

BREAKING OPEN THE WORD



June 22, 2014

Solemnity of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ (Corpus Christi)

Lectionary: 167

Gospel [in 6:51-58](#)

Jesus said to the Jewish crowds: "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." The Jews quarreled among themselves, saying, "How can this man give us his flesh to eat?" Jesus said to them, "Amen, amen, I say to you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you do not have life within you. Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood has eternal life, and I will raise him on the last day. 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. Just as the living Father sent me and I have life because of the Father, so also the one who feeds on me will have life because of me. This is the bread that came down from heaven. Unlike your ancestors who ate and still died, whoever eats this bread will live forever."

Spiritual Reflection

In *Our One Great Act of Fidelity: Waiting for Christ in the Eucharist* by Fr. Ronald Rolheiser we can read the following passage: "That is true, too, sometimes especially so, in terms of our relationship to God. A God who is everywhere is, for us, at a certain point, nowhere. We are human. We need a God who has some skin, who can be located, who can somehow be physically touched. And God—who knows human nature, since he created it—respects that need in us and meets us on our own terms. Thus, the central tenet with Christianity, the very thing that defines it, is the belief that, in Christ, God took on concrete flesh and became tangible, physical, someone who can touch and be touched. Indeed the very word Christ ultimately means divine reality inside human flesh."

Spiritual Question

1. What does the Eucharist mean to you?
2. How does the Eucharist help God communicate better with humanity?
3. How does the Eucharist change your life each Sunday? Or does it?
4. What is your experience of Eucharistic Adoration?
5. What are some other names for the Eucharist?