

*The bread that we break,  
is it not a participation  
in the body of Christ?*

*Because the loaf  
of bread is one,  
we, though many,  
are one body,  
for we all partake  
of the one loaf.*

1 CORINTHIANS 10:16-17

## THE MOST HOLY BODY AND BLOOD OF CHRIST

June 14, 2020



### *St. Bridget Catholic Church*

*100 Highway 311 - Office 2076 W Main St - Schriever, LA*

#### TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading — Never forget the LORD your God, who brought you out of slavery (Deuteronomy 8:2-3, 14b-16a).

Psalm — Praise the Lord, Jerusalem (Psalm 147).

Second Reading — Because the loaf of bread is one, we who partake of it, though we are many, are one body (1 Corinthians 10:16-17).

Gospel — Jesus said, “I am the living bread; whoever eats this bread will live forever” (John 6:51-58).

The English translation of the Psalm Responses from Lectionary for Mass © 1969, 1981, 1997, International Commission on English in the Liturgy Corporation. All rights reserved.

#### **Very Rev. Simon Peter Engurait, VG**

*Pastor*

#### **Deacon Stephen Brunet**

#### **Contact Information**

Church Office : 446-6801—2076 W Main St.

Fax Line: 448-2764

Youth Formation Office: 446-1985

E-mail address: [stbridgetchurch@htdiocese.org](mailto:stbridgetchurch@htdiocese.org)

#### **Mass Schedule**

**Daily Mass:** Monday to Friday: 8:00 am

Saturday Vigil Mass: 4:00 pm

Sunday Mass: 8:30 & 10:30 am

Confession: Saturday 3:00-3:50 pm

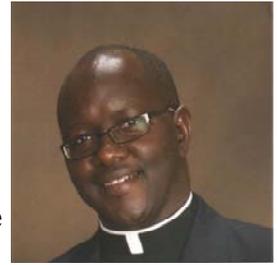
Sunday 7:30- 8:25 am & 10:00-10:25 am

**All who attend Mass must wear face masks, use sanitizer on entering the Church and practice social distancing.**

My Dear people of God,

Today we celebrate the solemnity of the **Most Holy Body and Blood Christ** (also called Corpus Christi). This is a very important celebration especially for us as Catholics, because the Eucharist is the source and summit of our faith.

It is however important for us to be very clear about what we celebrate in this feast. We are not merely celebrating the corpse of Jesus on the cross, or rather the body He had during His earthly life and ministry. Neither are we celebrating the body of Christ as St Paul presents it when he teaches that the Church is the body of Christ (1Cor.12:27).



What we celebrate in this solemnity is the presence of Jesus in the Eucharistic species, the bread and the wine. This is manifested in a very clear and special way in the gospel reading today which is taken from "**the Bread of Life Discourse**" in the Gospel of St John. In that gospel reading, Jesus makes this profound statement: "**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**" This was a stunning statement and just as it caused confusion at the time of Jesus, it continues to do the same today!

The question that many have asked and continue to ask is: *Did Jesus intend for His followers to understand that He was speaking merely symbolically OR did He really intend His followers to understand that the bread becomes His Body and the wine His blood?* More than anywhere else, it is evident that the Lord wanted them know of His real presence in the Eucharist- the Bread of Life.

In today's gospel, Christ succinctly proclaimed: *"I am the living bread. The bread that I shall give is my flesh...if you do not eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood; you will not have life in you."* It was on account of this truth that some of his disciples deserted him saying: *"This saying is hard...!"* (Jn. 6:61). Also, in the early Church, the Romans (ca. 64-313 AD) accused Christians of cannibalism. As Christ said, His body is true food and his blood true drink. Though it is a typology of the Manna that the Israelites ate in the desert (and still died), it is different because as Christ says: *"Whoever eats the body and drinks the blood of the Son of Man will never die."*

We read in the gospel today that "The Jews quarreled among themselves, saying, 'How can this man give us his flesh to eat?'" It was on account of this fundamental truth that some of his disciples deserted Him saying: *"This saying is hard...!"* (Jn. 6:61). In the early Church, the Romans (ca. 64-313 AD) accused Christians of cannibalism because of this. In response to the Jews, Jesus did not retract His statement, He rather re-affirmed that His body is true food and his blood true drink.

