

From Your Pastor

The Solemnity of Corpus Christi

We celebrate today the Solemnity of the Body and Blood of the Lord. The Eucharist is the “Sacrament of sacraments,” because in it Christ himself is contained (CCC 1324). In the Eucharist Christ the Lord is truly present – body and blood, soul and divinity – in the visible signs of the consecrated bread and wine.



The great Solemnity of Corpus Christi has a very beautiful and interesting history. The Feast owes its origin to a woman named Juliana (1193-1258) of Mount Cornillon Convent (near Liège, Belgium). As a young nun, Juliana had a great devotion to the Blessed Sacrament and desired to have a feast established in its honor. She wrote about her desire to Robert de Thorete, the Bishop of Liège, to the Dominican

Hugh of St. Cher who later became cardinal legate in the Netherlands, and to Jacques Panaléon, the Archdeacon of Liège, who later became Pope Urban IV. In 1246, Bishop Robert de Thorete ordered that the Feast of Corpus Christi be celebrated in Liège. (Juliana was canonized by Pope Pius IX in 1869.)

In 1263, an interesting miracle took place in the city of Bolsena, Italy.* The artist Raphael made this miracle famous in a well-known fresco that decorates the Vatican Palace. A German priest named Peter of Prague was on pilgrimage to Rome when he stopped at Bolsena. Though a pious man, Peter struggled to

accept that Christ could actually be present in the consecrated host. One day when he was celebrating Mass, Peter spoke the words of consecration and immediately Blood started to seep from the consecrated Host and trickle over his hands and onto the linen cloth covering the altar. At first, the priest tried to hide the Blood, but eventually he interrupted the Mass and asked to be taken to the neighboring city of Orvieto, where Pope Urban IV resided.



The Bishop of Bolsena with the Bloodstained Corporal before Pope Urban IV

Once Pope Urban heard Peter’s story, he sent emissaries to investigate. When the facts were ascertained, he ordered the bishop of the diocese to bring the Host and the linen cloth bearing the stains of Blood to him. The linen bearing the spots of Blood is still reverently enshrined and exhibited in the Cathedral of Orvieto.

According to tradition, Pope Urban IV commissioned St. Thomas Aquinas (1225-1274) to compose prayers and hymns to celebrate the Most Holy Body of the Lord (Corpus Christi). In 1264, he established the Feast of Corpus Christi by means of the papal bull *Transiturus*. It became a mandatory feast in the Roman Church in 1312 under Pope Clement V.



God bless each of you.

Mrs. Fay

* Cf., http://www.therealpresence.org/eucharst/mir/english_pdf/Bolsena1.pdf

THE BODY AND BLOOD OF CHRIST

Prayers Are Requested for those who are ill, for vocations to the Priesthood and to the Consecrated Life; for married couples and for families; for the safe return home of the men and women in our military services; for the prayers listed in our book of intentions; and for the repose of the souls of deceased members of our parish, our families and our benefactors.

We Welcome into our community of faith Elvis Jonatan Vasquez, Rosemary Emma Cyr, Nathan Joseph Greene, Pearse Leylan Solorzano, Jonathan Robert Peck, Jacqueline Karina Lopez, Luanna Nicole Infante Gomez, Iribel Sophia Navarro Calvo, Mark Antonio Paredes, Julissa Guadalupe Robles Reyes, Rafael Leondro Quiroz, Sofia Elizabeth Kaempfe, Pedro Alexander Giron, Jeniah Kathlynn Gomes, Marcin Joseph Kunicki, Braelynn Danielle MacMillan, and Emma Lucy Moorhead who were baptized in our church. We extend congratulations to their families.

Congratulations to Mark Brunton & Patricia Thyng, Michael Burke & Jade Purington, Scott & Sarah Kaempfe, Peter Washburn & Katie Turpin, Michael Manosh & Maria Landavazo and José Flores Reyes & Flor Alvarenga who were married in our church. May God bless their union.

Clergy Benefit Trust Collection: Next weekend the second collection will be for the retired and ailing priests of the Archdiocese. These funds go to pay the retirement, medical care and financial needs of these priests. These men have given their lives to serve God and us, His people. Please be as generous as your means will allow to this most important collection.

The New Thurible Used for Incensing at Mass was donated in loving memory of James Elliot by his mother. The Hosts, Wine and Candles for the month of June were donated in loving memory of Mildred McKenna by The McKenna Family.

Please Remember the St. Vincent de Paul Boxes as you leave Mass today. Thank you! Your contributions enable us to help your neighbors in need. Next meeting will be Tuesday June 23 at 7:00pm.

Holy Communion to the Homebound. If you know someone in the parish who is elderly or infirm and not able to come to Mass, please give Patricia McShane a call at the rectory (617-782-5774) and we will arrange for them to have someone visit them regularly with Holy Communion.

2009 Catholic Appeal Reminder – *Responding to God's Grace, Renewing Our Church.* If you have not yet contributed to the Catholic Appeal, it is never too late to make a pledge. Every gift matters. Pick up information packets with pledge forms in the back of the Church. Thank you!

