



The Solemnity of
Corpus Christi



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**THE MOST HOLY BODY & BLOOD OF CHRIST
 JUNE 6, 2021**

SATURDAY, JUNE 5

The Mass of Anticipation for Corpus Christi
 5:00PM Albert Catanio—7th Anniversary

SUNDAY, JUNE 6

The Solemnity of the Most Holy Body & Blood of Christ
 7:30 AM Beverly Northup—Memorial
 9:00AM Stanley Berek—16th Anniversary
 10:30AM Cheryl Zola—Birthday Remembrance

MONDAY, JUNE 7

Weekday
 7:30AM Hans G. & Hans F. Loeffler—Memorial

TUESDAY, JUNE 8

Weekday
 7:30AM C. Buckley Cooney—Memorial

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 9

Weekday; St. Ephrem, Deacon & Doctor of the Church
 7:30AM William Eberhardt—Memorial

THURSDAY, JUNE 10

Weekday
 7:30AM Irene Mello—10th Anniversary

FRIDAY, JUNE 11

The Most Sacred Heart of Jesus
 7:30AM Carolyn Peretta—Birthday Remembrance

SATURDAY, JUNE 12

The Immaculate Heart of the Blessed Virgin Mary
 8:30AM Eraclio Iacobucci—Birthday Remembrance
Mass of Anticipation of the 11th Sunday in Ordinary Time
 5:00PM John Affatiti—Memorial

SUNDAY, JUNE 13

The Eleventh Sunday in Ordinary Time
 7:30 AM Evelyn & Michael Simon—Memorial
 9:00AM Raymond Vigeant—Memorial
 10:30AM Deceased Alumni of OLM School





Dear Parishioners:

On Holy Thursday, we celebrate with great devotion and solemnity the day our Lord instituted the Sacraments of the Holy Eucharist and Sacred Priesthood. However, it is also a day we recall the sad and sorrowful memories of the betrayal of Judas, Christ's agony and arrest, and St. Peter's denial.

So the Church in Her wisdom has given us today's great Feast of *Corpus Christi*, the Sacred Body and Blood of Christ. It, too, is a day to be celebrated with great solemnity and devotion but also much joy. Today we joyfully rejoice in so great a gift as the Holy Eucharist, the very source and summit of our Catholic Faith.

In the 13th Century, it was a humble nun in Belgium, Saint Juliana, who first suggested and advocated this feast. She desired to see a feast in honor of the Blessed Sacrament on a day other than Holy Thursday.

From her sixteenth year, often in her prayers, she beheld a mystical vision. It was as if the full moon appeared to her in brilliant light, while a part of its disc remained black and lightless. Finally, in a vision, Christ revealed to her the meaning of this vision. The moon represented the Church year; the black spot was the lack of a festival in honor of the Blessed Sacrament. She was to announce to the authorities of the Church that God wished to establish such a feast.

In 1230 Saint Juliana communicated her secret to a small group of learned theologians. As her message became publicly known, she

suffered scorn and ridicule for some years. But she remained hopeful and continued on.

The Bishop of Liège, Belgium, and some of his canons eventually lent a willing ear to her appeals. A diocesan synod in 1246 decided in her favor and prescribed such a feast for the churches of Liège.

One of the learned Churchmen who had supported her efforts in Belgium later became Pope Urban IV (1261-1265). On September 8, 1264, six years after Saint Juliana's death, he established for the whole Church that festival in honor of the Holy Eucharist, which the saintly nun had proclaimed to be willed by God.

Centuries later we continue on this great feast to celebrate and acknowledge the Church doctrine that Jesus is truly present under the appearance of bread and wine in the Eucharist. The theological name for this is "transubstantiation."

The Catechism explains: *"By the consecration of the bread and wine there takes place a change of the whole substance of the bread into the substance of the body of Christ our Lord and of the whole substance of the wine into the substance of his blood."*

After the renewal of the Second Vatican Council, St. Pope Paul VI forcefully rejected the idea that the Eucharist is a mere symbol. He wrote in his encyclical, *Mysterium Fidei*: *"For the constant teaching that the Catholic Church has passed on to her catechumens, the understanding of the Christian people, the doctrine defined by the Council of Trent, the very*

words that Christ used when He instituted the Most Holy Eucharist, all require us to profess that 'the Eucharist is the flesh of Our Savior Jesus Christ which suffered for our sins and which the Father in His loving kindness raised again.'"