Our first reading from the Book of Deuteronomy makes reference to the Manna that the Israelites ate in the desert and so were spared starvation. Though it is a typology of the Eucharist, the Manna that the Israelites ate in the desert (and still died), is different because as Jesus says: *"Whoever eats the body and drinks the blood of the Son of Man will never die."* *This takes the Eucharist – the Body of Christ to a different level.*

*My dear brothers and sisters, the central focus of this solemnity therefore is the real presence of Jesus in the Eucharist. If He is present in the Eucharist and indeed He is, then He is indeed present among us. This celebration is meant to highlight the Lord's presence and to draw us to Him, that we may attain eternal life. This therefore calls us to two main responses; **first** to acknowledge and adore His presence in the Eucharist. How I wish our Adoration Chapel was full all the time! **Secondly**, to prepare ourselves well to receive Him in the Eucharist.*

*One of my non Catholic friends once said to me; "There's something in Catholic Churches that baffles me. Every time I enter a Catholic Church, I get this strange feeling. Sometimes, I literally get goose bumps. Perhaps it is all those statues..." Deep within my heart, I knew it is the **real presence of Jesus**. If we opened ourselves to this mystery, all of us will be in awe of His presence in our midst in the Eucharist.*

*If you do not yet take time regularly to visit the Lord in the Blessed Sacrament, as we today celebrate Corpus Christi, may I challenge you to make that commitment. You will never regret it.*

Thanks and God bless

Fr Simon Peter

## The Real Presence of Christ in the Eucharist

*By Father Michael Van Sloun*

The real presence of Christ in the Eucharist is a doctrine – an official teaching of the Catholic Church – and a profound mystery. With the words of consecration, the whole of Christ is truly present – Body, Blood, Soul and Divinity – under the appearances of bread and wine.

The doctrine is based upon the words of Jesus Himself when He instituted the Eucharist. Jesus took the bread and said, "This is my body" (Mt 26:26), and He took the cup filled with wine and said, "This is my blood" (Mt 26:28). When Jesus said, "This is my body," He declared that the bread actually is His Body, and that He is really present.

We accept and believe what Jesus said as a matter of faith. There is no scientific evidence, definite proof or factual explanation. We take Jesus at His word because He is truth (Jn 14:6), He came into the world to testify to the truth (Jn 18:37), and the words that He spoke are spirit and life (Jn 6:63). St. Cyril of Alexandria wrote, "Do not doubt whether this is true, but rather receive the words of the Savior in faith, for since He is truth, He cannot lie."

The words of Jesus are clear and unambiguous, yet the doctrine of the Real Presence is questioned and doubted by some, and challenged, ridiculed or rejected by others. Recent public opinion polls have reported an alarmingly high percentage of those who claim to be Catholic who do not believe in the Real Presence. Other Catholics have wavered and their faith has eroded because of personal uncertainty, or because they have been swayed by the secular press, the teachings of misguided theologians or the objections of non-Catholic Christians.

There are a number of faulty explanations that are contrary to the Catholic doctrine of the Real Presence: that the bread and wine remain bread and wine and that there is no change; that they become the spiritual presence of Christ, not the actual presence; that they become a symbol that represents Christ's presence; that they are a reminder, memento, or foreshadowing of Christ; that they become more significant or important spiritually; or that they are simultaneously Christ's body and blood but also ordinary bread and wine.

Over the centuries, some non-believers have attacked the Catholic belief in the Real Presence with claims that it is impossible, ridiculous or superstition. During outdoor Eucharist processions, some spectators hurled taunts and insults, and their behaviors were so disrespectful that the processions were taken off the streets and moved back into cathedrals and churches to uphold and protect the sanctity of the Eucharist.

