

[Jesus said,] "Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood remains in me and I in him." —JOHN 6:56

Take and Eat

Many of us are little different from the Jewish crowds who cried out: "How can this man give us [his] flesh to eat?" (John 6:52). Jesus does not explain how the bread was really his flesh. What he did was underscore the importance of eating this bread, which was his flesh. He then goes on and insists that we must drink his blood as well. If these were hard sayings for the people of Israel, who in their ancient past might have shared the flesh and blood of a sacrificed animal, what are we "sophisticated" contemporary Christians to make of it?

The people of Jesus' time would have recognized several elements from their traditions in Jesus' discourse, but his reinterpretation of them would have startled them. Like the victim of an ancient holocaust offering, Jesus' blood is shed. However, it is not poured around the altar; it is to be consumed. Bread from heaven recalled the manna that fed their ancestors in the wilderness. However, the manna lasted for only a day; it then rotted. The bread Jesus gives is living bread that enables those who eat it to live forever. This is a lot to believe. But then, that is exactly what we are asked to do. We might have correct theological language to explain how this transformation takes place, but we still will not understand the mystery to which it points. So what are we to do? Very simply: take and eat!

—Sr. Dianne Bergant, CSA

FOR *Reflection*

✧ *The Eucharist is one of the foundational mysteries of our faith. A good Eucharistic prayer might be:
"I believe; help my unbelief."*

Dear Padre,

Why have many Christian religions been divided over the question of Christ's Body and Blood?

Today's Gospel indicates that even before the Last Supper, Jesus' teaching about his Real Presence was met with skepticism. When Jesus said, "The bread that I will give is my flesh for the life of the world," the reaction was, "How can this man give us [his] flesh to eat?" (John 6:51-52). When Jesus continued, "Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood remains

in me and I in him," his hearers shrugged: "This saying is hard; who can accept it?" (John 6:56, 60).

John's inclusion of this incident in his Gospel indicates that some of his contemporaries also denied Christ's Real Presence. Since then, some Christians have broken away from the Catholic Church because they could not accept the reality of Christ's eucharistic Presence. Some contend that Christ

was speaking metaphorically—that the bread and wine merely symbolize the spirit of Jesus. Others say that Christ is present only as a result of the faith of the community and doesn't remain after the worship service.

The Catholic Church teaches that when Jesus pronounced, "This is my body...this is my blood," he meant exactly what he said. For Jews of Jesus' time, "body" meant the person, and "blood" was the source of life identifiable with the person. Jesus was saying over the bread and wine, "This is my very self." Church teaching couldn't be more clear: in the Eucharist "the body and blood, together with the soul and divinity, of our Lord Jesus Christ and, therefore, the whole Christ is truly, really, and substantially contained" (*Catechism of the Catholic Church*, 1374).

—Fr. Oscar Lukefahr, CM
Sundaybulletin@Liguori.org



EVA BLANCO/SHUTTERSTOCK

A WORD FROM *Pope Francis*

Eucharistic worship also teaches us the right balance of values: not to put earthly realities in first place but heavenly goods; to hunger not only for material food, but also for "food that endures for eternal life" (John 6:27).

—ADDRESS TO THE DIOCESES OF CESENA AND BOLOGNA,
APRIL 21, 2018



Calendar

Monday

JUNE 15

Weekday

1 Kgs 21:1-16

Mt 5:38-42

Tuesday

JUNE 16

Weekday

1 Kgs 21:17-29

Mt 5:43-48

Wednesday

JUNE 17

Weekday

2 Kgs 2:1, 6-14

Mt 6:1-6, 16-18

Thursday

JUNE 18

Weekday

Sir 48:1-14

Mt 6:7-15

Friday

JUNE 19

*Most Sacred Heart
of Jesus*

Dt 7:6-11

1 Jn 4:7-16

Mt 11:25-30

Saturday

JUNE 20

*Immaculate Heart
of the Blessed
Virgin Mary*

2 Chr 24:17-25

Lk 2:41-51

Sunday

JUNE 21

*Twelfth Sunday in
Ordinary Time*

Jer 20:10-13

Rom 5:12-15

Mt 10:26-33

Bulletin News for June 14, 2020.

The 2020 Montgomery County R -2 High School Graduates will be recognized at the 11:00 AM Mass on Sunday, June 14.

Father Austin's birthday is Wednesday, June 17.

Have a wonderful weekend!



BULLETIN NEWS 6-14-2020

The Solemnity of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ, historically known by its Latin name, Corpus Christi, celebrates the Real Presence of Jesus Christ in the Holy Eucharist—Body, Blood, Soul, and Divinity.