Perhaps some of the most significant support of this essential belief in the real presence of Christ in the Eucharist is the witness of the Twelve Apostles. This evidence is that eleven of the apostles died as martyrs, and the twelfth died in prison.

Is there anyone who believes the Apostles and early martyrs would have undergone torture, prison, and even horrible deaths for a mere symbolic Eucharist and not the real presence of Christ? Would we? As the Catholic Author, Flannery O'Connor once famously said: *"Well, if (the Eucharist) is just a symbol, then to the hell with it!"*

St. Augustine teaches clearly that: *"What you see is the bread and the chalice; that is what your own eyes report to you. But what your faith obliges you to accept is that the bread is the body of Christ and the chalice is the blood of Christ!"* So on this *Corpus Christi* Sunday let us joyfully renew our belief in the Real Presence of Christ in the Eucharist. We also offer congratulations to the new priests, Fr. Dan Mahoney and Fr. Doan Nguyen. Be well. Stay safe. Do good. God Bless.

Father Healey

Ask Father

How is the Exposed Eucharist in Adoration different from the Eucharist in the Tabernacle?

Eucharistic Adoration (which involves the exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, hymns, incense and benediction) is one of the most important devotions in our spiritual lives. It offers us a chance to answer Jesus' question in the Garden: "Could you not keep watch for one hour?" (Mk. 14:37).

Archbishop Fulton Sheen recommended a daily Holy Hour, ideally before the Blessed Sacrament. Pope Pius XII in "Mediator Dei" pointed out that the different forms of Eucharistic Adoration "have brought a wonderful increase in faith and the supernatural life to the Church."

Some would say that there is no difference between the Eucharist exposed and the Eucharist in the tabernacle. In both cases Jesus Christ is truly present, body, blood, soul and divinity. Aside from the other actions during Adoration listed above, the only difference seems to be that we can visually see the host.

Yet, the act of looking at the host makes all the difference in the world because we are embodied beings. The act of religion is not simply interior, but involves the whole person, body and soul. The Incarnation demonstrates that God uses the world around us, even our very selves, as instruments to accomplish salvation. The sacraments themselves are visible, bodily signs which instrumentally cause invisible effects (particularly the transmission of grace). Even in our own contemporary lives we can appreciate the difference between seeing a person face to face and simply calling or even Skyping them.

When we see the host, which to our eyes appears as a small insignificant piece of bread, causes astonishment to realize that it is in fact the body, blood, soul and divinity of Jesus Christ, God Himself. As the Eucharistic hymn, Tantum Ergo remarks: "Faith for all defects supplying, when the feeble senses fail." Looking at the host can trigger acts of faith and awe in the power and presence of God.

Furthermore, another important difference is that Eucharistic Adoration is a communal event with more formalized rites. In the end both practices, however, are important: adoring our Lord exposed in Adoration and adoring our Lord in the tabernacle.

Pope St. John Paul II in his final encyclical "Ecclesia de Eucharistia" admirably summed up the doctrinal essentials: "The worship of the Eucharist outside of the Mass is of inestimable value for the life of the Church. This worship is strictly linked to the celebration of the Eucharistic Sacrifice... It is pleasant to spend time with him, to lie close to his breast like the Beloved Disciple (cf. Jn 13:25) and to feel the infinite love present in his heart. In the course of the day the faithful should not omit visiting the Blessed Sacrament... Such visits are a sign of gratitude, an expression of love and an acknowledgment of the Lord's presence."

Weekly Collection

May 30, 2021

Weekly.....	\$9,845.00
EFT.....	\$5,850.00
	Total=\$15,695.00
Outreach.....	\$1,260.00
St. Patrick's Cemetery.....	\$1,606.00

May 31, 2020

Weekly.....	\$11,523.00
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Thank You for Your Generous Support!



Please remember Our Lady of Mercy Church in your will or estate.



**OLM Parish Office
Summer Hours**

**Monday—Thursday
8:00AM—4:00PM**

*The Parish Office is closed on all
Fridays in June, July & August*



Please support the Catholic Charity Appeal, make your pledge before June 30th

2021 OLM Parish Goal= \$190,000

2021 Pledged (to date)=\$150,710

2021 Total of Pledges (to date)= 307

2020 Goal= \$200,000

2020 Amount Pledged= \$131,236

Total Number Parishioners Pledges=290

Thank you for your support.



