

The Church's Calendar This Week

Sunday, June 6

The Solemnity of the Most Holy Body & Blood of Christ

Masses at 6:00/8:00/10:00a/12:00/6:00p

Live-Streamed Mass at 10:00 a.m.

Cathedral closed after each Mass

Monday, June 7

Monday of the 10th Week in Ordinary Time

Mass at 12:00 p.m.

Cathedral closed after Mass

Tuesday, June 8

Tuesday of the 10th Week in Ordinary Time

Masses at 6:30 a.m. and 12:00 p.m.

Cathedral closed after each Mass

Wednesday, June 9

Wednesday of the 10th Week in Ordinary Time

Sacrament of Reconciliation at 10:00 a.m.

Masses at 6:30 a.m. and 12:00 p.m.

Cathedral closed after each Mass

Thursday, June 10

Thursday of the 10th Week in Ordinary Time

Masses at 6:30 a.m. and 12:00 p.m.

Cathedral closed after each Mass

Friday, June 11

Solemnity of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus

Masses at 6:30 a.m. and 12:00 p.m.

Cathedral closed after each Mass

Saturday, June 12

Memorial of the Immaculate Heart of Mary

Mass at 7:00 a.m.

Sacrament of Reconciliation at 10:00 a.m.

Mass at 12:00 p.m.

Vigil Mass at 5:00 p.m.

Cathedral closed after each Mass

Sunday, June 13

11th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Masses at 6:00/8:00/10:00a/12:00/6:00p

Live-Streamed Mass at 10:00 a.m.

Cathedral closed after each Mass

Stewardship of Treasure

Offertory Collection

5/25 – 5/30

Sunday Offering	\$ 4,317.55
Weekday Mass	\$ 825.54
Online Giving	\$ 1,140.38
Feasts & Solemnities	\$ 105.00
Total Offertory	\$ 6,388.47

Other Collection

Repair & Maintenance	\$ 80.00
Operation Rice Bowl	\$ 10.00
Holy Land	\$ 10.00
Diocesan Priests Retirement Fund	\$ 25.00
Other (Gallery, Candles, Intention, etc.)	\$ 852.05
Total	\$ 7,365.52

Living the Liturgy

- Moses ritualized the sealing of the covenant between God and his people by writing down the words of the Lord and pouring and sprinkling the blood of the sacrificial animals. Design a meal ritual for your household. You might recite a prayer together, take turns praying spontaneously, hold hands as you pray, or pray by singing. Adhere faithfully to the ritual.
- Whether you do it regularly or have never attended Eucharistic adoration, make a point of spending time before the Blessed Sacrament, and invite a friend to join you.
- To take up the cup of Christ is to make his mission our own. This week, place a lovely chalice or cup in a prominent place on your prayer table or dining table, and let it remind you to look for ways to live the mission of Christ. Consider putting spare change in the cup and donating the contents to a missionary organization. Place slips of paper in the cup, bearing the names of people for whom you're praying.

Sharing the Faith

- In the Judeo-Christian tradition, blood has always been essential for expiation of guilt. How do you make sense of that reality?
- The word Eucharist means "giving thanks." For what are we thanking God every time we celebrate the Eucharist?
- The unleavened bread nourished the Hebrews for the journey from slavery to the Promised Land. Why do you think Jesus chose to consecrate this very bread as our spiritual food?

Saint of the Week

Virtues are formed by prayer. Prayer preserves temperance. Prayer suppresses anger. Prayer prevents emotions of pride and envy. Prayer draws into the soul the Holy Spirit, and raises man to Heaven. - Ephrem the Syrian (306-373), Patron of Spiritual Directors, Feast Day June 9

June 6, 2021 Solemnity of the Most Body & Blood of Christ

Exegesis on this Sunday's readings

Exodus 24:3-8 / Psalm 116:12-13, 15-16, 17-18 / Hebrews 9:11-15 / Sequence: Lauda Sion / Mark 14:12-16, 22-26