In the face of questions, misunderstanding and attack, the Church has defined, defended and reinforced its teaching on the Real Presence. St. Ambrose, who lived in the fourth century, wrote, "Could not Christ's word, which can make from nothing what did not exist, change existing things into what they were not before?"

The doctrine was enunciated by the Fourth Lateran Council in 1215 and reaffirmed and rearticulated by the Council of Constance in 1415. During the upheaval of the Protestant Reformation, the Council of Trent declared in 1551, "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."

In his 1965 encyclical "Mysterium Fidei," Pope Paul VI wrote, "The presence is called 'real' ... it is a substantial presence by which Christ, God and man, makes Himself wholly and entirely present."



**The Sanctuary Light memory of:**

**June 14-20**

Joe, Clo, Ginny & Cindy  
June 21-27

Gail Sonier by Donna Waguespack & family  
C J Duet by Ellen Duet and family

DA=Death Anniv.

B= Birthday

*Mass Intentions*

WA=Wedding Anniv.

**June 13 4:00 pm**

Rudy Thibodaux by family  
Agnes and Ernest Breaux by family & friends

**June 14 8:30 am**

Catherine Brown by Phyllis & John Ables & fly  
Casabel Brunet buy Olin family

**June 14 10:30 am**

Andrew and Elsie Gauthreaux by Karen Dufrene  
Doffey Landry (DA) by Burnelle and Margaret  
Landry

**June 20 & 21 Father's Day**

Sanctuary decorations provided by all those  
who donated to the Father's Day Flower collec-  
tion. Mass intentions are on the list in the back  
of the Church at the entrance doors.

**HAPPY FATHER'S DAY  
TO ALL FATHERS**

**May 31, 2020**

Envelopes \$ 4609.00  
Loose 212.00  
4821.00

**Weekly Offering**



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*Thank you for your generosity.*

**Not by bread alone does one live,  
but by every word that comes forth  
from the mouth of the LORD.  
— Deuteronomy 8:3b**

**CORONAVIRUS  
HELPFUL RESOURCES**

Diocesan Website: [hdiocese.org](http://hdiocese.org) (News,  
Videos, Prayers and More)  
St Bridget Website ([stbridget-hdiocese.org](http://stbridget-hdiocese.org))  
and facebook ([facebook.com/stbridget](https://facebook.com/stbridget)) for  
live steam events.

**FOOD FROM HEAVEN**

God sustained the people of Israel for forty  
years in the desert with manna sent down from  
heaven, and Moses doesn't want them to for-  
get it. God brought forth water from stone for  
them to drink, and Moses doesn't want them to  
forget this, either. And Moses tells them—  
twice—that the food that God sent was a food  
that neither they nor their ancestors before  
them had ever experienced before.

Jesus too speaks of food come down from  
heaven, food that the Jewish people had never  
experienced before. Recalling the manna in the  
desert, Jesus doesn't want them to forget it ei-  
ther, explaining that he is the food and drink of  
eternal life. And Paul reiterates to the Corin-  
thians and to all of us that in the bread and in the  
cup, we share in the body and blood of Christ.  
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In response to the Charter for the Protec-  
tion of Children and Young People from  
the United States Conference of Catholic  
Bishops the Diocese of Houma-Thibodaux  
is offering an Outreach Line (formerly  
known as the Child Protection Contact  
Line). The Outreach Line is an effort to  
continue the diocesan commitment to sup-  
port healing for people who have been  
hurt or sexually abused recently or in the  
past by clergy, religious or other employ-  
ees of the Diocese of Houma-Thibodaux.

The Diocese of Houma-Thibodaux Out-  
reach Line operates from 8:30a.m. to  
4:30p.m. Monday through Friday. A  
trained mental health professional re-  
sponds to the line. Individuals are offered  
additional assistance if requested.