Religious Education
NEWS

Religious Education Registration for Next Year

Registrations are presently being taken on the OLM Parish website for all grades, 1 through 8 for the Religious Education Year 2021 - 2022.

Please register your child today! Thank You!




Outreach
Update

• **OLM Bereavement Support Group** resumes meeting twice a month starting in June. The first meeting will be **Thursday, June 17 from 4:00 to 6:00PM**, at Mercy House. Anyone who is grieving, lonely or simply interested in attending is invited to call 884-4410 for information.

• **OLM Food Pantry** is continually in need of food and paper goods for the members of our local community. Please place all donated **non-perishable foods only and paper goods** in the box in the vestibule of Church or the box on the porch of Mercy House. **Thank you for your support!**

• For information, please contact the OLM Outreach Director, Doug Green at 401-884-4410 or via email at outreach@olmparish.org



Striving to be Saints & Scholars!

- **Tuesday, June 8:** School Mass at 9:00AM for Grades 3 & 4
- **Wednesday, June 9:** OLM School Community Meeting at 7:00PM
- **Friday, June 11:** High School Spirit Dress Down Day & Last Day of Classes for 8th Grade
- **Sunday, June 13:** OLM School 8th Grade Graduation Mass at 10:30am & Graduation Luncheon at Quidnessett Country Club
- **Monday, June 14:** OLM School 8th Grade Graduation Ceremony at 6:00PM

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**MONTH OF PRAYER AND THANKSGIVING
FOR ESSENTIAL WORKERS**

The Diocesan Office of Pastoral Care for Healthcare Facilities is celebrating the month of June, 2021 as a month of Prayer and Thanksgiving for essential workers. In this special recognition all essential workers are included— those in all aspects of healthcare as well as emergency responders, teachers, and those who keep us going and well during this very difficult time. Log on to dioceseofprovidence.org to hear who Rhode Islanders are thanking. Read the June 3rd RI Catholic to see the Prayer to Our Lady of Providence for Essential Workers.



MASS OF THANKSGIVING

Join Bishop Robert Evans for a concelebrated Mass of Thanksgiving for Essential Workers at 10:00 AM, Sunday, June 13, 2021 at St. Ann's Catholic Church 280, Hawkins St., Providence 02904

Live streamed on Facebook - [olatst.ann's church](https://www.facebook.com/olatst.ann'schurch)

Body and Blood of Christ

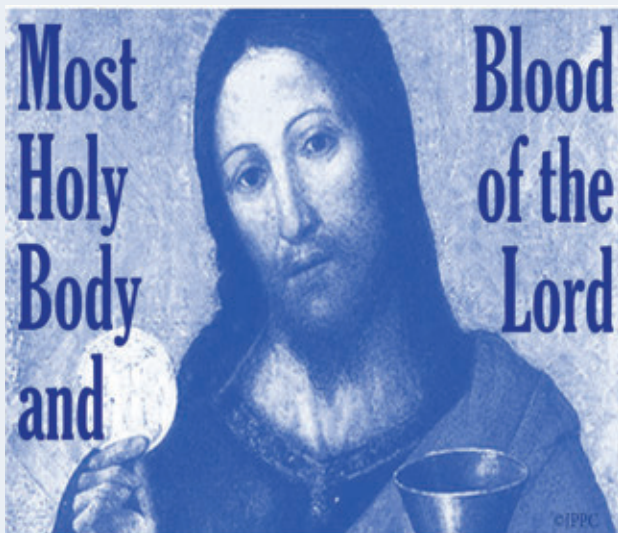


Today's solemnity of the Body and Blood of Christ celebrates the doctrine of the real presence of Christ in the Eucharist.

This feast was established in the thirteenth century not long after the Fourth Lateran Council reaffirmed this doctrine in the face of much theological debate on the issue.

In former days, it was known as *Corpus Christi*, the Body of Christ, and there was a separate feast of the Precious Blood. The current church calendar combines the two into a single celebration.

In many places of the world, it is still celebrated on its traditional day, the Thursday after Trinity Sunday. That day was chosen by the church to remember Holy Thursday, the day on which the Eucharist was instituted.



This bulletin insert was written by Marion Eagen, a liturgist and musician in the diocese of Scranton, Pa. © 2002 Resource Publications, Inc., 160 E. Virginia St. #290, San Jose, CA 95112, (408) 286-8505. All rights reserved.

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