A Walking Tour of Historic Brighton Center is being sponsored by the Brighton-Allston Historical Society on Saturday, June 27 from 1-3pm. The tour starts at the Museum. Pre-registration is required and there is a \$5.00 fee. Please call the Museum at 617-635-1436.

YOU ARE NOT ALONE. Pregnancy Help has served women in crisis pregnancies since 1973. They offer: free testing, counseling and support, adoption information and referrals, education, career and housing information, prenatal care referrals, ongoing support and material assistance. All services are free and confidential. They are located at the Brighton Marine Hospital, Suite 251. You can reach them at 617-782-5151 or help@pregnancyhelpboston.org.

Allston-Brighton Family Fair will be held on Saturday, June 20 from 10:00 am – 1:00 pm at Artesani Park on Soldiers Field Road. This event is sponsored by the Allston-Brighton Early Childhood System of Care. It is free and all are welcome. Bring a picnic lunch. For more information call Ruth Smullins at 617-254-1520.

PARISH GIVING

Parish Offertory (June 6 – June 7): \$4,998

Latin Mass (June 5): \$285

Catholic Appeal (to date): 37,357

St. Vincent de Paul (June 6 – June 7): \$162.57

Thank You for Your Generosity

JUNE 14, 2009

On the Solemnity of Corpus Christi
by Saint Thomas Aquinas,
Priest and Doctor (d. 1275)

O Precious and Wonderful Banquet

Since it was the will of God's only-begotten Son that we should share in his divinity, he assumed our nature in order that by becoming man he might make men gods. Moreover, when he took our flesh he dedicated the whole of its substance to our salvation. He offered his body to God the Father on the altar of the cross as a sacrifice for our reconciliation. He shed his blood for our ransom and purification, so that we might be redeemed from our wretched state of bondage and cleansed from all sin. But to ensure that the memory of so great a gift would abide with us for ever, he left his body as food and his blood as drink for the faithful to consume in the form of bread and wine.

O precious and wonderful banquet, which brings us salvation and contains all sweetness! Could anything be of more intrinsic value? Under the old law it was the flesh of calves and goats that was offered, but here Christ himself, the true God, is set before us as our food. What could be more wonderful than this? No other Sacrament has greater healing power; through it sins are purged away, virtues are increased, and the soul is enriched with an abundance of every spiritual gift. It is offered in the Church for the living and the dead, so that what was instituted for the salvation of all may be for the benefit of all. Yet, in the end, no one can fully express the sweetness of this Sacrament, in which spiritual delight is tasted at its very source, and in which we renew the memory of that surpassing love for us which Christ revealed in his passion.

It was to impress the vastness of this love more firmly upon the hearts of the faithful that our Lord instituted this Sacrament at the Last Supper. As he was on the point of leaving the world to go to the Father, after celebrating the Passover with his disciples, he left it as a perpetual memorial of his passion. It was the fulfillment of ancient figures and the greatest of all his miracles, while for those who were to experience the sorrow of his departure, it was destined to be a unique and abiding consolation.

JUNE 14, 2009

Prayer for Marriage

Heavenly Father,
through the intercession of the Holy Family,

Help us treasure the gift of marriage
that reflects the love of Christ for the Church,
where the self-giving love of husband and wife
unites them more perfectly
and cooperates in your plan
for new life created in your image.

Help us support men and women
in their vocation of marriage,
especially in difficult times
when they join their sufferings to the Cross.

Help us uphold the institution of marriage in our society
as the place where love is nurtured and family life begins.

Help us acknowledge that our future depends on this love
and on your providential care for us. Amen.

Please pray daily for the vocation of marriage.

Nihil Obstat: Reverend Mark O'Connell, J.C.D.
Imprimatur: Sean Cardinal O'Malley, OFM, Cap
Archbishop of Boston
May 15, 2007

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UPCOMING PARISH EVENTS

Sundays, June 14 & 21, 9:30am Family Masses

MASSES FOR THE WEEK

Sunday, June 14 – Body and Blood of Christ

(Sat.) 4:00 pm Joan E. Walsh, 2nd Ann.
7:30 am *Missa pro Populo*
9:30 am Donata & Nicola Leone, Mem.
11:15 am Thomas F. Clougher, Mem.
12:45 pm Teodora & Andres Cabezon, Mem.
5:00 pm Mildred McKenna, 5th Ann.

Mon. 7:00 am Francesco & Maria DiCicco, Mem.

Tue. 7:00 am Kathleen Coary, Mem.

Wed. 7:00 am Clementina M. Auciello, 3rd Ann.

Thu. 7:00 am Winifred B. Jones, 7th Ann.

Fri. 7:00 am Mary & Edward Burke, Mem.

Sat. 7:00 am Joseph & Helen Iannelle, 6th Ann.

Sunday, June 21 – 12th Sunday of Ordinary Time

(Sat.) 4:00 pm Marie Paradis & Family, Mem.
7:30 am Frank J. Cammarata, 20th Ann.
9:30 am Julia O'Leary, 17th Ann.
11:15 am James Dineen, 23rd Ann.
12:45 pm Elvia Cadena Brabo, 32nd Ann.
5:00 pm *Missa pro Populo*

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Comments:
