

June 2, 2024

Solemnity of the Body and Blood of Christ

Ex 24: 3-8 | Heb 9: 11-15 | Mk 14: 12-16, 22-26

"It is from the blood of Christ that all draw the strength to commit themselves to promoting life."

Pope St. John Paul II



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What Are They Saying about the Eucharist?

"Sight, touch, and taste in thee are each deceived; The ear alone most safely is believed." - *Saint Thomas Aquinas*

"A thousand years of enjoying human glory is not worth even an hour spent sweetly communing with Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament." - *Saint (Padre) Pio of Pietrelcina*

"Devotion to the Eucharist is the most noble, because it has God as its object; it is the most profitable for salvation, because it gives us the Author of Grace; it is the sweetest, because the Lord is Sweetness Itself." - *Pope Saint Pius X*

"The Eucharist is the heart of the Church. Where Eucharistic life flourishes, there the life of the church will blossom." - *Pope Saint John Paul II*

"We must understand that in order 'to do', we must first learn 'to be', that is to say, in the sweet company of Jesus in adoration. - *Pope Saint John Paul II*

"This is the wonderful truth, my dear friends: the Word, which became flesh two thousand years ago, is present today in the Eucharist." - *Pope Saint John Paul II*

"When you look at the Crucifix, you understand how much Jesus loved you then. When you look at the Sacred Host you understand how much Jesus loves you now." - *Saint (Mother) Teresa of Calcutta*

"The Blessed Sacrament is that Presence which makes a Catholic Church different from every other place in the world; which makes it, as no other place can be, holy." - *Cardinal Saint John Henry Newman*

"[Every] great reform has in some way been linked to the rediscovery of belief in the Lord's eucharistic presence among his people." - *Pope Benedict XVI*

The Eucharist Prayer

O God, who in this wonderful Sacrament have left us a memorial of your Passion, grant us, we pray, so to revere the sacred mysteries of your Body and Blood that we may always experience in ourselves the fruits of your redemption. Who live and reign with God the Father in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Pope Francis Quotes about the Eucharist

"The Eucharist is God's response to the deepest hunger of the human heart, the true hunger."

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

"The Eucharist, although it is the fullness of sacramental life, is not a prize for the perfect but a powerful medicine and nourishment for the weak."

"If you are the same at the end of Mass as you were at the beginning, something is wrong. The Eucharist is the presence of Jesus, it is deeply transforming. Jesus comes and must transform you."

"Do I let the Lord who gives himself to me, guide me to going out ever more from my little enclosure, in order to give, to share, to love him and others?"

"The eucharistic celebration is an encounter with the Risen Jesus. At the same time, it is a way of opening ourselves to the world as he taught us."

"Jesus comes and gives us the strength to love like he loved. [Because the Eucharist] "gives us the courage to encounter others, to go out of ourselves and to open ourselves to others with love."

"Jesus speaks in silence in the Mystery of the Eucharist. He reminds us every time that following him means going out of ourselves and not making our life a possession of our own, but rather a gift to him and to others."



Church of the Ascension

Saratoga, California

www.ascensionsaratoga.org

408-725-3939

Mass Schedule

(Sat) 5p; (Sun) 7a, 9a, 11a, 5p

(Mon-Fri) 8a; (Sat) 9a



Let Us Break Bread Together

One person can make a difference—perhaps even change the liturgical calendar the Catholic Church follows in celebrating important traditions. The feast of Corpus Christi (literally, the body of Christ) was added to the calendar largely due to a 40-year campaign by a 13th-century religious woman, Juliana of Liège, who had a special devotion to the Blessed Sacrament and worked to see a feast day devoted to it. Little by little the idea gained popularity and acceptance and is now celebrated worldwide. Today or the next time you attend Mass, remember Juliana and her efforts during the Eucharistic Prayers.

- *Preparetheword.com*

Growing Together As Families

Our Church of the Ascension welcomes families in various stages of life. Our focus at this time is to provide opportunities for families with young children to find the support to grow in their relationship with each other, with the parish and with the Lord. We want to support parents who are sharing similar joys and challenges that parenthood brings as well as give their children a welcoming environment to build friendships. Please (1) sign up at the tables near the church's main entrance, or (2) call the parish office at 408-725-3939 x3 for **our first meeting at 10:00 am on Sunday, June 23**, in the Hall Classrooms.

"How precious is the family as the privileged place for transmitting the faith" (Pope Francis)

Jesus Thirsts - the Eucharist Movie

"Jesus Thirsts: The Miracle of the Eucharist" takes viewers on a global journey to uncover the transformative power of the Eucharist. Through discussions with Catholic leaders and heartfelt personal narratives, the film unveils the Eucharist as Jesus Christ Himself, eagerly desiring to fulfill our spiritual thirst with His boundless love. In Theaters only June 4, 5 & 6, 2024.



Catholic Charities 2024 Appeal

June 8-9

Please consider what you will contribute to this important work in our communities. With your support, Catholic Charities changes lives for good – one family at a time.

Special Collections

- June 2: Ascension Building Fund
- June 9: Catholic Charities Appeal

WEEKLY OFFERING - MAY 26

-\$5,290 (baskets: \$3,999; online: \$1,291. Goal: \$6,500.

-YTD: **\$287,516**. Budget: \$305,500.

Thank you for your generosity.

MASS INTENTIONS

June 01	Sat	05 pm	Omelia Geeser (L)
June 02	Sun	09 am	Wilhelm Lam +
		05 pm	Joseph Fiorentino +
June 04	Tue	08 am	Alicia Sanhueza +
June 06	Thu	08 am	Theresa Stolz +
June 07	Fri	08 am	Brian Rose +
June 08	Sat	09 am	The McKeever Family

Young Adults Group/Mass

June 15

Ascension is forming a **Young Adult Group**. We welcome adults ages 18-30s, who are looking for a community to belong to. Our goal for this group is to help them connect, have fun, and grow in their faith and spirituality. No time commitment is necessary. We will start with the **Young Adult Mass** on **Saturday, June 15, at 5:00 pm** at Church of the Ascension, followed by an informal meeting. Interested young adults may (1) sign up at the tables near the church main entrance, or (2) call the parish office at 408-725-3939 x3.

Young Adult Assembly

The Diocese of San Jose will be hosting a Young Adult Assembly on Saturday, September 21, 2024, from 10 am to 9 pm at Archbishop Mitty High School. The assembly will not just be a one-way communication but a true opportunity for dialogue. It's a chance for us to listen to young adult (18-35) experiences in our Diocese and engage in a meaningful conversation about their ideas, hopes, and concerns about the new pastoral plan which will be critical as the Diocese develops a young adult ministerial plan.

Vocations Soccer Cup

Sunday, June 23, 2024

Archbishop Mitty High School

Tickets available from June 8-9 in church after Masses and in the parish office.

All proceeds benefit our seminarians formation.

The Diocese of San José is hosting the Soccer Games for Vocations. Sisters and Postulants competed in a soccer game for the St. Clare Cup, with high school girls filling out both teams. Priests and Seminarians will compete in a 2nd soccer game for the St. Joseph Cup, with high school boys filling out both teams as well.

Seasons of Hope - Grief Discussion Group

"You will grieve, but your grief will become joy." (Jn 16:20)

Sacred Heart Parish's "Seasons of Hope" discussion group is a place to share the loss of a loved one. There is no fee to participate. Faith based materials and a journal are provided. All are welcome. Meetings are weekly on Wednesdays from 1:00 – 2:30 PM in the Parish Center. Upcoming meeting dates: July 10th, 17th, 31st.

Eucharistic Procession

June 2

You are invited to join our Eucharistic Procession in the parking lot after the 9:00am Mass on Sunday, June 2, Solemnity of the Body and Blood of Christ.

Adoration & Divine Mercy & Rosary

First Fridays at 3:00pm - starting from June 7

The Eucharistic Adoration and Benediction has been offered every First Friday after the morning Mass at Ascension. Inspired by the Eucharistic Revival, we invite you to spend more time on First Fridays (starting in June) to worship the Lord through the Eucharistic Adoration and Benediction and the Chaplet of Divine Mercy and Rosary at 3:00pm (instead of Adoration after the 8:00am Mass).