

WSC REFLECTION GUIDE

Readings: Genesis 14: 18 - 20
Psalm 110:2-4
1 Cor 11:23 - 26
Luke 9: 11b - 17

Corpus Christi
June 6, 2010

Word: Remembering Christ's Love is sharing life with him.

Theme: We share life with Christ when we receive Him in the Holy Eucharist. [Submission]

Promise: *"They all ate and were satisfied."* (Luke 9:17)

Reflection:

The Feast of Body and Blood of Christ focuses special attention on the real presence of Christ in the Eucharist. Both the gospel [Luke 9:11-17] and the second reading [1 Cor 11:23-26] point to Jesus as the Bread of Life, the fulfillment of the Old Testament scriptures [Gen 14:18-20]. The latter gives us an account of the institution of a great and very special sacrament that we call Holy Eucharist, the memorial of Christ's broken Body and shed Blood of the new and everlasting covenant. In a sense it is a repeat of Holy Thursday's mass of the Last Supper. With its sad memories, the Holy Week tends to overshadow the institution of the Eucharist and Christ's farewell promise that he would be with His Church all days until the end of time.

The gospel is preserved through such great witness in all four Evangelists - Matthew, Mark, Luke and John, with the multiplication of loaves and the last supper foundation event. Likewise, St. Paul witnesses to what he received and dutifully passes on to his generation and all future generations the unified testimony of the Church Fathers, who in turn pass on to us the truth about this wonderful miracle of Holy Eucharist.

The feast of the Body and Blood is a celebration of the generosity of the Lord to us in offering himself as the food to satisfy our spiritual and material hunger as we journey through life. On this day the Church makes us pause to consider the great miracle of God's presence among us. The feast is not only about the Eucharist; it is also about the community that assembles to celebrate the Eucharist. Hospitality is at the heart of the gospel message. Our hearts need to be open and ready to share with those in need, for there are no way we can partake of the Eucharist and not reach out to the poor as Jesus did. By living lives of service to others, we begin to appreciate what the Eucharist is all about. It sends us out to touch the lives of neighbors as a healing presence, a helping hand, a sympathetic ear, a kind voice, transforming despair into hope and suspicion into trust.

During the Eucharist, our presence signifies our desire to change and set out on the road traveled by Christ, trying to live as he did in a caring and sharing way. Every celebration is an invitation to submit ourselves as completely as possible to Jesus, and to surrender ourselves to his power of love. The Eucharist binds up our wounds when we are deeply scarred by sin, restores our strength and pours peace into our troubled souls. The very fact that we celebrate this feast indicates that we are a people of thanksgiving, a community which knows how to praise God for the basic gift of life, family, friends, food and clothing. Above all we thank God because of what he has done for us in Christ.

Every Eucharistic celebration allows us to receive the Word of God and the Body and Blood of Christ through the bread and wine that give us right directions and faith in His presence within us. In the same way, listening to the Word of God and receiving the bread and wine bring to fulfillment our Community Pledge. And by sharing our lives and resources we hope to be true followers of the Lord through our Community.

When we receive Jesus, let's think about how much He loved us in offering Himself as food for our soul, and how He wishes to conform us more closely to Himself, and be broken bodies and shed blood, dying to ourselves, for others so we can show them the face of Christ in us.

As we partake of the Eucharist we share in a spiritual banquet signifying our communion with one another, even as we are challenged to share our blessings and care for our needy brothers and sisters. Jesus said "Give them some food yourselves", like the disciples who were with Him, who unselfishly offered the little they had that others may be fed, let us be generous too with our limited resources for isn't it from our nothingness that we experience complete happiness in giving? Like Jesus, we too can be bread that is broken and shared with others. The multiplication of the bread is proof of Christ's love and compassion for all of us, a reminder and challenge for us to share and care for others, for only then can we truly understand the true meaning of the Eucharist.

Corpus Christi Sunday is a good time to refresh our reverence for the Mass, and appreciate the dignity of prayer before the Blessed Sacrament for ourselves and others the full significance of receiving Holy Communion. God our Father gave the gift of his only Son, Jesus, Bread of Life. And Jesus will continue to give himself as often as the community breaks bread in the remembrance of Him in the Eucharist.

Prayer:

Heavenly Father, thank you for the gift of the Eucharist, the meal that feeds us in our spiritual journey. Grant that the unity we share with you in the Eucharist may transform our lives so that we may become what we receive. We ask this through Christ our Lord, Amen.

Suggested Personal Reflection Guide:

1. How important is the Holy Eucharist in your daily living? Does it help you to be closer to Christ and inspire you to share with your needy brethren more?
2. In your Circle, what spiritual, emotional and physical things that you hunger which your co-circle members can help meet and share? What do you intend to give and share to up-build your family and Community?

Next Week's Daily Mass Reading Guide:

June 07, 2010 (Mon): 1 Kgs 17:1-6; Ps 121:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-8; Mt 5:1-12
June 08, 2010 (Tue) : 1 Kgs 17:7-16, Ps 4:2-3, 4-5, 7-8 ; Mt 5:13-16
June 09, 2010 (Wed): 1 Kgs 18:20-39; Ps 16:1-2, 4, 5, 8, 11 ; Mt 5:17-19
June 10, 2010 (Thu) : 1 Kgs 18:41-46 ; Ps 65:10, 11, 12-13 ; Mt 5:20-26
June 11, 2010 (Fri) : Ez 34:11-16 ; Ps 23:1-3, 3-4, 5, 6 ; Rom 5:5-11 ; Lk 15:3-7
June 12, 2010 (Sat) : Is 61:9-11 ; 1 Sm 2:1, 4-5, 6-7 ; Lk 2:41-51

"Ignorance of the Bible is ignorance of Christ. Read your Bible daily!"