Diocese of Houma-Thibodaux Outreach  
Line Telephone numbers (985) 873-0026  
or (985) 850-3172

**TRANSFORMATION**

The effect of our sharing in the Body and  
Blood of Christ is to change us into what we  
receive.  
—Pope St. Leo the Great

# God's Word for Children

God took good care of Moses and the Israelites while they were in the desert and provided a special food for them. To find out what it was called, write the first letter of every picture shown.

\_\_\_\_\_

God provides for us, too! Draw your favorite food onto this plate.

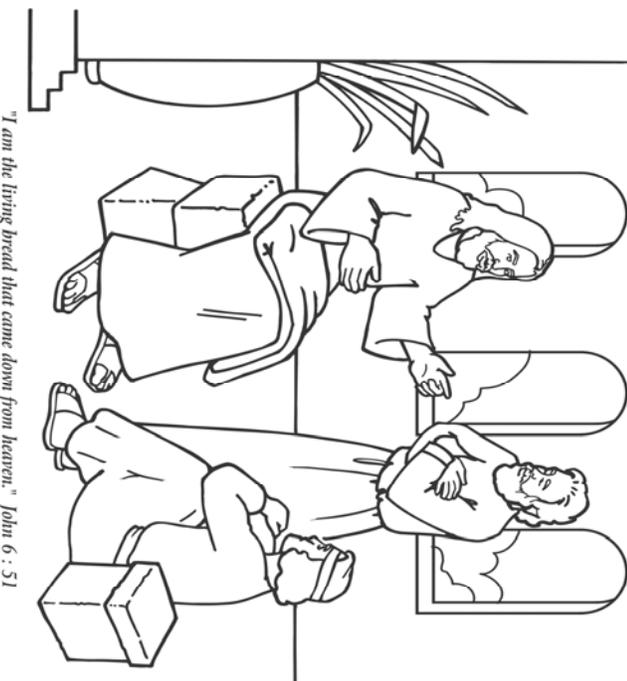
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## The Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ

Jesus told the people that he was the living bread that came from heaven (John 6:51).

To see what he said next, use the thermometer to fill in the blanks.

W     oe     er e     ts  
    h     s     rea      
 wil     l     ve  
    or     v     r.



"I am the living bread that came down from heaven." John 6 : 51

## CATHOLIC CORNER

### PETER'S PENCE

Can your penny make a difference? Yes, it can—especially when it is combined with the "pennies" of everyone around the world. Your penny or dollar is part of a collection called Peter's Pence, named for St. Peter, the first apostle and the first pope. The money is given to the pope by the entire Body of Christ for the purpose of helping our brothers and sisters around the world who are in need. Traditionally the collection is taken up on the Sunday closest to June 29, the Solemnity of Saints Peter and Paul. This year many parishes will take this collection next Sunday, June 25, so you have time to think about what part of your savings or allowance you'd like to contribute.

The Peter's Pence collection has a long history. In ninth-century England, King Alfred collected a pence—a penny—from the landowners in his kingdom. This money was given to the pope for his support. Today the money collected is given to the pope so he can provide help for people in need because of natural disasters, war, oppression, and disease.

When all the money is counted from around the world, the Peter's Pence collection sometimes raises nearly 190 million dollars to support the pope and the causes that he aids. Many people look to the pope for help when other groups do not provide assistance. Peter's Pence is one example of how we must "love one another" as Christ loved us. Each and every person's contribution is important.

Save your pennies,  
nickels, quarters,  
and dollars.  
Be sure to share some of  
your own money.  
You can make a difference!