"The Eucharist is essential for us: it is Christ who wishes to enter our lives and fill us with his grace"
Pope Francis

The Mass will be live-streamed on Facebook from St. Patrick Church in Jonesburg, at 7:00 AM and from St. Joseph Church in Martinsburg, at 9:00 AM, on Sunday, June 14.

How to attend Mass reminders:

Bishop McKnight has dispensed everyone from the obligation to attend Mass through June 30.

Before coming to Mass, please check your temperature. If you have a fever or other symptoms of illness, stay home.

When entering church, leaving church, and during communion, wear a mask or other face covering.

Fr. Austin's Schedule

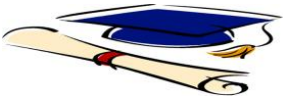
Saturday, June 13	Mass @ Montgomery 5:00 PM Intention: + Ignatius & Marian Busken
Sunday, June 14	Mass @ Jonesburg 7:00 AM
Sunday, June 14	Mass @ Martinsburg 9:00 AM
Sunday, June 14	Mass @ Montgomery 11:00 AM Intention: Our Parish Family
Monday, June 15	Funeral Mass @ Martinsburg 10:00 AM
Tuesday, June 16	Confirmation Mass @ Martinsburg 6:30 PM
Wednesday, June 17	Happy Birthday Fr. Austin!
Wednesday, June 17	Mass @ Jonesburg 8:30 AM
Wednesday, June 17	Mass @ Wellsville 5:30 PM
Thursday, June 18	Mass @ Montgomery 8:00AM Intention: Wm. Spodyak Family, living and deceased School Board Meeting @ Martinsburg 6:00PM
Friday, June 19	Mass @ Martinsburg 7:45AM



Congratulations to the following couples as they celebrate their special day.



Bryan and Karen Schmidt - 34 years of marriage on June 14
Denis and Mary Dickherber - 51 years of marriage on June 14
Gary and Beth Roesner - 19 years of marriage on June 16
John and Aggie Baldetti - 26 years of marriage on June 18



Our Parish is looking for the names of college or any post-secondary graduates so that we can include them in our celebration of graduates. If your family member is graduating or you know of someone graduating, please contact the parish office.

Financials for the week of June 7, 2020

Actual: \$6,389.73 Needed each week: \$11,775.43 Difference: (\$5,385.70)
Catholic Missourian: \$14.00 Cornerstone Campaign: \$175.00
Communication & Education: \$10.00 Rice Bowl: \$6.63

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR PARISH HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES

Wren Desarea (Helena) Allen

daughter of Dennis and Michelle Allen

Haeley Renee (Adelaide) Johnson

Daughter of Steve Johnson and Cheryl Myrick

Katlyn Matthews

daughter of Anthony and Michelle Matthews (not in attendance)

Aaron Braden (Aaron the Patriarch) Milner

son of Matt and Karen Milner

Laurisa Brocke (Marie Amandine) Oden

daughter of Todd and Carol Oden

Carson Henry (Sebastian) Parker.

son of Chris and Carla Parker

Ashley Nicole (Joan of Arc) Queathem

daughter of Karl and Becky Queathem

Olivia Frances (Elizabeth Ann Seton) Roesner

daughter of Gary and Beth Roesner

Zachary Michael (Sebastian) Schierhoff

son of Richard and the late Shery'll Schierhoff

Michael Evan (John the Apostle) Shanks

son of Randy and MaryEllen Shanks

Austin Michael (John the Evangelist) Smith

son of Michael and Gina Smith

Joseph Maxwell (George) Worsham,

son of Andy and Julie Worsham

Blake Michael (Nicholas) Yelton

son of Mike and Laura Yelton

Walking With God? Walk with us! The Benedictine Sisters of Perpetual Adoration invite single women, ages 18 - 40 who are considering religious life, to attend a Virtual Monastic Experience via Zoom July 12-14, 2020. We hope to digitally show discerners around, introduce some of our Sisters and share some tips on prayer and discernment. The experience will include one hour of input each day. There will also be an opportunity to connect with the vocation director one on one. There is no cost to attend. Visit our website to learn more: www.benedictinesisters.org. To register, please call Sr. Maria Victoria at (660) 944-2221 ext. 127 or e-mail vocation@benedictinesisters.org.

**Bishop McKnight's
June prayer intention
for our Local Church**

May the Sacred Heart of Jesus transform all men, especially fathers, to trust in the model of St. Joseph to instill in them courageous leadership and devotion for those whom God has placed in their care.