One of the requirements of Old Testament animal sacrifice was that the offering be “unblemished,” that is, an animal with no imperfections or handicaps. God was to be offered the best of flock or herd, not a cast-off that might be unsuitable for breeding or difficult to sell. And so for centuries, the Israelites sacrificed goats and young bulls as peace offerings to the Lord, poured their blood upon their altars, and sprinkled it upon themselves in their liturgies. And thus, for centuries, atonement was made for the sins of the people. But in the fullness of time the true and only “unblemished” victim appeared. It was not a beast of the field but, marvelous to tell, it was God’s own Son. Only with his coming could we understand the true meaning of unblemished; only in him did perfection reside; only he could be the eternal sacrifice that would make the blood of bulls and heifers irrelevant.

The author of Hebrews marvels at all this. If the blood of animals could purify, how much more can be achieved by the flesh and blood of the only Son of God? And that Son gives us his Body and Blood to be our food and drink. Using the same words as Moses, Jesus says, “This is my blood of the covenant . . .” (Mark 14:28). In the covenant he initiated, we are washed clean in his blood and we are nourished, daily if we choose, by the food that is Jesus. Fortified with that divine fare, we can declare with the Israelites, “We will do everything that the Lord has told us” (Exodus 24:3).

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Next Sunday's Readings: “11th Sunday in Ordinary”

Exodus 17:22-24 / Psalm 92:2-3, 13-14, 15-16 / 2 Corinthians 5:6-10 / Mark 4:26-34

From the Rector's Desk

Dear Cathedral Basilica Ohana,

Greetings of peace, love, and joy!

“This is my blood of the covenant, which will be shed for many.” (Mk. 14: 24)

One of the many activities my family and I would do on a Sunday was to attend Mass in our Parish Church. We would normally sit close to the altar so that we could see what was happening. As a kid, I look around and see what the ministers were doing, especially at the priest. When it was time for consecration, as the priest lifted the Host and Chalice, I remember being told to look up and gaze and bow my head when he laid it down on the altar. These actions or gestures were expressions of reverence for through the words of consecration, the bread has become the Body of Christ, and the chalice with wine becomes the Blood of Christ. Through the passing of time and becoming a priest, it is of utmost care that I do it with reverence and devotion whenever I lift the Body and Blood of Christ. I allow the Lord Jesus to make me His instrument of sharing this wonderful gift that would sustain our life on our journey towards the Kingdom of God.

How wonderful it is that this Sunday, a celebration dedicated to the Solemnity of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ, is given to us. A day to come together to realize that this celebration that we often participate in, on weekdays or on Sundays, is no ordinary celebration. It is not like a birthday or a wedding party that we are invited to participate, eat and drink, and enjoy one’s company. And, when the party is done, we go back to our homes and live our lives ordinarily.

The Solemnity invites us to realize that what Jesus left for us at the Last Supper is a Sacrament that would sustain us and change us into becoming like Him. Thus, whenever we receive Jesus in Holy Communion, He becomes part of us and is called to live like Him in word and deed. Our understanding of the Sacrament is essential because if we do not clearly understand what we are receiving, the celebration becomes ordinary. Like a birthday or wedding party, we join the festivities, eat, drink, and go.

When I received the Informed Newsletter issued by Augustine Institute, I am quite concerned that 69 percent of US Catholics believe that the bread and wine “are symbols of the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ.” That, 43 percent believe that the bread and wine are merely symbols of Jesus and that “this reflects the position of the Church.” With these results at hand, we are now at a point of losing our understanding of Christ’s Real Presence, Body, Blood, Soul, and Divinity every time we celebrate the Holy Eucharist. The false belief in the Eucharist diminishes our encounter with Jesus and thus having no impact at all in our lives other than we just came to Mass, eat and drink and leave.

Christ’s Presence in the Eucharist is Real and True. May this Sunday’s celebration of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ enrich our minds and deepen our faith that whenever we participate at Mass, we have a real encounter with Jesus. Through Holy Communion, we are nourished and sustained in this life until we participate in His Eternal Banquet.

Your friend in Jesus,
Fr. Pascual