### Prayer Line

If you or someone needs to be added to the prayer line, call Nina Richard at 446-1206 or the rectory at 446-6801. In the charity of your prayers, please pray for the sick, elderly, and homebound. Please pray for: Elaine Ables, Susan Arceneaux, Heidi Ardoin, Jacob Aucoin, Sara Aucoin, Elvin Babin, Tommy Badeaux, Chad Barrileaux, Ronnie Bednarz, Chuck Beebe, Gertrude Benoit, Judith Benoit, Fr. Paul Bergeron, Rosemary Besson, Mitzy Bettridge, Gretchen Bilello, Pat Billiot, Preston Billiot, Alvin & Gail Blanchard, Dennis Blanchard, Ronald Blanchard, Cody Bourgeois, Emile "Jay" Bourgeois, Patricia Bourgeois, Troy & Joan Bourgeois, Wade Bourgeois, Connie Bouterie, Beau Brassette, Dustin Brassette, Mark Brassette, Emma Del Broussard, Richard Broussard, Susan Caillouet, Bessie Chiasson, Randy Chiasson, Brad Clement, Bryce Comeaux, Jay & Tiffany Conner, Huey Cortez Sr., Martha Cortez, Randy Davis, Cary Davis, Jr., Barbara & Ronni Duhon, Alan Dunbar, Linda Ekiss, Avery "Brother" and Sonja Fonseca, Darin Fonz, Robin Ford, Marie Fournier, Alisa Frederick, Dante Galliano, Toby Gambarella, Leigh Ann Gardner, Carrie Gibbens Belinda Gil, Brandon Gil, George Gil, The Gil Family, Carrie Mae Givens, Austin Gros, Bryan Gros, Chad Gros, George Gros, Rosebella Gros, Vergie Gros, Kendra Guillot, Elaine Chauvin Hebert, Joy Hebert, Katie Hebert, Jerrell Hebert, Sr., Jessie Hoffpauir, Samara Holland, Kristen Koppel, Jackson LaFleur, Mona Lambert, Elmay Landry, Judie Landry, Joyce Landry, Craig Landry, Mark Landry, Barbara Nell Lapeyrouse, Allie LeBlanc, Evelyn Leger, Tammy Babin Loney, Tim Long, Payton Martin, Rick Melancon, Asher Miller, Savannah Miller, Emma Mire, Bethany Moore, Meghan Naquin, Misty Naquin, Shannon Naquin, Eric Olivieri, Robert Oncale, Annie Ordoyne, Kara Pellegrin, Sherry Pennison, Lisa Pennison, Kenneth Pitre, James Pierce, Kip Pierce, Sharon Prejean, Ed Raidl, Kerri Reynolds, Bryce Richard, Elaine Richard, Ella Richard, Gladys Richard, Lorita Rodrigue, Susan Rodrigue, Cynthia Rogers, Danielle Samanie, Chester Sanchez, Karla Saunier, Kathy Savoie, Earline Simmoneaux, Penny Simmons, Brenda Sonier, Deacon Ryan Stawaizz, Louis Stevens, Melissa Tardiff, Trish Templet, Pierre & Mary Theriot, Cammie Thibodaux, Lacey Thibodeaux, Thibodaux Family, Ronnie Thomas, Chris Touns, Joyce Touns, Ricky Turner, Suzanne Usey, Sara Day Vignes, Allison Walters, and Wanda Wawrose, Anna Wooten. *Please notify the office when name can be re-*

### READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: 1 Kgs 21:1-16; Ps 5:2-3ab, 4b-7; Mt 5:38-42  
Tuesday: 1 Kgs 21:17-29; Ps 51:3-6ab, 11, 16; Mt 5:43-48  
Wednesday: 2 Kgs 2:1, 6-14; Ps 31:20, 21, 24;  
Mt 6:1-6, 16-18  
Thursday: Sir 48:1-14; Ps 97:1-7; Mt 6:7-15  
Friday: Dt 7:6-11; Ps 103:1-4, 6-8, 10; 1 Jn 4:7-16;  
Mt 11:25-30  
Saturday: 2 Chr 24:17-25; Ps 89:4-5, 29-34; Lk 2:41-51  
Sunday: Jer 20:10-13; Ps 69:8-10, 14, 17, 33-35;  
Rom 5:12-15; Mt 10:26-33

