fullest sense possible. Through this presence, Christ—at the same time both God and man—are substantially present with us (Cf. *United States Catholic Catechism for Adults*, pages 223–224).



## Questions of the Week

In the Eucharist, we are fed with Christ's Body and Blood. In the sacred meal that is the Mass, we are nourished with heavenly food in order that we might live more fully as Christ's disciples each day.

### Adults

*What is one thing that I can do this week to make Christ present to others so that they experience him through my words and actions?*

### Children

*What is one thing that I can do this week to make my participation during Mass more meaningful to me and to my friends?*

## Responding to God's Word . . .

The reading from Deuteronomy 8 raises the question of how human frailty can prevent us from recognizing and responding to God. In what ways do we wander in the wilderness because we are too proud to let God lead us to happiness? How often do we eat at the Eucharistic table without understanding that we live not on bread, but on the Word of God?

Sharing in Christ's Body and Blood should be a humbling experience for us. The Eucharist is God's free gift to us. There is nothing we can do to earn it. So what reasons could

we have for pride or, even worse, indifference?

The next time that you receive the Eucharist, take some time to think about all of the good things that God has done for you throughout your life, and give thanks for God's great goodness. Then, think about what God has in store for you to do. How are you called to love and serve God and your neighbor now that you've eaten of the Heavenly meal?

In the Eucharist, we become one with Christ. We are called to share him with the world in all we do and say.

## SUGGESTIONS

Use one of these suggestions or one of your own to respond to God's Word this week.

**In the home.** Consciously change the way you eat this week. Eat less food and avoid your favorite beverages. When you feel hungry or a desire for a drink, think about how God is calling you.

**In the workplace or in school.** Organize a food drive to feed the hungry in your community. People are hungry all year long, not just during the holidays.

**In the community.** Make a significant contribution of your time and money to feed those in need. Whatever you give, see it as an act of thanksgiving for God's gifts to you.



## Meditation Moment

A scene in the film *American Anthem* shows a young man who can't accept the fact that he lost a leg in an accident. He draws the blinds of his room, lets nobody in, and passes his time in darkness, listening to music. Contrast this scene with another scene reported by Robert Bruce. Walking along a crowded street, Bruce heard someone singing joyfully. When he located the source, he couldn't believe his eyes. It was a legless man, pushing himself along in a wheelchair. One person's rejection of a cross brought sadness; the other's acceptance of it brought joy.

### For reflection . . .

*What is one cross in my life that I am finding hard to accept?*

I THANK GOD FOR MY HANDICAPS,  
FOR THROUGH THEM, I HAVE FOUND  
MYSELF, MY WORK, AND MY GOD.

HELLEN KELLER

FROM *VISION* BY MARK LINK, SJ

## Satisfy the Hungry Heart

Lord, In the middle of my busiest day, help me to think about all of the good things that you give me, and to then give thanks. Help me to share with others what I have and to work with others for the good of the community. Bless the work that I do. Nourished by your Body and Blood, may my work bring forth fruit that will nourish the hungry world. Satisfy my heart, Lord. Fill it with thoughts of you. Amen.

Carry this thought in your heart as a guide for your faith journey this week.

The Mass is a sacred banquet, which reaches its climax when we receive the Eucharist. We should prepare ourselves for that moment by examining our conscience and fasting. Like the centurion, we pray that Christ comes to us, unworthy as we are.

## Profile in Faith

### Cyril of Alexandria

Cyril of Alexandria (376–444) was the bishop of the Church in the powerful city of Alexandria, Egypt during a time of great turmoil. Cyril's belief in the divinity of Jesus and in Mary as the Mother of God shapes Catholic belief even today. His feast day is June 27.

NIHIL OBSTAT  
Rev. Msgr. Robert M. Coerver, Censor Librorum  
IMPRIMATUR

† Most Reverend Kevin J. Farrell, DD, Bishop of Dallas  
March 28, 2011

The Nihil Obstat and Imprimatur are official declarations that the material reviewed is free of doctrinal or moral error. No implication is contained therein that those granting the Nihil Obstat and Imprimatur agree with the contents, opinions, or statements expressed.

Author: Daniel S. Mulhall

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Front: iStockphoto

The Scripture quotations contained herein are from the *New Revised Standard Version Bible: Catholic Edition*, copyright 1989, 1993, Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

© 2011 RCL Publishing LLC. All rights reserved.

The *Faith Connection*® is registered in the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office and is published weekly by RCL Benziger, 206 E. Bethany Dr., Allen, TX 75002.

877-275-4725

Contact us at [RCLBenziger.com](http://RCLBenziger.com)

