

Dear Parishioners,

July is designated especially as the Month of the Precious Blood of Jesus, a special time to honor the Blood of Jesus.

Devotion to the Precious Blood is connected to devotion to the Passion and death of Our Lord, since through the shedding of His Blood, mankind was redeemed. Consequently, one can say the Church has always honored the Blood of Jesus Christ.

According to the Traditional Catholic Calendars of 1962 and previous, is the Feast of the Most Precious Blood of Our Lord Jesus Christ. This Feast, like so many others, has fallen victim to the post-Vatican II Church's novelties. After Vatican II, this Feast was combined with Corpus Christi. The official name of the Feast in Latin remains Corpus Christi, and not "Corpus et Sanguis Christi." Traditional Catholics of course still celebrate this Feast. Today we remember His blood spilt not only on the Cross but also in the Circumcision, Agony in the Garden of Gethsemane, Scourging at the Pillar of Flagellation, and the Crowning with Thorns.

We are reminded of the scene of Calvary and of the blow from the lance which pierced our Savior's side. The liturgy today is at pains to emphasize the meaning and tremendous significance of this fact in relation with our salvation. The Gospel and the Epistle are concerned with our Redemption, effected by the Blood and the love of our Savior.

He comes to us the living Christ (Body, Blood, Soul and Divinity). He comes to us in a manner that will not frighten or shock us, hidden under the appearance of bread and wine.

This is the most precious time – the time of Communion. The all-powerful and all merciful God becomes the guest of our very bodies and souls. Here is the point where Heaven and earth meet, and all that is in disorder is easily righted.

Christ is truly our guest, but we are the beneficiaries of His benevolence.

He wishes for us to receive Him so that He may give to us.

The words of St. Francis ring most truly in Holy Communion:

"It is in giving that we receive."

Have a blessed Sunday and a wonderful week.

Father Gorka