## PRAYER TO OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE Patroness of the Americas

Holy Virgin of Guadalupe, Queen of the Angels and Mother of the Americas. We fly to you today as your beloved children. We ask you to intercede for us with your Son as you did at the wedding in Cana. Pray for us, loving Mother, and gain for our nation and world, and for all our families and loved ones, the protection of your holy angels, that we may be spared the worst of this illness. For those already afflicted, we ask you to obtain the grace of healing and deliverance. Hear the cries of those who are vulnerable and fearful, wipe away their tears and help them to trust. In this time of trial and testing, teach all of us in the Church to love one another and to be patient and kind. Help us to bring the peace of Jesus to our land and to our hearts. We come to you with confidence, knowing that you truly are our compassionate mother, health of the sick and cause of our joy. Shelter us under the mantle of your protection, keep us in the embrace of your arms, help us always to know the love of your Son, Jesus. Amen.



## PRAYER OF SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

*It has long been a Catholic understanding and practice that when circumstances prevent one from receiving Holy Communion, it is possible to make an Act of Spiritual Communion, which is a source of grace. Spiritual Communion is an ardent desire to receive Jesus in the Most Holy Sacrament and lovingly embrace him at a time or in circumstances when one cannot receive Him in sacramental Communion. The most common reason for making an Act of Spiritual Communion is when a person cannot attend Mass. Acts of Spiritual Communion increase our desire to receive sacramental Communion and help us avoid the sins that would make us unable to receive Holy Communion worthily.*

*(As you follow the Mass on facebook, this is the prayer to pray at the time for Holy Communion)*

**I believe that you are present in the Most Blessed Sacrament. I love you above all things and I desire to receive you into my soul. Since I cannot now receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen** *By St Alphonsus Liguori*

## BAPTISM

Prior to baptizing a child, the parents and Godparents must attend a baptismal seminar.

Those seeking to baptize a child must complete a registration form. Forms can be found on line or at the Church office.

### **Qualifications for sponsors of a baptism.\***

Must be confirmed \* Must be a practicing Catholic \* Must be at least 16 years old \* If married, it must be a Catholic marriage.



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## Catholic Social Teaching: Global Solidarity

*"To receive in truth the Body and Blood of Christ given up for us, we must recognize Christ in the poorest, his brethren" (Catechism of the Catholic Church CCC. 1397).*

Each scripture today refers to a meal that is shared and to the effects of that meal. The manna reminded the people of the Exodus that they were not alone on their journey. They needed God. They needed the community. They were on a journey of liberation that was bigger than their personal selves. The Eucharist was to remind the Corinthians that they shared one bread and thus were one people. The meal called them to unity and solidarity. The meal called them to move beyond their divisions. In the gospel, the dialogue with Jesus reminds all of us that we are nourished for the "life of the world." The Eucharist sends us forth for a mission of liberation and life in the world. Our Eucharist celebrates and challenges our sharing and our relationship with each other.

We can ask questions on the level of our sacramental celebration:

Does our celebration of the Eucharist reflect the excitement and joy of being one in community?

Does our celebration reflect a spirit of deep "solidarity?"

Are we celebrating our solidarity as the living Mystical Body of Christ?

Do we recognize Christ in the breaking of the bread?

Is everyone welcome? Is there diversity in our community?

Does the Eucharist empower us for action – for life?

We can ask questions on the level of our life as a community:

How are we in solidarity with the poor in our city or town and in the world?

Do we offer direct service to those in need?

Does our solidarity move from the works of charity toward the works of justice?

Do we work for that "social change" that will heal the structures and systems that keep us apart – that prevent us from being one body?

How does our solidarity with God help us to bring an end to war and violence?

How are we the living Body of Christ in the world?

## SHOELESS

I wept because I had no shoes, until I saw someone who had no feet. —Ancient Persian saying

## PRAYING

One prays best who does not know that one is praying. —St. Anthony of Padua